

Migratory Animals Mary Helen Specht

Migratory Animals **Migratory Animals** Tartts **5 On Home** *The Hairdresser of Harare* **The Writer's Field Guide to the Craft of Fiction** **The Hunting Wives** **Heaven, My Home** **Presidio** **The Which Way Tree** **Turning the Pages of Texas** A Fire to Light Our Tongues **My First Thirty Years** **Snapshots and Short Notes** **Stories from the St. Louis Cemeteries of New Orleans** *Austin to ATX* **Boom or Bust** **As Told By Herself** My Summer Darlings The Nearness of You **Barefoot Dogs** **The Jetsetters** *The Same Sky* **Close Your Eyes** The Gap Year **Texas Almanac 2022-2023** **The Lifeguards** **Country of Origin** **Tori Amos's Boys for Pele** The Spectators *Bad Habits* *Texas Almanac 2020-2021* **Texas Almanac 2018-2019** *Last Dance on the Starlight Pier* **Valentine** Contract City Musical Courier and Review of Recorded Music The Kept **Michigan Quarterly Review** *Country of Origin*

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Stories from the St. Louis Cemeteries of New Orleans Aug 21 2021 The tombs and graves of the St. Louis Cemeteries rise from the ground, creating labyrinthine memorials aptly dubbed “cities of the dead.” Most are in even rows with quaint street names. Some are of crumbling brick and broken marble. Others are miniature mansions clad in decorative ironwork with

angelic guardians. Grand or humble, each is a relic of the story of New Orleans. Politicians, pirates, Mardi Gras Indian chiefs and one voodoo queen rest below. In an unprecedented inquiry, author Sally Asher reveals the lives within the mysterious and majestic tombs of the St. Louis Cemeteries.

The Hairdresser of Harare Jun 30 2022 Vimbai is the best hairdresser in Mrs. Khumalo's salon, and she is secure in her status until the handsome, smooth-talking Dumisani shows up one day looking for work. Despite her resistance, the two become friends, and eventually, Vimbai becomes Dumisani's landlady. He is as charming as he is deft with the scissors, and Vimbai finds that he means more and more to her. Yet, by novel's end, the pair's deepening friendship -- used or embraced by Dumisani and Vimbai with different futures in mind -- collapses in unexpected brutality.

Migratory Animals Oct 03 2022 Winner of the Texas Institute of Letters Award and the Writer's League of Texas Fiction Award • An Indie Next Selection • An Austin American-Statesman Selects Book A powerful debut novel about a group of 30-somethings struggling for connection and belonging, *Migratory Animals* centers on a protagonist who finds herself torn between love and duty. When Flannery, a young scientist, is forced to return to Austin from five years of research in Nigeria, she becomes split between her two homes. Having left behind her loving fiancé without knowing when she can return, Flannery learns that her sister, Molly, has begun to show signs of the genetic disease that slowly killed their mother. As their close-knit circle of friends struggles with Molly's diagnosis, Flannery must grapple with what her future will hold: an ambitious life of love and the pursuit of scientific discovery in West Africa, or the pull of a life surrounded by old friends, the comfort of an old flame, family obligations, and the home she's always known. But she is not the only one wrestling with uncertainty. Since their college days, each of her friends has faced unexpected challenges that make them reevaluate the lives they'd always planned for themselves. A mesmerizing debut from an exciting young writer, *Migratory Animals* is a moving, thought-provoking novel, told from shifting viewpoints, about the meaning of home and what we owe each other—and ourselves.

Valentine Dec 01 2019 An instant New York Times Bestseller Finalist for the Dayton Literary Peace Prize A Read with Jenna Today Show Book Club Pick! "A thrilling debut that deserves your attention." –Ron Charles, the Washington Post Written with the haunting emotional power of Elizabeth Strout and Barbara Kingsolver, an astonishing debut novel that explores the lingering effects of a brutal crime on the women of one small Texas oil town in the 1970s, longlisted for the Center for Fiction First Novel Prize and the VCU Cabell First Novel Award. Mercy is hard in a place like this . . . It's February 1976, and Odessa, Texas, stands on the cusp of the next great oil boom. While the town's men embrace the coming

prosperity, its women intimately know and fear the violence that always seems to follow. In the early hours of the morning after Valentine's Day, fourteen-year-old Gloria Ramírez appears on the front porch of Mary Rose Whitehead's ranch house, broken and barely alive. The teenager had been viciously attacked in a nearby oil field—an act of brutality that is tried in the churches and barrooms of Odessa before it can reach a court of law. When justice is evasive, the stage is set for a showdown with potentially devastating consequences. Valentine is a haunting exploration of the intersections of violence and race, class and region in a story that plumbs the depths of darkness and fear, yet offers a window into beauty and hope. Told through the alternating points of view of indelible characters who burrow deep in the reader's heart, this fierce, unflinching, and surprisingly tender novel illuminates women's strength and vulnerability, and reminds us that it is the stories we tell ourselves that keep us alive.

The Jetsetters Jan 14 2021 NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLER • REESE'S BOOK CLUB PICK • Named One of the Best Beach Reads of the Year by Parade, O: The Oprah Magazine, and Good Housekeeping “The exuberant activity aboard the Splendido Marveloso is no match for the fireworks set off as the lies explode. Full of wicked humor and delicious destination details.”—People (Book of the Week) NAMED ONE OF THE BEST BOOKS OF THE YEAR BY ESQUIRE When seventy-year-old Charlotte Perkins submits a sexy essay to the Become a Jetsetter contest, she dreams of reuniting her estranged children: Lee, an almost-famous actress; Cord, a handsome Manhattan venture capitalist who can't seem to find a partner; and Regan, a harried mother who took it all wrong when Charlotte bought her a Weight Watchers gift certificate for her birthday. Charlotte yearns for the years when her children were young, when she was a single mother who meant everything to them. When she wins the contest, the family packs their baggage—both literal and figurative—and spends ten days traveling from sun-drenched Athens through glorious Rome to tapas-laden Barcelona on an over-the-top cruise ship, the Splendido Marveloso. As lovers new and old join the adventure, long-buried secrets are revealed and old wounds are reopened, forcing the Perkins family to confront the forces that drove them apart and the defining choices of their lives. Can four lost adults find the peace they've been seeking by reconciling their childhood aches and coming back together? In the vein of *The Nest* and *The Vacationers*, *The Jetsetters* is a delicious and intelligent novel about the courage it takes to reveal our true selves, the pleasures and perils of family, and how we navigate the seas of adulthood.

