



GRAYWOLF
PRESS



White Flights

Race, Fiction, and the American Imagination

by Jess Row

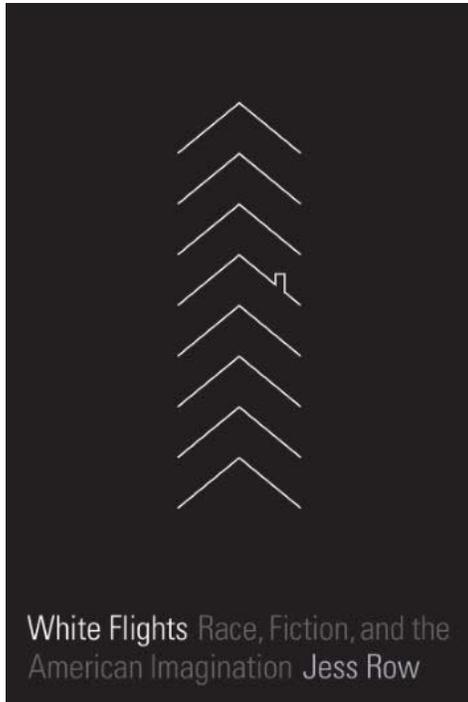
A bold, incisive look at race and reparative writing in American fiction, by the author of *Your Face in Mine*

White Flights is a meditation on whiteness in American fiction and culture from the end of the civil rights movement to the present. At the heart of the book, Jess Row ties white flight" - the movement of white Americans into segregated communities, whether in suburbs or newly gentrified downtowns - to white writers setting their stories in isolated or emotionally insulated landscapes, from the mountains of Idaho in Marilynne Robinson's *Housekeeping* to the claustrophobic households in Jonathan Franzen's *The Corrections* . Row uses brilliant close readings of work from well-known writers such as Don DeLillo, Annie Dillard, Richard Ford, and David Foster Wallace to examine the ways these and other writers have sought imaginative space for themselves at the expense of engaging with race.

White Flights aims to move fiction to a more inclusive place, and Row looks beyond criticism to consider writing as a reparative act. What would it mean, he asks, if writers used fiction "to approach each other again"? Row turns to the work of James Baldwin, Dorothy Allison, and James Alan McPherson to discuss interracial love in fiction, while also examining his own family heritage as a way to interrogate his position. A moving and provocative book that includes music, film, and literature in its arguments, *White Flights* is an essential work of cultural and literary criticism.

Author Bio

Jess Row is the author of the novel *Your Face in Mine* and the story collections *The Train to Lo Wu* and *Nobody Ever Gets Lost* . One of *Granta* 's Best of Young American Novelists of 2007, he lives in New York and teaches at the College of New Jersey.



Graywolf Press

On Sale: Aug 6/19

5.5 x 8.25 • 320 pages

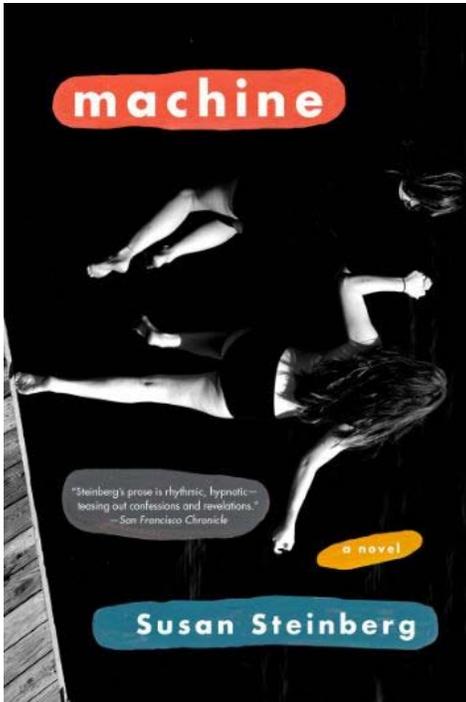
9781555978327 • \$21.00 • pb

Literary Criticism / General

Notes

Promotion





Machine

A Novel

by Susan Steinberg

A haunting story of guilt and blame in the wake of a drowning, the first novel by the author of *Spectacle*

Susan Steinberg's first novel, *Machine*, is a dazzling and innovative leap forward for a writer whose most recent book, *Spectacle*, gained her a rapturous following. *Machine* revolves around a group of teenagers - both locals and wealthy out-of-towners - during a single summer at the shore. Steinberg captures the pressures and demands of this world in a voice that effortlessly slides from collective to singular, as one girl recounts a night on which another girl drowned. Hoping to assuage her guilt and evade a similar fate, she pieces together the details of this tragedy, as well as the breakdown of her own family, and learns that no one, not even she, is blameless.

