

The Fourth Hand John Irving

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A Widow for One Year 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.

The Water-Method Man Harper Collins

Trying to Save Piggy Sneed contains a dozen short works by John Irving, beginning with three memoirs, including an account of Mr. Irving's dinner with President Ronald Reagan at the White House. The longest of the memoirs, "The Imaginary Girlfriend," is the core of this collection. The middle section of the book is fiction. Since the publication of his first novel, *Setting Free the Bears*, in 1968, John Irving has written twelve more novels but only half a dozen stories that he considers "finished": they are all published here, including "Interiors," which won the O. Henry Award. In the third and final section are three essays of appreciation: one on Günter Grass, two on Charles Dickens. To each of the twelve pieces, Mr. Irving has contributed his Author's Notes. These notes provide some perspective on the circumstances surrounding the writing of each piece—for example, an election-year diary of the Bush-Clinton campaigns accompanies Mr. Irving's memoir of his dinner with President Reagan; and the notes to one of his short stories explain that the story was presented and sold to *Playboy* as the work of a woman. Trying to Save Piggy Sneed is both as moving and as mischievous as readers would expect from the author of *The World According to Garp*, *The Cider House Rules*, *A Prayer of Owen Meany*, *A Widow for One Year*, and *In One Person*. And Mr. Irving's concise autobiography, "The Imaginary Girlfriend," is both a work of the utmost literary accomplishment and a paradigm for living. Skyhorse Publishing, as well as our Arcade, Yucca, and Good Books imprints, are proud to publish a broad range of books for readers interested in fiction—novels, novellas, political and medical thrillers, comedy, satire, historical fiction, romance, erotic and love stories, mystery, classic

literature, folklore and mythology, literary classics including Shakespeare, Dumas, Wilde, Cather, and much more. While not every title we publish becomes a New York Times bestseller or a national bestseller, we are committed to books on subjects that are sometimes overlooked and to authors whose work might not otherwise find a home.

The Pension Grillparzer Penguin

"The Tale of Squirrel Nutkin" is a delightful children's book authored by Beatrix Potter. This enchanting tale follows the adventures of a mischievous squirrel named Nutkin and his companions as they navigate the idyllic world of the woodland. Nutkin, known for his spirited personality, constantly tests the patience of Old Brown, an owl who guards a special island and its nut store. Through rhymes, riddles, and playful banter, Nutkin and his fellow squirrels engage in a series of entertaining encounters with Old Brown, ultimately learning valuable lessons about respect, manners, and the consequences of impulsive behavior. Potter's captivating storytelling and charming illustrations make "The Tale of Squirrel Nutkin" a timeless classic that continues to captivate young readers and ignite their imagination.

Until I Find You Penguin

"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

Blood of the Mantis Turtleback Books

Kurt Vonnegut's masterpiece, *Slaughterhouse-Five* is "a desperate,

painfully honest attempt to confront the monstrous crimes of the twentieth century” (Time). Selected by the Modern Library as one of the 100 best novels of all time *Slaughterhouse-Five*, an American classic, is one of the world’s great antiwar books. Centering on the infamous World War II firebombing of Dresden, the novel is the result of what Kurt Vonnegut described as a twenty-three-year struggle to write a book about what he had witnessed as an American prisoner of war. It combines historical fiction, science fiction, autobiography, and satire in an account of the life of Billy Pilgrim, a barber’s son turned draftee turned optometrist turned alien abductee. As Vonnegut had, Billy experiences the destruction of Dresden as a POW. Unlike Vonnegut, he experiences time travel, or coming “unstuck in time.” An instant bestseller, *Slaughterhouse-Five* made Kurt Vonnegut a cult hero in American literature, a reputation that only strengthened over time, despite his being banned and censored by some libraries and schools for content and language. But it was precisely those elements of Vonnegut’s writing—the political edginess, the genre-bending inventiveness, the frank violence, the transgressive wit—that have inspired generations of readers not just to look differently at the world around them but to find the confidence to say something about it. Authors as wide-ranging as Norman Mailer, John Irving, Michael Crichton, Tim O’Brien, Margaret Atwood, Elizabeth Strout, David Sedaris, Jennifer Egan, and J. K. Rowling have all found inspiration in Vonnegut’s words. Jonathan Safran Foer has described Vonnegut as “the kind of writer who made people—young people especially—want to write.” George Saunders has declared Vonnegut to be “the great, urgent, passionate American writer of our century, who offers us . . . a model of the kind of compassionate thinking that might yet save us from ourselves.” More than fifty years after its initial publication at the height of the Vietnam War, Vonnegut’s portrayal of political disillusionment, PTSD, and postwar anxiety feels as relevant, darkly humorous, and profoundly affecting as ever, an enduring beacon through our own era’s uncertainties.

