

Recent Literature - December 2023

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Specimen Zero: A Science-Fiction Novel / Joel Pablo Salud  
San Anselmo Publications, Inc., Philippines 2023

243p.  
9786218230262  
\$ 23.00 / null  
300 gm.

Anime, computer games, social media and popular culture commingle in this fantastic novel. An intellectual thriller, it ranges widely from Greek and Mesopotamian myths to the threat of a nuclear doomsday. It's a fun and well-written novel worthy of your precious reading hours.

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=861232>

His Favourite Graves / Paul Cleave  
Upstart Press Ltd, New Zealand 2023

324p.  
9781776940455  
\$ 40.00 / null  
550 gm.

Acacia Pines, USA. Sheriff Cohen's life is falling apart — his father accidentally burned down the retirement home, his wife has moved out, and his son is bullying other kids at school.

When high-school student, Lucas Connor, is abducted, Cohen sees a chance to get his life back on track — to win back his wife and scoop the reward money on offer.

But as the body count rises, it becomes clear that Cohen is going to have to make the kind of decision from which there's no coming back ... a decision with deadly consequences ...

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=859000>

Checkerboard Hill / Jade Kake  
Huia Publishers, New Zealand

296p.  
9781775508083  
\$ 40.00 / null  
600 gm.

When a family member dies in Australia, Ria flies from New Zealand and returns to the family and home in Australia she suddenly left decades before as a teenager. Waiting for her return are her husband and son in New Zealand. Neither family has met the other, and Ria has always kept her Māori, Australian, New Zealand identities and lives separate.

But the family tensions, unfinished arguments, connections to places and meeting of former friends, lead Ria to revisit her memories and reflect on the social and cultural tensions and racism she experienced, and the decisions she made.

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=859001>

Devil's Breath: Revenge is the Sweetest Poison / Jill Johnson

Black & White Publishing Ltd, New Zealand 2023

304p.

9781785305313

\$ 40.00 / null

400 gm.

Eustacia Rose is a Professor of Botanical Toxicology who lives alone in London with only her extensive collection of poisonous plants for company. She tends to her garden with meticulous care. Her life is quiet. Her schedule never changes. Until the day she hears a scream and the temptation to investigate proves irresistible.

Through her telescope, Professor Rose is drawn into the life of an extraordinarily beautiful neighbour, Simone, and nicknames the men who visit her after poisonous plants according to the toxic effect they have on Simone. But who are these four men? And why does Eustacia Rose recognize one of them?

Just as she preserves her secret garden, she feels inexplicably compelled to protect her neighbour. But when her precious garden is vandalized and someone close to Simone is murdered with a toxin derived from a rare poisonous plant, Eustacia finds herself implicated in the crime and decides to take matters into her own hands . . .

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=859002>

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Bird Life / Anna Smaill

Te Herenga Waka University Press, New Zealand 2023

302p.

9781776921249

\$ 40.00 / null

350 gm.

In Ueno Park, Toyko, as workers and tourists gather for lunch, the pollen blows, a fountain erupts, pigeons scatter, and two women meet, changing the course of one another's lives.

Dinah has come to Japan from New Zealand to teach English and grieve the death of her brother, Michael, a troubled genius who was able to channel his problems into music as a classical pianist — until he wasn't. In the seemingly empty, eerie apartment block where Dinah has been housed, she sees Michael everywhere, even as she feels his absence sharply.

Yasuko is polished, precise, and keenly observant — of her students and colleagues at the language school, and of the natural world. When she was thirteen, animals began to speak to her, to tell her things she did not always want to hear. She has suppressed these powers for many years, but sometimes she allows them to resurface, to the dismay of her adult son, Jun. One day, she returns home, and Jun has gone. Even her special gifts cannot bring him back. As these two women deal with their individual traumas, they form an unlikely friendship in which each will help the other to see a different possible world, as Smaill teases out the tension between our internal and external lives and asks what we lose by having to choose between them.

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=859003>

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End Times / Rebecca Priestley

Te Herenga Waka University Press, New Zealand 2023

231p. ; 21cm.

9781776921188

\$ 40.00 / null

350 gm.

In the late 1980s, two teenage girls found refuge from a world of cosy conformity, sexism and the nuclear arms race in protest and punk. Then, drawn in by a promise of meaning and purpose, they cast off their punk outfits and became born-again Christians. Unsure which fate would come first – nuclear annihilation or the Second Coming of Jesus – they sought answers from end-times evangelists, scrutinising friends and family for signs of demon possession and identifying EFTPOS and barcodes as signs of a looming apocalypse.

Fast forward to 2021, and Rebecca and Maz – now a science historian and an engineer – are on a road trip to the West Coast. Their journey, though full of laughter and conversation and hot pies, is haunted by the threats of climate change, conspiracy theories, and a massive overdue earthquake.

End Times interweaves the stories of these two periods in Rebecca's life, both of which have at heart a sleepless fear of the end of the world. Along the way she asks: Why do people hold on to some ideas but reject others? How do you engage with someone whose beliefs are wildly different from your own? And where can we find hope when it sometimes feels as if we all live on a fault line that could rupture at any moment?

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=859004>

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Cries From The Moana / `Atu Emberson-Bain, Melino Bain-Vete & Siale Bain-Vete  
Hakautapu Publishing, Suva, Fiji 2023

124p.

9789821014458

\$ 55.00 / null

550 gm.

"Follow the magical story of Mahina and Tahī who are unexpectedly chosen by their village elders one day for a special mission. Their journey takes them across the Pacific Ocean in search of a secret passage, then all the way down to the ocean floor... Along the way they meet fascinating ocean creatures, untangle some mysteries of the deep, and discover why a huge and terrifying machine lies abandoned on the seabed. This is a story about two cousins learning to work together despite their differences, and the special connection Pacific Islanders have with the ocean."

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=861271>

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Kalyana: A Novel / Rajni Mala Khelawan  
Second Story Press, Toronto, Canada 2016

322p.

9781927583982

\$ 40.00 / null

450 gm.

Growing up in the Fiji Islands in the late 1960s, Kalyana Mani Seth is an impressionable, plump young girl suited to the meaning of her name: blissful, blessed, the auspicious one. Her mother educates Kalyana about her Indian heritage, vividly telling tales of mischievous Krishna and powerful Mother Kali, and recounting her grandparents' migration to the tiny, British colony. While the island nation celebrates its recently granted independence, new stories of the feminist revolution in America are carried over the waves of the Pacific to Kalyana's ears: stories of women who live with men who are not their husbands, who burn their bras, who are free to do as they please. Strange as all this sounds, Kalyana hopes that she will be blessed with a husband who allows her a similar sense of liberty. But nothing prepares her for the trauma of womanhood and the cultural ramifications of silence and shame, as her mother tells her there are some family stories that should never be told.

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=861270>

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The Brown Dress / Tulia Nacola  
House of Namolibale, Navua, Fiji 2021

188p.

9789829818621

\$ 35.00 / null

450 gm.

A story of friendships formed in the most unlikely of places. A group of girls, each in search of something within themselves, find solace and comfort in each other's company while facing an unknown future. Sharing their stories, hopes and beliefs brings them closer to one another; the mind is a tricky thing, it can create a reality that is biased to your survival. Through the strong bond they create, they are able to learn from and deal with the decisions that brought them together and dream of a future different to the lives they're currently living.

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=861268>

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Memory and Freedom / Alma Anonas-Carpio  
San Anselmo Publications, Inc., Philippines 2023  
48p.  
9786218230279  
\$ 10.00 / null  
100 gm.

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=861233>

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Tabyog sa Way Kinutoban: Swinging without End / Adonis Durado  
The University Of The Philippines Press, Quezon City, Philippines 2023  
176p.  
9786210900163  
\$ 22.00 / null  
400 gm.

Durado is the poet of the ordinary, the commonplace. Even the most tragic of events become everyday in his voice. But this voice is luminous with the poet's tenderness and humanity, as if to say. Reality is enough, it should be enough. The hard core of his poetry is the solidity of the real, spoken in the tough, blunt speeches of plain folk telling their truth.

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=861243>

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Theory of Defensible Space and Other Poems / Jan Dennis Destajo  
Kalapati Retrograde, Quezon City, Philippines 2023  
ix, 30p.  
\$ 10.00 / null  
150 gm.

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=861242>

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Time Skip / Jan Dennis Destajo  
Kalapati Retrograde, Philippines 2023  
28p.  
\$ 5.00 / null  
100 gm.

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=861241>

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Moving with Moonrise: Haibuns / MA. Milagros T. Dumdum  
Ateneo de Manila University Press, Philippines 2023  
xviii, 64p. ; 21cm.  
9786214483112  
\$ 10.00 / null  
150 gm.

Gathered in this collection are 56 haibuns, a form introduced by the Japanese poet Matsuo Basho that combines poetry with prose. Here, one finds the persona dancing, writing a haiku for the first time, praying to the Sto. Niño. In a precision of language and form, a universal experience emerges, arising from the itineraries of a life as a wife, daughter, mother—a poet.

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=861239>

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Journey to the Lunar Seas: A Collection of Poems / Mark Carascal

Central Book Supply, Inc., Philippines 2023

103p.

9786210222234

\$ 20.00 / null

150 gm.

In this debut poetry book of a young scientist and novice poet, Mark opens up his heart and mind through poems. His poems describe the evolution of experiences of heartbreak, self-doubt, regret, longing, hope, understanding oneself, acceptance, moving on, and moving forward. The poems in this collection are divided into sections (lunar mare) that will take the readers on a journey of feelings of a young romantic living in this modern world. Throughout the journey, Mark hopes his readers will find comfort in knowing they are not alone in their experience.

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=861238>

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Sine Ni Lav Diaz: A Long Take on the Filipino Auteur / Parichay Patra & Michael Kho Lim (ed)

Intellect, Chicago, Bristol, UK 2021

xiv, 202p.

9781789384246

\$ 53.75 / null

450 gm.

A holistic consideration of the works of celebrated Filipino filmmaker Lav Diaz. This original collection considers Lav Diaz and his works without being confined to a specific approach or research method. On the contrary, it touches on nearly every major contemporary academic approach to cinema. Though Diaz's contributions to slow and durational cinema are well known and his importance in contemporary world cinema is beyond doubt, the director remains largely unexplored in cinema studies. The book addresses this research gap, situating Diaz at the crucial juncture of new auteurism, Filipino New Wave, and transnational cinema, but it does not neglect the industrial-exhibitional coordinates of his cinema.

The first book-length study on the groundbreaking auteur, the collection takes a critical look at his career and corpus from various perspectives, with contributions from cinema studies researchers, film critics, festival programmers, and artists. It offers a nuanced overview of the filmmaker and the cinematic traditions he belongs to for film enthusiasts, researchers, and general readers alike.

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=861237>

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The Burden of the Oral & Other Reviews: Philippine Film & Theater, 2011 – 2019 / J. Neil C. Garcia

The University Of The Philippines Press, Philippines 2023

xx, 307p. ; 23cm.

Include Index

9786210900125

\$ 30.00 / null

550 gm.

This book gathers together the pre-COVID-19 theater and movie reviews that I wrote, by fits and starts, across a decade... Organizing the pieces thematically, I realized that the eighty-something Filipino films and theatrical productions I had reviewed were grappling, more or less, with the same issues and concerns: from the ironic realization that, despite its formal complexities, all that art can offer are illusions of the real, to celebrations of our archipelago's peripheral cultures and identities, to examinations of the problems of our national and social histories ... The title of this collection means not only to single out the review that I believe best demonstrates its orientation but also to flag the generative truth of our country's cognitive and epistemological situation: that as a people, we are, despite and after a century of public education and modernization, still enduringly oral, by and large. Clearly, as has been the primary insight that I've gleaned from a number of these recent films and plays, one of the greatest challenges that we're facing as a nation pertains precisely to one of the nation's most important prerequisites: a deep-seated literacy that endows its members with the facility of abstraction, categorical thinking, and imaginative capaciousness, upon which empathy is, of necessity, founded. Needless to say, empathy is an entirely crucial skill if national cross-identification and solidarity were to ever take place ... Identifying the effects of an unfinished and enduring oral mode of consciousness may help us understand better, on the one hand, the features of our national culture's otherwise scripture-dependent forms (literary, dramatic, and filmic texts) and, on the other, the many enduring "national" problems that these selfsame works bring up, again and again.  
-From the Author's Introduction

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=861235>

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Conversations with Mommy / Rene C. de Jesus  
San Anselmo Publications, Inc., Philippines 2023  
xxvi, 114p.  
9786218230231  
\$ 16.00 / null  
250 gm.

"Rene extracts precious lessons from tough experiences, and summarizes them into powerful one liners. Practically every page is packed with large doses of wisdom, the kind distilled from life's suffering. His insights and resolutions – highly spiritual and at the same time realistically down-to-earth-are disarming and unpretentious, but also bold and challenging. His points of reference are largely Scripture based or drawn from the spirituality of unity of Chiara Lubich and he weaves them into present day realities in a way that injects the drama of real life into catechesis, and gives evangelizations on upbeat ring to it."

Ray Asper  
Central Council, Focolare Movement  
Rome, Italy

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=861234>

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Sista, Stanap Strong! : A Vanuatu Womens Anthology / Mikaela Nyman and  
Rebecca Tobo Olul-Hossen  
Victoria University of Wellington Press, Wellington, New Zealand Wellington, New  
Zealand. 2021  
192p.  
9781776564200  
\$ 40.00 / null  
350 gm.

Sista, Stanap Strong! is an anthology of new writing from Vanuatu by three generations of women - and the first of its kind. With poetry, fiction, essay, memoir, and song, its narrative arc stretches from the days of blackbirding to Independence in 1980 to Vanuatu's coming of age in 2020. Most of these writers are ni-Vanuatu living in Vanuatu. Some have set down roots in New Zealand, Fiji, the Solomon Islands and Canada. Some were born overseas and have made Vanuatu their home. One is just twenty; another is an octogenarian. The writers in this anthology have chosen to harness the coloniser's language, English, for their own purposes. They are writing against racism, colonialism, misogyny and sexism. Writing across bloodlines and linguistic boundaries. Professing their love for ancestors, offspring and language - Bislama, vernacular and English. What these writers also have in common is a sharp eye for detail, a love of words, a deep connection to Vanuatu, and a willingness to share a glimpse of their world.

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=765616>

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The Frozen Lake / Mazhar Nisar

Sang-e-Meel Publications, Pakistan 2023

96p.

9789693534726

\$ 25.00 / HB

250 gm.

The Frozen Lake' is a fresh collection of poems by Mazhar Nisar. Fresh as in new and fresh and supple in its aesthetic treatment. What one finds at play in many of the poems is that the serenity of the natural environment - lakes, mountains, birds, moon - felt and celebrated by the poet seems to succeed in overpowering his inner angst. But the inner angst of an artist like Nisar can ever be overpowered? It returns howlingly on occasions and reclaims the mind and heart of the poet. This interplay between angst and serenity, despondency and hope, silence and sounds, light and dark, keeps one riveted from the first poem until the last. Through this collection, Mazhar Nisar yet again reminds his readers that he is one of the most powerful creative voices in Pakistani Anglophone poetry.

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=859239>

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Tarar's Fragile Times: The Work of Mustansar Hussain Tarar / Muhammad Safeer Awan

Sang-e-Meel Publications, Pakistan 2023

224p.

9789693534887

\$ 50.00 / HB

500 gm.

Mustansar Hussain Tarar, throughout his creative oeuvre, has captured not only the cultural and geographical beauty of Pakistan but also its socio-political inequalities, ideological contradictions, and the agonies and ecstasies of its masses. Versatility is the distinctive feature of Tarar's genius; he has made significant contributions to numerous genres: literature, cultural criticism, TV hosting, acting, journalism, and travel writings. Despite this impressive portfolio, the available critical scholarship on his work in Urdu even is mostly based on impressionistic opinions, devoid of any systematic epistemological framework. Tarar is a writer who seems to have his fingers on the global pulse. Writing in the age of many global risks that the world is facing now, his work can be located and interpreted with a sense of critical globality.

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=859237>

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Sorrows of Sarasvati – The Lost River: A Translation of Mustansar Hussain Tarar's Bahao / Mustansar Hussain Tarar (Translators) Safeer Awan & Saleem Khan

Sang-e-Meel Publications, Pakistan 2023

386p.

9789693535174

\$ 40.00 / HB

700 gm.

This is English edition of Tarar's bestseller Urdu novel, "Bahao". The novel is rooted in Indus valley, Sindh.

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=859238>

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Swimming Against The Current / Felistas R. Mahonge

Africa Proper Education Network, Tanzania 2021

vi, 226p.

9789987871995

\$ 25.00 / null

300 gm.

SWIMMING AGAINST THE CURRENT is an inspiring novel that addresses various challenges encountered by a woman when struggling to fulfill her dreams. The author portrays Mama Sinta, Sinta and Mercy as female characters who have great contribution in upbringing children and building the family. Despite the challenges faced by the central characters, the author epitomizes a female character as a person who has an ability to achieve economic independence and make decisions for herself and the family. She is also portrayed as a person who is confident, courageous, and capable of dealing with challenges that she encounters in life. The author uses the novel as a call for parents to participate fully in upbringing the youth. It reminds individuals and society that they both have an obligation to raise and protect family and society morals. Furthermore, the author reminds the society and responsible organs to fight against drug abuse, human trafficking and corruption.

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=859255>

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Beatrix & Fred / Spurr, Emily

Text Publishing Company, Australia 2023

416 pages, 23cm

9781922790415

\$ 42.99 / null

530 gm.

A bizarre and beautiful tale of an unlikely friendship; Beatrix and Fred will be the warmest and weirdest book you'll read all year.

Beatrix is a loner. She has a love-hate relationship with her one friend, Ray, a hate-hate relationship with everyone else in her office and a genuine attachment to a stuffed canary named Horatio. She drinks alone far too much. Lately she's been finding the edge of the railway platform dangerously seductive.

Her life needs to change. Then she crosses paths with an old woman who seems to be stalking her, and that's exactly what happens. Eighty-something Fred is smart, earthy, funny and not the harmless elderly lady she appears to be. She is, in fact, quite literally something else. But what?

When something happens to Ray, Fred decides to reveal herself. And Beatrix realises she has some agonising choices to make.

Beatrix and Fred is an off-kilter love story wrapped in a satisfying layer of moral complexity and tied up with a ribbon of sheer fun. Warm, witty, more than slightly weird-it takes the age-old question of what it is to be human beyond humanity itself.

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=860187>

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Black Sheep / Nunn, Judy

Penguin Books, Australia 2023

512 pages, 23cm

9781761340123

\$ 42.99 / null

635 gm.



Judy Nunn's new blockbuster is a sweeping historical novel about a prosperous sheep-farming family and the enigmatic young man with a dark past they let into their lives . . .

Black sheep - there's one in every family . . .

Orphaned at sixteen, James Wakefield was determined to be a gun shearer like his father. Now he's killed twice, changed his name, and is on the run from the law.

He had his reasons for both murders, and he felt no joy in taking life ... Or did he?

Ben McKinnon, meanwhile, is heir to the vast Glenfinnan sheep property near Goulburn, New South Wales. He too has a secret that, if ever revealed, would shatter the privileged lives of his father, Alastair, and his sisters, Jenna and Adele.

When fate brings James and Ben together, a powerful friendship is forged, both men gladly becoming the keeper of the other's secret.

Then Ben insists his new friend come to work at Glenfinnan Station. Has James finally found the family he's always longed for? Or has the McKinnon dynasty just unwittingly adopted a black sheep?

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=860184>

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Life Is... / Stodulka, Tom

Ocean Reeve Publishing 2023

84 pages, 20cm

9781923061521

\$ 42.59 / null

100 gm.

In his fourth publication, Tom Stodulka AM brings to you Life Is...: Forty poems of freedom, fortitude and friendship to give the reader moments of reflection and gratitude; for you to fill in the space of what Life Is....

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=860198>

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The Flirtation of Girls / Ghazal el-Banat / Sale, Sara M

University of Queensland Press, Australia 2023

96 pages, 19cm

9780702266287

\$ 34.99 / null

115 gm.

A stunning collection from Sydney poet, human rights activist, community organiser, and refugee campaigner Sara M Saleh.

With her first full-length poetry collection, Sara M Saleh introduces us to the polychromatic lives of girls and women as they come into being amidst war, colonial and patriarchal violence, and exile and migration. This searing work interrogates and represents the complexity of Arab-Australian Muslim women's identities as they negotiate an irresistible world full of music and family, grit and grief, love and loss.

Saleh's poetry is not only an inherently political act, but a deeply personal one, charged with multilayered conversations and meditations amongst three generations of women in Sara's family. Her poems dazzle with an incantatory force of spirit, survival and selfhood, proving without a doubt that Saleh is one of this country's most compelling, contemporary poets.

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=860196>

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Pearl / Hughes, Sian

University of Queensland Press, Australia 2023

228 pages, 19cm

9780702268649

\$ 34.99 / null

220 gm.

A gripping psychological mystery longlisted for the 2023 Booker Prize.

Marianne is eight years old when her mother goes missing. Left behind with her baby brother and grieving father in a ramshackle house on the edge of a small village, she clings to the fragmented memories of her mother's love; the smell of fresh herbs, the games they played, and the songs and stories of her childhood.

As time passes, Marianne struggles to adjust, fixated on her mother's disappearance and the secrets she's sure her father is keeping from her. Discovering a medieval poem called Pearl and trusting in its promise of consolation, Marianne sets out to make a visual illustration of it, a task that she returns to over and over but somehow never manages to complete.

Tormented by an unmarked gravestone in an abandoned chapel and the tidal pull of the river, her childhood home begins to crumble as the past leads her down a path of self-destruction. But can art heal Marianne? And will her own future as a mother help her find peace?

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=860197>

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Specialist one: the price of victory / Hurlbutt, Orrin

Ocean Reeve Publishing 2023

412 pages, 21cm

9781922532251

\$ 45.57 / null

530 gm.

It is 2436, Earth is a supposed wasteland, and an authoritarian regime-the Union of Sovereign Realms-is master of Andromeda. For disgraced marine Sara Hart, that means a prison sentence in the 227th penal battalion.

Her only out? Being kidnapped and enlisting into a disreputable covert security group committed to the protection of life by any means necessary. She's got a conflicted chain of command and a new team of untested genetically augmented and technically gifted experts.

But war calls from the depths of space: aliens reborn from the ashes of atrocity whose cries for justice demand the satisfaction of the sword, and they're willing to use all the forgotten weapons at their disposal. The price of victory is always high, but the real question is how high is acceptable when the cost is the life of all humanity?

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=860195>

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The Book of Falling / McCooey, David

Upswell Press 2023

112 pages, 15cm

9780645536973

\$ 29.99 / null

140 gm.

The Book of Falling circles around a thematic focus of falling- falling in love, falling from grace, and exploring fallen worlds in an age marked by calamity.

To fall is to be human. We fall in love, fall asleep, and fall from grace. And in this epoch that we have called the Anthropocene, we are witnessing nothing less than the fall of nature.

This extraordinary collection, the fifth by the prize-winning poet David McCooey, covers the full tragicomic spectrum of falling- from pratfalls to tragic demises, from accident-prone parents to ruinous celebrities.

Within its unifying thematic focus, The Book of Falling is tonally and formally diverse, attending with great artistry to the calamities and absurdities of history and the contemporary world. The collection comprises of satires and elegies, inventive poetic autofictions and biofictions, and innovative photopoems, employing found photos and photographs by the author. This is a collection that welcomes its readers, even as it plunges them into new ways of understanding the beautiful, fallen worlds that we inhabit.

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=860192>

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Like To the Lark / Barnes, Stuart

Upswell Press 2023

100 pages, 15cm

9780645536980

\$ 29.99 / null

165 gm.

Like To The Lark is a poetic Back to Mine that is diverse in form- from sonnets to new forms invented by Barnes, and in inspiration, from popular culture to classical mythology. Framed by conversations with famous artists, this collection fearlessly explores rape, illness, death, remembrance, ecology, love and joy.

The long-awaited second collection from the winner of the 2015 Arts Queensland Thomas Shapcott Poetry Prize.

In his stunning collection of new poetry, Stuart Barnes reimagines the poetic form and fearlessly explores topics of illness, death, rape, remembrance, ecology and love.

Like To The Lark is Stuart Barnes's accumulation of lifetime fascinations with music and sound, form and transformation. Beginning with an apparition of a doomed world brooding over itself and ending with a kvelling globe, this collection plunges into seas, scoots across countries and hurtles towards space.

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=860193>

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A Treatment / Shenfield, Ann

Upswell Press 2023

112 pages, 15cm

9780645536966

\$ 29.99 / null

145 gm.

A collection of new work by award-winning poet Ann Shenfield. Delving into family trauma in a post-Holocaust context and informed by psychoanalysis, these poems explore identity and the frailty of the human and physical world.

A Treatment presents a poetic reflection of family trauma in a post-holocaust context, which is grounded in these times. The poems articulate the past as it intersects with the present, as well as the way the present writes over what has been before, both in human and ecological terms. The writing is informed by psychoanalysis, and the aim of the work is to elucidate a version of truth or to touch on something of the ephemeral. A Treatment is about questions of identity and speaks to the frailty of both the human and physical world in all their incomprehensibility.

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=860191>

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The Legion Has Come / Scholte, Adam J.

Ocean Reeve Publishing 2023

338 pages, 23cm

9781923061613

\$ 49.99 / null

505 gm.

The people of Sanctuary are recovering after narrowly defeating the king's army.

Remus has brought the first legion into the Kingdom. He has made a deal with thousands of Symiaks and plans to use the Kingdom army to help him get Oriël.

Ramulus needs to free Oriël before the legion arrives, or everyone in the Kingdom will suffer the wrath of Remus.

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=860189>

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Hakana / Marin Ledun

Au vent des îles, Tahiti 2023

168p. ; 21cm.

9782367345390

\$ 35.00 / null

200 gm.

2175, la Terre est à bout de souffle. Le dérèglement climatique a eu raison des ressources naturelles, tout n'est que désolation. Les puissances mondiales ont une idée : et si, grâce à une technologie avancée, on envoyait des humains dans le passé et qu'on préparait une colonisation à rebours ? Pour la France, ça sera le programme Hakana, et le nouvel eldorado : les Marquises de 1592.

Et voilà que douze adolescents, les Sentinelles, et une poignée de scientifiques se retrouvent projetés sur cette île du Pacifique, mêlés aux locaux dont ils vont partager le quotidien pendant deux années. Parmi eux, la jeune Rim s'engage dans une histoire d'amour avec Moana en même temps qu'elle réalise les véritables et monstrueuses ambitions du programme Hakana. Alors, plus rien ne va se passer comme prévu..

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=859154>

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Sillages D'Océanie 2023 - Je mange donc je suis / Collectif

O Editions, New Caledonia 2023

116p. ; 24cm.

9791096986057

\$ 50.00 / null

250 gm.

Nous sommes ce que nous mangeons ». Cette locution populaire a inspiré le thème « Je mange donc je suis ».

La nourriture est la star de ce « Sillages », mais le mangeur, le goûteur, l'épicurien, le jeûneur, l'affamé ou le malade du foie seront aussi à l'honneur. De même que les lieux qui serviront de décors à tout ce beau monde : la cuisine, la salle à manger, le restaurant, la plage du pique-nique, la cantine, la forêt, l'espace, les grottes, un autre temps, etc.

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=859155>

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Le Chemin Des Filets / Nicolas Vignoles

O Editions, New Caledonia 2023

162p. ; 21cm.

9791096986040

\$ 45.00 / null

250 gm.

