

Barbara J Zitwer Agency



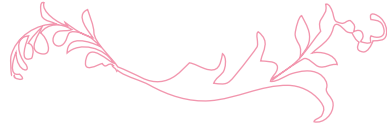
FICTION

Becky Eastwood

SKINNY-DIPPING IN WINTER

Sold to Bastei Lubbe/Germany ,publication Autumn 2011 ,
World Spanish rights to Planeta, publication late 2011 or 2012

A warm-hearted, funny women's novel that explores the hearts and minds of its female characters from the ages of fifteen to eighty-five. A book about the secret lives of women. Joey Rubin is a dyed-in-the-wool New Yorker with a working girl's dream of a job and not much else. She is single, a work-a-holic and the only intimate relationship in her life is with her dog. She is sent to the English countryside to help renovate a stately ancient manor house where JM Barrie wrote *Peter Pan*. Her plan to turn the estate into an exclusive spa/resort, is challenged by the people who live in this real "never-neverland". She is confronted with a cast of characters that could have jumped out of the pages of *Peter Pan*: a band of Lost Girls, who are 80, instead of 8! They seem to have never grown up and these octogenarians who are more like teenagers, dare Joey to come swim with them in their outdoor pond. She can't resist! She loses all abandon once she dives into the pond and thus begins an everlasting friendship with the most unlikely group of women and a journey where she finds true love.



Ji-Young Gong

OUR HAPPY TIME

Prunsoop Publishing, 2005, 315 pages

Introducing one of Korea's most beloved and critically acclaimed novelist's, Ji-Young Gong has sold over 10 million books in Korea alone and most all of her books have been adapted into hugely popular films. Winner of the 2011 Yisang Literary Award, the 21st Century Literary Award, Korean Novel and Literature Prize, Oh-Young-sook Literature Prize and Special Media Award from Amnesty International for OUR HAPPY TIME. Gong has been only published in China, Thailand and Japan.

OUR HAPPY TIME is a beautifully written story of the redemption of a young,condemned man and a beautiful, wealthy, young woman who have both endured extreme physical, sexual and mental abuse, suffering, and alieanation during their short lives. Yu-Jung has now attempted her third suicide attempt. Her disdain for her mother and indifference to the rest of the world, isolates her from any chance for happiness. Yu-Jung also has an aunt named Sister Monica. Her aunt often goes to prison to meet with death row inmates. Sister Monica meets a new death row inmate, who asks Sister Monica if he could meet her niece Yu-Jung. Sister Monica asks Yu-Jung if she would counsel this death row inmate and Yu-Jung reluctantly agrees to do so. Yu-Jung and the death row inmate do not open up to each other immediately. Yu-Jung comes from a family of

wealth and is now a professor at a university. Yet, she has never known happiness since the age of 15. The inmate that she meets, named Yun-Soo has had an even more traumatic childhood experience. He was abandoned by his parents at an early age and has had to live on the streets while caring for a younger brother. Eventually Yun-Soo ends up involved in the criminal world and gets convicted for murder. With their disparate backgrounds, Yu-Jung and Yun-Soo are still able to connect with each other, because both people know grief like few others could possibly know. As they both regain the will to live through their weekly meetings, they must now deal with their feelings for each other and come to grips with the short amount of time they have together.

The novel includes the “blue notebook”, the diary of Yun-Soo, and as the narrative progresses, we learn about his life history and what events caused him to end up where he is today. At the same time, Yu-Jung narrates her story and she finally is able to reveal the secret that has caused her such anguish, but only to Yun-Soo. They set each other free by their acts of unconditional love for each other. This is a love story that transcends love and brings the characters to personal salvation as well. In only 229 pages, Gong, writes with great passion and with an accessible style. The story of these two lovers who are allowed to meet only on Thursdays for one hour in a tiny room in the prison complex, is overwhelmingly gripping and magnificent. Part *The Executioner’s Song*, part *Dead Man Walking*, *OUR HAPPY TIME* is quite simply.....unforgettable.

This author’s success is so huge that the publishing industry of Korea has coined the phrase “The Gong Ji-Young syndrome”. She is compared to Pablo Coelho in stature and sales and she is one of the most famous and critically acclaimed Korean novelists whose books have sold well over 10 million copies in Korea alone. Gong’s debut novel *DAYBREAK* was followed by , *MY SISTER BONGSOON* (*Open House*) which sold over 1.5 million copies and was made into a box office hit and then she continued a steady and prolific output of novels, essays, and stories. She is the darling of the Korean Film Industry and the most sought after writer, with all of her books being developed into critically acclaimed as well as commercial blockbuster movies. She has also written *Home Sweet Home* (Prunsoop Publishers), *THE CRUCIBLE* (Changbi Publishers), *MACKEREL*, *CRYING EXISTENCE* among others. Gong’s enormous power stems from that fact that her personal spiritual wounds have struck a chord with readers. The secret of her novels lie in their refreshing subjects. She prefers to write short, concise sentences and her writing reflects her vigorous personality – her books are oftentimes very autobiographical.

