

SCHOLARLY BOOK SERVICES INC.

2010

INTRIGUING READS

NEW INTERNATIONAL FICTION

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University of Pennsylvania Press

Wayne State University Press

University of the West Indies Press

FICTION IN TRANSLATION

Coming from an Off-Key Time**Bogdan Suceava****Translated from the Romanian by Alastair Ian Blyth**

The fall of communism in Eastern Europe in 1989 marked, in one famous formulation, the "end of history." In his apocalyptic novel *Coming from an Off-Key Time*, Bogdan Suceava satirizes the events in his native Romania since the violent end of the Ceausescu regime that fateful year. Suceava uses three interrelated narratives to illustrate the destructive power of Romanian society's most powerful mythologies. He depicts madness of all kinds but especially religious beliefs and their perversion by all manner of outrageous sects. One of Romanian literature's most promising and original young writers, Suceava is the author of four novels, two books of short stories, and several collections of poems.

Northwestern University Press, Jan. 2011**9780810126848, paper, \$24.95****The Death of Mr. Baltisberger****Bohumil Hrabal****Translated from the Czech by Michael Heim**

Originally published as *The Death of Mr. Baltisberger*, the fourteen stories in *Romance* showcase the breadth of Bohumil Hrabal's considerable gifts: his humor of the grotesque, his often surprising warmth, and his hard-edged, fast-paced style. In the story "Romance," a plumber's apprentice and a gypsy girl reach toward a tentative connection across the chasm that separates their worlds. Another unlikely love story, "World Cafeteria," features a romance between a young man whose girlfriend has just committed suicide and a bride whose husband lands in jail on their wedding night. The tone turns to the absurd in "The Death of Mr. Baltisberger," where a crippled ex-motorcyclist and three people he meets at the track exchange wildly improbably reminiscences, while a fatal Grand Prix motorcycle race rages around them.

Northwestern University Press, Nov. 2010**9780810127012, paper, \$19.95**

Countess von Rudolstadt

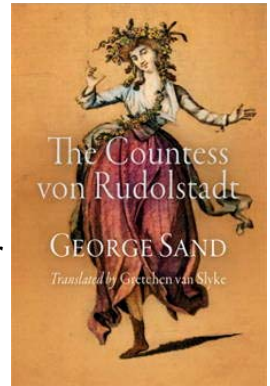
George Sand

Translated by Gretchen Van Slyke

The first translation of *The Countess von Rudolstadt* in more than a century brings to contemporary readers one of George Sand's most ambitious and engaging novels, hailed by many scholars of French literature as her masterpiece. *Consuelo*, or the Countess von Rudolstadt, born the penniless daughter of a Spanish gypsy, is transformed into an opera star by the great maestro Porpora. Her peregrinations throughout Europe (especially Vienna, Berlin, and the Bohemian forest), become a quest undertaken on a number of levels: as a singer, as a woman, and as an unwilling subject of alienation and oppression. Sand's heroine moves through a mid-eighteenth-century Europe where absolute rulers mingle with Enlightenment philosophers and gender-bending members of secret societies plot moral and political revolution. As the old order breaks down, she undergoes a series of grueling initiations into radically redefined notions of marriage and social organization.

University of Pennsylvania Press, Sept. 2010

9780812220148, paper, \$31.00



The Ise Stories

Translated and with a commentary by Joshua S.

Mostow, University of British Columbia

and Royall Tyler

Ise monogatari is one of classical Japan's most important texts. It influenced other literary court romances like *The Tale of Genji* and inspired artists, playwrights, and poets throughout Japanese history and to the present day. In a series of 125 loosely connected episodes, the *Ise* tells the story of a famous lover, Captain Ariwara no Narihira (825–880), and his romantic encounters with women throughout Japan. Each episode centers on an exchange of love poems designed to demonstrate wit, sensitivity, and “courtliness.”

University of Hawaii Press, August 2010

9780824834517, paper, \$23.75



FICTION IN TRANSLATION

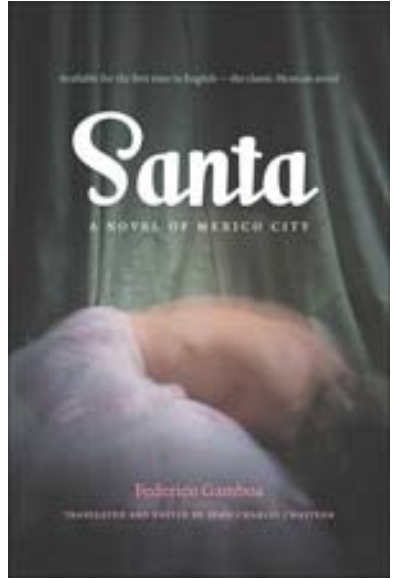
Santa: A Novel of Mexico City**Federico Gamboa****Translated and edited by John Charles Chasteen**

This enduring classic of Mexican literature traces the path to ruination of a country girl, Santa, who moves to Mexico City after she is impregnated and abandoned by her lover and subsequently shunned by her family. Once in the city, Santa turns to prostitution and soon gains prominence as Mexico City's most sought-after courtesan.

