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SPRING 2019



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BIBLIOASIS

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Published with the generous assistance of the Canada Council for the Arts, which last year invested \$153 million to bring the arts to Canadians throughout the country, and the financial support of the Government of Canada. Biblioasis also acknowledges the support of the Ontario Arts Council (OAC), an agency of the Government of Ontario, which last year funded 1,709 individual artists and 1,078 organizations in 204 communities across Ontario, for a total of \$52.1 million, and the contribution of the Government of Ontario through the Ontario Book Publishing Tax Credit and the Ontario Media Development Corporation.

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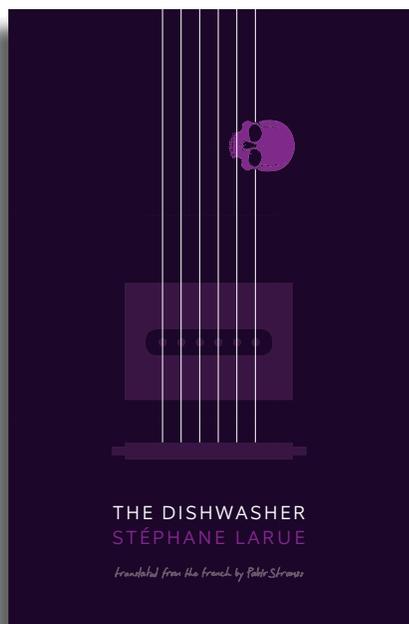
The Dishwasher

STÉPHANE LARUE

TRANSLATED BY PABLO STRAUSS

“Breathtaking ... somewhere between Dostoevsky’s *The Gambler* and Anthony Bourdain’s *Kitchen Confidential*.” —*Le Devoir* (Montreal)

COVER NOT FINAL



May 14, 2019 | Novel

5.5 x 8.5 | 464pp

Trade Paper: 978-1-77196-269-8

eBook: 978-1-77196-270-4

\$21.95 CAD

Author Hometown: Montreal, QC

ISBN 978-1-77196-269-8



COMPARABLE TITLES

Catherine Hernandez. *Scarborough*

Joshua Whitehead. *Jonny Appleseed*

Samuel Archibald. *Arvida*

Winner of the Quebec Bookseller’s Prize
Shortlisted for the Governor General’s Award
Sold more than 30,000 copies in Quebec

In debt to the metal band that’s commissioned him to draw their album cover and ensnared in lies to his friends and his cousin, a student with a gambling addiction takes the first job that promises a paycheck: dishwasher at La Trattoria, a high-end restaurant, where he finds himself thrust, on his first night, into a roiling world of characters. A magnificent, hyperrealist debut, with a soundtrack by Iron Maiden, *The Dishwasher* plunges us into a world in which—for better or for worse—everyone depends on each other.

Stéphane Larue was born in Longueuil in 1983. He received a master’s in comparative literature at l’Université de Montréal and has worked in the restaurant industry for the past fifteen years. He lives in Montreal. *The Dishwasher* is his first book.

Praise for *The Dishwasher*

“Feverish writing, Montreal streets and characters magnificently described, mind-bending descriptions of what happens behind the scenes at restaurants—you’ll never see them in the same way once you’ve finished the book—a story that is both a dark tale and an existential suspense story, it all combines to make the book unputdownable ... so moving is the story that once you’ve started it, you feel the irresistible desire to devour it in a single sitting.”

—LE SOLEIL (QUEBEC CITY)

“A brilliant tour de force that we will certainly hear about for a long time, with good reason.”

