

Recent Books on Literature - July 2010

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Kaleidoscope: An Anthology of Sri Lankan English Literature Volume 2 / D. C. R. A. Goonetilleke
Colombo: Vijitha Yapa Publications, 2010
xx. 264p. ; 22cm.
ISBN-13: 9789556651072
\$ 18.00
<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=121800>

Arathi / Nihal de Silva
Colombo: Vijitha Yapa Publications, 2010
322p. ; 22cm.
ISBN-13: 9789556651140
\$ 18.00

The story of ARATHI, woven around a gamut of Tenders, the Underworld, Armsdealing, Betrayals, Murder, etc. is incomplete, because the author met with his tragic death in 2006, while working on the last part of his book. No one knows what is the surprising conclusion that he had in mind.

Nihal de Silva, author of *The Road From Elephant Pass*, *The Far Spent Day*, *The Ginirella Conspiracy* and *Arathi*, was among eight people killed on Saturday, May 27, 2006, in a landmine explosion in the Wilpattu National Park.
<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=121801>

Goddess on the Shore of Sunrise / Dilshy Banu
Pannipitiya, Sri Lanka: Stamford Lake (Pvt) Ltd., 2009
192p. ; 21cm.
ISBN-13: 9789556582055
1. English Fiction
\$ 12.00

Hazel's quest to figure out whether the cozy home and the family she loved, really belonged to her, takes us to Batticaloa, a war torn zone in the Eastern Province of Sri Lanka. Through her eyes, we see the mystery surrounding the enchanting yet hidden territory and the scars of reality left behind by the war in this beautiful land. While Hazel wonders around the beauty of Batticaloa and the new relationships with Tharan and Samabavi, her Brother Jason's mission to Southern Coast of Sri Lanka explores a different aspect to the story. Far away from their children, Hazel's parents struggle to manage their family and

demanding careers. But when Hazel's mother suddenly discovered Hazel's adventure in Sri Lanka, the land she never thought to visit again, the story takes a different twist that no one could have ever imagined ...

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=121802>

Tea & Me / Chanima Wijebandara
Pannipitiya, Sri Lanka: Stamford Lake (Pvt) Ltd., 2010
80p. ; 21cm.

ISBN-13: 9789556582208

1. Poetry – English

\$ 7.00

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=121803>

Yesterday is Another Country / Somasiri Devendra

Dehiwala, Sri Lanka: Sridevi Publication, 2008

160p. ; 22cm.

ISBN-13: 9789559419280

\$ 10.00

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=100221>

Chuckling the Dragon / Mark Wilde

Sri Lanka: Sri Serendipity Publishing, 2009

164p. ; 21cm.

\$ 12.00

True Story of a Sri Lankan's Life as a Teenager and Student in Colombo

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=121804>

Episodes (1) From Sri Lanka / Stanley Amunugama

Matale, Sri Lanka: Stanley Amunugama, 2008

xii. 125p. ; 21cm.

ISBN-13: 9789559866817

1. Short Story – English

\$ 10.00

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=121805>

Unplugged Quarter / Vihanga Perera

Kandy, Sri Lanka: Vihanga Perera & Trustees, 2009

139p. ; 21cm.

ISBN-13: 9789559945857

\$ 12.00

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=121806>

Santhan's World in a Flash: A Collection of Criticism / Kandiah Shriganeshan (Edited)

Sri Lanka: English Association of Vavuniya, 2008

viii. 96p. ; 20cm.

ISBN-13: 9789559752448

\$ 9.00

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=121807>

Between Two Wars: An Uncle Arthur Mystery / Mahasara Gunaratne

Sri Lanka: Bay Owl Press, 2010

84p. ; 20cm.

ISBN-13: 9789551723149

\$ 10.00

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=121808>

Sunil The Struggling Student / Susunaga Weeraperuma

France : Susunaga Weeraperuma, 2010

222p. ; 21cm.

ISBN-13: 9789954467060

\$ 10.00

The novel is set in the picturesque island of Sri Lanka. Despite being a homeless and parentless boy, Sunil is never defeated by adversity. He studies hard. He is also given to reflection and the loving contemplation of nature. Eventually, he overcomes the obstacles in his way. This story uplifts those with flagging spirits. The book points the way to surmount all that is negative in ourselves. It proves that poverty does not necessarily result in unhappiness, nor does wealth guarantee happiness.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=121812>

E-Danda: The dead past is alive in the present. Vividly / Mineka P. Wickramasingha

Colombo: Samyavardhana, 2010

171p. ; 22cm.