John Irving: The Fourth Hand Random House

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

Slaughterhouse-Five Macmillan

From the Pulitzer Prize – winning author of *Empire Falls*, this slyly funny, moving novel about a blue-collar town in upstate New York—and about Sully, one of its unluckiest citizens, who has been doing the wrong thing triumphantly for fifty years—is a classic American story. “Remarkable.... A revelation of the human heart.” —The Washington Post Divorced from his own wife and carrying on halfheartedly with another man’s, saddled with a bum knee and friends who make enemies redundant, Sully now has one new problem to cope with: a long-estranged son who is in imminent danger of following in his father’s footsteps. With its uproarious humor and a heart that embraces humanity’s follies as well as its triumphs, *Nobody’s Fool*, from Pulitzer Prize-winning author, Richard Russo, is storytelling at its most generous.

Nobody’s Fool was made into a movie starring Paul Newman, Bruce Willis, Jessica Tandy, and Melody Griffith. Look for *Everybody’s Fool*, available now, and *Somebody’s Fool*, coming soon.

The Tale of Squirrel Nutkin Simon and Schuster

“One night when she was four and sleeping in the bottom bunk of her bunk bed, Ruth Cole woke to the sound of lovemaking—it was coming from her parents’ bedroom.” This sentence opens John Irving’s ninth novel, *A Widow for One Year*, a story of a family marked by tragedy. Ruth Cole is a complex, often self-contradictory character—a “difficult” woman. By no means is she conventionally “nice,” but she will never be forgotten. Ruth’s story is told in three parts, each focusing on a critical time in her life. When we first meet her—on Long Island, in the summer of 1958—Ruth is only four. The second window into Ruth’s life opens on the fall of 1990, when she is an unmarried woman whose personal life is not nearly as successful as her literary career. She distrusts her judgment in men, for good reason. *A Widow for One Year* closes in the autumn of 1995, when Ruth Cole is a forty-one-year-old widow and mother. She’s about to fall in love for the first time. Richly comic, as well as deeply disturbing, *A Widow for One*

Year is a multilayered love story of astonishing emotional force. Both ribald and erotic, it is also a brilliant novel about the passage of time and the relentlessness of grief.

City on Fire Icon Books

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.

The Hotel New Hampshire Simon and Schuster

NATIONAL BESTSELLER • A mystery that reverberates through families, friendships, and the corridors of power in New York and “captures the city’s dangerous, magnetic allure” (The New York Times). • Streaming now on Apple TV+ “As close to a great American novel as this century has produced.” —Stephen King *New York City*, 1976. Meet Regan and William Hamilton-Sweeney, estranged heirs to one of the city’s great fortunes; Keith and Mercer, the men who, for better or worse, love them; Charlie and Samantha, two suburban teenagers seduced by downtown’s punk scene; an obsessive magazine reporter and his idealistic neighbor—and the detective trying to figure out what any of them have to do with a shooting in Central Park on New Year’s Eve. When the blackout of July 13, 1977, plunges this world into darkness, each of these lives will be changed forever. *City on Fire* is an unforgettable novel about love and betrayal and forgiveness, about art and truth and rock ‘n’ roll: about what people need from each other in order to live—and about what makes the living worth doing in the first place.

The Cider House Rules Random House

String garlic by the window and hang a cross around your neck! The most powerful vampire of all time returns in our Stepping Stone Classic adaptation of the original tale by Bran Stoker. Follow Johnathan Harker, Mina Harker, and Dr. Abraham van Helsing as they discover the true nature of evil. Their battle to destroy Count Dracula takes them from the crags of his castle to the streets of London... and back again.

In One Person Bloomsbury Publishing

This collection of Wolfe’s essays, articles, and chapters from previous collections is filled with observations on U.S. popular culture in the 1960s and 1970s.

Dracula Vintage

A Hindi film star and an American missionary are twins separated at birth; a dwarf — a former circus clown — mistakes the missionary for the movie star. And stalking one of them is a serial killer...