Born in Seoul in 1963, Gong graduated from Yonsei University and debuted with *DAYBREAK* in 1988. As the most prominent female writer of the 90’s, Gong has written extensively about the harsh reality that women face in Korea. Her themes and ideas are universal for women all over the world. Her works are . The power of her stories comes from her deep commitment to seeking justice and exploring the fate of characters

who are diminished by society. Even as a child, Gong thought about being a director of an orphanage and in later years her childhood thoughts became the basis for *THE CRUCIBLE*. Gong is well known for her strong personality; easygoing and affectionate yet sharp and inapproachable. She is remembered as an ardent feminist and advocate of student activities. Gong's works always display their value and influence by walking a fine line between her social consciousness and mass popularity. She makes us think about ways that modern literature must communicate with the public. Gong is a single mother of three after being divorced three times. She is a rare spirit and powerful voice. She has been previously published in China, Thailand and Japan and has never been published around the world.

Paul Hond writing as Catherine Bourne

The *New Yorker*-critically acclaimed author of *THE BAKER* and *THE LOST AND FOUND* published by Jon Karp/Random House.

NIGHTINGALES

AST/Russia, Damm/Norway, Blanvalet/Germany

Sexy, commercial women's fiction. Grace, filled with heartbreak, yet stepping into a potentially explosive and life-altering relationship; Joanne, addicted to her dangerous ex-husband and coming close to destroying herself; and Cherry, intent on finding a rich Park Avenue doctor, share a house and work in the same hospital. They laugh, cry, argue, and carry on with each other but finally become the three "nightingales" of the title; women who are committed to not only serving their calling but who are there for each other through thick and thin.

Kyung Ran Jo

Winner of the 2008 Donghin Prize. Author of *TONGUE*, Muhankodogne/Korea, BloomsburyUSA / world English rights, Muelenhoff/Holland, Modan/Israel, Random House/Germany, Piemme/Italy, Wydawnictwo LYNSKI, Commonwealth/Taiwan.

TIME FOR BAKING BREAD

Muhankodogne/Korea, 1995 – debut award winning novel of the year. English Partial available

A young woman (a baker by profession) reeling from the death of her mother, with whom she was never that close, and her relationship with her mother's sister (who, at the end of the book, turns out is her birth mother!) and a man she saw for a while, who is surrounded in mystery. She also meets with a woman her ex boyfriend saw while he was seeing her. There is a lot about bread baking, with each chapter named after a particular kind of bread (croissant, etc.). What's interesting is that though the breads are all Western, the kinds of sandwiches she makes with them

in certain situations are very Korean (like potato salad in a brioche.) In a nutshell, a young woman grappling with difficult episodes in her life and trying to understand what happened and be at peace with it, and using her passion for breads and baking to deal with all of it.

Han Kang

THE VEGETARIAN

Published by Changbi. Sold to Flower City Publishing House/China. English partial translation available.

The story of a young mentally disturbed woman who thinks she is becoming a tree, and thus the purest form of life on the planet. The world is a mess. She stops eating meat. The cruelty of meat-eating is a metaphor for the cruelty of the world today, thus her vegetarian habits are symbolic, spiritual ones in the literary work that was a sensation in Korea. Kang is among the new wave of Korean lit stars who are gaining an international following. Nominated for the Dongin Literary Award 08

Sharon Krum

THE THING ABOUT JANE SPRING

Viking/UK, Century /UK, Urano/
Spain/Mondadori/Italy, Amphora/
Russia, btb, Droemer/Germany, Woojin (Novelmine)/Korea.
Walk of Fame, published by HarperCollins, Australia - bestseller,
Quartet Books, UK, Econ Verlag, Germany, Shinchosha, Japan,
Sonzogno/ Italy, St. Martin's Press/US, Spain, Shanghai General
Translation Publishing Company



THE DOCTOR WILL SEE YOU NOW

The Doctor Will See You Now is the story of standup comedian Abigail Hicks, a feisty redhead with a smart mouth who believes the right to turn her childhood, her life and her dysfunctional family into comedy should be written into the Constitution. What's the point of doing time in the Girl Scouts if you can't later burn your troop leader and all those awful cookies you baked in a (Girl Scout regulation) bonfire? Making audiences smile and delivering the funny are her consuming passion, but when Abigail finds herself left standing at the altar on her wedding day, she's hardly laughing. But soon she will, as under the stage lights and in front of a microphone - with emotional sustenance provided by a psychic, a dress and a polar bear - she wittily exacts her revenge. But be careful what you wish for ... The Doctor Will See You Now is a romantic comedy starring one comedienne, two lovers, three partners in crime, told in four acts, across five cities. In other words, "Paging Dr Freud. Dr Freud please come to reception ..."