—LES LIBRAIRES

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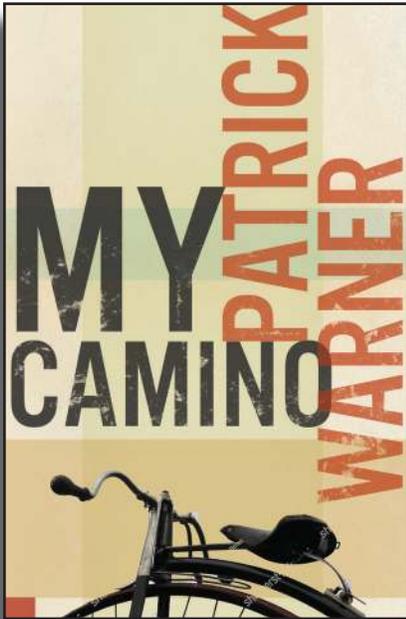
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 - Co-op available
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 - National print campaign
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 - Advertising in *MRB*, *LRC*, *The Walrus*, and *This Magazine*
 - Excerpts in *Lit Hub*, *Québec Reads*

My Camino

PATRICK WARNER

“Like a beam from a lighthouse, wherever Warner fixes his poetic gaze, he exposes the jagged rocks in the seemingly placid shallows.” —Paul Vermeersch

COVER NOT FINAL



In this 21st century *Don Quixote*, three misfits cycle the Camino de Santiago—backwards

Reeling from the Night of Nights, an unexpected blockbuster art show, Floss, a transgender New York gallery owner, invites subversive installation artist Budsy and their best friend the Apostle John to cycle the Camino de Santiago. When Floss tells her friends about her shocking experience at the hands of the King of the New York art scene, the journey becomes an anti-pilgrimage—from spiritual discovery to revenge fantasy. Moving from New York to Spain to Dublin, *My Camino* is a book about misfits, identity, art, and spirituality narrated by the audacious Apostle John, whose telling sometimes rhymes, is often hilarious, and is always a blistering account of the contemporary art world.

Patrick Warner has published five collections of poetry, including *All Manner of Misunderstanding*; *There, There, Mole*; and *Octopus*; and a novel, *One Hit Wonders*. He has twice won the E.J. Pratt Poetry Prize. Warner grew up in Claremorris, County Mayo, Ireland. He emigrated to Canada in 1980, and since then has mostly lived in St. John's, Newfoundland.

Praise for Patrick Warner

“Warner has a wonderful skill for wielding rhythm and rhyme ... engaging and memorable.” —CANADIAN LITERATURE

“Warner’s poems can be comical, tender, brutal ... they are always enlightening in their implied connections, sublime in their musical inventiveness.”

—SUNDAY INDEPENDENT

“I don’t know if anyone in contemporary poetry is bearing more eloquent, precisely strange witness to the certainty of their doubts than Warner.”

—ARC POETRY MAGAZINE

June 18, 2019 | Novel

5.25 x 8.25 | 248pp

Trade Paper: 978-1-77196-287-2

eBook: 978-1-77196-288-9

\$21.95 CAD

Author Hometown: St. John's, NL

ISBN 978-1-77196-287-2



COMPARABLE TITLES

Suzette Mayr. *Dr. Edith Vane and the Hares of Crawley Hall*

Randy Boyagoda. *Original Prin*

Jade Chang. *The Wangs vs. the World*

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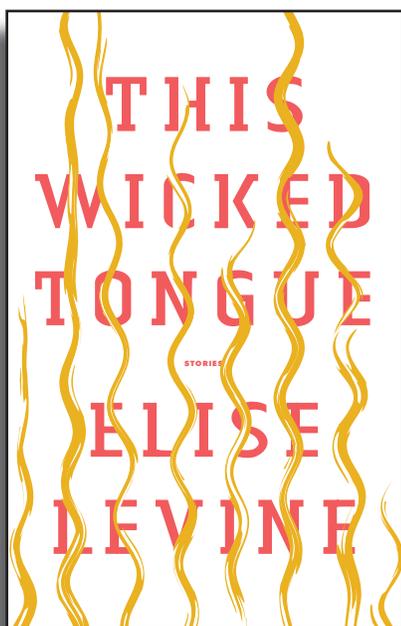
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 - Co-op available
 - National print campaign
- Giveaways through Edelweiss, Facebook, Goodreads, Twitter, Instagram
 - Excerpts in *Lit Hub*, *Electric Lit*
- Touring in St. John's, Fredericton, Montreal, Toronto, Windsor, and elsewhere
 - Ads in *Atlantic Books Today*, *The Coast*, *CNQ*, and elsewhere

