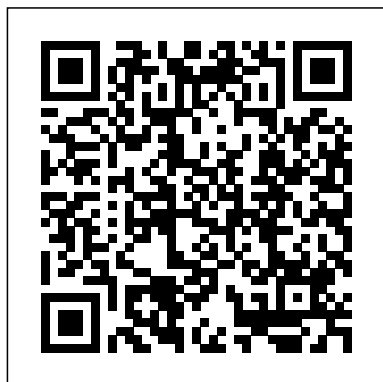


Plowing The Dark Richard Powers

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Orfeo HarperCollins

"Dazzling...a cerebral thriller that's both intellectually engaging and emotionally compelling, a lively tour de force."—Michiko Kakutani, *The New York Times* After four novels and several years living abroad, the fictional protagonist of *Galatea 2.2*—Richard Powers—returns to the United States as Humanist-in-Residence at the enormous Center for the Study of Advanced Sciences. There he runs afoul of Philip Lentz, an outspoken cognitive neurologist intent upon modeling the human brain by means of computer-based neural networks. Lentz involves Powers in an outlandish and irresistible project: to train a neural net on a canonical list of Great Books. Through repeated tutorials, the device grows gradually more worldly, until it demands to know its own name, sex, race, and reason for existing.

The Demon-Haunted World Macmillan

The magnificent second novel from the Pulitzer Prize – winning author of *The Overstory* and the forthcoming *Bewilderment*.

"Accomplished . . . mature and assured. . . . A major American novelist." — *New Republic* Something is wrong with Eddie Hobson, Sr., father of four, sometime history teacher, quiz master, black humorist, and virtuoso invalid. His recurring fainting spells have worsened, and given his ingrained aversion to doctors, his worried family tries to discover the nature of his sickness. Meanwhile, in private, Eddie puts the finishing touches on a secret project he calls *Hobbstown*, a place that he promises will save him, the world, and everything that 's in it. A dazzling novel of compassion and imagination, *Prisoner 's Dilemma* is a story of the power of individual experience.

Orfeo: A Novel Atlantic Books Ltd

From the Pulitzer Prize-winning author of *The Overstory* and *Bewilderment*, a kaleidoscopic novel about the wild freedom of the imagination. 'Part of the joy of reading Powers over the years has been his capacity for revelation' Colson Whitehead On the west coast of America, virtual reality researchers race to complete the *Cavern*, a plain white room that can become a jungle, a painting or a vast Byzantine cathedral. Adie Klarpol, a disillusioned artist, is fascinated by this cutting-edge technology. In a war-torn city on the eastern shores of the Mediterranean, an American teacher - Taimur Martin - is held hostage, chained to a radiator in an empty white room. What can possibly join two such remote places? Only the shared imagination, a room that these two people unwittingly build in common...

'Spectacular... Riveting' *New York Times*

Understanding Richard Powers Springer Nature

In this entertaining and enlightening collection David Lodge considers the art of fiction under a wide range of headings, drawing on writers

as diverse as Henry James, Martin Amis, Jane Austen and James Joyce. Looking at ideas such as the Intrusive Author, Suspense, the Epistolary Novel, Magic Realism and Symbolism, and illustrating each topic with a passage taken from a classic or modern novel, David Lodge makes the richness and variety of British and American fiction accessible to the general reader. He provides essential reading for students, aspiring writers and anyone who wants to understand how fiction works.

Three Farmers on Their Way to a Dance Farrar, Straus and Giroux

SHORTLISTED FOR THE MAN BOOKER PRIZE

2018'Autumn makes me think of leaves, which makes me think of trees, which makes me think of *The Overstory*, the best novel ever written about trees, and really, just one of the best novels, period.? Ann Patchett' It's a masterpiece.' - Tim Winton' It's not possible for Powers to write an uninteresting book.' - Margaret AtwoodA monumental novel about trees and people by one of our most 'prodigiously talented' (*The New York Times Book Review*) novelists. *The Overstory* unfolds in concentric rings of interlocking fables that range from antebellum New York to the late twentieth-century Timber Wars of the Pacific Northwest and beyond-An Air Force loadmaster in the Vietnam War is shot out of the sky, then saved by falling into a banyan. An artist inherits a hundred years of photographic portraits, all of the same doomed American chestnut. A hard-partying undergraduate in the late 1980s electrocutes herself, dies and is sent back into life by creatures of air and light. A hearing- and speech-impaired scientist discovers that trees are communicating with one another. These four, and five other strangers - each summoned in different ways by trees - are brought together in a last and violent stand to save the continent's few remaining acres of virgin forest. There is a world alongside ours - vast, slow, interconnected, resourceful, magnificently inventive and almost invisible to us. This is the story of a handful of people who learn how to see that world and who are drawn up into its unfolding catastrophe.