Ai Mi

HAWTHORN TREE FOREVER

World English publication Spring 2011.

Zang Yimou's film adaptation will be released in China in September 2010, premiers at Cannes Film Festival, May 2011 and will be released throughout the world. Virago will publish in Spring 2012. Jiansu Literature and Art, 2007/China. Sold to Virago, Little Brown/UK & Commonwealth, Anasi Press/Canada, Orlando/Holland, Belfond/France, Rizzoli/Italy, Bonniers/Sweden, SUMA, World Spanish, Gyldendal Norsk/Norway. Bonniers/Sweden, Editora Leya/Brazil

Compared to *Balzac and the Little Seamstress*, the story of HAWTHORN TREE FOREVER begins in the late seventies, right after the devastation of the Cultural Revolution, when a young girl, Jingqiu, fell in love with a boy nicknamed "Laosan," which means "third brother" in Chinese. Jingqiu is from a politically suppressed family, while Three is the son of a mighty army general. She knew there'd no hope for them, but Three did everything within his power to protect her and finally won her heart. Their budding romance was cut short by fate, as Laosan had leukemia and died before there could be any ending for them, happy or otherwise. Later, Jingqiu would leave China for the United States, eventually becoming a university professor. She got married, and had a daughter, but she could never forget Three, the man who loved her with a passion so pure and steadfast that she believed it could last forever. Then Jingqiu met Ai Mi, another Chinese immigrant who writes online. She decided to give Ai Mi her diaries and notebooks, hoping she would give voice to her story, never imagining it would become the phenomenon it is today. Ai Mi started posting HAWTHORN TREE FOREVER online in 2007, and it quickly became the reading sensation of the year. People in their fifties, who experienced the Cultural Revolution of them "zhiqing," or educated youth forced to leave the cities and went to the countryside for re-education, saw themselves in Jingqiu and Three. Young people born in the 80s and 90s, on the other hand, were moved by the purity of their love, which is all the more precious in a time when sex is easy and everywhere. In September 2007, HAWTHORN TREE FOREVER was published in book form, with a staggering first print run of 700,000 copies. The publisher printed five hundred galleys and sent these to celebrities, corporate leaders, authors and critics, creating an unprecedented buzz. Almost everyone cried after reading the book, and the female readers were especially touched by the tragic love story. The word spread, and by the time the book hit the shelves, HAWTHORN TREE FOREVER was already destined to become a bestseller.

Jung Myung Lee

THE PAINTER OF WIND

Published by Million Books/Korea and sold over 600,000 copies.
Sold to Sperling/Italy, Hayakawa/Japan, People's Literature
Publishing House/China, Azoth Books/Taiwan

A sweeping historical romance with murder and mystery set in the world of royal painters during the Joeson Dynasty of the 18th Century, Inspired by real events and people, this panoramic spectacular story of art and intrigue involves a young female painter who was forced to disguise herself as a man in order to fulfill her artistic ambitions and become a famous painter. Only when she falls in love, is her secret revealed. This has been compared to *The Girl With the Pearl Earring*. An upscale commercial novel for readers all over the world. The Korean book is 258 pages and the book has been adapted into a hugely successful mini-series and feature film in Korea.

THE DEEP ROOTED TREE

Million Books/Korea. English partial available.

This Korean bestselling novel has sold over 600,000 copies since its first publication in 2006 in Korea. It is a well-constructed thriller about the serial killings which happen before the announcement of Hangeul, the native alphabet of the Korean language and it has both wide knowledge about history and popular appeal. In Joseon Dynasty under the reign of King Sejong, serial killings happen in the court. 5 of the scholars selected by the king were found murdered. Kang, Chae-yoon, a royal guard of humble origin, takes on the investigation into these consecutive murders because of his boss who intends to avoid his responsibility for this horrible case. Investigating the murder case, Chae-yoon comes to love So-yi, a mysterious court maid, who seems to be involved in the serial killings. Chae-yoon, timid and tenderhearted, never gives up the investigation with a firm will even if the case becomes more and more of a mystery. And he finds out that all the 5 murdered scholars performed secret duties and they all kept Goguntongseo, the forbidden book and knew where it was. Furthermore, he penetrates the fact that it is the king who has been the center of these serial killings. The 5 scholars participated in the research for the creation of Hangeul under the king's confidential directive and the forbidden book was written by none other than the king. Through this book written before coming to the throne, he asserts that Joseon should stand firm with the strength of the king and the subjects without leaning upon the authority of China. The consecutive murders arise from a sharp confrontation between the king eager to open new world where the people can read and write regardless of class and the conservative scholars who fear the radical changes.

