

The Hakawati Rabih Alameddine

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Modern Arab American Fiction

An American woman determined to learn the Arabic language travels to the Middle East to pursue her dream in this “witty memoir” (Us Weekly). The shadda is the key difference between a pigeon (hamam) and a bathroom (hammam). Be careful, our

professor advised, that you don't ask a waiter, 'Excuse me, where is the pigeon?'—or, conversely, order a roasted toilet . . . If you've ever studied a foreign language, you know what happens when you first truly and clearly communicate with another person. As Zora O'Neill recalls, you feel like a magician. If that foreign language is Arabic, you just might feel like a wizard. They say that Arabic takes seven years to learn and a lifetime to master. O'Neill had put in her time. Steeped in grammar tomes and outdated textbooks, she faced an increasing certainty that she was not only failing to master Arabic, but also driving herself crazy. She took a decade-long hiatus, but couldn't shake her fascination with the language or the cultures it had opened up to her. So she decided to jump back in—this time with a new approach. In this book, she takes us along on her grand tour through the Middle East, from Egypt to the United Arab Emirates to Lebanon and Morocco. She's packed her dictionaries, her unsinkable sense of humor, and her talent for making fast friends of strangers. From quiet, bougainvillea-lined streets to the lively buzz of crowded medinas, from families' homes to local hotspots, she brings a part of the world thousands of miles away right to your door—and reminds us that learning another tongue leaves you rich with so much more than words. "You will travel through countries and across centuries, meeting professors and poets, revolutionaries, nomads, and nerds . . . [A] warm and hilarious book." —Annia Ciezadlo, author of *Day of Honey* "Her tale of her 'Year of Speaking Arabic Badly' is a genial and revealing pleasure." —The Seattle Times

Square Moon: Supernatural Tails (p)

A happily misanthropic Middle East divorcee finds refuge in books in a “beautiful and absorbing” novel of late-life crisis (The New York Times). Aaliya is a divorced, childless, and reclusively cranky translator in Beirut nurturing doubts about her latest project: a 900-page avant-garde, linguistically serpentine historiography by a late Chilean existentialist. Honestly, at seventy-two, should she be taking on such a project? Not that Aaliya fears dying. Women in her family live long; her mother is still going crazy. But on this lonely day, hour-by-hour, Aaliya’s musings on literature, philosophy, her career, and her aging body, are suddenly invaded by memories of her volatile past. As she tries in vain to ward off these emotional upwellings, Aaliya is faced with an unthinkable disaster that threatens to shatter the little life she has left. In this “meditation on, among other things, aging, politics, literature, loneliness, grief and resilience” (The New York Times), Alameddine conjures “a beguiling narrator . . . who is, like her city, hard to read, hard to take, hard to know and, ultimately, passionately complex” (San Francisco Chronicle). A finalist for the National Book Critics Circle Award and the National Book Award, *An Unnecessary Woman* is “a fun, and often funny . . . grave, powerful . . . [and] extraordinary” (Washington Independent Review of Books) ode to literature and its power to define who we are. “Read it once, read it twice, read other books for a decade or so, and then pick it up and read it anew. This one’s a keeper” (The Independent)

Salt Houses

Written in the opening phases of the Lebanese Civil War (1975--1990), *Little Mountain* is told from the perspectives of three characters: a Joint Forces fighter; a distressed civil servant; and an amorphous figure, part fighter, part intellectual. Elias Khoury's language is poetic and piercing as he tells the story of Beirut, civil war, and fractured identity.

My Cat Yugoslavia

Reveals how the everyday activities of Palestinians have become encumbered by the permits, curfews, and other bureaucratic hurdles associated with the region's institutionalized peace-keeping methods, in a report that offers insight into the tragic ways in which communities are becoming increasingly isolated from their lands and livelihoods.

