

# Baltasar And Blimunda Jose Saramago

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Baltasar ile Blimunda SCB Distributors  
This is the first English edition of the prize-winning writings of Portugal's premiere writer, who has been nominated twice for the Nobel Prize for Literature.

## Manual of Painting and Calligraphy HMH

A “winkingly blasphemous retelling of the Old Testament” by the Nobel Prize-winning author of The Gospel According the Jesus Christ (The New Yorker). In José Saramago final novel, he daringly reimagines the characters and narratives of the Old Testament. Placing the despised murderer Cain in the role of protagonist, this epic tale ranges from the Garden of Eden, when God realizes he has forgotten to give Adam and Eve the gift of speech, to the moment when Noah’s Ark lands on the dry peak of Ararat. Condemned to wander forever after he kills his brother Abel, Cain makes his way through the world in the company of a personable donkey. He is a witness to and participant in the stories of Isaac and Abraham, the destruction of the Tower of Babel, Moses and the golden calf, and the trials of Job. Again and again, Cain encounters a God whose actions seem callous, cruel, and unjust. He confronts Him, he argues with Him. “And one thing we know for certain,” Saramago writes, “is that they continued to argue and are arguing still.” "Cain's vagabond journey builds to a stunning climax that, like the book itself, is a fitting capstone to a remarkable career."—Publishers Weekly, starred review This ebook includes a sample chapter of Jose Saramago’s Blindness.

The Cave HarperCollins

A disgruntled portrait artist in 1970s Portugal turn to writing in the Nobel Prize-winning author ’ s debut novel, now available in English translation. Manual

of Painting and Calligraphy was Jos é Saramago ’ s first novel. Written eight years before the critically acclaimed Baltasar and Blimunda, it is a story of self-discovery set in Portugal during the last years of Antonio Salazar ’ s dictatorship. It tells the story of a struggling artist who is commissioned to paint a portrait of an influential industrialist. Disheartened by his squandered talent, the artist soon undergoes a creative and political awakening when he discovers the possibilities of writing. The brilliant juxtaposition of a passionate love story and the crisis of a nation foreshadows the themes of Saramago ’ s major works.

## The Notebook HMH

A selection of writing by the most unknown great traveller.

## Blindness Seven Stories Press

In this landmark book, Seven Stories Press presents a powerful collection of literary, philosophical, and political writings of the masked Zapatista spokesperson, Subcomandante Insurgente Marcos. Introduced by Nobel Prize winner Jos é Saramago, and illustrated with beautiful black and white photographs, Our Word Is Our Weapon crystallizes "the passion of a rebel, the poetry of a movement, and the literary genius of indigenous Mexico." Marcos first captured world attention on January 1, 1994, when he and an indigenous guerrilla group calling themselves "Zapatistas" revolted against the Mexican government and seized key towns in Mexico's southernmost state of Chiapas. In the six years that have passed since their uprising, Marcos has altered the course of Mexican politics and emerged an international symbol of grassroots movement-building, rebellion, and democracy. The prolific stream of poetic political writings, tales, and traditional myths that Marcos has penned since January 1, 1994 fill more than four volumes. Our Word Is Our Weapon presents the best of these writings, many of which have never been published before in English. Throughout this remarkable book we hear the uncompromising voice of indigenous communities living in resistance, expressing through manifestos and myths the universal human urge for dignity, democracy, and liberation. It is the voice of a people refusing to be forgotten the voice of Mexico in transition, the voice of a people struggling for democracy by using their word as their only weapon.

## Night Train to Lisbon MacLehose Press

This collection, available exclusively in e-book

form, brings together the twelve novels (and one novella) of the great Portuguese writer Jos é Saramago, with an introductory essay by Ursula Le Guin. From Saramago's early work, like the enchanting Baltasar & Blimunda and the controversial Gospel According to Jesus Christ, through his masterpiece Blindness and its sequel Seeing, to his later fables of politics, chance, history, and love, like All the Names and Death with Interruptions, this volume showcases the range and depth of Saramago ’ s career, his inimitable narrative voice, and his vast reserves of invention, humor, and understanding.

## On Emerging from Hyper-Nation U of Minnesota Press

In early eighteenth-century Lisbon, Baltasar, a soldier who has lost his left hand in battle, falls in love with Blimunda, a young girl with visionary powers. From the day that he follows her home from the auto-da-fe where women are burned at the stake, the two are bound body and soul by love of an unassailable strength. A third party shares their supper that evening: Padre Bartolomeu Lourenco, whose fantasy is to invent a flying machine. As the Crown and the Church clash, they purse his impossible, not to mention heretical, dream of flight.

