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Stories From Africa China India Japan And Latin  
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## **Other Voices Other Vistas Short Stories From Africa China India Japan And Latin America**

***Concert of Voices combines poetry,  
fiction, drama, and essays in an  
anthology of world literature in English.  
This second edition preserves the first  
edition's breadth and its balance of  
established and less widely known  
authors, while including a large selection***

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***of exciting new material. Biographical information and explanatory notes have been updated and expanded, and new pieces by Cyril Dabydeen, Vikram Seth, Wole Soyinka, Pauline Johnson, Rudy Wiebe, and many other authors have been added.***

***Khushwant Singh, the country's foremost literary figure, serves up another volume of the finest fiction from across India. 'A good read . . . engaging . . . The names live up to their reputation.'* - India Today**

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**'Tremendous richness of characters on display.' - Deccan Herald 'Offers much . . . to the discriminating reader.' - Deccan Chronicle 'An eminently readable book . . . The range of geographical areas and social backgrounds that this selection represents are truly vast.' - The Tribune Striking in its imagery, its history, and its breathtaking scope, Latin American fiction has finally come into its own throughout the world. Collected in this brilliant volume are thirty-five of the**

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***finest writers of this century, including:  
Jorge Louis Borges, Carlos Fuentes,  
Gabriel Garcia Marquez, Jorge Amado,  
Octavio Paz, and many more.***

***"Exhilarating. PUBLISHERS WEEKLY***

***The International Story is an anthology  
with guidelines for reading and writing  
about fiction. The Instructor's Manual  
provides teaching suggestions, detailed  
notes, and summaries of the readings in  
the Student's Book.***

***A vital and eloquent portrait of modern***

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***Turkey drawn from the lives of its ordinary citizens Written in prison, the stories in Dawn offer an unfamiliar glimpse of Turkey and the Middle East. They capture the experiences of the people behind the headlines, the voices that so often go unheard. The young cleaning woman whose bus to work gets caught in a violent protest; the little girl fleeing across the Mediterranean from Syria with her mother; the illegal underage workers building jails; the***

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***victim of an 'honour killing'. Tragedy collides vividly with sharp humour and political satire as inmates have their letters vetted by committee and a bus driver tricks a young idealist. The first fiction from the imprisoned progressive politician, former leader of the pro-Kurdish Peoples' Democratic Party and presidential candidate Selahattin Demirtas, this collection is essential reading. With warmth, wit and brutal insight, he illuminates everyday***

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***existence in Turkey and brings his characters to startling life.***

***This volume is the first of a series contributing to the academic study of Language Arts, as an English-language teaching paradigm. Language Arts has been widely used in native English-speaking countries including Australia and New Zealand. Its recent adoption into the second-language teaching curriculum in Hong Kong, as well as similar initiatives within secondary and***

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***tertiary education in mainland China, enhances its interest to scholars studying second-language teaching and learning in Asian contexts. This book offers many papers and discussions of interest to teachers, language professionals, scholars and administrators. Its chapters explore current topics in Language Arts research including trends in the rapprochement of stylistics and linguistics, teaching approaches and learning outcomes. At***



***the same time, they offer diverse theoretical and methodological approaches, of interest to the practitioner and policy-maker as well as the researcher. The value of this volume lies particularly in strengthening the theoretical and methodological foundations of Language Arts. The use of literature and the arts in humanist education has a long history within Europe, being traditionally appreciated for its ability to transform leaders, instill***

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***finer sensibilities and question social ills. In its postcolonial incarnations, as the traditional subject areas were informed by critical and linguistic theories, language arts subject areas were less often used, as they were understood to offer opportunities to analyse their functions as apology for leaders, coopting the young, and pacifying dissent but less often used to teach second language skills. Language Arts curricula arising since the 1980s have***

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***increasingly embraced authentic voices, styles and genres. Contemporary Language Arts curricula use literature to teach reading-based and communication skills, in conjunction with critical and creative thinking. The movement of English-language education beyond native English shores has placed Language Arts into a World Englishes frame, and therefore its curricula have included the teaching ethics, civics and intercultural sensitivity. The explosion of***

***media and digital communications of the 1990s led to the adoption of media literacy as a crucial Language Arts skill. As digital innovations continue to impact the teaching of English, Language Arts has adopted multiliteracies. These developments are represented in the papers included in this volume.***

***'I am with you always, even unto the end of the world . . .'*** Peter Leigh is a missionary called to go on the journey of a lifetime. Leaving behind his beloved

