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## The Polish Boxer Eduardo Halfon

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The Arid Sky Other Press, LLC

The Polish Boxer covers a vast landscape of human experience while enfolding a search for origins: a grandson tries to make sense of his grandfather's past and the story behind his numbered tattoo; a Serbian classical pianist longs for his forbidden heritage; a Mayan poet is torn between his studies and filial obligations; a striking young Israeli woman seeks answers in Central America; a university professor yearns for knowledge that he can't find in books and discovers something unexpected at a Mark Twain conference. Drawn to what lies beyond the range of reason, they all

reach for the beautiful and fleeting, whether through humour, music, poetry, or unspoken words. Across his encounters with each of them, the narrator - a Guatemalan literature professor and writer named Eduardo Halfon - pursues his most enigmatic subject: himself. Mapping the geography of identity in a world scarred by a legacy of violence and exile, *The Polish Boxer* marks the debut of a major new Latin American voice in English. The Polish Boxer Grove Press An emblematic story of the shipwreck of the Arab Spring At his father's funeral, to the great consternation of all present, Abdel Nasser beats the imam who is celebrating the funeral rite. The narrator, a childhood friend of the protagonist, retraces the story of "the Italian" from his days as a free and rebellious adolescent spirit to the leader of a student movement and then affirmed journalist. Those were crucial years in Tunisia, years of great tension, change, and repression. Against this background full of revolutionary

ferments stands the tormented love story between Abdel Nasser and Zeina, a brilliant and beautiful philosophy student. Their dreams will unfortunately end up being wrecked under the ruthless gears of a corrupt and chauvinist society. Abdel Nasser's transformation from a young idealist with high hopes to a successful, but disillusioned and tired journalist is masterfully narrated in a stream of stories, digressions and flashbacks in which the narrative tension is always high. Winner of the 2015 International Prize for Arabic Fiction *The Year of Magical Thinking* New Directions Publishing Described as "a literary atomic bomb" (Luisán Gámez), Mexican literary star Emiliano Monge's English-language debut is the Latin American incarnation of Cormac McCarthy: an artistically daring, gorgeously wrought, and eviscerating novel of biblical violence as told through the story of a man "who, though he did not know it, was the era in which he lived." Set on a desolate, unnamed mesa,

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Emiliano Monge's *The Arid Sky* distills the essence of a Latin America ruthlessly hollowed out by uncontrollable violence. This is an unsparing yet magnificent land, whose only constants are loneliness, hatred, loyalty, and the struggle to return some small measure of meaning to life. Thundering and inventive, *The Arid Sky* narrates the signature moments in the life of Germán Alcantara Carnero: a man who is both exaltedly, viscerally real and is an ageless, nameless being capable of embodying entire eras, cultures, and conflicts. Monge's roadmap—an escape across borders, the disappearance of a young girl, the confrontation between a father and his son, the birth of a sick child, and murder—takes readers on a journey to the core of humankind that posits a challenge of the kind only great literature can pose. "A blood-soaked yet lyrical story of regrets, memories, and the faint possibility of redemption, set in a parched Mexican mesa. Monge's first novel to be translated into English will open one of Mexico's most talented young writers to a new audience... Monge's sentences reflect the meandering structure, dizzying the reader with

complexity and beauty....this style reflects Monge's overall message about the morphing shape of memories and how they all combine to form a person....Monge's novel is a brutal gem of a book concerned with the burdens of the past." —Kirkus Reviews "Rarely can we witness literature like this." —Miguel Ángel Ángeles, *Rolling Stone* *The Mastermind Restless Books* For readers who love Bolaño, a new voice of Latin American fiction, winner of the Mario Vargas Llosa Prize. Recurring blackouts envelop Caracas in an inescapable darkness that makes nightmares come true. Real and fictional characters, most of them are writers, exchange the role of narrator in this polyphonic novel. They recount contradictory versions of the plot, a series of femicides that began with the energy crisis. The central narrator is a psychiatrist who manipulates the accounts of his friend, an author writing a book titled *The Night*; and his patient, an advertising executive obsessed with understanding the world through word puzzles. The author shifts

