
Zazen Vanessa Veselka

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Thank You for Smoking
Penguin

ZazenVintage

The Edge of the

Alphabet Zazen

Winner of the Alex

Award " Mike Mu ñ oz Is

a Holden Caulfield for a

New Millennium--a

'10th-generation

peasant with a Mexican

last name, raised by a

single mom on an

Indian reservation' . . .

Evison, as in his

previous four novels,

has a light touch and

humorously guides the

reader, this time

through the minefield

that is working-class

America." --The New York Times Book Review For Mike Mu ñ oz, life has been a whole lot of waiting for something to happen.

Not too many years out of high school and still doing menial work--and just fired from his latest gig as a lawn boy on a landscaping crew--he ' s

smart enough to know that he ' s got to be the one to shake things up if he ' s ever going to change his life. But how? He ' s not qualified for much of anything.

He has no particular talents, although he is stellar at handling a lawn mower and wielding clipping shears. But now that career seems to be behind him. So what ' s next for Mike Mu ñ oz?

In this funny, biting,

touching, and ultimately inspiring novel,

bestselling author

Jonathan Evison takes

the reader into the

heart and mind of a

young man determined

to achieve the American

dream of happiness and

prosperity--who just so

happens to find himself

along the way.

Zazen Drawn & Quarterly

Poetry as a complete

reinvention of the known

world, converting attention into

rituals of unfolding spectacle.

Christopher Sunset Vintage

"More Kafka than Kafka, Renee

Gladman's achievement ranks

alongside many of Borges' in its

creation of a fantastical landscape

with deep psychological impact."

—Jeff VanderMeer Since 2010

writer and artist Renee Gladman

has placed fantastic and

philosophical stories in the

invented city-state of Ravicka, a

Ruritanian everyplace with its

own gestural language, poetic

architecture, and inexplicable

physics. As Ravicka has grown,

so has Gladman's project, spilling out from her fiction—Event Factory, The Ravickians, and Ana Patova Crosses a Bridge—into her nonfiction (Calamities) and even visual art (Prose Architectures). The result is a project unlike any other in American letters today, a fictional world that spans not only multiple books but different genres, even different art forms. In Houses of Ravicka, the city's comptroller, author of Regulating the Book of Regulations, seems to have lost a house. It is not where it's supposed to be, though an invisible house on the far side of town, which corresponds to the missing house, remains appropriately invisible. Inside the invisible house, a nameless Ravickian considers how she came to the life she is living, and investigates the deep history of Ravicka—that mysterious city-country born of Renee Gladman's philosophical, funny, audacious, extraordinary imagination. The Night Watchman Bantam A CrimeReads "Best Noir Novel of 2021" "A sucker punch noir that is also a powerful and haunting allegory of work, debt, and power." —Richard Price "An unreliable narrator makes this thriller all the more gripping." —WBUR A down and dirty gem of a tale—a twisty and twisted crime novel that evokes the worlds of George V. Higgins, Patricia Highsmith, and David Mamet, destined to be a Neo-noir classic. Rick and Frank are recovering addicts and accomplished house thieves. They do not steal randomly - - they steal according to order, hired by a mysterious handler. The jobs run routinely until they 're tasked with taking a seemingly worthless

trophy: an object that generates interest and obsession out of proportion to its apparent value. Just as the robbery is completed, the two are involved in a freak car accident that sets off a chain of events and Frank disappears with the trophy. As Rick tries to find Frank, he is forced to confront his past, upending both his livelihood and his sense of reality. The narrative builds steadily into a powerful and shocking climax. Reveling in its con-artistry and double-crosses, Just Thieves is a nail-biting, noirish exploration of the working lives of two unforgettable crooks and the hidden forces that rule and ruin their lives. Clown Girl Melville House Blending science fiction and dark fantasy, this monumental Victorian thriller is a dazzling feast for the senses: an action-packed roller-coaster ride of suspense, betrayal, and richly fevered dreams. It starts with a simple note. Roger Bascombe regrettably wishes to inform Celeste Temple that their engagement is forthwith terminated. Determined to find out why, Miss Temple takes the first step in a journey that will propel her into a dizzyingly seductive, utterly shocking world beyond her imagining. Nothing could have prepared Miss Temple for the things she would find behind the closed doors of forbidding Harschmort Manor: men and women in provocative disguise, acts of licentiousness and violence,

