
Absurdistan Gary Shteyngart

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A Rabbit Omnibus Univ of South Carolina Press

Tanya is a typical teenager living with her bookish professor mother in a cramped Soviet apartment. She is obsessed with Dostoyevksy, and noticing that he always portrays his mistress and muse in his novels—never his wife—she determines to become a companion to a great writer. Her opportunity comes when, as a college graduate newly emigrated to America, she attends a Manhattan bookstore reading by Mark Schneider, a Significant New York Novelist. Tanya quickly moves in with Mark, ready to dazzle in bed, to serve and inspire . . . if only he

would spend a little more time writing. But as she struggles to better understand her role as Muse, Tanya also learns more than she expected about the destiny she has imagined for herself. A touching and very funny novel in the great tradition of Russian realism, *Memoirs of a Muse* is also a lively meditation on the mysteries and absurdities of artistic inspiration.

Rabbit, run ; Rabbit redux Penguin

"Outstanding . . . a wide-ranging invitation to think through the moral ramifications of our eating habits." —The New Yorker One of the New York Times Book Review's Ten Best Books of the Year and Winner of the James Beard Award Author of *How to Change Your Mind* and the #1 New York Times Bestseller *In Defense of Food and Food Rules* What should we have for dinner? Ten years ago, Michael Pollan confronted us with this seemingly simple question and, with *The Omnivore 's Dilemma*, his brilliant and eye-opening exploration of our food choices, demonstrated that how we answer it today may determine not only our health but our survival as a species. In the years since, Pollan 's revolutionary examination has changed the way Americans think about

food. Bringing wide attention to the little-known but vitally important dimensions of food and agriculture in America, Pollan launched a national conversation about what we eat and the profound consequences that even the simplest everyday food choices have on both ourselves and the natural world. Ten years later, *The Omnivore's Dilemma* continues to transform the way Americans think about the politics, perils, and pleasures of eating.

Understanding Gary Shteyngart Random House Trade Paperbacks

Winner of the VCU Cabell First Novelist Award Winner of the American Library Association's Sophie Brody Medal Finalist for the National Jewish Book Award A singularly talented writer makes his literary debut with this provocative, soulful, and sometimes hilarious story of a failed journalist asked to do the unthinkable: Forge Holocaust-restitution claims for old Russian Jews in Brooklyn, New York. Yevgeny Gelman, grandfather of Slava Gelman, "didn't suffer in the exact way" he needs to have suffered to qualify for the restitution the German government has been paying out to Holocaust survivors. But suffer he has—as a Jew in the war; as a second-class citizen in the USSR; as an immigrant to America. So? Isn't his grandson a "writer"? High-minded Slava wants to put all this immigrant scraping behind him. Only the American Dream is not panning out for him—Century, the legendary magazine where he works as a researcher, wants nothing greater from him. Slava wants to be a correct, blameless American—but he wants to be a lionized writer even more. Slava's turn as the Forger of South Brooklyn teaches him that not every fact is the truth, and not every lie a falsehood. It takes more than law-abiding to become an American; it takes the same self-reinvention in which his people excel. Intoxicated and unmoored by his inventions, Slava risks exposure. Cornered, he commits an irrevocable act that finally grants him a sense of home in America, but not before collecting a price from his family. *A Replacement Life* is a dark, moving, and beautifully written novel about family, honor, and justice.