between crime fiction and metafiction, cautioning readers that the events retold are both true and manipulated. This is a political novel about the financial crisis and socio-political division in Venezuela from 2008 to 2010. The title of the book, originally also in English, is a gesture towards Chavism's failure to resist US influence. Yet, the form is unapologetically literary, a reflection on the depiction and distortion of reality through storytelling. Blanco Calderón said about the potential of language, "I am convinced that all the evil in the world begins in them: in words" (*Caracas*, 2010). **Life in the Damn Tropics** Fondation Cartier Pour l'Art Contemporain, Paris Time Commences in Xibalbá tells the story of a violent village crisis in Guatemala sparked by the return of a prodigal son, Pascual. He had been raised tough by a poor, single mother in the village before going off with the military. When Pascual comes back, he is changed—both scarred and "enlightened" by his experiences. To

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his eyes, the village labyrinth, leads him Professor Eakin shows  
has remained frozen in down different paths. that the  
time. After From the confusion of autobiographical  
experiencing his social and impulse is simply a  
alternative cultures in individual memory, he special form of  
the wider world, he is faced with two reflexive  
finds that he is both questions. Does consciousness: from a  
comforted and disgusted physical recognition developmental  
by the village's provide a sense of viewpoint, the  
lingering "indigenous" identity? Which is autobiographical act  
characteristics. more liberating for a is a mode of self-  
CanCIÓN Random House man, or a society: invention always  
Notable International knowing the past, or practiced first in  
Crime Novel of the forgetting it? living and only  
Year - Crime Reads / Embroidered with eventually, and  
Lit Hub From a prize- Borgesian micro- occasionally, in  
winning Turkish novelist, a heady, stories, Labyrinth writing. Originally  
political tale of one flows smoothly on the published in 1985.  
man's search for surface while The Princeton Legacy  
identity and meaning traversing sharp Library uses the  
in Istanbul after the bends beneath the latest print-on-  
loss of his memory. A current. demand technology to  
blues singer, *Fictions in* again make available  
Boratin, attempts *Autobiography* previously out-of-  
suicide by jumping Bellevue Literary print books from the  
off the Bosphorus Press distinguished  
Bridge, but opens his Investigating backlist of Princeton  
eyes in the hospital. autobiographical University Press.  
He has lost his writing of Mary These editions  
memory, and can't McCarthy, Henry preserve the original  
recall why he wished James, Jean-Paul texts of these  
to end his life. He Sartre, Saul important books while  
remembers only things Friedlander, and presenting them in  
that are unrelated to Maxine Hong Kingston, durable paperback and  
himself, but confuses this book argues that hardcover editions.  
their timing. He autobiographical The goal of the  
knows that the truth is not a fixed Princeton Legacy  
Ottoman Empire fell, but an evolving Library is to vastly  
and that the last content in a process increase access to  
sultan died, but has of self-creation. the rich scholarly  
no idea when. His Further, Paul John heritage found in the  
mind falters when Eakin contends, the thousands of books  
remembering self at the center of published by  
civilizations, while all autobiography is Princeton University  
life, like a necessarily fictive. Press since its

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founding in 1905.  
**And The Rat Laughed  
(EasyRead Comfort  
Edition)** Charco  
Press  
A sumptuous survey  
of Mexico's  
foremost  
photographer  
Through more than  
200 photographs,  
this luxurious  
volume presents  
Mexican  
photographer  
Graciela Iturbide's  
most iconic works  
alongside an  
important selection  
of previously  
unpublished  
photographs and a  
series of color  
photographs  
specially  
commissioned by the  
Fondation Cartier.  
Working mainly in  
black and white,  
Iturbide has  
explored the  
cohabitation  
between ancestral  
traditions and  
Catholic rites in  
Mexico, humanity's  
relationship with  
death and the roles  
of women in  
society. In recent  
years, her  
photographs have

emptied themselves  
of human presence,  
revealing the  
enigmatic life of  
objects and nature.  
In addition to her  
stark images of her  
hometown, this book  
also includes  
images from her  
series in India,  
the United States  
and elsewhere.  
Heliotrope 37,  
named for the  
photographer's  
address in Mexico  
City, also contains  
an interview with  
the photographer by  
French essayist  
Fabienne Bradu, an  
original short  
story by Guatemalan  
writer Eduardo  
Halfon and a photo-  
portrait of  
Iturbide's studio  
by Mexican  
photographer Pablo  
López Luz. One of  
the most  
influential  
photographers  
active in Latin  
America today,  
Mexican  
photographer  
Graciela Iturbide  
(born 1942) began  
studying  
photography in the

