

A Manual For Cleaning Women Selected Stories

Vacuum in the Dark American Pharaoh Collected Stories Phantom Pain Each of Us Killers A Thousand Darkesses Without Compromise Meander, Spiral, Explode Night at the Fiestas: Stories Safe & Sound Men Without Women Virginia Woolf Evening in Paradise Where I Live Now Tales from the Holy Land Some Trick The Remainder Angels Laundromat Accordion Crimes A Manual for Cleaning Ladies Manual Para Mujeres de la Limpieza / A Manual for Cleaning Women: Selected Stories Complete Stories Landfalls Elsewhere Home Women In Their Beds Manual para mujeres de la limpieza Behind the Short Story Neverhome The Wives Puro Amor The Chemistry of Cooking and Cleaning Man V. Nature Homesick Find Me A Manual for Cleaning Women The Visiting Privilege A Manual for Cleaning Women Raymond Carver A Manual for Cleaning Women Welcome Home

Vacuum in the Dark

San Francisco Chronicle Notable Book of the Year Boston Globe's "Best Fiction of 2014" Roxane Gay's Top Ten Books of the Year An Amazon Best Short Story Collection of 2014 An iBook Best of 2014 A refreshingly imaginative, daring debut collection of stories which illuminates with audacious wit the complexity of human behavior, as seen through the lens of the natural world. Told with perfect rhythm and unyielding brutality, these stories expose unsuspecting men and women to the realities of nature, the primal instincts of man, and the dark humor and heartbreak of our struggle to not only thrive, but survive. In "Girl on Girl," a high school freshman goes to disturbing lengths to help an old friend. An insatiable temptress pursues the one man she can't have in "Meteorologist Dave Santana." And in the title story, a long fraught friendship comes undone when three buddies get impossibly lost on a lake it is impossible to get lost on. In Diane Cook's perilous worlds, the quotidian surface conceals an unexpected surreality that illuminates different facets of our curious, troubling, and bewildering behavior. Other stories explore situations pulled directly from the wild, imposing on human lives the danger, tension, and precariousness of the natural world: a pack of not-needed boys take refuge in a murky forest and compete against each other for their next meal; an alpha male is pursued through city streets by murderous rivals and desirous women; helpless newborns are snatched by a man who stalks them from their suburban yards. Through these characters Cook asks: What is at the root of our most heartless, selfish impulses? Why are people drawn together in such messy, complicated, needful ways? When the unexpected intrudes upon the routine, what do we discover about ourselves? As entertaining as it is dangerous, this accomplished collection explores the boundary between the wild and the civilized, where nature acts as a catalyst for human drama and lays bare our vulnerabilities, fears, and desires.

American Pharaoh

The New York Times bestseller 'This selection of 43 stories should by all rights see Lucia Berlin as lauded as Jean Rhys or Raymond Carver' - Independent The stories in A Manual for Cleaning Women make for one of the most remarkable unsung

collections in twentieth-century American fiction. With extraordinary honesty and magnetism, Lucia Berlin invites us into her rich, itinerant life: the drink and the mess and the pain and the beauty and the moments of surprise and of grace. Her voice is uniquely witty, anarchic and compassionate. Celebrated for many years by those in the know, she is about to become - a decade after her death - the writer everyone is talking about. The collection will be introduced by Lydia Davis. 'With Lucia Berlin we are very far away from the parlours of Boston and New York and quite far away, too, from the fiction of manners, unless we are speaking of very bad manners . . . The writer Lucia Berlin most puts me in mind of is the late Richard Yates.' - LRB, 1999

Collected Stories

Phantom Pain

Pulitzer Prize-winning author Annie Proulx brings the immigrant experience to life in this stunning novel that traces the ownership of a simple green accordion. E. Annie Proulx's *Accordion Crimes* is a masterpiece of storytelling that spans a century and a continent. Proulx brings the immigrant experience in America to life through the eyes of the descendants of Mexicans, Poles, Africans, Irish-Scots, Franco-Canadians and many others, all linked by their successive ownership of a simple green accordion. The music they make is their last link with the past—voice for their fantasies, sorrows and exuberance. Proulx's prodigious knowledge, unforgettable characters and radiant language make *Accordion Crimes* a stunning novel, exhilarating in its scope and originality.

