
The Fourth Hand John Irving

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East of Eden Random House

In a malarial outpost in the South American rain forest, two misplaced gringos converge and clash in this novel from the National Book Award-winning author. Martin Quarrier has come to convert the elusive Niaruna Indians to his brand of Christianity. Lewis Moon, a stateless mercenary who is himself part Indian, has come to kill them on the behalf of the local comandante. Out of this struggle Peter Matthiessen creates an electrifying moral thriller—adapted into a movie starring John Lithgow, Kathy Bates, and Tom Waits. A novel of Conradian richness, *At Play in the Fields of the Lord* explores both the varieties of spiritual experience and the politics of cultural genocide.

The Imaginary Girlfriend Vintage Canada

From the bestselling author of *A Ladder to the Sky*— “ a darkly funny novel that races like a beating heart ” (People)—comes a new novel that plays out across all of human history: a story as precise as it is unlimited. This story starts with a family. For now, it is a father and a mother with two sons, one with his father ’ s violence in his blood, one with his mother ’ s artistry. One leaves. One stays. They will be joined by others whose deeds will determine their fate. It is a beginning. Their stories will intertwine and evolve over the course of two thousand years. They will meet again and again at different times and in different places. From Palestine at the dawn of the first millennium and journeying across fifty countries to a life among the stars in the third, the world will change around them, but their destinies remain the same. It must play out as foretold. From the award-winning author of *The Heart ’ s Invisible Furies* comes *A Traveler at the Gates of Wisdom*, an epic tale of humanity. The story of all of us, stretching across two millennia. Imaginative, unique, heartbreaking, this is John Boyne at his most creative and compelling.

Until I Find You Ballantine Books

T.S. Garp, a man with high ambitions for an artistic career and with obsessive devotion to his wife and children, and Jenny Fields, his famous feminist mother, find their lives

surrounded by an assortment of people including teachers, whores, and radicals

Continental Drift Vintage

“The most convincing portrait I know of contemporary America . . . a great American novel.” — James Atlas, *The Atlantic Monthly* From acclaimed author Russell Banks, a masterful novel of hope lost and gained—a gripping, indelible story of fragile lives uprooted and transformed by injustice, disappointment, and the seductions and realities of the American dream. Banks's searing tale of uprootedness, migration, and exploitation in contemporary America brings together two of the dominant realms of his fiction—New England and the Caribbean—skillfully braided into one taut narrative. *Continental Drift* is the story of a young blue-collar worker and family man who abandons his broken dreams in New Hampshire and the story of a young Haitian woman who, with her nephew and baby, flees the brutal injustice and poverty of her homeland. *Continental Drift* is a powerful literary classic from one of contemporary fiction's most important writers.

The Last Chairlift Simon and Schuster

On a New England campus, Viennese housewife Utchka and her aspiring writer husband live a rather placid life with their two children. Until, that is, they meet Severin Winter, Professor of German and wrestling coach, and his delicate wife Edith at a faculty party. Utchka and Severin are rather taken with one another, and, conveniently, their spouses appear to be similarly smitten. A bizarre *mé nage à quatre* is the result of these convoluted desires, and what starts out as a bit of fun is soon subject to the darker machinations of obsession...

Fourth Hand Turtleback Books

An unforgettable portrait of London and one of the most talked about debuts of all time! 'The almost preposterous talent was clear from the first pages' *Guardian* On New Years Day 1975, the day of his almost-suicide, life said yes to Archie Jones. Not OK or 'You-might-as-well-carry-on-since-you've-started'. A resounding affirmative. Promptly seizing his second life by the horns, Archie meets and marries Clara Bowden, a Caribbean girl twenty-eight years his junior. Thus begins a tale of friendship, of love and war, of three culture and three families over three generations . . . ***** 'Street-smart and learned, sassy and philosophical all at the same time' *New York Times* 'Outstanding' *Sunday Telegraph* 'An astonishingly assured *dé but*, funny and serious . . . I was delighted' Salman Rushdie

The Apprentice Lover Random House

“ John Irving, it is abundantly clear, is a true artist. ” —Los Angeles Times Fred "Bogus" Trumper has troubles. A divorced, broke graduate student of Old Norse in 1970s New York, Trumper is a wayward knight-errant in the battle of the sexes and the pursuit of happiness: His ex-wife has moved in with his childhood best friend, his life is the subject of a tell-all movie, and his chronic urinary tract infection requires surgery. Trumper is determined to change. There's only one problem: it seems the harder he tries to alter his adolescent ways, the more he is drawn to repeating the mistakes of the past. . . . Written when Irving was twenty-nine, Trumper's tale of woe is told with all the wit and humor that would become Irving's trademark. “ Three or four times as funny as most novels. ” —The New Yorker Praise for *The Water-Method Man*