Absurdistan Vintage

"Hilarious. . . . To understand Russia, read A

Terrible Country." —Time "This artful and autumnal novel, published in high summer, is a gift to those who wish to receive it." —Dwight Garner, *The New York Times* "Hilarious, heartbreaking. . . . A *Terrible Country* may be one of the best books you'll read this year." —Ann Levin, *Associated Press* A *New York Times* Editors' Choice Named a Best Book of 2018 by Bookforum, *Nylon*, *Esquire*, and *Vulture* A literary triumph about Russia, family, love, and loyalty—from a founding editor of *n+1* and the author of *Raising Raffi* When Andrei Kaplan's older brother Dima insists that Andrei return to Moscow to care for their ailing grandmother, Andrei must take stock of his life in New York. His girlfriend has stopped returning his text messages. His dissertation adviser is dubious about his job prospects. It's the summer of 2008, and his bank account is running dangerously low. Perhaps a few months in Moscow are just what he needs. So Andrei sublets his room in Brooklyn, packs up his hockey stuff, and moves into the apartment that Stalin himself had given his grandmother, a woman who has outlived her husband and most of her friends. She survived the dark days of communism and witnessed Russia's violent capitalist transformation, during which she lost her beloved dacha. She welcomes Andrei into her home, even if she can't always remember who he

is. Andrei learns to navigate Putin's Moscow, still the city of his birth, but with more expensive coffee. He looks after his elderly—but surprisingly sharp!—grandmother, finds a place to play hockey, a café to send emails, and eventually some friends, including a beautiful young activist named Yulia. Over the course of the year, his grandmother's health declines and his feelings of dislocation from both Russia and America deepen. Andrei knows he must reckon with his future and make choices that will determine his life and fate. When he becomes entangled with a group of leftists, Andrei's politics and his allegiances are tested, and he is forced to come to terms with the Russian society he was born into and the American one he has enjoyed since he was a kid. A wise, sensitive novel about Russia, exile, family, love, history and fate, *A Terrible County* asks what you owe the place you were born, and what it owes you. Writing with grace and humor, Keith Gessen gives us a brilliant and mature novel that is sure to mark him as one of the most talented novelists of his generation.

A Partial History of Lost Causes Random House (UK)

The trilogy comprises of *Rabbit*, *Run*, *Rabbit Redux* and *Rabbit is Rich*. It is intended as an amusing, sympathetic study of a man, Rabbit Angstrom, putting up a fight against the inevitable.

Super Sad True Love Story Random House

“ Absurdistan is not just a hilarious novel, but a record of a particular peak in the history of human folly. No one is more capable of dealing with the transition from the hell of socialism to the hell of capitalism in Eastern Europe than Shteyngart, the great-great grandson of one Nikolai Gogol and the funniest foreigner alive. ”

– Aleksandar Hemon From the critically acclaimed, bestselling author of *The Russian Debutante* 's Handbook comes the uproarious and poignant story of one very fat man and one very small country Meet Misha Vainberg, aka Snack Daddy, a 325-pound disaster of a human being, son of the 1,238th-richest man in Russia, proud holder of a degree in multicultural studies from Accidental College, USA (don ' t even ask), and patriot of no country save the great City of New York. Poor Misha just wants to live in the South Bronx with his hot Latina girlfriend, but after his gangster father murders an Oklahoma businessman in Russia, all hopes of a U.S. visa are lost. Salvation lies in the tiny, oil-rich nation of Absurdistan, where a crooked consular officer will sell Misha a Belgian passport. But after a civil war breaks out between two competing ethnic groups and a local warlord installs hapless Misha as minister of multicultural affairs, our hero soon finds himself covered in oil, fighting for his life, falling in love, and trying to figure out if a normal life is still possible in the twenty-first century. With the enormous success

of *The Russian Debutante's Handbook*, Gary Shteyngart established himself as a central figure in today's literary world—"one of the most talented and entertaining writers of his generation," according to *The New York Observer*. In *Absurdistan*, he delivers an even funnier and wiser literary performance. Misha Vainberg is a hero for the new century, a glimmer of humanity in a world of dashed hopes.

Absurdistan Random House

"We are homesick everywhere," writes Tishani Doshi, "even when we're home." With aching empathy, righteous anger, and rebellious humor, *A God at the Door* calls on the extraordinary minutiae of nature and humanity to redefine belonging and unveil injustice. In an era of pandemic lockdown and brutal politics, these poems make vital space for what must come next—the return of wonder and free movement, and a profound sense of connection to what matters most. From a microscopic cell to flightless birds, to a sumo wrestler and the tree of life, Doshi interrupts the news cycle to pause in grief or delight, to restore power to language. *A God at the Door* invites the reader on a pilgrimage—one that leads us back to the sacred temple of ourselves. This is an exquisite, generous collection from a poet at the peak of her powers.