Finally these conservatives take the book of controversy from the king and hand it over to China so as to stop the king. Assured the author is the king, a Chinese envoy comes to the king with rage and interrogates the king who wrote the book. But the guard escorting the king up close and suspected to be the murderer by Chae-yoon makes a false confession that the book was written by him. Thanks to his sacrifice, the king barely overcomes the crisis. He entrusts the forbidden book along with Hun-minjeongeum that later comes to be known as Hangul and becomes the Korean national treasure in reality to Chae-yoon and So-yi. As the court is too dangerous place for these books, he tells them to escape from the court with the books so that they can protect the books at a safe place.

Frauke Scheunemann

PUPPY DOG LOVE

Published by Page & Turner/Germany. Bestseller for over 4 months with pb publishing in July and hardback of 2nd in the series in March. Sold to Atlantic/Corvis (3 books in series) UK and Commonwealth, Lua De Papel/Portugal, Anasi Press/Canada, Znak/Poland (2 book deal) , Shanghai Xiron Media Co./China. Complete English translation for Book 1 in June 2011. Outlines for books 2 and 3 available in English.

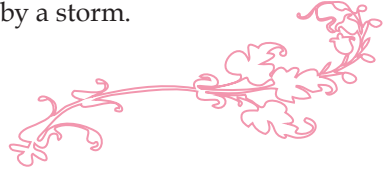
LOVE THAT'S GONE TO THE DOGS!

Hercules is a little daschund, and the way he sees it, his new mistress, Caroline is the greatest human being on earth. Not only did she rescue him from the animal shelter – she smells of summer and strawberries laughs a lot, and doesn't mind Hercules jumping onto the couch to snuggle with her. So the life of a daschund is beautiful. Or it could be, if it weren't for Thomas, Caroline's boyfriend. Hercules cannot stand him from day one. Thomas is bossy and loud, and he has something against dogs. And what's more, he's mean to Caroline. Hercules and his new friend, Mr. Beck – a tomcat and good judge of human nature – decide to get Thomas out of the picture. The two of them devise a shrewd and successful plot, and Caroline winds up showing Thomas the door. Now Hercules is happy, there's a catch, Caroline isn't! She cries all day and listens to horrid music. This is an impossible situation, and Hercules figures its his job to come to the rescue, pronto. He's got to find a new man for her. And how hard could that be? But human women don't just pick their partners in the nearest park. Things just don't work out with men that make the daschund's short list, no matter how much Hercules gets her to take romantic strolls with them in the moonlight. And does Caroline think? Nice...too nice... Or too mean. Is a woman's take on men really this capricious? In the end, when its down to just one man the

daschund and his mistress might both agree on, Hercules has to reach down deep into his bag of tricks to give love a chance....

A humorous love story told from the perspective of the charmingly naïve Hercules, whose dog's-eye view gives him great insight into the strange world of humans. Stirring, warm-hearted, hilarious and philosophical all in one, this novel has taken its readers by a storm.

Kyung-sook Shin



I'LL BE RIGHT THERE!

Sold to Arzu Tahsin/Weidenfeld and Nicolson for publication April 2013 complete ENGLISH TRANSLATION - December, 2011. English partial available.

Mukhadogne Publishers, Spring 2010- instant BESTSELLER.

People's Literature Publishing House/China.

A magnificently written, poetic and romantic novel of long lost young love and the coming of age of four college friends. Yoon, the protagonist of the novel, looks back at her life after receiving a phone call from an ex-boyfriend. He tells her that their beloved mentor/college professor is dying. This event sparks the memories and feelings of Yoon as she reminisces about the best years of her life - her college days, her first love, her recovering from the death of her beloved mother, her inspiring bond with her professor and her undeniably passionate best friends. The story spans the most formative eight years in Yoon and her friends' lives; a time when they explored love, friendship and inner growth. This is a powerful follow-up to PLEASE LOOK AFTER MOM. This book was a runaway bestseller in Korea. A magnificent work that will astound and mesmerize readers with its every word and its every sentence.

PLEASE LOOK AFTER MOM

WORLD ENGLISH PUBLICATION - APRIL 5, 2011.

Complete English translation available. Knopf/ US and Canada, Weidenfeld & Nicolson / UK & Commonwealth rights- will be published simultaneously on Mother's Day, 2011. Foreign editions to follow: Oh!Edition/France , Muelenhoff/Holland, Grijalbo RHM/ Spanish rights, Porto Editore/Portugal, Shueisha/Japan, People's Literature Publishing/China, Phan Nam Publishing/Vietnam, Edtiora Intrinseca/Brazil,, Piper/Pendo for Germany, Norstedts Forlaget/Norway, Neri Pozza/ Italy, Miskal/Israel, Eurasian/Taiwan, Kwaity Orientu/ Poland, Arab Scientific/World Arabic Rights, Dogan Egmont/Turkey, Verve/Denmark, Centrepolygraph/Russia, Gramedia Pstaka Utama/Indonesia.