This Wicked Tongue

ELISE LEVINE

“Levine offers a vision and a language so poetically visceral and fiercely poignant—so uniquely intelligent—that story after story I was in awe of her courage and artistry.”—Barbara Gowdy

COVER NOT FINAL



May 28, 2019 | Short Fiction

5 x 7.5 | 172pp

Trade Paper: 978-1-77196-279-7

eBook: 978-1-77196-280-3

\$19.95 CAD

Author Hometown: Baltimore, MD

ISBN 978-1-77196-279-7



COMPARABLE TITLES

Carys Davies. *The Redemption of Galen Pike*

Carmen Maria Machado. *Her Body and Other Parties*

Kerry Lee Powell. *Willem De Kooning's Paintbrush*

The first short story collection in a quarter century
from the author of *Driving Men Mad*

In the dark and eerie style of Joy Williams and Karen Russell, this character-driven collection from Elise Levine is tough and tender, filled with complicated people longing for independence from the scripts of the past. From a sniping road-tripping couple in the desert, to a cantankerous divinity-school candidate on the prairies, to a frustrated cop in a cave in the south of France, *This Wicked Tongue* showcases the gritty and the sublime.

Elise Levine is the author of two novels, *Blue Field* and *Request and Dedications*, and the story collection *Driving Men Mad*. Her work has also appeared in *Ploughshares*, *The Gettysburg Review*, *The Collagist*, *Blackbird*, *Best Canadian Stories*, and the *Journey Prize Anthology*, among other publications, and has been named a finalist for Best Small Fictions 2018.

Praise for Elise Levine

“Reading Elise Levine is akin to a wild ride down a dark road at night ... Bold and startling ... Precipitous and exhilarating.”—*GLOBE AND MAIL*

“As immersive, hyper-vivid and true as fiction ever gets.”—LISA MOORE

“Levine is, undeniably, an outstanding wordsmith. Her writing style moves in multiple directions, making high stakes out of small movements while turning panic into poetry.”—*WINNIPEG REVIEW*

“A dazzling wordsmith, a lexical tease, Levine is like a kid let loose in a leaf pile, kicking up words for the sheer joy of watching them spin.”—*TORONTO STAR*

“A cutting-edge literary sensation.”—*NOW MAGAZINE*

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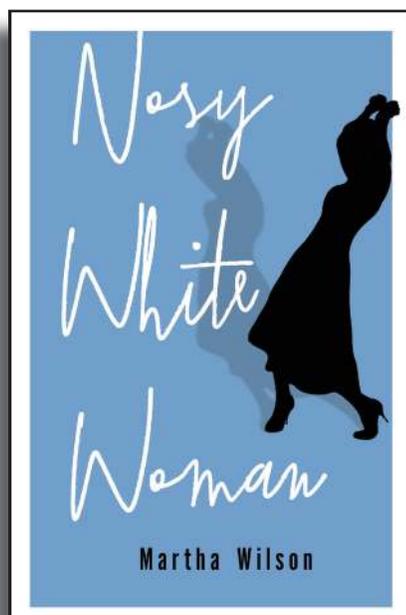
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 - National print campaign
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 - Touring in Ottawa, Toronto, Calgary, Vancouver, and elsewhere
- Ads in *CNQ*, *TNQ*, *This Magazine*, *Literary Review of Canada*, and elsewhere

Nosy White Woman

MARTHA WILSON

Wilson's debut collection crosses the US-Canada border and chronicles the intersections of politics and daily life.

COVER NOT FINAL



Including stories published in *Best Canadian Stories 2017* and *Canadian Notes and Queries*

From Toronto to Brockville, Japan to the American South, Wilson tackles white privilege and asks what it means to be a citizen of the world. A daughter tries to explain to her mother why calling the police isn't always a good idea. A caretaking group of sisters must rely on each other, but one has a fierce drinking problem. A mother confronts the frightening environmental damage of the world in which her child must grow old. In these sixteen stories, Martha Wilson provides a powerful look at the intersection of politics and daily life in our contemporary world, showing us the banal and gritty connections that lay there.