heroism and awakening. But she will also find two allies: Cardinal Chang, a brutal assassin with the heart of a poet, and a royal doctor named Svenson, at once fumbling and heroic—both of whom, like her, lost someone at Harschmort Manor. As the unlikely trio search for answers, hurtling them from elegant brothels to gaslit alleyways to shocking moments of self-discovery, they are confronted by puzzles within puzzles. And the closer they get to the truth, the more their lives are in danger. For the conspiracy they face—an astonishing alchemy of science, perverted religion, and lust for power—is so terrifying as to be beyond belief. Praise for The Glass Books of the Dream Eaters “ The most original thing I ’ ve read in years: deftly executed, relentlessly inventive, and with a trio of the most unusual and engaging heroes who ever took on a sinister cabal out to rule the world by means of sex and dreams. ” —Diana Gabaldon “ A tale that combines swashbuckling adventure, a big dose of science fiction and burgeoning romance. ” —USA Today “ Rich . . . studded with treats . . . beautifully written. ” —Entertainment

Weekly “Sweeping, highly original and absorbing . . . defies categorization.” —The Dallas Morning News

Prayers for the Stolen Random House

"A ravishing collection, full of wisdom, grief, beauty, and especially surprise." --Anthony Doerr, author of *The Shell Collectors* Peter Orner zeroes in on the strange ways our memories define us: A woman's husband dies before their divorce is finalized; a man runs for governor of Illinois and loses much more than an election; two brothers play beneath the infamous bridge at Chappaquiddick. Employing the masterful compression for which he has been widely praised, Orner presents a kaleidoscope of individual lives viewed in startling, intimate close-up. Whether writing of Geraldo Rivera's attempt to reveal the contents of Al Capone's vault or of a father and daughter trying to outrun a hurricane, Orner illuminates universal themes. In stories that span considerable geographic ground--from Chicago to Wyoming, from Massachusetts to the Czech Republic--he writes of the past we can't seem to shake, the losses we can't make up for, and the power of our stories to help us reclaim what we thought was gone forever.

Just Thieves New York Review of Books

A brilliant and penetrating look behind the scenes of modern American politics, *Primary Colors* is a funny, wise, and dramatic story with characters and events that resemble some familiar, real-life figures. When a former congressional aide

becomes part of the staff of the governor of a small Southern state, he watches in horror, admiration, and amazement, as the governor mixes calculation and sincerity in his not-so-above-board campaign for the presidency.

The Volcano Lover Nan A. Talese In her funny, idiosyncratic, and propulsive new novel, *Art Is Everything*, Yxta Maya Murray offers us a portrait of a Chicana artist as a woman on the margins. L.A. native Amanda Ruiz is a successful performance artist who is madly in love with her girlfriend, a wealthy and pragmatic actuary named Xochitl. Everything seems under control: Amanda's grumpy father is living peacefully in Koreatown; Amanda is about to enjoy a residency at the Guggenheim Museum in New York and, once she gets her NEA, she's going to film a groundbreaking autocritical documentary in Mexico. But then everything starts to fall apart when Xochitl's biological clock begins beeping, Amanda's father dies, and she endures a sexual assault. What happens to an artist when her emotional support vanishes along with her feelings of safety and her finances? Written as a series of web posts, Instagram essays, Snapchat freakouts, rejected Yelp reviews, Facebook screeds, and SmugMug streams-of-consciousness that merge volcanic confession with eagle-eyed art criticism, *Art Is Everything* shows us the painful but joyous development of a mid-career artist whose world implodes just as she has a breakthrough.

Girlhood Northwestern University

Press

Clown Girl lives in Baloneytown, a seedy neighborhood where drugs, balloon animals, and even rubber chickens contribute to the local currency. Against a backdrop of petty crime, she struggles to live her dreams, calling on cultural masters Charlie Chaplin, Kafka, and da Vinci for inspiration. In an effort to support herself and her layabout performance-artist boyfriend, Clown Girl finds herself unwittingly transformed into a "corporate clown," trapping herself in a cycle of meaningless, high-paid gigs that veer dangerously close to prostitution. Monica Drake has created a novel that riffs on the high comedy of early film stars — most notably Chaplin and W. C. Fields — to raise questions of class, gender, economics, and prejudice. Resisting easy classification, this debut novel blends the bizarre, the humorous, and the gritty with stunning skill.

