AND OTHER STORIES

September 2023–March 2024

And Other Stories

Pitch & Glint

Lutz Seiler

&

¶ taking down the swing ¶ in autumn & putting it up ¶ in April. day after day ¶¶ the suburb commutes under ¶ the trees and hour after hour ¶ from the sky above courtyards ¶ ¶pulverised swallows fall & neatly ¶ stuffed ones come up: the ¶ gravity in their eyes hangs ¶ raw as an egg … *Translated by Stefan Tobler*

Star III

Lutz Seiler

&

¶ The sight of his three worn mattresses on the floor. bound together with rope. the broken black-and-white television at the head of his bed and the soot-covered sheets hanging at the window and the coal box near the oven: it may have all been shabby and squalid. but it was full of promise. all these decrepit things [and the half-dilapidated building] all expressed the future. ¶ *Translated by Tess Lewis* ¶ Winner of an English PEN Award

Split Tooth

Tanya Tagaq

¶ Sometimes the old woman would come in and smother us with her suffering love. Her love so strong and heavy it seemed a burden. Even then I knew that love could be a curse. Her love for us made her cry. The past became a river that was released by her eyes.

Praiseworthy

Alexis Wright

&

¶ Once upon a fine time for some people in the world. but not so plenteous. nor perfect for others. there lived a culture dreamer obsessing about the era. He was no great dreamer. no greater than the rest of the juggernauts in his heart-broken. storm-country people's humanity. They knew just as much as he did about surviving on a daily basis. and about how to make sacrifices of themselves in all the cataclysmic times generated by the mangy dogs who had stolen their traditional land.

In Case of Loss

Lutz Seiler

&

¶ Before work every morning. I walk around outside the house. I look at the bark on a pine tree or at a patch of grass. I stand beside the garage. or I gaze back towards the house from the rear. from the margins of the forest. and I am hardly present. ¶ *Translated by Martyn Crucefix*

The Hunger of Women

Marosia Castaldi

&

¶ A woman in a standalone house vacuumed every morning I saw my life reflected in her lot Like her I spent my time cleaning and cooking for my family I had a grown daughter who still lived at home It was just us two but still we were a family I was a widow I passed her my recipes ¶ *Translated by Jamie Richards*

Verdigris

Michele Mari

&

¶ Bisected by a precise blow of the spade. the slug writhed a moment longer: then it moved no more. All its glittering viscosity was left in its wake. for the split instead revealed a dry and compact surface. whose purplish-brown hue made it resemble the sliced end of a miniature bresaola.¶ *Translated by Brian Robert Moore* Winner of an English PEN Award

Inland

Gerald Murnane

&

¶ I am writing in the library of a manor-house. in a village I prefer not to name. near the town of Kunmadaras. in Szolnok County. ¶ These words trailing away behind the point of my pen are words from my native language. Heavy-hearted Magyar. my editor calls it. She may well be right. These words rest lightly on my page. but this heaviness pressing on me is perhaps the weight of all the words I have still not written. And the heaviness pressing on me is what first urged me to write.

Lublin

Manya Wilkinson

&

¶ The sky is as bright as a polished shoe. Elya has never known a sky like it. Over Mezritsh. the sky is often dark with fumes from the tanneries. smoke. ash. cinders. wood shavings. winged insects. small birds. flying cats. prayers. curses and avenging visions of Adoshem. Here on the open road a lad can breathe.

Ghost Pains

Jessi Jezewska Stevens

&

¶ The party was a failure. I can't even tell you what a failure it was. There are no words. Only a great pain in my chest when I wake up. On the veranda. It's better when I sit in the chair. Oh. but then I can see around. The gauzy curtains. pushed by the breeze! The glasses on the floor. Little ghosts! Last night the American walked around sniffing at them like a dog. He said. Who would leave all these dead soldiers behind?

Judge a book by its cover

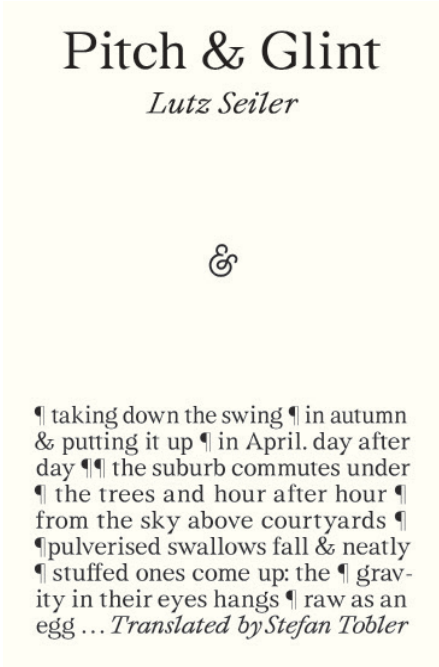
Our authors come to you in a new series design from this September.

