



The International
IMPAC
Dublin
Literary Award

No. 14 February 2008

The Newsletter of the IMPAC Dublin Literary Award

Fiction Matters

Complete List of Eligible Titles

2008

www.impactdublinaward.ie

Winner of the 2007 Award

Out Stealing Horses by Per Petterson,
translated from the original Norwegian
by Anne Born



*The winner of the 2007 International IMPAC Dublin Literary Award,
Per Petterson with Out Stealing Horses*

The 2008 Award

Key Dates

5th November 2007

Announcement of long list of eligible titles
and panel of international judges

2nd April 2008

Shortlist Announcement

12th June 2008

Winner Announcement



The launch of the 2008 award, November 2007, Dublin City Library & Archive, L - R: Yvonne Conaty, IMPAC; Cllr. Paddy Bourke, Lord Mayor of Dublin and Patron of the Award; Eibhlín Evans, 2008 judging panel; Deirdre Ellis-King, Dublin City Librarian



*The Dublin City Manager with members of the 2008 judging panel.
L- R: José Luis de Juan; John Tierney, Dublin City Manager; Eibhlín Evans;
Judge Eugene Sullivan, non-voting chair; Aamer Hussein*

Members of the 2008 Judging Panel



photo courtesy of Tom Langdon

Helon Habila was born in Nigeria in 1967. He worked as a lecturer and journalist in Nigeria before he moved to England to become the African Writing Fellow at the University of East Anglia. In 2002 he published his first novel, *Waiting for an Angel*, which has been translated into many languages including Dutch, Italian, Swedish, and French. His writing has won many prizes including the Caine Prize, 2001, and the Commonwealth Writers Prize, 2003. He is a contributing editor to the *Virginia Quarterly Review*. In 2006 he co-edited the British Council's anthology, *New Writing 14*. His second novel, *Measuring Time*, was published in February, 2007. He currently teaches Creative Writing at the George Mason University in Fairfax, Virginia, where he lives with his family.



Eibhlín Evans grew up in Dublin. She moved to England where she gained a PhD in English and Philosophy and taught in universities for many years. Since her return to Dublin in 2004, she has been a member of the School of English and Drama at University College Dublin where she has been involved in the recently established M.A. Degree in Creative Writing. She has published academic articles, essays and reviews and has edited a collection of essays on Irish writing. Her research has been chiefly centered on twentieth century and contemporary writing, including Irish writing and women's writing. She is actively involved in the literary life of Dublin city. Working with Dublin City Libraries she has given talks, lectures and interviews on literary subjects and has been a key supporter of and participant in the Dublin One City, One Book initiative and The Dublin Writers Festival. She is also a published poet, and a painter.



photo courtesy of Peter Peitsch

Patricia Duncker was born in Jamaica and has lived most of her life in Northern Europe. She was educated at Cambridge and Oxford and is the author of four novels: *Hallucinating Foucault* (1996), winner of the Dillons First Fiction Award and the McKitterick Prize, *James Miranda Barry* (1999), *The Deadly Space Between* (2002) and *Miss Webster and Cherif* (2006) which was shortlisted for the Commonwealth Writers Prize. She has also written two collections of short fiction, *Monsieur Shoushana's Lemon Trees* (1997) and *Seven Tales of Sex and Death* (2003). She is Professor of Contemporary Literature at the University of Manchester.



José Luis de Juan was born in Palma in 1956. He graduated in Law and International Relations in the universities of Barcelona and Johns Hopkins, working as a lawyer and civil servant in different organisations. Following a period of art activities, he began to publish his literary work in the 90s: six novels, short stories and two non-fiction books, as well as poetry. He has received literary awards in Spain and France. His works have been translated into English, French and Italian and presented in international literary festivals including Berlin (2004) and Edinburgh (the novel *This Breathing World*, Arcadia 2007). He lives in Majorca.



Aamer Hussein was born in 1955 in Karachi, Pakistan. He has lived in London since the 70s. He is the author of five collections of stories, most recently *Turquoise* (2002), *This Other Salt* (2005) and *Insomnia* (2007). He is a Fellow of the Royal Society of Literature, and lectures at the University of Southampton. He is also Director of the MA in National and International Literatures in English at the Institute of English Studies (University of London). He has reviewed for the Independent, the TLS, Literary Review and the New Statesman and was on the jury of the Commonwealth Prize (Eurasia) 2006/7.



Hon. Eugene R. Sullivan, non-voting chair of the judging panel, is a former Chief Judge of a US Court of Appeals and brings a wealth of experience from sixteen years on the bench. His first novel, *The Majority Rules*, was published in 2005. His second novel of his political thriller trilogy, *The Report to the Judiciary*, will be published in the spring of 2008. Judge Sullivan is currently a senior partner in Freeh Group International, a global consultant group of former judges based in Washington DC; Wilmington, Delaware; London; and Rome.



The International
I M P A C
Dublin
Literary Award

The International IMPAC Dublin Literary Award is presented annually for a novel written in English or translated into English. The award is an initiative of Dublin City Council, the municipal government of Dublin, in partnership with IMPAC, a leading management productivity enhancement company, with the objective of promoting excellence in world literature. Nominations are submitted by library systems in major cities throughout the world.

Winner Announcement: 12th June 2008



A Spot of Bother

Mark Haddon

Nominated by:

- **Stedelijke Openbare Bibliotheek Gent, Belgium**

At fifty-seven, George is settling down to a comfortable retirement, when Katie, his tempestuous daughter, announces that she is getting remarried, to Ray, with the 'strangler's hands'. His wife is having a late life affair with one of his former colleagues. His son appears to have fallen out with his lover.

Unnoticed in the uproar, George discovers a sinister lesion on his hip, and quietly begins to lose his mind.

The way these damaged people fall apart - and come together - as a family, is the true subject of Mark Haddon's disturbing yet funny portrait of a dignified man trying to go insane politely.

Mark Haddon has written fifteen books for children and won two BAFTAs. His bestselling novel, *The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time* won seventeen literary prizes. He lives in Oxford.

Absurdistan

Gary Shteyngart

Nominated by:

- **Katona József County Library, Kecskemét, Hungary**
- **Minneapolis Public Library, USA**

Meet Misha Vainberg, a 325-pound disaster of a human being, son of the 1,238th richest man in Russia. Poor Misha just wants to live in the South Bronx with his hot Latina girlfriend, but after his gangster father murders an Oklahoma businessman in Russia, all hopes of a U.S. visa are lost.

Salvation lies in the tiny, oil-rich nation of Absurdistan, where a crooked consular officer will sell Misha a Belgian passport. But after a civil war breaks out and a local warlord installs Misha as minister of multicultural affairs, our hero finds himself covered in oil, fighting for his life, falling in love, and trying to figure out if a normal life is possible in the twenty-first century.

Gary Shteyngart was born in Leningrad in 1972. His debut novel, *The Russian Debutante's Handbook*, won the Stephen Crane Award for First Fiction and the National Jewish Book Award for Fiction. His fiction and essays have appeared in *The New Yorker*, *Granta*, *GQ*, *Esquire* and *The New York Times Magazine*. He lives in New York.

After This

Alice McDermott

Nominated By:

- **Lincoln Library, Springfield, USA**
- **San José Public Library, USA**

While Michael and Annie Keane taste the alternately intoxicating and bitter first fruits of the sexual revolution, their older, more tentative brother, Jacob, lags behind, until he finds himself on the way to Vietnam. Meanwhile, Clare, the youngest child of their aging parents, seeks to maintain an almost saintly innocence.

After This, alive with the passions and tragedies of a determining era in history, portrays the clash of traditional, faith-bound life and modern freedom, while also capturing, the joy, sorrow, anger, and love that underpin, and undermine, what it is to be a family.

Alice McDermott is the author of five previous novels, including *Child of My Heart* and *Charming Billy*, winner of the 1998 National Book Award; all published by Farrar, Straus & Giroux. She lives with her family outside Washington, D.C.

Agaat

Marlene Van Niekerk

Translated from the original Afrikaans by Michiel Heyns

Nominated by:

- **Cape Town Central Library, South Africa**

Milla, the idealistic heiress of the family farm suffers cruel disillusionment in her marriage. Agaat, adopted by Milla, and raised with a relentless and loving hand, is later reduced to the role of housekeeper and nanny after the birth of Milla's biological son. But when Milla falls prey to motor neuron disease, the tables are turned once again. Agaat not only takes over Milla's role, she becomes the tyrannical ruler of the farm and its people.

In *Agaat*, Van Niekerk presents a stark and distressing view of the Afrikaans landscape: a landscape of a damaged humanity, but also of enduring hope.

Marlene van Niekerk is the author of two collections of poetry, *Sprokkelster* (1976) and *Groenster* (1983) and a collection of short stories, *Die vrou wat haar verkykers vergeet het* (1992). She lives in Johannesburg.

Against the Day

Thomas Pynchon

Nominated by:

- **Warsaw Public Library, Poland**
- **Stadt-und Universitätsbibliothek Bern, Switzerland**
- **Bibliothèque Municipale de Lille, France**
- **The Free Library of Philadelphia, USA**

- **Public Library of Cincinnati & Hamilton County, USA**
- **Edmonton Public Library, Canada**

Thomas Pynchon's first novel in almost ten years spans the era between the Chicago World's Fair of 1893 and the years just after World War I, and moves among locations across the globe (and to a few places not strictly speaking on the map at all). With a phantasmagoria of characters and a kaleidoscopic plot, *Against the Day* confronts a world of impending disaster, unrestrained corporate greed, false religiosity, moronic fecklessness, and evil intent in high places and still manages to be hilarious, moving, profound, and so much more.

Thomas Pynchon is the author of *V*, *The Crying of Lot 49*, *Gravity's Rainbow*, *Slow Learner*, a collection of short stories, *Vineland*, and most recently, *Mason and Dixon*. He received the National Book Award for *Gravity's Rainbow* in 1974.

Alentejo Blue

Monica Ali

Nominated by:

- **Biblioteca Municipal Central de Lisboa, Lisbon, Portugal**

Alentejo Blue is the story of a village community in Portugal, told through the lives of men and women whose families have lived there for generations and some who are passing through.

At the opening of *Alentejo Blue*, an old man reflects on his long and troubled life in this seemingly tranquil place, and anticipates the homecoming of Marco Afonso Rodrigues, the prodigal son of the village and a symbol of the now fast-changing world. When Marco does finally return, villagers, tourists, and expatriates are brought together, and their jealousies and disappointments inevitably collide.

Monica Ali was born in Dhaka, Bangladesh, and grew up in England. Her first novel, *Brick Lane* was translated into thirty languages. She lives in London with her husband and two children.

Alonso and the Drug Baron

Evan Jones

Nominated by:

- **The National Library & Information System Authority, Trinidad & Tobago**

Everybody wants Alonso dead. Detective Sergeant Swaby, who has set him up to take the rap for Chin Lee's murder; the assassin Bulldog, who threw Chin Lee's body over the balcony of one-one-one; the drug baron Leprosini, whom Chin Lee was trying to double-cross; the corrupt minister Magnus Bonanza. Even Ras Clawt, the magnificently endowed freedom fighter, will kill Alonso if he makes a wrong move.

The only way Alonso can hope to return to his pleasantly idle life is to find out the true facts of Chin Lee's death and persuade the Authority to exonerate him.

Evan Jones was born in Jamaica in 1927. He has written numerous plays for television, and screenplays for films. He is married to the actress Joanna Jones. They have two daughters who are both writers.

American Cookery

Laura Kalpakian

Nominated by:

- **Frederiksberg Kommunes Biblioteker, Denmark**

Animated as a family reunion, intimate as a lovers' picnic, *American Cookery* serves up tradition and innovation in a family novel based on the joy of cooking. The story is complete with twenty-seven recipes from the life and tumultuous times of Eden Douglass.

Eden was born in 1920 into a contentious California tribe, and the ingredients of her life include her grandmother's reserve, her aunt's instinct for action, and her mother's foggy warmth.

A big-cast book, *American Cookery* fulfills the wide embrace of its title. The novel chronicles the stories behind family recipes and the lives that touch Eden's.

Laura Kalpakian has received a grant from the National Endowment of the Arts, a Pushcart Prize, the Pacific Northwest Booksellers Association Award, and the PEN/West Award for Best Short Fiction. *American Cookery* is her tenth novel.

An Iliad

Alessandro Baricco

Translated from the original Italian by Ann Goldstein

Nominated by:

- **Biblioteca Nazionale Centrale Firenze, Florence, Italy**

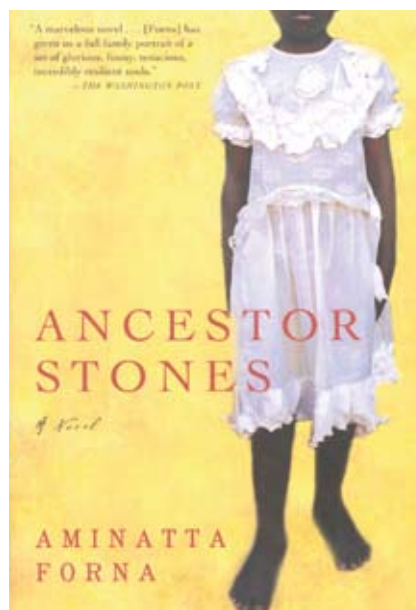
Alessandro Baricco re-creates the siege of Troy through the voices of twenty-one Homeric characters, in the narrative idiom of our modern imagination. From the return of Chryseis to the burial of Hector, we see through human eyes and feel with human hearts the unforgettable events first recounted almost three thousand years ago. Imbuing the stuff of legend with a startling new relevancy and humanity, Baricco gives us *The Iliad* as we have never known it. His transformative achievement is certain to delight and fascinate all readers of Homer's indispensable classic.

Alessandro Baricco was born in Turin in 1958 and still makes his home there. The author of four previous novels, he has

won the Prix Médicis Étranger in France and the Selezione Campiello, Viareggio, and Palazzo al Bosco prizes in Italy.

Ancestor Stones

Aminatta Forna



Nominated by:

- **Richland County Public Library, Columbia, USA**

Abie returns home from England to West Africa to visit her family after years of civil war, and to reclaim the family plantation, formerly owned by her grandfather. So begins the gathering of her family and the telling of the country's history through the tales of her aunts. Set against the backdrop of a nation's descent into chaos, it is the story of a family and four women's attempts to alter the course of their own destiny.

Ancestor Stones beautifully captures Africa's past century and her present, and the legacy that her daughters take with them wherever they live.

Aminatta Forna's previous book, *The Devil That Danced on the Water*, was a memoir of her activist father and her country, Sierra Leone.

Apex Hides the Hurt

Colson Whitehead

Nominated by:

- **San Francisco Public Library, USA**

When the citizens of Winthrop needed a new name for their town, they did what anyone would do - they hired a consultant.

The protagonist of *Apex Hides the Hurt* is a nomenclature consultant.

After leaving his job (following a mysterious misfortune), his expertise is called upon by the town of Winthrop. Once there, he meets the town council, who will try to sway his opinion over the coming days.

Apex Hides the Hurt brilliantly and wryly satirizes our contemporary culture, where memory and history are subsumed by the tides of marketing.

Colson Whitehead is the author of the novels *The Intuitionist* and *John Henry Days*, and a collection of essays, *The Colossus of New York*. He lives in Brooklyn.

Black Swan Green

David Mitchell

Nominated by:

- **Free Library of Philadelphia, USA**
- **New York Public Library, USA**
- **Tampere City Library, Finland**

January 1982. Thirteen-year-old Jason Taylor - covert stammerer and reluctant poet - anticipates a stultifying year in his backwater English village. But he hasn't reckoned with bullies, simmering family discord, the Falklands War, a threatened gypsy invasion and those mysterious entities known as girls. Charting thirteen months in the black hole between childhood and adolescence, this is a captivating novel, wry, painful and vibrant with the stuff of life.

David Mitchell was born in 1969 and grew up in Worcestershire. He is the author of *Ghostwritten*, *Number 9 Dream*, and *Cloud Atlas*. He lives in Japan with his wife and two children.

Brookland

Emily Barton

Nominated by:

- **Lincoln City Libraries, USA**

Since her girlhood, Prudence Winship has gazed across the tidal straits from her home in Brooklyn to the city of Manhattan and yearned to bridge the distance. Now, firmly established as the owner of an enormously successful gin distillery she inherited from her father, she can begin to realize her dream.

Set in eighteenth-century Brooklyn, this is the beautifully written story of a woman with a vision: a gargantuan construction of timber and masonry to span the East River. With the help of her sisters - high-spirited Tem and silent, uncanny Pearl - Prue fires the imaginations of the people of Brooklyn and New York by promising them easy passage between their two worlds.

