



LITERATURE

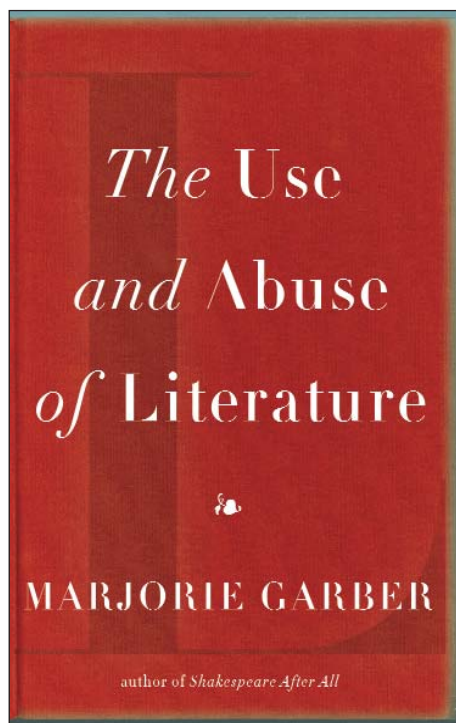


T I T L E S F R O M T H E
K N O P F D O U B L E D A Y
P U B L I S H I N G G R O U P



SPRING 2011





PANTHEON | CLOTH | 978-0-375-42434-2
336 PAGES | \$28.95 | **EXAM PRICE \$14.50**

Reality Hunger

A Manifesto

DAVID SHIELDS

NOW IN PAPERBACK

David Shields's *Reality Hunger* is a rigorous and radical attempt to reframe how we think about literary license, quotation, and appropriation in the twenty-first century.

"*Reality Hunger* urgently and succinctly addresses matters that have been in the air, have relentlessly gathered momentum, and have just been waiting for someone to link them together." —Luc Sante, *The New York Times Book Review*

"*Reality Hunger* will create sensations of like-mindedness in scattered souls everywhere. Shields has goosed the zeitgeist. The point of the polemic is his pugilistic and performative assertion of appropriation's inevitability: literary artists need to be given the liberties that have long been accorded to visual artists (ever since Duchamp)."

—Neal Ascherson, *The New York Review of Books*

"A literary battle cry for the creation of a new genre, one that doesn't draw distinctions between fiction and nonfiction, originality and plagiarism, memoir and fabrication, scripted and unscripted. . . . David Shields [is] brilliant, thoughtful, and yes, original." —Cathy Alter, *The Atlantic*

The Use and Abuse of Literature

MARJORIE GARBER

NEW

Harvard English professor Marjorie Garber's tour de force is a deep and engaging meditation on the usefulness and uselessness of reading in the digital age. Extraordinary for its brio, panache, and erudite understanding of our popular culture, *The Use and Abuse of Literature* aims to reclaim "literature" from the periphery of our personal, educational, and professional lives and restore it to the center, as a radical way of thinking.

What is literature anyway, how has it been understood over time, and what is its relevance for us today? Who gets to decide what the word means? What are the boundaries that separate it from its "commercial" instance and from other more mundane kinds of writing? Does it have any use at all, other than serving as bourgeois or aristocratic accoutrements attesting to one's worldly sophistication and refinement of spirit? Is it, as most of us assume, good to read, much less study—and what would that mean? Garber answers these questions and more in her important reflection on our culture in crisis.

"A literary battle cry for the creation of a new genre, one that doesn't draw distinctions between fiction and nonfiction, originality and plagiarism, memoir and fabrication, scripted and unscripted. . . . David Shields [is] brilliant, thoughtful, and yes, original."

—Cathy Alter, *The Atlantic*

"*Reality Hunger* urgently and succinctly addresses matters that have been in the air, have relentlessly gathered momentum, and have just been waiting for someone to link them together. . . . [It] heralds what will be the dominant modes in years and decades to come."

Luc Sante, *The New York Times Book Review*

"David Shields draws on a wide range of references—historical events, personal events, discussions of new media, and literary quotations (some verbatim)—that he weaves to construct a polemic that is also an account . . . of his own mental life. . . . Most importantly, Shields knows how to provoke argument without needing to crush all opposition. Rather, he finds between reader and writer and the nature of reality that shared textures are reality as itself the besthetic experience he is after."

Tim Parks, *The New York Review of Books*

"Grand manifesto or propaganda? The text calls to mind the 'I, too' of an universalist, a sermon on spawning stories, a stock of information or rebuttal. After the opening call to action, a variety of minds find their attention to the same problem. It's the humanist ideal of a new, universal, grand, complex, and stirring literature. . . . David Shields's *Reality Hunger* has just the immodest ambition and exhorter's zeal to bring about this happy scenario."

