

The Break

by Katherena Vermette

ISBN: 9781487001117
Binding: Paperback
Publisher: House of Anansi Press Inc
Pub. Date: 2016-09-17
Pages: 288
Price: \$22.95

Winner of the 2017 Carol Shields Winnipeg Book Award, Margaret Laurence Award for Fiction, and the McNally Robinson Book of the Year Awards. When Stella, a young Metis mother, looks out her window one evening and spots someone in trouble on the Break -- a barren field on an isolated strip of land outside her house -- she calls the police to alert them to a possible crime. In a series of shifting narratives, people who are connected, both directly and indirectly, with the victim -- police, family, and friends -- tell their personal stories leading up to that fateful night. Lou, a social worker, grapples with the departure of her live-in boyfriend. Cheryl, an artist, mourns the premature death of her sister Rain. Paulina, a single mother, struggles to trust her new partner. Phoenix, a homeless teenager, is released from a youth detention centre. Officer Scott, a Metis policeman, feels caught between two worlds as he patrols the city. Through their various perspectives a larger, more comprehensive story about lives of the residents in Winnipeg's North End is exposed. A powerful intergenerational family saga, *The Break* showcases Vermette's abundant writing talent and positions her as an exciting new voice in Canadian literature.



Calvin

by Martine Leavitt

ISBN: 9781554987207
Binding: Paperback
Publisher: Groundwood Books Ltd
Pub. Date: 2015-11-15
Pages: 184
Price: \$14.95

In the town of Leamington, Ontario, a seventeen-year-old boy is suddenly stricken by a schizophrenic episode and wakes up in hospital. The boy's name is Calvin, and he is plagued by hallucinations.

As the hallucinations persist, Calvin comes to believe that the answer lies in performing one grand and incredible gesture.

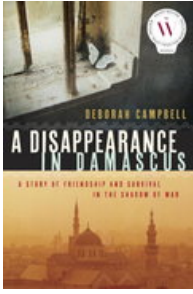
And so he decides to walk across Lake Erie. In January. The temperatures have been below freezing for weeks. The ice should hold...

The lake, it turns out, is more marvelous, and more treacherous, than Calvin had ever imagined — populated by abandoned cars (joy ride!), ice-fishing eccentrics, psychokiller snow beings, and a not-so-mythical sea witch named Jenny Greenteeth.

Not to mention the man-eating tiger that looms just out of his sight lines as he treks.

But the biggest surprise of all is that Calvin finds himself accompanied by Susie, the girl of his dreams. Or is it his dreams that have conjured up Susie?

Winner Governor General's Award 2016



A Disappearance in Damascus

A Story of Friendship and Survival in the Shadow of War

by Deborah Campbell

ISBN: 9780345809292

Binding: Hardback

Publisher: Knopf Random Vintage Canada

Pub. Date: 2016-09-13

Pages: 352

Price: \$32.00

Winner of the Hilary Weston Writers' Trust Prize for Non-Fiction:

In the midst of an unfolding international crisis, the renowned journalist Deborah Campbell finds herself swept up in the mysterious disappearance of Ahlam, her guide, "fixer," and friend. Her frank, personal account of her journey to rescue her, and the triumph of friendship and courage over terrorism, is as riveting as it is illuminating.

The story begins in 2007 when Deborah Campbell travels undercover to Damascus to report on the exodus of Iraqis into Syria following the overthrow of Saddam Hussein. There she meets and hires Ahlam, a refugee working as a "fixer"--providing Western media with trustworthy information and contacts to help get the news out. Ahlam, who fled her home in Iraq after being kidnapped while running a humanitarian centre, not only supports her husband and two children through her work with foreign journalists but is setting up a makeshift school for displaced girls. She has become a charismatic, unofficial leader of the refugee community in Damascus, and Campbell is inspired by her determination to create something good amid so much suffering. Ahlam soon becomes her friend as well as her guide. But one morning Ahlam is seized from her home in front of Campbell's eyes. Haunted by the prospect that their work together has led to her friend's arrest, Campbell spends the months that follow desperately trying to find her--all the while fearing she could be next.

Through its compelling story of two women caught up in the shadowy politics behind today's conflict, *A Disappearance in Damascus* reminds us of the courage of those who risk their lives to bring us the world's news.



