

For Relief Of Unbearable Urges

Ostrich Matt Greene 2013 After brain surgery to stop his seizures, a brilliant twelve-year-old boy, enlisting the help of a female classmate, investigates why everyone around him, including his parents and hamster, are acting oddly.

Dinner at the Center of the Earth Nathan Englander 2017-09-05 A political thriller set against the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, from the Pulitzer-nominated, bestselling author of *For the Relief of Unbearable Urges*. A Los Angeles Times Best Book of the Year "Blends elements of spy thriller and love story, magical realism, and an all-too-real history of one of the world's most intractable problems: peace between Israel and its neighbors." —The Boston Globe In the Negev desert, a nameless prisoner languishes in a secret cell, his only companion the guard who has watched over him for a dozen years. Meanwhile, the prisoner's arch nemesis—The General, Israel's most controversial leader—lies dying in a hospital bed. From Israel and Gaza to Paris, Italy, and America, Englander provides a kaleidoscopic view of the prisoner's unlikely journey to his cell. *Dinner at the Center of the Earth* is a tour de force—a powerful, wryly funny, intensely suspenseful portrait of a nation riven by insoluble conflict, and the man who improbably lands at the center of it all.

Conceptualizing Mass Violence Navras J. Aafreedi 2021-05-13 *Conceptualizing Mass Violence* draws attention to the conspicuous inability to inhibit mass violence in myriads forms and considers the plausible reasons for doing so. Focusing on a postcolonial perspective, the volume seeks to popularize and institutionalize the study of mass violence in South Asia. The essays explore and deliberate upon the varied aspects of mass violence, namely revisionism, reconstruction, atrocities, trauma, memorialization and literature, the need for Holocaust education, and the criticality of dialogue and reconciliation. The language, content, and characteristics of mass violence/genocide explicitly reinforce its aggressive, transmuting, and multifaceted character and the consequent necessity to understand the same in a nuanced manner. The book is an attempt to do so as it takes episodes of mass violence for case study from all inhabited continents, from the twentieth century to the present. The volume studies 'consciously enforced mass violence' through an interdisciplinary approach and suggests that dialogue aimed at reconciliation is perhaps the singular agency via which a solution could be achieved from mass violence in the global context. The volume is essential reading for postgraduate students and scholars from the interdisciplinary fields of Holocaust and Genocide Studies, History, Political Science, Sociology, World History, Human Rights, and Global Studies.

The Safety of Objects A. M. Homes 1990 Published to overwhelming critical acclaim, this remarkable collection of short stories established A. M. Homes as one of the most provocative and daring writers of her generation. Here you'll find the cult classic, "A Real Doll," the tale of a teenage boy's erotic obsession with his sister's Barbie doll; "Adults Alone," which first introduced Paul and Elaine, the crack-smoking yuppie couple whose marriage careens out of control in Homes's novel *Music for Torching*; and "Looking for Johnny," in which a kidnapped boy, having failed his abductors' expectations, is returned home. Brilliantly conceived and sharply etched, these stories explore the American dream in ways readers cannot forget. Working in Kodacolor hues, Homes offers an uncanny picture of a surreal suburbia -- outrageous and utterly believable.

For the Relief of Unbearable Urges Nathan Englander 2011-06-16 Acclaimed as an astonishing debut, *For the Relief of Unbearable Urges* is a collection of nine delightfully irreverent stories that range from Stalin's Russia to contemporary New York. Wise and compassionate, outrageous and wrenchingly sad, they place Nathan Englander firmly in the company of Bellow, Malamud, Singer and Roth.

Can't Just Stop Sharon Begley 2017-02-07 Using in-depth case studies to explore how we grapple with compulsion in ourselves and those we love, *Can't Just Stop* examines the science behind both mild and extreme compulsive behavior—"a fascinating read about human behavior and how it can go haywire" (The Charlotte Observer). Whether shopping with military precision or hanging the tea towels just so,

compulsion is something most of us have witnessed in daily life. But compulsions exist along a broad continuum and, at the opposite end of these mild forms, exist life-altering disorders. Sharon Begley's meticulously researched book is the first to examine all of these behaviors together—from obsessive-compulsive disorder (OCD) to hoarding, to compulsive exercise, even compulsions to do good. They may look profoundly different, but these behaviors are all ways of coping with varying degrees of anxiety. Sharing personal stories from dozens of interviewees, "Begley combines a personal topic with thoughtfulness and sensitivity" (Library Journal) and gives meaningful context to their plight. Along the way she explores the role of compulsion in our fast-paced culture, the brain science behind it, and strange manifestations of the behavior throughout history. *Can't Just Stop* makes compulsion comprehensible and accessible, with "fresh insight that could fundamentally alter how we think of, and treat, mental illness going forward" (Publishers Weekly).

