

The Ash Garden Dennis Bock

The Man From SaigonThe Girl Next DoorAn Aesthetic UndergroundThe Good GermanThe Last Cherry BlossomArticles of WarLake of the PrairiesWhy The North Won The Civil WarBy Its CoverThe Ash GardenOlympiaBeheldHow to Avoid Having SexThe Cultural Work of Photography in CanadaThe Last CowboyLaughing All the Way to the MosqueBrickBy Its CoverSpiderBlack RainThe Communist's DaughterThe Unexpected ChoiceThe Ash GardenMap of the Invisible WorldRadianceThe Wives of Los AlamosWoman from ShanghaiHair HatSpanish FlyWriters on the AirThe Killing TimeOpium DreamsCenturies of JuneMonkey HuntingThe Ginseng HunterThe Ash GardenInto the Woods (movie tie-in edition)The OrendaThe Good GermanGoing Home Again

The Man From Saigon

Set in Berlin just after the end of World War II, a brilliant thriller about the end of one war and the beginning of another, by the bestselling author of Los Alamos. Berlin, 1945. Jake Geismar, former Berlin correspondent for CBS, has managed to wangle one of the coveted press slots for the Potsdam Conference. His assignment: a series of articles on the American occupation of postwar Berlin. His personal agenda: to find Lena, the German mistress he left behind at the outbreak of the war. When he stumbles on a murder--an American soldier washed up on the shore of the conference grounds--he thinks he has found the key that will unlock his Berlin story. What he finds instead is a larger story of corruption and intrigue reaching deep into the heart of the occupation and a city not only physically but morally devastated, where children scavenge for food in the rubble, sex can be had for a cigarette, and the black market is the only means of survival. Berlin at zero hour is like nowhere else--a tragedy, and a feverish party after the end of the world. And nothing is simple--not the murder of a soldier and not any of the lives, American and German, that Jake encounters as he tries to solve it. More unsolvable still is the larger crime that hangs over everything in 1945, a crime so huge it seems beyond punishment. At once a murder mystery, a love story, and a riveting portrait of a unique time and place, Jason Kanon's The Good German is a historical thriller of the first rank.

The Girl Next Door

Joey McCrary needs a wife and someone to help him raise his daughter after he made some poor choices in college. Stacey has always been his friend, and even though she's a sweet girl, nothing can compare to the feelings he has for his ex. Joey realizes that he and Stacey can benefit one another. Joey can provide Stacey with all she's ever wanted: a family. But can Stacey teach him a few things along the way, too?

An Aesthetic Underground

The Cultural Work of Photography in Canada is an in-depth study on the use of photographic imagery in Canada from the late nineteenth century to the present. This volume of fourteen essays provides a thought-provoking discussion of the role photography has played in representing Canadian identities. In essays that draw on a diversity of photographic forms, from the snapshot and advertising image to works of photographic art, contributors present a variety of critical approaches to photography studies, examining themes ranging from photography's part in the formation of the geographic imaginary to Aboriginal self-identity and notions of citizenship. The volume explores the work of photographs as tools of self and collective expression while rejecting any claim to a definitive, singular telling of photography's history. Reflecting the rich interdisciplinarity of contemporary photography studies, The Cultural Work of Photography in Canada is essential reading for anyone interested in Canadian visual culture. Contributors include Sarah Bassnett (University of Western Ontario), Lynne Bell (University of Saskatchewan), Jill Delaney (Library and Archives Canada), Robert Evans (Carleton University), Sherry Farrell Racette (University of Manitoba), Blake Fitzpatrick (Ryerson University), Vincent Lavoie (Université du Québec à Montréal), John O'Brian (University of British Columbia), James Opp (Carleton University), Joan M. Schwartz (Queen's University), Sarah Stacy (Library and Archives Canada), Jeffrey Thomas (Ottawa), and Carol Williams (Trent University/University of Lethbridge).

The Good German

Emiko Amai is six years old in August 1945 when the Hiroshima bomb burns away half of her face. To Anton, a young German physicist involved in the Manhattan Project, that same bomb represents the pinnacle of scientific elegance. And for his Austrian wife Sophie, a Jewish refugee, it marks the start of an irreparable fissure in their new marriage. Fifty years later, seemingly far removed from the day that defined their lives, Emiko visits Anton and Sophie, and in Dennis Bock's powerfully imagined narrative, their histories converge.