The design concept is simple: it's the words inside that matter. After a development process with design proposals from four designers on three continents, And Other Stories' vision has been turned into a work of beauty by Brazilian designer Elisa von Randow (Alles Blau studio).

We wanted to make books as lovingly crafted as the words you'll read inside. The colour is dyed into the paper, so it won't scuff like most book covers, which are normally printed on white card. The cover card is G . F Smith's Colorplan range, made sustainably at the James Cropper paper mill in the Lake District; the inside paper is FSC-certified paper from a low-carbon European paper mill; the foil is biodegradable. We hope this design goes some way to reflecting the heights these authors' books will take you to.

Enjoy,

Stefan Tobler
Publisher



6 September 2023 **(UK & Europe)**/2 April 2024 **(North America)**

PITCH & GLINT

Lutz Seiler

Translated by Stefan Tobler

A devastated East German community of the Soviet era is evoked with something of Celan and Dylan Thomas's sound in the Poetry Book Society's Autumn 2023 Translation Choice

On its original publication in 2000, *Pitch & Glint* was widely hailed as a landmark in German poetry. Rooted in Seiler's childhood home, an East German village brutally undermined by Soviet Russian uranium extraction, these propulsive poems are highly personal, porous, twisting, cadenced, cryptic and earthy, traversing the rural side-lines of European history with undeniable evocative force. The frailty of bodies, a nearness to materials and manual work, the unknowability of our parents' suffering, and ultimately the loss of childhood innocence, all loom large in poems where sound comes first. As Seiler says in an essay, 'You recognise the song by its sound. The sound forms in the instrument we ourselves have become over time. Before every poem comes the story that we have lived. The poem catches the sound of it. Rather than narrating the story, it narrates its sound.'

Poetry (112pp)
B-format paperback with flaps
ISBN: 9781913505769
eISBN: 9781913505776
UK: 6 September 2023
US: 2 April 2024
Territories: World
Price: £14.99 | US $17.95

Lutz Seiler's work has been translated into 25 different languages, as well as winning the Ingeborg Bachmann and the German Book Prize. He currently lives in Potsdam and Stockholm.

Stefan Tobler is a translator and founder of And Other Stories. Authors he has translated include *Clarice Lispector* and *Raduan Nassar.*

'*Pitch & Glint* resists description but compels shock, admiration and envy. ' **Michael Hofmann**

'*Pitch & Glint*' was an event, because all of us who still believe poetry can do something, felt that something was being given voice by this poet, something that would otherwise have been hopelessly lost.' **Michael Kruger**

'Seiler's poems are immersive, unpredictable journeys into a past that is both irrevocably lost and hauntingly present. They are at once soundscapes and dream narratives, their language broken and propulsive' **Patrick McGuiness**

6 September 2023 **(North American partner: NYRB Books)**

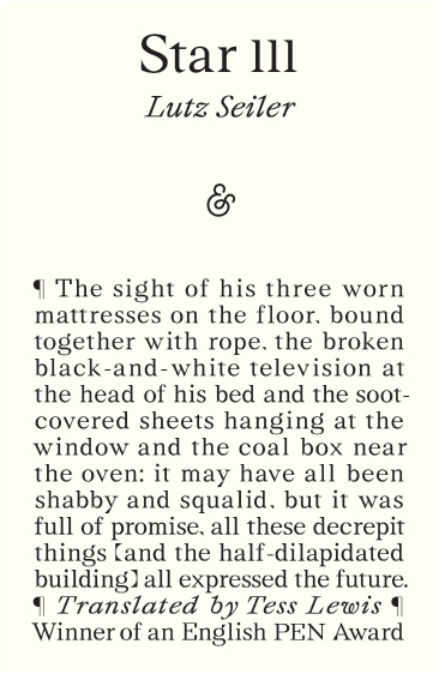
STAR 111

Lutz Seiler

Translated by Tess Lewis

Musical and incantatory, Seiler's novel *Star 111* tells of the search for authentic existence and also of a family which must find its way back together.