Emily Barton's fiction has appeared in *Story*, *American Short Fiction*, and *Conjunctions*. Her first novel, *The Testament of Yves Gundron*, won the Bard Fiction Prize and was named a New York Times Notable Book of the Year. She lives in Brooklyn, New York.

Can You Hear the Nightbird Call?

Anita Rau Badami

Nominated by:

- Toronto Public Library, Canada

Can You Hear the Nightbird Call?

chronicles the stories of three women, linked in love and tragedy, over a span of fifty years, sweeping from the partition of India and Pakistan in 1947 to the explosion of Air India flight 182 off the coast of Ireland in 1985. Alive with Badami's warmth and humanity, and brimming with the daily sights and sounds of both Canada and India, this novel brilliantly conveys the tumultuous effects of the past on new immigrants, and the ways in which memory and myth, the personal and the political, become heartrendingly connected.

Anita Rau Badami was born in India in 1961. Following publication of her second novel *Hero's Walk* (2000), she received the Marian Engel Award, which is given to a Canadian woman author in mid-career for outstanding prose writing. She lives in Montreal.

Careless

Deborah Robertson

Nominated by:

- The State Library of New South Wales, Sydney, Australia

Pearl is a child who strives to get things right. But the events of one summer's day are about to change her life, and nothing may ever be right again. In ways connected but unforeseen, this child's tragedy will also enter the lives of two strangers; Sonia, learning to live alone after the death of her famous husband, and Adam Logan, a young sculptor contemplating the celebrity his artwork has brought him.

Careless explores the ties of caring and responsibility, for the living and the dead, that are formed, and broken, in our society.

Deborah Robertson was born in Bridgetown, WA, in 1959. Her first book, *Proudflesh*, won the Steele Rudd Award for the best Australian short story collection in its year of publication. She teaches creative writing at Murdoch University and lives in the port of Fremantle.

Carpentaria

Alexis Wright

Nominated by:

- The State Library of New South Wales, Sydney, Australia
- The State Library of Victoria, Melbourne, Australia
- The State Library of Tasmania, Hobart, Australia
- The State Library of Queensland, Brisbane, Australia
- The National Library of Australia, Canberra, Australia

Alexis Wright is one of Australia's finest Aboriginal writers. *Carpentaria* is her second novel, an epic set in the Gulf country of north-western Queensland, from where her people come. The novel's portrait of life in the precariously settled coastal town of Desperance centres on the powerful Phantom family, leader of the Westend Pricklebush people, and its battles with old Joseph Midnight's renegade Eastend mob on the one hand, and the white officials of Uptown and the neighbouring Gurfurrit mine on the other.

Wright's storytelling is operatic and surreal: a blend of myth and scripture, farce and politics.

Alexis Wright is a member of the Waanyi nation of the southern highlands of the Gulf of Carpentaria. Her books include *Grog War*, a study of alcohol abuse in the outback town of Tennant Creek, and the novel *Plains of Promise*.

Cellophane

Marie Arana

Nominated by:

- Houston Public Library, USA
- Cleveland Public Library, USA

Don Victor Sobrevilla, a lovable, eccentric engineer, always dreamed of founding a paper factory in the heart of the Peruvian rain forest, and at the opening of the novel his dream has come true - until he discovers the recipe for cellophane. In a life already filled with signs and portents, the family dog suddenly begins to cough strangely. All at once Don Victor is overwhelmed by memories of his erotic past; his prim wife, Doña Mariana, reveals the shocking truth about her origins; the three Sobrevilla children turn their love lives upside down; the family priest blurts out a long-held secret...

A hilarious plague of truth has descended on the once well-behaved Sobrevillas, only the beginning of this brilliantly realized, generous-hearted novel.

Marie Arana is the editor of the Washington Post Book World. Born in Peru of a Peruvian father and an American mother, she is the author of *American*

Chica, and *The Writing Life: Writers on How They Think and Work*. She lives in Washington and Lima, Peru.

Cleaver

Tim Parks

Nominated by:

- Universitäts- und Landesbibliothek Bonn, Germany

Overweight and overwrought, Howard Cleaver, London's most successful journalist, abruptly abandons home, partner, mistresses and above all television. He flies to Milan and heads deep into the South Tyrol. His quest: to find a remote mountain hut, to get beyond the reach of email, and the mobile phone, and the interminable clamour of the public voice.

Weeks later, snowed in at five thousand feet, harangued by voices from the past and humiliated by his inability to understand the Tyrolean peasants he relies on for food and whisky, Cleaver discovers that there is nowhere so noisy and so dangerous as the solitary mind.

Tim Parks studied at Cambridge and Harvard. He lives near Verona with his wife and three children. He is the author of *Judge Savage* and *Europa*, shortlisted for the Booker Prize, 1997.

Coalescing with Omega

Rita Perera

Nominated by:

- Colombo Public Library, Sri Lanka

The reason for writing this book was the thought that whatever beliefs or hopes people may have; they all have to face the same commonality when they die.

In exploring this theme, the author has tried to depict a sort of microcosm of the world, which revolves round five people from different countries, nationalities, religions, cultures, social backgrounds and ages. They all die simultaneously, from various causes and face the same after-death experience.

The novel covers the backgrounds to their deaths, funerals and the overview and evaluation they each make of their individual lives.

Rita Perera graduated from the University of Ceylon, Peradeniya, in 1956. She taught in secondary schools and tertiary institutes, in Sri Lanka and U.K. from 1956 to 1991. She is currently the Hon. Secretary of a NGO in Sri Lanka (FONCA... Friends of Needy Children Association).

Davey Darling

Paul Shannon

Nominated by:

- **Auckland City Libraries, New Zealand**

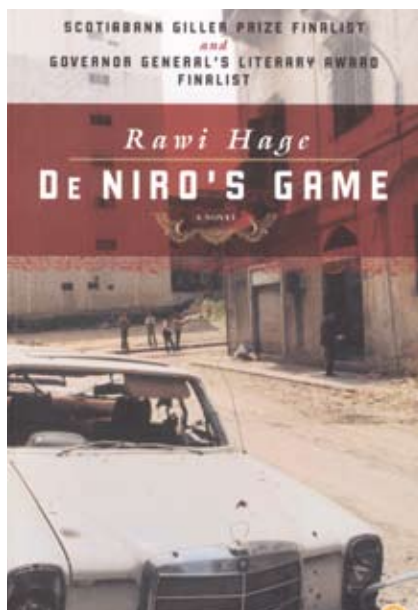
Davey Ardsley is twelve years old, growing up in a working-class suburb of Christchurch in the early 1970s with a big, violent, hard-case father and a long-suffering mother. Davey is a bit of a hard-case himself, giving his father and Terry Appleby, the local thug, plenty of lip.

One day Davey witnesses something he shouldn't have and the repercussions that follow pitch the Ardsleys down a dark and tragic road. The outcome is that Davey has to choose between loyalty to his father and telling the truth.

Paul Shannon was born in Ashburton in 1961. He lives in Auckland with his partner Leanne and two sons Hunter and Lewis. *Davey Darling* is his first novel.

De Niro's Game

Rawi Hage

**Nominated by:**

- **Winnipeg Public Library, Canada**

Bassam and George are childhood best friends who have grown to adulthood in war torn Beirut. Now they must choose their futures: to stay in the city and consolidate power through crime; or to go into exile abroad, alienated from the only existence they have known. Bassam chooses one path: Obsessed with leaving Beirut, he embarks on a series of petty crimes to finance his departure. Meanwhile, George builds his power in the underworld of the city and embraces a life of military service, crime for profit, killing, and drugs.

Told in the voice of Bassam, *De Niro's Game* is a beautiful, explosive portrait of a contemporary young man shaped by a lifelong experience of war.

Rawi Hage was born in Beirut, Lebanon, and lived through nine years of the Lebanese civil war. He immigrated to Canada in 1992. His writings have appeared in Fuse Magazine, Mizna, Jouvert, The Toronto Review, Montreal Serai, and Al-Jadid.

Digging to America

Anne Tyler

Nominated by:

- **Glasgow Libraries Information & Learning, Scotland**
- **Dunedin Public Libraries, New Zealand**
- **Denver Public Library, USA**
- **Openbare Bibliotheek Amsterdam, The Netherlands**
- **Newcastle Libraries & Information Service, England**

In what is perhaps her richest and most deeply searching novel, Anne Tyler gives us a story about what it is to be an American, and about Maryam Yazdan, who after thirty-five years in this country must finally come to terms with her "outsiderness."

Two families, meet by chance at the Baltimore airport – the Donaldsons, a very American couple, and the Yazdans, Maryam's fully assimilated son and his attractive Iranian-American wife. Even Maryam is drawn in, but when she finds herself being courted by one of the Donaldson clan, suddenly all the values she cherishes – her traditions, her privacy, her otherness – are threatened. Somehow this big American takes up so much space that the orderly boundaries of her life feel invaded.

Anne Tyler was born in Minneapolis in 1941. *Digging to America* is her seventeenth novel. Her eleventh, *Breathing Lessons*, was awarded the Pulitzer Prize in 1988. She lives in Baltimore.

Disobedience

Naomi Alderman

Nominated by:

- **Regional Library of Karviná, Karviná-Mizerov, Czech Republic**
- **Municipal Library of Prague, Czech Republic**

By the age of 32, Ronit has transformed her life. She has become a cigarette-smoking, wise-cracking, New York career woman, in love with a married man.

But when her father dies she is called back into the very different world of her childhood. The orthodox Jewish suburb of Hendon, north London is outraged by Ronit and her provocative ways. Ronit too, is shocked by the confrontation with her past.

When she meets up with her childhood girlfriend Esti, she is forced to think again about what she has left behind.

Naomi Alderman was born in 1974 and was brought up in the Orthodox Jewish community in Hendon, London. She won the Orange Award for New Writers in 2006 and the Sunday Times Young Writer of the Year Award in 2007. *Disobedience* is her first novel.

Dreams of Speaking

Gail Jones

Nominated by:

- **The State Library of New South Wales, Sydney, Australia**
- **The National Library of Australia, Canberra, Australia**

Alice is entranced by the aesthetics of technology and, in every aeroplane flight, every Xerox machine, every neon sign, sees the poetry of modernity. Mr. Sakamoto, a survivor of the atomic bomb, is an expert on Alexander Graham Bell. The pair forge an unlikely friendship as Mr. Sakamoto regales Alice with stories of twentieth-century invention. His knowledge begins to inform her writing, and these two solitary beings become a mutual support for each other a long way from home.

Dreams of Speaking paints with grace and skill the experience of needing to belong despite wanting to be alone.

Gail Jones teaches literature, cinema and cultural studies at the University of Western Australia. *Dreams of Speaking* (Harvill/Vintage) was longlisted for the Orange Prize in 2006. *Sixty Lights* was longlisted for the Man Booker Prize in 2004.

Everyman

Philip Roth

Nominated by:

- **Hoofdstedelijke Openbare Bibliotheek, Brussels, Belgium**
- **Stedelijke Openbare Bibliotheek Gent, Belgium**
- **Stadtbücherei Frankfurt-am-Main, Germany**
- **Openbare Bibliotheek Eindhoven, The Netherlands**
- **Biblioteca Nazionale di Napoli, Naples, Italy**
- **Veria Central Public Library, Greece**
- **Stadtbibliothek Bremen, Germany**
- **Newcastle Libraries & Information Service, England**
- **Boston Public Library, USA**
- **The Association of Public Libraries, The Hague, The Netherlands**

The fate of Roth's everyman is traced from his first shocking confrontation with death on the idyllic beaches of his childhood summers, through the family trials and professional achievements of his vigorous adulthood, and into his old age, when he is

rended by observing the deterioration of his contemporaries and stalked by his own physical woes.

The terrain of this powerful novel - Roth's twenty-seventh book and the fifth to be published in the twenty-first century - is the human body. Its subject is the common experience that terrifies us all.

Philip Roth is the only living American writer to have his work published in a comprehensive, definitive edition by the Library of America. The last of eight volumes is scheduled for publication in 2013.

Foreign Words

Vassilis Alexakis

Translated from the original French by Alyson Waters

Nominated by:

- **Municipal Library of Thessaloniki, Greece**

We learn Sango is a question he himself has trouble answering. His ruminations are both humorous and penetrating. He traces events from his past (his early infatuation with Tarzan, a picture of his grandfather taken in Bangi before WW1, the death of his mother) and confronts his own mortality, suspecting that, at the age of fifty-two, he might be incapable of learning anything new, or summoning the courage to venture outside what he knows, or having amorous adventures.... He hopes to disprove such suspicions.

These and other themes are woven into an intimate portrait of a man struggling to come to terms with the death of his father and the fact that, he is now "only him one".

Vassilis Alexakis was born in Athens in 1943. His novels include *Le Sandwich*, *Talgo* and *Avant*. His collection of short stories, *Papa*, was awarded the Académie Française Prize.

Golden Country

Jennifer Gilmore

Nominated by:

- **San José Public Library, USA**

Golden Country, Jennifer Gilmore's masterful and irreverent reinvention of the Jewish American novel, captures the exuberance of the American dream while exposing its underbelly – disillusionment, greed, and the disaffection bred by success. As Gilmore's charmingly flawed characters witness and shape history, they come to embody America's greatness, as well as its greatest imperfections.

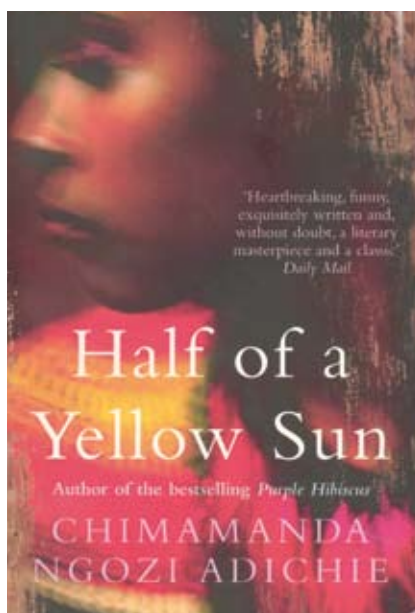
Spanning the first half of the twentieth century, *Golden Country* brings to life the intertwining stories of three immigrants seeking their fortunes. Their three families, though connected for years, are

brought together for the first time by the engagement of two of their children. The marriage must endure the inheritance of not only their parents' wealth but also the burdens of their past.

Jennifer Gilmore's work has appeared in magazines, journals, and anthologies, including *Alaska Quarterly Review*, *Allure*, *BookForum*, *CutBank*, *Nerve*, *Salon*, and *The Stranger*. She works in publishing.

Half of a Yellow Sun

Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie



Nominated by:

- **Deichmanske Bibliotek, Oslo, Norway**
- **Birmingham Libraries, England**
- **Boston Public Library, USA**
- **New Hampshire State Library, Concord, USA**
- **Gateshead Libraries & Arts, England**
- **Bergen Offentlige Bibliotek, Norway**
- **Free Library of Philadelphia, USA**
- **Stadt-und Universitätsbibliothek Bern, Switzerland**

Half of a Yellow Sun is set in Nigeria during the 1960s, at the time of a vicious civil war in which a million people died and thousands were massacred in cold blood.

The three main characters in the novel are swept up in the violence: a young boy from a poor village, a young middle-class woman, and a white man, a writer who lives in Nigeria for no clear reason

As their lives intersect, they question their own responses to the unfolding political events. This extraordinary novel is about Africa in a wider sense, about moral responsibility, about the end of colonialism, about ethnic allegiances, class and race; and about the ways in which love can complicate all of these things.

Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie was born in Nigeria in 1977. She is the author of *Purple Hibiscus* (2003). *Half of a Yellow Sun*, won the Orange Prize in 2007.

House of Meetings

Martin Amis

Nominated by:

- **Warsaw Public Library, Poland**

There were conjugal visits in the slave camps of the USSR. Valiant women would travel continental distances, over weeks and months, in the hope of spending a night, with their particular enemy of the people, in the House of Meetings. The consequences of these liaisons were almost invariably tragic.

House of Meetings is about one such liaison. It is a triangular romance: two brothers fall in love with the same girl, a nineteen-year-old Jewess, in Moscow, which is poised for pogrom in the gap between the war and the death of Stalin.

A short novel of great depth and richness, *House of Meetings* finds Martin Amis at the height of his powers, in new and remarkably fertile fictional territory.

Martin Amis is the author of nine novels, two collections of stories and six collections of non-fiction. He lives in Uruguay.

Imperium

Robert Harris

Nominated by:

- **The Free State Provincial Library Service, Bloemfontein, South Africa**

When Tiro, the confidential secretary of a Roman senator, opens the door to a terrified stranger on a cold November morning, he sets in motion a chain of events which will eventually propel his master into one of the most famous courtroom dramas in history.