**wife, Bea, he boards a flight for a remote and unfamiliar land, a place where the locals are hungry for the teachings of the Bible - his 'book of strange new things'. It is a quest that will challenge Peter's beliefs, his understanding of the limits of the human body and, most of all, his love for Bea. The Book of Strange New Things is a wildly original tale of adventure, faith and the ties that might hold two people together when they are worlds apart. This momentous novel,**

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***Faber's first since *The Crimson Petal and the White*, sees him at his expectation-defying best. WINNER OF THE SALTIRE BOOK OF THE YEAR AWARD SHORTLISTED FOR THE ARTHUR C. CLARKE AWARD AS HEARD ON BBC RADIO 4***

***There Are Jews in My House is one of the most striking debuts of recent years. Tracing the lives and aspirations of Russians living in Moscow and Brooklyn, these poignant, sad and funny stories***

***create a luminous new literary world. In the title story, set during the Second World War, Galina, a gentile, offers refuge to a Jewish friend and her daughter, only to find herself increasingly resentful of their presence in her home. In "Mistress," a nine-year-old boy, new to America, escorts his grandmother to her weekly doctors' appointments to interpret her myriad complaints. At the same time, he becomes aware that his grandfather may***

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***be involved with another woman. And in  
“Love Lessons-Mondays, 9 A.M.” a young  
math teacher assigned to teach a sex  
education class becomes all too aware  
that her students are more experienced  
than she is.***

**[Vampires, Zombies, Werewolves and  
Ghosts](#)**

**[The Granta Book of the African Short  
Story](#)**

**[Stories of the Hidden China](#)**

**[Brief Interviews With Hideous Men](#)**



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**Eggshells**

**The Penguin Book of Italian Short Stories**

**Her Body and Other Parties**

**The Female Search for Love**

**Khushwant Singh Selects Best Indian  
Short Stories**

**Language Arts in Asia**

**Boy in the Twilight**

The classic work on the evaluation of city form. What does the city's form actually mean to the people who live there? What can the city planner do to make the city's image more vivid and memorable to the city

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dweller? To answer these questions, Mr. Lynch, supported by studies of Los Angeles, Boston, and Jersey City, formulates a new criterion—imageability—and shows its potential value as a guide for the building and rebuilding of cities. The wide scope of this study leads to an original and vital method for the evaluation of city form. The architect, the planner, and certainly the city dweller will all want to read this book.

This anthology brings together a vast array of writing from women around the world. The stories mirror the changes and expectations of women's lives everywhere, reflecting the diversity of their

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experience while also pooling established writers with new talent.

Truman Capote's first novel is a story of almost supernatural intensity and inventiveness, an audacious foray into the mind of a sensitive boy as he seeks out the grown-up enigmas of love and death in the ghostly landscape of the deep South. At the age of twelve, Joel Knox is summoned to meet the father who abandoned him at birth. But when Joel arrives at the decaying mansion in Skully's Landing, his father is nowhere in sight. What he finds instead is a sullen stepmother who delights in killing birds; an uncle with the face—and heart—of a

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debauched child; and a fearsome little girl named Idabel who may offer him the closest thing he has ever known to love.

In his startling and singular new short story collection, David Foster Wallace nudges at the boundaries of fiction with inimitable wit and seductive intelligence. Among the stories are 'The Depressed Person', a dazzling and blackly humorous portrayal of a woman's mental state; 'Adult World', which reveals a woman's agonised consideration of her confusing sexual relationship with her husband; and 'Brief Interviews with Hideous Men', a dark, hilarious series of portraits of men whose fear of

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women renders them grotesque. Wallace's stories present a world where the bizarre and the banal are interwoven and where hideous men appear in many different guises. Thought-provoking and playful, this collection confirms David Foster Wallace as one of the most imaginative young writers around. Wallace delights in leftfield observation, mining the ironic, the surprising and the illuminating from every situation. His new collection will delight his growing number of fans, and provide a perfect introduction for new readers.

A 1922 women's adventure and travel novel by British-American novelist Elizabeth von Arnim. It is

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said to be the author's lightest and most refreshing novel. The novel follows four dissimilar women in 1920s England who leave their rainy, grey environments to go on holiday in Italy. Mrs Arbuthnot and Mrs Wilkins, who belong to the same ladies' club but have never spoken, become acquainted after reading a newspaper advertisement for a small medieval castle on the Mediterranean to be let furnished for April. They find some common ground in that both are struggling to make the best of unhappy marriages. The four women come together at the castle and find rejuvenation in the tranquil beauty of their surroundings, rediscovering

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hope and love.