A Girl Made of Dust

Hakawati zarabia na życie opowiadaniem historii. To jego praca, powołanie i przeznaczenie. Informatyk, na pozór typowy Amerykanin z Los Angeles, wraca do rodzinnego miasta, żeby pożegnać się z chorym ojcem. Wie, że powinien zakończyć historię, która zaczęła się w tym samym miejscu wiele lat temu. Kiedy wokół łóżka umierającego ojca skupia się cała rodzina, Osama zaczyna swoją opowieść. Wskrzesza nie żyjących już od dawna ludzi, swoich pradziadków, zwariowane ciotki i barwnych wujków. Z nieprawdopodobnych historii wyłania się obraz

intrygującego Libanu, który tętni życiem, buzuje od nagromadzonych opowieści i przenikających się kultur.

Dreams of Water

"She'd told herself, and her husband Tom, that she was coming to rescue Vicky. And she was. She would. She'd been rescuing her sister her entire life. But she'd never done anything remotely this extreme. She knew the region had been evacuated, and yet somehow hadn't pictured everyone literally gone. . . .The stark, devastated landscape heightened all her senses, as if her fear made the colors deeper, the smells headier, the sounds crisper. She couldn't give in to the terror; if she did, it might never end. She had no choice but to finish what she'd begun." A devastating earthquake has just hit the San Francisco Bay Area, cutting off the outside world completely. When Lily decides to fly from Nebraska to California and make the treacherous journey into the Bay Area to find her sister, she knows she's headed for a disaster zone, but nothing prepares her for what she finds. Those who survived and didn't evacuate are making shelters, running meals programs, rigging their own technologies--and redefining the very meaning of community. Lily bands together with a couple of feral kids, a steadfast activist, and a bonobo researcher, among others, to forge a new life. A piercing, unforgettable story of hope in the face of crisis, *The Evolution of Love* asks what does it take for people to come together, what dangers must they fend off in their bid for survival, and what lengths will

they go to rebuild home.

Sepharad

"A Life In Books is an illuminated novel containing 101 books within it, all written by Lehrer's protagonist, author Bleu Mobley, who finds himself in prison looking back on his life and career. Mobley's autobiography/apologia is paired with a review of all 101 of his books. Each book is represented by its first-edition cover design and catalogue copy, and more than a third of his books are excerpted. The resulting retrospective contrasts the published writings (which read like short stories) with the author's confessional memoir, forming a most unusual portrait of a well-intentioned, obsessively inventive (but ethically challenged) visionary."--Publisher description.

The Hakawati

Stories Of Depth And Eloquence That Take Us To The Very Heart Of The Indian Experience For More Than Twenty Years Mark Tully Was The Bbc Chief Of Bureau In Delhi And His Name And His Voice Became Synonymous With The Country He Had Made His Home. For Years He Sent Back Dispatches Interpreting The Subcontinent To The Outside World, But The 'Truth' Of India Is Remarkably Resistant To Reportage. Imbued With His Love For India And Informed By His Vast Experience, Mark Tully Has Woven Together A Series Of Extraordinary Stories. All The Stories Are Set In Uttar Pradesh And Tell Of Very Different Lives. Of A Barren Wife Who Visits A Holy

Man And Subsequently Conceive-But Is It A Miracle Or Something More Worldly? Of A Son'S Carefully Laid Plot To Take Revenge Against His Father'S Murderer, With A Surprising Twist When His Case Comes To Court. Of A Daughter, Persuaded By Her Friends To Spurn An Arranged Marriage, Whose Romance Ends In Blackmail. Of A Man'S Inability To Overcome The Conventions Of Caste And Go Into Business, Which Leads To His Wife Breaking Purdah And Taking Control Of The Family. In These And In Other Stories, Mark Tully Delicately Probes The Nuances Of Life In India.

The Turtle of Oman

'Stunning' New York Times Book Review 'Here it comes, the book of the year, on its own magic carpet. No book this bewitching has ever felt so important; no book this important has ever been so lovingly enchanted. The Hakawati is both a snapshot of our current crisis, and a story for the ages. What else can we ask the djinn of literature for?' Andrew Sean Greer, author of the Pulitzer Prize-winning *Less* In 2003, Osama al-Kharrat returns to Beirut after many years in America to stand vigil at his father's deathbed. As the family gathers, stories begin to unfold: Osama's grandfather was a hakawati, or storyteller, and his bewitching tales are interwoven with classic stories of the Middle East. Here are Abraham and Isaac; Ishmael, father of the Arab tribes; the beautiful Fatima; Baybars, the slave prince who vanquished the Crusaders; and a host of mischievous imps. Through Osama, we also enter the world of the contemporary