The stranger is a Sicilian, a victim of the island's corrupt Roman governor, Verres. The senator is Cicero, a brilliant young lawyer and spellbinding orator, determined to attain imperium – supreme power in the state.

Compellingly written in Tiro's voice, *Imperium* takes us inside the violent, treacherous world of Roman politics, to describe how one man fights to reach the top.

Robert Harris is the author of *Fatherland*, *Enigma*, *Archangel* and *Pompeii* – all of which were number one bestsellers. He lives in Berkshire with his wife and their four children.

In the Country of Men

Hisham Matar

Nominated by:

- **Stockholm Public Library, Sweden**
- **Liverpool Libraries & Information Services, England**
- **The National Library of Estonia, Tallinn, Estonia**
- **Oslo Public Library, Norway**

On a white-hot day in Tripoli, Libya, in the summer of 1979, nine-year-old Suleiman is shopping in the market square with his mother. His father is away on business - but Suleiman is sure he has just seen him, standing across the street...

In the Country of Men is told from the point of view of a young boy growing up in a terrifying and bewildering world where his best friend's father disappears and is next seen on state television at a public execution; where a mysterious man sits outside the house all day and asks strange questions; and where it seems his father has finally disappeared for good.

Hisham Matar was born in New York in 1970 and spent his childhood in Tripoli and Cairo. He has lived in London since 1986. His latest novel *In the Country of Men*, was shortlisted for The Man Booker Prize 2006.

Inés of My Soul

Isabel Allende

Translated from the original Spanish by Margaret Sayers Peden

Nominated by:

- **Veria Central Public Library, Greece**
- **Biblioteca Daneiel Cosio Villegas of El Colegio de México, Mexico City**
- **Biblioteca Pública Municipal do Porto, Portugal**
- **Biblioteca Demonstrativa de Brasília, Brazil**

A real historical figure, Inés Suarez came to Chile with the Conquistadors in 1540, helping to claim the territory for Spain and to found the first Spanish settlement in Santiago.

Based on actual historical events, *Inés of My Soul* evokes the conflict and drama of the Conquistadors' arrival in Chile, as well as helping restore the reputation of Inés, a powerful woman long neglected by history and a patriarchal society. It also finds Allende returning to territory beloved of her and her readers - imaginative historical fiction, evocatively told - and to the familiar landscape of her native country.

Isabel Allende's first novel for adults, *The House of the Spirits* was published in Spanish in 1982. It was an international sensation. Her books have been acclaimed and adored in numerous translations worldwide.

Inside

Kenneth J. Harvey

Nominated by:

- **Ottawa Public Library, Canada**
- **St. John's Public Libraries, Canada**

When Myrden returns to his tough St. John's neighbourhood after fourteen years in prison, he is swarmed by old friends and enemies, and a wife who hasn't exactly been waiting for him. A cruel twist of fate has made Myrden famous: any wrongfully accused man released after such a lengthy incarceration is soon to be rich.

He clings to his young granddaughter and an old love, hoping his coming settlement can free them from the cycles of revenge and failure that have marked his life.

Written in abrupt prose that brilliantly reflects Myrden's cautious evaluation of everyone and everything in the overwhelming outside world, *Inside* pulls the reader forward with the quiet, creeping gravity of Greek tragedy.

Kenneth J. Harvey's books are published in the US, the UK, Russia, Germany, Italy, Sweden, the Netherlands, France and Japan. He lives with his family in a Newfoundland outpost.

John Tomb's Head

Stephanie Johnson

Nominated by:

- **Christchurch City Libraries, New Zealand**

John Tomb saw more of the world than most Englishmen of the early nineteenth century. From England to Australia to New Zealand, he led a life of adventure and romance. Two hundred years after his death, his tattooed head is discovered in an American museum. His spirit reawakened, John Tomb wryly observes those who would lay claim to his relic.

Among others, there's the New Zealand delegation headed by the Prime Minister and including Tomb's Maori descendants, a leading historian, a prominent carver, the Diplomatic Protection Squad and the Prime Minister's fifteen-year-old daughter. From England come Tomb's English descendants and supporters. There is also a wealthy private collector and his clever wife...

Stephanie Johnson is the author of two collections of poetry, three collections of short stories, and six novels, including *The Shag Incident*, *Belief* and *Music from a Distant Room*.

Journey in Blue

Stig Dalager

Translated from the original Danish by John Mason

Nominated by:

- **Copenhagen Central Library, Denmark**

Stig Dalager has conjured up the complex personality of the Danish master storyteller Hans Christian Anderson to create a vivid and fascinating portrait of the writer.

Anderson's life swims into focus in fragments as morphine is administered to him in his final days. His interactions with the men and women who influenced his life and work reveal how he transformed his experiences into literature, including his celebrated fairytales. Yet his painful search for literary validation and religious certainty, combined with other longings that he is not always able to identify or control, often result in him feeling alienated, even tormented and unable to understand why the Danes should have ambiguous feeling about him and the significance of his writings.

Stig Dalager (born 1952) is the author of novels, poetry and story collections as well as plays, television and film scripts. His internationally known works include the Sarajevo play *I Count the Hours* and *The Dream*.

Jouvert

Joy Mahabir

Nominated by:

- **The National Library & Information System Authority, Port-of-Spain, Trinidad & Tobago**

While growing up in Trinidad, Annaise longs to be a visual artist. Her relationships and her experiences open her eyes to the fierce and vulnerable edges of life and beauty in the Caribbean.

As an adult Annaise goes to New York and begins to perceive a contradiction between the world of gallery art in Manhattan and the world of Caribbean art that she finds in Brooklyn.

She goes to Trinidad to reconnect with her mother, and there she gains deeper insights into Indo-Caribbean culture. On returning to New York she finds love and kinship in the Caribbean and African-American communities in Brooklyn, and she discovers the path that she must follow in order to create the jouvert arts of the street and the earth.

Joy Mahabir was born and raised in Trinidad. She now lives in New York. Her previous publications include the book *Miraculous Weapons: Revolutionary Ideology in Caribbean Culture* (2003).

Kiffe Kiffe Tomorrow

Faïza Guène

*Translated from the original French by Sarah Adams***Nominated by:**

- **Bibliothèque Municipale de Lyon, France**

The Paradise projects are only a few metro stops from Paris, but here it's a whole different kind of France. Doria's father, the Beard, has headed back to their hometown in Morocco, leaving her and her mom to cope with their Mektoub – their destiny – alone.

It seems like fate has dealt them an impossible hand, but Doria might still make a new life. She'll prove the projects aren't only about rap, soccer, and religious tension. She'll take the Arabic word kif-kif (same old, same old) and mix it up with the French verb kiffer (to really like something). Now she has a whole new motto: KIFFE KIFFE TOMORROW.

Faïza Guène attends the University of St. Denis and has just completed her first short film. The child of Algerian immigrants, she grew up in the public housing projects of Pantin, outside Paris. *Kiffe Kiffe Tomorrow* is her first book.

Let it be Morning

Sayed Kashua

*Translated from the original Hebrew by Miriam Shlesinger***Nominated by:**

- **Jafet Library - The American University of Beirut, Lebanon**

A young Arab journalist returns to his hometown, an Arab village within Israel. Hoping to reclaim the simplicity of life among kin, the prodigal returns to find that nothing is as he remembers: everything is smaller, the people are petty and provincial. When Israeli tanks surround the village everyone inside is cut off from the outside world. As the situation grows increasingly dire, the village devolves into a Darwinian jungle, where paranoia quickly takes hold and threatens the community's fragile equilibrium.

Let It Be Morning offers an intimate, eye-opening portrait of the conflicted allegiances of the Israeli Arabs, proving once again that *Sayed Kashua* is a fearless, prophetic observer of a political and human quagmire that offers no easy answers.

Sayed Kashua was born in 1975 in the Galilee and studied at Hebrew University in Jerusalem. He writes a weekly column for Ha'aretz, Israel's most prestigious newspaper.

Little Face

Sophie Hannah

Nominated by:

- **Gateshead Libraries & Arts, England**

Alice's baby is two weeks old when she leaves the house without her for the first time. On her return, she finds the front door open and her husband asleep on their bed upstairs. She rushes into their baby's room and screams. 'This isn't our baby!'

Her increasingly hostile husband swears she must be either mad or lying, and the DNA test is going to take over a week.

Before the test is taken, Alice and the baby have disappeared. Run away, abducted, murdered? The police who dismissed her baby swap story must find out, and as they do they find dark incidents in David's past – like the murder of his ex-wife...

Sophie Hannah is a best-selling, award-winning poet. *Little Face* is her first psychological crime novel. She lives in West Yorkshire with her husband and two children.

Londonstani

Gautam Malkani

Nominated by:

- **Municipal Library of Prague, Czech Republic**
- **Wojewódzka i Miejska Biblioteka Publiczna im Marszałka J. Piłsudskiego, Łódź, Poland**

Set in London, Malkani shows us the lives of a gang of four young men: Hardjit the ring leader, a Sikh, violent, determined his caste stay pure; Ravi, a sheep following the herd; Amit, whose brother Arun is struggling to win the approval of his mother for the Hindu girl he has chosen to marry; and Jas who tells us of his journey with these three, desperate to win their approval, desperate too for Samira, a Muslim girl, which in this story can only have bad consequences. Together they cruise the streets in Amit's enhanced Beemer, making a little money changing the electronic fingerprints on stolen mobile phones. A scam that leads them into dangerous waters.

Gautam Malkani was born in 1976.

Londonstani is his first novel, and was shortlisted for the 'Writer of the Year British Book Award 2007'. He lives in London.

Lullabies for Little Criminals

Heather O'Neill

Nominated by:

- **Calgary Public Library, Canada**

At thirteen, Baby vacillates between childhood comforts and adult temptation: still young enough to drag her dolls around in a vinyl suitcase yet old enough to know more than she should about urban

cruelties. Motherless, she lives with her father, Jules, who takes better care of his heroin habit than he does of his daughter.

Her blossoming beauty captures the attention of a charismatic and dangerous local pimp who runs an army of sad, slavishly devoted girls – a volatile situation even the normally oblivious Jules cannot ignore. When an escape disguised as betrayal threatens to crush Baby's spirit, she ultimately realizes that the power of salvation rests in her hands alone.

Heather O'Neill is a contributor to *This American Life*, and her work has appeared in the *New York Times Magazine*. She lives in Montreal, Canada.

Madame Zee

Pearl Luke

Nominated by:

- **Calgary Public Library, Canada**

It starts with a strange tightness in her chest, followed by a vision. A boy she doesn't recognize. A man falling through ice. And finally the serene face of Honora, her dead sister. Mabel doesn't know why she has these "daydreams." As a young English girl at the dawn of the 20th century, all Mabel knows is that she desperately wants to understand these powerful, shameful episodes that make her so different.

In her re-imagining of *Madame Zee* – a mysterious historical character known only for her cruelty and sexual conquests – Pearl Luke gives us a searing and magical novel shot through with profound sensitivity.

Pearl Luke's her first novel, *Burning Ground* won the 2001 Commonwealth Writers' Prize for Best First Book (Caribbean and Canada Region). She lives on Saltspring Island.

Malinche

Laura Esquivel

*Translated from the original Spanish by Ernesto Mestre-Reed***Nominated by:**

- **Biblioteca Daniel Cosío Villegas of El Colegio de México, Mexico**

When Malinalli, a member of the tribe conquered by the Aztec warriors, first meets the conquistador Hernán Cortés and becomes his interpreter, she – like many – believes him to be the reincarnated forefather god of her tribe. Naturally, she assumes she must welcome him, and help him destroy the Aztec empire and free her people. The two fall passionately in love, but Malinalli soon realizes that Cortés's thirst for conquest is all too human, and that he is willing to destroy anyone, even his own men – even their own love.

Laura Esquivel was born in Mexico City in 1950. Her first novel, *Like Water for Chocolate*, has sold more than four and a half million copies around the world. She lives in Mexico.

Margherita Dolce Vita

Stefano Benni

Translated from the original Italian by Anthony Shugaar

Nominated by:

- **Biblioteca Nazionale Centrale Firenze, Florence, Italy**

Fifteen-year-old Margherita lives with her eccentric family on the outskirts of town, a semi-urban wilderness peopled by gypsies, illegal immigrants, and no end of bizarre characters: a reassuring and fertile playground for an imaginative little girl like Margherita. But one day, a gigantic, black cube shows up next door. Her new neighbours have arrived, and they're destined to ruin everything.

Benni's enormously popular and distinctive mix of the absurd and the satirical has made him one of Italy's best-loved novelists.

Stefano Benni's works include: *Bar Sport*, *The Company of Celestini*, and *The Cafe Beneath the Sea*. He lives in Bologna, Italy.

Measuring the World

Daniel Kehlmann

Translated from the original German by Carol Brown Janeway

Nominated by:

- **Universitäts- und Landesbibliothek Bonn, Germany**
- **Stadtbibliothek Mainz, Germany**
- **Pikes Peak Library District, Colorado Springs, USA**
- **Stadt- und Universitätsbibliothek Bern, Switzerland**
- **Stadtbibliothek Leipzig, Germany**
- **Münchner Stadtbibliothek, Munich, Germany**
- **Stadtbücherei Frankfurt-am-Main, Germany**

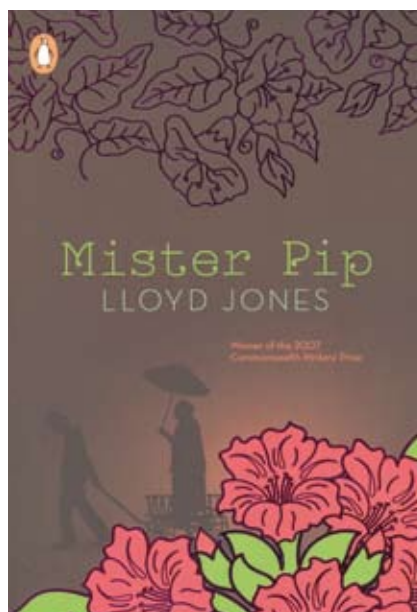
Toward the end of the eighteenth century, two Germans set out to measure the world. One of them, the Prussian aristocrat Alexander von Humboldt, negotiates savannah and jungle, travels down the Orinoco, climbs the highest mountain known to man, and explores every hole in the ground. The other, the barely socialized mathematician and astronomer Carl Friedrich Gauss, does not even need to leave his home in Göttingen to prove that space is curved. He can run prime numbers in his head. He cannot imagine a life without women, yet he jumps out of bed on his wedding night to jot down a mathematical formula.

Terrifyingly famous and more than eccentric in their old age, the two meet in Berlin in 1828 and are embroiled in the political turmoil sweeping through Germany after Napoleon's fall.

Daniel Kehlmann was born in 1975 in Munich; his works have been translated into more than twenty languages. *Measuring the World* became an instant best seller in several European countries. He lives in Vienna.

Mister Pip

Lloyd Jones



Nominated by:

- **Auckland City Libraries, New Zealand**
- **Dunedin Public Libraries, New Zealand**
- **Christchurch City Libraries, New Zealand**
- **Wellington City Libraries, New Zealand**

Matilda lives on an island somewhere in the Pacific - but this is no paradise. Civil war is a fact of life, though at first the village is largely left alone by the soldiers and the rebel fighters. The school is closed.

Mr Watts, the only white man on the island, offers to teach the children. He begins by reading *Great Expectations* aloud to his students, a chapter a day.

In Matilda's eyes, Pip is as real as any living person. He has become her friend. She writes his name in the sand and decorates it with shells. The redskin soldiers see it, and decide they must track this stranger down. The search to find Pip has devastating consequences for Matilda, Mr Watts and the entire village.

Lloyd Jones is the author of *Here at the End of the World We Learn to Dance*, and *The Book of Fame*. He lives in Wellington, New Zealand.

Moral Disorder

Margaret Atwood

Nominated by:

- **Hartford Public Library, USA**

In *Moral Disorder*, Margaret Atwood has created a series of interconnected stories that trace the course of a life and also the lives intertwined with it - those of parents, of siblings, of children, of friends, of enemies, of teachers, and even of animals. As in a photograph album, time is measured in sharp, clearly observed moments. The '30s, the '40s, the '50s, the '60s, the '70s, the '80s, the '90s, and the present - all are here. The settings vary: large cities, suburbs, farms, and northern forests.

By turns funny, lyrical, incisive, tragic, earthy, shocking, and deeply personal, *Moral Disorder* displays Atwood's celebrated storytelling gifts and unmistakable style to their best advantage.

Margaret Atwood's books have been published in over thirty-five countries. She is the author of more than forty books of fiction, poetry, and critical essays. She lives in Toronto with writer Graeme Gibson.

