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# Floating Worlds The Letters Of Edward Gorey And Peter F Neumeyer

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## **The Art of Floating**

Inc. In Can Xue's extraordinary book, we encounter a full assemblage of husbands, wives, and lovers. Entwined in complicated, often tortuous relationships, these characters step into each other's fantasies, carrying on conversations that are "forever guessing games." Their journeys reveal the deepest realms of human desire, figured in Can Xue's vision of snakes and wasps, crows, cats, mice, earthquakes, and landslides. In dive bars and twisted city streets, on deserts

and snowcapped mountains, the author creates an extreme world where every character "is driving death away with a singular performance." Who is the last lover? The novel is bursting with vividly drawn characters. Among them are Joe, sales manager of a clothing company in an unnamed Western country, and his wife, Maria, who conducts mystical experiments with the household's cats and rosebushes. Joe's customer Reagan is having an affair with Ida, a worker at his rubber plantation, while clothing-store owner Vincent runs away from

his wife in pursuit of a woman in black who disappears over and over again. By the novel's end, we have accompanied these characters on a long march, a naive, helpless, and forsaken search for love, because there are just some things that can't be stopped—or helped./DIV  
Four Letters of Love Vintage  
Winner of the 2021 AHA John H. Dunning Prize Longlisted for the 2020 Cundill History Prize Named a Best Book of the Year by Nature, NPR, Library Journal, and Kirkus Reviews "A monument to a people and their land... an allegory of the world we have created." —Sven Beckert, author of Pulitzer Prize

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finalist *Empire of Cotton: A Global History* Floating Coast is the first-ever comprehensive history of Beringia, the Arctic land and waters stretching from Russia to Canada. The unforgiving territories along the Bering Strait had long been home to humans—the Inupiat and Yupik in Alaska, and the Yupik and Chukchi in Russia—before American and European colonization. Rapidly, these frigid lands and waters became the site of an ongoing experiment: How, under conditions of extreme scarcity, would modern ideologies of capitalism and communism control and manage the resources they craved? Drawing on her own experience living with and interviewing indigenous people in

the region, Bathsheba Demuth presents a profound tale of the dynamic changes and unforeseen consequences that human ambition has brought (and will continue to bring) to a finite planet.

[The World Republic of Letters](#) HarperCollins Winner of the Women’s Prize for Fiction “No one writes like Ruth Ozeki—a triumph.” —Matt Haig, New York Times bestselling author of *The Midnight Library* “Inventive, vivid, and propelled by a sense of wonder.” —TIME “If you’ve lost your way with fiction over the last year or

two, let *The Book of Form and Emptiness* light your way home.” —David Mitchell, Booker Prize-finalist author of *Cloud Atlas* A boy who hears the voices of objects all around him; a mother drowning in her possessions; and a Book that might hold the secret to saving them both—the brilliantly inventive new novel from the Booker Prize-finalist Ruth Ozeki One year after the death of his beloved musician father, thirteen-year-old Benny Oh begins to hear voices. The voices belong to

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the things in his house—a sneaker, a broken Christmas ornament, a piece of wilted lettuce. Although Benny doesn't understand what these things are saying, he can sense their emotional tone; some are pleasant, a gentle hum or coo, but others are snide, angry and full of pain. When his mother, Annabelle, develops a hoarding problem, the voices grow more clamorous. At first, Benny tries to ignore them, but soon the voices follow him outside the house, onto the street and at school,

driving him at last to seek refuge in the silence of a large public library, where objects are well-behaved and know to speak in whispers. There, Benny discovers a strange new world. He falls in love with a mesmerizing street artist with a smug pet ferret, who uses the library as her performance space. He meets a homeless philosopher-poet, who encourages him to ask important questions and find his own voice amongst the many. And he meets his very own Book—a talking thing—who narrates

Benny's life and teaches him to listen to the things that truly matter. With its blend of sympathetic characters, riveting plot, and vibrant engagement with everything from jazz, to climate change, to our attachment to material possessions, *The Book of Form and Emptiness* is classic Ruth Ozeki—bold, wise, poignant, playful, humane and heartbreaking. **Utamaro** Millbrook Press™  
The Creator sat upon the throne, thinking. Behind him stretched the illimitable continent of heaven,