When the Berlin Wall finally falls, East German couple Inge and Walter, following a secret dream they've harboured all their lives, set out for life in the West. Carl, their son, refuses to keep watch over the family home and instead heads to Berlin, where he lives in his father's car until he is taken in by a group of squatters. Led by a shepherd and his goat, the pack of squatters sets up the first alternative bar in East Berlin and are involved in guerrilla occupations. And it's with them that Carl, trained as a bricklayer, finds himself an initiate of anarchy, of love, and above all of poetry.



'The missing link between Uwe Johnson's *Anniversaries* and Roberto Bolaño's *The Savage Detectives*...Lutz Seiler makes it look easy.' **Will Ashon**

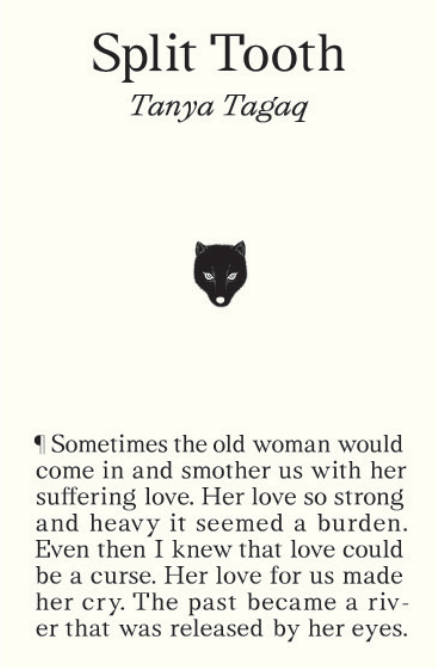
'With its ample narrative and powerful imagination, *Star 111* is the "Wenderoman" par excellence, thegreat novel of the 'turn', as germal reunifcation is called.' **Christine Lecerf**

'Read *Star 111*, and understand the real value of an object.' **Cécile Dutheil de la Rochère**

Lutz Seiler was born in Thuringia in 1963. After an apprenticeship in construction, he worked as a carpenter and a bricklayer. Since 1977, he has been the literary director of the Peter Huchel Haus.

Tess Lewis is a writer and translator from French and German and an Advisory Editor for *The Hudson Review*. Her essays and reviews have appeared in several publications including *Granta*, *Bookforum*, and *The Los Angeles Review of Books*.

Novel (496pp)
B-format paperback with flaps
ISBN: 9781913505745
eISBN: 9781913505752
6 September 2023
Territories: World, excl North America (NYRB)
Price: £16.99 | US $19.95



3 October 2023 **(North American partner: Penguin Random House)**

SPLIT TOOTH

Tanya Tagaq

From the Inuit throat singer who has dazzled and enthralled the world: an edgy, hallucinatory, fierce, gritty, and heart-breaking story of a girl's coming of age in the Arctic North.

An Inuk girl grows up in Nunavut, Canada, in the 1970s. She knows joy, and friendship, and parents' love. She knows boredom, and listlessness, and bullying. She knows the tedium of the everyday world, and the raw, amoral power of the ice and sky, the seductive energy of the animal world. She knows the ravages of alcohol, and violence at the hands of those she should be able to trust. She sees the spirits that surround her, and the immense power that dwarfs all of us. When she becomes pregnant, she must navigate all this.

In this acclaimed debut novel, – haunting, brooding, exhilarating, and tender all at once – Tanya Tagaq explores the grittiest features of a small Arctic town and the electrifying proximity of the worlds of animals and of myth.

Novel (208pp)
B-format paperback with flaps
ISBN: 9781913505806
eISBN: 9781913505813
3 October 2023
Territories: UK, EUR & Comm (excl Can)
Price: £14.99

Tanya Tagaq is an internationally celebrated improvisational throat singer, avant-garde composer and bestselling author. A member of the Order of Canada, winner of the Polaris Music Prize (a Canadian equivalent to the Mercury Music Prize), Tagaq is an original disruptor, a world-changing figure at the forefront of seismic social, political and environmental change.