Lebanese men and women whose stories tell a larger, heartbreaking tale of seemingly endless war, conflicted identity, and survival. With *The Hakawati*, Rabih Alameddine has given us an Arabian Nights for this century. 'Sharp, seductive storytelling' *O, The Oprah Magazine*

Post-War Anglophone Lebanese Fiction: Home Matters in the Diaspora

In 2003, Osama al-Kharrat returns to Beirut after many years in America to stand vigil at his father's deathbed. As the family gathers, stories begin to unfold: Osama's grandfather was a hakawati, or storyteller, and his bewitching tales are interwoven with classic stories of the Middle East. Here are Abraham and Isaac; Ishmael, father of the Arab tribes; the beautiful Fatima; Baybars, the slave prince who vanquished the Crusaders; and a host of mischievous imps. Through Osama, we also enter the world of the contemporary Lebanese men and women whose stories tell a larger, heartbreaking tale of seemingly endless war, conflicted identity, and survival. With *The Hakawati*, Rabih Alameddine has given us an Arabian Nights for this century. From the Trade Paperback edition.

A Good Land

In an intense, emotional mystery that spans a decade in the life of a small town, bestselling author Brian Freeman brings us an unforgettable heroine who discovers that the dead may sometimes be easier to

rescue than the living. Deputy Shelby Lake was abandoned as a baby, saved by a stranger who found her in the freezing cold. Now, years later, a young boy is missing—and Shelby is the one who must rescue a child. The only evidence of what happened to ten-year-old Jeremiah Sloan is a bicycle left behind on a lonely road. After a desperate search fails to locate him, the close bonds of Shelby's hometown begin to fray under the weight of accusations and suspicion. Everyone around her is keeping secrets. Her adoptive father, her best friend, her best friend's young daughter—they all have something to hide. Even Shelby is concealing a mistake that could jeopardize her career and her future. Unearthing the lies of the people in Jeremiah's life doesn't get the police and the FBI any closer to finding him. As time passes and the case grows cold, Shelby worries that the mystery will stay buried forever under the deep, deep snow. But even the deepest snow melts in the spring. When a tantalizing clue finally comes to light, Shelby must confront the darkest lie of all. Exposing the truth about Jeremiah will leave no one's life untouched—including her own.

Cockroach

"Already an international sensation: a debut novel that tells a love story set in two countries in two radically different moments in time, bringing together a young man, his mother, a boa constrictor, and one capricious cat. In 1980s Yugoslavia, a young Muslim girl is married off to a man she hardly knows, but what was meant to be a happy match goes quickly

wrong. Soon thereafter her country is torn apart by war and she and her family flee. Years later, her son, Bekim, grows up a social outcast in present day Finland, not just an immigrant in a country suspicious of foreigners, but a gay man in an unaccepting society. Aside from casual hookups, his only friend is a boa constrictor whom, improbably--he is terrified of snakes--he lets roam his apartment. But during a visit to a gay bar, Bekim meets a talking cat who moves in with him and his snake. It is this witty, charming, manipulative creature who starts Bekim on a journey back to Kosovo to confront his demons, and make sense of the magical, cruel, incredible history of his family. And it is this that, in turn, enables him finally, to open himself to true love--which he will find in the most unexpected place."--

The Heart of India

The four interlocking narratives that make up this extraordinary novel belong to four women who live in the same apartment building in Beirut during the Lebanese civil war. There is Lilian with her two children, desperate to emigrate, with or without her husband. Warda cannot recover from the loss of her daughter, and finds that no matter how many times she goes over it, the story of her life no longer makes sense. Camilia has returned to Beirut to make a film about her former homeland, but becomes irrevocably caught up in its violence. Maha remains in the building even as her family, her neighbours, her city, and her country fracture around her. As the war continues each day, unending, divisions between past

and present begin to break down. Younes' intimate, haunting attention to these women's lives creates an unforgettable portrait not only of her characters but of the nature of war. Here, loss is the city's most constant resident, and its story will inevitably overcome all the rest.