“ Friendship, marriage, and family are his primary themes, but at that blundering level of life where mishap and folly—something close to joyful malice—perpetually intrude and disrupt, often fatally. Life, in [John] Irving's fiction, is always under siege. Harm and disarray are daily fare, as if

the course of love could not run true. . . . Irving's multiple manner . . . his will to come at the world from different directions, is one of the outstanding traits of *The World According to Garp*, but this remarkable flair for . . . stories inside stories . . . is already handled with mastery . . . and with a freedom almost wanton in *The Water-Method Man* [which is Garp's predecessor by six years]. ” —Terrence Des Pres “ Brutal reality and hallucination, comedy and pathos. A rich, unified tapestry. ” —*Time*
The 158-Pound Marriage Simon and Schuster

“ Truly remarkable . . . encompasses the longings and agonies of youth . . . a complex and moving novel. ” —*Time* “ Astonishing . . . a writer of uncommon imaginative power. Whatever [John Irving] writes, it will be worth reading. ” —*Saturday Review* It is 1967. Two Viennese university students, Siggy and Hannes, roam the Austrian countryside on their motorcycles—on a quest: to liberate the bears of the Vienna Zoo. But their good intentions have both comic and gruesome consequences in this first novel from John Irving, already a master storyteller at twenty-five years old. “ Imagine a mixture of Till Eulenspiegel and Ken Kesey . . . and you've got the range of the merry pranksters who hot rod through Mr. Irving's book . . . tossing flowers, stealing salt shakers, and planning the biggest caper of their young lives. ” —*The New York Times*

The Latecomer Harper Collins

Billy, a solitary bisexual man, is dedicated to making himself worthwhile.

The Critical Response to John Irving Bloomsbury Publishing

When a child hears a noise in the night he gets up to investigate. He calls his father to help him and they work through all the things that the 'noise' could be, eventually realising that it is nothing to be scared of. An empowering book about overcoming one's fears handled with brilliant originality by John Irving and Tatjana Hauptmann.

Nobody's Fool Vintage Canada

“ The nearest thing to an autobiography Irving has written . . . worth saving and savoring. ” —*Seattle Times* Dedicated to the memory of two wrestling coaches and two writer friends, *The Imaginary Girlfriend* is John Irving's candid memoir of his twin careers in writing and wrestling. The award-winning author of best-selling novels from *The World According to Garp* to *In One Person*, Irving began writing when he was fourteen, the same age at which he began to wrestle at Exeter. He competed as a wrestler for twenty years, was certified as a referee at twenty-four, and coached the sport until he was forty-seven. Irving coached his sons Colin and Brendan to New England championship titles, a championship that he himself was denied. In an autobiography filled with the humor and compassion one finds in his fiction, Irving explores the interrelationship between the two disciplines of writing and wrestling, from the days when he was a beginner at both until his fourth wrestling-related surgery at the age of fifty-three. Writing as a father and mentor, he offers a lucid portrait of those—writers and wrestlers from Kurt Vonnegut to Ted Seabrooke—who played a mentor role in his development as a novelist, wrestler, and wrestling coach. He reveals lessons he learned about the pursuit for which he is best known, writing. “ And, ” as the *Denver Post* observed, in filling “ his narrative with anecdotes that are every bit as hilarious as the antics in his novels, Irving combines the lessons of both obsessions (wrestling and writing) . . . into a somber reflection on the importance of living well. ”

The Hotel New Hampshire Vintage

Surveys the nature of John Irving's remarkable popular and critical success as a novelist from the late 1960s through the present.

City on Fire Vintage Canada

Part of the classic Fudge series from Judy Blume, bestselling author of *Tales of a Fourth Grade Nothing!* Farley Drexel Hatcher—otherwise known as Fudge—thinks he 's a superhero, but his older brother, Peter, knows Fudge is nothing but a big pain! Dealing with Fudge is hard enough, but now Peter 's parents have decided to move to New Jersey for an entire year! Even worse, Peter 's mom is going to

have a new baby. And if this baby is anything like Fudge—help! How will Peter ever survive? “ As a kid, Judy Blume was my favorite author, and *Tales of a Fourth Grade Nothing* was my favorite book. ” —Jeff Kinney, author of the bestselling *Wimpy Kid* series *Love Fudge, Peter, and Sheila?* Read all these books featuring your favorite characters: *Tales of a Fourth Grade Nothing* *Otherwise Known as Sheila the Great* *Fudge-a-Mania* *Double Fudge* *Trying to Save Piggy Sneed* Praeger