Do Not Say We Have Nothing

by Madeleine Thien

ISBN: 9780345810427

Binding: Hardback

Publisher: Knopf Canada

Pub. Date: 2016-05-31

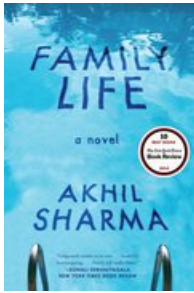
Pages: 480

Price: \$35.00

Winner of the 2016 Scotiabank Giller Prize and the Governor General's Literary Award for Fiction; shortlisted for the Man Booker Prize; and longlisted for the 2017 Andrew Carnegie Medal for Excellence in Fiction, this extraordinary novel tells the story of three musicians in China before, during and after the Tiananmen Square protests of 1989.

Madeleine Thien's new novel is breathtaking in scope and ambition even as it is hauntingly intimate. With the ease and skill of a master storyteller, Thien takes us inside an extended family in China, showing us the lives of two successive generations--those who lived through Mao's Cultural Revolution in the mid-twentieth century; and the children of the survivors, who became the students protesting in Tiananmen Square in 1989, in one of the most important political moments of the past century. With exquisite writing sharpened by a surprising vein of wit and sly humour, Thien has crafted unforgettable characters who are by turns flinty and headstrong, dreamy and tender, foolish and wise.

At the centre of this epic tale, as capacious and mysterious as life itself, are enigmatic Sparrow, a genius composer who wishes desperately to create music yet can find truth only in silence; his mother and aunt, Big Mother Knife and Swirl, survivors with captivating singing voices and an unbreakable bond; Sparrow's ethereal cousin Zhuli, daughter of Swirl and storyteller Wen the Dreamer, who as a child witnesses the denunciation of her parents and as a young woman becomes the target of denunciations herself; and headstrong, talented Kai, best friend of Sparrow and Zhuli, and a determinedly successful musician who is a virtuoso at masking his true self until the day he can hide no longer. Here, too, is Kai's daughter, the ever-questioning mathematician Marie, who pieces together the tale of her fractured family ...



Family Life

A Novel

by Akhil Sharma

ISBN: 9780393350609

Binding: Paperback

Publisher: WW Norton

Pub. Date: 2015-02-03

Pages: 224

Price: \$19.50

Hailed as a "supreme storyteller" (Philadelphia Inquirer) for his "cunning, dismaying and beautifully conceived" fiction (New York Times), Akhil Sharma is possessed of a narrative voice "as hypnotic as those found in the pages of Dostoyevsky" (The Nation). In his highly anticipated second novel, *Family Life*, he delivers a story of astonishing intensity and emotional precision. We meet the Mishra family in Delhi in 1978, where eight-year-old Ajay and his older brother Birju play cricket in the streets, waiting for the day when their plane tickets will arrive and they and their mother can fly across the world and join their father in America. America to the Mishras is, indeed, everything they could have imagined and more: when automatic glass doors open before them, they feel that surely they must have been mistaken for somebody important. Pressing an elevator button and the elevator closing its doors and rising, they have a feeling of power at the fact that the elevator is obeying them. Life is extraordinary until tragedy strikes, leaving one brother severely brain-damaged and the other lost and virtually orphaned in a strange land. Ajay, the family's younger son, prays to a God he envisions as Superman, longing to find his place amid the ruins of his family's new life.

Heart-wrenching and darkly funny, *Family Life* is a universal story of a boy torn between duty and his own survival.



Giant's Well

by Scott A. Ford

ISBN: 9780995291805

Binding: Hardback

Publisher: Scott A. Ford

Pub. Date: 2016-09-01

Pages: 36

Price: \$39.95

Winner of the 2017 Manuela Dias Book Design and Illustration Award: General Illustrated Category. Led only by a cat, a ghostly woman, and the light of his own torch, the old caretaker begins his routine descent down the well. Follow their journey through this continuous landscape into the mysterious depths below. Presented in a unique accordion-folded format, each limited edition book extends over 20 feet long and is individually hand-bound by the author. Scott A. Ford is an independent comic creator, illustrator, and graphic designer from Winnipeg, CA. His comics include *Romulus + Remus Issue 1 & 2*, *Giants' Well*, as well as the upcoming sci-fi/fantasy graphic novel *Ark Land*. Check out all of Scott's work at scottford.wordpress.com.