Here All Dwell Free

Exploring the works of such best-selling authors as Rabih Alameddine, Mohja Kahf, Laila Halaby, Diana Abu-Jaber, Alicia Erian, and Randa Jarrar, Salaita highlights the development of each author's writing and how each has influenced Arab American fiction. He examines common themes including the Israel-Palestine conflict, the Lebanese Civil War of 1975-90, the representation and practice of Islam in the United States, social issues such as gender and national identity in Arab cultures, and the various identities that come with being Arab American. Combining the accessibility of a primer with in-depth critical analysis, *Modern Arab American Fiction* is suitable for a broad audience, those unfamiliar with the subject area, as well as scholars of the literature.

The Deep, Deep Snow

Master's Thesis from the year 2016 in the subject English Language and Literature Studies - Literature, grade: 9.2, University of Hyderabad (school of humanities,centre for comparative literature), course: MA, language: English, abstract: This book is about Arab Anglophone fiction produced after 9/11 in the

United States. It attempts to analyze how the writers of such a period portray the life of Arab Americans in a post-9/11 America. It shows how Arab Americans dealt with the consequences of 9/11. It reflects several aspects that characterize Arab American writing as a diasporic narrative, such as memory and home, racialization, anti-Arab sentiment and urgency of expression, and how Arab Americans responded to the terrorist attack of 9/11. The study also investigates the role of Anglophone Arab fiction in paving the way for more intercultural understanding and attempting to de-orientalize the Arab. What I found is that some writers often try to negotiate with the American culture in order to arrive at an identity that incorporates multiple elements from both the culture of origin and the host culture. Hybrid and cosmopolitan in their approach, such writers also attempt to be cultural mediators, and they show much concern about subverting the normative judgment and stereotypical image that has fixed the Arab American. Works of fiction produced by Anglophone Arab writers, such as Laila Halaby's *Once in a Promised Land*, Rabih Alameddine's *The Hakawati*, and Alia Yunis' *The Night Counter* represented how Arab Americans faced difficulties after 9/11 in terms of identity construction, cultural identification, and the conflicting sense of belonging and non-belonging. These works genuinely depict the life of Arab Americans and give a better understanding of who Arabs are. They also interlink both the Arab culture and American culture, celebrating both cultural identities.

B as in Beirut

De Niro's Game

A collection of 30 traditional Syrian and Lebanese folktales infused with new life by Lebanese women, collected by Najla Khoury. While civil war raged in Lebanon, Najla Khoury traveled with a theater troupe, putting on shows in marginal areas where electricity was a luxury, in air raid shelters, Palestinian refugee camps, and isolated villages. Their plays were largely based on oral tales, and she combed the country in search of stories. Many years later, she chose one hundred stories from among the most popular and published them in Arabic in 2014, exactly as she received them, from the mouths of the storytellers who told them as they had heard them when they were children from their parents and grandparents. Out of the hundred stories published in Arabic, Inea Bushnaq and Najla Khoury chose thirty for this book.

Lovers on All Saints' Day

Through a series of first chapters of unfinished novels and memoirs, Sarah Nour El-Din, a Lebanese-American artist, narrates the story of her life, from growing up in a hybrid family in war-torn Beirut and her own self-imposed exile in the United States to her struggle to deal with her family problems and her determination to tell her own story. Reprint. 10,000 first printing.

A Life in Books

Winner of the Dayton Literary Peace Prize and the Arab American Book Award Named a Best Book of the Year by NPR * Nylon * Kirkus Reviews * Bustle * BookPage “Moving and beautifully written.” — Entertainment Weekly On the eve of her daughter Alia’s wedding, Salma reads the girl’s future in a cup of coffee dregs. She sees an unsettled life for Alia and her children; she also sees travel and luck. While she chooses to keep her predictions to herself that day, they will all soon come to pass when the family is uprooted in the wake of the Six-Day War of 1967. Lyrical and heartbreaking, *Salt Houses* follows three generations of a Palestinian family and asks us to confront that most devastating of all truths: you can’t go home again. “[Alyan is] a master.” — Los Angeles Review of Books “Beautiful . . . An example of how fiction is often the best filter for the real world around us.” — NPR “Gorgeous and sprawling . . . Heart-wrenching, lyrical and timely.” — Dallas Morning News “[*Salt Houses*] illustrate[s] the inherited longing and sense of dislocation passed like a baton from mother to daughter.” — New York Times Book Review