ISBN-13: 9789555243803

Fiction

\$ 14.00

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=121813>

Waves of Tears ... a Sri Lankan Tragedy / Lal Keerthie Fernando

Revised Edition

Colombo: Richmond Publishers, 2010

285p. ; 21cm.

ISBN-13: 9789558133057

\$ 15.00

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=121815>

Fires From Kili / Ayesha Herath

Sri Lanka: Ayesha Herath, 2010

235p. ; 21cm.

ISBN-13: 9789555213004

\$ 12.00

Fires from Kili is the story of Lanka who grows up into a woman in the tumultuous times of open economy, introduced to Sri Lanka in the late 1970s. The story progresses through as insurrection and civil war. On the one hand, metaphorically, it is the story of Sri Lanka with its ever-persistent issues of language, education, health and upward social mobility – all of which are inseparable from politics; on the other, it is the pulsing story of a girl growing into womanhood entangled in a loveless marriage.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=121816>

Doomsday : An Uncle Arthur Mystery / Mahasara Gunaratne

Sri Lanka: Bay Owl Press, 2010

171p. ; 21cm.
ISBN-13: 9789551723156
\$ 15.00
<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=121817>

In the Same Boat / Channa Wickremesekera
Sri Lanka: Bay Owl Press, 2010
62p. ; 20cm.
ISBN-13: 9789551723170
\$ 9.00

Red Cap looked at the engine room impatiently. Let's get going, he said to the pilot. We must get away from those clouds as soon as we can. We have already lost a lot of time. He looked at the sky again with troubled eyes. The clouds appeared nearer now and were almost black. Their darkness was now spreading across the sky like a thin grey film casting a gloom over the ocean. The wind remained strong, flapping against their cheeks and arms with an increasing iciness.
<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=121818>

Running in the Family / Michael Ondaatje
London: Bloomsbury Publishing Plc., 2009
First published in Great Britain 1983 by Victor Gollancz
234p. ; 20cm.
ISBN-13: 9781408801451
\$ 19.50

An outstandingly evocative, semi-autobiographical account of a journey back to the beginning, to Ceylon where Ondaatje was born into a privileged group of mixed Dutch, Tamil and Sinhalese origins. Created from asides, snapshots, poems, glimpses in every way unorthodox and incomplete, it falls magically on the page with all the grace of a billowing, seamless dress. Like all classic writing, the motion of this page lingers on, like the movement of a boat, long after the last pages.
<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=121819>

A Tigress of Kilinochchi: Short Stories / Lucky de Chickera
Dehiwala, Sri Lanka: Lakshman de Chickera, 2010
240p. ; 20cm.
ISBN-13: 9789555236102
\$ 15.00

A Tigress of Kilinochchi takes centre stage in the book, and is a tale of a young Tamil family struggling to make ends meet in the Big City and are caught up in the tragic travails of the Ethnic War where the Mother is gang raped and murdered after which the two adolescent daughters go different ways, one seeking revenge, the other extending forgiveness.
<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=121820>

Chinaman: The Legend of Pradeep Mathew / Shehan Karunatilaka
Colombo : Shehan Karunatilaka, 2010
499p. ; 21cm.
ISBN-13: 9789555236003
'Winner of the Gratiaen Prize 2008'

\$ 19.90

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=121821>

Butterfly Kisses / Sharmila Jayasinghe Niriella

Colombo: Sooriya Publishers, 2009

200p. ; 18cm.

ISBN-13: 9789556561296

\$ 10.00

Butterfly Kisses revolves around two women from different countries who come from entirely different backgrounds and different beliefs. The story spans over a period of eight years. The lives of Christie Anne Kensington and Sita Perera are interwoven by forces that are beyond human control. They go through life with trials and turbulences before crossing paths under extraordinary circumstances as mothers of a single child.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=121823>

The Lament of the Dhobi Woman / Karen Roberts

Colombo: The Perera Hussein Publishing House, 2010

290p. ; 20cm.

ISBN-13: 9789558897188

\$ 19.90

Seelawathie, a young, village girl is brought to the city to care for Cat, the daughter of a prominent Colombo family. With her parents involved with each other and their active social life, Cat soon comes to regard Seelawathi as her parent and best friend. They build their own happy microcosmic life within the large household, and are relatively content until Seelawathie falls in love. Her forbidden relationship challenges the rigid boundaries of society and leads to a cataclysmic end of innocence. The Lament of the Dhobi Woman explores the issue of class in Colombo society and the fragile intricacies of love and forgiveness.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=121824>

The Shadow / Siri Gunasinghe ; Translated by Hemamali Gunasinghe

Colombo: Vijitha Yapa Publications, 2010

xxxiv. 238p. ; 20cm.

