

Birdy William Wharton

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The Art of Arranging Flowers HarperCollins UK
A moving and eloquent novel about love, grief, renewal—and the powerful language of flowers. Ruby Jewell knows flowers. In her twenty years as a florist she has stood behind the counter at the Flower Shoppe with her faithful dog, Clementine, resting at her feet. A customer can walk in, and with just a glance or a few words, Ruby can throw together the perfect arrangement for any occasion. Whether intended to rekindle a romance, mark a celebration, offer sympathy, or heal a broken heart, her expressive floral designs mark the moments and milestones in the lives of her neighbors. It ’ s as though she knows just what they want to say, just what they need. Yet Ruby ’ s own heart ’ s desires have gone ignored since the death of her beloved sister. It will take an invitation from a man who ’ s flown to the moon, the arrival of a unique little boy, and concern from a charming veterinarian to reawaken her wounded spirit. Any life can be derailed, but the healing power of community can put it right again. READERS GUIDE INSIDE The 13th Valley Harper Collins
Jack has abandoned the world of business to rediscover his real life as a painter on the streets of Paris. Mirabell, a blind woman, accidentally crashes into Jack’s easel, and his life is changed forever. **The Ghost Writer** William Morrow
Inspired by her grandparents’ WWII courtship letters, New York Times bestselling author Kristina McMorris delivers a moving tale of friendship, family, and the twists of fate that change us forever . . . It’s 1944, and although foreign battles are escalating, the war seems distant in every way to sensible college student Liz Stephens. That is, until her chance encounter with charming infantryman Morgan McClain at a USO dance in Chicago. Their deep connection feels mutual to Liz, but to her dismay, her bombshell roommate, Betty, is the one who promises to write the deploying soldier. Singer Betty Cordell delights in the prospect of a dashing serviceman filling her life with adventure, marital bliss, and societal circles outranking her modest roots. It only makes sense for her to beg Liz for help penning an eloquent letter to Morgan, now bound for a dangerous front. After all, she’s certain the beauty of Liz’s ghostwritten prose would ensure a courtship as enviable as their roommate Julia’s relationship with her beloved sailor—and Betty is right, though not how she foresees. Likewise, Julia Renard’s betrothal is more complicated than it appears. When tempting opportunities arise, the future she always envisioned as a devoted wife and mother risks derailment. And yet, as the Allies edge toward victory, every person—through heart-wrenching choices and life-altering letters—will discover within themselves profound courage, bittersweet hope, and the true meaning of home . . . “A gripping and memorable story, Letters from Home is a timeless lesson in love and loss and the moments that shape our lives.” —Pam Jenoff, New York Times bestselling author of The Lost Girls of Paris People Who Say Goodbye Broadway Play Publishing In "From the acclaimed 1978 novel by William Wharton, BIRDY tells the story of a man undone by the horrors of World War II and the friend who tries to guide him back to earth."--Back cover. Voyage of a Summer Sun Vintage Canada
In August of 1988, heavy black smoke engulfed an Oregon highway, causing a massive 23-car pileup that claimed the lives of novelist William Wharton's 36-year-old daughter, her husband, and their two infant daughters. They'd been victims of field burning, a routine agricultural practice, and were burned alive in their van. How could such a thing happen? And how could a father come to terms with such a loss? Ever After, Wharton's first memoir, is his search for answers to these questions, written with the inspired simplicity that won him great acclaim for his novels. The Great Escape Broadway Play Publishing In Monkey Beach meets Green Grass, Running Water meets The Beachcombers in this wise and

