

THE CONTEMPORARY ART OF THE NOVELLA

Too short to be a novel, too long to be a short story—what, exactly is a novella?

This unprecedented series answers the question and takes a look at the renegade form in all its varieties. It does so in a beautifully packaged and inexpensive line featuring work by some of history's greatest writers—including many titles never before presented in book form.



SHOPLIFTING FROM AMERICAN APPAREL

Written by Tao Lin
978-1-933633-78-7—\$13.00
September 1, 2009

In a work that's sure to be controversial, the author defines himself as a kind of American Murakami, looking critically at his own youth culture while attacking the mainstream mindset with scathing wit and ferocious optimism.

We see this as an underground hit, with break-out potential.



LUCINELLA

Written by Lore Segal
978-1-933-63379-4—\$13.00
October 6, 2009

The classic novella from award-winning *New Yorker* writer is reissued.

A brilliantly witty and whimsical novella about New York poet *Lucinella* and her adventures among the litterati at a Yaddo-like writers' residency and back home in everyone's real life in New York City, where they face serious questions.



SANDOKAN

Written by Nanni Balestrini
978-1-933-63380-0—\$13.00
November 3, 2009

This striking novella is based on first-hand research of the Comorra, an Italian organized crime network more powerful and violent than the Mafia. It's the brutal organization that was recently exposed by Roberto Saviano, both in his brilliant non-fiction account and the Hollywood adaptation. Saviano, as it turns out, first discovered the Gomorra while working as a research assistant to Nanni Balestrini, collecting the stories that would become Sandokan.



A HAPPY MAN

Written by Hansjörg Schertenleib
978-1-933-63381-7—\$13.00

This book asks a simple question: Is it possible to write compellingly about a happy person? In the hands of celebrated (but never before translated into English) Swiss author Hansjörg Schertenleib, the answer is a resounding yes—because, as it turns out, even happy people are surrounded by unhappy people, which can make for considerable stress, and, well, what's a happy man to do?

Melville House Publishing

Publishing literary fiction, non-fiction and poetry—and liking it!



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Available Now



THE PATHSEEKER

Written by Imre Kertész
Translated by Tim Wilkinson
978-1-933-63353-4—\$13.00

"The Pathseeker avoids the slightest tendency toward ethical didacticism, a great risk when writing about the Holocaust...we should be grateful and careful attention."
—*The New York Sun*

Imre Kertész won the Nobel Prize in 2002 for "writing that upholds the fragile experience of the individual against the barbaric arbitrariness of history." He lives in Budapest and Berlin.



BONSAI

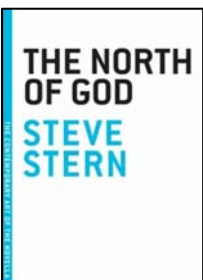
Written by Alejandro Zambra
Translated by Carolina De Robertis
978-1-933-63362-6—\$13.00

"One of the greatest literary events of recent years."

—Alfonso Cortinez, *Los Ultimas Noticias*

"An unclassifiable object of unusual beauty...one of the best Chilean novels in recent times." —David Lacalle, *Capital*

Alejandro Zambra is a poet and critic and currently teaches literature at the Diego Portales University in Santiago. *Bonsai* is his first novel. It was awarded Chile's Literary Critics' Award for Best Novel.

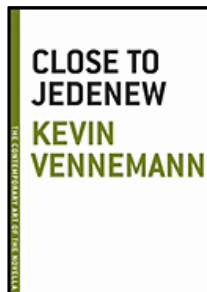


THE NORTH OF GOD

Written by Steve Stern
978-1-933-63356-5—\$13.00

In a boxcar crammed with Jews headed to a concentration camp, one man attempts to tell a story vital enough to displace the horror.

Steve Stern's novels and stories have won the Jewish Book Award, the O. Henry Award, and numerous other prizes.



CLOSE TO JEDENEW

Written by Kevin Vennemann
Translated by Ross Benjamin
978-1-933-63339-8—\$13.00

"A stunning debut." —Die Zeit

Based on a true occurrence, this stunning novella—already a European sensation—tells the story of a town gone mad in its desire to survive the Nazis...by getting rid of its Jews.

Kevin Vennemann was born in 1977 in Germany and today lives in Vienna and Paris.