'Tagaq's surreal meld of poetry and prose transmutes the Arctic's boundless beauty, intensity, and desolation into a wrenching contemporary mythology.' ***The New Yorker***

'A raw, powerful voice breathes fresh air into traditional Inuit folklore to create a modern tale of mythological proportions.' ***Kirkus***

'In simplest terms, *Split Tooth* is a punch to the throat…a stellar first novel' ***Pop Matters***

17 October 2023 **(UK & Europe)**/5 December 2023 **(North America)**

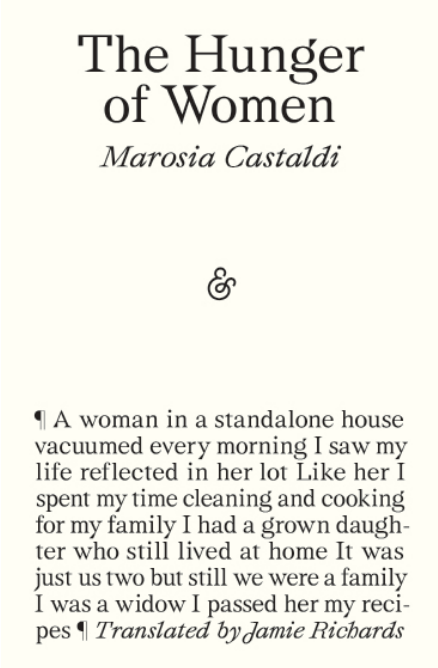
THE HUNGER OF WOMEN

Marosia Castaldi

Translated by Jamie Richards

Leaping from recipe to recipe, this unique, poetic Italian novel charts a middle-aged woman's belated embrace of the sensual – opening a restaurant and loving other women.

Rosa, midway through life, is alone. Her husband passed away long ago, and her cosmopolitan daughter is already out the door, keen to marry and move to the city. At loose ends, Rosa decides to transplant herself to the flat, foggy Lombardy provinces from her native Naples and there finds a way to renew herself – by opening a restaurant, and in the process coming to a new appreciation of the myriad relationships possible between women, from friendship to caregiving to collaboration to emotional and physical love.



'Marosia Castaldi's project would seem to be precisely that of revealing the wealth that resides in a woman's domestic microcosm, and the wisdom and passions that can be read among the ingredients of her kitchen.' **Lorenzo Licciardi**

'A hypnotic theatre of cruelty and tenderness in which the protagonist and narrator Rosa and her friends make vacuum cleaners buzz, exhibit the most lavish forms of desire, desire each other, and desperately, and above all make food, the food which is really the nourishment of the book itself' **Francesco Durante**

Marosia Castaldi, born in 1951, was a Neapolitan writer and artist who spent most of her life in Milan, where she died in 2019. Some of her extraordinary works include the short story collections *Abbastanza Prossimo* (1986), *Casa Idiota* (1990), *Piccoli Paesaggi* (1993) and the prose collection *In Mare Aperto*.

Jamie Richards is a literary translator, working primarily in Italian, Spanish, Greek and German.

Novel (192pp)
B-format paperback with flaps
ISBN: 9781913505868
eISBN: 9781913505875
UK: 17 October 2023
US: 5 December 2023
Territories: World
Price: £14.99 | US $19.95

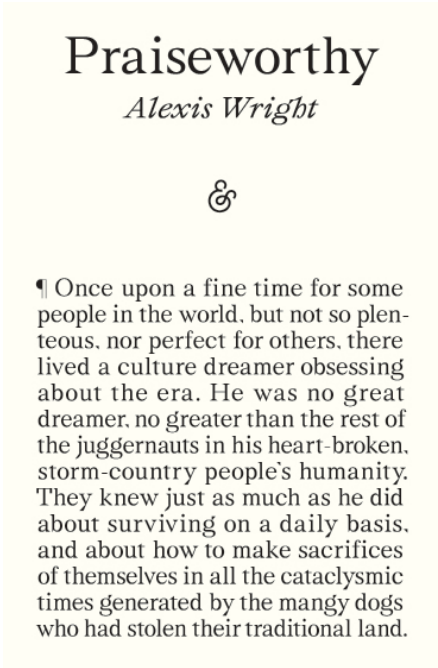
2 November 2023 **(North American Partner: New Directions)**

PRAISEWORTHY

Alexis Wright

The enraged, biting, tragic and hopeful new novel from Alexis Wright explores Aboriginal sovereignty (and a madcap donkey transport scheme) in the shadow of climate change.