The Book of Joan Watkins Media Limited

Adam Levin's debut novel *The Instructions* was one of the most buzzed-about books of 2010, a sprawling universe of "death-defying sentences, manic wit, exciting provocations and simple human warmth" (Rolling Stone). Now, in the stories of *Hot Pink*, Levin delivers ten smaller worlds, shaken snow-globes of overweight romantics, legless prodigies, quixotic dollmakers, Chicagoland thugs, dirty old men, protective fathers, balloon-laden dumptrucks, and walls that ooze gels. Told with lust and affection, karate and tenderness, slapstickery, ferocity, and heart, *Hot Pink* is the work of a major talent in his sharpest form. *The Revolution of Every Day*

Hawthorne Books
Entrez dans le monde explosif de Vanessa Venselka ! Dans une Amérique parallèle au bord de l'explosion, Della, jeune paléontologue éprouvée par la vie, cherche refuge dans d'étranges activités : elle collectionne des photos d'immolations célestes, joue avec des rats morts, déclenche de fausses alertes à la bombe. La réalité la rattrape le jour où un attentat frappe le centre commercial voisin. La ville s'enfonce alors peu à peu dans un climat de violence et de répression policière. Della décide de rejoindre un groupuscule radical, avec pour seule perspective l'enfer sur terre. La langue nerveuse et inventive de Vanessa Veselka rappelle à certains moments Thomas Pynchon. Drôle, poignant et formidablement actuel, Zazen brosse le portrait d'une Amérique obsédée par les attentats et la désinformation, nous offrant une vision dynamisée et fantasmagorique du monde tel qu'il est peut-être déjà. D'abord publié sous forme électronique, le roman a très vite conquis un large public, imposant son auteur comme l'une des voix les plus prometteuses et les plus originales de sa génération.

Zazen a obtenu en 2012 le prestigieux prix PEN/Robert W. Bingham Prize. Democracy Vintage
The human mind is inherently free. It neither affirms nor denies. It is not constrained by the conflict of the opposites, like right and wrong or self and others. An awakened mind knows that the dynamic unity between self and others forms part of an integrated whole. Having direct knowledge of this mind brings profound peace. The teachings of the Buddha point the way to acquire this knowledge through direct personal experience. In this intriguing and enlightening collection of stories, three Zen students reflect on their personal journeys and share how their lives subsequently transformed because of the practice. Under the direction of Zen Master Kido Inoue, they share their doubts, their difficulties, their amazement, and the transformations that they experienced in their lives. The ultimate aim of Zen is to break out of the constraints of ego and have direct personal experience of the absolute infinity of our being. It is to awaken to the truth of our nature beyond the ego. In a nutshell, Zen focuses on the essence of mind. Empty Hearts iUniverse
WINNER OF THE 2021 PULITZER PRIZE FOR FICTION NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLER WASHINGTON POST, AMAZON, NPR, CBS SUNDAY MORNING, KIRKUS, CHICAGO PUBLIC LIBRARY, AND GOOD HOUSEKEEPING BEST BOOK OF 2020 Based on the

extraordinary life of National Book Award-winning author Louise Erdrich's grandfather who worked as a night watchman and carried the fight against Native dispossession from rural North Dakota all the way to Washington, D.C., this powerful novel explores themes of love and death with lightness and gravity and unfolds with the elegant prose, sly humor, and depth of feeling of a master craftsman. Thomas Wazhashk is the night watchman at the jewel bearing plant, the first factory located near the Turtle Mountain Reservation in rural North Dakota. He is also a Chippewa Council member who is trying to understand the consequences of a new "emancipation" bill on its way to the floor of the United States Congress. It is 1953 and he and the other council members know the bill isn't about freedom; Congress is fed up with Indians. The bill is a "termination" that threatens the rights of Native Americans to their land and their very identity. How can the government abandon treaties made in good faith with Native Americans "for as long as the grasses shall grow, and the rivers run"? Since graduating high school, Pixie Paranteau has insisted that everyone call her Patrice. Unlike most of the girls on the reservation, Patrice, the class valedictorian, has no desire to wear herself down with a husband and kids. She makes jewel bearings at the plant, a job

