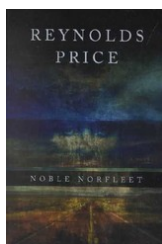
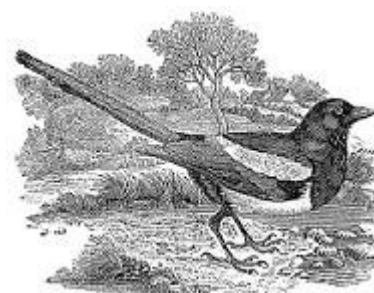


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Reynolds Price. **Noble Norfleet: A Novel.** ISBN 0743204174. Scribner, 2002. Hardcover, 307 Pp.

Among American novelists, Reynolds Price has few peers as a teller of lives. Beginning with *Kate Vaiden*, winner of the National Book Critics Circle Award in 1986, and continuing with *Blue Calhoun* and *Roxanna Slade*, he has created -- in their own voices -- characters who lay their whole lives before us with all the honesty and eloquence they can muster. Their confessions may at first seem ordinary; but as they speak, they reveal both their uniqueness and their secret kinship with almost any reader. Now in *Noble Norfleet*, Price offers his most ambitious life tale yet. A few days before he turns eighteen in 1968, a tragic event eliminates Noble Norfleet's family. With no close relatives to turn to, he stays with the old black woman who tended his childhood; and he throws himself recklessly into a love affair with his high-school Spanish teacher, a woman whose husband is away in Vietnam. Stunned and baffled by the onset of visions, he seeks guidance from his mother's Christian minister, only to find himself tangled in a thicket of another sort. When Noble graduates in the turbulent spring of the murders of Martin Luther King and Robert Kennedy, he enlists in the army and serves in Vietnam as a combat medic. While there, he undergoes an inexplicable -- perhaps visionary -- experience that seems profoundly related to his recent past and his future. While he never fully comprehends what has occurred, he returns home compelled to continue his service, ultimately as a civilian nurse. For the next thirty years, his life is externally calm yet perpetually troubled by a compulsion to worship women -- above all, their bodies. Absorbed in a succession of such relations, he acquires few friends or external trappings, though he always remains a dutiful nurse; and he nears middle age in a loneliness he fears. Then an unexpected event forces him to rethink the old mystery that claimed his family. Faced with an ominous choice, he finally begins to accept the large duty he has tried to ignore through his whole adult life.

**Publisher's Price \$26.00    Our Price €5,50**



Reynolds Price. **The Surface Of Earth.** ISBN 0684813394. Simon & Schuster, 1995. Paperback, 512 Pp.

Published in 1975, *The Surface of Earth* is the monumental narrative that charts the slow, inextricable twining of the Mayfield and Kendal families. Set in the plain of North Carolina and the coast and hills of Virginia from 1903 to 1944, it chronicles the marriage of Forrest Mayfield and Eva Kendal, the hard birth of their son, Eva's return to her father after her mother's death, and the lives of two succeeding generations.

*The Surface of Earth* is the work of one of America's supreme masters of fiction, a journey across time and the poignantly evoked America of the first half of our century that explores the mysterious topography of the powers of love, home, and identity. In his evocation of the hungers, defeats, and rewards of individuals in moments of dark solitude and radiant union, Price has created an enduring literary testament to the range of human life.

**Publisher's Price \$14.00    Our Price €3,50**



Reynolds Price. **Kate Vaiden**. ISBN 0684846942. Simon & Schuster, 1998. Paperback, 320 Pp.

One of the most feisty, spellbinding and engaging heroines in modern fiction captures the essence of her own life in this contemporary American odyssey born of red-clay land and small-town people. We meet Kate at a crucial moment in middle age when she begins to yearn to see the son she abandoned when she was seventeen. But if she decides to seek him, will he understand her? Winner of the National Book Critics Circle Award, *Kate Vaiden* is a penetrating psychological portrait of an ordinary woman in extraordinary circumstances, a story as joyous, tragic, comic and compelling as life itself.

**Publisher's Price \$14.00    Our Price €3,50**

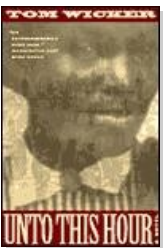


Reynolds Price. **The Promise Of Rest**. ISBN 0684825104. Simon & Schuster, 1996. Paperback, 368 Pp.

In this stunning and fully independent conclusion to *A Great Circle*, Reynolds Price tells the complex, moving story of a man's return home to die of AIDS and of the unexpected effect that his arrival -- and his death -- has on his family.

Wade Mayfield's parents are separated, but for the remaining months of his life they and their friends come together to care for Wade with the love they can muster. They are unprepared, however, for the astonishing mystery Wade has prepared to reveal once he is gone -- a mystery that initiates the possible reunion of his parents and promises to continue the proud traditions of a complex, multiracial family.

**Publisher's Price \$13.00    Our Price €3,50**



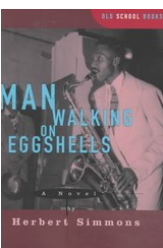
Tom Wicker. **Unto This Hour: A Novel**. ISBN 0820319643. University of Georgia Press, 1997. Paperback, 642 Pp.

This monumental novel vividly recounts five long days in Virginia in August 1862, when an outnumbered Confederate army delivered a smashing blow to Union forces. From war correspondents, farmers, and slaves to foot soldiers, officers, wives and lovers on both sides of the conflict, Tom Wicker creates a most memorable cast.

“A powerful and moving story that comes about as close as fiction can to conveying the actual horror, chaos, and excitement of war.” — *Publishers Weekly*

**Publisher's Price \$24.95    Our Price €5,50**

Historical fiction from the former nationally syndicated columnist and associate editor of the *New York Times*.

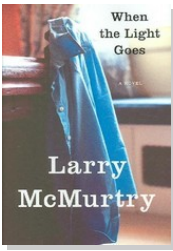


Herbert Simmons. **Man Walking On Eggshells**. ISBN 0393316181. W. W. Norton, 1997. Paperback, 221 Pp.

First published in 1962, this novel is one of the most lyrical and authentic portraits of a jazz musician ever published. Born into violence, in the midst of a destructive tornado that flattens sections of East St. Louis, Raymond Douglas overcomes obstacles of family and race to become a jazz trumpeter whose music touches greatness.