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steeped in a glory of light and which clove the blackness color; before him rose the black night of Space, like a wall. His mighty bulk towered rugged and mountain-like into the zenith, and His divine head blazed there like a distant sun. At His feet stood three colossal figures, diminished to extinction, almost, by contrast -- archangels -- their heads level with His ankle-bone. When the Creator had finished thinking, He said, "I have thought. Behold!" He lifted His hand, and from it burst a fountain-spray of fire, a million stupendous suns, and soared, away and away and away, diminishing in magnitude and intensity as they pierced the far frontiers of Space, until at last they were but as diamond nailheads sparkling under the domed vast roof of the universe. At the end of an hour the Grand Council was dismissed. They left the Presence impressed and thoughtful, and retired to a private place, where they might talk with freedom. None of the three seemed to want to begin, though all wanted somebody to do it.

*The Last Lover* Putnam Publishing Group  
A landmark of postmodern American fiction, *Letters* is (as the subtitle genially informs us) "an old time epistolary novel by seven fictitious drolls and dreamers each of which imagines himself factual". Seven characters (including the Author himself) exchange a novel's worth of letters during a 7-month

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period in 1969, a time of revolution that recalls the U.S.'s first revolution in the 18th century - the heyday of the epistolary novel. Recapitulating American history as well as the plots of his first six novels, Barth's seventh novel is a witty and profound exploration of the nature of revolution and renewal, rebellion and reenactment, at

both the private and public levels. It is also an ingenious meditation on the genre of the novel itself, recycling an older form to explore new directions, new possibilities for the novel. *Letters Bloomsbury* Publishing USA The Huffington Post calls Tears of Pearl author Tasha Alexander "one to watch-and read" and her new Lady Emily mystery set in Venice

proves it! Years ago, Emily's childhood nemesis, Emma Callum, scandalized polite society when she eloped to Venice with an Italian count. But now her father-in-law lies murdered, and her husband has vanished. There's no one Emma can turn to for help but Emily, who leaves at once with her husband, the dashing Colin Hargreaves, for Venice. There, her investigations take

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her from opulent palazzi to slums, libraries, and bordellos. Emily soon realizes that to solve the present day crime, she must first unravel a centuries old puzzle. But the past does not give up its secrets easily, especially when these revelations might threaten the interests of some very powerful people.

**Letter to the Lake**  
Simon and Schuster  
This monumental collection of

correspondence between Gertrude Stein and critic, novelist, and photographer Carl Van Vechten provides crucial insight into Stein's life, art, and artistic milieu as well as Van Vechten's support of major cultural projects, such as the Harlem Renaissance. From their first meeting in 1913, Stein and Van Vechten formed a unique and powerful relationship, and Van Vechten worked vigorously to publish and promote Stein's work. Existing

biographies of Stein—including her own autobiographical writings—omit a great deal about her experiences and thought. They lack the ordinary detail of what Stein called "daily everyday living": the immediate concerns, objects, people, and places that were the grist for her writing. These letters not only vividly represent those details but also showcase Stein and Van Vechten's private selves as writers. Edward Burns's

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extensive annotations include detailed cross-referencing of source materials.

P Is for

Pterodactyl

Columbia University Press

A page-turning novel that is also an exploration of the great philosophical concepts of Western thought, Jostein Gaarder's *Sophie's World* has fired the imagination of

readers all over the world, with more than twenty million copies in print.

One day fourteen-year-old Sophie Amundsen comes home from school to find in her mailbox two notes, with one question on each:

"Who are you?" and "Where does the world come from?"

From that irresistible beginning, Sophie becomes obsessed

with questions that take her far beyond what she knows of her Norwegian village. Through those letters, she enrolls in a kind of correspondence course, covering Socrates to Sartre, with a mysterious philosopher, while receiving letters addressed to another girl. Who is Hilde? And why does her mail keep turning up? To



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unravel this riddle, letters home,  
Sophie must use the imagine if he did!  
philosophy she is These letters are  
learning—but the full of weird  
truth turns out to science, wild  
be far more facts, and  
complicated than outrageous true  
she could have stories from life  
imagined. in space.

The Phantom

Tollbooth

Sourcebooks, Inc.