The *Fourth Hand* asks an interesting question: “ How can anyone identify a dream of the future? ” The answer: “ Destiny is not imaginable, except in dreams or to those in love. ” While reporting a story from India, a New York television journalist has his left hand eaten by a lion; millions of TV viewers witness the accident. In Boston, a renowned hand surgeon awaits the opportunity to perform the nation ’ s first hand transplant; meanwhile, in the distracting aftermath of an acrimonious divorce, the surgeon is seduced by his housekeeper. A married woman in Wisconsin wants to give the one-handed reporter her husband ’ s left hand — that is, after her husband dies. But the husband is alive, relatively young, and healthy. This is how John Irving ’ s tenth novel begins; it seems, at first, to be a comedy, perhaps a satire, almost certainly a sexual farce. Yet, in the end, *The Fourth Hand* is as realistic and emotionally moving as any of Mr. Irving ’ s previous novels — including *The World According to Garp*, *A Prayer for Owen Meany*, and *A Widow for One Year* — or his Oscar-winning screenplay of *The Cider House Rules*. *The Fourth Hand* is characteristic of John Irving ’ s seamless storytelling and further explores some of the author ’ s recurring themes — loss, grief, love as redemption. But this novel also breaks new ground; it offers a penetrating look at the power of second chances and the will to [The Water-Method Man](#) Random House

A masterpiece of Biblical scope, and the magnum opus of one of America ’ s most enduring authors, in a commemorative hardcover edition In his journal, Nobel Prize winner John Steinbeck called *East of Eden* “the first book,” and indeed it has the primordial power and simplicity of myth. Set in the rich farmland of California's Salinas Valley, this sprawling and often brutal novel follows the intertwined destinies of two families—the Trasks and the Hamiltons—whose generations helplessly reenact the fall of Adam and Eve and the poisonous rivalry of Cain and Abel. The masterpiece of Steinbeck ’ s later years, *East of Eden* is a work in which Steinbeck created his most mesmerizing characters and explored his most enduring themes: the mystery of identity, the inexplicability of love, and the murderous consequences of love's absence. Adapted for the 1955 film directed by Elia Kazan introducing James Dean, and read by thousands as the book that brought Oprah ’ s Book Club back, *East of Eden* has remained vitally present in American culture for over half a century.

[Cloud Atlas](#) Hogarth

Until I Find You is the story of the actor Jack Burns — his life, loves, celebrity and astonishing search for the truth about his parents. When he is four years old, Jack travels with his mother Alice, a tattoo artist, to several North Sea ports in search of his father, William Burns. From Copenhagen to Amsterdam, William, a brilliant church organist and profligate womanizer, is always a step ahead — has always just departed in a wave of scandal, with a new tattoo somewhere on his body from a local master or “ scratcher. ” Alice and Jack abandon their quest, and Jack is educated at schools in Canada and New England — including, tellingly, a girls ’ school in Toronto. His real education consists of his relationships with older women — from Emma Oastler, who initiates him into erotic life, to

the girls of St. Hilda's, with whom he first appears on stage, to the abusive Mrs. Machado, whom he first meets when sent to learn wrestling at a local gym. Too much happens in this expansive, eventful novel to possibly summarize it all. Emma and Jack move to Los Angeles, where Emma becomes a successful novelist and Jack a promising actor. A host of eccentric minor characters memorably come and go, including Jack's hilariously confused teacher the Wurtz; Michelle Maher, the girlfriend he will never forget; and a precocious child Jack finds in the back of an Audi in a restaurant parking lot. We learn about tattoo addiction and movie cross-dressing, "sleeping in the needles" and the cure for cauliflower ears. And John Irving renders his protagonist's unusual rise through Hollywood with the same vivid detail and range of emotions he gives to the organ music Jack hears as a child in European churches. This is an absorbing and moving book about obsession and loss, truth and storytelling, the signs we carry on us and inside us, the traces we can't get rid of. Jack has always lived in the shadow of his absent father. But as he grows older — and when his mother dies — he starts to doubt the portrait of his father's character she painted for him when he was a child. This is the cue for a second journey around Europe in search of his father, from Edinburgh to Switzerland, towards a conclusion of great emotional force. A melancholy tale of deception, *Until I Find You* is also a swaggering comic novel, a giant tapestry of life's hopes. It is a masterpiece to compare with John Irving's great novels, and restates the author's claim to be considered the most glorious, comic, moving novelist at work today.