In a small Aboriginal town dominated by a haze cloud, which heralds both an ecological catastrophe and a gathering of the ancestors, a crazed visionary seeks out a solution to the global climate crisis and the economic dependency of the Aboriginal people. His wife seeks solace from his madness in following the dance of butterflies and scouring the internet to find out how she can seek repatriation for her Aboriginal and Chinese family to China. One of their sons, called Aboriginal Sovereignty, is determined to commit suicide. The other, Tommyhawk, wishes his brother dead so that he can pursue his dream of becoming white and powerful. This is a novel which pushes allegory and language to its limits, a cry of outrage against oppression and disadvantage, and both a sharp satire and a thoughtful fable for the end of days.

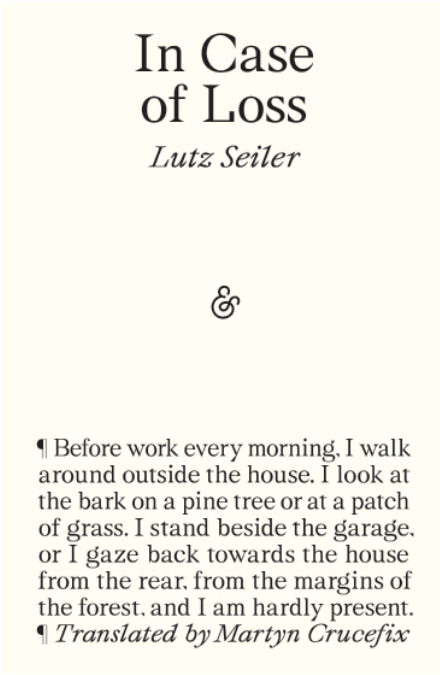


'I'm awed by the range, experiment and political intelligence of Alexis Wright's work. She is vital on the subject of land and people. *Praiseworthy* is a magnificent novel by a true giant of literature.'
Robert Macfarlane

'Monumental. *Praiseworthy* blew me away. If you think you know what assimilation is, you should read *Praiseworthy* and think again.'
Tony Hughes-d'Aeth

Alexis Wright is one of Australia's most acclaimed and fearless writers. The author of the prize-winning novels *Carpentaria* and *The Swan Book*, Wright has published three works of non-fiction: *Take Power*, an oral history of the Central Land Council; *Grog War*, a study of alcohol abuse in the Northern Territory; and *Tracker*, an award-winning collective memoir of Aboriginal leader, Tracker Tilmouth. Her books have been published widely outside Australia, including in China, the US, the UK, Italy, France and Poland.

***Novel* (736*pp*)**
B-format paperback with flaps
ISBN: 9781913505929
eISBN: 9781913505936
2 November 2023
Territories: UK, EUR & Comm (excl Can)
Price: £17.99



28 November 2023 **(UK & Europe)**/2 April 2024 **(North America)**

IN CASE OF LOSS

Lutz Seiler

Translated by Martyn Crucefix

Evocative non-fiction from the German Book Prize winner, including on rural life, growing up in an East German uranium mining community, and the creative process.

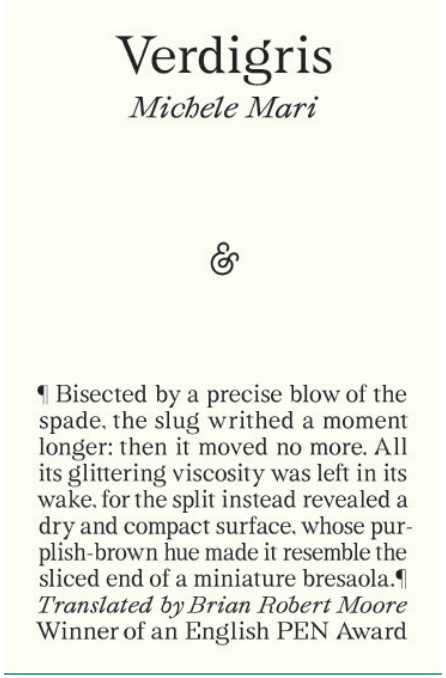
In Case of Loss gathers the best of Lutz Seiler's non-fiction from last twenty-five years. A perfect way into Seiler's work, it reveals him to be as engaging as an essayist as he is as a poet and novelist. Seiler's beautifully anecdotal and associative pieces throw fascinating light on literature and his background, not least the environmental and human catastrophe of the Soviet-era mining in the community he grew up in, 'the tired villages . . . beneath which lay the ore, uranium.' Other essays focus on poetry, including his discovery of poetry during his military service and pieces on German poets, including Ernst Meister, Jürgen Becker and Peter Huchel, whose former house, outside Berlin, is now home to Lutz Seiler, after he broke and entered it with Huchel's widow's blessing.

