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# The Cowards Tale A Novel Vanessa Gebbie

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The Assassination of Jesse James by the Coward Robert Ford  
Candlewick Press  
Girls, jazz, politics, the golden dreams and black comedy of youth--these are the compelling ingredients of *The Cowards*. May 1945, a small town in Czechoslovakia. The Germans are withdrawing. The Red Army is advancing. And Danny Smiricky is being forced to grow up fast. Observing with contempt the antics of the town's citizens playing it safe, he adopts the role first of reluctant conscript, then of dashing partisan. *The Cowards* is the story of an uncomplicated, talented youth caught up in momentous historic events who refuses to be bored to death by politics--or to lie down and die without a fight. --

The Physician's Tale  
Knopf Books for Young Readers  
New York Times bestselling author  
Dorothea Benton Frank evokes a lush plantation in the heart of modern-day South

Carolina—where family ties and hidden truths run as deep and dark as the mighty Edisto River.... Caroline Wimbley Levine always swore she 'd never go home again. But now, at her brother 's behest, she has returned to South Carolina to see about Mother—only to find that the years have not changed the Queen of Tall Pines Plantation. Miss Lavinia is as maddeningly eccentric as ever—and absolutely will not suffer the questionable advice of her children. This does not surprise Caroline. Nor does the fact that Tall Pines is still brimming with scandals and secrets, betrayals and lies. But she soon discovers that something is different this time around. It lies somewhere in the

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distance between her and her mother—and in her understanding of what it means to come home....

**The Coward** Penguin

A fictionalized portrait of the legendary outlaw Jesse James, his violent career, and his murderer, Robert Ford, in an epic tale of the old West.

Where the Crawdads  
Sing Penguin

NOW A MAJOR MOTION PICTURE—The #1 New York Times bestselling worldwide sensation with more than 15 million copies sold, hailed by The New York Times Book Review as “a painfully beautiful first novel that is at once a murder mystery, a coming-of-age narrative and a celebration of nature.” For

years, rumors of the “Marsh Girl” have haunted Barkley Cove, a quiet town on the North Carolina coast. So in late 1969, when handsome Chase Andrews is found dead, the locals immediately suspect Kya Clark, the so-called Marsh Girl. But Kya is not what they say. Sensitive and intelligent, she has survived for years alone in the marsh that she calls home, finding friends in the gulls and lessons in the sand. Then the time comes when she yearns to be touched and loved. When two young men

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from town become intrigued by her wild beauty, Kya opens herself to a new life—until the unthinkable happens. Where the *Crawdads Sing* is at once an exquisite ode to the natural world, a heartbreaking coming-of-age story, and a surprising tale of possible murder. Owens reminds us that we are forever shaped by the children we once were, and that we are all subject to the beautiful and violent secrets that nature keeps. The Olive Fairy Book Salt Publishing  
Short Circuit is a unique

and indispensable guide to writing the short story. A collection of 24 specially commissioned essays from well-published short story writers, many of them prize winners in some of the toughest short story competitions in the English language. The writers are also experienced and successful teachers of their craft. Each essay picks up on one or more craft or process issues and explores them in context, within the creative practice of the writer. Each writer has given of themselves very generously, exploring what it is that helps them produce strong short fiction, looking at their sources of inspiration, revealing more than a little of what goes on 'behind the scenes'. They share favourite writing exercises, and suggest lists of published stories they find inspirational. Much of

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the guidance can equally be applied to writing longer fiction. Contributions include five essays from winners of The Bridport Prize. There are interviews with Clare Wigfall – winner of The National Short Story Award – and with Tobias Hill whose short story collection won the PEN/Macmillan Silver Pen Award. Other prize-winning writers in this book include winners of The Asham Award for New Women Writers, The Fish Histories Prize, The Fish Short Story Prize, The BBC Short Story Prize, The Commonwealth Award, Writers Inc. Writer of the Year, The Willesden Herald Prize, NAWG Millennium Award for Radio Short Story and the Per Contra Prize.