ISBN-13: 9789556651089

\$ 15.00

Through the story of the coming of age of its protagonist Jinadasa, The Shadow (Hevanalla) explores the conflicts of values that characterize modern Sri Lankan society. The use of the stream of consciousness technique of narration and symbolism (e.g. shadows) brings to life with powerful impact socio-cultural and psychological realities that transcend time and space.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=121825>

The Healer and The Drug Pusher / Daya Dissanayake

Revised Edition

Colombo: Vijitha Yapa Publications, 2009

208p. ; 21cm.

ISBN-13: 9789556650280

Novel

\$ 12.00

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=121826>

A Sri Lankan Experience: Three Weeks in a 'Land Like No Other' / Siri Ipalawatte & Kim Wells

Canberra: Nirmana, 2010

90p. ; 20cm.

ISBN-13: 9780646492186

1. Sri Lanka – Description and travel

\$ 18.00

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=121827>

Women Writing 2 / Vijita Fernando (Tr)

Sri Lanka: Voice of Women, 2009

241p. ; 21cm.

ISBN-13: 9789559318101

\$ 15.00

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=121829>

Reconsiderations: A Collection of Critical Essays / Eisha Manohari Hewabowala

Sri Lanka: Eisha Hewabowala, 2009

xii. 239p. ; 22cm.

ISBN-13: 9789559753469 (HB)

Literary Criticism

\$ 35.00

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=121830>

Red Dawn Rising / Katrina Butterworth

Kathmandu: Koselee Prakashan, 2010

253p. ; 21cm.

ISBN-13: 9789937510363

Novel

\$ 14.00

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=121293>

Blue Mimosa / Parijat

Kathmandu: Orchid Books, 2010

First published in 1972

99p. ; 21cm.

ISBN-13: 9789937902670

Best Selling Novel Shirish Ko Pool in English

\$ 10.00

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=121294>

The Lunatic & Other Poems / Laxmi Prasad Devkota

Nepal: Mahakvi Laxmi Prasad Devkota Study and Research Centre

195p. ; 22cm.

English & Nepali Language

\$ 5.00

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=121295>

The Spring Revolution (A novel on People's War in Nepal) / Bimal Kumar Subedi

Kathmandu: Nagarik Publication Pvt. Ltd., 2010

vi. 298p. ; 21cm.

ISBN-13: 978993782412

\$ 14.00

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=121296>

Buffalo and Boeing I: Cut Desis, Paste Desis / Rameshwar Baral

Kathmandu: Mrs. Shyama Baral, 2009

x. 156p. ; 22cm.

ISBN-13: 9789937209588

\$ 10.00

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=121297>

Buffalo and Boeing II: PC Makers / Rameshwar Baral

Kathmandu: Mrs. Shyama Baral, 2009

262p. ; 22cm.

ISBN-13: 9789937209557

\$ 10.00

Buffalo and Boeing II – PC Makers is the story of Riddhi who wanted to complete his postgraduation, but came back to Biratnagar for the same 'teaching', and returned to Kathmandu, again, to join a bank. His postgraduation had discontinued, but his bank, too, discontinued just after two years. His short-term, spectrum of adventures then began, indeed, in personal, socio-economic improvement. At one stage, he was in touch with PC Makers on phenomenal corruption, and at another, with some leaders of Vaidic Faith, corrupted even at the risk of nation's goodwill. The stage of his transformation almost completed when he postgraduated after a gap of 23 years and returned to teaching, university this time, in Kathmandu. By this time, his wife was already into highschool teaching and they were staying with the 'surviving' children in their own realm – a building and its small yard of their earning.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=121298>

Nepal (A Historical Novel) / Nar Bahadur Thapa

Kathmandu: Nirantar Prakashan (Pvt) Ltd., 2009

219p. ; 22cm.