funny novel by a debut Cree author Birdie is a darkly comic and moving first novel about the universal experience of recovering from wounds of the past, informed by the lore and knowledge of Cree traditions. Bernice Meetoos, a Cree woman, leaves her home in Northern Alberta following tragedy and travels to Gibsons, BC. She is on something of a vision quest, seeking to understand the messages from The Frugal Gourmet (one of the only television shows available on CBC North) that come to her in her dreams. She is also driven by the leftover teenaged desire to meet Pat Johns, who played Jesse on The Beachcombers, because he is, as she says, a working, healthy Indian man. Bernice heads for Molly ’ s Reach to find answers but they are not the ones she expected. With the arrival in Gibsons of her Auntie Val and her cousin Skinny Freda, Bernice finds the strength to face the past and draw the lessons from her dreams that she was never fully taught in life. Part road trip, dream quest and travelogue, the novel touches on the universality of women's experience, regardless of culture or race. Franky Furbo Knopf
Best friends Chuck and Willy head out for a carefree excursion and realize that danger lurks ahead when a man from the pound crosses their path. Birdy Macmillan
John Tremont, a middle-aged man with a family, is summoned to his mother's bedside after she has suffered a heart attack. When he arrives, he finds her shaken but surviving; it is his father, left alone, who is unable to cope, who begins to fail, to slip away from life. Joined by his nineteen-year-old son, John suddenly becomes enmeshed in the frightening, consuming, endless minutiae of caring for a beloved, dying parent. He also finds himself inescapably confronting his own middle age, jammed between his son's feckless impatience to get on with his life and his father's heartbreaking willingness to let go. A story of the love that binds generations, Dad celebrates the universe of possibilities within every individual life. Ever After Candlewick Press
I Wish This War Were Over, runner-up for the Pulitzer Prize, is a coming-of-age story of love and pain set against the tumultuous background of World War II... “ something rare and precious: a novel of genuine distinction... ” Jonathan Yardley, The Washington Post One Flea Spare Harper Collins
William Wharton turns his microscopic gaze on his own life to narrate and scrutinize the untimely deaths of his daughter and her family. A moving story of one man's rage against death, and spiritual renewal. Scumbler HarperCollins UK
Tijdens een pestepidemie in Londen moeten vier totaal verschillende mensen een maand lang in een kleine kamer met elkaar opgesloten blijven. Tidings Macmillan
At the centre of this wonderful book is the great Columbia River-rich with history, myth, and riverfolk, as well as progress and its effects. Cody's canoe trip from the Columbia's Canadian headwaters to where it meets the Pacific Ocean, churns up a lively portrait of the river and the land through which it courses. The Los Angeles Times Book Review praised the hardcover edition with "Voyage is neither an environmental treatise nor a search for [Cody's] own soul. It's about the taming of a river and, from water level, what that taming has meant.....Cody is a clear writer with strong descriptive powers." The hardcover edition was awarded the 1996 PNBA Award. Shrapnel HarperCollins UK
BirdyVintage
Cage of Stars Minstrel Books
In a northern English town, Lizzie, despite her own grief over the death of her mother, tries to distract her grief-stricken father by helping him enter and prepare for the Great Human Bird Competition. The Eighth Day of the Week Penguin
In August 1988, William Wharton's first-born child, along with her husband and two daughters, was incinerated in a stubble fire that engulfed an interstate highway. Three days later she and her husband visited William Wharton and asked him to do things that stretched the limits of despair. Dad Faber & Faber
A welcome reissue of this wartime classic from the author of Birdy. A Farewell to Youth: Play, Truth, and Utopia in William Wharton's Birdy Harper Collins
A young writer in search of a spiritual father, Nathan Zuckerman views E. I. Lonoff, who lives with his wife and his student-mistress in rural Massachusetts, as an embodiment of the ideal of artistic integrity and independence My Dad's a Birdman Souvenir Press

Set in the Ardennes Forest on Christmas Eve 1944, Sergeant Will Knott and five other GIs are ordered close to the German lines to establish an observation post in an abandoned chateau. Here they play at being soldiers in what seems to be complete isolation. That is, until the Germans begin revealing their whereabouts and leaving signs of their presence: a scarecrow, equipment the squad had dropped on a retreat from a reconnaissance mission and, strangest of all, a small fir tree hung with fruit, candles, and cardboard stars. Suddenly, Knott and the others must unravel these mysteries, learning as they do about themselves, about one another, and about the "enemy," until A Midnight Clear reaches its unexpected climax, one of the most shattering in the literature of war. Birdy HarperCollins UK
Hailed upon its publication as "a classic for readers not yet born" (Philadelphia Inquirer), Birdy is an inventive, hypnotic novel about friendship and family, dreaming and surviving, love and war, madness and beauty, and, above all, "birdness." It tells the story of Al, a bold, hot-tempered boy whose goals in life are to life weights and pick up girls, and his strange friend Birdy, the skinny, tongue-tied perhaps genius who only wants to raise canaries and to fly. While fighting in World War II, they find their dreams become all too real—and their lives are changed forever. In Birdy, William Wharton crafts an unforgettable tale that suggests another notion of sanity in a world that is manifestly insane. Ever After Birdy
In Depression-era Alabama, black Sunday school teacher and Communist Party member Tice Hogan lives on the edge of trouble. When a white factory worker on the run demands sanctuary, Tice and his daughter may be pushed over that edge. "THINGS OF DRY HOURS is a beautiful, brave and devastating play, a profound imaginative delving into radical resistance and hope rising at an impossible moment, in crushingly inhospitable circumstances. No one writes about politics, history and all that's hidden underneath better than Naomi Wallace. Ferocious, tender, whimsical, tough, brutally direct, poetically elusive, her voice is utterly unique and essential. I'm grateful, as always, for her unsparing, painful, sexy stirring up of our human selves." -Tony Kushner "Naomi Wallace's gorgeously written and philosophically rich celebration of a black Communist agitator in the Depression-era South ... Wallace weaves together these proud, lonely souls with language rich in metaphor and, at times, as hard and piercing as a handful of nails." -Time Out New York "Naomi Wallace's fierce new play tackles the plight of black communists in America ... Naomi Wallace is a dangerous woman ... not only in her writing ... but also in her personal stand against what she sees as injustice and the peeling away of democratic rights." -The Guardian (U K)