Galatea 2.2 Columbia University Press

From the Pulitzer Prize – winning author of *The Overstory*, an emotionally charged novel inspired by the myth of Orpheus. "Bravo, Richard Powers, for hitting so many high notes with *Orfeo* and contributing to the fraction of books that really matter." —Heller McAlpin, NPR In *Orfeo*, composer Peter Els opens the door one evening to find the police on his doorstep. His home microbiology lab—the latest experiment in his lifelong attempt to find music in surprising patterns—has aroused the suspicions of Homeland Security. Panicked by the raid, Els turns fugitive and hatches a plan to transform this disastrous collision with the security state into an unforgettable work of art that will reawaken its audience to the sounds all around it.

Prisoner's Dilemma Harper Collins

THE MILLION-COPY GLOBAL BESTSELLER and

WINNER OF THE PULITZER PRIZE FOR FICTION 'It

changed how I thought about the Earth and our place in it'

Barack Obama 'Really, just one of the best novels, period' Ann

Patchett A wondrous, exhilarating novel about nine strangers

brought together by an unfolding natural catastrophe. The perfect literary escape. An artist inherits a hundred years of photographic portraits, all of the same doomed American chestnut. A hard-partying undergraduate in the late 1980s electrocutes herself, dies, and is sent back into life by creatures of air and light. A hearing- and speech-impaired scientist discovers that trees are communicating with one another. An Air Force crewmember in the Vietnam War is shot out of the sky, then saved by falling into a banyan. This is the story of these and five other strangers, each summoned in different ways by the natural world, who are brought together in a last stand to save it from catastrophe. 'It's not possible for Powers to write an uninteresting book' Margaret Atwood 'Radical and exciting' Jessie Burton 'Breathtaking' Barbara Kingsolver

Literary Rooms W. W. Norton & Company

"Mention Richard Powers' name to other writers and see them get that faraway look in their eyes: They are calculating the eventual reach of his influence."--Sven Birkerts, *Esquire* In a digital laboratory on the shores of Puget Sound, a band of virtual reality researchers race to complete the Cavern, an empty white room that can become a jungle, a painting, or a vast Byzantine cathedral. In a war-torn Mediterranean city, an American is held hostage, chained to a radiator in another empty white room. What can possibly join two such remote places? Only the shared imagination, a room that these people unwittingly build in common, where they are all about to meet, where the dual frames of this inventive novel to coalesce. Adie Klarpol, a skilled but disillusioned artist, comes back to life, revived by the thrill of working with the Cavern's cutting-edge technology. Against the collapse of Cold War empires and the fall of the Berlin Wall, she retreats dangerously into the cyber-realities she has been hired to create. As her ex-husband lies dying and the outbreak of computerized war fills her with a sense of guilty complicity, Adie is thrown deeper into building a place of beauty and unknown power, where she might fend off the incursions of the real world gone wrong. On the other side of the globe, Taimur Martin, an English teacher retreating from a failed love affair, is picked up off the streets in Beirut by Islamic fundamentalists and held in solitary captivity. Without distraction or hope of release, he must keep himself whole by the force of his memory alone. Each infinite, empty day moves him closer to insanity, and only the surprising arrival of sanctuary sustains him for the shattering conclusion. *Plowing the Dark* is fiction that explores the imagination's power to both destroy and save.

