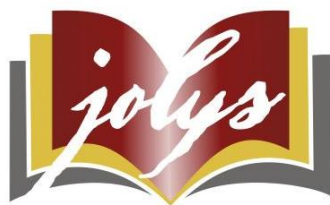


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**Title:** Beartown

**Author:** Frederik Backman

**Publication Date:** 2017

**Genre:** Fiction

**Type & pp.** Paperback: 415 pages

**Publisher:** Simon & Schuster Canada

**ISBN-13:** 9781982114350

**eBook:** 9781501163111

A dazzling, profound novel about a small town with a big dream—and the price required to make it come true.

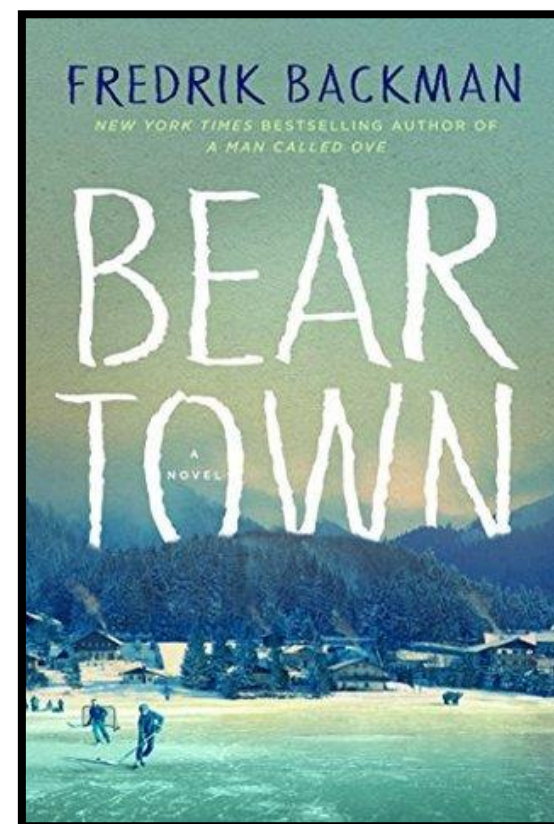
People say Beartown is finished. A tiny community nestled deep in the forest, it is slowly losing ground to the ever encroaching trees.

But down by the lake stands an old ice rink, built generations ago by the working men who founded this town. And in that ice rink is the reason people in Beartown believe tomorrow will be better than today.

Their junior ice hockey team is about to compete in the national semi-finals, and they actually have a shot at winning. All the hopes and dreams of this place now rest on the shoulders of a handful of teenage boys.

Being responsible for the hopes of an entire town is a heavy burden, and the semi-final match is the catalyst for a violent act that will leave a young girl traumatized and a town in turmoil. Accusations are made and, like ripples on a pond, they travel through all of Beartown, leaving no resident unaffected.

Beartown explores the hopes that bring a small community together, the secrets that tear it apart, and the courage it takes for an individual to go against the grain. In this story of a small forest town, Fredrik Backman has found the entire world. (From the publisher.)



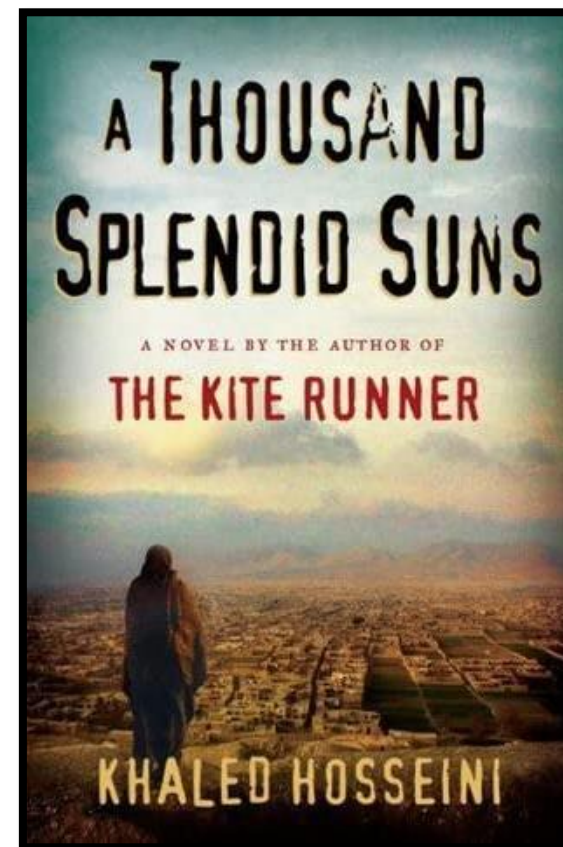


<b>Title:</b>	<b>A Thousand Splendid Suns</b>
<b>Author:</b>	<b>Khaled Hosseini</b>
<b>Publication Date:</b>	<b>2007</b>
<b>Genre:</b>	<b>Novel, Fiction</b>
<b>Type &amp; pp.</b>	<b>Hardcover: 372 pages</b>
<b>Publisher:</b>	<b>Viking Canada</b>
<b>ISBN-13:</b>	<b>978-0-670-06491-5</b>
<b>eBook:</b>	<b>9780143180654</b>