The Last Cherry Blossom

Featuring a preview of Carrie Snyder's highly anticipated debut novel, *Girl Runner*. Anansi Digital brings you Carrie Snyder's debut collection, *Hair Hat*, "a potent work of original imagination." (Edmonton Journal) In these mysterious and wondrous stories, eleven disparate people — some of them related, some of them neighbours, glancing acquaintances, or even complete strangers — are transformed by a man with hair shaped like a hat. The lives depicted here are familiar, observed in all their ordinary detail. There is an eight-year-old girl sent to visit her aunt while her mother gives birth; an irrepressibly nosy landlady; a mother on a beach outing with her two young children; a grandmother taking her infant grandson for a

stroll in the park. They are going about their everyday routine when they encounter a man — who speaks to them or not, passes them on the street, is somehow seen by them all. In that moment a truth about their lives, who they are and are not, who they might be, is realized. Different to each of them, he makes perfect sense to them all. By turns a figure of forgiveness, of threat, even of love, eventually this elusive figure himself begins to be revealed. With enormous subtlety and sly humour, Snyder unmask rich and complex inner lives roiling just beneath the surface, lives of deep and unrequited yearning. Their singular encounters with the mysterious hair hat man begin to layer powerfully, one upon the other. Taken as a whole, Hair Hat enacts a deeply compelling human drama.

Articles of War

In *Woman from Shanghai*, Xianhui Yang, one of China's most celebrated and controversial writers, gives us a work of fact-based fiction that reveals firsthand—and for the first time in English—what life was like in one of Mao's most notorious labor camps. Between 1957 and 1960, nearly three thousand Chinese citizens were labeled “Rightists” by the Communist Party and banished to Jianiangou in China's northwestern desert region of Gansu to undergo “reeducation” through hard labor. These exiles men and women were subjected to horrific conditions, and by 1961 the camp was closed because of the stench of death: of the roughly three thousand inmates, only about five hundred survived. In 1997, Xianhui Yang traveled to Gansu and spent the next five years interviewing more than one hundred survivors of the camp. In *Woman from Shanghai* he presents thirteen of their stories, which have been crafted into fiction in order to evade Chinese censorship but which lose none of their fierce power. These are tales of ordinary people facing extraordinary tribulations, time and again securing their humanity against those who were intent on taking it away. Xianhui Yang gives us a remarkable synthesis of journalism and fiction—a timely, important and uncommonly moving book.

Lake of the Prairies

In this hugely acclaimed author's new novel, history comes alive before us when, in the seventeenth century, a Jesuit missionary ventures into the wilderness in search of converts—the defining moment of first contact between radically different worlds, each at once old and new in its own ways. What unfolds over the next few years is truly epic, constantly illuminating and surprising, sometimes comic, always entrancing, and ultimately all-too-human in its tragic grandeur. Christophe, as educated as any Frenchman could be about the “sauvages” of the New World whose souls he has sworn to save, begins his true enlightenment shortly after he sets out when his native guides—terrified by even a scent of the Iroquois—abandon him to save themselves. But a Huron warrior and elder named Bird soon takes him prisoner, along with a young Iroquois girl, Snow Falls, whose family he has just killed. The Huron-Iroquois rivalry, now growing vicious, courses through this novel, and these three are its principal characters. Christophe and Snow Falls are held captive in Bird's massive

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village. Champlain's Iron People have only lately begun trading with the Huron, who mistrust them as well as this Jesuit Crow who has now trespassed onto their land; and Snow Falls's people, of course, have become the Hurons' greatest enemy. Bird knows that to get rid of them both would resolve the issue, but he sees Christophe, however puzzling, as a potential envoy to those in New France, and Snow Falls as a replacement for the two daughters he'd lost to the Iroquois. These relationships wax and wane as life comes at them relentlessly: a lacrosse match with an allied tribe, a dangerous mission to trade furs with the French for the deadly shining wood that could save the Huron nation, shocking victories in combat and devastating defeats, then a sickness the likes of which none of them has ever seen. The world of *The Orenda* blossoms to include such unforgettable characters as Bird's oldest friend, Fox; his lover, Gosling, who some believe possesses magical powers; two more Jesuit Crows who arrive to help form a mission; and boys from both tribes whose hearts veer wildly from one side to the other, for one reason or another. Watching over all of them are the spirits that guide their every move. *The Orenda* traces a story of blood and hope, suspicion and trust, hatred and love, that comes to a head when Jesuit and Huron join together against the stupendous wrath of the Iroquois, when everything that any of them has ever known or believed in faces nothing less than annihilation. A saga nearly four hundred years old, it is also timeless and eternal. This eBook edition includes a Reading Group Guide.