“In a brilliant, soulful, poetic style, [Simmons] captures the feelings of the neighborhoods, the sense of community and the sophistication of the streets that provided the wellspring for many of America's most creative and enduring masters of musical improvisation.... What makes Simmons' novel so compelling is his daring to create a fictional character based on but as unique as [Miles] Davis himself.... Simmons's prose, like jazz, flows in a series of beautifully constructed improvisatory passages of lyrical images, sounds and stories that invite us to wake up and be part of the world from which this music originated—a world that has all but vanished.” — *Los Angeles Times Sunday Book Review*

**Publisher's Price \$11.00    Our Price €3,00**

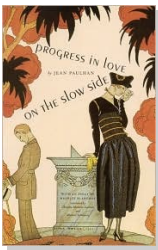


Larry McMurtry. **When The Light Goes: A Novel.** ISBN 1416534261. Simon & Schuster, 2007. Hardcover, 195 Pp.

In this masterful and often surprising sequel to the acclaimed *Duane's Depressed*, the Pulitzer Prize- and Oscar-winning author of *Lonesome Dove* has written a haunting, elegiac, and occasionally erotic novel about one of his most beloved characters. Duane Moore first made his appearance in *The Last Picture Show* and, like his author, he has aged but not lost his vigor or his taste for life.

At once realistic and life-loving, often hilariously funny, and always moving, though without a touch of sentimentality, Larry McMurtry has opened up a new chapter in Duane's life and, in doing so, written one of his finest and most compelling novels to date, doing for Duane what he did so triumphantly for Aurora in *Terms of Endearment*.

**Publisher's Price \$24.00    Our Price €5,00**



Jean Paulhan. **Progress In Love On The Slow Side.** Christine Moneera Laennec and Michael Syrotinski, trans. ISBN 0803237057. University of Nebraska Press, 1994. Hardcover, 146 Pp.

Jean Paulhan (1884–1968) is renowned in France both for his unrivaled skill as an editor and for his own subtle yet incisive writings. Paulhan directed the *Nouvelle Revue Française* for thirty years, helping to make it into the foremost literary journal of his generation. Many of the most celebrated French writers of the period—Artaud, Bataille, Blanchot, Caillois, Camus, Giono, and Ponge, to name only a few—owe their rise to literary prominence in large part to Paulhan's rare vision, insightful criticism, and unfailing support.

Although best known for his theoretical writings of the 1940s and 1950s, Paulhan established his reputation as a writer with his short fictional tales, or *récits*, composed during or just after World War I. Many of them have the war as their backdrop and are autobiographical in origin, evoking Paulhan's time in Madagascar, his brush with death while suffering from pneumonia, and his awkward love life. More than the subject matter, it is the precise, restrained lyricism of the prose, and Paulhan's attentiveness to the quirks and subtle twists of language, that make these stories so remarkable for their time. This book contains a selection of five of the best-known *récits*: *Progress in Love on the Slow Side*, *The Severe Recovery*, *The Crossed Bridge*, *Aytre Gets Out of the Habit*, and *Lalie*. Maurice Blanchot's tribute to Paulhan, "The Ease of Dying," is also included.

In 1945 Paulhan received the Grand Prix de Littérature and in 1951 the Grand Prix de la Ville de Paris; he was elected to the Académie Française in 1965.

**Publisher's Price \$45.00    Our Price €6,50**



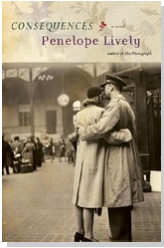
Penelope Lively. **Making It Up.** ISBN 0670034479. Viking, 2005. Hardcover, 215 Pp.

Authors of fiction are often asked, "How much of what you write comes from your own life?" This is especially the case for Penelope Lively, whose celebrated works such as *The Photograph* and the Booker Prize-winning *Moon Tiger* ring so true that they seem to tread that fine line between fact and fiction.

*Making It Up* is Lively's engrossing and deftly constructed response. What if her family's escape from Egypt during World War II had a different outcome? What would her life have been like if she'd become pregnant at eighteen? Or if she had married someone else?

As Lively weaves through very plausible hesitations, choices, and definitive moments of a life, she also offers a meditation on the nature of fate, destiny, and choice. An examination of those junctures when a split-second decision can change everything, *Making It Up* is a striking testament to Lively's distinctive gifts and a rare opportunity to glimpse how real life can inspire great fiction.

**Publisher's Price \$24.95    Our Price €6,00**



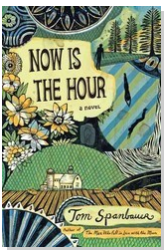
Penelope Lively. **Consequences**. ISBN 0670038563. Viking, 2007. Hardcover, 258 Pp.

The Booker Prize-winning author's first novel since *The Photograph* is a sweeping saga of three generations of women, their lives, and loves

A chance meeting in St. James's Park begins young Lorna and Matt's intense relationship. Wholly in love, they leave London for a cottage in a rural Somerset village. Their intimate life together—Matt's wood-carving, Lorna's self-discovery, their new baby, Molly—is shattered with the arrival of World War II. In 1960s London, Molly happens upon a forgotten newspaper—a seemingly small moment that leads to her first job and, eventually, a pregnancy by a wealthy man who wants to marry her but whom she does not love. Thirty years later, Ruth, who has always considered her existence a peculiar accident, questions her own marriage and begins a journey that takes her back to 1941—and a redefinition of herself and of love.

Told in Lively's incomparable prose, *Consequences* is a powerful story of growth, death, and rebirth and a study of the previous century—its major and minor events, its shaping of public consciousness, and its changing of lives.

**Publisher's Price \$24.95    Our Price €6,00**



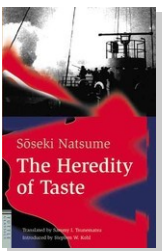
Tom Spanbauer. **Now Is The Hour**. ISBN 0618584218. Houghton Mifflin, 2006. Hardcover, 459 Pp.

The year is 1967, and Rigby John Klusener, seventeen years old and finally leaving his home and family in Pocatello, Idaho, is on the highway with his thumb out and a flower behind his ear, headed for San Francisco. Now Is the Hour is the wondrous story of how Rigby John got to this point. It traces his gradual emancipation from the repressions of a strictly religious farming family and from the small-minded,

bigoted community in which he has grown up during a time of explosive cultural change. Transforming this familiar journey from American Graffiti to On the Road into something rich and strange and hilarious is the persona of Rigby John himself. Intimately in touch with his fears, hesitantly awakening to his own sexuality, and palpably open to life's mysteries, Rigby John is a protagonist whom readers will fall in love with, root for, and be moved by.

*Now Is the Hour* is a powerful, vastly entertaining story of self-awakening, of the complex bonds of family, and ultimately of America during a period of tremendous upheaval.

