Recent Literature - March 2021

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Pushing Back / Kinsella, John Transit Lounge, Australia 2021 352 pages 9781925760712 \$ 29.99 / null 430 gm.

The tall trees nearby called them up and red-tailed black cockatoos carried messages to them that they told no one else about.'

Pushing Back is John Kinsella's most haunting and timely fiction to date. It is populated with eccentric, compelling characters, drifters, unlikely friendships, the silences of dissolving relationships, haunted dwellings and lonely highways, the ghosts of cleared bushland and the threats of right-wing nationalists and senseless destruction.

A couple make love in an abandoned asbestos house, a desperate carpet cleaner beholden to the gig economy begs a financially distressed client not to cancel his booking, an addict cannot bear to see his partner without the watch he once gave her, a mother casts her shearer son's ashes on the property on which he worked, fascists pile into a little red car with the intent of terrorising tourists on the Nullarbor, a man more at home with machinery than people rescues a drowning kitten.

Yet throughout this assured distillation of contemporary Australian life, empathy rises like the red- tailed black cockatoos that appear and reappear, nature coalescing with the human spirit, the animals, the trees, the land, the people pushing back. These stories are at once disturbing, tender and hopeful.

https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=750225

Astroturfing for Spring / Huppatz, D.J. Puncher and Wattmann, Australia 2021 100 pages 9781925780932 \$ 24.99 / null 150 gm.

Astroturfing for Spring is the second collection for this conceptually challenging poet. His language has been described as bright and alive, perhaps a case of William Blake meets Hello Kitty: there is a mash-up of voices which offers unsettling meditations on the various crises confronting the twenty-first century, at once provocative and absurdly intelligent.

https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=750232

Time alone on a quiet path / Ross Jackson UWA Publishing , Australia 2020 120 pages ; 21 cm 9781760801540

\$ 22.99 / null

145 gm.

'This substantial collection holds the reader with its unique voice and finely crafted language. In each section, the poems build on and inform each other, while their major themes thread throughout with compassion and wry humour. Whether as flaneur or master print-maker, Ross Jackson takes us through suburban streets and interior spaces, relationships, the 'other', street life, isolation, ageing and death, regret, and haiku-like moments of connection or joy. Here are the accommodations of restricted lives, the edgy Summer Frying on Oats Street, Hopper-like interiors, a small elegy for two dogs. We find 'night parrots of the street', and 'deep wells of our dignity'. This is a collection to be savoured.' --Dick Alderson

https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=750234

Shutting / Piao, LU Puncher and Wattmann, Australia 2020 146 pages 9781925780826 \$ 24.99 / null 220 gm.

Succinct and reticent, Lu Piao, also as part of his pen-name, Piao (drifting, fluttering or floating), suggests, is a drifty kind of a poet, skipping over the wavelets of poetry, formed in tightly knit words or expressions, dipping into the life experiences of the poet while trying to bury them in an attempt to conceal them

https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=750228

Digging / Ren Yi Puncher and Wattmann, Australia 2020 164 pages 9781925780819 \$ 24.99 / null 245 gm. Digging

Squatting, my wife was digging in the field While I was digging, sitting on the ridge

My wife was digging for the sweet potatoes And I was digging for poetry

With an easy dig My wife dug out a sweet potato

But I spent a long time Managing to dig out only a single line

The more my wife dug the more delighted she was But the more I dug, the more frustrated I was

The field where my wife had dug for the sweet potatoes Had furrows, long and short

Meandering like lines of poetry Whereas the poems I had dug

Had each line so knotty That it resembled the sweet potato, gnawed by the ground lizard

Ren Yi (Ren Zhilin), born in the 1950s, is from Shanghai. He is now deputy secretary-general of the Pujiang Literature Society, deputy general manager of Pujiang Literature Exchange Centre for Literature and Arts, Minhang, Shanghai, and an editor of Pujiang Literature.

https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=750230

Doom Creek / Alan Carter (author)
Fremantle Press , Australia 2020
304 pages
9781925816815
\$ 32.99 / null
380 gm.

Sergeant Nick Chester has dodged the Geordie gangsters he once feared. He's out of hiding and looking forward to the quiet life. But gold fever is creating ill-feeling between prospectors, and a new threat lurks in the form of trigger-happy Americans preparing for Doomsday by building a bolthole in the Wakamarina valley. As tensions simmer in the Marlborough Sounds, Chester finds himself working on a bizarre cold-case murder and investigating a scandal-plagued religious sect. When local and international events reach fever pitch, Chester comes face to face with an evil that knows no borders.

https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=750251

Where the fruit falls / Karen Wyld UWA Publishing , Australia 22020 344 pages ; 21 cm 9781760801571 \$ 27.99 / null 365 gm.

Brigid Devlin, a young Aboriginal woman, and her twin daughters navigate a troubled nation of First Peoples, settlers and refugees - all determined to shape a future on stolen land. Leaving the sanctuary of her family's apple orchard, Brigid sets off with no destination and a willy wagtail for company. As she moves through an everchanging landscape, Brigid unravels family secrets to recover what she'd lost - by facing the past, she finally accepts herself. Her twin daughters continue her journey with their own search for self-acceptance, truth and justice. This evocative family saga celebrates the strength and resilience of First Nation women, while touching on deeply traumatic aspects of Australian history. Threads of magic realism shimmer throughout the story, offering a deeper understanding of reality and challenging the reader to imagine a kinder, more just, more humane world. This writing celebrates the agency of Indigenous women to traverse ever-present landscapes of colonisation and intergenerational trauma. Country has an omniscient presence in the story lines, guiding the women across vivid desert and coastal landscapes. This book recognises both the open wounds of living histories of colonisation and the healing power of belonging to Country.

https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=750219

The Beach Caves / Shearston, Trevor Scribe Publications, Australia 2021 352 pages 9781925849868 \$ 29.99 / null 380 gm. 'Please. I'm in hell!' The truth of that was in his face. The rims of his eyes were red-raw, his hair was matted, he hadn't shaved since knocking at her door, when he'd been clean-shaven - one of the few details she remembered of that blurred encounter. 'I know why you're avoiding me. Whoever told the cops told you, too.'

It's 1970, and young Annette Cooley is part of a small team working on an archaeological dig on the New South Wales south coast - a site that appears to prove that Aboriginal societies in the late Holocene were becoming less nomadic, even sedentary. The discovery is thrilling in its significance, and the atmosphere in the group is one of charged excitement. The team is led by a husband-and-wife pair, stars in their field, Aled Wray and Marilyn Herr, and working on their sites promises to be the making of Annette as an archaeologist.

On a new site, linked to the first, Annette starts to fall for a fellow student, Brian Harpur. But there are strange tensions and a hidden darkness within the group. Then one of their party mysteriously disappears. When police arrive, Annette makes a decision that will irrevocably mark her life, and Brian Harpur's.

Written in simple, beautiful prose, and with great depth and moral complexity, The Beach Caves is a powerful story about jealousy, guilt, the choices we make, and the different paths our lives could have taken - shadow paths, which nevertheless leave a trace.

https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=750273

Swallow the Air / Winch, Tara June University of Queensland Press, Australia 2021 216 pages 9780702263309 \$ 22.99 / null 215 gm.

When May's mother dies suddenly, she and her brother Billy are taken in by Aunty.

However, their loss leaves them both searching for their place in a world that doesn't seem to want them. While Billy takes his own destructive path, May sets out to find her father and her Aboriginal identity.

Her journey leads her from the Australian east coast to the far north, but it is the people she meets, not the destinations, that teach her what it is to belong.

Swallow the Air is an unforgettable story of living in a torn world and finding the thread to help sew it back together.

https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=750250

Repentance / Gibbs, Alison Scribe Publications, Australia 2021 304 pages 9781922310064 \$ 32.99 / null 405 gm.

'But then we all love this place, don't we, in our different ways?'

It's the summer of 1976, and the winds of change are blowing through the small town of Repentance on the edge of the Great Dividing Range. The old families farmed cattle and cut timber, but the new settlers, the hippies, have a different perspective on the natural order and humankind's place in the scheme of things. Soon everything will be disturbed. Either the old growth is coming down or the loggers have to be stopped. And although not everyone agrees on tactics, noone will escape being drawn into the coming confrontation.

A tale of a country town and its rhythms, Repentance is also the story of modern Australia at one of its flashpoints, told tenderly and beautifully through the eyes of characters you won't forget.

https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=750246

Born Into This / Thompson, Adam University of Queensland Press, Australia 2021 256 pages 9780702263118 \$ 29.99 / null 300 gm.

Engaging, thought-provoking stories from a young Tasmanian Aboriginal author who addresses universal themes - identity, racism, heritage destruction - from a wholly original perspective.

The stories in Born Into This throw light on a world of unique cultural practice and perspective, from Indigenous rangers trying to instil some pride in wayward urban teens on the harsh islands off the coast of Tasmania, to those scraping by on the margins of white society railroaded into complex and compromised decisions. To this mix Adam Thompson manages to bring humour, pathos and occasionally a sly twist as his characters confront racism, untimely funerals, classroom politics and, overhanging all like a discomforting, burgeoning awareness for both white and black Australia, the inexorable damage and disappearance of the remnant natural world.

https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=750239

Beowulf / Headley, Maria Dahvana (translator) Scribe Publications, Australia 2021 176 pages 9781925713886 \$ 27.99 / null 205 gm.

A new, feminist translation of Beowulf by the author of The Mere Wife

Nearly twenty years after Seamus Heaney's translation of Beowulf - and fifty years after the translation that continues to torment high-school students around the world - there is a radical new verse interpretation of the epic poem by Maria Dahvana Headley, which brings to light elements never before translated into English.

A man seeks to prove himself as a hero. A monster seeks silence in his territory. A warrior seeks to avenge her murdered son. A dragon ends it all. These familiar components of the epic poem are seen with a novelist's eye towards gender, genre, and history.

Beowulf has always been a tale of entitlement and encroachment - of powerful men seeking to become more powerful and one woman seeking justice for her child - but this version brings new context to an old story. While crafting her contemporary adaptation, Headley unearthed significant shifts lost over centuries of translation; her Beowulf is one for the twenty-first century.

https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=750271

Antipodean China / edited by Nicholas Jose and Benjamin Madden Giramondo Publishing Company, Australia 2021 247 pages ; 24 cm 9781925818642 \$ 29.99 / null

330 gm.

Antipodean China is a collection of essays based on a series of encounters between Australian and Chinese writers, which took place in China and Australia over a ten-year period from 2011. In the current climate, this collection presents what may be seen, in retrospect, as an idyllic moment of communication and trust. As the writers spoke about the places important to them, their influences and their work, resemblances emerged, and their different perspectives contributed to a sense of common understanding, about literature and about the role of the writer in society. This is seen particularly in the encounters between Tibetan author Alai and Indigenous author Alexis Wright, and the two winners of the Nobel Prize for Literature, Mo Yan and J.M. Coetzee.The collection, edited by Nicholas Jose and Benjamin Madden, features writing by important Chinese and Australian authors, including Brian Castro, Gail Jones, Julia Leigh, Yu Hua, Sheng Keyi, Xi Chuan and Zheng Xiaoqiong, and translators Eric Abrahamsen, Li Yao, Natascha Bruce and John Minford.

https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=750216

The Speechwriter / McKenzie-Murray, Martin Scribe Publications, Australia 2021 240 pages 9781925713831 \$ 29.99 / null 240 gm.

In his fiction debut, erstwhile speechwriter and Saturday Paper journalist Martin McKenzie-Murray takes us on a frantic, funny, and surreal journey through the corridors of power.

Toby, former speechwriter to the PM, has reached a new low- locked behind bars in a high-security prison, with sentient PlayStations storming the city outside, and the worst of Australia's criminals forcing him to ghost-write letters to their loved ones or have his spine repurposed as a coat-rack. How did he get here? From the vantage point of his prison cell, Toby pens his memoir, trying to piece together how he fell so far, all the while fielding the uninvited literary opinions of his murderous cellmate, Garry.

What Toby unspools is a tale of twisted bureaucracy, public servants gone rogue, and the ever-present pervasive stench of rotting prawns (don't ask). Realising that his political career is far from the noble endeavour he'd once imagined it would be, Toby makes a bid for freedom...before the terrible realisation dawnsit's impossible to get fired from the public service. Refusing to give up (or have to pay for his relocation fee), Toby's attempts to get fired grow more and more extreme, and he finds himself being propelled higher and higher through the ranks of bureaucracy.

https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=750249

The Second Son / Peck, Loraine
Text Publishing Company, Australia 2021
464 pages
9781922330437
\$ 32.99 / null
610 gm.

Duty always has a price.

When Ivan Novak is shot dead putting out his garbage bins in Sydney's west, his family wants revenge, especially his father Milan, a notorious crime boss. It's a job for the second son, Ivan's younger brother Johnny.

But Johnny loves his wife Amy and their son Sasha. And she's about to deliver her ultimatum: either the three of them escape this wave of killing or she'll leave, taking Sasha.

Torn between loyalty to his family and love for his wife, Johnny plans the heist of a lifetime and takes a huge risk. Is he prepared to pay the price? And what choice will Amy make?

The Second Son is a brilliant action-packed crime debut that creates a world where honour is everything, violence is its own language, and love means breaking all the rules.

https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=750238

Eye of a Rook / Taylor, Josephine Fremantle Press , Australia 2021 216 pages 9781925816716 \$ 32.99 / null 300 gm.

Two women separated by time and place but connected by a mystifying illness. This beautifully written novel will appeal to fans of literary historical fiction.

In 1860s London, Arthur sees his wife Emily suddenly struck down by a pain for which she can find no words, forced to endure harmful treatments and reliant on him for guidance. Meanwhile, in contemporary Perth, Alice, a writer, and her older husband, Duncan, find their marriage threatened as Alice investigates the history of hysteria, female sexuality and the treatment of the female body - her own and the bodies of those who came before.

https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=750241

The Lost Craft / Hai An
Puncher and Wattmann, Australia 2020
128 pages
9781925780802
\$ 24.99 / null
195 gm.

Born in 1965 in Taizhou, Zhejiang, Hai An, Chinese scholar-poet and translator, whose real name is Li Dingjun, was the winner of Shanghai Cultural Development Fund (2007), Chinese National Social Sciences Fund (2013), Shanghai Universities and Colleges Major Strategic Publishing Project Fund for National Service (2014), and STA Translation Achievements Award issued by Shanghai Translator Association (2016).

He graduated from the Department of Foreign Languages, Hangzhou University, and the Graduate School, Shanghai Medical University in the 1980s. He is now serving as editor-in-chief of English-Chinese Medical Dictionary, Associate Professor at College of Foreign Languages and Literatures, as well as a research scholar of Literaty Translation Research Center / China-Australia Creative Writing Center, Fudan University.

He has published more than ten books of poetry as the author, translator and editor, including Selected Poems by Hai An (2001), Selected Short Poems by Hai An (2003, Hong Kong), Elegy: Hai An's First Therapeutic Long Poem (2012, Taiwan), When, Like a Running Grave: A Critical Approach to Dylan Thomas's Poetry and Its Translation, (2020); Selected Poems of Dylan Thomas (2002, 2014, 2015), In the Stream of Time: Selected Poems of Germain Droogenbroodt (2008), Collected Poems of Samuel Beckett (co-translated, 2016), A Centennial Collected Papers on Sino-Occidental Poetry Translation (2007), The Frontier Tide: Contemporary Chinese Poetry (Europe/Qinghai, 2009), Homings and Departure: Selected Poems from Contemporary China and Australia (co-edited, 2018).

https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=750229

Shelter / Catherine Jinks Text Publishing Company, Australia 2021 321 pages ; 24 cm 9781922330468 \$ 32.99 / null 410 gm.

Meg lives alone: a little place in the bush outside town. A perfect place to hide. That's one of the reasons she offers to shelter Nerine, who's escaping a violent ex. The other is that Meg knows what it's like to live with an abusive partner. Nerine is jumpy and her two little girls are frightened. It tells Meg all she needs to know where they've come from, and she's not all that surprised when Nerine asks her to get hold of a gun. But she knows it's unnecessary. They're safe now. Then she starts to wonder about some little things. A disturbed flyscreen. A tune playing on her windchimes. Has Nerine's ex tracked them down? Has Meg's husband turned up to torment her some more? By the time she finds out, it'll be too late to do anything but run for her life.

https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=750244

Low Expectations / Everly-Wilson, Stuart Text Publishing Company, Australia 2021 320 pages 9781922330154 \$ 32.99 / null 425 gm.

Meet Australian literature's new anti-hero in this blackly humorous debut novel for fans of Boy Swallows Universe and Jasper Jones

I begin to record the history of it all, because if I don't I will explode, leaving nothing to tell of me but a pile of ash. In this history I will try to leave nothing out, but I will also be careful not to incorporate any extraneous unnecessary shit. Like objectivity. Objectivity is for those who don't have a point to make, or a side to take. There is only one side to this story and that's mine.

1970s, Western Sydney. A boy and his mum living in a street where neighbours keep an eye on everyone else's business. A detested bully. And a family secret, barely hidden.

Devon Destri flies under the radar. He doesn't talk to anyone, calls himself hard of speaking, and doesn't correct anyone's assumptions of his low intelligence. If no one knows otherwise, no one will expect anything of him, and maybe he won't need to expect anything of himself-that is, beyond running a highly lucrative porn-magazine racket. Only his fiercely loyal friend Tammy and old Krenek the Hungarian refugee know that Great Expectations is his favourite book, or that he can read at all. But when Devon starts to piece together his mother's secret, his intellect and charm are put to startling and devastating use.

Stuart Everly-Wilson's Low Expectations is a heartbreaking and hilarious story of resilience, revenge and love that captures the complexity of vulnerability and bravado. Devon Destri, with his sharp wit and gift for one-liners, is a character you'll never forget.

https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=750245

Buried not dead: essays / Fiona McGregor Giramondo Publishing Company, Australia 2021 261 pages; 22 cm 9781925818604 \$ 26.99 / null 305 gm.

https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=750218

The Nine Lives of Kitty K.: An Unsung Heroine of the Goldfields / Margaret Mills Mary Egan Publishing, Auckland, New Zealand 2021 378p.

9780473542030 \$ 40.00 / null 640 gm.

Set in a turbulent period of goldfields' history, The Nine Lives of Kitty K. paints a vivid picture of pioneer life as told by the sons and daughters of those who lived it and survived the terrible Depression of the 1890s. Kitty Kirk (1855-1930), arguably the toughest woman in Otago history, endured those times, supporting herself as a woman alone. Happiness was followed by tragedy, fame by infamy, and the circle was repeated more than once. Some locals called her a heroine, others called her a harlot. Whichever she was, she became a legend in her own lifetime for her daring deeds that are still remembered and talked about ninety years after her death.

https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=754979

Time to Remember / Janna Ruth Janna Ruth, New Zealand 2021 324p. 9780473544898 \$ 45.00 / null 500 gm. When the Canterbury Earthquakes destroyed their city, Natalie and her friends were only ten years old. Too old to forget, but too young to be heard, they have never told their stories. Until now. Ten years after the earthquakes, Natalie returns to her home town with a plan. To show how the earthquakes shaped her generation, she wants to curate her fellow students' stories into a special edition of the student magazine. Her project is well-received by all, but one: her self-proclaimed nemesis Josh. From the start, Josh goes out of his way to get the project cancelled. Natalie is determined to see her vision through, yet when she finally uncovers the reason behind Josh's actions, she finds herself questioning everything she's been working towards. 'Time to Remember is a compelling narrative underpinned with the lived experience of the author and her peers. Readers will easily empathise with the trials and triumphs of the characters while the generation that grew up over the past ten years in Canterbury will recognise themselves within these pages. This well-researched novel beautifully captures that magical time at the beginning of adulthood when relationships are tested and world views are tilted.' Sarina Dickson, author of The Worrybug series.

https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=754980

Rising Tide / Jennifer Palgrave Town Belt Press, Wellington, New Zealand 2021 218p. 9780473560508 \$ 40.00 / null 340 gm.

Nat Spiller, an admired climate change activist, accidentally drowns. An accident? His partner Ellie thinks otherwise. Pam, Ellie's aunt, draws a reluctant Lauren Fraser into the mystery. The formidable Spiller clan tell Lauren to butt out. Will they follow through on their threats? As Lauren investigates, suspects multiply. Was it Harold the bird-watcher, envious of Nat's charisma? Or Derek, whose shonky Antarctic climate science Nat was about to expose? Or Rodger, wanting Ellie for himself? Lauren enlists her circle of friends to help build the evidence for murder. The truth catches them all unawares.

https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=754981

Social Policy Practice and Processes in Aotearoa New Zealand / Graham Hassall and Girol Karacaoglu

Massey Texts (Massey University Press), Auckland, New Zealand 2021 456p.
Includes Index
9780995137837

\$ 90.00 / null

1200 gm.