A daring stylist, Steinberg contrasts semicolon-studded sentences with short lines that race down the page. This restless approach gains focus and power through a sharply drawn narrative that ferociously interrogates gender, class, privilege, and the disintegration of identity in the shadow of trauma. *Machine* is the kind of novel - relentless and bold - that only Susan Steinberg could have written.

Author Bio

Susan Steinberg is the author of the short-story collections *Hydroplane* and *The End of Free Love*. She was the 2010 United States Artists Ziporyn Fellow in Literature. Her stories have appeared in *McSweeney's*, *Conjunctions*, *The Gettysburg Review*, *American Short Fiction*, *Boulevard*, and *The Massachusetts Review*, and she is the recipient of a Pushcart Prize. She has held residencies at the MacDowell Colony, the Vermont Studio Center, the Wurlitzer Foundation, the Blue Mountain Center, Yaddo, and New York University. She has a BFA in painting from the Maryland Institute College of Art and an MFA in English from the University of Massachusetts, Amherst. She teaches at the University of San Francisco.

Graywolf Press

On Sale: Aug 20/19

5.5 x 8.25 • 144 pages

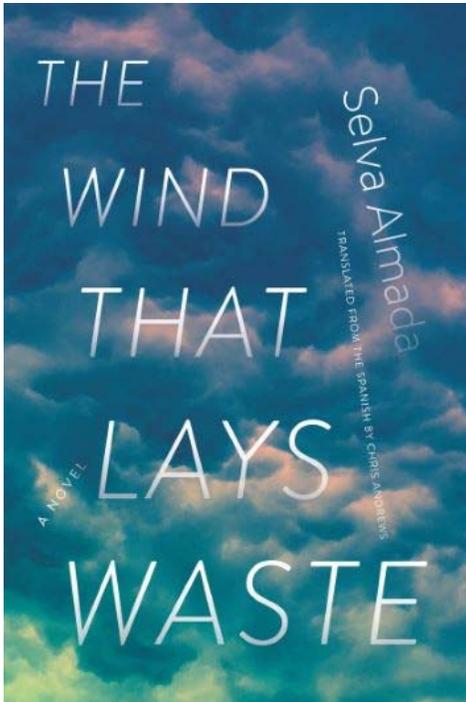
9781555978471 • \$19.50 • pb

Fiction / Literary

Notes

Promotion





The Wind That Lays Waste

A Novel

by Selva Almada

A taut, lyrical portrait of four people thrown together on a single day in rural Argentina

The Wind That Lays Waste begins in the great pause before a storm. Reverend Pearson is evangelizing across the Argentinian countryside with Leni, his teenage daughter, when their car breaks down. This act of God or fate leads them to the workshop and home of an aging mechanic called Gringo Brauer and a young boy named Tapioca.

As a long day passes, curiosity and intrigue transform into an unexpected intimacy between four people: one man who believes deeply in God, morality, and his own righteousness, and another whose life experiences have only entrenched his moral relativism and mild apathy; a quietly earnest and idealistic mechanic's assistant, and a restless, skeptical preacher's daughter. As tensions between these characters ebb and flow, beliefs are questioned and allegiances are tested, until finally the growing storm breaks over the plains.

Selva Almada's exquisitely crafted debut, with its limpid and confident prose, is profound and poetic, a tactile experience of the mountain, the sun, the squat trees, the broken cars, the sweat-stained shirts, and the destroyed lives. *The Wind That Lays Waste* is a philosophical, beautiful, and powerfully distinctive novel that marks the arrival in English of an author whose talent and poise are undeniable.

Author Bio

Selva Almada was born in Entre Rios, Argentina, in 1973. She has been a finalist for the Rodolfo Walsh and Tigre Juan prizes, and is considered one of the most potent and promising literary voices in Argentina and Latin America.