—Sam Sacks, *The Wall Street Journal*

VINTAGE | PAPER | 978-0-307-38797-4
240 PAGES | \$15.00 | **EXAM PRICE \$3.00**

The Vintage Book of American Women Writers

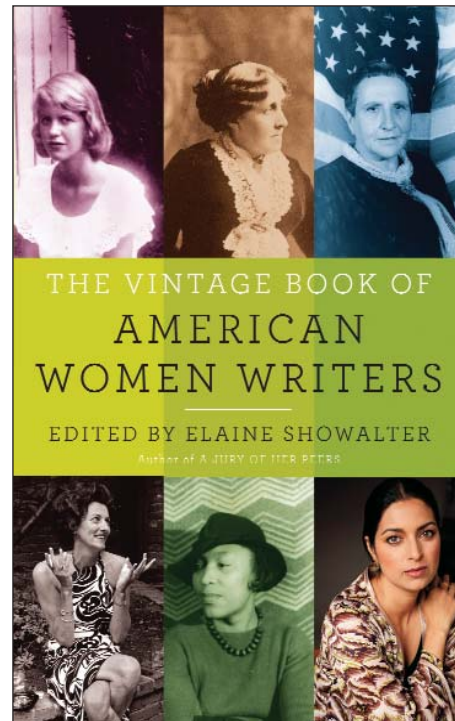
EDITED BY ELAINE SHOWALTER

NEW IN PAPERBACK

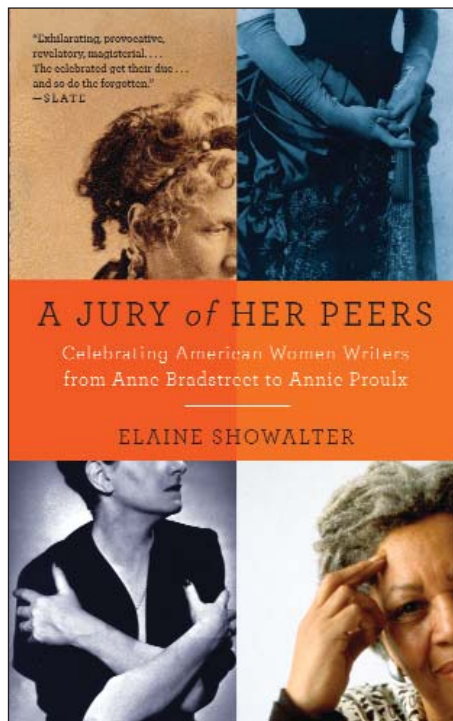
This monumental anthology of 350 years of American women writers is an important corrective to the literary canon and a showcase of great poetry and fiction in one readable and provocative volume. *The Vintage Book of American Women Writers* includes work by nearly 80 significant women writers and allows us to see our famous and familiar women writers in their full historical and literary context, and to encounter lesser-known women of the past whose work deserves to be rediscovered and enjoyed.

"*The Vintage Book of American Women Writers* contains many of the usual suspects . . . but it's got a depth and breadth that's been missing before now in canonical anthologies. . . . Showalter has mined American literary history for forgotten talent, and she's come up with treasures. . . . What Showalter has produced is the most definitive and serious anthology of women's writing to date."

—Monica Westin, *Newcity Lit*



VINTAGE | PAPER | 978-1-4000-3445-1
848 PAGES | \$18.95 | **EXAM PRICE \$3.00**



VINTAGE | PAPER | 978-1-4000-3442-0
608 PAGES | \$16.95 | **EXAM PRICE \$3.00**

A Jury of Her Peers

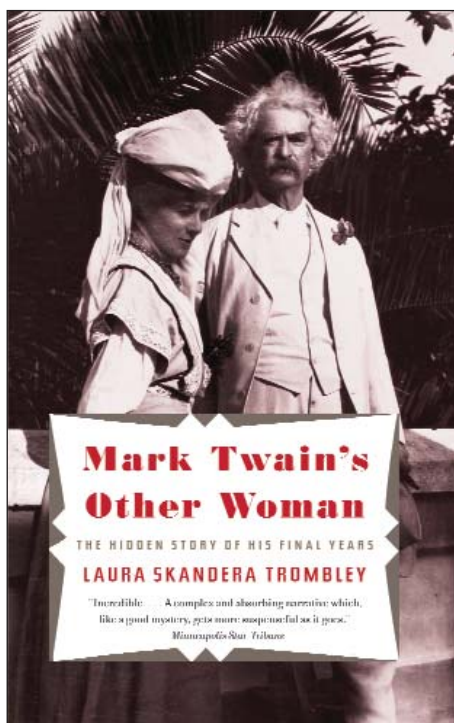
Celebrating American Women Writers from Anne Bradstreet to Annie Proulx

ELAINE SHOWALTER

Elaine Showalter's unprecedented literary landmark *A Jury of Her Peers*—the first comprehensive history of American women writers from 1650 to 2000—is a vast work that will greatly enrich our understanding of American literary history and culture.

"[A] work of astonishing vision, breadth, intelligence, and audacity. Elaine Showalter . . . has produced the most ambitious and brilliantly executed book of her career, one that is sure to be required reading for all who have an interest in American literary history." —Joyce Carol Oates

"[A] thoughtful and provocative narrative history of women struggling, striving, and arriving in the literary marketplace. The book follows women through four historical stages of literary professionalism from housebound secrecy up to the present day when, finally, they can write as they please. . . . [*A Jury of Her Peers* is] certain to take its place on the shelf of every person interested in American literary history." —Nina Baym, General Editor of *The Norton Anthology of American Literature*



VINTAGE | PAPER | 978-0-307-47494-0
352 PAGES | \$16.95 | **EXAM PRICE \$3.00**

Mark Twain's Other Woman

The Hidden Story of His Final Years

LAURA SKANDERA TROMBLEY

NOW IN PAPERBACK

Laura Skandera Trombley, the preeminent Twain scholar at work today, reveals the never-before-read letters and daily journals of Isabel Lyon, Mark Twain's last personal secretary. For six years, Isabel Lyon was responsible for running the aging Mark Twain's chaotic household, but after a dramatic breakup of their relationship Twain banished her from his life and his legacy. The truth of the split is exposed at last in a story that sheds light on a lionized author's final decade.

"Trombley has proven to be adept at peeling back Samuel L. Clemens's carefully constructed persona and forcing scholars to reconsider some basic assumptions." —Bruce Michelson, professor of English at the University of Illinois, President of the Mark Twain Circle of America

"Researched to a 'T,' *Mark Twain's Other Woman* . . . tells a story of disfunction, deceit and duplicity the likes of which we associate not with Mark Twain—but with the pages of Henry James." —Brenda Wineapple, author of *White Heat* and *Hawthorne*

Art and Madness

A Memoir of Lust Without Reason

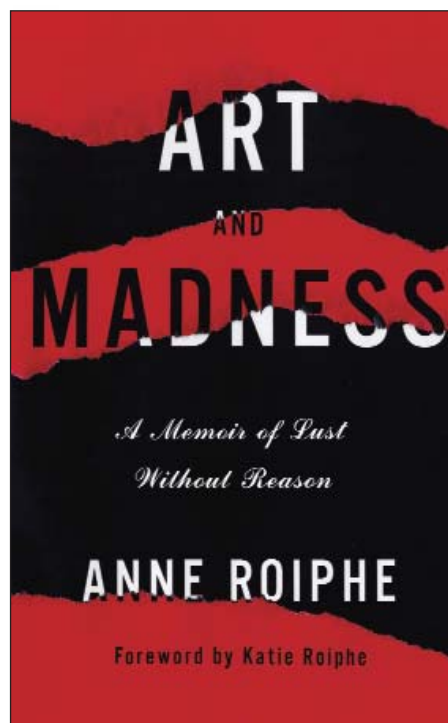
ANNE ROIPHE

NEW

Anne Roiphe recalls her life in the mid-century New York literary scene and her devotion, often at great personal cost, to her brilliant but troubled husband and their friends. *Art and Madness* recounts the fascinating evolution of a time when art, alcohol, and rebellion caused collateral damage and sometimes produced extraordinary work. In clear-sighted, perceptive, and unabashed prose, Roiphe shares the tumultuous adventure of self-discovery that finally led to her redemption.