Winner of the 2nd Prix de l'Inaperçu in France this year, Best-selling novel by award winning Korean novelist. Shin Kyung-sook has been honored with numerous awards including 1996 Manhae Literature Prize, 1997 Dong-in Literature Prize and 2001 Isang Literary Prize.

Please Look After Mom chronicles a family's shock and despair following the matriach's disappearance. So-nyo, the mother of four children, suffered a stroke in years past and is often in a confused state. She arrives in Seoul with her husband to visit her children but is wrenched from her husband's grasp in a crowded subway station. Her husband is in the car, but she is left behind. She is gone but the time her husband returns to retrieve her. This event triggers the family's meandering, emotional journey to find So-nyo, as they reflect on their relationship with the woman they have only thought of as a mother and wife. Desperately following every lead to find her, So-nyo's children and husband lash out at one another but also become close-knit, supporting one another as each tumbles along a path of regret, grief and fear. Alternately heart wrenching and uplifting, this intimate novel illuminates the complexities of love among family members. A heart rending account of a mother's anchoring effect on her family's life and an astute, intimate stuffy of regret, is sure to resonate with readers all over the world.

Cathy Woodman

TRUST ME, I'M A VET

The Talyton St. George series

Random House/UK & Commonwealth

Sold to Hyperion/US RIGHTS.

Laura Longrigg atMBA Literary represents UK and World Rights.

Sold to Blanvalet/Germany, Vikend/Czech

Katie Fforde meets James Herriot in this charming tale of romance and country manners. The first in a new country vet series from Arrow Books. City vet Maz Harwood has learned the hard way that love and work don't mix. So when an old friend asks her to look after her Devonshire practice for six months, Maz decides running away from London is her only option. But country life is trickier than she feared. It's bad enough she has to deal with comatose hamsters, bowel-troubled dogs and precious prize-winning cats, without having to contend with the disgruntled competition and a stubborn neighbour who's threatening to sue over an overzealous fur cut! Worse still, she discovers Otter House Veterinary Clinic needs mending as much as her broken heart. Thank

goodness there's an unsuitable distraction, even if he is the competition's deliciously dashing son...

Praise for Cathy Woodman's previous novels: 'Funny, truthful and original ... I loved this book' Jill Mansell 'Her style has a lightness of touch that can bring a smile, but also poignant moments that can bring a tear to the eyes' Writing Magazine Fiction £6.99 www.cathywoodman.com. Cathy Woodman began her working life as a small animal vet before turning to writing fiction. She won the Harry Bowling First Novel Award in 2002 and is a member of the Romantic Novelists' Association. She is also a sessional lecturer in Animal Management at a local college for land-based industries. *Trust Me, I'm a Vet* is the first of a series about the Otter House Vets, a practice set in a fictional market town in beautiful East Devon where Cathy lived as a child. Cathy now lives with her husband, two children, two ponies, three exuberant Border Terriers and two cats in a village near Winchester, Hampshire.

Pyeon Hye-yeong

ASHES AND RED

Changbi/Korea, 2010, Sold to Philippe Piquier/France.

A debut novel by award-winning writer Pyeon Hye-yeong, *Ashes and Red* is a haunting tale of a man who is a stranger in a strange land; a man who could have easily stepped out of Camus' imagination. And like Jose Saramago's *Blindness*, *ASHES AND RED* is poised to become a new, international bestseller.

The story takes place in Korea and the unnamed country C, in a filthy, rat-infested and polluted city could be taken as New York, Naples, Bangkok, Beijing or any other metropolis on the verge of polluting itself to death. This is a contemporary psychological novel that reads like a postmodern classic. A mesmerizing book, a page-turner with an ecological and cultural warning. The main character is a morally bankrupt everyman in the overly technological, electronic world of this book. When nature intrudes on him, however, his animal instincts erupt to dangerous results.

The unnamed protagonist of *Ashes and Red* works for a pest control company and after inadvertently demonstrating his skills at catching rats, he is given a much sought after transfer to a foreign country where he is to work in a chemical plant at a higher level job. No sooner does he deboard the plane than he is whisked away by quarantine officials and detained overnight. The next day he makes his way to his new home in the foul-smelling, trash-choked corner of the city. In short order his luggage and phone are stolen and he is told not to come to work the next

day. He suddenly realizes that he is stranded with no means of contacting the outside world. Still worse, when he finally manages to contact an old friend he is told that his ex-wife has been murdered and her body found in his apartment. Shortly thereafter he is arrested. In a flash he throws himself out the window to a huge pile of garbage below. The novel follows his struggle to survive in this foreign city gripped with fears of contamination and to reestablish contact with his company and friends and regain his memory, which was lost in his self-imposed amnesia. Did he kill his wife or not? Who is he? At once meditative and action-filled, *Ashes and Red*, is a timely account of the destructive impact of fear and anxiety on people's lives. Readers will be electrified by the vision of a city falling apart at the seams and the story of a man who may not quite be who he seems to be.