Absurdistan Random House

NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLER • GOOD MORNING AMERICA BUZZ PICK • ONE OF THE BEST BOOKS OF THE YEAR: *The New York Times Book Review*, *Financial Times*, *The Washington Post*, *Time*, *Los Angeles Times*, *New York Post*, *Town & Country*, *Good Housekeeping*, *Kirkus Reviews* "A perfect novel for these times and all times, the single textual artifact from the pandemic era I

would place in a time capsule as a representation of all that is good and true and beautiful about literature." —Molly Young, *The New York Times* (Editors' Choice) *Eight friends, one country house, and six months in isolation—a novel about love, friendship, family, and betrayal hailed as a "virtuoso performance" (USA Today) and "an homage to Chekhov with four romances and a finale that will break your heart" (The Washington Post)* In the rolling hills of upstate New York, a group of friends and friends-of-friends gathers in a country house to wait out the pandemic. Over the next six months, new friendships and romances will take hold, while old betrayals will emerge, forcing each character to reevaluate whom they love and what matters most. The unlikely cast of characters includes a Russian-born novelist; his Russian-born psychiatrist wife; their precocious child obsessed with K-pop; a struggling Indian American writer; a wildly successful Korean American app developer; a global dandy with three passports; a Southern flamethrower of an essayist; and a movie star, the Actor, whose arrival upsets the equilibrium of this chosen family. Both elegiac and very, very funny, *Our Country Friends* is the most ambitious book yet by the author of the beloved bestseller *Super Sad True Love Story*.

Clarkson Potter

NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLER • A deliciously dark tale of America's dysfunctional coming years—and the timeless and tender feelings that just might bring us back from the brink. NAMED ONE OF THE BEST BOOKS OF THE YEAR BY The New York

Times • The Washington Post • The Boston Globe • San Francisco Chronicle • The Seattle Times • O: The Oprah Magazine • Maureen Corrigan, NPR • Salon • Slate • Minneapolis Star Tribune • St. Louis Post-Dispatch • The Kansas City Star • Charlotte Observer • The Globe and Mail • Vancouver Sun • Montreal Gazette • Kirkus Reviews

In the near future, America is crushed by a financial crisis and our patient Chinese creditors may just be ready to foreclose on the whole mess. Then Lenny Abramov, son of an Russian immigrant janitor and ardent fan of “printed, bound media artifacts” (aka books), meets Eunice Park, an impossibly cute Korean American woman with a major in Images and a minor in Assertiveness. Could falling in love redeem a planet falling apart?

Lake Success Anchor

As Diane Kurasik nears the rapids of her fortieth birthday, it seems her world is taking on the bittersweet tones of a life-change comedy from the 1970s, something starring Glenda Jackson or Jill Clayburgh. The director of a Greenwich Village revival house cinema and a single woman who has watched everyone else move on, Diane is reminded daily of her status and her limitations. Clearly there is some lesson she was supposed to have learned by now, but what it is continues to elude her. Vladimir Hurtado Padrón has troubles of his own. Although he fled Cuba a decade earlier, he still can't convince his estranged wife in Havana to grant him a divorce. When