***Non-fiction* (192*pp*)**
B-format paperback with flaps
ISBN: 9781913505783
eISBN: 9781913505790
UK: 28 November 2023
US: 2 April 2024
Territories: World
Price: £14.99 | US $19.95

Lutz Seiler is one of Germany's most interesting contemporary poets and writers. He recently won the prestigious Georg Büchner Prize for the body of his work. Its past recipients include Max Frisch, Paul Celan and Ingeborg Bachmann.

Martyn Crucefix has published six collections of poetry. His translation of Rilke's *Duino Elegies* was shortlisted for the 2007 Popescu Prize for European Poetry Translation .

'It is never about reconstructing. Memory does not bring back what was forgotten. Indeed, the person who remembers doesn't even know for sure that what is remembered ever existed. . . Seiler's inimitable style as a storyteller, the wilful waywardness and weight of what he has to say, the intensity (and personal tact) of his engagement with the landscapes of others' poetries and lives all make these essays a lively portrait of the writer surrounded by his library. Seiler sets standards for reflection in art today.' **Sibylle Cramer, *Süddeutsche Zeitung***



2 January 2024

VERDIGRIS

Michele Mari

Translated by Brian Robert Moore

A bookish boy's unlikely friendship with an old groundskeeper leads him into an underworld of grim secrets, home to doppelgängers, dead Nazis, bloodthirsty slugs, and unquiet ghosts.

At the tail end of the 1960s, the thirteen-year-old Michelino spends his summers at his grandparents' modest estate in Nasca, near Lake Maggiore, losing himself in the tales of horror, adventure, and mystery shelved in his grandfather's library. The greatest mystery he's ever encountered, however, doesn't come from a book – it's the groundskeeper, Felice, a sometimes frightening, sometimes gentle, always colourful man of uncertain age who speaks an enchanting dialect and whose memory gets worse with each passing day. When Michelino volunteers to help the old man by providing him with clever mnemonic devices to keep his memory alive, the boy soon finds himself obsessed with piecing together the eerie hodgepodge of Felice's biography . . . a quest that leads to the uncovering of skeletons in Nazi uniforms in the attic, and to Felice's admission that he can hear the voices of the dead.

Novel (224pp)
B-format paperback with flaps
ISBN: 9781913505905
eISBN: 9781913505912
2 January 2024
Territories: World
Price: £14.99 | US $19.95

Michele Mari has published ten novels in addition to several short story and poetry collections, and has received prestigious awards including the Bagutta Prize. His story collection You, Bleeding Childhood is available in English.

Brian Robert Moore has translated *A Silence Shared* by Lalla Romano, *Meeting in Positano* by Goliarda Sapienza, and the work of other distinguished Italian authors.

'If I were to give a book award to a living Italian writer, man or woman, I'd pick Michele Mari.' **Domenico Starnone**

'The greatest living Italian writer.' **Andrea Coccia**

'The charm that Mari exercises on his readers, from the most devoted to the most distracted, is incredible . . . More than anyone else, Michele Mari represents today a model of writer that seems on the point of disappearing – fully literary, lofty, in short, twentieth-century.' **Sara Marzullo**

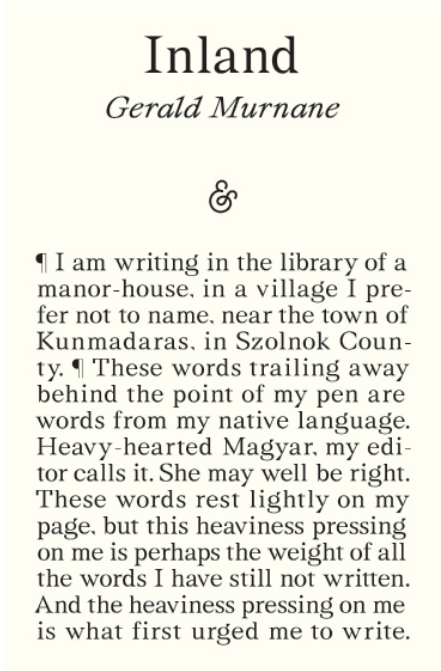
9 January 2024

INLAND

Gerald Murnane

‘The most ambitious, sustained, and powerful piece of writing Murnane has brought off.’ JM Coetzee