Social Policy Practice and Processes in Aotearoa New Zealand introduces the reader to social policy in the contemporary New Zealand context. Commencing with an overview of political theory that has influenced New Zealand's social and institutional architecture, Social Policy examines how current ideas about uncertainty, big data, well-being and 'future-proofing' are influencing approaches to policy design, implementation and evaluation.

https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=754982

Love You : Public Policy for Intergenerational Wellbeing / Girol Karacaoglu (Foreword) Robert Wade

Tuwhiri Project, Wellington, New Zealand 2021

xxvi, 182p. 9780473557898 \$ 40.00 / null 500 gm. 'I want you to live the life that you want to live. I will be as happy as you if you

do; and as unhappy as you if you don't.'
We have no idea what future generations will value and how they will want to live. Nor do we wish to prescribe how they choose to live, so long as they do not

prevent others from living the lives they value.

We want to prepare and look after the 'wellbeing garden' - the broader ecosystems - that will provide them with the opportunities and capacity to survive and thrive, to flourish in safety. As another philosopher, Walter Benjamin, put it,

We want to liberate the future from its deformation in the present.'
Wellbeing is about the ability of individuals and communities to live the lives they value - now and in the future. This is their human right. It would be unjust to prevent the enjoyment of lives centred on chosen values. Preventing such injustice across generations should be the primary focus of a public policy that

has intergenerational wellbeing as its objective.
This book examines the processes by which wellbeing-focused public policy objectives are established, prioritised, funded, implemented, managed, and evaluated, while ensuring that they remain relevant as social preferences change

https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=754983

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Bones / Chenjerai Hove Weaver Press, Harare, Zimbabwe 2021 xiv, 112p.; 210x140mm. 9781779223906 \$ 17.00 / null 280 gm.

Bones is a powerful, heart-rending novel that provides a sensitive evocation of Marita, a farm worker, whose only son joined the freedom fighters in Zimbabwe's war of liberation. He does not return after the war and Marita is determined to find him or find out what happened to him. This is perhaps a single clear theme in a landscape where women, particularly the poor and the marginalised, suffer many layers of oppression. Marita's courage and endurance are reconstructed through the memories of those who knew her in a language steep in poetry and Shona idiom.

https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=755116

DJT – Directionless Jumping Train / Bill F. Ndi Langaa RPCIG, Bamenda, Cameroon 2021 vi, 48p. 9789956551088 \$ 14.00 / null 120 gm.

Through a careful allusive poetic composition process, the poet takes on the aberrant oppression that a mad egocentric individual at the helm of a train forces upon his passengers and not without their complicity, and who while boarding the train are fully aware the train is one of doom. The poem comes across as the poet's reconstruction of the wrong turn in world politics from the wreckage and random distemper of a particular irate ruler with neither political modicum/wit nor understanding of the true functioning of democracy. The poem memorializes the chaos and contemporizes America in a bid to arm the oppressed with the powerful weapon that is memory.

https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=755122

Aporia: Lament of an Ambazonian Revolutionary / Peter Wuteh Vakunta Langaa RPCIG, Bamenda, Cameroon 2021

x, 86p. Includes Index 9789956551569 \$ 16.00 / null 200 gm.

Aporia is a long prose poem that makes a case for the Ambazonian Revolution. It is my conviction that the task of the genuine intellectual is to speak up when no one dares to speak. When we draw a blank and cannot make sense of the events that have deeply perturbed our lives, we have recourse to the plume in a bid to externalize pent-up emotions. The impetus to write Aporia stemmed from the ongoing genocide in Cameroon; a civil war viewed by domestic and international observers as a by-product of the linguistic genocide, dysfunctional governance, lethal tribalism, brazen kleptomania and the deleterious governmental ineptitude that epitomize the body politic of the Republic of Cameroon. Each verse in the poem is an expression of the poet's frustration and anger in face of injustice that Anglophone Cameroonians have been the bullseye for decades.

https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=755123

Unhinged / Memory H. Chanda (Ed) Ignatius Ngoma Crown Arts Media Woodlands, Lusaka, Zambia 2019

156p.

9789982798819

\$ 24.00 / null

250 gm.

A young lady, beautiful and gliding through her first year at the university, unhinges the door to new perspectives, possibilities, love as well as her hidden fears. Before her lies university pressure, which she has to overcome to succeed in her studies. She also has to face the man, who abandoned her when she was young and accept his as her father. In unhinged, the author takes the reader through university environment, perspectives and possibilities in a true but fictional manner.

https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=755093

Hunting Down Mother: The Mailoni Brothers / Preston Mwiinga

Preston Mwiinga, Zambia 2019

viii, 56p.

9780359923885

\$ 12.00 / null

150 gm.

When greedy fills their hearts, their mother becomes part of their prey, they try to hunt her down like predators to ensure she is dead. The Mailoni brothers were a group of serial killers and brotherhood members in Zambia namely; Mika, Stephano and Febiano. They were suspected to have been behind a number of murders in Chimika Village in the isolated Luano Valley of central province. About 12 people are said to have been murdered and about 750 families were displaced because of their hunger for power and riches.

https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=755094

Fame and Money: There is always a price to Fame / Mweo Kondolo

Mweo Kondolo, Zambia 2019

247p.

9789982709002

\$ 25.00 / null

400 gm.

Japhet Hill was a young corporate executive on the rise. His mission was to reach the top at all cost. The corporate world was his domain. But when he stumbled on information he shouldn't have in the organization, this discovery had caught the attention of some very influential people. People who had no intentions of letting him leave alive. Their mistake was to underestimate him. He was Japhet Hill, an orphan from nothing to corporate executive. When his enemies caused the death of his woman, Japhet fought back with everything and Hell followed with him.

https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=755095

Great Life Account $\mbox{ Part 1 / Harrison Gnulube (Eds)}$ Namwanja Margaret Chikwabi and Rhonda Chieduch

On the Way Publishers, Onoway, Canada 2020

1v.

9789982180962

\$ 15.00 / null

200 gm.

The Great Life Account Series is a work of fiction deliberately written from a first person singular perspective to establish an immediate emotion connection granting access to the main character's inner thought andf feelings. The main character's inner in this episode is a man. This way, the readers will view the book through the main character's unique lens.

https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=755096

Turn of the Tide / Cassius C. Malupande Cassius C. Malupande, Lusaka, Zambia 2020 176p. 9789982700139 \$ 20.00 / null

Reynolds Mayeba, riding high on youthful desires, faces challenges that come with losing a father who dies in a road carnage. Fees force him out of his twelfth grade. His father prepared him treasures while studying in England; but he knows little about it. Does this limit him? How does he get to take hold of the investment and his ambitionds? The father of the girl he want to marry is his father's murderer; a partner in the UK investment and wants to completely take over the investment. Will the young man go ahead to marry the girl? Will the man allow him?

https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=755097

Five Nights Before the Summit / Mukuka Chipanta

Weaver Press, Harare, Zimbabwe 2019

204p.

9789982241199

\$ 24.00 / null

300 gm.

It is 1979. The first Commonwealth Heads of Government Summit on African soil is due to take place in Zambia, graced by Queen Elizabeth herself. Barely a week before this much anticipated event, a white British couple, Henry and Laura Hinckley, are brutally killed on their farm on the outskirts of the capital city, Lusaka. The unknown perpetrators are at large, their motive unclear. Fearing a media backlash, the British government applies pressure on the Zambian authorities to bring the culprits to book, threatening to cancel the Queen's trip altogether – a move that would result in huge embarrassment for the Zambian government.

government.

Detective Maxwell Chanda, head of the Special Crimes Investigative Unit, is the man tasked with leading the investigation. He is a wise, steady hand, but will he be able to piece together the seemingly disparate evidence in just five days? Will he be able to hold firm under the intense political pressure which insists on putting expediency above accuracy?

putting expediency above accuracy? Five Nights Before the Summit offers a rich tapestry of context and character in a story that engages the reader in the pursuit of justice.

https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=755098

Alone And Other Zambian Short Stories / Grace Kubikisha (et al.) Butali House,Lusaka, Zambia 2018 viii, 158p. 9781730949500 \$ 24.00 / null 300 gm.

Alone and Other Zambian Short Stories is an orchestra of leading voices in Zambian literature. The anthology is a Luka Mwango initiative, created to support and promote locally bred fiction writers. Alone was written by the late Luka Mwango, along with nine other stories written by nine other Zámbian authors. The stories give an authentic, intimate view of the experiences of each character. There's sadness, brutality and also some humour along the way.

https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=755099

Nyami Nyami : The Zambezi River God / Preston Mwiinga

Preston Mwiinga, Zambia 2020

81p.

9781716346163

\$ 20.00 / null

200 gm.

Nyami Nyami is a novel that highlights the Zambezi River God who existed in the 1950s before the construction of the largest Man-made Lake in Zambia, Lake Kariba. He was said to be the protector of the Tonga and Lozi people. The Tonga's lived in the Gwembe Valley, Zambezi Valley both in Zambia and Zimbabwe. They are also known as the 'River People'. Nyami Nyami features resemble the face of a fish and the torso of a snake. He is like a dragon living in water and never showed his entire body to the people but only a part. It is believed that if one happens to have come face to face with him, he/she would become blind. Nyami Nyami is the holder of both love and hate. He loved his people and always protected them, and provided meat to them in times of need like his name Nyami Nyami means 'Nyama Nyama'. He could allow them to keep cutting pieces of meat from him till the situation was normal again. Nyami Nyami is a novel that highlights the Zambezi River God who existed in the

Up to date, Nyami Nyami is furious with the white man for separating him from his wife Kitapo who at that time had gone to the other side of the Zambezi when the Dam Hall was constructed. To show his fury he would stir the waters and disturbed the constructions for some time till the elders of the land offered sacrifices to him that was the only time he allowed the works to be completed. He is said to be coming back for revenge and to reunite with his wife. What will happen to the dam hall when he gets back? What about the displaced Tonga's and Lozi's who lost their homes during the construction? Will the white man be spared from doing what he did?

Enjoy the tale of the legendary Nyami

https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=755100

Endless field / Nguyen Ngoc Tu Tre, Hanoi, Vietnam 2020 102p. 9786041158184 \$ 30.00 / null

Endless Field is a tale of Mekong Delta natives, marking Nguyễn Ngọc Tư's perceptive insight and sympathy for farmers (and people in general). Love, revenge, nostalgia, regret, and exposure of dark corners of souls permeate the whole story, the characters being thus more real. Endless Field, made into the 2010 film titled The Floating Lives, has already been translated and published in Korea, China, France, Germany, and Sweden, where it has received much praise. "Perfect and strict in form... Kind of wistful images of how fate or chance knocks man to the ground." - Stefan Jonsson, a Swedish critic.

https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=755221

Four Strokes of Luck / Perumal Murugan, Trans.by Nandini Krishnan Juggernaut Books, New Delhi 2021 hb;216p;21cm. 9789353451516 \$ 12.50 / HB 400 gm.

Amma is unable to live without Seemaatti, her beloved buffalo. Kumaresu has found success in business, but he has never been able to overcome rejection by his childhood sweetheart. Every day, Murugesu hides in a neem thicket, where he extorts money from young couples. Mocked all her life for her dark skin, Saraswati is kept going by her burning private passion for a movie star. From one of India's most acclaimed and beloved modern writers, Four Strokes of Luck is a collection that will delight every admirer of Perumal Murugan, and introduce new readers to his hallmark empathy, humanity and humour. These stories of lives on the margins, of loners and outcasts seeking meaning and happiness, are tender, heartbreaking and always surprising.

https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=750118

Indian Literary Criticism: Theory and Interpretation, 3rd Ed. / G.N.Devy Orient Black swan India Pvt.Ltd., Hyderabad, Telengana, India 2020

pb.;xxv;365p.;22cm 9789390122578 \$ 22.00 / null 600 gm.

Indian Literary Criticism: Theory and Interpretation is a collection of essays by various scholars; the book traces out the Indian tradition of literary criticism. Students of Indian literature need to have access to India s critical tradition. This volume provides teachers, students, and scholars-in-the-making access to some of the key concepts and ideas in the Indian tradition of literary theory. It contains essays from Abhinavagupta, Dandin, Kuntaka, Jnanesvara, Khusrau, Ghalib, Tagore, Aurobindo as well as contemporary critics like Mardhekar, Matilal, Krishnamoorthy and Patankar. In doing so it brings together in one volume some of the most significant literary thinkers in the Indian tradition of the last two thousand years.

https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=750518

A Primal Issue: Stories of Women / Jagadish Gupta; (trans):Subrata Basu Orient Blackswan Private Limited, Hyderabad, Telengana. India 2020

pb.;xxiv;119p.;22cm. 9789352879045 \$ 10.00 / null 300 gm.

Jagadish Gupta was a pioneer of the great modernist movement that began in the last quarter of Rabindranath Tagore's life, and ushered in what was to become a glorious post-Tagore phase of Bengali literature. He wrote mainly novels and short stories, and drew both high praise and sharp criticism from Tagore. His works, often far ahead of their time, are marked for their unsentimental, analytical approach and fearless exploration of taboo themes. Having faced vitriol, poverty and neglect in his lifetime, he is now recognised as a landmark figure in Bengal's literary legacy.

A Primal Issue is the first collection of his stories to appear in English. All the seven stories, with women as central protagonists, probe the deep undercurrents of life at individual, familial and social levels. Six of them focus unsparingly on the brutal realities of the day—child marriage, taboo on widow remarriage, polygamy, society's constant violation of women's humanity—and yet remain affirmative in their final impact. The seventh story is a delightful take on a common enough male fantasy. Together, these stories, written between the 1920s and 1930s, voice a defiance of conservatism that still resonates with undiminished power.

Translated by Subrata Basu, the collection comes as a long overdue reminder of one of the great authors of Bengal.

https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=750390

The Phoenix Rises: Lockdown Chronicles / Amit Dasgupta Wisdom tree, New Delhi 2020

pb;xiii,201p.;20cm. 9788183285643 \$ 6.50 / null 280 gm.

Unprecedented—a word, which has largely been used rhetorically, but for once, has become truly matter-of-fact. Some even proclaim that our world would be described in the future as pre-COVID-19 and post-COVID-19. It is only appropriate then that we try and capture the times, the emotions, the trials and tribulations, the despair, along with the inherent hope, the will to rise and win through a range of reflections—the mundane and the sublime, the everyday and the dramatic, the individualistic and the sociological. A unique record for today and the future. This creatively conceptualised book, with contributions by writers like Jug Suraiya, Navtej Sarna and Antara Dev Sen does just that!

https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=750698

The Book Of Indian Kings: Stories and Essays / Salman Rushdie, Romila Thapar Aleph Book Company, New Delhi, India 2020

hb;120p.;20cm. 9788194365709 \$ 10.00 / HB

300 gm.

The Book of Indian Kings comprises stories and essays about some of the greatest rulers and statesmen in the history of India. Beginning with an essay on one of the countrys iconic rulers, the Mauryan emperor, Ashoka, by our greatest living historian, Romila Thapar, this volume brings together some of the finest writers of our time on a glittering array of monarchs, including Salman Rushdie on Emperor Akbar, Khushwant Singh on Maharaja Ranjit Singh, William Dalrymple on Bahadur Shah Zafar, Rajmohan Gandhi on Tipu Sultan, Jadunath Sarkar on Chhatrapati Shivaji, and Manu S. Pillai on Krishnadeva Raya. The Emergence of Empire: Mauryan India by Romila Thapar The First Hindu Empire by Abraham Eraly Raja Raja Chozhar by Kalki Krishnadeva Raya by Manu S. Pillai The Shelter of the World by Salman Rushdie Shivaji and His Times by Jadunath Sarkar Tipu Sultan by Rajmohan Gandhi The Last Mughal by William Dalrymple Ranjit Singh, Maharaja of the Punjab by Khushwant Singh Madhavrao Scindia by Vir Sanghvi and Namita Bhandare

https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=750810

The Partition Bond: A Novel / Musaret Siddiqi Promilla & Co., Publisher, New Delhi, India 2021 pb;313p.;22cm. 9789382337478 \$ 12.50 / null 460 gm.

Summer 1946. Jullundur (last Punjab). Akbar, a devoted landlord finds himself in the midst of political and religious upheaval, spurred by the Muslim demand for a separate homeland (Pakistan). With partition on the horizon and facing an unknown boundary line, Akbar laments the fate of the land that he holds so dear. As he ponders existence as a refugee, a chance encounter with a forgotten treasure empowers him to make peace with his destiny.

Spring 1807, Kashmir. Young Amit dreams of restoring his ancestral trading house in Srinagar to its former glory and marrying his betrothed in Lahore. Forced into exile in Punjab under a false Muslim identity, he is anxious to return home.

Must he remain a refugee, forever? The Partition Bond weaves itself through these two stories separated in time yet secured by destiny.

https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=750812

The Crimson Hibiscus: A Novel / T. Janakiraman; (Translater) P. Balaswamy Ratna Books, New Delhi 2020

hb; 421p.;20cm. 9789352903320

Mary Martin Booksellers

\$ 19.00 / HB 560 gm.

Set in the preSecond World War decades in Tamil Nadu and considered among thebest of Tamil novels, 'Sembaruthi' is the story of an ordinary person, a shopkeeper, who is forced to give up studies at a young age after his brother's death, and to take up managing a small shop in a small town, and to take care of his own and his two brothers' families. Full of twists and turns, it is a family tale about how the protagonist faces life with its losses and gains, ups and downs, and emerges as a noble person. With three women living with him, who love him but also give him enough trouble, he navigates through family life with his wife, whom he loves and admires, and who stands by him through all his trials. He is witness to the freedom struggle and the corruption that seeped into public life in the postIndependence period, as well as the rising Communist movement in India.

It is an intense and psychologically deep examination of the impact of sexuality on the inner lives of men and women. The protagonist's stream of consciousness examines the nuances, contradictions and ethical dilemmas; and poses the most daring question – can a man allow two women to rule his heart?

https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=750911

The Scent of Happiness: A Novel / R. Vatsala, K. Srilata and Kaamya Sharma (Translater)

Ratna Books, New Delhi 2021

hb;326p.;20cm. 9788194756040 \$ 12.50 / HB 500 gm.

To find her place in the world, Prema must not only leave her abusive husband and bring up her daughter on her own, she must also fight oppression at the workplace and form strong friendships with other women. Her struggles begin at birth, right from the unequal treatment she receives at home visa-vis her older brother, the casual attitude of her family towards her education because she is a girl, and the various challenges she faces at school, college and later as a working woman. This is equally a tale of hope, offering us new ways of being a woman and of re-thinking the self. It is a sharp critique of gender politics as it plays out both in the private, familial sphere as well as in the public sphere. Prema gives voice not just to her own story but also, by extension, to the stories of thousands of women of her generation, women who grew up in the heady years immediately following the formation of an independent Indian nation state. Embedded in the novel is the idea of freedom, both personal and political.

https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=750913

Kadambari: The Flower Girl / A. Sethumadhavan Ratna Books, New Delhi 2021 hb;177p.;20cm. 9788194756064 \$ 10.00 / HB 380 gm. Kadambari, the Flower Girl is set in the temple town of Devagiri: there are flower shops, as flowers are used copiously for rituals in the temple by devotees and for other purposes. Shankararaman is the most renowned flower-seller employing five differently abled girls (named after flowers) for processing flowers for varied uses. He and his wife Gomathy are not blessed with progeny. They attend a temple festival and, while returning, a four-year-old abandoned girl child in rags clings to Shankararaman. A devout man, he considers the child as a gift of the Goddess and takes the girl home. Initially Gomathy detests the child but later in a poignant moment her attitude softens and she takes her as her own daughter. The couple showers the best of care and love for the adopted daughter; they do face social stigma but ignore it. Kadambari is intelligent and independent and grows into a beautiful girl and her parents feel blessed and want her to become a doctor. Growing up and blossoming like a flower brings troubles, as she is not able to cope up with the ogling eyes of males, be it male school teachers or dance and music instructors. Prowling gazes make her panicky. She loses interest in academics and is unable to express her inner conflicts to anyone. Feeling devastated and insecure after a scary incident, she flees from home that nurtured her. Her existential dilemma is profound in losing the affinity to the home...

https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=750914

The Demoness : The Best Bangladesh Stories 1971 To 2021 / Niaz Zaman Aleph Book Company, New Delhi 2021

hb;xx,308p.;22cm. 9789390652181 \$ 20.00 / HB 540 gm.

