

Oh Pure And Radiant Heart Lydia Millet

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Doomsday Men P. D. Smith 2008-09-25 It was the weapon to end all weapons: the doomsday device. A huge nuclear bomb so powerful that it could envelop the entire planet in a cloud of radioactive dust, and bring about instant extinction. This is the untold story of the Cold War's most insane plan, the men behind it and how it nearly happened. It is also the history of humanity's nightmare vision of a superweapon, showing how popular culture, from the stories of H. G. Wells and Jules Verne to films such as Planet of the Apes, Mad Max and Dr Strangelove itself have both shaped and reflected our darkest dreams.

Magnificence: A Novel Lydia Millet 2012-11-05 A woman embarks on a dazzling new phase in her life after inheriting a sprawling mansion and its vast collection of taxidermy. Pulitzer Prize finalist Lydia Millet is "one of the most acclaimed novelists of her generation" (Scott Timberg, Los Angeles Times). Salon praised her for writing that is "always flawlessly beautiful, reaching for an experience that precedes language itself." The Village Voice added, "If Kurt Vonnegut were still alive, he would be extremely jealous." This stunning new novel presents Susan Lindley, a woman adrift after her husband's death and the dissolution of her family. Embarking on a new phase in her life after inheriting her uncle's sprawling mansion and its vast collection of taxidermy, Susan decides to restore the neglected, moth-eaten animal mounts, tending to "the fur and feathers, the beaks, the bones and shimmering tails." Meanwhile an equally derelict human menagerie—including an unfaithful husband and a chorus of eccentric old women—joins her in residence. In a setting both wondrous and absurd, Susan defends her legacy from freeloading relatives and explores the mansion's unknown spaces. Funny and heartbreaking, Magnificence explores evolution and extinction, children and parenthood, loss and revelation. The result is the rapturous final act to the critically acclaimed cycle of novels that began with How the Dead Dream.

Everyone's Pretty Lydia Millet 2005-01-01 A "supremely wacky [and] astute" novel by a PEN Award winner and Pulitzer Prize finalist (The Washington Post). In Los Angeles, Dean Decetes, a pornographer with messianic delusions, spins out of control, spending his time drinking himself into a stupor, getting beaten up by strangers he's recklessly insulted, stealing credit cards to pay for sex, being arrested, begging favors, and mounting a PR campaign to make himself famous with the help of a loyal foot soldier—a porn-loving midget he met in jail. Meanwhile his pious, romantic spinster sister, who reluctantly keeps house for him, busies herself writing quasi-religious love notes to the boss she worships, and two of her coworkers at the statistics company—an obsessive-compulsive Christian Scientist in a twisted marriage and a promiscuous, depressed blond bombshell—become enmeshed in her life as she dreams of ridding herself of her

freeloading brother and being carried away on a white horse by her employer. Then a teenage math genius runs away from home after her mother humiliates her in school, and hooks up at a bar with Decetes's suicidal editor. Told from five points of view, over three wild days in which these lives intersect, this is a rollickingly funny yet heart-wrenching novel from one of today's most acclaimed literary voices. "Taken at surface level, its presentation of over-the-top characters placed in bizarre situations is supremely wacky, but underneath is an astute examination of how contemporary society fosters alienation and loneliness so acute that it takes outsized actions to allow any possibility of driving the demons away." —The Washington Post

Starcombing David Langford 2009-05 Starcombing contains eighty-five newly collected pieces of David Langford's witty commentary on the SF/fantasy scene - columns, articles, reviews, essays, even a few short-short stories from the famous 'Futures' page in Nature. Compulsive reading, crammed with insights and laughs.