Each of Us Killers

What is the difference between writing a novel about the Holocaust and fabricating a memoir? Do narratives about the Holocaust have a special obligation to be 'truthful'--that is, faithful to the facts of history? Or is it okay to lie in such works? In her provocative study *A Thousand Darkesses*, Ruth Franklin investigates these questions as they arise in the most significant works of Holocaust fiction, from Tadeusz Borowski's Auschwitz stories to Jonathan Safran Foer's postmodernist family history. Franklin argues that the memory-obsessed culture of the last few decades has led us to mistakenly focus on testimony as the only valid form of Holocaust writing. As even the most canonical texts have come under scrutiny for their fidelity to the facts, we have lost sight of the essential role that imagination plays in the creation of any literary work, including the memoir. Taking a fresh look at memoirs by Elie Wiesel and Primo Levi, and examining novels by writers such as Piotr Rawicz, Jerzy Kosinski, W.G. Sebald, and Wolfgang Koeppen, Franklin makes a persuasive case for literature as an equally vital vehicle for understanding the Holocaust (and for memoir as an equally ambiguous form). The result is a study of immense depth and range that offers a lucid view of an often cloudy field.

A Thousand Darkesses

"As the case with her fiction, Berlin's pieces here are as faceted as the brightest

diamond." --Kristin Iversen, NYLON NEW YORK TIMES BOOK REVIEW EDITORS' CHOICE. Named a Fall Read by BuzzFeed, Vulture, Newsday and HuffPost A compilation of sketches, photographs, and letters, *Welcome Home* is an essential nonfiction companion to the stories by Lucia Berlin. Before Lucia Berlin died, she was working on a book of previously unpublished autobiographical sketches called *Welcome Home*. The work consisted of more than twenty chapters that started in 1936 in Alaska and ended (prematurely) in 1966 in southern Mexico. In our publication of *Welcome Home*, her son Jeff Berlin is filling in the gaps with photos and letters from her eventful, romantic, and tragic life. From Alaska to Argentina, Kentucky to Mexico, New York City to Chile, Berlin's world was wide. And the writing here is, as we've come to expect, dazzling. She describes the places she lived and the people she knew with all the style and wit and heart and humor that readers fell in love with in her stories. Combined with letters from and photos of friends and lovers, *Welcome Home* is an essential nonfiction companion to *A Manual for Cleaning Women* and *Evening in Paradise*.

Without Compromise

At last a new book: a baker's dozen of stories all with Helen DeWitt's razor-sharp genius

Meander, Spiral, Explode

"En la profunda noche oscura del alma las licoreraias y los bares estaan cerrados."
-- cover.

Night at the Fiestas: Stories

The gripping story of a dramatic eighteenth-century voyage of discovery from Naomi J. Williams. In her wildly inventive debut novel, Naomi J. Williams reimagines the historical La Pérouse expedition, a voyage of exploration that left Brest in 1785 with two frigates, two hundred men, and overblown Enlightenment ideals and expectations, in a brave attempt to circumnavigate the globe for science and the glory of France. Deeply grounded in historical fact but refracted through a powerful imagination, *Landfalls* follows the exploits and heartbreaks not only of the men on the ships but also of the people affected by the voyage—natives and other Europeans the explorers encountered, loved ones left waiting at home, and those who survived and remembered the expedition later. Each chapter is told from a different point of view and is set in a different part of the world—ranging from London to Tenerife, Alaska to remote South Pacific islands and Siberia, and eventually back to France. The result is a beautifully written and absorbing tale of the high seas, scientific exploration, human tragedy, and the world on the cusp of the modern era. By turns elegiac, profound, and comic, *Landfalls* reinvents the maritime adventure novel for the twenty-first century.

Safe & Sound

In *Where I Live Now*, Berlin contemplates the human condition with a compassionate understanding. Berlin's vision is sometimes remorseful, sometimes

resigned, always courageous. The elusive nature of happiness is a compelling theme here: the survivors in these stories--many of them society's marginal or excluded people, fighting alcohol or drug addiction, bearing emotional scars--recognize it all too well.