Published to celebrate the fiftieth anniversary of Bangladeshs Independence, the twentyseven stories in this collection feature the finest short fiction from the nation—since before it achieved independence in 1971 to the present day. Here, readers will find all the greats of Bangladeshi literature: in Kazi Nazrul Islams timeless masterpiece, 'The Demoness, a womans fury is unleashed when she learns that her husband is getting married again; 'The Raincoat by Akhtaruzzaman Elias brings to life the traumatic effect of war on ordinary people; Shawkat Alis 'The Final Resting Place is concerned with love, grief, and the human capacity for recovery; in Hasan Azizul Huqs 'Nameless and Casteless, an unnamed protagonist accidentally witnesses the hidden horrors of war; and Anwara Syed Haqs 'Pagli is a sharp commentary on madness and trauma. Exceptional in subject, theme, and style, these and the other stories in The Demoness reveal an extraordinary picture of a land and its people.

https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=750917

Writing Gender Writing Self: Memory, Memoir and Autobiography / Aparna Lanjewar Bose (Ed.)

Manohar Publishers and Distributors, New Delhi. 2020

hb; 364p.; ill.; 23cm Includes Index 9789390035076 \$ 45.00 / HB 700 gm. "Life Writings/Narratives and studies in gender have been posing critical challenges to fetishizing the manner of canon formations and curriculum propriety. This book engages with these and other challenges turning our customary gaze towards women especially marginal, enabling us to interrogate the established pedagogical practices that accentuates the continuing denial of their agency. Reproduction of the cultural modes of narrativization based on memory and experience becomes a mode of reclaiming the agency. These challenge the homogenising singularity of communitarian notions besides dominant gender constructs using visual, textual, popular, historical, cultural and gender modes enabling one to rethinkourreceivedtheoreticalframeworks.

This edited volume brings together 21 essays on life writings produced by both well-established and emerging writers in the field of literature written by scholars from countries like India, Pakistan, China, USA, Iran, Yemen and Australia, to name just a few. Many of the essays in this book focus on how the progress of the self is often impeded by the society it finds itself in. With an enlightening foreword by Dr. E.V. Ramakrishnan and a detailed, critical introduction by Aparna Lanjewar Bose, this anthology is useful for all those whowishtolearnmoreaboutthisgenreofwriting. "About the Author

"Aparna Lanjewar Bose is a writer, poet, critic and translator. She is the author of 2 volumes of poetry In the Days of Cages and Kuch Yu Bhi. She has published a collection of poetry translations from Marathi to English titled Red Slogans on the Green Grass and has edited a collection of Marathi poems and short stories titled Wadal Uthnar AaheyandPakshinAniChakravyuhrespectively.

Professionally, she has taught at University of Nagpur and at the Post Graduate teaching Department of English, University of Mumbai for more than one and a half decade. She currently teaches at The English and ForeignLanguagesUniversity, Hyderabad. "

https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=754732

Where the Dreams Cross: T S Eliot and French Poetry / Chinmoy Guha

Primus Books, Delhi. 2020

pb; xi, 227p.; 24cm Includes Bibliography, Index 9788194756002 \$ 11.50 / null

450 am.

'The kind of poetry that I needed to teach me the use of My own voice, did not exist in English at all, it was only to be found in French', admitted T.S. Eliot (1888–1965) in 1940. 'I am an English poet of American origin who learnt his art under the aegis of Baudelaire and the baudelairian lineage of poets', he again stated significantly in 1948, The year of his Nobel Prize. Where the dreams cross: T.S. Eliot and French poetry reconstructs the poetic career of one of the major poets of the twentieth century by closely analysing his creative responses to his favourite French poets and critics, who were influential in Eliot's development, and of their interrelations with each other, together with the contexts in which Eliot was exposed to their Workspace of which enabled the author to cast a newlight on an insufficient considered area and unearth much that was draped in mystery. Vivid, amusing, and in a sense warm and consistently interesting, this book seems to have unmistakable ancient Mariner gifts— it grips one and convinces. Regarded by Frank kermode and others as a landmark in Eliot criticism, this book is, according to the times higher education supplement, 'an epiphany which unlocked a genius'.

https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=754911

Decolonizing Theory: Thinking across Traditions / Aditya Nigam Bloomsbury Publishing India Pvt. Ltd., New Delhi 2020

hb; xxv, 275p.; 23cm Includes Bibliography, Index 9789388630467 \$ 32.50 / HB 600 gm. Decolonizing Theory: Thinking across Traditions aims at disentangling theory from its exclusively Western provenance, drawing insights and concepts from other thought traditions, connecting to what it argues is a new global moment in the reconstitution of theory. The key argument, which is the point of departure of the book, is that any serious theorizing in the non-West should be fundamentally suspicious of any theory that only gives you one result-that four-fifths of the world does not and cannot do anything right. Everything in the non-West, from its

modernity and secularism to its democracy and even capitalism, is always seen to be deficient. In other words, all it tells us is that we do not live up to the standards set by Western modernity. From this point of departure, it seeks to create a conceptual space outside (Western) modernity and capitalism, by insisting on a rethink of non-synchronous synchronicities.

The book takes three key themes around which the whole story of modernity can be unraveled, namely the question of the political, capital and historical time, and secularism for a detailed discussion. It does so by bracketing, in a sense, the autobiographical story that Western modernity gives itself. In each case, it tries to show that past forms never simply disappear, without residue, to be fully supplanted by the modern, and merely applying theory produced in one context to another is, therefore, very misleading.

https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=754898

 $\operatorname{\mathsf{Mandra}} / \operatorname{\mathsf{S.L.}}$ Bhyrappa, Translated by S. Ramaswamy and Smt.L.V. Shantakumari

Thornbird, An imprint of Niyogi Books, New Delhi. 2020

hb; 688p.; 23cm. 9789381523360 \$ 15.00 / HB

950 gm.

Mandra, the Saraswati Samman winner for 2010, is one of the most acclaimed epic novels of Bhyrappa. It has already been successfully translated into Hindi and Marathi. Though it takes its theme the classical question of art versus morality, many more subtler and complex issues haunting human life are marvelously interwoven. Rooted deeply in the harsh realities of the world the governing theme evolves like a banyan tree in all directions and picture many home-truths that are inseparable with art, artist, art tradition, art criticism and the world of connoisseurs.

Mandra is a musical term which is roughly equivalent to 'lower octave in' in Western music. Though written in Kannada, the novel is astoundingly native to the world of Hindustani music predominantly popular in North India. Hence, It is a beautiful golden bridge that links a North-Indian tune and a south Indian tongue. Even the sweep of events that happen in the story reflects its global nature while beautifully focusing upon the local culture. The technique of narration essentially following a complex and intricate web of stream of consciousness is a metaphor in itself to the process of development of a raga in Hindustani music.

https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=754984

Mandu: The Romance Of Roopmati and Baz Bahadur / Malathi Ramachandran

Oliveturtle, An imprint of Niyogi Books, New Delhi. 2020

pb; 257p.; 22cm 9789389136548 \$ 10.00 / null 350 am

Set in 16th century India, this novel is inspired by the true story of the young sultan, Baz Bahadur, and the beautiful peasant girl, Roopmati, who come together over their common love for classical music. He is a man who can have any woman, and she a woman too proud to ever be part of his harem. But night after night, as they sing together in the enchanting world of Mandu, the fortress city lit up with lanterns and throbbing to the beat of ghungroos and tablas, a magic begins to happen. Baz and Roopmati fall in love. But, far away, in Agra, the Mughal Emperor, Akbar, is planning his campaigns and Mandu has been pinned on his map as a kingdom to be captured. Will Baz be able to protect his capital, and more importantly, the woman he loves, from the enemy forces?

Brink / S.L.Bhyrappa, R.Ranganath Prasad (Trans.)
Thornbird, An imprint of Niyogi Books, New Delhi. 2020
pb; 420p.; 22cm.
9789389136586
\$ 15.00 / null
500 gm.

The English translation of the epic Kannada novel Anchu by the renowned author S.L. Bhyrappa, brink is a love saga between Somashekhar, a Widower, and Amrita, an estranged woman. The novel deliberates on the moral, philosophical, and physical aspects of love between a man and a woman. At the core of the story is compassion, and Somashekhar is the very personification of compassion. He brings love and warmth into Dr Amrita's melancholic life. But time and again, she loses her temper and undergoes Swift mood changes. In such times, she inflicts pain and torture on Somashekhar in spite of his sincere love for her. Will Somashekhar be able to help her overcome depression by his perseverance and sacrifice? An enthralling read, the novel has stood the test of time like Bhyrappa's other novels. Packed with internal drama, tension, and flashbacks, the book promises to impart an aesthetic experience to the reader.

https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=754964

A Plate of White Marble / Bani Basu, Nandini Guha(Trans.) Thornbird, An imprint of Niyogi Books, New Delhi. 2020 pb; 326p.; 22cm. 9789389136562 \$ 11.50 / null 450 gm.

First published in 1990 in the original Bengali, A Plate of White Marble tells the tale of the 'new woman' of an era that just witnessed the independence of a nation. Bandana, the protagonist, though grieves over her husband's early death, never conforms to the social connotation and ideals of 'widowhood', thanks to her uncle. She dares to begin her life afresh in every possible sense. But naturally, the road proves to be full of thorns as she gradually faces bitterness from many quarters of the society. The only thing she clings to is her son, but once that anchor too is lost, she leaves behind the safe concrete walls of what she used to consider 'home', only to work for a far greater cause—she joins a children's home to work for those who need her the most. This first translation brings a significant Bengali novel with important social concerns to a wider audience.

https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=754962

A Day In The Life of Mangal Taram / Anitha Agnihotri, Rani Ray (Trans.)

Thornbird, An imprint of Niyogi Books, New Delhi. 2020

pb; 203p.; 22cm. 9789385285967 \$ 10.00 / null 400 gm.

A day in the life of Mangal taram: select stories of Anita Agnihotri is a collection of 14 short stories in English translation, portrayed on a predominantly Indian Canvas, deciphering the unheard voices of many. Whether narrating the pangs of an aged artist or a yester-year writer, the silent angst of a little girl on being abandoned by her mother or the struggles of a man trapped in the guilt of losing his first wife, this book has a story for every reader. This collection presents a unique combination of everyday characters, relaying life experiences relatable and common, which yet hark at the heart of the reader in the most extraordinary way.

https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=754963

Tantu / S.L. Bhyrappa, S.Ramaswamy (Trans.) Thornbird, An imprint of Niyogi Books, New Delhi. 2020 hb; 1236p.; 24cm 9788189738839 \$ 31.50 / HB 1800 gm.

In this epic novel, Bhyrappa examines the social, political, moral and psychological fibre of contemporary Indian life, spanning the decades between post-Independence and the declaration of the Emergency under Indira Gandhi. The range of characters is astonishingly comprehensive - the true Gandhian idealist who, despite all odds, holds on to his values; an honest, uncompromising journalist who remains steadfast to his professional ethics; the liberatedA" career woman who gains favour in the business world due to her promiscuity; and the academic-politician with a carefully cultivated charm used to seduce impressionable young women. Tantu is panoramic in scope, moving from Bangalore to Mysore, from Banaras to Delhi. Police brutality, goondaism at the village level, the superficial five-star hotel culture and the smuggling of art objects out of the country are all subjects the novel relentlessly examines. Corruption and nepotism in high and low places is portrayed with absolute candour, as is the steady erosion of traditional Indian values. Tantu is a fascinating survey of modern India, examined from many different angles.

The Awasthis of Aamnagri / Shubha Sarma
Oliveturtle, An imprint of Niyogi Books, New Delhi. 2020
pb; 186p.; 22cm.
9789389136715
\$ 9.00 / null
350 gm.

https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=754960

Families are like the sweet mangoes of aamnagri—messy, filled with juicy secrets and sticking together through all times. The a was this of aamnagri are the quintessential Indian family, who Bumble through their lives br>encountering missing jewels and stolen eggs, deaths foretold, averted and a suspected suicide with no body. The mysteries are solved by the inquisitive minds of young Lakshmi and Guddu and the saffron-clad Guruji. With charming agility, the a was this sail through life and its quirks. The advent of god-men, genuine and fake, is a source of both relief and embarrassment for them. But not for the lady of the mansion—mataji. She is the sutras who strings this tale of silk sarees and talking parrots together, who handles bedridden bahus and in-danger bhaiyyas with equal ease, who is tyrannical and vulnerable at the same time. And through whom the awaited family discovers that happy endings come for a price—of truth and love. All over a game of bridge!

https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=754959

Elegy for the East: A Story of Blood and Broken Dreams / Dhrubajyoti Borah Translated from the Assamese by Kalantarar Gadya

Thornbird, An imprint of Niyogi Books, New Delhi. 2020

pb; 378p.; 22cm. 9789389136661 \$ 15.00 / null 550 gm.

Before the relentless march of history, the lone individual is helpless. Yet it is men whose collective efforts give history its momentum and ushers in change of eras. These changes are tempestuous at times—like a churning that brings up both nectar and scum. Elegy for the East explores the utter helplessness and travails of man in face of exactly such overwhelming odds. A narrative not far from truth, where an uncaring, anonymous, and overbearing State creates and/or co-creates situations of social and political strife, and where innocent and beautiful dreams of the masses die in the stony bed of terror and counter-terror. The sylvian countryside of Assam with its green paddy fields hide memories of bloodshed, death, rape, and terror. And through all these, the eternal narrative of man's quest for peace and meaning shine like a beacon. This novel is a work of fiction; the characters bear no resemblance to any person dead or alive. Yet they walked amongst us all-in flesh and blood, in thoughts and dreams. Fiction that reflects reality in a more truthful way. A masterly work of a master storyteller.

https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=754958

Damodaram Sanjeevayya : Literary and Political Encounters / D. Murali Manohar Serials Publications Pvt. Ltd., New Delhi, India 2021

83p.;

9788193342084 \$ 7.50 / HB

https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=755183

Submissive and Dissenting Voices: A Theoretical Discourse on Dalit Literature / Murali Manohar

Serials Publications Pvt. Ltd., New Delhi, India 2021

105p.;

9788193342077

\$ 15.00 / HB

https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=755184

The Mourning Bird / Mubanga Kalimamukwento ,Efemia Chela Jacana Media (Pty) Ltd, Johannesburg, South Africa 2019 196p.

9781431429028 \$ 35.00 / null

340 gm.

When eleven-year-old Chimuka and her younger brother Ali find themselves orphaned in the 1990s, it's clear that their seemingly ordinary Zambian family is brimming with secrets: from HIV/AIDS to infidelity to suicide. Faced with the difficult choice of living with their abusive extended family or slithering into the dark underbelly of Lusaka's streets, Chimuka and Ali escape and become street kids. Against the backdrop of a failed military coup, election riots and a declining economy, Chimuka and Ali are raised by drugs, crime and police brutality. As a teenager, Chimuka is caught between prostitution and the remnants of the fragile stability from before her parents' death. The Mourning Bird is not just Chimuka's story; it's a national portrait of Zambia in an era of strife. With lively and unflinching prose, Kalimamukwento paints a country's burden, shame and silence that, when juxtaposed with Chimuka's triumph, forms an empowering debut novel.

https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=755423

The Pride of Noonlay / Shanice Ndlovu , Nerine Dorman Modjaji Books Pty Ltd, Cape Town, South Africa 2020 210p.

9781928433149

\$ 30.00 / null

300 gm.

The stories in The Pride of Noonlay are crackling, lyrical, and controlled, and the worlds Ndlovu conjures are fascinating and vivid. This collection is a fresh contribution to African fantasy. Take a deep dive into stories of love, sacrifice, and loss - with this collection, you won't want to come up for air. Ndlovu's voice is original, confident, and lyrically beautiful, weaving tales of humanity even in the strangest of circumstances.

https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=755424

69 Jerusalem Street and Other Stories / Lindiwe Nkutha , Katlego Tapala Modjaji Books Pty Ltd,Cape Town, South Africa 2020 150p.

9781928433040

\$ 17.00 / null 280 gm.

her sparkling debut collection of short stories, Lindiwe Nkutha takes us through the minds of people you may overlook on an ordinary day: The wayward neighbour you vaguely remember seeing every day as a child until the day he vanished. The face you see every weekend at the local drinking hole, you exchange a polite nod but know little about, not even her name. The young woman who is caught between her faith and her love for a woman. Their lives are untidy, tainted with the pain, joyand violence as they share with us stories they wouldn't share with anyone else. Nkutha's words weave in and around the weights we drag behind us from one place to another, with a sensitivity and wit required for such vulnerabilities and intimate moments.

https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=755425

Mayibuye: 25 Years of Democracy in South Africa / Lawrence Mduduzi Ndlovu African Perspectives Publishing, Johannesburg, South Africa 2020

xxiv, 78p.; 210x148mm.

9781990931239 \$ 16.00 / null

200 gm.

'The attainment of liberty was the first decisive step in the path of reconstruction and development: a path that sought to harness the life experiences, skills, energies and aspirations of the people of South Africa towards the complete eradication of apartheid and its vestiges, as well as the building of a united democratic, non-racial, non-sexist and prosperous future for all. However, the road ahead remains long, steep and winding. More still needs to be done to translate our freedom into profound socio-economic change in the lives of many South Africans, to whom the great promise and optimism of 1994 has given way to disappointment and hopelessness. In this collection of poetry, Lawrence Mduduzi Ndlovu retraces our steps as a nation from the period immediately preceding freedom and democracy in 1994 to where we are 25 years later'

https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=739817

Born Freeloaders: A Novel / Phumlani Pikoli Picador Africa, Johannesburg, South Africa 2019 210p. 9781770106796

\$ 35.00 / null

380 gm.

Born on the cusp of democracy, the crew of young friends in Born Freeloaders navigates a life of drinking, wild parties and other recklessness. The siblings at the centre of the novel, Nthabiseng and Xolani, have been raised in an upper middle-class family with connections to the political elite. Nthabiseng is lauded by her peers as she whimsically goes through life, unable to form her own identity in a world that expects her to pick a side in the fractured classifications of race. Xolani, not having known his late father, longs for acceptance from an uncle who sees him and his generation as the bitter fruit borne of a freedom he and countless others fought for.

As the story moves across multiple spaces in the nation's capital over a weekend, Born Freeloaders captures a political and cultural moment in the city's and South Africa's history. Interwoven is an analogous tale of the country's colonisation and the consequences that follow. And alongside the friends' uneasy awareness of their privilege is a heightened sense of discomfort at their inability to change the world they were born into.

https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=742910

Borderline / Marita Van Der Vyver Penguin Random House, Cape Town, South Africa 2019 296p. 9781485903819 \$ 35.00 / null 480 gm.

A letter among her deceased ex-husband's belongings rips open Theresa's world. For years she has turned her back on Theo, a man who spent the last two decades of his life institutionalised, and on their shared past in a country where teenage boys were conscripted to fight on 'the Border' in a war that those back home knew little about. Least of all Theresa, who spent her days dreaming of discos and first kisses.

Realising that the letter was written by a Cuban soldier and addressed to his child – who, if still alive, would be at least forty years old – Theresa heads for Cuba: to search for the soldier's child, to deliver the letter, to atone in some way for Theo's deeds and for her own ignorance.

In sultry Cuba, amid its picturesque 1950s cars and the fragrant smoke of its cigars, Theresa's search connects her intimately with those branded 'the enemy' during the war in Angola as she begins to unravel what growing up in the South Africa of that time really meant.

https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=747478

Gaius Valerius Catullus : selected lyric poems / Gaius Valerius Catullus;(trans.)Richard Whitaker and Douglas Reid Ski

Crane River, Cape Town, South Africa

t 2020

86p.

9780620888387

\$ 16.00 / null

190 gm.

The Roman poet CATULLUS (84–54 BCE) ranks among the great lyric poets, one whose writing has echoed down the centuries and remains as relevant and interesting today as it was in its own time. His poems are fashioned out of intense feeling that still thrills, moves, shocks, entertains and delights.

This selection of poems from his small extant body of work aims to show how – whether he composes a tender love lyric to his mistress or a boyfriend, an abusive attack on a politician or literary rival, an address to an intimate friend, a vitriolic or obscene satire, or an occasional piece on some small incident of social life – Catullus is deeply engaged with his subject, a writer passionate about his craft, and fully in touch with the centuries of Greek and Roman poetry that came before him.

https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=745624

Kwaba Mnyama Kukhanya : Ukhuvethe Lwansondo = There was Glimmer in that Darkness / N. S. Zulu (Umhleli)

Bhiyoza Publishers (Pty) Ltd, Johannesburg, South Africa 2020 246p.