Forest Dark Nicole Krauss 2017-09-12 National Bestseller • A New York Times Notable Book Named Best Book of the Year by Esquire, Times Literary Supplement, Elle Magazine, LitHub, Publishers Weekly, Financial Times, Guardian, Refinery29, PopSugar, and Globe and Mail "A brilliant novel. I am full of admiration." —Philip Roth "One of America's most important novelists" (New York Times), the award-winning, New York Times bestselling author of *The History of Love*, conjures an achingly beautiful and breathtakingly original novel about personal transformation that interweaves the stories of two disparate individuals—an older lawyer and a young novelist—whose transcendental search leads them to the same Israeli desert. Jules Epstein, a man whose drive, avidity, and outsized personality have, for sixty-eight years, been a force to be reckoned with, is undergoing a metamorphosis. In the wake of his parents' deaths, his divorce from his wife of more than thirty years, and his retirement from the New York legal firm where he was a partner, he's felt an irresistible need to give away his possessions, alarming his children and perplexing the executor of his estate. With the last of his wealth, he travels to Israel, with a nebulous plan to do something to honor his parents. In Tel Aviv, he is sidetracked by a charismatic American rabbi planning a reunion for the descendants of King David who insists that Epstein is part of that storied dynastic line. He also meets the rabbi's beautiful daughter who convinces Epstein to become involved in her own project—a film about the life of David being shot in the desert—with life-changing consequences. But Epstein isn't the only seeker embarking on a metaphysical journey that dissolves his sense of self, place, and history. Leaving her family in Brooklyn, a young, well-known novelist arrives at the Tel Aviv Hilton where she has stayed every year since birth. Troubled by writer's block and a failing marriage, she hopes that the hotel can unlock a dimension of reality—and her own perception of life—that has been closed off to her. But when she meets a retired literature professor who proposes a project she can't turn down, she's drawn into a mystery that alters her life in ways she could never have imagined. Bursting with life and humor, *Forest Dark* is a profound, mesmerizing novel of metamorphosis and self-realization—of looking beyond all that is visible towards the infinite.

New American Haggadah Jonathan Safran Foer 2014-03-04 Jonathan Safran Foer's and Nathan Englander's spectacular Haggadah—now in paperback. Upon hardcover publication, NEW AMERICAN HAGGADAH was praised as a momentous re-envisioning through prayer, song, and ritual of one of our oldest, most timeless, and sacred stories—Moses leading the ancient Israelites out of slavery in Egypt to wander the desert for 40 years before reaching the Promised Land. Featuring a new translation of the traditional text by Nathan Englander and provocative essays by a collection of major Jewish writers and thinkers, it was received not only as a religious document but a magnificent literary and artistic achievement. Now, after two years of patience, those readers who asked for a paperback edition have gotten their wish.

Dinner at the Center of the Earth Nathan Englander 2018-09-04 A political thriller set against the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, from the Pulitzer-nominated, bestselling author of *For the Relief of Unbearable Urges*. A Los Angeles Times Best Book of the Year "Blends elements of spy thriller and love story, magical realism, and an all-too-real history of one of the world's most intractable problems: peace between Israel

and its neighbors." —The Boston Globe In the Negev desert, a nameless prisoner languishes in a secret cell, his only companion the guard who has watched over him for a dozen years. Meanwhile, the prisoner's arch nemesis—The General, Israel's most controversial leader—lies dying in a hospital bed. From Israel and Gaza to Paris, Italy, and America, Englander provides a kaleidoscopic view of the prisoner's unlikely journey to his cell. Dinner at the Center of the Earth is a tour de force—a powerful, wryly funny, intensely suspenseful portrait of a nation riven by insoluble conflict, and the man who improbably lands at the center of it all.

