

Serious Men By Manu Joseph

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REBEKAH TATE

Serious Men Picador USA

Deceptive, tenacious and sinful, the 'other woman' seduces husbands, breaks happy and unhappy marriages by playing the dark temptress. She stands as much on the inside as on the outside of the relationship she infringes upon. As lover, girlfriend or second wife, she is not always in the wrong, though she can often end up becoming a victim. This is the woman, powerful yet powerless, that we encounter in story after story of this unusual collection. Manorama's many men abandon her the day she falls in love with one man. Maganlal Daruwala initiates Shardabai into prostitution and becomes the richest bidder for first nights to her daughter, granddaughter and great-granddaughter. A tribal girl frees Randhir of all inhibitions in a sexual encounter. A man surrenders his body to an older woman as a devotee's offering to a deity. A visitor from home brings along Suniti's little secret from the past, thus shattering the calm of her marital life. Incredibly moving tales of love and heartbreak, *The Other Woman* bring together the many perceptions of love, lust, fidelity, and the enigmatic 'otherness' of all women.

Serious Men: A Novel HarperCollins

Vishnu, the odd-job man in a Bombay apartment block, lies dying on the staircase landing. Around him the lives of the apartment dwellers unfold - the warring housewives on the first floor, the lovesick teenagers on the second, and the widower, alone and quietly grieving at the top of the building. In a fevered state Vishnu looks back on his love affair with the seductive Padmini and comedy becomes tragedy as his life draws to a close.

The Gypsy Goddess HarperCollins

Struggling with a prosecutor's refusal to send work his way, investigator Arkady Renko of Moscow finds his efforts to watch out for teen chess prodigy Zhenya challenged by a case involving a kidnapped baby, a dead prostitute, and police corruption.

Miss Laila, Armed and Dangerous Penguin

One Good Story, That One is a collection steeped in native oral tradition and shot through with Thomas King's special brand of wit and comic imagination. These highly acclaimed stories conjure up Native and Judeo-Christian myths, present-day pop culture, and literature while mixing in just the right amount of perception and experience.

A Fine Balance Bond Street Books

Tamil Nadu, 1968. Village landlords rule over a feudal system that forces peasants to break their backs in the fields or suffer beatings as punishment. In the misery of their daily lives it is little wonder that the Communist Party begins to gain traction, a small spark of defiance spreading from villager to villager. As communities across the region begin to take a stand against the landlords, the landlords vow to break them; Party organizers suffer grisly deaths and the flow of food into the market-places dries up. But it only serves to make the villagers' resistance burn more fiercely. Finally, the landlords descend on one village to set an example to the others.

Still Life Penguin

From the author of the universally acclaimed debut novel *A Case of Exploding Mangoes*: a subversive, often shockingly funny new novel set in steaming Karachi, about second chances, thwarted ambitions, and love in the most unlikely places. The patients of the Sacred Heart Hospital for All Ailments need a miracle, and Alice Bhatti may be just what they're looking for. She's the new junior nurse, but that's the only thing ordinary about her. Her father is a part-time healer in the French Colony, Karachi's Christian slum--and it seems she has inherited his part-time gift. With a bit of begrudging but inspired improvisation, Alice brings succour to the patients lining the hospital's corridors. Yet, a Christian in an Islamic world, she is ensnared in the red tape of hospital bureaucracy, trapped by the caste system, and torn between her duty to her patients, her father, and her husband--an apprentice to the nefarious "Gentlemen's Squad" of the police, and about to plunge them both into a situation so dangerous that perhaps not even a miracle can save them. But, of course, Alice Bhatti is no ordinary nurse...

The Undertow HarperCollins

Winner, 'Hindu Literary Prize 2014' A unique collection of short stories on life, relationships and the human condition Lyrical, enigmatic, moving, this is a collection of short stories that traverse topics such as patricide, incest, betrayal, delusions, amnesia. Life being a shapeless thing of borrowed bits and stolen voices, it is only stories that give it form. These tales grow out of a tangle of relationships and crystallize at moments of intensity when one is not conscious of oneself but is blithe as in childhood, entranced as at moments of sexual gratification or lost in prayer.