Schuld David Graeber 2012-06-11 Eerst maakte de mens schulden, toen pas maakte hij het geld. In tegenstelling tot wat de wetenschap altijd dacht, betoogt David Graeber dat schuld al bestond ver voordat geld en munten werden uitgevonden en dat de mens al 5000 jaar gebruikmaakt van uitgebreide kredietsystemen. Sterker nog: schuld en de kwijschelding daarvan hebben ons morele besef gevormd - het woord 'schuld' werd al vanaf het begin in zakelijke én in religieuze zin gebruikt. Slavernij, geweld, oorlogen en opstanden: ze hangen samen met ideeën over schuld. In dit veelomvattende boek bestudeert Graeber onze opvattingen over beloftes, krediet en afbetaling, van de vroegste beschavingen tot het moderne kapitalisme. Hij analyseert helder en buitengewoon leesbaar hoe de wereldeconomie zich heeft ontwikkeld - en werpt een heel nieuw licht op de huidige economische crisis. Dit boek is nu al een klassieker.

Vanity Fair 2005

The Top Ten: Writers Pick Their Favorite Books J. Peder Zane 2010-06-21 What if you asked 125 top writers to pick their favorite books? Which titles would come out on top? You'll find the answer in The Top Ten: Writers Pick Their Favorite Books: the ultimate guide to the world's greatest books. As writers such as Norman Mailer, Annie Proulx, Stephen King, Jonathan Franzen, Claire Messud, Margaret Drabble, Michael Chabon and Peter Carey name the ten books that have meant the most to them, you'll be reminded of books you have always loved and introduced to works awaiting your discovery. The Top Ten includes summaries of 544 books—each of which is considered to be among the ten greatest books ever written by at least one leading writer. In addition to each writer's Top Ten List, the book features Top Ten Lists tabulated from their picks, including: • The Top Ten Books of All Time • The Top Ten Books by Living Writers • The Top Ten Books of the Twentieth

Century • The Top Ten Mysteries • The Top Ten Comedies The Top Ten will help readers answer the most pressing question of all: What should I read next?

Rocket States: Atomic Weaponry and the Cultural Imagination Fabienne Collignon 2014-07-31 Rocket States crosses the disciplines of Cold War Studies, American Literature, American Studies and Cultural Studies. The particular attraction of this study lies in the combination of its range-close textual and visual analysis of the correlations between land and weaponry, set firmly within its political and cultural contexts-with its unique analytical approach. The book offers a synthesis between history, theories of technology, theories of space, popular culture, literary study and military science. It illuminates a variety of literary texts from key writers and thinkers such as Pynchon, Stephen King, Norman Mailer, and Tom Wolfe, while also invoking figures like Nikola Tesla, James Webb, Batman and Ronald Reagan. Organised topographically, according to how missile technology manifests itself differently in particular locations, Rocket States's geographical targets are Colorado, Kansas, Cape Canaveral and New York, variously titled 'Excavation', 'Preservation', 'Evacuation' and 'Transmission'. It advances through these states roughly chronologically, beginning in the late 1940s and early 1950s and coming to an end in the first part of the 21st century. Collignon's argument is concerned with identifying the recurring figures and fantasies of the Cold War: the dome or parabola as sheltering techno-form; the fictions of total security adapting to constantly changing targeting strategies; gadget love; closed, freezing worlds. As such, Rocket States analyses by what processes the Cold War is frequently literalised in its weapons installations and how these facilities, in turn, shape dreams of containment, survival, escape and techno-supremacy.

The Fires Beneath the Sea Lydia Millet 2011-07-26 Cara's mother has disappeared. Her father isn't talking about it. Her big brother Max is hiding behind his iPod, and her genius little brother Jackson is busy studying the creatures he collects from the beach. But when a watery specter begins to haunt the family's Cape Cod home, Cara and her brothers realize that their scientist mother may not be who they thought she was—and that the world has much stranger, much older inhabitants than they had imagined. With help from Cara's best friend Hayley, the three embark on a quest that will lead them from the Cape's hidden, ancient places to a shipwreck at the bottom of the sea. They're soon on the front lines of an ancient battle between good and evil, with the terrifying "pouring man" close on their heels. Packed with memorable characters and thrilling imagery, Lydia Millet weaves a page-turning adventure even as she brings the seaside world of Cape Cod to magical life. The first in a series of books about the Sykes children, *The Fires Beneath the Sea* is a rip-cracking middle-grade novel that will make perfect beach reading—for readers of any age! Lydia Millet is the author of six previous novels, including *My Happy Life*, which won the 2003 PEN-USA Award for Fiction, and *Oh Pure and Radiant Heart*, which was shortlisted for the Arthur C. Clarke Award. Her short story collection *Love in Infant Monkeys* was a 2010 Pulitzer Prize finalist.