The Hakawati

Every human being lives a fairy tale -- an unconscious myth that works on us, shapes us, and points to our truth. Often the story is filled with danger and foreboding. The good news is, for those who examine it closely, the story also carries with it balm and healing. 'Here All Dwell Free' is an in-depth

exploration of two classic fairy tales that have particular significance for women. The Handless Maiden will resonate in a special way with women who feel powerless in the contemporary world. In a similar way, Briar Rose is about falling asleep and waking, of abandonment and allowing oneself to be discovered by love. While the stories recounted here may be ancient, they speak to us today in unmistakable symbolic language, inviting us to enter them, live them, and be made whole again.

Authorial Deliberation and Transcendental Signification in Rabih Alameddine's The Hakawati

This accessible, exquisite novel shines with gentle humor and explores themes of moving, family, nature, and immigration. It tells the story of Aref Al-Amri, who must say good-bye to everything and everyone he loves in his hometown of Muscat, Oman, as his family prepares to move to Ann Arbor, Michigan. This is acclaimed poet and National Book Award Finalist Naomi Shihab Nye's first novel set in the Middle East since her acclaimed *Habibi*. Aref Al-Amri does not want to leave Oman. He does not want to leave his elementary school, his friends, or his beloved grandfather, Siddi. He does not want to live in Ann Arbor, Michigan, where his parents will go to graduate school. His mother is desperate for him to pack his suitcase, but he refuses. Finally, she calls Siddi for help. But rather than pack, Aref and Siddi go on a series of adventures. They visit the camp of a thousand stars deep in the desert, they sleep on

Siddi's roof, they fish in the Gulf of Oman and dream about going to India, and they travel to the nature reserve to watch the sea turtles. At each stop, Siddi finds a small stone that he later slips into Aref's suitcase—mementos of home. Naomi Shihab Nye's warmth, attention to detail, and belief in the power of empathy and connection shines from every page. Features black-and-white spot art and decorations by Betsy Peterschmidt.

Post-9/11 Anglophone Arab Fiction. A Dialogue Between the West and the Arab World

When Gabriel Santoro publishes his first book, a biography of a Jewish family friend who fled Germany for Colombia shortly before World War Two, it never occurs to him that his father will write a devastating review in a national newspaper. Why does he attack him so viciously? Do the pages of his book unwittingly hide some dangerous secret? As Gabriel sets out to discover what lies behind his father's anger, he finds himself undertaking an examination of the guilt and complicity at the heart of Colombian society, as one treacherous act perpetrated in those dark days returns with a vengeance half a century later.

All Strangers Are Kin

Set during the 1980s civil war in Lebanon, 'Dreams of Water' is compulsively readable, deceptively simple and overwhelmingly moving.

Beirut Blues

Mahmud Darwish, Samih al-Qasim and Adonis are amongst the leading poets in the Arab world today. Victims of a Map presents some of their finest work in translation, alongside the original Arabic, including thirteen poems by Darwish never before published – in English or Arabic – and a long work by Adonis written during the 1982 siege of Beirut, also published here for the first time.

The Evolution of Love

Cockroach is as urgent, unsettling, and brilliant as Rawi Hage's bestselling and critically acclaimed first book, De Niro's Game. The novel takes place during one month of a bitterly cold winter in Montreal's restless immigrant community, where a self-described thief has just tried but failed to commit suicide. Rescued against his will, the narrator is obliged to attend sessions with a well-intentioned but naive therapist. This sets the story in motion, leading us back to the narrator's violent childhood in a war-torn country, forward into his current life in the smoky emigre cafes where everyone has a tale, and out into the frozen night-time streets of Montreal, where the thief survives on the edge, imagining himself to be a cockroach invading the lives of the privileged, but wilfully blind, citizens who surround him. In 2008, Cockroach was a finalist for the Scotiabank Giller Prize, the Governor General's Literary Award, and the Rogers Writers' Trust Fiction Prize. It won the Paragraphe Hugh MacLennan Prize for Fiction,

presented by the Quebec Writers' Federation.