"*Art and Madness* . . . depicted the fifties turning sixties as I too experienced them. Women were expected to be muses not writers. Male sexism and alcoholism were not only indulged but celebrated. . . . Anne Roiphe tells the complex truth about those decades—the longing for fame and how it rots the soul, the pandemic of alcoholism, the attempt to survive and thrive and raise one's children in a world that disdains female accomplishment. This is a valuable inner history of those times."

—Erica Jong, author of *Fear of Flying*



NAN A. TALESE | CLOTH | 978-0-385-53164-1
240 PAGES | \$24.95 | **EXAM PRICE \$12.50**

I Love a Broad Margin to My Life

MAXINE HONG KINGSTON

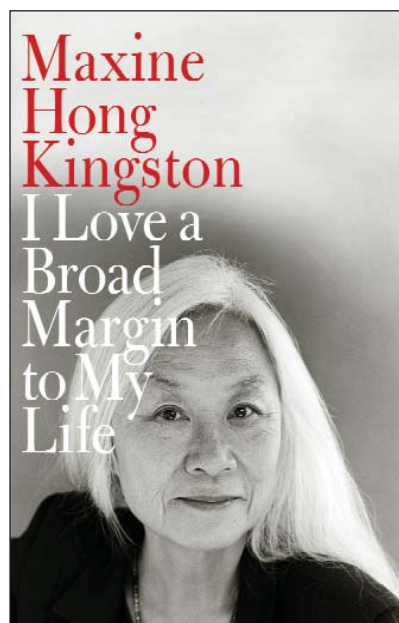
NEW

In her singular voice—humble, elegiac, practical—Maxine Hong Kingston sets out to reflect on aging as she turns sixty-five.

Borrowing the idea of a “broad margin” from Thoreau, Maxine Kingston hopes to expand her vision as she flies between her activities as writer, peace activist, teacher, and mother.

In swift verse lines that become, in her hands, another way of writing memoir, Kingston show us an American life of great purpose and joy, and the tonic wisdom of a writer we have come to cherish.

“As much an examination of the nature of time and aging as it is an exploration of cultural identity and origin, *I Love a Broad Margin to My Life* contains both moments of dark alienation and buoyant transcendence.” —Angela Sundstrom, *Time Out New York*



KNOPF | CLOTH | 978-0-307-27019-1
240 PAGES | \$24.95 | **EXAM PRICE \$12.50**



Dreams in a Time of War

A Childhood Memoir

NGŪGĨ WA THIONG'O

NOW IN PAPERBACK

In *Dreams in a Time of War*, Ngũgĩ wa Thiong'o deftly etches a bygone era, capturing the landscape, the people and their culture, the social and political vicissitudes of life under colonialism and war, and the troubled relationship between an emerging Christianized middle class and the rural poor.

“[Ngũgĩ] vividly evokes the colonial era as experienced by Africans, and the resulting clash of cultures that produced one of the most significant African writers of our time. . . . Ngũgĩ's greatest literary achievement in this book is to re-create, with almost uncanny success, how the world looked through mid-century African eyes.” —*The Boston Globe*

ANCHOR | PAPER | 978-0-307-47621-0
272 PAGES | \$15.00 | **EXAM PRICE \$3.00**

House of Prayer No. 2

A Writer's Journey Home

MARK RICHARD

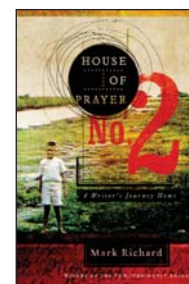
NEW

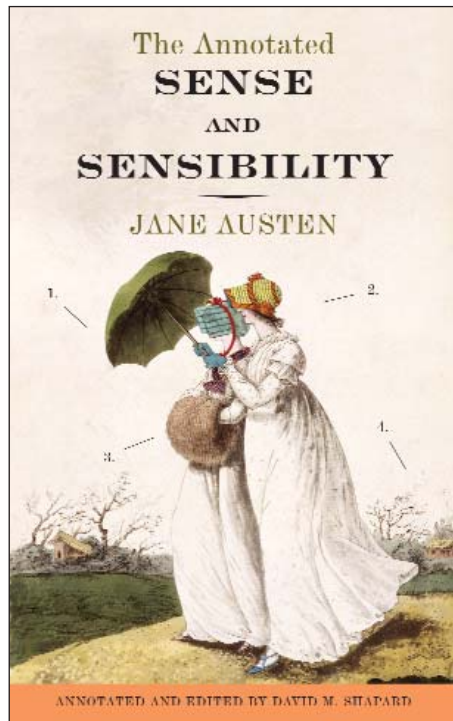
In a blend of history, travelogue, and personal reflection Mark Richard, born with badly deformed hips, recalls a life spent defying his doctors—as a disc jockey, fishing trawler deckhand, naval correspondent, private investigator, foreign journalist, and unsuccessful seminarian—before his hips finally failed him.

“The precision of the descriptions is marvelous in this memoir of growing up with infirmity. The depth of Richard's heart is profound, exhilarating, frightening, instructive. *House of Prayer No. 2* is a work of high art.” —Rick Bass

“Richard's book attests to the power of words (and the Word) in shaping a life, while at the same time challenging some dearly held beliefs about memoir as a genre.” —*The New York Times Book Review*

NAN A. TALESE | CLOTH | 978-0-385-51302-9
224 PAGES | \$23.95 | **EXAM PRICE \$12.00**





ANCHOR | PAPER | 978-0-307-39076-9
784 PAGES | \$16.95 | **EXAM PRICE \$3.00**

The Annotated Sense and Sensibility

JANE AUSTEN

Edited by David M. Shapard

NEW IN PAPERBACK

From the editor of the popular *Annotated Pride and Prejudice* comes an annotated edition of Jane Austen's *Sense and Sensibility*. Filled with fascinating information about everything from the rules of inheritance that could leave a wealthy man's daughters almost penniless to the fashionable cult of sensibility that Austen so brilliantly satirizes, David M. Shapard's *Annotated Sense and Sensibility* is a perfect introduction to Austen for students.

Here is the complete text of the novel with more than 2,000 annotations on facing pages, including: explanations of historical context; citations from Austen's life, letters, and other writings; definitions and clarifications; comments and analysis; multiple maps of England and London; an introduction, bibliography, and detailed chronology of events; and more than 100 informative illustrations.

