

The Luminaries By Eleanor Catton Halifax Public Libraries

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AUGUSTUS HUNTER

Mark of the Witch National Geographic Books

Integrating both Maori myth and New Zealand reality, *The Bone People* became the most successful novel in New Zealand publishing history when it appeared in 1984. Set on the South Island beaches of New Zealand, a harsh environment, the novel chronicles the complicated relationships between three emotional outcasts of mixed European and Maori heritage. Kerwin Holmes is a painter and a loner, convinced that "to care for anything is to invite disaster." Her isolation is disrupted one day when a six-year-old mute boy, Simon, breaks into her house. The sole survivor of a mysterious shipwreck, Simon has been adopted by a widower Maori factory worker, Joe Gillayley, who is both tender and horribly brutal toward the boy. Through shifting points of view, the novel reveals each character's thoughts and feelings as they struggle with the desire to connect and the fear of attachment. Compared to the works of James Joyce in its use of indigenous language and portrayal of consciousness, *The Bone People* captures the soul of New Zealand. After twenty years, it continues to astonish and enrich readers around the world.

The Testament of Mary Anchor

In the middle of his life, Jack Grout found himself abducted by aliens. There were other things. His wife left him. His son came one night to the Skylark Lounge - the pool hall Jack bought after throwing in his job in newspaper advertising - and punched him. And there was the mistreatment for melanoma. But what Jack really needed to know was why the aliens, who had first taken him when he was nine years old and shown him his life in unbearably vivid close-up, had returned.

Milkman Vintage

We've all done it: glanced casually at the horoscope pages, secretly hoping the stars will forecast our fame and fortune. Yet the zodiac can tell us far more than this, revealing even our most intimate secrets. *Sextrology* is a highly intelligent and enlightening guide to sex and the sexes using a wholly original astrological philosophy. In frank, sophisticated and uninhibited language, the authors profile each gender's zodiac sign and uncover the naked truth behind the make-up of each one. *Sextrology* will help you better comprehend your and others' sexual character, improve your understanding of relationship roles and find out what to expect from the special person in your life. From fantasies to favourite positions, erogenous zones to emotional needs, Starsky and Cox leave no stone unturned in their titillating examination that will once again have people asking, 'what's your sign?' *The True Confessions of Charlotte Doyle* (Scholastic Gold) Little, Brown

WINNER OF THE MAN BOOKER PRIZE WINNER OF THE DUBLIN LITERARY AWARD 'Utterly compelling' Irish Times 'Original, funny, disarmingly oblique' CLAIRE KILROY 'A triumph.' Guardian In an unnamed city, where to be interesting is dangerous, an eighteen-year-old woman has attracted the unwanted and unavoidable attention of a powerful and frightening older man, 'Milkman'. In this community, where suggestions quickly become fact, where gossip and hearsay can lead to terrible consequences, what can she do to stop a rumour once it has started? *Milkman* is persistent, the word is spreading, and she is no longer in control. . . . SHORTLISTED FOR THE RATHBONES FOLIO PRIZE SHORTLISTED FOR THE WOMEN'S PRIZE FOR FICTION SHORTLISTED FOR THE ORWELL PRIZE FOR POLITICAL FICTION

The Bone People Farrar, Straus and Giroux

Winner of the Man Booker Prize "Everything about this novel rings true. . . . Original, funny, disarmingly oblique and unique."—The Guardian In an unnamed city, middle sister stands out for the wrong reasons. She reads while walking, for one. And she has been taking French night classes downtown. So when a local paramilitary known as the milkman begins pursuing her, she suddenly becomes "interesting," the last thing she ever wanted to be. Despite middle sister's attempts to avoid him—and to keep her mother from finding out about her maybe-boyfriend—rumors spread and the threat of violence lingers. *Milkman* is a story of the way inaction can have enormous repercussions, in a time when the wrong flag, wrong religion, or even a sunset can be subversive. Told with ferocious energy and sly, wicked humor, *Milkman* establishes Anna Burns as one of the most consequential voices of our day.

Diggers, Hatters & Whores North Star Editions, Inc.

Eleanor Catton was only 22 when she wrote *The Rehearsal* *The Luminaries*.

Mortal Fire Farrar, Straus and Giroux

SHORTLISTED FOR THE MAN BOOKER INTERNATIONAL PRIZE • A "formally daring, emotionally devastating, and deeply political" (The New York Times Book Review) exploration of personal grief through the prism of the color white, from the internationally bestselling author of *The Vegetarian* "Stunningly beautiful writing . . . delicate and gorgeous . . . one of the smartest reflections on what it means to remember those we've lost."—NPR While on a writer's residency, a nameless narrator focuses on the color white to creatively channel her inner pain. Through lyrical, interconnected stories, she grapples with the tragedy that has haunted her family, attempting to make sense of her older sister's death using the color white. From trying to imagine her mother's first time producing breast milk to watching the snow fall and meditating on the impermanence of life, she weaves a poignant, heartfelt story of the omnipresence of grief and the ways we perceive the world around us. In captivating, starkly beautiful language, *The White Book* offers a multilayered exploration of color and its absence, of the tenacity and fragility of the human spirit, and of our attempts to graft new life from the ashes of destruction.