Martha Wilson was runner-up for the 2017 Peter Hinchcliffe Fiction Prize and a finalist for the New South 2018 fiction prize. Her writing has been published in *The New Quarterly*, *Real Simple*, *New York Times*, *Japan Times*, *Kansai Time Out*, and *International Herald-Tribune*. She is American, but for more than twenty years has made her home in Canada, where she lives with her husband and two daughters.

Excerpt from *Nosy White Woman*

"Tracy, I had the dream again," Maura said today, in a half-whisper clearly intended to convey some useful information or actionable warning.

"The dream," I said. "Um, would you be willing to stop telling me about it? Because I never know how to react."

"Well, personally, I aim to live in a state of readiness," Maura said.

"I see," I said. Once again I wished we were large enough, and non-family enough, to have an actual HR department that would tackle this for me. "I don't live in a state of readiness, precisely, Maura, and I don't see that changing soon. It would mean a lot to me if you could just not tell me when you dream about attending my visitation hours at Dwyer Funeral Home, or whatever. Can you see that?"

"Of course, absolutely. It's just that, you know, I'm guided by my intuition. That's what I listen to. I'm sorry if it makes you uncomfortable."

—from "Midway"

August 20, 2019 | Short Fiction

5 x 8 | 224pp

Trade Paper: 978-1-77196-289-6

eBook: 978-1-77196-290-2

\$19.95 CAD

Author Hometown: Newport, NS

ISBN 978-1-77196-289-6



COMPARABLE TITLES

Dina Del Bucchia. *Don't Tell Me What to Do*

Eva Crocker. *Barrelling Forward*

Paige Cooper. *Zolitude*

MARKETING PLAN:

- 2000 copy print run
- 100 advance reader copies to booksellers and media
 - Co-op available
- North American TV & radio campaign
 - National print campaign
- Giveaways through Edelweiss, Facebook, Goodreads, Twitter, Instagram
- Touring in Halifax, St. John's, Montreal, Toronto, Windsor, and elsewhere
 - Ads in *Atlantic Books Today*, *CNQ*, and *TNQ*

Mostarghia

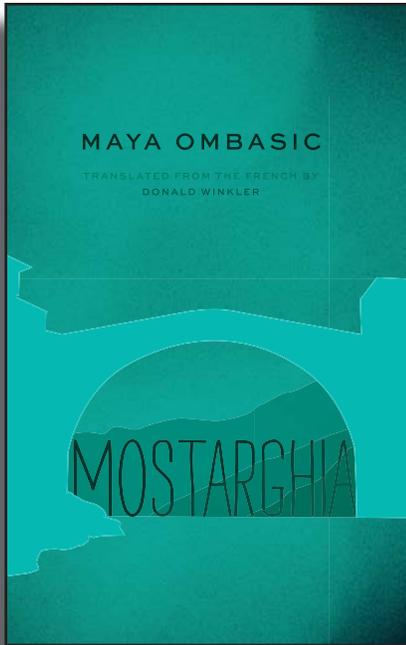
MAYA OMBASIC

TRANSLATED FROM THE FRENCH BY DONALD WINKLER

“Its title inspired by Andrei Tarkovsky’s film *Nostalghia*, [*Mostarghia*] is a daughter’s love song to her father and the tale of her salvation.” —*L’Humanité* (Paris)

COVER NOT FINAL

Winner of the 2017 Literature of Exile Award from
Friends of La Librairie Internationale V.O.



In the south of Bosnia and Herzegovina lies Mostar, a medieval town on the banks of the emerald Neretva, which flows from the “valley of sugared trees” through sunny hills to reach the Adriatic Sea. This idyllic locale is where Maya Ombasic’s life begins, but when civil war breaks out in Yugoslavia and the bombs begin to fall, her family is exiled to Switzerland. After a failed attempt to return, they leave again for Canada. While Maya adapts to their uprooting, her father never recovers, refusing even to learn the language of his new country. *Mostarghia* explores the place which exists when one gets lost between worlds, unable to go home but unwilling to assimilate, and the slow unravelling that happens as a result.