9780620902670

\$ 19.00 / null

This book is about short stories and essays which talk about the social impact of Covid-19 and hard lockdown restrictions in South Africa. In iZulu the short stories and essays found in this book introduce us to the evolving and living conditions that people live in during the lockdown. The themes addressed in this book show the ways in which South Africans were affected due to the deplorable social conditions under the strict rules of the lockdown. The major themes addressed in this book, include among others, the challenges faced by the teachers and learners in schools, having to adopt to the new modes of teaching and learning (online teaching) and the issue of government disregarding the cultures, customs, beliefs, and traditions of Black people during the lockdown. The life experienced by the poor Black people is revealed in such a way that each writer writes about the background of the story built under this time of social crisis of the lockdown. Each author created his own place where the events took place in the story he invented and thereafter re-created the characters showing how they got along because of the situation of social pressure.

https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=755427

Neva Again: Hip Hop Art, Activism and Education in Post-Apartheid South Africa / Adam Haupt (et al.)

HSRC Press, Cape Town, South Africa 2019

xiv, 546p. Includes Index 9780796924452 \$ 45.00 / null 1120 gm.

Neva Again: Hip Hop Art, Activism and Education in Post-Apartheid South Africa is the culmination of decades of work on Hip Hop culture and Hip Hop activism in South Africa. It speaks to the emergence and development of a unique style of Hip Hop hip-hop activism in the Western and Eastern Capes of South Africa. Neva Again draws on the contribution of hip-hop scholars, artists and activists. It is unique in that it weaves together the many varied and rich voices of this dynamic Hip Hop scene to present a powerful vision for the potential of youth art, culture, music, language, and identities to shape our politics.

https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=755428

Refractions of the National, the Popular and the Global in African Cities / Simon Bekker, Sylvia Croese and Edgar Pieterse

African Minds, Cape Town, South Africa 2021

vi, 190p.; 244x170mm. Includes Index

9781928502159 \$ 40.00 / null

420 gm.

Case studies of metropolitan cities in nine African countries – from Egypt in the north to three in West and Central Africa, two in East Africa and three in Southern Africa – make up the empirical foundation of this publication. The interrelated themes addressed in these chapters – the national influence on urban development, the popular dynamics that shape urban development and the global currents on urban development – make up its framework. All authors and editors are African, as is the publisher. The only exception is Göran Therborn whose recent book, Cities of Power, served as motivation for this volume. Accordingly, the issue common to all case studies is the often conflictual powers that are exercised by national, global and popular forces in the development of these African cities.

Rather than locating the case studies in an exclusively African historical context, the focus is on the trajectories of the postcolonial city (with the important exception of Addis Ababa with a non-colonial history that has granted it a special place in African consciousness). These trajectories enable comparisons with those of postcolonial cities on other continents. This, in turn, highlights the fact that Africa – today, the least urbanised continent on an increasingly urbanised globe – is in the thick of processes of large-scale urban transformation, illustrated in diverse ways by the case studies that make up the foundation of this publication.

Land in South Africa: Contested Meanings and Nation Formation / Khwezi Mabasa and Bulelwa Mabasa, Sally Hines

MISTRA-Mapungubwe Institute for Strategic Reflection, Johannesburg, South Africa 2021

xviii, 424p.; 229x152mm.; Illustrations; Colour Photographs Includes Index 9781928509158 \$ 65.00 / null 750 gm.

https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=755429

Land in South Africa: Contested Meanings and Nation Formation, examines how land and agrarian reform impacts nation building, citizenship, and identity formation. The publication draws attention to the limitations of reducing land to a commodity, and how this approach perpetuates social conflict and inequality in land reform policy implementation.

The book posits an alternative policy paradigm, which discusses contested meanings of land and their relation to nation formation. It brings to the fore citizen stakeholder perspectives from former labour tenants, citizens residing in communally owned land, women subsistence farmers, peasant movements and

land reform civil society groups.
The chapters investigate the diverse and contested meanings of land to elevate how South Africans perceive land justice and reform, while also including several international case studies. The publication argues that land power relations and policy debates are constitutive components of nation building. And, importantly, that land shapes essential pillars in nation formation such as citizenship, political identity, heritage, a sense of belonging and social disparities.

https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=755430

The Rise or Fall of South Africa: Latest Scenarios / Frans Cronje Tafelberg (NB Publishers), Cape Town, South Africa 2020 Includes Index 9780624086314 \$ 40.00 / null

South Africa is heading for deep trouble. Even the ANC knows it, and is consumed by fear, but – for many reasons – Cyril Ramaphosa has been unable to pull the ripcord and land the parachute safely. Here we are, then, hurtling towards the ground at terminal velocity. Can South Africa still be saved? What awaits us in the 2020s and 2030s? Will the country continue down the path of state capture, corrupt leadership and economic downturn? Or can South Africa rise from Jacob Zuma's lost decade and the devastating impact of COVID-19 to become a global economic powerhouse? And which scenarios lie in between? In this incisive book economic powerhouse? And which scenarios lie in between? In this incisive book, Frans Cronje pulls no punches. He analyses where we are, boldly predicts where we are headed, and warns that there is not much time left to prepare for our future. A gripping and eye-opening read by a bestselling author and the country's foremost scenario planner.

https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=755431

War Party: How the ANC's Political Killings are Breaking South Africa / Greg Arde (Ed) Russell Martin

Tafelberg (NB Publishers), Cape Town, South Africa 2020

256p.

400 gm.

9780624088233

\$ 40.00 / null

400 gm.

Cadre deployment means that the ANC and the state are inextricably intertwined. In KwaZulu-Natal, which has long been the powder keg of South Africa, it's a monster that means people of competing patronage networks are killing each other for a place at the trough – for jobs and tenders – and the taxi industry provides the hitmen, guns and the transport. Travel with journalist Greg Ardé across KwaZulu-Natal into the dark heart of South Africa and the ANC's 'culture of blood'.

https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=755432

Made in South Africa: A Black Woman's Stories of Rage, Resistance and Progress / Lwando Xaso

Tracey McDonald Publishers, Bryanston, South Africa 2020

312p.

9781990931673

\$ 40.00 / null

530 gm.

Like so many of her generation, Lwando Xaso came of age alongside the beginnings and growth of South Africa's constitutional democracy. Her journey into adulthood was a radically different one from that of earlier generations, marked by hope that changing perceptions would usher in a new and free society. Made in South Africa – A Black Woman's Stories of Rage, Resistance and Progress. is a vibrant collection of essays in which Lwando examines with incisive clarity some of the events that have shaped her experience of South Africa – a country with huge potential but weighed down by persistent racism and inequality, cultural appropriation, sexism and corruption, all legacies of a complicated

As a young lawyer intent on climbing the corporate ladder, Lwando's life's direction was changed by a personal experience of the oppressive capacity of a supposedly democratic government when it unjustly fired a close family friend and mentor from a senior government position. She found herself on his legal team and the turmoil the case created within her led her to further her studies in

team and the turmoil the case created within her led her to further her studies in constitutional law, and to pick up her pen and share with a wider audience her views of what was happening in her beloved country. Her outlook was further shaped by her experience of clerking at the Constitutional Court for Justice Edwin Cameron, which deepened her respect for the South African Constitution, and what it really means for a resilient people to strive continually to live up to its moral and legal standards. Lwando's writing reflects her unflinching resolve to live according to the precepts of our groundbreaking Constitution and offers a challenge to all South Africans to believe in and achieve 'the improbable'.

https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=755433

The Collectors' Chughtai: Her Choicest Stories / Ismat Chughtai, Tahira Naqvi (Translated)

Women Unlimited, New Delhi 2021

pb,xix,362p.;22cm. 9789385606328 \$ 17.00 / null

540 gm.

https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=755472

V. S. Naipaul's Journeys: From Periphery to Center / Sanjay Krishnan Columbia University Press, New york, USA 2020

hb,294p.;23cm. Includes Index 9780231196376 \$ 17.50 / HB 540 gm.

Sanjay Krishnan Rereads V. S. Naipaul's Work to Offer New Perspectives on His Achievements, Shortcomings, Trajectory, and Complicated Legacy. While Recognizing the Flaws and Prejudices That Shaped and Limited Naipaul's Life and Art, This Book Challenges the Binaries That Have Restricted Discussions of His Writing. The Author of More Than Thirty Books of Fiction and Nonfiction and Winner of the Nobel Prize in Literature, V. S. Naipaul (1932–2018) is One of the Most Acclaimed Authors of the Twentieth Century. He is Also One of the Most Controversial. Before Settling in England, Naipaul Grew up in Trinidad in an Indian Immigrant Community, and His Depiction of Colonized Peoples Has Often Been Harshly Judged by Critics as Unsympathetic, Misguided, Racist, and Sexist. Yet Other Readers Praise His Work as Containing Uncommonly Perceptive Historical and Psychological Insight. In V. S. Naipaul's Journeys, Sanjay Krishnan Offers New Perspectives on the Distinctiveness and Power of Naipaul's Writing, as Well as His Shortcomings, Trajectory, and Complicated Legacy. While Recognizing the Flaws and Prejudices That Shaped and Limited Naipaul's Life and Art, This Book Challenges the Binaries That Have Dominated Discussions of His Writing. Krishnan Reads Naipaul as Self-subverting and Self-critical, Engaged in Describing His Own Implication in What He Saw as the Malaise of the Postcolonial World. Krishnan Brings Together Close Readings of Major Novels With Considerations of Naipaul's Political Commentary on Ethnic Nationalism and Religious Fundamentalism. Krishnan Provides a Naipaul for Contemporary Times, Illuminating How His Life and Work Shed Light on Debates Regarding Migration, Diversity, Sectarianism, Displacement, and Other Global Challenges | About the Author | Sanjay Krishnan is Associate Professor of English at Boston University. He is the Author of Reading the Global: Troubling Perspectives on Britain's Empire in Asia (Columbia, 2007).

https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=755475

Voices Unheard: indigenous and tribal literatures: a festschrift in honour of Professor B. Yadava Raju / Karunakar, B. Vijaya, Nageshwar Rao Konda.

Prestige Books International, New Delhi 2020

hp.;128p.;22cm. 9788194300953 \$ 15.00 / HB 500 gm.

https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=749859

From Volga to Ganga / Rahul Sankrityayan, Kanwal Dhaliwal and Victor Gordon Kiernan (Translater) and Kanwal Dhaliwal (Ed)

Leftword Books, New Delhi, India 2021 pb,380p.;22cm. 9788194077817 \$ 15.00 / null 520 gm.

Rahul Sankrityayan (1893–1963) was a polymath and polyglot. A pioneering explorer-traveller, he is known not only for his travelogues but also for contributions to history, philosophy, memoir-writing, polemics, biography, drama, translation, lexicography, critical commentary on and emendation of rare Buddhist philosophical texts recovered from Tibet, and diverse fiction, mostly historical. He even authored a science-fiction novel, Baisvin Sadi. Ever the seeker, he moved where his learning led him – from the Aryaism at Darty of India in Buddhism, to Marxism. A founding member of the Communist Party of India in Bihar, he was imprisoned for three years by the colonial government. He was conferred the Padma Bhushan in 1963. Volga se Ganga, Sankrityayan's most popular book, is a genre-defying work of historical fiction that seeks to track the migration of peoples from the bank of the Volga in 6000 bce to the banks of the Ganga in 1942, the year it first came out. It takes the reader by the hand, quiding them through the evolution of Indo European culture and political states. guiding them through the evolution of Indo-European culture and politics over this 8,000-year period with stories that leap across centuries, peopled with characters historically known and vividly imagined, who fall in love, fight each other, write poetry, expound philosophy, debate ideas, sacrifice their lives for causes, eat, drink, entertain, dress, love, and hate in terms that would be recognizable to a historian as being appropriate to their times. Volga se Ganga has been translated across languages, Indian and foreign, but this edition, for the first time, brings together all twenty chapters in English.

https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=755481

How Are You Veg? Dalit Stories from Telugu / Joopaka Subhadra Mandira Sen for Stree, Kolkata, India 2021 pb,xvi,240p.;22cm. **Includes Nots** 9789381345269 \$ 12.50 / null 400 gm.

Translated for the first time into English, Joopaka Subhadra's stories expose the lives of Madiga women, the most oppressed among Dalits in Telangana. As she declares that she has drawn these from lived experiences, the reader in turn witnesses the cruelties in the lives of Dakkalis, who are wandering bards, disturbance in the old feudal hierarchies with the arrival of educated Dalityouth, lack of compassion in society for women with disabilities, and the absence of accountability in government institutions, society and the state. The stories reveal the subtlediscrimination of feed are particularly. employment and those on the politics of food are particularly

https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=755482

Festival of Songs and Drum: Brain-Storming, Story-Telling Wit, Fun and Common Sense in Free and Light Verse / Tekena Tamuno

Newswatch Book Limited, Lagos, Nigeria 1999

xvi, 144p.

9783083554; 9789783083554

\$ 25.00 / null

250 gm.

https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=756321

Where Is Your Wrapper?: Loud Whispers, Volume II / Bisi Adeleye-Fayemi, Leymah Gbowee

Prestige (Kachifo Limited), Lagos, Nigeria 2020 xxiv, 404p.

9789785706796

\$ 40.00 / null

600 gm.

Where is Your Wrapper? is a riveting collection of essays written by one of Africa's most vocal feminist activists and thinkers. Reflective, passionate, moving, irreverent and humorous, the range and depth of the content is breathtaking. Through a deft use of non-fiction, fiction and poetry, from profound commentaries on political and social affairs to observations on gender issues, relationships and multi-generational concerns, this is storytelling at its best, a book you will find difficult to put down.

Bisi Adeleye-Fayemi is also the author of Speaking for Myself: Perspectives on Social, Political and Feminist Activism in Africa (2013); Speaking above a Whisper (2013), an autobiography; and Loud Whispers (2017). She also co-edited Voice, Power and Soul (2008), a compilation of images and stories of African feminists with Jessica Horn.

https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=756322

My Walk Muse / Idy Toye-Arulogun TitaMart Enterprises, Nigeria 2020 184p. 9798675593217 \$ 30.00 / null 300 gm.

My Walk Muse is Idy's compilation of true short stories inspired by personal experiences during her walks. It is laced with some coloration for light hearted fun. The stories are written in 'Nigerian English' with Nigerian anecdotes, for the Nigerian who understands, and for non Nigerians to learn 'Nigerianese'. This is the book that will keep you smiling from page to page.

https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=756323

ODUDUWA – "King of the Edos": An Epic Play / Jude Idada Creoternity Drama A Creoternity Inc, Publication, Ontario, Canada 2013 238p.

9781490425801

\$ 39.95 / null

400 gm.

ODUDUWA, KING OF THE EDOS is a play which explores the true identity of an ancient African King who was believed amongst numerous competing historical accounts to have come down from the heavens (skies) to found the present day Yoruba people of South Western Nigeria. It attempts to draw congruence between mythical accounts of his origin which are found in the oral traditions of the Edos of present day Mid-Western Nigeria, those of the Yorubas of Ile-Ife in particular, and Western Nigeria in general, while imagining an explanation as to the divergence in their accounts. It seeks to answer the questions: was Oduduwa a god that ruled men, the fi¬rst creation of the supreme God, an exiled Edo prince or was he a mere mortal whose leadership qualities became legendary and thus exalted him to the status of the progenitor of the Yorubas?Set in the kingdoms of Igodomigodo and Ile-Ife, it journeys across time into the more recent pre-colonial Benin city and Ile-Ife, while using well rounded characters, loftily crafted language, deep cultural mores, scintillating music, dance, fast paced action and intrigue in bringing to life a captivating period in the history of the Yorubas and Edos.

https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=756324

Holy Night / Zainabu Jallo AuthorHouse, Indiana, USA 2012 100p. 9781477234808 \$ 20.00 / null 200 gm. It is christmas eve . Eight bombs have gone off.veteran mourns the death of his goldfish while he waits for his family to return home. He tells his stories to ibrahim, who has been injured andsits at his door step, who also, has never seen the sun. Somewhere else, five strangers who are trapped in a butcher's shop share their deepest secrets into the cold dark night.

https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=756325

Ife Testament : Poetry / Segun Adekoya Bookminds Publishers, Ibadan, Nigeria 2020 200p.

9789785622089 \$ 20.00 / null 320 gm.

https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=756326

Dearlogue : Poetic Duet in Language of Love / Abubakar Othman and Habeebatu X!

Malthouse Press Limited, Lagos, Nigeria 2020

xii, 96p.; 210x140mm.

9789785829747

\$ 14.00 / null

200 gm.

Dearlogue is an intriguing and sensitive collection of poems, which explores modes of dialoguing and communication of feelings between, and sentimental representations of, the amorous duo. The complexities of human emotions are clearly on display here, the masterful play of words notwithstanding!

https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=756327

I Cry For Africa : Philosophical Poems / Iheanetu C. Evans Clarkson Evans & Associates, Lagos, Nigeria 2014

xi, 93p.

9789789358229 \$ 10.00 / null

200 gm.

https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=756328

The Contractor / Frank Okolo Frank Okolo, Nigeria 2016 434p. 9780692758748 \$ 35.00 / null 800 gm.

THE CONTRACTOR – This is the book the White House doesn't want you to read. Now available. Under new cover. For your eyes only. A jihadist group in the Middle East teams up with rogue Russian generals to take out a sitting United States president whose policies threaten a major shift in global nuclear power. They must stop him, even if that means assassinating the president and destroying that symbolic edifice of American power, the White House. They send in a specialist, Nabil Hamdoon, a.k.a. The Contractor. He has a 100% mission success rate. NSA, DHS and the FBI pick up chatter but are clueless in the mad scramble to locate and neutralize the Contractor as he spreads mayhem and death across Illinois, Maryland and the District of Columbia. He looks set to accomplish his mission as an increasingly desperate FBI and Secret Service dog his heels. Could one woman stop him?

https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=756329

Damage: A Novel / Ekeoma Ajah Bluestokings Ltd, Lagos, Nigeria 2018

xii, 276p.

9789789664337

\$ 35.00 / HB

600 gm.

Chike and Ogemnabia are the perfect recipe for a happily-ever-after story– Chike is handsome, ambitious and successful; Ogemnabia is brilliant, confident, and breathtakingly beautiful.

But when reality comes knocking, dreams and fantasies crumble into dust. Chike, an erstwhile prince charming, is forced to battle the demons of his past that threaten to send him and his family straight to hell. For Ogemnabia, the questions and insecurities that have plagued her whole life take on a whole new urgency as she struggles to hold onto the dreams that have been denied her. Will they withstand life's storms together and discover the true meaning of love? Or are forgiveness and happily-ever-after just too much to ask?

https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=756330

One Thousand Days in the Sun / Frank Okolo

Frank Okolo, Nigeria 2016

444p.

9781533089120

\$ 30.00 / null

550 gm.

Young Thabo sleeps over in the Chief's house on an errand for his father. Overnight he gropes the Chief's extraordinarily beautiful daughter Nefrika. Obsessed with her, he returns to his father's house convinced that Nefrika is his destiny. Five years later, they meet again as young adults. Thabo's old passions resurface, except that this time Nefrika is on the market at the Wives Exchange and able men must fight other suitors to claim their desired bride. Thabo is considered weak by his tribesmen, and must now muster enough courage to fight an insanely fearsome suitor named Manpower who killed his opponent in a previous wiving

fight. Thabo rejects the notion of renouncing Nefrika to avoid

Manpower's legendary ruthlessness. Determined to win the woman he thinks rightfully belongs to him, Thabo must learn the ageless laws of manhood and the forbidden secrets of the women's Unclean Hut.

https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=756331

Ordinary Saviour : New Stories from Nigeria's Northeast / Richard Ali and Abubakar Adam Ibrahim

Parresia Publishers Ltd, Lagos, Nigeria 2018

xii, 108p.

9789785587432

\$ 25.00 / null

250 gm.

Ordinary Savior is a collection of stories about North East Nigeria told by Nigerians for the world. Those telling ordinary stories here represent a cross section of empowered and passionate Nigerian youth who are fighting terrorism through their ideas and their activism and their desire to see peace brought to their land. These short stories represent different facets and experiences in the ongoing war in North East Nigeria, and the efforts of people to push back against the madness.

https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=756332

The Angel That Was Always There: A Memoir / Julius Bokoru Origami Books (for NWS Publishers), Nigeria 2014 xv, 144p.

9789785278088

\$ 25.00 / null

200 gm.

Memory is powerful; it is a very heavy burden that is not so easy to put down. Thanks to Literature, despite the painful remembrance, and occurrences that cloud Julius Bokoru's mind, he was able to carefully paint a story of himself, his village and growing up, his losses and how he seeks identity even in the midst of family members, all these are featured in his faction novel 'The Angel That Was Always There'.

The book reads like a bedtime story, it carries along the reader in an unwavering manner that completely wraps up in undivided attention. This book purges pity and mild feelings among others for the protagonist of the book Julius. And for people who grew up, lived or still live in Port Harcourt and Bayelsa State of Nigeria, the book is civil history at good notch, they should read it.

https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=756333

His Only Wife: A Novel / Peace Adzo Medie

Regium Books (Parresia Publishers Ltd), Lagos, Nigeria 2020

264p.