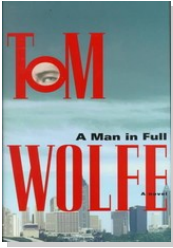
**Publisher's Price \$26.00    Our Price €6,00**



Soseki Natsume. **The Heredity of Taste**. Sammy I. Tsunematsu, trans. ISBN 0804836027. Tuttle, 2005. Paperback, 105 Pp.

Written in eight days, in December 1905, and published in the January 1906 issue of the magazine *Teikoku Bungaku* (Imperial Literature), *Shumi ni iden* (*The Heredity of Taste*) is Soseki Natsume's only anti-war work. Chronicling the mourning process of a narrator haunted by his friend's death, the story reveals, Soseki's attitude to the atrocity of war, specifically to Russo-Japanese War of 1904-5, and to the personal tragedies and loss of individuality of young men like his hero Ko-san, and the sacrifices made by both the living and the dead. Although the first part of the story powerfully describes the narrator's visions of the war dead, including the recurring vision of Ko-san who cannot climb out of a ditch and return from the war, it is the second half, in which a beautiful and mysterious woman appears before the narrator at Ko-san's grave, with the promise of transcendence, that grips our attention. The story centers on finding out the identity of this woman and her relationship with Ko-san, with its implication that what should have been a love story has been shattered by the reality of war—a reminder of the magnitude of Japan's sacrifice for its so-called victory.

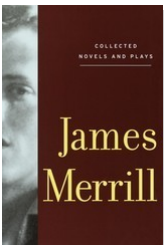
**Publisher's Price \$12.95    Our Price €4,00**



Tom Wolfe. **A Man in Full**. ISBN 0553111647. Bantam Books, 1998. Hardcover, 752 Pp.

A decade ago, *The Bonfire of the Vanities* defined an era--and established Tom Wolfe as our prime fictional chronicler of America at its most outrageous and alive. This time the setting is Atlanta, Georgia--a racially mixed late-century boomtown full of fresh wealth, avid speculators, and worldly-wise politicians. The protagonist is Charles Croker, once a college football star, now a late-middle-aged Atlanta real-estate entrepreneur turned conglomerate king, whose expansionist ambitions and outsize ego have at last hit up against reality. Charlie has a 28,000-acre quail-shooting plantation, a young and demanding second wife--and a half-empty office tower with a staggering load of debt. When star running back Fareek Fanon--the pride of one of Atlanta's grimmest slums--is accused of raping an Atlanta blueblood's daughter, the city's delicate racial balance is shattered overnight. Networks of illegal Asian immigrants crisscrossing the continent, daily life behind bars, shady real-estate syndicates, cast-off first wives of the corporate elite, the racially charged politics of college sports--Wolfe shows us the disparate worlds of contemporary America with all the verve, wit, and insight that have made him our most phenomenal, most admired contemporary novelist.

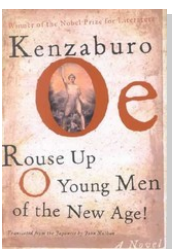
**Publisher's Price \$39.95    Our Price €6,50**



James Merrill. **Collected Novels And Plays**. ISBN 0375411372. Alfred A. Knopf, 2002. Hardcover, 676 Pp.

Merrill's first novel, *The Seraglio*, is a daring roman à clef derived in large part from his early life as the cosmopolitan son of Charles Merrill, one of America's most famous twentieth-century financiers. Written in a highly refined prose that owes something to Henry James, the book is a compelling portrait of the luxury and treachery swirling around the Southampton beach house of an irrepressible family patriarch, with his many mistresses and ex-mistresses in attendance, told from the point of view of his lively but troubled son. At the other end of the narrative spectrum we find *The (Diblos) Notebook*, an experimental novel in which a young American's adventures on a Greek island are deconstructed and assembled into a tentative fiction before our eyes. Merrill's plays, including the one-act comedy of manners *The Bait* and the Chekhovian *The Immortal Husband*--a reinvention of the myth of Tithonus, who was granted eternal life but not eternal youth--are also fresh turns on his characteristic themes: home and travel, reality and artifice, simplicity and complication. And, for the first time in print, here is Merrill's short play *The Birthday*, a fledgling effort written in 1947 and a fascinating window onto the concern with spiritual communication and the otherworldly that would later blossom into his great epic, *The Changing Light at Sandover*.

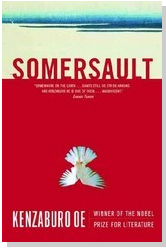
**Publisher's Price \$40.00    Our Price €8,50**



Kenzaburo Oe. **Rouse Up, O Young Men Of The New Age!** John Nathan, trans. ISBN 0802117104. Grove Press, 2002. Hardcover, 259 Pp.

*Rouse Up O Young Men of the New Age!* is a virtuoso novel from one of today's finest authors. K is a famous writer living in Tokyo with his wife and three children, one of whom is mentally disabled. This child, Eeyore, has been doing disturbing things--behaving aggressively, asserting that he's dead, even brandishing a knife at his mother--and K, given to retreat from reality into abstraction, looks for answers in his lifelong love of William Blake's poetry. As K struggles to understand his family and his place in it, he must also reevaluate his relationship with his own father and the duty of artists and writers in society. A remarkable portrait of the inexpressible bond between a father and his damaged son, *Rouse Up O Young Men of the New Age!* is the work of an unparalleled writer at his sparkling best.

**Publisher's Price \$24.00    Our Price €5,50**



Kenzaburo Oe. **Somersault: A Novel.** Philip Gabriel, trans. ISBN 0802117384. Grove Press, 2003. Hardcover, 570 Pp.

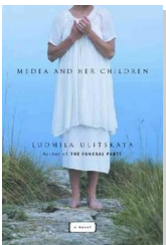
Kenzaburo Oe is internationally recognized as one of the world's finest writers. When he won the Nobel Prize nearly ten years ago, he announced that he would no longer be writing fiction—or, if he did, that his future work would be radically different from the highly autobiographical fiction he was known for. Now, with *Somersault*, Oe has broken his silence and shared with us the result of his artistic reorientation, in a magnificent story of the charisma of leaders, the danger of zealotry, and the mystery of faith.

A decade before *Somersault* opens, two men referred to as the Patron and Guide of mankind were leaders of an influential religious movement. When a radical faction of their followers threatened to unleash an apocalypse, they recanted all of their teachings and abandoned their followers. Now, after ten years of silence, Patron and Guide begin contacting their old followers and reaching out to the public, assisted by a small group of young people who have come to them in recent months.