Une star adulée du football ne marque plus de buts, un cruel échec dont toute la presse parle. Pour tenter de comprendre ce qui lui arrive, accompagné d'un vieil ami et d'une jeune fugueuse, notre as du ballon rond disparaît.

Il entame alors un road-trip à travers la France sur les traces de son père dans le souvenir du match Saint-Etienne-Kiev de 1976. En partant à la rencontre de lui-même et de son histoire, il prend le risque de s'engager dans un périlleux périple.

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=859153>

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Broken Flames And Other Stories / Mercylene K. Andanje

African Ink Publishers Ltd, Kenya 2022

viii, 174p.

9789914970371

\$ 20.00 / null

400 gm.

BROKEN FLAMES And Other Stories is a collection of 7 formidable stories. Ranging from horror, comedy to inspiration, the book is simply fascinating. It cuts across relationships and love, life and death, sacrifices and spiritual life, covenants, and other aspects. It is an all-audience chilling book.

Most of the 7 stories are in 1st person narration hence the reader connects with the character too well. Enjoy the read!

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=859300>

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Sunset in the Savannah / David Ole Munke

Queenex Publishers Ltd., Kenya 2023

iv, 188p.

9789966142450

\$ 20.00 / null

200 gm.

Sunset in the Savannah is a story of great determination and resilience. It is the story of Lesalon whose father is reluctant to enroll him in school. The government had decreed that all boys of school going age must be taken to school. Though his traditionalist father, Ole Malit eventually agrees, it is with a heavy heart and is never completely sold out to the idea.

The story follows Lesalon's journey from primary school through to university. It is a story of great adventure in the backdrop of traditional community life. One thing remains consistent; the determination to achieve one's life dreams in the midst of great challenges. The author weaves the story in an interesting manner that makes it very captivating to the reader.

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=859305>

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Banda's War / Franz Owano

Franz Owano, Kenya 2020

120p.

9781393300373

\$ 15.00 / null

200 gm.

The origin of sin. Right and wrong. The eternal conflict between good and evil. Are our actions products of predeterminism or free will?

Questions Ariel, a fallen angel burdened by centuries of guilt; grapples with to no avail, until he meets a human girl.

Through her, he becomes Banda and sets forth on a new path. But is a demon capable of atonement or is he beyond redemption?

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=859306>

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Tobiko, The Maasai Room, And Leader: The Dog That Would Not Leave / Felicita Churies

Felicita Churies (Self-Published), Kenya 2023

84p.

9789914501186

\$ 18.00 / null

150 gm.

This is a story about Tobiko's adventures at our home in the rural areas near a National Park.

We called this home The Fort because at the time there were no other homes near it, only wild animals from the park. It is a story about Tobiko, his friends, and Leader the dog exploring the area, and fishing in the nearby river. There were many happy days with the Maasai Cattle Traders and their stories with lessons. Then, Tobiko discovers Leader the dog's true origin.

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=859307>

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An Anthology of the 2022 Long Listed Stories: Kendeka Prize for African Literature / Muthoni Gichuru & Andrew Maina (Ed) Regina Aside

Solano Publications Ltd., Kenya 2023

xi, 129p.

9789914499308

\$ 25.00 / null

250 gm.

This anthology is selected from short stories chosen from over 20 African countries.

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=859301>

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City of Cannibals: Novella / Dancan Ouma Obuya

Mystery Publishers Limited, Kenya 2020

72p.

9789966955159

\$ 12.00 / null

150 gm.

A city falling into despondency ...CANNIBAL ravaged by bacteria that's growing in its once cleanest river, life has become walking a tight rope: Pollution Diseases and the hazards those living in the city's shanty areas face ... the rich are the cannibals devouring a city that held so much hope with CORRUPTION.

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=859302>

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The Twins of Omdurman / Joseph Nderitu

Joseph Nderitu (Self-Published), Kenya 2023

350p.

9781776444885

\$ 25.00 / null

400 gm.

Grieving the recent death of his mother, James Miller discovers that everything around him reminds him of her and his late sister who was tragically killed in a terrorist attack in Nairobi. Seeking closure, James decides to embark on a journey to the death place of his beloved sister, to walk where she walked, and experience what she experienced before her untimely death.

What initially begins as a quiet, contemplative, and even relaxing visit, quickly turns into a nightmare as James finds himself accused of heinous terrorist attacks throughout the continent under the name Ahmed Iqbal. Facing interrogation, torture, and inhumane treatment, he must convince the authorities that he is not the man they believe him to be. The task seems impossible, however, when evidence from the government includes photographs of him taken in places he has never been....This novel by author Joseph Nderitu, is perfect for readers who enjoy a thrilling mystery, a fight for justice, mercy for the afflicted, and characters that will surprise you with their resilience and true colours.

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=859303>

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With Eyes Wide Closed: A Novel / Erick B. Gichuru

TheLocco Publishers, Kenya 2023

268p.

9789914498912

\$ 25.00 / null

300 gm.

With intrigue, love, lust, fame, greed, and cruelty, 'With Eyes Wide Closed' Novel explores two modern relationships of once-loving couples now embroiled in a toxic row.

The race to the bottom is on, with their eyes wide closed. It will soon be over, and the grand award ceremony for the biggest losers will kick off.

How do people who were like two peas in a pond are now hell-bent on ruining each other? Contrary to what novels and movies often depict, nobody is pure evil. Our best intentions, love, needs, fears, wants, and circumstances can veer us into unexpected paths. This could be a big blunder we've made or several small wrong choices over a while.

The author takes a bruising, no-holds-barred approach in narrating the nitty-gritty of tumultuous relationships – from affectionate pillow talks to traversing through one of the most intimate things lovers do – FIGHTING! The novel is based on true events that have been dramatized for the kicks and giggles. It might hit too close to home for some and be an eye-opener about our interactions with the people we love.

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=859304>

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Reluctant Surrender and Other Poems / Dan Ogada & Franz Owano

Wanderer's Path Publishers, Kenya 2023

52p.

9798223337454

\$ 18.00 / null

100 gm.

Imagine yourself entranced in a dance. A startling yet introspective twirl into the inner self. Confronting unpleasant realities masked as metaphors.

All while grappling to tame the fierce spirit residing in our capricious hearts. Like a soul set on fire simultaneously thawing in ice. Consumed by passion, depravity and spurts of virtue.

A collection of poems scrutinizing the nature of love, addiction and other malevolent elements that make slaves out of men. Rendering one powerless as they succumb in slow, inevitable reluctant surrender.

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=859297>

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Lightning In A Bottle / Khapoya Enock

Khapoya Enock (Self-Published), Kenya 2022

62p.

9789914743296

\$ 18.00 / null

150 gm.

Lightning In A Bottle is a prose and poetry book exploring several themes such as loneliness, love, life, and war set in the modern post-colonial Africa with a few illustrations to guide the reader.

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=859298>

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Simbi: A Collection of Essays and Short Stories / Nelson Omech (et al.)

Wanderer's Path Publishers, Kenya 2023

136p.

9798223886044

\$ 20.00 / null

300 gm.

A village's perverse aspiration for perfection. Abandoning itself to the profligate unkindness its founders devised. Giving way to divine retribution. A man's war with himself. Foregoing the simple joy of life for power. Attained with the incursion of a terrible debt. An exposition on the nature of man. Is he defined by a singular deed or the sum total of cumulative action? Does this condemn and absolve him simultaneously? Scientific breakthrough unearths a rogue gene that finally places immortality in mankind's grasp, but at the price of a baby's life. Splitting the world in two in the face of this ethical dilemma. Is a United States of Africa feasible? What frameworks should be instituted to transform this dream into reality? Are external interests a hindrance or are Africans the enemy of their own progress? A Kenyan couple grapples with modernity, feminism and resultant marital strife. Will they make it through the storm or be consigned as casualties of love and war?

An outstanding collection of essays and short stories. By turns dramatic, fanciful, humorous and evocative.

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=859299>

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Eventful Life Cycle of Okinyo Jaber – The Modern Lady: Highly Educative Life History of An African Woman, Volume I : Role Model Parents / Jared Antonnie Ngala

Ngala Jared Multi-Business Network, Kenya 2023

xviii, 222p.

9789914490466

\$ 35.00 / null

300 gm.

Eventful Life Cycle of Okinyo Jaber - The Modern Lady is a highly educative life history of an African woman who experienced memorable events in her life journey. The writer has captured the captivating narrative in the following three volumes invaluable lessons meant to benefit successive generations of humanity in diversity:

Volume I : Role Model Parents.

Volume II: Foster Parents, Education & Career.

Volume III : Marriage. Charity & Destiny.

In this Volume I, the writer has underpinned the following pertinent issues in the society :-

1. Hybrid African-Christian matrimonial union formalities
2. Common 16 marital challenges and how to address them
3. The fundamental family relationship principles and values
4. The socio-economic support system provided by groups
5. Generational cultural dynamics in the society
6. The nurturing role of social responsibility in the society
7. The need to accept bereavement as a process of life

The novel is highly recommended for general reading by people of all ages in the society - particularly the youth - since it captures sound family life relationship principles and values that promote peaceful coexistence and socioeconomic prosperity.

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=859296>

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The Arts of War : Ukrainian Artists Confront Russia, Year One / Blair A. Ruble

ibidem Press 2023

170 p

9783838218205

\$ 25.00 / null

This book highlights the ways in which Ukrainians have long explored the meaning of their country and culture through the arts and how the arts have empowered Ukrainians to confront the Russian invaders.

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=848896>

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Paradise Estate : Fiction / Max Easton

Giramondo Publishing Co, Artarmon, Australia 2023

304p. ; 21x14.8cm.

9781922725844



\$ 35.00 / null

332 gm.

It's 2022 and Helen is starting again. Newly single, adrift in a hostile rental market, she finds a four-bedroom house flanked by apartment blocks that stare into the yard. Despite the lack of privacy, she fills its rooms with an unlikely group of residents looking for communal belonging: a zine maker working on a punk music archive; an activist writing about Australian anti-communism; a research scientist striving to put down roots; and a part-time rugby league player who has one chance to play for his country before retirement. Each is looking to build a future, each is haunted by their recent past.

But if a rented house in Sydney could ever promise salvation, it would come with a coating of black mould. Against the backdrop of pandemic and war, of climate and housing crises, Paradise Estate finds its residents struggling against generational confusion, political indifference and social malaise. When isolation and atomisation are all we've been given, what can be made from building common ground? Written with ironic wit and an eye for contemporary events, Max Easton's second novel sets the pessimism of its times against the optimism of the will.

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=858327>

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Robert Runs / Mariah Sweetman

Magabala Books, Broome, Australia 2023

192p.

9781922613387

\$ 30.00 / null

188 gm.

Based on true events, this gripping thriller sheds light on the brutalities of the past whilst championing the heroes who survived.

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Robert Runs is a fast-paced thriller based on the author's great-great grandfather, Robert 'Goupong' Anderson, who was once the fastest man in Australia and world-record holder. Goupong, his little sister Dot, and his best friend Jonathan belong to the Ugarapul people, the Green Tree Frog tribe, and live with their families and others within the harsh confines of the Deebing Creek Mission - a place run by the malevolent Boss Man.

Goupong and Jonathan are focused on winning the mission's biggest running race that year, but when mysterious noises, unexplained occurrences and biblical events begin to plague the local area they are forced to investigate.

Robert Runs is a poignant look into the Deebing Creek Massacre and the tough reality of mission life. Weaving fact with fiction, this compelling story details the events leading up to that fateful day.

Will Goupong and Jonathan be strong enough to defeat the monster in the bush, or are the real monsters closer to home?

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Winner of the Daisy Utemorra Award.

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=858329>

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The Disappearance of Astrid Bricard / Natasha Lester

Hachette Australia, Sydney, Australia 2023

448p.

9780733647246

\$ 35.00 / null

548 gm.

In November 1973, a fashion legend vanished, leaving behind only a white silk dress and the question: what really happened to Astrid Bricard?

Paris, 1917: Parentless sixteen-year-old Mizza Bricard makes a vow: to be remembered on her own terms. This promise drives her and her designs through the most exclusive couture houses in France until, finally, a legend is created - one that will endure for generations to come, but not the one she wanted.

New York, 1970: Designer Astrid Bricard arrives in bohemian Chelsea ready to change the fashion world. And she does - but cast in the role of muse to her lover, Hawk Jones. Just as Astrid's star is finally poised to ascend in its own right, she mysteriously disappears, leaving her family in tatters and perpetuating the infamous Bricard family myth.

French Countryside, Present Day: Blythe Bricard is the daughter of fashion's most infamous 70s power couple, but she turned her back on that world, and her passion for it, years ago. Fate, however, has other plans, and in a chateau over a whirlwind couple of weeks, Blythe will discover there is more to her iconic mother and grandmother - and herself - than she ever knew.

These three generations now have one chance to prove themselves. Can the women of the Bricard fashion dynasty finally rewrite their history?

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=858322>

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Late : A Novel / Michael Fitzgerald

Transit Lounge Publishing, Australia 2023

208p.

9781923023024

\$ 35.00 / HB

360 gm.

'So, was it hard to pretend I was "dead"? Well, my motivation was abundant; it was splendiferous, endless, you might say.'

An American actress, renowned for being late, is living with her two cats in a modernist clifftop apartment in Sydney in the late 1980s.

The recounting of her story is prompted by the arrival of an old typewriter and a book addressed to Zelda Zonk. And by the arrival of a young man called Daniel, who is locked out while house-sitting her neighbour's apartment.

Together Zelda and Daniel form an unlikely but close bond as they go walking, prepare dinner for Shabbat, traverse Sydney Harbour on a ferry and talk about their lives. Part of their bond is the discovery that they are both orphans. Daniel is also a habitué of the nearby sandstone cliffs where men have mysteriously gone missing.

In Late, Michael Fitzgerald superbly captures the literary spirit and sensibility of an ageing woman and icon who has escaped celebrity. It is a haunting and lyrical novel about art, friendship, and confronting our fears.

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=858325>

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Ramayana: Footprints in South-East Asian Culture and Heritage: Thailand, Indonesia, Malaysia, Philippines, Laos, Cambodia, Myanmar, Vietnam / Anita Bose  
Bee Books, Kolkata, India 2022

204p.; ill. 24 cm.

9789391618063

\$ 13.75 / HB

750 gm.

The Ramayana is a peerless epic composed by Maharshi Valmiki in the ancient Bharatvarsha. Prof. Sylvain Levi, the great French orientalist, once said "India gave mythology to her neighbors". Ramayana serves as the great stimulant to nascent literary worlds of south-east Asian countries and has influenced their culture through drama, puppetry and various performing arts. Ramayana Civilization has such everlasting influence that Thai Ramakien and Khon are very popular even in the present day. Dances like Singkil and Hudhud are very popular amongst the young Filipinos which is derived from Maharadia Lawana.

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=857067>

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A Walk With My Pig / Mervin Mirapuri  
Pagesetters Services Pte Ltd., Singapore 2023  
144p.  
9789811879357  
\$ 26.60 / null  
212 gm.

A Walk with My Pig is Mervin Mirapuri's unfinished magnum opus, seen for the first time. He composed this poem in the period following his and his family's migration to Australia from Singapore in the late 1980s.

The immigrant psyche – fraying thoughts, fluctuating emotions, and ranging personas – shows up the inadequacy of frameworks intended to help us find meaning amid the complexities of change. In this epic poem, the immigrant journeys between existence and obligations, mobilising the meanings of family and religion for bearing.

Through everyday snapshots and a cacophony of voices, A Walk with My Pig navigates a marketplace of relationships and transactions, bigotry, our obsession with greed, excess, status, and control. What is a life worth living? How are we shaped by opportunities presented, taken or lost? What is relevant in the overall pattern of things? A Walk with My Pig disrupts our perceptions, biases, and perspectives, what we have come to assume as norms.

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=858332>

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Sanskrit Drama and Mahakavya / Acharya Ramcharan Mishra  
Writers World, New Delhi 2023  
232p.; ill. 23 cm.  
Bibliography Includes Index.  
9788195669370  
\$ 44.00 / HB  
650 gm.

Sanskrit drama is part of Sanskrit literature, the classical literature of India, which flourished from about 1500 BC to about AD 1100. The earliest extant critical work on Sanskrit drama is attributed to Bharata, the legendary formulator of the dramatic art in India. That work, the Na ya-sastra (c.2d cent. AD) is relatively late but could be a reworking of a much earlier version. References to the drama and to dramatic criticism in the work of the grammarian Panini constitute a more certain indication of an early date for Sanskrit drama.

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=854990>

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Love Is Fundamental To Existence: Selected Poems / B.K.S. Ray  
B.R. Publishing Corporation, Delhi 2023  
100p.; 22 cm.  
9789391123697  
\$ 6.00 / null  
250 gm.

Bijay Kishore Sundar Ray was born on 1st June, 1949 and belongs to Bhubaneswar. He joined the Indian Administrative Service in 1972 and retired in the rank of Chief Secretary to the Government of Chhattisgarh. In his "Fantasy Unbound", B.K.S. Ray reveals his inimitable poetic style and powerful imagination as a poet. He refers to human existence in terms of love, relationship, hope, optimism, despair and the human potentialities to change the world. Many of his poems are autobiographical in nature. He goes for self-expression with passionate intensity. As a poet, he writes for the truth and attacks falsehood and hypocrisy.

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=854945>

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Forgotten Kings: The Story of the Hindu Sahi Dynasty / Changez Saleem Jan

Folio Books, Pakistan 2023

xxii, 176p.

9789697834556

\$ 25.00 / null

300 gm.

'This Hindu Sahiya dynasty is now extinct, and of the whole house there is no longer the slightest remnant in existence. We must say that, in all their grandeur, they never slackened in the ardent desire of doing that which is good and right, that they were men of noble sentiment and noble bearing.'

People and their acts of bravery are often lost to the annals of history. But what of mighty lineages? Generations of kings and the lands and people they fought for? What of kings who fought against their own people?

The Hindu Sahi kings, to whom honour and pride were more important than their own survival, fought a near 150 year rear-guard action as they continued to be pushed east from Kabul, their original homeland, changing their capitals and defending themselves from their own countrymen.

The last of their house had the misfortune of confronting the juggernaut that was Sultan Mahmud of Ghazni. Where obedience to the Sultan would have allowed their house to endure, their honour would have them confront him over and over. But who were they?

This book tries to piece together their story from the limited sources that are available from an age where historical sources were few and, in the case of the Sahis, mostly from the point of view of their enemies.

This is the story of a dynasty that represented a resurgent Hindu faith in a land that was long dominated by Buddhism but also coincided with the arrival of the Muslims.

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=865780>

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Well-Versed: Exploring Modern Japanese Haiku / Ozawa Minoru; Translated by Janine Beichman; Photography by Maeda Shinzō & Akira

Japan Publishing Industry Foundation for Culture, Japan 2021

376p.; 21cm.

9784866581798

\$ 74.00 / null

This volume of seasonally-arranged poems is a guide to the appreciation and enjoyment of the great variety of modern Japanese haiku. From turn-of-the-century masters to poets of today, 300 of Japan's best modern haiku are introduced by Ozawa Minoru, a leading contemporary haiku poet and critic. Each of the poems, many of them scarcely known, is sensitively discussed together with the background of the poem and the relations between the poets.

The volume includes poems from the end of the century through the beginning of the twenty-first century by the most important writers of modern haiku. Alongside these are works by well-known novelists and other cultural figures who were not professional haiku poets but for whom haiku was an important part of their lives, such as Kubota Mantarō, Akutagawa Ryūnosuke, and Natsume Sōseki. The book also features beautiful seasonal photographs at the beginning of each chapter.

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=778282>

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An Angel's Demise: A Novel / Sue Nyathi

Pan Macmillan, Johannesburg, South Africa 2022

352p.

9781770108080

\$ 35.00 / null

500 gm.

An Angel's Demise is an epic saga that explores a contested legacy and the heartrending destiny of a family. The year is 1977 and the story begins on a farm in Somabhula with the birth of Angel.

The farm is run by Paul Williams, an outwardly harsh and bigoted man who holds the livelihoods of many in his hands. When Angel's parents join the liberation struggle, she is left in the care of her grandmothers, who have been in service to the Williams family for generations.

Angel grows up on the farm over three momentous decades that see a convoluted past and inheritance unfold into an equally complicated present. Through her, we see a woman's quest to unearth her identity and assert her independence. In the process of self-discovery, Angel realises that sometimes you need to be uprooted before you can grow.

An Angel's Demise, Sue Nyathi's fourth novel, is a gripping tale infused with spirituality. It recounts an explosive story of love, war, bloody massacre and betrayal that encompasses a harrowing history, the cruel caprice of politics, gender-based violence and what happens when ordinary people get caught up in lies.

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=852943>

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The Heart of Summer: Stories and Tales / Danton Remoto

Penguin Books (Penguin Random House SEA), Singapore 2023

200p.

9789815058178

\$ 18.90 / null

250 gm.

A collection of short fiction on love, longing and loss written in the realist and fantastic modes. A young boy and his sisters gather beautiful shells on the beach as mementos of a country they will leave behind. A girl who loves the Beatles sees dwarfs that are drawn charcoal-black on a white plate. A rich matron in Singapore discovers a primeval thing in her ritzy penthouse. A poor woman in the boondocks gives birth to a mudfish. Dead lovers buried beneath a hotel ruined by an earthquake reach out to each other. And a woman poisoned in Scotland centuries ago still haunts a hilltop castle, looking for her dead lover.

These and other memorable characters inhabit Danton Remoto's book of stories and tales. Some of the stories are written in the realistic mode. They poke fun at a colourful but violent dictatorship or track the same-sex love in a young man's heart. The others are written in the fantastic mode-fables, parables, origin tales, cheeky rewriting of rural lore and urban legends. The length of the stories also varies. Some are flash fiction, while the others have the sweep of a novella.

The stories are meant to entertain but also to instruct: why the present is just a re-looping of the past, why love remains constant and true even beyond death. Written with daring and with dash, this book comes from the pen of 'one of Asia's best writers'.

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=861024>

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Sudden Superstar / Claire Betita de Guzman

Penguin Books (Penguin Random House SEA), Singapore 2023

xiv, 266p.

9789815127997

\$ 20.90 / null

300 gm.

What happens when one goes from obscurity to celebrity, overnight? Thirty-year-old Arya Alvarez is a travel manager at Isle Z, a luxury travel company in Singapore where she creates bespoke trips for celebrities and influencers. Discretion is her specialty at work and personal life: few people know that she's fled her home city, Manila, to get away from the scene of a devastating break-up.

When she travels to Svaneti, in the Republic of Georgia, Arya briefly encounters the mysterious Dave in a remote village high up the Caucasus mountains. Intrigued, she posts his photos on Instagram-which goes viral the very next day. Turns out, Dave is Davit Nadibaidze, a famous yet reclusive artist who'd retreated from the public five years ago and Arya is the first person to see him since he disappeared.

In less than 24 hours, Arya gains hundreds of thousands of followers. She's deluged with invitations to talk shows, influencer parties, and celebrity junkets, all as her social media apps overflow with DMs, tags, and comments, both nice and nasty. Men are suddenly vying for her attention, including her ex, Jake. Arya tries her best to step up, but she also struggles. What she really wants is to finally get over her painful break-up, find herself and a fresh start. But can she really, when she's caught in this complex whirl of viral fame?

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=861023>

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Mami Suzuki: Private Eye / Simon Rowe

Penguin Books (Penguin Random House SEA), Singapore 2023

212p.

9789815058895

\$ 22.90 / null

250 gm.

Beneath the sheen of its orderly streets and obedient populace, all is not well in the port city of Kobe. Business is as brisk as the Haru-ichiban spring breeze for Mami Suzuki, hotel clerk by day, private investigator by night.

Who's stealing from Japan's biggest pearl trader? Where's the master sushi chef and why are his knives missing? How did the tea ceremony teacher's brother really die? And what does an island of cats have to do with a pregnant Shinto shrine maiden?

From the Kobe wharfs to the rugged Japan Sea coast, the subtropics of Okinawa, and a remote island community in the Seto Inland Sea, each new adventure ends with a universal truth – that there are two sides to every story of misfortune.

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=861022>

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The Maps of Camarines: A Novel / Maryanne Moll

Penguin Books (Penguin Random House SEA), Singapore 2023

224p.

9789815058901

\$ 22.90 / null

300 gm.

Set in a fictional province in the Philippines, the novel tells the story of the Arguelleses, the Visbales, and the Monsantillos-and their eventual downfall. The three families are members of powerful, wealthy haciendero clans that have long stood uncontested by those in their midst. But beneath the gleam and glitter of their lives lie age-old secrets that speak of deceit, greed, and corruption. Sins amassed over generations will come to a head, calamities and death will wreak havoc on the land, transgressors will face vengeance-and so the cycle goes on. The Maps of Camarines is a chronicle of the forces that have and continue to assail Philippine society today, as well as the consequences if they are left to fester in the time to come.

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=861021>

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The Termite Queen / Ta Duy Anh; (Translators) Quan Manh Ha & Charles Waugh

Penguin Books (Penguin Random House SEA), Singapore 2023

xx, 236p.

9789815127157

\$ 22.90 / null

300 gm.

Burrowing deep inside the tension-filled relationship between contemporary Vietnam's hyper-capitalist society and its communist government, Ta Duy Anh's *The Termite Queen* tells the Kafkaesque story of a young man who must expose the corruption of a vast network of murky figures profiting from their connections to power. Banned in Vietnam, this allegorical story is told by Viet, a native-born Vietnamese who takes over his deceased father's powerful land development corporation. The funeral hasn't even concluded before Viet suspects foul play, as one clue after another leads him to question everything he thought he knew about his father, their family business, and its incredible ability to get approval for projects with dubious societal and environmental returns. With *The Termite Queen*, Ta Duy Anh cements his reputation as one of contemporary Vietnam's greatest fabulists, having filled this tale with criticisms that can only come from a deep and abiding love for his country.

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=861020>

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*Unquiet Heart Soliloquy* / Dano Chow

Penguin Books (Penguin Random House SEA), Singapore 2023

x, 200p.

9789815127058

\$ 22.90 / null

250 gm.

In modern-day China, a man has travelled to Shanghai on impulse to meet his online lover Luna, but she refuses to see him and soon disappears without a trace. He tries to forget her by immersing himself in dating apps, and also learns to appreciate the nuances within everyday Chinese life while he adjusts himself to mainland China as a member of the greater overseas Chinese diaspora. As the seasons change, he falls in love with a budding photographer named Sofia, but with traces of Luna constantly reappearing in his life, will he ever find a way out of his unquiet predicament?

*Unquiet Heart Soliloquy* is Dano Chow's debut novel, a confessional account of one's turning to dating apps for comfort in times of loneliness, in the hope that one casual outing after another will somehow be enough to fulfil a generational desire for intimacy.

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=861019>

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*Love on the Second Read* / Mica De Leon

Penguin Books (Penguin Random House SEA), Singapore 2023

xii, 210p.

9789815144031

\$ 17.90 / null

300 gm.

Emma Morales, tenacious romance book editor and proud cat lady, knows romance, but love? Nope. Thank you very much. Enter nerdy sci-fi and fantasy editor Kip Alegre, who quotes JRR Tolkien for breakfast and knows heartbreak all too well.

When Emma gets a career-changing sci-fi romance manuscript which may just save their publishing house from folding, she knows she must work with Kip if she wants to succeed. Sounds simple enough, right? But when well-meaning meddling best friends, an obsessive ex-boyfriend, and a beautiful ex-fiancée come into the picture, the job doesn't seem so simple anymore. What starts out as a friendly—flirty—literary smackdown between Emma and Kip grows into something deeper than either of them had signed up for.

The deal was to edit the book, not their lives.

Emma and Kip may be willing to read the manuscript over and over again, but will they be willing to give love a second read?