Tartts 5 Sep 02 2022 Nine stories from the finalists in the Tarrt First Fiction Award. At time of writing, these include Tara Mantel, CB Anderson, Betty Jean Tucker, Charles Boyer, Dan Pope, Gregg Cusick, Mary Helen Specht, and Patricia Mayer.

Country of Origin Jul 08 2020 Seventeen-year-old Halah Ibrahim has always known a privileged life and never had cause

to question it until Cairo goes up in flames. Not only does she start to doubt her father and his role in the new military-backed government—but she ultimately decides to flee to America with a young soldier she hardly knows, an impulsive act that has far-reaching consequences on both sides of the ocean. A powerful and universal debut novel about family, identity, and independence, *Country of Origin* is as much about a nation's coming-of-age as it is about secrets and lies, love and truth.

The Nearness of You Mar 16 2021 In this profound and lyrical novel, acclaimed author Amanda Eyre Ward explores the deeper meanings of motherhood—from the first blissful hello to the heart-wrenching prospect of saying goodbye. Brilliant heart surgeon Suzette Kendall is stunned when Hyland, her husband of fifteen years, admits his yearning for a child. From the beginning they'd decided that having children was not an option, as Suzette feared passing along the genes that landed her mother in a mental institution. But Hyland proposes a different idea: a baby via surrogate. Suzette agrees, and what follows is a whirlwind of candidate selection, hospital visits, and Suzette's doubts over whether she's made the right decision. A young woman named Dorothy Muscarello is chosen as the one who will help make this family complete. For Dorrie, surrogacy (and the money that comes with it) are her opportunity to leave behind a troubled past and create a future for herself—one full of possibility. But this situation also forces all three of them—Dorrie, Suzette, and Hyland—to face a devastating uncertainty that will reverberate in the years to come. Beautifully shifting between perspectives, *The Nearness of You* deftly explores the connections we form, the families we create, and the love we hold most dear. Advance praise for *The Nearness of You* “[For] readers who like stories about competent people facing tough choices, like those from Jodi Picoult or Julie Lawson Timmer.”—Booklist “*The Nearness of You* includes everything I love about Amanda Eyre Ward's books: edgy eloquence, ingenious plotting, and relationships that are never, not for a single paragraph, simple or predictable. Through Suzette, Dorrie, Hyland, and Jayne, Ward reveals parenthood as an enterprise that is as wrenching as it is beautiful. You will love these characters and this book.”—Marisa de los Santos, New York Times bestselling author of *The Precious One* “Deftly paced and enthralling, Amanda Eyre Ward's *The Nearness of You* takes on the complexity of what it means to be a mother, and provides insights both heartening and harrowing.”—Mira Jacob, author of *The Sleepwalker's Guide to Dancing* “*The Nearness of You* is not just an arresting meditation on motherhood but also an exploration of how we can seize the lives we've been given and transform them into the lives we want to live. Like all of Ward's novels, this book's intrigue and charm demand that it be indulged in a single sitting.”—Vendela Vida, author of *The Diver's Clothes Lie Empty*

Turning the Pages of Texas Dec 25 2021 *Turning the Pages of Texas* is a collection of sixty essays about Texas books, authors, book collectors, libraries, and bookstores. It is a book for booklovers and bookish readers. Lonn Taylor writes from

the point of view of a historian who has been reading books about Texas for seventy years, since he was seven years old, and who has known many of the authors he writes about. He presents his reflections about well-known figures such as John Graves, J. Frank Dobie, and Larry McMurtry. He also introduces readers to people like folklorist C. L. Sonnichsen, who wrote about Texas feuds; Julia Lee Sinks, who interviewed early settlers of Fayette County in the 1870s; Karen Olsson, who wrote a fine novel about the mystique of Austin; and David Dorado Romo, who describes himself as the “psychogeographer of El Paso” and is the grandnephew of a saint. Some of the authors Taylor writes about are truly obscure, like Gertrude Beasley, who published her autobiography in Paris in 1924 and died in a New York insane asylum, or Tony Cano, whose self-published autobiographical novel describes what it was like to be poor and Mexican in West Texas in the 1950s. Taylor also teases out the Texas connections of writers as diverse as William Sydney Porter, Hervey Allen, and H. Allen Smith, and he writes about tracking down Texas books in London and Washington, DC, as well as at Barber’s in Fort Worth, the Brick Row Book Shop in Austin, and Rosengren’s and Brock’s in San Antonio. This is a booklover’s book.

The Gap Year Oct 11 2020 Cam has raised her daughter Aubrey alone ever since her ex left to join a cult. But now the bond between mother and daughter seems to have disappeared. While Cam is frantic to see Aubrey, a straight-A student, at the perfect college, on a path that Cam is sure will provide her daughter success and happiness, Aubrey suddenly shows no interest in her mother’s plans. Even the promise of an exciting gap year saving baby seals or bringing clean water to remote villages hasn’t tempted her. She prefers pursuing a life with her wrong-side-of-the-tracks football-hero boyfriend and her own secret hopes. Both mourn the gap that has grown between them, but Cam and Aubrey seem locked in a fight without a winner. Can they both learn how to hold onto dreams . . . and when to let go to grasp something better? Sarah Bird’s trademark laugh-out-loud humor joins with the tears that accompany love in a combination that reveals the fragile yet tough bonds of mother and daughter.

The Hunting Wives Apr 28 2022 A Most Anticipated Novel by The Skimm * Cosmopolitan * SheReads * Frolic * PopSugar * BuzzFeed * Goodreads * E! Online * Betches * Crime Reads * Pure Wow * Book Riot * Bustle * and more! A Book of the Month Club Selection “Gossipy, scandalous housewives behaving badly might make this the juiciest read of the season.”--Library Journal (starred review) "Sultry, salacious and utterly unpredictable....You'll devour it."--Riley Sager, New York Times bestselling author of Home Before Dark The Hunting Wives share more than target practice, martinis, and bad behavior in this novel of obsession, seduction, and murder. Sophie O'Neill left behind an envy-inspiring career and the stressful, competitive life of big-city Chicago to settle down with her husband and young son in a small Texas town. It seems

like the perfect life with a beautiful home in an idyllic rural community. But Sophie soon realizes that life is now too quiet, and she's feeling bored and restless. Then she meets Margot Banks, an alluring socialite who is part of an elite clique secretly known as the Hunting Wives. Sophie finds herself completely drawn to Margot and swept into her mysterious world of late-night target practice and dangerous partying. As Sophie's curiosity gives way to full-blown obsession, she slips farther away from the safety of her family and deeper into this nest of vipers. When the body of a teenage girl is discovered in the woods where the Hunting Wives meet, Sophie finds herself in the middle of a murder investigation and her life spiraling out of control.