Propelled by the same superb instinct for storytelling that made *The Kite Runner* a beloved classic, *A Thousand Splendid Suns* is at once an incredible chronicle of thirty years of Afghan history and a deeply moving story of family, friendship, faith, and the salvation to be found in love.

Born a generation apart and with very different ideas about love and family, Mariam and Laila are two women brought jarringly together by war, by loss and by fate. As they endure the ever escalating dangers around them—in their home as well as in the streets of Kabul—they come to form a bond that makes them both sisters and mother-daughter to each other, and that will ultimately alter the course not just of their own lives but of the next generation. With heart-wrenching power and suspense, Hosseini shows how a woman's love for her family can move her to shocking and heroic acts of self-sacrifice, and that in the end it is love, or even the memory of love, that is often the key to survival.

A stunning accomplishment, *A Thousand Splendid Suns* is a haunting, heartbreaking, compelling story of an unforgiving time, an unlikely friendship, and an indestructible love. (From the publisher.)





**Title:** Eve: A Novel of the First Woman

**Author:** Elissa Elliott

**Publication Date:** 2009

**Genre:** Christian, Historical Fiction

**Type & pp.** Paperback: 419 pages

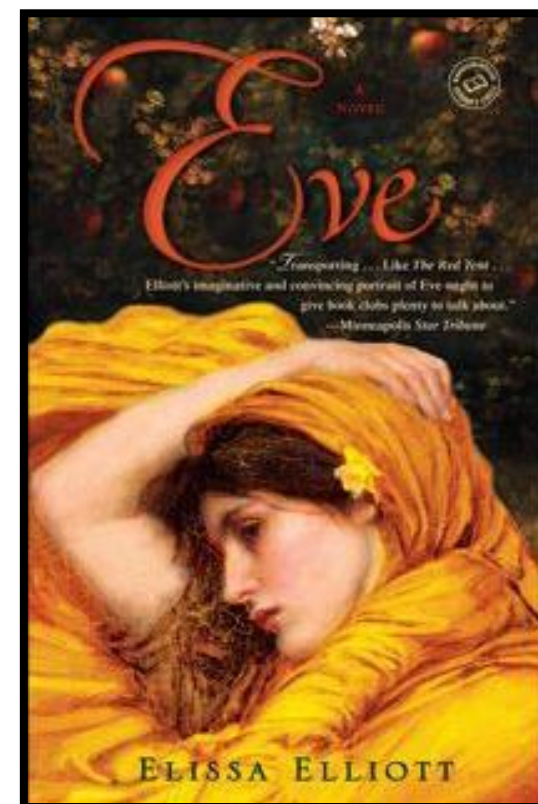
**Publisher:** Bantam Books Trade Paperbacks Edition

**ISBN-13:** 9870385341455

**eBook:** 9780400338253

She is perhaps the most famous woman in the world. Now Eve comes to life in a powerful reinvention of her centuries—old tale. A feast for the imagination, *Eve: A Novel of the First Woman* unites myth, religion, and ancient history in a literary debut that explores some of our most deeply rooted questions about life and human nature. We meet an extraordinarily moving version of Eve on these pages. She is a mother and a wife, a woman who is both nurturing and sensual, courageous and wise. She endures life's struggles and mysteries, longing to understand God's will and haunted by the memories of the paradise she shared with Adam. As tragedy looms for her sons, readers experience a stirring depiction of the very nature of evil—and a boundless love that defeats it.

The questions and discussion topics that follow are intended to enhance your reading of Elissa Elliott's *Eve*. We hope they will enrich your experience of this breathtaking journey.