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=861018>

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*4 Pax to Emptiness* / Stella Kon

Penguin Books (Penguin Random House SEA), Singapore 2023

vi, 174p.

9789815058949

\$ 20.90 / null

250 gm.

Four people from the tiny, wealthy, hypermodern nation of Singapore visit a remote village in the heart of China. It's almost forty years since the end of a great famine, hardly known to the world outside China, but psychic echoes of that agony still reverberate through the cosmos. It is the Singaporeans' task to try to heal that spiritual trauma. When the dead have been universally recognised and mourned for, the 'hungry ghosts' will be at peace.

The four are Peter, Katrina, Lumy and Alex: a cripple, a yuppie, a tai-tai and a businessman. On their quest they grow in self-understanding and wisdom, through the guidance of a good spirit named Bezalia.

The story is an amusing closeup of Singaporeans as you've never seen them before: four insular people confronting cosmic issues, pragmatists on a spiritual quest. It is also a declaration that transcendence is within everyone's reach.

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=861017>

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If Only They Knew / Anita Othman

Penguin Books (Penguin Random House SEA), Singapore 2023

224p.

9789815058086

\$ 22.90 / null

300 gm.

This novel asks the questions about the role of women in marriage, the burden of cultural inheritance, the oppression inherent in being a minority and ultimately, the costs of not being true to oneself.

Set in the 2010s of Singapore, the story begins with protagonist, Saloma Salem, an entrepreneur who believes that her ethnicity has impeded her success in life. As a result, she steadfastly rejects her race and culture.

This strains her relationship with her mother who still lives alone in their small family flat. Determined to be independent, she leads a simple life despite Saloma's generous allowance. Their fractious relationship breaks down when she forces her antiquated beliefs about a wife's role on Saloma. The story tells how far Saloma would go to deny her culture, the efforts she takes to save her marriage and to maintain the image of a perfect life. But her plans go awry, forcing her to confront her own demons.

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=861016>

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The Koro Riots / Faisal Tehrani (Translator) Brigitte Bresson

Penguin Books (Penguin Random House SEA), Singapore 2023

272p.

9789815127843

\$ 23.90 / null

350 gm.

The Koro Riots is a satire regarding the political struggle in an imaginary country called Hujung Manani, a former French colony in South East Asia. Its leader, Priapus, is a dictator. His wife Datin Lotis uses black magic, namely the power of a weretiger. The narrative revolves around the Koro epidemic which occurs in this republic. It is a mental illness which affects men who believe that their penis shrinks into their body and disappears. The koro epidemic causes several small incidents, which later turn into riots. Eventually, the rebellion becomes a revolution, and the population of Hujung Manani overthrows the Dictator and his wife. These incidents are told from a variety of perspectives while adding background stories about politics in Hujung Manani. For this, the novel introduces several 'disposable' characters such as Kadir Mohamed, the former Editor in Chief of the Hujung Manani Tribune; Ashraf Wahidi, a celebrity preacher; and Psychiatrist Dr Cakravantin. The Dictator also has to face his political enemy who is the protagonist, named Pertiwi. She is a feminist, and in her nineties still succeeds in overthrowing Priapus, assisted by a Scientist (Badang) and Shulamit, his Jewish wife. At the end Pertiwi is killed by a suicide bomber named Zikir Baik while delivering a speech in the style of Martin Luther King. The struggle for democracy is carried on by Badang. However, Hujung Manani still faces threats posed by traitors like the Tycoon who is involved in a deep state.

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=861015>



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A Mother's Burden / H Y Poon

Penguin Books (Penguin Random House SEA), Singapore 2023

viii, 264p.

9789815127164

\$ 24.90 / null

300 gm.

A mentally-disabled boy is found dead in a small town. All signs point to his mother, a poor and ailing widow, as the one who caused his death.

But as Liu Yong, the lowly attendant of the magistrate, delves deeper, he finds that things may not be what they seem. The young man's investigations take him to the unfamiliar territory of the Capital, where he must contend with naked prejudice, bent officials and powerful foes. For help, Yong turns to the enigmatic Beggars' Sect, a network comprising street people of variable character: good and bad, righteous and criminal. There is little room for error. One wrong step could bring failure, or worse.

In a strict, hierarchical society, Yong needs to dig deep to find the truth against the odds and, in the process, discover his own worth.

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=861014>

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No Room in Neverland / Joyce Chua

Penguin Books (Penguin Random House SEA), Singapore 2023

x, 258p.

9789815127782

\$ 20.90 / null

300 gm.

All Gemma Young remembers of her childhood are her regular visits to the idyllic, imaginary Neverland before her mother fell sick.

When Gemma meets Cole, a disenchanted boy who stirs up more than just memories of her adventures in Neverland, she begins to piece together her half-forgotten childhood: her mother sick with longing for Neverland, the accident that ripped her family apart, and her father who abandoned her when she was a child. But now, Gemma's near-obsessive quest to find her father sends her spiralling deeper into Neverland just like her mother had. As the boundaries blur between the real world and Neverland, Gemma must sift through fact and fiction, discern between truth and make-belief, to find out what happened to her mother and rebuild a new life with her father.

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=861033>

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Katie Goes to KL / Su-May Tan

Penguin Books (Penguin Random House SEA), Singapore 2023

240p.

9789815127812

\$ 22.90 / null

300 gm.

KATIE CHEN, 16, lives in the unremarkable suburb of Narre Warren in Australia with her somewhat reclusive Malaysian father. Coming to Australia when she was 5 and losing her mother at 7, she has always struggled with issues of identity.

One day, she goes back to Malaysia for her grandmother's funeral and discovers that her mother – long-thought-dead – is alive. Set in a fictionalised Kuala Lumpur (KL), Katie struggles to reconnect with her mother whom she discovers is Malay.

Navigating KL's underground music scene and the underlying tensions of a country she doesn't understand, how far is Katie willing to go to find a place to belong?

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=861032>

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Width of a Circle / David J Hirst

Penguin Books (Penguin Random House SEA), Singapore 2023

270p.

9789815127966

\$ 22.90 / null

300 gm.

Zola Tapp, a curious and impulsive teen, has been sent to stay with her oddball relatives in rural Malaysia while her parents try to sort out their deteriorating relationship in the UK. On a pre-dinner exploration of her aunt and uncle's oil-palm plantation, Zola stumbles upon an injured boy. In a panic, she rushes to get help, but on return the body has vanished and the incident is blamed on her famed over-imagination. Zola then battles self-doubt and those out to deceive her as she sets out to discover what had happened to him. This starts a chain of events which results in her being drawn deeper into the Malaysian underworld and a sinister plot that tests her character and emotions to the extreme. Her healthy snarkiness towards vampires, zombies and the para-normal is also challenged when she meets Maya, an enchanting elfin demon with a secret past and mysterious abilities she must keep hidden from the rest of the world.

Zola forges a special bond with Maya and her aunt and uncle, whom she affectionately calls the Hamsters, to discover more about her own identity and the choices that define her. Together, they become enmeshed in a bitter fight to save the family estate from ruthless property developers, the heartless son of a triad leader and vicious thugs.

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=861031>

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Healers: A Novel / Jonel Abellanosa

Penguin Books (Penguin Random House SEA), Singapore 2023

vi, 250p.

9789815058970

\$ 22.90 / null

300 gm.

Set in the Philippine island of Cebu and spanning a wide expanse of the country's history, Healers is the first book in a three-novel series that follows the lives of Luis, Armand and Victoria, three immortal children with supernatural skills who are trained in the healing arts.

After centuries of practicing healing, they grow weary of life eternal and become envious of what adults can do that children can't. Deciding to shed their immortality and grow into adulthood, the three carve their own identities and paths in life, clinging on to the remnants of the immortal powers they once had to fulfil their dreams, aspirations, and innermost desires.

It is only generations later, in the second decade of the 21st century, that misfortune and modern-day societal maladies truly begin to complicate the lives of Luis, Armand, and Victoria, thrusting them into conflicts and existential struggles. And the three, bound together by their shared past, present, and future, will have to choose once more if they are willing to do what it takes to live forever again.

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=861030>

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Until Morning / Joyce Chua

Penguin Books (Penguin Random House SEA), Singapore 2023

252p.

9789815127775

\$ 20.90 / null

300 gm.

Lexi Lee thinks she's found her soulmate. The problem is, she has never met Night, the elusive street artist who leaves his paintings in the nooks and crannies of the city. Still, that doesn't stop her from penning letters to him and dreaming about living in his paintings.

After a car accident lands her in a coma, she finds herself wandering through Night's paintings and her childhood memories. Her only companion in dreamland is a boy who doesn't understand why he is trapped there with her and wants to leave.

Christopher Fang is trying to make sense of the recent dreams he has been having, dreams in which he meets the irreverent, free-spirited Lexi, a girl unlike anyone else he has met in his world of mercenary businessmen. Soon, he finds himself seeking escape from his life in those dreams. But when he finds out that his father's latest property development project involves taking over the inn that Lexi's father owns, Chris must choose between his loyalties to his father and helping Lexi return to the life she left behind.

But as Lexi and Chris grow closer, the truth about Lexi's accident comes to light, threatening to tear them apart and making them question the people they believe in, their love for each other, and what it is they are really awake for.

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=861029>

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Nine Yard Sarees: A Short Story Cycle / Prasanthi Ram

Ethos Books, Singapore 2023

272p.; 130x200mm.

9789811860355

\$ 22.00 / null

300 gm.

Nine Yard Sarees is a multigenerational portrait of a fictional Tamil Brahmin family. Comprising eleven interlinked stories, this short story cycle traces the lives of nine women from 1950 all the way to 2019, shedding light on the community and its evolution through the decades. As the stories take us from India to Singapore, Australia and even America, we follow the experiences of the women in the family: Raji the matriarch who lives in seclusion at an ashram; her daughter Padma who struggles to raise her family the traditional way; Padma's daughter Keerthana who is about to be married and don the nine yard saree, a symbol of womanhood. Tender, dynamic and full of heart, this cycle is a resonant portrayal of female solidarity and the complexities of the diasporic experience in contemporary Singapore.

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=861028>

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A Surplus of Sadness: But Wait There's More... / Jov Ortua Almero

Penguin Books (Penguin Random House SEA), Singapore 2023

viii, 196p.

9789815127829

\$ 20.90 / null

300 gm.

There's no shortage of sadness. There's no blaming those who succumb to omnipresent gloom. It's today's pervasive emotional climate.

However, there's also enough laughter to go around. At least laughter that comes with a knowing wink, in camaraderie with the many prone to sadnesses.

This collection of 19 short stories hopes to make you laugh. That is: Despite the planet heating up. Despite the constant threat of fascism and disinformation. Despite empires disguised as good guys. Despite neoliberalism's false promises and the ruthless competition, it demands. Despite the persistent clout of capitalism, unrelenting in its dominion over life, over happiness.

Despite, perhaps, a lack of exercise . . .

By the end of the book, laughter finds a purpose, a place in the collective, aware of its rightful target. From sadness to laughter to indignation.

But wait there's more.

Cheers.

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=861027>

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My Mother Pattu / Saras Manickam

Penguin Books (Penguin Random House SEA), Singapore 2023

176p.  
9789815058918  
\$ 22.90 / null  
250 gm.

Deeply humane, in turn wry and humorous, the stories in this collection haunt readers with their searing honesty.

Lalitha, abused by her own mother, learns that bullies carry emotional traumas that scar everyone's lives.

Shiva Das confronts the truth of his own culpability when his adult special child dies in tragic circumstances.

A woman, deeply in love with her husband, discovers to her anguish that the love of a good man is not enough.

A little boy tries hard to hold his family together as his parents' marriage disintegrates before his eyes.

A mother has a poignant yet brutal conversation with God about her severely disabled son.

Three young people idealistically reject racial prejudice and stereotyping, only to find that in Malaysia, their future paths are largely determined by ethnicity and privilege.

The extent to which a woman will go in her hatred for her daughter's childhood friend, ends in a violent aftermath.

An Indonesian maid realizes that the money she sends home has become more important than her own welfare or safety to her family.

A racial slur triggers reflections on friendship, identity, the loss of belonging and trust in a multi-racial community.

Meet the extraordinary in ordinary people when they confront the truth of their past and present – and refuse to look away. Authentic and unsentimental, each story celebrates the resilience of the human spirit even as it challenges comfortable conventions about identity, love, family, community and race relations.

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=861026>

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The Muse and Other Stories / Chua Kok Yee  
Penguin Books (Penguin Random House SEA), Singapore 2023  
vi, 198p.  
9789815058963  
\$ 22.90 / null  
300 gm.

The Muse and Other Stories is a collection of dark stories from the author of Not A Monster and Without Anchovies.

An elderly editor discovers the secret of an author and his muse, and tries to save him from the curse of a vengeful spirit.

The Afterlife is in great trouble, and a young man is enlisted by a high-ranking demon to save it.

A deceased murderer is offered the salvation of his soul, but only if he is willing to commit another murder.

After an encounter with a long-lost childhood friend, a young woman discovers the horrific truth about her father.

A young man is tormented by his unborn child.

These unsettling stories confronts not only the supernatural elements that surround us, but the darkness of our hearts.

The scariest part is often the consequences of the choices made by ordinary persons like us.

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=861025>

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/ = Twenty One Tales of Bagan Bago Awa / Than Thun  
Htibaungga Publishing House, Myanmar 2023  
116p.  
\$ 20.00 / null  
250 gm.

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Tales based on stone inscriptions written in Pali, Mon and Myanmar of the 11th-13th centuries found in and around Pagan, Pegu, and Ava.

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=861044>

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The Disappearance of Patrick Zhou (Epigram Books Fiction Prize 2023) / Ally Chua

Epigram Books, Singapore 2023

264p.

9789815105308

\$ 24.90 / null

400 gm.

Finalist for the 2023 Epigram Books Fiction Prize

A young woman must solve the fifteen-year-old disappearance of her uncle.

The Zhou-Guthrie company is a powerful one, with a palm oil fortune built on the suffering of others. One night, Patrick Zhou, the charismatic heir to the business, disappears en route to a conference, never to be seen again.

Fifteen years later, Zhou-Guthrie is a failing dynasty. The matriarch, Doris Zhou, is on her deathbed. In her last lucid moments, Doris tasks her granddaughter, Layla, with finding out what happened to Patrick. To solve this mystery, Layla must uncover corporate espionage, environmental crimes and family secrets—perhaps intimately connected to the ghost stories Uncle Patrick told her years ago.

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=861013>

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Sweet Braised Duck / Chew Ngee Tan

Penguin Books (Penguin Random House SEA), Singapore 2023

xiv, 298p.;

9789815058864

\$ 24.90 / null

450 gm.

Kuang was five years old when he first arrived in Singapore from Shantou, China. Reunited with his abusive good-for-nothing grandfather and a new step-grandmother, Kuang and his parents struggled to live with dignity while battling poverty. When he became the eldest brother to seven siblings, greater responsibilities weighed on his shoulders. He gave up his education and worked as a fish porridge hawker assistant to help the family make ends meet. Twists and turns in his life eventually brought him back to his hometown cuisine. How did he derive a unique recipe of his own? How did he realise his dream of becoming a successful Teochew braised duck rice seller?

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=861012>

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The Fabulist: A Novel / Uthis Haemamool; (Translators) Palin Anusinha & Ploy Kingchatchaval

Penguin Books (Penguin Random House SEA), Singapore 2023

380p.

9789815017052

\$ 34.90 / null

550 gm.

An immortal spirit cycles through multiple lives as a tree, a naga, a deer, a rock, and a human. A doctor suffers a stroke and embarks upon a quest for justice in the afterlife. A wife and mother lives out the soap opera of her dreams. A ghostwriter deals with the violent tragedy that befalls his family by turning it into fiction. A woman from the future struggles to break free from a life shaped by her lineage.

The Fabulist is an epic novel by Uthis Haemamool. Spooling out of the district of Kaeng Khoi in Saraburi, Thailand, this book follows four generations of narrative threads as they bluff, conceal, confess, and rewrite themselves into the history of a nation that has long relegated them to the margins of its story.

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=861011>

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Crocodile's Tears / Amado V. Hernandez; (Translator) Danton Remoto

Penguin Classics (Penguin Random House SEA), Singapore 2023

328p.

9789815017854

\$ 29.90 / null

450 gm.

The novel is set in the town of Sampilong which is under the conjugal dictatorship of Donya Leona and Don Severo Grande. They control the wealth and power in the town and use the institutions of politics, Church and law for their own ends. The townsfolk are composed of farmers and people living in depressed areas. Bandong, a teacher, serves as their leader and adviser. He educates the people and tries to bind them together to fight the wealthy and greedy couple. The novel has wonderful set-pieces that vividly show the gap between the rich and the poor—the feast in the house of the rich as opposed to the imprisonment of Andres, the slum-dweller; the wake and the setting up of the cooperative; the wicked ways of the people under the control of the Grande family and the corrupt politicians. The novel ends when the townsfolk discover that the Grande family does not own the land they are claiming as theirs. The townsfolk have awakened from their slumber and decide to change the unjust system. They now have a newfound faith in themselves and their capacity to change their lives and the destiny of their country.

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=861010>

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Kingdom of Blood and Gold / Joyce Chua

Penguin Books (Penguin Random House SEA), Singapore 2023

268p.

9789815058789

\$ 22.90 / null

400 gm.

Five Elementals. A fallen kingdom. One survivor to restore it. Following the events of last winter, Desert Rose flees the Oasis Kingdom with the rogue prince Wei, his mother, and a newfound magical power in tow. When she learns that her father's soul is trapped in the Darklands and can only be freed if the prophesied Elemental finds the spring, Desert Rose sets out to eliminate the other Elementals—starting with the one found in Oasis Kingdom's biggest enemy, Lettoria. Meanwhile, in the Oasis Kingdom, newly crowned emperor Meng finds his position jeopardised by the return of his older brother, the exiled Prince Han. To secure the throne (and his life), he travels to Lettoria with his secret assassin Windshadow and proposes an alliance. As their fates cross again, Desert Rose and Windshadow must join hands to defeat the Metal Elemental while Wei and Meng collude to restore the kingdom—and home—they left behind. But when Lettoria and Oasis Kingdom finally clash in a long-brewing war, Han reveals his dark ambition and a secret weapon that will unmake the kingdom and threaten the fates of all involved . . . a weapon that only an Elemental can destroy.

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=861009>

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Personae: Early Poems / Zakaria Ali

Kedai Hitam Putih, Malaysia 2023

146p.

9789671872253

\$ 17.50 / null

200 gm.

"Is Zak still osculating between hesitancy and resolution, like the persona he played 50 years ago? How does he feel about Personae now? When he was sojourning in America, he wrote to his mother about monchaghi dighi nan sojati/looking to find out who or what he was. Has he found his true self? Only Zak can try to answer that" - Aisyah Rais

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=861112>

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The Modern Nyonya / Pepper Lim  
Pepper Lim (Self-Published), Malaysia 2023  
160p.  
9786299877202  
\$ 17.00 / null  
250 gm.

Follow the life of a young Nyonya growing up in the 70s in Penang, Malaysia. You will love the antics of this young girl and her mother because she wants to be fresh and hip while her mother is traditional and old fashioned. The Modern Nyonya has to learn how to be a proper Peranakan girl from her mother. There is so much to learn about being a Peranakan, the traditions and culture, while being influenced by modernisation. Penang, the old Pearl of The Orient, was just turning into an industrial hub in the 1970s with new businesses from all over the world.

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=861110>

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Bone Weight and Other Stories / Shih-Li Know  
Fixi Novo, Malaysia 2023  
256p.  
9789670042886  
\$ 14.00 / null  
250 gm.

This cross-genre collection of twenty-five short stories and flash fiction pieces explores relationships and periods of transition. A mother questions the limits of her responsibility to her husband and son. A man operates a leaf blower during Chinese New Year, leading to tragic consequences. In speculative stories, a demolition worker dreams of clean air while Kuala Lumpur decays, and a cooking robot attempts to perfect its fried rice for a grieving family. These characters navigate displacement and uncertainties in pursuit of better lives.

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=861109>

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Ripples and Other Stories / Shih-Li Know  
Fixi Novo, Malaysia 2023  
264p.  
9789670042893  
\$ 14.00 / null  
250 gm.

This polyphonic collection of twenty-five stories presents a multitude of Malaysian perspectives spanning age, gender, and class. Yow char kwai hawkers compete for customers on a busy city street. Marital dynamics unfurl at an abortion clinic. On an island, a man's infatuation with a veiled woman takes a supernatural turn. A woman writes to her brother about their dead cat. Characters in these stories connect through chance encounters and fateful events. Their narratives are inevitably coloured by the social tension and occasional absurdities of a multicultural society. Shortlisted for the 2009 Frank O'Connor International Short Story Prize.

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=861108>

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The Sum of Our Follies / Shih-Li Know  
Fixi Novo, Malaysia 2023  
296p.  
9789670042909  
\$ 14.00 / null  
300 gm.

The Sum of Our Follies is a novel set in Lubok Sayong, an imaginary Malaysian town.

Two narrators describe Lubok Sayong and its community of quirky inhabitants. The first is Auyong, a retiree from the city who operates a lychee factory in Lubok Sayong. The other is eleven-year-old Mary Anne, an orphan who is taken in by an irascible woman in charge of the Big House.

Through anecdotes and gentle humour, the two narrators observe the events that change the town and their lives as modernity sets in and Mary Anne grows up.

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=861106>

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Bidayuh Dondan: Stories From Our Ancestors / Yvonne M. Campbell (Illustrator)  
Havela D.

UNIMAS Publishers, Malaysia 2023

68p.

9789670054414

\$ 17.00 / null

200 gm.

Why is it forbidden to refuse a child food? Why do we only hear the Argus Pheasants in the distance on the mountain tops? Why does the nightingale and the cricket call out to the moon? Who is Konang and what is its role? These are some of the questions related to the indigenous beliefs of the Bidayuh. In the olden days, Bidayuh children in the longhouse would gather around after dinner to listen to dondan or stories about great Bidayuh warriors, clever animals and spiritual beings. It was a form of entertainment for the children and a way to pass on traditional beliefs and moral values.

In this collection of folktales or dondan as it is known among the Bidayuh Bau-Jagoi community, we 'listen' to the stories as told by the elder folks of the community. This collection contains four dondan the adventure of Ronai and her son to visit the Moon King, how Konang, the bird spirit helped Lomow, Sikau Bunga's trip to visit his grandparents and a mother's love which is never ending.

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=861113>

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Sapphire, Book One: The Promised Time / Kemal B. Caymaz (Translator) Ceren Karamar

Isik Kitabevi Publishing, Nicosia, Cyprus 2023

292p.

9789925574032?

\$ 40.00 / null

350 gm.

A fantasy adventure from Saint Hilarion Castle on the mountains of Cyprus, to Notre Dame Cathedral in the heart of Paris...Seçkin was leading an ordinary life until a Jinni named ParuParu appears before him. So, he finds himself in a world of demons, fairies and many kinds of magical beings. A destiny concealed with challenging events awaits him on an unpredictable journey.

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=866202>

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R.K. Narayan: Myths and Archetypes in His Novels / Ashok Kumar Jha

B.R. Publishing Corporation, Delhi 2023

144p.; 22 cm.

Bibliography Includes Index.

9788176461382

\$ 20.00 / HB

450 gm.

This book attempts to study gods and godmen in R.K. Narayan's Milieu. A Writer like him, who is so much committed to phrase Indian Culture into English language, cannot miss them in his writings. Mythical gods and goddesses and archetypha figures have been studied into separate chapters.

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=854330>

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The Poetic Art of A.K. Ramanujan / A.N. Dwivedi



B.R. Publishing Corporation, Delhi 2023

vi, 168p.; 22 cm.

Bibliography Includes Index.

9788170188322

\$ 21.25 / HB

400 gm.

This is the first full-length critical study of A.K. Ramanujan's Poetic craftsmanship. The main focus of this book is on Ramanujan's poetry and artistry. Divided into seven chapters in all, besides a comprehensive Bibliography given at the end, it seeks to establish Ramanujan as one of the foremost Indian English poets of the post Independence era.

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=854334>

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A Bad Girl's Book of Animals / Wong May

Ethos Books, Singapore 2023

128p.

9789811860317

\$ 18.60 / null

200 gm.

Wong May's poems are concerned with the ultimate loneliness, the inarticulateness and the inability to communicate fully that are the marks of human life. "My poems," says Wong May, "are about wordlessness rather than words. I feel that we must recognize our ultimate wordlessness."

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What is most impressive about Wong May's poems is her mastery of the implicit, her marvelously effective elliptical style that nevertheless strikes sharp blows of beauty and clarity. —Harcourt, Brace & World

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=855637>

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Ruth Praver Jhabvala: A Study in Empathy and Exile / Aruna Chakravarti

B.R. Publishing Corporation, Delhi 2023

xii, 285p.; 22cm.

Bibliography Includes Index.

9788170189619

\$ 36.25 / HB

600 gm.

This study attempts to place in a critical perspective Ruth Praver Jhabvala's exploration of cross-generation, cross-familial and cross-cultural assimilations in India as manifested in her fiction written between 1955 and 1975. An examination of her work of these two decades reveals certain shifts in the nature and scope of this exploration. These shifts are seen as linked with the social and industrial development of India as well as with her self-confessed changes of response to India during the twenty-three years of her stay. At the same time her observations are identified as part of a literary tradition with which she has close connections—that of the fiction written by European expatriates in India.

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=854323>

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Ghazal Cosmopolitan: Ghazals and Essays on the Culture and Craft of the Ghazal / Shadar Zeest Hashmi

Folio Books, Pakistan 2023

viii, 100p.

9789697834440.

\$ 25.00 / null

200 gm.

"A marvelous interweaving of poetry, scholarship, literary criticism and memoir: it is wise, welcoming, and a delight to read. There are poems here that are memorable in any context: Qasida of 700,000 Years of Love one among those for me. I wish Agha Shahid Ali were still with us to read Shadab Zeest Hashmi's work."

- Marilyn Hacker

"Written with a poet's grace and "love of the turning word," Shadab Zeest Hashmi's Ghazal Cosmopolitan is a gift that enriches our literature with her elegant and intimate knowledge of the Ghazal, Qasida, and the riches of Urdu, a polygenetic language that grew from centuries of migrations, trade routes, conquests, empires. With a literary heritage of cultural exchange that naturally "empowers and praises the plural," hers is a much-needed cosmopolitan poetics generous, generative and timely."

- Eleanor Wilner

"Reminiscent of Bly's Leaping Poetry, this book, Ghazal Cosmopolitan, is a celebration of, and a love letter to, the language of the world and its "polygenetics." With an amalgam of lyric essay, poetry, and clear-eyed literary criticism, Shadab Zeest Hashmi writes a primer on the Ghazal and Qasida poetic forms that should enter every classroom. Hers are a mind and a spirit that disarm monolithic attitudes. She opens us onto the heterogeneous origins of the word."

- Fady Joudah

"In Ghazal Cosmopolitan, a smorgasbord of aesthetic pleasures viewed through the prism of the majestic Ghazal, Shadab Zeest Hashmi has launched a compelling argument for the cosmopolitan appeal of a beautiful poetic form, one that is unique in its economy and lyrical sweep, its reach of the mysteries of the Universe, the Israr e Azal-all in the space of two lines."

- Azra Raza

"An evocative tribute to the nese and beauty of Urdu, this book introduces the contemporary American manifestations of the Ghazal form, acting as a bridge between the eastern and western traditions of literature. Hashmi keeps the reader engaged and wonderstruck by delving into the complexities of Urdu poetry without turning didactic. Above all, this collection is a celebration of how fine writing can overcome boundaries and expand the scope of human experience."