Tori Amos's Boys for Pele Jun 06 2020 It's hard to think of a solo female recording artist who has been as revered or as reviled over the course of her career as Tori Amos. Amy Gentry argues that these violent aesthetic responses to Amos's performance, both positive and negative, are organized around disgust—the disgust that women are taught to feel, not only for their own bodies, but for their taste in music. Released in 1996, Amos's third album, *Boys for Pele*, represents the height of Amos's willingness to explore the ugly qualities that make all of her music, even her more conventionally beautiful albums, so uncomfortably, and so wonderfully, strange. Using a blend of memoir, criticism, and aesthetic theory, Gentry argues that the aesthetics of disgust are useful for thinking in a broader way about women's experience of all art forms.

Last Dance on the Starlight Pier Jan 02 2020 Set during the Great Depression, Sarah Bird's *Last Dance on the Starlight Pier* is a novel about one woman—and a nation—struggling to be reborn from the ashes. July 3, 1932. Shivering and in shock, Evie Grace Devlin watches the Starlite Palace burn into the sea and wonders how she became a person who would cause a man to kill himself. She'd come to Galveston to escape a dark past in vaudeville and become a good person, a nurse. When that dream is cruelly thwarted, Evie is swept into the alien world of dance marathons. All that she has been denied—a family, a purpose, even love—waits for her there in the place she dreads most: the spotlight. *Last Dance on the Starlight Pier* is a sweeping novel that brings to spectacular life the enthralling worlds of both dance marathons and the family-run empire of vice that was Galveston in the Thirties. Unforgettable characters tell a story that is still deeply resonant today as America learns what Evie learns, that there truly isn't anything this country can't do when we do it together. That indomitable spirit powers a story that is a testament to the deep well of resilience in us all that allows us to not only survive the hardest of hard times, but to find joy, friends, and even family, in them.

Heaven, My Home Mar 28 2022 In this "captivating" crime novel (People), Texas Ranger Darren Mathews is on the hunt for a missing child -- but it's the boy's family of white supremacists who are his real target. 9-year-old Levi King knew he

should have left for home sooner; now he's alone in the darkness of vast Caddo Lake, in a boat whose motor just died. A sudden noise distracts him - and all goes dark. Darren Mathews is trying to emerge from another kind of darkness; after the events of his previous investigation, his marriage is in a precarious state of re-building, and his career and reputation lie in the hands of his mother, who's never exactly had his best interests at heart. Now she holds the key to his freedom, and she's not above a little maternal blackmail to press her advantage. An unlikely possibility of rescue arrives in the form of a case down Highway 59, in a small lakeside town where the local economy thrives on nostalgia for ante-bellum Texas - and some of the era's racial attitudes still thrive as well. Levi's disappearance has links to Darren's last case, and to a wealthy businesswoman, the boy's grandmother, who seems more concerned about the fate of her business than that of her grandson. Darren has to battle centuries-old suspicions and prejudices, as well as threats that have been reignited in the current political climate, as he races to find the boy, and to save himself.

A Best Book of the Year New York Times
Houston Chronicle
NPR
Wall Street Journal
Milwaukee Journal-Sentinel
Book Page
Financial Times
Kirkus
SheReads
Sunday Times
LitHub
Guardian
Book Riot
South Florida Sun Sentinel
Longlisted for the Orwell Political Fiction Book Prize

Texas Almanac 2022-2023 Sep 09 2020 The Texas Almanac 2022–2023 includes these new feature articles: **Texas Wildlife** A greatly expanded article on the wildlife found throughout the state, with an updated and revised list of mammals and all new lists of birds, reptiles, amphibians, and fish. Written by Dr. Travis LaDuc, Curator of Herpetology at the University of Texas at Austin and Dr. Drew Davis, Associate Research Scientist at the University of Texas Rio Grande Valley. **COVID–19 in Texas** Dr. Ana Martinez-Catsam, professor of history at the University of Texas Permian Basin, brings us a look at of how COVID–19 hit the state and impacted just about every aspect of our lives. You’ll also learn what the pandemic did to our economy and how it compares to the last major pandemic, the Spanish Flu of 1918. **African Americans in Texas** The long, and often brutal, history of African Americans in our state began in 1582 when the first African slave, Esteban, arrived as one of the four survivors of the Cabeza de Vaca expedition. Read the rest of the history up to today, and learn how African Americans have contributed to the culture of Texas, in this feature written by Dr. Merline Pitre, professor at Texas Southern University. **Chapters include:** **Environment:** Learn about the geology of Texas, as well as in-depth information about plants, wildlife, rivers, and lakes. **Weather:** Highs and lows of the previous two years, plus a list of destructive weather dating from 1766. **Astronomical Calendar:** Find the moon phases, sunrise and sunset times, moonrise and moonset times, and any eclipses and meteor showers expected for 2022 and 2023. **Recreation:** The places to go visit in Texas, with details on state and national parks, landmarks, and wildlife refuges. **Sports:** The results of championship games for sports in Texas, from

high school through professional, and a list of all Texas Olympic medalists and the past ten years of Texas Sports Hall of Fame inductees. Counties: An expansive section featuring detailed county maps, locator maps, and profiles of Texas' 254 counties. Population: Figures and the latest estimates from the State Data Center, plus an analysis of what has changed in the past 5–10 years and a comprehensive list of the population of Texas cities and towns. Elections: Results and maps from the 2020 General Election and information on voter turnout. Government: Historical documents and lists of governmental officials dating from our time as under Spanish rule to today, as well as a recap of the 87th Legislative Session, information about state boards commissions, and lists of state, county, and local officials. Culture and the Arts: Find museums, competitions and award winners, and cultural and artistic highlights from the past few years, along with maps and data about the variety of religious groups in Texas. Business, Agriculture, and Transportation: Information about all aspects of our rich economy, and how we've fared as a state in the past few years, packed with tables about employment, prices, taxes, and more in a wide variety of industries. And much more . . .