Despite the opportunities afforded by her success, including the chance to quit prostitution, Santa is propelled by her personal demons toward her ultimate downfall. This evocative novel justly famous for its vividly detailed depiction of the cityscape and the city's customs, social interactions, and political activities assumed singular importance in Mexican popular culture after its original publication in 1903. The book inspired Mexico's first "talkie" and several other film adaptations, a music score, a radio series, a television soap opera, and a pornographic comic book.

University of North Carolina Press, August 2010

9780807871072, paper, \$28.75



INNOVATIVE FICTION

Calendar of Regrets

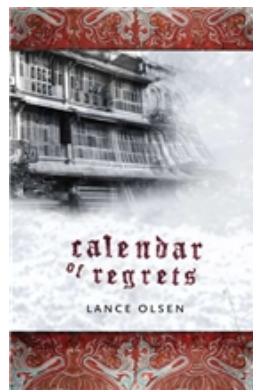
Lance Olsen

Calendar of Regrets is a wildly inventive and visually rich collage of twelve interconnected narratives, one for each month of the year, all pertaining to notions of travel—through time, space, narrative, and death. The poisoning of the painter Hieronymus Bosch; anchorman Dan Rather's mysterious mugging on Park Avenue as he strolls home alone one October evening; a series of postcard meditations on the idea of travel from a young American journalist visiting

Burma; a husband-and-wife team of fundamentalist Christian suicide bombers; the myth of Iphigenia from Agamemnon's daughter's point of view—these and other stories form a mosaic, connected through a pattern of musical motifs, transposed scenes, and recurring characters.

University of Alabama Press, September 2010

9781573661577, paper, \$27.50



Museum of the Weird

Amelia Gray

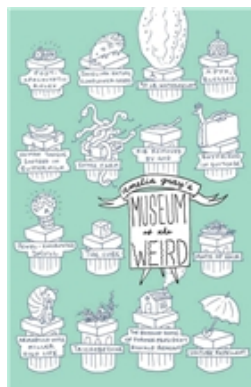
Winner of FC2's American Book Review/Ronald Sukenick Innovative Fiction Prize

A monogrammed cube appears in your town. Your landlord cheats you out of first place in the annual Christmas decorating contest. You need to learn how to love and care for your mate—a paring knife. These situations and more reveal the wondrous play and surreal humor that make up the stories in Amelia Gray's stunning collection of stories.

Acerbic wit and luminous prose mark these shorts, while sickness and death lurk amidst the humor. Characters find their footing in these bizarre scenarios and manage to fall into redemption and rebirth.

University of Alabama Press, September 2010

9781573668187, paper, \$19.95



STORIES FROM OTHER CULTURES

Cold Snap: Bulgarian Stories

Cynthia Morrison Phoel

Quirky, remote, and agonizingly intimate, the ragged village of Old Mountain is home to a cast of Bulgarian townsfolk who do daily battle with the heat or the bitter cold, with soul-crushing poverty, with petty disagreements among themselves—all the while attempting to adapt to changing times and keep up with their neighbors. Money is tight in this valley of run-down Communist blocks and crumbling plaster houses, but community is tighter.

Southern Methodist University Press, July 2010

9780870745614, cloth, \$28.00



Rosebud and Other Stories

Wakako Yamauchi

Secret desires, unfulfilled longing, and irrepressible humor flow through the stories of Wakako Yamauchi, writings that depict the lives of Nisei, second-generation Japanese Americans. Through the medium of Yamauchi's storytelling, readers enter the world of desert farmers, factory workers, gamblers, housewives, con artists, and dreamers. Elegantly simple in words and complex in resonance, her stories reveal hidden strength, resilience, and the persistence of hope.