Why The North Won The Civil War

Following the seventieth anniversary of the atomic bombing of Hiroshima, this is a new, very personal story to join Sadako and the Thousand Paper Cranes. Yuriko was happy growing up in Hiroshima when it was just her and Papa. But her aunt Kimiko and her cousin Genji are living with them now, and the family is only getting bigger with talk of a double marriage! And while things are changing at home, the world beyond their doors is even more unpredictable. World War II is coming to an end, and since the Japanese newspapers don't report lost battles, the Japanese people are not entirely certain of where Japan stands. Yuriko is used to the sirens and the air-raid drills, but things start to feel more real when the neighbors who have left to fight stop coming home. When the bombs hit Hiroshima, it's through Yuriko's twelve-year-old eyes that we witness the devastation and horror. This is a story that offers young readers insight into how children lived during the war, while also introducing them to Japanese culture. Based loosely on author Kathleen Burkinshaw's mother's firsthand experience surviving the atomic bombing of Hiroshima, *The Last Cherry Blossom* hopes to warn readers of the immense damage nuclear war can bring, while reminding them that the "enemy" in any war is often not so different from ourselves.

By Its Cover

A scientist stealing across the Pyrenees into Spain, then smuggled into America
A young woman quarantined on a ship wandering the Atlantic, her family left behind in Austria
A girl playing on a riverbank as a solitary airplane appears on the

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horizon Lives already in motion, unsettled by war, and about to change beyond reckoning -- their pasts blurred and their destinies at once bound for the desert of Los Alamos, the woman unexpectedly en route to a refugee camp, the girl at Ground Zero and that plane the Enola Gay. In August 1945, in a blinding flash, Hiroshima sees the dawning of the modern age. With these three characters, Dennis Bock transforms a familiar story -- the atom bomb as a means to end worldwide slaughter -- into something witnessed, as if for the first time, in all its beautiful and terrible power. Destroyer of Worlds. With Anton and Sophie and Emiko, with the complete arc of their histories and hopes, convictions and requests, The Ash Garden is intricate yet far-reaching, from market streets in Japan to German universities, from New York tenements to, ultimately, a peaceful village in Ontario. Revealed here, as their fates triangulate, are the true costs and implications of a nightmare that has persisted for over half a century. In its reserves of passion and wisdom, in its grasp of pain and memory, in its balance of ambition and humanity, this first novel is an astonishing triumph.

The Ash Garden

The people of a Japanese village fight to maintain their humanity and tradition in the radioactive "rain" after Hiroshima

Olympia

Their average age was twenty-five. They came from Berkeley, Cambridge, Paris, London and Chicago – and arrived in New Mexico ready for adventure or at least resigned to it. But hope quickly turned to hardship in the desolate military town where everything was a secret, including what their husbands were doing at the lab. They lived in barely finished houses with a P.O. Box for an address, in a town wreathed with barbed wire, all for the benefit of 'the project' that didn't exist as far as the greater world was concerned. They were constrained by the words they couldn't say out loud, the letters they couldn't send home, the freedom they didn't have. Though they were strangers, they joined together – babies were born, friendships were forged, children grew up. But then 'the project' was unleashed and even bigger challenges faced the women of Los Alamos, as they struggled with the burden of their contribution towards the creation of the most destructive force in mankind's history – the atomic bomb. Contentious, gripping and intimate, The Wives of Los Alamos is a personal tale of one of the most momentous events in our history.

Beheld

Discovering an earthen tunnel in their 1944 London suburb, six children share a summer of subterranean exploration and reunite six decades later when a box with skeletal remains is found in the same location. By the Edgar Award-winning author of the Inspector Wexford series. 60,000 first printing.