Pearls on a Branch

From the award-winning, bestselling author of *The Sound of Things Falling* and *Reputations*, a brilliant collection of stories that showcases why he is one of the best writers—in any language—working today. *Lovers on All Saints' Day* is an emotional book that haunts, moves, and seduces. Juan Gabriel Vásquez, the brilliant novelist, now brings his keen eye and rich prose to the themes of love and memory in these seven powerful stories. Vásquez achieves an extraordinary unity of emotion with these fragmented lives. A Colombian writer is witness to a murder that will mark him forever. A woman sits alone in her house, waiting for her husband to return from an expedition to find wood for their stove, while he lies in another woman's bed a few miles away, unable to heal the wound in his own marriage. In these stories, there are love affairs, revenge, troubled pasts, and tender moments that reveal a person's whole history in a few sentences. Set in Europe (the scene of Vásquez's own self-imposed exile from Latin America) and never before available in English, this collection evokes a singular mood and a tone, and showcase Vásquez's hypnotic writing. Vásquez is a humane, deeply insightful writer, and these stories leave one feeling transformed from the experience of reading them, with a greater vision of humanity and society, a greater understanding of relationships and of love. From the Hardcover edition.

In-between Identities

This book examines the phenomenon of the post-civil war Anglophone Lebanese fictional narrative. The texts chosen for study have been produced in, and are substantially about, life in exile. They therefore deal not only with the brutal civil strife in Lebanon (1975-1990) but with one of its crucial and long-standing by-products: expatriation. Syrine Hout shows how these texts characterise a distinctly new literary and cultural trend and have founded an Anglophone Lebanese diasporic literature. The authors discussed in the book are Rabih Alameddine, Tony Hanania, Rawi Hage, Nada Awar Jarra, Patricia Sarrafian Ward and Nathalie Ab-Ezzi. In her exploration of their writings Hout teases out the different meanings and reformulations of home, be it Lebanon as a nation, a house, a host country, an irretrievable pre-war childhood, a state of in-between dwelling, a portable state of mind, and/or a utopian ideal.

Koolaid's

Stories on the culture clash experienced by Lebanese war refugees in Paris. The stories follow men and women as they adjust to Western mores, in particular the more liberal relations between the sexes.

My Mother She Killed Me, My Father He Ate Me

With the acclaim won by her first two novels, Hanan al-Shaykh established herself as the Arab world's

foremost woman writer. Beirut Blues, published to similar acclaim, further confirms her place in Arabic literature, and brings her writing to a new, groundbreaking level. The daring fragmented structure of this epistolary novel mirrors the chaos surrounding the heroine, Asmahan, as she futilely writes letters to her loved ones, to her friends, to Beirut, and to the war itself--letters of lament that are never to be answered except with their own resounding echoes. In Beirut Blues, Hanan al-Shaykh evokes a Beirut that has been seen by few, and that will never be seen again.

Palestine Inside Out: An Everyday Occupation

'A profoundly beautiful novel that infolds the political with the personal in unexpected and new ways . . . An extraordinary book' Neel Mukherjee, New Statesman, 'Books of the Year 2016' 'His stories take the reader into the labyrinth that is the mind . . . The Angel of History is digressive and daring' the Economist 'Alameddine has created a scintillating, original work whose moral complexity and detail of observation are wholly contemporary and entirely his own' Spectator Set over the course of one night in the waiting room of a psych clinic, The Angel of History follows Yemeni-born poet Jacob as he revisits the events of his life, from his maternal upbringing in an Egyptian whorehouse to his adolescence under the aegis of his wealthy father and his life as a gay Arab man in San Francisco at the height of AIDS. Hovered over by the presence of alluring, sassy Satan who taunts Jacob to

remember his painful past and dour, frigid Death who urges him to forget and give up on life, Jacob is also attended to by 14 saints. Set in Cairo and Beirut; Sana'a, Stockholm, and San Francisco; Alameddine gives us a charged philosophical portrait of a brilliant mind in crisis. This is a profound, philosophical and hilariously winning story of the war between memory and oblivion we wrestle with every day of our lives. 'Here is a book, full of story, unrepentantly political at every level. At a time when many western writers seem to be in retreat from saying anything that could be construed as political, Alameddine says it all, shamelessly, gloriously and, realised like his Satan, in the most stylish of forms' the Guardian