Men Without Women

Fiction. Lucia Berlin was born in Alaska, raised in Chili, and presently lives and works in California. Her stories have appeared in *The Noble Savage*, *The Critic*, *The Atlantic*, *The London Strand*, and *Quilt*, and many other magazines and journals. This is her second volume of short stories.

Virginia Woolf

Longlisted for the 2019 Man Booker International Prize Felipe and Iquela, two young friends in modern day Santiago, live in the legacy of Chile's dictatorship. Felipe prowls the streets counting dead bodies real and imagined, aspiring to a perfect number that might offer closure. Iquela and Paloma, an old acquaintance from Iquela's childhood, search for a way to reconcile their fragile lives with their parents' violent militant past. The body of Paloma's mother gets lost in transit, sending the three on a pisco-fueled journey up the cordillera as they confront the pain that stretches across generations.

Evening in Paradise

From the Whiting Award-winning author of *Pretend I'm Dead* and one of the most exhilarating new voices in fiction, a "thoroughly delightfully, surprisingly profound" (*Entertainment Weekly*) one-of-a-kind novel about a cleaning lady named Mona and her struggles to move forward in life. Soon to be an FX television show starring Lola Kirke. Mona is twenty-six and cleans houses for a living in Taos, New Mexico. She moved there mostly because of a bad boyfriend—a junkie named Mr. Disgusting, long story—and her efforts to restart her life since haven't exactly gone as planned. For one thing, she's got another bad boyfriend. This one she calls Dark, and he happens to be married to one of Mona's clients. He also might be a little unstable. Dark and his wife aren't the only complicated clients on Mona's roster, either. There's also the Hungarian artist couple who—with her addiction to painkillers and his lingering stares—reminds Mona of troubling aspects of her childhood, and some of the underlying reasons her life had to be restarted in the first place. As she tries to get over the heartache of her affair and the older pains of her youth, Mona winds up on an eccentric, moving journey of self-discovery that takes her back to her beginnings where she attempts to unlock the key to having a sense of home in the future. The only problems are Dark and her past. Neither is so easy to get rid of. Jen Beagin's *Vacuum in the Dark* is an unforgettable, astonishing read, "by turns nutty and forlorn...Brash, deadpan, and achingly troubled" (*O, The Oprah Magazine*). Beagin is "a wonderfully funny writer who also happens to tackle serious subjects" (NPR).

Where I Live Now

Tales from the Holy Land

"How lovely to discover a book on the craft of writing that is also fun to read . . . Alison asserts that the best stories follow patterns in nature, and by defining these new styles she offers writers the freedom to explore but with enough guidance to thrive." —Maris Kreizman, *Vulture* A Publishers Weekly Best Book of 2019 | A Poets & Writers Best Books for Writers As Jane Alison writes in the introduction to her insightful and appealing book about the craft of writing: "For centuries there's been one path through fiction we're most likely to travel— one we're actually told to follow—and that's the dramatic arc: a situation arises, grows tense, reaches a peak, subsides . . . But something that swells and tautens until climax, then collapses? Bit masculosexual, no? So many other patterns run through nature, tracing other deep motions in life. Why not draw on them, too?" W. G. Sebald's *Emigrants* was the first novel to show Alison how forward momentum can be created by way of pattern, rather than the traditional arc--or, in nature, wave. Other writers of nonlinear prose considered in her "museum of specimens" include Nicholson Baker, Anne Carson, Marguerite Duras, Gabriel García Márquez, Jamaica Kincaid, Clarice Lispector, Susan Minot, David Mitchell, Caryl Phillips, and Mary Robison. *Meander, Spiral, Explode* is a singular and brilliant elucidation of literary strategies that also brings high spirits and wit to its original conclusions. It is a liberating manifesto that says, Let's leave the outdated modes behind and, in thinking of new modes, bring feeling back to experimentation. It will appeal to serious readers and writers alike.