How to Avoid Having Sex

Most Anticipated Books of 2020 - Vogue, Medium, LitHub From the bestselling author of *The Wives of Los Alamos* comes the riveting story of a stranger's arrival in the fledgling colony of Plymouth, Massachusetts-and a crime that shakes the divided community to its core. Ten years after the Mayflower pilgrims arrived on rocky, unfamiliar soil, Plymouth is not the land its residents had imagined. Seemingly established on a dream of religious freedom, in reality the town is led by fervent puritans who prohibit the residents from living, trading, and worshipping as they choose. By the time an unfamiliar ship, bearing new colonists, appears on the horizon one summer morning, Anglican outsiders have had enough. With gripping, immersive details and exquisite prose, TaraShea Nesbit reframes the story of the pilgrims in the previously unheard voices of two women of very different status and means. She evokes a vivid, ominous Plymouth, populated by famous and unknown characters alike, each with conflicting desires and questionable behavior. Suspenseful and beautifully wrought, *Beheld* is about a murder and a trial, and the motivations-personal and political-that cause people to act in unsavory ways. It is also an intimate portrait of love, motherhood, and friendship that asks: Whose stories get told over time, who gets believed-and subsequently, who gets punished?

The Cultural Work of Photography in Canada

It's 1967, and Susan Gifford is one of the first women correspondents in Saigon, dedicated to her job and passionately in love with an American TV reporter. Son is a Vietnamese photographer anxious to get his work to the American press. Together they cover every aspect of the war from combat missions to the workings of field hospitals. Then one November morning, after narrowly escaping death, Susan and Son find themselves the prisoners of three Vietcong soldiers. Helpless in the hands of the enemy, they face the jungle, living always with the threat of being killed and the slow realization that their complicated relationship is the only thing sustaining them both. From the Trade Paperback edition.

The Last Cowboy

What would happen if a Hiroshima survivor encountered one of the scientists responsible for the atomic bomb? Emiko Amai was six years old when on 6 August 1945 she survived the first atomic bomb. Her parents were killed, and her younger brother horrifically injured. A decade later she was among the twenty-five scarred 'Hiroshima maidens' brought to the United States for reconstructive surgery. For Anton Boll and his colleagues at Los Alamos, New Mexico, news of the explosion was a confirmation of a dream. Boll was a refugee of conscience from Germany, a recruit to Oppenheimer's Manhattan Project, who believed the sooner they cracked these nuclear equations, the safer the world would be. With a remarkable clarity and perception Dennis Bock's compelling and poignant novel explored what happens half a century later,

when Anton and Emiko finally stand face-to-face.

Laughing All the Way to the Mosque

In Margaret Gibson's powerful first novel, a daughter's poignant attempt to understand her dying father illuminates both their lives. Writer Maggie Glass watches her father fade into the murky realm of Alzheimer's. To understand the man Timothy Glass was, Maggie pieces together fragments of his life, and, in doing so, gradually tells her own harrowing story. Spanning decades, the novel brilliantly interweaves the strands of a family's past and present, vividly evoking an Ontario farm in the '30s; the North African desert in wartime; a hospital in British Columbia, where a returning soldier's dreams for the future alter irrevocably; Toronto in the '50s, and in the decades that follow. Infused with startling imagery and with language that cuts straight to the bone of meaning, *Opium Dreams* is a moving and life-affirming novel from one of Canada's most gifted writers.

Brick

A Chinese ginseng hunter lives alone in the valley, where he spends his days preparing for winter. He is scarcely aware of the larger world until shadowy figures, floating bodies, and rumors of murder begin to intrude on his cherished solitude. Then, on a trip to Yanji, he meets a young North Korean prostitute. Through her vivid tales, the tragedy occurring across the river unfolds, and soon the hunter realizes that the fates of the young woman and four others rest in his hands. An unforgettable look at life along the fragile border between China and North Korea, *The Ginseng Hunter* is a confirmation of Jeff Talarigo's talent for finding humanity in the most unexpected places. From the Trade Paperback edition.

By Its Cover

Rebelling against the religion of his father, a dedicated physician finds his calling saving lives on the battlefield, from the trenches of the Great War, to Republican Spain, to China, where in the service of Mao Zedong, he struggles with Nationalist and Japanese enemies and seeks meaning in the person of the daughter he has never seen. By the author of *The Ash Garden*. Reprint. 12,500 first printing.