Diane meets and falls for Vladimir, he is up front about the stalemate in his personal life, letting her make her own decisions. Diane considers the minor role he has to offer and wonders: Would Ingrid Bergman put up with this? An eviction notice jolts Diane out of her home and her routine – aren't all New York stories ultimately about real estate? Diane shuttles between the couches of friends and family, dodging advice and criticism in equal measure and touring countless fatally flawed Manhattan apartments. Meanwhile, Vladimir refuses to succumb to nostalgia as he deals with the exile's dilemma: What happens when you can't go home? Then an unexpected visitor from Vladimir's past arrives on the scene and becomes captivated by Diane just as her ardor for Vladimir is cooling. Diane considers returning his affections, and wonders if she's lost her mind. An unabashed valentine to cinema, *Don't Make a Scene* is a sparkling, witty novel that asks, Do movies satisfy the yearning, or merely fan the flames? Valerie Block uses tart humor and a deceptively light touch in this fiercely intelligent look at how the movies shape and haunt us, and what happens when the eternal allure of classic movies collides with the daily indignities of contemporary life. *Don't Make a Scene* is a refreshing comedy about finding fascination, irritation, and joy in unexpected places.

A God at the Door Penguin Books Limited

A masterpiece of religious parody in the tradition of Kurt Vonnegut. Japs Eye Fontanelle, an 88-year-old overweight, retired Japanese kamikaze pilot, insists that he is the rightful king of the Holy Channel Island of Jersey. He also claims to be

the Creator of the Universe. This is his autobiography, written while under armed guard inside the gold vault at Fort Knox. Fontanelle recounts his truly remarkable life: from his birth in the city of Kyoto and his involvement in World War II, to his study of the ancient science of astrology, the historic discovery of his own divinity, and the founding of the first Astrological Kingdom on Earth. Occasionally, when he isn't busy creating galaxies, he takes a break to watch "Star Trek". Structured in twelve meticulously-researched, hilariously funny zodiacal chapters-and padded with photo inserts revealing such delights as God returning from his ninth suicide mission, Shinto monks, and God's genitals- *The Astrological Diary of God* is a savage and irreverent take on modern belief.

Our Country Friends Random House Trade Paperbacks

Tired of the responsibility of married life, Harry Angstrom leaves his wife and home, in *Rabbit, Run*, and is forced to cope with the infidelity of his wife in *Rabbit Redux*, in the first volume of an omnibus set containing the four Rabbit novels. Original.

WAR TORN Penguin

War Torn: Adventures in the Brave New Canada is travel literature woven with threads of political commentary.

Troy Parfitt travels through every Canadian province and territory in a bid to reconnect with his estranged homeland. However, the connection appears to be broken as the author is bothered by poverty, a scandal-ridden and increasingly autocratic government, and quiet complicity about his country's involvement in The War in

Afghanistan. Parfitt touches on numerous themes, from Canadian literature, to the nation's obsession with hockey, to descriptions of Newfoundland, British Columbia, and

Nunavut. There is plenty of humour (there'd have to be), but the tie that binds is criticism of Canada's shift to the right and the state manufactured belief that bettering citizens' lives comes after fulfilling military contracts and waging war. Readers looking to find out how democratic, friendly, and socialist Canada is should refer to fiction.

The Astrological Diary of God Ballantine Books

“ Explore[s] the Jewish past via letters that reflect connections and collisions between old and new worlds. ” —Jewish Book Council At the turn of the 20th century, Jewish families scattered by migration could stay in touch only through letters. Jews in the Russian Empire and America wrote business letters, romantic letters, and emotionally intense family letters. But for many Jews who were unaccustomed to communicating their public and private thoughts in writing, correspondence was a challenge. How could they make sure their spelling was correct and they were organizing their thoughts properly? A popular solution was to consult brivnshtelers, Yiddish-language books of model letters. *Dear Mendl, Dear Reyzl* translates selections from these model-letter books and includes essays and annotations that illuminate their role as guides to a past culture.

“ Covers a neglected aspect of Jewish popular culture and deserves a wide readership. For all serious readers of Yiddish and immigrant Jewish culture and customs. ” —Library Journal “ Delivers more than one

would expect because it goes beyond a linguistic study of letter-writing manuals and explicates their genre and social function.” —Slavic Review “ Reproductions of brivnshtelers form the core of the book and comprise the majority of the text, providing a ground-level window into a largely obscured past.” —Publishers Weekly “ The real delight of the book is in reading the letters themselves . . . Highly recommended.” —AJL Reviews

Dr. Demarr Penguin

Isaac Babel: The Essential Fictions is a collection of seventy-two of Isaac Babel's finest short stories and includes Red Cavalry, Odessa Stories, and the "Dovecote" cycle. Newly edited, translated, and annotated by Val Vinokur, this collection also features illustrations by Babel's fellow Odessan Yefim Ladyzhensky.