The Latinist: A Novel Graywolf Press

"The queen lives again. You, Rhea, are the key to unlocking the magical artifacts in Cleopatra's tomb." Despite having a shaman, a witch, and a muse for sisters, Rhea Spencer feels like a normal teenager—even if she is the reincarnation of Cleopatra, the Egyptian queen. But everything changes on her sixteenth birthday, when visions of a life she lived more than two thousand years ago become real and the queen's secret world unfolds around her. Declan—a mysterious figure from the Order of Antony—appears at her doorstep to warn Rhea that she is in terrible danger. A sinister cabal known as the Octavians will do anything to obtain her growing powers. Rhea must travel to Egypt, the exotic land where an ancient war began, to stop the Octavians from unleashing a deadly force that could destroy the world.

The Luminaries Portobello Books

The latest installment in the delightful 44 Scotland Street series finds all our favorite residents up to their usual hilarious hijinks. In the microcosm of 44 Scotland Street, all of life's richness is found in the glorious goings-on of its residents. There's Domenica, whose anthropological training has honed her observations of her neighbors; Matthew, whose growing triplets are more than a handful; Bruce, whose challenge as ever is thinking of anything but himself; and Big Lou, who may just have found her shot at romance. And of course, there's young Bertie Pollock, whose stary-eyed explorations of Edinburgh's New Town are a touching reminder that life itself is an adventure and there's joy to be found wherever you choose to look.

The Mannequin Makers New Directions Publishing

International Bestseller "With its countless revelations about the dusty realms of rare books, a likable librarian sleuth who has just the right balance of compassion and wit, and a library setting that is teeming with secrets, *The Department of Rare Books and Special Collections* is a rare treat for readers. I loved this book!"—Matthew Sullivan, author of *Midnight at the Bright Ideas Bookstore* Anxious People meets the delights of bookish fiction in a stunning debut following a librarian whose quiet life is turned upside down when a priceless manuscript goes missing. Soon she has to ask: what holds more secrets in the library—the ancient books shelved in the stacks, or the people who preserve them? Liesl Weiss long ago learned to be content working behind the scenes in the distinguished rare books department of a large university, managing details and working behind the scenes to make the head of the department look good. But when her boss has a stroke and she's left to run things, she discovers that the library's most prized manuscript is missing. Liesl tries to sound the alarm and inform the police about the missing priceless book, but is told repeatedly to keep quiet, to keep the doors open and the donors happy. But then a librarian unexpectedly stops showing up to work. Liesl must investigate both disappearances, unspooling her colleagues' pasts like the threads of a rare book binding as it becomes clear that someone in the department must be responsible for the theft. What Liesl discovers about the dusty manuscripts she has worked among for so long—and about the people who care for and revere them—shakes the very foundation on which she has built her life. *The Department of Rare Books and Special Collections* is a sparkling book-club read about a woman struggling to step out from behind the shadows of powerful and unreliable men, and reveals the dark edge of obsession running through the most devoted bookworms. February 2022 INDIE NEXT

Selection January 2022 LIBRARY READS Selection January 2022 Loan Star Selection Pop Sugar 35 Must-Read Thrillers and Mystery Books

Sextrology Vermilion

The universally-acclaimed return of the New York Times bestselling author of *Fates and Furies*, *Matrix*, and the highly-anticipated *The Vaster Wilds* In Lauren Groff's Florida, the hot sun shines, but a wild darkness lurks. Florida is a "superlative" book (Boston Globe), "gorgeously weird and limber" (New Yorker), "frequently funny" (San Francisco Chronicle), "brooding, inventive and often moving" (NPR Fresh Air) -- as Groff is recognized as "Florida's unofficial poet laureate, as Joan Didion was for California." (Washington Post) "Groff's gifts as a writer just keep soaring higher and higher." – NPR's Fresh Air In her thrilling new book, Lauren Groff brings the reader into a physical world that is at once domestic and wild—a place where the hazards of the natural world lie waiting to pounce, yet the greatest threats and mysteries are still of an emotional, psychological nature. A family retreat can be derailed by a prowling panther, or by a sexual secret. Among those navigating this place are a resourceful pair of abandoned sisters; a lonely boy, grown up; a restless, childless couple, a searching, homeless woman; and an unforgettable, recurring character—a steely and conflicted wife and mother. The stories in this collection span characters, towns, decades, even centuries, but Florida—its landscape, climate, history, and state of mind—becomes its gravitational center: an energy, a mood, as much as a place of residence. Groff transports the reader, then jolts us alert with a crackle of wit, a wave of sadness, a flash of cruelty, as she writes about loneliness, rage, family, and the passage of time. With shocking accuracy and effect, she pinpoints the moments and decisions and connections behind human pleasure and pain, hope and despair, love and fury—the moments that make us alive. Startling, precise, and affecting, Florida is a magnificent achievement.