1970s with legendary  
photographer Manuel  
Álvarez Bravo.  
Seeking "to explore  
and articulate the  
ways in which a  
vocabulary such as  
'Mexico' is  
meaningful only  
when understood as  
an intricate  
combination of  
histories and  
practices," as she  
puts it, Iturbide  
has created a  
nuanced and  
sensitive  
documentary record  
of contemporary  
Mexico. She lives  
and works in Mexico  
City.  
*The Flight Portfolio*  
*Amazon Crossing*  
A reader's fictional  
tour of the art and  
lives of some of the  
great 20th-century  
Surrealists An author  
(a version of Vila-  
Matas himself)  
presents a short  
"history" of a secret  
society, the Shandies,  
who are obsessed with  
the concept of  
"portable literature."  
The society is  
entirely imagined, but  
in this rollicking,  
intellectually playful  
book, its members  
include writers and  
artists like Marcel

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Duchamp, Aleister  
Crowley, Witold  
Gombrowicz, Federico  
García Lorca, Man Ray,  
and Georgia O'Keefe.  
The Shandies meet  
secretly in apartments,  
hotels, and cafes all  
over Europe to discuss  
what great literature  
really is: brief, not  
too serious,  
penetrating the depths  
of the mysterious. We  
witness the Shandies  
having adventures in  
stationary submarines,  
underground caverns,  
African backwaters, and  
the cultural capitals  
of Europe.

#### The Italian Duke

University Press

A grandson tries to  
make sense of his  
Polish

grandfather's past  
and the story  
behind his numbered  
tattoo. A Serbian  
classical pianist  
longs for his  
forbidden heritage.

A Mayan poet is  
torn between his  
studies and filial  
obligations. A  
striking young  
Israeli woman seeks  
answers in Central  
America. A  
university  
professor yearns  
for knowledge that  
he can't find in

books and discovers  
something  
unexpected at a  
Mark Twain  
conference  
*Monkey Boy Seven*  
Stories Press  
Winner of the EBRD  
Literature Prize  
awarded by the  
European Bank for  
Reconstruction and  
Development. A city  
ignited by hate. A man  
in thrall to power.  
The ferociously  
original award-winning  
bestseller by Poland's  
literary  
phenomenon--his first  
to be translated into  
English. It's 1937.  
Poland is about to  
catch fire. In the  
boxing ring, Jakub  
Szapiro commands  
respect, revered as a  
hero by the Jewish  
community. Outside, he  
instills fear as he  
muscles through Warsaw  
as enforcer for a  
powerful crime lord.  
Murder and  
intimidation have  
their rewards. He  
revels in luxury,  
spends lavishly, and  
indulges in all the  
pleasures that  
barbarity offers. For  
a man battling to be  
king of the  
underworld, life is  
good. Especially when  
it's a frightening  
time to be alive.  
Hitler is rising.

Fascism is escalating.  
As a specter of  
violence hangs over  
Poland like a black  
cloud, its marginalized  
and vilified Jewish  
population hopes for a  
promise of sanctuary in  
Palestine. Jakub isn't  
blind to the changing  
tide. What's  
unimaginable to him is  
abandoning the city he  
feels destined to rule.  
With the raging  
instincts that guide  
him in the ring and on  
the streets, Jakub  
feels untouchable. He  
must maintain the order  
he knows--even as a new  
world order threatens  
to consume him.