**Indigenous
Writes**
A GUIDE TO FIRST NATIONS, METIS & INUIT ISSUES IN CANADA



Indigenous Writes

A Guide to First Nations, Metis, and Inuit issues in Canada

by Chelsea Vowel

ISBN: 9781553796800

Binding: Paperback

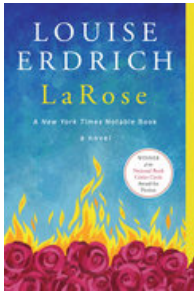
Publisher: Portage & Main Press

Pub. Date: 2016-09-09

Pages: 240

Price: \$26.00

Winner of the 2017 Manuela Dias Book Design and Illustration Award: Design Category. In *Indigenous Writes*, Chelsea Vowel initiates myriad conversations about the relationship between Indigenous peoples and Canada. An advocate for Indigenous worldviews, the author discusses the fundamental issues--the terminology of relationships; culture and identity; myth-busting; state violence; and land, learning, law and treaties--along with wider social beliefs about these issues. She answers the questions that many people have on these topics to spark further conversations at home, in the classroom, and in the larger community.



LaRose

A Novel

by Louise Erdrich

ISBN: 9780062277039

Binding: Paperback

Publisher: HarperCollins

Pub. Date: 2017-04-11

Pages: 400

Price: \$19.99

Winner of the National Book Critics Circle Award in Fiction

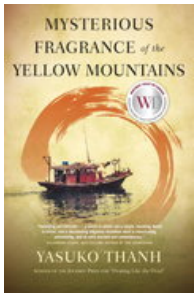
Finalist for the 2017 PEN Faulkner Award

In this literary masterwork, Louise Erdrich, the bestselling author of the National Book Award-winning *The Round House* and the Pulitzer Prize nominee *The Plague of Doves*, wields her breathtaking narrative magic in an emotionally haunting contemporary tale of a tragic accident, a demand for justice, and a profound act of atonement with ancient roots in Native American culture.

North Dakota, late summer, 1999. Landreaux Iron stalks a deer along the edge of the property bordering his own. He shoots with easy confidence--but when the buck springs away, Landreaux realizes he's hit something else, a blur he saw as he squeezed the trigger. When he staggers closer, he realizes he has killed his neighbor's five-year-old son, Dusty Ravich.

The youngest child of his friend and neighbor, Peter Ravich, Dusty was best friends with Landreaux's five-year-old son, LaRose. The two families have always been close, sharing food, clothing, and rides into town; their children played together despite going to different schools; and Landreaux's wife, Emmaline, is half sister to Dusty's mother, Nola. Horrified at what he's done, the recovered alcoholic turns to an Ojibwe tribe tradition--the sweat lodge--for guidance, and finds a way forward. Following an ancient means of retribution, he and Emmaline will give LaRose to the grieving Peter and Nola. "Our son will be your son now," they tell them.

LaRose is quickly absorbed into his new family. Plagued by thoughts of suicide, Nola dotes on him, keeping her darkness at bay. His fierce, rebellious new "sister," Maggie, welcomes him as a coconspirator who can ease her volatile mother's ...



Mysterious Fragrance of the Yellow Mountains

by Yasuko Thanh

ISBN: 9780670068784

Binding: Paperback

Publisher: Penguin Canada

Pub. Date: 2016-04-05

Pages: 320

Price: \$24.95

Winner of the Rogers Writers' Trust Fiction Prize

Finalist for the 2017 Amazon.ca/Books in Canada First Novel Award

Finalist for the 2017 City of Victoria Butler Book Prize

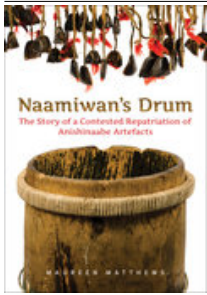
How can you stand up to tyranny when your own identity is in turmoil?