"Effective Graphic Design is an application-oriented design textbook for students that introduces them to the basic concepts and tools of graphic design"--

'Rich. . . eclectic. . . a feast' Telegraph This landmark collection brings together forty writers that reflect over a hundred years of Italy's vibrant and diverse short story tradition, from the birth of the modern nation to the end of the twentieth century. Poets, journalists, visual artists, musicians, editors, critics, teachers, scientists, politicians, translators: the writers that inhabit these pages represent a dynamic cross section of Italian society, their powerful voices

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resonating through regional landscapes, private passions and dramatic political events. This wide-ranging selection curated by Jhumpa Lahiri includes well known authors such as Italo Calvino, Elsa Morante and Luigi Pirandello alongside many captivating new discoveries. More than a third of the stories featured in this volume have been translated into English for the first time, several of them by Lahiri herself.

Other Voices, Other Vistas Short Stories from Africa, China, India, Japan, and Latin America Signet

[The Tales of Kenji Miyazawa](#)



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[A Novel](#)

[Stories](#)

[Invisible Cities](#)

[Other Voices, Other Vistas](#)

[The FSG Book of Twentieth-Century Latin American  
Poetry](#)

[Instructor's Manual to Accompany The International  
Story](#)

[Concert of Voices - Second Edition](#)

[The Penguin Book of Japanese Short Stories](#)

[From the Second Decade of New Stories from the  
South](#)

**A collection of Southern literature features twenty stories**

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**written from 1996 to 2005 by both famous and first-time writers, including Lee Smith, Max Steele, Gregory Sanders, Stephanie Soileau, and many more, accompanied by incisive introductions by editor Anne Tyler. Original.**

**Gwangju, South Korea, 1980. In the wake of a viciously suppressed student uprising, a boy searches for his friend's corpse, a consciousness searches for its abandoned body, and a brutalised country searches for a voice. In a sequence of interconnected chapters the victims and the bereaved encounter censorship, denial, forgiveness and the echoing agony of the original trauma. Human Acts is a universal book, utterly modern and profoundly timeless. Already a controversial**

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bestseller and award-winning book in Korea, it confirms Han Kang as a writer of immense importance.

A selection of short stories includes the work of Nadine Gordimer, Bei Dao, Anita Desai, Kobo Abe, Gabriel Garcia Marquez, Isabel Allende, Chinua Achebe, Wang Anyi, R. K. Naryan, Yukio Mishima, and fifteen others.

A multicultural selection of short stories from around the world includes the work of Nadine Gordimer, Bei Dao, Anita Desai, Kobo Abe, Gabriel Garcia Mßrquez, Isabel Allende, Chinua Achebe, Wang Anyi, R. K. Narayan, Yukio Mishima, and fifteen other notable authors.

Reprint.

This spine-tingling anthology features classic stories from such literary masters as Charles Dickens, Henry

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**James, Oscar Wilde and Angela Carter, all of whom were inspired by folklore and mythology--and all of whom dared to explore the darker side of human nature.**

**Original.**

**This fantastically varied and exciting collection celebrates the great Japanese short story, from its modern origins in the nineteenth century to the remarkable works being written today. Short story writers already well-known to English-language readers are all included here - Tanizaki, Akutagawa, Murakami, Mishima, Kawabata - but also many surprising new finds. From Yuko Tsushima's 'Flames' to Yuten Sawanishi's 'Filling Up with Sugar', from Shin'ichi Hoshi's 'Shoulder-Top Secretary' to Banana Yoshimoto's 'Bee Honey', The**

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**Penguin Book of Japanese Short Stories is filled with fear, charm, beauty and comedy. Curated by Jay Rubin, who has himself freshly translated several of the stories, and introduced by Haruki Murakami, this book will be a revelation to its readers.**

**Renowned visionary and theorist bell hooks began her exploration of the meaning of love in American culture with the critically acclaimed bestseller All About Love: New Visions. She continued her national dialogue with the bestselling Salvation: Black People and Love. Now hooks culminates her triumphant trilogy of love with Communion: The Female Search for Love. Intimate, revealing, provocative, Communion challenges every woman to courageously claim the search for love as the**