Close Your Eyes Nov 11 2020 Struggling for closure years after her mother is murdered by her father, Lauren Mahdian analyzes her own carefully constructed memories only to realize the role of her own denial, a process that illuminates the long-lasting impact of split-second choices. 30,000 first printing.

My Summer Darlings Apr 16 2021 As seen on the TODAY show as “a perfect beach read.” Three lifelong friends plus a dangerous, sexy new stranger in town add up to a scorching summer of manipulation, obsession, and murder, from the acclaimed author of *The Hunting Wives*. A woman in the forest thinks she's going to die. I know he's coming back for me. Jen Hansen, Kittie Spears, and Cynthia Nichols have been friends since childhood. They are now approaching forty and their lives have changed, but their insular East Texas town has not. They stay sane by drinking wine in the afternoons, dishing about other women in the neighborhood, and bonding over the heartache of their own encroaching middle age and raising ungrateful teens. Then Will Harding comes to town, moving into one of the neighborhood's grandest homes. Mysterious and charming, he seems like the answer to each woman's prayers. He's a source of fascination for Jen, Kittie, and Cynthia, but none of them are ready for the way Will disrupts their lives. As Will grows closer with each of the women, their fascination twists into obsession, threatening their friendships and their families. When he abruptly pulls away, each woman scrambles to discover the source of his affection. But what they'll uncover is far more sinister and deadly than any of them could have ever imagined.

A Fire to Light Our Tongues Nov 23 2021 *A Fire to Light Our Tongues: Texas Writers on Spirituality* brings together the

works of writers in Texas. The title is taken, with permission, from Naomi Shihab Nye's introduction to *Salting the Ocean: 100 Poems by Young Poets*, where she states the role of poetry serves as "a fire to light our tongues." This view describes the role that creative writers, encountering the challenges of this past decade, face as they grapple with shifting views of spirituality. While the project started before COVID-19, given the current worldwide pandemic, a book of creative work responding to writers' spirituality could not be more timely. This anthology offers readers creative works by Texas writers as they wrestle with evolving systems of belief or nonbelief.

The Same Sky Dec 13 2020 From the acclaimed author of *How to Be Lost* and *Close Your Eyes* comes a beautiful and heartrending novel about motherhood, resilience, and faith—a ripped-from-the-headlines story of two families on both sides of the American border. Alice and her husband, Jake, own a barbecue restaurant in Austin, Texas. Hardworking and popular in their community, they have a loving marriage and thriving business, but Alice still feels that something is missing, lying just beyond reach. Carla is a strong-willed young girl who's had to grow up fast, acting as caretaker to her six-year-old brother Junior. Years ago, her mother left the family behind in Honduras to make the arduous, illegal journey to Texas. But when Carla's grandmother dies and violence in the city escalates, Carla takes fate into her own hands—and with Junior, she joins the thousands of children making their way across Mexico to America, facing great peril for the chance at a better life. In this elegant novel, the lives of Alice and Carla will intersect in a profound and surprising way. Poignant and arresting, *The Same Sky* is about finding courage through struggle, hope amid heartache, and summoning the strength—no matter what dangers await—to find the place where you belong. Praise for *The Same Sky* "The *Same Sky* is the timeliest book you will read this year—a wrenching, honest, painstakingly researched novel that puts a human face to the story of undocumented youth desperately seeking their dreams in America. This one's going to haunt me for a long time—and it's going to define the brilliant Amanda Eyre Ward as a leading author of socially conscious fiction."—Jodi Picoult, author of *Leaving Time* "Riveting, heartrending, and beautifully written, *The Same Sky* pulled me in on the first page and held my attention all the way to its perfect conclusion. I devoured this book."—Christina Baker Kline, author of *Orphan Train* "Ward is deeply sympathetic to her characters, and this affecting novel is sure to provoke conversations about immigration and adoption."—The New York Times Book Review "A deeply affecting look at the contrast between middle-class U.S. life and the brutal reality of Central American children so desperate they'll risk everything."—People "Amanda Eyre Ward's novel of the migrant journey, *The Same Sky*, is the most important book to come out of Austin this year."—The Austin Chronicle **My First Thirty Years** Oct 23 2021 "Thirty years ago, I lay in the womb of a woman, conceived in a sexual act of rape,

being carried during the prenatal period by an unwilling and rebellious mother, finally bursting from the womb only to be tormented in a family whose members I despised or pitied, and brought into association with people whom I should never have chosen." Shortly after its 1925 publication, Gertrude Beasley's ferociously eloquent feminist memoir was banned and she herself disappeared under mysterious circumstances. Though British Nobel Prize winner Bertrand Russell called *My First Thirty Years* "truthful, which is illegal" and Larry McMurtry pronounced it the finest Texas book of its era, Beasley's words have been all but inaccessible for almost a century—until now. Beasley penned one of the most brutally honest coming-of-age historical memoirs ever written, one which strips away romantic notions about frontier women's lives at the turn of the 20th century. Her mother and sisters braved male objectification and the indignities of poverty, with little if any control over their futures. With characteristic ferocity, Beasley rejected a life of dependence, persisting in her studies and becoming first a teacher, then a principal, then a college instructor, and finally a foreign correspondent. Along the way, Beasley becomes a strident activist for women's rights, socialism, and sex education, which she sees as key to restoring bodily autonomy to women like those she grew up with. She is undaunted by authority figures but secretly ashamed of her origins and yearns to be loved. *My First Thirty Years* is profoundly human and shockingly candid, a rallying cry that cost its author her career and her freedom. Her story deserves to be heard. Praise for *My First Thirty Years*: "For almost a century in Texas literary circles, Gertrude Beasley's 1925 memoir has been more a legend than a book... The tangled history of *My First Thirty Years*, and Beasley's horrific personal fate, are case studies in society's merciless treatment of women of her era who gave voice to socially unspeakable truths. The memoir's republication this month, which makes it widely available for the first time in 96 years, is a long-overdue moment of reckoning. It's also a rich gift to the Texas literary canon."—Texas Monthly "We should all be as fierce, loud, and convinced of our own self-worth as Gertrude Beasley was. This story of a justifiably angry woman living ahead of the world she lived in will resonate deeply today."—Soraya Chemaly, activist and award-winning author of *Rage Becomes Her: The Power of Women's Anger* "Gertrude Beasley's 1925 memoir grabs the reader by the arm and holds tight, speaking with a voice as compelling as if she had just put down her pen this morning. Feminist, socialist, and acute observer of both herself and the world around her, Beasley gives us stories that illuminate the costs of poverty and of being a woman. To read *My First Thirty Years* is to be in conversation with an extraordinary mind."—Anne Gardiner Perkins, author of *Yale Needs Women*