9789785529494

\$ 30.00 / null

420 gm.

Afi Tekple is a young seamstress in Ghana. She is smart; she is pretty; and she has been convinced by her mother to marry a man she does not know. Afi knows who he is, of course--Elikem is a wealthy businessman whose mother has chosen Afi in the hopes that she will distract him from his relationship with a woman his family claims is inappropriate. But Afi is not prepared for the shift her life takes when she is moved from her small hometown of Ho to live in Accra, Ghana's gleaming capital, a place of wealth and sophistication where she has days of nothing to do but cook meals for a man who may or may not show up to eat them. She has agreed to this marriage in order to give her mother the financial them. She has agreed to this marriage in order to give her mother the financial security she desperately needs, and so she must see it through. Or maybe not? His Only Wife is a witty, smart, and moving debut novel about a brave young woman traversing the minefield of modern life with its taboos and injustices, living in a world of men who want their wives to be beautiful, to be good cooks and mothers, to be women who respect their husbands and grant them forbearance. And in Afi, Peace Medie has created a delightfully spunky and relatable heroine who just may break all the rules.

https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=756334

A Gecko's Farewell / Maik Nwosu Parresia Publishers Ltd, Lagos, Nigeria 2016 264p. 9789785407952

\$ 30.00 / null

320 gm.

A Gecko's Farewell is a novel about three Africans from different parts of the continent who meet in the spirit(online) and plan to found a School of Stories. Etiaba a village school teacher, loses his job and moves to the capital city and its world of prayer contractors and hope merchants. Mzilikazi's is the story of the homeless spectre, the boy soldier, the fugitive the exile – a black South African dislocated under the apartheid regime. Nadia is a radial student of photography at the American University in Cairo. She becomes a photojournalist and takes the picture of an Islamist terrorist, an act that endangers her.

These three characters eventually escape from Africa, but Africa is in a sense

https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=756335

The Spider's Web / Dumebi Ezar Ehigiator Origami Books (Parresia Publishers Ltd), Lagos, Nigeria 2015 viii, 372p. 9789785342536

\$ 30.00 / null

550 gm.

Dutifully accompanying her newly ordained husband to Asaba, Nnenna moves into a loveless house suffused with the settling dust of bitterness and routine where calculated cruelty is a way of life preserved and perpetuated in the service

of a rigid, exacting and angry God.
Behind a façade of false piety, there are sins and secrets in this place that could crush a vibrant young woman's passionate spirit. And here Nnenna must find the strength to endure, change, and grow in the all-pervading darkness that that threatens to destroy everything she is and everyone she loves.

https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=756337

Viral Load: A Novel / Kayode Oguntebi

Origami Books (Parresia Publishers Ltd), Lagos, Nigeria 2014

372p.

9789785294736

\$ 30.00 / null

520 gm.

Kayode Oguntebi's Viral Load is a poignant narrative of various discourses, of the simple and predominant things that make up the trajectory of the African postcolonial experience. Tunde Lewu, a young Nigerian from a rather challenging middle class reaches a breach in his expectations when he realises that he has HIV from forgotten escapades, but this story isn't only about Tunde Lewu. It is a story that intercepts the realities of military incursion into politics, the involvement of the western powers in contributing to the paragraphs of aid and the establishment of social organisation.

Lewu is only a character who navigates and engages other characters in the global sphere that are looking for answers to personal, social and economic preponderances. The health of the protagonist in Viral Load is subtly linked to the health of Africa. The health of a family shattered into specks of darkest brilliance props up unpalatable dissatisfaction that transcends the present and morphs into the novel's future. This makes the author attempt a new proposition for a plot of this nature while retaining a flow from flashbacks and imaginations.

Kayode Oguntebi's debut novel is full of promise. His futuristic narrative of what Africa would be when Africa leaders turn their paradigms towards improving the lives of the people. What you will find in the Viral Load is the cosmopolitan Africa capable of engaging the rest of the world as it presents its own cultural solutions packaged in a more acceptable, and verifiable quality.

https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=756338

Divine Love: A Novel / Maryam Jokolo

Origami Books (Parresia Publishers Ltd), Lagos, Nigeria 2017

x, 328p.

9789785486070

\$ 35.00 / null

500 gm.

In a world filled with intolerance, uniting people to accept each other's diversity has never been more difficult and more necessary.

Despite those differences, two people are able to rise above them to see what

really matters above all else; their shared humanity.

Khadijah Ibrahim, a young Muslim activist on a journey of self-discovery to find her true purpose stumbles upon Frank, an atheist constantly searching for the truth about religion.

Through her passion for humanity, good conduct and humility, Frank falls head over heels in love with her and discovers God in the process. United by Islam, their differing backgrounds and cultures threaten to tear them apart. Can they face the challenges or concede to the demands of opposing forces?

https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=756339

Hang No Clothes Here / Bolaji Olatunde

Origami Books (Parresia Publishers Ltd), Lagos, Nigeria 2017

508p. Includes Bibliography 9789785529401 \$ 40.00 / null 700 gm.

John Braimoh, an assistant superintendent of the Nigerian police, becomes involved in a seemingly noble cause corruption case—the killing of five apparently deviant youths in Abuja, a situation in which his closest friend and colleague, and four other officers are deeply embroiled. The killings attract the attention of Nigeria's human rights and civil society organisations. John is summoned to testify before police's investigating panel, the Force Disciplinary Committee (FDC). As the date of his testimony approaches, unknown elements issue death threats to John and his family, intent on goading him to reveal the truth to the FDC. At the FDC, Braimoh doesn't come clean—which leads to dire consequences. As he tries to untangle himself from the resultant web, John is drawn even deeper into the murkier world of Nigerian politics and international espionage. He unwittingly finds himself in the middle of a turf war between two major international drug cartels engaged in a bloody battle to dominate the Nigerian market and route for peddling illegal narcotics to Europe and Asia.

https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=756340

A Gift of Dreams / Yetunde Olanike Olasiyan Winepress Publishing (Noirledge Limited), Ibadan, Nigeria 2017 148p. 9789785544602 \$ 25.00 / HB 300 gm.

Candace is torn between two parallel worlds dictated by two major influences; her dead mother's diary directed world and the other dictated by her friends, the twins. The diary points her towards a life of hatred, vengeance and near hermitage while the twins bring craziness and the allure of contemporary life. Somehow, Candace must make a decision on what values she wants to really pursue; loyalty to her mother's past or loyalty to her present. Whatever choice she makes; a life of adventure awaits... A Gift of Dreams is a tale of contemporary African romance, adventure and life that shows the importance of how single decisions can create sparks beyond the imagination.

https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=756341

Orunmooru / Opeyemi Ajayi Generation Next Door Services, Lagos, Nigeria 2019 124p. 9789789603800 \$ 20.00 / null 200 gm.

https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=756342

The Domestication of Munachi / Ifesinachi O. Okpagu Parresia Publishers Ltd, Lagos, Nigeria 2015 188p. 9789789499915 \$ 22.00 / null 300 gm.

On a hot Sunday afternoon years ago. ... Two sisters walk in on their father's sexual liaison with the family's hired help which leaves them both scarred in different ways. Years later...Unable to bear the thought of marriage to a man she barely knows, the younger and more adventurous one, Munachi, runs away from home on the eve of her traditional marriage, unwittingly resurrecting a long buried feud between her religious mother and eccentric aunty. This conflict leaves a door open for the family's destruction. The Domestication of Munachi is a novel about the unpresent pressure on woman to take an life partners and according to the language of the partners and the same and the about the unnecessary pressure on women to take on life partners, regardless of who these partners are and the psychological impacts seen through the stories of two sets of sisters-Munachi and Nkechi versus Chimuanya and Elizabeth.

https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=756346

Emilio Sanchez / Besidone Adewunmi Edun

Origami Books (Parresia Publishers Ltd), Lagos, Nigeria 2019

92p.

9789785659542

\$ 15.00 / null

200 gm.

Emilio Sanchez, a young determined lad in Equatorial Guinea finds his life spiralling off-course after the death of his parents. Taking his life in his own hands, Emilio in the company of his friend Pedro leaves for the capital city with the blessing of his godfather, Padre Antonio.

In Malabo, the capital city, Emilio finds work and trouble. After a few months, he is arrested for theft, because his red handkerchief had been found at the scene of

a crime.

Locked up behind bars, Emilio discovers the truth about friendship, loyalty and trust, and an unusual friendship forms behind bars.

https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=756347

Night Dancer / Chika Unigwe

Parresia Books (Parresia Publishers Ltd), Lagos, Nigeria 2017

248p.

9789789340019

\$ 25.00 / null

340 gm.

Night Dancer is set in Nigeria and tells the story of Mma and her stubborn mother, Ezi. Ezi's unexpected death leads Mma to learn about her mother's past and rethink the resentment and contempt she has held for her mother her whole life. Mma resents her mother who likes to say things twice like 'dance-dance' and 'happy-happy' and won't let Mma know wnaything about her father.

Written in three parts, Chika Unigwe tells a beautiful story about what happens, why it happens and why everything is the way it is, and what happens thereafter.

https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=756348

Bongel / Maryam Bobi

Origami Books (Parresia Publishers Ltd), Lagos, Nigeria 2015

xiv, 94p.

9789785342512

\$ 18.00 / null

200 gm.

As a child, Bongel knows the freedom of nomadic life. In it's pure form, she also knows love in Modibbo's friendship. This chilhood is lost in an early marriage and she is traumatized as a child-bride. A fresh start as a student leads her to cherished friendship with Kauthar who introduces her to her brother, Abdul. A romance blossoms between them. However, everything Bongel holds dear is threatened when Kauthar discovers a disturbing secret about her. Consequently, her future is hinged upon whether she lets her past consume her happiness or fight to reclaim the love she deserves.

https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=756349

The Square Pegs / David Obasa

Origami Books (Parresia Publishers Ltd), Lagos, Nigeria 2016

192p.

9789785407990

\$ 25.00 / null

320 gm.

This is the story of three ambitious young men: a scientist, an artiste and a writer, who were raised different backgrounds but through series of events and circumstances had their paths crossing one another. Along the way they were confronted with obstacles. Some of these obstacles were life threatening an some others resulted in painful losses.

This is a story that intricately combines thrills, frills, pains, humour, ardour and defiance in a manner that unfolds the twists and the turns.

https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=756350

Bionic Evolution / Salim Hussaini

Parresia Publishers Ltd, Lagos, Nigeria 2016

210p.

9789785486025

\$ 25.00 / null

300 gm.

Long after humans abandoned the Earth, in a far-flung dystopian future, Zakari Nebula is abducted and experimented upon by forces darker than even his imagination. After physical and mental torture of the most horrific kind, the nowcybernetically enhanced abductees escape.

Bionic Evolution is the story of the bonds they forge, and the battles they face, as they take one last stand for freedom, and their very own souls. Bionic Evolution is powerful, it is pacey, it is action-packed and the writer knows exactly what you need to keep turning pages as you follow his hero, a teenager who was kidnapped and turned into an android, as he and his fellow abductees learn to wield the new powers that come with their new bodies and take the fight to their abductors...

https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=756351

To Dance With Shadows / Ify Tony – Monye

Europe Books, London, UK 2020

216p.

Includes Index

\$ 22.00 / null

340 gm.

He, who dares the gods, must dance to their tune! To Dance With Shadows is a historical-romantic tragedy set in the fictitious village of Ihuowere in Nigeria. Olachi goes through a life-changing experience as she is earmarked at the very young age of ten to be a wife to the gods. There is an ongoing battle between the old ways and the new. A young, daring priest intervenes and boldly challenges the gods. The inhabitants of Ihuowere are thrown into confusion: the fearless ones follow the young priest and the new religion while those ingrained in the old ways remain unfazed.

Time folds in on itself and the years roll by. Unoaku meets and falls in love with Ateke but tragedy strikes their lives two days after their wedding. Will the sins of the fathers be visited on the sons? Was the accident a mere fluke or a brutal reminder of the past? Have the gods waited patiently to probably take their revenge on the next generation? Who lives? Who dies? Only God or the gods can

https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=756352

Oil on Water: A Novel / Helon Habila

Parresia Publishers Ltd, Lagos, Nigeria 2012

240p.

9789789293360

\$ 25.00 / null 340 gm.

In the oil-rich and environmentally devastated Nigerian Delta, the wife of a British oil executive has been kidnapped. Two journalists-a young upstart, Rufus, and a once-great, now disillusioned veteran, Zaq-are sent to find her. In a story rich with atmosphere and taut with suspense, Oil on Water explores the conflict between idealism and cynical disillusionment in a journey full of danger and unintended consequences.

As Rufus and Zaq navigate polluted rivers flanked by exploded and dormant oil wells, in search of "the white woman," they must contend with the brutality of both government soldiers and militants. Assailed by irresolvable versions of the "truth" about the woman's disappearance, dependent on the kindness of strangers of unknowable loyalties, their journalistic objectivity will prove unsustainable, but other values might yet salvage their human dignity.

https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=756353

Shackles of Freedom : A Novel / Onyeka Ike SEVHAGE, Makurdi, Benue State, Nigeria 2018 200p.

9789785626599 \$ 25.00 / null

320 gm.

In the dark days of the military and a mafia seizes the life of a nation crippling it down. A fight for the soul of the nation is waged with patriots ready to let it all out but time seems to have a joker of its own waiting...With the thrill and dangers of the time, this is the story of that fight zoomed in through the eyes of a soldier willing to give his all.

https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=756354

Smile, My Beloved Country: An African Story of Change That Changed Everything; The Land, The People, The System / Emeka Onwusorom

Origami Books (Parresia Publishers Ltd), Lagos, Nigeria 2018 226p.

9789785587449

\$ 25.00 / null

320 gm.

Smile, my Beloved Country is the story of a young Nigerian, Ayo Musa Okeke, who on a visit to Nigeria witnesses the assassination of a presidential candidate, Boni Konida, during a transition to civil rule programme. Within a broken country where civic obligations are ignored as corruption runs rampant, suspicions begin to point to Ayo who is saved by the friendship of a conscientious cop. From his base in New York where he is a tenured Agricultural Science professor, Ayo unwittingly sets in motion events that will lead him to face off the ruthless Chief Wewe Jumanji in an electoral battle for Aso Rock and Nigeria's future.

https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=756355

Poison / Yetunde Ojebola

Aprilspring Media, Ibadan, Nigeria 2019

1v.

9789785742947

\$ 12.00 / null

200 gm.

Poison is a story about how the parental backgrounds of twin sisters Amaka and Amara affect them differently and the different people they become from these experience.

https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=756356

From the Crevices of Corps Hearts / Chinyere Chukwudi-Okeh

Parresia Publishers Ltd, Lagos, Nigeria 2017

9789785486087

\$ 25.00 / null

300 gm.

The NYSC year is a time to learn new and other worldviews, and/or unlearn social, cultural and sometimes religions conditionings. It is a time when old relationships and bonds are severed or strengthened, and new ones forged. Chinyere Chukwudi-Okeh beautifully captures different "otondo" experiences in this collection of short stories. From the Crevices of Corps Hearts will more than create nostalgia, you are sure to locate a familiar experience in one of the stories.

https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=756357

Save The African Womb / Nicole Chinelo Diamon Queen Publishers, Lagos, Nigeria 2016 v, 159p. 9782954373 \$ 15.00 / null 220 gm.

https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=756358

Patriots and Sinners / Nnenna Ihebom ,Tanure Ojaide, Unoma Azuah & Chuma

Origami Books (for NWS Publishers), Lagos, Nigeria 2014

196p.

9789785278095

\$ 12.00 / null

250 gm.

Leo and his men are desperate for change. Their quest is blind till they abduct Siella, the president's daughter. It is not just abduction. Their encounter redefines radical change; it redefines Leo and his men. They find new zeal. Their criminality comes with reduced acrimony as they become philanthropists and the 'true patriots' – cautiously loved by the people and wanted by the government and power-drunks.

https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=756359

Son of Man / Amara Nicole Okoko

Parresia Publishers Ltd, Lagos, Nigeria 2016

120p.

9789785407945

\$ 18.00 / null

220 gm.

OUR MEN. . . A university graduate in desperate need of a job. An illiterate farmer's vengeance for a dead son. A young pragmatic man humbled by the horrors of incarceration. An old man's dying gift to a generation. A journalist's courage in a notorious military government. A youth Corper's temperance of religion, love and survival.THEIR STORIES. . .From the quiet town of Umuahia, to the plains of the Jos Plateau, and the bustling hub of Lagos, these Nigerian men have stories to tell. Stories of life, love, family, happiness, sorrow, pestilence and death—situations faced every day in their lives. Armed with objectivity, some find peace with their resolutions. Others face dire consequences with prices to pay—with their freedom, or even worse, with their lives.

https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=756360

Smithereens of Death: Short Stories / Olubunmi Familoni WriteHouse Collective, Ibadan, Nigeria 2015 128p.

9789785283853

\$ 18.00 / null

220 gm.

Smithereens of Death provides varying continental themes. The writer weaves parody and conflict into unforgettable stories that challenge the reader to see beneath the blurred lines of familiar experiences. In Familoni's stories, death is used as a backdrop for expressing sociological and psychological shifts that occur in the motions of thought of everyday post-colonial experience.

https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=756361

Cat Eyes / Pever X (Series Eds) Tanure Ojaide, Unoma Azuah & Chuma Nwokolo Origami Books (for NWS Publishers), Lagos, Nigeria 2014

164p.

9789785278071

\$ 12.00 / null

220 am.

Cat Eyes is the story of Pededoo, a country boy, who struggles to maintain a civil relationship with his father who had just returned home after many years abroad with a family of Cat Eyes. Despite his resentment for his father and the new family, Pededoo is hardly able to resist and truly dislike Melissa-Jane, the amiable and dashing cat-eyed blonde. Cat Eyes is a bildungsroman, a book of family, adventure, self-discovery and love that would take readers on a voyage they would hold dear.

https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=756362

The Broken Pot: A Book of Nigerian Short Stories / A. Adeniji

Comic Bandit Press, USA 2014

160p.

9780985864446

\$ 19.99 / null

250 gm.

An anthology of short stories by contemporary Nigerian authors. A collection of short stories by Nigerians. From science fiction to adventure fantasy; from romance to drama, our featured stories showcase the voice of contemporary Nigerian authors. Some tales are provocatively irreverent. Some are honest and insightful. Some are simply a matter of whimsy. All are joy to read.

https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=756363

Raids and Settlements : Seamus Heaney as Translator / Marco Sonzogni and Marcella Zanetti

The Cuba Press, Wellington, New Zealand 2021

376p.

9781988595092

\$ 40.00 / null

500 gm.

This collection of essays is the first comprehensive discussion of Heaney as translator. The authors have approached their contribution from different perspectives but are united by their fascination or preoccupation with the works of one of the greatest poets and poet-translators in the English language. This interdisciplinary combination of individual expertise and shared interest was essential to offer a holistic appreciation of Heaney's translations from fifteen languages, literatures and cultures.

https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=756395

The Wilder Years: Selected Poems / David Eggleton Otago University Press, Wellington, New Zealand 2021 314p.

9781988592619

\$ 50.00 / null

1000 gm.

David Eggleton, Poet Laureate of Aotearoa 2019-21, has published nine poetry collections, and now, finally, comes a 'Best Of '. The Wilder Years: Selected Poems is a hardback compendium of the poet's own selection from 35 years of published work, together with a handful of new poems.

https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=756396

Selected Poems / Margaret Jeune (Intro) Mark Pirie

HeadworX Publishers, Wellington, New Zealand 2021

276p.

9780473560782

\$ 60.00 / HB

650 gm.

Selected Poems (1968-2020) brings together a representative selection from 52 years of Margaret Jeune's writing-life. It shows the development of her highly distinctive poetry, from rhyming forms to minimalism to more postmodern forms of recent years. The book reveals an accomplished, dedicated and prolific writer. The book includes the work from her published books Flight Paths, Upbeat and My Sketchbook and the anthologies Three Poets and Lockdown: COVID-19 New Zealand, along with 51 uncollected poems and a section of new poems. Also included is an Introduction by Wellington writer and editor Mark Pirie.

https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=756397

How To Live With Mammals / Ash Davida Jane

Victoria Universty of Wellington Press, Wellington, New Zealand 2021

80p.

9781776564163

\$ 30.00 / null

220 gm.

All around us, life is both teeming and vanishing. How do we live in this place of so many others and so many last things? How to Live With Mammals is not a book of instruction but a book of reimagining and a book of longing. In these funny and often poignant poems, Ash Davida Jane asks how we might reorient ourselves, and our ways of loving one another, as the futures that we once imagined grow ever more precarious.

https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=756398

A Poem Goes About on Foot : Twenty-One Poems by Joaquin Pasos / Joaquin Pasos , Roger Hickin

Cold Hub Press, Lyttelton, New Zealand 2020

52p.