My Best Friend's Girl

Dorothy Koomson

Nominated by:

- **Birmingham Libraries, England**

Best friends Kamryn Matika and Adele Brannon thought nothing could come between them - until Adele did the unthinkable and slept with Kamryn's fiancé, Nate. Worse still, she got pregnant and had his child.

Two years later, Kamryn receives a letter from Adele asking her to visit her in hospital. Adele is dying and begs Kamryn to adopt her daughter. The last thing Kamryn needs is a five year old to disrupt things. Especially not one who reminds her of Nate. But with no one else to take care of Tegan and Adele fading fast, does she have any other choice? So begins a difficult journey that leads Kamryn towards forgiveness, love, responsibility and, ultimately, a better understanding of herself.

Dorothy Koomson lives in Sydney, Australia, and south London. She has written for numerous women's magazines and newspapers. *My Best Friend's Girl* is her third novel.

My Name is Bosnia

Madeleine Gagnon

Translated from the original French by Phyllis Aronoff and Howard Scott

Nominated by:

- **Galway County Library, Ireland**

Sabaheta is a literature student at the University of Sarajevo when war breaks out in Bosnia-Herzegovina. After her brother is taken from the family by armed thugs and her mother descends into madness, she goes into the forest with her father to join the guerrillas.

When her father is killed in combat, Sabaheta vows one day to leave her homeland and seek a country where she can pursue her studies and live in peace. With her friends, she finally escapes her genocidal homeland. They rise from its ashes of violence and hatred, remaking themselves in the images kept in their hearts of a fabled new life in a foreign land. *My Name Is Bosnia* is Madeleine Gagnon's celebration of the power of the imagination to heal and remake our lives.

Madeleine Gagnon has made a mark on Quebec literature as a poet, novelist, and non-fiction writer. Since 1969, she has published over thirty books while at the same time teaching literature in several Quebec universities.

My Name Was Judas

C.K. Stead

Nominated by:

- Wellington City Libraries, New Zealand
- Auckland City Libraries, New Zealand

We all know the story of Jesus told by Matthew, Mark, Luke and John, but what about the version according to Judas?

Judas's name became synonymous with betrayer, but is that how he saw it himself? In this witty, original and teasingly controversial account, some forty years after the death of Jesus, Judas finally tells the story as he remembers it.

With his richly painted backdrop of ancient Palestine, Stead goes beyond the boundaries of the story known to us all and convincingly enters the mind of one of its key players. This bold novel, with its wonderfully clear narrative prose, is fresh, provocative and compelling.

C.K. Stead was awarded the CBE for services to New Zealand literature in 1984. He has published ten volumes of poetry, two volumes of stories and several works of criticism. *My Name was Judas* is his eleventh novel.

Natural Flights of the Human Mind

Clare Morrall

Nominated by:

- Dublin City Public Libraries, Ireland

In a disused lighthouse on the Devon coast lives Peter Straker, a recluse who, in his dreams, is visited by an oddly disparate

group of people from a grandmother to a teenager. They have all been dead for 24 years - and Straker thinks he killed them

Newly-married Imogen Doody's husband went to work one day and never came back, leaving her angry at life and other people. Now Imogen has inherited a cottage near Straker's lighthouse, a piece of good fortune she badly needs. But the cottage is falling down, and she needs help restoring it...

Related with infectious warmth and wit, this story of two misfits is a testament to the essential goodness and resilience of the human spirit.

Clare Morrall's first novel, *Astonishing Splashes of Colour* (2003), was shortlisted for the Booker Prize. Born in Exeter, she now lives in Birmingham.

One Good Turn: A Jolly Murder Mystery

Kate Atkinson

Nominated by:

- Dunedin Public Libraries, New Zealand

It is summer, the Edinburgh Festival. People queuing for a lunchtime show witness a road-rage incident - a near-homicidal attack which changes the lives of everyone involved: the wife of an unscrupulous property developer, a crime writer, a washed-up comedian. Jackson Brodie, ex-army, ex-police, ex-private detective, is also an innocent bystander - until he becomes a murder suspect.

As the body count mounts, each character's story contains a kernel of the next, like a set of nesting Russian dolls. Everyone in the teeming Dickensian cast is looking for love or money or redemption or escape: but what each actually discovers is their own true self.

Kate Atkinson was born in York and now lives in Edinburgh. Her first novel, *Behind the Scenes at the Museum*, won the Whitbread Book of the Year Award.

One Good Turn is her fifth novel.

Own Death

Péter Nádas

Translated from the original Hungarian by János Salamon

Nominated by:

- Katona József County Library, Kecskemét, Hungary

A man relates his innermost thoughts and reflections as he suffers a heart attack on the street and is then brought back to life after three and a half minutes. *Own Death* is a compelling tale of something appalling and yet completely ordinary, of pain and fear and acceptance, whilst walking the thin dividing line between life and death.

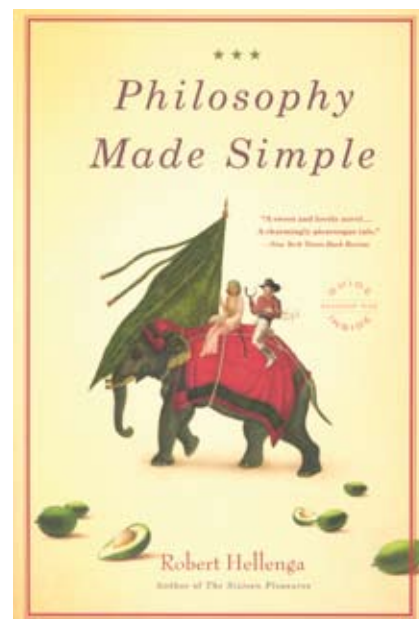
In contrast to the speed of this near-death experience, the book includes a series of photographs in which the passage of time is hardly apparent.

Own Death contrasts perceptions of the here and now with the hereafter, and its complex composition alludes to mortal time and its passage.

Péter Nádas, was born in Budapest, in 1942. His best-selling novel, *A Book of Memories*, was published in 1986. He is the recipient of numerous prizes for literature.

Philosophy Made Simple

Robert Hellenga



Nominated by:

- Multnomah County Library, Portland, USA

Rudy Harrington is ready for a new life. His daughters are grown, his wife has died, and the idea of running an avocado grove in Texas suddenly seems most appealing.

He heads for a part of the world where he knows scarcely a soul. With a guide: a slender book called *Philosophy Made Simple*, each chapter highlighting the ideas of a different philosopher. No amount of Plato, Schopenhauer, or Sartre, however, can prepare Rudy for the surprises that emerge as he arranges for his daughter's Hindu wedding and gets to know Norma Jean - an elephant with a talent for painting, who leads him, ultimately, toward the prospect of a new love.

Robert Hellenga is the author of *The Sixteen Pleasures*, *The Fall of the Sparrow*, and *Blues Lessons*. He teaches at Knox College in Galesburg, Illinois.

Promise Me

Harlan Coben

Nominated by:

- **The Gambia National Library, Banjul, The Gambia**

It began with a promise...

2.17am: the phone rings on Myron Bolitar's nightstand; at the other end of the line is Aimee Biel - a frightened teenager who has called the one adult who had promised to help her if she ever got into any trouble.

Stumbling from his Manhattan bed, he races down to pick her up from a cold street corner. But - against his better judgment - she persuades him to drop her at an unknown address in the suburbs. This is a mistake that he lives to regret, for Aimee's final wave from a darkened porch is not the end of the story. She turns and disappears into the night - and apparently off the face of the earth.

Harlan Coben was the first ever author to win all three major crime awards in the USA. He currently lives in New Jersey with his wife and four children.

Restless

William Boyd

Nominated by:

- **Stadtbüchereien Düsseldorf, Germany**
- **London's Public Libraries, England**
- **Boston Public Library, USA**

What happens when everything you thought you knew about your mother turns out to be a lie? Ruth Gilmartin discovers the truth about her mother, Sally, during the long hot summer of 1976.

For Sally Gilmartin is really Eva Delectorskaya, a Russian émigré. In 1939 Eva is a beautiful twenty-eight year old living in Paris. As war breaks out, she is recruited for the British Secret Service and becomes the perfect spy.

Since then Eva has carefully rebuilt her life and turned herself into Sally Gilmartin. But once a spy, always a spy. Ruth discovers her mother has one final assignment.

William Boyd is the author of eight previous novels, many of which have won prizes. Some thirteen of his screenplays have been filmed. In 1998 he both wrote and directed the feature film, *The Trench*.

Sacred Games

Vikram Chandra

Nominated by:

- **Miami-Dade Public Library System, Miami, USA**

Sacred Games draws the reader deep into the life of detective Sartaj Singh - and into the criminal underworld of Ganesh Gaitonde, the most wanted gangster in India.

Sartaj, one of the very few Sikhs in the Mumbai police force, is used to being identified by his turban, beard and the sharp cut of his trousers. But 'the silky Sikh' is now past forty, his marriage is over and his career prospects are on the slide. When Sartaj gets an anonymous tip-off as to the secret hideout of the legendary boss of the G-company, he's determined that he'll be the one to collect the prize.

Vikram Chandra was born in New Dehli. His work has been translated into eleven languages and he has received prizes for his writing. He teaches at the University of California.

Saving Caravaggio

Neil Griffiths

Nominated by:

- **Tanzania Library Services Board, Dar es Salaam, Tanzania**

Under a searing Calabrian sky, detective Daniel Wright is shown the world's most famous stolen painting - Caravaggio's Nativity. He is determined to rescue it from the mafia bosses who use it as payment for drug deals and assassinations. Risking his marriage, his career and his life, Daniel defies his superiors and goes beyond the law with the help of Uffizi Gallery curator Francesca Natali in a desperate bid to save the Caravaggio before it is lost forever. But will he become the hero of the art establishment, or has he dangerously underestimated its mafia underworld?

Neil Griffiths's first novel, *Betrayal in Naples*, won the 2004 Authors' Club Best First Novel Award. He lives in London.

She and the Three Men

Nadezhda Zaharieva

Translated from the original Bulgarian by Margarita Dogramadzhan

Nominated by:

- **National Library "St. St. Cyril & Methodius", Sofia, Bulgaria.**

A woman about to change her life dramatically, hosts a dinner party for the men who have played a part in her life. She is the only person present. The men are represented by talking photographs. In turn the woman conducts a conversation with each, reviewing their role in her past.

Nadezhda Zaharieva was born in Bulgaria in 1944. She has published eleven poetry books.

So Many Ways to Begin

Jon McGregor

Nominated by:

- **Tampere City Library, Finland**
- **Bergen Offentlige Bibliotek, Norway**

David is a museum curator whose assumptions about his own history are suddenly shattered, and whose search for identity forms the narrative spine of the book. His wife, Eleanor, has escaped from an Aberdeen shipbuilding family and the darkly scornful influence of her mother, into a new life for which she slowly loses her nerve.

The narrative, emerging through the photos, letters, and artefacts which form David's personal archive, ranges across wartime London, post-war Coventry, Aberdeen and rural Ireland. But the story always comes back to David and Eleanor, and to their quiet attempts to hold together something which they began before they could even understand what it was.

Jon McGregor was born in Bermuda and grew up in Norfolk. His first novel, *If Nobody Speaks of Remarkable Things*, found him a place as the youngest contender and the only first novelist on the 2002 Booker Prize longlist.

Special Topics in Calamity Physics

Marisha Pessl

Nominated by:

- **Hartford Public Library, USA**
- **Tweebonnen Openbare Bibliotheek, Leuven, Belgium**
- **State Library of South Australia, Adelaide**
- **Richmond Public Library, USA**

Special Topics in Calamity Physics is a darkly hilarious coming-of-age novel and a suspense tale told through the distinctive voice of its heroine, Blue van Meer. After a childhood moving from one academic outpost to another with her father, Blue is clever, deadpan, and possessed of a vast lexicon of literary, political, philosophical, and scientific knowledge. In her final year of high school at the elite St. Gallway School in Stockton, North Carolina, Blue falls in with a charismatic group of friends and their captivating teacher, Hannah Schneider. But when the drowning of one of Hannah's friends and the shocking death of Hannah herself lead to a confluence of mysteries, Blue is left to make sense of it all with only her gimlet-eyed instincts and cultural references to guide - or misguide - her.

Marisha Pessl grew up in Asheville, North Carolina, and now lives in New York City. *Special Topics in Calamity Physics* is her first novel.

Tenderwire

Claire Kilroy

Nominated by:

- **Waterford County Library, Ireland**

Eva Tyne, an Irish violinist living and working in New York, collapses after her solo debut and is rushed to hospital. Still dazed, she finds herself embarked on a chaotic and dangerous odyssey. Leaving her steady partner, she falls for a mysterious man, and shortly thereafter comes across a rare violin of dubious provenance, for which she must raise the required payment in cash in less than a week. But, haunted by the ghost of her father, racked with jealousy, and unsure whom she can trust around her, Eva soon finds herself playing a desperate psychological game as her desires threaten to destroy her.

Claire Kilroy was born in Dublin in 1973. She studied at Trinity College, Dublin, and then worked for some years in television editing. *Tenderwire* is her second novel.

Terrorist

John Updike

Nominated by:

- **Stadtbibliothek Bremen, Germany**
- **Richland County Public Library, Columbia, USA**
- **Mediatheque de Nancy, France**

Terrorist tells of eighteen-year-old Ahmad Ashmawy Mulloy and his devotion to Allah and the words of the Holy Qur'an, as expounded to him by a local mosque's imam.

The son of an Irish-American mother and an Egyptian father who disappeared when he was three, Ahmad turned to Islam at the age of eleven. He feels his faith threatened by the materialistic, hedonistic society he sees around him in the slumping factory town of New Prospect, New Jersey. When he finds employment in a furniture store owned by a family of recently immigrated Lebanese, the threads of a plot gather around him, with reverberations that rouse the Department of Homeland Security.

But to quote the Qur'an: Of those who plot, God is the best.

John Updike was born in 1932, in Shillington, Pennsylvania. His novels have won the Pulitzer Prize, the National Book Award, the American Book Award, the National Book Critics Circle Award, the Rosenthal Award, and the Howells Medal.

The Attack

Yasmina Khadra

Translated from the original French by John Cullen

Nominated by:

- **Bibliothèque Municipale de Lyon, France**
- **Kansas City Public Library, USA**
- **Dublin City Public Libraries, Ireland**

Ammine, a surgeon in a Jerusalem hospital, struggles to cope with the mangled bodies of victims of a suicide bombing in a downtown Jerusalem pizza restaurant. He is harassed, well-meaning, utterly dedicated and professional - and a naturalised Israeli Arab.

When the police pin responsibility for the suicide attack on Ammine's wife, he is at first baffled, disbelieving and angry. His feelings turn to confusion and sorrow when he discovers his wife was indeed behind the attack; as he travels to Nazareth and Gaza, attempting to discover who could have convinced his wife to do such a thing, and why she might have done so.

Yasmina Khadra is the nom de plume of the Algerian army officer, Mohammed Moulessehouli. He is the author of *The Swallows of Kabul*, *In the Name of God* and *Wolf Dreams*.

The Birth House

Ami McKay

Nominated by:

- **Edmonton Public Library, Canada**
- **Halifax Regional Library, Canada**
- **Calgary Public Library, Canada**

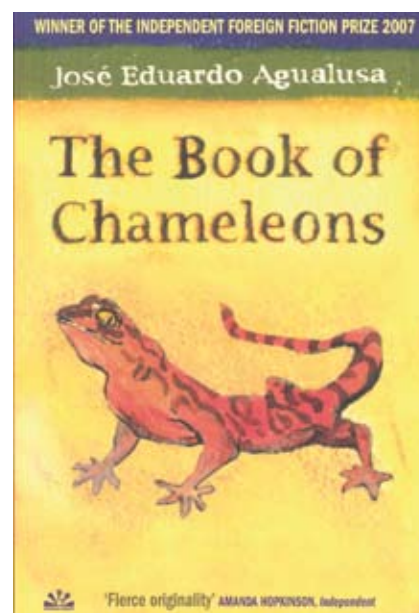
The Birth House is the story of Dora Rare, the first daughter to be born in five generations of Rares. As a child in an isolated village in Nova Scotia, she is drawn to Miss Babineau, an outspoken Acadian midwife with a gift for healing. Dora becomes Miss B.'s apprentice, and together they help the women of Scots Bay through infertility, difficult labours, breech births, unwanted pregnancies and even unfulfilling sex lives. *The Birth House* is an unforgettable tale of the struggles women have faced to have control of their own bodies and to keep the best parts of tradition alive in the world of modern medicine.