The Everyman Chesterton

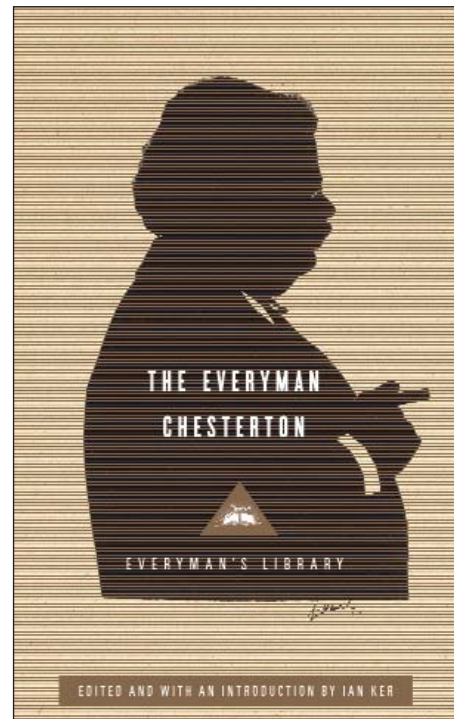
G. K. CHESTERTON

Edited and with an introduction by Ian Ker

NEW

A towering literary figure of the early twentieth century, G. K. Chesterton (1874–1936) was accomplished and prolific in many literary forms. *The Everyman Chesterton* is the first one-volume reader of Chesterton's best writing in the full range of genres he mastered.

A forceful proponent of Christianity and a critic of both conservatism and liberalism, he set out to describe nothing less than the spiritual journey of humanity in *Orthodoxy* and *The Everlasting Man*, his most enduring books. He is famous as well for his beloved Father Brown detective stories, his satirical and comic verse, his profoundly witty paradoxes and aphorisms, and his penetrating studies of such figures as Charles Dickens, St. Francis of Assisi, and St. Thomas Aquinas. *The Everyman Chesterton* contains selections from his poems, stories, essays, and biographies, as well as the influential works of religious, political, and social thought in which he championed the common man and for which he is most admired.



EVERYMAN'S LIBRARY | CLOTH | 978-0-307-59497-6
952 PAGES | \$30.00 | **EXAM PRICE \$15.00**

Burmese Days, Keep the Aspidistra Flying, Coming Up for Air

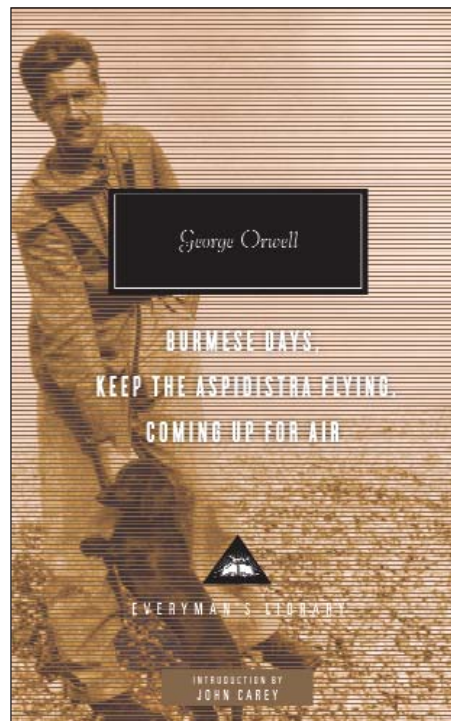
GEORGE ORWELL

Introduction by John Carey

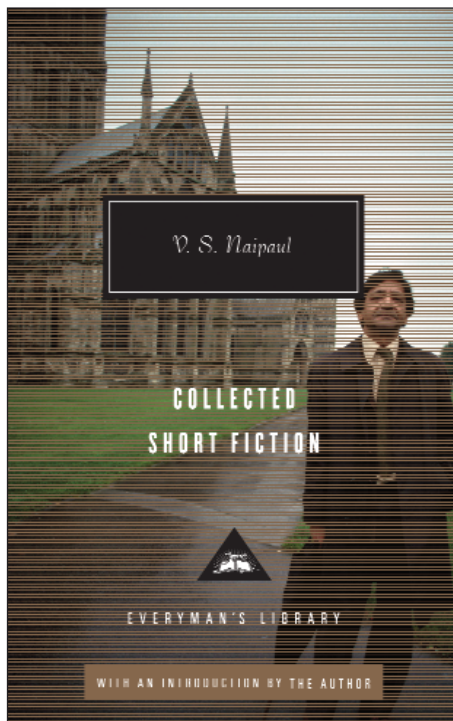
NEW

Collected for the first time in one hardcover volume—these three classic novels combine Orwell’s unsparing vision of the dark side of modern capitalist society with his comic brilliance and unerring compassion for humanity.

The lushly descriptive and tragic *Burmese Days*, a devastating indictment of British colonial rule, is based on Orwell’s own experience while serving in the Indian Imperial Police. His beloved satirical classic, *Keep the Aspidistra Flying*, features a young idealist whose attempt to rebel against middle-class respectability—by working in a bookshop and trying to be a writer—goes terribly and comically awry. The hero of *Coming Up for Air* tries to escape the bleakness of suburbia by returning to the idyllic rural village of his childhood—only to find that the simpler England he remembers so nostalgically is gone forever.



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712 PAGES | \$28.00 | **EXAM PRICE \$14.00**



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Collected Short Fiction

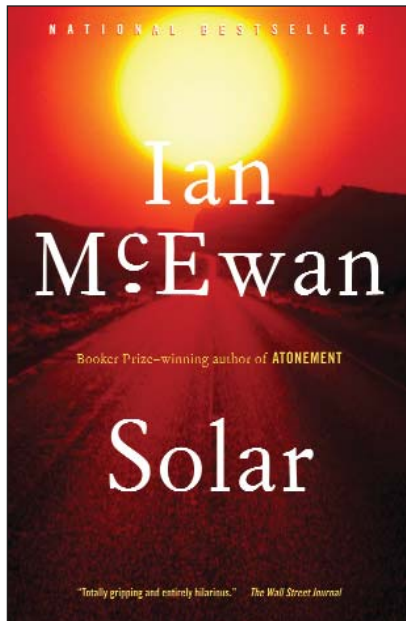
V. S. NAIPAUL

NEW

For the first time: the Nobel Prize winner’s stunning short fiction collected in one volume, with an introduction by the author.