9780473535933

\$ 30.00 / null

200 gm.

A POEM GOES ABOUT ON FOOT is a bilingual selection of twenty-one poems with translations from the Spanish by New Zealand translator Roger Hickin. Joaquín Pasos (1914–47) was a precocious Nicaraguan poet who by the time he was sixteen was one of the pillars of the experimental Vanguardia group. His work, which ranges from playful lyrics to the apocalyptic masterpiece 'Canto de guerra de las cosas', appeared in journals at home and abroad, but he never published a book. Although he never travelled, in his poetry he was, as Ernesto Cardenal noted, 'the most travelled of Nicaraguan poets'. He sometimes wrote in 'inexplicable English', and was the first poet to attempt to enter the world of the indigenous Nicaraguans.

indigenous Nicaraguans.

Cardenal wrote of him: 'Joaquín was very happy, and at times, bohemian. He gave himself up to a life of revelry which was more than his delicate body could withstand, although he was also deeply religious. In that life he squandered all his money without a thought for tomorrow and squandered his imagination and his talent and his time and his health. He squandered his life, and died an early

death.

Almost unknown to English-language readers, Joaquín Pasos is one of Nicaragua's most important and beloved poets.

https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=756399

Felt / Johanna Emeney

Massey University Press, Auckland, New Zealand 2021

80p.

9780995140714

\$ 32.00 / null

220 gm.

Couples in last-chance therapy, best friends unfriending, racist trolls trawling the comments section for game - this collection is concerned with the things that make us feel. This felt realm is very much in nature, too. From the regal calm of goats cudding in the sun to the slow unwinding of the last bee on earth, Johanna Emeney seems to say that there is a message in the air - for those who listen with all of the senses. This outstanding suite of loosely connected poems is by turns powerful, warm, loving, and shocking.

https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=756400

More Favourable Waters: Aotearoa Poets Respond to Dante's Purgatory / Marco Sonzogni and Timothy Smith

The Cuba Press, Wellington, New Zealand 2021

100p.

9781988595351

\$ 35.00 / null

220 gm.

More Favourable Waters is an anthology of contemporary poets from Aotearoa New Zealand commemorating one of the world's great poets, Dante Alighieri (1265-1321), 700 years after his death. The anthology will be published on 25 March 2021, which is Dante Day, chosen by the Italian Government to celebrate the poet's legacy. For this project we are honoured to be working with the Embassy of Italy in New Zealand and the Istituto Italiano di Cultura in Sydney, alongside editors Marco Sonzogni (Victoria University of Wellington-Te Herenga Waka), an Italian-New Zealander, and Timothy Smith (Oxford University), a New Zealander. Each of the 33 poets has written a poem of 33 lines inspired by and including a short passage from one of the 33 cantos of Dante's Purgatory, the second part of his epic The Divine Comedy.

https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=756401

Spellbound: A Gabriel's Bay Story / Catherine Robertson

Black Swan (Penguin Random House New Zealand), Auckland, New Zealand 2021 368p.

9780143775744

\$ 45.00 / null

580 gm.

Dive back into the captivating world of Gabriel's Bay.

The delightful third novel in the bestselling Gabriel's Bay series.

Big trouble is brewing, secrets are coming out, threatening reputations and even lives. Outsiders are in town with questionable motives. Power and privilege are casting a seductive but ominous spell. And the Love Bus is completely munted. All your favourite characters are back: Mac, down-to-earth as ever; Sidney, eight months pregnant and feeling it; Dr Ghadavi, anxious to do right; Patricia, quietly determined; Bernard, who must face his nemesis; and young Barrett, unable to face the truth.

It's crunch time for Gabriel's Bay, and nothing less than magic might be needed to protect this close-knit community and its future.

https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=756402

The Quiet People / Paul Cleave

Upstart Press Ltd, Auckland, New Zealand 2021

344p.

9781990003189

\$ 45.00 / null

680 gm.

Cameron and Lisa Murdoch are successful crime-writers. They have been on the promotional circuit, joking that no-one knows how to get away with crime like they do. After all, they write about it for a living. So when their 7 year old son Zach goes missing, naturally the police and the public wonder if they have finally decided to prove what they have been saying all this time - are they trying to show how they can commit the perfect crime?

https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=756403

Devil's Trumpet / Tracey Slaughter

Victoria University of Wellington Press, Wellington, New Zealand 2021 252p.

9781776564170

\$ 40.00 / null

380 gm.

When the stars were rhinestones. When your car was a blue Holden god. When kisses spread to your back teeth, marathons of sucking. When we pashed through jokes, through tunes, through homework, through the leftovers we shovelled out our schoolbags. When you let me tattoo you with talk. Thirty-one exhilarating new stories from the acclaimed author of deleted scenes for lovers: 'If Slaughter is writing from the black block in her chest, she is also speaking directly into yours.'-Charlotte Graham-McLay, New Zealand Books If There Is No Shelter is a story contained in our collection Devil's Trumpet. That story was published by itself in the UK by Ad Hoc, and then collected into Devil's Trumpet.

https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=756404

Buy Me Love / Greg Brook

Tolcane Press, Dunedin, New Zealand 2020

312p.

9780473541897

\$ 35.00 / null

440 gm.

Disappointed by the way small-town New Zealand novels tend to leave out pumas, ghosts and power-crazed dictators? Don't worry; that's about to change...On the day that old friends Mark, Andy and Angela are unexpectedly reunited, they also become millionaires, along with the other 704 lucky people in Bridgetown that day. During the six weeks until this windfall becomes final, the new millionaires in town take the chance to get what they've always dreamed of: love or independence, power or ... pest control. And among the diamond thieves, ancient family secrets and murder attempts, Mark, Andy and Angela have to find their way through the love triangle they all thought they'd left behind a decade ago.

https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=756405

From Phnom Penh With Love / Glen Felgate Glen Felgate, Cambodia 2019 210p. 9781483400419? \$ 35.00 / null 350 gm.

Doing battle with karaoke-crazed generals, egotistical celebrities, hard-headed tycoons and matronly housekeepers is all in a day's work for ex-journalist turned media executive Fin as he manages – against the odds – to launch Cambodia's Number 1 radio station. He gradually falls in love – not with a lady, not with a person – but with a country.

person – but with a country.

In his first novel, inspired by his vivid experiences of running TV Channels in a country beset by chaos, author Glen Felgate leads his readers on a bizarre journey into the heart of Cambodia, its society and its exotic Khmer culture.

https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=756410

Friends & Dark Shapes / Bedford, Kavita Text Publishing Company, Australia 2020 256 pages 9781922330475 \$ 33.00 / null 335 gm.

The city I grew up in was elastic and belonged to me and my friends as we stretched it through the nights. We knew its contours, and when something new arrived we were among the first to be a part of it. Everything was powder pink and bendy and shiny for us. We hadn't had time to build a lasting memory around some fixture and then watch that time fall away from under us.

A group of friends moves into a share house in Redfern. They are all on the cusp of thirty and big life changes, navigating insecure employment and housing, second-generation identity, online dating and social alienation-and one of them, our narrator, has just lost her father.

How do you inhabit a space where the landscape is shifting around you, when your sense of self is unravelling? What meaning does time have in the midst of grief?

Through emotionally rich vignettes, tinged with humour, Friends & Dark Shapes sketches the contours of contemporary life. It is a novel of love and loss, of constancy and change. Most of all, it is about looking for connection in an estranged world.

https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=756183

One-Night Stand / Taylor, Simon Larrikin House Au 2021 240 pages 9780648894506 \$ 25.00 / null 365 gm. Ben Thomas made a mistake.

A one-night stand with Natasha Peters has got her pregnant. Now he has two options: give up on his dream as a comedian and get a day job or abandon his responsibility and be a total dick.

Only when Tash tells the full truth does a third possibility emerge...

This story recounts the all too relatable experience of a fleeting sexual encounter and the hilarious mess it can create. It details all the things you think you know about safe sex and is inspired by the true story of a comedian in crisis.

https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=756144

Glide / Crisp, Louise Puncher and Wattmann, Australia 2021 96 pages 9781925780857 \$ 25.00 / null 145 gm.

Glide - Poems is the second part of an eco-poetic project that began with the landmark collection Yuiguimbiang.

Louise Crisp's new collection extends her walking interrogation of environmental destruction in south-eastern Australia; stolen land afflicted by the ongoing colonial practices of logging, mining and land clearing. Glide - Poems is a series of radical long-form poems which attend to specific East Gippsland ecosystems: endangered gliders of the foothill forests, rare grasslands of the Gippsland Plains, a copper mine on the montane headwaters of the Tambo River, and the historic Brolga country of the Gippsland Lakes' fringing freshwater wetlands in counterpoint to the Brolga swamps and lagoons of south-western Victoria.

Crisp creates an intimate and haunting poetics of inhabitation and dialogue with the more-than-human world

https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=756141

Prosopagnosia / Hernandez, Sonia Scribe Publications, Australia 2021 128 pages 9781925849721 \$ 25.00 / null 160 gm.

A sly and playful novel about the many faces we all have.

Fifteen-year-old Berta says that beautiful things aren't made for her, or that she isn't destined to have them, or that the only things she deserves are ugly. It's why her main activity, when she's not at school, is playing the 'prosopagnosia game' - standing in front of the mirror and holding her breath until she can no longer recognise her own face. An ibis is the only animal she wants for a pet.

Berta's mother is in her forties. By her own estimation, she is at least twenty kilos overweight, and her husband has just left her. Her whole life, she has felt a keen sense of being very near to the end of things. She used to be a cultural critic for a regional newspaper. Now she feels it is her responsibility to make her and her daughter's lives as happy as possible.

A man who claims to be the famous Mexican artist Vicente Rojo becomes entangled in their lives when he sees Berta faint at school and offers her the gift of a painting. This sets in motion an uncanny game of assumed and ignored identities, where the limits of what one wants and what one can achieve become blurred. Art, culture, motherhood, and the search for meaning all have a part to play in whether S nia Hern ndez' characters recognise what they see within.

https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=756142

The champagne war / Fiona McIntosh Penguin Books, Australia 2020 424 pages ; 24 cm. 9780143795452 \$ 33.00 / null 530 gm.

In the summer of 1914, vigneron Jerome Mea heads off to war, certain he'll be home by Christmas. His new bride Sophie Delancré, a fifth generation champenoise, is determined to ensure the forthcoming vintages will be testament to their love and the power of the people of Epernay, especially its strong women who have elevated champagne to favourite beverage of the rich and royal worldwide. But as the years drag on, authorities advise that Jerome is missing, considered dead. When poison gas is first used in Belgium by the Germans, British chemist Charles Nash jumps to enlist, refusing to be part of the scientific team that retaliates. A brilliant marksman, Charlie is seen by his men as a hero, but soon comes to feel that he'd rather die himself than take another life. When he is injured, he is brought to the champagne cellars in Reims, where Sophie has set up an underground hospital, and later to her mansion house in Epernay, now a retreat for the wounded. As Sophie struggles with strong feelings for her patient, she also battles to procure the sugar she needs for her 1918 vintage and attracts sinister advances from her brother-in-law. However, nothing can prepare her for the ultimate battle of the heart, when Jerome's bloodstained jacket and identification papers are found in Belgium, and her hopes of ever seeing her husband alive again are reignited.

https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=756173

Moonlite / Garry Linnell
Penguin Books, Australia 2020
323 pages, 16 unnumbered pages of plates :: illustrations, portraits ; 24 cm
9780143795773
\$ 35.00 / null
475 gm.

Charismatic, intelligent and handsome, George Scott is unlike any other bushranger. Born into a privileged life in famine-wracked Ireland, Scott's family loses its fortune and is forced to flee to New Zealand. There, Scott joins the local militia and fights as a soldier against the Maori in the brutal New Zealand wars. After recovering from a series of serious gunshot wounds, he sails to Australia and becomes a Lay Preacher, captivating churchgoers with his fiery and inspiring sermons. But Scott is also prone to bursts of madness. The local villagers back in Ireland often whispered that a 'wild drop' ran in the blood of the Scott family. One night he dons a mask in a small country town, arms himself with a gun and, dubbing himself Captain Moonlite, brazenly robs a bank before staging one of the country's most audacious jailbreaks. After falling in love with fellow prisoner James Nesbitt, a boyish petty criminal desperately searching for a father figure, Scott finds himself unable to shrug off his criminal past. Pursued and harassed by the police, he stages a dramatic siege and prepares for a final showdown with the law, and a macabre executioner without a nose. Told at a cracking pace, and based on many of the extensive letters Scott wrote from his death cell, Moonlite is set amid the violent and sexually-repressed era of Australia in the second half of the 19th century. With a cast of remarkable characters, it weaves together the extraordinary lives of our bushrangers and the desperation of a young nation eager to remove the stains of its convict past. But most of all, Moonlite is a tragic love story.

https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=756169

Death in Daylesford / Kerry Greenwood Allen and Unwin, Australia 2020 321 pages ; 24 cm. 9781743310342 \$ 29.00 / null 420 gm. When a mysterious invitation arrives for the redoubtable Miss Phryne Fisher from an unknown retired Captain Herbert Spencer, Phryne's curiosity is piqued. Spencer runs a retreat in Victoria's rural spa country for shell-shocked veterans of World War I. It's a cause after Phryne's own heart, but what can Spencer want from her? Phryne and her faithful servant Dot set out for Daylesford, viewing their rural sojourn as a short holiday. But the pair barely have time to unpack before they are thrown into treacherous Highland gatherings, a mysterious case of disappearing women, and a string of murders committed under their very noses. With her usual pluck, deft thinking and several satisfying costume changes, Phryne methodically investigates the strange goings-on in this anything-but-tranquil spa town.

https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=756187

Monsters: a reckoning / Alison Croggon Scribe Publications, Australia 2021 275 pages; 21 cm. 9781925713398 \$ 30.00 / null 300 gm.

This is a hybrid of memoir and essay that takes as its point of departure the painful breakdown of a relationship between two sisters. It explores how our attitudes are shaped by the persisting myths that underpin colonialism and patriarchy, how the structures we are raised within splinter and distort the possibilities of our lives and the lives of others. Monsters asks how we maintain the fictions that we create about ourselves, what we will sacrifice to maintain these fictions and what we have to gain by confronting them.

https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=756176

A Room Called Earth / Ryan, Madeleine Scribe Publications, Australia 2021 304 pages 9781925849776 \$ 29.00 / null 340 gm.

A young woman gets ready to go to a party. She arrives, feels overwhelmed, leaves, and then returns. Minutely attuned to the people who come into her view, and alternating between alienation and profound connection, she is hilarious, selfaware, sometimes acerbic, and always honest.

And by the end of the night, she's shown us something radical about love, loss, and the need to belong.

https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=756175

The Tour / Andrew Mackie Penguin Books, Australia 2021 370 pages; 24 cm 9781760890230 \$ 33.00 / null 475 gm.

Nineteen-year-old identical twins Violet and Daisie Chettle can hardly believe their luck when they are recruited as maids to accompany the Queen's Lady-in-Waiting on the royal tour to Australia in 1954. It's just the ticket they need away from cold, grey England and the tension that's been brewing at home since the loss of their parents. However, life on board the luxurious liner The Gothic and indeed in the colony is far from the glamorous adventure they expected, and their relationship becomes even more strained when one twin discovers her sister's unconscionable act of betrayal. As they travel from the bustling streets of Sydney to the remote sheep stations of Dubbo, they try to make the best of it. Diligent Violet is juggling commands from her superiors with the attentions of handsome Aussie driver Jack, while ambitious Daisie seeks love in all the wrong places while clawing her way to the top. An opportunity to meet their estranged aunt living in the vast outback promises hope for a new future - but have these girls ventured too far from home to ever find their way back? Based around one of the biggest true events in Australian history - the 1954 royal tour by the newly crowned Queen Elizabeth II - this is a wickedly entertaining novel about the rifts and rivalries that can be found in every family, even the Royal family.

https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=756148

The rich man's house / Andrew McGahan Allen and Unwin, Australia 2021 596 pages ; 20 cm 9781760878597 \$ 23.00 / null 530 gm.

In the freezing Antarctic waters south of Tasmania, a mountain was discovered in 1642 by the seafaring explorer Gerrit Jansz. Not just any mountain but one that Jansz estimated was an unbelievable height of twenty-five thousand metres. In 2016, at the foot of this unearthly mountain, a controversial and ambitious 'dream home', the Observatory, is painstakingly constructed by an eccentric billionaire - the only man to have ever reached the summit. Rita Gausse, estranged daughter of the architect who designed the Observatory is surprised, upon her father's death, to be invited to the isolated mansion to meet the famously reclusive owner, Walter Richman. But from the beginning, something doesn't feel right. Why is Richman so insistent that she come? What does he expect of her? When cataclysmic circumstances intervene to trap Rita and a handful of other guests in the Observatory, cut off from the outside world, she slowly begins to learn the unsettling - and ultimately horrifying - answers.

https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=756177

Heart of the grass tree / Molly Murn Penguin Books, Australia 2020 304 pages: illustrations, map; 20 cm 9781760899196 \$ 20.00 / null 225 gm.

When Pearl's grandmother Nell dies unexpectedly, Pearl and her family - mother Diana, sister Lucy - return to Kangaroo Island to mourn and farewell her. Each of them knew Nell intimately but differently, and each woman must reckon with Nell's passing in her own way. But Nell had secrets, too. As Pearl, Diana and Lucy interrogate their feelings about the island, Pearl starts to pull together the scraps Nell left behind and unearths a connection to the island's early history, of the early European sealers and their firsts contact with the Ngarrangeri people. Pearl's deepening connection to their history, the island's history, grounds her, and will ultimately bring the women back to each other.

https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=756197

The last convict / Anthony Hill Penguin Books, Australia 2021 xi, 353 pages; 24 cm 9781760894467 \$ 33.00 / null

460 gm.

Oxford 1863: Young Samuel Speed sets a barley stack alight in the hope it will earn him a bed in prison for the night. He wants nothing more than a morsel of food in his belly and a warm place to sleep off the streets. What he receives is a sentence of seven years' servitude, to be served half a world away in the penal colony of Fremantle, Western Australia. When Samuel boards the transport ship Belgravia, he is stripped of his clothing and even his name, and given regulations of when to rise, eat, clean and sleep. On arrival at Fremantle Prison, hard labour is added to the mix and he wonders if life can get any worse. The only solace he finds is a love of reading, which allows the likes of Tom Sawyer and Oliver Twist to become his lifelong friends.

https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=756188

The big book of great Australian bush yarns / Graham Seal Allen and Unwin, Australia 2020 xv, 558 pages; 24 cm 9781760879280 \$ 33.00 / null 715 gm.

This bumper collection of yarns from the bush gathers some of our best stories since colonial times, retold in Graham's warm style. It takes a certain character to make a living in the Australian bush. In the most difficult situations, laughter often comes to the rescue. Here are pioneers and battlers, convicts and settler's children, and a land that tests them with fire, flood and drought, in stories resonant with Australia's distinctive wry humour.

https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=756171

Homer Street / Laurie Duggan Giramondo Publishing Company, Australia 2020 119 pages ; 21 cm. 9781925818468 \$ 24.00 / null 165 gm.

Laurie Duggan's new collection begins with poems written during his last year in Britain, in Faversham, a market town in east Kent, with others written on a visit to Australia in 2016 and after his return in October 2018. They contribute to two ongoing sequences, 'Allotments', and 'Blue Hills', which alludes to the long-running domestic radio serial of the same name. These are made up of the brief haiku-like poems that Duggan has made his own: impressions, mysterious conjunctions, oddities and contradictions, the small details that express large forces, as in his observations of the landscape, the weather, domestic and suburban settings. In the final section, 'Afterimages', Duggan offers descriptions of paintings and comments on artists, and sometimes imaginary constructions of what a particular artist might have done, but the real point is to create poems which stand like art works in their own right.

https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=756140

Diversity / University of Sydney Students Sydney University Press , Australia 2020 280 pages 9781742104577 \$ 25.00 / null 385 gm. There is beauty in diversity. Whether it's something that everyone can see, or something invisible, we walk around with it every day, and it informs all of our experiences. Diversity has challenged and transformed our societies and cultures, making us all better people.

Through unique stories, experiences and expressions, this anthology explores how diversity has shaped our world, how it has empowered us and connectedour communities. By exploring numerous experiences, from partying at Mardi Gras to being unapologetically Arabic, the 2019 Sydney University Student Anthology shows that diversity unites and enriches our lives.

The University of Sydney Anthology is created, curated and produced by publishing students.

https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=756139

Gerald Murnane: another world in this one / edited by Anthony Uhlmann

Sydney University Press , Australia 2020

xii, 184 pages; 26 cm.