Harvest W. W. Norton & Company

SHORT-LISTED FOR THE MAN BOOKER PRIZE A Christian Science Monitor Best Book of the Year On the morning after harvest, the inhabitants of a remote English village awaken looking forward to a hard-earned day of rest and feasting at their landowner's table. But the sky is marred by two conspicuous columns of smoke, replacing pleasurable anticipation with alarm and suspicion. One smoke column is the result of an overnight fire that has damaged the master's outbuildings. The second column rises from the wooded edge of the village, sent up by newcomers to announce their presence. In the minds of the wary villagers a mere coincidence of events appears to be unlikely, with violent confrontation looming as the unavoidable outcome. Meanwhile, another newcomer has recently been spotted taking careful notes and making drawings of the land. It is his presence more than any other that will threaten the village's entire way of life. In effortless and tender prose, Jim Crace details the unraveling of a pastoral idyll in the wake of economic progress. His tale is timeless and unsettling, framed by a beautifully evoked world that will linger in your memory long after you finish reading.

The Jester Victoria University Press

A NEW YORK TIMES NOTABLE BOOK Once in a great while a writer comes along who can truly capture the drama and passion of the life of a family. David James Duncan, author of the novel *The River Why* and the collection *River Teeth*, is just such a writer. And in *The Brothers K* he tells a story both striking and in its originality and poignant in its universality. This touching, uplifting novel spans decades of loyalty, anger, regret, and love in the lives of the Chance family. A father whose dreams of glory on a baseball field are shattered by a mill accident. A mother who clings obsessively to religion as a ward against the darkest hour of her past. Four brothers who come of age during the seismic upheavals of the sixties and who each choose their own way to deal with what the world has become. By turns uproariously funny and deeply moving, and beautifully written throughout, *The Brothers K* is one of the finest chronicles of our lives in many years. Praise for *The Brothers K* "The pages of *The Brothers K* sparkle."—The New York Times Book Review "Duncan is a wonderfully engaging writer."—Los Angeles Times "This ambitious book succeeds on almost every level and every page."—USA Today "Duncan's prose is a blend of lyrical rhapsody, sassy hyperbole and all-American vernacular."—San Francisco Chronicle "The Brothers K affords the . . . deep pleasures of novels that exhaustively create, and alter, complex worlds. . . . One always senses an enthusiastic and abundantly talented and versatile writer at work."—The Washington Post Book World "Duncan . . . tells the larger story of an entire popular culture struggling to

redefine itself—something he does with the comic excitement and depth of feeling one expects from Tom Robbins.”—Chicago Tribune

A Guid Soldier Open Road Media

The renowned novelist and author of *This Year You Write a Novel* shares a “compact but insight-rich” guide to fiction writing (Publishers Weekly). In his essential writing guide, *This Year You Write Your Novel*, Walter Mosley supplied aspiring writers with the basic tools to write a novel in one year. In this complementary follow up, Mosley guides the writer through the elements of not just any fiction writing, but the kind of writing that transcends convention and truly stands out. For writers who want to approach the genius of Melville, Dickens, or Twain, *The Elements of Fiction* is a must-read. Mosley demonstrates how to master fiction’s most essential elements: character and character development, plot and story, voice and narrative, context and description, and more. The result is a vivid depiction of the writing process, from the blank page to the first draft to rewriting, and rewriting again. Throughout, *The Elements of Fiction* is enriched by brilliant demonstrative examples that Mosley himself has written here for the first time.

Florida McClelland & Stewart

A fever dream of a novel—strangely funny, entirely unconventional—Valerie conjures the life, mind, and art of American firebrand Valerie Solanas. In April 1988, Valerie Solanas—the writer, radical feminist, author of the SCUM Manifesto and would-be assassin of Andy Warhol—was discovered dead at fifty-two in her hotel room, in a grimy corner of San Francisco, alone, penniless, and surrounded by the typed pages of her last writings. In *Valerie*, a nameless narrator revisits the room where Solanas died, the courtroom where she was tried and convicted of attempting to murder Andy Warhol, the Georgia wastelands where she spent her childhood and was repeatedly raped by her father and beaten by her alcoholic grandfather, and the mental hospitals where she was shut away. A leading feminist in Sweden and one of the most acclaimed writers in Scandinavia, Sara Stridsberg here blurs the boundaries between history and fiction, self-making and storytelling, madness and art, love and tragedy. Through imagined conversations and monologues, reminiscences and rantings, she reconstructs this most intriguing and enigmatic of women, reaching back in time to amplify her voice and bring her powerful, heartbreaking story into new light.