#### **Self Portrait in Green**

HarperCollins UK

The nomadic odyssey of  
Eduardo Halfon  
continues as he  
searches for his roots  
through tangled  
childhood memories of  
a haunting family  
tragedy International  
Latino Book Award  
Winner \* Edward Lewis  
Wallant Award Winner  
In Mourning, Eduardo  
Halfon's eponymous  
wanderer travels to  
Poland, Italy, the  
U.S., and the  
Guatemalan countryside  
in search of secrets  
he can barely name. He  
follows memory's  
strands back to his  
maternal roots in  
Jewish Poland and to  
the contradictory,

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forbidden stories of his father's Lebanese-Jewish immigrant family, specifically surrounding the long-ago childhood death by drowning of his uncle Salomón. But what, or who, really killed Salomón? As he goes deeper, he realizes that the truth lies buried in his own past, in the brutal Guatemala of the 1970s and his subsequent exile to the American South. Mourning is a subtle and stirring reflection on the formative and destructive power of family mythology, silence, and loss. *My Fathers' Ghost Is Climbing in the Rain* University of Arizona Press

Two young poets, Jan and Remo, find themselves adrift in Mexico City. Obsessed with poetry, and, above all, with science fiction, they are eager to forge a life in the literary world. But as close as these friends are, the city tugs them in opposite directions. Jan withdraws from the world, shutting

himself in their shared rooftop apartment where he feverishly composes fan letters to the stars of science fiction. Meanwhile, Remo runs head-first into the future, spending his days and nights with a circle of wild young writers, seeking pleasure in the city's labyrinthine streets, rundown cafes, and murky bathhouses.

TRANSLATED BY NATASHA WIMMER

'Fascinating... Achingly beautiful... It reads like a dispatch from beyond the grave' *New Yorker*

'The Spirit of Science Fiction functions as a kind of key to the jewelled box of Bolaño's fictions... A cocktail of sorrow and ecstasy' *Paris Review*

Abject Performances New Directions Publishing

"In this delightful autofiction?the first

book by Gainza, an Argentine art critic, to appear in English?a woman delivers pithy assessments of world-class painters along with glimpses of her life, braiding the two into an illuminating whole."

?The *New York Times* Book Review, Notable Book of the Year and Editors' Choice

The narrator of *Optic Nerve* is an Argentinian woman whose obsession is art. The story of her life is the story of the paintings, and painters, who matter to her. Her intimate, digressive voice guides us through a gallery of moments that have touched her. In these pages, El Greco visits the Sistine Chapel and is appalled by Michelangelo's bodies. The mystery of Rothko's refusal to finish murals for the Seagram Building in New York is blended with the story of a hospital in which a prostitute walks the halls while the narrator's husband receives chemotherapy. Alfred

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de Dreux visits  
Ge?ricault's  
workshop; Gustave  
Courbet's devilish  
seascapes incite  
viewers "to have sex,  
or to eat an apple";  
Picasso organizes a  
cruel banquet in  
Rousseau's honor . .  
. All of these  
fascinating episodes  
in art history  
interact with the  
narrator's life in  
Buenos Aires?her  
family and work; her  
loves and losses; her  
infatuations and  
disappointments. The  
effect is of a  
character refracted  
by environment,  
composed by the  
canvases she studies.  
Seductive and  
capricious, *Optic  
Nerve* marks the  
English-language  
debut of a major  
Argentinian writer.  
It is a book that  
captures, like no  
other, the mysterious  
connections between a  
work of art and the  
person who perceives  
it.

**About Trees** Pushkin  
Press

From the New York  
Times bestselling  
author of *The End  
of Power* comes an  
edge-of-your-seat

political thriller  
about rival spies,  
dangerous love, and  
one of history's  
most devastating  
revolutions.  
Venezuela, 1992.  
Unknown colonel  
Hugo Chávez stages  
an ill-fated coup  
against a corrupt  
government,  
igniting the  
passions of  
Venezuela's poor  
and catapulting the  
oil-rich country to  
international  
attention. For two  
rival spies  
hurriedly  
dispatched to  
Caracas--one from  
Washington, DC, and  
the other from  
Fidel Castro's  
Cuba--this is a  
career-defining  
mission. Smooth-  
talking Iván Rincón  
of Cuba's  
Intelligence  
Directorate needs a  
rebel ally to  
secure the future  
of his own country.  
His job: support  
Chávez and the  
revolution by  
rallying the  
militants and  
neutralizing any

opposing agents.  
Meanwhile, the  
CIA's Cristina  
Garza will do  
everything in her  
power to cut  
Chávez's influence  
short. Her  
priority: stabilize  
the greatest oil  
reserves on the  
planet by ferreting  
out and eliminating  
Cuba's principal  
operative. As  
Chávez surges to  
power, Iván and  
Cristina are caught  
in the fallout of a  
toxic political  
time bomb: an  
intrepid female  
reporter and  
unwitting  
informant, a drug  
lord and key  
architect in  
Chávez's rise, and  
personal  
entanglements  
between the spies  
themselves. With  
everything at  
stake, the  
adversaries find  
themselves at the  
center of a game of  
espionage,  
seduction, murder,  
and shifting  
alliances playing  
out against the

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precarious backdrop of a nation in free fall. A thrilling fictional story based on unimaginable real-life events.