Maya Ombasic was born in Mostar (formerly Yugoslavia) in 1979, immigrated to Switzerland during the Balkan War, and later settled in Quebec. She is currently a literary columnist for *Le Devoir* and teaches philosophy at Cégep de Saint-Laurent in Montreal.

Praise for *Mostarghia*

“An overwhelming homage, clear-eyed and drenched in tenderness, *Mostarghia* is driven by Maya Ombasic’s strong, sensitive voice, which allows us to glimpse the reverse side of the shadow of exile. Magnificent.” —*LE DEVOIR* (MONTREAL)

“In an unadorned style, which contains emotion by restricting itself to facts, the author recounts her years during the war, then her exile in Switzerland, then Canada. The book’s strength stems in large part from its ability to show the concrete daily consequences of a war from which the family suffers without participating in it directly, to showcase the absurdity of the issues—ethnic, religious, territorial—from which children and parents feel themselves estranged.” —*LE MONDE* (PARIS)

August 6, 2019 | Memoir

5.25 x 8.25 | 224pp

Trade Paper: 978-1-77196-283-4

eBook: 978-1-77196-284-1

\$21.95 CAD

Author Hometown: Montreal, QC

ISBN 978-1-77196-283-4



COMPARABLE TITLES

Joy Kogawa. *Gently to Nagasaki*

Jang Jin-Sung. *Dear Leader*

Kate Mayfield. *The Undertaker’s Daughter*

MARKETING PLAN:

- 2000 copy print run
- 200 advance reader copies to booksellers and media
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- Advance reader copies at Winter Institute
- North American TV & radio campaign
 - National print campaign
 - Online and social media campaign
- Giveaways through Edelweiss, Facebook, Goodreads, Twitter, Instagram
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- Promotion through author’s website: mayaombasic.com
 - Ads in *MRB*, *LRC*, *The Walrus*, and elsewhere

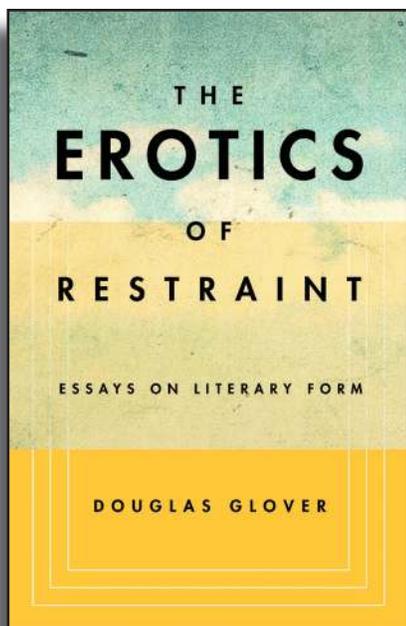
The Erotics of Restraint

Essays on Literary Form

DOUGLAS GLOVER

“Glover is a master of narrative structure.” — *Wall Street Journal*

COVER NOT FINAL



The long-awaited follow-up to Glover’s celebrated *Attack of the Copula Spiders* confirms his reputation as one of our best writers on reading and writing

In his fourth book on writing, Glover draws on his long career as a fiction writer, essayist, and mentor to consider literary form from three angles: the techniques writers use to compose fiction, a craft-based approach to reading, and the analysis of texts by masters ranging from Jane Austen, to Albert Camus, to the great Polish experimentalist Witold Gombrowicz. Equal parts writing instruction and literary criticism, many of these essays evolved from lectures delivered at the Vermont College of Fine Arts MFA in Writing Program, while others embark on a new kind of literary criticism, at once both formalist and empathetic, which shows how form and theme are woven together to create art. A practical and illuminating guide from the writer the *Wall Street Journal* calls “a master of narrative structure.”