Absurdistan Macmillan

“ Spectacular.” —NPR • “ Uproariously funny.” —The Boston Globe • “ An artistic triumph.” —San Francisco Chronicle

“ A novel in which comedy and pathos are exquisitely balanced.” —The Washington Post • “ Shteyngart ’ s best book.” —The Seattle Times The bestselling author of Super Sad True Love Story returns with a biting, brilliant, emotionally resonant novel very much of our times.

NAMED ONE OF THE TEN BEST BOOKS OF THE YEAR BY SAN FRANCISCO CHRONICLE AND MAUREEN CORRIGAN, NPR ’ S FRESH AIR AND NAMED ONE OF THE BEST BOOKS OF THE YEAR BY The New York Times Book Review • NPR • The Washington Post • O: The Oprah Magazine • Mother Jones • Glamour •

Library Journal • Kirkus Reviews • Newsday • Pamela Paul, KQED • Financial Times • The Globe and Mail Narcissistic, hilariously self-deluded, and divorced from the real world as most of us know it, hedge-fund manager Barry Cohen oversees \$2.4 billion in assets. Deeply stressed by an SEC investigation and by his three-year-old son ’ s diagnosis of autism, he flees New York on a Greyhound bus in search of a simpler, more romantic life with his old college sweetheart. Meanwhile, his super-smart wife, Seema—a driven first-generation American who craved the picture-perfect life that comes with wealth—has her own demons to face. How these two flawed characters navigate the Shteyngartian chaos of their own making is at the heart of this piercing exploration, a poignant tale of familial longing and an unsentimental ode to America. **LONGLISTED FOR THE CARNEGIE MEDAL FOR EXCELLENCE IN FICTION** “ The fuel and oxygen of immigrant literature—movement, exile, nostalgia, cultural disorientation—are what fire the pistons of this trenchant and panoramic novel. . . . [It is] a novel so pungent, so frisky and so intent on probing the dissonances and delusions—both individual and collective—that grip this strange land getting stranger.” —The New York Times Book Review “ Shteyngart, perhaps more than any American writer of his generation, is a natural. He is light, stinging, insolent and melancholy. . . . The wit and the immigrant ’ s sense of heartbreak—he was born in Russia—just seem to pour from him. The idea of riding along behind Shteyngart as he glides across America in the early age of Trump is a propitious one. He doesn ’ t disappoint.” —The New York

Times

Absurdistan and Super Sad True Love Story: Two Bestselling Novels Cornell University Press

The revised edition biography of one of the twentieth century's most fascinating and original artists.

Suddenly, a Knock on the Door Random House

Understanding Gary Shteyngart, the first comprehensive examination of Shteyngart's novels and memoir, introduces readers to one of the most critically acclaimed and commercially successful contemporary American authors. Born in Leningrad in 1972, Shteyngart immigrated to the United States in 1979, attended Oberlin College and the City University of New York, and currently teaches in the Writing Program at Columbia University. His novels include Super Sad True Love Story, winner of the Bollinger Everyman Wodehouse Prize; Absurdistan, chosen as one of the ten best books of the year by the New York Times Book Review and Time magazine; and The Russian Debutante's Handbook, winner of the Stephen Crane Award for First Fiction and the National Jewish Book Award for Fiction. Geoff Hamilton studies three broad, overlapping elements of Shteyngart's work: his construction of Russian-Jewish identity in the United States, his appraisal of communism's imaginative legacy for the wider East European diaspora and former Soviet republics, and his representation of the deadening effects of late capitalism. Focusing on Shteyngart's themes of the fracturing and decay of ethnic identities, the limits and pitfalls of multiculturalism, and the decline of privacy and civility against the creeping power of

technological mediation, Hamilton also tracks the author's playful manipulation of literary traditions and his incisive revision of seminal mythologies of Russian, Jewish, and American selfhood. Although Shteyngart has sometimes been pigeon holed as an immigrant author working a rather marginal ethnic shtick, Hamilton demonstrates that Shteyngart's work deserves attention for its remarkable centrality, that is, its relevance to core questions of identity formation and beliefs common to globalized societies.