Thank You, Mr. Nixon Gish Jen 2022-02-01 The acclaimed, award-winning author of *The Resisters* takes measure of the fifty years since the opening of China and its unexpected effects on the lives of ordinary people. It is a unique book that only Jen could write—a story collection accruing the power of a novel as it proceeds—a work that Cynthia Ozick has called “an art beyond art. It is life itself.” Beginning with a cheery letter penned by a Chinese girl in heaven to “poor Mr. Nixon” in hell, Gish Jen embarks on a fictional journey through U.S.-China relations, capturing the excitement of a world on the brink of tectonic change. Opal Chen reunites with her Chinese sisters after forty years; newly cosmopolitan Lulu Koo wonders why Americans “like to walk around in the woods with the mosquitoes”; Hong Kong parents go to extreme lengths to reestablish contact with their “number-one daughter” in New York; and Betty Koo, brought up on “no politics, just make money,” finds she must reassess her mother's philosophy. With their profound compassion and equally profound humor, these eleven linked stories trace the intimate ways in which humans make and are made by history, capturing an extraordinary era in an extraordinary way. Delightful, provocative, and powerful, *Thank You, Mr. Nixon* furnishes yet more proof of Gish Jen's eminent place among American storytellers.

Atlas of Unknowns Tania James 2009-04-21 An utterly irresistible first novel: The story of two sisters, the yearning to disappear into another country, and the powerful desire to return to the known world. • “Dazzling and deeply absorbing.... One of the most exciting debut novels since Zadie Smith's *White Teeth*.” —San Francisco Chronicle Linno is a gifted artist, despite a childhood accident that has left her badly maimed, and Anju is one of Kerala's most promising students. Both girls dream of coming to the United States, but it is Anju who wins a scholarship to a prestigious school in New York. She seizes it, even though it means lying and betraying her sister. When her lie is discovered, Anju disappears. Back in Kerala, Linno is undergoing a transformation of her own. But when she learns of Anju's disappearance, Linno strikes out farther still, with a scheme to procure a visa so that she can come to America to look for her sister and save them both.

Moonlight Sonata at the Mayo Clinic Nora Gallagher 2014-02-11 A lyrical and honest portrait of illness and the way it changes life and faith, from the award-winning author of *Things Seen and Unseen*. “A fabulous book—brilliant, tender soulful.” —Anne Lamott In the winter of 2009, Nora Gallagher was told she had an inflamed optic nerve, cause unknown, that if untreated would leave her blind. With this news, and the search for a diagnosis and treatment, her once busy and fast-moving life tunneled into a quieter country she calls Oz: unfamiliar, slower, deeply rooted in uncertainty and vulnerability. *Moonlight Sonata at the Mayo Clinic*, written as Gallagher was still recovering, is a moving meditation on serious illness, what helped her through and what didn't, why a wall exists between the sick and the healthy, and what can take it down partway. It is also a testament of modern faith—accepting of both science and intellect—and a hard-won revelation of what lies at the heart of ordinary suffering.

The Ministry of Special Cases Nathan Englander 2011-06-16 Kaddish Poznan chips the names off gravestones for a living, removing traces of disreputable ancestors for their more respectable kin. His wife Lillian works in insurance, earning money when people live longer than they fear. As Argentina's Dirty War unfolds around them, their sometimes hilarious misadventures are soon replaced by something much darker. A visit to the dreaded Ministry of Special Cases is only the start of Englander's stunning vision of a nation in the hold of corruption and torture, a place where absurdity, despair and hope are the end products of a bureaucracy run out of control.

What to Do About the Solomons Bethany Ball 2017-04-04 A “funny, sexy, and smart” multigenerational saga following the secret lives of an (over) extended Jewish family—from Israel to America (Judy Blume). More than oceans divide the Solomons. And now, it's a scandal. Prodigal son Marc Solomon, an Israeli ex-Navy

commando living in Los Angeles, is falsely accused of money laundering through his California investment firm. As his home is raided, Marc's wife, Carolyn—concealing her own dicey past—makes hopeless attempts to hold their family of five together. Not surprisingly, news of Marc's disgrace makes its way from Santa Monica to a kibbutz on the Jordan River Valley, and the rest of the mortified Solomon clan: Marc's self-absorbed wannabe movie star sister, Shira; his rich, powerful and fed-up construction magnet father, Yakov; his childhood sweetheart, Maya; and his brother-in-law Guy, a local ranger turned “mad artist.” As the secrets of the community are revealed through various memories and tales, we witness the tenuous bonds that can keep the Solomons together, and the truths and rumors that could ultimately tear them apart. Elegant, witty, and provocative, *What to Do About the Solomons* weaves contemporary Jewish history through a distinctly modern and very savvy tale of family life. “I ended [it] absolutely swimming with affection, not just for the characters but for the multiple worlds that created them . . . there's something profoundly lovely—and loving—about the Solomons” (New York Times Book Review).