How the Dead Dream Lydia Millet 2009 The newest novel from critically acclaimed Lydia Millet, "How the Dead Dream" is a beautiful, heart-wrenching tale and a riveting commentary on community in the modern suburban landscape and how the lives of animals are affected by it.

The Meanings of J. Robert Oppenheimer Lindsey Michael Banco 2016-05-15 Desert saint or destroyer of worlds: Oppenheimer biographies -- Under the sun: Oppenheimer in history -- History imagined: Oppenheimer in fiction -- The ghost and the machine: Oppenheimer in film and television -- "The bony truth": Oppenheimer in museums -- In his own worlds: Oppenheimer's writing

Frieze 2005

De hemelse tafel Donald Ray Pollock 2017-01-04 Het is 1917, op de grens van Georgia en Alabama. De broers Cane, Cob en Chimney Jewett leven in diepe armoede en worden onder de duim gehouden door hun tirannieke en godvrezende vader Pearl. Als hij onverwacht sterft trekken ze, geïnspireerd door een pulpromannetje, eropuit om rijk en beroemd te worden. Het loopt vrijwel meteen verschrikkelijk uit de hand, en allerhande wilde verhalen beginnen de ronde te doen. De broers zouden moordenaars zijn en bankrovers, de succesvolste uit de geschiedenis. Achtervolgd door de autoriteiten en premiejagers laten ze een spoor van moord en verderf achter op weg naar een vreedzaam stadje in het zuiden van Ohio. De hemelse tafel is rauw, gewelddadig en staat bol van de sardonische humor. Het bewijst eens te meer het unieke talent van Donald Ray Pollock, en zijn plek tussen de beste Amerikaanse schrijvers van dit moment.

Postmodern/Postwar and After Jason Gladstone 2016-07 Within the past ten years, the field of contemporary American literary studies has changed significantly. Following the turn of the twenty-first century and mounting doubts about the continued explanatory power of the category of "postmodernism," new organizations have emerged, book series have been launched, journals have been created, and new methodologies, periodizations, and thematics have redefined the field. *Postmodern/Postwar—and After* aims to be a field-defining book—a sourcebook for the new and emerging critical terrain—that explores the postmodern/postwar period and what comes after. The first section of essays returns to the category of the "post-modern" and argues for the usefulness of key concepts and themes from postmodernism to the study of contemporary literature, or reevaluates postmodernism in light of recent developments in the field and historical and economic changes in the late twentieth and early twenty-first centuries. These essays take the contemporary abandonments of postmodernism as an occasion to assess the current states of postmodernity. After that, the essays move to address the critical shift away from postmodernism as a description of the present, and toward a new sense of postmodernism as just one category among many that scholars can use to describe the recent past. The final section looks forward and explores the question of what comes after the postwar/postmodern. Taken together, these essays from leading and emerging scholars on the state of twenty-first-century literary studies provide a number of frameworks for approaching contemporary literature as influenced by, yet distinct from, postmodernism. The result is an indispensable guide that seeks to represent and understand the major overhauling of postwar American literary studies that is currently underway.

Brothers & Beasts Kate Bernheimer 2007 Breaks new ground in fairy-tale studies by offering male writers a chance to reflect on their relationships to fairy tales.