Our Country Friends FSG Originals

Bienvenido a Absurdistán, reino del petróleo y la ambición desmedida. A Misha Vainberg le cierran las puertas de Estados Unidos cuando su padre —un influyente mafioso ruso— mata a un hombre de negocios de Oklahoma. Sin visado y sin esperanzas, ha de tomar un camino alternativo para volver junto a su chica del Bronx: viaja a la corrupta República Absurdsvan i para conseguir un pasaporte belga. Parece un plan sencillo, pero pronto todo se complica. En Absurdistán, Misha se ve envuelto en un surrealista conflicto bañado en sangre, petróleo y oscuras intrigas. ¿Podrá salir de aquella pesadilla y volver a su sueño americano? « Esta novela es tan vigorosa, tan segura de su brutal superioridad, que sólo respirando, sudando, estando frente a ella, se puede percibir su grandeza. » The New York Times Book Review « Una viva inteligencia brilla en cada página. » Washington Post « Una inteligente s á tira que entretiene de principio a fin; ser á dif í cil encontrar este año una novela política más divertida y aguda que ésta. »

Librería Powells « La gráfica y burlesca sátira de Shteyngart es un reflejo de cómo se vive el sueño americano en las hambrientas nuevas democracias. Su complejo y simpático protagonista es digno de ser comparado con los personajes legendarios de la literatura americana. » Publishers Weekly « Comparado con la mayoría de novelistas de su edad, Shteyngart es un gigante a lomos de un caballo. Alcanza mayor profundidad, observa con más agudeza y llega donde quiere con mucho más aplomo. » The New York Times Books Review « Absurdistán es mucho más que una novela hilarante; es un reflejo de un momento cumbre en la historia de la locura humana. Nadie como Shteyngart es capaz de narrar la transición del infierno del socialismo al infierno del capitalismo. » ALEKSANDAR HEMON « Absurdistán es una magnífica sátira de la nueva oligarquía rusa, del estilo de vida americano, y de la megalomanía, consumismo y afán por explotar a pequeños países que comparten ambas naciones. » The Washington Post « Una sátira profundamente divertida, genuinamente conmovedora y completamente adorable. » Time

A Replacement Life Yale University Press

Eliza Naumann, a seemingly unremarkable nine-year-old, expects never to fit into her gifted family: her autodidact father, Saul, absorbed in his study of Jewish mysticism; her brother, Aaron, the vessel of his father's spiritual ambitions; and her brilliant but distant lawyer-mom, Miriam. But when Eliza sweeps her school and district spelling bees in quick succession, Saul takes it as a sign that she is destined for greatness. In this altered reality,

Saul inducts her into his hallowed study and lavishes upon her the attention previously reserved for Aaron, who in his displacement embarks upon a lone quest for spiritual fulfillment. When Miriam's secret life triggers a familial explosion, it is Eliza who must order the chaos. Myla Goldberg's keen eye for detail brings Eliza's journey to three-dimensional life. As she rises from classroom obscurity to the blinding lights and outsized expectations of the National Bee, Eliza's small pains and large joys are finely wrought and deeply felt. Not merely a coming-of-age story, Goldberg's first novel delicately examines the unraveling fabric of one family. The outcome of this tale is as startling and unconventional as her prose, which wields its metaphors sharply and rings with maturity. The work of a lyrical and gifted storyteller, Bee Season marks the arrival of an extraordinarily talented new writer.