Chris Andrews teaches at the University of Western Sydney. He has translated books of fiction by Latin American authors, including Roberto Bolano's *Distant Star*, Cesar Aira's *The Musical Brain and Other Stories*, and Rodrigo Rey Rosa's *Severina*

Graywolf Press

On Sale: Jul 9/19

5.5 x 8.25 • 136 pages

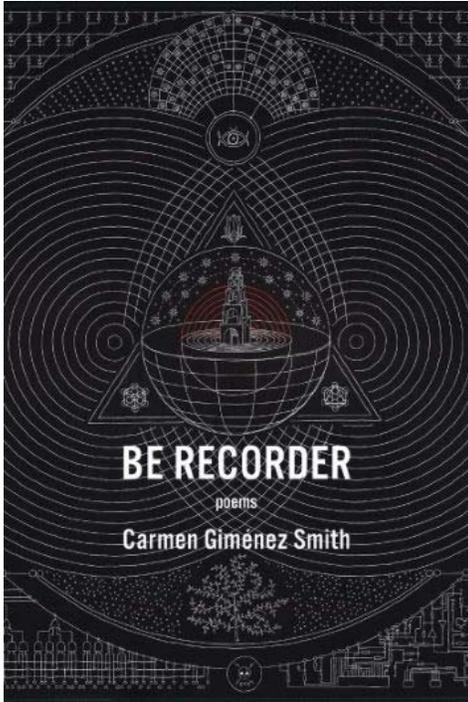
9781555978457 • \$19.50 • pb

Fiction / Literary

Notes

Promotion





Be Recorder

Poems

by Carmen Gimenez Smith

Carmen Gimenez Smith dares to demand renewal for a world made unrecognizable

Be Recorder offers readers a blazing way forward into an as yet unmade world. The many times and tongues in these poems investigate the precariousness of personhood in lines that excoriate and sanctify. Carmen Gimenez Smith turns the increasingly pressing urge to cry out into a dream of rebellion - against compromise, against inertia, against self-delusion, and against the ways the media dream up our complacency in an America that depends on it. This reckoning with self and nation demonstrates that whoand where we are is as conditional as the fact of our compliance: Miss America from sea to shining sea / the huddled masses have a question / there is one of you and all of us." *Be Recorder* is unrepentant and unstoppable, and affirms Gimenez Smith as one of the most vital and vivacious poets of our time.

Author Bio

Carmen Gimenez Smith is the author of six books, including *Milk and Filth*, a finalist for the National Book Critics Circle Award in poetry, and *Bring Down the Little Birds*, winner of the American Book Award. She teaches at Virginia Tech University.

Graywolf Press

On Sale: Aug 6/19

88 pages

9781555978488 • \$21.00 • pb

Poetry / American / Hispanic American

Notes

Promotion





Is, Is Not

Poems

by Tess Gallagher

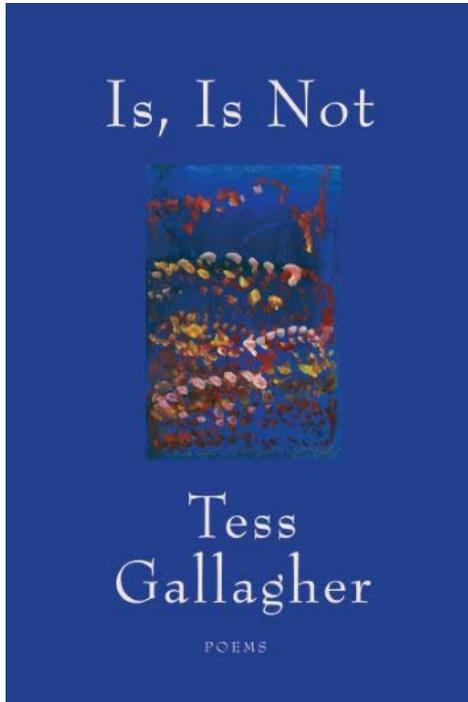
Tess Gallagher's new poems are suspended between contradiction and beauty

Is, Is Not upends our notions of linear time, evokes the spirit and sanctity of place, and hovers daringly at the threshold of what language can nearly deliver while offering alternative corollaries as gifts of its failures. Tess Gallagher's poems reverberate with the inward clarity of a bell struck on a mountaintop. Guided by humor, grace, and a deep inquiry into the natural world, every poem nudges us toward moments of awe. How else except by delight and velocity would we discover the miracle within the ordinary?