Fairy Tale Review Kate Bernheimer 2015-06-05 The sheer volume of responses to the first issue of *Fairy Tale Review* shows that fairy tales continue to be one of the most viable art forms. In fairy tales, all things are interdependent, mysteriously and insanely entwined. They contain a deeply ecological world. The *Green Issue* is devoted to new fairy tales, with a special consideration for nature. The unbridled individualism at work in the literary forms most dominant today devalues the natural world in relation to the human. In fairy tales, the human world and the animal world are collapsed. The collapse remains open to wonder and change. In this way, fairy tales provide the possibility for narratives to shine a different sort of terrible light on the natural world. This world is transparent, imperiled, abstract, and new. In this world, clarity and wonder go hand and hand.

Alles is belangrijk Ron Currie 2010-04-28 Op 15 juni 2010 zal de wereld vergaan

door een komeetinslag. Dat weet je zeker. Het is alleen niet door eigen waarneming of onderzoek, maar dankzij een stem in je hoofd dat je dat weet. En als je toch al de reputatie hebt een ingewikkelde jongen te zijn, maakt dat je leven niet eenvoudiger. Dit is de bagage van John Thibodeau ('Junior'), die zich in hoog tempo ontwikkelt van blije kleuter tot piekerende puber. Na lang aarzelen durft Junior zijn vriendin te vertellen wat de stemmen hem hebben verteld. Aanvankelijk wordt hij voor gek verklaard maar wanneer het gerucht de regering bereikt, wordt hij toch serieus genomen en als veiligheidsrisico gezien. Ondertussen vraagt Junior zich af of leven nog zin heeft, en wanneer hij pogingen doet om zijn fouten te herstellen, ontdekt hij dat er meerdere werkelijkheden mogelijk zijn. Alles is belangrijk! wordt vergeleken met David Mitchell en *Eternal Sunshine of the Spotless Mind* - en vanwege de manier waarop Currie Juniors omgeving beschrijft ook met *De correcties* van Jonathan Franzen.

The Silence of Fallout Michael Blouin 2014-09-26 This collection asks how we are to address the nuclear question in a post-Cold War world. Rather than a temporary fad, Nuclear Criticism perpetually re-surfaces in theoretical circles. Given the recent events at the Fukushima Daiichi nuclear plant in Japan, the ripple of anti-nuclear sentiment the event created, as well as the discursive maneuvers that took place in the aftermath, we might pause to reflect upon Nuclear Criticism and its place in contemporary scholarship (and society at-large). Scholars who were active in earlier expressions of Nuclear Criticism converse with emergent scholars likewise striving to negotiate the field moving forward. This volume revolves around these dialogic moments of agreement and departure; refusing the silence of complacency, the authors renew this conversation while taking it in exciting new directions. As political paradigms shift and awareness of nuclear issues manifests in alternative forms, the collected essays establish groundwork for future generations caught in a perpetual struggle with legacies of the nuclear.

Infrastructures of Apocalypse Jessica Hurley 2020-10-13 A new approach to the vast nuclear infrastructure and the apocalypses it produces, focusing on Black, queer, Indigenous, and Asian American literatures Since 1945, America has spent more resources on nuclear technology than any other national project. Although it requires a massive infrastructure that touches society on myriad levels, nuclear technology has typically been discussed in a limited, top-down fashion that clusters around powerful men. In *Infrastructures of Apocalypse*, Jessica Hurley turns this conventional wisdom on its head, offering a new approach that focuses on neglected authors and Black, queer, Indigenous, and Asian American perspectives. Exchanging the usual white, male "nuclear canon" for authors that include James Baldwin, Leslie Marmon Silko, and Ruth Ozeki, *Infrastructures of Apocalypse* delivers a fresh literary history of post-1945 America that focuses on apocalypse from below. Here Hurley critiques the racialized urban spaces of civil defense and reads nuclear waste as a colonial weapon. Uniting these diverse lines of inquiry is Hurley's belief that apocalyptic thinking is not the opposite of engagement but rather a productive way of imagining radically new forms of engagement. *Infrastructures of Apocalypse* offers futurelessness as a place from which we can construct a livable world. It fills a blind spot in scholarship on American literature of the nuclear age, while also offering provocative, surprising new readings of such well-known works as *Atlas Shrugged*, *Infinite Jest*, and *Angels in America*. *Infrastructures of Apocalypse* is a revelation for readers interested in nuclear issues, decolonial literature, speculative fiction, and American studies.