that barely pays her enough to support her mother and brother. Patrice's shameful alcoholic father returns home sporadically to terrorize his wife and children and bully her for money. But Patrice needs every penny to follow her beloved older sister, Vera, who moved to the big city of Minneapolis. Vera may have disappeared; she hasn't been in touch in months, and is rumored to have had a baby. Determined to find Vera and her child, Patrice makes a fateful trip to Minnesota that introduces her to unexpected forms of exploitation and violence, and endangers her life. Thomas and Patrice live in this impoverished reservation community along with young Chippewa boxer Wood Mountain and his mother Juggie Blue, her niece and Patrice's best friend Valentine, and Stack Barnes, the white high school math teacher and boxing coach who is hopelessly in love with Patrice. In *The Night Watchman*, Louise Erdrich creates a fictional world populated with memorable characters who are forced to grapple with the worst and best impulses of human nature. Illuminating the loves and lives, the desires and ambitions of these characters with compassion, wit, and intelligence, *The Night Watchman* is a majestic work of fiction from this revered cultural treasure.

[Last Car Over the Sagamore](#)

[Bridge Back Bay Books](#)

Curated by the #1 New York

Times bestselling author of *Wild*, this volume shares intimate perspectives from some of today's most acclaimed writers. As Cheryl Strayed explains in her introduction, "the invisible, unwritten last line of every essay should be and nothing was ever the same again." The reader, in other words, should feel the ground shift, if even only a bit. In this edition of the acclaimed anthology series, Strayed has gathered twenty-six essays that each capture an inexorable, tectonic shift in life. Personal and deeply perceptive, this collection examines a broad range of life experiences—from a man's relationship with Mormonism to a woman's search for a serial killer; from listening to the music of Joni Mitchell to surviving five months at sea; from triaging injured soldiers to giving birth to a daughter; and much more. *The Best American Essays 2013* includes entries by Alice Munro, Zadie Smith, John Jeremiah Sullivan, Dagoberto Gilb, Vicki Weiqi Yang, J.D. Daniels, Michelle Mirsky, and others.

Dora: A Headcase

HarperCollins

National Book Critics Circle

Award Winner National

Bestseller Lambda Literary

Award Finalist NAMED

ONE OF THE BEST BOOKS

OF THE YEAR BY TIME *

NPR * The Washington Post

* Kirkus Reviews *

Washington Independent

Review of Books * The

Millions * Electric Literature *

Ms Magazine * Entropy

Magazine * Largehearted Boy

* Passerbuys "Irreverent and

original." – New York

Times "Magisterial." – The

New Yorker "An

intoxicating writer." – The

Atlantic "A classic!"

– Mary Karr "A true light in

the dark." – Stephanie

Danler "An essential,

heartbreaking project."

– Carmen Maria Machado A

gripping set of stories about

the forces that shape girls and

the adults they become. A wise

and brilliant guide to

transforming the self and our

society. In her powerful new

book, critically acclaimed

author Melissa Febos

examines the narratives

women are told about what it

means to be female and what it

takes to free oneself from

them. When her body began

to change at eleven years old,

Febos understood

immediately that her meaning

to other people had changed

with it. By her teens, she

defined herself based on these

perceptions and by the

romantic relationships she

threw herself into headlong.

Over time, Febos increasingly

questioned the stories she'd

been told about herself and the

habits and defenses she'd

developed over years of trying

to meet others' expectations.

The values she and so many other women had learned in girlhood did not prioritize their personal safety, happiness, or freedom, and she set out to reframe those values and beliefs. Blending investigative reporting, memoir, and scholarship, Febos charts how she and others like her have reimagined relationships and made room for the anger, grief, power, and pleasure women have long been taught to deny. Written with Febos' characteristic precision, lyricism, and insight, *Girlhood* is a philosophical treatise, an anthem for women, and a searing study of the transitions into and away from girlhood, toward a chosen self.

Primary Colors Hogarth Writing exercises and creativity advice from Barry's pioneering, life-changing workshop The award-winning author Lynda Barry is the creative force behind the genre-defying and bestselling work *What It Is*. She believes that anyone can be a writer and has set out to prove it. For the past decade, Barry has run a highly popular writing workshop for nonwriters called *Writing the Unthinkable*, which was featured in *The New York Times Magazine*. *Syllabus: Notes from an Accidental*

Professor is the first book to make her innovative lesson plans and writing exercises available to the public for home or classroom use. Barry teaches a method of writing that focuses on the relationship between the hand, the brain, and spontaneous images, both written and visual. It has been embraced by people across North America—prison inmates, postal workers, university students, high-school teachers, and hairdressers—for opening pathways to creativity. *Syllabus* takes the course plan for Barry's workshop and runs wild with it in her densely detailed signature style.