ISBN-13: 9789993348955

\$ 10.00

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=121299>

Curse of a dream / Phidson Mojokeri

Gaborone, Botswana : Pentagon Publishers, 2009

151p.;

ISBN 9789991244778

\$ 15.00

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=121338>

The Solar Heater and Other Stories: An Anthology of Short Stories / L.Kubuitsile

Gaborone, Botswana : Pentagon Publishers, 2009

71p.;

ISBN 9789991246567

\$ 15.00

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=121339>

Shadows of Birth / Andrew Sesinyi
Gaborone, Botswana: Media Palms Pty Ltd, 2010
128p.;
\$ 35.00
<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=121340>

Wrong Turn / Nsununguli Mbo
Sandy ,United Kingdom: Authors OnLine Ltd , 2009
256p.;
ISBN 9780755204496
\$ 21.00

Shoko, a man from a poor family in Francistown, Botswana, attends the University of Gaborone, but seduced, by drug taking, fails his exams, commits an assault, is suspended and embarks on a crime spree in murder, mental institutions and alcohol abuse. Shoko is forced to return home to his mother, a stern believer in witchcraft and traditional medicine, struggling with her other children threatening to go the same way as Shoko. Will the family survive....

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=121342>

The Dixie Medicine Man / Christian John Makgala
Bloomington, USA : iUniverse, 2010
488p.;
ISBN 978450235372
\$ 25.95

"I really would love to hear what President Barack Obama says about this remarkable Historical novel inspired by selfless Americans changing other people's lives and presented in a delightful manner." - Lynne Farmer, former US Peace Corps Volunteer in Botswana

"What is really pleasing is the way Makgala manages to (re)create a whole community at a point of important transition from a rural backwater to a village totally integrated into an urban and even global economy. He manages to keep a vast number of characters alive and memorable, in a way that makes the novel almost a Botswana epic."

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=121343>

Writing Freedom: South Asian Voices / Radha Chakravaty & Selina Hossain (Edited)
Dhaka, Bangladesh: The University Press Limited, 2010
xvi. 209p. ; 22cm.
ISBN-13: 9789848815113 (HB)
\$ 27.00

This collection offers a broad spectrum of contemporary writing from South Asia, highlighting different facets of the idea of freedom. It is when the ideal of freedom is threatened that forms of resistance emerge, generating their own literatures of protest.

Diverse structures of power produce diverse modes of resistance, including nationalism, gender conflicts, class struggles, and questions of caste, environment, communalism, censorship, language, democracy, tribal life and globalization. The writings included here demonstrate the extraordinary versatility of the idea of freedom, and variegated creative responses to it.

Drawn from multiple literary genres, such as poetry, prose, fiction, drama, satire and autobiography, the selections in this anthology reaffirm the human dream of freedom and the role of literature in imagining a new, more harmonious South Asia.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=120503>

Trekking Alone / Adnan Zahoor
Pakistan: Syed Waqar Moeen, 2009
240p. ; 22cm.
\$ 29.50

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=120444>

Pakistani English: The Linguistic Description of a Non-Native Variety of English / Tariq Rahman

2nd & Revised Edition
Islamabad, Pakistan: National Institute of Pakistan Studies, 2010
xvi. 103p. ; 21cm.
ISBN-13: 9786968023324
\$ 15.00

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=120445>

Three in One: An Official Trip to Lahore + Urdu Poetry + Safar Kam Nama Ziada / Adnan Zahoor

Pakistan: Syed Waqar Moeen, 2010
1v. 22cm.
\$ 25.00

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=120446>

High Assembly of Sages / Sardar Aseff Ahmed Ali

Lahore, Pakistan: Jumhoori Publications, 2009
245p. ; 25cm.
ISBN-13: 9789698455439 (HB)
A Book of Verses
\$ 30.00

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=120447>

50 Poems: 30 Selected 20 New / Zulfikar Ghose

Karachi, Pakistan: Oxford University Press, 2010
xiii. 98p. ; 22cm.
ISBN-13: 9780195475746
\$ 15.00

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=120448>

Prelude / Nisar Aziz Butt

Lahore, Pakistan: Sang-E-Meel Publications, 2009
445p. ; 24cm.
ISBN-13: 9789693522402 (HB)
1. Columns
\$ 45.00

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=120449>

Literary Impressions / Dr. Aftab Ahmed

Islamabad, Pakistan: Dost Publications, 2009

x. 316p. ; 22cm.
ISBN-13: 9789694963471 (HB)
\$ 25.00
<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=120450>

Orang Asli Animal Tales / Lim Boo Liat, Jefri Dylan Ong
2nd Ed.
Malaysia : Center for Orang Asli Concerns, 2010
204p.
978-983-43248-5-8
\$ 10.00
<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=120355>