Snapshots and Short Notes Sep 21 2021 Snapshots and Short Notes examines the photographic postcards exchanged during the first half of the twentieth century as illustrated, first-hand accounts of American life. Almost immediately after the

introduction of the generic postcard at the turn of the century, innovations in small, accessible cameras added black and white photographs to the cards. The resulting combination of image and text emerged as a communication device tantamount to social media today. Postcard messages and photographs tell the stories of ordinary lives during a time of far-reaching technological, demographic, and social changes: a family's new combine harvester that could cut 40 acres a day; a young woman trying to find work in a man's world; the sight of an airplane in flight. However, postcards also chronicled and shared hardship and tragedy—the glaring reality of homesteading on the High Plains, natural disasters, preparations for war, and the struggles for racial and gender equality. With a meticulous eye for detail, painstaking research, and astute commentary, Wilson surveys more than 160 photographic postcards, reproduced in full color, that provide insights into every aspect of life in a time not far removed from our own.

Migratory Animals Nov 04 2022 Winner of the Texas Institute of Letters Award and the Writer's League of Texas Fiction Award A February 2015 Indie Next Selection A January Apple eBook Selection An Austin American-Statesman Selects Book A powerful debut novel about a group of 30-somethings struggling for connection and belonging, *Migratory Animals* centers on a protagonist who finds herself torn between love and duty. When Flannery, a young scientist, is forced to return to Austin from five years of research in Nigeria, she becomes split between her two homes. Having left behind her loving fiancé without knowing when she can return, Flan learns that her sister, Molly, has begun to show signs of the genetic disease that slowly killed their mother. As their close-knit circle of friends struggles with Molly's diagnosis, Flannery must grapple with what her future will hold: an ambitious life of love and the pursuit of scientific discovery in West Africa, or the pull of a life surrounded by old friends, the comfort of an old flame, family obligations, and the home she's always known. But she is not the only one wrestling with uncertainty. Since their college days, each of her friends has faced unexpected challenges that make them reevaluate the lives they'd always planned for themselves. A mesmerizing debut from an exciting young writer, *Migratory Animals* is a moving, thought-provoking novel, told from shifting viewpoints, about the meaning of home and what we owe each other—and ourselves.

On Home Aug 01 2022 When tragedy strikes, Cassidy, a cam girl living in Southern California, must return to the small West Virginia town she left behind. Cassidy likes her job getting naked for men on camera, though she prefers sex with women. She never came out to her family or friends back in her home state—not about her sexuality and certainly not about her sex work. Now, she must figure out how to hold on to the life she's built for herself while picking up the pieces of her fractured family. As Cassidy's story unfolds, we glimpse into the lives of the strong, complicated women who came before

her: Jane, the sheltered daughter of farmers, escapes West Virginia for Washington, DC to work as a Government Girl for the FBI during World War II, until a fateful mistake threatens her future. Paloma, a Fulbright Scholar, journeys to newly Westernized Prague—only to fall for an idealistic but safe man from West Virginia. Though worlds and generations apart, all three search for meaning as they face impending motherhood and the pull to return home to rural Appalachia.

Texas Almanac 2018-2019 Feb 01 2020 Includes these new feature articles: • **WATER** — An in-depth overview of the state of water in Texas, written by conservationist Dr. Andrew Sansom. Author of the acclaimed book *Water in Texas*, Dr. Sansom provides compelling new information in this Almanac article. A former executive director of both the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department and the Texas Nature Conservancy, he has won many awards for managing and protecting natural resources and currently is Research Professor of Geography and Executive Director of The Meadows Center for Water and the Environment at Texas State University. • **HUNTING** — A look at the popularity of hunting in Texas by Luke Clayton, a longtime outdoors writer, radio host, and book author. Clayton, who grew up hunting and fishing in rural northeast Texas, also discusses the overpopulation problem of wild hogs and provides his favorite recipes for all types of wild game. A prolific voice for hunters, Clayton hosts three weekly outdoors radio shows, writes a weekly hunting and fishing column that appears in more than 30 newspapers, and writes for magazines, such as *Texas Parks & Wildlife* magazine and *Texas Wildlife*. • **SPORTSWOMEN** — Cookbook author and food editor Dotty Griffith writes about women who love both hunting and fishing, and she offers up a few of her favorite recipes. • **FISHING** — Fishing guide and expert Kevin “K.T.” Townsend writes about angling in Texas. Townsend is the author of the online blog *K.T. Diaries* and gives an overview of both saltwater and freshwater fishing from the Gulf Coast to the state’s many rivers, lakes, and reservoirs. **MAJOR SECTIONS UPDATED FOR EACH EDITION** An illustrated History of the Lone Star State. The Environment, including geology, plant life, wildlife, rivers, lakes. Weather highlights of the previous two years, plus a list of destructive weather dating from 1766. Two-year Astronomical Calendar showing moon phases, sunrise and sunset, moonrise and moonset, eclipses, and meteor showers. Recreation, with details on state and national parks, landmarks, and wildlife refuges. Sports, including lists of high school football and basketball champions, professional sports teams, Texas Olympians, and Texas Sports Hall of Fame inductees. Counties, an expansive section featuring detailed county maps, locator maps, and profiles of Texas’ 254 counties. Population figures and the latest estimates from the State Data Center. Comprehensive list of Texas cities and towns. Politics, Elections, and information on Federal, State, and Local governments. Culture and the Arts, including a list of civic and religious Holidays. Health and Science, with charts of vital statistics. Education, including a

complete list of colleges and universities, and UIL results. Business and Transportation, with an expanded section on Oil and Gas. Agriculture, including data on production of crops, fruits, vegetables, livestock, and dairy. Obituaries of notable Texans. A Pronunciation Guide to Texas town and county names.