Over the course of his distinguished career, V. S. Naipaul has written a remarkable array of short fiction that moves from Trinidad to London to Africa. Here are the stories from his Somerset Maugham Award-winning *Miguel Street*, in which he takes us into a derelict corner of Trinidad’s capital to meet, among others, Man-Man, who goes from running for public office to staging his own crucifixion. The tales in *A Flag on the Island*, meanwhile, roam from a Chinese bakery in Trinidad to a rooming house in London. And in the celebrated title story from the Booker Prize-winning *In a Free State*, an English couple traveling in an unnamed African country discover, under a veneer of civilization, a landscape of squalor and ethnic bloodletting.

“V. S. Naipaul is the world’s writer, a master of language and perception.” — *The New York Times Book Review*



ANCHOR | PAPER | 978-0-307-73953-7
352 PAGES | \$15.00 | **EXAM PRICE \$3.00**

Solar

IAN MCEWAN

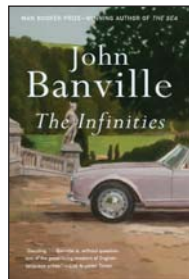
NOW IN PAPERBACK

A complex novel that brilliantly traces the arc of one man's ambitions and self-deceptions, *Solar* is the story of Nobel prize-winning physicist Michael Beard who, though his best work is behind him, may have a chance to reinvigorate his career and very possibly save the world from environmental disaster.

"[W]here *Solar* really succeeds—beyond the dark comedy . . . is the author's ability to reveal the nature of the climate conundrum in the very human life of his protagonist." — *The New York Times Book Review*

"Vivacious and sprawling, a beautifully and compellingly written novel . . . [His] achievement is the brilliant creation of a flawed, larger than life character who all but walks off the page to shake your hand."
— *The Times* (London)

"Wonderful. . . Underlying the novel's mordant comedy and its mounting suspense . . . is a genuine concern for the climate, the planet, the future of man." — *Kansas City Star*



The Infinities

JOHN BANVILLE

NOW IN PAPERBACK

The Infinities chronicles both a human family and a rather unholy gathering of immortals as we glimpse the lives of the Godleys while they and the watchful gods

prepare for the death of their patriarch Adam Godley.

"Banville manages to write compassionately about his mortals without sacrificing his deities' exalted wit and wisdom. . . . A narrative that makes intricate use of this material's mythic, dramatic and philosophical possibilities while remaining improbably comedic. . . . Seamlessly sophisticated fiction."
— Janet Maslin, *The New York Times*

"Like Nabokov, Banville has a wide-ranging intellect and a rather godlike view of the power of fiction. . . . *The Infinities* is an inventive melding of myth and realism, a sly and poignant tale of lust and loss." — *St. Petersburg Times*

VINTAGE | PAPER | 978-0-307-47439-1
288 PAGES | \$15.00 | **EXAM PRICE \$3.00**

What Becomes

A. L. KENNEDY

NOW IN PAPERBACK

Powerful and funny, intimate and profound, the stories in *What Becomes* capture the spirit of our times like only A. L. Kennedy can, with her dark humor, poignant hopefulness, and brilliant evocation of contemporary social and spiritual malaise.

"Marvelous. . . Kennedy is a force of nature. . . . Everything she touches turns to art, and here, she continues to impress with her psychological fearlessness and breathtaking affection for language." — *The New York Times Book Review*

"These are wonderfully textured pieces, varying from sentence to sentence, mood to mood, committed to capturing the precariousness and unsteadiness of individual mental landscapes."
— *The Guardian* (London)

VINTAGE | PAPER | 978-0-307-47624-1
224 PAGES | \$15.00 | **EXAM PRICE \$3.00**



Parrot and Olivier in America

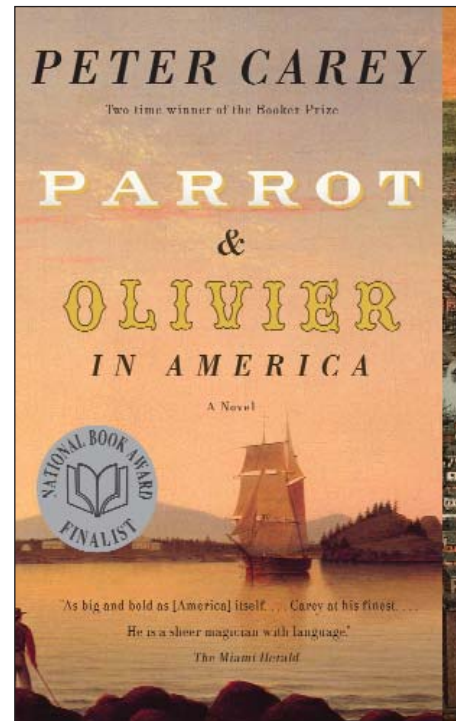
PETER CAREY

NOW IN PAPERBACK

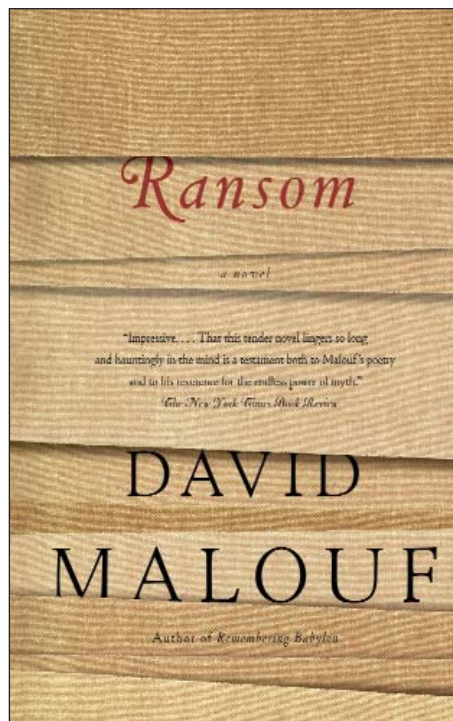
Two-time Booker Prize-winner Peter Carey's newest novel follows Olivier—an improvisation on the life of Alexis de Tocqueville—and his companion Parrot—a spy, protector, foe, and foil—through nineteenth-century America.