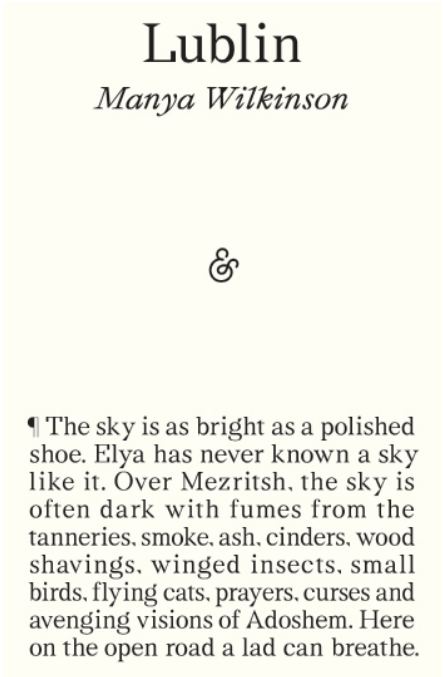
Inland is a work which gathers in emotional power as it moves across the grasslands of its narrator’s imagination – from Szolnok County on the great plains of Hungary where a man writes in the library of his manor house, to the Institute of Prairie Studies in Tripp County, South Dakota, where the editor of the journal Hinterland receives his writing, to the narrator’s own native district in Melbourne County, between Moonee Ponds and the Merri, where he recalls the constant displacements of his childhood. ‘No thing in the world is one thing,’ he declares; ‘some places are many more than one place.’ These overlapping worlds are bound by recurring motifs – fish pond, fig-tree, child-woman, the colours white, red and green – and by deep feelings of intimacy and betrayal, which are brought to full expression as the book moves to its close.



‘The most ambitious, sustained, and powerful piece of writing Murnane has brought off. The underlying narrative is of the twelve-year-old boy and the girl from Bendigo Street, their friendship and their parting, and of the man’s later attempts, Orpheus-like, to summon her back, or if not her, then her shade, from the realm of the dead and the forgotten. Woven into this narrative are a number of motifs whose common element is resurrection: the violated serf girl who returns as an angel of defiance; the lovers in *Wuthering Heights* united beyond the grave.’ **JM Coetzee**

Gerald Murnane is the award-winning author of such acclaimed works as *Border Districts*, *The Plains*, *Inland*, and *Invisible Yet Enduring Lilacs*. Murnane lives in Goroke, a remote village in western Victoria, Australia.

Novel (204pp)
B-format paperback with flaps
ISBN: 9781913505820
eISBN: 9781913505837
9 January 2024
Territories: World (exl ANZ)
Price: £14.99 | US $19.95



6 February 2024 **(UK & Europe)**/2 April 2024 **(North America)**

LUBLIN

Manya Wilkinson

Stand by Me in Tsarist Russia. It's 1907; three lads set off for Lublin, the market town of dreams.

Elya is the lad with the vision, and Elya has the map. Ziv and Kiva aren't so sure. The water runs out long before they find the Village of Lakes. The food runs out well before the flaky crescent pastries of Prune Town. They never reach the Village of Girls (how disappointing); they do stumble into Russian Town, rumoured to be a dangerous place for Jews (it is). As three young boys set off from Mezritsh with a case of bristle brushes to sell in the great market town of Lublin, wearing shoes of uneven quality and possessed of decidedly unequal enthusiasms, they quickly find that nothing, not Elya's jokes nor Kiva's prayers nor Ziv's sublime irritatingness, can keep the maw of history from closing bloodily around them.

Novel (160pp)
B-format paperback with flaps
ISBN: 9781913505943
eISBN: 9781913505950
UK: 6 February 2024
US: 2 April 2024
Territories: World
Price: £14.99 | US 19.95

Manya Wilkinson is a Jewish New Yorker who has lived in the North of England for over twenty years. Formerly a senior MA lecturer on prose and scriptwriting at Newcastle University, she is currently teaching prose workshops for Newcastle Centre for the Literary Arts and *Mslexia* magazine. Her first novel, *Ocean Avenue*, was published by Serpent's Tail, and her short stories by Comma Press. Her radio dramas have been broadcast on BBC Radio 4, Afternoon Play, Saturday Drama, Writing the Century, and Woman's Hour.