The Children's Hospital Chris Adrian 2007-12-01 A surreal and magical novel of hope in the midst of apocalypse by the acclaimed author of *Gob's Grief*—“one of the most revelatory novels in recent memory” (San Francisco Chronicle). Chris Adrian's debut novel, *Gob's Grief*, was hailed as “a work unlike any that has come before it” (The Economist). Now, Adrian delivers a second work of visionary imagination in this magnificent tale of a children's hospital that survives, afloat, after the Earth is flooded beneath seven miles of water, and a young medical student who finds herself gifted with strange powers and a frightening destiny. Jemma Claflin is a third-year medical student at the unnamed hospital that is the only thing to survive after an apocalyptic storm. Inside the hospital, beds are filled with children with the most rare and complicated diseases. In this new-age Noah's Ark, there are two of each kind of sickness. As Jemma and her fellow doctors attempt to make sense of what has happened to the world, Jemma becomes a Moses figure, empowered with the mysterious ability to heal the sick by way of a green fire that shoots from her belly. Chris Adrian, a pediatrician and Harvard theologian, offers a work of stunning scope and mesmerizing detail that is “cleverly conceived and executed brilliantly” (San Francisco Chronicle).

The Sea Beach Line Ben Nadler 2015-10-13 Set in post-Giuliani New York City, *The Sea Beach Line* melds mid-20th-century pulp fiction and traditional Jewish folklore as it updates the classic story of a young man trying to find his place in the world. After being expelled from Oberlin for hallucinogenic drug use, Izzy Edel seeks out his estranged father—a Polish Jew turned Israeli soldier turned New York street vendor named Alojzy who is reported to be missing, possibly dead. To learn about Alojzy's life and discover the truth behind his disappearance, Izzy takes over his father's outdoor bookselling business and meets the hustlers, gangsters, and members of a religious sect who peopled his father's world. He also falls in love. As Izzy soon discovers, appearances can deceive; no one, not even his own father, is quite whom he seems to be. Vowing to prove himself equal to Alojzy's legacy of fearlessness, Izzy plunges forward on a criminal enterprise that will bring him answers—at great personal cost. Fans of Jonathan Lethem's *Motherless Brooklyn*, Nathan Englander's *For the Relief of Unbearable Urges*, and Michael Chabon's *The Yiddish Policemen's Union* will relish to Ben Nadler's combined mystery, love story, and homage to text and custom.

Paris Stories Mavis Gallant 2011-04-27 A NEW YORK REVIEW BOOKS ORIGINAL Mavis Gallant is a contemporary legend, a frequent contributor to *The New Yorker* for close to fifty years who has, in the words of *The New York Times*, “radically reshaped the short story for decade after decade.” Michael Ondaatje's new selection of Gallant's work gathers some of the most memorable of her stories set in Europe and Paris, where Gallant has long lived. Mysterious, funny, insightful, and heartbreaking, these are tales of expatriates and exiles, wise children and straying saints. Together they compose a secret history, at once intimate and panoramic, of modern times.

For the Relief of Unbearable Urges Nathan Englander 2009-12-23 Energized, irreverent, and deliciously inventive stories from Pulitzer-nominated, bestselling author of *What We Talk About When We Talk About Anne Frank*. In the collection's hilarious title story, a Hasidic man gets a special dispensation from his rabbi to see a prostitute. “The Wig” takes an aging wigmaker and makes her, for a single moment, beautiful. In “The Tumblers,” Englander envisions a group of Polish Jews herded toward a train bound for the death camps and, in a deft, imaginative twist, turns them into acrobats tumbling out of harm's way. *For the Relief*

of Unbearable Urges is a work of startling authority and imagination--a book that is as wondrous and joyful as it is wrenchingly sad. It heralds the arrival of a remarkable new storyteller.