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 Island Vintage Canada

“Beautifully crafted stories from one of our most honored authors” (The New York Times), Ron Hansen’s *She Loves Me Not* is an acclaimed collection of stunning fiction, three decades in the writing. Ron Hansen has long been celebrated as a master of both the novel and the short form. His stories have been called “extraordinary” (The New York Times Book Review) and “wise and smart” (The Washington Post). In *She Loves Me Not*, the subjects of Hansen’s scrutiny range from Oscar Wilde to murder to dementia to romance, and display Hansen at his storytelling best: These are “unforgettable stories, each utterly different from the one before.... This is writing that slows the breathing” (San Francisco Chronicle). Readers will thrill to Hansen’s masterful attention to the smallest and most telling details,

even as he plunges straight into the deepest recesses of desire, love, fury, and loss. Magisterial in its scope and surprising in its variety, *She Loves Me Not* shows an author at the height of his powers and confirms Hansen's place as a major American writer. This breathtaking collection "should put him on the short-story map" (USA TODAY). *She Loves Me Not* contains an excerpt from Hansen's new novel, *The Kid*, to be published in fall, 2016.

Nobody's Fool Ballantine Books

"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.

[Continental Drift](#) Strelbytskyy Multimedia Publishing

A New York Times Notable Book of 2022 *A Washington Post Notable Work of Fiction* *An NPR Best Book of the Year* *A New Yorker Best Book of 2022* From the New York Times bestselling author of *The Plot*, Jean Hanff Korelitz's *The Latecomer* is a layered and immersive literary novel about three siblings, desperate to escape one another, and the upending of their family by the late arrival of a fourth. *The Latecomer* follows the story of the wealthy, New York City-based Oppenheimer family, from the first meeting of parents Salo and Johanna, under tragic circumstances, to their triplets born during the early days of IVF. As children, the three siblings — Harrison, Lewyn, and Sally — feel no strong familial bond and cannot wait to go their separate ways, even as their father becomes more distanced and their mother more desperate. When the triplets leave for college, Johanna, faced with being truly alone, makes the decision to have a fourth child. What role will the "latecomer" play in this fractured family? A complex novel that builds slowly and deliberately, *The Latecomer* touches on the topics of grief and guilt, generational trauma, privilege and race, traditions and religion, and family dynamics. It is a profound and witty family story from an accomplished author, known for the depth of her character studies, expertly woven storylines, and plot twists.

Immortal Wife Vintage

THE FIGURINE, the brand-new novel from Victoria Hislop, is available to order now. 'A moving and absorbing holiday read that pulls at the heartstrings' *Evening Standard* The acclaimed million-copy number one bestseller and winner of Richard & Judy's Summer Read 2006. Victoria Hislop tells a dramatic tale of four generations, illicit love, violence and leprosy, from the thirties, through the war, to the present day. On the brink of a life-changing decision, Alexis Fielding longs to find out about her mother's past. But Sofia has never spoken of it. All she admits to is growing up in a small Cretan village before moving to London. When Alexis decides to visit Crete, however, Sofia gives her daughter a letter to take to an old friend, and promises that through her she will learn more. Arriving in Plaka, Alexis is astonished to see that it lies a stone's throw from the tiny, deserted island of Spinalonga - Greece's former leper colony. Then she

finds Fotini, and at last hears the story that Sofia has buried all her life: the tale of her great-grandmother Eleni and her daughters and a family rent by tragedy, war and passion. She discovers how intimately she is connected with the island, and how secrecy holds them all in its powerful grip... Praise for *The Island*. . . 'A vivid, moving and absorbing tale' *Observer* 'Victoria Hislop . . . brings dignity and tenderness to her novel about lives blighted by leprosy' *Telegraph* 'Wonderful descriptions, strong characters and an intimate portrait of island existence' *Woman & Home* 'War, tragedy and passion unfurl against a Mediterranean backdrop in this engrossing debut novel' *You* magazine 'Hislop's deep research, imagination and patent love of Crete creates a convincing portrait of times on the island' *Evening Standard* 'A page-turning tale that reminds us that love and life continue in even the most extraordinary of circumstances' *Sunday Express* 'A beautiful tale of enduring love and unthinking prejudice' *Express* In 2018, *The Island* was awarded a Nielsen Platinum Bestseller Award in recognition of selling over one million copies in the United Kingdom.

Avenue of Mysteries Random House Digital, Inc.

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

[The Imaginary Girlfriend](#) Harper Collins

In 1954, in the cookhouse of a logging and sawmill settlement in northern New Hampshire, an anxious twelve-year-old boy mistakes the local constable's girlfriend for a bear. Both the twelve-year-old and his father become fugitives, forced to run from Coos County—to Boston, to southern Vermont, to Toronto—pursued by the implacable constable. Their lone protector is a fiercely libertarian logger, once a river driver, who befriends them. In a story spanning five decades, *Last Night in Twisted River* depicts the recent half-century in the United States as "a living replica of Coos County, where lethal hatreds were generally permitted to run their course." What further distinguishes *Last Night in Twisted River* is the author's unmistakable voice—the inimitable voice of an accomplished storyteller.