- Raza Rumi

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=865123>

Nomad / Romeo Oriogun

Griots Lounge Publishing, Nigeria 2021

viii, 116p.

9789785756739

\$ 30.00 / null

200 gm.

"Romeo Oriogun's poetry explores alterity and displacement- of location, of intimate physical spaces, of color/race, the remnant music of caliban. He does this with a deft hand and an instinctive feel for the cadences of the lyric. - Niran Okewole, author "Logarithms and the hate artist"

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=854612>

Gender, Sexuality And Feminism In Pakistani Urdu Writing. / Amina Yaqin

Folio Books, Pakistan 2023

xvi, 320p.

Include Index & Bibliography

9789697834457

\$ 25.00 / null

400 gm.

In this book, the author critically interrogates the construction of gender, community and nation in the work of progressive women poets. The book combines the study of nation and community through a close engagement with Urdu literary culture in the twentieth century and particularly the work of pioneering literary women. It argues that gender and sexuality become fixed signifiers in the trauma of partition and the formation of the post-partition Islamic nation. The story of literary women in Pakistan taking up the mantle of public poets thus has to be understood in relation to the history of reform, anti-colonial resistance and a transnational Islamicate culture. The book examines the presence of feminist thought in the work of progressive women poets charting their interrogation of the clash between secular and sacred values and the increasing split between liberal and Islamic nationalism. The book suggests that through their writing and experiences, women have negotiated sacred and secular spaces to move beyond a community that is subservient to nationalist ideology.

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=865350>

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It Is Time To Come Home: New and Collected Poems / Marjorie Evasco

Milflores Publishing, Inc., Philippines 2023

416p.

9789718281390

\$ 55.00 / HB

850 gm.

It is Time to Come Home, Marjorie Evasco's fifth book, is a gathering of new and collected poems--including poems from her four other books that are all out of print! The inclusion of all her previous books in one definitive and beautiful hardcover volume allows the reader to view this poet's writing journey. As Marj says in her preface, this collection enables the poet's attentive readers "to follow the layered paths of my writing life from the time I crossed my home's threshold in 1973 to go elsewhere, only to return again and again, in various magical and meandering ways, to the kiss of poetry on my forehead."

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"Marjorie Evasco stands upon her own ground, her own native clearing: the way her fellow-countrymen think and feel about their world and so live from sun to sun. There, in that clearing, in her own time, she forges language in the smithy of her mind and heart and grasps her own consciousness of her 'world' (her 'reality')." --National Artist for Literature Gemino H. Abad

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=859870>

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Stray Cats: A Novel / Irene Sarmiento

Bughaw (Ateneo de Manila University Press), Philippines 2023

224p. ; 21cm.

9786214482771

\$ 22.00 / null

300 gm.

Eighth graders Elisa Paz and Raquel Madria are unstoppable as bruhas in the magical world they've created together. But when Raquel goes missing, Elisa discovers a different reality—one that is unjust and ever present, yet often ignored. The only one willing to help Elisa find her lost friend is Oscar Santos, a talking cat. Together they search through clamorous city streets, bustling plazas, gloomy districts, and holy hideaways, where they find unlikely monsters lurking dangerously close to home.

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=859872>

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Cigarette Girl: A Novel / Ratih Kumala; Tr. By Annie Tucker

Milflores Publishing, Inc., Philippines 2023

246p.

9789718281383

\$ 25.00 / null

250 gm.

Love and betrayal set the stage for this epic romance told against the backdrop of Indonesia's clove cigarette industry.

Cigarette Girl follows three brothers--Lebas, Karim, and Tegar, heirs to the Djagad Raja Clove Cigarettes, as they embark on a quest to fulfil their father's dying wish: find Jeng Yah, the mysterious woman he has been calling out to on his deathbed. With the little clues they have, the brothers travel across Java, delving into its secrets to locate Jeng Yah.

Cigarette Girl traces the growth of a clove cigarette enterprise from its humble beginnings in the Dutch East Indies during the early 1940s and acquaints readers with the history of Indonesia through the lens of clove cigarettes and unrequited love.

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=859871>

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All The Daughters of the Earth: Sijo Poems / Kim Ilyeon (Translator) Brother Anthony of Taize

Seoul Selection U.S.A., Inc., Irvine, CA, USA 2023

184p.

9781624121524

\$ 19.00 / null

300 gm.

Sijo, which has been the root of Korean culture for nearly a thousand years, is a characteristic genre that, above all, must portray vivid contemporary life. At the root of today's Hallyu is the sijo, which contains the identity of the Korean language and pounds in the pulse of all Koreans. The sijo of Kim Ilyeon, who has made beautiful songs blooming as sijo her life's task contains the soul and love of an artist. Now, it's the world's turn to meet the oldest and newest song, the most Korean, that resonate still 'sijo'.

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=858546>

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The Adventures of Cayo Malinao and Other Philippine Novelettes = La Adventura de Cayo Malinao y Otras Novelas Filipinas / Guillermo Gomez Windham; (Translator) Robert S. Rudder

Vibal Foundation, Inc., Philippines 2023

xxviii , 204p.

9789719708445

\$ 25.00 / null

400 gm.

In The Adventures of Cayo Malinao, a hardworking bookkeeper Cayo Malinao—who, from childhood, has led a virtuous and modest life—finally encounters a temptation he can't resist when he reunites with his childhood best friend Vincentito, now a dissolute card sharp. In thrall to Vincentito, Cayo swiftly falls into a heady addiction to gambling, women, and vice, risking the life he built through the years for what he believes will be the winning gamble of a lifetime.

A poor studious bibliophile attempts to aid his sick mother, but ends up in jail, a seemingly disastrous twist of fate that instead leads him to an exceptional career as the wealthy customs inspector Rufino Rojo in The Promotions of Inspector Rojo. Rojo is assisted in his fortuitous ascents up the rungs of life by well-meaning superiors and fortunate coincidences. However, it is Rojo himself who determines his destiny by behaving with utmost sobriety and following every social dictum, proving that success is not always a matter of courage and ambition.

In Aunt Pasia, the titular character is the widow of a slain revolutionary desperately seeking to avenge her husband, who was assassinated by the local bandit chief Captain Palás. When authorities turn a blind eye, Aunt Pasia becomes obsessed with Palás, hounding his tracks until he gets arrested, and eventually hanged. In the process, Aunt Pasia becomes consumed by her own vindictiveness. The death of her arch-nemesis doesn't give her peace; instead, it portends the haunting of a nightmare of her own making that almost drives her insane.

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=858504>

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Everything is Realism: Essays on Narrative Craft / Vicente Garcia Groyon

University of Santo Tomas Publishing House, Philippines 2023

xvi, 288p.  
9789715069212  
\$ 25.00 / null  
400 gm.

In this selection of essays written over twenty-five years, the award-winning author Vicente Garcia Groyon reflects on his identity as a writer and his relationships to his own writing, to the works of other writers, and the world at large.

Part memoir, part writer's journal, this collection of introspective, personal, and candid "proto-fictions" is animated by Groyon's eye for detail, love for storytelling, and commitment to truthfulness.

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=858505>

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A Young Wandering Mudlark In Old Kathmandu: A Fact 'N' Fiction Novel / Peter J Karthak

FinePrint Pvt. Ltd., Kathmandu, Nepal 2023

416p.  
9789937790055  
\$ 35.00 / HB  
650 gm.

Set against the backdrop of 1968 to 1972, this riveting autofiction follows the life of John as he navigates the vibrant streets of Kathmandu, leaving behind his roots in Darjeeling. The lead guitarist of The Hillians, dubbed as "the Beatles of Sikkim" by Time magazine, John finds himself transported to Kathmandu, a city yet untouched by the excesses of modernity but embraced by hippies in search of spiritual solace, often found in cannabis and Eastern wisdom. It is within Kathmandu's tapestry that John forges his new path, initially as a trainee croupier at Casino Kathmandu, the sole licensed gaming establishment between Beirut and Macao, all the while nursing his dreams of becoming a novelist.

Amid this chronicle of self-discovery, readers encounter a colorful array of characters—a wispy hippini, sustaining herself on a concoction of vanilla curd and copious amounts of sugar for vitality on a shoestring budget; the eccentric Ranas, seeking thrills within the casino's dens; American GIs on furlough from the turmoil of the Vietnam War- enlivening the narrative.

Through prose that dances with delight, the narrative paints an exquisite portrait of a city poised on the brink of transformation.

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=860818>

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Friendship (A Social Novel) / Chandra Kanta Acharya

Nepal World Peace Development Society, Kathmandu, Nepal 2023

248p.  
9789937143271  
\$ 18.00 / null  
100 gm.

The book 'Friendship' takes the readers to different geographical locations in Nepal leading the readers to enjoy the different terrains and nature in different parts of Nepal as well as other parts of the world. Blended in the beauty of different locations in Nepal and abroad are the stories of different relationships, friendship, romance of young men and women who are striving to uplift the social and economic condition of not just their country but of the wider world. The book revolves around a young woman, who goes into political activism right after High School but then gets inspired to work toward eradication of HIV/AIDS due to the influence of another central character, that of a young man. The romance that ensues and the friendship that forms between them and the characters of all the other young people in the book who live in Nepal and other parts of the world, the bond between them, their hopes and dreams, their love and friendship make this book enjoyable for a wider international audience. We are grateful to get the opportunity to bring this endearing tale of longing and loss, love and friendship to a wider audience. The book which was published in Nepali many years ago and translated by Dr. Govinda Raj Bhattarai went through a long period of editing. We at Nepal World Peace Development Society are proud to be finally presenting it to the readers in English. We apologize for any errors that may have been overlooked in the edits as well as any difficulty the reader may experience in understanding Nepali geographical locations or nuances of Nepali culture and language in the book.

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=860817>

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Rapture: An Anthology of Performance Poetry from Aotearoa New Zealand /  
Carrie Rudzinski & Grace Iwashita-Taylor (Eds)

Auckland University Press, New Zealand 2023

xii, 242p. ; 23cm.

9781869409807

\$ 69.99 / null

650 gm.

These poems roam the streets looking for a fight, question who we are and who we are growing into, examine the weaponisation and reclaiming of language. These poems take lovers to bed, scream into the depths of sadness and reclaim bodies. These poems decolonise and re-indigenise, swim in the moana, reshape the word 'home'. These poems belly laugh deep, sprawl out under a blanket of stars and point into the wonder, wax nostalgic for the friends we have and the friends we have lost. These poems are family – a brilliant representation of the diversity of voice, talent, experience and desires of real writers, real poets, real people of Aotearoa.  
— from the Introduction

From the South Auckland Poets Collective to regional writers festivals, at poetry slams and open mic nights, in theatre works like Show Ponies and Wild Dogs Under My Skirt, performance poetry has taken off in Aotearoa.

In this anthology, ninety performance poets, rappers, spoken-word artists, slam poets, theatre makers, genre blenders and storytellers come together to celebrate the diverse voices and communities within Aotearoa – including Ben Brown and Mohamed Hassan, Grace Iwashita-Taylor and Tusiata Avia, Nathan Joe and Dominic Hoey, Freya Daly Sadgrove, David Eggleton and Selina Tusitala Marsh.

Rapture is a parallel narrative about contemporary poetry in Aotearoa – one that doesn't just sit on the page, but leaps from it.

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=859840>

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Ang Armadong Paraluman Sa Panahon Ng Kilabot = The Armed Paramour In A  
Time Of Terror / E. San Juan, Jr.

University of Santo Tomas Publishing House, Philippines 2023

xii, 168p.

9789715069137

\$ 20.00 / null

250 gm.

"The Philippines and its colonization by the U.S. is one of the great tragedies of the modern era. E. San Juan's poetry is a fighting response to that tragedy and should be hailed in that context." — JACK HIRSCHMAN

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"Noong 1969, naging ganap ang pag-iba ng lengguwahe, estilo, at paksain ng makata. Ang kaniyang Maliwalu at Iba Pang Tula ay tahasang mapanghimagsik... Isang taon makaraan ang Unang Sigwa ng 1970, ang Mayo 1 at Piling mga Tula ay nalimbag, at ang koleksiyon ay nag-hudyat ng simula ng masiglang paglikha ni San Juan ng panulaang rebolusyonaryo." — BIENVENIDO LUMBERA, National Artist

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"Sa mga tula ni E. San Juan, taliwas sa eksistensyal angst o epektong absurdismo, ang panitik ni E. San Juan ay malinaw na may pinag-uugatan sa lipunan at praktikal na buhay ng Pilipino." — Dr. NONILON QUEANO, emeritus professor, University of the Philippines.

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=858506>

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Huia Short Stories 15 / Various Authors

Huia Publishers, New Zealand 2023

viii, 216p.

9781775508212

\$ 25.00 / null

400 gm.

Here are the best short fiction stories, short non-fiction pieces and poetry from the Pikihuia Awards for Māori writers 2023 as judged by Emma Espiner, Carol Hirschfeld, Maiki Sherman, Mike Ross, Hēmi Kelly and Robert Sullivan. This competition, run by the Māori Literature Trust and Huia Publishers, is held every two years to promote Māori writers and their work. This year, the awards sought short non-fiction and poetry, along with short fiction, from writers in te reo Māori and English. The competition attracts entries each year from writers of all ages and those who are starting out to seasoned authors. This collection of finalists' work celebrates Māori writing, introduces new talent and gives an opportunity for Māori writers to shine.

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=859838>

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Will You Tell Me What I Look Like? : Poems and Paintings / Raphael Atienza Coronel

University of Santo Tomas Publishing House, Philippines 2023

viii, 104p. ; 23cm.

9789715069151

\$ 28.00 / null

200 gm.

The poems of Raphael Coronel are exercises of faith, professed again and again, in the capacity of art and its making to become a world in which to perceive the self and the world. Confined in a body undone by illness, in a hospital among other patients, in interiors shuttered by the pandemic, the poems, steadied by the belief that "I'm alive enough to write about dying," anchor themselves to what has stood the test of time, as in the work of canonical masters, or what has overcome the threat of silence, as in the poet's own work. Art begets art and somewhere in between, a livable life emerges. — Conchitina Cruz

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=858507>

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Aucklanders / Murray Edmond

Lasavia Publishing Ltd., New Zealand 2023

210p.

9781991083036

\$ 39.99 / null

350 gm.

In the tradition of James Joyce's Dubliners, Murray Edmond brings us Aucklanders, short stories that celebrate lives lived in New Zealand's biggest city. Through different time-settings, and narrative styles, the tales are variously entertaining, funny, satirical, reflective and tragic. Sometimes they are a little gruesome or absurd. Yet these Aucklanders often feel oddly familiar. Among them we encounter a scared RSA waiter, a Zen sensei who keeps his followers guessing, a shy boy who breaks a neighbour's hothouse with his shanghai slingshot, a famous drunken artist with a tortured legacy, and a delivery driver with a side hustle. The stories variously evoke the hopeful exuberance of youth and love, the pain of heartbreak and loss, and the ambient excitement of a high school play about to begin.

Aucklanders is utterly human, showing the power of the city's hidden histories and suppressed alternatives in lives that glow and break with absurdity and longing [...] This is a wonderful book of human comedies that show how much hurt can hurtle through nervy humour. The language crackles with love and scorn, revelation and delusion and fate. Aucklanders is a tremendous collection of tales.

-Lisa Samuels

They, the stories and their characters, also tell tales, very good ones, but their remarkable character comes from a kind of social energy, a vivacity and diversity that has the cantankerous life-hum of the many-voiced, multi-cultured city they inhabit and celebrate.

- Ian Wedde

[Aucklanders] scrutinises the lives of city dwellers and reveals the guilt and conscience uneasily awake under the sheets.

- Brian Potiki

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=859837>

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The Dead Are Always Laughing At Us / Dominic Hoey, Trudi Hewitt

Dead Bird Books, Publishers, New Zealand 2023

160p.

9781738618217

\$ 36.00 / null

250 gm.

The Dead Are Always Laughing At Us is a collaboration between Dominic Hoey and Designer Trudi Hewitt.

The poems were mostly written during lock-down as a way to try and stay sane while the world lost its collective mind.

"Accessibility has shaped the way I write and perform. I've always resisted the idea that poetry should be a puzzle you need a 50k education to unlock. Early on I knew I wanted this to be the kind of poetry collection anyone could pick up and be drawn into immediately. With that in mind it was really important to add a visual element to the text."

- Dominic

"I saw this project as an opportunity to experiment. To rethink the rules we set for consistency and to challenge typesetting conventions of literature and poetry. Ultimately I wanted to give each of Dominic's poems their own sense of identity by playing with pace, space, size and tension. An awesome collaboration with a very talented friend."

- Trudi

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=859839>

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Agamali: A Children's Book of Sand Drawings and Custom Stories / Luke Hige  
Viratogolau

Vanuatu National Cultural Council, Vanuatu 2020

114p.

9789829167057

\$ 45.00 / null

600 gm.

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=859850>

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The story of the eels and other stories from Uripiv Island, Vanuatu / Ross McKerras, (English translated by) Sethy Regenvanu & Ralph Reganvanu, (Chinese translated by) Zh

Vanuatu National Cultural Centre, Vanuatu 2014

91p.

9789829167019

\$ 20.00 / null

300 gm.

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=859849>

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Voes / Rebecca Olul-Hossen

af Editions, Vanuatu 2020

67p.

9791092893083

\$ 25.00 / null

200 gm.

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=859848>

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The Epigram Books Collection of Best of New Singaporean Short Stories, Volume Six / Gwee Li Sui (Series Ed) Jason Erik Lundberg

Epigram Books, Singapore 2023

352p.

9789815105384

\$ 24.90 / null

450 gm.

The Epigram Books Collection of Best New Singaporean Short Stories: Volume Six gathers the finest Singaporean stories published in 2021 and 2022, selected by guest editor Gwee Li Sui from hundreds published in journals, magazines, anthologies and single-author collections.

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=858578>

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No-Man's Land And Other Plays: Tribesmen And The Argonauts And Buffalo In The Marsh: Drama / Akinwole Shefiq Ariwoola

Kraft Books Limited (Kraftgriots), Nigeria 2022

283p.

9789789187386

\$ 35.00 / null

400 gm.

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=859980>

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Omalinze (An Igbo Antigone) / Ikechukwu Asika

Noirledge Publishing, Nigeria 2023

84p.

9789785934137

\$ 20.00 / null

150 gm.

"Asika's Omalinze—a thrilling retelling of Sophocles' Antigone—is one of a kind. A story of love, war, and pride told with charm and grace, Omalinze reaffirms our interconnectedness with the gods who make a show of our existence. This play is a piece to be treasured". – Professor Rems Umeasiegbu.

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=859982>

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Morounmubo : Beauty from Ashes / Yemi Ajagbe

Noirledge Publishing, Nigeria 2019

90p.

9781697489323

\$ 20.00 / null

200 gm.

Morounmubo explores the harrowing social, physical, mental and psychological abuse suffered by the female gender in a highly patriarchal society. The play highlights the dangers the girl-child goes through at home, in school and society at large. These abuses often damage the psyche of its victims and gives them a negative perception towards men and life as a whole. While men are not necessarily as terrible as portrayed in the play, it does bring to light the animalistic and evil nature of some and begs the vigilance of mothers and guardians in training the girl-child. Against all odds, Tanwa, the heroine goes on to show that every individual has the ability to write and rewrite their destiny. Morounmubo teaches us to carefully consider the choices we make daily because these choices will ultimately determine and shape the direction of our lives.

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=859981>

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The Female's Duty: Learning Roles and Duties for a Sustainable Future /  
Ireyimika Oladele-Ojo

Purplebloom Publishers, Nigeria 2023

68p.

9789786004723

\$ 10.00 / null

150 gm.

The Female's Duty is a gripping drama that explores family relationships. Mr and Mrs Emma expect their daughter, Rose, to be responsible and independent. However, Rose seems to be struggling with her new responsibilities, causing tension in the family. With her father's constant disappointment and her mother's high expectations, Rose struggles to balance her schoolwork, chores, and family duties. When a friend's daughter comes to stay, Rose's world is turned upside down as she faces new challenges and responsibilities. Will Rose be able to prove her worth and become the responsible young woman her parents want her to be? This slice-of-life story looks at the everyday life of a newly married couple. The story touches on themes of family, friendship, and the challenges of modern-day life.

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=859988>

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De Cracked Love: Don't Harm Love, Cos Love is Harmless / Isabella Amaka Juliet  
Chibunma

Isabella's Production Nig. Ltd., Nigeria 2020

112p.

9789785747263

\$ 25.00 / null

200 gm.

Once upon a time, there was a certain lady named Tacha. She was loveable and generous but most people took advantage of her good heart and generosity. The maltreatment she suffered damaged something special within her. Do you think she will smile again? Read and find out.

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=859987>

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A Matter of identity: A Stage Metaphor / Toni Duruaku

Colon Concepts Ltd., Nigeria 2009

viii, 80p.

\$ 10.00 / null

100 gm.

Umukwenu clan has been forbidden from holding her annual festival by the very "forces" that made the festival mandatory. The ban occasions a visit to the 'other world' where those gone by confront emissaries of the land with the severe failures of the clan ... failures which would make them a "non-race" unless they make amends now...

Conceived as a journey into mythical time and space, A Matter of Identity is a play that should provoke thought on "who we are" and how to retain that which makes any people unique... different.

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=859989>

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L'Otor – The Devil's Pilgrimage: A Play / Jude Idada

Noirlodge Publishing, Nigeria 2023

xiv, 174p.

9789785934144

\$ 20.00 / null

300 gm.

L'OTOR - The Devil's Pilgrimage is a play about a son's dramatic and cathartic reunion with his mother in Benin City after a ten-year traumatic journey from Nigeria to Italy by road. Set in her bedroom and spanning one night, it is an engaging discourse between them, during which they are forced to re-examine their family history and dynamics in the light of his life, his goals, his aspirations, and his decisions.

It explores the forces that fuel the burning desire of a young man to embark on a journey of uncertainty, the dangers he encounters, and the suffering he experiences in his bid to reach Europe and secure for himself and his family, a new and more prosperous life.

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=859984>

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The Travails of Aare-Ona-Kakanfo / Akinwole Shefiq Ariwoola

Kraft Books Limited (Kraftgriots), Nigeria 2020

108p.

9789789185900

\$ 30.00 / null

200 gm.

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=859983>

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The Ojuelegba Crossroads: A Play / Abideen Abolaji Ojomu

Flag Publications, Nigeria 2022

xii, 116p.

9789785920574

\$ 35.00 / null

200 gm.

The Ojuelegba Crossroads is an iconic work of art. It is a product of a twenty-three years long research project into various social concerns like race, justice, poverty, despair, hopelessness, homelessness and the opportunities to improve these social concerns. It is a theatrical tool for exploring deep into the self in relation to socio-political manifestations. The work is themed around a famous crossroad in Lagos, Nigeria and it extends itself to the diversity of people across cultures and races. It is an exploration of man's idiosyncrasies beyond the veneer of politeness, etiquettes, religion and morality, to that place of flaws, contradictions, doubts and regrets. To that place of greatness. It has been described by critics and pundits as a great work of art that will endure far into the future due to its historical, social and development relevance. The Ojuelegba Crossroads is in the top three of NLNG Prize For Literature.

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=859986>

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When Big Masquerades Dance Naked: A Play / Olubunmi Familoni

Noirlodge Publishing, Nigeria 2023

88p.

9789785934151

\$ 20.00 / null

150 gm.

When *Big Masquerades Dance Naked* is a biting satire on power, corruption, and greed in the fictional town of Ilekoru, a town where political officeholders connive with traditional rulers to trample on the rights and commonwealth of the masses. But their oppression does not go without opposition as manifested in the character of Ijoba and ilk, who struggle relentlessly to light a torch of hope for the people through the long, tortuous nights.

When *Big Masquerades Dance Naked* is not just a limpid portrayal of our social realities, it is a play that calls everyone to action; a treatise on how truth trumps darkness and prevails in the advancement of our common humanity.

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=859985>

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Dear Mother / Nora Sanya

Nora Sanya Teens, Nigeria 2023

x, 144p.

9789785934021

\$ 20.00 / null

250 gm.

12-year-old Dayo is faced with the challenges of growing up in the suburban town of Monatan in the ancient city of Ibadan, and he has to navigate through the world of friends, school and the intricacies of a young adolescent boy.

He has come from a difficult childhood, but nothing much prepares him for the world of uncertainty that life events suddenly hurl him into.

Experience his joys, pains, adventures and griefs in the *Loving Daddy* series.

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=859991>

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The Spellbinder: A Play / Bode Sowande

Crafted and Bound Wordworks, Nigeria 2021

xvi, 132p.

9789785654127

\$ 15.00 / null

200 gm.

THE SPELLBINDER tells the stories of three billionaires.

One billionaire plays the field with ladies, only to get betrayed in his own bedroom. The second billionaire suffers from guilt and a closet addiction which eventually hammers him severely.

The third billionaire is averse to being the father-in-law to the son of a mentally-challenged woman.

Amongst the common humanity of these characters, there are painful conflicts between Eros, Filia and Agape, while open, subtle and grave challenges of mental health prevail in this latest play by Bode Sowande.

In the end, we have a cheering discovery of a true identity. And a thirty-year-long celibacy may come to an end!

This play was premiered in 2019 as the Convocation Drama of Ajayi Crowther University, Oyo, Nigeria.

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=859990>

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Broken: The Story of Hanatu Zakayi / Lola Odeyale Ayo-Fashida

Purplebloom Publishers, Nigeria 2023

viii, 40p.

9789786004716

\$ 10.00 / null

150 gm.

Hanatu's life has always been full of challenges and she has equally been up to them! But just when she thinks her troubles would be over and she can sit back to enjoy her hard work at building a better life, the greatest of all challenges seems to be waiting to shatter her into a million pieces.

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=859992>

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Power, Development and Institutions in Africa / Siphamandla Zondi & Serges Djoyou Kanmga (Ed)

Pan-African University Press, Nigeria 2019

viii, 412p.

Includes Index

9781943533398

\$ 50.00 / null

750 gm.

Good governance, development and democracy are needed to improve the human conditions in Africa. All three must encapsulate the running of post-colonial states, bringing along the people, promoting participation, justice, and human rights.

The African renaissance will not happen unless governance, development and democracy come together as one for the sake of progress of Africa. This book argues that governance, development and democracy must be about fundamentally transforming the African polity, its economy, its social conditions, and its relations with former colonial powers.

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=859995>

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The Three Of Us / Ore Agbaje-Williams

Masobe, Nigeria 2023

206p.

9789785943795

\$ 35.00 / null

250 gm.

Wife. Husband. Best friend.

What if your two favourite people hated each other with a passion?

A nice house, a carefree life, a doting husband, a best friend who never leaves your side. What more could you ask for? There's just one problem: your husband and best friend love you, but they hate each other.

Set over a single day, husband, wife and best friend Temi toe the lines of compromise and betrayal. Told in three parts, three people's lives, and their visions of themselves and one another, begin to slowly unravel, until a startling discovery throws everyone's integrity into question.

Full of intrigue, idiosyncratic wit and a healthy dose of wealth and snobbery, The Three of Us is part suburban millennial comedy of manners and part domestic noir that will leave you wondering: whose side are you on?

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=859944>

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The World We Once Had / Osigwe Ahmed Momoh

Robson Readers & Publishers Ltd, Nigeria 2023

376p.

9789780000005

\$ 35.00 / null

450 gm.

When Agbe – a sentry in the army of an ambitious king fails to sacrifice a young girl at the King's behest, he risks losing his head. Years later, after rising to fame and glory in the King's prestigious army, his sins catches up with him. Now married to his 'assignment', Agbe must reckon with his past as the King's fury haunts his young family, splitting them to the farthest corners of the earth; that not even time and distance, nor fame and good fortune, even the birth of their newborn baby, would prevent them the cruel hands of fate.