*The Book Thief*  
Createspace Independent Publishing Platform  
Perfect for fans of Tim Federle and Gary Schmidt,

this is a hilarious and poignant tale about the trials of middle school when you're coming of age—and coming out. Alan Cole can't stand up to his cruel brother, Nathan. He can't escape the wrath of his demanding father, who thinks he's about as exceptional as a goldfish. And—scariest of all—he can't let the cute boy across the cafeteria know he has a crush on him. But when Nathan discovers Alan's secret, his older brother announces a high-stakes round of Cole vs. Cole. Each brother must complete seven nearly impossible tasks; whoever finishes the most wins the game. If Alan doesn't want to be outed to all of Evergreen Middle School, he's got to become the most well-known kid in school, get his first kiss, and stand up to Dad. Alan's determined to prove—to

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Nathan, to the world, to himself—that this goldfish can learn to swim. May the best Cole win.

Small Game Hunting at the Local Coward Gun Club

Watkins Media Limited  
#1 NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLER • ONE OF TIME MAGAZINE'S 100 BEST YA BOOKS OF ALL TIME The extraordinary, beloved novel about the ability of books to feed the soul even in the darkest of times. When Death has a story to tell, you listen. It is 1939. Nazi Germany. The country is holding its breath. Death has never been busier, and will become busier still. Liesel Meminger is a foster girl living outside of Munich, who scratches out a meager existence for herself by stealing when she encounters something she can't resist—books. With the help of her accordion-playing foster father, she learns to read and shares her stolen books with her neighbors during bombing

raids as well as with the Jewish man hidden in her basement. In superbly crafted writing that burns with intensity, award-winning author Markus Zusak, author of *I Am the Messenger*, has given us one of the most enduring stories of our time. “The kind of book that can be life-changing.” —The New York Times “Deserves a place on the same shelf with *The Diary of a Young Girl* by Anne Frank.” —USA Today **DON'T MISS BRIDGE OF CLAY, MARKUS ZUSAK'S FIRST NOVEL SINCE THE BOOK THIEF.**

**What Strange Paradise**

Penguin

The *Da Vinci Code* meets Stephen Greenblatt's *The Swerve* in this erudite adventure story set at the dawn of the printed book about the outlaw poet François Villon and the power of words to change the world. François Villon, the world's first poet of modernity, was born in Paris in 1431. He was arrested and condemned to death by hanging in 1462 and

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exonerated in 1463. Shortly after his release from prison, as far as history is concerned, he disappeared forever. In Raphaël Jerusalmy's thrilling novel, to ensure his release, Villon has accepted a shady deal offered by the Bishop of Paris at the behest of Louis XI. All Villon has to do to earn his freedom is to convince a printer and bookseller to move from Mayence to Paris, telling him that by doing so he'll be better able to circulate progressive ideas that aren't approved of in Rome. Not surprisingly, Villon's task becomes more complicated than it first seemed. With this riveting tale of plots and counterplots involving secret organizations in Jerusalem, intrigue in France, and brigands in Italy, Raphaël Jerusalmy leaves readers with their hearts racing and their imaginations stirred. The Brotherhood of Book Hunters is an irresistible read for lovers of books, adventure, and fine writing.

## **Plantation Salt**

This classic novel of courage and redemption introduces Jared Heath. Heath, a captain in the Union army, is stripped of rank and court-martialed for cowardice after refusing to march his men into a suicide mission. Yet he has a chance to regain his honor when he is charged with leading Company Q, a unit of misfit officers also disgraced and charged with cowardice. If Heath can make them an effective fighting force, there is a possibility that all of them will be redeemed and pardoned. Will this unit of outcasts prevail and succeed when given the opportunity to show their courage, or will they find defeat deep in Comanche country?