The Death of Vishnu Alfred a Knopf Incorporated

A breathtaking, suspenseful story of one man's obsessive search to find the truth of another man's downfall, from the author of *The King Is Always Above the People*, which was longlisted for the 2017 National Book Award for Fiction. Nelson's life is not turning out the way he hoped. His girlfriend is sleeping with another man, his brother has left their South American country, leaving Nelson to care for their widowed mother, and his acting career can't seem to get off the ground. That is, until he lands a starring role in a touring revival of *The Idiot President*, a legendary play by Nelson's hero, Henry Nunez, leader of the storied guerrilla theater troupe Diciembre. And that's when the real trouble begins. The tour takes Nelson out of the shelter of the city and across a landscape he's never seen, which still bears the scars of the civil war. With each performance, Nelson grows closer to his fellow actors, becoming hopelessly entangled in their complicated lives, until, during one memorable performance, a long-buried betrayal surfaces to force the troupe into chaos. Nelson's fate is slowly revealed through the investigation of the narrator, a young man obsessed with Nelson's story--and perhaps closer to it than he lets on. In sharp, vivid, and beautiful prose, Alarcón delivers a compulsively readable narrative and a provocative meditation on fate, identity, and the large consequences that can result from even our smallest choices.

The Other Woman A&C Black

Ayyan Mani, a member of India's lowest caste and resident of the slums of Mubmai, discovers an illicit romance between his

married boss and a married female researcher at the institute where he works. Original.

Day Scholar W. W. Norton & Company

Set against the rolling backdrop of a century of British history, this is a family portrait captured in snapshots. First there is William, the factory lad who loses his life in Gallipoli, then his son Billy, a champion cyclist who survives the D-Day Landings on a military bicycle, followed by his crippled son Will who becomes an Oxford academic in the 1960s, and finally his daughter Billie, an artist in contemporary London. Rich in drama and sensuous in detail, *The Picture Book* is a beautifully crafted story about fate and repetition and about the possibility of breaking free.

[The Sly Company of People Who Care](#) Hachette UK

In flight from the tame familiarity of home in Bombay, a twenty-six-year-old cricket journalist chucks his job and arrives in Guyana, a forgotten colonial society of raw, mesmerizing beauty. Amid beautiful, decaying wooden houses in Georgetown, on coastal sugarcane plantations, and in the dark rainforest interior scavenged by diamond hunters, he grows absorbed with the fantastic possibilities of this new place where descendants of the enslaved and indentured have made a new world. Ultimately, to fulfill his purpose, he prepares to mount an adventure of his own. His journey takes him beyond Guyanese borders, and his companion will be the feisty, wild-haired Jan. In this dazzling novel, propelled by a singularly forceful voice, Rahul Bhattacharya captures the heady adventures of travel, the overheated restlessness of youth, and the paradoxes of searching for life's meaning in the escape from home. *The Sly Company of People Who Care* is the winner of the 2012 Royal Society of Literature Ondaatje Prize.

[Three Sisters](#) Harper Collins

"After killing the red-haired man, I took myself off to Quinn's for an oyster supper." So begins an extraordinary story of betrayal and treachery, of delusion and deceit narrated by Edward Glyver. Glyver may be a bibliophile, but he is no bookworm. Employed "in a private capacity" by one of Victorian London's top lawyers, he knows his Macrobius from his First Folio, but he has the street-smarts and ruthlessness of a Philip Marlowe. And just as it is with many a contemporary detective, one can't always be sure whether Glyver is acting on the side of right or wrong. As the novel begins, Glyver silently stabs a stranger from behind, killing him apparently at random. But though he has committed a callous and brutal crime, Glyver soon reveals himself to be a sympathetic and seductively charming narrator. In fact, Edward Glyver keeps the reader spellbound for 600 riveting pages full of betrayal, twists, lies, and obsession. Glyver has an unforgettable story to tell. Raised in straitened circumstances by his novelist mother, he attended Eton thanks to the munificence of a mysterious benefactor. After his mother's death, Glyver is not sure what path to take in life. Should he explore the new art of photography, take a job at the British Museum, continue his travels in Europe with his friend Le Grice? But then, going through his mother's papers, he discovers something that seems unbelievable: the woman who raised him was not his mother at all. He is actually the son of Lord Tansor, one of the richest and most powerful men in England. Naturally, Glyver sets out to prove his case. But he lacks evidence, and while trying to find it under the alias "Edward Glaphorn," he discovers that one person stands between him and his birthright: his old schoolmate and rival Phoebus Rainsford Daunt, a popular poet (and secret criminal) whom Lord Tansor has taken a decidedly paternal interest in after the death of his only son. Glyver's mission to regain his patrimony takes him from the heights of society to its lowest depths, from brothels and opium dens to Cambridge colleges and the idylls of Evenwood, the Tansor family's ancestral

home. Glyver is tough and resourceful, but Daunt always seems to be a step ahead, at least until Glyver meets the beguilingly beautiful Emily Carteret, daughter of Lord Tansor's secretary. But nothing is as it seems in this accomplished, suspenseful novel. Glyver's employer Tredgold warns him to trust no one: Is his enigmatic neighbour Fordyce Jukes spying on him? Is the brutal murderer Josiah Pluckthorn on his trail? And is Glyver himself, driven half-mad by the desire for revenge, telling us the whole truth in his candid, but very artful, "confession"? A global phenomenon, *The Meaning of Night* is an addictive, darkly funny, and completely captivating novel. Meticulously researched and utterly gripping, it draws its readers relentlessly forward until its compelling narrator's final revelations.