"[*Parrot and Olivier*] has an eighteenth-century robustness, a nineteenth-century lexicon, and a modern liberality. . . . There are few contemporary writers with such a sure sense of narrative pungency and immediacy. . . . Parrot's beefy patois, rich in pithy, prole Englishisms, gives Carey the chance to mobilize the kind of hybrid idiom, streaked in Strine, that he has used so brilliantly in the past." —James Wood, *The New Yorker*

"What strikes the reader from the first sentence of this book is the extraordinary daring and assurance of Carey's use of language What he does with words: the power and delicacy, the complex orchestration of colour and theme, seems impossible—more like music than language. . . . [T]he originality of the writing is so potent that it defies the arbitrary boundaries of literary genre." —Jane Shilling, *Evening Standard*



VINTAGE | PAPER | 978-0-307-47601-2
400 PAGES | \$15.95 | **EXAM PRICE \$3.00**



VINTAGE | PAPER | 978-0-307-47524-4
240 PAGES | \$14.95 | **EXAM PRICE \$3.00**

Ransom

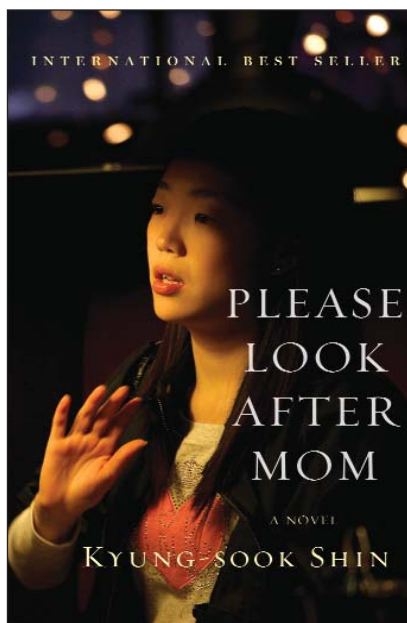
DAVID MALOUF

NOW IN PAPERBACK

David Malouf's stirring reimagination of one of the most famous passages in all of literature: Achilles's rageful slaughter and desecration of Hector, and Priam's attempt to ransom his son's body in *The Iliad*.

"Malouf may fairly be called Australia's greatest novelist, and the reasons why are all here . . . the penetration of his mind into hearts and motivations; the limpid, lucid prose; the bracing immediacy of the story, the art of his artlessness. A simple tale, cobbled from a few lines of an ancient text, but Malouf brings Achilles and Priam and the wagon driver to turbulent life. . . . A remarkable feat." —*The Oregonian*

"Profound. . . . Malouf's paraphrases of Homer are highly inventive, embroidered with imaginative details that often reanimate familiar elements of the epic. . . . *Ransom* is a rich meditation on literary genre—on the difference between Homer's form, the epic, with its encrustations of formulaic language, its strict codes of heroic behavior, and its fated ending, and Malouf's own form, the novel." —Daniel Mendelsohn, *The New Yorker*



KNOPF | CLOTH | 978-0-307-59391-7
256 PAGES | \$24.95 | **EXAM PRICE \$12.50**

Please Look After Mom

KYUNG-SOOK SHIN

Translated by Chi-Young Kim

NEW

The stunning, deeply moving story of a family's search for their mother, and of the desires, heartaches, and secrets they discover she harbored within.

"*Please Look After Mom* is an authentic, moving story that brings to vivid life the deep family connections that lie at the core of Korean culture. But it also speaks beautifully to an urgent issue of our time: migration, and how the movement of people from small towns and villages to big cities can cause heartbreak and even tragedy."

—Gary Shteyngart, author of *Super Sad True Love Story*

"*Please Look After Mom* takes us on a dual journey, to the unfamiliar corners of a foreign culture and into the shadowy recesses of the heart. In spare, exquisite prose, Kyung-Sook Shin penetrates the very essence of what it means to be a family, and a human being."

—Geraldine Brooks, Pulitzer Prize-winning author of *March*



Swamplandia!

KAREN RUSSELL

NEW

From the celebrated author of the heralded short-story collection *St. Lucy's Home for Girls Raised by Wolves* comes a blazingly original debut novel that takes us back to the swamps of the Florida Everglades. Against a backdrop of hauntingly fecund plant life animated by ancient lizards and lawless hungers, Karen Russell has written a singular novel about a family's struggle to stay afloat in a world that is inexorably sinking.

"Karen Russell's worlds, like her protagonists, are fierce and wondrous and hilarious and heartbreaking, and *Swamplandia!* . . . [is] as visceral and dazzling a portrait of South Florida's now almost destroyed wilderness as you're likely to read. But mostly it's a gorgeous and wrenching portrait of sibling love."

—Jim Shepard, author of *Like You'd Understand Anyway*

KNOPF | CLOTH | 978-0-307-26399-5
336 PAGES | \$24.95 | **EXAM PRICE \$12.50**

The Illumination

KEVIN BROCKMEIER

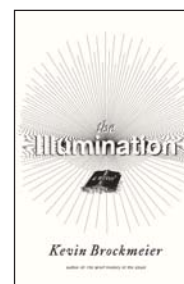
NEW

In the aftermath of a fatal car accident, a private journal of love notes, written by a husband to his wife, passes into the keeping of a hospital patient and from there through the hands of five other suffering people, touching each of them uniquely.

"Spectacular. . . [A] chingly beautiful. . . Underscoring [his characters'] conflicts is the haunting, harrowing, and deeply hypnotic pull of Brockmeier's lush language, where even the direst pain becomes poetic." —*The Boston Globe*

"[A] testament to Brockmeier's considerable stylistic gifts—the man writes exquisite sentences—and to the palpable compassion with which he frames each of his characters. His attention to detail is wizardlike." —*The Plain Dealer*

PANTHEON | CLOTH | 978-0-375-42531-8
272 PAGES | \$24.95 | **EXAM PRICE \$12.50**



36 Arguments for the Existence of God

A Work of Fiction

REBECCA GOLDSTEIN

NOW IN PAPERBACK

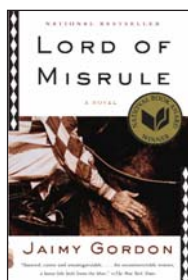
36 Arguments for the Existence of God plunges into the great debate of our day: the clash between faith and reason. MacArthur fellow Rebecca Goldstein shows that the tension between religion and doubt cannot be understood through rational argument alone. It must also be explored from the point of view of individuals caught in the raptures and torments of religious experience in all their variety.

"*36 Arguments for the Existence of God* affirms Ms. Goldstein's rare ability to explore the quotidian and the cosmological with equal ease. . . . It affirms Ms. Goldstein's position as a satirist and a seeker of real moral questions at a time when silly ones prevail."

— *The New York Times*

"Comic and supremely witty, *36 Arguments for the Existence of God* is both a satire of the academic world and a feast of philosophical and religious ideas."