Some Trick

"Berlin probably deserved a Pulitzer Prize." —Dwight Garner, *The New York Times* NEW YORK TIMES BOOK REVIEW EDITORS' CHOICE. Named one of the Best Books of 2018 by *The Boston Globe*, *Kirkus*, and *Lit Hub*. Named a Fall Read by *Buzzfeed*, *ELLE*, *TIME*, *Nylon*, *The Boston Globe*, *Vulture*, *Newsday*, *HuffPost*, *Bustle*, *The A.V. Club*, *The Millions*, *BUST*, *Reinfery29*, *Fast Company* and *MyDomaine*. A collection of previously uncompiled stories from the short-story master and literary sensation Lucia Berlin In 2015, Farrar, Straus and Giroux published *A Manual for Cleaning Women*, a posthumous story collection by a relatively unknown writer, to wild, widespread acclaim. It was a *New York Times* bestseller; the paper's *Book Review* named it one of the Ten Best Books of 2015; and *NPR*, *Time*, *Entertainment Weekly*, *The Guardian*, *The Washington Post*, the *Chicago Tribune*, and other outlets gave the book rave reviews. The book's author, Lucia Berlin, earned comparisons to Raymond Carver, Grace Paley, Alice Munro, and Anton Chekhov. *Evening in Paradise* is a careful selection from Berlin's remaining stories—twenty-two gems that showcase the gritty glamour that made readers fall in love with her. From Texas to Chile, Mexico to New York City, Berlin finds beauty in the darkest places and darkness in the seemingly pristine. *Evening in Paradise* is an essential piece of Berlin's oeuvre, a jewel-box follow-up for new and old fans.

The Remainder

NEW YORK TIMES BOOK REVIEW EDITOR'S CHOICE Inaugural winner of the Grand Prix de la Littérature Américaine She calls herself Ash, but that's not her real name.

She is a farmer's faithful wife, but she has left her husband to don the uniform of a Union soldier in the Civil War. NEVERHOME tells the harrowing story of Ash Thompson during the battle for the South. Through bloodshed and hysteria and heartbreak, she becomes a hero, a folk legend, a madwoman and a traitor to the American cause. Laird Hunt's dazzling new novel throws a light on the adventurous women who chose to fight instead of stay behind. It is also a mystery story: why did Ash leave and her husband stay? Why can she not return? What will she have to go through to make it back home? In gorgeous prose, Hunt's rebellious young heroine fights her way through history, and back home to her husband, and finally into our hearts.

Angels Laundromat

The first biography of America's best-known short story writer of the late twentieth century. The London Times called Raymond Carver "the American Chekhov." The beloved, mischievous, but more modest short-story writer and poet thought of himself as "a lucky man" whose renunciation of alcohol allowed him to live "ten years longer than I or anyone expected." In that last decade, Carver became the leading figure in a resurgence of the short story. Readers embraced his precise, sad, often funny and poignant tales of ordinary people and their troubles: poverty, drunkenness, embittered marriages, difficulties brought on by neglect rather than intent. Since Carver died in 1988 at age fifty, his legacy has been mythologized by admirers and tainted by controversy over a zealous editor's shaping of his first two story collections. Carol Sklenicka penetrates the myths and controversies. Her decade-long search of archives across the United States and her extensive interviews with Carver's relatives, friends, and colleagues have enabled her to write the definitive story of the iconic literary figure. Laced with the voices of people who knew Carver intimately, her biography offers a fresh appreciation of his work and an unbiased, vivid portrait of the writer.

Accordion Crimes

Winner of the 2015 National Book Critics Circle John Leonard Prize "[A] sparkling debut collection...features dreamers and schemers whose lives pulsate with wild hopes, hard luck, stunning secrets, and saving grace." —Elle With intensity and emotional precision, Kirstin Valdez Quade's unforgettable stories plunge us into the fierce, troubled hearts of characters defined by the desire to escape the past or else to plumb its depths. The deadbeat father of a pregnant teenager tries to transform his life by playing the role of Jesus in a bloody penitential Passion. A young man discovers that his estranged father and a boa constrictor have been squatting in his grandmother's empty house. A lonely retiree new to Santa Fe becomes obsessed with her housekeeper. One girl attempts to uncover the mystery of her cousin's violent past, while another young woman finds herself at an impasse when she is asked to hear her priest's confession. Always hopeful, these stories chart the passions and obligations of family life, exploring themes of race, class, and coming-of-age, as Quade's characters protect, betray, wound, undermine, bolster, define, and, ultimately, save each other.