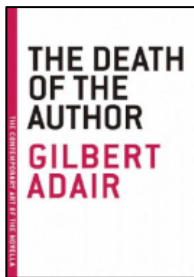


CUSTOMER SERVICE

Written by Benoit Duteurtre
Translated by Bruce Benderson
978-1-933-63352-7—\$13.00

"The enfant terrible of modernity." —*Le Figaro*
Plunged into his new telephone's customer service—with its circular menu options and bright-voiced automatons—the narrator slowly unravels.

Benoit Duteurtre, winner of the Prix Medici, is the author of twelve novels translated into thirteen languages, including, most recently from Melville House, *The Little Girl and the Cigarette*. He lives in Paris.



THE DEATH OF THE AUTHOR

Written by Gilbert Adair
978-1-933-63357-2—\$13.00

"Funny, gripping and very clever...A brilliant black satire on cultural cultishness." —*The Times* (London)

In a jet-black satire based on a real-life scandal, the leading writer in a school of literary criticism that says authors are meaningless—"dead"—is discovered to have a dark secret.

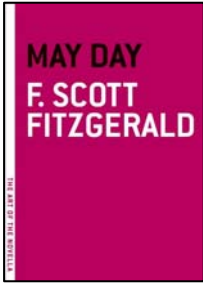
Gilbert Adair is the author of *Love and Death on Long Island* and the screenplay for Bernardo Bertolucci's *The Dreamers*. He lives in London.

Also available from Melville House Publishing

THE ART OF THE NOVELLA

\$10.00 Trade Paperback Editions

Available July 7, 2009



MAY DAY

Written by F. Scott Fitzgerald
978-1-933633-43-5—\$10.00

"I wanted them all, even those I'd already read."
—Ron Rosenbaum, *The New York Observer*

Although F. Scott Fitzgerald is known for the kind of subtle, polished social commentary found in his masterpiece *The Great Gatsby*, his little-known novella *May Day* is unique in that it is the

most raw, directly political commentary he ever wrote, and one of the most desperate works in his oeuvre.



TALES OF BELKIN

Written by Alexander Pushkin
978-1-933-63373-2—\$10.00

First published anonymously in 1830, Alexander Pushkin's *The Tales of Belkin* contains his first prose works, comprised of an introductory note and five linked stories, ostensibly collected by the scholar Ivan Belkin. Centering variously around military figures, the wealthy, and businessmen; this beautiful novella gives a

vivid portrait of nineteenth century Russian life.



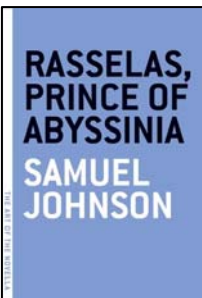
THE COXON FUND

Written by Henry James
978-1-933-63342-8—\$10.00

Henry James examines one of his favorite topics—the artist's place in society—by profiling a "genius" who just can't seem to support himself. A dazzling intellectual and brilliant speaker, Mr. Saltram has become the most sought-after houseguest in England. But, as his intellectual labors slacken, it becomes

harder and harder to get him to leave.

A wry, edgy comedy about the fine line between making art and freeloading, *The Coxon Fund* shows off a gift that is rarely appreciated about Henry James: he can be wickedly funny.

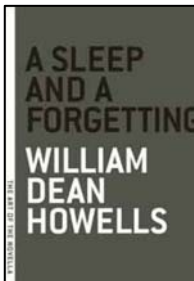


RASSELAS, PRINCE OF ABYSSINIA

Written by Samuel Johnson
978-1-933-63344-2—\$10.00

The other great book by the man who wrote the dictionary: This is Dr. Johnson's beautiful, engaging, and ultimately inspiring story of a royal brother and sister who escape the castle and, travelling in disguise, search for a way to feel more useful to society.

It leads to a years-long adventure amongst poor people and rich men, great intellectuals and merchants, holy men and ruthless warriors. It is an eye-opening experience that shakes the siblings to their core and ultimately turns into the most sublimely wise and moving works that Johnson ever wrote, not to mention a masterpiece of English literature.



A SLEEP AND A FORGETTING

Written by William Dean Howells
978-0-976-65838-2—\$10.00

Nowhere in the prodigious output of William Dean Howells is there an example more poignant of his heart-felt dedication to the realist movement than this achingly suspenseful novella.