**Title:** Half-Blood Blues

**Author:** Esi Edugyan

**Publication Date:** 2011

**Genre:** Historical Fiction

**Type & pp.** Paperback: 309 pages

**Publisher:** Harper Collins Publishers Ltd

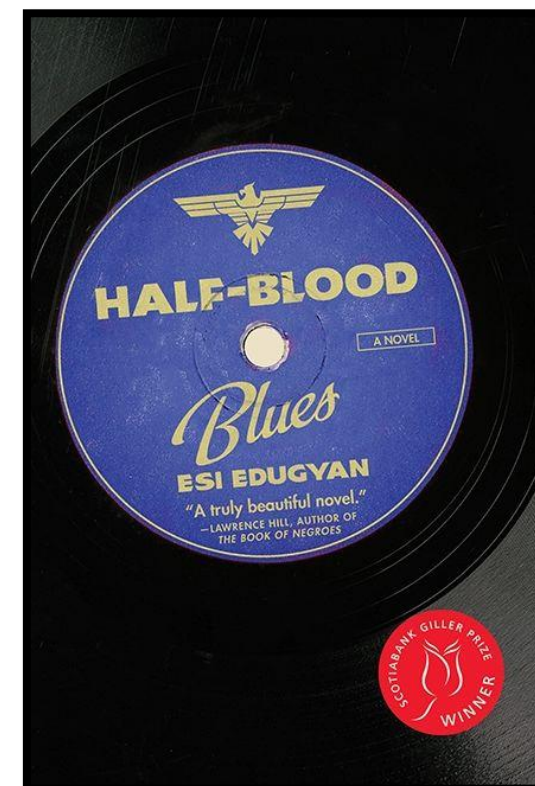
**ISBN-13:** 978144343371

**eBook:** 9781443433495

Berlin, 1939. The Hot Time Swingers, a popular jazz band, has been forbidden to play by the Nazis. Their young trumpet-player Hieronymus Falk, declared a musical genius by none other than Louis Armstrong, is arrested in a Paris cafe. He is never heard from again. He was twenty years old, a German citizen. And he was black.

Berlin, 1952. Falk is a jazz legend. Hot Time Swingers band members Sid Griffiths and Chip Jones, both African Americans from Baltimore, have appeared in a documentary about Falk. When they are invited to attend the film's premier, Sid's role in Falk's fate will be questioned and the two old musicians set off on a surprising and strange journey.

From the smoky bars of pre-war Berlin to the salons of Paris, Sid leads the reader through a fascinating, little-known world as he describes the friendships, love affairs and treacheries that led to Falk's incarceration in Sachsenhausen. Half-Blood Blues is a story about music and race, love and loyalty, and the sacrifices we ask of ourselves, and demand of others, in the name of art. (From the publisher.)





**Title:** One Hundred Years of Solitude

**Author:** Gabriel Garcia Marquez

**Publication Date:** 1967

**Genre:** Novel, Magical Realism, Family saga, Epic Fiction

**Type & pp.** Paperback: 419 pages

**Publisher:** Harper Perennial, Modern Classics

**ISBN-13:** 9780060883287

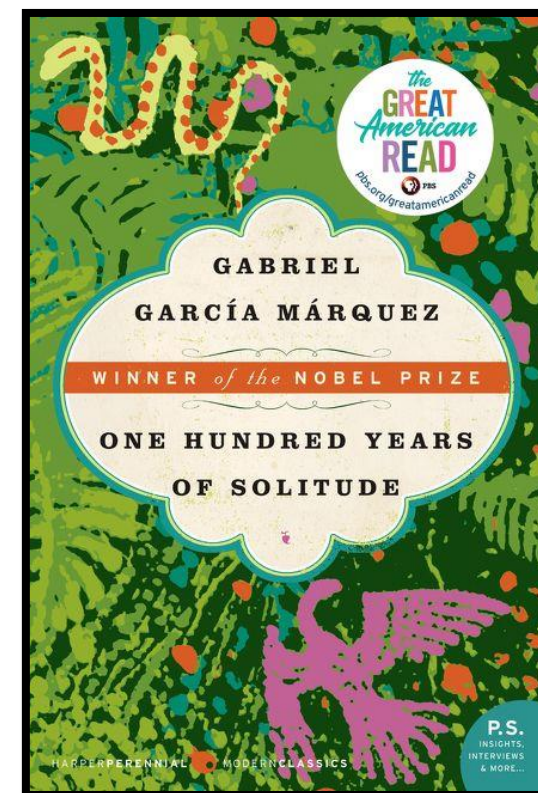
**eBook:** 9780241968598

One of the 20th century's enduring works, *One Hundred Years of Solitude* is a widely beloved and acclaimed novel known throughout the world, and the ultimate achievement in a Nobel Prize-winning career.