A Manual for Cleaning Ladies

Manual Para Mujeres de la Limpieza /A Manual for Cleaning Women: Selected Stories

After two acclaimed story collections, Laura van den Berg brings us *Find Me*, her highly anticipated debut novel—a gripping, imaginative, darkly funny tale of a young woman struggling to find her place in the world. Joy has no one. She spends her days working the graveyard shift at a grocery store outside Boston and nursing an addiction to cough syrup, an attempt to suppress her troubled past. But when a sickness that begins with memory loss and ends with death sweeps the country, Joy, for the first time in her life, seems to have an advantage: she is immune. When Joy's immunity gains her admittance to a hospital in rural Kansas, she sees a chance to escape her bleak existence. There she submits to peculiar treatments and follows seemingly arbitrary rules, forming cautious bonds with other patients—including her roommate, whom she turns to in the night for comfort, and twin boys who are digging a secret tunnel. As winter descends, the hospital's fragile order breaks down and Joy breaks free, embarking on a journey from Kansas to Florida, where she believes she can find her birth mother, the woman who abandoned her as a child. On the road in a devastated America, she encounters mysterious companions, cities turned strange, and one very eerie house. As Joy closes in on Florida, she must confront her own damaged memory and the secrets she has been keeping from herself.

Complete Stories

The legendary writer's first collection in more than ten years—and, finally, the definitive one. A literary event of the highest order. Joy Williams has been celebrated as a master of the short story for four decades, her renown passing as a given from one generation to the next even in the shifting landscape of contemporary writing. And at long last the incredible scope of her singular achievement is put on display: thirty-three stories drawn from three much-lauded collections, and another thirteen appearing here for the first time in book form. Forty-six stories in all, far and away the most comprehensive volume in her long career, showcasing her crisp, elegant prose, her dark wit, and her uncanny ability to illuminate our world through characters and situations that feel at once peculiar and foreign and disturbingly familiar. Virtually all American writers have their favorite Joy Williams stories, as do many readers of all ages, and each one of them is available here.

Landfalls

Elsewhere Home

The story of an American city, an iron-fisted mayor, and an era of protest and turmoil: “Superb . . . one of the finest political biographies of recent years.” —Library Journal This is the story of Mayor Richard J. Daley and his rise from the working-class Irish neighborhood of his childhood to his role as one of the most important figures in twentieth-century American politics. It's a tale of the birth of a

family dynasty; of simmering racial tensions; of the Chicago machine; of a national Democratic convention marred by violent clashes between demonstrators and police; and of the decline of the big city bosses. "The first full-length biography of one of the most fascinating and enigmatic characters of modern American political history." —The New York Times Book Review "Fascinatingly detailed . . . the authors do an excellent job of exposing the tragic racial history of postwar America." —Boston Book Review "A compelling social history of mid-century Chicago." —The New Yorker

Women In Their Beds

Collected Stories includes both volumes of the National Book Award-winning author Shirley Hazzard's short-story collections—Cliffs of Fall and People in Glass Houses—alongside uncollected works and two previously unpublished stories. Shirley Hazzard's Collected Stories is a work of staggering breadth and accomplishment. Taken together, these twenty-eight short stories are masterworks in telescoping focus, ranging from quotidian struggles between beauty and pragmatism to satirical send-ups of international bureaucracy, from the Italian countryside to suburban Connecticut. Hazzard's heroes are high-minded romantics who attempt to fit their feelings into the twentieth-century world of office jobs and dreary marriages. After all, as she writes in "The Picnic," "It was tempting to confine oneself to what one could cope with. And one couldn't cope with love." And yet it is the comedy, the tragedy, and the splendor of love, the pursuit and the absence of it, that animates Hazzard's stories and provides the truth and beauty that her protagonists seek. Hazzard once said, "The idea that somebody has expressed something, in a supreme way, that it can be expressed; this is, I think, an enormous feature of literature." Her stories themselves are a supreme evocation of writing at its very best: probing, uncompromising, and deeply felt.