Ling Zhang

GOLD MOUNTAIN BLUES

WORLD ENGLISH PUBLICATION IN SEPTEMBER 2012.

Sold to: Atlantic Books/ UK & Commonwealth- pub date Fall 2011, Viking Penguin /Canada Fall 2011, Editions Belfond/ France. Italy/ Piemme, Keter/Israel, Oceanida/ Greece Spain/ Destino, Schoeffling/ Germany, Signatur/Holland. Published by October Literature & Art Publishing House/China, China Times/Tawian.

Bestselling Chinese novel: A saga of five generations of the Fong family that have fought against seemingly unbeatable odds to build a better future for their children. Covering a span of five generations and shifting back and forth from the village of Kaiping, in southern China to the Canadian Rocky Mountain, *Gold Mountain Blues* unfolds the stories of people who braved the ocean to come to a wild land called British Columbia, leaving their aging parents, newly wed wives or young children behind, to pursue dreams of wealth and prosperity that quickly eluded them; stories of husbands and wives separated by Head Tax, Chinese Exclusion Act, as well as a vast span of ocean, yet keeping their marriages alive for decades because of a strong common will to build a better and more secured home for their children. The story of a lengthy and profound journey of two races finally becoming reconciled after a century of distrust and rejection are universal themes. *Gold Mountain Blues* is a heart-breaking tale of unspeakable human suffering and hardship, endured with dignity, courage and tenacity.

Chi Zijian

THE RIGHT SIDE OF THE ARGUN

Published by October Literature and Art/China. Sold to Harvill Secker/UK and Commonwealth - will be published in Spring 2012, Corbaccio/Italy- publication April ,2011, House of Books/Holland.

Author is the only Chinese writer to win the Lu Xun Literary Award three times. She won the Mao Dun Literary Award, the highest award for a novel in China, for *The Argun*. Chi has published five novel, and six collections of short stories.

Chinese book and English language reader's report and author/book info available.

The Argun is a first-person narrative told from the point of view of an aging Evenki woman in the last years of the 20th century. She chooses to stay behind when her tribe abandons the forested mountains of Northeast China for "civilized" life among town dwellers, where their beloved reindeer will be cooped up like cattle. *The Argun* is inspired by the life of the last Evenki woman chieftain and Chi's travels in Australia and Ireland. At once a lament for the loss of tribal tradition and a meditation on the destructive power of modernization, *The Argun* is *One Hundred Years of Solitude* re-imagined for Northeast China and told from the female perspective. Exuberantly researched and written in a direct and cinematic style with a touch magic realism, this novel will appeal to readers of Stef Penney, Isabel Allende, and Khaled Hosseini. It also invites comparison to Yu Hua's *To Live* and Alai's *Red Poppies*.

Chi Zijian, like the authors mentioned above, makes me think of orchestra directors, leading so many people into one music and one story. Here the author does this masterfully. She has divided the book into four parts: morning, noon, sunset, and an epilogue. The narrator does not really express an opinion: she is old and has seen so much, it is unnecessary at this stage to come up with forceful thoughts. This is life in its pure force. Of course there is sadness at the decline of her tribe, and it is with much wisdom that she understands that it is not the Evenki people who are harmful to Nature, but of course the settlers who have enriched themselves by cutting wood. Her tone is that of an old strong woman, she is present throughout the book, even though there are many other characters, details, different stories. She definitely remains the thread throughout the story. Chi has a tight control over the narrative, and in the end leads the reader into this epic story very well. This is a magnificent tribute to wild life and its confrontation with history, civilization and development. It is a book which makes you think about the impact of men on their environment, and about the apparent incompatibly be-

tween tradition and modernization. This small tribe in Northeast China becomes representative of so many tribes around the world which have met the same fate. It has a certain literary quality, and yet remains an accessible (very much so) piece of work. I just watched Avatar not so long ago, and, funny or not, this book reminds me a lot of the movie, perhaps because of the beauty in the story telling, no harshness and no unnecessary opinions, but a very strong message and a moving narrative.

YOUNG ADULT

Mark A Cooper

REVENGE: JASON STEED/ SEQUEL

SOURCEBOOKS - WORLD ENGLISH

FLEDGLING JASON STEED

Sourcebooks- World English rights.

Young Adult- First in a series, self -published internet hit.