University of Hawaii Press, Jan. 2011

9780824832605, paper, \$23.75

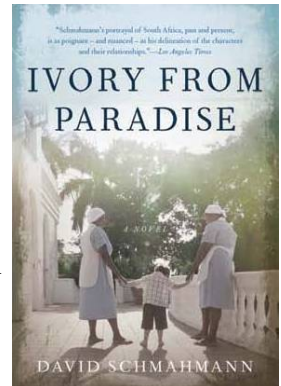
Ivory From Paradise

David Schmahmann

A Jewish family of South African expatriates is torn by emotional conflicts and a battle over a collection of African artifacts, revealing their illusions about the past and the realities of life in South Africa post-Mandela. This is the sequel to *Empire Settings*, next page.

Academy Chicago Publishers, February 2011

9780897336123, cloth, \$31.25



STORIES OF OTHER CULTURES

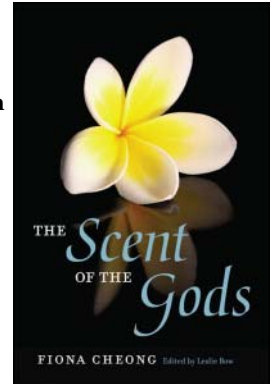
The Scent of the Gods

Fiona Cheong

The Scent of the Gods tells the enchanting, haunting story of a young girl's coming of age in Singapore during the tumultuous years of its formation as a nation. Eleven-year-old Su Yen bears witness to the secretive lives of "grown-ups" in her diasporic Chinese family and to the veiled threats in Southeast Asia during the Cold War years. From a child's limited perspective, the novel depicts the emerging awareness of sexuality in both its beauty and its consequences, especially for women. In the context of postcolonial politics, Fiona Cheong skillfully parallels the uncertainties of adolescence with the growing paranoia of a population kept on alert to communist infiltration.

University of Illinois Press, December 2010

9780252076428, paper, \$27.50



Empire Settings

David Schahmann

An engaging and poignant account of forbidden love between a privileged 17-year-old white boy and the daughter of a Zulu servant woman under apartheid in 1970s Durban, South Africa marks the literary debut of a Durban-born, but Dartmouth- and Cornell-educated Boston attorney. Fleeing retribution for his taboo relationship and possible reprisal for his mother's liberal political celebrity in 1978, Danny Divin arrives in Boston and marries an impetuous, caring young artist to avoid deportation. Although the marriage bond deepens over the years, Danny cannot shake the bittersweet memory of his first love. Narrated in sequential chapters (with flashbacks) in the voices of Danny, his mother, his sister, the servant, the girl and Danny again, the novel opens 20 years after Danny's arrival in Boston. Danny's mother and her second husband, a once-wealthy entrepreneur whose fortune has diminished in the corrupt South African economy, fly to Boston to persuade Danny to return to Durban to orchestrate the highly illegal transfer of the family's holdings to avoid seizure by the treacherous government.

Academy Chicago Publishers, available

9780897336055, paper, \$21.25

NEW AMERICAN FICTION

Who Occupies This House

Kathleen Hill

Kathleen Hill's finely wrought novel tells the story of four generations of an Irish-American family that has lived in the same house for almost a century. Grieving the death of her mother and the imminent sale of the house, the narrator sets out to re-create the hidden, intimate lives of those who came before. Through a series of vignettes she conjures a family devastated in each generation by the loss of a child. The narrator's project, inspired at the outset by silences that extend backward to the untold story of the Famine, turns into a vast exploration of loss, inheritance, and the nature of memory. Punctuated by photographs and images that bring the narrative into sharp focus, it will draw comparisons to such divergent writers as W.G. Sebald and Kate O'Brien.

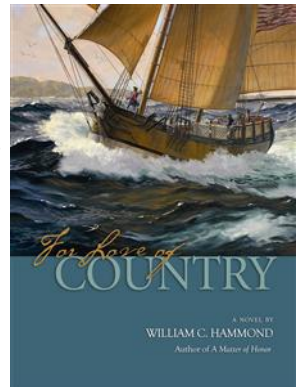
Northwestern University Press, October 2010
9780810152113, paper, \$33.75

For the Love of Country

William C. Hammond

For Love of Country is the second novel of the early American republic from William Hammond. Set in the early 1780s in the years following the American Revolution, it features the adventures of the seafaring Cutler family of Hingham, Massachusetts, and the supporting cast from the first novel of the series, *A Matter of Honor*. "A rollicking good read full of battles, glory, and high seas adventure, all firmly rooted in this nation's maritime history, which the author knows and portrays well."—JAMES L. NELSON, author of *George Washington's Secret Navy*