Manual para mujeres de la limpieza

Since her award-winning debut novel, *Minaret*, Leila Aboulela has been praised by J.M. Coetzee, Ali Smith, Aminatta Forna, and Anthony Marra among others for her rich and nuanced depictions of Islamic spiritual and political life. Her latest collection, *Elsewhere, Home*, draws us ineluctably into the lives of immigrants at home and abroad as they forge new identities and reshape old ones. A young woman's encounter with a former classmate elicits painful reminders of her former life in Khartoum. A wealthy young Sudanese woman studying in Aberdeen begins an unlikely friendship with one of her Scottish classmates. A woman experiences an evolving relationship to her favorite writer, whose portrait of their shared culture both reflects and conflicts with her own sense of identity. Shuttling between the dusty, sun-baked streets of Khartoum and the university halls and cramped apartments of Aberdeen and London, *Elsewhere, Home* explores, with subtlety and restraint, the profound feelings of yearning, loss, and alienation that come with leaving one's homeland in pursuit of a different life.

Behind the Short Story

This collection of short stories includes such titles as "Angels Laundromat," "Her

first detox," "Noel, 1974," and "Manual for cleaning women"

Neverhome

A collection of groundbreaking investigations by Wayne Barrett, the intrepid, muckraking Village Voice journalist who exposed corruption in New York City and beyond. With piercing moral clarity and exacting rigor, Wayne Barrett tracked political corruption in the pages of the Village Voice fact by fact, document by document for 40 years. The first to report on the scams and crooked deals that fueled the rise of Donald Trump in 1979, Barrett went on to expose the shady dealings of small-time slum lords and powerful New York City politicians alike, from Ed Koch to Rudy Giuliani to Michael Bloomberg. Without Compromise is the first anthology of Barrett's investigative work, accompanied by essays from colleagues and those he trained. In an age of lies, fog, and propaganda, when the profession of journalism is degraded by the White House and the industry is under financial threat, Barrett reminds us that facts, when clearly accumulated, are our best defense of democracy. Featuring essays by: Joe Conason, Kim Phillips-Fein, Errol Louis Gerson, Borrero, Tom Robbins, Tracie McMillan, Peter Noel, Adam Fifield, Jarrett Murphy, Andrea Bernstein, Jennifer Gonnerman, Mac Barrett !--[if !supportAnnotations]-- !--[endif]--

The Wives

Behind the Short Story provides the “inside scoop” on how a successful story emerges from first to final draft by compiling critical analysis techniques, writing exercises, representative stories, and useful insights into the writing process from award-winning, student-oriented teachers who are also successful short story writers. Covering the process of writing and elements of fiction at the same time, unique craft commentaries explore the decisions writers make on issues of structure, character, setting, etc. and offer practical suggestions for pre-writing, drafting, and revising.

Puro Amor

The Chemistry of Cooking and Cleaning

“In these 35 stories, one struggles to find a sentence that is anything less than jewel-box perfect.” —The New York Times Book Review Gina Berriault is known for the complexity and compassion with which she weaves her characters, and her stories are such models of economy that they seem almost telepathic. In this reissue of her collected stories—twenty years after its first publication—with a new introduction by renowned author and devoted Berriault advocate Peter Orner—we see the deft hand of this well-loved master of the short story at its best. Berriault employs her vital sensibility—sometimes subtly ironic and sometimes achingly raw—to touch on the inevitability of suffering and the nature of individuality, daring to see into the essence of our predicaments. What moves us? What dictates our behavior? What alters us? Her writing is spare, evanescent, pulsing with life and shimmering with life's strange hope. Her stories illustrate the depth of her

emotional understanding. “Half the women in the world are right now in bed, theirs or somebody else's, whether it's night or day, whether they want to be or not” With *Women in Their Beds*, Berriault's prose—moving, honest, and wise—achieves a mastery of the short story form that was in evidence every step of her long career. She was a completely modern writer, blessed with an exquisite sense of the potency of words and the ability to create moments of empathy that are both disturbing and mysteriously amusing.

Man V. Nature

The Wives is a story from Lucia Berlin, whose tales “swoop low over towns and moods and minds” (The New York Times)

Homesick

“Haruki Murakami’s *Men Without Women* examines what happens to characters without important women in their lives; it'll move you and confuse you and sometimes leave you with more questions than answers.” —Barack Obama Across seven tales, Haruki Murakami brings his powers of observation to bear on the lives of men who, in their own ways, find themselves alone. Here are lovesick doctors, students, ex-boyfriends, actors, bartenders, and even Kafka’s Gregor Samsa, brought together to tell stories that speak to us all. In *Men Without Women* Murakami has crafted another contemporary classic, marked by the same wry humor and pathos that have defined his entire body of work.