The novel tells the story of the rise and fall of the mythical town of Macondo through the history of the Buendía family. It is a rich and brilliant chronicle of life and death, and the tragicomedy of humankind. In the noble, ridiculous, beautiful, and tawdry story of the Buendía family, one sees all of humanity, just as in the history, myths, growth, and decay of Macondo, one sees all of Latin America.

Love and lust, war and revolution, riches and poverty, youth and senility — the variety of life, the endlessness of death, the search for peace and truth — these universal themes dominate the novel. Whether he is describing an affair of passion or the voracity of capitalism and the corruption of government, Gabriel García Márquez always writes with the simplicity, ease, and purity that are the mark of a master.

Alternately reverential and comical, *One Hundred Years of Solitude* weaves the political, personal, and spiritual to bring a new consciousness to storytelling. Translated into dozens of languages, this stunning work is no less than an accounting of the history of the human race. (From the publisher.)





**Title:** Quintland Sisters

**Author:** Shelley Wood

**Publication Date:** 2019

**Genre:** Fiction, Historical Fiction, Women's Fiction

**Type & pp.** Paperback: 435 pages

**Publisher:** William Morrow, An imprint of Harper Collins Publishers

**ISBN-13:** 9780062839091

**eBook:** 9780062839114

For fans of SOLD ON A MONDAY or THE HOME FOR UNWANTED GIRLS, Shelley Wood's novel tells the story of the Dionne Quintuplets, the world's first identical quintuplets to survive birth, told from the perspective of a midwife in training who helps bring them into the world.

Reluctant midwife Emma Trimpany is just 17 when she assists at the harrowing birth of the Dionne quintuplets: five tiny miracles born to French farmers in hardscrabble Northern Ontario in 1934. Emma cares for them through their perilous first days. And when the government decides to remove the babies from their francophone parents, making them wards of the British king, Emma signs on as their nurse.

Over 6,000 daily visitors come to ogle the identical "Quints" playing in their custom-built playground; at the height of the Great Depression, the tourism and advertising dollars pour in. While the rest of the world delights in their sameness, Emma sees each girl as unique: Yvonne, Annette, Cécile, Marie and Émilie. With her quirky eye for detail, Emma records every strange twist of events in her private journals.

As the fight over custody and revenues turns increasingly explosive, Emma is torn between the fishbowl sanctuary of Quintland and the wider world, now teetering on the brink of war. Steeped in research, THE QUINTLAND SISTERS is a novel of love, heartache, resilience and enduring sisterhood -- a fictional, coming-of-age story bound up in one of the strangest true tales of the past century.



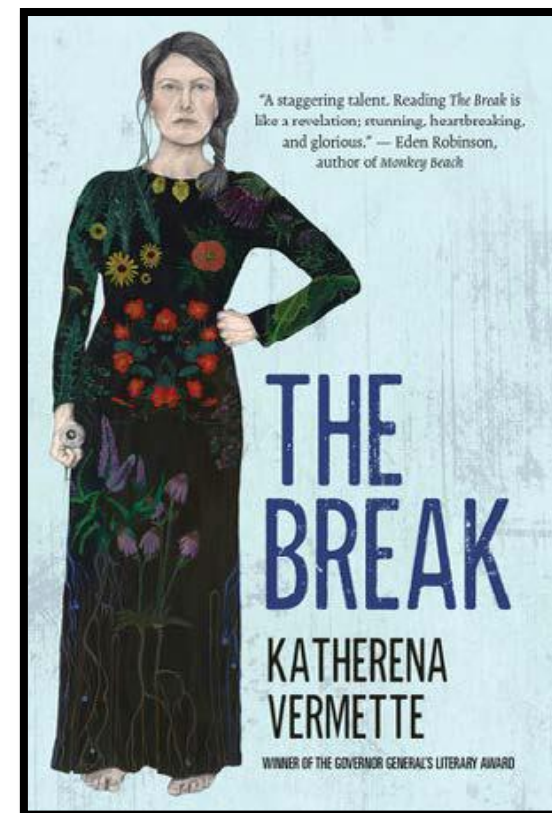


<b>Title:</b>	<b>The Break</b>
<b>Author:</b>	<b>Katherena Vermette</b>
<b>Publication Date:</b>	<b>2016</b>
<b>Genre:</b>	<b>Fiction</b>
<b>Type &amp; pp.</b>	<b>Paperback: 350 pages</b>
<b>Publisher:</b>	<b>House of Anansi Press Inc.</b>
<b>ISBN-13:</b>	<b>9781487001117</b>
<b>eBook:</b>	<b>9781487001124</b>

When Stella, a young Métis mother, looks out her window one evening and spots someone in trouble on the Break — a barren field on an isolated strip of land outside her house — she calls the police to alert them to a possible crime.