Musical Courier and Review of Recorded Music Sep 29 2019

The Kept Aug 28 2019 “Dark and mysterious. . . . A novel whose daring is found in its bleakness. . . . The plot unfolds with a weighty languor reminiscent of Cormac McCarthy. . . sparse, elegant. . . haunting.” — New York Times Set in rural New York state at the turn of the twentieth century, superb new talent James Scott makes his literary debut with *The Kept*—a propulsive novel reminiscent of the works of Michael Ondaatje, Cormac McCarthy, and Bonnie Jo Campbell, in which a mother and her young son embark on a quest to avenge a terrible and violent tragedy that has shattered their secluded family. In the winter of 1897, a trio of killers descends upon an isolated farm in upstate New York. Midwife Elspeth Howell returns home to the carnage: her husband, and four of her children, murdered. Before she can discover her remaining son Caleb, alive and hiding in the kitchen pantry, another shot rings out over the snow-covered valley. Twelve-year-old Caleb must tend to his mother until she recovers enough for them to take to the frozen wilderness in search of the men responsible. A scorching portrait of a merciless world—of guilt and lost innocence, atonement and retribution, resilience and sacrifice, pregnant obsession and primal adolescence—*The Kept* introduces an old-beyond-his-years protagonist as indelible and heartbreaking as Mattie Ross of *True Grit* or Jimmy Blevins of *All the Pretty Horses*, as well as a shape-shifting mother as enigmatic and mysterious as a character drawn by Russell Banks or Marilynne Robinson.

The Lifeguards Aug 09 2020 “A book that is at once riveting and relevant as it unpeels the various meanings of motherhood, family, and loyalty. I tore through it.”—Miranda Cowley Heller, author of *The Paper Palace* The bonds between three picture-perfect—but viciously protective—mothers and their close-knit sons are tested during one unforgettable summer in a gripping novel from the New York Times bestselling author of *The Jetsetters*. Austin’s Zilker Park neighborhood is a wonderland of greenbelt trails, live music, and moms who drink a few too many margaritas. Whitney, Annette, and Liza have grown thick as thieves as they have raised their children together for fifteen years, believing that they can shelter them their children from an increasingly dangerous world. Their friendship is unbreakable—as safe as the neighborhood where they've raised their sweet little boys. Or so they think. One night, the three women have been enjoying happy hour when their boys, lifeguards for the summer, come back on bicycles from a late-night dip in their favorite swimming hole. The boys share a secret—news that will shatter the perfect world their mothers have so

painstakingly created. Combining three mothers' points of view in a powerful narrative tale with commentary from entertaining neighborhood listservs, secret text messages, and police reports, *The Lifeguards* is both a story about the secrets we tell to protect the ones we love and a riveting novel of suspense filled with half-truths and betrayals, fierce love and complicated friendships, and the loss of innocence on one hot summer night.

The Writer's Field Guide to the Craft of Fiction May 30 2022 *The Writers Field Guide to the Craft of Fiction* offers a refreshing approach to the craft of fiction writing. It takes a single page from forty contemporary novels and short stories, identifies techniques used by the writers, and presents approachable exercises and prompts that allow anyone to put those techniques to immediate use in their own work. Encompassing everything from micro (how to "write pretty") to macro (how to "move through time space"), and even how to put all together on page one, this a field guide for anyone who wants to start writing now (or get some shiny new gear for their fiction toolbox.)

Austin to ATX Jul 20 2021 In this gonzo history of the "City of the Violet Crown," author and journalist Joe Nick Patoski chronicles the modern evolution of the quirky, bustling, funky, self-contradictory place known as Austin, Texas. Patoski describes the series of cosmic accidents that tossed together a mashup of outsiders, free spirits, thinkers, educators, writers, musicians, entrepreneurs, artists, and politicians who would foster the atmosphere, the vibe, the slightly off-kilter zeitgeist that allowed Austin to become the home of both Armadillo World Headquarters and Dell Technologies. Patoski's raucous, rollicking romp through Austin's recent past and hipster present connects the dots that lead from places like Scholz Garten—Texas' oldest continuously operating business—to places like the Armadillo, where Willie Nelson and Darrell Royal brought hippies and rednecks together around music. He shows how misfits like William Sydney Porter—the embezzler who became famous under his pen name, O. Henry—served as precursors for iconoclasts like J. Frank Dobie, Bud Shrake, and Molly Ivins. He describes the journey, beginning with the search for an old girlfriend, that eventually brought Louis Black, Nick Barbaro, and Roland Swenson to the founding of the South by Southwest music, film, and technology festival. As one Austinite, who in typical fashion is simultaneously pursuing degrees in medicine and cinematography, says, "Austin is very different from the rest of Texas." Many readers of *Austin to ATX* will have already realized that. Now they will know why.

Contract City Oct 30 2019 The year is 2021 and the money is still green. The fully privatized city of Tulsa, OK, is home to Sara Paige Christie, a teenage girl with her heart set on a film career in L.A. and her camera trained on the graffiti-covered walls of the city's outskirts. In pursuit of a documentary subject that might propel her from college hopeful to film school

admittee at UCLA, Sara has focused her ambitions upon a singularly ubiquitous tag—WH2RR?? From the facades of storefronts to the walls of public restrooms, the tag is appearing nearly everywhere. Its stark all-capital letters and demanding question marks have captured Sara’s imagination, even as the private security personnel of FreeForce Tulsa (FFT) scramble to eliminate the marks with power washers, gray-overs, and full censorship, stripping even photographs of the tags from the locally accessible Internet. Sara has no doubt that there is meaning hidden in plain sight, and she sets off on a mission to find the person behind the mysterious tags while balancing an already full life: her final exams, her wild best friend, a physical fitness test that threatens her GPA, and a family that seems almost oblivious to what’s happening just down the street from their suburban home. With the exception, perhaps, of her father. A retired Marine turned FFT investigator, Sara’s dad has been on the trail of the graffiti artist for his own professional reasons. And if he knows what’s going on, he’s not telling Sara. And they’re not the only ones on the hunt . . . Tensions are rising in town and beyond. Between the machinations of the city’s home-grown megachurch, Chosen Hill, and the movements of a growing camp of homeless citizens parked just beyond Tulsa’s comfort and security, life in Tulsa is about to become very interesting, and Sara just might be in the right place to catch it all on film but only if she survives.