Love in Infant Monkeys Lydia Millet 2009-08-27 Animals and celebrities share

unusual relationships in these hilarious satirical stories by an award-winning contemporary writer. Lions, Komodo dragons, dogs, monkeys, and pheasants—all have shared spotlights and tabloid headlines with celebrities such as Sharon Stone, Thomas Edison, and David Hasselhoff. Millet hilariously tweaks these unholy communions to run a stake through the heart of our fascination with famous people and pop culture in a wildly inventive collection of stories that "evoke the spectrum of human feeling and also its limits" (*Publishers Weekly*, *Starred Review*). While in so much fiction animals exist as symbols of good and evil or as author stand-ins, they represent nothing but themselves in Millet's ruthlessly lucid prose. Implacable in their actions, the animals in Millet's spiraling fictional riffs and flounces show up their humans as bloated with foolishness yet curiously vulnerable, as in a tour-de-force, Kabbalah-infused interior monologue by Madonna after she shoots a pheasant on her Scottish estate. Millet treads newly imaginative territory with these charismatic tales. "These incredibly crafted stories, with their rare intelligence, humor, and empathy, describe the furious collision of nature and science, man and animal, everyday citizen and celebrity, fact and fiction. Lydia Millet's writing sparkles with urgent brilliance." —Joe Meno

Born on Third Base Chuck Collins 2016-09-23 As inequality grabs headlines, steals the show in presidential debates, and drives deep divides between the haves and have nots in America, class war brews. On one side, the wealthy wield power and advantage, wittingly or not, to keep the system operating in their favor--all while retreating into enclaves that separate them further and further from the poor and working class. On the other side, those who find it increasingly difficult to keep up or get ahead lash out--waging a rhetorical war against the rich and letting anger and resentment, however justifiable, keep us from seeing new potential solutions. But can we suspend both class wars long enough to consider a new way forward? Is it really good for anyone that most of society's wealth is pooling at the very top of the wealth ladder? Does anyone, including the one percent, really want to live in a society plagued by economic apartheid? It is time to think differently, says longtime inequality expert and activist Chuck Collins. Born into the one percent, Collins gave away his inheritance at 26 and spent the next three decades mobilizing against inequality. He uses his perspective from both sides of the divide to deliver a new narrative. Collins calls for a ceasefire and invites the wealthy to come back home, investing themselves and their wealth in struggling communities. And he asks the non-wealthy to build alliances with the one percent and others at the top of the wealth ladder. Stories told along the way explore the roots of advantage, show how taxpayers subsidize the wealthy, and reveal how charity, used incorrectly, can actually reinforce extreme inequality. Readers meet pioneers who are crossing the divide to work together in new ways, including residents in the author's own Boston-area neighborhood who have launched some of the most interesting community transition efforts in the nation. In the end, Collins's national and local solutions not only challenge inequality but also respond to climate change and offer an unexpected, fresh take on one of our most intransigent problems.