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**heroic journey we must all choose to be truly free. In her trademark commanding and lucid language, hooks explores the ways ideas about women and love were changed by the feminist movement, by women's full participation in the workforce, and by the culture of self-help. Communion is the heart-to-heart talk every woman -- mother, daughter, friend, and lover -- needs to have. Nobel laureate Naguib Mahfouz reaches back millennia to his homeland's majestic past in this enchanting collection of early tales that brings the world of ancient Egypt face to face with our own times. From the Predynastic Period, where a cabal of entrenched rulers banish virtue in jealous defense of their status, to the Fifth Dynasty, where a Pharaoh returns from an extended**

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leave to find that only his dog has remained loyal, to the twentieth century, where a mummy from the Eighteenth Dynasty awakens in fury to reproach a modern Egyptian nobleman for his arrogance, these five stories conduct timeless truths over the course of thousands of years. Summoning the power and mystery of a legendary civilization, they exemplify the artistry that has made Mahfouz among the most revered writers in world literature. Translated by Raymond Stock

[Clyde Fans](#)

[Voices from the Other World](#)

[The Book of Strange New Things](#)

[Feminism And Beyond](#)

[Effective Graphic Design](#)

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[A Beautiful Lie](#)

[Writing the Nigeria-Biafra War](#)

[Ancient Egyptian Tales](#)

[Mrs. Spring Fragrance](#)

[Communion](#)

[There Are Jews in My House](#)

In this, her first collection of short stories, Winterson reveals all the facets of her extraordinary imagination. In prose that is full of imagery and word-play, she creates physical and psychological worlds that are at once familiar and yet shockingly strange. Presents a diverse sample of twentieth-century Latin American poems from eighty-four



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authors in Spanish, Portuguese, Ladino, Spanglish, and several indigenous languages with English translations on facing pages. From the acclaimed author of *Brothers and To Live*: thirteen audacious stories that resonate with the beauty, grittiness, and exquisite irony of everyday life in China. Yu Hua's narrative gifts, populist voice, and inimitable wit have made him one of the most celebrated and best-selling writers in China. These flawlessly crafted stories—unflinching in their honesty, yet balanced with humor and compassion—take us into the small towns and dirt roads that are home to the people who

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make China run. In the title story, a shopkeeper confronts a child thief and punishes him without mercy. "Victory" shows a young couple shaken by the husband's infidelity, scrambling to stake claims to the components of their shared life. "Sweltering Summer" centers on an awkward young man who shrewdly uses the perks of his government position to court two women at once. Other tales show, by turns, two poor factory workers who spoil their only son, a gang of peasants who bully the village orphan, and a spectacular fistfight outside a refinery bathhouse. With sharp language and a keen

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eye, Yu Hua explores the line between cruelty and warmth on which modern China is—precariously, joyfully—balanced. Taken together, these stories form a timely snapshot of a nation lit with the deep feeling and ready humor that characterize its people. Already a sensation in Asia, certain to win recognition around the world, Yu Hua, in *Boy in the Twilight*, showcases the peerless gifts of a writer at the top of his form.

An extraordinarily rich debut novel, set in India in 1947 at the time of Partition. Although the backdrop is this key event in

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Indian history, the novel is even more far-reaching, touching on the importance of tolerance, love and family. The main character is Bilal, a boy determined to protect his dying father from the news of Partition - news that he knows will break his father's heart. With great spirit and determination, and with the help of his good friends, Bilal persuades others to collude with him in this deception, even printing false pages of the local newspaper to hide the ravages of unrest from his father. All that Bilal wants is for his father to die in peace. But that means Bilal has a very

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complicated relationship with the truth...

ONE OF FIVE NEW VINTAGE FUTURE CLASSICS

READING GUIDE EDITIONS

The book questions patriarchy and the associated feminine power struggle. It traverses through the characters of the mythological Draupadi of the epic Mahabharat - seeing this epic through the eyes of Draupadi - and a Naxalite girl who was named after this mythological character who broke all typical stereotyped thoughts, convictions and conditioning. This book deals with gender stereotyping and breaking the bondages arising out of conditioning thereof. The

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detailed research done is bound to draw the attention of any reader towards the ease with which one accepts the indoctrination of stereotypical views, particularly of the feminine form as a norm. In this mundane world, where the dominating position in all subtleties is held by the MAN-kind, this book lucidly addresses questions related to feminine stereotyping. It also intrigues the reader regarding identities arising out of such conditioning.