Just as they are beginning this renewed push, the radical faction kidnaps Guide, holding him captive until his health gives out. Patron and a small core of the faithful, including a painter named Kizu who may become the new Guide, move to the mountains to establish the church's new base, followed by two groups from Patron's old church: the devout Quiet Women, and the Technicians, who have ties to the old radical faction. The Baby Fireflies, young men from a nearby village, attempt to influence the church with local traditions and military discipline. As planning proceeds for the summer conference that will bring together the faithful and launch the new church in the eyes of the world, the conflicting agendas of these factions threaten to make a mockery of the church's unity—or something far more dangerous.

Ambitious and beautifully told, *Somersault* illuminates the spiritual searching of modern man that makes religious cults so compelling. *Somersault* is an astonishing achievement that again confirms Kenzaburo Oe's place among the world's finest writers, even as it takes his body of work in fresh and fertile new directions.

**Publisher's Price \$26.00    Our Price €6,00**

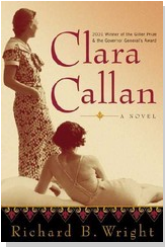


Ludmila Ulitskaya. **Medea And Her Children.** A. L. Tait, trans. ISBN 0805241965. Schocken Books, 2002. Hardcover, 312 Pp.

Medea Georgievna Sinoply Mendez is an iconic figure in her Crimean village, the last remaining pureblooded Greek in a family that has lived on that coast for centuries. Looking like "a portrait Goya had omitted to paint" in the widow's black she has worn since the death of her husband—a jolly Jewish dentist—many years before, the childless Medea is the touchstone of a large family of nieces and nephews who, together with their spouses, children, and friends, gather each spring and summer at her home.

Ageless and unflappable, Medea greets each successive wave of visitors with calm warmth and welcome, and observes with interest their romantic entanglements, disappointments, conflicts, and passions. There are her nieces (the seductive and light-hearted Nike and the shy yet passionate Masha); her nephew Georgii (who shares Medea's devotion to the Crimea); and their friends, including Valerii Butonov, a circus performer turned sports trainer who has been pursued by women since he put on his first trousers. Herself unflinchingly loyal and faithful, Medea watches her nieces and nephews fall in and out of marriages and affairs. These shifting currents of erotic attraction and competition intertwine with the dramatic saga of a family surviving the upheavals that characterized Soviet life in the twentieth century, as viewed through Medea's memories of the Russian Revolution and the two world wars, her parents' early deaths, and her own late marriage. Ludmila Ulitskaya, one of contemporary Russia's greatest novelists, weaves the stories of the sprawling Sinoply family into a brilliantly detailed and richly textured tapestry.

**Publisher's Price \$24.00    Our Price €6,00**



Richard Bruce Wright. **Clara Callan: A Novel.** ISBN 0060506067. HarperCollins, 2002. Hardcover, 415 Pp.

Winner in 2001 of Canada's two most prestigious literary awards -- the Governor General's Award and the Giller Prize -- Richard B. Wright's celebrated novel *Clara Callan* is the powerful, moving story of two sisters and their life-changing experiences on the eve of World War II.

It is the year 1934, and in a small town in Canada, Clara Callan reluctantly takes leave of her sister, Nora, who is bound for the show business world of New York. It's a time when people escape from reality through radio and the movies, when the Dionne Quints make headlines, when the growing threat of fascism in Europe is a constant worry, and the two sisters -- vastly different in personality yet inextricably linked by a shared past -- try to find their place within the complex web of social expectations for young women in the 1930s.

*Clara Callan* is a mesmerizing tribute to friendship and sisterhood, romance and redemption, written with such insight and passion that the characters' stories will remain with you long after you have read the last page.

**Publisher's Price \$25.95    Our Price €5,00**



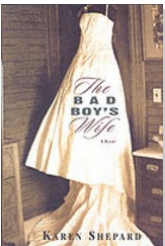
Morgan Llywelyn. **1972: A Novel Of Ireland's Unfinished Revolution.** ISBN 0312878575. Forge, 2005. Hardcover, 368 Pp.

The Irish Century series is the narrative of the epic struggle of the Irish people for independence through the tumultuous twentieth century. Morgan Llywelyn's magisterial multi-novel chronicle of that story began with *1916*, continued in *1921* and *1949* and now continues with *1972*.

In *1972*, Morgan Llywelyn tells the story of Ireland from 1950-1972 as seen through the eyes of young Barry Halloran, son and grandson of Irish revolutionaries. Northern Ireland has become a running sore, poisoning life on both sides of the Irish border. Following family tradition, at eighteen Barry joins the Irish Republican Army to help complete what he sees as 'the unfinished revolution'.

But things are no longer as clear cut as they once were. His first experience of violence in Northern Ireland shocks and disturbs him. Yet he has found a sense of family in the Army which is hard to give up. He makes a partial break by becoming a photographer, visually documenting events in the north rather than physically taking part in them. An unhappy early love affair is followed by a tempestuous relationship with Barbara Kavanagh, a professional singer from America. Events lead Barry into a totally different life from the one he expected, yet his allegiance to the ideal of a thirty-two county Irish republic remains undimmed as the problems, and the violence, of Northern Ireland escalate. Then Barry finds himself in the middle of the most horrific event of all: Bloody Sunday in Derry, 1972.

**Publisher's Price \$24.95    Our Price €5,50**

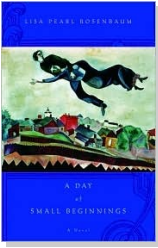


Karen Shepard. **The Bad Boy's Wife.** ISBN 0312318960. St. Martin's Press, 2004. Hardcover, 272 Pp.

What happens when you marry the bad boy--the reckless, irresistible cowboy who steals your heart and throws it back to you, the one you should have called it a day with after the affair?

When Cole, a gorgeous ne'er do well horse trainer and stereotypical bad boy, proposes to Hannah, daughter of a wealthy Southern family, it comes as a shock to everyone. After a twenty-year marriage, Cole leaves Hannah for one of her best friends and they play out their passions on a ranch in Kentucky, where old secrets and sentiments spring forth to unsettle their relationship. Caught in the middle are their beloved daughter Mattie, and Georgia, the hired hand debutante who casts their fate.

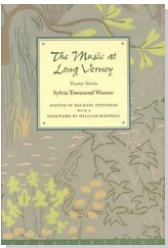
**Publisher's Price \$23.95    Our Price €4,50**



Lisa Pearl Rosenbaum. **A Day Of Small Beginnings: A Novel.**  
ISBN 0316014516. Little, Brown, 2006. Hardcover, 372 Pp.