9781743326404

\$ 45.00 / null

320 gm.

Gerald Murnane is one of Australia's most important contemporary authors, but for years was neglected by critics. In 2018 the New York Times described him as "the greatest living English-language writer most people have never heard of" and tipped him as a future Nobel Prize winner.

Gerald Murnane: Another World in This One coincides with a renewed interest in his work. It includes an important new essay by Murnane himself, alongside chapters by established and emerging literary critics from Australia and internationally. Together they provide a stimulating reassessment of Murnane's diverse body of work.

https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=756143

Smokehouse / Melissa Manning University of Queensland Press, Australia 2020 264 pages 9780702263026 \$ 29.00 / null 340 gm.

Set in southern Tasmania, the linked stories in Smokehouse bring into focus a small community and capture those moments when life turns and one person becomes another. As we get to know these characters - a mother whose fresh start leads to a fractured future, a stonemason seeking connection, a woman grieving her adopted mother, a couple torn apart by their daughter's drug addiction - we learn how their lives intersect, in various ways, across time and place.

With insight and empathy, Melissa Manning interrogates how the people we meet and the places we live shape who we become.

https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=756160

Infinite splendours / Sofie Laguna Allen and Unwin, Australia 2020 435 pages; 24 cm. 9781760876272 \$ 33.00 / null 545 gm. Lawrence Loman is a bright, caring, curious boy with a gift for painting. He lives at home with his mother and younger brother, and the future is laid out before him, full of promise. But when he is ten, an experience of betrayal takes it all away and Lawrence is left to deal with the devastating aftermath. As he grows into a man, how will he make sense of what he has suffered? He cannot rewrite history, but must he be condemned to repeat it? Lawrence finds meaning in the best way he knows. By surrendering himself to art and nature, he creates beauty - beauty made all the more astonishing and soulful for the deprivation that gives rise to it.

https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=756158

Darkness for Light / Viskic, Emma Echo Books, Australia 2020 288 pages 9781760686758 \$ 19.00 / null 275 gm.

When deaf PI Caleb Zelic finds one of his clients murdered, it's a bad day; when he discovers the man was a federal cop, it's the beginning of a nightmare.

Against his better judgement, Caleb is drawn into the investigation. Soon he finds himself mixed up with his crooked ex-partner Frankie and the fallout from a money laundering scheme gone wrong. Then Frankie's nine-year-old niece is kidnapped.

Desperate to save the girl's life, they follow every lead. But the trail will end in death, betrayal and an agonising choice...

https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=756166

Damascus / Tsiolkas, Christos Allen and Unwin, Australia 2020 440 pages 9781760879143 \$ 23.00 / null 415 gm.

'They kill us, they crucify us, they throw us to beasts in the arena, they sew our lips together and watch us starve. They bugger children in front of their mothers and violate men in front of their wives. The temple priests flay us openly in the streets. We are hunted everywhere and we are hunted by everyone ... We are despised, yet we grow.

We are tortured and crucified and yet we flourish. We are hated and still we multiply. Why is that? You have to wonder, how is it that we not only survive but we grow stronger?'

Christos Tsiolkas' stunning new novel Damascus is a work of soaring ambition and achievement, of immense power and epic scope, taking as its subject nothing less than events surrounding the birth and establishment of the Christian church. Based around the gospels and letters of St Paul, and focusing on characters one and two generations on from the death of Christ, as well as Paul (Saul) himself, Damascus nevertheless explores the themes that have always obsessed Tsiolkas as a writer: class, religion, masculinity, patriarchy, colonisation, exile; the ways in which nations, societies, communities, families and individuals are united and divided - it's all here, the contemporary and urgent questions, perennial concerns made vivid and visceral.

In Damascus, Tsiolkas has written a masterpiece of imagination and transformation: an historical novel of immense power and an unflinching dissection of doubt and faith, tyranny and revolution, and cruelty and sacrifice.

https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=756167

Everyday Madness / Midalia, Susan Fremantle Press , Australia 2021

280 pages 9781760990091 \$ 30.00 / null

Life sucks when you are a vacuum cleaner-salesman facing redundancy, and your wife of nearly forty years fills your days and nights with incessant chatter. But when Gloria suddenly and alarmingly stops talking, the silence is more than fiftynine-year-old Bernard can bear.

In desperation, Bernard turns to his ex-daughter-in-law for help. Meg has issues of her own, and her bright and funny daughter Ella sometimes wonders if her mum is trying so hard to keep her safe it stops them both from spreading their wings. Will Meg's suspicious nature thwart her chance encounter with the kindly but engimatic Hal? And is there still hope for Bernard and Gloria on the other side of silence?

https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=756193

The great escape from Woodlands Nursing Home / Joanna Nell Hachette Australia, Australia 2020 ix, 374 pages; 24 cm 9780733642869

\$ 32.99 / null

485 gm.

At nearly ninety, retired nature writer Hattie Bloom prefers the company of birds to people, but when a fall lands her in a nursing home she struggles to cope with the loss of independence and privacy. From the confines of her 'room with a view' of the carpark, she dreams of escape. Fellow 'inmate', the gregarious, would-be comedian Walter Clements also plans on returning home as soon as he is fit and able to take charge of his mobility scooter. When Hattie and Walter officially meet at The Night Owls, a clandestine club run by Sister Bronwyn and her dog, Queenie, they seem at odds. But when Sister Bronwyn is dismissed over her unconventional approach to aged care, they must join forces and very slowly an unlikely, unexpected friendship begins to grow. Full of wisdom and warmth, The Great Escape from Woodlands Nursing Home is a gorgeously poignant, hilarious story showing that it is never too late to laugh or to love.

https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=756446

The Bee and the Orange Tree / Ashley, Melissa Affirm Press 2020 384 pages 9781922400321 \$ 19.99 / null 355 gm.

It's 1699, and the salons of Paris are bursting with the creative energy of fierce, independent-minded women. But outside those doors, the patriarchal forces of Louis XIV and the Catholic Church are moving to curb their freedoms. In this battle for equality, Baroness Marie Catherine D'Aulnoy invents a powerful weapon: 'fairy tales'.

When Marie Catherine's daughter, Angelina, arrives in Paris for the first time, she is swept up in the glamour and sensuality of the city, where a woman may live outside the confines of the church or marriage. But this is a fragile freedom, as she discovers when Marie Catherine's close friend Nicola Tiquet is arrested, accused of conspiring to murder her abusive husband. In the race to rescue Nicola, illusions will be shattered and dark secrets revealed as all three women learn how far they will go to preserve their liberty in a society determined to control them.

This second book from Melissa Ashley, author of The Birdman's Wife, restores another remarkable, little-known woman to her rightful place in history, revealing the dissent hidden beneath the whimsical surfaces of Marie Catherine's fairy tales. The Bee and the Orange Tree is a beautifully lyrical and deeply absorbing portrait of a time, a place, and the subversive power of the imagination.

Song of the crocodile / Nardi Simpson Hachette Australia, Australia 2020 403 pages; 24 cm 9780733643743 \$ 32.95 / null 520 gm.

Darnmoor, The Gateway to Happiness. The sign taunts a fool into feeling some sense of achievement, some kind of end- that you have reached a destination in the very least. Yet as the sign states, Darnmoor is merely a gateway, a waypoint on the road to where you really want to be. Darnmoor is the home of the Billymil family, three generations who have lived in this 'gateway town'. Race relations between Indigenous and settler families are fraught, though the rigid status quo is upheld through threats and soft power rather than the overt violence of yesteryear. As progress marches forwards, Darnmoor and its surrounds undergo rapid social and environmental changes, but as some things change, some stay exactly the same. The Billymil family are watched (and sometimes visited) by ancestral spirits and spirits of the recently deceased, who look out for their descendants and attempt to help them on the right path. When the town's secrets start to be uncovered the town will be rocked by a violent act that forever shatters a century of silence.

https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=756444

Nothing to see / Pip Adam Giramondo Publishing Company, Australia 2021 373 pages ; 21 cm. 9781925818680 \$ 29.95 / null 420 gm.

Peggy and Greta are trying to get sober. They know almost nothing about the world: how to cook, how to shop, how to find a job. To fill time, they sort clothes at the Salvation Army shop, and attend daily support meetings. They seem to have no identity of their own - or rather, they appear to have only one identity between the two of them. Then, without warning, one of them is gone, and the other is left alone, trying to find her place in the world. But is it Peggy or Greta who is left? Is it someone else altogether? Nothing to See is grounded in the details of everyday life, of share houses and workplaces, of substance abuse and sex, and of the emergence of new technologies that fill every facet of existence. Yet the women at its centre seem on the brink of disappearing altogether. Set across three decades, Pip Adam's enigmatic, uncanny novel asks what it means to seek relief from shame and loneliness, to find care when the fabric of reality is ready to come apart.

https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=756449

Bindi / by Kirli Saunders ; illustrations by Dub Leffler

Magabala Books 2020

129 pages: illustrations; 21 cm

9781925936667 \$ 16.95 / HB 275 gm.

Meet 11-year-old Bindi. She's not really into maths but LOVES art class and playing hockey. Her absolute FAVOURITE thing is adventuring outside with friends or her horse, Nell. A new year starts like normal—school, family, hockey, dancing. But this year hasn't gone to plan! There's a big art assignment, a drought, a broken wrist AND the biggest bushfires her town has ever seen!

https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=756448

Ken / Lawrence, Anthony Gazebo Books 2021 154 pages 9780648901174 \$ 19.95 / null 200 gm.

Each stanza of Anthony Lawrence's Ken gradually unveils, with a satirical and compassionate eye, a plastic doll's restricted identity. Ken, the occupant of engendered humanity, is observed in a series of adventures, transgressions, and unresolved intimate encounters. Delightfully humorous and intellectually credible with a melancholy edge, Ken is a book for our times.

https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=756452

Earth dwellers: new poems / Kristen Lang Giramondo Publishing Company, Australia 2021

87 pages; 21 cm. 9781925818673 \$ 23.95 / null 130 qm.

The Anthropocene - what can poetry do in this epoch in the Earth's history defined by human impact? With its immersion in powerful wilderness landscapes, Earth Dwellers challenges our human-centredness by embracing perspectives which set the intimate delicacy of life forms against time scales that go back millions of years. These are deep-breath poems, full of touch and awareness, consolidated by their commitment to the ecologies that envelop us. Asked where we come from, the poems speak not of nations or tribes but of mosses, mountains, oceans, birds. And asked where we are going, the poems refer not to rockets or recessions, but to the biome, a place where consumption is a relationship and not a right. This is ecopoetry - where the natural world is primary, and humans have to find their place in it, rather than the other way around.

https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=756453

The Last Bookshop / Young, Emma Fremantle Press , Australia 2021 256 pages 9781925816303 \$ 32.95 / null 325 gm.

Cait is a bookshop owner and book nerd whose social life revolves around her mobile bookselling service hand-picking titles for elderly clients, particularly the grandmotherly June. After a tough decade for retail, Book Fiend is the last bookshop in the CBD, and the last independent retailer on a street given over to high-end labels.

Profits are small, but clients are loyal. When James breezes into Book Fiend, Cait realises life might hold more than her shop and her cat, but while the new romance distracts her, luxury chain stores are circling Book Fiend's prime location, and a more personal tragedy is looming.

https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=756459

The dressmaker's secret / Rosalie Ham
Pan Macmillan Australia Pty Ltd., Australia 2020
378 pages; 24 cm
9781760982027
\$ 32.95 / null
475 gm.

A unique Australian classic of revenge, small town secrets and high fashion, The Dressmaker was a worldwide phenomenon, the movie adaptation a box office sensation. Now bestselling author Rosalie Ham rejoins her famous dressmaker, Tilly Dunnage, two years after she left her home town in flames. Now it is 1953 and the fashion pages are awash with royal fever. The young queen's coronation means a season of society balls and a rush to reproduce the latest styles of the Houses of Dior, Valentino and Balenciaga. Why, then, is the best dressmaker in Melbourne squandering her talents in a second-rate Collins Street salon? From whom, or what, is she hiding?

https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=756442

Chasing the McCubbin / Sandi Scaunich Transit Lounge, Australia 2021 265 pages; 24 cm 9781925760590 \$ 29.95 / null 350 gm.

The Pines, an outer Melbourne suburb down on its luck. A country in the grip of recession. Experienced collector Ron senses new possibilities: swift evictions provide hard-rubbish to scour and garage-sales have doubled. There's only one problem: since losing his wife, Ron has struggled to navigate the suburbs alone. Plus, his deteriorating health slows him down. This all changes through a chance meeting with Joseph, a troubled, withdrawn and unemployed 19-year old who knows nothing about antiques. As Joseph comes to understand and appreciate Ron's world of eccentric bargain hunters, and hopefulness, his ability to navigate a history of family violence and to see a future for himself grows. Both come to share the wild dream of finding a rare bargain such as an original Frederick McCubbin painting and making their fortune. So begins an exhilarating adventure and an unlikely and beautiful friendship. Set against the background of the early 1990s, Chasing the McCubbin is funny and sad in equal measure. A story of loneliness and the ageless desire for belonging, it will be the most heartbreaking yet feel-good novel you will read this year.

https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=756455

When the Apricots Bloom / Wilkinson, Gina Hachette Australia, Australia 2020 320 pages 9780733646409 \$ 32.95 / null 405 gm.

At night, in Huda's fragrant garden, a breeze sweeps in from the desert encircling Baghdad, rustling the leaves of her apricot trees and carrying warning of visitors at her gate. Huda, a secretary at the Australian embassy, lives in fear of the secret police, who have ordered her to befriend Ally, the deputy ambassador's wife. Huda's former friend Rania, an artist, enjoyed a privileged upbringing as the daughter of a sheikh. Now her family's wealth is gone, and Rania is battling to keep her child safe and a roof over their heads.

As the women's lives intersect, their hidden pasts spill into the present. Facing possible betrayal at every turn, all three must trust in a fragile, newfound loyalty, even as they discover how much they are willing to sacrifice to protect their families.

https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=756456

The fifth season / Philip Salom Transit Lounge, Australia 2020 276 pages ; 23 cm 9781925760644 \$ 29.95 / null 370 gm. Jack retreats to an Airbnb cottage in a small coastal town. As a writer he is preoccupied with the phenomenon of found people: the Somerton Man, the Gippsland Man, the Isdal Woman, people who are found dead their identities unknown or erased and the mysterious pull this has on the public mind.

In Blue Bay, as well as encountering the town's colourful inhabitants, Jack befriends Sarah, whose sister Alice is one of the many thousands of people who go missing every year. Sarah has been painting her sister's likeness in murals throughout the country, hoping that Alice will be found. Then Jack discovers a book about the people of the town, and about Sarah, which was written by a man who called himself Simon. Who once lived in the same cottage and created a backyard garden comprised of crazy mosaics. Until he too disappeared.

While Sarah's life seems beholden to an ambiguous grief, Jack's own condition is unclear. Is he writing or dying? In The Fifth Season Philip Salom brings his virtuoso gifts for storytelling, humour and character to a haunting and unforgettable novel about the tenuousness of life and what it means to be both lost and found.

https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=756457

Fish work / Caitlin Maling
UWA Publishing , Australia 2021
120 pages ; 21 cm
9781760801649
\$ 22.95 / null
140 gm.

Fish Work brings the great barrier reef into poetic focus, exploring not just the fish that occupy the reefs but that vast variety of life-forms – including human – that make the reef a uniquely diverse environment. Developed over three years of field-work, during which time the poet lived and worked alongside marine researchers, Fish Work asks us to reconsider what it means to live with other beings, human and extra-than-human.

Blending the language of scientific research with the language of popular culture and her familiar conversational register, Fish Work is unlike any other book of poetry currently available in Australia.

This collection represents the first dedicated poetic investigation into the Great Barrier Reef in a time a climate change, paying particular attention to the far northern Great Barrier Reef, specifically Lizard Island Research Station where the poet spent several months over several years undergoing fieldwork with the scientific researchers in residence.

https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=756461

 $\mbox{\it Maar bidi}: next generation black writing / with an introduction by Kim Scott ; edited by Elfie Shiosaki and Linda Martin$

Magabala Books 2020 xii, 87 pages ; 21 cm. 9781925936421 \$ 24.95 / null 130 gm.

In this beautifully crafted, evocative and poignant anthology of prose and fiction, a diverse group of young black writers are encouraged to find strength in their voices and what is important to them. maar bidi is a journey into what it is to be young, a person of colour and a minority in divergent and conflicting worlds. All talk to what is meaningful to them, whilst connecting the old and the new, the ancient and the contemporary in a variety of ways. These young essayists, critics, novelists, poets, authors shake down words and works to find styles, forms and meanings that have influenced them and all their writings. These pieces are snapshots of peoples, places and perception.

https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=756460

The best kind of beautiful / Frances Whiting

Pan Macmillan Australia Pty Ltd., Australia 2020 328 pages: black and white portrait; 20 cm 9781760788315 \$ 19.95 / null 260 gm.

Florence Saint Claire, former child star, generally prefers plants to people. She's a reluctant member of a musical family with a legendary father, an impossible mother, a sister who can't keep still and a brother who walks to his own beat. Albert Flowers is a people person, life rushing at him from all corners, carrying him to weddings and parties and late nights in rooftop bars. Florence and Albert work together, they plant dreams in the forest together. They think they know each other. But, somewhere between who they are, and who people think they are, lies The Best Kind of Beautiful.

https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=756469

The List / Brissenden, Michael Hachette Australia, Australia 2020 368 pages 9780733644689 \$ 19.95 / null 230 gm.

The war is coming home. The threat is real.

Sidney Allen is a Fed. Part of the Australian Federal Police's K block, a unit doing whatever it takes in order to stop terrorist attacks on home soil. But when young Muslim men on the Terror Watchlist start turning up dead, Sid and his partner, Haifa, have to work out what's going on.

Sectarian war? Drugs? Retribution? For Sid, there's nothing unclear about a bullet to the head and a severed hand. Someone is sending a message. Deciphering that message reveals a much wider threat and Sid and the agency have to decide just how far they'll go to prevent a deadly attack.

Time is running out ... for them and Australia. From the brutal battlegrounds of Afghanistan, to the western Sydney suburbs and the halls of power in Canberra, THE LIST is a page-turning thriller where justice, revenge and the war on terror collide.

https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=756468

Dropbear / Araluen, Evelyn University of Queensland Press, Australia 2021 96 pages 9780702263187 \$ 24.95 / null 115 gm.

An innovative collection of poetry and prose from a vibrant new Indigenous voice on the Australian literary scene.

I told you this was a thirst so great it could carve rivers.

This fierce debut from award-winning writer Evelyn Araluen confronts the tropes and iconography of an unreconciled nation with biting satire and lyrical fury.

Dropbear interrogates the complexities of colonial and personal history with an alternately playful, tender and mournful intertextual voice, deftly navigating the responsibilities that gather from sovereign country, the spectres of memory and the debris of settler-coloniality.

This innovative mix of poetry and essay offers an eloquent witness to the entangled present, an uncompromising provocation of history, and an embattled but redemptive hope for a decolonial future.

https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=756466

The Dictionary of Lost Words / Williams, Pip Affirm Press 2020 384 pages 9781922400277 \$ 19.95 / null 400 gm.

In 1901, the word 'Bondmaid' was discovered missing from the Oxford English Dictionary. This is the story of the girl who stole it.

Esme is born into a world of words. Motherless and irrepressibly curious, she spends her childhood in the 'Scriptorium', a garden shed in Oxford where her father and a team of dedicated lexicographers are collecting words for the very first Oxford English Dictionary. Esme's place is beneath the sorting table, unseen and unheard. One day a slip of paper containing the word 'bondmaid' flutters to the floor. Esme rescues the slip and stashes it in an old wooden case that belongs to her friend, Lizzie, a young servant in the big house. Esme begins to collect other words from the Scriptorium that are misplaced, discarded or have been neglected by the dictionary men. They help her make sense of the world.

Over time, Esme realises that some words are considered more important than others, and that words and meanings relating to women's experiences often go unrecorded. While she dedicates her life to the Oxford English Dictionary, secretly, she begins to collect words for another dictionary: The Dictionary of Lost Words.

Set when the women's suffrage movement was at its height and the Great War loomed, The Dictionary of Lost Words reveals a lost narrative, hidden between the lines of a history written by men. It's a delightful, lyrical and deeply thought-provoking celebration of words, and the power of language to shape the world and our experience of it.

https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=756465

The Grandest Bookshop in the World / Amelia Mellor Affirm Press 2021 304 pages 9781922419347 \$ 16.95 / null 270 gm.

Pearl and Vally Cole live in a bookshop. And not just any bookshop. In 1893, Cole's Book Arcade in Melbourne is the grandest bookshop in the world, brimming with every curiosity imaginable. Each day brings fresh delights for the siblings: voice-changing sweets, talking parrots, a new story written just for them by their eccentric father.