Praise for Manya Wilkinson's *Ocean Avenue*

'With a wry wit that recalls Woody Allen, Wilkinson confidently and evocatively blends the historical and personal into a disturbing yet funny tale.'
Publishers Weekly

6 February 2024

THE VISITORS (paperback edition)

Jessi Jezewska Stevens

On the eve of the Occupy Wall Street protests, C is flat broke. Once a renowned textile artist, she's now the sole proprietor of an arts supply store in Lower Manhattan. Divorced, alone, at loose ends, C is stuck with a struggling business, a stack of bills, a new erotic interest in her oldest girlfriend, and a persistent hallucination in the form of a rogue garden gnome with a pointed interest in systems collapse . . . C needs to put her medical debt and her sex life in order, but how to make concrete plans with this little visitor haunting her apartment, sporting a three-piece suit and delivering impromptu lectures on the vulnerability of the national grid? Moreover, what's all this computer code doing in the story of her life? And do the answers to all of C's questions lie with an eco-hacktivist cabal threatening to end modern life as we know it?

The Visitors is mordantly funny as it follows a woman dealing with debt, lust and an unwelcome visitor in the last days of a broken status quo. It peers into How We Got Here and asks What We Do Next, whatever our personal hallucinations may be.

'It's as if *The Big Short* were set in the dreamworld of Rachel Ingalls's *Mrs. Caliban* . . .' **Audrey Wollen, *New York Times***

'*The Visitors* is a slim book with a lot going on. . . The book accepts, and even delights in, the strenuous absurdity of its characters' efforts to index the relationship between the virtual and the material, or to locate the source of reality in imagination.' **Daisy Hildyard, *The Guardian***

'*The Visitors* addresses it subjects through a dance of symbols and signifiers.' ***Wall Street Journal***

Jessi Jezewska Stevens is the author of *The Exhibition of Persephone Q* (2020), *The Visitors* (2022), and the story collection *Ghost Pains* (2024). Her writing has appeared in *The New Yorker*, *The Nation*, *The New York Times*, *Harper's*, *Granta* and elsewhere. She lives in New York and Geneva.

Novel (288pp)
B-format paperback
ISBN: 9781913505707
6 February 2024
Territories: World
Price: £12.99 | US $18.95

5 March 2024

GHOST PAINS

Jessi Jezewska Stevens

Collected after publication in the best magazines, Stevens's stories spy big ethical and historical questions in comic, shambolically human situations

With her novels *The Exhibition of Persephone* Q and *The Visitors*, Jessi Jezewska Stevens has proven herself as our preeminent purveyor of comical, techno-millenarian unease. Now, with this first collection of her acclaimed short fiction – originally appearing in such venues as *The Paris Review*, *Harper's* and *Tin House* – some of her very best work is at last readily available to readers.

Stevens's women throw disastrous parties in the post-party era, flirt through landscapes of terror and war, and find themselves unrecognisable after waking up with old flames in new cities. They navigate the labyrinths of history, love, and ethics in a fractured American present, seeing first-hand how history influences the ways in which we care for – or neglect – one another.

Praise for *The Visitors*

'It's both a bold, imaginative play on very recent history and a trenchant prophecy of the terrifying times we're collectively staring down the barrel of.' **Anna Cafolla, *The Face***

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Jessi Jezewska Stevens is the author of *The Exhibition of Persephone* Q (2020), *The Visitors* (2022), and the story collection *Ghost Pains* (2024). Her writing has appeared in *The New Yorker*, *The Nation*, *The New York Times*, *Harper's*, *Granta* and elsewhere. She lives in New York and Geneva.

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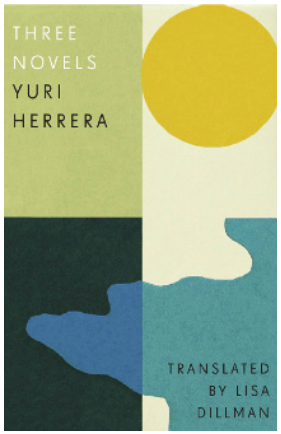

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