Ami McKay's work has aired on CBC radio's Maritime Magazine, This Morning, OutFront, and The Sunday Edition. When she moved with her family to Scots Bay, Nova Scotia, she learned that their new home was once known as the birth house

The Book of Chameleons

José Eduardo Agualusa

Translated from the original Portuguese by Daniel Hahn

**Nominated by:**

- **Biblioteca Demonstrativa de Brasília, Brasil**
- **Biblioteca Municipal Central de Lisboa, Lisbon, Portugal**

It is some pages in to the book before you realise that the narrator - rather charming, witty as he is - is a lizard, living on Felix Ventura's living room wall. Felix trades in an unusual commodity - he sells pasts. If you don't like yours, he can come up with an entirely new one for you, full of better memories and with a complete lineage. This is a book about the landscape of memory, its inconsistencies and its randomness.

José Eduardo Agualusa was born in Huambo, Angola in 1960. *The Book of Chameleons* was awarded the Independent Foreign Fiction Prize in 2007.

The Boy in the Striped Pyjamas

John Boyne

Nominated by:

- **Hoofdstedelijke Openbare Bibliotheek, Brussels, Belgium**

The story of *The Boy in the Striped Pyjamas* is very difficult to describe. Usually some clues about the book are on the cover, but in this case the publisher felt that would spoil the reading of the book. It is important that you start to read without knowing what it is about.

If you do start to read this book, you will go on a journey with a nine-year-old boy called Bruno. (Though this isn't a book for nine-year-olds.) And sooner or later you will arrive with Bruno at a fence. Fences like this exist all over the world. We hope you never have to cross such a fence.

John Boyne is the author of 5 novels including *Crippen*, *The Thief of Time*, *The Congress of Rough Riders* and *Next of Kin*. *The Boy in the Striped Pyjamas* has been translated into over 30 languages. He lives in Dublin.

The Brief History of the Dead

Kevin Brockmeier

Nominated by:

- **Miami-Dade Public Library System, Miami, USA**
- **New York Public Library, USA**

The City is inhabited by the recently departed, who reside there only as long as they remain in the memories of the living. Among the current residents of this afterlife are Luka Sims, who prints the only newspaper in the City, with news from the other side; Coleman Kinzler, a vagrant who speaks the cautionary words of God; and Marion and Phillip Byrd, who find themselves falling in love again after decades of marriage.

On Earth, Laura Byrd is trapped by extreme weather in an Antarctic research station. She's alone and unable to contact the outside world: her radio is down and the power is failing. She's running out of supplies as quickly as she's running out of time.

Kevin Brockmeier is the author of the novel *The Truth About Celia*, the story collection *Things That Fall from the Sky*, and the children's novels *City of Names* and *Grooves: A Kind of Mystery*. He lives in Little Rock, Arkansas.

The Echo Maker

Richard Powers

Nominated by:

- **Stadtbücherei Frankfurt-am-Main, Germany**
- **Stadtbibliothek Mainz, Germany**

On a winter night on a remote Nebraska road, twenty-seven-year-old Mark Schluter has a near-fatal car accident. His older sister, Karin, returns reluctantly to their hometown to nurse Mark back from a traumatic head injury. But when Mark emerges from a coma, he believes that this woman - who looks, acts, and sounds just like his sister - is really an imposter. The famous cognitive neurologist, Gerald Weber, diagnoses Mark as having Capgras syndrome. The mysterious nature of the disease, combined with the strange circumstances surrounding Mark's accident, threatens to change all of their lives beyond recognition.

Richard Powers is the author of nine novels and has received a MacArthur Fellowship, a Lannan Literary Award, and the James Fenimore Cooper Prize for Historical Fiction. He lives in Illinois.

The Emperor's Children

Claire Messud

Nominated by:

- **New York Public Library, USA**
- **Minneapolis Public Library, USA**
- **Richmond Public Library, USA**

The Emperor's Children is a richly drawn, brilliantly observed novel of fate and fortune - of innocence and experience, seduction and self-invention; ambition, including literary ambition; of glamour, disaster and promise. It tells a story about the intersections in the lives of three friends, now on the cusp of their thirties, making their way - and not - in New York City.

Claire Messud brings to life a city, a generation, and the way we live in this moment

Claire Messud's is the author of *When the World Was Steady*, *The Hunters* and *The Last Life*. All three books were New York Times Notable Books of the Year.

She lives in Somerville, Massachusetts, with her husband and children.

The Exception

Christian Jungersen

Translated from the original Danish by Anna Paterson

Nominated by:

- **Copenhagen Central Library, Denmark**
- **Aarhus Kommunes Biblioteker, Denmark**

Four women work at the Danish Centre for Genocide Studies. When two of them start receiving death threats, they suspect they are being stalked by Mirko Zigic, a Bosnian torturer and war criminal. But perhaps he is not the person behind the threats - it could be someone in their very midst.

Much of the drama created revolves not only around the scary sense of a killer prowling in the shadows but also around the manipulative games being played between the women in the office as they come under pressure and turn on each other.

Christian Jungersen's first novel, *Krat*, won the Danish Best First Novel of the Year Award. *The Exception* has been a huge bestseller in Denmark with rights now sold in eleven countries. He lives in Dublin.

The Fainter

Damien Wilkins

Nominated by:

- **Wellington City Libraries, New Zealand**

An emotionally charged comedy of manners - supremely elegant and funny but also with the power to shake the reader's feelings.

Luke is a young diplomat on his first overseas posting in New York. His photo has appeared in the New York Times. He has a knack for success. Then he witnesses a crime, the fallout from which threatens everything.

His fainting spells return and he finds himself back in New Zealand, living on his sister's farm, involved in the life of a community whose personalities and rules of conduct he finds as bewitching and dizzying as anything experienced at the frontline of international diplomacy.

Damien Wilkins is the author of *Chemistry*, *Nineteen Widows Under Ash*, *The Miserables* and *Little Masters*. He lives in Wellington, New Zealand, with his wife and two daughters.

The Famished Lover

Alan Cumyn

Nominated by:

- **Cape Breton Regional Library, Sydney, Canada**

In *The Famished Lover*, Alan Cumyn has created Ramsay Crome, an artist who never quite comes home from the First World War. Burning with an intense appetite for beauty, for human contact, for life and love, Ramsay stumbles into a troubled marriage just as the gears of history are aligning for depression and more war.

A master of strong, fluid prose, Alan Cumyn has an ability to portray characters that are compellingly human in all of their strengths and flaws.

Alan Cumyn is the author of six critically acclaimed novels for adults, including *Burridge Unbound*, and *The Sojourn*, the novel in which Ramsay Crome first appears. He lives in Ottawa with his wife and two daughters.

The Fearsome Particles

Trevor Cole

Nominated by:

- **Winnipeg Public Library, Canada**

Gerald Woodlore wakes one morning to find to his utter dismay, that he has reached the limits of what he can control. The company he works for is rapidly losing market share and his wife appears to be bending under the pressures of constructing an image of perfect happiness both at work and at home. But most worrying of all is Gerald's twenty-year-old son, who quit school to volunteer with the military's civilian support staff in Afghanistan. Now he has returned early and retreated to his room in the wake of a mysterious and traumatic event.

Trevor Cole has created a compelling, tender story that captures a family at a crucial turning point.

Trevor Cole's first novel, *Norman Bray In the Performance of His Life*, was a finalist for the Governor General's Award for Fiction, and a regional finalist for the Commonwealth Writers' Prize. He lives in Hamilton, Ontario.

The Friends of Meager Fortune

David Adams Richards

Nominated by:

- **Ottawa Public Library, Canada**
- **Halifax Regional Library, Canada**

Growing up in a prominent lumber family in the Miramichi, brothers Will and Owen Jameson know little of the world beyond their town and the great men who work the forest, including their father...

Set against the vivid backdrop of the New Brunswick lumber trade in the last days before mechanization changed it forever, *The Friends of Meager Fortune* evokes a vanished world, one that is almost unimaginably harsh, full of stark choices and unexpected heroism. It is also a tender love story and a masterfully crafted portrait of a society that is both drawn to greatness and compelled by envy and petty malcontent to destroy it.

David Adams Richards is the author of *River of the Brokenhearted*, *Mercy Among the Children*, and the Miramichi trilogy: *Nights Below Station Street*, *Evening Snow will Bring Such Peace*, and *For Those Who Hunt the Wounded Down*.

The Good Life

Jay McInerney

Nominated by:

- **Mediatheque de Nancy, France**
- **Bibliothèques Municipales Geneva, Switzerland**

Corrine and Russell Calloway have survived a separation and are thoroughly wonderstruck by young twins, even as they contend with the faded promise of a marriage tinged with suspicion and deceit. Meanwhile, Luke McGavock has postponed his accumulation of wealth in an attempt to recover the sense of purpose now lacking in life. But on a September morning, brightness falls horribly from the sky, and people worlds apart suddenly find themselves working side by side at the devastated site, feeling lost anywhere else, yet battered still by memory and regret, by fresh disappointment and unimaginable shock. What happens, or should happen, when life stops us in our tracks, or our own choices do?

Jay McInerney is the author of seven novels. The 2006 recipient of the James Beard Foundation's M.F.K. Fisher Distinguished Writing Award, he lives in New York City.

The Inhabited World

David Long

Nominated by:

- **Cleveland Public Library, USA**

Evan Molloy - a son, husband, and stepfather - fatally shot himself but doesn't know why. He is stuck in a state of purgatory in the house in Washington State where he lived and died. The woman who now lives there, Maureen Keniston, is in her late thirties and is trying to restart her life after breaking off a long affair with a married man. The novel deftly moves back and forth between the story of Evan's troubled life and Maureen's efforts to emerge from her own purgatory. In watching Maureen's struggles and ultimate triumph, Evan comes to see his own life and death in a completely new way.

David Long is the author of *Blue Spruce*, *The Falling Boy*, and *The Daughters of Simon Lamoreaux*. His fiction has earned him an O. Henry Award, a Pushcart Prize, and many other honors.

The Inheritance of Loss

Kiran Desai

Nominated by:

- **Chicago Public Library, USA**
- **National Library Service of Barbados, Bridgetown, Barbados**
- **Stedelijke Openbare Bibliotheek Ghent, Belgium.**
- **Tweebronnen Openbare Bibliotheek, Leuven, Belgium**
- **Biblioteca Demonstrativa de Brasília, Brazil.**
- **Knjižnica Otona Župancica, Ljubljana, Slovenia.**
- **Stavanger Bibliotek og Kulturhus, Stavanger, Norway**
- **Municipal Library of Prague, Prague, Czech Republic**
- **Cape Town Central Library, South Africa**
- **Kenya National Library Service, Nairobi, Kenya**
- **Leipzig, Germany**
- **Gemeentebibliotheek Utrecht, The Netherlands**

In a crumbling, isolated house at the foot of Mount Kanchenjunga in the Himalayas lives an embittered judge who wants only to retire in peace, when his orphaned granddaughter Sai, arrives on his doorstep. The judge's cook watches over her distractedly, for his thoughts are often on his son, Biju, who is hoppedotching from one gritty New York restaurant to another.

Kiran Desai's brilliant novel, published to huge acclaim, is a story of joy and despair. Her characters face numerous choices that majestically illuminate the consequence of colonialism as it collides with the modern world.

Kiran Desai was born in India in 1971. She was awarded the 2006 Man Booker Prize for *The Inheritance of Loss*. She divides her time between the U.S. and India.

The Judas Field

Howard Bahr

Nominated by:

- **Cape Breton Regional Library, Sydney, Canada**

After returning from the Civil War, Cass Wakefield means to live out the rest of his days in his hometown in Mississippi. But when a childhood friend asks him to accompany her to Franklin, Tennessee, to recover the bodies of her father and brother from the battlefield where they died, Cass cannot refuse.

Moving between harrowing scenes of battle and the novel's present-day quest, Howard Bahr re-creates the postwar South with devastating authority, proving himself once again to be the pre-eminent contemporary novelist of the Civil War.

Howard Bahr is the author of *The Black Flower* and *The Year of Jubilo*. He lives in Fayetteville, Tennessee.

The Keep

Jennifer Egan

Nominated by:

- **Denver Public Library, USA**

Two cousins, irreversibly damaged by a childhood prank, reunite after twenty years to renovate a medieval castle in Eastern Europe. In an environment of extreme paranoia, cut off from the outside world, the men reenact the signal event of their youth, with even more catastrophic results.

As the full horror of their predicament unfolds, a prisoner, in jail for an unnamed crime, recounts an unforgettable story that seamlessly brings the crimes of the past and present into piercing relation.

Jennifer Egan was born in Chicago and raised in San Francisco. She is the author of the novels, *The Invisible Circus* and *Look at Me*. She lives in Brooklyn with her husband and sons.

The King's Last Song

Geoff Ryman

Nominated by:

- **Chicago Public Library, USA**

The glory of ancient Angkor Wat, the beauty and tragedy of Cambodia today...

In the shadow of Angkor Wat archaeologists make an astonishing discovery: the memoir of Cambodia's greatest king, preserved on leaves of gold for centuries. When the treasure is stolen, two ordinary Cambodians, a young moto-boy and a middle-aged ex-Khmer Rouge, join forces

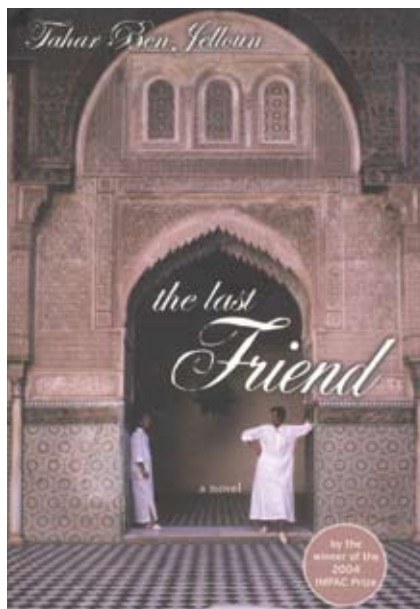
to recover it. But the spectre of Cambodia's violent past threatens both their fragile relationship and the success of their quest.

Geoff Ryman was born in Canada. He is the award winning author of **253** the world's first internet novel, and the cult classics *Was* and *Lust*.

The Last Friend

Tahar Ben Jelloun

Translated from the original French by Kevin Michel Capé and Hazel Rowley



Nominated by:

- **Jafet Library - The American University of Beirut, Lebanon**

Tangiers, the late 1950s. Two teenagers, strike up an intense friendship that will last a life-time. But lurking just beneath the surface is a deep unspoken jealousy in danger of destroying them both.

Decades later, the two friends, wiser and world-weary, offer differing accounts of their relationship's twists and turns, from their rebellious youth spent subverting the rigid moral strictures of the day to harrowing months spent together as political prisoners, and their eventual settling into conventional family lives. Only then do the real differences between them emerge, culminating in an unimaginable and unforgettable act of betrayal.

Tahar Ben Jelloun was born in Morocco. His novels include the Prix Goncourt-winning *The Sacred Night, Corruption*, and *This Blinding Absence of Light* which won the International IMPAC Dublin Literary Award in 2004. He lives in Paris.

The Last Town on Earth

Thomas Mullen

Nominated by:

- **The National Library of Uganda, Kampala, Uganda**

Set against the backdrop of one of the most virulent epidemics that America ever experienced – the 1918 flu epidemic – Thomas Mullen's powerful, sweeping first novel is a tale of morality in a time of upheaval.

When Commonwealth votes to quarantine itself against contagion, guards are posted at the single road leading in and out of town. Philip Worthy is among them. He will be unlucky enough to be on duty when a cold, hungry, tired – and apparently ill – soldier presents himself at the town's doorstep begging for sanctuary. The encounter that ensues, and the shots that are fired, will have deafening reverberations throughout Commonwealth, escalating until every human value – love, patriotism, community, family, friendship – not to mention the town's very survival, is imperilled.

Thomas Mullen was born in Rhode Island and lives in Washington, D.C., with his wife. He is at work on a new novel.

The Law of Dreams

Peter Behrens

Nominated by:

- **Cape Breton Regional Library, Sydney, Canada**
- **Winnipeg Public Library, Canada**
- **Ottawa Public Library, Canada**

Driven from the only home he has known during Ireland's Great Hunger of 1847, Fergus O'Brien makes the harrowing journey from County Clare to America, travelling with bold girls, pearl boys, navvies, and highwaymen. Along the way, Fergus meets his three passionate loves – Phoebe, Luke, and Molly – vivid, unforgettable characters, fresh and willful.

Based on Peter Behrens' own family history, *The Law of Dreams* is lyrical, emotional, and thoroughly extraordinary – a searing tale of ardent struggle and ultimate perseverance

The Law of Dreams is Peter Behrens' first novel and has won him a number of awards. He is also the author of *Night Driving*, a collection of short stories. He lives on the coast of Maine with his wife and son.