Bewilderment: A Novel Arrow

Richard Powers' novel is a fascinating and profound exploration of the interaction of an individual human life and a corporate one. It tells two stories- the first that of an American company, which starts as a small family soap and candle-making firm in the early 1800s, and ends as a vast pharmaceuticals-to-pesticides combine in the 1990s. The second is that of a contemporary woman, living in the company town, who during the course of the novel is diagnosed and then finally dies of cancer, a cancer that is almost certainly caused by exposure to chemical wastes from the company's factories. Richly intellectually stimulating, deeply moving and beautifully written, *Gain* is very much a 'Great American Novel', an exploration of the history, uniqueness and soul of America, in the tradition of *Underworld*. But it is most reminiscent of Graham Swift's *Waterland*, another novel that combines history, both public and private, with contemporary lives, showing how individuals are both the victims and shapers of large-scale historical and economic forces

Plowing the Dark William Heinemann

A double love story of two young couples separated by a distance of 25 years. The author also wrote *Prisoner's Dilemma* and *Three Farmers on Their Way to a Dance*.

A New Literary History of America Graywolf Press

The four prose texts discussed in *Literary Rooms* position themselves in a literary tradition which highlights the manifold purposes the private room may serve: it is a mirror of the inhabitant, a context in which to position the self, a place of and motor for identity quests, a rich

metaphor, and a second skin around the inhabitant's physical body. Even in times of increasing globalization and urbanization, the room continues to root the inhabitant; it serves as a retreat from the world and as a place in which to (re)negotiate questions of belonging, gender, class, and ethnicity. At the same time, the room is inevitably porous and constantly oscillates between inclusion and exclusion. The literary texts examined in this book are each highly fragmented and gesture towards a fragmentation of the contemporary world out of which they have grown as well as towards an abundance of fragmented self-images. Linking the approaches of narratology, globalization, and spatial criticism, *Literary Rooms* argues that in order to account for the spatial properties of the room, discourses developed during the spatial turn need to be extended and reevaluated.

The Overstory Farrar, Straus and Giroux

AN OPRAH'S BOOK CLUB SELECTION An Instant New York Times Bestseller Shortlisted for the 2021 Booker Prize

Longlisted for the 2021 National Book Award for Fiction

Longlisted for the 2022 Andrew Carnegie Medal for Excellence in Fiction A heartrending new novel from the Pulitzer

Prize – winning and #1 New York Times best-selling author of *The Overstory*. The astrobiologist Theo Byrne searches for life throughout the cosmos while single-handedly raising his unusual nine-year-old, Robin, following the death of his wife. Robin is a warm, kind boy who spends hours painting elaborate pictures of endangered animals. He's also about to be expelled from third grade for smashing his friend in the face. As his son grows more troubled, Theo hopes to keep him off psychoactive drugs. He learns of an experimental neurofeedback treatment to bolster Robin's emotional control, one that involves training the boy on the recorded patterns of his mother's brain... With its soaring descriptions of the natural world, its tantalizing vision of life beyond, and its account of a father and son's ferocious love, *Bewilderment* marks Richard Powers's most intimate and moving novel. At its heart lies the question: How can we tell our children the truth about this beautiful, imperiled planet?

Generosity St. Martin's Griffin

After four novels and several years of living abroad, the fictional protagonist of *Galatea 2.2* - Richard Powers - returns to the United States as Humanist-in-Residence at the enormous Center for the Study of Advanced Sciences. There he falls afoul of Philip Lentz, an outspoken cognitive neurologist intent upon modeling the human brain by means of computer-based neural networks. Lentz involves Powers in an outlandish and irresistible project: to train a neural net on a canonical list of Great Books until the machine becomes capable of passing a comprehensive exam in English literature. Through repeated tutorials, the device grows gradually more worldly, until it demands to know its own name, sex, race, and reason for existing. Powers drills it in Chaucer and Austen and James, a crash course that elicits a violent reconsideration of his own literary vocation, his decade-long, failed relationship with a former pupil, and his growing obsession with the twenty-two-year-old master's candidate against whom his cybernetic Helen is slated to compete.