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=859943>

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Triumph: Three Friends. Three Stories. One Faith: A Novel / Uchenna Peace Anaeke

Uchenna Peace Anaeke (Self-Published), Nigeria 2020

xiv, 94p.  
9789789911578  
\$ 15.00 / null  
200 gm.

'Triumph' is about three friends; Chinonye, Folake and Patricia who come at crossroads in life and in their individual journey they understand their victory in Christ Jesus. Chinonye is diagnosed with cancer and her daughter's unhealthy behaviour doesn't help matters.

Patricia has been childless for five years and her mother-in-law gives her troubles while John, her husband, becomes a man she does not recognize.

Folake on the other hand is a single mother who barely escaped an abusive marriage. It however seems like her past always tries to catch up with her.

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=859946>

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Do Something Before You Die / Nigel Henry

Noirledge Publishing, Nigeria 2021

204p.

9789785781625

\$ 30.00 / null

300 gm.

Do Something Before You Die chronicles the life of a young and promising academic, Cundeipuss, who leaves Britain to pursue a career as a lecturer at the University of Iloso, Iperia, a country in Africa.

Cundeipuss had divorced his young wife who sees no logic in his decision to leave the prospects Britain offers for the uncertainties in Iperia. Cundeipuss would soon become a friend to disappointments but relishes each moment with bottles of Stella, a popular beer brand in Iperia.

Like the average academic at the University, Cundeipuss spends most of his leisure periods at the University Staff Club where he meets the good, bad and ugly of the academic community. At the time of Cundeipuss' arrival, Iperia witnessed a large influx of expatriates, especially at the University of Ilosho. However, an economic downturn in the fortune of the country will not spare Cundeipuss and his fellow expatriates from misery.

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=859945>

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The Brass-Bells Drum: A Novel / Akinwumi Orojide-Isola (Translator) Pamela J. Olubunmi Smith

Pan-African University Press, Nigeria 2021

xxx, 274p.

9781943533572

\$ 30.00 / null

550 gm.

A preeminent translator has translated a prominent book, producing an outcome that is magnetic and majestic. A timeless story comes alive, the strictures of state decadence narrated with clairvoyance, but the resolution drags us to an uncertain destination. Can there be a secular rapture? – Toyin Falola, Professor of History, University Distinguished Teaching Professor, and Jacob and Sanger Mossiker Chair in the Humanities, the University of Texas at Austin

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=859940>

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Suitors are Scarce in Lagos / Lola Akande

Tunmike Pages, Nigeria 2020

viii, 296p.

9789789797370

\$ 30.00 / null

400 gm.

Suitors are Scarce in Lagos is a collection of ten short fiction which captures the myriad experiences of women, men, and young adults in one of the busiest cities in West Africa — Lagos. "Who is Sane in Lagos?" takes the reader through a typical day on the road in Lagos. In "A Bullet from Nowhere," a newly-wed bride relocates from the countryside to Lagos to live with her husband, but falls into unintentional prostitution. In "Caged Bird," a Boko Haram escapee couple arrives in Lagos only to be sucked into the fast pace of Lagos life. In the title story, a suitor-seeking woman discovers that suitors are scarce in Lagos in spite of the teeming male population of the city. Similarly, all the other stories build themselves around the geographical fabric of Lagos. The collection interrogates the features of Lagos. It probes into the demographics that make up the city, including its people, its glamour and color, and its raw dogged determination to succeed no matter the odds. The stories excoriate the peculiar vices of Lagos. In addition to its variegated thematic elements, the collection employs simple language, humor, and sarcasm to reveal that it is not only suitors that are scarce in Lagos, but other human aspirations and desires also. Suitors are Scarce in Lagos has the potential to become a tour de force on the burgeoning Lagos genre.

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=859942>

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Pound of Flesh: History is Written By Survivors / Chiedu Dieyi

Ifeadiwo Publishing Company Limited, Nigeria 2023

vi, 493p.

9789787804797

\$ 35.00 / null

650 gm.

Chiedu Dieyi's Pound of Flesh is the riveting sequel to the Brenda Agunor series, where Agent Brenda finds herself on the run and fighting for her life. In a race against time, she must carry out unthinkable orders to save her fiancé's life. As notable politicians fall one by one, every crime scene points to her, forcing her to team up with a Nigerian-born American counterintelligence agent Kingsley.

As she gets closer to the truth, Brenda finds herself facing unexpected betrayals and a shocking discovery that will change everything. How would she weave her way out of the incriminating evidence mounting up against her? How would she face off with Martina Obeki, an enemy from her past, who is out for a personal vendetta? Will she be able to stop the impending attack on the nation's seat of power and bring justice to those responsible, or will the ticking time bomb blow up in her face? Find out in this page-turning sequel.

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=859941>

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Shigidi and The Brass Head of Obalufon / Wole Talabi

Masobe, Nigeria 2023

304p.

9789786008967

\$ 35.00 / null

400 gm.

Shigidi is a disgruntled and demotivated nightmare god in the Orisha spirit company, reluctantly answering prayers of his few remaining believers to maintain his existence long enough to find his next drink. When he meets Nneoma, a sort-of succubus with a long and secretive past, everything changes for him.

Together, they attempt to break free of his obligations and the restrictions that have bound him to his godhood and navigate the parameters of their new relationship in the shadow of her past. But the elder gods that run the Orisha spirit company have other plans for Shigidi, and they are not all aligned—or good. From the boisterous streets of Lagos to the swanky rooftop bars of Singapore and the secret spaces of London, Shigidi and Nneoma will encounter old acquaintances, rival gods, strange creatures, and manipulative magicians as they are drawn into a web of revenge, spirit business, and a spectacular heist across two worlds that will change Shigidi's understanding of himself forever and determine the fate of the Orisha spirit company.

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=859937>

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Fearless / Ifeoma Chinwuba  
Grower Literature, Nigeria 2004  
xiii, 252p.  
9789789180219  
\$ 25.00 / null  
400 gm.

Once Ralph was just an ordinary English boy who was often ill. He missed his mother, who had been in hospital herself for a long time. Life with his father in London was one long round of doctors and different medicines.

Then Ralph's father decided to take a job in Mission School in Nigeria, and Ralph realized that his world would never be the same again. If he had known that in a few months' time he would be able to disappear at will or summon up rain on a cloudless day, he would not have believed it. In a rural village in Nigeria, with new friends to meet and painful rites to undergo, Ralph becomes the hero Fearless, as Africa weaves its unique spell.

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=859936>

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Ayanfe: Love and Courage, Book 1 / Feyi Aina  
Ifeadigo Publishing Company Limited, Nigeria 2023  
412p.  
9789787975466  
\$ 35.00 / null  
500 gm.

Princess Ayanfe's only duty is to marry the Prince of Irefa, buy the land of Agbo Ode the eastern sea routes and make her father happy. Love has no place where duty is concerned.

Captain Dehinde walks the fine line between his official duties and his heart. He can't deny his attraction to Princess Ayanfe, but he must hide it or the penalty would be grievous.

When information reaches them that an accused man might just be innocent, they start a trail of quiet investigations that put her in his constant company and him in the cross hairs of the Crown Prince and the Tribunal Council. With stakes higher than ever, Dehinde must choose between his duty to the Kingdom and his love for her.

Ayanfe explores the story of two courageous people and their hunt for the truth in a land where the word of the Tribunal Council is law; and a questionable truth potion decides who lives or dies.

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=859939>

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Endless Chances: A Time and Travel Romance / Lola Fashina  
Lola Fashina (Self-Published), Nigeria 2022  
xii, 260p.  
9781737778509  
\$ 30.00 / null  
450 gm.

A heart-stirring story set in a society stratified into social classes, where the poor serve the wealthy. When Ajoke is sent from her village in rural Nigeria to work as a housemaid, she has no idea of the overwhelming challenges and struggles that await her. Along the way, she engages in a secret and forbidden romance built on a foundation of risks. Ajoke realizes she may never escape her indentured status, but continues to fight for the life she believes she deserves. Ajoke's life is a series of chances taken on her journey of discovery that gives hope to those who remain voiceless.

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=859938>

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Broken Rings : A Thriller / George Nnamani  
Aquqo Press Limited, Nigeria 2022  
x, 142p.  
9789785920079



\$ 25.00 / null

250 gm.

In Eden, the capital city of Alfador, live Adaman and Evelyn, an embittered couple on the verge of divorce. But a tragic motor accident has plunged the duo into a coma, and their colleagues in the legal profession are deeply concerned. Doctors are at their wits' end in efforts to revive them, even as Prophet Japheth, a fake man of God, joins the fray, intent, through a possible miracle, to revive his dying church.

Unknown to all the stakeholders, however, what is in play is the final battle between good and evil, and no mortal can make any impact on what is going on or even understand it. But just in the nick of time, heaven and sinful earth represented by the feuding couple, meet in the most Supreme of Courts, and many secrets are revealed.

At the end of the day, events play into the waiting hands of Prophet Japheth, a transparent charlatan who, by a quirk of fate, is left with a king-size basket to reap where he did not sow.

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=859955>

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The Black Men of Bissonnet Street / Sola Owonibi

Noirledge Publishing, Nigeria 2023

176p.

9789786019406

\$ 35.00 / null

250 gm.

The Black Men of Bissonnet Street explores the lives of five African men who migrate to the United States of America in the quest for a better life. People say love is like a battlefield. For these men, it becomes more literal than figurative, as their homes quickly become minefields, shattering their illusions and leaving them at the mercy of erratic, vindictive spouses. The Black Men of Bissonnet Street is at once a story of hope and despair, of love and hatred, of trust and betrayal. It explores the desperations of migration and the diverse shades of misery and homesickness it brings. In the end, what appears to be a solution ushers in new challenges that these characters struggle to overcome.

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=859954>

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And Then He Sang A Lulaby / Ani Kayode Somtochukwu

Cassava Republic Press, Nigeria 2023

272p.

9789786026145

\$ 30.00 / null

300 gm.

August is a God-fearing track star who leaves Enugu City to attend university and escape his overbearing sisters. He carries the weight of their lofty expectations, the shame of facing himself, and the haunting memory of a mother he never knew. It's his first semester and pressures aside, August is making friends and doing well in his classes. He even almost has a girlfriend. There's only one problem: he can't stop thinking about Segun, an openly gay student who works at a local cybercafé. Segun carries his own burdens and has been wounded in too many ways. When he meets August, their connection is undeniable, but Segun is reluctant to open himself up to August. He wants to love and be loved by a man who is comfortable in his own skin, who will see and hold and love Segun, exactly as he is.

Despite their differences, August and Segun forge a tender intimacy that defies the violence around them. But there is only so long Segun can stand being loved behind closed doors, while August lives a life beyond the world they've created together.

And when a new, sweeping anti-gay law is passed, August and Segun must find a way for their love to survive in a Nigeria that was always determined to eradicate them. A tale of rare bravery and profound beauty, And Then He Sang a Lullaby is an extraordinary debut that marks Ani Kayode Somtochukwu as a voice to watch.

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=859957>

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Some Angels Don't See God / Ever Obi  
Regium (Parresia Publishers Ltd.), Nigeria 2021  
272p.  
9789789831135  
\$ 30.00 / null  
350 gm.

Peter Idenala's stable but uninteresting life, as an ambitious young banker, is disrupted when he comes across a book, published as fiction, recounting the torrid experiences he lived through during his days in the university. He is shaken because the writer is Neta Okoye, a girl who broke his heart and dumped him six years before. Peter is forced to revisit his past, to relive his once complicated relationship with Neta and the mistakes that marred their years in school; the friendships they found and lost.

When the book leads him directly to her, they are faced with a difficult decision: Continue with their emotionally-empty lives, independent of each other, or be together again and confront the trail of past misfortunes that binds them. For Neta, accepting Peter again comes with a promise of happiness, but it also carries the risk of uncovering the secrets she has carried throughout her life. Secrets involving a brother she used to sleep with.

Their relationship faces a battle against this past blighted by pain and loss, by youth and stupidity, by unprotected sex and incest, by betrayal and heartbreaks, by manslaughter and suicide.

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=859956>

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If The Foundations Be Destroyed: What Can The Righteous Do? : A Fiction / Ven.  
Adewale Sanda

Purplebloom Publishers, Nigeria 2023

276p.  
9789786004754  
\$ 35.00 / null  
400 gm.

In this sensational, page-turning debut, a high-profile journalist's world is upended when her fiancé's name turns up in a viral social media post.

Ola Olajide, a celebrated journalist at Womxxxn magazine, is set to marry the love of her life in one month's time. Young, beautiful, and successful—she and her fiancé Michael are considered the "couple goals" of their social network and seem to have it all. That is, until one morning when they both wake up to the same message: "Oh my god, have you seen The List?"

It began as a crowdsourced collection of names and somehow morphed into an anonymous account posting allegations on social media. Ola would usually be the first to support such a list—she'd retweet it, call for the men to be fired, write article after article. Except this time, Michael's name is on it.

Compulsively readable, wildly entertaining, and filled with sharp social insight, The List is a piercing and dazzlingly clear-sighted debut about secrets, lies, and the internet.

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=859951>

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The List / Yomi Adegoke

Masobe, Nigeria 2023

384p.  
9789786009049  
\$ 35.00 / null  
400 gm.

In this sensational, page-turning debut, a high-profile journalist's world is upended when her fiancé's name turns up in a viral social media post. Ola Olajide, a celebrated journalist at Womxxxn magazine, is set to marry the love of her life in one month's time. Young, beautiful, and successful—she and her fiancé Michael are considered the “couple goals” of their social network and seem to have it all. That is, until one morning when they both wake up to the same message: “Oh my god, have you seen The List?” It began as a crowdsourced collection of names and somehow morphed into an anonymous account posting allegations on social media. Ola would usually be the first to support such a list—she'd retweet it, call for the men to be fired, write article after article. Except this time, Michael's name is on it. Compulsively readable, wildly entertaining, and filled with sharp social insight, *The List* is a piercing and dazzlingly clear-sighted debut about secrets, lies, and the internet.

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=859950>

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Haunted By Hope / Triumph Adekunle  
SageWorks Publishing Ltd, Nigeria 2023

294p.

9789787989029

\$ 40.00 / null

350 gm.

Esperanza's comprehension of existence was limited to the agonies of life. For her, though her name meant Hope, hope was a flickering flame on the brink of extinction. She had been subjected to the cruelty of abandonment in her childhood and was further battered by life's tumultuous storms of loss that threatened to consume her completely. However, as she stood on the brink of surrender, a ray of salvation extended its hand to her. The decision now lay before her – to grasp this lifeline and embark on a journey of discovery or to let go and resign herself to fate.

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=859953>

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River Spirit / Leila Aboulela  
Masobe, Nigeria 2023

364p.

9789785945157

\$ 35.00 / HB

350 gm.

When Akuany and her brother Bol are orphaned in a village raid in South Sudan, they're taken in by a young merchant Yaseen who promises to care for them, a vow that tethers him to Akuany through their adulthood. As a revolutionary leader rises to power – the self-proclaimed Mahdi, prophesied redeemer of Islam – Sudan begins to slip from the grasp of Ottoman rule, and everyone must choose a side. A scholar of the Qur'an, Yaseen feels beholden to stand against this false Mahdi, even as his choice splinters his family. Meanwhile, Akuany moves through her young adulthood and across the country alone, sold and traded from house to house, with Yaseen as her inconsistent lifeline. Everything each of them is striving for – love, freedom, safety – is all on the line in the fight for Sudan.

Through the voices of seven men and women whose fates grow inextricably linked, Aboulela's latest novel illuminates a fraught and bloody reckoning with the history of a people caught in the crosshairs of imperialism. *River Spirit* is a powerful tale of corruption, coming of age, and unshakeable devotion – to a cause, to one's faith, and to the people who become family.

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=859952>

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A Ration of Thorns / Jumoke Okuwobi  
A'Lime Media, Nigeria 2018

xii, 140p.

9789789682720

\$ 25.00 / null

250 gm.

A Ration of Thorns by Jumoke OKUWOBI Narrative, compelling and suspense-filled. A ration of thorns is a story told from three perspective all centered on an act of infidelity. Lydia "the high-flying business executive and wife." Mike, "the supportive husband and tragic character." Femi, "the Doctor, friend and mediator." The story is told by these characters on the consequence of a single act of infidelity, the suspense and resulting outcome of that act. The story also centers on the cruelty of lust, the fragility of love and the power of forgiveness. After years of struggling with infertility, Lydia Adeyeri has a one-night affair with a stranger and gets pregnant. Unable to keep this as a secret she reveals the act to her husband and thus begins a battle of wits and the road to self-discovery and forgiveness. The story explores the men's perspective on adultery and health.

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=859948>

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The God's Advocate: The Fate of Ele Community Hangs in the Balance / Fabian Agumagu

Ifeadi Publishing Company Limited, Nigeria 2023

148p.

9789787817988

\$ 30.00 / null

250 gm.

The people of Ele Community are deeply entrenched in the practice of the gods and are kept on track by the leading of the Assor, the chief priest. However, the peace in the community shatters with the arrival of a foreign God that tears the village between progress and heritage.

Can Assor spearhead the fight of the gods or will Ele Community forgo the ways of their ancestors?

Fabian Agumagu's eloquent prose weaves a tapestry that echoes the timeless tug between progress and tradition, set against the rich backdrop of African culture. The god's Advocate is a captivating literary fiction, portraying the gripping clash of modernity and ancient ways, leaving readers yearning to uncover the fate of Ele Community.

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=859947>

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Gathering Clouds / Nneamaka Onochie

Faithpress, Nigeria 2021

vi, 196p.

9789789914623

\$ 25.00 / null

300 gm.

Gathering Clouds is a contemporary African novel set in Western and Eastern part of Nigeria. It is a book that highlights the intricacies of some African homes, domestic violence, abuse, ethnic complexities, sense of self and identity, compromise, sacrifice, rudiments of friendship, ardent hypocrisies, patriarchy, murder and so much more.

The book is a bold narration of the plight of Isioma an African woman nestled in the web of societal standard, expectation and marital crisis. Is the death of an abusive spouse the sole remedy for spouses in abusive marriage? It is when the calm clouds gather that thunder is made.

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=859949>

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Expert In All Styles And Other Stories / I.O. Echeruo

Kachifo Limited (Farafina), Nigeria 2023

248p.

9789785890525

\$ 30.00 / null

300 gm.

Expert In All Styles explores, in richly-textured stories, the complex and often painful struggles of individuals with desire, despair, and hope within the social constructs of contemporary Nigeria.

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The twelve stories in the collection range in setting and tone – from the joys of a family excursion in Maiduguri in The Lake Chad Club to an American-Nigerian family's return to Lagos in Communicable Disease.

In this gorgeously crafted debut, Echeruo interrogates the dynamics of power – from the intimacies of domestic life, to the machinations of national politics and the fervour of religion – seeking always an understanding of the human condition. Expert In All Styles is a thoughtful, incisive collection with memorably-drawn characters whose lives are as universal as they are particular. — Ellah P. Wakatama, Editor of Africa29 and SafeHouse

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=859960>

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A Mind To Silence And Other Stories (AKO Caine Prize Anthology 2021-22) / Anwuli Ojogwu (Ed)

Cassava Republic Press, Nigeria 2022

336p.

9781913175528

\$ 16.95 / null

400 gm.

Includes the 2021 and 2022 shortlisted AKO Caine Prize stories as well as stories from the Caine Prize workshop.

\*\*\*

A woman who carries her fate and that of her community in her hair is beguiled by the deceptive designs of Europeans out to colonise her most prized possession. A man finds happiness in the reincarnation of a lost love. A young woman risks her life for freedom through the cultural practice of a human loan scheme.

Tales of sacrifice, love, freedom, self-discovery and loss fill the pages of this larger-than-life tapestry of stories from across Africa and its diaspora. Forged in a diversity of tempers and forms, these stories range from the epistolary to the experimental, from mysteries, noirs and political thrillers to speculative fiction and futurism, and much more. In prose that moves from visual and lyrical to gritty and visceral, these writers explore fate, memory, the fragility of love and the duplicitous nature of human interactions.

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=859966>

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Random Nigeriaanna : A Tale of Six Struggles / Halima Dalhatu

Makere (Masobe Books and Logistics Limited), Nigeria 2023

xvi, 144p.

9789789987924

\$ 35.00 / null

200 gm.

Random Nigerianna captures the struggles in the life of six different individuals in six different settings across different regions in Nigeria. The stories are independent but interwoven by the theme of struggle which captures emotional battles of love, quest for wealth and supernatural forces that take control of the mind.

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=859965>

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A Tiny Place Called Happiness (Stories) / Bura-Bari Nwilo

Baron's Cafe, Nigeria 2016

118p.

9789785283822

\$ 20.00 / null

150 gm.

This short story collection understands the narrative of the voiceless. It brings together the lives of dreamers and dreams from the Niger-Delta area of Nigeria--mostly, using experimental and diverse style to explore the human condition. The stories in the collection bring us to a homeland we do not see, and the writer, in turn, offers the narrated cough circumstances of his characters in tender words. Nwilo writes like an aspiration--his voice desires to try many things and this is the reason we should heed this writer with many stories to tell.

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=859968>

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The Third Floor: An Anthology of Short Stories / Tolulope Akinrinde

Purplebloom Publisher, Nigeria 2023

xvi, 120p.

9789786004778

\$ 25.00 / null

200 gm.

The Third Floor is an anthology of short stories inspired out of the curiosity to know the experiences of people transitioning from childhood to adulthood. Having understood that there are several unanswered questions in the heart of the young people who feel alone in their situations, this anthology covers life experiences woven around fiction to demystify some myths about life being fair or going as planned. TTF, therefore, reveals the reality of life that everyone must pass through irrespective of the social class. Welcome to planet earth.

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=859967>

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War By Other Means / Idiareno Atimomo

Christian Crusaders Quality Press, Nigeria 2006

128p.

\$ 15.00 / null

200 gm.

A strange call from a group of influential men begins the gripping tale of Toju Omatsone, a young lawyer who volunteers his exceptional talents to advance the cause of fighting for his peoples share of the national cake. He attempts to fight this war by means of superior intellect rather than naked violence. Broken deals, betrayals, and attempted murders streak his path as events lead him and the Nigerian State to a crossroads. With his life in danger, he soon discovers the futility of his cause and the real reasons for the backward state of Nigerian citizens irrespective of their ethnic and religious background.

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=859962>

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Ireke Onibudo (An English Translation of D.O. Fagunwa's Ireke Onibudo / Alonge Isaac Olusola

Nelson Publishers Limited, Nigeria 2019

vi, 142p.

9789789302277

\$ 25.00 / null

200 gm.

Ireke Onibudo is a frightening inspiring story of a character whose early life was beclouded by a plethora of vicissitudes and a deluge of suffering and intimidation from human and non-human forces. His father's matrimonial and financial recklessness actually threw him into a precarious condition; but by a dint of industry, tenacity and bravery, he was able to establish a transition from a deep pit of deprivation and poverty to a rostrum of royalty and podium of prosperity. In-between his experience of negativity and positivity were several intimidating encounters with human, semi-human and non-human benefactors and malefactors who made him a victim of appointments, disappointments, endorsements and denials. All these encounters no doubt sharpened his metamorphosis from a state of abject poverty to a condition of fabulous wealth and royalty in a land that is alien to him and his pedigree.

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=859961>

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In The Sands Of Time: Toyin Falola Prize Anthology / Damilare Bello & Tolulope Oke (Ed)

Pan-African University Press, Nigeria 2021

xx, 348p.

9781943533558

\$ 50.00 / null

600 gm.

In the Sands of Time is a culmination of some of the brilliant stories received for the inaugural Toyin Falola Prize. A total of 34 power-packed narratives renders a broad range of African youths' perception of their continent and how they can relate to it in creative form.

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=859964>

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Cyprian Ekwensi / Iska

Spectrum Books Limited, Nigeria 2007

224p.

9789780294250

\$ 15.00 / null

200 gm.

A novel from the pen of one of Africa's foremost writers. Iska tells the story of a Nigerian girl from a simple village background who goes to the city and joins the smart literary and political world. Conflict ensues about her relationship with an unscrupulous politician. The mood and atmosphere of Nigeria are evoked in the settings of the village, the fashionable world of Lagos, and the dark ceremonies of a religious sect. The girl is a symbol of the wind which blows strongly through Africa, destroying the old and preparing for the new.

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=859963>

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The Mysteries of God (A Translation of D.O. Fagunwa's Adiiu Olodumare) / Olu Obafemi

Nelson Publishers Limited, Nigeria 2012

vi, 218p.

9789788197317

\$ 25.00 / null

300 gm.

The Mysteries of God is a translation of D. O. Fagunwa's Adiiu Olodumare which was originally written in Yoruba. This captivating story revolves around the life of a man called Adiiu who had a humble background but eventually prospered through very mysterious means. He also passed through various trials and difficulties in the course of his life. This book is filled with different sub-stories that teach morals, and exposes different ills in the society. It is also rich in parables, wise sayings and folk songs. The underlying lesson in this book, however, is that God works in mysterious ways.

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=859959>

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Such A Beautiful Thing To Behold / Umar Turaki

Kachifo Limited (Farafina), Nigeria 2022

304p.

9789785740318

\$ 35.00 / null

400 gm.

An inexplicable sickness. A small town cut off from the world. An unexpected community of survivors forges a family out of the despair, struggling against things known and unknown for survival and hope.

A mysterious plague known as the Grey grips the small village of Pilam, which the world has quarantined without pity. Laying waste to Pilam's residents, the sickness saps its victims of strength, drains the color from their eyes, and kills all promise. Only the young are immune. But beyond the barricades and walls of soldiers--the manifestation of a nation's terror--there are rumors of a cure. Dunka, the eldest son of a family reeling from the Grey, takes on the daunting task of leaving Pilam to find that cure for his siblings and save them before it's too late.

His brother and sisters, however, have plans of their own. Navigating the chaos of violence, hunger, and death, each of them tries to make sense of the bleak circumstances, forging new bonds with other juvenile survivors left to their own devices. Now an unlikely family of six, they choose their own perilous paths, at first separately and then together, coming to terms with the decisions they make and the ghosts they cannot leave behind.

Umar Turaki's gripping novel is a story of survival, love, and the human spirit's tenacious capacity for wonder.

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=859958>

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Everything That Makes Me Cry: Poems / E.T.H. Aina

McLaureate Press, Nigeria 2023

viii, 56p.

9789787812754

\$ 15.00 / null

150 gm.

"Everything That Makes Me Cry" is a captivating collection that encompasses a wide range of human experiences, traversing through the depths of sorrow, yearning, and societal challenges. Each poem is a window into the poet's soul, inviting readers to embark on an emotional journey that resonates long after the final is turned.

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=859971>

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When Ravens Become Flowers: Poems / Nosakhare Collins

Libretto Publishers Limited, Nigeria 2023

xvii, 116p.

9789785995534

\$ 25.00 / null

250 gm.

In "When Ravens Become Flowers," there is a lot of mirth and singing to celebrate the verses. Themes such as despair, trauma, loss, and grief are all present in the collection. The poems in this book demonstrate the fluid spectrum of human emotions, such as uncertainty, which leads to pain and misery, till they become triggers of anxiety. We also see the social effect of bigotry and institutionalized prejudice, which is often designed to silence us.

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=859970>

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Poison In My Honey (Journey To The Free Wave): A Poetry and Prose Collection / Hannah Bashir Adamu

Hannah Bashir Adamu (Self-Published), Nigeria

136p.

9789785900156

\$ 20.00 / null

200 gm.