Sixty Stories Donald Barthelme 2003-09-30 With these audacious and murderously witty stories, Donald Barthelme threw the preoccupations of our time into the literary equivalent of a Cuisinart and served up a gorgeous salad of American culture, high and low. Here are the urban upheavals reimagined as frontier myth; travelogues through countries that might have been created by Kafka; cryptic dialogues that bore down to the bedrock of our longings, dreams, and angsts. Like all of Barthelme's work, the sixty stories collected in this volume are triumphs of language and perception, at once unsettling and irresistible. For more than seventy years, Penguin has been the leading publisher of classic literature in the English-speaking world. With more than 1,700 titles, Penguin Classics represents a global bookshelf of the best works throughout history and across genres and disciplines. Readers trust the series to provide authoritative texts enhanced by introductions and notes by distinguished scholars and contemporary authors, as well as up-to-date translations by award-winning translators.

Peep Show Nathan Englander 2015-05-29 A Vintage Shorts "Short Story Month" Selection Allen Fein—née Ari Feinberg—is on his way to Port Authority when he hears it: "Girls," the hawker says. "Three-hundred-and-sixty-degree all-around stage." This is the Times Square Allen remembers. But he's a married man now. Well, maybe one little peek . . . From one of the most dazzling voices in contemporary literature, "Peep Show" is a funny, surprising, surreal story of sexual longing and the deeper shadows of desire. In the peep show, you never know who's behind the curtain. A selection from the acclaimed volume *What We Talk About When We Talk About Anne Frank*, winner of the Frank O'Connor International Short Story Award and a finalist for the Pulitzer Prize. An eBook short.

Lights in the Forest Paul Citrin 2014-10-31 An anthology of essays written by a wide cross-section of rabbis, *Lights in the Forest* presents a range of Jewish responses to both theological and philosophical questions pertaining to God, humanity, and the Jewish people. Thoughtful and engaging, these responses are meant to strengthen the reader's sense of Jewish identity through expanding his or her knowledge and understanding of Jewish life, practice, and tradition. Perfect for self-study, group study, adult learning, and conversion, the collection strives to encourage further study and ongoing discussion through presenting Judaism's intellectual and spiritual tools as means for leading a life full of purpose and commitment "Rabbi Israel of Rhyszin tells a story of two people entering a forest. One has a lantern while one does not. The two meet, and the one carrying the lantern is able to illuminate their shared path. When the two part, the one without a lantern is left in the dark once more. From this, we learn that we all must carry our own light. My hope is that this book will provide light along the path and, in so doing, will provide a wider horizon of Jewish tradition and ideals to light the way." - Rabbi Paul Citrin, Editor

kaddish.com Nathan Englander 2020-02-11 When his father dies, it falls to Larry—the secular son in a family of Orthodox Brooklyn Jews—to recite the Kaddish, the Jewish prayer for the dead, every day for eleven months. But to the horror and dismay of his sister, Larry refuses, imperiling the fate of his father's soul. To appease her, he hires a stranger through a website called *kaddish.com* to say the prayer instead—a decision that will have profound, and very personal, repercussions. Irreverent, hilarious, and wholly irresistible, Nathan Englander's tale of a son who makes a diabolical compromise brilliantly captures the tensions between tradition and modernity.

Badenheim Nineteen-thirty-nine Aharon Apelfeld 1980 A tale of Europe in the days just before the war. It tells of a small group of Jewish holiday makers in the resort of Badenheim in the Spring of 1939. Hitler's war looms, but Badenheim and its summer residents go about life as normal."

For the Relief of Unbearable Urges Nathan Englander 2000-03-21 Energized, irreverent, and deliciously inventive stories from Pulitzer-nominated, bestselling author of *What We Talk About When We Talk About Anne Frank*. In the collection's hilarious title story, a Hasidic man gets a special dispensation from his rabbi to see a prostitute. "The Wig" takes an aging wigmaker and makes her, for a single moment, beautiful. In "The Tumblers," Englander envisions a group of Polish Jews herded toward a train bound for the death camps and, in a deft, imaginative twist, turns them into acrobats tumbling out of harm's way. For the Relief of Unbearable Urges is a work of startling authority and imagination--a book that is as wondrous and joyful as it is wrenchingly sad. It heralds the arrival of a remarkable new storyteller.

The Chronic Pain Care Workbook Michael J. Lewandowski 2006 Based on the author's Behavioral Assessment of Pain questionnaire--used by pain care clinics and professionals worldwide--this book offers a clinically proven management technique that addresses the physical, psychological, and social aspects of living with chronic pain.