Poland, 1906 On a warm spring night, in the small Jewish cemetery of Zokof, Friedl Alterman is wakened from death. On the ground above her crouches Itzik Leiber, a reclusive, unbelieving fourteen-year-old whose fatal mistake has spurred the town's angry residents to violence. The childless Friedl rises to guide him to safety-only to find she cannot go back to her tomb. Now Friedl is trapped in that thin world between life and death, her brash decision binding her forever to Itzik and his family: she is fated to be forever restless, and he, forever haunted by the ghosts of his past. Years later, after Itzik himself has gone to his grave, his son, Nathan, knows nothing of his bitter father's childhood. When he begrudgingly goes to Poland on business, Nathan decides on a whim to visit his ancestral town. There, in Zokof, he meets the mysterious Rafael, the town's last remaining Jew, who promises to pass on all the things Itzik had failed to teach his son-about Zokof, about his faith, and about himself. And yet, like the generation before him, Nathan keeps what he learns hidden inside himself. With the family legacy in danger of being lost, Friedl's restless spirit guides Itzik's precocious granddaughter, Ellen, on a journey of her own to Zokof, where only Friedl can help Ellen unlock the mysteries of her family's past-and only Ellen can help Friedl break her agonizing enslavement. A stunning debut novel of enormous scope and beauty, *A Day of Small Beginnings* tells the timeless story of the Leiber family; of the secrets that break them, the love that binds them, and the town that is both their curse and their redemption.

**Publisher's Price \$24.99    Our Price €5,50**



Sylvia Townsend Warner. **The Music At Long Verney: Twenty Stories.**  
ISBN 1582431124. Counterpoint, 2001. Hardcover, 192 Pp.

A new book by an old master—twenty short stories, all of them previously uncollected, by the inimitable Sylvia Townsend Warner. Of the previous century's many great storytellers, Sylvia Townsend Warner was the supreme enchantress. *The Music at Long Verney* collects twenty of her best short stories, most of them from the great years at *The New Yorker*. They span a full half-century, from 1929 to 1977, and are crowded with irreplaceable, living characters and even more animated objects and incidents. There are stories of romantic love and the mysteries of marriage; of artists who speak the truth even as they distort reality; of gardens and houses and very fine things and of those who fancy themselves their owners. The centerpiece of the collection is a series of five linked stories about an eccentric establishment, the Abbey Antiques Gallery, and its singular proprietor, the urbane Mr. Edom. Some of these stories are hilarious, others hauntingly lyrical, but all are incomparably witty and original—in short, they're vintage Warner.

**Publisher's Price \$24.00    Our Price €4,50**



Elke Schmitter. **Mrs. Sartoris.** Carol Brown Janeway, trans.  
ISBN 0375411860. Knopf, 2003. Hardcover, 143 Pp.

An explosive first novel—*Madame Bovary* set in modern Germany—about a wife and mother whose failed love affairs have driven her to the edge of sanity, and to a startling attempt at vindication.

After being jilted by a rich boyfriend, Margaret Sartoris, eighteen and heartbroken, throws herself into a comfortable but stifling marriage to Ernst, a war veteran with a penchant for routine and order, who still lives with his mother in a small German village.

It's not a bad life, considering Margaret's psychological scars, but neither Ernst's adoration nor the birth of a daughter can reawaken her frozen emotions. It's not until she slides into an affair with a married man with whom she plans to run away that her passions are stirred, but these plans are a fantasy that cannot possibly come true. The repercussions nevertheless will explode with unimaginable force in these astonished lives.

**Publisher's Price \$19.95    Our Price €5,50**



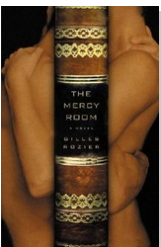
Shan Sa. **The Girl Who Played Go**. Adriana Hunter, trans. ISBN 1400040256. Knopf, 2003. Hardcover, 312 Pp.

In a remote Manchurian town in the 1930s, a sixteen-year-old girl is more concerned with intimations of her own womanhood than the escalating hostilities between her countrymen and their Japanese occupiers. While still a schoolgirl in braids, she takes her first lover, a dissident student. The more she understands of adult life, however, the more disdainful she is of its deceptions, and the more she loses herself in her one true passion: the ancient game of go.

Incredibly for a teenager—and a girl at that—she dominates the games in her town. No opponent interests her until she is challenged by a stranger, who reveals himself to us as a Japanese soldier in disguise. They begin a game and continue it for days, rarely speaking but deeply moved by each other's strategies. As the clash of their peoples becomes ever more desperate and inescapable, and as each one's untold life begins to veer wildly off course, the girl and the soldier are absorbed by only one thing—the progress of their game, each move of which brings them closer to their shocking fate.

In *The Girl Who Played Go*, Shan Sa has distilled the piercing emotions of adolescence into an engrossing, austere beautiful story of love, cruelty and loss of innocence.

**Publisher's Price \$22.95    Our Price €5,50**

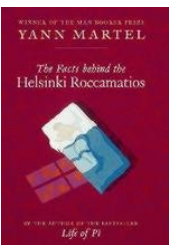


Gilles Rozier. **The Mercy Room: A Novel**. Anthea Bell, trans. ISBN 0316159735. Little, Brown, 2006. Hardcover, 156 Pp.

A brilliant exploration of sexual obsession and human frailty in a country gripped by war. In a small town in occupied France during World War II, a teacher of German is recruited by the Gestapo to translate sensitive documents. Every week, waiting for the next assignment, our narrator sits outside the commandant's office and watches prisoners being led to detention cells before being deported.

Always existing on the fringes of life, caring only for books, the teacher has never done anything heroic. And certainly this is no time to get entangled in other people's problems. But one day a stunning Jewish soldier is among the prisoners. His name is Herman and the teacher recognizes him from their lives before the war. In an unprecedented act of boldness, the teacher sneaks Herman out of headquarters, brings him home, and hides him in the cellar, along with a cache of banned books. So begins an extraordinary and shattering affair in which two people and two antagonistic languages, Yiddish and German, are magnetically attracted. In a tour de force of novelistic technique, Gilles Rozier never reveals the gender of his narrator—opening the question of how many levels of transgression and risk the teacher is taking by hiding Herman. *The Mercy Room* is an exquisite novel about the power of desire and the competing forces of good or ill in the heart of each of us.

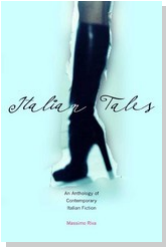
**Publisher's Price \$22.95    Our Price €5,00**



Yann Martel. **The Facts Behind the Helsinki Roccamatios**. ISBN 1841955361. Canongate, 2004. Hardcover, 254 Pp.