Douglas Glover has published four novels, five story collections, and three works of nonfiction. His novel *Elle* won the Governor General’s Award for Fiction and was a finalist for the International IMPAC Dublin Literary Award. His short fiction has appeared in *Best Canadian Stories* and *The Best American Short Stories*.

Praise for Douglas Glover

“So sharp, so evocative, that the reader sees well beyond the tissue of words into ... the author’s poetic grace.” — *THE NEW YORKER*

“Every literate person in the country should be reading Glover’s essays.”

— *GLOBE AND MAIL*

July 16, 2019 | Literary Criticism

5.25 x 8.25 | 224pp

Trade Paper: 978-1-77196-291-9

eBook: 978-1-77196-292-6

\$21.95 CAD

Author Hometown: Plainfield, VT

ISBN 978-1-77196-291-9



COMPARABLE TITLES

Douglas Glover. *Attack of the Copula Spiders*

James Wood. *The Nearest Thing to Life*

Ursula K. Le Guin. *Steering the Craft*

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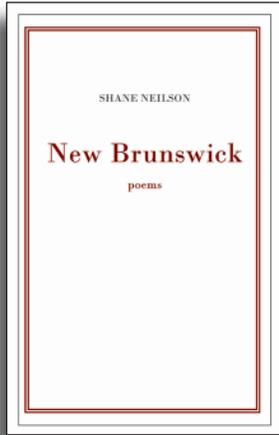
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 - Ads in *CNQ*, *TNQ*, *LRC*, and elsewhere
- Promotion through author’s website: douglasglover.net

New Brunswick

SHANE NEILSON

“[Neilson’s work] is striking not just because of the relentless questioning, but because those questions are always pressing at the core of what it means to be here together.”—Jordan Abel

COVER NOT FINAL



In his latest collection, Shane Neilson surveys his homeland, mapping the many contours of history—political, social, personal, and spiritual—and considering the ways we shape and are shaped by the land. Formally inventive and linguistically rich, *New Brunswick* grapples with the weight of legacies both political and familial, charting both the province and the heart.

Born in New Brunswick, **Shane Neilson** attended the university there, where he completed his BSc. He obtained his MD from Dalhousie University, his MFA from the University of Guelph, and is currently a PhD candidate in literature at McMaster University. Neilson is the author of five collections of poetry among other books, and a two time winner of the *Arc Poetry Magazine* Poem of the Year Award.

May 21, 2019 | Poetry

5.5 x 8.5 | 80pp

Trade Paper: 978-1-77196-305-3

eBook: 978-1-77196-306-0

\$19.95 CAD

ISBN 978-1-77196-305-3



Comparable Titles

Patrick Warner. *Octopus*
Richard Sanger. *Dark Woods*
Pino Coluccio. *Class Clown*
Shane Neilson. *Meniscus*

By the author
of the Writers'
Trust-winning
Dear Evelyn

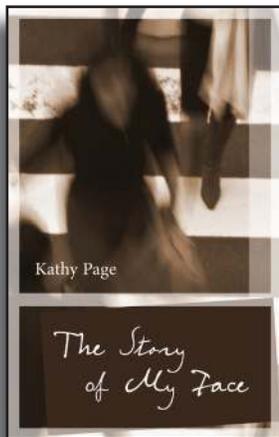
The Story of My Face

KATHY PAGE



“One of the most compelling, unsettling novels I’ve read in ages, which should appeal to fans of classy thrillers and literary fiction alike.”—Sarah Waters

COVER NOT FINAL



Natalie Baron, a neglected teenager, is drawn into the life of Barbara, an older woman who invites her along on her family’s religious retreat. She soon discovers that their curious habits and beliefs result from their membership in a Protestant sect: Finnish Envallism. Though some members of the community reject Natalie as an outsider, the mutually fulfilling relationship between the two women leads Barbara to reveal a dangerous secret that sets into motion a devastating series of events. Years later, the adult Natalie, now a respected academic, travels to Finland to research the origins of Envallism and tries to understand the things that happened to her in her youth.