A Hand Full of Stars

Using Islamic tradition as a resource, the poets, novelists, playwright, filmmaker, and illustrator in this study discover signs of God's creative actions amid the tensions of contemporary Muslim American identity.

The Informers

An “amazing” novel about the diaspora of Sephardic Jews amid the tumult of twentieth century history (The Washington Post Book World). From one of Spain’s most celebrated writers, this extraordinary blend of fiction, history, and memoir tells the story of the Sephardic diaspora through seventeen interlinked chapters. “If Balzac wrote The Human Comedy, [Antonio] Muñoz Molina has written the adventure of

exile, solitude, and memory,” Arturo Pérez-Reverte observed of this “masterpiece” that shifts seamlessly from the past to the present along the escape routes employed by Sephardic Jews across countries and continents as they fled Hitler’s Holocaust and Stalin’s purges in the mid-twentieth century (The New York Review of Books). In a remarkable display of narrative dexterity, Muñoz Molina fashions a “rich and complex story” out of the experiences of people both real and imagined: Eugenia Ginzburg and Greta Buber-Neumann, one on a train to the gulag, the other heading toward a Nazi concentration camp; a shoemaker and a nun who become lovers in a small Spanish town; and Primo Levi, bound for Auschwitz (Milwaukee Journal-Sentinel). From the well-known to the virtually unknown, all of Muñoz Molina’s characters are voices of separation, nostalgia, love, and endless waiting. “Stories that vibrate beneath the burden of history, that lift with the breath of human life.” —Los Angeles Times Book Review “A magnificent novel about the iniquity and horror of fanaticism, and especially the human being’s indestructible spirit.” —Mario Vargas Llosa “Moving and often astonishing.” —The New York Times

The Angel of History

Osama al-Kharrat left Lebanon at 16 to escape the civil war. He returns after some years, much changed, to find his father bedridden and his family, friends and enemies gathered close, gossiping, making peace, and above all telling stories. Hakawati means storyteller, and Osama's grandfather was one of the

best. From Uncle Jihad to the family doctor Tin Can, each member of Osama's circle is joined in a vigil that crosses continents, spans centuries, celebrates love, recounts war, and creates an epic picture of the region: one that is both mythic and painfully real. "Listen. Let me take you on a journey beyond imagining. Let me tell you a story"

Little Mountain

Marie and Leila develop a friendship in their shared apartment block in Beirut. But when Marie dies suddenly in the night, Leila is shocked to find that her life was not as she had been told. Leila travels all over Europe to search for the truth of her dear friend. Two wars generations apart, two women brought inextricably together.

I, The Divine: A Novel in First Chapters

A first novel with tremendous heart, which captures both a country and a childhood in turmoil. Ten-year-old Ruba lives in a village outside Beirut. From her family home, she can see the buildings shimmering on the horizon and the sea stretched out beside them. She can also hear the rumble of the shelling – this is Lebanon in the 1980s and civil war is tearing the country apart. Ruba however has her own worries. Her father hardly ever speaks and spends most of his days sitting in his armchair, avoiding work and family. Her mother looks so sad that Ruba thinks her heart might have withered in the heat like a fig. Her elder brother, Naji, has started to spend his time with older

boys – and some of them have guns. When Ruba decides she has to save her father, and when she uncovers his secret, she begins a journey which takes her from childhood to the beginnings of adulthood.

Victims of a Map

Experience a wonderfully complex world of characters and cultures as you explore modern Damascus with a spirited teenage boy. Amid the turmoil of modern Damascus, one teenage boy finds his political voice in a message of rebellion that echoes throughout Syria and as far away as Western Europe. Inspired by his dearest friend, old Uncle Salim, he begins a journal to record his thoughts and impressions of family, friends, life at school, and his growing feelings for his girlfriend, Nadia. Soon the hidden diary becomes more than just a way to remember his daily adventures; on its pages.