Writers on the Air Donna Seaman 2005 Culled from Donna Seaman's Chicago radio program, *Open Books*, this collection of interviews highlights Seaman's in-depth conversations with writers of literary fiction and creative nonfiction. A wide range of topics are discussed, including writers' inspiration, their favorite books, their working and research habits, and their opinion of the state of literature today. An introductory essay accompanies each interview and provides a

brief biographical and critical discussion of the author's background and work. Interviews with Margaret Atwood, T. C. Boyle, Sandra Cisneros, Jamaica Kincaid, Chang-rae Lee, Alice McDermott, and Joyce Carol Oates are among those included. **Criticism, Crisis, and Contemporary Narrative** Paul Crosthwaite 2010-12-21 This landmark collection of essays demonstrates the capacity of literary and cultural criticism, working in dialogue with contemporary narrative texts, to provide penetrating insights into a public sphere defined by a succession of overlapping global crises, ranging from finance and economics to the environment, geopolitics, terrorism, and public health.

My Mother She Killed Me, My Father He Ate Me Kate Bernheimer 2010-09-28 The fairy tale lives again in this book of forty new stories by some of the biggest names in contemporary fiction. Neil Gaiman, "Orange" Aimee Bender, "The Color Master" Joyce Carol Oates, "Blue-bearded Lover" Michael Cunningham, "The Wild Swans" These and more than thirty other stories by Francine Prose, Kelly Link, Jim Shepard, Lydia Millet, and many other extraordinary writers make up this thrilling celebration of fairy tales—the ultimate literary costume party. Spinning houses and talking birds. Whispered secrets and borrowed hope. Here are new stories sewn from old skins, gathered by visionary editor Kate Bernheimer and inspired by everything from Hans Christian Andersen's "The Snow Queen" and "The Little Match Girl" to Charles Perrault's "Bluebeard" and "Cinderella" to the Brothers Grimm's "Hansel and Gretel" and "Rumpelstiltskin" to fairy tales by Goethe and Calvino and from China, Japan, Vietnam, Russia, Norway, and Mexico. Fairy tales are our oldest literary tradition, and yet they chart the imaginative frontiers of the twenty-first century as powerfully as they evoke our earliest encounters with literature. This exhilarating collection restores their place in the literary canon.

The Publishers Weekly 2009

Woof! Lee Montgomery 2008-10-30 As the popularity of Marley & Me attests, people love their dogs?and everyone else?s too. For all the time spent on grooming, petting, and other care?it?s as if owning a dog is a religion unto itself. *Woof!* brings together original essays from acclaimed writers ruminating on the sometimes tumultuous, often selfless love affair between human and dog. Alternately poignant and hilarious, these collected stories of mutts and purebreds alike will win the hearts of the millions who?ve ever loved a member of the world?s most loyal species.

The Believer 2008

How the Dead Dream Lydia Millet 2009-03-01 T. is a young Los Angeles real estate developer consumed by power and political ambitions. His orderly, upwardly mobile life is thrown into chaos by the sudden appearance of his nutty mother, who's been deserted by T.'s now out-of-the-closet father. After his mother's suicide attempt and two other deaths, T. finds himself increasingly estranged from his latest project: a retirement community in the middle of the California desert. As he juggles family, business, and social responsibilities, T. begins to nurture a curious obsession with vanishing species. Soon he's living a double life, building sprawling subdivisions by day and breaking into zoos at night to be near the animals. A series of calamities forces T. to a tropical island, where he takes a Conrad-esque journey up a river into the remote jungle. Millet's devastating wit, psychological acuity, and remarkable empathy for flawed humankind contend with her vision of a world slowly murdering itself.

Los Angeles Magazine 2005-08 Los Angeles magazine is a regional magazine of national stature. Our combination of award-winning feature writing, investigative reporting, service journalism, and design covers the people, lifestyle, culture,

entertainment, fashion, art and architecture, and news that define Southern California. Started in the spring of 1961, Los Angeles magazine has been addressing the needs and interests of our region for 48 years. The magazine continues to be the definitive resource for an affluent population that is intensely interested in a lifestyle that is uniquely Southern Californian.