A well thought-out plot line, with a lot of character and relationship development, especially between the characters of Jason Steed and his father Ray. What starts of as a very strenuous father-son relation blossoms into a relationship based on mutual trust and respect by the end of the novel, and it is Jason's relationship with his father in particular which accounts for so much of his early development into an amazingly talented martial arts performer. It remains an entertaining read, with elements of romantic entanglement, the royal family, warfare, martial arts and the ideas of loyalty and honesty. The book has gained popularity over the internet, Alex Horowitz type-following. Raving readers' reviews on Amazon.com. Protagonist compared to a young Jason Bourne, or a young James Bond without the gadgets. Author is currently working on sequel.

YA action/adventure - first in a series. Compared to Alex Rider/ Anthony Horowitz's book and young James Bond series.



Risa Green

THE MYSTERY OF THE PINK CRYSTAL BALL AND THE SEQUEL

SOURCEBOOKS-US, ARENA/GERMANY BOOK AND SEQUEL, EDITORA PENTAMENTA/BRAZIL

Compared to *The Sisterhood of The Travelling Pants* with magic. Author of adult novels, *NOTES FROM THE UNDERBELLY* & *TALES FROM THE CRIB*, NAL/North American rights, Mondadori, Droemer, Truth & Dare/Holland, Astrel/Russia, Sonia Draga/Poland, Marabout/France, Villagebooks/Japan, Desk doo/Slovenia.

A funny, well thought-out plot line with authentic, teenaged characters and a dash of art history, to boot. The main character's journey takes her from a boring, closed-minded, inside-the-box kind of girl to an adventurous, somewhat spiritual young woman who understands that life is at its best when it's messy, and that being open to new people, beliefs and experiences is what makes a person interesting. Designed as the first in a series, the novel ends with Erin passing the ball on to Samantha, at which point the point of view changes from Erin's to Samantha's. It remains to be seen what will happen once Samantha has control of the ball, and how her story will unfold...

NON FICTION

Barbara and Gil Alicea

WHY CAN'T I?

How I Saved My Husband's Life...and He Saved Mine

Sold to Martine Koelemeijer, Kosmos Publishers/Holland
Complete ms. due July 2011, proposal available now

The remarkable story of how a life was saved through determination, faith, and grit. When Gil Alicea was told he needed a new liver or he would die, his wife, Barbara Zitwer, became a shark in the water, determined to find him one in time to save his life. Together they navigated these new and terrifying waters to find the right doctor in the right hospital to get the right outcome. Their harrowing and uplifting journey brought them to Kansas where, like Dorothy in *The Wizard of Oz*, their life was filled with the fantastic people and events – their doctors, their new neighbors and friends – that ultimately brought them home together.

Liel Braitman

MY DAD IS AN ANGEL

Miramah House/Holland, Droemer/Germany, Pushing Hanz/
China

English partial available.

Braitman can be compared to the NY TIMES BESTSELLER Mattie Stepanek, also a very young writer who inspired readers to deal with life and death issues with poetry and humor.

Liel is a ten year old Jewish girl from Amsterdam who wrote and drew her thoughts and feelings after the death of her beloved father when she was four. This heartbreaking and profound diary, spanning from ages 4-8 was written when Liel mourned the loss of her father to cancer. Liel's writings collected by her mother show the mind of a child who has the uncanny ability to illuminate the biggest questions of life and death. It is at both times thoroughly innocent and also deeply complex. It is a tiny book of only 96 pages but it is filled with enormous ideas. Liel expresses her ideas and questions with humor, originality, and maturity. How could someone so young write words that seem so ancient? This diary is unforgettable and a treasure for readers of all ages.

Eliza Brandt

THE GIRLS GUIDE TO REVENGE

Hilarious parody of self help guide with cartoons, graphs, charts by the author. Sold to Ullstien/Germany, Salani/Italy, AST/Russia,S.C. Humanitas Fiction/Romania, Alma Littera/Lithuania, Nova Frontiera/Brazil.

Films rights optioned by Kopelson Entertainment.

Henk Hanssen

BABY MANAGEMENT FOR MEN

Sold to Pinter Martin/World English, Droemer/Germany, Citic/
China.

Best-selling Dutch series which started with BABY MANAGEMENT FOR MEN. The author is a former Dutch publisher of Het Spectrum who wrote the book after the birth of his first child. A great resource and funny, illustrated, inspirational guide. Henk is very marketing driven with great plans for APPs and other online marketing ideas. Other books in series include PREGNANCY GUIDE FOR MEN, and TODDLER GUIDE FOR MEN.

Dr. Diana Nasher

Lukas Lessing- ghostwriter, Independent journalist and author. He was awarded the Zurich prize for journalism in 1996.