Operation Wandering Soul Univ of South Carolina Press

Digital and electronic technologies that act as extensions of our bodies and minds are changing how we live, think, act, and write. Some welcome these developments as bringing humans closer to unified consciousness and eternal life. Others worry that invasive globalized technologies threaten to destroy the self and the world. Whether feared or desired, these innovations provoke emotions that have long fueled the religious imagination, suggesting the presence of a latent spirituality in an era mistakenly deemed secular and posthuman. William Gaddis, Richard Powers, Mark Danielewski, and Don DeLillo are American authors who explore this phenomenon thoroughly in their work. Engaging the works of each in conversation, Mark C. Taylor discusses their sophisticated representations of new media, communications,

information, and virtual technologies and their transformative effects on the self and society. He focuses on Gaddis's *The Recognitions*, Powers's *Plowing the Dark*, Danielewski's *House of Leaves*, and DeLillo's *Underworld*, following the interplay of technology and religion in their narratives and their imagining of the transition from human to posthuman states. Their challenging ideas and inventive styles reveal the fascinating ways religious interests affect emerging technologies and how, in turn, these technologies guide spiritual aspirations. To read these novels from this perspective is to see them and the world anew.

The Paris Review Book for Planes, Trains, Elevators, and Waiting Rooms
Ballantine Books

America is a nation making itself up as it goes along—a story of discovery and invention unfolding in speeches and images, letters and poetry, unprecedented feats of scholarship and imagination. In these myriad, multiform, endlessly changing expressions of the American experience, the authors and editors of this volume find a new American history. In more than two hundred original essays, *A New Literary History of America* brings together the nation's many voices. From the first conception of a New World in the sixteenth century to the latest re-envisioning of that world in cartoons, television, science fiction, and hip hop, the book gives us a new, kaleidoscopic view of what "Made in America" means. Literature, music, film, art, history, science, philosophy, political rhetoric—cultural creations of every kind appear in relation to each other, and to the time and place that give them shape. The meeting of minds is extraordinary as T. J. Clark writes on Jackson Pollock, Paul Muldoon on Carl Sandburg, Camille Paglia on Tennessee Williams, Sarah Vowell on Grant Wood's *American Gothic*, Walter Mosley on hard-boiled detective fiction, Jonathan Lethem on Thomas Edison, Gerald Early on Tarzan, Bharati Mukherjee on *The Scarlet Letter*, Gish Jen on *Catcher in the Rye*, and Ishmael Reed on *Huckleberry Finn*. From Anne Bradstreet and John Winthrop to Philip Roth and Toni Morrison, from Alexander Graham Bell and Stephen Foster to *Alcoholics Anonymous*, *Life*, Chuck Berry, Alfred Hitchcock, and Ronald Reagan, this is America singing, celebrating itself, and becoming something altogether different, plural, singular, new. Please visit www.newliteraryhistory.com for more information.

Confessor Macmillan

A national bestseller, voted by *Time* as the #1 novel of 1991, selected as one of the "Best Books of 1991" by *Publishers Weekly*, and nominated for a National Book Critics Circle Award—a magnificent story that probes the meaning of love, science, music, and art, by the brilliant author of *Three Farmers on Their Way to a Dance*.

Operation Wandering Soul Random House

Highly imaginative and emotionally powerful, this stunning novel about childhood innocence amid the nightmarish disease and deterioration at the heart of modern Los Angeles was nominated for a National Book Award.

The Art of Fiction Orbit Books

Dewey contends that while Powers's novels investigate the most pressing issues of the new millennium, the novelist is most deeply interested in the same thematic argument that consumed Ralph Waldo Emerson and Emily Dickinson - the problem of the self, the deep and unshakable loneliness that has always been at the heart of the American literary imagination."--BOOK JACKET.

The Overstory Harvard University Press

This ingeniously useful compendium—organized to suit whatever time that the reader has available at that moment—offers reading material to fill those gray, in-between moments in life with beauty, wonder, insight, and emotion.

Galatea 2.2 Macmillan

From Pulitzer Prize-winning and *New York Times* bestselling author of *The Overstory*, Richard Powers's *Gain* braids together two stories on very different scales. In one, Laura Body, divorced mother of two and a real-estate agent in the small town of Lacewood, Illinois, plunges into a new existence when she learns that she has ovarian cancer. In the other, *Clare & Company*, a soap manufacturer begun by three brothers in nineteenth-century Boston, grows over the course of a century and a half into an international consumer products conglomerate based in Laura's hometown. *Clare's* stunning growth reflects the kaleidoscopic history of America; Laura Body's life is changed forever by *Clare*. *Gain's* stunning conclusion reveals the

countless invisible connections between the largest enterprises and the smallest lives.