The Rehearsal McClelland & Stewart

The winner of the Man Booker Prize, this “expertly written, perfectly constructed” bestseller (*The Guardian*) is now a Starz miniseries. It is 1866, and Walter Moody has come to stake his claim in New Zealand’s booming gold rush. On the stormy night of his arrival, he stumbles across a tense gathering of 12 local men who have met in secret to discuss a series of unexplained events: a wealthy man has vanished, a prostitute has tried to end her life, and an enormous cache of gold has been discovered in the home of a luckless drunk. Moody is soon drawn into a network of fates and fortunes that is as complex and exquisitely ornate as the night sky. Richly evoking a mid-nineteenth-century world of shipping, banking, and gold rush boom and bust, *The Luminaries* is at once a fiendishly clever ghost story, a gripping page-turner, and a thrilling novelistic achievement. It richly confirms that Eleanor Catton is one of the brightest stars in the international literary firmament.

Go, Went, Gone LSU Press

Tells the story of a painter who will not show his wife, children, or his best friend his work in progress, made up all of shades of blue. An artist ponders a painting he wants to keep private along with the back stories that inspired it, the secrets that continue to haunt him.

Cleopatra Ascending Granta Books

The sensational first novel from the Booker Prize-winning author of *The Luminaries*. Set in the aftermath of a sex scandal at an all-girls’ high school, Eleanor Catton’s internationally acclaimed award-winning debut is a provocative and darkly funny novel about the elusiveness of truth, the slipperiness of identity, and the emotional compromises we make to belong. When news spreads of a high school teacher’s relationship with one of his students, the teenage girls at Abbey Grange are jolted into a new awareness of their own potency and power. Although no one knows the whole truth, the girls have their own ideas about what happened. As they obsessively examine the details of the affair with the curiosity and jealousy native to any adolescent girl, they confide in their saxophone teacher, an enigmatic woman who is only too happy to play both confidante and stage manager to her students. But when the local drama school decides to turn the scandal into a play, the boundaries between fact and fantasy soon break down as dramas both real and imagined begin to unfold. Sharply observed, brilliantly crafted, and infused with a deliciously subversive wit, *The Rehearsal* is at once a vibrant portrait of teenage longing and adult regret, and a shrewd exposé of how we are all performers in life, from one of the most bold and exciting

voices in contemporary fiction.

Love in the Time of Bertie Penguin Random House New Zealand Limited

WINNER OF THE BOOKER PRIZE FOR FICTION 2013 It is 1866, and Walter Moody has come to make his fortune upon the New Zealand goldfields. On arrival, he stumbles across a tense gathering of twelve local men, who have met in secret to discuss a series of unsolved crimes. A wealthy man has vanished, a whore has tried to end her life, and an enormous fortune has been discovered in the home of a luckless drunk. Moody is soon drawn into the mystery: a network of fates and fortunes that is as complex and exquisitely patterned as the night sky. *The Luminaries* is an extraordinary piece of fiction. It is full of narrative, linguistic and psychological pleasures, and has a fiendishly clever and original structuring device. Written in pitch-perfect historical register, richly evoking a mid-19th century world of shipping and banking and goldrush boom and bust, it is also a ghost story, and a gripping mystery. It is a thrilling achievement and will confirm for critics and readers that Catton is one of the brightest stars in the international writing firmament.

The White Book McClelland & Stewart

The sensational first novel from the Booker Prize-winning author of *The Luminaries*. Set in the aftermath of a sex scandal at an all-girls’ high school, Eleanor Catton’s internationally acclaimed award-winning debut is a provocative and darkly funny novel about the elusiveness of truth, the slipperiness of identity, and the emotional compromises we make to belong. When news spreads of a high school teacher’s relationship with one of his students, the teenage girls at Abbey Grange are jolted into a new awareness of their own potency and power. Although no one knows the whole truth, the girls have their own ideas about what happened. As they obsessively examine the details of the affair with the curiosity and jealousy native to any adolescent girl, they confide in their saxophone teacher, an enigmatic woman who is only too happy to play both confidante and stage manager to her students. But when the local drama school decides to turn the scandal into a play, the boundaries between fact and fantasy soon break down as dramas both real and imagined begin to unfold. Sharply observed, brilliantly crafted, and infused with a deliciously subversive wit, *The Rehearsal* is at once a vibrant portrait of teenage longing and adult regret, and a shrewd exposé of how we are all performers in life, from one of the most bold and exciting voices in contemporary fiction.