— Alan Lightman, author of *Einstein's Dreams*



Lord of Misrule

JAIMY GORDON

NOW IN PAPERBACK

WINNER OF THE
NATIONAL BOOK
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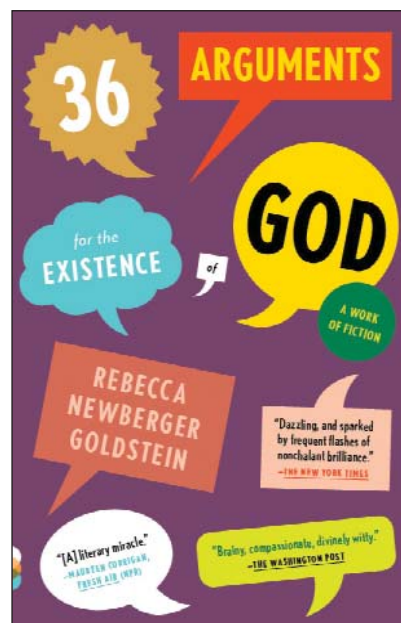
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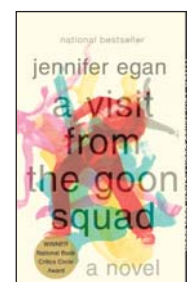
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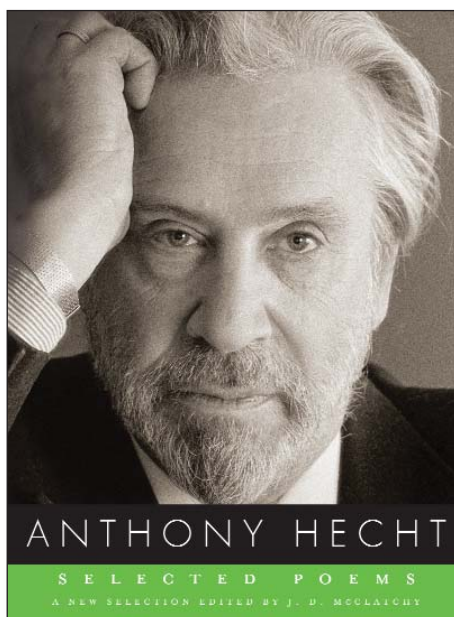
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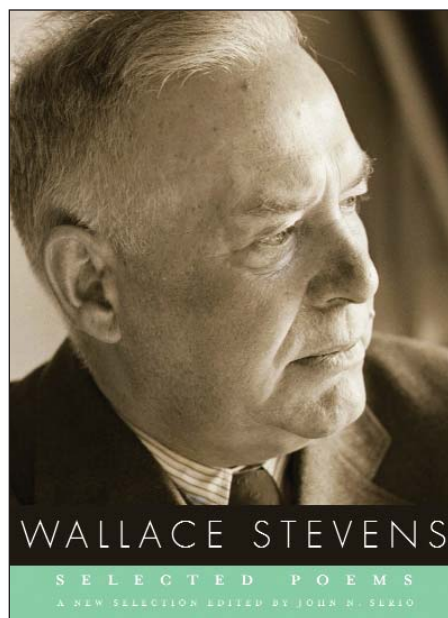
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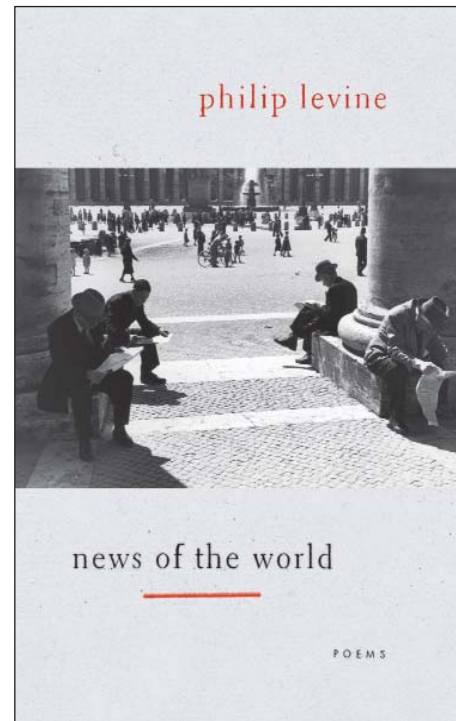
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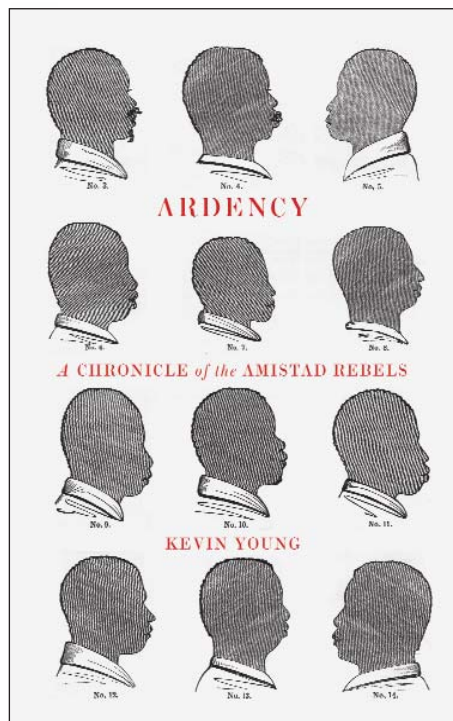
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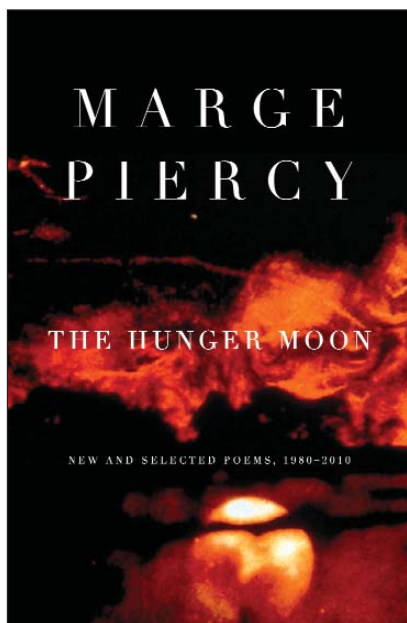
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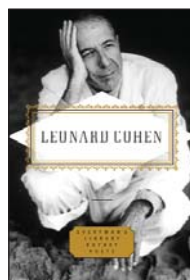
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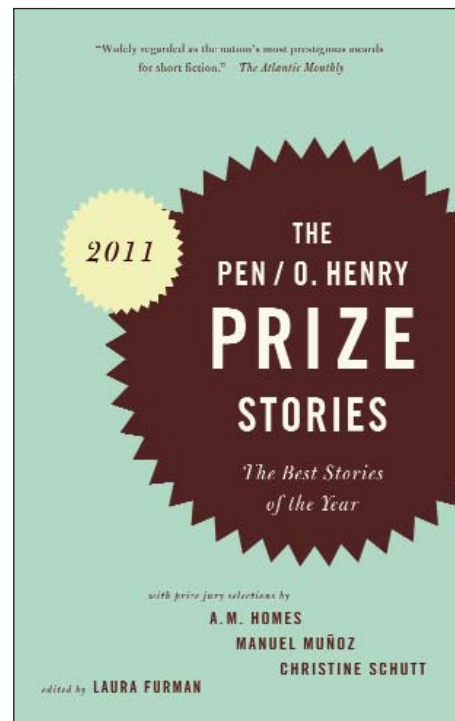
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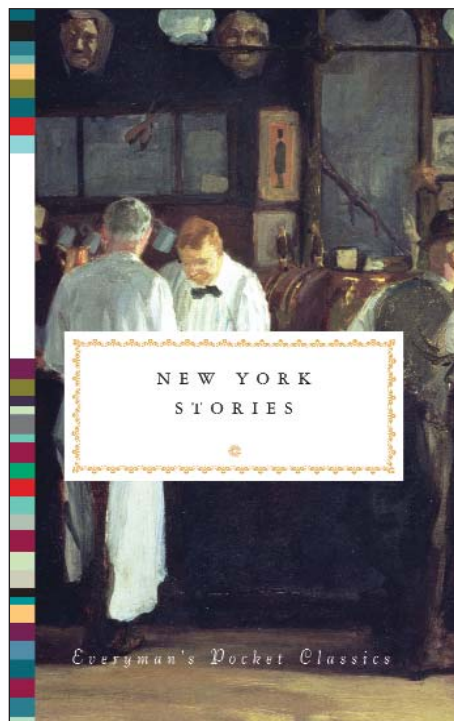
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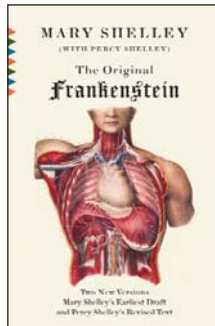
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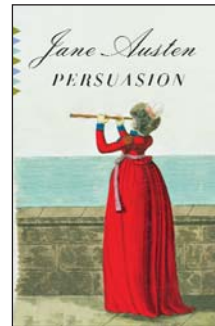
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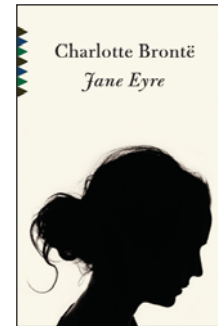
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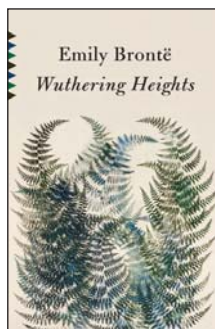