Country of Origin Jun 26 2019

Bad Habits Apr 04 2020 A whip-smart psychological thriller from the author of *Good as Gone* (a New York Times Notable Book) in which a grad student becomes embroiled in a deadly rivalry that changes her into someone unrecognizable to her struggling family, her ambitious academic friends, and even herself

The Spectators May 06 2020 A shocking crime triggers a media firestorm for a controversial talk show host in this provocative novel—a story of redemption, a nostalgic portrait of New York City, and a searing indictment of our culture of spectacle. One of the *The New York Times*’s “10 Books to Watch for in April” • “Jennifer duBois is a brilliant writer.”—Karen Russell, author of *Vampires in the Lemon Grove* Talk show host Matthew Miller has made his fame by shining a spotlight on the most unlikely and bizarre secrets of society, exposing them on live television in front of millions of gawking viewers. However, the man behind *The Mattie M Show* remains a mystery—both to his enormous audience and to those who work alongside him every day. But when the high school students responsible for a mass shooting are found to be devoted fans, Mattie is thrust into the glare of public scrutiny, seen as the wry, detached herald of a culture going downhill and going way too far. Soon, the secrets of Mattie’s past as a brilliant young politician in a crime-ridden New York City begin to push their way to the surface. In her most daring and multidimensional novel yet, Jennifer duBois vividly portrays

the heyday of gay liberation in the seventies and the grip of the AIDS crisis in the eighties, alongside a backstage view of nineties television in an age of moral panic. DuBois explores an enigmatic man's downfall through the perspectives of two spectators—Cel, Mattie's skeptical publicist, and Semi, the disillusioned lover from his past. With wit, heart, and crackling intelligence, *The Spectators* examines the human capacity for reinvention—and forces us to ask ourselves what we choose to look at, and why. Praise for *The Spectators* With *The Spectators*, duBois is staking out larger literary territory. The new novel is full of small pleasures that accumulate as proof that this writer knows her stuff. . . . DuBois's mastery of . . . details earns our trust as she expands *The Spectators* into a billowing meditation on the responsibility of public figures to contribute something worthwhile to the culture. Although her book takes place decades ago, duBois's message has a contemporary urgency as well."—The New York Times "Heart-rending and visceral . . . DuBois's language is dexterous, and her pacing impressive. . . . *The Spectators* is a treatise on the media's power and a finely wrought example of intimate pain."—USA Today

The Which Way Tree Jan 26 2022 The poignant odyssey of a tenacious young girl who braves the dangers of the Texas frontier to avenge her mother's death. Early one morning in the remote hill country of Texas, a panther savagely attacks a family of homesteaders, mauling a young girl named Samantha and killing her mother, whose final act is to save her daughter's life. Samantha and her half brother, Benjamin, survive, but she is left traumatized, her face horribly scarred. Narrated in Benjamin's beguilingly plainspoken voice, *The Which Way Tree* is the story of Samantha's unshakeable resolve to stalk and kill the infamous panther, rumored across the Rio Grande to be a demon, and avenge her mother's death. In their quest she and Benjamin, now orphaned, enlist a charismatic Tejano outlaw and a haunted, compassionate preacher with an aging but relentless tracking dog. As the members of this unlikely posse hunt the panther, they are in turn pursued by a hapless but sadistic Confederate soldier with troubled family ties to the preacher and a score to settle. In the tradition of the great pursuit narratives, *The Which Way Tree* is a breathtaking saga of one steadfast girl's revenge against an implacable and unknowable beast. Yet with the comedic undertones of Benjamin's storytelling, it is also a timeless tale full of warmth and humor, and a testament to the enduring love that carries a sister and brother through a perilous adventure with all the dimensions of a legend. "A ripping adventure [with] a show-stopping finale."-Wall Street Journal "The stuff of legends."-Attica Locke "Powerful, sly, and often charming."-Daniel Woodrell

Barefoot Dogs Feb 12 2021 Winner of the Jesse H. Jones Award for Best Work of Fiction from the Texas Institute of Letters
* A San Francisco Chronicle Recommended Book of 2015 * Fiction Finalist for the 2015 Writers' League of Texas Book

Awards * A Kirkus Reviews Best Book of 2015 * One of the Texas Observer's "Five Books We Loved in 2015" * One of PRI's "The World's Five Books You Should Read in 2016" "Profound and wrenching...A deeply moving chronicle of one family's collective devastation, full of remarkable wisdom and humor" (The New York Times Book Review) that follows the members of a wealthy Mexican family after their patriarch is kidnapped. On an unremarkable night, José Victoriano Arteaga—the head of a thriving Mexico City family—vanishes on his way home from work. The Arteagas find few answers; the full truth of what happened to Arteaga is lost to the shadows of Mexico's vast underworld. But soon packages arrive to the family house, offering horrifying clues. Fear, guilt, and the prospect of financial ruin fracture the once-proud family and scatter them across the globe, yet delicate threads still hold them together: in a swimming pool in Palo Alto, Arteaga's grandson struggles to make sense of the grief that has hobbled his family; in Mexico City, Arteaga's mistress alternates between rage and heartbreak as she waits, in growing panic, for her lover's return; in Austin, the Arteagas' housekeeper tries to piece together a second life in an alienating new land; in Madrid, Arteaga's son takes his dog through the hot and unforgiving streets, in search of his father's ghost. A stunningly original exploration of the wages of a hidden war, *Barefoot Dogs* is a heartfelt elegy to the stolen innocence of every family struck by tragedy. Urgent and vital fiction, "these powerful stories are worthy of rereading in order to fully digest the far-reaching implications of one man's disappearance...this singular book affords the reader the chance to step inside a world of privilege and loss, and understand how the two are inextricably intertwined" (San Francisco Chronicle).