Presenting a diverse and dazzling collection from all over the continent, from Morocco to Zimbabwe, Uganda to Kenya. Helon Habila

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focuses on younger, newer writers - contrasted with some of their older, more established peers - to give a fascinating picture of a new and more liberated Africa. These writers are characterized by their engagement with the wider world and the opportunities offered by the end of apartheid, the end of civil wars and dictatorships, and the possibilities of free movement. Their work is inspired by travel and exile. They are liberated, global and expansive. As Dambudzo Marechera wrote: 'If you're a writer for a specific nation or specific race, then f\*\*\* you.'" These are the

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stories of a new Africa, punchy, self-confident and defiant. Includes stories by: Fatou Diome; Aminatta Forna; Manuel Rui; Patrice Nganang; Leila Aboulela; Zo Wicomb; Alaa Al Aswany; Doreen Baingana; E.C. Osondu. Legendary Canadian cartoonist Seth's magnum opus *Clyde Fans*, two decades in the making, appeared on twenty best of 2019 lists, including those from the New York Times, the Guardian, and Washington Post, and was nominated for an Eisner Award and the Giller Prize. *Clyde Fans* peels back the optimism of mid-twentieth century capitalism, showing the rituals, hopes, and delusions of a vanished



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middle-class—garrulous self-made men in wool suits extolling the virtues of their wares to taciturn shopkeepers. Much like the myth of an ever-growing economy, the Clyde Fans family business is a fraud. The patriarch has abandoned it to mismatched sons, one who strives to keep the company afloat and the other who retreats into his memories. Abe and Simon Matchcard are brothers, struggling to save their archaic family business selling oscillating fans in a world switching to air conditioning. Simon flirts with becoming a salesman as a last-ditch effort to leave the protective walls of the family home, but is

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ultimately unable to escape Abe's critical voice in his head. As Clyde Fans Co. crumbles, so does the relationship between the two men, who choose very different life paths but both end up utterly unhappy. Seth's intimate storytelling and gorgeous art allow cityscapes and detailed period objects to tell their own stories as the brothers struggle to find themselves suffocating in an airless home. Twenty years in the making, Clyde Fans peels back the optimism of mid-twentieth century capitalism. Legendary Canadian cartoonist Seth lovingly shows the rituals, hopes, and delusions of a middle-

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class that has long ceased to exist in North America—garrulous men in wool suits extolling the virtues of the wares to taciturn shopkeepers with an eye on the door. Much like the myth of an ever-growing economy, the Clyde Fans family unit is a fraud—the patriarch has abandoned the business to mismatched sons, one who strives to keep the business afloat and the other who retreats into the arms of the remaining parent. Abe and Simon Matchcard are brothers, the second generation struggling to save their archaic family business of selling oscillating fans in a world switching to air conditioning. At

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Clyde Fans' center is Simon, who flirts with becoming a salesman as a last-ditch effort to leave the protective walls of the family home, but is ultimately unable to escape Abe's critical voice in his head. As the business crumbles so does any remaining relationship between the two men, both of whom choose very different life paths but still end up utterly unhappy. Seth's intimate storytelling and gorgeous art allow urban landscapes and detailed period objects to tell their own stories as the brothers struggle to find themselves suffocating in an airless city home. An epic time capsule of a

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storyline that begs rereading.

[Human Acts](#)

[The World and Other Places](#)

[Best of the South](#)

[An Anthology of World Writing in English](#)

[Beloved](#)

[Once and Forever](#)

[The Enchanted April](#)

[The Image of the City](#)

[Dawn](#)

[Short Stories from Africa, China, India,](#)

[Japan, and Latin America](#)

[Clarissa; or, The history of a young lady](#)

**WINNER OF THE ROONEY PRIZE 2018 A modern**

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Irish literary gem for anyone who has felt like the odd one out. 'Inventive, funny and, ultimately, moving'

GUARDIAN 'Wildly funny' THE NEW YORK TIMES  
BOOK REVIEW 'Beguiling' THE IRISH TIMES

'Delightfully quirky' THE IRISH INDEPENDENT

One of the first works of fiction published by a Chinese-American author, this collection of 17 short stories offers a revealing look at life in San Francisco's Chinatown during the early 20th century.