The appearance of a young storyteller with a unique voice is cause for celebration. This memorable debut from Booker prize winner Martel, originally published in 1993, was hailed for its power and elegance on both sides of the Atlantic. Dealing with such themes as storytelling and illness, war and music, death and bureaucracy, science and sex, these tales are moving and thought-provoking, as inventive in form as they are timeless in content. They display that startling mix of dazzle and depth that have made Yann Martel an international phenomenon. This edition features three of the stories from the original edition, including the remarkable novella "The Facts Behind the Helsinki Roccamatios", which won the prestigious Journey Prize, as well as three stories never before published in Britain. As a collection it looks set to further Martel's reputation as one of the most interesting writers working in the world today.

**Publisher's Price £9.99    Our Price €5,00**

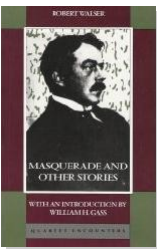


Massimo Riva, ed. **Italian Tales: An Anthology Of Contemporary Italian Fiction**. ISBN 0300095309. Yale University Press, 2004. Hardcover, 260 Pp.

This anthology serves as a literary map to guide readers through the varied geography of contemporary Italian fiction. Massimo Riva has gathered English-language translations of short stories and excerpts from novels that were originally published in Italian between 1975 and 2001. As an expression of a communal contemporary condition, these narratives suggest a new sensibility and a new way of seeing, exploring, and inhabiting the world, in writing.

Riva provides a comprehensive introduction to Italian literary trends of the past twenty years. Each selection is preceded by a short introduction and biography of the writer. For English-language readers who are familiar with the work of Italo Calvino and Umberto Eco, this collection presents an opportunity to acquaint themselves with the work of other important contemporary Italian writers of fiction.

**Publisher's Price \$30.00    Our Price €6,00**

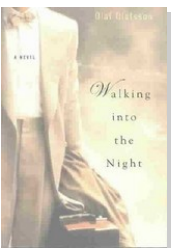


Robert Walser. **Masquerade And Other Stories**. Susan Bernofsky, trans. ISBN 0704302071. Quartet Encounters, 1993. Paperback, 232 Pp.

Born in Switzerland in 1878, Robert Walser worked as a bank clerk, a butler in a castle, and an inventor's assistant before discovering what William H. Gass calls his "true profession." From 1899 until he was misdiagnosed a schizophrenic and hospitalized in 1933, Walser produced nine novels and more than a thousand short stories and prose pieces.

Walser's contemporary admirers were few but well-placed. They included Franz Kafka, Hermann Hesse, Robert Musil, and Walter Benjamin. Today Robert Walser is widely regarded as one of the most important and original literary voices of the twentieth century. In "Masquerade" and Other Stories, Susan Bernofsky presents a representative selection of Walser's work, from his first published fiction to the stately prose of the last years before his voice vanished forever behind the asylum walls. Written between 1899 and 1933, these 64 sketches, scenes, stories, and wanderings through landscapes and dreamscapes are characterized by startling, skewed comparisons, warpings of syntax, vagaries of perspective, and a delight in contradiction. Quirky, playful, and sometimes bizarre, Walser's texts were unconventional by the standards of the early twentieth century. They are still innovative in the context of today's fiction.

**Publisher's Price £7.95    Our Price €4,00**



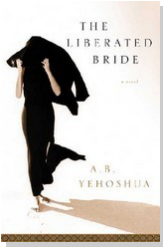
Olaf Olafsson. **Walking Into The Night**. ISBN 0375422544. Pantheon Books, 2003. Hardcover, 265 Pp.

From the acclaimed author of *The Journey Home*, a new novel of tremendous power and beauty about a man's hidden past and about the immutability of love and loss.

For twenty years Christian Benediktsson has led a quiet life as William Randolph Hearst's butler. His days are filled with the rituals of Hearst's life and the demands of running a grand house. But in his most private thoughts and memories, he relives another life: his abandonment of his wife and children in Iceland for an actress in New York, a reckless affair and a tragic death, financial downfall, and the profound retreat from life that led him to Hearst's San Simeon. No one else knows the secret of the man he once was—husband, father, businessman, lover—and, ultimately, even he will choose to forget that this person ever existed.

*Walking into the Night* is a stunning portrait of a man wrestling with guilt and secret passions. Olaf Olafsson surpasses anything he has accomplished thus far in this wise and beautiful novel.

**Publisher's Price \$23.00    Our Price €5,50**



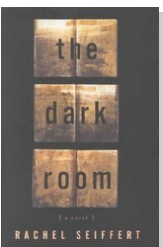
Abraham B. Yehoshua. **The Liberated Bride: A Novel.** Hillel Halkin, trans. ISBN 0151006539. Harcourt, 2003. Hardcover, 568 Pp.

Yohanan Rivlin, a professor at Haifa University, is a man of boundless and often naïve curiosity. His wife, Hagit, a district judge, is tolerant of almost everything but her husband's faults and prevarications. Frequent arguments aside, they are a well-adjusted couple with two grown sons.

When one of Rivlin's students—a young Arab bride from a village in the Galilee—is assigned to help with his research in recent Algerian history, a two-pronged mystery develops. As they probe the causes of the bloody Algerian civil war, Rivlin also becomes obsessed with his son's failed marriage.

Rivlin's search leads to a number of improbable escapades. In this comedy of manners, at once deeply serious and highly entertaining, Yehoshua brilliantly portrays characters from disparate sectors of Israeli life, united above all by a very human desire for, and fear of, the truth in politics and life.

**Publisher's Price \$27.00    Our Price €5,50**



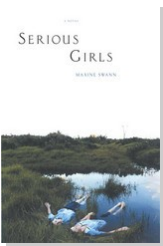
Rachel Seiffert. **The Dark Room.** ISBN 0375421041. Pantheon Books, 2001. Hardcover, 278 Pp.

A debut novel that retells the history of twentieth-century Germany through the experiences of three ordinary Germans.

Helmut: A boy born with a physical deformity finds work as a photographer's assistant during the 1930s and captures on film the changing temper of Berlin, the city he loves. But his acute photographic eye never provides him with the power to understand the significance of what he sees through his camera. . . . Lore: In the weeks following Germany's surrender, a teenage girl whose parents are both in Allied captivity takes her younger siblings on a terrifying, illegal journey through the four zones of occupation in search of her grandmother. . . . Micha: Many years after the war, a young man trying to discover why the Russians imprisoned his grandfather for nine years after the war meets resistance at every turn; the only person who agrees, reluctantly, to help him is compromised by his own past.