Gallagher claims many Wests - the Northwest of America, the Northwest of Ireland, and a West even further to the edge, beyond the physical. These landscapes are charged with invisible energies and inhabited by the people, living and dead, who shape Gallagher's poems and life. Restorative in every sense, *Is, Is Not* is the kind of book that takes a lifetime to write - a book of the spirit made manifest by the poet's unrelenting gaze and her intimate engagement with the mysteries that keep us reaching.

Author Bio

Tess Gallagher is the author of eleven books of poetry, including *Midnight Lantern: New and Selected Poems*, *Dear Ghosts*, and *Moon Crossing Bridge*. Gallagher spends time in County Sligo, Ireland, and also in her hometown of Port Angeles, Washington.



Graywolf Press

On Sale: May 7/19

6 x 9 • 160 pages

9781555978419 • \$21.00 • pb

Poetry / American

Notes

Promotion





Little Glass Planet

Poems

by Dobby Gibson

The poems in Dobby Gibson's new book transform the everyday into the revelatory

Little Glass Planet exults in the strangeness of the known and unknowable world. In poems set as far afield as Mumbai and Marfa, Texas, Dobby Gibson maps disparate landscapes, both terrestrial and subliminal, to reveal the drama of the quotidian. Aphoristic, allusive, and collaged, these poems mine our various human languages to help us understand what we might mean when we speak to each other - as lovers, as family, as strangers. *Little Glass Planet* uses lyric broadcasts to foreshorten the perceived distances between us, opening borders and pointing toward a sense of collectivity. This is my love letter to the world," Gibson writes, "someone call us a sitter. / We're going to be here a while."

Elegiac, funny, and candid, *Little Glass Planet* is a kind of manual for paying attention to a world that is increasingly engineered to distract us from our own humanity. It's a book that points toward hope, offering the possibilities of a "we" that only the open frequency of poetry can create, possibilities that are indistinguishable from love.

Author Bio

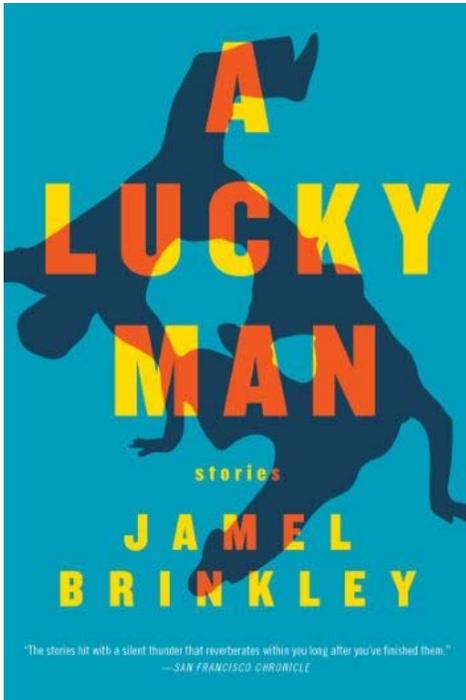
Dobby Gibson is the author of *Polar*, which won the Alice James Award; *Skirmish*; and *It Becomes You*. His poetry has appeared in *Fence*, *New England Review*, and *Ploughshares*, among others. He lives in St. Paul, Minnesota.

Graywolf Press
On Sale: May 21/19
6 x 9 • 88 pages
9781555978426 • \$21.00 • pb
Poetry / American

Notes

Promotion





A Lucky Man

Stories

by Jamel Brinkley

FINALIST FOR THE NATIONAL BOOK AWARD FOR FICTION

In the nine expansive, searching stories of *A Lucky Man*, fathers and sons attempt to salvage relationships with friends and family members and confront mistakes made in the past. An imaginative young boy from the Bronx goes swimming with his group from day camp at a backyard pool in the suburbs, and faces the effects of power and privilege in ways he can barely grasp. A teen intent on proving himself a man through the all-night revel of J'Ouvert can't help but look out for his impressionable younger brother. A pair of college boys on the prowl follow two girls home from a party and have to own the uncomfortable truth of their desires. And at a capoeira conference, two brothers grapple with how to tell the story of their family, caught in the dance of their painful, fractured history.