Silence, Suffering and the Female Voice in plays of K.S. Maniam and Sarah Daniels /
Wan Roselezam bt. Wan Yahya
Serdang, Malaysia : Penerbit Universiti Putra Malaysia, 2009
Viii, 213p.
Includes Index
978-967-344-083-2
1. Maniam K.S., 1942-Criticism and Interpretation
2. Daniels, Stefani – Criticism and Interpretation
3. Feminism and Literature
4. Feminist Literary Criticism
\$ 20.00
<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=120356>

Captured in Time Five Centuries of South African Writing / Edited by John Clare
Johannesburg, South Africa : Jonathan Ball Publishers, 2010
600p.; 234 x 153 mm.
ISBN 9781868423781
\$ 41.75

The time has come to delve into the story of South Africa's turbulent history – a story of exploration and conquest, rampant growth and war, oppression and ultimately, liberation. Captured in Time tells that story in a collection of extracts from the most illuminating, entertaining and significant works written about the country and its diverse people over almost five centuries.

The writers are settlers, explorers, administrators, missionaries, hunters, travellers, novelists, playwrights, poets and politicians. They include Jan van Riebeeck, the first Dutch governor of the Cape, whose journal is the most detailed account in history of a colony's founding; Mazisi Kunene, the Xhosa poet, who chronicled the rise of Shaka, the Zulu empire builder, in epic verse; W C Scully, who took part in the diamond rush at Kimberley that set South Africa on the path to unimaginable wealth; Jan Smuts, the Boer War general who, with Cecil Rhodes, the arch Imperialist, was one of the architects of apartheid; and Nelson Mandela, apartheid's most famous victim, who became its nemesis. The novelists include two Nobel prizewinners, Nadine Gordimer and John Maxwell Coetzee.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=120144>

Banquet at Brabazan / Patricia Schonstein
Johannesburg, South Africa : Jacana Media, 2010
288p.; 212 x 136 mm.

ISBN 9781770098077
\$ 21.00

In *Banquet at Brabazan*, Patricia Schonstein takes us to the heart of Cape Town's violent inner city, creating a cornucopia of events featuring superb food, romance, a cappella, an angel, Shakespearean drama, reflections on South Africa's war in Angola, drug-money, a muti murder, visions of the Afterlife and various works of fine art with flashbacks to the wondrous *A Time of Angels*.

The novel is rich with her characteristic use of fabric, fine-art, poetry and magic as well as her deep and philosophical questioning of the human condition.

At core, *Banquet at Brabazan* is the story of an enduring, secret love affair between a boss and his secretary who create a fantastical, magical, theatrical, costumed, Italianate life for themselves within the confines of her apartment.

Outside of that contrived space, exists the real world of loneliness, xenophobia and crime that have come to mark post-apartheid South Africa.

Patricia Schonstein deftly leads us through both worlds, allowing the lives of a small group of people, who have not met before, to intersect over a period of ten days at Brabazan Bar & Lodge, in Long Street, Cape Town. Here she reveals a poignant and beautiful patina of hope and love.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=120145>

Zoo City / Lauren Beukes

Johannesburg, South Africa : Jacana Media, 2010

344p.; 212 x 136 mm.

ISBN 9781770098183

\$ 24.50

Zinzi has a talent for finding lost things. To save herself, she has to find the hardest thing of all... the truth.

Zinzi has a Sloth on her back, a dirty 419 scam habit and a talent for finding lost things. But when a client turns up dead and the cops confiscate her last paycheck, she's forced to take on her least favourite kind of job – missing persons.

Being hired by famously reclusive music producer Odi Huron to find a teenybop pop star should be her ticket out of Zoo City, the festering slum where the criminal underclass, marked by their animals, live in the shadow of the undertow.

Instead, it catapults Zinzi deeper into the underbelly of a city twisted by crime and magic, where she'll be forced to confront the dark secrets of former lives – including her own.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=120146>

Stoffel in Afrika / Christiaan Bakkes

Cape Town, South Africa : Human & Rousseau, 2010

176p.;

ISBN 9780798151290

\$ 27.50

The fifth book about Stoffel (the author's alter ego) and his life and adventures in the wilderness areas of Namibia. In this book he writes for the first time about his gorilla safaris in Central Africa. The world of wildlife conservation, of responsible ecotourism and one man's passion for the wilderness. A natural storyteller who writes with honesty, simplicity and fine irony.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=120147>

Other Lives / Andre Brink

Cape Town, South Africa : Umuzi Publishers, 2010

170p.; 222 x 146 mm.