Texas Almanac 2020-2021 Mar 04 2020 The 70th edition in this long-running reference guide is filled to the brim with maps, statistics, full-color photographs, and fascinating information. You'll buy a piece of Texas history in every Texas Almanac in your collection. Our features this year include: Everyone knows Texas is a big state, but we continue to grow, sometimes in unexpected ways. Learn more about population growth, shifts, and trends, and where we might be by 2050 in this feature, written by Steve H. Murdock, Ph.D., a former director of the U.S. Census Bureau and currently a professor at Rice University and Director of the Hobby Center for the Study of Texas, and Michael Cline, Ph.D., former Associate Director of the Hobby Center for the Study of Texas. A new entry in our series on Texas immigrants focuses on Asian Indians. From facing early anti-Asian immigration bans to becoming the fourth largest concentration of Asian Indians in the United States, Indian Texans have helped shape the state's economy, public policy and cultural landscape. Learn about this rich immigration history and how the influence of Asian Indians can be felt across Texas. This feature is written by Ayshea Khan, Asian American Community Archivist at the Austin History Center. The entire book is revised with the latest information for

every edition, including the 254 county maps and our population estimates for every Texas town. Chapters include: • Environment: Learn about the geology of Texas, as well as in-depth information about plants, wildlife, rivers, and lakes. • Weather: Highs and lows of the previous two years, plus a list of destructive weather dating from 1766. Also, a look at how our state has recovered since Hurricane Harvey. • Astronomical Calendar: Find the moon phases, sunrise and sunset times, moonrise and moonset times, and any eclipses and meteor showers expected for 2020 and 2021. • Recreation: The places to go visit in Texas, with details on state and national parks, landmarks, and wildlife refuges. • Sports: The results of championship games for sports in Texas, from high school through professional, and a list of all Texas Olympic medalists and the past ten years of Texas Sports Hall of Fame inductees. • Counties: An expansive section featuring detailed county maps, locator maps, and profiles of Texas' 254 counties. • Population: Figures and the latest estimates from the State Data Center, plus an analysis of what has changed in the past 5-10 years and a comprehensive list of the population of Texas cities and towns. • Elections: Results and maps from the 2018 General Election and information on voter turnout. • Government: Historical documents and lists of governmental officials dating from our time under Spanish rule to today, as well as a recap of the 86th Legislative Session, information about state boards commissions, and lists of state, county, and local officials. • Culture and the Arts: Find museums, competitions and award winners, and cultural and artistic highlights from the past few years, along with maps and data about the variety of religious groups in Texas. • Business, Agriculture, and Transportation: Information about all aspects of our rich economy, and how we've fared as a state in the past few years, packed with tables about employment, prices, taxes, and more in a wide variety of industries. • And much more...

Presidio Feb 24 2022 "Fluent, mordant, authentic, propulsive...wonderfully lit from within" (Lee Child, The New York Times Book Review), this critically acclaimed, stunningly mature literary debut is the darkly comic story of a car thief on the run in the gritty and arid landscape of the 1970s Texas panhandle. In this "stellar debut," (Publishers Weekly) car thief Troy Falconer returns home after years of wandering to reunite with his younger brother, Harlan. The two set out in search of Harlan's wife, Bettie, who's left him cold and run away with the little money he had. When stealing a station wagon for their journey, Troy and Harlan find they've accidentally kidnapped a Mennonite girl, Martha Zacharias, sleeping in the back of the car. But Martha turns out to be a stubborn survivor who refuses to be sent home, so together, these unlikely road companions haphazardly attempt to escape across the Mexican border, pursued by the police and Martha's vengeful father. But this is only one layer of Troy's story. Through interjecting entries from his journal that span decades of an unraveling life, we learn that Troy has become so estranged from society that he's shunned the very idea of personal property. Instead of

claiming possessions, he works motels, stealing the suitcases and cars of men roughly his size, living with their things until those things feel too much like his own, at which point he finds another motel and vanishes again into another man's identity. Richly nuanced and complex, "like a nesting doll, [Presidio] continually uncovers stories within stories" (Ian Stansel, author of *The Last Cowboys of San Geronimo*). With a page-turning plot, prose as gritty and austere as the novel's Texas panhandle setting, and a determined yet doomed cast of characters ranging from con artists to religious outcasts, this "rich and rare book" (Annie Proulx, author of *Barkskins*) packs a kick like a shot of whiskey. Perfect for fans of Cormac McCarthy, Denis Johnson, and Larry McMurtry, who said that Kennedy "captures the funny yet tragic relentlessness of survival in an unforgiving place. Let's hope he keeps his novelistic cool and brings us much, much more."

Michigan Quarterly Review Jul 28 2019

As Told By Herself May 18 2021 *As Told by Herself* offers the first systematic study of women's autobiographical writing about childhood. More than 175 works—primarily from English-speaking countries and France, as well as other European countries—are presented here in historical sequence, allowing Lorna Martens to discern and reveal patterns as they emerge and change over time. What do the authors divulge, conceal, and emphasize? How do they understand the experience of growing up as girls? How do they understand themselves as parts of family or social groups, and what role do other individuals play in their recollections? To what extent do they concern themselves with issues of memory, truth, and fictionalization? Stopping just before second-wave feminism brought an explosion in women's childhood autobiographical writing, *As Told by Herself* explores the genre's roots and development from the mid-nineteenth century, and recovers many works that have been neglected or forgotten. The result illustrates how previous generations of women—in a variety of places and circumstances—understood themselves and their upbringing, and how they thought to present themselves to contemporary and future readers.

Boom or Bust Jun 18 2021 A vast number of studies have documented the economic and geological effects of oil production, but the impact of boom-and-bust cycles on individuals and communities has received less attention. *Boom or Bust* remedies this gap by highlighting the personal experiences of those directly affected in an economy dominated by oil and natural gas production. The Permian Basin is one of the largest oil-producing regions in the United States. People who live there have benefited from explosive growth, only to see opportunities vanish with sudden industry downturns. In 2016, the National Endowment for the Humanities funded a grant for the study and collection of energy narratives in this economically volatile region. *Boom or Bust* derives from that community initiative and offers a unique contribution to the developing field of

energy humanities. The oil-field industry may seem to be all about numbers, but as Boom or Bust demonstrates, residents of oil-and-gas country, whether they work in the oil field or not, are at the mercy of an ever-shifting economy. When the price of oil rises, companies move in and newcomers flood the area, expanding the employment force. And as the population booms, so does the infrastructure of cities. When prices drop, though, families must make difficult choices: whether to stay put or follow the oil to another location. With the ensuing declines in population, small businesses close their doors and unemployment levels rise. Despite the inevitable declines and despite the increase in alternative energy resources, many West Texans feel a sense of pride that borders on patriotism. Boom or Bust reveals the full complexity of boomtown culture.

migratory-animals-mary-helen-specht

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