Hakawati. Il cantore di storie

This thesis aims to challenge the interpretation of literature since the publication of Roland Barthes's essay, "The Death of the Author" in 1968 to the present so as to challenge the critic's license to appropriate a text on the basis of a given interpretive framework. In an attempt to depict an alternate means of interpretation, this thesis unveils Rabih Alameddine's *The Hakawati* on the basis of the interrelation between its content and form, namely between myth, fantasy, the realist frame tale, and the oral storytelling tradition. Furthermore, the aes

thetic culmination of content and form will be considered in granting the novel an undeniable sense of meaning. As a way of identifying The Hakawati as a novel that is distinct from Alameddine 's earlier novels, it will be studied in relation to Postmodernist literary theory alongside Koolhaas and I, the Divine. That it emerges as demonstrating only a partial embodiment of Postmodernist traits and simultaneously insists on the creation of meaning enables the qualification of The Hakawati as a novel that hovers above distinct narrative categories to create a narrative amalgamation that resonates with Postmodernist literary theory yet cannot be entirely accounted for by it. By way of studying the relation between its different narrative constituents as well as its relation to Postmodernism, The Hakawati can be understood as a text that exists during a transitory moment between late twentieth century Postmodernism and the emerging characteristics of fiction in the twenty-first century. Through the fusion of different narrative modes and genres that span time and space, this novel issues as an affirmation of the centrality of authorial deliberation to unraveling any literary work.

The Storyteller

There is but one truly serious philosophical problem, and that is suicide. In Rawi Hage's unforgettable novel, winner of the 2008 IMPAC Prize, this famous quote by Camus becomes a touchstone for two young men caught in Lebanon's civil war. Bassam and George are childhood best friends who have grown to adulthood in war torn Beirut. Now they must choose

their futures: to stay in the city and consolidate power through crime; or to go into exile abroad, alienated from the only existence they have known. Bassam chooses one path: obsessed with leaving Beirut, he embarks on a series of petty crimes to finance his departure. Meanwhile, George builds his power in the underworld of the city and embraces a life of military service, crime for profit, killing, and drugs. Told in the voice of Bassam, *De Niro's Game* is a beautiful, explosive portrait of a contemporary young man shaped by a lifelong experience of war. Rawi Hage's brilliant style mimics a world gone mad: so smooth and apparently sane that its razor-sharp edges surprise and cut deeply. A powerful meditation on life and death in a war zone, and what comes after.

An Unnecessary Woman

A striking debut novel details the impact of AIDS and the Lebanese civil war in Beirut on a circle of friends and family through a series of clips, quips, hallucinations, short plays, and conversations with both the living and the dead. Reprint. 10,000 first printing.

Hakawati mistrz opowiesci

The fairy tale lives again in this book of forty new stories by some of the biggest names in contemporary fiction. Neil Gaiman, "Orange" Aimee Bender, "The Color Master" Joyce Carol Oates, "Blue-bearded Lover" Michael Cunningham, "The Wild Swans" These and more than thirty other stories by

Francine Prose, Kelly Link, Jim Shepard, Lydia Millet, and many other extraordinary writers make up this thrilling celebration of fairy tales—the ultimate literary costume party. Spinning houses and talking birds. Whispered secrets and borrowed hope. Here are new stories sewn from old skins, gathered by visionary editor Kate Bernheimer and inspired by everything from Hans Christian Andersen’s “The Snow Queen” and “The Little Match Girl” to Charles Perrault’s “Bluebeard” and “Cinderella” to the Brothers Grimm’s “Hansel and Gretel” and “Rumpelstiltskin” to fairy tales by Goethe and Calvino and from China, Japan, Vietnam, Russia, Norway, and Mexico. Fairy tales are our oldest literary tradition, and yet they chart the imaginative frontiers of the twenty-first century as powerfully as they evoke our earliest encounters with literature. This exhilarating collection restores their place in the literary canon.

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