Beautiful as the Moon, Radiant as the Stars Sandra Bark 2007-09-03 This book is certain to appeal to the millions of Jewish women interested in Jewish literature and the writings of Cynthia Ozick, Francine Prose, and Grace Paley. Beautifully packaged, it is an ideal Mother's Day or Bat-Mitzvah gift. This volume contains translations of Yiddish stories from eminent scholars--including an Isaac Bashevis Singer story that has never before been published in English--and well-known tales that Jewish readers everywhere love. As bestsellers such as *Everything is Illuminated* by Jonathan Safran Foer and *For the Relief of Unbearable Urges* by Nathan Englander have demonstrated, there is a strong interest in Jewish stories. Yiddish culture and music have seen a resurgence in recent years. NPR's *All Things Considered* aired a series of highly acclaimed documentaries about the Yiddish Radio Project and Klezmer musicians regularly play at top alternative venues.

You Are Not a Stranger Here Adam Haslett 2003-08-12 In these unforgettable stories, the acclaimed author of *Imagine Me Gone* explores lives that appear shuttered by loss and discovers entire worlds hidden inside them. The impact is at once harrowing and thrilling. An elderly inventor, burning with manic creativity, tries to reconcile with his estranged gay son. A bereaved boy draws a thuggish classmate into a relationship of escalating guilt and violence. A genteel middle-aged woman, a long-time resident of a psychiatric hospital, becomes the confidante of a lovelorn teenaged volunteer. Told with Chekhovian restraint and compassion, and conveying both the sorrow of life and the courage with which people rise to meet it, *You Are Not a Stranger Here* is a triumph of storytelling.

U UP? Catie Disabato 2021-02-02 A New York Times Best Mystery Book of 2021 "This heady, sexy novel is filled with the carefree wildness of youth....Eve's voice is enticing and compelling, and readers will be carried along with her as she learns more about herself than she ever planned." —Booklist A young woman investigates her best friend's disappearance while navigating codependent friendships, toxic exes, and witchy rituals. Eve has a carefully curated online life, works occasionally, and texts constantly with her best friend, Ezra. Basically, she is an archetypal L.A. millennial. She has also been carrying on a year-long conversation with her deceased friend Miggy over text. But when Ezra goes missing on the anniversary weekend of Miggy's death, Eve feels like her world is shattering. Over a frantic weekend Eve investigates Ezra's disappearance, scouring social media for clues, while drowning her anger and anxiety in drinks, drugs, and spiritual cleansing. Eve starts to spiral as her friends try to convince her that she's overreacting, and ghosts--both real and metaphorical--continue to haunt her. When she uncovers clues to a life Ezra kept hidden, Eve starts to question how much she really knows about her best friend...and herself. In *U UP?* Catie Disabato holds a mirror to the ways the phantom selves we create online permeate our emotional lives and hide our worst traits from everyone, including ourselves.

Up at the Villa W. Somerset Maugham 2022-08-01 DigiCat Publishing presents to you this special edition of "Up at the Villa" by W. Somerset Maugham. DigiCat Publishing considers every written word to be a legacy of humankind. Every DigiCat book has been carefully reproduced for republishing in a new modern format. The books are available in print, as well as ebooks. DigiCat hopes you will treat this work with the acknowledgment and passion it deserves as a classic of world literature.

The Lucky Star William T. Vollmann 2020-02-18 The National Book Award winning author returns to his original fictional territory--the lives of the dispossessed in San Francisco--with a parable about the limitations of desire and life at the margins of society In such earlier works of fiction as *The Rainbow Stories* and *The Royal Family*, William T. Vollmann wrote of pimps, prostitutes, addicts and homeless dreamers in San Francisco's Tenderloin district. In this new novel, Vollmann returns there with a story that centers around a woman with magical powers whom everyone loves, and who has to love them all back. After being initiated into a coven of island witches, Neva begins to fulfill her fate in a Tenderloin dive bar. Her worshippers include Richard, the introverted, alcoholic, occasionally omniscient narrator; a profane, aggressive transgender sex worker named Shantelle; the brisk but motherly barmaid Francine; and the former Frank, who has renamed herself after her idol Judy Garland. When Judy starts to love Neva too

much, Judy's retired policeman boyfriend embarks on a mission of exposure and destruction. Crafted out of language by turns spiritual and sexually graphic, *The Lucky Star* aches with compassion as it explores celebrity culture, gender identity, incest, Christian sacrifice and, most of all, the quotidian and sometimes faltering heroism of marginalized people who in the face of humiliation and outright violence seek to love in their own way, and stand up for who they are.