Spider

From the author of the internationally acclaimed *The Harmony Silk Factory* comes an enthralling novel that evokes an exotic yet turbulent place and time—1960s Indonesia during President Sukarno's drive to purge the country of its colonial

past. A page-turning story, *Map of the Invisible World* follows the journeys of two brothers and an American woman who are indelibly marked by the past—and swept up in the tides of history.

Black Rain

Being a practicing Muslim in the West is sometimes challenging, sometimes rewarding and sometimes downright absurd. How do you explain why Eid never falls on the same date each year; why it is that Halal butchers also sell teapots and alarm clocks; how do you make clear to the plumber that it's essential the toilet is installed within sitting-arm's reach of the tap? Zarqa Nawaz has seen and done it all. And it's not always easy to get things right with the community either: Zarqa tells of being asked to leave the DBW (Dead Body Washing) committee after making unsuitable remarks; of undertaking the momentous trip to Mecca with her husband, without the children, thinking (most incorrectly) that it will also be a nice time to have uninterrupted sex; of doing the unthinkable, and creating *Little Mosque on the Prairie*, a successful TV sitcom about that very (horrified, then proud) community. You have to laugh.

The Communist's Daughter

In November 1939, a German anti-fascist named Georg Elser came as close to assassinating Adolf Hitler as anyone ever had. In this gripping novel of alternate history, he doesn't just come close—he succeeds. But he could never have imagined the terrible consequences that would follow from this act of heroism. Hermann Göring, masterful strategist, assumes the Chancellery and quickly signs a non-aggression treaty with the isolationist president Joseph Kennedy that will keep America out of the war that is about to engulf Europe. Göring rushes the German scientific community into developing the atomic bomb, and in August 1944, this devastating new weapon is tested on the English capital. London lies in ruins. The war is over, fascism prevails in Europe, and Canada, the Commonwealth holdout in the Americas, suffers on as a client state of the Soviet Union. Georg Elser, blinded in the A-bombing of London, is shipped to Canada and quarantined in a hospice near Toronto called Mercy House. Here we meet William Teufel, a German-Canadian boy who in the summer of 1960 devises a plan that he hopes will distance himself from his German heritage and, unwittingly, brings him face to face with the man whose astonishing act of heroism twenty-one years earlier set the world on its terrifying new path. In this page-turning narrative, Bock has created an utterly compelling and original novel of historical speculation in the vein of Philip Roth's *The Plot Against America*, John Wyndham's *The Chrysalids* and Philip K. Dick's cult classic *The Man in the High Castle*.

The Unexpected Choice

The Ash Garden

During his exposure to combat, George "Heck" Tilson, an eighteen-year-old Iowa farm boy sent to Normandy just after D-Day, discovers that he is a coward and, tormented by the perils around him, struggles to survive the horrors of war.

Map of the Invisible World

We all know we're not supposed to judge books by their covers, but the truth is that we do just that nearly every time we walk into a bookstore or pull a book off a tightly packed shelf. It's really not something we should be ashamed about, for it reinforces something we sincerely believe: design matters. At its best, book cover design is an art that transcends the publisher's commercial imperative to reflect both an author's ideas and contemporary cultural values in a vital, intelligent, and beautiful way. In this groundbreaking and lavishly illustrated history, authors Ned Drew and Paul Sternberger establish American book cover design as a tradition of sophisticated, visual excellence that has put shape to our literary landscape. *By Its Cover* traces the story of the American book cover from its inception as a means of utilitarian protection for the book to its current status as an elaborately produced form of communication art. It is, at once, the intertwined story of American graphic design and American literature, and features the work of such legendary figures as Rockwell Kent, E. McKnight Kauffer, Paul Rand, Alvin Lustig, Rudy deHarak, and Roy Kuhlman along with more recent and contemporary innovators including Push Pin Studios, Chermayeff & Geismar, Karen Goldberg, Chip Kidd, and John Gall.

Radiance

A brand-new original novel based on the hit NBC series. There once was a man who lived a life so strange, it had to be true. Only he could see what no one else can: the darkness inside, the real monster within. And he's the one who must stop them. This is his calling. This is his duty. This is the life of a Grimm. A mysterious creature stalks the streets of Portland, looking for a new identity. With one touch it can dissolve its victim, assuming their appearance, personality, and memories. When Portland homicide detectives Nick Burkhardt and Hank Griffin are called in to investigate a bizarre murder, Nick comes face to face with the changeling, but its powers have an unexpected effect on the Grimm, unleashing a deadly Wesen plague and untold chaos.