In One Person Bloomsbury Publishing

By the New York Times bestselling author of *The Bone Clocks* | Shortlisted for the Man Booker Prize A postmodern visionary and one of the leading voices in twenty-first-century fiction, David Mitchell combines flat-out adventure, a Nabokovian love of puzzles, a keen eye for character, and a taste for mind-bending, philosophical and scientific speculation in the tradition of Umberto Eco, Haruki Murakami, and Philip K. Dick. The result is brilliantly original fiction as profound as it is playful. In this groundbreaking novel, an influential favorite among a new generation of writers, Mitchell explores with daring artistry fundamental questions of reality and identity. *Cloud Atlas* begins in 1850 with Adam Ewing, an American notary voyaging from the Chatham Isles to his home in California. Along the way, Ewing is befriended by a physician, Dr. Goose, who begins to treat him for a rare species of brain parasite. . . . Abruptly, the action jumps to Belgium in 1931, where Robert Frobisher, a disinherited bisexual composer, contrives his way into the household of an infirm maestro who has a beguiling wife and a nubile daughter. . . . From there we jump to the West Coast in the 1970s and a troubled reporter named Luisa Rey, who stumbles upon a web of corporate greed and murder that threatens to claim her life. . . . And onward, with dazzling virtuosity, to an inglorious present-day England; to a Korean superstate of the near future where neocapitalism has run amok; and, finally, to a postapocalyptic Iron Age Hawaii in the last days of history. But the story doesn't end even there. The narrative then boomerangs back through centuries and space, returning by the same route, in reverse, to its starting point. Along the way, Mitchell reveals how his disparate characters connect, how their fates intertwine, and how their souls drift across time like clouds across the

sky. As wild as a videogame, as mysterious as a Zen koan, *Cloud Atlas* is an unforgettable tour de force that, like its incomparable author, has transcended its cult classic status to become a worldwide phenomenon.

The Ground Breaking Ballantine Books

Until I Find You is the story of the actor Jack Burns — his life, loves, celebrity and astonishing search for the truth about his parents.

When he is four years old, Jack travels with his mother Alice, a tattoo artist, to several North Sea ports in search of his father, William Burns. From Copenhagen to Amsterdam, William, a brilliant church organist and profligate womanizer, is always a step ahead — has always just departed in a wave of scandal, with a new tattoo somewhere on his body from a local master or “scratcher.” Alice and Jack abandon their quest, and Jack is educated at schools in Canada and New England — including, tellingly, a girls’ school in Toronto. His real education consists of his relationships with older women — from Emma Oastler, who initiates him into erotic life, to the girls of St. Hilda’s, with whom he first appears on stage, to the abusive Mrs. Machado, whom he first meets when sent to learn wrestling at a local gym. Too much happens in this expansive, eventful novel to possibly summarize it all. Emma and Jack move to Los Angeles, where Emma becomes a successful novelist and Jack a promising actor. A host of eccentric minor characters memorably come and go, including Jack’s hilariously confused teacher the Wurtz; Michelle Maher, the girlfriend he will never forget; and a precocious child Jack finds in the back of an Audi in a restaurant parking lot. We learn about tattoo addiction and movie cross-dressing, “sleeping in the needles” and the cure for cauliflower

ears. And John Irving renders his protagonist’s unusual rise through Hollywood with the same vivid detail and range of emotions he gives to the organ music Jack hears as a child in European churches. This is an absorbing and moving book about obsession and loss, truth and storytelling, the signs we carry on us and inside us, the traces we can’t get rid of. Jack has always lived in the shadow of his absent father. But as he grows older — and when his mother dies — he starts to doubt the portrait of his father’s character she painted for him when he was a child. This is the cue for a second journey around Europe in search of his father, from Edinburgh to Switzerland, towards a conclusion of great emotional force. A melancholy tale of deception, *Until I Find You* is also a swaggering comic novel, a giant tapestry of life’s hopes. It is a masterpiece to compare with John Irving’s great novels, and restates the author’s claim to be considered the most glorious, comic, moving novelist at work today.

The Pension Grillparzer Vintage

Juan Diego’s little sister is a mind reader. As a teenager, he struggles to keep anything secret — Lupe knows all the worst things that go through his mind. And sometimes she knows more. What a terrible burden it is to know — or to think you know — your future, or worse, the future of someone you love. What might a young girl be driven to do if she thought she had the power to change what lies ahead? Later in life, Juan Diego embarks on a journey to fulfil a promise he made in his youth. It is a long story and it has long awaited an ending, but Juan Diego is unable to write the final chapters. This is the story of what happens when the future collides with the past.

The Fourth Hand Penguin UK

An adventure story and a deeply considered meditation upon the sea itself. "Beautiful and original...a resonant and symbolical story of nine

doomed men who dream of an earthly paradise as the world winds down
around them." —Newsweek