In a series of shifting narratives, people who are connected, both directly and indirectly, with the victim — police, family, and friends — tell their personal stories leading up to that fateful night. Lou, a social worker, grapples with the departure of her live-in boyfriend. Cheryl, an artist, mourns the premature death of her sister Rain. Paulina, a single mother, struggles to trust her new partner. Phoenix, a homeless teenager, is released from a youth detention centre. Officer Scott, a Métis policeman, feels caught between two worlds as he patrols the city. Through their various perspectives a larger, more comprehensive story about lives of the residents in Winnipeg's North End is exposed.

A powerful intergenerational family saga, *The Break* showcases Vermette's abundant writing talent and positions her as an exciting new voice in Canadian literature.





<b>Title:</b>	<b>The Cuckoo's Calling</b>
<b>Author:</b>	<b>Robert Galbraith</b>
<b>Publication Date:</b>	<b>2013</b>
<b>Genre:</b>	<b>Novel, Mystery, Crime Fiction</b>
<b>Type &amp; pp.</b>	<b>Hardcover: 455 pages</b>
<b>Publisher:</b>	<b>Mulholland Books Little, Brown and Company</b>
<b>ISBN-13:</b>	<b>978-0-31620684-6</b>
<b>eBook:</b>	<b>9780316206860</b>

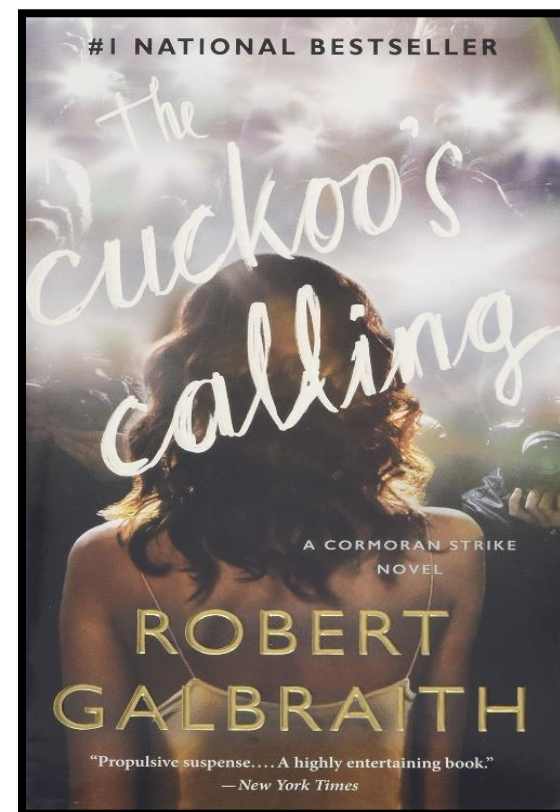
After losing his leg to a land mine in Afghanistan, Cormoran Strike is barely scraping by as a private investigator. Strike is down to one client, and creditors are calling. He has also just broken up with his long-time girlfriend and is living in his office.

Then John Bristow walks through his door with an amazing story: His sister, the legendary supermodel Lula Landry, known to her friends as the Cuckoo, famously fell to her death a few months earlier.

The police ruled it a suicide, but John refuses to believe that. The case plunges Strike into the world of multimillionaire beauties, rock-star boyfriends, and desperate designers, and it introduces him to every variety of pleasure, enticement, seduction, and delusion known to man.

You may think you know detectives, but you've never met one quite like Strike. You may think you know about the wealthy and famous, but you've never seen them under an investigation like this.

Introducing Cormoran Strike, this is the acclaimed first crime novel by J.K. Rowling, writing under the pseudonym Robert Galbraith. (From the publisher.)





**Title:** Suite Française

**Author:** Irène Némirovsky- (translated by Sandra Smith)

**Publication Date:** 2004

**Genre:** Novel, Fiction

**Type & pp.** Paperback: 431 pages

**Publisher:** Vintage Canada

**ISBN-13:** 978-0-676-9777-4

**eBook:** 9780307371201

Suite Française is both a piercing record of its time, and a humane, profoundly moving work of art. Riveting, impossible to put down, it makes us witnesses to life as it was in wartime France, and leaves us wondering how we too might behave in such a perilous situation.

An immediate #1 bestseller in France, Suite Française has captured readers' imaginations not only for the tragic story of its author, and the circumstances of its rediscovery, but for its brilliantly subtle and compelling portrait of France under Occupation. (From the publisher.)





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