"Astronaut Clayton  
Anderson lived  
aboard the

International Space  
Station--and while  
he didn't mail

Backmatter includes

even more

information on  
space, astronauts,  
and living among  
the stars"--

Installations by

Architects Columbia  
University Press

Ms. Frizzle's class  
takes school  
excursions on the  
Magic School Bus  
and encounter all  
kinds of weird and  
wonderful  
scientific  
challenges.

An Artist of the

Floating World W. W.

Norton & Company

Set in the years  
before, during, and  
after World War II,  
this classic of  
modern Japanese  
literature provides a  
rich cast of

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characters drawn from the back alleys of urban Japan and a rare portrait of Japanese colonialism and Japan's postwar experience from the perspective of a woman.

Floating Coast: An Environmental History of the Bering Strait  
Princeton Architectural Press  
"It is like a fairyland." So Laura Ingalls

Wilder described her 1915 voyage to San Francisco to visit her daughter, Rose Wilder Lane. Laura's husband, Almanzo, was unable to leave their Missouri farm and it is her faithful letters home, vividly describing every detail of her journey, that have been gathered here. Includes 24 pages of exciting photographs and

completely redesigned jacket art.

*Letters from Space*  
Crown

At a time when nothing seems real, it takes something truly unusual to put your life into focus. When her beloved husband Jackson disappeared without a trace, popular novelist Sia Dane stopped writing, closed down her house, stuffed her heart into a cage, and started floating. It wasn't the normal response to

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heartache, but Sia rarely did things the normal way. Exactly one year, one month, and six days after Jackson's disappearance, Sia discovers a mysterious man on the beach. He's mute, unresponsive, and looks as if he has just walked out of the sea. It's the sort of situation Jackson would have solved with a simple call to the police. But Jackson is gone. As unreal as he seems, Sia is determined to help this man. Perhaps she can return him to his place in the world—to whoever lost him and loves him. Perhaps she can answer their questions the way no one could answer hers. But as her friends and family help her winnow her way to the truth, Sia comes to realize that the unfathomable leap between sorrow and healing begins with a single step.

**The Magic School Bus  
Ups and Downs**  
ReadHowYouWant.com

Over the last few decades, a rich and increasingly diverse practice has emerged in the art world that invites the public to touch, enter, and experience the work, whether it is in a gallery, on city streets, or in the landscape. Like architecture, many of these temporary artworks aspire to alter viewers' experience of the environment. An installation is usually the end product for an

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artist, but for architects it can also be a preliminary step in an ongoing design process. Like paper projects designed in the absence of "real" architecture, installations offer architects another way to engage in issues critical to their practice. Direct experimentation with architecture's material and social dimensions engages

the public around issues in the built environment that concern them and expands the ways that architecture can participate in and impact people's everyday lives. The first survey of its kind, *Installations by Architects* features fifty of the most significant projects from the last twenty-five years by today's most exciting architects, including Anderson

Anderson, Philip Beesley, Diller + Scofidio, John Hejduk, Dan Hoffman, and Kuth/Ranieri Architects. Projects are grouped in critical areas of discussion under the themes of tectonics, body, nature, memory, and public space. Each project is supplemented by interviews with the project architects and the discussions of critics and theorists situated

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within a larger intellectual context. There is no doubt that installations will continue to play a critical role in the practice of architecture.

Installations by Architects aims to contribute to the role of installations in sharpening our understanding of the built environment.

### **The Floating Field**

Yale University Press  
Philip Hofer, Founding  
Curator of Printing  
and Graphic Arts in

Houghton Library, amassed one of the great collections of early penmanship textbooks before his death in 1984. Becker's catalogue tells the story of this collection while amply illustrating the diversity and expressive power of the arts of the pen.

Floating Penguin  
FINALIST FOR THE  
CENTER FOR FICTION'S  
FIRST NOVEL PRIZE

"Cain's small but mighty novel reads like a ghost story and packs the punch of a

feminist classic." —The New York Times Book Review A haunted feminist fable, Amina Cain's *Indelicacy* is the story of a woman navigating between gender and class roles to empower herself and fulfill her dreams. In "a strangely ageless world somewhere between Emily Dickinson and David Lynch" (Blake Butler), a cleaning woman at a museum of art nurtures aspirations to do more than simply dust the paintings around her. She dreams of having

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the liberty to explore them in writing, and so must find a way to win herself the time and security to use her mind. She escapes her lot by marrying a rich man, but having gained a husband, a house, high society, and a maid, she finds that her new life of privilege is no less constrained. Not only has she taken up different forms of time-consuming labor—social and erotic—but she is now, however passively, forcing other women to clean up after her.