The Wives of Los Alamos

Stephen Sondheim and James Lapine's beloved musical masterpiece becomes a major motion picture, starring Meryl Streep and Johnny Depp.

Woman from Shanghai

In this deeply stirring novel, acclaimed author Cristina García follows one extraordinary family through four generations, from China to Cuba to America. Wonderfully evocative of time and place, rendered in the lyrical prose that is García's hallmark, *Monkey Hunting* is an emotionally resonant tale of immigration, assimilation, and the prevailing integrity of self. From the Trade Paperback edition.

Hair Hat

"Raised by his father in the dying town of Paradise Flats, Jack McGreary has learned to live by his wits. The year is 1939. Drought has turned America's heartland into a dust bowl, and the world is on the brink of war. Jack's father wants him to head north to Canada to sign up in the fight against Fascism. But when a pair of fast-talking swindlers named Virgil and Miss Rose blow through town, Jack falls in with them instead. Together, they go on a crime spree across the Southwest, staging a series of inventive and often hilarious cons, while sexual tension between Jack and Miss Rose grows as someone is being set up.

Spanish Fly

Later, when Daisy remembered that night, she could smell the scent of honeysuckle at the window and see the moon on the floorboards. But in her memories Keiko wasn't bandaged: her face was broken down the middle, just like the moon. One half was pure and white, the other half mottled and porous. The unbroken side was as smooth as porcelain, terrifying in its brightness, but in every memory it was the pocked side that drew Daisy in. (From *Radiance*, p. 192) It's 1952. Eighteen-year-old Hiroshima survivor Keiko Kitigawa arrives in New York City for surgery to cut away the scar marring her lovely face. Sponsored by The Hiroshima Project, Keiko is expected to be a media darling, "The Hiroshima Maiden," selected for her scarred beauty and for the talent she briefly revealed to Project doctors in Japan for putting words to the inexpressible horrors she has witnessed. But the Keiko who arrives in America does not perform as scripted, preferring to recall instead her grandfather's dappled gardens and tales of trickster foxes. Frustrated by her recalcitrance, the Project presses Keiko's suburban host mother, Daisy Lawrence, into duty, tasking her with drawing out the girl's horrific story, the one they need for the media circuit. When Daisy reluctantly agrees, she must fight to enter Keiko's sphere of intimacy, and is shocked by what she learns there. Like Keiko, Daisy has a few surprises in store for the Project. Her gentle maternal character has been vouched for by her long-time friend Irene Day, the glamorous Manhattan women's columnist who recruited her. But even Daisy is taken aback by what bubbles up from beneath her calm domestic existence in Riverside Meadows, drawn to the surface by Keiko's presence. Life will never be the same. Also deeply affected by Keiko's stay is Daisy's husband, Walter, a nearly extinguished literary light whose off-Broadway play once garnered critical acclaim. He has been fighting for years

with a hopelessly unfinished manuscript, obsessing over the tragic story of a friend who fell victim to the turmoil of Stalinist Russia. But Walter is haunted by another event in his past, something that happened in the shadows of the McCarthy trials and that he has never divulged to his wife. Keiko, bandaged after her surgery like the Invisible Man, becomes a conduit for secret grief. A barrage of letters and gifts from strangers arrive at their door. Riverside Meadows housewives, a photographer covering her story, and even a former Japanese-held POW heap their weightiest confidences upon her. Perhaps it is the force of her tragedy that pulls them in, or perhaps it is because her bandages make her seem like a blank receptacle for their own pain. Whatever the cause, Daisy finds it increasingly difficult to find the real Keiko beneath these burdens. But she will fight with all her strength to protect the girl, even at incalculable cost. Set against the backdrops of the Atomic Age and McCarthyism, *Radiance* is a precise and nuanced rendition of an historic time, depicted through a highly intimate lens and driven by acts of great love, terrible betrayals and immense compassion.

Writers on the Air

In this black comedy Jack attempts to tell the story of how he ended up on the floor with a hole in his head. But he keeps getting interrupted by a series of suspects--eight women lying in the bedroom just down the hall. Each woman (including his wife) tells a story drawn from five centuries of American myth and legend.