What We Talk About When We Talk About Anne Frank Nathan Englander 2012-02-07 These eight new stories from the celebrated novelist and short-story writer Nathan Englander display a gifted young author grappling with the great questions of modern life, with a command of language and the imagination that place Englander at the very forefront of contemporary American fiction. The title story, inspired by Raymond Carver's masterpiece, is a provocative portrait of two marriages in which the Holocaust is played out as a devastating parlor game. In the outlandishly dark "Camp Sundown" vigilante justice is undertaken by a group of geriatric campers in a bucolic summer enclave. "Free Fruit for Young Widows" is a small, sharp study in evil, lovingly told by a father to a son. "Sister Hills" chronicles the history of Israel's settlements from the eve of the Yom Kippur War through the present, a political fable constructed around the tale of two mothers who strike a terrible bargain to save a child. Marking a return to two of Englander's classic themes, "Peep Show" and "How We Avenged the Blums" wrestle with sexual longing and ingenuity in the face of adversity and peril. And "Everything I Know About My Family on My Mother's Side" is suffused with an intimacy and tenderness that break new ground for a writer who seems constantly to be expanding the parameters of what he can achieve in the short form. Beautiful and courageous, funny and achingly sad, Englander's work is a revelation.

Who Will Die Last David Ehrlich 2013-07-02 Hilarious and sad at the same time, Ehrlich's collection of short stories, *Who Will Die Last* is an original and moving work of fiction. Ever deeply humane, the author takes his characters on a tantalizing journey through their souls. His understated style transforms even a heartbreaking plot into an uplifting and funny story. Israel's special history, landscapes, and conflicts add to the drama and passion of the book. Ehrlich's themes relate to gay life in Israel, the pull of loneliness, and the power of community. Rather than a single translator, this collection employs a variety of translators, reflecting in many ways the luminous diversity of voices in the stories.

[What We Talk about when We Talk about Anne Frank](#) Nathan Englander 2012 The author of the sensational national bestseller "For the Relief of Unbearable Urges" and "The Ministry of Special Cases" returns with a commanding new collection of short stories.

What We Talk About When We Talk About Love Raymond Carver 2015-05-25 In his second collection, including the iconic and much-referenced title story featured in the Academy Award-winning film *Birdman*, Carver establishes his reputation as one of the most celebrated short-story writers in American literature—a haunting meditation on love, loss, and companionship, and finding one's way through the dark.

For the Relief of Unbearable Urges Nathan Englander 2000-03 A work of stunning authority and imagination, Englander's debut contains ten energized, irreverent stories rooted in the weight of Jewish history and the customs of Orthodox life.

The Sacred Romance Brent Curtis 2001-04-01 If you're feeling lost, disconnected, or longing for something more, join bestselling authors John Eldredge and Brent Curtis as they explore the greatest love of our lives: our faith. *The Sacred Romance* invites us to find the peace and purpose we crave by slowing down, asking questions, and deepening our relationship with God. Eldredge and Curtis believe that modern Christians have lost touch with our hearts. We've left that essential part of ourselves behind in the pursuit of efficiency, success, and the busyness of our lives. *The Sacred Romance* will guide you through a journey to getting to know yourself and your creator even better, asking you: What is this restlessness and emptiness I feel, sometimes after years into my Christian journey? How will my spiritual life touch the rest of my life? What is it that is set so deeply in my heart, that simply will not leave me alone? When did I stop listening to God's leading? *The Sacred Romance* is a journey of the heart. It is a journey full of intimacy, adventure, and beauty, that will guide you to your fondest memories, your greatest loves, your noblest achievements, and even your deepest hurts—but the reward is worth the risk.

The Twenty-Seventh Man Nathan Englander 2014-08-25 The setting is a Soviet prison, 1952. Joseph Stalin's secret police have rounded up twenty-six writers, the giants of Yiddish literature in Russia. As

judgment looms, a twenty-seventh suddenly appears: Pinchas Pelovits, unpublished and unknown. Baffled by his arrest, he and his cellmates wrestle with the mysteries of party loyalty and politics, culture and identity, and with what it means to write in troubled times. When they discover why the twenty-seventh man is among them, the writers come to realize that even in the face of tyranny, stories still have the power to transcend. In his last act of storytelling, Pelovits asks us: Who writes the eulogy when all the writers are gone?