## Early Medieval Jewish Policy in Western Europe CRC Press

A family of Portuguese farmers struggle to survive as world events pass them by in “ a novel that resounds with relevance for our own time ” (New York Times Book Review). Winner of the City of Lisbon Prize Celebrated author Jose Saramago has delighted readers around the world with his imaginative tales and evocative depictions of life in his native Portugal. His novel Raised from the Ground follows the changing fortunes of the Mau Tempo family—poor landless peasants not unlike Saramago ’ s own grandparents. Set in Alentejo, a southern province of Portugal known for its vast agricultural estates, the novel charts the lives of the Mau Tempos as national and international events rumble on in the background—the coming of the republic in Portugal, the two world wars, and an attempt on the dictator Salazar ’ s life. Yet nothing really impinges on the grim reality of the farm laborers ’ lives until the first communist stirrings. Raised from the Ground is Saramago ’ s most deeply personal novel, the

book in which he found the signature style and voice that would win him the Nobel Prize in Literature.

**Take Six** HMH

The bestselling novel of love and sacrifice under fascist rule, and “ a treat for the mind. One of the best books I have read in a long time ” (Isabel Allende). Raimund Gregorius, a professor of dead languages at a Swiss secondary school, lives a life governed by routine. Then, an enigmatic Portuguese woman stirs his interest in an obscure, and mind-expanding book of philosophy that opens the possibility of changing Raimund ’ s existence. That same night, he takes the train to Lisbon to research the book ’ s phantom author, Amadeu de Prado, a renowned physician whose principles led him to confront Salazar ’ s dictatorship. Raimund, now obsessed with unlocking the mystery behind the man, is determined to meet all those on whom Prado left an indelible mark. Among them: his eighty-year-old sister, who maintains her brother ’ s house as if it were a museum; an elderly cleric and torture survivor confined to a nursing home; and Prado ’ s childhood friend and eventual partner in the Resistance. The closer Raimund comes to the truth of Prado ’ s life, and eventual fate, an extraordinary tale takes shape amid the labyrinthine memories of Prado ’ s intimate circle of family and friends, working in utmost secrecy to fight dictatorship, and the betrayals that threaten to expose them. “ A meditative, deliberate exploration of loneliness, language and the human condition ” (The San Diego Union-Tribune), *Night Train to Lisbon* “ call[s] to mind the magical realism of Jorge Amado or Gabriel Garcia Marquez . . . allusive and thought-provoking, intellectually curious and yet heartbreakingly jaded, ” and inexorably propelled by the haunting mystery at its heart (The Providence Journal). *Night Train to Lisbon* was adapted into Bille August ’ s award-winning 2013 film starring Jeremy Irons, Lena Olin, Christopher Lee, and Charlotte Rampling.

**The American Newness** Baltasar and Blimunda

A proofreader realizes his power to edit the truth on a whim, in a “ brilliantly original ” novel by a Nobel Prize winner (Los Angeles Times Book Review). Raimundo Silva is a middle-aged, celibate clerk, proofing manuscripts for a respectable publishing house. Fluent in Portuguese, he has been assigned to work on a standard history of the country, and

the twelfth-century king who laid siege to Lisbon. In a moment of subversive daring, Raimundo decides to change just one single word of text—a capricious revision that completely undoes the past. When discovered, his insolent disregard for facts appalls his employers—save for his new editor, Maria Sara. She suggests that Rainmundo take his transgressions even further. Through Rainmundo and Maria ’ s eyes, what transpires is an alternate view of history and a colorful reinvention of a debatable truth. It ’ s a serpentine journey through time where past and present converge, fact becomes myth, and fiction and reality blur—especially for Rainmundo and Maria themselves, who begin to find themselves erotically drawn to each other. “ Walter Mitty has nothing on Raimundo Silva . . . this hypnotic tale is a great comic romp through history, language and the imagination. ” —Publishers Weekly

**Translated by Giovanni Pontiero**

**Death with Interruptions** Houghton Mifflin Harcourt

Baltasar and Blimunda HMH

Baltasar and Blimunda Houghton Mifflin Harcourt

Thought-provoking and lyrical, *The Notebook* records the last year in the life of Jos é Saramago. In these pages, beginning on the eve of the 2008 US presidential election, he evokes life in his beloved city of Lisbon, revisits conversations with friends, and meditates on his favorite authors. Precise observations and moments of arresting significance are rendered with pointillist detail, and together demonstrate an acute understanding of our times. Characteristically critical and uncompromising, Saramago dissects the financial crisis, deplores Israel ’ s punishment of Gaza, and reflects on the rise of Barack Obama. *The Notebook* is a unique journey into the personal and political world of one of the greatest writers of our time.