The Lay of the Land

Richard Ford

Nominated by:

- **Cork City Libraries, Ireland**
- **Birmingham Libraries, England**
- **Tampere City Library, Finland**
- **Minneapolis Public Library, USA**

• **Toronto Public Library, Canada**

With *The Sportswriter*, in 1985, Richard Ford began a cycle of novels that was hailed by The Times of London as "an extraordinary epic [that] is nothing less than the story of the twentieth century itself."

Frank Bascombe's story resumes, in the fall of 2000, with the presidential election still hanging in the balance and Thanksgiving looming before him with all the perils of a post-nuclear family get-together. He's now plying his trade as a realtor on the Jersey shore and contending with health, marital and familial issues that have his full attention: "all the ways that life seems like life at age fifty-five strewn around me like poppies."

Richard Ford is the author of five earlier novels and three collections of stories. He was awarded the Pulitzer Prize and the PEN/Faulkner Award for *Independence Day*, the first book to win both prizes.

The Librarians of Alexandria

Alessandra Lavagnino

Translated from the original Italian by Teresa Lust

Nominated by:

- **Biblioteca Nazionale Centrale Firenze, Florence, Italy**

Drawn from actual events and characters in the author's family history, *The Librarians of Alexandria* is a multi-generational saga spanning the years from the Unification of Italy in 1870 to the end of the Second World War. The librarians are the two Sisters Canterno: the beautiful, impassioned Marta and the withdrawn yet loving Margherita.

Set in Alexandria, Rome, and Palermo, the novel is at once circular and epic, a love song to culture – to languages and books, art and music – told in sensuous prose that evokes the sounds of rustling parchment manuscripts, parlour games, songs, and the strife of anti-aircraft fire, while conjuring the scents of old libraries, dusty alleys, silkworm farms, and mandarin oranges.

Alessandra Lavagnino is the author of several novels and short stories including, *The Lizards* and *Una granita di caffè con panna*. She lives in Palermo with her husband.

The Lieutenant's Lover

Harry Bingham

Nominated by:

- **The Gambia National Library, Banjul, The Gambia**

Misha is an aristocratic young officer in the army when the Russian revolution sweeps away all his certainties. Tonya is a nurse from an impoverished family in St Petersburg. They should have been bitter enemies; and yet they fall passionately in

love. It cannot last, and Misha must flee the country as Tonya faces arrest and possibly death.

Thirty years later, Misha has survived the War and seeks to rebuild his life in the destroyed city of Berlin. Drawn into spying for the British, he learns of a talented female agent from the Soviet quarter. Can it be his lost love? And how will they find each other, as the divide deepens between East and West?

Harry Bingham is an ex-City trader who has worked for major British, American and Japanese firms but who now writes full-time. He lives near Oxford with his wife and their three dogs.

The Life of Hunger

Amélie Nothomb

Translated from the original French by Shaun Whiteside

Nominated by:

- **Regional Library of Karviná, Karviná-Mizerov, Czech Republic**
- **Warsaw Public Library, Poland**

In a wistful, tough, funny, clever, and characteristically odd memoir-cum-novel, Amélie Nothomb casts herself as hunger: hunger for experience, hunger for life, hunger for sweetness and, in what is the book's nucleus, hunger for hunger (the period during which she was afflicted by acute anorexia).

Recounting the formative journeys of her youth, as she moved from Tokyo to Peking to Paris to New York, *The Life of Hunger* is a brilliant examination of the self, and her most mature and moving work to date.

Amelia Nothcomb's first novel, *Hygiene de l'assassin*, was published in 1992. Since then, she has published approximately one novel per year. She alternately lives and writes in Brussels, Paris and Rome.

The Madonnas of Leningrad

Debra Dean

Nominated by:

- **Christchurch City Libraries, New Zealand**

The ravages of age are eroding Marina's grip on the everyday. An elderly Russian woman now living in America, she cannot hold on to fresh memories - yet her distant past is miraculously preserved in her mind's eye.

Vivid images of her youth in war-torn Leningrad arise unbidden, carrying her back to the terrible fall of 1941, when she was a tour guide at the Hermitage Museum. As the people braved starvation, bitter cold, and a relentless German onslaught, Marina joined other staff members in removing the museum's priceless masterpieces for

safekeeping, leaving the frames hanging empty on the walls to symbolize the artworks' eventual return.

Debra Dean lives with her husband in Seattle, Washington. *The Madonnas of Leningrad* is her first novel.

The Meaning of Night

Michael Cox

Nominated by:

- **Tweebronnen Openbare Bibliotheek, Leuven, Belgium**

'After killing the red-haired man, I took myself off to Quinn's for an oyster supper...'

Edward Glyver, book lover, scholar and murderer, is determined to overcome his deadly rival, Phoebus Daunt, and reclaim his rightful destiny as heir to a fortune. His path takes him from Victorian London's foggy streets, brothels and opium dens to England's most enchanting country house, home to his arch-enemy Daunt and the ravishing Emily Carteret, who steals his heart. But, for each step Glyver takes towards to entrapping his rival, the further he seems to slip from his grasp.

Michael Cox has been planning and drafting *The Meaning of Night* for thirty years. He lives in rural Northamptonshire with his wife. This is his first novel.

The Native Commissioner

Shaun Johnson

Nominated by:

- **Cape Town Central Library, South Africa**
- **City of Johannesburg Library & Information Services, South Africa**

Sam Jameson, eight years old at the time of his father George's death, decides some forty years later, to go through the box of his father's papers which his mother had passed on to him. In trying to piece together the life of a parent he never really knew, Sam discovers a sensitive, inherently kind but insecure man. George has seemingly spent his working life as a native commissioner conscientiously carrying out his duties, but has never quite been able to come to terms with the white man's place in Africa. As his doubts deepen he is overwhelmed by despair...

Shaun Johnson, is currently chief executive of the Mandela Rhodes Foundation, and has for many years been a prominent figure in the South African media world. *The Native Commissioner* is his first novel and has won a number of awards.

The Night Watch

Sarah Waters

Nominated by:

- **Openbare Bibliotheek Amsterdam, The Netherlands**
- **Miami-Dade Public Library System, Miami, USA**

Tender and tragic, set against the turbulent backdrop of wartime Britain, *The Night Watch* is the extraordinary story of four Londoners: Kay, who wanders the streets in mannish clothes, restless and searching... Helen, who harbours a troubling secret... Viv, glamour girl, recklessly loyal to her soldier lover... and Duncan, an apparent innocent, struggling with demons of his own.

Moving back through the 1940s, through air raids, blacked out streets, illicit liaisons, sexual adventure, to end with its beginning in 1941, *The Night Watch* is an astonishing novel.

Sarah Waters was born in Wales in 1966. She is the author of *Tipping the Velvet*, *Affinity* and *Fingersmith* and has been awarded many prizes for her writing. She lives in London.

The Nubian Prince

Juan Bonilla

Translated from the original Spanish by Esther Allan



Nominated by:

- **Stockholm Public Library, Sweden**

To save lives and get handsomely paid for it - what job could be more rewarding? Moises Froissard has found the career opportunity of his dreams. After a start as a conventional bleeding heart with an idealistic aid group,

he quickly wises up to the harsh reality of a world in which human life is just another product in a competitive marketplace.

The Nubian Prince takes place in a pitiless world where the have-nots will do anything to become haves, while the privileged don't know what to live for. Hilarious, moving, sexually explosive, and deeply disturbing, this bestselling Spanish novel introduces a new European star.

Juan Bonilla was born in Jerez, Spain. He is the author of three novels, four short-story collections, and a children's book. He was awarded the prestigious Biblioteca Breve Prize for *The Nubian Prince*.

The Perfect Man

Naeem Murr

Nominated by:

- **Liverpool Libraries & Information Services, UK**

At the age of five, Rajiv Travers, the child of an Indian mother and English father finds himself shipped off to America to the house of his uncle's mistress, Ruth. The small town Ruth lives in turns out to be as exotic and strange to Rajiv as he is to its inhabitants. His close friendship with four local children helps him settle into his new life, but also leads to his discovery of a terrible secret that shadows the whole community. Ultimately, the children's changing desires and shifting loyalties, and the personal failings - and secrets - of the adults around them lead to tragic consequences...

Naeem Murr was born and raised in London and has lived in the USA since 1987. His critically acclaimed first novel, *The Boy*, has been translated into six languages.

The Poe Shadow

Matthew Pearl

Nominated by:

- **Jafet Library - The American University of Beirut, Lebanon**

Baltimore, 1849. The body of Edgar Allan Poe has been buried in an unmarked grave. The public, the press, and even Poe's own family and friends accept the conclusion that Poe was a second-rate writer who met a disgraceful end as a drunkard. Everyone, in fact, seems to believe this except a young Baltimore lawyer named Quentin Clark, an ardent admirer who puts his own career and reputation at risk in a passionate crusade to salvage Poe's.

Just when Poe's death seems destined to remain a mystery, inspiration strikes Quentin - in the form of Poe's own stories. The young attorney realizes that he must find the one person who can solve the strange case of Poe's death...

Matthew Pearl is the New York Times bestselling author of *The Dante Club* which has been published in more than thirty languages and forty countries around the world. He lives in Cambridge, Massachusetts.

The Priest of Evil

Matti Joensuu

Translated from the original Finnish by David Hackston

Nominated by:

- **Helsinki City Library, Finland**

There has been a strange succession of deaths at Helsinki tube stations. The police are baffled: nobody has seen anything and the CCTV tapes show nothing.

The plot centres on a fanatical priest who brainwashes teenagers into carrying bomb-filled backpacks. Detective Sergeant Timo Harjunpaa of the Helsinki Violent Crimes Unit has seen more than enough of the seamier side of human nature, but the forces of evil have never before crossed his path in such an overwhelming fashion

Matti Joensuu is a serial novelist and a criminal investigator for Helsinki PD.

The Pure Land

Alan Spence

Nominated by:

- **Aberdeen Library & Information Services, Scotland**

The year is 1858. Thomas Glover is a gutsy eighteen-year-old who grasps the chance of escape to foreign lands and takes a posting as a trader in Japan. Within ten years he amasses a great fortune, learns the ways of the samurai, and, on the other side of the law, brings about the overthrow of the Shogun. Yet beneath Glover's astonishing success lies a man cut to the heart. His love affair with a courtesan - a woman who, unknown to him, would bear him the son for which he had always longed - would form a tragedy so dramatic as to be immortalised in the stories behind Madame Butterfly and Miss Saigon.

Alan Spence is an acclaimed and popular author of poetry, novels, short stories and plays and has received many awards in each of these genres. He is Professor in Creative Writing at Aberdeen University.

The Road

Cormac McCarthy

Nominated by:

- **LeRoy Collins Leon County Public Library, Tallahassee, USA**
- **Cleveland Public Library, USA**
- **The Association of Public Libraries, The Hague, The Netherlands**
- **Kansas City Public Library, USA**
- **Halifax Regional Library, Canada**

- **New Hampshire State Library, Concord, USA**
- **Waterford County Library, Ireland**
- **Edinburgh City Libraries & Information Services, Scotland**
- **Pikes Peak Library District, Colorado Springs, USA**
- **Lincoln Library, Springfield, USA**
- **Houston Public Library, USA**
- **Jacksonville Public Library, USA**
- **Bibliothèque Municipale de Lille, France**
- **Richmond Public Library, USA**

A father and his son walk alone through burned America. Nothing moves in the ravaged landscape save the ash on the wind. Their destination is the coast, although they don't know what, if anything, awaits them there.

The Road is the profoundly moving story of a journey. It boldly imagines a future in which no hope remains, but in which the father and his son, "each the other's world entire," are sustained by love. Awesome in the totality of its vision, it is an unflinching meditation on the worst and the best that we are capable of: ultimate destructiveness, desperate tenacity, and the tenderness that keeps two people alive in the face of total devastation.

Cormac McCarthy is the author of nine previous novels. Among his honors are the National Book Award and the National Book Critics Circle Award.

The Rug Merchant

Meg Mullins

Nominated by:

- **Houston Public Library, USA**

Isolated and far from his native Iran, Ushman Khan has worked hard to build a wealthy, reliable clientele for his wares: exquisite hand-woven rugs from his home city of Tabriz. But like many immigrants, he is living only half a life. He dreams of the day his beloved wife, Farak, will be able to join him in New York and complete his vision of the American dream. When she tells him she is leaving him, Ushman is shattered.

He begins to wander aimlessly through the terminals of JFK Airport, imagining a now-impossible reunion with Farak. Unexpectedly, he meets Stella, isolated in her own way. Together this American girl from the Deep South and the Iranian aesthete form a tender bond that awakens them both to the possibility of joy in a world full of tragedy.

Meg Mullins earned her MFA at Columbia. The story that formed the basis of this novel appeared in the *Best American Short Stories* in 2002.

The Secret Life of E. Robert Pendleton

Michael Collins

Nominated by:

- **Bibliothèques Municipales Geneva, Switzerland**

It's been over a decade since Robert Pendleton published his brilliant short story debut, and his hopes for a dazzling literary career now lie in tatters. Pendleton's simmering despair boils over with the arrival of his one-time friend, now nemesis, the bestselling author and king of the coffee-table book, David Horowitz.

For Pendleton, death seems to be the only remaining option, but his attempt to kill himself is wrecked by the intervention of Adi Wiltshire, a graduate student battling her own demons of failure and thwarted ambition. Whilst Pendleton recovers from his suicide attempt, Adi discovers a novel hidden in his basement: a brilliant, bitter story with a gruesome murder at its core.

Michael Collins was born in 1964 in Limerick, Ireland. He is the author of six novels, and two collections of short stories. His work has garnered numerous awards.

The Silent Sin

Anja Sickling

Translated from the original Dutch by David Colmer

Nominated by:

- **Gemeentebibliotheek Utrecht, The Netherlands**
- **The Association of Public Libraries, The Hague, The Netherlands**
- **Openbare Bibliotheek Eindhoven, The Netherlands**
- **Gemeentebibliotheek Rotterdam, The Netherlands**

When Anna's family home is destroyed in a fire, she is forced to become a maid for music publisher De Malapert. Intrigued by her employer, she spends her free time conjuring up ways to impress him.

De Malapert remains unaware of her attentions. Working in the shop by day, and transcribing opera scores by night, his only distraction is afforded by the occasional visit from his friend Everard Borgholt.

As Anna's obsession deepens, however, she begins to eavesdrop on these late night soirees, and learns more about her mysterious employer than is safe for any of them.

Anja Sickling was born in 1965 in The Hague. In 2001 her first novel, *Het Keuriskwarteed*, was awarded the Gerrjan Lubberhuizen Prize for best debut. Anja lives with her family in Amsterdam.

The Speed of Light

Javier Cercas

Translated from the original Spanish by Anne McLean

Nominated by:

- **Helsinki City Library, Finland**

The young hero of *The Speed of Light* is an aspiring writer in provincial Spain in the 1980s, dreaming of burning success, searching for a real story to tell. He is offered the chance to work in a Midwestern university and soon he is in the United States, living a happy, carefree life, working and writing.

Little does he know that his burgeoning friendship with the Vietnam Vet Rodney Falk, a man of few friends and strange ways, will influence the course of his entire life, or that he will become obsessed with unravelling the mystery at the heart of Rodney's life.

Javier Cercas was born in 1962. He is the author of *Soldiers of Salamis*, which has sold more than 500,000 copies in all editions in Spain, and has been published in more than fifteen languages

The Stone Angel

Katherine Scholes

Nominated by:

- **State Library of Tasmania, Hobart, Australia**

Stella Boyd is a successful journalist for a women's magazine. She reports from some of the world's most exotic and dangerous places, and "home" is wherever her work takes her.

Then an urgent fax arrives and six words bring her world crashing down: Your father is missing at sea.

Within days, Stella is back in the small Tasmanian fishing village where she grew up.

As she takes part in the search for her father, and struggles to understand her distant mother, Stella finds herself taken back to 1975. The summer she met Zeph, a young man sailing the world alone. The extraordinary summer that ended in tragedy...

Katherine Scholes is the author of the international bestsellers *Make Me An Idol* and *The Rain Queen Award*. All of her books have been translated into numerous languages. She lives in Tasmania with her husband, and two sons.