[The Illicit Happiness Of Other People](#) New York Review of Books

About the Book : - Zorawar Singh Shokeen of Chandrawal is one of those Delhi musclemen who run its politics from the shadows. He owns a house in the environs of the University North Campus, which he lets out as a hostel for boys. Occasionally, he uses the hostel to host his mistress, Madam Midha. Otherwise, he recruits from among his young tenants the footsoldiers for his campus campaigns; their leader, a scrawny MA (Previous) student from Bihar -- the legendary Jishnu da. It is 1992, and at this aggressively male world, ordered along the simple principles of caste, class and region, arrive two kids from Patna. The fresh-faced Pranjal Sinha and his up-for-it best friend, and the narrator of *Day Scholar*, Hriday Thakur. In the twilight years between adolescence and adulthood, the Shokeen Niwas boys are concerned with elections, girls and examinations. And Hriday, who hopes to be a writer some day, is drawn, like moth to flame, irresistibly to the material they provide. Forsaking his first love, he becomes trapped instead by a series of misjudgements that lead him finally to the doorstep of Madam's house and, in it, her fourteen-year-old apple-cheeked daughter Sonya. If Hriday can be saved, it is only by the act of reading and writing. This is a novel about love, ambition, and the fragility of both. As tender as fumbling youth and as hard as a calloused fist, *Day Scholar* is a clear-eyed, gritty and, ultimately, beautiful exposition of innocence under fire. It marks Siddharth Chowdhury as one of the most extraordinarily gifted writers of his generation. About the Author : - Siddharth Chowdhury is the author of *Diksha at St. Martin's* (2002) and *Patna Roughcut* (2005). He read English Literature at Delhi University (1993-98). In 2007, he held the Charles Wallace Writer-in-Residence fellowship at the University of Stirling in Scotland. Part of *Day Scholar* was written there. He lives in Delhi and works as Editorial Consultant with the house of Manohar.

[Serious Men](#) McClelland & Stewart

When Ashwin, a wealthy Delhi boy, meets Lallan, a struggling student from Patna looking to make his fortune, their friendship, with their mutual love for the almond-eyed Mallika, seems to transcend the fault lines of class and privilege. But one night at a party, a fateful incident leads their worlds to unravel with consequences that change both their lives forever, and expose the deep turmoil inherent in the frenetic energy of the new, aspiring India. An audacious debut, *Fire Under Ash* marks the arrival of Indian fiction's latest star, who takes a coruscating look at Delhi's beauty and brutality, writing the city as we've never read it before.

[At Night We Walk in Circles](#) Hachette Books

Agastya Sen, known to friends by the English name August, is a child of the Indian elite. His friends go to Yale and Harvard. August himself has just landed a prize government job. The job takes him to Madna, "the hottest town in India," deep in the sticks. There he finds himself surrounded by incompetents and cranks, time wasters, bureaucrats, and crazies. What to do? Get

stoned, shirk work, collapse in the heat, stare at the ceiling. Dealing with the locals turns out to be a lot easier for August than living with himself. *English, August* is a comic masterpiece from contemporary India. Like *A Confederacy of Dunces* and *The Catcher in the Rye*, it is both an inspired and hilarious satire and a timeless story of self-discovery.

Amnesty Random House Canada

In a small village in China, the Wang family has produced seven sisters in its quest to have a boy; three of the sisters emerge as the lead characters in this remarkable novel. From the small-town treachery of the village to the slogans of the Cultural Revolution to the harried pace of city life, Bi Feiyu follows the women as they strive to change the course of their destinies and battle against an “infinite ocean of people” in a China that does not truly belong to them. Yumi will use her dignity, Yuxiu her powers of seduction, and Yuyang her ambition—all in an effort to take control of their world, their bodies, and their lives. Like Dai Sijie’s *Balzac and the Little Chinese Seamstress*, Arthur Golden’s *Memoirs of a Geisha*, and J.G. Ballard’s *Empire of the Sun*, *Three Sisters* transports us to and immerses us in a culture we think we know but will understand much more fully by the time we reach the end. Bi’s *Moon Opera* was praised by the *Los Angeles Times*, the *Minneapolis Star Tribune*, and other publications. In one review Lisa See said: “I hope this is the first of many of Bi’s works to come to us.” *Three Sisters* fulfills that wish, with its irreplaceable portrait of contemporary Chinese life and indelible story of three tragic and sometimes triumphant heroines.