The Killing Time

We all know we're not supposed to judge books by their covers, but the truth is that we do just that nearly every time we walk into a bookstore or pull a book off a tightly packed shelf. It's really not something we should be ashamed about, for it reinforces something we sincerely believe: design matters. At its best, book cover design is an art that transcends the publisher's commercial imperative to reflect both an author's ideas and contemporary cultural values in a vital, intelligent, and beautiful way. In this groundbreaking and lavishly illustrated history, authors Ned Drew and Paul Sternberger establish American book cover design as a tradition of sophisticated, visual excellence that has put shape to our literary landscape. *By Its Cover* traces the story of the American book cover from its inception as a means of utilitarian protection for the book to its current status as an elaborately produced form of communication art. It is, at once, the intertwined story of American graphic design and American literature, and features the work of such legendary figures as Rockwell Kent, E. McKnight Kauffer, Paul Rand, Alvin Lustig, Rudy deHarak, and Roy Kuhlman along with more recent and contemporary innovators including Push Pin Studios, Chermayeff & Geismar, Karen Goldberg, Chip Kidd, and John Gall.

Opium Dreams

Grounded in the fertile soil of Meadow Lake are two historical traditions -- Native and settler. Warren Cariou's maternal grandparents were European immigrants who cleared acres of dense forest and turned it into pasture. This land also held traces of centuries of Cree settlement -- arrowheads, spear points and stone hammers, which Cariou stumbled upon as a boy. Though the tragic story of how these traditions came to share the same home would remain buried from Warren until much later, history's painful legacy was much in view. In the schoolyard and on the street corners Warren witnessed the discrimination, anger and fear directed at the town's Cree and Metis populations -- prejudices he absorbed as his own.

Centuries of June

In this romantic, humorous and harrowing novel, the acclaimed author of *Make Believe Love* returns to the epic skies and straight roads of Broken Head, Saskatchewan, and takes us into a very modern Western. Sam McMahon can't understand why his banker colleagues in Toronto keep calling him "cowboy," when he prefers opera to C&W and fine wine to beer. Sam's wife is in love with his brother Vern, who has followed the family tradition and works their parents' farm, a mixed cattle and crop operation inherited from his grandfather, Old Sam. When his wife leaves him stranded by the side of a Saskatchewan highway, Sam is rescued by a woman, Ai Lee, in a rented Toyota. Ai is a film location scout who's searching for the perfect cliff for legendary director James Aspen's new film, *The Last Cowboy*. Thirty years previously, Old Sam dreams of better days in an older West, mending fences, riding horses, raising cattle. To save young Sam, then 10 years old, from what he considers the malaise of the late-20th century, Old Sam drags him off into a blizzard on horseback. His goal is to save a lost cow and her new calf, which may or may not exist. Sam's parents fear he'll only manage to kill his grandson. When, only days later, the old cowboy wanders out of doors without his parka in the freezing cold, muttering about a lost boy, he's rescued by a Native couple out in a "borrowed" car, who run afoul of the police and end up driving into their final sunset. When Ai hears their story from Sam, she thinks she's found her perfect location. *The Last Cowboy* does much more than update the Western; it weaves together stories and generations and unveils, with beauty and compassion, the leap or fall that awaits us all. So I stretch back in permanent recline and do my best to travel off to a better day, a summer day back fifty years past, a few days after a big rain, so that everything was green except for the cuts in the draws where the runoff had chewed right through the grass. There was a glow to the world back then that has long since been lost. It is painfully elusive, that particular luminescence, but I sit here stubbornly trying to restore the shine of it. I begin with a sky that was as blue as the better skies now, and work my way down to the green, only a breath of a line of white dividing the earth from the heavens. -- from *The Last Cowboy* From the Hardcover edition.

Monkey Hunting

Drawing on imaginary outtakes from Riefenstahl's infamous film of the 1936 Berlin Olympic Games, Dennis Bock weaves

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together the lives of a family living in the shadow of history. Olympia is the story of post-war German immigrants, as told by their son Peter, born in the New World and raised in the sixties and seventies. Though great figures and events of mid-century touch the lives of this remarkable family, it is the private histories, the grand failings and small triumphs of Peter's family that remain etched in the reader's imagination. From Ruby's struggle to rise above her leukemia and her father's love of severe weather and killing tornadoes, to the saint who witnesses a miracle at the bottom of a drowned Spanish village. Set against the backdrop of some of the most significant Olympic moments of our times--the Nazis' stylish and sinister glorification of the Berlin Olympics and the 1972 Munich hostage-taking in which 11 Israelis were murdered--Olympia offers a bold and refreshing perspective on the tragic relationship between Germans and Jews in this century. Bock writes with insight and clarity in a breath-taking, beautiful prose that signals the debut of a brilliant new talent.