Vietnam is a haunted country, and Dr. Nguyen Georges-Minh is a haunted man. In 1908, the French rule Saigon, but uneasily; dissent whispers through the corridors of the city. Each day, more Vietnamese rebels are paraded through the streets towards the gleaming blade of the guillotine, now a permanent fixture in the main square and a gruesome warning to those who would attempt to challenge colonial rule.

It is a warning that Georges-Minh will not heed. A Vietnamese national and Paris-educated physician, he is obsessed by guilt over his material wealth and nurses a secret loathing for the French connections that have made him rich, even as they have torn his beloved country apart.

With a close-knit group of his friends calling themselves the Mysterious Fragrance of the Yellow Mountains, Georges-Minh plots revenge on the French for the savagery they have shown to the Vietnamese. And it falls to Georges-Minh to create a poison to mix into the Christmas dinner of a garrison of French soldiers. It is an act that will send an unmistakable message to the French: Get out of Vietnam.

But the assassination attempt goes horribly wr ...



Naamiwan's Drum

The Story of a Contested Repatriation of Anishinaabe Artefacts

by Maureen Matthews

ISBN: 9781442628267

Binding: Paperback

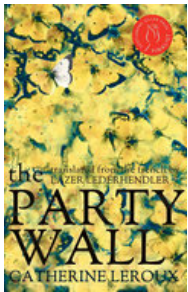
Publisher: University of Toronto Press, Scholarly Publishing Division

Pub. Date: 2016-11-07

Pages: 356

Price: \$34.95

Winner of the 2017 Alexander Kennedy Isbister Award for Non-Fiction. Naamiwan's Drum follows the story of a famous Ojibwe medicine man, his gifted grandson, and remarkable water drum. This drum, and forty other artefacts, were given away by a Canadian museum to an American Anishinaabe group that had no family or community connections to the collection. Many years passed before the drum was returned to the family and only of the artefacts were ever returned to the museum. Maureen Matthews takes us through this astonishing set of events from multiple perspectives, exploring community and museum viewpoints, visiting the ceremonial group leader in Wisconsin, and finally looking back from the point of view of the drum. The book contains a powerful Anishinaabe interpretive perspective on repatriation and on anthropology itself. Containing fourteen beautiful colour illustrations, Naamiwan's Drum is a compelling account of repatriation as well as a cautionary tale for museum professionals.



The Party Wall

by Catherine Leroux

ISBN: 9781771960762

Binding: Paperback

Series: Biblioasis International Translation

Publisher: Biblioasis

Pub. Date: 2016-04-12

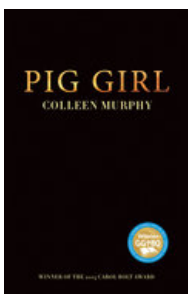
Pages: 200

Price: \$19.95

SHORTLISTED FOR THE 2016 GILLER PRIZE
SELECTED FOR INDIES INTRODUCE SUMMER/FALL 2016
WINNER OF THE PRESTIGIOUS FRANCE-QUEBEC PRIZE
NOMINATED FOR THE QUEBEC BOOKSELLER'S PRIZE

Catherine Leroux's *The Party Wall* shifts between and ties together stories about pairs joined in surprising ways. A woman learns that she may not be the biological mother of her own son despite having given birth to him; a brother and sister unite, as their mother dies, to search for their long-lost father; two young sisters take a detour home, unaware of the tragedy that awaits; and a political couple--when the husband accedes to power in a post-apocalyptic future state--is shaken by the revelation of their own shared, if equally unknown, history.

Lyrical, intelligent, and profound, *The Party Wall* is luminously human, a surreally unforgettable journey through the barriers that can both separate us and bring us together.



Pig Girl

by Colleen Murphy

ISBN: 9781770914469

Binding: Paperback

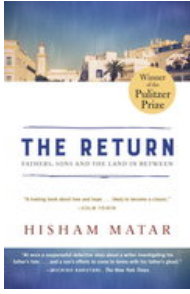
Publisher: Playwrights Canada Press

Pub. Date: 2015-11-01

Pages: 80

Price: \$17.95

At 4:00 a.m. on a secluded farm, a woman fights to take her life back from a serial killer as her desperate sister and a haunted police officer reach across time and distance in an attempt to rescue her.