Jamel Brinkley's stories, in a debut that announces the arrival of a significant new voice, reflect the tenderness and vulnerability of black men and boys whose hopes sometimes betray them, especially in a world shaped by race, gender, and class - where luck may be the greatest fiction of all.

Each story is a trenchant exploration of race and class, vividly conveying the tension between social codes of masculinity and the vulnerable, volatile self." - *The New Yorker*

"[*A Lucky Man*] is intent on recognizing what masculinity looks like, questioning our expectations of it, and criticizing its toxicity - and somehow managing to do all of that with love. . . . The collection may include only nine stories, but in (...)

Author Bio

Jamel Brinkley 's stories have appeared in *A Public Space*, *Gulf Coast*, and elsewhere. He is a graduate of the Iowa Writers' Workshop and has been a Wisconsin Institute for Creative Writing Fellow. He lives in Madison, Wisconsin.

Graywolf Press

On Sale: Jun 4/19

5.5 x 8.25 • 256 pages

9781555978433 • \$21.00 • pb

Fiction / Literary

Notes

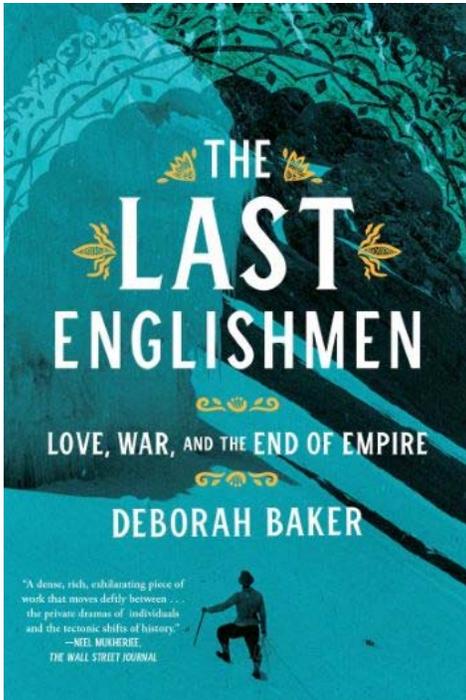
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The Last Englishmen

Love, War, and the End of Empire

by Deborah Baker

A sumptuous biographical saga, both intimate and epic, about the waning of the British Empire in India

John Auden was a pioneering geologist of the Himalaya. Michael Spender was the first to draw a detailed map of the North Face of Mount Everest. While their younger brothers - W. H. Auden and Stephen Spender - achieved literary fame, they vied to be included on an expedition that would deliver Everest's summit to an Englishman, a quest that had become a metaphor for Britain's struggle to maintain power over India. To this rivalry was added another: in the summer of 1938 both men fell in love with a painter named Nancy Sharp. Her choice would determine where each man's wartime loyalties would lie.

Set in Calcutta, London, the glacier-locked wilds of the Karakoram, and on Everest itself, *The Last Englishmen* is also the story of a generation. The cast of this exhilarating drama includes Indian and English writers and artists, explorers and Communist spies, Die Hards and Indian nationalists, political rogues and police informers. Key among them is a highborn Bengali poet named Sudhin Datta, a melancholy soul torn, like many of his generation, between hatred of the British Empire and a deep love of European literature, whose life would be upended by the arrival of war on his Calcutta doorstep.

Dense with romance and intrigue, and of startling relevance for the great power games of our own day, Deborah Baker's *The Last Englishmen* is an engrossing story that traces the end of empire and the stirring of a new world order.

In her ambitious new (...)

Author Bio

Deborah Baker is the author of *In Extremis: The Life of Laura Riding*, a finalist for the Pulitzer Prize, as well as *A Blue Hand*; *The Beats in India*. She divides her time between Calcutta, Goa, and Brooklyn.

Graywolf Press

On Sale: Jul 9/19

5.5 x 8.25 • 384 pages

9781555978464 • \$23.50 • pb

Biography / Literary

Notes

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