Aerogrammes Tania James 2012-05-15 From the highly acclaimed author of *Atlas of Unknowns* ("Dazzling...One of the most exciting debut novels since Zadie Smith's *White Teeth*" --San Francisco Chronicle), a bravura collection of short stories set in locales as varied as London, Sierra Leone, and the American Midwest that captures the yearning and dislocation of young men and women around the world. In "Light & Luminous," a gifted instructor of Indian dance falls victim to the vanity and insecurities that have followed her into middle age. In "Tonto and the Undertaker," a widower copes with his loss by cruising Kentucky highways and burying roadkill. In "The Scriptological Review" a damaged young man obsessively studies his father's handwriting in hopes of making sense of his suicide. And in "What to Do with Henry," a white woman from Ohio takes in the illegitimate child her husband left behind in Sierra Leone, as well as an orphaned chimpanzee who comes to anchor this strange new family. With *Aerogrammes*, Tania James once again introduces us to a host of delicate, complicated, and beautifully realized characters who find themselves separated from their friends, families, and communities by race, pride, and grief. This eBook edition includes a Reading Group Guide.

Gritos Dagoberto Gilb 2007-12-01 A National Book Critics Circle Award Finalist: A wide-ranging collection of essays on the Mexican American experience by the acclaimed Chicano author. Once a struggling journeyman carpenter, Dagoberto Gilb has won widespread acclaim as a crucial and compelling voice in contemporary American letters. Known for his novels and short stories, he has also been a prolific essayist for publications such as *Harper's Magazine* and the *New Yorker*, as well as a popular commentator on NPR's *Fresh Air*. In *Gritos*, Gilb collects some of his finest works of nonfiction. Spanning twenty years of output, the entries are divided into four sections: "Culture Crossing," "Cortés and Malinche," "The Writing Life," and "Working Life and La Family." Tackling everything from cockfighting to Cormac McCarthy, *Gritos* offers a startling portrait of an artist—and a Mexican American—working to find his place in both the literary world and the world at large, to say nothing of his strange and beloved borderland of Texas. While "Dagoberto Gilb might be speaking for himself . . . he speaks so well that what he says becomes universal" (*Houston Chronicle*). "[Gritos] is a collection about prejudice and pride, told with the flair of a storyteller known for his fiction. . . . [Gilb's] prose is easy-flowing and thoughtful. He can be unbelievably funny. . . . What he has to say and how he says it is so interesting, you can't help but pay attention." —Marta Barber, *The Miami Herald* "An arresting essayist, he is unabashedly himself, and his zest for life, passion for illuminating Mexican American culture, and seductive storytelling skills infuse his astute observations, reminiscences, and critiques with compelling energy and momentum." —Booklist

Half Lost Sally Green 2017-03-07 The magical, stunning conclusion to the internationally acclaimed *Half Bad* trilogy, the inspiration for the Netflix series *The Bastard Son & The Devil Himself* "An enthralling fantasy in the Harry Potter tradition."—*Time* magazine on *Half Bad* The Alliance is losing. Their most critical weapon, seventeen-year-old witch Nathan Brynn, has killed fifty-two people, and yet he's no closer to ending the tyrannical, abusive rule of the Council of Witches in England. Nor is Nathan any closer to his personal goal: getting revenge on Annalise, the girl he once loved, before she committed an unthinkable crime. There is an amulet, protected by the extremely powerful witch Ledger, which could be the tool Nathan needs to save himself and the Alliance. But the amulet is not so easily acquired. And lately Nathan has started to suffer from visions: a vision of a golden moment when he dies, and of an endless line of Hunters, impossible to overcome. Gabriel, his closest companion, encourages Nathan to run away with him, to start a peaceful life together. But even Gabriel's love may not be enough to save Nathan from this war, or from the person he has become. Set in modern-day Europe, the final book in the *Half Bad* trilogy is more than a story about witches. It's a heart-pounding visceral look at survival and exploitation, the nature of good and evil, and the risks we take for love. Now streaming on Netflix as *The Bastard Son & The Devil Himself*. Cover may vary.

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