The Return Fathers, Sons and the Land in Between by Hisham Matar

ISBN: 9780345807755
Binding: Paperback
Publisher: Knopf Random Vintage Canada
Pub. Date: 2017-04-04
Pages: 272
Price: \$19.95

WINNER OF THE 2017 PULITZER PRIZE: from Man Booker Prize and National Book Critics Circle Award finalist Hisham Matar, a memoir of his journey home to his native Libya in search of answers to his father's disappearance.

In 2012, after the overthrow of Qaddafi, the acclaimed novelist Hisham Matar journeys to his native Libya after an absence of thirty years. ÂÂÂÂ

When he was twelve, Matar and his family went into political exile. Eight years later Matar's father, a former diplomat and military man turned brave political dissident, was kidnapped from the streets of Cairo by the Libyan government and is believed to have been held in the regime's most notorious prison. ÂÂÂÂÂ

Now, the prisons are empty and little hope remains that Jaballa Matar will be found alive. ÂYet, as the author writes, hope is "persistent and cunning." ÂÂÂÂ

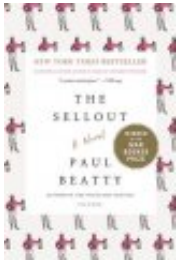
Winner of the 2017 Pulitzer Prize for biography/autobiography, the PEN/Jean Stein Book Award, France's Prix du livre Ãtranger, and a finalist for the Orwell Book Prize and the 2016 National Book Critics Circle Award, The Return is a brilliant and affecting portrait of a country and a people on the cusp of immense change ...



Rudiger and the Painted Door by Jonathan Toews

ISBN: 9781988276014
Binding: Paperback
Publisher: Peasantry Press
Pub. Date: 2016-11-01
Pages: 32
Price: \$13.99

Winner of the 2017 Manuela Dias Book Design and Illustration Award: Children's Illustrated Category. This colourful book tells the story of Rudiger - a little boy who likes to play and have fun. What kind of adventures could he possibly have with a painted door? There's only one way to find out! Follow him on his exciting journey! Watch Rudiger's imagination come to life in this vivid and engaging book about family, childhood, and fun.



The Sellout

A Novel

by Paul Beatty

ISBN: 9781250083258

Binding: Paperback

Publisher: Picador

Pub. Date: 2016-03-01

Pages: 304

Price: \$18.50

Winner of the Man Booker Prize. Winner of the National Book Critics Circle Award in Fiction. Winner of the John Dos Passos Prize for Literature. Los Angeles Times Bestseller. Named One of the 10 Best Books of the Year by The New York Times Book Review. Named a Best Book of the Year by Newsweek, The Denver Post, BuzzFeed, Kirkus Reviews, and Publishers Weekly. Named a Must-Read" by Flavorwire and New York Magazine's "Vulture" Blog. A biting satire about a young man's isolated upbringing and the race trial that sends him to the Supreme Court, *The Sellout* showcases a comic genius at the top of his game. It challenges the sacred tenets of the United States Constitution, urban life, the civil rights movement, the father-son relationship, and the holy grail of racial equality - the black Chinese restaurant. Born in the "agrarian ghetto" of Dickens - on the southern outskirts of Los Angeles - the narrator of *The Sellout* resigns himself to the fate of lower-middle-class Californians: "I'd die in the same bedroom I'd grown up in, looking up at the cracks in the stucco ceiling that've been there since '68 quake." Raised by a single father, a controversial sociologist, he spent his childhood as the subject in racially charged psychological studies. He is led to believe that his father's pioneering work will result in a memoir that will solve his family's financial woes. But when his father is killed in a police shoot-out, he realizes there never was a memoir. All that's left is the bill for a drive-thru funeral. Fueled by this deceit and the general disrepair of his hometown, the narrator sets out to right another wrong: Dickens has literally been removed from the map to save California from further embarrassment. Enlisting the help of the town's most famous resident - the last surviving Little Rascal, Hominy Jenkins - he initiates the most outrageous action conceivable: reinstating slavery and segregating the local high school, which lands him in the Supreme Court.