**The Stone Raft** HMH

Features the works of six major Yiddish poets and selections from the work of thirty-three others with Yiddish and English on facing pages

**Conquerors** Random House

From the Nobel Prize-winning author: “ A capacious, funny, threatening novel ” of wandering souls and political upheaval in 1930s Portugal (The New York Times Book Review). The year is 1936, and the dictator Ant ó nio de Oliveira Salazar is establishing himself in Portugal, edging his country toward civil war. At the same time, Dr. Ricardo Reis has returned home to Lisbon after a long sojourn in Brazil. What ’ s brought him back is word that the great poet, Fernando Pessoa, has died. With no intention of resuming his practice, Reis now dabbles in his own poetry, wastes his days strolling the boulevards and back streets, engages in affairs with two different women—and is followed through each excursion by Pessoa ’ s ghost. As a fascist revolution roils, and as Reis ’ s path intersects with three relative strangers—two living, one dead—Reis may finally

discover the reality of his own chimerical existence.

“ A rich story about human relationships and dreams. ” —The New York Times

Called “ a magnificent tour-de-force, perhaps one of the best novels published in Europe since World War II ” (The Bloomsbury Review) and “ altogether remarkable ” (The Wall Street Journal), *The Year of the Death of Ricardo Reis* is a PEN Award winner and stands among the finest works by the author of *Blindness*. Translated by Giovanni Pontiero

**Intelligence, Creativity and Fantasy** Grove Press

*Take Six* is a celebration of six remarkable Portuguese women writers: Sophia de Mello Breyner Andresen, Agustina Bessa-Lu í s, Maria Judite de Carvalho, H é lia Correia, Teolinda Gers ã o and L í dia Jorge. They are all past mistresses of the short story form, and their subject matter ranges from finding one ’ s inner fox to a failed suicide attempt to a grandmother and grandson battling the wind on a beach. Stories and styles are all very different, but what the writers have in common is their ability to take everyday life and look at it afresh, so that even a trip on a ferry or an encounter with a stranger or a child ’ s attempt to please her father become imbued with mystery and humour and sometimes tragedy. Relatively few women writers are translated into English, and this anthology is an attempt to rectify that imbalance and to introduce readers to some truly captivating tales from Portugal.

**Baltasar & Blimunda** New Directions Publishing

A “ wonderfully twisted meditation on identity and individuality ” from a Nobel Prize – winning author who pushes fiction to its very limits (The Boston Globe). As this novel by the author of *Blindness* and *All the Names* begins, Tertuliano M á ximo Afonso is a divorced, depressed history teacher. To lift his spirits, a colleague suggests he rent a certain video. Tertuliano watches the film, unimpressed. But during the night, when he is awakened by noise, he finds the VCR replaying the video and watches in astonishment as a man who looks exactly like him—or, more specifically, exactly like he did five years earlier, mustachioed and fuller in the face—appears on the screen. Against his own better judgment, Tertuliano decides to pursue his double. As he roots out the man ’ s identity, what begins as a whimsical chase becomes a probing investigation into what makes us human. Can we be reduced to our outward appearance, rather than the sum of our experiences? The inspiration for the film *Enemy* starring Jake Gyllenhaal and directed by Denis Villeneuve, *The Double* is a timeless novel from a writer John Updike described in *The New Yorker* as “ like Faulkner, so confident of his resources and ultimate destination that he can bring any impossibility

to life by hurling words at it. ” “ It ’ s tempting to think of [The Double] as his masterpiece. ” —The New York Times Translated from the Portuguese by Margaret Jull Costa

