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*Celebrating Women Writers from Around the World*

# Belletrista

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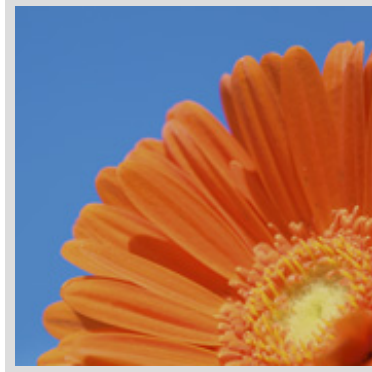
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"Canis Lupus Familiaris" a wry short story by Ukrainian author Tanya Malyarchuk.



"A Conspicuous Blossoming:" The Emergence of Prose Writing by Ukrainian Women.



Canadian Jenn Farrell's brazen collection *The Devil You Know* is closely examined by Joyce Nickel.

## Belletrista - Issue 11

May/June 2011

Keep up with the latest news from **Belletrista!**

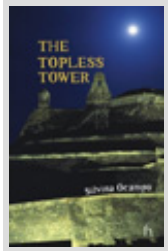
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Our Belle bag is traveling! Can you tell where our bag is?

Welcome, Belletrista readers, to another issue celebrating literature written by or about women writers from across the globe! This issue is filled to overflowing with new books, great reviews, interviews, fiction and other intriguing features. There is much to explore and enjoy here: we hope you will agree!

## Reviews

Click on 'Reviews' to see the full list of this issue's reviews...



### THE TOPLESS TOWER

*Silvina Ocampo*

*Translated from the Spanish by James Womack*

Little Leandro, nine, having displeased a gentleman visitor who may be the Devil, finds himself a prisoner in the tower which gives this story its title. He discovers a room set up with all the requisites a painter could need. He begins to paint.

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Reviewed by **Tim Jones**



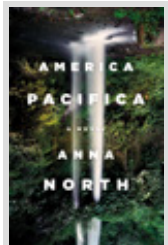
### DILEMMAS OF DEOKIE

*Carol Sammy*

Deokie Ramoutar is different from the other girls in her Trinidadian village. Nineteen years old, she is more sober and thoughtful than her giddy, frivolous friends and not really interested in boys. Instead, Deokie ...

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Reviewed by **Charlotte Simpson**



### AMERICA PACIFICA

*Anna North*

Anna North's young adult novel, *America Pacifica*, is a grungy, thrill-a-minute frappe of familiar dystopian elements—scuzzy landscape, crazy tyrants, social and environmental exploitation—garnished with ...

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Reviewed by **Jean Raber**

## Jacqueline Bishop



Arlene McKanic interviews the Caribbean author, editor and poet



## Anna Gavalda



Read Chapter One of Anna Gavalda's recently translated novel, *French Leave*, a charming story of escaping to the past to find the future.



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## THE SELECTED STORIES OF MERCÈ RODOREDA

*Mercè Rodoreda*

*Translated from the Catalan by Martha Tement*

When General Franco took power in Spain, he repressed all regional languages including Catalan, prompting the twenty-six year old Merce Rodoreda to go into exile, where she did not write for twenty years. Now a legendary Catalan writer...

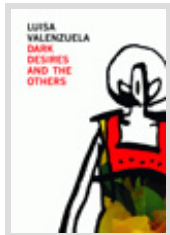
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Reviewed by Andrew Stancek

## PEN Free the Word! festival in London



Charlotte Simpson reports on this exciting literary event.



## DARK DESIRES AND THE OTHERS

*Luisa Valenzuela*

*Translated by Susan E. Clark*

*Dark Desires and the Others* is both an erotic memoir and a meditation on writing. Taken from Valenzuela's diaries written in New York between 1979 and 1982, it is a series of essays

...

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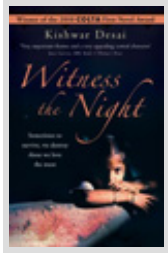
Reviewed by Andy Barnes

## CONVERSATIONS:



Three readers discuss Kathleen Winter's Award-Winning novel, *Annabel*





## WITNESS THE NIGHT

*Kishwar Desai*

It is September 2007, and police in the Punjab region of India ask social worker Simran Singh for her help in talking to an uncommunicative fourteen-year-old girl. The girl, Durga, was found loosely tied up and...

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Reviewed by Joyce Nickel



## THE HOTTEST DISHES OF THE TARTAR CUISINE

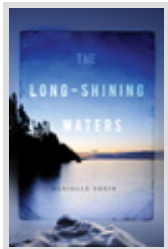
*Alina Bronsky*

*Translated from the German by Tim Mohr*

Rosalinda Achmetowna is a woman who delights you on the written page but would horrify you should she appear on your doorstep, suitcase in hand. She rules her home and acquaintances with an iron hand, positive of both the fact that they are utterly useless and the corollary that she knows exactly what is needed to whip everyone into shape.

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Reviewed by Ted Deffler



## THE LONG-SHINING WATERS

*Danielle Sosin*

Lake Superior in North America, which extends into both Canada and the United States, is arguably the largest freshwater lake in the world. For generations it has fascinated, frightened and served those who have visited its waters, among them Indians, explorers, trappers, hunters, missionaries ...

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Reviewed by Kathleen Ambrogi

## If Written By a Woman

Visit our new Belletrista blog!

### The Caine Prize for African Writing 2011 – shortlist announced

The shortlist for this year's Caine Prize has just been announced and three women are in the running for the prestigious award. This is always an exciting time of year – the Prize is a great way to discover short stories by excellent writers. Lucky for us, the Prize's website links to a copy of ...[Read the Rest](#)

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