Perhaps another and more drastic solution is necessary? Reminiscent of a lost Victorian classic in miniature, yet taking equal inspiration from such modern authors as Jean Rhys, Octavia Butler, Clarice Lispector, and Jean Genet, Amina Cain's *Indelicacy* is at once a ghost story without a ghost, a fable without a moral, and a down-to-earth investigation of the barriers faced by women in both life and literature. It is a novel about seeing,

class, desire, anxiety, pleasure, friendship, and the battle to find one's true calling.

**The Letters of Sylvia**

**Beach** Minotaur Books  
Geishas and the Floating World returns readers to a lost world of sensuality and seduction, rich with hedonism, abandon, and sexual and personal politics. "Floating World" refers to Japan's traditional Geisha pleasure districts, but also to the

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artistic and literary Japan--the Yoshiwara bawdy, and always  
worlds associated district of old Tokyo colorful, original  
with them. At the that underwent sources that offer a  
heart of the tremendous changes gripping portrait of  
"Floating World" and during the more than life within the  
the system it three centuries of pleasure zone.  
supported was an its existence. Beyond Geishas and the  
extensive network of the erotic allure the Floating World  
talented courtesans district held, the balances scholarly  
and entertainers, Yoshiwara also insights with a  
typified by the still fostered a rich master storyteller's  
fascinating, culture and a much flair for the  
enigmatic Geisha. studied and revered exploits and  
Stephen and Ethel artistic and literary intrigues of people  
Longstreet bring the tradition. This operating outside the  
reader on an in-depth account is adorned confines of polite  
tour of the original with examples of fine society. Stephen  
and most infamous red-woodblock prints and Mansfield's new  
light district in quotations from often introduction bridges

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time, examining gender realities and the Yoshiwara through contemporary eyes, highlighting often overlooked subtleties and the harsh realities associated with this glittering world.

*The Letters of Gertrude Stein and Carl Van Vechten, 1913-1946* Tuttle Publishing

On the island of Koh Panyee, in a village built on stilts, there is no open

space. How will a group of Thai boys play soccer? After watching the World Cup on television, a group of Thai boys is inspired to form their own team. But on the island of Koh Panyee, in a village built on stilts, there is no open space. The boys can play only twice a month on a sandbar when the tide is low enough. Everything changes when the teens join together

to build their very own floating soccer field. This inspiring true story by debut author Scott Riley is gorgeously illustrated by Nguyen Quang and Kim Lien. Perfect for fans of stories about sports, beating seemingly impossible odds, and places and cultures not often shown in picture books. "A compelling book for football [soccer] fans and readers seeking examples of



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ingenuity."—starred, Publishers Weekly  
Letters from the Floating World  
Columbia University Press  
Like few other works of contemporary literature, Elena Ferrante's Neapolitan novels found an audience of passionate and engaged readers around the world. Inspired by Ferrante's intense depiction of female friendship and women's intellectual lives, four critics embarked upon a project that was both

work and play: to create a series of epistolary readings of the Neapolitan Quartet that also develops new ways of reading and thinking together. In a series of intertwined, original, and daring readings of Ferrante's work and her fictional world, Sarah Chihaya, Merve Emre, Katherine Hill, and Juno Jill Richards strike a tone at once critical and personal, achieving a way of talking about literature that falls between the seminar and the book club. Their

letters make visible the slow, fractured, and creative accretion of ideas that underwrites all literary criticism and also illuminate the authors' lives outside the academy. The Ferrante Letters offers an improvisational, collaborative, and cumulative model for reading and writing with others, proposing a new method the authors call collective criticism. A book for fans of Ferrante and for literary scholars seeking fresh modes of

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intellectual exchange,  
The Ferrante Letters  
offers incisive  
criticism, insouciant  
riffs, and the pleasure  
of giving oneself over  
to an extended  
conversation about  
fiction with friends.

**Before We Were**

**Strangers** Kodansha

On a cold winter day,  
Rosie writes a letter  
to the lake where she  
loves to spend time  
during the summer.