Find Me

Sandra Cisneros has a fondness for animals and this little gem of a story makes that abundantly clear. “La casa azul,” the cobalt blue residence of Mister and Missus Rivera, overflows with hairless dogs, monkeys, a fawn, a “passionate” Guacamaya macaw, tarantulas, an iguana, and rescues that resemble “ancient Olmec pottery.” Missus loves the rescues most “because their eyes were filled with grief.” She takes lavish care of her husband too, a famous artist, though her neighbors insist he has eyes for other women: “He’s spoiled.” “He’s a fat toad.” She cannot reject him. “because love is like that. No matter how much it bites, we enjoy and admire the scars.” Thus, the generous creatures pawing her belly, sleeping on her pillow, and “kneeling outside her door like the adoring Magi before the just-born Christ.” This beautiful chapbook is bi-lingual and contains several illustrations—line drawings by Cisneros herself.

A Manual for Cleaning Women

Tales from the Holy Land is the third collection of short fiction from the Baltimore author and screenwriter. The stories take place along the narrow streets and alleys of Alvarez's heartbreaking hometown, charting secret histories of the last 100 years through the difficult and hopeful lives of tugboat men, junk collectors, beautiful women, short order cooks and an artist who captures it all in house paint on the sides of abandoned buildings.

The Visiting Privilege

One of the most phenomenally acclaimed and successful books of recent years is now available as a paperback—with three just-discovered stories. Here, gathered in one volume, are the stories that made Clarice a Brazilian legend. Originally a cloth edition of eighty-six stories, now we have eighty-nine in all, covering her whole amazing career, from her teenage years to her deathbed. In these pages, we meet teenagers becoming aware of their sexual and artistic powers, humdrum housewives whose lives are shattered by unexpected epiphanies, old people who don't know what to do with themselves—and in their stories, Clarice takes us through their lives—and hers—and ours.

A Manual for Cleaning Women

"I have always had faith that the best writers will rise to the top, like cream, sooner or later, and will become exactly as well-known as they should be—their work talked about, quoted, taught, performed, filmed, set to music, anthologized. Perhaps, with the present collection, Lucia Berlin will begin to gain the attention she deserves."
-Lydia Davis
A MANUAL FOR CLEANING WOMEN compiles the best work of the legendary short-story writer Lucia Berlin. With the grit of Raymond Carver, the humor of Grace Paley, and a blend of wit and melancholy all her own, Berlin crafts miracles from the everyday, uncovering moments of grace in the Laundromats and halfway houses of the American Southwest, in the homes of the Bay Area upper class, among switchboard operators and struggling mothers, hitchhikers and bad Christians. Readers will revel in this remarkable collection from a master of the form and wonder how they'd ever overlooked her in the first place.

Raymond Carver

A Manual for Cleaning Women

Tras años de injusto olvido, Alfaguara se suma al fenómeno editorial del descubrimiento de Lucia Berlin, el secreto mejor guardado de la literatura estadounidense, una auténtica revolución literaria. XVII Premi Llibreter 2016. Libro del Año según Babelia. «Recién aparecido en Estados Unidos ya ha arrasado en los suplementos literarios y tiene todos los puntos para convertirse en un libro de culto.» Sergio Vila-Sanjuán, La Vanguardia «Lucia Berlin pasó su vida en la oscuridad. Ahora se la reverencia como a un genio literario.» Brigit Katz, The New York Times Con su inigualable toque de humor y melancolía, Berlin se hace eco de su vida, asombrosa y convulsa, para crear verdaderos milagros literarios con episodios del día a día. Las mujeres de sus relatos están desorientadas, pero al mismo tiempo son fuertes, inteligentes y, sobre todo extraordinariamente reales. Ríen, lloran, aman, beben: sobreviven. * Uno de los mejores libros del año según The New York Times, The Guardian, NPR y The Boston Globe. * En la lista de los más vendidos en Estados Unidos desde su publicación. * Traducida a más de 14 idiomas. Reseñas: «Hacía tiempo que no leía nada tan impactante: su aterradora belleza deja sin aliento.» Rosa Montero «La última sensación literaria de Estados Unidos es una autora con una vida de película. Crítica y público se rinden a su