Naval Institute Press, October 2010
9781591143734, cloth, \$37.50



NEW AMERICAN FICTION

MY BRIGHT MIDNIGHT

JOSH RUSSELL

Walter Schmidt's life isn't simple: His wife Nadine wants to live next door to her dead first husband's mother, the Mississippi River is three blocks down the street and rising dangerously, FDR is dead, and the war seems like it will never end---but for the most part, things are going Walter's way. Then one bright April morning in 1945, Walter comes home early from work to find Nadine in bed with his best friend, Sammy. Shocked into silence, when she then calls him a "kraut," Walter becomes even more confused. True, he's a German immigrant, but he's lived in New Orleans for almost twenty years, and an hour before, he thought he was a happy American---baseball fan, reader of pulp novels, lover of gangster movies. Suddenly Walter wonders if Nadine's right, if he's more German than American, more enemy than friend. When Sammy later offers him \$1,000 as an apology for sleeping with his wife, Walter accepts, desperately hoping to hurt his friend, but instead setting in motion a series of events more dangerous than betrayal and petty revenge.

Louisiana State University Press, August 2010
9780807136966, paper, \$23.50

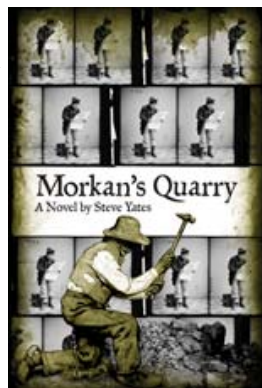


Morkan's Quarry

Steve Yates

In 1861, the Civil War severs Michael Morkan from everything he loves and all that defines him—from his son, Leighton; from his love, Cora Slade; and from the quarry he owns in Springfield, Missouri. Forced to give his black powder to the Missouri State Guard, he finds himself indelibly labeled a rebel traitor and is imprisoned in St. Louis. Back in the Ozarks, Leighton joins the Federal Home Guards in hopes of paroling his father. When Leighton finally frees him, the two are pitched in a last gambit for their quarry and for the legacy of the name Morkan.

University of Arkansas Press, May 2010
9780913785249, cloth, \$34.95



HYPHENATED-AMERICAN STORIES

The Time between Places

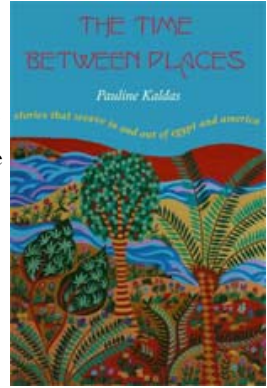
Stories That Weave In and Out of Egypt and America

Pauline Kaldas

This collection of twenty stories delves into the lives of Egyptian characters, from those living in Egypt to those who have immigrated to the United States. With subtle and eloquent prose, the complexities of these characters are revealed, opening a door into their intimate struggles with identity and place. We meet people who are tempted by the possibilities of America and others who are tempted by the desire to return home. Some are in the throes of re-creating themselves in the new world while others seem to be embedded in the loss of their homeland. Many of these characters, although physically located in either the United States or Egypt, have lives that embrace both cultures.

University of Arkansas Press, Nov. 2010

978-1-55728-924-7, paper, \$24.95



One Story, Thirty Stories

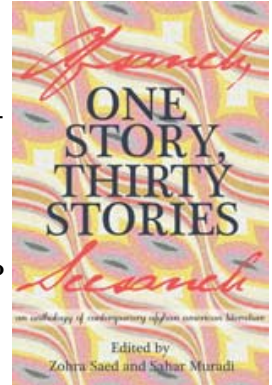
An Anthology of Contemporary Afghan American Literature

Edited by Zohra Saed and Sahar Muradi

Since 9/11 there has been a cultural and political blossoming among those of the Afghan diaspora, especially in the United States, revealing a vibrant, active, and intellectual Afghan American community. And the success of Khaled Hosseini's *The Kite Runner*, the first work of fiction written by an Afghan American to become a bestseller, has created interest in the works of other Afghan American writers. *One Story, Thirty Stories* (or "Afsanah, Seesaneh," the Afghan equivalent of "once upon a time") collects poetry, fiction, essays, and selections from two blogs from thirty-three men and women—poets, fiction writers, journalists, filmmakers and video artists, photographers, community leaders and organizers, and diplomats.