Social Studies

by Trish Cooper

ISBN: 9781927922279

Binding: Paperback

Publisher: J. Gordon Shillingford Publishing

Pub. Date: 2016-10-15

Pages: 116

Price: \$15.95

Winner of the 2017 Chris Johnson Award for Best Play by a Manitoba Playwright. When Jackie comes back to her childhood home after separating from her husband, she thinks her biggest problem will be readjusting to life on a smaller bed. She's surprised to learn, however, that her mother has given that bed away to Deng, a Sudanese refugee. But the former Lost Boy is not all that he seems, and the entire family -- Jackie, her earth goddess mother, and her sixteen-year old sister -- learns something about making assumptions. When Deng crashes Jackie's newly purchased car and then reveals that he doesn't have a driver's license, Jackie must make a choice. Will she make a personal sacrifice on behalf of someone who has lived through the worst? Cultural differences, language barriers, and the self-conscious earnestness of good intentions all feature in this scathingly comic look at Canadian values. *Social Studies* was presented at Prairie Theatre Exchange in Winnipeg, and at Vancouver's Firehall Theatre.



Spanish Boy, The

by C.s. Reardon

ISBN: 9781927426920
 Binding: Paperback
 Publisher: Signature Editions
 Pub. Date: 2016-10-01
 Pages: 300
 Price: \$19.95

Winner of the 2017 Mary Scorer Award for Best Book by a Manitoba Publisher. Grief cannot abide a mystery. No one understands that better than the Clarey family of Halifax. In 1937, the Clareys are a close and loving family until their lives are transformed the night Edie, their wilful daughter and sister, vanishes, leaving no trace, no clue, as to what happened to her. The lingering questions of her disappearance will ricochet through the succeeding generations of Clareys. As decades pass and lives unfold, the memories of Edie's brothers and her parents, are haunted by the spectre of the missing girl. The misery of their grief is entangled with the only comfort they can find: a belief that one day the mystery of Edie's disappearance will be solved. Drawn into Edie's young life, and into her story, are two young men who work at her father's business: the bookkeeper Raymond Gillis and a stranger named Micah Gessen. The three form a triangle of jealousy and obsession. One of them knows what happened to the Clarey girl. Just as Edie's vanishing is a moment of transformation for the Clarey family, so are the times they live in. The story of *The Spanish Boy* is told against the backdrop of some of the momentous events of the twentieth and earliest part of the twenty-first centuries.



Tell Them It Was Mozart

by A. Schellenberg

ISBN: 9781771314428
 Binding: Paperback
 Publisher: Brick Books
 Pub. Date: 2016-09-01
 Pages: 128
 Price: \$20.00

Winner of the 2017 Lansdowne Prize for Poetry and the Eileen McTavish Sykes Award for Best First Book. Linked poems that uncover the ache and whimsy of raising children on the autism spectrum. Through public judgments, detouring dreams and unspoken prayers, *Tell Them It Was Mozart*, Angeline Schellenberg's debut collection, traces both a slow bonding and the emergence of a defiant humour. This is a book that keens and cherishes, a work full of the earthiness and transcendence of mother-love. One of the pleasures of this collection is its playful range of forms: there are erasure poems, prose poems, lists, found poems, laments, odes, monologues and dialogues in the voices of the children, even an oulipo that deconstructs the DSM definition of autism. From a newborn "glossed and quivering" to a child conquering the fear of strange toilets, *Tell Them It Was Mozart* is bracing in its honesty, healing in its jubilation. Michelangelo slept in his clothes and seldom ate Newton lectured to empty rooms at scheduled times if no one showed up to hear him ... Only staying where room numbers were divisible by three, Tesla tested turbines in his mind, would not touch round objects ... Charles Darwin formulated the theory of natural selection, the foundation for our understanding of the diversity of life on earth: advantageous traits survive Mozart meowed on tables --from "Posthumously diagnosed" Praise for *Tell Them It Was Mozart*: "By turns, Angeline Schellenberg's words are blunt, musical, unflinching, transcendent. Her speaker raises two children on the autism spectrum, but she is never a martyr, never a victim, never a saint. Schellenberg has drawn a woman who turns the experience inside out--finding its humour, its turbulence, and ultimately, its joy." --Kimmy Beach



Tokyo Digs a Garden

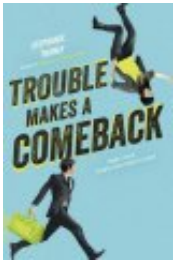
by Jon-erik Lappano

ISBN: 9781554987986
 Binding: Hardback
 Publisher: Groundwood Books Ltd
 Pub. Date: 2016-03-01
 Pages: 32
 Price: \$18.95

Winner of the 2016 Governor General's Literary Award for Young People's Literature -- Illustrated Books. Tokyo lives in a small house between giant buildings with his family and his cat, Kevin. For years, highways and skyscrapers have been built up around the family's house where once there were hills and trees. Will they ever experience the natural world again?