Collaged texts, ballpoint-pen doodles, and watercolor washes adorn *Syllabus*'s yellow lined pages, which offer advice on finding a creative voice and using memories to inspire the writing process.

Throughout it all, Barry's voice (as an author and as a teacher-mentor) rings clear, inspiring, and honest.

Zazen Anchor

The haunting novel of love and survival that inspired Mexico's official submission for International Feature Film—now shortlisted for the 94th Academy Awards® and streaming on Netflix “*Prayers for the Stolen*” gives us words for what we haven't had words for before, like something translated from a dream in a secret language. . . . Beguiling,

and even crazily enchanting.” —Francisco Goldman, *New York Times Book Review* FINALIST FOR THE PEN/FAULKNER PRIZE • AN IRISH TIMES BOOK OF THE YEAR Ladydi Garcia Martínez is fierce, funny, and smart. She was born into a world where being a girl is a dangerous thing. In the mountains of Guerrero, Mexico, women must fend for themselves, as their men have left to seek opportunities elsewhere. Here in the shadow of the drug war, bodies turn up on the outskirts of the village to be taken back to the earth by scorpions and snakes. School is held sporadically, when a volunteer can be coerced away from the big city for a semester. In Guerrero the drug lords are kings, and mothers disguise their daughters as sons, or when that fails they “make them ugly” —cropping their hair, blackening their teeth, anything to protect them from the rapacious grasp of the cartels. And when the black SUVs roll through town, Ladydi and her friends burrow into holes in their backyards like animals, tucked safely out of sight. While her mother waits in vain for her husband's return, Ladydi and her friends dream of a future that holds more promise than mere survival, finding humor, solidarity, and fun in the face of so much tragedy. When Ladydi is offered work as a nanny for a wealthy family in Acapulco, she seizes the chance, and finds her first taste of love with a young caretaker there. But when a local murder tied to the cartel implicates a friend, Ladydi's future takes a dark turn. Despite the odds against her, this spirited heroine's resilience and resolve bring hope to otherwise

heartbreaking conditions. An illuminating and affecting portrait of women in rural Mexico, and a stunning exploration of the hidden consequences of an unjust war, *Prayers for the Stolen* is an unforgettable story of friendship, family, and determination. *The Devil All the Time* Random House Digital, Inc.

****Finalist for the 2018**

International Prize for Arabic Fiction** A timely and haunting novel from an exciting new voice in international literature, set in present-day Syria. In her therapist's waiting room in Damascus, Suleima meets a strange and reticent man named Naseem, and they soon begin a tense affair. But when Naseem, a writer, flees Syria for Germany, he sends Suleima the unfinished manuscript of his novel. To Suleima's surprise, she and the novel's protagonist are uncannily similar. As she reads, Suleima's past overwhelms her and she has no idea what to trust--Naseem's pages, her own memory, or nothing at all? Narrated in alternating chapters by Suleima and the mysterious woman portrayed in Naseem's novel, *The Frightened Ones* is a boundary-blurring, radical examination of the effects of oppression on one's sense of identity, the effects of collective trauma, and a moving window into life inside Assad's Syria. *The Empty Family* Farrar, Straus and Giroux

Adam Gordon is a brilliant, if highly unreliable, young American poet on a prestigious

fellowship in Madrid, struggling to establish his sense of self and his relationship to art. What is actual when our experiences are mediated by language, technology, medication, and the arts? Is poetry an essential art form, or merely a screen for the reader's projections? Instead of following the dictates of his fellowship, Adam's "research" becomes a meditation on the possibility of the genuine in the arts and beyond: are his relationships with the people he meets in Spain as fraudulent as he fears his poems are? A witness to the 2004 Madrid train bombings and their aftermath, does he participate in historic events or merely watch them pass him by? In prose that veers between the comic and tragic, the self-contemptuous and the inspired, *Leaving the Atocha Station* is a portrait of the artist as a young man in an age of Google searches, pharmaceuticals, and spectacle. Born in Topeka, Kansas, in 1979, Ben Lerner is the author of three books of poetry *The Lichtenberg Figures*, *Angle of Yaw*, and *Mean Free Path*. He has been a finalist for the National Book Award and the Northern California Book Award, a Fulbright Scholar in Spain, and the recipient of a 2010-2011 Howard Foundation Fellowship. In 2011 he became the first American to win the *Preis der Stadt Münster für Internationale Poesie*. *Leaving the Atocha Station* is his first novel.