University of Arkansas Press, Nov. 2010

978-1-55728-945-2, paper, \$31.25



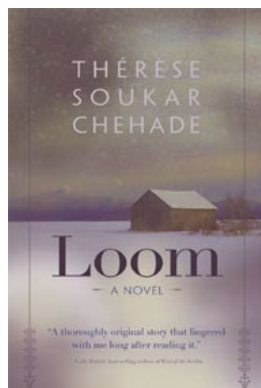
HYPHENATED-AMERICAN STORIES

Loom

Therese Soukar Chehade

As a blizzard blankets the northeast United States, burying residents and shutting down airports, the Farrah family eagerly awaits the arrival of Eva, a cousin visiting from Lebanon after a long separation from the family. Over the course of several days, while Eva is stranded in New York City, Chehade's nuanced story unfolds in the reminiscences and anxieties of each family member. Emilie, the matriarch of this Lebanese American family, lives in a world of voluntary silence. Barely able to read and write in English and refusing to speak for the last several years, she immerses herself in her garden and leaves elaborately cooked meals anonymously for her solitary neighbor. Emilie's oldest daughter Josephine, middle aged and still living with her mother and married brother, struggles to regain the independence and confidence she had as a young girl in Lebanon. Young Marie, stifled by her conservative family, is determined to study at Berkeley and to leave behind her immigrant identity. All three are drawn to their mysterious neighbor, nicknamed Loom, whose loneliness and isolation mirror their own and kindle within each woman a desire to make a connection.

Syracuse University Press, Nov. 2010
9780815609827, paper, \$24.95

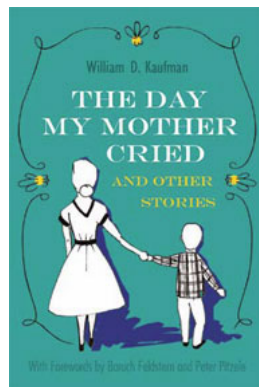


The Day My Mother Cried and Other Stories

William D. Kaufman

The lasting charm of Kaufman's stories lies in a delightful mix of personal incidents and observations set against an anchoring backdrop of cultural tradition. His new collection is filled with tales from his parents' homeland in the Ukraine, his own childhood reminiscences, and his adult travels. We watch the young author forced alongside "every Jewish boy on the block" to emulate Yehudi Menuhin on a ten-dollar violin with a moldy bow until the boy is spared by an innate lack of talent and his father's judgment of his concert: "Enough is enough is more than enough."

Syracuse University Press, August 2010,
9780815609551, cloth, \$24.95



STORIES OF OTHER CULTURES

Cascade

Barbara Lalla

A guesthouse in Jamaica's mountains offers an ideal retreat for elderly friends weary of the dangers of their Kingston home and a plan takes shape to retire together. *Cascade* recounts their poignant efforts to connect against a background of social turmoil and the psychological effects of Alzheimer's. It examines growing old with sensitive honesty through the stories of the three main characters.

University of the West Indies Press, August 2010

9789766402334, paper, \$22.50

The Whale Chaser

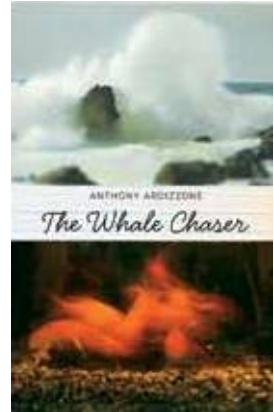
Anthony Ardizzone

This is a coming of age story and a novel of dislocation set in Chicago of the 1960's and Torfino, **Vancouver Island**. Vince Sansone leaves Chicago and his Italian-American heritage with its painful past for Torfino and becomes involved in its fisheries, marijuana traffic, and finally and redemptively, as a whale guide.

The author won the Flannery O'Connor award and the Pushcart Prize.

Academy Chicago Publishers, Sept. 2010

9780897336109, cloth, \$31.00



MYSTERIES

Skim: A Novel of International Banking Intrigue A.F. Gillotti

If Tony Gould, head of international banking at the Manhattan Banking Corporation, can prod his fellow bankers to syndicate a one billion dollar loan to an African Republic, the rewards are rich. But Tony has many obstacles to surmount: the republic is massively corrupt, the bank's Risk Manager won't approve the loan, and his wife is involved in something with the Chairman's wife. Often satiric, *Skim* is a novel grounded in the real world of high stakes banking and can serve as a cautionary tale of irresponsible behaviours underlying the near collapse of the banking system in 2008. The author spent his life working in international banking in New York, London, and other European cities.