ISBN 9781415201275

\$ 28.50

An artist comes to his studio in the afternoon. On his doorstep he sees a woman with curly hair and a dark complexion. She is a total stranger to him, yet she embraces him; she knows him intimately. As he steps past her, two strange children rush to his feet, yelling 'Daddy!' But he has never seen them before.

On the other side of Cape Town, a white man pulls himself out of bed and toward his mirror, where a black face looks back at him.

A concert pianist falls passionately in love with the celebrated singer he works beside but whom he is not allowed to touch. Then one night there is a shift in their worlds, and suddenly the past invades the present in a catastrophic confrontation.

In each of the three parts of André Brink's novel characters discover that below the familiar surface of their lives lurk other, disconcerting lives which are revealed under the pressure of changed circumstances.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=120148>

The Soldier who said no / Chris Marnewick

Cape Town, South Africa : Umuzi Publishers, 2010

320p.; 222 x 146 mm.

ISBN 9781415201084

\$ 28.50

New Zealand was supposed to be where Pierre de Villiers would escape his past. A misadventure in Angola cost him his faith in the military, and almost his life and sanity. Another event cost him his family. But no. After a bizarre attempt on the NZ Prime Minister's life De Villiers recognises the arrow used: it is of Bushman origin. And suddenly he, now a policeman in Auckland, is a suspect. He must go back to South Africa for answers, and to face his demons. Can he unscramble his memory? Will he find the men who devastated his life? And will the illness mounting in his groin be cured?

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=120149>

Four Drunk Beauties / Alex Smith

Cape Town, South Africa : Umuzi Publishers, 2010

224p.; 222 x 146 mm.

ISBN 9781415201046

\$ 30.00

Left to rot in an Iranian prison and under the shadow of death, Kamaal tells fellow-insurgent Drew the story of the four drunk beauties – Elvira the housekeeper and ex-assassin, Lou the Senegalese sculptor, virtuoso cellist Mimi, and Adriette, a food fundi from the Free State. The two men follow the beauties' wild chase through Iran in pursuit of a killer, a quest undertaken to prevent a catastrophe. And all the while the ancient and modern flavours of a country – its poetry, architecture and music – come to life in the rich and sensual tapestry of Alex Smith's story-telling.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=120150>

A case of Knives / Julian de Wette

Cape Town, South Africa : Umuzi Publishers, 2010

228p.; 222 x 146 mm.
ISBN 9781415201183
\$ 30.00

In Julian de Wette's novel, it is the 1960s in South Africa and the new prime minister has his head full of plans. He consults a powerful witchdoctor, but once he begins his scheme for cutting up the land he loses the sangoma's protection. In the meantime the family butler has himself reclassified so he can marry the Coloured nanny. But his plans go awry and his desperate struggle with bureaucracy sets off a bizarre chain of events that end in a shocking murder. Witnessed by the precocious grandson of the gardener at the family estate, colourful characters act out a drama on the stage of history, oblivious to the horror with which posterity may view them.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=120151>

Fruit of a Poisoned Tree : A True Story of Murder and the Miscarriage of Justice /

Anthony Albeker

Johannesburg, South Africa : Jonathan Ball Publishers, 2010

438p.;

ISBN 9781868423330

\$ 32.50

In June 2005, Fred van der Vyver, a young actuary and the son of a wealthy Eastern Cape farming family, was charged with murdering his girlfriend, Inge Lotz, allegedly bludgeoning her to death with a hammer as she lay on a couch in her lounge.

The case against Van der Vyver seemed overwhelming. His behaviour at the time of the murder appeared suspicious and incriminating, and a letter, penned by Inge on the morning of her death, suggested that the two had been fighting. But it was forensic evidence that seemed to prove his guilt: his fingerprints were found at the scene, one of his shoes was matched to a blood stain on the bathroom floor, and traces of blood were found on an ornamental hammer that had been given to him by the victim's parents. And yet, in one of the most sensational and controversial murder trials in South African legal history, Van der Vyver's lawyers sought to turn the tables on the police, accusing them of fabricating evidence and lying to the judge.

In *Fruit of a Poisoned Tree*, prize-winning author Antony Albeker takes you into the heat of this epic courtroom battle. Albeker's eye-witness account of the trial presents the reader with all the evidence and testimony of the trial, while also placing it in the context of a society and a justice system that are being stretched to breaking point.

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