Kathy Page is the author of ten previous books of fiction, including the winner of the 2018 Rogers Writers’ Trust Fiction prize, *Dear Evelyn*. Two of her works, *Paradise & Elsewhere* (2014) and *The Two of Us* (2016), were nominated for the Scotiabank Giller Prize. Other works include *Alphabet*, a Governor General’s Award finalist in 2005, *The Story of My Face*, long-listed for the Orange Prize in 2002, and *Frankie Styne and the Silver Man*.

August 6, 2019 | Novel

5.25 x 8.25 | 240pp

Trade Paper: 978-1-77196-295-7

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\$21.95 CAD

ISBN 978-1-77196-295-7



Comparable Titles

Caroline Adderson. *A History of Forgetting*
Terry Griggs. *The Iconoclast’s Journal*
Kathy Page. *Alphabet*

Best Canadian 2018

Biblioasis is proud to announce the acquisition of *Best Canadian Essays* and *Best Canadian Poetry*, formerly published by Tighrope Books. Beginning January 1, 2019 the 2018 editions of both series—as well as backlist—can be ordered through UTP, with 2019 editions of all three series forthcoming from Biblioasis next fall.



978-1-98804-045-5
Trade Paper | \$22.95 CAD

Best Canadian Essays 2018

CHRISTOPHER DODA AND MARK KINGWELL

Featuring trusted series editor Christopher Doda and acclaimed guest editor Mark Kingwell, this tenth installment of Canada's annual volume of essays showcases diverse nonfiction writing from across the country. Culled from leading Canadian magazines and journals, *Best Canadian Essays 2018* contains award-winning and award-nominated nonfiction articles that are topical and engaging and have their finger on the pulse of our contemporary psyches.

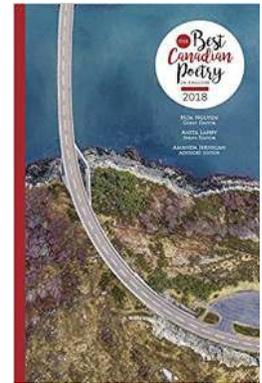
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Best Canadian Poetry 2018

HOA NGUYEN, ANITA LAHEY, AND AMANDA JERNIGAN

Guest-edited by Hoa Nguyen, the 2018 edition of Canada's vibrant yearly anthology features the fifty finest Canadian poems published during the previous year. The *Best Canadian Poetry* series, which thrives under the stewardship of series editor Anita Lahey and series advisory editor Amanda Jernigan, ushers readers into the heart of the diverse Canadian poetry scene. A must-read for anyone with a stake or interest in contemporary Canadian literature.

Featuring: Jordan Abel, Billy-Ray Belcourt, Dionne Brand, Dani Couture, Nancy Jo Cullen, Sonnet L'Abbé, Shazia Hafiz Ramji, Bardia Sinaee, Ian Williams, Catriona Wright, and more.



978-1-98804-044-8
Trade Paper | \$21.95 CAD



978-1-77196-249-0
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Best Canadian Stories 2018

RUSSELL SMITH

Now in its 48th year, *Best Canadian Stories* has long championed the short story form and highlighted the work of many writers who have gone on to shape the Canadian literary canon. Caroline Adderson, Margaret Atwood, Clark Blaise, Tamas Dobozy, Mavis Gallant, Douglas Glover, Norman Levine, Rohinton Mistry, Alice Munro, Leon Rooke, Diane Schoemperlen, Kathleen Winter, and many others have appeared in its pages over the decades, making *Best Canadian Stories* the go-to source for what's new in Canadian fiction writing for close to five decades. Selected by guest editor Russell Smith, the 2018 edition draws together both newer and established writers to shape an engaging and luminous mosaic of writing in this country today—a continuation of not only a series, but a legacy in Canadian letters.

Featuring: Shashi Bhat, Tom Thor Buchanan, Lynn Coady, Deirdre Simon Dore, Alicia Elliott, Bill Gaston, Liz Harmer, Brad Hartle, David Huebert, Reg Johanson, Amy Jones, Michael LaPointe, Stephen Marche, Lisa Moore, Kathy Page, and Alex Pugsley.

Read Independently