Academy Chicago Publishers, October 2010
9780897336079, paper, \$21.25

Case with Four Clowns A Sergeant Beef Mystery Leo Bruce

One of the rarest of the Sgt. Beef mysteries, published in the U.S. only once, more than fifty years ago, is again available in paperback. It is regarded by critics as one of Bruce's most baffling mysteries. A murder is yet to be committed in a small traveling circus, but of whom and by whom remain Beef's job to discover. This is a welcome return of this 1940's cockney investigator.



Academy Chicago Publishers, September 2010
9780897336062, paper, \$18.75

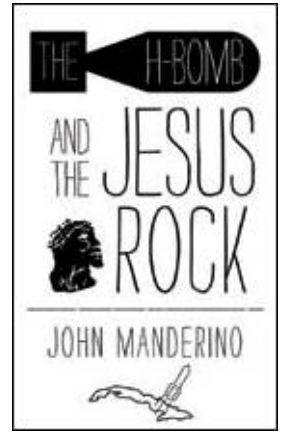
Also available in the Sgt. Beef Series: *Case for Three Detectives*, 0897330331, paper, \$16.95; *Dead Man's Shoes*, 0897332717, paper, \$16.95; *Death at Hallow's End*, 0897335163, cloth, \$30.00

AMERICAN STORIES

The H-Bomb and the Jesus Rock**John Manderino**

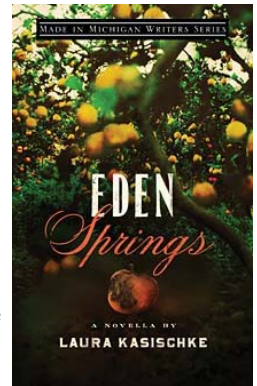
It's Saturday, October 27, 1962, the darkest day of the Cuban Missile Crisis and two children are searching for empty bottles in a vacant lot when they discover a rock that looks a lot like Jesus. They proceed to treat it like a holy object, but is it really Jesus or an exploitable product. Hovering over the children and their small-scale war is the general anxiety of a perilous moment in history. John Manderino is the author of *The Man Who Once Played Nellie Fox*.

Academy Chicago Publishers, October 2010
9780897336116, paper, \$18.75

**Eden Springs****Laura Kasischke**

In 1903, a preacher named Benjamin Purnell and five followers founded a colony called the House of David in Benton Harbor, Michigan, where they prepared for eternal life by creating a heaven on earth. Housed in rambling mansions and surrounded by lush orchards and vineyards, the colony added a thousand followers to its fold within a few years. In Eden Springs, award-winning Michigan author Laura Kasischke imagines life inside the House of David, in chapters framed by real newspaper clippings, legal documents, and accounts of former colonists. Told from the perspective of the young women who were closest to Benjamin Purnell, the novella follows a growing scandal within the colony's walls. A gravedigger has seen something suspicious in a recently buried casket, a loyal assistant to Benjamin is plotting a cover-up, talk is swirling about unmarried girls having babies, and a rebellious girl named Lena is ready to tell the truth.

Wayne State University Press, March 2010
9780814334645, paper, \$23.75



NOVELS FROM OTHER CENTURIES

Belmour**Anne Damer**

With *Belmour*, Gross introduces the modern audience to the only novel of English sculptress Anne Damer. *Belmour* chronicles the tangled romances of a group of eighteenth-century English aristocrats. The plot centers on Lord Belmour's pursuit of the lovely and slightly mysterious Emily Melville. The charismatic Belmour, a man of great feeling and quick perception, goes to great lengths to gain the affection of Emily, only to learn that she has recently married another man. Although crushed, Belmour tries to develop a friendship with the couple, but his heartache drives him to depart on an extensive journey through Europe. During these travels, the lives of Belmour and Emily unfold, though fate ultimately leads the two to cross paths once more. Set among such vivid backdrops as Paris, Venice, and Rome, Belmour, like Damer herself, "conceals as much as it reveals," yielding a rich, multifaceted story of forbidden love and erotic intrigue.

Northwestern University Press, Feb. 2011
9780810126701, paper, \$31.00

The Lodger**Marie Belloc Lowndes**

Lowndes was an early 20th century British novelist. A Jack the Ripper type murderer was killing young blonde women in the London fog. When a lodger comes to the Bunting house their daughter is taken with this mysterious man. Her boyfriend is a detective assigned to the murder cases. He is jealous and suspicious of the stranger. In the conclusion the stranger is forced to flee and is almost killed by a mob when a policeman arrives with the truth about the killings. This novel became a movie directed by Alfred Hitchcock.

Academy Chicago Publishers, June 2010
9780897336048, paper, \$19.00



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