The Ginseng Hunter

Culled from Donna Seaman's Chicago radio program, Open Books, this collection of interviews highlights Seaman's in-depth conversations with writers of literary fiction and creative nonfiction. A wide range of topics are discussed, including writers' inspiration, their favorite books, their working and research habits, and their opinion of the state of literature today. An introductory essay accompanies each interview and provides a brief biographical and critical discussion of the author's background and work. Interviews with Margaret Atwood, T. C. Boyle, Sandra Cisneros, Jamaica Kincaid, Chang-rae Lee, Alice McDermott, and Joyce Carol Oates are among those included.

The Ash Garden

After two acclaimed historical novels, one of Canada's most celebrated young writers now gives us the vibrant, contemporary story of a man studying the suddenly confusing shape his life has taken, and why, and what his responsibilities—as a husband, a father, a brother, and an uncle—truly are. Charlie Bellerose leads a seminomadic existence, traveling widely to manage the language academies he has established in different countries. After separating, somewhat amicably, from his wife, he moves from Madrid back to his native Canada to set up a new school, and for the first time he forges a meaningful relationship with his brother, who's going through a vicious divorce. Charlie's able to make a fresh start in Toronto but longs for his twelve-year-old daughter, whom he sees only via Skype and the occasional overseas visit. After a chance encounter with a girlfriend from his university days, a woman now happily married and with children of her own, he works through a series of memories—including a particularly painful one they share—as he reflects on questions of family, home, fatherhood, and love. But two tragic events (one long past, the other very much in the present) finally threaten to destroy everything he's ever believed in. This edition includes a reading group guide.

Into the Woods (movie tie-in edition)

WHY THE SOUTH LOST What led to the downfall of the Confederacy? The distinguished professors of history represented in this volume examine the following crucial factors in the South's defeat: ECONOMIC—RICHARD N. CURRENT of the University of Wisconsin attributes the victory of the North to fundamental economic superiority so great that the civilian resources of the South were dissipated under the conditions of war. MILITARY—T. HARRY WILLIAMS of Louisiana State University cites the deficiencies of Confederate strategy and military leadership, evaluating the influence on both sides of Baron Jomini, a 19th-century strategist who stressed position warfare and a rapid tactical offensive. DIPLOMATIC—NORMAN A. GRAERNER of the University of Illinois holds that the basic reason England and France decided not to intervene on the side of the South was simply that to have done so would have violated the general principle of non-intervention to which they were committed. SOCIAL—DAVID DONALD of Columbia University offers the intriguing thesis that an excess of Southern democracy killed the Confederacy. From the ordinary man in the ranks to Jefferson Davis himself, too much emphasis was placed on individual freedom and not enough on military discipline. POLITICAL—DAVID M. POTTER of Stanford University suggests that the deficiencies of President Davis as a civil and military leader turned the balance, and that the South suffered from the lack of a second well-organized political party to force its leadership into competence.

The Orenda

How many heart attacks can a woman have before her spouse becomes suspicious? Sure, that old standby—the headache—has served both men and women well for years. But aren't you sick of the same old routines? It's time for a change and this guide is the perfect solution. Get ready to discover ten creative (and hilarious) ways to avoid having sex with your partner!

The Good German

"John Metcalf has written some of the very best stories ever published in this country."—Alice Munro The Argus-eyed editor; the magisterial prose stylist; the waggish, inflammatory cultural critic; the mentor and iconoclast. John Metcalf is a literary legend whose memoir maps the underground he labored tirelessly to establish.

Going Home Again

Spider is gaunt, threadbare, unnerved by everything from his landlady to the smell of gas. He tells us his story in a storm of beautiful language that slowly reveals itself as a fiendishly layered construction of truth and illusion. With echoes of Beckett, Poe, and Paul Bowles, Spider is a tale of horror and madness, storytelling and skepticism, a novel whose dizzying

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style lays bare the deepest layers of subconscious terror.

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