obra. Al fin llegó la hora de Lucia Berlin.» Andrea Aguilar, El País «Maldita, brillante, rescatada. Uno de los fenómenos literarios del momento. Una Raymond Carver.» Laura Fernández, El Mundo «Leer a Lucia Berlin ha sido una de las grandes satisfacciones lectoras de los últimos meses. Emocionante, de saltarse las lágrimas, entre la ironía y la inmensa ternura.» Laura Revuelta, Abc.es «Milagros de la posteridad, del olfato editorial o de la justicia poética, la autora está más viva que nunca. Ahora resucita y se la compara con Raymond Carver. (¿Estará mal decir que me parece mejor que él?).» Rodrigo Fresán, Vanity Fair «Creo que nunca he leído a una mujer más inteligente, sensible, tierna y valiente que Lucia Berlin.» José María Guelbenzu, Babelia «¿Cómo explicas los cuentos de Berlin? ¿Cómo resumes la carnalidad, el desequilibrio, la sensación de peligro, un estilo que te corta las entrañas como un bisturí pero que al mismo tiempo te hace sonreír y sentir una envidia inconfesable de unas vidas vividas siempre al límite de la catástrofe y la locura? Me arriesgaré a ponerme pesado: leed Manual para mujeres de la limpieza. » Sergi Pàmies, La Vanguardia («Then we take Berlin») «Unos relatos precisos y vivos en los que nada sobra. Un derroche de maestría literaria.» Elena Méndez, La Voz de Galicia «No es un sueño. Lucia Berlin existió. Pero he tardado décadas en encontrarla. Un tesoro literario de primera magnitud. Berlin es verdad de principio a fin, auténtica y divertida.» Marta Reyero, Cuatro.com «Una verdadera maravilla.» Rosa Regás, El Diario Vasco «Apabullante. Fenomenal. Divertidamente desesperado.» Enric González, Jotdown «Publicado póstumamente, este volumen reúne 77 relatos llenos de dolor, ternura y humor, que descubren la importancia de lo insignificante en lo cotidiano, y el horror de existir siendo mujer, pobre y alcohólica.» El Cultural «Genia y figura.» Eulàlia Lledó Cunill, The Huffington Post

Welcome Home

THE NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLER "This selection of 43 stories should by all rights see Lucia Berlin as lauded as Jean Rhys or Raymond Carver" Independent "In A Manual for Cleaning Women we witness the emergence of an important American writer, one who was mostly overlooked in her time. She is the real deal." New York Times The stories in A Manual for Cleaning Women make for one of the most remarkable unsung collections in twentieth-century American fiction. With extraordinary honesty and magnetism, Lucia Berlin invites us into her rich, itinerant life: the drink and the mess and the pain and the beauty and the moments of surprise and of grace. Her voice is uniquely witty, anarchic and compassionate. Celebrated for many years by those in the know, she is about to become - a decade after her death - the writer everyone is talking about. The collection will be introduced by Lydia Davis. MORE PRAISE FOR A MANUAL FOR CLEANING WOMEN "Lucia Berlin's collection of short stories, A Manual for Cleaning Women, deserves all of the posthumous praise its author has received . . . Her work is being compared to Raymond Carver" Best Books of 2015, Guardian "There is a seemingly effortless style to these beautifully observant tales of detoxing, lapsing and old affections." Sunday Express "These perfectly poised cadences are the work of a writer who knew exactly how good she was." New Statesman "Full of humor and tenderness and emphatic grace . . . Those not lucky enough to have yet encountered the writing of Lucia Berlin are in for some high-grade pleasure when they make first contact." Washington Post "Here's prose to fall hard for, from the first beautifully candid paragraph to the last. . . . I'm bowled over by her." Helen

Oyeyemi "A major talent . . . A testament to a writer whose explorations of society's rougher corners deserve wider attention." Kirkus

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