Labyrinth Europa Editions UK

About Trees considers our relationship with language, landscape, perception, and memory in the Anthropocene. The book includes texts and artwork by a stellar line up of contributors including Jorge Luis Borges, Andrea Bowers, Ursula K. Le Guin, Ada Lovelace and dozens of others. Holten was artist in residence at Buro BDP. While working on the book she created an alphabet and used it to make a new typeface called Trees. She also made a series of limited edition offset prints based on her Tree Drawings.

*Two Spies in Caracas* Vintage

The Property is a work that will inspire, fascinate, and delight readers and critics alike. Savvy and insightful, elegant and subtle, Rutu Modan's second full-length graphic novel is a triumph of storytelling and fine lines. After the death

of her son, Regina Segal takes her granddaughter Mica to Warsaw, hoping to reclaim a family property lost during the Second World War. As they get to know modern Warsaw, Regina is forced to recall difficult things about her past, and Mica begins to wonder if maybe their reasons for coming aren't a little different than what her grandmother led her to believe. Modan offers up a world populated by prickly seniors, smart-alecky public servants, and stubborn women—a world whose realism is expressed alternately in the absurdity of people's behavior and in the complex consequences of their sacrifices. Modan's ever-present wit is articulated perfectly in her clear-line style, while a subtle, almost muted color palette complements the true-to-life nuances of her characterization. Exit Wounds made a huge splash for this signature combination of wit, style, and realism, and The Property will cement Modan's status as one of the foremost cartoonists working today. Translated from the Hebrew by Jessica Cohen.

**Graciela Iturbide:**

**Heliotropo 37** Catapult

The English-language debut of a major Latin American writer.

Good Offices A&C

Black

In Abject

Performances Leticia

Alvarado draws out the irreverent, disruptive aesthetic strategies used by Latino artists and cultural producers who shun standards of respectability that are typically used to conjure concrete minority identities.

In place of works imbued with pride, redemption, or celebration, artists such as Ana Mendieta, Nao Bustamante, and the Chicano art collective known as Asco employ negative affects—shame, disgust, and unbelonging—to capture experiences that lie at the edge of the mainstream, inspirational Latino-centered social justice struggles. Drawing from a diverse expressive archive that ranges from performance art to performative testimonies of personal faith-based subjection, Alvarado



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illuminates modes of community formation and social critique defined by a refusal of identitarian coherence that nonetheless coalesce into Latino affiliation and possibility.

Home Reading Service

Drawn & Quarterly

A New York Times Book Review Editors' Choice

New York Times Notable

author María Gainza,

who dazzled critics

with *Optic Nerve*,

returns with the

captivating story of

an auction house

employee on the trail

of an enigmatic master

forgers In the Buenos

Aires art world, a

master forger has

achieved legendary

status. Rumored to be

a woman, she

specializes in

canvases by the

painter Mariette

Lydis, a portraitist

of Argentinean high

society. But who is

this absurdly gifted

creator of

counterfeits? What

motivates her? And

what is her link to

the community of

artists who

congregate, night

after night, in a

strange establishment

called the Hotel

Melancólico? On the

trail of this

mysterious forger is our narrator, an art critic and auction house employee through whose hands counterfeit works have passed. As she begins to take on the role of art-world detective, adopting her own methods of deception and manipulation, she warns us "not to proceed in expectation of names, numbers or dates . . . My techniques are those of the impressionist." Driven by obsession and full of subtle surprise, *Portrait of an Unknown Lady* is a highly seductive and enveloping meditation on what we mean by "authenticity" in art, and a captivating exploration of the gap between what is lived and what is told.