**The Key to the Coward's Spell** Hachette UK

A brave mouse, a covetous

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rat, a wishful serving girl, and a princess named Pea come together in Kate DiCamillo's Newbery Medal-winning tale. Welcome to the story of Despereaux Tilling, a mouse who is in love with music, stories, and a princess named Pea. It is also the story of a rat called Roscuro, who lives in the darkness and covets a world filled with light. And it is the story of Miggery Sow, a slow-witted serving girl who harbors a simple, impossible wish. These three characters are about to embark on a journey that will lead them down into a horrible dungeon, up into a glittering castle, and, ultimately, into each other's lives. What happens then? As Kate DiCamillo would say: Reader, it is your destiny to find out. With black-and-white illustrations and a refreshed cover by Timothy Basil Ering. *The Cowards House of Anansi*  
Legendary storyteller Stephen King goes into the deepest well of his

spellbinding novel about a seventeen-year-old boy who inherits the keys to a parallel world where good and evil are at war, and the stakes could not be higher - for their world or ours. Charlie Reade looks like a regular high school kid, great at baseball and football, a decent student. But he carries a heavy load. His mom was killed in a hit-and-run accident when he was ten, and grief drove his dad to drink. Charlie learned how to take care of himself - and his dad. Then, when Charlie is seventeen, he meets a dog named Radar and her aging master, Howard Bowditch, a recluse in a big house at the top of a big hill, with a locked shed in the backyard. Sometimes strange sounds emerge from it. Charlie starts doing jobs for Mr. Bowditch and loses his heart to Radar.



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Then, when Bowditch dies, he leaves Charlie a cassette tape telling a story no one would believe. What Bowditch knows, and has kept secret all his long life, is that inside the shed is a portal to another world. King's storytelling in Fairy Tale soars. This is a magnificent and terrifying tale about another world than ours, in which good is pitted against overwhelming evil, and a heroic boy - and his dog - must lead the battle.

### The Magnum Opus Zealous Creative

The Magnum Opus is inspired by the multi-award-winning short film, The Maker. Watch it here: <http://bit.ly/WatchTheMaker>  
Synopsis: In a time and world long ago forgotten, there existed an enchanted workshop. Within its walls, a magical

creature called a 'Maker' busily created the next of his kin. Upon completion, the creator was whisked away to join the rest of the Maker community.

Meanwhile, their progeny was left alone to create the next Maker in a never-ending cycle of creation.

That was, until the day an offbeat Maker named Ario was unable to complete 'The Making' and broke their sacred chain of existence. Wracked with guilt, Ario embarked on a quest to right his wrong, but what he discovered was far more monstrous and miraculous than anyone ever imagined.  
Awards: Distinguished Favorite - Independent Publisher Book Awards  
Honorable Mention - Los Angeles Book Festival  
Self-Published Cover

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## Award - New York Book Show

*War Reporting for Cowards*  
Bloomsbury Pub Limited  
Storm Warning explores the echoes and aftershocks of human conflict in a series of powerful stories in which the characters are tested, sometimes to breaking point. Gebbie pulls no punches, exploring the after-effects of atrocity and sometimes, the seeds of atrocity itself.

**Short Circuit** Tor Books  
The story of Kell Kressia continues in Book II of the gripping fantasy duology. Kell, two time saviour of the Five Kingdoms, is now the King of Algany. He has fame, power, respect, and has never been more miserable... Bound, by duty and responsibility, Kell is King only in name. Trapped in a loveless marriage, he leaves affairs of state to his wife, Sigrid. When his old friend, Willow, turns up asking him to go on a journey to her homeland he can't wait to leave. The Malice, a

malevolent poison that alters everything it infects, runs rampant across Willow's homeland. Desperate to find a cure her cousin, Ravvi, is willing to try a dark ritual which could damn her people forever. Journeying to a distant land, Kell and his companions must stop Ravvi before it's too late. While Kell is away Reverend Mother Britak's plans come to a head. Queen Sigrid must find a way to protect her family and her nation, but against such a ruthless opponent, something has to give...

*The Brotherhood of Book Hunters* Open Road + Grove/Atlantic

Short Circuit fills a real gap in the text book market. Written by 24 prizewinning writers and teachers of writing, this book is intensely practical. Each expert discusses necessary craft issues: their own writing processes, sharing tried and tested writing exercises and lists of published work they find inspirational. Endorsed by The National Association of

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Writers in Education, it became recommended or required reading for Creative Writing courses in the UK and beyond, including Goldsmiths, The University of Kent at Canterbury, Glasgow University, John Cabot University in Rome, Stockholm University in Sweden, Sussex University, Brighton University, Edge Hill University, Chichester University, The National University of Ireland in Galway, and University Campus Suffolk, at Ipswich.