One day, an old woman offers Tokyo seeds, telling him they will grow into whatever he wishes. Tokyo and his grandfather are astonished when the seeds grow into a forest so lush that it takes over the entire city overnight. Soon the whole city has gone wild, with animals roaming where cars once drove. But is this a problem to be surmounted, or a new way of living to be embraced?

With *Tokyo Digs a Garden*, Jon-Erik Lappano and Kellen Hatanaka have created a thoughtful and inspiring fable of environmentalism and imagination.

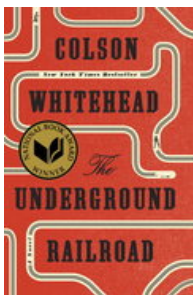


Trouble Makes a Comeback

by Stephanie Tromly

ISBN: 9780525428411
 Binding: Hardback
 Publisher: Dial Books for Young Readers
 Pub. Date: 2016-11-22
 Pages: 304
 Price: \$23.99

Winner of the 2017 McNally Robinson Book for Young People Award: Older Category. An utterly satisfying sequel packed with razor-sharp dialogue, a love triangle you didn't see coming, and the most charismatic dynamic duo you ever met. Now that the infuriating and irresistible Philip Digby has left town for a lead on his sister who disappeared years ago, Zoe Webster is looking forward to a quiet spring semester. She's dating a cute quarterback, hanging out with new friends, and enjoying being "a normal." Which is of course when Digby comes back. He needs Zoe's help, and not just to find his sister. Zoe can either choose to stay on her current path toward popularity, perfect SAT scores, and Princeton, or she can take a major detour with Digby, and maybe find out what that kiss he stole from her really meant. Digby and his over-the-top schemes always lead somewhere unexpected and Zoe's beginning to learn she might just like jumping into the unknown. When it comes to Digby, for Zoe at least, the choice might already be made.



The Underground Railroad

A Novel

by Colson Whitehead

ISBN: 9780385542364
 Binding: Hardback
 Series: Oprah's Book Club
 Publisher: Knopf Doubleday Publishing Group
 Pub. Date: 2016-08-02
 Pages: 320
 Price: \$34.95

Winner of the Pulitzer Prize and the National Book Award, the #1 New York Times bestseller from Colson Whitehead, a magnificent tour de force chronicling a young slave's adventures as she makes a desperate bid for freedom in the antebellum South

Cora is a slave on a cotton plantation in Georgia. Life is hell for all the slaves, but especially bad for Cora; an outcast even among her fellow Africans, she is coming into womanhood--where even greater pain awaits. When Caesar, a recent arrival from Virginia, tells her about the Underground Railroad, they decide to take a terrifying risk and escape. Matters do not go as planned--Cora kills a young white boy who tries to capture her. Though they manage to find a station and head north, they are being hunted.

In Whitehead's ingenious conception, the Underground Railroad is no mere metaphor--engineers and conductors operate a secret network of tracks and tunnels beneath the Southern soil. Cora and Caesar's first stop is South Carolina, in a city that initially seems like a haven. But the city's placid surface masks an insidious scheme designed for its black denizens. And even worse: Ridgeway, the relentless slave catcher, is close on their heels. Forced to flee again, Cora embarks on a harrowing flight, state by state, seeking true freedom.

Like the protagonist of Gulliver's Travels, Cora encounters different worlds at each stage of her journey--hers is an odyssey through time as well as space. As Whitehead brilliantly re-creates the unique terrors for black people in the pre-Civil War era, his narrative seamlessly weaves the saga of America from the brutal importation of Africans to the unfulfilled promises of the present day. The Underground Railroad is at once a kinetic adventure tale of one ...