New Mexico Magazine 2006

Mermaids in Paradise: A Novel Lydia Millet 2014-11-03 "Hilariously funny. . . . Lydia Millet's novels raise the bar for boldness."—Rene Steinke, New York Times Book Review On the grounds of a Caribbean island resort, newlyweds Deb and Chip—our opinionated, skeptical narrator and her cheerful jock husband who's friendly to a fault—meet a marine biologist who says she's sighted mermaids in a coral reef. As the resort's "parent company" swoops in to corner the market on mythological creatures, the couple joins forces with other adventurous souls, including an ex-Navy SEAL with a love of explosives and a hipster Tokyo VJ, to save said mermaids from the "Venture of Marvels," which wants to turn their reef into a theme park. *Mermaids in Paradise* is Lydia Millet's funniest book yet, tempering the sharp satire of her early career with the empathy and subtlety of her more recent novels and short stories. This is an unforgettable, mesmerizing tale, darkly comic on the surface and illuminating in its depths.

Money Changes Everything Jenny Offill 2007-01-16 The editors of *The Friend Who Got Away* are back with a new anthology that will do for money what they did for women's friendships. Ours is a culture of confession, yet money remains a distinctly taboo subject for most Americans. In this riveting anthology, a host of celebrated writers explore the complicated role money has played in their lives, whether they're hiding from creditors or hiding a trust fund. This collection will touch a nerve with anyone who's ever been afraid to reveal their bank balance. In these wide-ranging personal essays, Daniel Handler, Walter Kirn, Jill McCorkle, Meera Nair, Henry Alford, Susan Choi, and other acclaimed authors write with startling candor about how money has strengthened or undermined their closest relationships. Isabel Rose talks about the trials and tribulations of dating as an heiress. Tony Serra explains what led him to take a forty-year vow of poverty. September 11 widow Marian Fontana illuminates the heartbreak and moral complexities of victim compensation. Jonathan Dee reveals the debt that nearly did him in. And in paired essays, Fred Leebron and his wife Katherine Rhett discuss the way fights over money have shaken their marriage to the core again and again. We talk openly about our romantic disasters and family dramas, our problems at work and our battles with addiction. But when it comes to what is or is not in our wallets, we remain determinedly mum. Until now, that is. *Money Changes Everything* is the first anthology of its kind—an unflinching and on-the-record collection of essays filled with entertaining and enlightening insights into why we spend, save, and steal. The pieces in *Money Changes Everything* range from the comic to the harrowing, yet they all reveal the complex, emotionally charged role money plays in our lives by shattering the wall of silence that has long surrounded this topic.

Risk Criticism Molly Wallace 2016-05-10 *Risk Criticism* is a study of literary and cultural responses to global environmental risk in an age of unfolding ecological catastrophe. In 2015, the Bulletin of the Atomic Scientists reset its iconic Doomsday Clock to three minutes to midnight, as close to the apocalypse as it has been since 1953. What pushed its hands was not just the threat of nuclear weapons, but also other global environmental risks that the Bulletin judged to have risen to the scale of the nuclear, including climate change and innovations in the life

sciences. If we may once have believed that the end of days would come in a blaze of nuclear firestorm, we now suspect that the apocalypse may be much slower, creeping in as chemical toxins, climate change, or nano-technologies run amok. Taking inspiration from the questions raised by the Bulletin's synecdochical "nuclear," Risk Criticism aims to generate a hybrid form of critical practice that brings "nuclear criticism" into conversation with ecocriticism. Through readings of novels, films, theater, poetry, visual art, websites, news reports, and essays, Risk Criticism tracks the diverse ways in which environmental risks are understood and represented today.