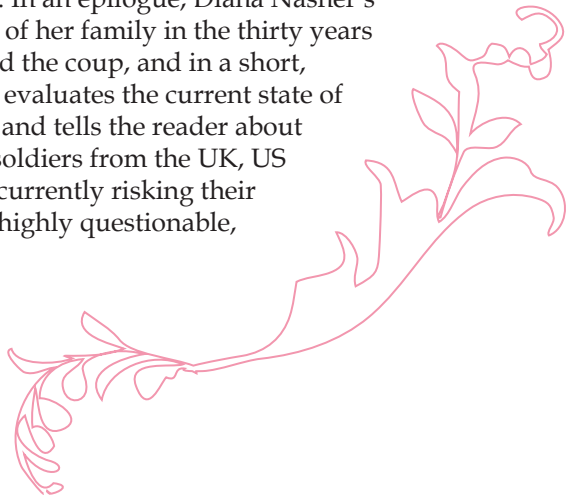
Ghostwriter for Yangzom Brauen: Eisenvogel (Heyne Verlag, München, 2009)

THE LAST SUMMER IN AFGHANISTAN

Heyne Verlag- publication March 2011. Sold to Sperling/Italy, DeBoekerij/Holland.

The story of the Nashers, like that of all Afghans, is the story of a country of powerful patriarchs whose mothers and wives were always directly involved in their fortunes and misfortunes. It is the story of a family told against the background of the golden age enjoyed by Afghanistan during the 40-year rule of Mohammad Sahir Shah. This golden age came to an abrupt end with events that began with the involuntary abdication of the last Afghan king in 1973, the eventual Communist takeover of power in 1978 and the subsequent invasion by Soviet troops. The story of the Nasher dynasty is a grand Afghan-European tale encompassing three generations which begins at the end of the 1920s when a middle-class Afghan chemistry student falls in love with a young German woman from a good family.

Diana Nasher tells the story of her family, who came from the Pashtun upper classes of a still intact Afghanistan, from the beginning of the twentieth century up until the coup and the invasion of the Soviet troops which followed in 1979. This was the catastrophe that was to change everything, the point at which the ongoing suffering of this once rich country took root. In an epilogue, Diana Nasher's story sketches the fate of her family in the thirty years of exile which followed the coup, and in a short, personal conclusion it evaluates the current state of affairs in Afghanistan and tells the reader about the country in which soldiers from the UK, US and other nations are currently risking their lives in the pursuit of highly questionable, self-imposed goals.



Scarlett Stoker

DRACULA IN DIOR: THE ULTIMATE A-Z FASHION GUIDE FOR THE UNDEAD AND THOSE WHO WISH TO BE

Sonzogno/Italy, Fleuve Noir/France, Larousse do Brasil/Brazil.

Written by style expert Scarlett Stoker, 'Dracula in Dior' is a parody of the classic style advice guide, only this time the beneficiaries are not humans, but vampires. It's the ultimate A-Z for the undead - freshly turned and those approaching their 900th birthday- to help them dress for blood soaked success in the 21st century. God knows if the devil can wear Prada, it is time for Dracula to don Dior.

Despite striving for centuries to stay under the radar, vampires today are hotter than an eternity in hell. Books! Movies! Internet shrines! You might call them our newest rock stars. But pray tell, why have we fallen so hopelessly in love with these beasts who walk the night consumed with bloodlust? Five words. Sexy. Seductive. Insatiable. Mysterious. Passionate. Admit it, who among us doesn't dream of finding a man or woman who fits that description? Yes, it is quite true vampires are also undead. Yes, they sleep in coffins and harbor an unquenchable thirst for blood. Your blood. Well, raise your hand if you don't have any character quirks others might find a little surprising at first. Thank you. Though fashionably thin (there isn't a woman alive who doesn't envy a vampire's 22 inch waist and ability to say no to food) and fashionably late (midnight is their favorite hour to arrive anywhere) vampires do suffer from one fashion related deficit. They are not fashionable. Here they are, roaming the earth among us in their black capes, velvet gowns, pasty faces and bloodshot eyes, a look that hasn't been updated in forever. Then you have those younger vampires who favor ripped jeans, T shirts, and beaten up leather jackets, another fashion cliché. So popular, so lusted after, and yet so clueless when it comes to dressing. The names Dior, Balenciaga, Prada and Calvin Klein mean nothing to them, and yet they should! Mark Twain once wrote that clothes make the man. And should they not also make the man who lives for all eternity? Yet for vampires a style upgrade is about more than glamour and raising self esteem, both things fashion has the power to do. It's about staying alive and yet, undead. Many vampires were born centuries before this one, and are not only unaware of the latest fashion trends but of the latest research into the meaning and importance of dressing in a person's life. Simply put, the better you look, the more friends you make, the more people one knows in every strata of society, the more opportunity to ... feed. Vampires have no-one giving them fashion advice- until now.

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