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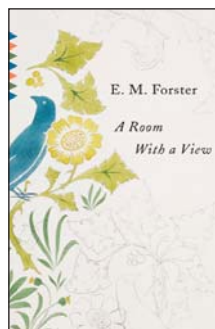
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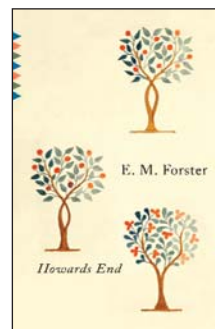
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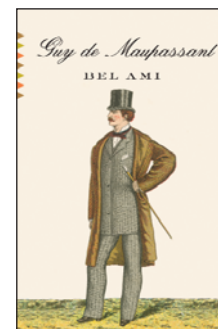
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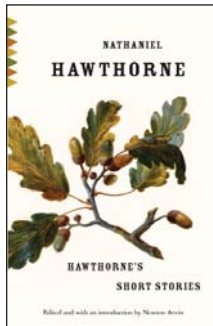
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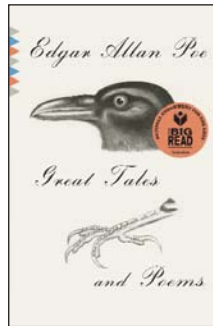
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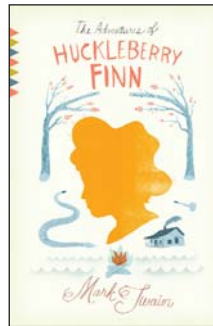
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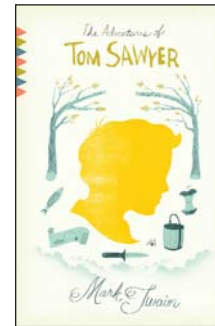
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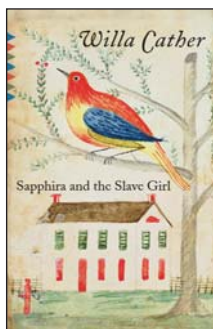
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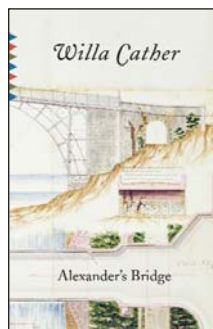
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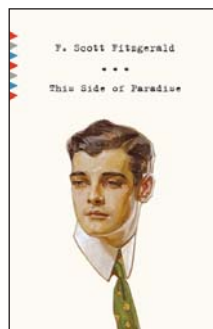
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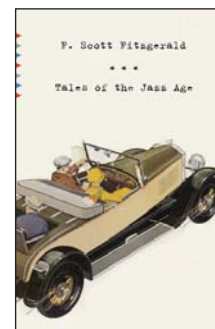
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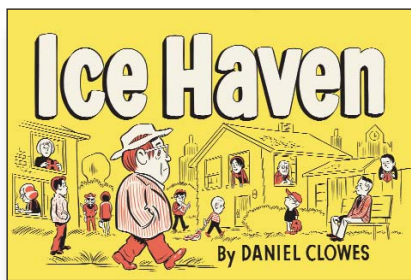
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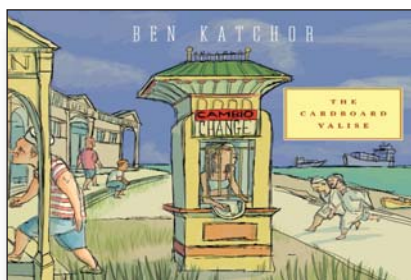
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