The Waking Comes Late

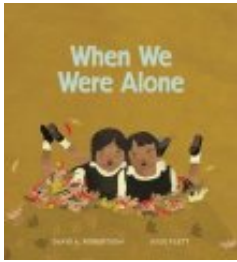
by Steven Heighon

ISBN: 9781487000936
 Binding: Paperback
 Publisher: House of Anansi Press Inc
 Pub. Date: 2016-04-09
 Pages: 128
 Price: \$19.95

2016 Governor General's Literary Award Winner

2017 Raymond Souster Award Finalist

Governor General's Literary Award finalist and bestselling author Steven Heighon returns with a collection of laments and celebrations that reflect on our struggle to believe in the future of a world that continues to disappoint us. The poet challenges the boundaries of sleep and even death in these meditations on what lies just beneath the surface of contemporary life. These are poems that trouble over the idea of failure even as they continually recommit to the present moment. This is fierce music performed in a minor key.



When We Were Alone

by David Alex Robertson

ISBN: 9781553796732
Binding: Hardback
Publisher: Portage & Main Press
Pub. Date: 2016-12-01
Pages: 24
Price: \$18.95

Winner of the 2017 McNally Robinson Book for Young People Award: Younger Category. When a young girl helps tend to her grandmother's garden, she begins to notice things that make her curious. Why does her grandmother have long, braided hair and beautifully colored clothing? Why does she speak another language and spend so much time with her family? As she asks her grandmother about these things, she is told about life in a residential school a long time ago, where all of these things were taken away. *When We Were Alone* is a story about a difficult time in history, and, ultimately, one of empowerment and strength.

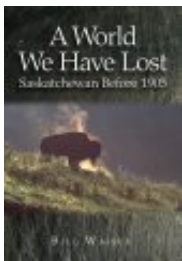


Will I See?

by David Alex Robertson

ISBN: 9781553796749
Binding: Paperback
Publisher: Portage & Main Press
Pub. Date: 2016-12-01
Pages: 56
Price: \$18.95

Winner of the 2017 Manuela Dias Book Design and Illustration Award: Graphic Novel Category. May, a young teenage girl, traverses the city streets, finding keepsakes in different places along her journey. When May and her kookum make these keepsakes into a necklace, it opens a world of danger and fantasy. While May fights against a terrible reality, she learns that there is strength in the spirit of those that have passed. But will that strength be able to save her? A story of tragedy and beauty, *Will I See* illuminates the issue of missing and murdered Indigenous women.



A World We Have Lost Saskatchewan Before 1905

by Bill Waiser

ISBN: 9781927083390
Binding: Hardback
Publisher: Fifth House Publishers
Pub. Date: 2016-05-12
Pages: 734
Price: \$70.00

Sometime during the summer of 1690, in east-central Saskatchewan, Englishmen Henry Kelsey and his Indian escorts walked out of the boreal forest and into a new world -- the northern great plains of western Canada. It was a landscape never encountered before by another European. Kelsey has been lauded as "first in the west" and the "discoverer of the Canadian prairies." But these accolades overlook the simple fact that any European and later Canadian activity in what would become the future province of Saskatchewan was entirely dependent on the goodwill and cooperation of the indigenous peoples of the region. After all, Kelsey had to be taken inland. He was a passenger, not a pathfinder.

A World We Have Lost examines the early history of Saskatchewan through an Aboriginal and environmental lens. Indian and mixed-descent peoples played leading roles in the story -- as did the land and climate. Despite the growing British and Canadian presence, the Saskatchewan country remained Aboriginal territory. The region's peoples had their own interests and needs and the fur trade was often peripheral to their lives. Indians and Metis peoples wrangled over territory and resources, especially bison, and were not prepared to let outsiders control their lives, let alone decide their future. Native-newcomer interactions were consequently fraught with misunderstandings, sometimes painful difficulties, if not outright disputes. By the early nineteenth century, a distinctive western society had emerged in the North-West -- one that was challenged and undermined by the takeover of the region by a young dominion of Canada. Settlement and development was to be rooted in the best features of Anglo-Canadian civilization, including the white race. By the time Saskatchewan entered confederation as a province in 1905, the world that Kelsey had encountered during his historic walk on the northern prairies had become a world we have lost.