Oh Pure and Radiant Heart Lydia Millet 2005-06-01 Oh Pure and Radiant Heart plucks the three scientists who were key to the invention of the atom bomb—Oppenheimer, Leo Szilard and Enrico Fermi—as they watch history's first mushroom cloud rise over the desert on July 16th, 1945...and places them down in modern-day Santa Fe. One by one, the scientists are spotted by a shy librarian who becomes convinced of their authenticity. Entranced, bewildered, overwhelmed by their significance as historical markers on the one hand, and their peculiar personalities on the other, she, to the dismay of her husband, devotes herself to them. Soon the scientists acquire a sugar daddy—a young pothead millionaire from Tokyo who bankrolls them. Heroes to some, lunatics or con artists to others, the scientists finally become messianic religious figureheads to fanatics, who believe Oppenheimer to be the Second Coming. As the ever-growing convoy traverses the country in a fleet of RV's on a pilgrimage to the UN, the scientists wrestle with the legacy of their invention and their growing celebrity, while Ann and her husband struggle with the strain on their marriage, a personal journey married to a history of thermonuclear weapons.

Ghost Lights: A Novel Lydia Millet 2011-10-24 "Surreal, darkly hilarious and profound." —San Francisco Chronicle Ghost Lights stars an IRS bureaucrat named Hal—a man baffled by his wife's obsession with her missing employer. In a moment of drunken heroism, Hal embarks on a quest to find the man, embroiling himself in a surreal tropical adventure (and an unexpected affair with a beguiling German woman). Ghost Lights is Lydia Millet at her best—beautifully written, engaging, full of insight into the heartbreaking devotion of parenthood and the charismatic oddity of human behavior.

Chapel Hill in Plain Sight Daphne Athas 2010-07-21 A memoir by novelist Daphne Athas about coming of age in Chapel Hill during the Depression, life during WWII and the McCarthy era. Athas delves into the world of Southern writers and the shifting of a small college town into the New South's technocracy juggernaut.

These tales snatch "the veil off racism, classism, politics and Vanity Fair-worthy scandals that haunt," says writer Randall Kenan.

Cold War Legacies John Beck 2016-08-16 From futures research, pattern recognition algorithms, nuclear waste disposal and surveillance technologies, to smart weapons systems, contemporary fiction and art, this book shows that we are now living in a world imagined and engineered during the Cold War. Drawing on theorists such as Jean Baudrillard, Jacques Derrida, Michel Foucault, Luce Irigaray, Friedrich Kittler, Michel Serres, Peter Sloterdijk, Carl Schmitt, Bernard Stiegler and Paul Virilio this collection makes connections between Cold War material and conceptual technologies, as they relate to the arts, society and culture.

A Children's Bible: A Novel Lydia Millet 2020-05-12 Finalist for the 2020 National Book Award for Fiction One of the New York Times' Ten Best Books of the Year Named one of the best novels of the year by Time, Washington Post, NPR, Chicago Tribune, Esquire, BBC, and many others National Bestseller "A blistering little classic." —Ron Charles, Washington Post A Children's Bible follows a group of twelve eerily mature children on a forced vacation with their families at a sprawling lakeside mansion. Contemptuous of their parents, the children decide to run away when a destructive storm descends on the summer estate, embarking on a dangerous foray into the apocalyptic chaos outside. Lydia Millet's prophetic and heartbreaking story of generational divide offers a haunting vision of what awaits us on the far side of Revelation.

The Poetics of Genre in the Contemporary Novel Tim Lanzendörfer 2015-11-19 The Poetics of Genre in the Contemporary Novel investigates the role of genre in the contemporary novel: taking its departure from the observation that numerous contemporary novelists make use of popular genre influences in what are still widely considered to be literary novels, it sketches the uses, the work, and the value of genre. It suggests the value of a critical look at texts' genre use for an analysis of the contemporary moment. From this, it develops a broader perspective, suggesting the value of genre criticism and taking into view traditional genres such as the bildungsroman and the metafictional novel as well as the kinds of amalgamated forms which have recently come to prominence. In essays discussing a wide range of authors from Steven Hall to Bret Easton Ellis to Colson Whitehead, the contributors to the volume develop their own readings of genre's work and valence in the contemporary novel.

The Shimmers in the Night Lydia Millet 2013-10-18 The world is becoming very strange for thirteen-year-old Cara who discovers that some wonderful creatures don't only exist in dreams.