English, August HarperCollins

A Fine Balance, Rohinton Mistry’s stunning internationally acclaimed bestseller, is set in mid-1970s India. It tells the story of four unlikely people whose lives come together during a time of political turmoil soon after the government declares a “State of Internal Emergency.” Through days of bleakness and hope, their circumstances – and their fates – become inextricably linked in ways no one could have foreseen. Mistry’s prose is alive with enduring images and a cast of unforgettable characters. Written with compassion, humour, and insight, *A Fine Balance* is a vivid, richly textured, and powerful novel written by one of the most gifted writers of our time.

The Ivy Chronicles Harper Collins

Ousep Chacko, journalist and failed novelist, prides himself on being “the last of the real men.” His wife, Mariamma, finds ways to feed her family despite their lack of money, but in her spare time she fantasizes about Ousep’s early death. One day, their seventeen-year-old son, Unni—a boy obsessed with comics—does something terrible and inexplicable. Ousep and Mariamma separately try to solve the mystery of Unni’s action but find no answers. Three years later, Ousep receives a package that sends him back to the search. He starts to hound his son’s friends and a famous neurosurgeon. Meanwhile, younger son Thoma—a twelve-year-old with below-sea-level self-esteem—falls desperately in

love with their haughty, beautiful teenage neighbour, who has her own secrets. *The Illicit Happiness of Other People*—a smart, wry and poignant novel—is part mystery, part philosophy and part unlikely love story.

One Amazing Thing Simon and Schuster

In India's tropical paradise, stands a town wrapped around a giant roundabout, where a canny caretaker with a French connection holds sway. Vying for his attention are two competing neighbours. Appu holds lessons for the living but Maya cares only for the dead. And a gastronome dog plays ball girl to tennis-loving nuns. At the centre is an imposing temple so ancient that no one knows exactly when it was built. Here, even a tiny railway station has set its own rules for acceptance and belonging. On the other side of the tracks, a baker runs errands for total strangers in the middle of a pandemic. *Malgudi Days* meets reality in the search for joy and belonging in a book that is alternatively heartwarming and hilarious. Anjana Menon takes you to a place that you wish stays that way forever, in these true stories of hope and resilience from a midway Kerala town.

One Good Story, That One Emblem Editions

A mesmerising, breakneck quest of a novel' Andrew McMillan 'Adiga's smart, funny, and timely tale with a crime spin of an undocumented immigrant will catalyze readers' Booklist 'A taut, thriller-like novel . . . A well-crafted tale of entrapment, alert to the risk of exploitation that follows immigrants in a new country' Kirkus, starred review 'Engrossing . . . vivid . . . Adiga's enthralling depiction of one immigrant's tough situation humanizes a complex and controversial global dilemma' Publishers Weekly 'Adiga is one of the great observers of power and its deformities... Telling the tale of Danny's immigration along the story of one tense day, he has built a forceful, urgent thriller for our times' John Freeman, Lit Hub Danny – Dhananjaya Rajaratnam – is an illegal immigrant in Sydney, denied refugee status after he has fled from his native Sri Lanka. Working as a cleaner, living out of a grocery storeroom, for three years he's been trying to create a new identity for himself. And now, with his beloved vegan girlfriend, Sonja, with his hidden accent and highlights in his hair, he is as close as he has ever come to living a normal Australian life. But then one morning, Danny learns a female client of his has been murdered. When Danny recognizes a jacket left at the murder scene, he believes it belongs to another of his clients? a doctor with whom he knows the woman was having an affair. Suddenly Danny is confronted with a choice: come forward with his knowledge about the crime and risk being deported, or say nothing, and let justice go undone? Over the course of a single day, evaluating the weight of his past, his dreams for the future, and the unpredictable, often absurd reality of living invisibly and undocumented, he must wrestle with his conscience and decide if a person without rights still has responsibilities. Propulsive, insightful, and full of Aravind Adiga's signature wit and magic, *Amnesty* is both a timeless moral struggle and a universal story with particular urgency today.