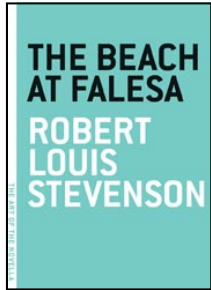
The story centers on a young "alienist"—a psychologist—who meets a young woman who, at subsequent encounters, has no recollection of him. The doctor launches a psychological investigation that appears to be based upon the most painful memories of the author himself—Howells had recently experienced the loss of a beloved adult daughter (from what appears to have been anorexia) and the institutionalization of another for "emotional collapse."

Also available from Melville House Publishing

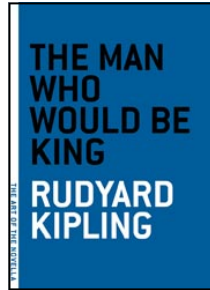
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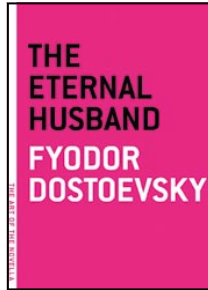
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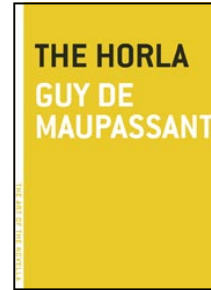
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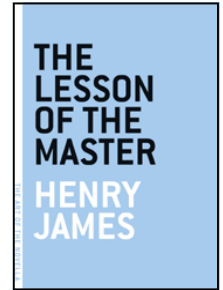
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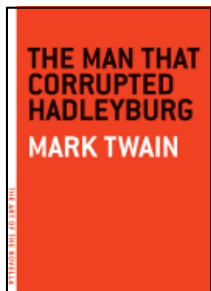
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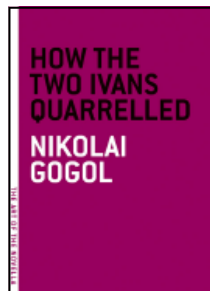
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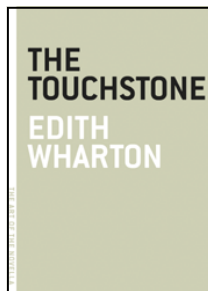
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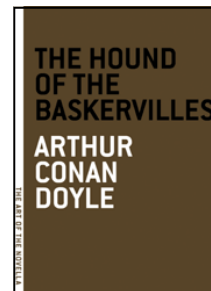
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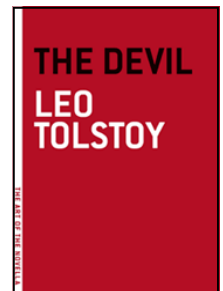
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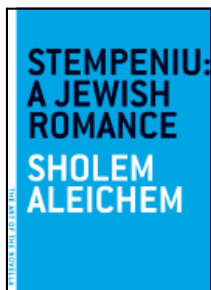
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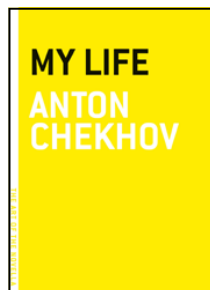
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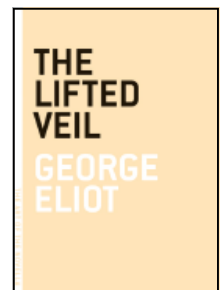
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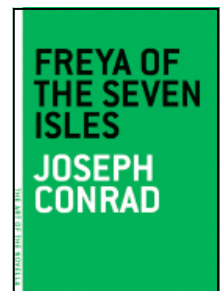
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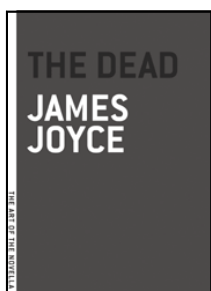
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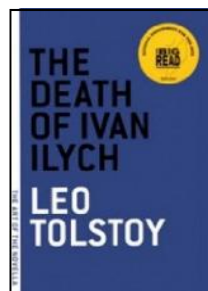
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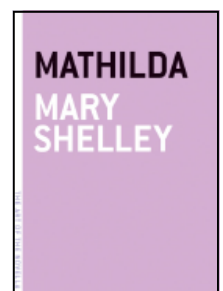
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