**The Coward** The Coward's Tale

Diary of Herobrine's Cowardly Helper -- Book 1: Worst Job Ever! Desperate to earn some extra emeralds, a young boy accepts a job offer at a mysterious science lab. Good News: The pay is excellent! Bad News: Herobrine is his new boss! About The Series: Diary of Herobrine's Cowardly Helper is a twisted tale about a kid who bit off more than he could chew. It's 60% comedy, 40% horror, and 100% random.

Every book also includes a bonus short story! Why?

Because extras are cool...dude!

Coward. A Novel

Zondervan

"Imagine George Costanza from Seinfeld being sent off to cover the Iraq War . . .

Hilarious" (Michiko Kakutani, The New York Times). Chris Ayres is a

small-town boy, a hypochondriac, and a neat freak with an anxiety disorder. Not exactly the picture of a war

correspondent. But when his boss asks him if he would like to go to Iraq, he doesn't have the guts to say no. After signing a one million dollar life-insurance policy, studying a tutorial on repairing severed limbs, and spending twenty thousand dollars on camping gear (only to find out that his bright yellow tent makes him a sitting

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duck), Ayres is embedded with a battalion of gung ho Marines who either shun him or threaten him when he files an unfavorable story. As time goes on, though, he begins to understand them (and his inexplicably enthusiastic fellow war reporters) more and more: Each night of terrifying combat brings, in the morning, something more visceral than he has ever experienced—the thrill of having won a fight for survival. A “heartbreakingly funny” memoir (Anthony Swofford, author of *Jarhead*), *War Reporting for Cowards* tells, with “self-deprecating wit” (*The New Yorker*), the story of Iraq in a way that is extraordinarily honest, and bitterly hilarious. “Chris Ayres has invented a new genre: a rip-roaring tale of adventure and derring-don’t.” —Toby Young, author of *How to*

*Lose Friends and Alienate People* “Darkly entertaining.” —*Los Angeles Times* “Ayres’s stories of life with Marines are gripping—in part because he’s the perfect neurotic foil.” —*People*

**Fairy Tale** Salt Publishing

Who will take up the mantle and slay the evil in the Frozen North, saving all from death and destruction? Not Kell Kressia, he's done his part... Kell Kressia is a legend, a celebrity, a hero. Aged just seventeen he set out on an epic quest with a band of wizened fighters to slay the Ice Lich and save the world, but only he returned victorious. The Lich was dead, the ice receded and the Five Kingdoms were safe. Ten years have passed Kell lives a quiet farmer's life, while stories about his heroism are told in every tavern across the length and breadth of the land. But now a new terror has arisen in the north. Beyond the frozen circle,

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north of the Frostrunner clans, something has taken up residence in the Lich's abandoned castle. And the ice is beginning to creep south once more. For the second time, Kell is called upon to take up his famous sword, Slayer, and battle the forces of darkness. But he has a terrible secret that nobody knows. He's not a hero - he was just lucky. Everyone puts their faith in Kell the Legend, but he's a coward who has no intention of risking his life for anyone...

Book of a Thousand Days

Penguin

Nursing an injured arm while on the job searching for a missing kid is bad enough for sword jockey Eddie LaCrosse. But when he discovers a smuggling ring rumored to be protected by powerful magic, he seeks out old friends and new to lend a hand. A tale set in Alex Bledsoe's popular medieval noir world. At the

Publisher's request, this title is being sold without Digital Rights Management Software (DRM) applied. *Cowards* University of New Mexico Press Vietnam"! To the young marines who fought victory meant one thing; survive your tour of duty and return home. Against this backdrop a vivid portrait is rendered of one young man's attempt to survive. Michael Elliot is a street-smart kid from New York who endures the rigors of being a marine in Vietnam. During his thirteen month tour of duty he transcends the title FNG ("fucking new guy") and arrives at the envied position of "short timer," while hoping desperately not to get killed a week before he rotates home. Enter the world that captures the day-to-day drudgery, frustration, confusion, boredom, ingenuity, friendship, homesickness, and fear that encompassed a tour of duty in Vietnam. The humor is often dark, ironic, and

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cynical, and at other times a  
hilarious satire of military life.