When Pearl and Vally learn that Pa has risked the Arcade - and himself - in a shocking deal with the mysterious Obscurosmith, the siblings hatch a plan. Soon they are swept into a dangerous game with impossibly high stakes: defeat seven challenges by the stroke of midnight and both the Arcade and their father will be restored. But if they fail Pearl and Vally won't just lose Pa - they'll forget that he and the Arcade ever existed.

https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=756467

Lengthening Shadows / Franklin, Bob Affirm Press 2020 192 pages 9781922400529 \$ 24.95 / null 210 gm. The master of creeping unease and unrelenting consequences is back.

The vain and the cruel, the indifferent and the excessive, across ten tales of cut corners and grubby compromise, Bob Franklin turns his fairground mirror on contemporary Australia, with a cast of characters navigating modern life and trying to get by, get on and get away with whatever they can, whatever the cost.

A gaggle of comedians exchange escalating jokes about a needy fan. A small business owner delights in making top dollar off uncomprehending customers. A widower finds solace in a new dog that gives focus and purpose to his rage and grief. In 60s London a rock band rise and rise, aided by occult forces from another place. After dinner stories in an elite gentleman's club turn to impossible murder and skullduggery in an Australian mining company.

Gleefully macabre, drily menacing, chillingly acute, Franklin spares nobody. https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=756462

selection of the select

The Price of Two Sparrows / Collins, Christy Affirm Press 2021 288 pages 9781922400635 \$ 29.99 / null 380 gm.

Heico is an ornithologist fighting a losing battle to protect the birds in his beachside suburb. When a journalist asks for comment on a planned development, Heico exaggerates his reports on how many migratory birds use the site. Soon it is revealed that the proposed building is a mosque, and he finds himself embroiled in community resistance to the project. Still, he refuses to back down.

Nahla, Heico's house cleaner, is trying to find her place in a new country and a new marriage. Isolated and lonely, she sees the mosque as a symbol of what she hopes to find in Australia: community, familiarity, acceptance. But as resistance to the project intensifies, she must summon the courage and the language to claim her space in this new life.

Piercingly clear-eyed and deeply insightful, The Price of Two Sparrows explores what we hold sacred and why. It delicately picks apart questions of community and prejudice, religion and nature in the modern world. This is a beautiful and thought-provoking debut from an award-winning Australian writer.

https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=756568

Before the storm / Di Morrissey Pan Macmillan Australia Pty Ltd., Australia 2020 411 pages ; 23 cm. 9781760781736 \$ 34.99 / HB 680 gm.

After being double-crossed by a devious colleague, career woman Ellie Conlan quits her job on principle. With no idea what to do next, she retreats to Storm Harbour, an idyllic Victorian beach town. Ellie's grandfather runs The Storm Harbour Chronicle, the trusted local newspaper. As Ellie is drawn into a story about a development that could split the coastal community -- and involves her with the influential O'Neill family -- an event she has long suppressed threatens to overwhelm her. Dark clouds gather as rumours fly and tensions mount. And when a violent storm breaks and rages, Ellie will finally have to confront her past.

https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=756565

White Coat Tales / Suffian Hakim and NUS Medicine (Illustrator) Eugene Lim Epigram Books, Singapore 2021 192p.; 255x170mm.

9789814901598

\$ 17.90 / null

546 gm.

What does it take to be a doctor?

Divya, Yao Quan, Paul, Samantha and Shafia come from vastly different backgrounds but are aiming for the same goal: to graduate from the Yong Loo Lin School of Medicine in NUS as doctors. They hear it's not easy. It's not just difficult tests and a substantial syllabus they have to face; they're learning every day that the things they deal with are quite literally a matter of life and death. Written for both prospective students and the public, White Coat Tales is a fresh, honest look at the struggles they face as they earn their white coats and take on

the mantle of doctor.

https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=756938

Mr Tino: Volume 2 / Russell Molina and Mikey Marchan (Translator) Carljoe

Epigram Books, Singapore 2021

136p.

9789814845946

\$ 17.90 / null

242 gm.

Mr Tino is out for revenge. He finds out that the mastermind behind the abductions is someone from his past and what he wants is something Mr Tino is not prepared to give.

Mr Tino is a 66-year-old sundry store owner, a devoted husband to his dementiastricken wife and a loving father. One evening, his wife wanders outside and nearly gets hit by a truck if not for Mr Tino's superhuman strength that he surprisingly discovers he has. As Mr Tino comes to terms with his new powers, he learns that more children in his neighbourhood are mysteriously vanishing. Mr Tino becomes the vigilante the community desperately needs, but his crimefighting activities attract the wrong attention, and he is sent a tragic message. In this continuation of the shocking end in volume one, Mr Tino finds out that the perpetrator is someone from his past, and what he wants is something Mr Tino is not prepared to give. Russell Molina teams up with Mikey Marchan to deliver this gripping underdog superhero story.

https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=756935

Chronicles of a Circuit Breaker / Joseph Chiang (Ed) CT Lim

Epigram Books, Singapore 2021

viii, 80p.

9789814901550

\$ 17.90 / null

- 1. COVID-19 (Disease) Social aspects Singapore Comic Books, strips, etc. 2. COVID-19 (Disease) Singapore Prevention Comic books, strip, etc.
- 3. Singapore wit and humour, Pictorial

https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=756933

The Keepers of Stories / Suffian Hakim Epigram Books, Singapore 2021 216p. 9789814901468 \$ 22.99 / null 324 gm.

Longlisted for the Epigram Books Fiction Prize 2020.

In post-independence Singapore, tradition clashes with modernity in this compelling tale of the importance of defining one's own story.

When their father Sujakon comes home late one night, raving about bad people coming to take them away, siblings Zuzu and Hakeem are forced to leave everything behind and live in a tent at Changi Beach, with a secret community called Anak Bumi—the Children of the Earth. Here, they learn to live off the land and fend for themselves, and partake in a communal storytelling ritual under the stars called the Wayang Singa. But just as they've acclimatised to their new lives, their father disappears without a word and a strange man washes ashore warning of mortal danger from just offshore.

https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=756757

The Dogs / O Thiam Chin

Penguins Book (Penguin Random House), Singapore 2020

9789814882873

\$ 22.99 / null

338 gm.

In The Dogs, Guan, a middle-aged man, decides to move back into the flat that had once belonged to his late father, who had died in it a few months back. He sells off his old flat and, in the process, estranges himself from his own son, who is at a loss over his father's sudden decision. While trying to settle in and to make sense of the new surroundings, Guan slowly gets to know the residents of the block and becomes acquainted with a neighbour, an old lonely man who dresses in his dead wife's clothes. As Guan explores and discovers more of the estate he lives in, through his long walks, he starts to have flashbacks about his past,

remembering his childhood in a kampong in Singapore in the 1950s, and his close friendship with Heng Chong, a schoolmate. He recalls the pranks and games they played, the mischief they got into—prowling the Sembawang Hills estate and setting the dogs free from the big houses in that estate—and the secrets they shared, one of which was the mysterious death of Heng Chong's baby sister who died during birth, something which set the boys on a quest to find the truth behind it. As they delved more and more into their investigations, the friendship between them was slowly tested, gradually revealing the cracks that began to tear them apart. The arrival of a stray dog in their kampong, one that the boys adopted as their own, soon proved to be the catalyst that sparked off a chain of events that led to the dissolution of their friendship, and the unforeseen death of a loved one that cast a long, indelible shadow over Guan's life subsequently. As Guan looks into the past to find the answers to the mystery that surrounded this tragic death, he also comes to a clearer understanding of his present predication and learns to cope with his own personal losses and find ways to redeem himself from his past acts. In the act of negotiating his past and his pain, Guan finds new hopes in his solitude, and a new life he's slowly building with hard-won resilience, fortitude and purpose.

https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=756758

The Flesh Hunters / Jocelyn Suarez (Illustrator) Diane Lim

Epigram Books, Singapore 2021

290p.; 152x225mm.

9789814901574

\$ 22.99 / null

Longlisted for the Epigram Books Fiction Prize 2020 Hunters are a new breed of criminal. An aberration. Not human, not animal, but a

terrifying combination.

After a long absence, forensic psychologist Walter Kirino is back with the Hunter Intelligence Division, on the trail of a new Hunter. Following the bodies that the Highway Snatcher leaves behind, Walter is forced to interrogate the question: where is the line between Hunter and human? To find out, he will revisit his traumatic past and throw open the rooms in his mind where his nightmares lay slumbering.

https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=756759

The Good Guys / Darren Chen Epigram Books, Singapore 2021 200p. 9789814901536 \$ 22.99 / null

302 gm.

The Good Guys is a tale of failure and redemption. Set in Singapore in the not-so-

The Good Guys is a tale of failure and redemption. Set in Singapore in the not-so-distant future, superheroes, born from a worldwide conflict called War of the Long Winter, save the day. But who will save them when they break? The Good Guys is Darren Chen, a third-year law undergraduate's first novel.

Deep beneath the Singapore General Hospital is The Vault—a hidden sanctuary for broken superheroes in need of a little time-out. Away from the eyes of the worshipping public, they take the sofa and have a dose of therapy. But when a death occurs, the facility is immediately locked down. Small-time superhero, Landslide, finds himself in a whodunnit, and realises that being cooped up underground amongst unstable superheroes with immense power is not the best underground amongst unstable superheroes with immense power is not the best place to be...

https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=756890

One More Trip / Peter Burgess Burgess Home, Singapore 2019 136p. 9789811419119 \$ 25.00 / null 282 gm.

"One More Trip" is a series of 13 short stories by local author Peter H Burgess.

https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=747619

Modern Myths / Clara Chow

Math Paper Press (BooksActually), Singapore 2018

320p.

9789811162336

\$ 20.00 / null

318 gm.

Figures from Greek mythology take up residence in contemporary Singapore in this collection of stories that explores the pain and dilemma of modern living. What happens when you are doomed to repeat your actions over and over? Or have to remake your decisions, knowing that times have changed? What if struggling makes the divine human, and the human divine?

https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=746993

I Love Too Quietly: A Collection from 2014-2019 / Iskandar, Noor

Noor Iskandar, Singapore 2020

100p.

9789811438042

\$ 20.00 / null

114 gm.

"Within these pages are confessions, professions of unlove; untuk hati yang tak reti cinta lantang. Still swimming in the valley of spirituality, the theme of faith in this second collection encroaches on the banks of romantic love and loss; all very human, all very otherworldly and complex. The collection carries emotional bouts of the nomadic lover, spilling out of his caravan. Of frayed thoughts and convoluted idea of loving. How could the turbulent be so silent? And how could the placid be violent? The poet probes this inquiry in I Love Too Quietly as he paints verses of pain; duka dan kesepian. This is essentially an ode to all the almost lovers, who made me understand my love can only exist in almost silences, within a void."

The Orchid Folios / Mok Zining Ethos Books, Singapore 2020 144p. 9789811442940 \$ 19.00 / null 178 gm.

"When you take an orchid out of its pot, you must first loosen the roots' hold on the soil. Late last evening as I unravelled the braids of the shattered phalaenopsis, I saw how the ends were white and shrivelled from neglect. You have to do it gently—it's like combing hair. I remember Mum's fingers running through mine, and mine through hers, until the final months when all of it started to fall."

A pot shatters. An arrangement falls apart. A florist finds herself amidst the scattered leaves of history. At once a poetry collection and a documentary novella, The Orchid Folios reimagines the orchid as a living, breathing document of history: a history that enmeshes the personal, colonial, linguistic, and biotechnological with the Vanda Miss Joaquim, the symbol of Singapore's postcolonial hybridity. While the Orchid has shaped the fantastical narratives that govern our multiracial City in a Garden, it continues to shape-shift and bloom on its own terms, challenging us to imagine a decolonised Singapore. This is the organism at the heart of The Orchid Folios—by turns stark and unruly, documenting and challenging the narratives that are the roots of our national consciousness.

https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=750581

Camera and Quill / Anita A. Thomas and Neil Daswani Kitaab, Singapore 2021 76p. 9789811461804 \$ 25.00 / null 174 gm.

Camera & Quill is a collaborative work of paired photograph-poems that explores how the camera and the quill interpret the same transient moment from individual reservoirs of reason and reflection. Anita's photographs (taken on various models of the iPhone) capture everyday moments of mood and meaning. They defy characterisation but have a strong underlying theme of light. For Neil, the freeze frames were a nudge and an invitation to shape-shift into poetry the saga and the song each photograph whispered to him. This collection of work mines personal experiences and private philosophies, as evidenced by the separate titles given by the photographer and the poet to each paired photograph-poem.

https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=750579

Shezlez: The Self-Proclaimed / Marko Vignjevic

Ethos Books, Singapore 2020

124p.

9789811441196

\$ 18.60 / null

146 gm.

Shezlez the Self-Proclaimed is an absurdist story about a poor man's ambition to organise his own political party in an unnamed country characterised by moral apathy, poverty and heartless bureaucracy. Upon his first speech, so rousing as to attract the attention of the Progressive Party, Shezlez finds himself embroiled in a corrupt scheme of deceit and backstabbing in the leadup to the upcoming mayoral elections. A Machiavellian tale of political ambition, Shezlez the Self-Proclaimed examines the fickleness of loyalty, and interrogates the perennial question of whether the pursuit of power, no matter how idealistic its genesis, can ever remain a noble quest.

https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=750580

Interpreter of Winds / Fairoz Ahmad Ethos Books, Singapore 2019 104p 9789811194443 \$ 10.00 / null 84 gm.

Often an unnoticed caress on our faces, winds are voiceless and formless. How do we interpret them? What mysteries can we find in the whispers of winds? From a Dutch occupied Java where a witch was murdered, a dog who desires to be a Muslim, to a day in which all sense of music is lost, the mundane is aflame with the uncanny.

In these stories, Fairoz Ahmad invites you to take a closer look at ordinary objects, as they take on a life of their own and spin gossamer threads. This book is a celebration of the little charms and enchantments of our universes amidst struggles and eventual helplessness.

https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=746991

Call And Response 2 / Zakir Hossain Khokan (et al.) Math Paper Press (BooksActually), Singapore 2020 1v. 9789811498046

\$ 25.00 / null

"Migrant. Citizen. Foreign Talent. Singaporean. Local. Expatriate. Immigrant. Permanent Resident. Migrant Worker." What do these words mean, and how do they make you feel when you say them, or when you hear them said to you? When a border is crossed, when a passport is stamped, when you taste a familiar dish or hear a familiar accent – who truly belongs where, and to what or whom? This sequel anthology brings together more than seventy writers and poets with differing relationships to the words "Singapore" and "migrant". They were paired up, and asked to write to each other, and respond – and they came back with stories and poems that cover everything from the ache of homesickness to the sting of prejudice, from the tingle of romance to the balm of friendship. Once again, we call you into a listening space, to hear voices familiar and foreign, fervent and fearless, funny, forthright and too often forgotten – we hope you respond.

https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=749640

Water Drop Journeys : A Tale of Love and Kindness / Tan, Eng Chew (Ed) Lee, Wei (Foreword) Dr Peter Mack

Tan Eng Chew, Singapore 2021

xxvi, 110p.; 12.8x19.9cm.

9789811495878

\$ 45.00 / null

188 gm.

Water Drop Journeys - a Tale of Love and Kindness, encapsulates all the above in an adventure by a water drop and its encounters along the way. The story highlights two core values, love and kindness, for oneself, others and Mother Earth. It explores the truth behind our beliefs and conditioning - our self limiting thoughts which impede us from reaching our full potential and stop us from connecting fully within ourselves and with others. There are short mindfulness practices (with audio clips) interwoven within the story to teach readers how to stay grounded and guide them towards self discovery. These mindfulness practices known as "rituals" help readers bring their awareness to their bodily sensations, surroundings, thoughts and emotions. With practice, one can convert such awareness practices into a daily ritual to help one focus, relax or stay grounded in the present moment. As the contents are presented as a children's story, this book is suitable for readers of all ages, meeting each exactly at the point one is as the interpretation is based on one's experiences.

https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=749982

Moth: Stories / Leonora Liow Ethos Books, Singapore 2015

300p.

9789810937584 \$ 25.00 / null

296 gm.

A young girl's ambitions prompt dark stirrings in her nature. A father reckons with a lifetime of dysfunctional family relations. A foreign worker is cut adrift on a raft of shattered dreams. In the title story "Moth", a condemned woman reclaims her broken dignity.

In a collection that resonates with life's poignance, humour and irony, Leonora Liow explores the private universe of individuals navigating the arcane waters of human existence and masterfully illuminates the extraordinary humanity that endures.

https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=749888

After the Enquiry / Jolene Tan Ethos Books, Singapore 2021 220p. 9789811466878

\$ 19.00 / null

254 gm.

Police sergeant Hafiz lies in a coma after a gunshot to the head. The investigation by Internal Affairs uncovered a game of Russian roulette gone wrong, and the case is now closed. But there are rumbles of concern in the Ministry, and middleaged civil servant Boon Teck—assisted by young colleague Nithya—is dispatched to take another look.

Suffused with mystery and intrigue, After the Inquiry steps into the mirror maze of Singapore's bureaucracy, where silvered surfaces hide troubling secrets and those who search for the truth risk getting lost...

https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=756760

Tinhead City, KL / Suart Danker Epigram Books, Singapore 2021 240p. 9789814901628

\$ 17.90 / null

234 gm.

In this dystopian KL, a faceless corporation manages the city and hope is as toxic as the air.

Abandoned by his father, 19-year-old Zachary Ti learns to fend for himself in the new, gritty world of KL, a district overrun by tinheads that are issuing capital punishment for the slightest of offences. When he accidentally kills two of the cyborgs, Zach is forced to join an elite rebel faction whose methods are more than questionable. Soon he is sent back into the fray of KL—but this time he is a wanted man.

https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=756761

Children of the Ark / Teo Xue Shen Epigrams Books, Singapore 2021 328p. 9789814901444 \$ 17.90 / null 318 gm.

Longlisted for the Epigram Books Fiction Prize 2020

An underground rebel group sneaks around Singapore using Forbidden Paths to save shunned children called the Pentagons.

Zan loathes the children called Pentagons, but she is tasked to save them.

The rescue missions lead her to confront a long-buried past and a deep-seated hatred.

Zan loves her coffee, her parang and her best (and only) friend Rani. She is focused on serving out her time with an underground organisation called ARK when she meets Ray, a mysterious fighter everyone fears. Paired to battle grotesque creatures in the Forbidden Paths, Zan discovers she and Ray have more in common than she thinks.

https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=756762

Sign Language for the Death of Reason / Linda Collins Math Paper Press (BookActually), Singapore 2021 156p.

9789811498039

\$ 25.00 / null

272 gm.

Sign Language for the Death of Reason tries to make sense of a post-traumatic Sign Language for the Death of Reason tries to make sense of a post-traumatic life in poems that are mesmerising in their beauty and stark truthfulness. Sign Language is Linda Collins's poetic response to her memoir, Loss Adjustment, about the death by suicide of her daughter, Victoria. Set in a dreamy state of irrationality and unreality, where nothing is certain and yet, hope of certainty persists, a narrator who could be Collins, and a persona who could be Victoria, explore loss and love, from the longing arising from bereavement or loss of identity, to sexual yearning, and survivor grief.

Along the way, two women evolve in their relationships, though one is dead, or is she? If the self is a construct of history, who is this spectral creature haunting the living?

My heart is calm, beats slowly. All life's doing is done.

Birds are at eye level. How easy it would seem to fly a while with them. Then

Did you imagine leaf-tipped bark arms reaching to carry you to the next world?

https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=756763

Motherfuckerland / Ed Lin

Math Paper Press (BookActually), Singapore 2021

256p.

9789811498022

\$ 25.00 / HB

378 gm.

White, New Jersey wastoid Sean Kerry is fresh out of jail, working at a dead-end burger stand on the shore. His Black parole officer, James O'Keefe, has threatened to kill Sean if he gets high again, and ruins O'Keefe's chances for a promotion. At an adjacent hotel, a South Asian couple, the Angrywalls, are seeing their marriage tested by poor business and racist harrassment from the anonymous Dotbusters. When Sean's co-worker disappears, all four of their lives are really as and the shared forever and access are going to end up in slings. will collide and be changed forever, and asses are going to end up in slings, as they say in Jersey. Part crime, part neorealist, and very funny, Motherfuckerland will leave no reader feeling impartial.

https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=756764

The Geneology of Kings: Sulalat al-Salatin / Tun Seri Lanang (Translator) Prof Muhamad Haji Salleh

Penguins Book (Penguin Random House), Singapore 2020

xiv, 314p.

Includes Index; Bibliography

9789814914185 \$ 24.99 / null

436 gm.

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