

# 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 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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### PEDRA CANGA

*Tereza Albues*

*Translated from the Portuguese by Clifford E. Landers*

Pedra Canga, the eponymous fictional village, lies in a remote part of Brazil. It is dominated by the Manguairal, a stone estate separated from the village by walls topped with barbed wire and broken glass on three sides, and the Saranzal River full of snakes and alligators on the fourth.

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**Reviewed by Jean Hughes Raber**

## Angélica Gorodischer



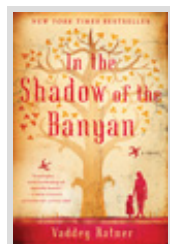
The noted and versatile Argentinian author has a newly translated novel forthcoming in February. Read an excerpt of *Trafalgar*.



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### 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 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**



## 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**



## DAUGHTER OF SILENCE

**Manuela Fingueret**

*Translated from the Spanish by Darrell B. Lockhart*

A caste of murderers. The Nazis gassed, starved, humiliated. Here they insult, torture, rape. Caste of murderers....Am I here or there?

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Reviewed by **Andy Barnes**

## 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





## **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**



## **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**

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