*The Dark Room* evokes the experiences of the individual with astonishing emotional depth and psychological authenticity. With dazzling originality and to profound effect, Rachel Seiffert has re-envisioned and illuminated signal moments of the twentieth century in all their drama and complexity.

**Publisher's Price \$24.00    Our Price €5,00**



Maxine Swann. **Serious Girls: A Novel.** ISBN 0312288026. Picador, 2003. Hardcover, 229 Pp.

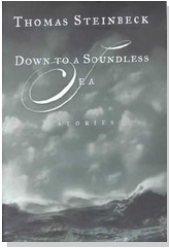
When her grandmother insists Maya be sent away to boarding school, the sixteen-year-old feels as if her life has turned a new page. Raised in the remote countryside by her emotionally distant hippie-ish mother, Maya finds herself isolated in the all-girl community. When Rea, another outsider, becomes her friend, the two girls tell each other their life stories, and speculate as to what growing up might mean. How do they become “people” with style and character as opposed to school girls?

Their desire to be adults takes them beyond the closed world of the school, into the local town and the city where they experiment—shopping in thrift stores; confronting their fears as they try on new identities; and wondering about sex. Both girls test the precarious line between an emerging sense of self and its total disintegration in the very different relationships from which they eventually escape, wiser and secure once again in their friendship and curiosity about life.

**Publisher's Price \$23.00    Our Price €4,50**

“Wherever this innovative, erudite, suggestive, mysterious writer—a true master of contemporary fiction—points us, there can be no doubt, it is essential that we go.”

—*The Washington Post*

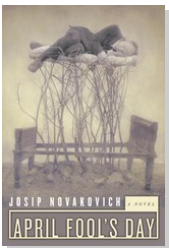


Thomas Steinbeck. **Down To A Soundless Sea: Stories.** ISBN 0345455762. Ballantine Books, 2002. Hardcover, 283 Pp.

Here is an unprecedented fiction debut that is cause for celebration. Growing up in a family that valued the art of storytelling and the power of oral history, Thomas Steinbeck now follows in his father's footsteps with a brilliant story collection. *Down to a Soundless Sea* resonates with the rich history and culture of California, recalling vivid details of life in Monterey County from the turn of the century through the 1930s. Steinbeck accomplishes an amazing feat: his stories have the feel of classic literature, but his haunting voice, forceful narrative drive, and dazzling imagery are unmistakably his own.

In seven stories, Steinbeck traces the fates and dreams of an eccentric cast of characters, from sailors and ranchers, to doctors and immigrants—as each struggles to carve out a living in the often inhospitable environment of rocky cliffs, crashing surf, and rough patches of land along the California coast and the Big Sur. In “Blind Luck,” a wayward orphan finds his calling at sea, only to learn that life must concede to the whims of authority and the ravages of nature. In “Dark Watcher,” with the country at the start of the Great Depression, a professor craves a plausible discovery to boost his academic standing—and encounters the Indian myth of a shadowed horsemen that may ruin his career. “An Unbecoming Grace” tracks the route of a country physician who cares for an ill-tempered cur—but feels more concern for the well-being of the patient’s beleaguered young wife. The collection concludes with “Sing Fat and the Imperial Duchess of Woo,” a novella that follows the tragic love story between a young apothecary and the woman he hopes to marry.

**Publisher’s Price \$24.95    Our Price €5,00**

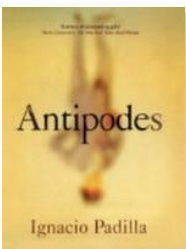


Josip Novakovich. **April Fool's Day: A Novel.** ISBN 0060583975. Harper-Collins Publishers, 2004. Hardcover, 226 Pp.

Ivan Dolinar is a man caught in the crosscurrents of senseless wars, ridiculous dictators, and the usual and unusual difficulties of just trying to get by in the Balkans. His life begins, auspiciously, on April Fool's Day, 1948. As a boy growing up in a small town in Croatia, Ivan tries to love the people's dictator, Tito, but his love is not returned. In a world of propaganda and paranoia, young Ivan quickly discovers that the best of intentions can backfire. At nineteen, full of hope and ambition, he enters medical school in Novi Sad, Serbia, but his medical career is cut short by a prank, and he is sent to a notorious labor camp to dig rocks for two years. War breaks out soon after his release, and Ivan is drafted -- into the wrong army. A pawn in an absurd conflict in which rules and loyalties shift unexpectedly, Ivan finds himself in a struggle simply to survive.

From the tavern to the ivory tower to the battlefields, as Ivan's fortunes rise and fall faster than one can say "Yugoslavia," a tender novel emerges. Told with the biting dark humor oftentimes used to keep despair at bay, *April Fool's Day* is both a devastating political satire and a razor-sharp parody of war.

**Publisher’s Price \$23.95    Our Price €5,00**



Ignacio Padilla. **Antipodes.** Alastair Reid, trans. ISBN 0743239830. Scribner, 2004. Hardcover, 192 Pp.

In the Gobi desert, a great prophet tells of a magical, eternal city to which the caravan will one day make its way. A replica has been built in the sands. Its name: Edinburgh. Elsewhere, a dying, cross-dressing pilot who fought at Ypres concocts a scheme to conquer Everest, somehow disappearing from the top of the mountain. These new myths leave us with the question: where is the end of

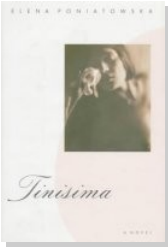
the world?

“Ignacio Padilla ... represents the continuation and reinvigoration of literature in our country.” — Carlos Fuentes

**Publisher’s Price £10.00    Our Price €5,00**

“Thomas Steinbeck writes with grace, authority, and passion. If John Steinbeck were my father, I would not have the courage to write a laundry list or a letter to the editor. But Thomas Steinbeck inherited his father’s great love of story. It is a grand thing to have a Steinbeck back in American letters.”

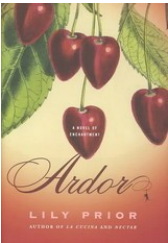
— Pat Conroy



Elena Poniatowska. **Tinísima**. Katherine Silver, trans. ISBN 0374277850. Farrar, Straus, and Giroux, 1996. Hardcover, 357 Pp.

