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[Reviews](#)

[New & Notable](#)

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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 Ambrogio 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*.

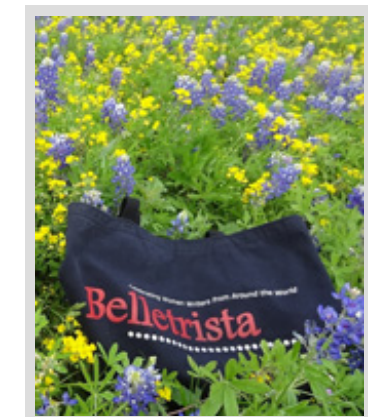
Belletrista - Issue 18

The end of 2012

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Reviews

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THE MURDER OF HALLAND

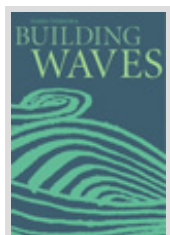
Pia Juul

Translated from the Danish by Martin Aitken

With a glut of Scandinavian crime fiction entering English translation it would be easy to overlook Pia Juul's *The Murder of Halland*. However, Juul is one of Denmark's most celebrated literary writers, and her foray into 'Scandi Crime' is a surprising subversion of the genre, rather than an attempt to jump on a bandwagon.

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Reviewed by Andy Barnes



BUILDING WAVES

Taeko Tomioka

Translated from the Japanese by Louise Heal Kawai

First published in Japan almost thirty years ago and now translated into English this year, *Building Waves* is a fictional and highly symbolic look at the social changes washing over Japan in the early 1980s. These changes include women moving out of their traditional roles...

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Reviewed by Joyce Nickel

Angélica Gorodischer



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



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DROWNED

Therese Bohman

Translated from the Swedish by Marlaine Delargy

It's high summer, and student Marina decides to take refuge from her lacklustre university studies and her dead-end relationship at her sister Stella's home in the Swedish countryside.

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Reviewed by Rachel Hayes



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



FAREWELL: A MANSION IN OCCUPIED ISTANBUL

Ayse Kulin

Translated from the Turkish by Kenneth J. Dakan

Like the story of the blind men and an elephant, the answer to the question, "What type of book is this?" will depend greatly upon your perspective. Some might describe *Farewell* as an adventure set during the Turkish War of Independence. Kamal is a radical supporter of

...

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Reviewed by Tad Deffler

Uzma Aslam Khan



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.



Links We Like





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 waking world kept close and permeable...

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Reviewed by Tim Jones

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