

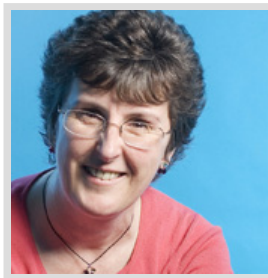
Belletrista



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Roma Tearne: Weaving the Political and the Personal. Joyce Nickel gives us an in-depth look at the Sri Lankan author and her work.



Julie Wakeman-Linn: Kathleen Ambrogi reviews her novel *Chasing the Leopard Finding the Lion*, and talks with the author.



Sefi Atta's bold new novel is about more than African identity. . . Read chapter one of *A Bit of Difference*.

Belletrista - Issue 18

The end of 2012

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Reviews

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NEW ISLANDS AND OTHER STORIES *María Luisa Bombal*

Translated from the Spanish by Richard and Lucia Cunningham

There is consensus that María Luisa Bombal is amongst the Latin American literary stars. Says Jorge Luis Borges in the preface to this slim volume of short stories: "...In Santiago, Chile, Buenos Aires, in Caracas or Lima, when they name the best names, María Luisa Bombal is never missing from the list."

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Reviewed by Akeela Gaibie-Dawood

IN THE SHADOW OF THE BANYAN *Vaddey Ratner*

Imagine that you are a five-year-old princess of the Cambodian monarchy, living a life of

Angélica Gorodischer



The noted and versatile Argentinian author has a newly translated novel forthcoming in February. Read an excerpt of *Trafalgar*.



Uzma Aslam Khan

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luxury, surrounded by love and a large family. Then imagine that one day your family is violently jettisoned into the countryside with the rest of the urban population, and everything you know is destroyed.

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Reviewed by Lisa Sanders



THE UNLIKELY PILGRIMAGE OF HAROLD FRY

Rachel Joyce

One day Harold Fry, a retiree getting on in years, sets off to post a letter of condolence to a former friend, Queenie Hennessey, who is dying of cancer. He hasn't seen her in twenty years and can manage only, "I'm sorry." At the first letter box, he decides ...

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Reviewed by Tad Deffler



MATESHIP WITH BIRDS

Carrie Tiffany

Harry is a dairy farmer who has lost his wife to the charms of a local bird watcher. He has no children and lives alone, with a pile of women's journals, his routines and his thoughts, which often turn to the young family living next door.

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Reviewed by Judy Lim



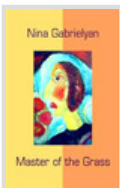
THE SOMETIMES LAKE

Sandy Bonny

The stories in *The Sometimes Lake* reflect Sandy Bonny's passion for science. Whether the character is a teacher working with disadvantaged indigenous children in Canada's far north...

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Reviewed by Joyce Nickel



MASTER OF THE GRASS

Nina Gabrielyan

Translated from the Russian by Kathleen Cook et al

Master of the Grass is a well-translated collection of one eponymous novella and six short stories by Nina Gabrielyan, a Russian writer of Armenian descent. Motifs of mirrors and dreams run through these stories, and the narratives themselves are more or less dream-like, the boundary between the sleeping and the



A tribute to the nomadic peoples in the mountains of Pakistan and its border neighbors, Uzma's new novel *Thinner Than Skin* is also a love story. Read an excerpt.



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Reviewed by Tim Jones

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