An intensely imagined, sensuously detailed account of the extraordinary life of photographer and militant revolutionary Tina Modotti (1896-1942), this compelling novel reflects the political and social turbulence of the 1920s through the '40s as experienced by a brave and vibrant woman who was an intimate of some of the leading poets, writers, artists and politicians of her time. Modotti lived various roles in her passionate life: she was a seamstress in San Francisco, an actress in silent films, a student and lover of photographer Edward Weston, a model for Diego Rivera's murals, an agent for the Soviet Union and always a cultural, intellectual and political vivante whose sensuous spirit captivated men and, for a time, the entire Mexican population (they called her *Tinísima*, a diminutive of her name but also an endearment). Tracing Modotti's footsteps to California, Mexico, Berlin, Moscow and Spain, Poniatowska adroitly interprets history without marginalizing the lyricism of Modotti's tragic quest for identity and true love. In Mexico in 1929, young Cuban revolutionary Julio Antonio Mella is assassinated while walking arm-in-arm with Modotti. Eager to rid the country of communist sympathizers, the government accuses Tina of his murder. Rivera and other prominent Mexican intelligentsia eventually help win her freedom. Expelled from Mexico, Modotti lives for a time in Moscow, becomes an agent for Red Aid, the international revolutionary organization, and works for the Republican cause in the Spanish Civil War. Tired and ill, in 1939 she returns to Mexico, where she remains unrecognized until her death, when Pablo Neruda immortalizes her in a poem. One of Mexico's leading writers, Poniatowska (*Dear Diego*) has made an art form of blending journalism and fiction. She tells this novel in an urgent present tense, segueing among short, vivid scenes with cinematic virtuosity. Ten years of research and a thorough knowledge of the currents of history contribute to this portrait, but equally important is Poniatowska's intuitive appreciation of a woman shaped and destroyed by her tumultuous times.

**Publisher's Price \$25.00    Our Price €5,50**



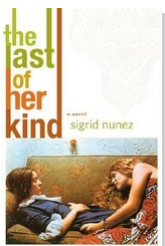
Lily Prior. **Ardor: A Novel of Enchantment**. ISBN 0060527862. Ecco, 2004. Hardcover, 205 Pp.

Set in the sultry heat of an Italian summer, *Ardor* is a delicious romantic comedy about unrequited love, unquenchable lust, and the hilarious consequences of mistaken passions.

When a lonely olive grower, Arcadio Carnabuci, sows his love seeds, he cannot imagine the chaos his magic fruit will bring. While Fernanda Pondrosa, the voluptuous woman of his dreams, evades his spell, Gezabel, a hardworking middle-aged mule, falls head over hooves in love with him. And, as Gezabel discovers, she is not the only one whose stars cross as the olive grower's ardor casts its magic over the region. Suddenly, the butcher and the baker are thinking murder, the village doctor and his nurse are driven to distraction, and a newborn is transformed into an angel. As the villagers alternate between love and war, remarkable phenomena add to the fevered atmosphere, making passions surge higher than the soaring temperatures of summer.

A new novel by the author of *La Cucina* and *Nectar*, *Ardor* is a wildly imaginative fairy tale for adults, full of twists and unexpected delights.

**Publisher's Price \$23.95    Our Price €5,50**



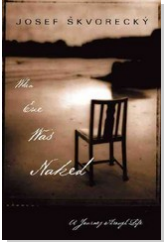
Sigrid Nunez. **The Last of Her Kind: A Novel**. ISBN 0374183813. Farrar, Straus and Giroux, 2006. Hardcover, 375 Pp.

*The Last of Her Kind* introduces two women who meet as freshmen on the Columbia campus in 1968. Georgette George does not know what to make of her brilliant, idealistic roommate, Ann Drayton, and her obsessive disdain for the ruling class into which she was born. She is mortified by Ann's romanticization of the underprivileged class, which Georgette herself is hoping college will enable her to escape.

After the violent fight that ends their friendship, Georgette wants only to forget Ann

and to turn her attention to the troubled runaway kid sister who has reappeared after years on the road. Then, in 1976, Ann is convicted of murder. At first, Ann's fate appears to be the inevitable outcome of her belief in the moral imperative to "make justice" in a world where "there are no innocent white people." But, searching for answers to the riddle of this friend of her youth, Georgette finds more complicated and mysterious forces at work. As the novel's narrator, Georgette illuminates the terrifying life of this difficult, doomed woman, and in the process discovers how much their early encounter has determined her own path, and why, decades later, as she tells us, "I have never stopped thinking about her."

**Publisher's Price \$25.00   Our Price €6,00   OUT OF STOCK**



Josef Skvorecky. **When Eve Was Naked: Stories Of A Life's Journey.** ISBN 0374149755. Farrar, Straus and Giroux, 2002. Hardcover, 352 Pp.

One of the most celebrated writers of our time, Josef Škvorecký has been internationally honored for his passion, wry humor, insight into human and political frailty, and breathtaking style. *When Eve Was Naked* is Škvorecký's autobiography told in stories. Collected here in a chronological sweep, they take the reader through the stages of a most remarkable life, and bear witness to some of the twentieth century's most eventful and tragic times -- from the innocence of prewar Prague through the horrors of the Nazi occupation and World War II. Many of these are narrated by the tenderhearted cynic Danny Smiricky. In the title story, "Eve Was Naked," seven-year-old Danny falls in love for the first time; at sixteen he hides in a railway station and watches as his Jewish teacher is herded onto a train and taken away. In 1968, as Russian tanks rolled into Prague, Skvorecky fled Czechoslovakia, taking Danny with him. In the collection's final stories Danny begins his tenure as Professor Smiricky at Edenvale -- a Canadian university -- and attempts to come to terms with the politically innocent and self-centered youth that flock to his courses.

Masterfully written, humorous, and wise, *When Eve Was Naked* is a remarkably revealing work of fiction.

**Publisher's Price \$25.00   Our Price €7,00**



Carole Maso. **Defiance: A Novel.** ISBN 0525943072. Dutton, 1998. Hardcover, 264 Pp.

Bernadette O'Brien: child prodigy professor of physics at Harvard sentenced to die in the electric chair for the shocking murder of two male students. In her journal--her "death book" as she calls it--Bernadette takes a dark look back at the unfolding events that led to the extraordinary crime for which she stood trial. *Defiance* pulls us into the world of a lonely, defiant, brilliant woman--a misfit child, a girl-genius who left the working class, Irish Catholic world of Fall River, Massachusetts--a stone's throw away from Cambridge--who entered the halls of academic privilege at the age of 12, and stayed to rise within its ranks. In the incandescent, erotically charged prose for which she is known, Maso probes the depths of a female psyche--inextricably embedded in a uniquely American matrix of sexuality, violence, and the clash of class difference--as no writer before her has done.

**Publisher's Price \$23.95   Our Price €8,00**

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