"Cities, like dreams, are made of desires and fears, even if the thread of their discourse is secret, their rules are absurd, their perspectives deceitful, and everything

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conceals something else.” — from *Invisible Cities* In a garden sit the aged Kublai Khan and the young Marco Polo — Mongol emperor and Venetian traveler. Kublai Khan has sensed the end of his empire coming soon. Marco Polo diverts his host with stories of the cities he has seen in his travels around the empire: cities and memory, cities and desire, cities and designs, cities and the dead, cities and the sky, trading cities, hidden cities. As Marco Polo unspools his tales, the emperor detects these fantastic places are more than they appear. “*Invisible Cities* changed the way we read and what is possible in the balance between poetry and prose . . . The book I would choose as pillow and plate,

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alone on a desert island.” — Jeanette Winterson

Finalist for the National Book Award for Fiction “[These stories] vibrate with originality, queerness, sensuality and the strange.”—Roxane Gay “In these formally brilliant and emotionally charged tales, Machado gives literal shape to women’s memories and hunger and desire. I couldn’t put it down.”—Karen Russell *In Her Body and Other Parties*, Carmen Maria Machado blithely demolishes the arbitrary borders between psychological realism and science fiction, comedy and horror, fantasy and fabulism. While her work has earned her comparisons to Karen Russell and Kelly Link, she has a voice that is all her own. In this electric and



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provocative debut, Machado bends genre to shape startling narratives that map the realities of women's lives and the violence visited upon their bodies. A wife refuses her husband's entreaties to remove the green ribbon from around her neck. A woman recounts her sexual encounters as a plague slowly consumes humanity. A salesclerk in a mall makes a horrifying discovery within the seams of the store's prom dresses. One woman's surgery-induced weight loss results in an unwanted houseguest. And in the bravura novella "Especially Heinous," Machado reimagines every episode of *Law & Order: Special Victims Unit*, a show we naïvely assumed had shown it all, generating a

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phantasmagoric police procedural full of doppelgängers, ghosts, and girls with bells for eyes. Earthy and otherworldly, antic and sexy, queer and caustic, comic and deadly serious, *Her Body and Other Parties* swings from horrific violence to the most exquisite sentiment. In their explosive originality, these stories enlarge the possibilities of contemporary fiction.

Winner of the Booker Prize as best novel of the year in 1983, *Heat and Dust* was also made into a major motion picture starring Julie Christie, now regarded by many as a classic.

21 Female Participation in War and the Implication of

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Nationalism: The Postcolonial Disconnection in Buchi  
Emecheta's Destination Biafra -- Select Bibliography --  
Index

An “extraordinary first novel” about a father trying to escape the past and a son lost in a world of imaginary voices—winner of the Mary McCarthy Prize (Booklist). Levi Revel is a boy in danger of losing his family and maybe his mind. He’s in awe of his father, Everest—a majestic dreamer, a master builder, a man with a violent, secret past. As the family moves from state to state, Levi hears solace in the voice of God, a voice that sends him preaching from treetops and roofs. But as the family

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begins to fall apart and Levi enters adolescence, he starts to hear more troubling things. When Everest takes him on a high-speed, cross-country chase to win back Levi's mother—by force if necessary—Levi realizes how much danger they all are in. Tender and frightening, *More Like Not Running Away* takes readers across America, through the eyes and ears of a child whose family is haunted by a past they can't outrun. "Shepherd's family-in-decline frames an impressive father-son character study."

—Publishers Weekly "This extraordinary first novel about the blood ties that bind fathers and sons packs such emotional power that reading it is like sustaining repeated

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blows to the heart.” —Booklist “Shepherd is a master craftsman, and the subtlety of his art, the unassuming elegance of its architecture, rendered me spellbound and finally grateful.” —Bob Shacochis, author of *The Woman Who Lost Her Soul* “A riveting exploration of what it is to be an outsider even in your own head. Shepherd has written a gripping story of childhood angst—psychologically thrilling, lyrically exact.” —Janet Burroway, author of *Writing Fiction*

Kenji Miyazawa is one of modern Japan’s most beloved writers, a great poet and a strange and marvelous spinner of tales, whose sly, humorous, enchanting, and enigmatic

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stories bear a certain resemblance to those of his contemporary Robert Walser. John Bester's selection and expert translation of Miyazawa's short fiction reflects its full range from the joyful, innocent "Wildcat and the Acorns," to the cautionary tale "The Restaurant of Many Orders," to "The Earthgod and the Fox," which starts out whimsically before taking a tragic turn. Miyazawa also had a deep connection to Japanese folklore and an intense love of the natural world. In "The Wild Pear," what seem to be two slight nature sketches succeed in encapsulating some of the cruelty and compensations of life itself.

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