The Story of Blanche and Marie/ The Book about Blanche and Marie

Per Olov Enquist

Translated from the original Swedish by Tiina Nunnally

Nominated by:

- **Wojewódzka i Miejska Biblioteka Publiczna im Marszałka J. Piłsudskiego, Łódź, Poland**
- **Helsinki City Library, Finland**
- **Aarhus Kommunes Biblioteker, Denmark**

Having been diagnosed with hysteria in 1878, Blanche Wittman was committed to Salpêtrière Hospital for sixteen years. Under the care of the famous M. Charcot she was regularly displayed before a public audience in a cataleptic state. Over time the nature of her participation in these demonstrations changed, as did her relationship with M. Charcot, until eventually she graduated from patient to assistant. On leaving the hospital she was hired by Marie Curie to work in her Paris laboratory, where, on 17 February 1898, radium was discovered.

Using Blanche's notebooks Enquist deftly weaves fact and fiction to render the extraordinary relationship of two extraordinary women at the dawn of a century of tremendous change.

Per Olov Enquist is one of Sweden's most acclaimed writers: a novelist, playwright and poet with works published in twenty-six countries.

The Story of You

Julie Myerson

Nominated by:

- **Hoofdstedelijke Openbare Bibliotheek, Brussels, Belgium**

A freezing room in a student house, a sagging mattress on the floor, and two people, one nineteen, the other twenty, kissing passionately. All night.

It is to this scene that, twenty years later, Rosy, returns obsessively. She has just lost a child in a terrible accident, and her partner, has taken her to Paris to forget about things, to start again.

The Story of You is an account of a woman trying to get by as a mother, a wife, while falling in love with a man from a memory. As always Julie Myerson maps the vagaries of the human heart with extraordinary empathy and precision.

Julie Myerson was born in Nottingham in 1960. She is the author *Sleepwalking*, *The Touch*, *Me and the Fat Man*, *Laura Blundy*, and *Something Might Happen*. She lives in London.

The Sweet and Simple Kind

Yasmine Gooneratne

Nominated by:

- **Colombo Public Library, Sri Lanka**

Resonant in its social insights and beautifully written, Yasmine Gooneratne creates a richly imagined world of love,

political chicanery and family turmoil in the newly independent Sri Lanka of the 1950s and 60s.

As a highly political family attempts to balance language with religion, and privilege with equity, two smart, sassy young women pursue their personal freedoms. *The Sweet & Simple Kind* enchants us with its combination of authenticity, humour and passion, and haunts us with reminders of what we were and what we might have been.

Yasmine Gooneratne was born in Colombo. She has won many awards and prizes including being shortlisted for the Commonwealth Fiction Prize. She divides her time between Australia and Sri Lanka.

The Syringa Tree

Pamela Gien

Nominated by:

- **San Diego Public Library, USA**

In this heartrending and inspiring novel set against the gorgeous, vast landscape of South Africa under apartheid, Pamela Gien tells the story of two families separated by racism, connected by love.

Even at the age of six, Elizabeth Grace senses she's a child of privilege. Her closest ally and greatest love is her Xhosa nanny.

In the social and racial upheavals of the 1960s, Lizzie's eyes open to the terror and inhumanity that paralyze all the nation's cultures - Xhosa, Zulu, Jew, English, Boer. As the months pass, spirit of change sends those once underground into the streets to challenge the ruling authority. And when this unrest reaches a social and personal climax, the unthinkable will happen and forever change Lizzie's view of the world.

Pamela Gien was born and raised in South Africa. She is the recipient of the Obie Award for Best Play 2001. She currently lives in the United States. *The Syringa Tree* is her first novel.

The Tenderness of Wolves

Stef Penney

Nominated by:

- **Newcastle Libraries & Information Service, England**
- **Wojewódzka i Miejska Biblioteka Publiczna im Marszałka J. Piłsudskiego, Łódź, Poland**
- **Gateshead Libraries & Arts, England**
- **Edinburgh City Libraries & Information Services, Scotland**
- **State Library of Queensland, Brisbane, Australia**

In the isolated settlement of Dove River, a man is brutally murdered and a seventeen-year-old boy disappears. Tracks leaving the dead man's cabin head towards the forest and the tundra beyond. In the wake of such violence, people are drawn to the township

- journalists, Hudson's Bay Company men, trappers, traders - but do they want to solve the crime, or exploit it?

One by one, the searchers set out from Dove River, pursuing the tracks across a desolate landscape home only to wild animals, madmen and fugitives, variously seeking a murderer, a son, two sisters missing for seventeen years and a forgotten Native American culture, before the snows settle and cover the tracks of the past for good.

Stef Penney was born and grew up in Edinburgh. *The Tenderness of Wolves* is her first novel and was awarded the Costa Prize in 2007.

The Testament of Gideon Mack

James Robertson

Nominated by:

- **Glasgow Libraries Information & Learning, Scotland**
- **Edinburgh City Libraries & Information Services, Scotland**
- **Oslo Public Library, Norway**

A good man-and a good minister despite his atheism-Gideon Mack leads a respectable life that is shattered when he falls down a ravine. Presumed dead, he emerges three days later, alive and claiming he had been rescued by the devil.

After being suspended from the Church, mocked by the tabloids, and shunned as a madman, Gideon disappears. The case is considered closed until a publisher receives what appears to be Gideon's posthumous memoir of his experience and the unusual life that preceded it.

James Robertson is the author of *The Fanatic* and *Joseph Knight*. He has also published stories, poetry, anthologies and essays. He lives in Angus.

The Thin Place

Kathryn Davis

Nominated by:

- **LeRoy Collins Leon County Public Library, Tallahassee, USA**

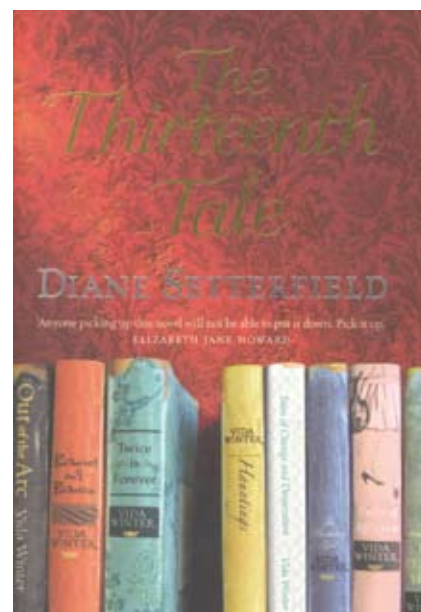
In a thin place, according to legend, the membrane separating this world from the spirit world is almost nonexistent.

The small New England town of Varennes is such a place, and Kathryn Davis transports us there - revealing a surprising pageant of life as, in the course of one summer, Varennes's tranquillity is shattered by the arrival of a threatening outsider. Worldly and otherworldly forces come into play, and a young local girl finds her miraculous gift for resurrecting the dead tested by the conflict between logic and wish.

Kathryn Davis is also the author of the novels *Labrador*, *The Girl Who Trod on a Loaf*, *The Walking Tour*, *Hell* and *Versailles*.

The Thirteenth Tale

Diane Setterfield



Nominated by:

- **The National Library of Uganda, Kampala, Uganda**
- **Stockholm Public Library, Sweden**

Vida Winter, a bestselling yet reclusive novelist, has created many outlandish life histories for herself, all of them invention. Now old and ailing, at last she wants to tell the truth about her extraordinary life. Her letter to biographer Margaret Lea - a woman with secrets of her own - is a summons.

Vida's tale is one of gothic strangeness featuring the Angelfield family: the beautiful and willful Isabelle and the feral twins Adeline and Emmeline. Margaret succumbs to the power of Vida's storytelling, but as a biographer she deals in fact not fiction and she doesn't trust Vida's account.

As she begins her researches, two parallel stories unfold.

Born in Berkshire, **Diane Setterfield's** previous publications have been in the field of 19th and 20th century French literature, specialising in the writings of André Gide. *The Thirteenth Tale* is her first novel.

The Travel Writer

Simone Lazaroo

Nominated by:

- **State Library of Western Australia, Perth, Australia**

Ghislaine de Sequeira lies in a hospital bed. Once an obituary writer in Malacca, she had practised eloquence in the face of death

for years. But now she is dying, and it is her daughter Isabelle's turn to articulate the meaning of a life at its end.

Isabelle tries to find an anchor in this storm by telling her mother's story and by seeking solace in her writing tutor, as many years ago her mother sought solace with the travel writer after the death of her own mother, Mathilde.

Seeking to understand her mother's past choices in war-torn Malacca, Isabelle spins a version of Ghislaine's passion for the travel writer.

Simone Lazaroo was born in Singapore. Her previous novels include award-winning *The World Waiting to Be Made* and *The Australian Fiancé*.

The Uninvited

Geling Yan

Nominated by:

- **The Free State Provincial Library Service, Bloemfontein, South Africa**
- **Bergen Offentlige Bibliotek, Norway**

This is the tale of Dan Dong, an unemployed factory worker whose life takes a series of unexpected twists upon his discovery that, by posing as a journalist, he can eat exquisite gourmet meals free of charge at state-sponsored banquets. But the secrets Dan overhears at these events eventually lead him down a twisted, intrigue-laden path, and his true and false identities become increasingly harder to separate. When he becomes privy to a scandal that runs from the depths of society up to its highest rungs, Dan must find a way to lay bare the corruption - without revealing the dangerous truth about himself.

Geling Yan was born in Shanghai. In 1989, she left China for the United States. Since then, two of her works have been made into films. She has won many awards, both in China and the USA.

The Unknown Terrorist

Richard Flanagan

Nominated by:

- **The State Library of Tasmania, Hobart, Australia**

What would you do if you turned on the television and saw you were the most wanted terrorist in Australia?

Gina Davies is about to find out.

From the author of the international bestsellers *The Sound of One Hand Clapping* and *Gould's Book of Fish* comes a fast-paced thriller that paints a devastating picture of contemporary Australia.

Five days, three unexploded bombs, and every truth of your life turned into a lie.

What would you do?

Richard Flanagan was born in Tasmania. His novels *Death of a River Guide*, *The Sound of One Hand Clapping* and *Gould's Book of Fish* have been published to popular success and critical acclaim in 25 countries.

The Vanishing Act of Esme Lennox

Maggie O'Farrell

Nominated by:

- **London's Public Libraries, England**

Set between the 1930s and the present, Maggie O'Farrell's new novel is the story of Esme, a woman edited out of her family's history, and of the secrets that come to light when, sixty years later, she is released from care, and a young woman, Iris, discovers the great aunt she never knew she had.

The mystery that unfolds is the heartbreaking tale of two sisters in colonial India and 1930s Edinburgh - of the loneliness that binds them together and the rivalries that drive them apart, - but above all it is the story of Esme, a fiercely intelligent, unconventional young woman, and of the terrible price she is made to pay for her family's unhappiness.

Maggie O'Farrell was born in Northern Ireland in 1972, and grew up in Wales and Scotland. She is the author of *After You'd Gone* and *The Distance Between Us* and has won awards for her work.

The Wedding Officer

Anthony Capella

Nominated by:

- **Frederiksberg Kommunes Biblioteker, Denmark**

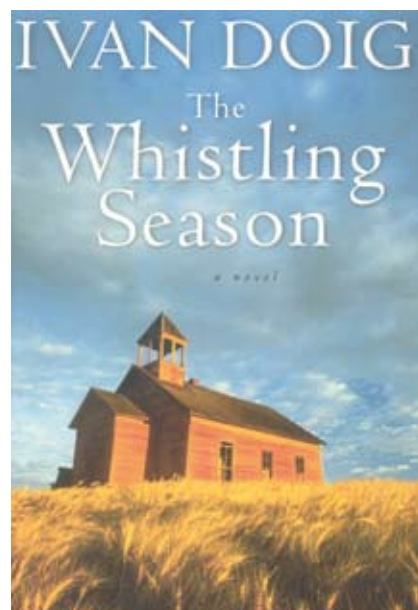
Twenty-two-old James Gould arrives in Occupied Naples in 1943, where his duties include dissuading Allied soldiers from marrying their beautiful Italian girlfriends, and his diet includes little more than spam fritters and warmed-up rations.

The girls of Naples, soon arrange for a beautiful young country girl to join his staff as a cook. Under the influences of Italian food and Italian passion, James has only just realised that his heart is more important than his orders, when an eruption of Vesuvius sets in motion a series of epic events that will change their lives for ever.

Anthony Capella spends part of each year travelling in Italy. He is based in London. His first novel *The Food of Love* was published in 2004.

The Whistling Season

Ivan Doig



Nominated by:

- **Denver Public Library, USA**
- **Lincoln City Libraries, USA**
- **San Diego Public Library, USA**

"Can't cook but doesn't bite." So begins the newspaper ad offering the services of an "A-1 housekeeper, sound morals, exceptional disposition" that draws the hungry attention of widower Oliver Milliron in the fall of 1909. And so begins the unforgettable season that deposits the noncooking, nonbiting, ever-whistling Rose Llewellyn and her font-of-knowledge brother, Morris Morgan, in Marias Coulee along with a stampede of homesteaders drawn by the promise of the Big Ditch - a gargantuan irrigation project intended to make the Montana prairie bloom.

A paean to a vanished way of life and the eccentric individuals and idiosyncratic institutions that made it fertile, *The Whistling Season* is Ivan Doig at his evocative best.

Ivan Doig is the author of ten previous books, including the novels *Prairie Nocturne* and *Dancing at the Rascal Fair*. He lives in Seattle

The Woman Who Waited

Andrei Makine

Translated from the original French by Geoffrey Strachan

Nominated by:

- **Waterford County Library, Ireland**

When a young, rebellious writer from Leningrad arrives in a remote Russian village to study local customs, one woman stands out: Vera, who has been waiting thirty years for her lover to return from the Second World War. As fascinated as he

is appalled by the fruitless fidelity of this still beautiful woman, he sets out to win her affections. But the better he thinks understands her the more she surprises him, and the more he gains uncomfortable insights into himself.

Lyrical evoking the haunting beauty of the Archangel region, Makine tells a timeless story of the human heart and its capacity for enduring love, selfish passion and cowardly betrayal.

Andreï Makine was born in Siberia. He sought asylum in France in 1987. With his fourth novel, *Le Testament Français*, he became the first author to win both of France's top literary prizes, the Prix Goncourt and Prix Médicis.

The Worms Can Carry me to Heaven

Alan Warner

Nominated by:

- **Tanzania Library Services Board, Dar es Salaam, Tanzania**

Manolo Follano, a 40-year-old Spanish roué, has built a comfortable life for himself in his hometown by the sea. His architectural design company is thriving, his suits are Italian linen, his cigars Cuban. For a playboy like Manolo - handsome, fastidious, opinionated and more than a little vain - to be told by his doctor and friend that he is HIV Positive is, it would seem, the end of everything.

However, this devastating news is only the beginning. Manolo strolls around his familiar haunts recalling, with Proustian clarity, the loves of his life, as he prepares to tell each of them his terrible secret - all the while bracing himself for the final reckoning, and the thin hope of redemption.

Alan Warner is the author of four previous novels: *Morvern Callar*, *These Demented Lands*, *The Sopranos* and *The Man Who Walks*.

Theft: a love story

Peter Carey

Nominated by:

- **M.I. Rudomino State Library for Foreign Literature, Moscow, Russia**
- **National Library of Australia, Canberra, Australia**
- **Veria Central Public Library, Greece**

"I don't know if my story is grand enough to be a tragedy, although a lot of shitty stuff did happen. It is certainly a love story but that did not begin until midway through the shitty stuff, by which time I had not only lost my eight-year-old son, but also my house and studio..."

So begins Peter Carey's highly charged and lewdly funny new novel. Told by the twin voices of the artist Butcher Bones and his 'damaged 220-pound brother' Hugh.

Theft is a love poem of a very different kind. Ranging from the rural wilds of Australia to Manhattan via Tokyo - and exploring themes of art, fraud, responsibility and redemption.

Peter Carey was born in 1943 in Australia and lives in New York. He is twice winner of the Booker Prize for *Oscar and Lucinda* and *The True History of the Kelly Gang*.

This Man and Me

Alison Jameson

Nominated by:

- **Tanzania Library Services Board, Dar es Salaam, Tanzania**

Helen is Hélène until her French father walks out of her life...

Even at the age of twelve, that first lesson in the unreliability of male affections is not enough to daunt her. As she grows up, and the absurd, confusing and wondrous vagaries of love turn her into a tangle of contradictions, she knows, deep down, there is 'someone for everyone' - if only she can find him.

But is this Helen looking for love? Or is it Hélène? Will she ever step out from under the shadow of her father's loss?

And will she recognize her man when he does come along?

Alison Jameson lives in Dublin. *This Man and Me* is her first novel.

Timothy, or, Notes of an Abject Reptile

Verlyn Klinkenborg

Nominated by:

- **Chicago Public Library, USA**

Few writers have attempted to explore the natural history of a particular animal by adopting the animal's own sensibility. But Verlyn Klinkenborg has done just that in *Timothy*: an insightful and utterly engaging story of the world's most famous tortoise, whose real life was observed by the eighteenth-century English curate and naturalist Gilbert White.