Poison In My Honey discusses in four chapters mental health and the myriads of life; depression, suicide, hope, loss, anxiety, phobia, femininity, confusion etc. The first chapter 'Broken Wings' talks about pain, anger, rage, essence of being, vengeance, and fluctuating emotions. The second chapter 'Soaring' hints a glimmer of hope as the being is beginning to understand the essence of life and accepting the self regardless.

The third chapter 'Opus To A Lotus' are pieces of advice (coping mechanism) from elements of existence, life, time, opportunity, purpose, value, desire, strength, balance etc. These letters serve as aforementioned coping mechanisms in the journey to a new self and towards better living.

The fourth and final chapter 'Epistle Of A Queen Bee' talks briefly about the peril of 4 women from different ethnic backgrounds.'

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=859977>

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Growing Pains / Ishaq Yakubu

Ishaq Yakubu (Self-Published), Nigeria 2023

164p.

9789787993934

\$ 30.00 / null

200 gm.

Growing Pains is a collection of poetry and prose that delves into the complexities of adolescence. It pays close attention to topics like grief, loss, abuse, love & self-love, and healing.

The collection is divided into 6 chapters, each exploring a different topic. Through poignant and powerful language, Growing Pains offers a raw and honest look at what it means to 'grow up' in modern-day society.

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=859976>

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Life Through The Prism (A Collection of Poems) / Iretomide Akintomide

Iretomide Akintomide (Self-Published), Nigeria 2022

v, 47p.

9789785948967

\$ 10.00 / null

100 gm.

Life Through The Prisms is a collection of poems which reflects my different views on various situations in life. As the title suggests, this book is likened to a white light passing through a triangular prism to produce a spectrum of colours. This means one bad situation, if handled with optimism may produce several good ones.

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=859979>

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She Ate The Sun: Poems / Stacey Ravvero

Fostech Communications Limited, Nigeria 2021

vi, 74p.

9789789910427

\$ 20.00 / null

150 gm.

A collection of poems that illuminates the reader on the art of being, witnessing and loving life for all its muted colors. This body of work shared by the artist is vulnerable and tenderly opens the reader up to her journey as a creative navigating life, love, art and being a woman.

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=859978>

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Rumbling Sky: Poems / Stephen Kekeghe

Kraft Books Limited (Kraftgriots), Nigeria 2020

84p.

9789789186631

\$ 25.00 / null

150 gm.

The despicable experiences in our social environment sometimes outweigh the texture of a narrative language. Some sordid episodes are better conveyed through metaphors, which constitute the heart and breath of poetry. In any case, whether public or personal, social or private, poetry is the best medium to express the sludge of pain that mounts the floor of our hearts. When we scream through images, we vent our murky mood and send cathartic impulse to the public; in this case, the anguished majority in a distressed society mirror their depleting worth of being from the canvases of poems. This knowledge of human denigration may prepare the ground for a righteous rage...

In *Rumbling Sky*, one encounters a disconcerting language of the inward- the loud echoes of choking pains and the silent whispers of hope. Though most of the poems in this collection were written in a harrowing season of political recklessness and human depreciation in Nigeria, they foreground universal challenges, which bestride the sociopolitical, private and domestic domains of any nation that defames morality and humanity in the altar of politics, ethnicity and religion.

The poems in *Rumbling Sky*, therefore, underscore the horrid realities of our contemporary world- from political arrogance and irresponsibility; incessant homicides and raging insecurity; endemic ignorance and spinelessness; hypocrisy, betrayal and the depressing rhythm of economic recession. Many of the poems clearly resent the exaltation of wealth and power over decency and humanity. Either public or private, the poems in this debut collection are testimonies to tears- the kind of prolonged tears that cloud the eyes; the type of choking sob that empowers the fists...

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=859973>

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Unnoticed: Presence of Things / Utibe Hanson  
Noirledge Publishing, Nigeria 2022

80p.

9789785876055

\$ 20.00 / null

150 gm.

The poems in this collection appear as a panoptic survey, unspecific and detached, an invitation to the reader to see and decide. Therefore, fragmented preoccupations grope most of the poems to find meaning within whatever contexts the brings to them.

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=859972>

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The Memory of Seasons: A Collection of Poems on Nationhood, Faith, Love and Humanity / Arukaino Umukoro

Eternalfitez Publishing, Nigeria 2023

xiv, 114p.

9789786017198

\$ 30.00 / null

250 gm.

The *Memory of Seasons*, an anthology of poems by Arukaino Umukoro weaves stories, reflections, imagination and love into a beautiful, embroidered yarn. It navigates the seasons of love, the crux of humanity and the nuances that genuflect a genuine concern for society. At the heart of the poet's codex is God, nation and humanity. The poet, while gazing at the challenges of nationhood, calls for unity, peace and progress. He also explores the beauty of nature, life, faith and possibilities that consistent good governance would bring to the fore. These poems are a breath of fresh air for lovers of beautiful and less complicated words. The use of simple accessible words is deliberate as the poet intends to break the notion of obscure meaning-making. This poetry desires to be read, to be quoted, to be reflected upon, become a meme as well as a memory, to be read at seaside cottages, in offices, in the cities, suburbs and villages, as well as in the four walls of highly intellectual spaces—all around the world. The universal themes of love and a possibility for a greater world are core elements of this debut collection.

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=859975>

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The Script of Bruises / Funmi Gaji  
Konya Shamsrumi (Parresia Publishers Ltd), Nigeria 2020  
viii, 32p.  
9789789793594  
\$ 10.00 / null  
100 gm.

The Script of Bruises is a collection of twenty-one poems that deploy the body as a template to depict the pains of being female or human or being sentenced for the crime of one's body is what it is. It is about space and the politics surrounding belonging and identity. Ultimately, The Script of Bruises plumbs the depth of repressed pain with the aim of orchestrating a reunion with one's humanity.

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=859974>

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Loose Nuts, Screwed Tighter: Hang on For a Crazy Adventure in the Land of the Wit / Marcel Manafa

DeRafelo Ltd, Nigeria 2022  
160p.  
9789787901656; 9798353948223  
\$ 15.00 / null  
250 gm.

LOOSE NUTS.... Screwed Tighter is a general interest humorous book about Nigeria and Nigerians that takes one on a satirical journey through the complex maze of Nigerian life.

The book takes a swipe at politicians, social media, the common man, democracy, crime, political etiquettes, lampoonery of human idiosyncrasies, relationships, and some crazy stuff and is written in both complex and simple English. All in all, all wit levels are accommodated in the book and (for each level) will bring the desired result – laughter!

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=859969>

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In The Temple / Catherine Bagnall & L. Jane Sayle

Massey University Press, New Zealand 2023  
80p. ; 18cm.  
9781991016645  
\$ 35.00 / HB  
250 gm.

Hot on the heels of their acclaimed 2021 collaboration On We Go, artist Catherine Bagnall and poet Jane Sayle return with another collection of watercolours and poems inspired by their contemplation of nature within the context of the feminine sublime. In the Temple maintains a focus on ecological thinking, exploring intense personal connections with the natural world that take the reader into the realms of private ritual and the power and meaning of special places. In the Temple evokes a magical atmosphere, a mythological world of enchanted places with powerful and intangible connections to other living beings and to history. Inspiring a deep spiritual-ness, grief, joy and the wonder of being in the thick of it, it is a gem of a book to return to again and again.

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=857403>

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Root Leaf Flower Fruit: A Verse Novel / Bill Nelson

Te Herenga Waka University Press, New Zealand 2023  
120p. ; 21cm.  
9781776921164  
\$ 35.00 / null  
2200 gm.

A woman lies helpless after a stroke, her family gathered. Her grandson, healing slowly from a head injury after coming off his bike, takes leave from his job and family to prepare her rundown house and farm for sale. As he works, he sifts through what remains of his grandmother's daily life. Then, after an auction result for which he was not prepared, and echoing her desperate flight years earlier, his uncertain return leads to a haunting and unguessable destination. *Root Leaf Flower Fruit* is a verse novel about slow time - the turning of the seasons, the farming of land, the generations of a family - and about sudden, devastating interruptions.

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=857404>

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Transposium / Dani Yourukova

Auckland University Press, New Zealand 2023

108p. ; 21cm.

9781776711000

\$ 35.00 / null

200 gm.

Part philosophy thesis and part psychosexual Ancient Greek fever dream, Dani Yourukova's *Transposium* adapts Plato into poetry, featuring queer longing, a choose-your-own-adventure apocalypse, *Les Miserables* slash fiction and love poems about dead philosophers. Shameless, witty and hot with curiosity, these poems are preoccupied with the refashioning of gender, logic, language and form. Through relentless cross-examination of Socrates and associates, Yourukova combines reckless affection for the past, and a shimmering spectrum of anxieties around an uncertain future. Alternatively intellectual and irreverent, this collection is a playful take on the concept of the dialectic, weaving across text and time and the aching yawn of distance between us.

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=857405>

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The Vanishing Point / Andrea Hotere

Ultimo Press, Australia 2023

326p. ; 24cm.

9781761152757

\$ 35.00 / null

450 gm.

A dazzling and spellbinding debut about a mysterious painting, the secrets it keeps, and the two women connected across centuries by a quest to discover the truth - for readers of Geraldine Brooks, Tracy Chevalier and Maggie O'Farrell. London, 1991: Alex Johns, an art intern at the Courtauld, believes a hidden secret lies within Diego Velazquez's *Las Meninas* - one of the most written about paintings of all time. Her mother died in mysterious circumstances while trying to uncover its secrets and Alex is troubled by memories of her own encounter as a child with the girl in the painting - the Infanta Margarita - who continues to haunt her. Alex must take up her mother's work and find evidence to uncover the truths within the canvas. Madrid, 1656: The Infanta Margarita senses that those around her believe the royal household is cursed. She wonders why her father, the King, is a pale shadow of himself and why the Queen is distressed. What threatens the royal offspring? She struggles to fight for her own destiny as the forces around her seek to marry her off and send her from the home she loves. A treacherous trail through the art world, the church and 17th century Spanish court via drawings, letters and cryptic notes has Alex trying to piece together what happened in King Philip's court... But with powerful players who will do anything to stop these truths coming to light, will Alex live to share them or is she, too, cursed? In the tradition of Tracy Chevalier's *Girl with a Pearl Earring* and A.S. Byatt's *Possession*, Andrea Hotere's *The Vanishing Point* slowly reveals the secrets in the painting that have been closely guarded for centuries. Praise for *The Vanishing Point* 'This is an astonishing and beautiful novel that brings the art world into sharp relief, as well as a gutsy mysterious story of one woman's journey into the past. Simply a masterpiece in its own right.' - Fiona Kidman 'Captivating, filled with the spellbinding power that artworks have through history. I haven't read anything quite like this before. Scenes from *The Vanishing Point* have and will remain vividly in my mind.' - Hannah Bent

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=857413>

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Sisters Under The Rising Sun / Heather Morris

Echo Publishing, Australia 2023

369p. ; 24cm.

9781760688356

\$ 35.00 / null

500 gm.

It is February 1942. Amid the turmoil of World War II, a group of Australian Army nurses, among them Nesta James and Vivian Bullwinkel, have just arrived in Singapore. The women have fled there from Malaya, where they had been stationed to care for Allied troops - and they are reluctant to move on again. Their hope is to remain in the beleaguered British colony to continue their mission of treating the sick and wounded. Norah Chambers, an English musician, has also fled to Singapore from Malaya, where she had been living with her husband and her eight-year-old daughter, Sally. A few days earlier she had sent her child away on a ship bound for Australia, desperate to keep her safe from invading Japanese forces. As the Japanese military overruns the city, Nesta and Vivian reluctantly join a terrified cargo of people - including the heartbroken Norah - crammed aboard the merchant ship Vyner Brooke. Only two days later, they are bombarded from the air off the coast of Indonesia, and in a matter of hours, the Vyner Brooke has sunk. After 24 hours in the sea, Nesta and Norah reach the beaches of a remote island, only to be captured and held in a succession of Japanese POW camps, places of starvation and brutality, where disease runs rampant. Alongside hundreds of other women prisoners, they begin a struggle for survival that will last almost four years. But even here, joy can be found by those with the will to defy their desperate circumstances. When Norah forms a 'vocal orchestra', with the women's voices taking the place of instruments, their music has the power to bring hope into the midst of despair. Sisters in arms, Norah and Nesta fight side by side, discovering in themselves extraordinary reserves of courage, resourcefulness, humour and hope in their determination to retain their humanity by caring for others.

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=857414>

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War Bride / Patricia Fenton

Heritage Press Ltd, New Zealand 2023

272p.

9781991163059

\$ 40.00 / null

500 gm.

Grim, uplifting and funny, this fictionalised family saga weaves memories and historical records stemming from real-life stories of a Welsh girl and a Kiwi boy who would never have met, if it wasn't for Hitler. Evie, born and bred in the Valleys of South Wales, seems destined for a life in service, but the clouds of war draw her to Cirencester and work in a munitions factory. There she meets Frank, a boy from the Bay of Plenty, who is stationed with the 11th Forestry Company of the NZ Army. As war swirls around them, they find themselves in London, a young couple with everything to live for but with death their constant companion.

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=857415>

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Emergency Weather / Tim Jones

The Cuba Press, New Zealand 2023

256p. ; 20cm.

9781988595726

\$ 35.00 / null

300 gm.

Zeke has to stay with his aunt and uncle in Lower Hutt after a landslide takes his East Coast home off its foundations. Allie puts her drought-ridden Otago dairy farm out of her mind and catches a plane to the capital city. Stephanie wonders why she's sitting around a table at the Ministry for Resilience - again. In Emergency Weather, three people find themselves in Wellington as the climate crisis crashes into their lives. A giant storm is on its way - what will be left of the city when it's over? A scarily prescient thriller by award-winning author and climate change activist Tim Jones.

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=857410>

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String Theory: Guitar Store Mysteries / Bing Turkby

Guitarmerston North Books, New Zealand 2023

356p. ; 21cm.

9780473681524

\$ 35.00 / null

500 gm.

Dana Osborne just wants to hang out in her guitar store talking music with her assistant Brody, and her colourful customers. But when once-famous prog-rock band Cranial Bypass decide to put on a reunion gig in her small town of Rockingham West, things get unexpectedly hectic. Especially when the band's guitarist Apocalypse BusLane is found murdered at a rehearsal. Despite being warned by the Police to keep her nose out of things after the last time she helped crack a case, suddenly Constable Wade McNeish is back, asking her to help out. Dana's quiet life is about to have the volume turned up to eleven, as Wade asks her to find out what happened -- by joining the band!

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=857411>

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Light Keeping / Adrienne Jansen

Quentin Wilson Publishing, New Zealand 2023

240p. ; 23cm.

9781991103208

\$ 35.00 / null

400 gm.

The year is 1977 and a shocking accident sees Robert and Jess suddenly orphaned. Finding refuge with their lighthouse keeper grandparents, they begin to navigate their loss and rebuild their lives. But how secure can this new home be, with the threat of lighthouse automation and closures looming? As adults, Jess and Robert must deal with the fallout of the tragic events of their childhood, disconnected from each other and the home that once sheltered them. Buffeted by the storms of life, they find themselves inescapably drawn back towards the world of the sea. Light Keeping is a subtle and immersive novel drawing on the richness of family stories and their role in defining and connecting us. Set in the late-seventies and contemporary New Zealand, the book follows parallel storylines, evoking fascinating details of lighthouse life and reflecting on the relentless social change brought by new technology. Ultimately, this is a story of hope and reconnection - of finding, and keeping, light.

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=857412>

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The Penguin New Zealand Anthology: 50 stories for 50 years in Aotearoa / Various Authors

Penguin Random House New Zealand, New Zealand 2023

448p. ; 25cm.

9781776950539

\$ 45.00 / HB

800 gm.

A milestone collection to celebrate a milestone event - 50 years publishing in NZ! To celebrate 50 years of publishing in Aotearoa New Zealand, this anthology brings together 50 enthralling stories from some of the country's finest writers. From established authors to new, emerging names, these stories track the changing styles, voices and preoccupations explored through the short story over the past five decades. Read - and celebrate!

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=857406>

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Te Awa o Kupu / Vaughan Rapatahana & Kiri Piahana-Wong

Penguin Random House New Zealand, New Zealand 2023

416p. ; 24cm.

9780143777953

\$ 35.00 / null

550 gm.

A stunning new collection of poetry and stories by contemporary Maori writers. Over 80 contemporary Maori writers explore a vast array of issues that challenge, stimulate and intrigue. With originality and insight, these poems and short stories express compassion, concern, curiosity, suffering and joy. Te Awa o Kupu is a companion volume to Nga Kupu Wero, which focuses on recent non-fiction. Together these two passionate and vibrant anthologies reveal that the irrepressible river of words flowing from Maori writers today shows us who and what we are.

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=857407>

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Visible Cities: Lockdown to liberation, stress to sustainability: Aotearoa fiction inspired by Italo Calvino / Marco Sonzogni, Sydney J Shep & Daniel K Brown

The Cuba Press, New Zealand 2023

162p. ; 20cm.

9781988595740

\$ 35.00 / null

250 gm.

The celebrated Italian writer Italo Calvino's novel Invisible Cities explores the intersection of reality and imagination through 11 startling themes, from 'Cities and Desire' to 'Trading Cities' to 'Cities and the Dead'. A hundred years after his birth, 11 emerging writers from Aotearoa have each taken a city from their own country and written a short story that pays tribute to Calvino's work while addressing the themes that besiege our cities in the twenty-first century.

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=857409>

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Sounds & Silences / Eldridge, Brenda

Ginninderra Press, Port Adelaide, Australia 2023

56 pages, 20cm

9781761096242

\$ 32.00 / null

75 gm.

Vivid memories prompted by hearing a few stray notes playing sent me wandering through my very rich life to renew my love of particular pieces of music and songs. When I started writing poems, I recognised that, for me, music is like ekphrastic poetry. A composer responds to something and in turn there is my response to the composer. From my own experiences, I was reminded how my mental image or emotional response to a piece of music was not necessarily what the composer had in mind. Being more aware of the silences throughout a piece of music or when it comes to an end, I started to write about silence. In doing that, I realised that in our ordinary lives it doesn't exist. What is silence? It appears to be a momentary pause between one sound and the next - a heartbeat. Even if everything else can be blocked out, we can still feel or hear our own heart beating. Having got that far, I explored places where there was 'silence' and discovered what I could really hear.

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=858890>

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Watering the Marigolds / Bergel, Muriel

Ginninderra Press, Port Adelaide, Australia 2023

48 pages, 20cm

9781761096181

\$ 29.00 / null

60 gm.

'Poetry has the ability to cover a lot of ground in a few lines, and Muriel Bergel's book deals with so many questions and conundrums. In these pages we find goddesses, dreams, music, mothers and even ugg boots. Mythology and the everyday are combined to great effect. This is a remarkably poised first collection, inviting us to travel with the poet as she navigates her way through loss, labyrinths and the art of kissing. Vivid images and memorable phrases will linger in the reader's mind.' -

PS Cottier

'Personal reveries free the spirit. Poems unfold memories, send postcards that weave a delicate web. Reveal ancient mythologies of love and sadness, "a cord still attaches us, I've tried to cut it but my scissors are rusty, so I keep coming back." Words caress family, lovers, nature, with a gentle kiss and release of "dandelion wishes". A beautiful collection.' - Jenni Nixon

'In this debut collection, the world of spirits and nature flows alongside the domestic and the everyday. Muriel Bergel journeys through a maze of grief, yet is resuscitated by the startling energy of the "fiery orange blooms" of the marigolds, by gum trees, cicadas and dragonflies. Accompanied by the power of goddesses, she navigates through life, finding her way toward regeneration, renewal and new beginnings. As well, often light and playful, this satisfying collection is infused with *vamos* - a Spanish word meaning "let's go, come on".' - Jane Skelton

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=858891>

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Alfred Brendel's Studies in Contrary Motion / Watson, John  
Ginninderra Press, Port Adelaide, Australia 2023

28 pages

9781761096419

\$ 14.00 / null

30 gm.

Picaro Poets

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=858893>

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Solar system oracles / Thérèse Corfiatis

Ginninderra Press, Port Adelaide, Australia 2023

28 pages

9781761096273

\$ 14.00 / null

30 gm.

Picaro Poets

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=858898>

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Anne's copy of poems by Kenneth Slessor / John Watson

Ginninderra Press, Port Adelaide, Australia 2023

28 pages

9781761096389

\$ 14.00 / null

25 gm.

Picaro Poets

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=858894>

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Alluvium / Daley, Carlie

Ginninderra Press, Port Adelaide, Australia 2023

28 pages

9781761096310

\$ 14.00 / null

25 gm.



Picaro Poets

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=858895>

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Chekhov's a happy ending / Watson, John  
Ginninderra Press, Port Adelaide, Australia 2023

28 pages.

9781761096266

\$ 14.00 / null

30 gm.

Picaro Poets

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=858897>

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Telling - Stories of Resistance from Nairm Marr Djambana / Nairm Marr  
Djambana Aboriginal Corporation, Sina Summers (Editor)

Magabala Books 2023

129 pages, 23cm

9781925768022

\$ 34.99 / null

205 gm.

'Our Songlines continue through our lived experiences. The strength, resilience, hope and love is heard and felt deeply within each of these stories. Our Elders share their culture and wisdom through their knowledge. We are forever grateful.'  
- Kutcha Edwards

The 12 short life stories in Telling are grounded in First Nations storytelling traditions and reveal the diverse and complex nature of the experience of living in the wake of colonialisation. Telling fits with this year's NAIDOC theme, For Our Elders. It also speaks to the contemporary political movement for truth-telling and Treaty in Victoria and nationally. The voices of First Nations Elders living in Victoria are prioritised and honoured in this work.

These stories are from all over Australia. Each Elder reflects on intergenerational trauma, Stolen Generations, reconnection and resistance, demonstrating their deeply felt Black pride and joy and celebrating their stories of survival.

Aunty Yvonne Luke recounts her reconnection to Alyawerre country after several generations of removal. Koori leader Uncle Mik Edwards describes his brave story of survival after being removed forcibly from his family in 1967, and Marion Hansen tells of her surprise at being crowned Miss NAIDOC in 1969.

The evocative photographs provided by the authors bring an intimacy to this vital historical testimony that will be enjoyed by Indigenous and non-Indigenous readers alike.

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=858876>

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Critic swallows book : ten years of the Sydney review of books / edited by  
Catriona Menzies-Pike

Sydney Review of Books 2023

373 pages, 21cm

9780648062196

\$ 39.95 / null

420 gm.

In 2023 the Sydney Review of Books celebrates a decade online and the publication of more than a thousand essays and longform reviews of Australian and international literature. Over these ten years the SRB has cleared a unique space for serious reflection on literature and for critical thinking about our culture more broadly. The journal has been shaped by the diverse aesthetic, political and critical dispositions of our contributors, each of whom has different questions to ask contemporary literature. As they've asked these questions, they've guided a bold and independent public conversation about literature, and especially about the many forms of Australian literature.

Critic Swallows Book brings together twenty-two essays that together demonstrate the eclecticism of the Sydney Review of Books. It includes essays on decolonising Australian literature and revisiting the classics, on blockbuster fiction and book-length poetry, on modernism in the Antipodes and reading during the pandemic. Essays on Susan Sontag and Rita Felski sit alongside critical considerations of Murray Bail and Joan London, of Evelyn Araluen and Samia Khatun.

Contributors: Timmah Ball, Paola Balla, Alix Beeston, Tegan Bennett Daylight, Andrew Brooks, Bonny Cassidy, Mridula Nath Chakraborty, Tom Clark, Ali Cobby Eckermann, Ben Etherington, Ross Gibson, Ivor Indyk, Yumna Kassab, Louis Klee, Jeanine Leane, James Ley, Catriona Menzies-Pike, Drusilla Modjeska, Alys Moody, Suneeta Peres da Costa, Oliver Reeson.

Open Secrets is edited by Catriona Menzies-Pike, former editor of the Sydney Review of Book. It follows the collections Open Secrets, Second City and The Australian Face, all published by the Sydney Review of Books.

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=858877>

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The Best Australian Science Writing 2023 / Donna Lu (editor)

NewSouth Publishing, Sydney NSW 2023

336 pages, 20cm

9781742238005

\$ 39.99 / null

360 gm.

Should we alter animals' DNA to save them from extinction? What secrets will old ice reveal to us about the Earth's deep past? How is the world's most expensive - and explosive - substance made?

Great science writing offers fascinating insights into our surrounding environments, inspires awe at the wonders of the natural world, and also seeks to understand and address some of the biggest problems of our time.

Science writing encompasses the vastness of the universe and all the diverse life forms within it. Stories abound in both the microscopic and the astronomical, from the scientists trying to reverse-engineer brain circuitry to the largest radio telescope of its kind on Earth which could help us detect alien life.

This much-loved anthology - now in its thirteenth year - selects the most thought-provoking, poignant and dazzling science stories and essays from Australian writers, poets and scientists.

With a foreword by scientist and engineer Professor Mary O'Kane AC, *The Best Australian Science Writing 2023* covers another remarkable year filled with watershed moments in science.

INCLUDES THE SHORTLISTED ENTRIES FOR THE 2023 UNSW PRESS BRAGG PRIZE FOR SCIENCE WRITING, AND THE 2022 STUDENT PRIZE "WINNING ESSAY."

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Jane McCredie

Elizabeth Finkel

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Anne Casey

Jackson Ryan

Carl Smith

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=858878>

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The Queen's Apprenticeship / Ryan, Tracy

Transit Lounge, Australia 2023

361 pages, 24cm

9781923023031

\$ 39.99 / null

465 gm.

Two women from different worlds in Renaissance France cross paths in a way that changes both their lives.

One is Marguerite de Navarre, a King's sister. Powerful, privileged and widely admired, Marguerite must nonetheless marry where she is told to, regardless of her feelings, and – despite the thrilling new ideas of religious reform causing upheaval in France – must toe the line for the good of her brother's kingdom. Ever a risk-taker, she does what she can to protect her reformist friends. But she has always loved to write, and when disaster strikes in her personal life, she picks up her pen – but some of what she writes will get her into trouble.

The other is a cast out, itinerant child who longs to be a printer like her late father. Jehane goes dressed as a male by the name of Josse, at first for safety's sake and then by choice, fending off the risks of being alone, unprotected and born female, poor but trying to live in freedom. Eventually Josse joins a group of printers and publishers in Paris. Despite her suspicion of men, she comes to idolise one among them. But can they be 'true friends', and can she share her whole self with him?

Long before #MeToo, women were telling their 'unspeakable' stories, and these two, both rich and poor, are no exception. They come together in the most unexpected of ways. In The Queen's Apprenticeship one of our very best writers brings to fully realised and magnificent life a world of drama and intrigue.

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=858875>

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Returning / Saunders, Kirli

Magabala Books 2023

163 pages, 20cm

9781922613707

\$ 34.99 / null

340 gm.

'Mate, you're standing on stolen land.'

Returning is a stunning work – a poetic and visual feast that takes you on Kirli's journey of rediscovering self, Country and Connection. Kirli's heartfelt experiences address large contemporary themes of decolonisation, self-determination, Identity, First Nations matriarchy, queerness, justice, love, liberation, and truth-telling. The backdrop to Returning is a time of huge upheaval with natural disasters, COVID and the Black Lives Matter Movement.

Each poem is accompanied by evocative and poignant artwork that was created in response to its poem and vitalises its meaning. The artworks, visual poems, were originally shown at SHAC Gallery, Gundungurra land, in 2021 in the exhibition named Returning. Kirli's multi-disciplinary artworks span across a range of mediums and displays, including but not limited to water colour, ink on hand-dyed silk, synthesising digital imagery with text, and installations of hand-crafted possum skin cloaks and weavings.