The Tale of the Unknown Island HMMH

In Conquerors, New York Times bestselling author Roger Crowley gives us the epic story of the emergence of Portugal, a small, poor nation that enjoyed a century of maritime supremacy thanks to the daring and navigational skill of its explorers—a tactical advantage no other country could match. Portugal ’ s discovery of a sea route to India, campaign of imperial conquest over Muslim rulers, and domination of the spice trade would forever disrupt the Mediterranean and build the first global economy. Crowley relies on letters and eyewitness testimony to tell the story of tiny Portugal ’ s rapid and breathtaking rise to power. Conquerors reveals the Imp é rio Portugu ê s in all of its splendor and ferocity, bringing to life the personalities of the enterprising and fanatical house of Aviz. Figures such as King Manuel “ the Fortunate, ” Jo ã o II “ the Perfect Prince, ” marauding governor Afonso de Albuquerque, and explorer Vasco da Gama juggled their private ambitions and the public aims of the empire, often suffering astonishing losses in pursuit of a global fortune. Also central to the story of Portugal ’ s ascent was its drive to eradicate Islamic culture and establish a Christian empire in the Indian Ocean. Portuguese explorers pushed deep into the African continent in search of the mythical Christian king Prester John, and they ruthlessly besieged Indian port cities in their attempts to monopolize trade. The discovery of a route to India around the horn of Africa was not only a brilliant breakthrough in navigation but heralded a complete upset of the world order. For the next century, no European empire was more ambitious, no rulers more rapacious than the kings of Portugal. In the process they created the first long-range maritime empire and set in motion the forces of globalization that now shape our world. At Crowley ’ s hand, the complete story of the Portuguese empire and the human cost of its ambition can finally be told. Praise for Conquerors “ Excellent . . . Crowley ’ s interpretations are nuanced and fair. ” —The Christian Science Monitor “ In a riveting narrative, Crowley chronicles Portugal's horrifically violent trajectory from ‘ impoverished, marginal ’ nation to European power, vying with Spain and Venice to dominate the spice trade. ” —Kirkus Reviews (starred review)

“ Brings to life the Portuguese explorers . . . perfect for anyone who likes a high seas tale. ” —Publishers Weekly “ Readers of Crowley ’ s previous books will not be disappointed by this exciting tale of sea battles, land campaigns and shipwrecks. . . . Crowley makes a good case for reclaiming Portugal ’ s significance as forger of the first global empire. ” —The Daily Telegraph “ Crowley has shown a rare gift for combining compelling narrative with lightly worn academic thoroughness as well as for balancing the human with the geopolitical—qualities on display here. The story he has to tell may be a thrilling one but not every historian could tell it so thrillingly. ” —Michael Prodger, Financial Times “ A fast-moving and highly readable narrative . . . [Crowley ’ s] detailed reconstruction of events is based on a close reading of the works of the chroniclers, notably

Barros and Correa, whose accounts were written in the tradition of the chronicles of chivalry. ” —History Today

Seeing HMMH

A “ marvelously amusing ” political fable in which part of the European continent breaks off and drifts away on its own (Publishers Weekly, starred review). A Nobel Prize winner who has been called “ the Garc í a M á rquez of Portugal ” (New Statesman) chronicles world events on a human scale in this exhilarating allegorical novel. One day, quite inexplicably, the Iberian Peninsula simply breaks free from the European continent and begins to drift as if it were a sort of stone raft. Panic ensues as residents and tourists attempt to escape, while crowds gather on cliffs to watch the newly formed island sail off into the sea. Meanwhile, five people on the island are drawn together—first by a string of surreal events and then by love. Taking to the road to explore the limits of their now finite land, they find themselves adrift in a world made new by this radical shift in perspective. As bureaucrats ponder what to do about their unusual predicament, the intertwined lives of these five strangers are clarified and forever changed by a physical, spiritual, and sexual voyage to an unknown destination. At once an epic adventure and a profound fable about the state of the European project, The Stone Raft is a “ hauntingly lyrical narrative with political, social, and moral underpinnings ” (Booklist) that “ may be Saramago ’ s finest work ” (Los Angeles Times).

Translated from the Portuguese by Giovanni Pontiero

The Year of the Death of Ricardo Reis Verso Books

Nobel Prize-winner Jose Saramago's brilliant new novel poses the question -- what happens when the grim reaper decides there will be no more death? On the first day of the new year, no one dies. This of course causes consternation among politicians, religious leaders, morticians, and doctors. Among the general public, on the other hand, there is initially celebration—flags are hung out on balconies, people dance in the streets. They have achieved the great goal of humanity: eternal life. Then reality hits home—families are left to care for the permanently dying, life-insurance policies become meaningless, and funeral parlors are reduced to arranging burials for pet dogs, cats, hamsters, and parrots. Death sits in her chilly apartment, where she lives alone with scythe and filing cabinets, and contemplates her experiment: What if no one ever died again? What if she, death with a small d, became human and were to fall in love?

All the Names Houghton Mifflin Harcourt

A novel written as a memoir by the well-intentioned governor of a Roman city on Portugal during the empire's decline explores