For thirteen years, Timothy lived in White's garden. Here Klinkenborg gives the tortoise an unforgettable voice and keen powers of observation on both human and natural affairs. Wry and wise, unexpectedly moving and enchanting at every turn, *Timothy* surprises and delights.

Verlyn Klinkenborg's previous books include *Making Hay*, *The Last Fine Time*, and *The Rural Life*. He lives in upstate New York.

Touched by Love

Soecy Gummels

Nominated by:

- **Bibliotheek van de Cultureel Centrum Suriname**

Soecy Gummels skillfully weaves love, tragedy, and discovery into a gripping novel that immerses her readers in the lives of her characters with a plot that links two distinctive tales of the power of love and friendship. Discover the secrets, sorrows, and fun of an unlikely couple who prove the old adage that opposites do attract. Josh and Angelina are touched by a love set against the cultural and social backdrop of the past - a past that reveals the poignant relationship between a young African-American woman rendered mute by a brutal rape and the handsome doctor who falls under her spell.

Soecy Gummels spends her time between Suriname and the United States. She is the author of *Circle of Love* and *Seeds of Hope*.

Travels in The Scriptorium

Paul Auster

Nominated by:

- **Biblioteca Municipal Central de Lisboa, Lisbon, Portugal**
- **Biblioteca Nazionale di Napoli, Italy**

An old man sits in a room, with a single door and a window, a bed, a desk and a chair. Each day he awakens with no memory, unsure of whether or not he is locked into the room. Attached to the few objects around him are one-word, hand-written labels and on the desk is a series of vaguely familiar black-and-white photographs and four piles of paper. Then a middle-aged woman called Anna enters and talks of pills and treatment, but also of love and promises.

Travels in the Scriptorium sees Auster return to more metaphysical territory. A dark puzzle and a game that implicates both reader and writer alike, it is an ingenious exploration of language, responsibility and the passage of time.

Paul Auster is the author of ten novels, including *The New York Trilogy*, *In the Country of Last Things*, *The Book of Illusions* and *The Brooklyn Follies*. He is married with two children and lives in Brooklyn.

Triangle

Katharine Weber

Nominated by:

- **Hartford Public Library, USA**

Esther Gottesfeld is the last living survivor of the notorious 1911 Triangle Shirtwaist fire and has told her story countless times in the span of her lifetime. Even so, her

death at the age of 106 leaves unanswered many questions about what happened that fateful day. How did she manage to survive the fire when at least 146 workers, burned or jumped to their deaths from the sweatshop inferno? Are the discrepancies in her various accounts over the years just ordinary human fallacy, or is there a hidden story in Esther's recollections of that terrible day?

Esther's granddaughter Rebecca Gottesfeld, seeks to unravel the facts of the matter while a zealous feminist historian of the fire, bores in with her own mole-like agenda.

Katharine Weber's other novels include: *Objects in Mirror Are Closer Than They Appear*, *The Music Lesson* and *The Little Women*.

Tuvalu

Andrew O'Connor

Nominated by:

- **The State Library of Victoria, Melbourne, Australia**

A love story of sorts, *Tuvalu* tells the story of Noah Tuttle, who is glumly and aimlessly living a half kind of life in a cheap rundown hostel in the seamier margins of Tokyo, a place overrun with feral cats and cockroaches. He teaches mediocre English to disinterested students, sleeps with his girlfriend, Tilly, when she's around, drinks beer when he can afford it, and generally avoids other people and their expectations. Nothing much happens to him - until, that is, he meets the wealthy, captivating and completely self-absorbed Mami Kaketa, a supremely selfish creature who leaves people like so much litter in her wake, so brazen and capricious she should come with a health warning.

Andrew O'Connor was born in 1978 in Warragul, Victoria. *Tuvalu* is his first novel and was the winner of the Australian Vogel Literary Award.

Unburnable

Marie-Elena John

Nominated by:

- **National Library Service of Barbados, Bridgetown, Barbados**

In this riveting narrative of family, betrayal, vengeance, and murder, Lillian Baptiste is willed back to her island home of Dominica, the place she left when she was fourteen, haunted by scandal and secrets, after discovering she was the daughter of Iris, the half-crazy woman. After twenty years away, Lillian returns to face the demons of her past.

Set partly in contemporary Washington, D.C., and partly in post - World War II Dominica, *Unburnable* weaves together West Indian history, African culture, and

American sensibilities. Richly textured and lushly rendered, *Unburnable* showcases a welcome and assured new voice.

Antigua native Marie-Elena John is a former Africa development specialist. She and her husband and two children divide their time between Washington D.C. and Antigua. *Unburnable* is her first novel.

Unconfessed

Yvette Christiansë

Nominated by:

- **San José Public Library, USA**

They called her Sila van den Kaap, slave woman of Jacobus Stephanus Van der Wat of Plettenberg Bay. They called her murderer, and demanded that she explain her terrible violence. She uttered one strange, powerful word and shut her mouth to them. A woman fit for hanging... condemned to death only to have her sentence commuted to a lengthy term on the notorious Robben Island.

Slavery as it existed in Africa has seldom been portrayed - and never with such texture, detail, and authentic emotion.

Unconfessed was inspired by actual 19th-century court records.

Yvette Christiansë was born in South Africa under apartheid and emigrated to Australia at the age of eighteen.

Unconfessed, her first novel, was honoured as a 2006 PEN/Hemingway Award finalist

Underground

Andrew McGahan

Nominated by:

- **The State Library of Victoria, Melbourne, Australia**

Think ahead five or so years from now, to an Australia transformed by the never-ending war on terror. Canberra has been wiped out in a nuclear attack. There is a permanent state of emergency. Security checkpoints, citizenship tests, identity cards and detention without trial have all become the norm. Suspect minorities have been locked away into ghettos. And worse no one wants to play cricket with us anymore.

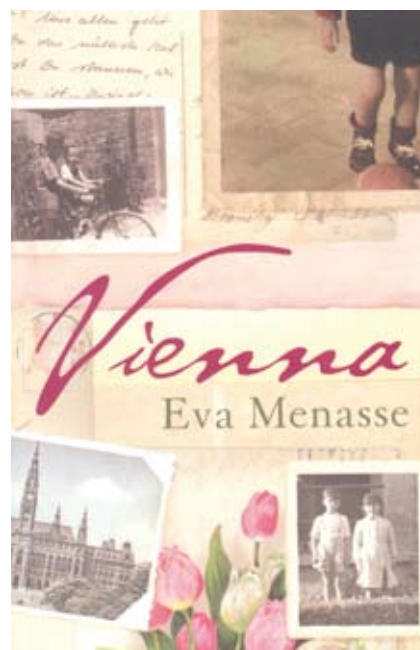
Underground is both an adrenalin-pumped thriller and a gleefully barbed satire that takes a chainsaw to political neo-correctness and Australia's new ultra-nationalism. Blistering and blackly comic, this book goes straight to the heart of the country's future and it isn't pretty.

Andrew McGahan was born in Dalby, Queensland, but has lived and worked mostly in Brisbane. He is the author of *Praise* (1992) *1988* (1995), *Last Drinks* (2000) and *The White Earth* (2004).

Vienna

Eva Menasse

Translated from the original German by Anthea Bell



Nominated by:

- **Stadtbibliothek Mainz, Germany**

From the very beginning - the birth of the narrator's father in the middle of a bridge party - the reader is plunged headlong into the world of Vienna, a novel crowded with voices, characters, tragedy and joy.

The disintegration of history and identity in the twentieth century is seen through the adventures of one family - half-Jewish Viennese, split apart by the Nazi invasion and sent out into the world.

This is a landmark European novel of impressive reach and power. It introduces in Eva Menasse an intimate chronicler of human experience and an unashamedly gleeful storyteller.

Born 1970, Eva Menasse is an arts journalist on the Frankfurter Allgemeine. *Vienna* is her first novel.

Water for Elephants

Sara Gruen

Nominated by:

- **Jacksonville Public Library, USA**
- **M.I. Rudomino State Library for Foreign Literature, Moscow, Russia**
- **Richland County Public Library, Columbia, USA**
- **Katona Jozsef County Library, Kecskemet, Hungary**

As a young man, Jacob Jankowski was tossed by fate onto a rickety train that was home to the Benzini Brothers Most Spectacular Show on Earth. It was the early

part of the great Depression, and for Jacob, now ninety, the circus world he remembers was both his salvation and a living hell.

It was there that he met Marlena, the beautiful equestrian star married to August, the charismatic but twisted animal trainer, and Rosie, an untrainable elephant who was the great grey hope for this third-rate travelling show. The bond that grew among this unlikely trio was one of love and trust, and, ultimately, it was their only hope for survival.

Sara Gruen is the author of the bestseller *Riding Lessons* and *Flying Changes*.

She lives north of Chicago with her husband, her three children, four cats, two goats, two dogs, and a horse.

Weight Loss

Upamanyu Chatterjee

Nominated by:

- **India International Centre Library, New Delhi, India**

Between the ages of eighteen and thirty-seven, when he died, Bhola had just eight sexual partners, four women and four males. When he reviewed his life... it pleased him that he had maintained a balance between genders in his choice of lovers. Of course, it was ridiculous that he should at the age of thirty-seven be light-headedly embarrassed about how few were the people he had slept with. Then he... reminded himself that that was nothing new, 'that he had always felt ridiculous, not to worry.'

Upamanyu Chatterjee's genius for black humour and the absurd has never been more compelling than in this unforgettable portrait of a lost life.

Upamanyu Chatterjee was born in 1959. His novels include; *An Indian Story*, *The Last Burden* and *The Mammaries of the Welfare State*. He is married and has two daughters

What is the What

Dave Eggers

Nominated by:

- **San Francisco Public Library, USA**

Separated from his family, Valentino Achak Deng becomes a refugee in war-ravaged southern Sudan. His travels bring him in contact with enemy soldiers, with liberation rebels, with hyenas and lions, with disease and starvation, and with deadly murahaleen (militias on horseback) - the same sort who currently terrorize Darfur. Based closely on actual experiences, *What Is the What* is heartrending and astonishing, filled with adventure, suspense, tragedy and, finally, triumph.

Dave Eggers grew up close to Chicago. He is the author of the memoir *A Heartbreaking Work of Staggering Genius*, the novel *You Shall Know Our Velocity!* and the story collection *How We Are Hungry*.

Winkie

Clifford Chase

Nominated by:

- **Multnomah County Library, Portland, USA**
- **Pikes Peak Library District, Colorado Springs, USA**

A mild-mannered teddy bear wills himself to life and winds up on the wrong side of America's War on Terror. Mistaken for a terrorist mastermind and put on trial, Winkie joins the ranks of Socrates, Galileo, and Oscar Wilde, visionaries turned victim by the treacherous and dark-hearted times in which they lived. But Winkie is a character unlike any other, a stuffed bear mysteriously gifted with life, whose journey toward selfhood is as absurd as it is believable, and as hilarious as it is profound. Free Winkie!

Clifford Chase is the author of a memoir, *The Hurry-Up Song*. His writing has appeared in various magazines and literary journals. *Winkie* is his first novel.

Winterwood

Patrick McCabe

Nominated by:

- **Cork City Libraries, Ireland**
- **Dublin City Public Libraries, Ireland**

"The intention was, of course, to bring her out to Winterwood - to that magical place that only me and her knew - but I wouldn't tell her that until much later on, for I wanted it to be as much of a surprise as possible".

Once, in Kilburn, Redmond was in heaven, married to the sugar-lipped Catherine, and father to lovely daughter Immy. But later, much later, Red did something. And it could all never be like that again.

Winterwood, a place of escape and sanctuary. A place of chill and threat, of danger, and worse... Original and luminously canny, *Winterwood* shimmers as equally as it disturbs, as Red tells his inimitable story of death and love.

Patrick McCabe was born in Clones, Co Monaghan, Ireland in 1955. His novels include *Carn*, *The Dead School*, *Butcher Boy* and *Breakfast On Pluto*. He lives in Sligo with his wife and two daughters.

Wizard of the Crow

Ngugi wa Thiong'o

Translated from the original Gikuyu by Ngugi Wa Thiong'o

Nominated by:

- **Cork City Libraries, Ireland**
- **M.I. Rudomino State Library for Foreign Literature, Moscow, Russia**
- **The Free State Provincial Library Service, Bloemfontein, South Africa**
- **The Gambia National Library, Banjul, The Gambia**
- **Kenya National Library Service, Nairobi, Kenya**

Ngugi wa Thiong'o has become one of the most widely read African writers of our time, his aim in *Wizard of the Crow* is, in his own words, nothing less than 'to sum up Africa of the twentieth century in the context of 2,000 years of world history.'

Commencing in 'our times' and set in the 'Free Republic of Aburiria', the novel dramatises with corrosive humour and keenness of observation a battle for control of the souls of the Aburirian people. Fashioning the stories of the powerful and the ordinary into a dazzling mosaic, Ngugi reveals humanity in all its ceaselessly surprising complexity.

Ngugi wa Thiong'o is Distinguished Professor of English and Comparative Literature at the University of California, His books include *Petals of Blood*.

Zoli

Colum McCann

Nominated by:

- **New Hampshire State Library, Concord, USA**
- **Stadtbüchereien Düsseldorf, Germany**

Zoli Novotna, a young woman raised in the travelling Gypsy tradition, is a poet by accident as much as desire. As 1930s fascism spreads over Czechoslovakia, Zoli and her grandfather flee to join a clan of fellow Romani harpists. Sharpened by the world of books, Zoli becomes the poster girl for a brave new world. As she shapes the ancient songs to her times, she finds her gift embraced by the Gypsy people and savoured by a young English expatriate, Stephen Swann.

But Zoli soon finds that when she falls she cannot fall halfway - neither in love nor in politics. While Zoli's fame and poetic skills deepen, the ruling Communists begin to use her for their own favour.

Colum McCann, is the author of five novels including the international bestsellers, *This Side of Brightness* and *Dancer*. He lives in New York City.

Congratulations to Oslo and Stavanger, nominators of *Out Stealing Horses*.

"We are so happy that Per Petterson won this year, and that he has got so much attention all over the world because of the prize. It feels strange to be one of only two libraries that nominated him, and that he managed to win!"



Linn Tønnessen (left), literature advisor, and Aud Jorunn Aano, manager of the international collection at Stavanger Public Library, nominated *Out Stealing Horses* for the 2007 award.

Oslo Public Library has nominated the winner 5 times!

"Per Petterson is one of our favourite authors and since he was translated to English, the choice was simple. We are incredibly proud that he also was one of the five best in the world later on the 2007 list of Time Magazine. Norwegian contemporary fiction has been put on the map."



Top (L-R) Cecilie Bergh, Rolf Andersen, Astrid Werner. Bottom (L-R) Linda Wahlmann Olsen, Liv Saeteren, Director of Oslo Public Library; Liv Olsen.

Participating Libraries

162 libraries representing 122 cities in 45 countries.

Once again we welcome libraries who are participating in this exciting international co-operative award for the first time:

- The National Library of Estonia, Tallinn, Estonia
- Amir-ud-Daula Public Library, Lucknow, India

Representing Libraries



Dublin City Librarian, Deirdre Ellis-King presented a scroll to Mr. Jef van Gool, representing the Libraries of the Hague, The Netherlands, in recognition of the participation of libraries worldwide. Mr van Gool attended the Presentation Dinner in Dublin, June 2007, courtesy of IMPAC. They are photographed here with Cllr. Vincent Jackson, Lord Mayor of Dublin and Patron of the Award, (left) and Miro Palas, Chairman IMPAC Europe (right).

3 Winners and a Translator



Two previous winners attended the Presentation Dinner in June 2007. Colm Tóibín, winner of the 2006 award (left) and Alistair MacLeod, winner of the 2001 award (right). They are photographed here with Per Petterson and Anne Born, translator of *Out Stealing Horses*.

The International IMPAC Dublin Literary Award, an initiative of Dublin City Council, is a partnership between Dublin City Council, the municipal government authority of Ireland's capital city and IMPAC, a company committed to productivity improvement, operating in over 50 countries world-wide.

Patron of the Award: The Lord Mayor of Dublin

Fiction Matters, the newsletter of the International IMPAC Dublin Literary Award, is an occasional publication issued at least once a year.

© Dublin City Public Libraries 2008

Contact us

International IMPAC Dublin Literary Award
Dublin City Library & Archive
138-144 Pearse Street
Ireland

Telephone: + 353 1 674 4802 / 1
Facsimile: +353 1 674 4879
e-mail: literaryaward@dublincity.ie
web: www.impacdublinaward.ie