Returning was developed with consultation and guidance from First Nations Elders, Custodians, academics and artists.

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=858880>

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Breaking the Surface / Reid, Ian

Ginninderra Press, Port Adelaide, Australia 2023

138 pages, 20cm

9781761096204

\$ 42.00 / null

155 gm.

Rhumbs, Woods Hole, Mass. (USA), Pourboire Press

'I like best his tough humorous approach and nearly epigrammatic style, his intelligence in using words and his width of focus - taking in not just the immediate situation but its context too. That's rare, now that so much verse is self-preoccupied, concentrating on the personal at the expense of thinking and feeling outwards, and without bringing up enough to justify the inwardness. Reid has always been able to relate in the opposite direction. To be humble and humorous about oneself is a lost art, but he has it. To look at the not-me with love and real interest and say something valid - Reid knows what poetry's for.' - Judith Wright

Undercover agent, Adelaide, Adelaide University Union Press

'Throughout Undercover Agent Reid places this uneasiness about living up to the Romantic ideal of man and poet insistently at the centre of his poetry, till we recognise in his procedure a dogged honesty. He becomes a keen and hard quester after what makes opportunities for poetry...a series of startling and versatile prose poems...an assured and authoritative syntax.' - Christopher Pollnitz in Southerly

The Shifting Shore, Grange Press (Vancouver, Canada) and Mattoid (Geelong)

'There's a great deal of verbal flair, at times almost pyrotechnics, but the poems also have a terrific sense of place, of being located in a physical world inhabited by real people. All this gives the collection a human and physical solidity which is very appealing, and all the more because the language is full of tricks and surprises.' - Andrew Taylor

'Reid approaches his subject with humour, precise imagery, and an emphasis on the aural... The poems discuss the self through extended metaphors so thoroughly that self and seashore merge, diverge and merge again. This is poetry of the littoral regions. In reading it one finds oneself standing on the physical, wet sand or in the conceptual territory of the individual psyche, depending on the tidal movements of each stanza and line... Not only a fine sense of the interstices between self and world, but an exceptional sense of imagery [moving] towards the fascinating territory that Reid calls "the ruffled edges of the real".' - Michael Wiley in Antipodes (USA)

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=858887>

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Lost in the Pleiades / Summers, Carmel  
Ginninderra Press, Port Adelaide, Australia 2023  
102 pages, 20cm  
9781761096235  
\$ 39.99 / null  
120 gm.

'Who would not want to time-travel through the night sky? This is exactly what Carmel Summers offers us in her latest book *Lost in the Pleiades*. This is much more than a collection of verse - it is a compilation of careful poetic research into a cluster of stars that has fascinated humanity since its first discovery. Summers takes us through the present and mythological past in a journey of awe as it we learn to read star maps and explore the mysteries of the Pleiades. There is plenty of whimsical beauty in this collection. Venus photobombs the Seven Sisters. Joanna Lumley attends a hypothetical Javanese sacred dance. Galileo writes a treatise. We revisit a childhood fairy tale. This selection of poetry is Carmel Summers' best yet. She has a gift for choosing the most appropriate form for each poem and her writing is humorous, poignant, wildly exciting and always respectful. It's a must for every bookcase. *Lost in the Pleiades* twinkles with wonder like Jane Taylor's well known children's poem. I'm still hankering after that Seven Sisters bracelet with Orion's stone set in the middle ' - Hazel Hall, Australian poet and musicologist

'*Lost in the Pleiades* by Carmel Summers is a stylistically diverse and meditative poetic exploration of the seven sister jewels in the night sky. She brings a feminist perspective to historical sources and mythological tales that have woven stories around the constellation of the Pleiades. From Galileo to the Australian First Peoples, we are taken on an historical and geographic journey that is yet deeply personal and reflective of contemporary life. We are invited to look heavenward to see "those lost girls glow and glitter" and to realise that "they shine to remind us - to love".' - Julie Thorndyke

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=858888>

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Roundabout / Furphy, Roger  
Ginninderra Press, Port Adelaide, Australia 2023  
130 pges, 20cm  
9781761096228  
\$ 42.00 / null  
150 gm.

Roundabout, life's journey, memories, and contemplation that rest on small shelves of my dreams. At times seem mundane yet somehow remain catalogued, until in the stutter of nights connect come selected through a sepia of drift. And so a roundabout of dreams interrupt my day, demand storage in folds of writing.

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=858889>

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A Woman of Courage / Blanchard, Tania  
HarperCollins Publishers, Australia 2023  
448 pages, 23cm  
9781460764091  
\$ 39.99 / null  
550 gm.

A gripping, moving story of love, tenacity and the right to be heard by bestseller Tania Blanchard, inspired by a true story

1890, Northern England. Hannah Todd dreams of a future where women have the right to vote.

Fresh from her teaching studies in Durham, the university city, she joins her parents in a rural village, brimming with newly found passion and the groundswell towards women's suffrage unfolding in London. Working tirelessly to help women and children in the county, Hannah is determined to make the fight for the vote her life's work, adding her voice to the rising chorus across the nation and hopes of a new world and a new way of thinking.

But soon she must fight a new, unexpected battle - that of the yearning of her own heart - and discovers that when power is threatened, darkness, brutality and dangerous, closely guarded secrets are never too far from the surface. How far can she go to fight for what's right?

From the exciting, progressive hive of London to the traditional villages of the rural north, *A Woman of Courage* rings with the strength and struggles of women at time of momentous change ... and the choices one woman must make to help forge a new future.

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=858884>

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The Land of Lost Gods: Novel / Ahmet Umit (Translator) Rakesh Jobanputra

Yapi Kredi Kultur Sanat Yayıncılık, Turkey 2023

544p.

9789750858307

\$ 60.00 / null

500 gm.

When the gods demand a sacrifice, there is always one to be chosen...

In an adventure stretching from the vibrant streets of Berlin and its immigrants, street artists and squats to the ancient hills of Bergama, Yıldız Karasu, an intrepid detective with the Berlin Police Force, and her assistant Tobias Becker investigate a series of murders that lead them to dark secrets that are powerful enough to destroy people and lives. As the investigation takes them to Turkey, the tension increases as a new name is revealed...

An expertly crafted novel by Ahmet Ümit, seamlessly weaving archaeology and mythology into a masterpiece of crime fiction. While *The Land of Lost Gods* resurrects ancient myths in the shadow of the Altar of Zeus and the Temple of Pergamon, its depiction of crime and the manner in which it transcends borders and epochs leaves the reader reeling.

"That is why I shall begin in the place you thought you had forgotten. Those that forget shall pay the price for forgetting. Those that did not show due respect shall be rewarded with the severest of punishments: those that tore me from their hearts shall have their hearts torn out, those that turned their faces away from me shall have the skin torn from their faces..."

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=858822>

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Our Heritage, the Ocean: Letter to My Father: The Samoa observer Tusitala Short Stories / Stephanie Wynne

Samoa Observer, Samoa 2020

230p.

9789821010900

\$ 50.00 / null

400 gm.

The annual Samoa Observer Tusitala Short Story Competition offers an opportunity for the voices of writers from around the region to be heard. In this collection of the finalists' stories, the fifth in the series, the stories' main protagonists include, among others, a mute Samoan five year old boy, an elderly Korean man, an unschooled Tuamotuan teenager, a confident Maori mother, a blind Fijian grandmother, and a cat!

The settings are equally diverse: the reader travels from a remote farm in Kawhia to a cyclone in Apia Harbour in the 19th century, from the veranda of a Sydney holiday home to a Pago Pago prison, and from a hospital ward in Port Moresby to under Mangere Bridge in Auckland.

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=858830>

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Our Heritage, the Ocean: Against the Flow: The Samoa observer Tusitala Short Stories / Stephanie Wynne (ed)

Samoa Observer, Samoa 2019

157p.

9789829813084

\$ 50.00 / null

250 gm.

This anthology is Volume Four of a series that presents the best entries in the Tusitala Short Story Competition, an annual regional contest organized by the Samoa Observer. Set in past, present and future locations around the Pacific, these stories come from novice writers and accomplished published authors, from university students and retirees, from tiny remote island locations to large Pacific Rim cities. Some tales explore the flimsy line between dreams, memories and reality, while in others inner voices are used to inspire or limit narrators' actions. The yarns range from dark tales of incest, child molestation and brutal rape to happy accounts of true love prevailing and families reunited.

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=858829>

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Criss-Crossing The Rivers: Stories From Tonota and Beyond / Seatholo Masego Tumedu

Mmegi Publishing House, Botswana 2022

180p.

9789996843310

\$ 30.00 / null

300 gm.

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=857505>

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The Cradle / Thabang Shaun Dinku

Underpound, Botswana 2022

284p.

9789996863202

\$ 30.00 / null

400 gm.

The CEO of a diamond mining company has made it his life mission to find the biggest diamond in the world. Through the use of a newly developed piece of technology, the diamond is believed to be located in Botswana. Upon his arrival, excavations begin but are quickly halted by the emergence of an ancient being, Matsieng, who is displeased with current state of the world and decides to end humanity. With the help of the San Bushmen, it is up to the youth to save their country and to save the world.

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=857506>

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The Killer In Her Closet: A Novel / Mogomotsi Monnana

Biggles and Boggles Pty Ltd, Botswana 2020

272p.

9789996808883



\$ 25.00 / null

300 gm.

Christine Lake had it all; wealth, a promising future-in-law and a budding romance with a handsome stranger who was all she ever dreamed of. But when her father is brutally murdered, Christine faces the harsh reality that nothing is as it seems.

Now, as death hunts her family, Christine must jeopardies her promising career in order to unravel the mystery of her grandfather's blood- stained fortune. With her world coming apart, love becomes her only refuge. But is the handsome stranger the saviour she so desperately needs? Or is there a deeper connection that could shatter her world...

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=857507>

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"Mari Mavu": Stories from the African Soil for the Evolving Young Humans Around the World. / Goitsewang J. Khutsafalo

Launchit International (Black & Yellow), Botswana 2023

191p.

9781234567897

\$ 228.00 / null

250 gm.

Inspired by my grandmother–Mari Mavu carries classic ideas, thoughts, and memories that speak to the idea that we are all resources with commercial & social value. Human pieces of a gigantic puzzle that breathes as we do. It is premised on the promise of an old Kalanga tale–while grounding us on the value and humanity of each one of us. The pages of this book will not only inspire you but challenge you to see things differently and to occupy your place and reign as the masterpiece that God has designed you to be while aligning yourself with the rewarding spirit of money and fulfilment.

Titled in Kalanga, one of Botswana's popular local languages, but written in English–Mari Mavu doesn't only seek to promote representation and visibility of African languages, cultural exchange, tourism, and African stories at a global scale. The book also takes the bold step to share perspectives on global issues including unemployment, the future of money, the future of natural talents & work, culture, humanity, and technology through the lenses of African stories.

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=857508>

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The Opposite of Success / Thomas, Eleanor Elliott

Text Publishing Company, Australia 2023

272 pages, 23cm

9781922790385

\$ 39.99 / null

360 gm.

All Lorrie wants is to get promoted, accept her body and end global warming. By Friday. Is that really too much to ask?

Council employee Lorrie Hope has a great partner, two adorable kids and absolutely no idea what to do with her life. This Friday, she's hoping for change–it's launch day for her big work project, and she's applied for a promotion she's not entirely sure she wants. Meanwhile, her best friend, Alex, is stuck in a mess involving Lorrie's rakish ex, Ruben–or, more accurately, his wife. Oh, and Ruben's boss happens to be the mining magnate Sebastian Glup, who is sponsoring Lorrie's project...

As the day spirals from bad to worse to frankly unhinged, Lorrie and Alex must reconsider what they can expect from life, love and middle management. The Opposite of Success is a riotously funny debut novel about work, motherhood, friendship–and the meaning of failure itself.

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=857682>

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Vertigo / Herbert, Karen

Fremantle Press , Australia 2023

320 pages, 23cm

9781760992248

\$ 39.99 / null

490 gm.

In this number-crunching thriller, there's something rotten going on in state politics and an unlikely spreadsheet-wielding hero will need to step up to uncover the truth and protect the disadvantaged - but at what cost?

Frances, a public servant, is struggling to come to terms with the disappearance of her colleague Eric, and the death of her brother. Asked to review Eric's last work file, Frances becomes an accidental sleuth, analysing spreadsheets and reports for clues that may help solve Eric's mysterious disappearance.

As Frances uncovers a trail of corruption that leads to the highest levels of government, she must use her wits and resourcefulness to stay one step ahead of those who want to keep the truth hidden. But will her personal vendetta lead her straight into danger? With twists and turns at every corner, this is a must-read for mystery fans from the bestselling author of *The River Mouth*.

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=857683>

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Summer of BLOOD / Warner, Dave

Fremantle Press , Australia 2023

320 pages, 23cm

9781760992200

\$ 39.99 / null

490 gm.

Get ready for a wild ride through the Summer of Love with Dave Warner's newest crime novel.

Two Australian police officers travel to San Francisco and Los Angeles in the summer of 1967 in search of a missing young man, only to find themselves fully immersed in the world of music, free love, drugs and hippie counterculture. They soon realise this isn't just any ordinary missing person investigation. A big gig is the perfect place to get away with murder, and their search becomes a thrilling journey through the seamy side of the 1960s counterculture.

This book is not to be missed for fans of gripping crime fiction and rock'n'roll.

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=857685>

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I Am Already Dead / Whish-Wilson, David

Fremantle Press , Australia 2023

320 pages, 23cm

9781760992026

\$ 42.99 / null

495 gm.

In this thrilling crime novel, Lee Southern finds himself the target of increasingly ominous threats as he seeks to uncover the mastermind behind a sordid mystery.

Trainee private investigator Lee Southern finds himself drawn into a web of danger and deceit as he investigates a series of bribery attempts targeting a wealthy entrepreneur. Under the expert tutelage of retiring PI Frank Swann, Lee uses all of his developing skills, instincts and cunning to get to the heart of a sordid mystery. As Lee delves deeper into the case and questions the intentions of those he's working for, he finds himself the target of increasingly ominous threats and several attempts on his life.

David Whish-Wilson's *I Am Already Dead* is a gripping and high-paced noir novel. This will keep fans of *True West* on the edge of their seat.

'Compelling, thrilling' Readings

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=857691>

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Edenglassie / Lucashenko, Melissa

University of Queensland Press, Australia 2023

320 pages, 24cm

9780702266126

\$ 39.99 / null

385 gm.

Two extraordinary Indigenous stories set five generations apart.

When Mulanyin meets the beautiful Nita in Edenglassie, their saltwater people still outnumber the British. As colonial unrest peaks, Mulanyin dreams of taking his bride home to Yugambeh Country, but his plans for independence collide with white justice.

Two centuries later, fiery activist Winona meets Dr Johnny. Together they care for obstinate centenarian Grannie Eddie, and sparks fly, but not always in the right direction. What nobody knows is how far the legacies of the past will reach into their modern lives.

In this brilliant epic, Melissa Lucashenko torches Queensland's colonial myths, while reimagining an Australian future.

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=857692>

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Gunflower / McKay, Laura Jean

Scribe Publications, Australia 2023

256 pages, 20cm

9781922585943

\$ 34.99 / null

275 gm.

The brilliant new short story collection from the Arthur C. Clarke Award-winning author of *The Animals in That Country*.

A family of cat farmers gets the chance to set the felines free. A group of chickens tells it like it is. A female-crewed ship ploughs through the patriarchy. A support group finds solace in a world without men.

With her trademark humour, energy, and flair, McKay offers glimpses of places where dreams subsume reality, where childhood restarts, where humans embrace their animal selves and animals talk like humans.

The stories in *Gunflower* explode and bloom in mesmerising ways, showing the world both as it is and as it could be.

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=857693>

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The Things We Live With: Essays on Uncertainty / Nisbet, Gemma

Upswell Press 2023

220 pages, 21cm

9780645536805

\$ 34.99 / null

205 gm.

A meditation on the burden and joy of inheritance, and the strange power of the objects and keepsakes that connect us

'This is how I became interested in things. In their strange pull and power; in the ways they hold on to us and we to them.'

After her father dies of cancer, Gemma Nisbet is inundated with keepsakes connected to his life by family and friends. As she becomes attuned to the ways certain items can evoke specific memories or moments, she begins to ask questions about the relationships between objects and people. Why is it so difficult to discard some artefacts and not others? Does the power exerted by precious things influence the ways we remember the past and perceive the future? As Nisbet considers her father's life and begins to connect his experiences of mental illness with her own, she wonders whether hanging on to 'stuff' is ultimately a source of comfort or concern.

Intimate and wide-ranging, *The Things We Live With* is a collection of essays about how we learn to live with the 'things' handed down in families which we carry throughout our lives- not only material objects, but also grief, memory, anxiety and depression. It's about notions of home and restlessness, inheritance and belonging - and, above all, the ways we tell our stories to ourselves and other people.

'*The Things We Live With* is a tender cartography of grief and familial legacy, in which Gemma Nisbet elegantly explores how the maps we make-whether by story, memory, art, or artefact-inevitably fall shy of the territory.' -Josephine Rowe

'What are we to make of all these things around us? And what are they to make of us? Delicately, as if unpacking a box of fragile treasures, Nisbet cups in her hands and presents us with a series of relationships- with old, loved things, with her family, and her own crushable centre. They are all, it turns out, well kept in the same box. Nisbet wraps her meditations in soft words and firm intelligence, and in this wonderful, digressive and intently considered work she uncovers the tender meaning of possessions, and what it is to be possessed by them too. As a devoted keeper of objects, I read this book with recognition and envy, and anyone who inherits, hoards, abhors or adores the relics of their lives will appreciate Nisbet's candour and contemplations.' -Kate Holden

'Wise, profound and with tender humour *The Things We Live With* expands our thinking about the power of objects to shape our sense of self, anchor our memories, and reflect our place in the world. In these superb, engrossing essays Gemma Nisbet draws us in close as she examines what we hold onto, what we let go, and the complex relationships between the tangible and intangible. A moving portrayal of grief, love, and legacy, this is a collection to treasure.' -Vanessa Berry

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=857694>

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Salt River Road / Schmidt, Molly  
Fremantle Press , Australia 2023  
288 pages, 23cm  
9781760992620  
\$ 39.99 / null  
390 gm.

Introducing an exciting new voice in Australian fiction, Molly Schmidt, winner of the 2022 City of Fremantle Hungerford Award. *Salt River Road* is a compelling coming-of-age novel about grief and healing set in a small town in the 1970s.

In the aftermath of their mother's death, the Tetley siblings' lives are falling apart. Left to fend for themselves as their family farm goes to ruins, Rose sets out to escape the grief and mess of home. When she meets Noongar Elders Patsy and Herbert, she finds herself drawn into a home where she has the chance to discover the strength of community, and to heal a wound her family has carried for a generation. *Salt River Road* is a poignant exploration of healing and resilience, small-town racism and the power of human connection.

'This story retains an innocence and a sense of decency even as it glides through pain, love and complex politics. It's refreshing, and open, and kind of tricky.' Kim Scott

'An amazing new talent.' Brett D'Arcy

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=857690>

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Indira Goswami (Mamoni Raisom): A Critical Study of Her Writings / Malaya Khaund

B.R. Publishing Corporation, Delhi 2023

viii, 184p.; 22 cm.

Includes Index.

9788170187691

\$ 22.50 / HB

500 gm.

Dr. Indira Goswami (Mrs. Mamoni Raisom Goswami) Is Undoubtedly One Of The Bright Stars In The Assamese Literary Horizon. Sahitya Academi Award Winner Memoni Has Written Twelve Novels Besides A Fairly Big Number Of Short Stories. All Her Literary Creations Have The Mark Of A Writer Of Great Stature. There Has Not, However, Been As Wide An Appreciation Of Her Works As Is Due.

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=855035>

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Henry Lawson: A Study Of His Select Bush Stories / Neha Upadhyay

B.R. Publishing Corporation, Delhi 2023

xi, 237p.; 22 cm.

Includes Bibliography.

9789391123765

\$ 31.25 / HB

600 gm.

The book titled "Henry Lawson: A Study of His Select Bush Stories" is a critical analysis of the life and work of Henry Lawson, one of Australia's most renowned authors. The book focuses on Lawson's contribution to Australian literature, specifically his bush stories, which are a significant aspect of his literary legacy.

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=855050>

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A Mental Marriage: Selected Poems / B.K.S. Ray

B.R. Publishing Corporation, Delhi 2023

100p.; 22 cm.

9789391123703

\$ 6.00 / null

250 gm.

In his poetry collection "A Mental Marriage", he reveals his feelings with regard to a world marked by both beauty and turbulence. His Innate optimism regarding human existence is very strong. Shadows of the great writer Franz Kafka fall over him with regard to his emotional narratives.

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=855056>

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Spoiled Fruit: Queer Poetry from Aotearoa / Damien Levi & Amber Esau (Ed)

Aporo Press, New Zealand 2023

88p.

Include Biography

9780473686840

\$ 35.00 / null

200 gm.

Spoiled Fruit is the debut title from micro press Aporo Press. This collection gathers 20 queer poets from across Aotearoa, compiles work largely first published on bad apple and asks these poets to reflect upon their work to create new pieces. Emerging from this introspection are themes of growth, evolution, change and transition. Like spoiled fruit fallen and left to rot, new growth emerges. Edit by Damien Levi and Amber Esau. Contributions from Nicola Andrews, ki anthony, kate aschoff, Jo Bragg, Cadence Chung, Rhys Feeney, Ted Greensmith-West, Haukupu, Kyra Lawler, Rex Letoa Paget, Casey Lucas, Ivy Lyden-Hancy, Amy Marguerite, Jackson McCarthy, Hannah Patterson, Ngaio Simmons, sylvan spring, El Spurlock, Fetuolemoana Tamapeau and Laura Vincent.

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=858991>

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Big Fat Brown Bitch / Tusiata Avia

Te Herenga Waka University Press, New Zealand 2023

112p. ; 21cm

9781776921294

\$ 30.00 / null

200 gm.

Admire my big fat brown body, bitches!  
Admire it!

The Big Fat Brown Bitch runs, sleeps, cries, laughs, splits open. She is sitting in a garage in South Auckland with her two brothers and discussing the majestic architecture of atoms. She is playing an audio book of The Power of Positive Thinking at herself. She is jumping over the lazy dog. She is lying face down in the mud and doing an apology on behalf of us all. She is receiving an election-year visit and a death threat. She is strapped to the cross. She is turning into a werewolf. The Big Fat Brown Bitch is coming for you.

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=858992>

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Sixty Something: Volumes 1 & 2 / Bernard Cadogan

The Giant's Trough Press, New Zealand 2023

xii, 181p.

9780473688271

\$ 35.00 / null

350 gm.

But a small sample from Bernard Cadogan's body of work, this volume's 120 poems are imbued with the personality of the poet as well as the times we live in. His themes are both specific and universal, with a creative mix of philosophy, history and personal storytelling.

Traversing joy and loss, hope and anxiety, love and despair, they reveal a poet at the top of their game.

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=858997>

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Selected Poems. / Geoff Cochrane

Te Herenga Waka University, New Zealand 2023

239p. ; 21cm.

9781776921201

\$ 40.00 / null

500 gm.

This Selected Poems presents the best of Geoff Cochrane's many published collections, from Aztec Noon (1992) to Chosen (2020).

'The best work of the late, prolific poet who saw things at ground level, gleaned from the 20 collections he wrote.' —NZ Listener Highlights of 2023

'Geoff Cochrane's is a whole world, rendered in lines at once compressed and open, mysterious and approachable.' —Damien Wilkins

'Over the years, Cochrane's work has been a joy to me, a solace, a proof that art can be made in New Zealand which shows ourselves in new ways.' —Pip Adam

'Everyone reading local poetry has, or should have, a Geoff Cochrane moment, a blissful book in which they discover his compressed, "courtly" (as Damien Wilkins once described Geoff's writing) poetry mined from his singularly Wellington life, past and present. . . . He was intense, committed, thoughtful, isolated and, in his own way, courageous.' —James Brown

'Would he break your heart, make you chuckle or tear you a new one – one never quite knew. . . . He had this way of creating a moment of meeting that elided everything else, a calm where all our antennae raised as one and you never knew what would come out of his mouth, or his work.' —Carl Shuker

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=858998>

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The Girl from London / Olivia Spooner

MOA Press, New Zealand 2023

344p.

9781869715120

\$ 40.00 / null

500 gm.

London, 1940. Ruth, a young schoolteacher, volunteers as an escort helping to evacuate children from war-torn England to Australia and New Zealand. Her three-month voyage is fraught - their passage is perilous, and the children anxious and homesick. Nine-year-old Fergus is more troubled than most and Ruth forms an unexpected bond with the boy. It's not just Fergus who captures Ruth's attention. Bobby, a fellow volunteer who initially infuriates Ruth with his laidback charm, somehow gets under her skin and throws her ordered life into chaos. Tragedy strikes on their return voyage, when the Rangitane is attacked by German raiders. As the ship goes down, the surviving passengers are taken as prisoners of war aboard the German vessel. To the rest of the world, they are missing, presumed dead.

New Zealand 2005. Hazel boards a plane to London, eager to explore Europe. Sitting next to her is a man named Joe. On her lap is a treasured book from her grandfather, Fergus. A book that will finally reveal Ruth's story.

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=858999>

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On Our Watch / Alison Carter, Catherine Delahunty, Julie Sargisson & Lora Mountjoy

Outwatch Press, New Zealand 2023

102p.

9780473663605

\$ 30.00 / null

200 gm.

Two years ago Hauraki writers Alison Carter, Lora Mountjoy, Julie Sargisson and Catherine Delahunty decided to make more space in their lives for poetry.

The four women met regularly to share and critique their poems. This book contains work which came out of this time, poetry which touches on family and relationships but also explores the personal, political and environmental concerns which were part of life "on our watch".

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=858993>

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The Glass Guitar / Peter Olds

Cold Hub Press, New Zealand 2023

xiv, 57p.

9780473691370

\$ 35.00 / null

150 gm.

The Glass Guitar comprises thirty-three previously uncollected and mostly unpublished poems in which Peter Olds reflects frankly on some of his characteristic preoccupations: the imperfections of life and art; his travels in space and time; his sometimes challenging relationship with his mentor, friend, and fellow poet James K. Baxter. In his introduction John Gibb describes Olds as "a navigator of contrasting and sometimes contradictory worlds, a kind of battered Zen ambassador of humanity, an at times irreverent pilgrim making his way through life" and argues the case for Olds as a multi-disciplinary artist, as evidenced in *Out of the Jaws of Wesley*, a miscellany of Olds' poems, prose, book cover designs and art work, (Cold Hub Press, 2022).

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=858994>

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Residual Gleam: Selected Poems & Translations / Roger Hickin

Cold Hub Press, New Zealand 2023

86p.

9780473691387

\$ 35.00 / null

200 gm.

The poems of Residual Gleam speak of obsolete roosters and eccentric philosophers, of moth-eaten overcoats, of alcoholic raconteurs in long-gone public bars, of lost needles and Orkney kirkyards and out-of-tune pianos . . .

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=858995>

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Hoof / Kerrin P. Sharpe

Te Herenga Waka University Press, New Zealand 2023

80p. ; 21cm.

9781776921225

\$ 35.00 / null

150 gm.

Hoof by Kerrin P. Sharpe arrives with new urgency and longing. These are poems about a father who can only remember one word, ponies that grow hooves of basalt as they pull Scott and Shackleton around Otamahua in sledges, and a woman named Johanna living in a small village in Greenland. She writes about the strange places that watch over our parents, and the delicate but brutal mechanics of surgery. Famous people appear here too: Leonard Cohen, Ted Hughes, William Blake, and Benedict Cumberbatch at a bus stop.

Hoof is an invitation to travel by train through the poet's world. The trains that begin each of the three sections in the book give the reader time to stop and stare.

'Sharpe expresses herself in a pithy but understandable way, is astute at conjuring up fantastic images, and even while dealing with serious matters, she knows how to be funny. A great gift.' —NZ Listener

'One of the most original and idiosyncratic voices currently writing in New Zealand.' —Lynley Edmeades, Landfall

'Kerrin P. Sharpe is a very fine poet whose previous books hooked me with their agility, their lightness of touch, their grounding. . . . Entering the poem is like entering a show both magical and wondrous, and you just want to get another ticket and go through again.' —Paula Green, NZ Poetry Shelf

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=858996>

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The Concept Of Womanhood In The Novels Of Vikas Sharma / Nisha Singh (ed)

Women Press, Delhi 2024

xxvii, 225p.; 22 cm.

9788189110956

\$ 31.25 / HB

550 gm.



Vikas Sharma is a reputable novelist in the Indian script province. His novels, Love's Not Time's Fool, IAS Today, Raah ke Patthar, Medicine: Light in Twilight, 498A: Fears and Dreams, Ashes and Fire, Hope Against Hope, Ideas and Events, Tomorrow and Tomorrow and Tomorrow and Sana have been well acknowledged and meticulously treasured by bibliophiles all over. He has become the established appearance of efficiency and hopefulness for the young budding writers through the COVID-19. He is a celebrated appellation in the fictional world and acknowledged as a well- established Researcher, Professor, Poet and Novelist. He has many research papers to his credit in national and international journals. He has also authored, Epiphanies, a famous collection of poems and short stories besides his book, 'Novel as an Art Form' is the best selling. His latest contribution to English Literature studies is 'Six Major Poets' He has established his peculiar space in the lettering world in a bout of time by exploiting the pandemic as a prospect to fosterage his inventiveness and revolution.

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=855060>

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The Stepmother and Other Stories / Laxmibai Abhyankar; Translated from Marathi by Ranjana Kaul

Ratna Books, Delhi 2023

xii, 240p.; 22 cm.

9789355724120

\$ 15.00 / HB

300 gm.

Educated girls letting education and status go to their heads, educated, solicitous girls who know how to deal wisely both with education and tradition, widows who know their minds and want to be educated to serve other women in distress and empower them, widows who are bold enough to choose marriage, young brides and older husbands, oppression of mothers-in-law and other gossiping women who think educated women are contumacious.

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=857768>

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Modern(IST) Drama: Essays In Criticism; A Casebook / R.J. Cardullo

Primus Books, Delhi 2023

xi, 554p.; 23 cm.

Includes Index.

9789355727152

\$ 50.00 / HB

950 gm.

Modern(IST) Drama: Essays in Criticism is a casebook of ideas and arguments about Western modern drama, as well as the avant-garde kind. The author gathers a uniquely wide-ranging selection of original essays whose subjects span the late nineteenth century, most of the twentieth, and reach forward into the twenty-first. He thereby provides access to the thinking behind much of the most stimulating playwriting (and performance) the modernists had to offer, in addition to supplying guidelines to understanding current drama's most adventurous developments.

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=857776>

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Rethinking Human-Animal Relationship: Reading Stories from Bengali Literature / Anuradha Roy

Primus Books, Delhi 2023

xvii, 213p.; 22 cm.

Bibliography Includes Index.

9789356878372

\$ 15.00 / null

350 gm.

Rethinking Human-Animal Relationship engages with animal studies, a growing interdisciplinary field that reveals the deep human unreason and moral schizophrenia regarding their animal 'others'. This book focuses on the links of the unrelenting exploitation of animals throughout history to the domination of humans over other humans: women, lower classes, colonized people and other marginalized categories that are more or less animalized by oppressors. Facilitated by scientific insights into physical and emotional continuity between humans and non-humans as well as by the opening up of a theoretical space by postmodernism, postcolonialism, feminism and other such critical modes of discourse, animal studies emphasizes the human failure to look beyond themselves due to cultural blinders.

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=857772>

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The Surging Flow: Selected Poems / B.K.S. Ray

B.R. Publishing House, Delhi 2023

100p.; 22 cm.

9789391123710

\$ 6.00 / null

200 gm.

In His Collection of poems "The Surging Flow", Ray displays his poetic strength. His incorrigible optimism about human existence is astonishing. "Finally darkness will wither away, and light will triumph", says B.K.S. Ray.

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=855124>

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Tulasidasa: A Bibliography / Sudha Verma

B.R. Publishing Corporation, Delhi 2023

173p.; 22 cm.

9788170189640

\$ 22.50 / HB

450 gm.

Tulasidasa A Bibliography offers for the First time a comprehensive, systematic and thoroughly classifies corpus of research materials available on the sixteenth century poet. Containing almost 1800 entries, the bibliography includes references to works in around twenty languages and dialects of India as well as in English (7% of the total), French, German and Russian. Divided in twenty sections, the present monograph gives separate treatment to each of the compositions attributed to Tulasidasa.

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=855123>

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Buddhist Impact on Rabindranath Tagore's Creations / Dipankar Salui

Buddhist World Press, Delhi 2023

xxi, 245p.; 22 cm.

Includes Bibliography.

9789391985325

\$ 28.75 / HB

550 gm.

Buddhist Impact on Rabindranath Tagore Creations is one of the extremely important and very much relevant fields of studies in present academic world. Rabindranath Tagore, a great poet and philosopher, cherished a genuine love and admiration for Gautama the Buddha as the greatest man ever born on this earth. The greatness of the Buddha and that of Buddhist culture are equally manifested in his life and works. His superb songs and poems in praise of the Master, his dramas and inimitable prose writings glorifying the eternal virtues of Buddhism remain unparalleled in modern Indian literature and as a matter of fact, in any literature of the world. Besides, his keen and deep interest for the revival of Buddhist culture in our national life bears ample testimony to his love of Buddhism. Therefore, Tagore can rightly be called a modern torch-bearer of Buddhism culture.

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=855122>

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Agony of Sita / Malinee

B.R. Publishing Corporation, Delhi 2023

vii, 240p.; 22 cm.

9788176467346

\$ 28.75 / HB

500 gm.

In the book 'Agony of Sita' the feelings of Rama's wife are being narrated starting from her birth to till her entry to the bosom of mother earth. Sita was the daughter of king Janaka and the wife of the great king Rama of Ayodhya, but she spent most of the days of her lifetime in exile. Although Sita is the central woman character in the Ramayana and her nature and quality has been described in different manners, but nowhere the agony and feelings of Sita is being described in Ramayana.

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=855121>

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Commitment and Fulfilment: Selected Poems / B.K.S. Ray

B.R. Publishing Corporation, Delhi 2023

100p.; 22 cm.

9789391123642

\$ 6.00 / null

200 gm.

In his Collection of poems "Commitment and Fulfilment", B.K.S. Ray reveals his strong feelings for loyalty in man-woman relationship, a quest for peace and harmony, a world free from war, violence and aggression, his love for humanity, and a relentless passion for truth. His poetic style is unique. He looks upon poetry as an instrument for liberation.

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=855127>

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Culture and Circulation: Literature In Motion In Early Modern India / Allison Busch, Thomas de Bruijn

Primus Books, Delhi 2022

xviii, 341p.; 23 cm.

Includes Index.

9789391144586

\$ 37.50 / HB

750 gm.

Culture and Circulation takes an innovative approach to early modern Indian literature. The authors foreground the complex hybridity of literary genres and social milieus, capturing elements that have eluded traditional literary history. In this book, jointly edited by Allison Busch and Thomas de Bruijn, Hindi authors rub shoulders with their Persian counterparts in the courts of Mughal India; the fame of Mirabai, a poetess from Rajasthan, travels to Punjab; the sayings of Kabir are found to be as difficult to pin down as the wandering holy men who transmitted them.

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=857793>

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Selected Works of Indira Goswami (Mamoni Raisom Goswami) / Indira Goswami

B.R. Publishing Corporation, Delhi 2023

xiv, 210p.; 22 cm.

9788170185260

\$ 26.25 / HB

500 gm.

The Book Opens With One Of The Most Sensitive Parts Of The Author's Autobiography Which Was First Published In Assamese. It Deals With Her Childhood At Shillong, Her Obsession About Death And Her Intense Love For Her Father, The European Teachers Of Her School. She Goes On To Tell Us About Her Youth Hounded By Death And Darkness. She Writes About Her Various Admirers, And Her First Love And Life With Her Husband Who Was Killed In A Terrible Accident. An Introduction And Two Excerpts From Her Classical Assamese Novel, 'UNe Khowa Howda' (Moth-eaten Howda) Are Also Included.

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=855131>

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Sri Ranganatha Ramayana: Rendering Into English From Telugu / Shantilal Nagar  
B.R. Publishing Corporation, Delhi 2023

xx, 431p.; 27 cm.

Includes Index.

9788176461870

\$ 123.75 / HB

1450 gm.

Ever Since the composing of the epic of Valmiki, the story Rama which had been so popular already in the country in fragments, received a great boost. Indeed the very format of the story was changed from the short folk-tales so commonly available like pebbles and in fragments to continue, will knit story, earning at the same time the first poetic work in Sanskrit in the country.

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=855130>

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Measured, Silk & Other Stories / Sless, Justine

Australian Scholarly Publishing, Australia 2023

102 pages, 20cm

9781923068025

\$ 32.95 / null

140 gm.

Measured, Silk & Other Stories

Loneliness is worse than smoking ...

Measured

A small crocheted pink dress falls out of the bag she is carrying, but the woman doesn't notice and keeps walking.

Silk

It may seem like a lot now, \$5,700 for the day, but in the long run it will save you money.

& Other Stories

The door shuts behind them with a quiet click.

'The description of the everyday so luminous, unapologetic and joyous it feels like salvation.' – Angela Readman, author of Don't Try This at Home and The Girls are Pretty Crocodiles

'Lyrical and spare, Sless's prose etches an emotional heft so deep that it almost feels like a sleight of hand. Infused with the inescapable weight of loneliness, these subtly interconnected stories reveal the momentary solace found in small rituals and everyday kindnesses.' – Melissa Manning, author of Smokehouse, 2022 Victorian Premier's Literary Award for Fiction

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=857724>

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Collecting Life / Roberts, Frances Daggar

Ginninderra Press, Port Adelaide, Australia 2023

68 pages, 20cm

9781761095979

\$ 34.99 / null

85 gm.

Frances Daggar Roberts is an Australian poet who grew up in a remote area where she began to write poetry to capture the love she felt for plants, animals and landscape. She lives with her partner in a bushland setting close to Sydney and now focuses on her art and poetry having retired from her psychology work at the end of 2022. As a psychologist, Frances was treating people with significant anxiety and depression. Compassion for those who struggle with such issues has led to the frequent exploration in her more recent poetry of human need, sorrow and resilience. Frances was also a teacher of English and languages and a former professional ballet dancer with the Australian ballet. She selected this range of poems because they significantly capture words and concepts that increased awareness of the many different perceptions that underwrites powerful contributions to the different inspirations in many ideas.

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=857732>

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take me for tame / Rockman, Shoshanna

Ginninderra Press, Port Adelaide, Australia 2023

62 pages, 20cm

9781761096143

\$ 32.99 / null

80 gm.

'Rockman's take me for tame introduces us to an emerging poet exploring identity, trauma and chaos. Passionate, confessional and resolute, with her outlook and inclinations laid bare, she seeks the kind of poetry that 'delivers a swift and potent punch'. Is she the Medusa she so admires? A mother, lover and She-Wolf combined? Whatever you decide you've no choice but to ask: Who is this new maverick poet?' - Nathan Curnow

'What? No! Help! Here comes a new poet, right at me, right over the top of me, like a steamroller wearing dancing shoes. And all I can say is - Yes! Yes! And also - Help! The inexorable verve of this book! Whew! Shoshanna Rockman has mad skillz and a pocket full of firecrackers.' - Jennifer Compton

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=857734>

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Please Feed the Macaws...I'm Feeling Too Indolent / Densley, Kevin

Ginninderra Press, Port Adelaide, Australia 2023

66 pages, 20cm

9781761096167

\$ 34.99 / null

85 gm.

'Kevin Densley's Please Feed the Macaws...I'm Feeling Too Indolent is lively as a string of firecrackers. Combining wry observations on the shortcomings of culture and politics with keen historical portraiture and a new kind of dense poetic squib - packed with a whole poem's charge in a few short lines - the collection crackles into life on every page. His vision is both broad and specific. Broad, when he focuses on the mythic figures that shape our world - Madonna and Child, Kate Kelly in her brothers' shadow, even Nosferatu winking from the wings - but specific in the small, delightful ways he brings them to life. Solemn-serious, building the early bridges, graceful as a cow with a cup of tea. Please Feed the Macaws is a collection that sighs, and rages, at the inanities of the world - then sets out to change them, one line and coruscating image at a time.' - James Roderick Burns

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=857735>

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Calico Flowers / Vecchio, Zenda

Ginninderra Press, Port Adelaide, Australia 2023

98 pages, 21cm

9781761096075

\$ 39.99 / null

145 gm.

This collection of short stories - probably my last - is made up of remnants, snippets of dreams, of things that have happened and things that I have only imagined. Hopefully, together they make up a field of flowers even if the flowers are only made up of fabric.

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=857730>

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Rambles / Copello, Beatriz

Ginninderra Press, Port Adelaide, Australia 2023

78 pages, 19cm

9781761095993

\$ 34.99 / null

95 gm.

'Do not expect gentle rambles through the countryside. Beatriz Copello takes us on rough treks - through broken worlds, past "sleepwalkers trained to kill", "banquets of horror / tablecloth tinted in blood", "dolphins wrapped in plastic bags", "bats without trees" - challenging us to read briskly, urgently and breathe often. We are rewarded with times of love and with exquisite encounters with the numinous; we are offered tender hope. There are deep troughs and dark tunnels to navigate but with this highly acclaimed wordsmith we are drawn on by what the French philosopher Simone Weil calls "this something" In safe hands, we witness hollowness and hypocrisy and find our hunger is sated with the better angels of raw honesty. For us pilgrims, this is a searing and rewarding read.' - Colleen Keating

'Copello wears her heart, her mind, her eyes plus anger & love on her sleeve. All in or nothing!' - Les Wicks

'Beatriz Copello offers bold and inquisitive poems for our turbulent times. She speaks of the how, the why and the if of our relationship with our precious, corrupted planet. Circling through time and memory to have us protected by the "purple shawl" of a wisteria, moved by "the stories of the ancient past" and enriched by her sharp way of unravelling womanhood.' - Angela Costi

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=857731>

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Incandescence / Forbes, Tracey-Anne

Ginninderra Press, Port Adelaide, Australia 2023

192 pages, 21cm

9781761096013

\$ 49.99 / null

260 gm.

Light a fire of fear. A young woman stalked and raped by a police officer in a country town. Light a fire of anger. A journalist incensed by injustice on a journey to hunt down a fugitive. Light a fire of desire. One woman's quest to reconnect with a flame from the past. INCANDESCENCE.

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=857727>

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The road taken : & other stories / Brelsford, David

Ginninderra Press, Port Adelaide, Australia 2023

118 pages, 21cm

9781761096112

\$ 39.99 / null

170 gm.

David Brelsford is a shameless dog lover as is evident in many of his short stories. He is currently the joint owner (with his wife) of a gentle springer spaniel, but has fantasies of one day owning a Bernese mountain dog. He has undertaken charity runs to raise funds for motor neurone disease, but at 81 his running days are over. He now contents himself with being a mad keen square dancer. He has three sons and four lovely grandchildren. He also loves classical music and does part-time work for the homeless.

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=857728>

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Hard Yards / Lucashenko, Melissa  
University of Queensland Press, Australia 2023  
272 pages, 20cm  
9780702266089  
\$ 29.99 / null  
280 gm.

A powerful story of life and death on the run, from the Miles Franklin Literary Award-winning author of *Too Much Lip*

Roo Glover has two highly desirable talents - he can fight, and he can run like the clappers. In the inner-city's harsh code there are losers and survivors, and Roo's a survivor. He's made it through adoption, juvenile detention and poverty. He's an athlete in training, aching towards the dream of Olympic qualification. He's even coping with being white in the turbulent Aboriginal family of his girlfriend. But when cousin Stanley dies in custody, and Roo finds his father in the same week, trouble starts to catch up with him.

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=857741>

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Salonika Burning / Jones, Gail  
Text Publishing Company, Australia 2023  
256 pages, 20cm  
9781922790538  
\$ 29.99 / null  
245 gm.

Four historical figures cross paths amidst the chaos of war in this immersive and beautifully written novel by award-winning Australian author Gail Jones, now available in paperback

MACEDONIA, 1917. The great city of Salonika is engulfed by fire as all of Europe is ravaged by war.

Amid the destruction are those who have come to the frontlines to heal - surgeons, ambulance drivers, nurses, orderlies and other volunteers. Four of them - Stella, Olive, Grace and Stanley - are at the centre of Gail Jones's extraordinary new novel, which takes its inspiration from the wartime experiences of Australians Miles Franklin and Olive King, and British painters Grace Pailthorpe and Stanley Spencer. In Jones's imagination these four lives intertwine and change, each compelled by the desire to create something meaningful in the ruins of a broken world.

Immersive and gripping, *Salonika Burning* illuminates not only the devastation of war but also the vast social upheaval of the times. It shows Gail Jones to be at the height of her powers.

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=857742>

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The Moon the Bone / Metcalf, Tim  
Ginninderra Press, Port Adelaide, Australia 2023  
200 pages, 20cm  
9781761096051  
\$ 49.99 / null  
225 gm.

Working in the Australian bush for almost forty years has brought forth from Tim Metcalf a robust, adaptable and independent poetry, the downside being that he is less known in the urban centres. This selection from his nine books aims to redress the situation and bring this wide-ranging and extensively published poet to broader attention.

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=857737>

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Excitations of Entanglement / Bartlett, John

Ginninderra Press, Port Adelaide, Australia 2023

112 pages

9781761096136

\$ 34.99 / null

130 gm.

What some poetry prize judges say about John Bartlett's poetry:

'This impressive poem works delightfully with rhythm, alliteration and imagery throughout. The relatively short lines work as delicate steps, just as fragile and testing as a heron's steps. "Survival" hinges on the word "despite" that concludes with a message of optimism: "the brooding hope...triumphant." In all, a masterly poem. - Judges report, the Ada Cambridge Poetry Prize 2020

"Pilgrimages of the Short-finned Eel" was simple arresting writing. It made me curious to read and reread it. Wonderful images like "earthskin rupture", "the tremble-tremble, The Great Shuddering"; somehow these phrases created a sense of the enormous energy of the life force that brings eels to our rivers and years later sends them back to the Coral Sea to spawn, and there is much more meaning in that poem than I have time for here.' - Judge Josephine Clark in Mundaring Poetry Competition 2021

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A Christmas Posy / Johnson, Judith E. P.

Ginninderra Press, Port Adelaide, Australia 2023

68 pages, 18cm

9781761096037

\$ 21.99 / null

75 gm.

'A Christmas Posy is a wonderful collection of haiku. A longing for Christmas is in these pages. We all have our own Christmas memories; the only difference is that it is summer and a kookaburra is laughing as in the song we sang in distant days. However, there may be another aspect to Christmas. Another Christmas story would be in the heart of the reader.' - Toshio Kimura, Professor of English, Nihon University, Tokyo

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Celestials, The / Roberts, Ian David

Australian Scholarly Publishing, Australia 2023

238 pages, 20cm

9781922952806

\$ 44.95 / HB

410 gm.



Outcasts, Outlaws and Why Ned Kelly Yearned for China

This story begins in Guangzhou China with the commencement of the Second Opium war. After the British bombardment of their home and city, two teenagers, a brother and younger sister, are sent by their parents to Tsin Chin Shan, the New Gold Mountain, in the colony of Victoria. As Chinese, the siblings and their compatriots are outsiders in the goldfields. They are on the margins of colonial society, as are the poor Irish settlers with whom they find they have interests in common. Their interaction with the notorious Kelly Gang becomes a dangerous political alliance ...

'The Celestials is a marvel – radical and contemplative, adventurous and moving.'  
Barry Hill, poet and historian

'The Celestials is profound meditation on the quality of human pilgrimage through the landscapes of China and Australia. An epic and rich narrative. Vitality, power, pathos and keenly humane observation, resonances which touch and elucidate the world of contemporary Australia.' Richard Mills AM, composer and Artistic Director, Victorian Opera

'The Celestials is a love song to this country. As a Eurasian woman I was deeply moved.' Vanessa Maria Bates, playwright

'Writing of heart-felt delicacy miraculously turns one of Australia's best-known episodes on its head with radical reimagining, yet drawn from intriguing research of the historical record. The Celestials is a revelation in its stillness as it recounts well-known events of outrageous violence and rebellion.' Jonathan Mills, composer and director of festivals in Edinburgh and Melbourne

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= Selected Translations of Sagawa Chika's Poems: /  
, , Japan 2023  
91p ; 19cm + (1)  
9784783745181  
\$ 36.00 / HB

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=856576>

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The Future of English Spreading Around the World: A Brief History of English  
Language and Literature /  
, Japan 2023  
145p ; 22cm  
9784947553935  
\$ 32.00 / HB

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=856573>

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Dukhi Dadiba and the Irony of Fate: A Novel / Dadi Edulji Taraporewala;  
Translated from Gujarati by Aban Mukherji and Tulsi Vasal  
Ratna Books, Delhi 2023  
314p.; ill. 22 cm.  
9789356873636  
\$ 17.50 / HB  
500 gm.

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=857842>

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Aurangzeb: Monarch and Man – A Play / Indira Parthasarathy; Translated from  
Tamil by T. Sriraman  
Ratna Books, Delhi 2023  
99p.; 22 cm.  
9789356875241

\$ 10.00 / HB  
300 gm.

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=857843>

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Understanding Drama: A Student Companion / R.J. Cardullo  
Primus Books, Delhi 2022

xviii, 346p.; 23 cm.  
Bibliography Includes Index.

9789355721051

\$ 40.00 / HB  
700 gm.

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=857844>

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Ashokamitran's Chennai / Ashokamitran; Translated from Tamil by K.S.  
Subramanian

Ratna Books, Delhi 2022

146p.; 22 cm.

9789355723888

\$ 11.25 / HB  
350 gm.

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=857840>

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Ananta Jeevanam: A Novel / Kolakaluri Enoch; Translated from Telugu by the  
Author

Ratna Books, Delhi 2023

311p.; 22 cm.

9789355723987

\$ 15.00 / HB  
500 gm.

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=857841>

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Password and Other Stories / Appadurai Muttulingam; Translated from Tamil by  
S. Thillainayagam

Ratna Books, Delhi 2022

205p.; 22 cm.

9789355530639

\$ 15.00 / HB  
400 gm.

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=857839>

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The Lovers / Kassab, Yumna

Ultimo Books 2023

256 pages, 19cm

9781761153174

\$ 29.99 / null  
245 gm.

'her writing is poetic and reverential. The author's understanding of love, romance and of responsibility runs deep.' – Books + Publishing

What happens when we become used to each other, when we become bored, when we anticipate each other's moods like the seasons cycled in a day? What happens when you are tired of me and I tire of you?

Every couple has a story. How they met, how they fell in love – their ups, their downs. What made them want to be in each other's arms day and night. The struggle of family expectations. The need to please each other, the desire to go their separate ways. It is about the private universe between two people as they try to hold to each other despite the barriers of geography, culture and class.

Every couple has a beginning, a middle, and maybe an end.

The Lovers is an enchanting fable that explores the light and dark of a relationship – a love distilled down to its barest form. You might think you know this story. Maybe you do.

#### PRAISE FOR THE LOVERS

'Sometimes, Kassab shows us, love can be another word for cruelty. Sometimes the stories we hide behind reveal our deepest truths.' - Sydney Morning Herald

'Beautifully told in Yumna Kassab's poetic prose, The Lovers is both the story of the tumultuous relationship between Amir and Jamila and an exploration of class, culture and the complex nature of love.' - Sunday Life

'The delicate power that fables hold – their universality, while retaining their specificity – is captured in The Lovers. Ultimately, Kassab's novel rests on the premise of the 'impossibility of language, of being able to ever understand someone else.'" - Artshub

'her writing is poetic and reverential. The author's understanding of love, romance and of responsibility runs deep.' - Books + Publishing

'a raw, haunting and honest look at love, relationships, and the moments that break us.' - Mamamia

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=857835>

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An Afterlife for Rosemary Lamb / Wolhuter, Louise

Ultimo Books 2023

304 pages, 19cm

9781761151712

\$ 29.99 / null

270 gm.

Jessie Else disappeared the summer the Lambs came to Magpie Beach. Not that the two events were connected at all, in reality; only in my own head, in my own world. They marked for me the end of a certain quiet time and the start of a more complicated living.

Winifred is a small town full of prejudices and assumptions. Meg and Lily are outsiders who live on its margins at Magpie Beach, where they've managed to keep out of each other's – and everyone else's – way for years. That is, until Rosemary comes along and draws them into an unlikely friendship.

When nine-year-old Jessie Else goes missing, the residents of Winifred begin locking their doors, and fingers soon start pointing towards Magpie Beach. Questions threaten to undo Meg, Rosemary and Lily's quiet existence, and the women band together to protect themselves, and to protect each other, but all three are holding secrets that are too big for them to keep on their own.

It's only a matter of time before they start to unravel—and nothing will ever be the same again.

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=857836>

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Love Letter to Lola / Bird, Carmel

Spineless Wonders, Australia 2023

240 pages, 29cm

9781925052961

\$ 34.99 / null

290 gm.

'You clamber up, heading for the exit, the circle of faint light, as the radiance of the pre-dawn leads you on toward freedom. I follow. You spread your darling wings. You enter the net that awaits you.'

Bold, tender, and often fantastical, *Love Letter to Lola* enters the very pain of loss and grief while preserving a wise, sly, humorous, and ironic point of view. The thylacine, the dodo, the passenger pigeon, the blue macaw are all candidates to return from extinction, and here each is given its own moving narrative. The meaning of the British monarchy is challenged by a green spider; a unicorn and the rainbow serpent contemplate the end of the world; an angel gives his perspective on human life and love with a thoughtful and exquisite mischief. The author's own 'Reflection' on the inspiration and the construction of the stories is a swift and penetrating conversation on how writing happens.

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=857838>

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This Devastating Fever / Cunningham, Sophie

Ultimo Books 2023

320 pages, 19cm

9781761151491

\$ 29.99 / null

300 gm.

'This is a great novel of enduring significance and enormous beauty.' - Sydney Morning Herald

Sometimes you need to delve into the past, to make sense of the present

Alice had not expected to spend most of the twenty-first century writing about Leonard Woolf. When she stood on Morell Bridge watching fireworks explode from the rooftops of Melbourne at the start of a new millennium, she had only two thoughts. One was: the fireworks are better in Sydney. The other was: is Y2K going to be a thing? Y2K was not a thing. But there were worse disasters to come. Environmental collapse. The return of fascism. Wars. A sexual reckoning. A plague.

Uncertain of what to do she picks up an unfinished project and finds herself trapped with the ghosts of writers past. What began as a novel about a member of the Bloomsbury Set, colonial administrator, publisher and husband of one the most famous English writers of the last hundred years becomes something else altogether.

Complex, heartfelt, darkly funny and deeply moving, this is Sophie Cunningham's most important book to date - a dazzlingly original novel about what it's like to live through a time that feels like the end of days, and how we can find comfort and answers in the past.

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=857834>

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