

# Irma Voth Miriam Toews

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Summer of My Amazing Luck  
Miriam Toews 2010-01-08 A  
Novel by the Governor  
General's Literary  
Award-winning author of A  
Complicated Kindness Lucy  
Van Alstyne always thought

she'd grow up to become a  
forest ranger. Instead, at the  
age of eighteen, she's found  
herself with quite a different job  
title: Single Mother on the Dole.  
As for the father of her nine-  
month-old son, Dillinger, well...it  
could be any of number of

guys. At the Have-a-Life housing project—aptly nicknamed Half-a-Life by those who call it home—Lucy meets Lish, a zany and exuberant woman whose idea of fashion is a black beret with a big silver spider brooch stuck on it. Lish is the mother of four daughters, two by a man on welfare himself and twins from a one-week stand with a fire-eating busker who stole her heart—and her wallet. Living on the dole isn't a walk in the park for Lucy and Lish. Dinner almost always consists of noodles.

Transportation means pushing a crappy stroller through the rain.

Then there are the condescending welfare agents

with their dreaded surprise inspections. And just across the street is Serenity Place, another housing project with which Half-a-Life is engaged in a full-on feud. When the women aren't busy snitching on each other, they're spreading rumours—or plotting elaborate acts of revenge. In the middle of a mosquito-infested rainy season, Lish and Lucy decide to escape the craziness of Half-A-Life by taking to the road. In a van held together with coat-hangers and electrical tape and crammed to the hilt with kids and toys, they set off to Colorado in search of Lish's lost love and the father of her twins. Whether they'll find him is questionable, but the

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down-and-out adventure helps Lucy realize that this just may be the summer of her amazing luck. Miriam Toews's debut novel, *Summer of My Amazing Luck* opens our eyes to a social class rarely captured in fiction. At once hilarious and heartbreaking, it is inhabited by an unforgettable and poignant group of characters. Shortlisted for both the McNally Robinson Book of the Year Award and for the Stephen Leacock Memorial Medal for Humour, it also earned Miriam the John Hirsch Award for the Most Promising Manitoba Writer.

[The Russlander](#) Sandra Birdsell  
2011-12-14 Katherine (Katya) Vogt is now an old woman

living in Winnipeg, but the story of how she and her family came to Canada begins in Russia in 1910, on a wealthy Mennonite estate. Here they lived in a world bounded by the prosperity of their landlords and by the poverty and disgruntlement of the Russian workers who toil on the estate. But in the wake of the First World War, the tensions engulfing the country begin to intrude on the community, leading to an unspeakable act of violence. In the aftermath of that violence, and in the difficult years that follow, Katya tries to come to terms with the terrible events that befell her and her family. In

lucid, spellbinding prose,

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Birdsell vividly evokes time and place, and the unease that existed in a county on the brink of revolutionary change. The *Russländer* is a powerful and moving story of ordinary people who lived through extraordinary times.

*Social Quagmire* Benjamin W. Shirk 2012-10

**A Complicated Kindness** Miriam Toews 2019-01-15 Winner of the Governor General's Literary Award In this stunning coming-of-age novel, the award-winning author of *Women Talking* balances grief and hope in the voice of a witty, beleaguered teenager whose family is shattered by fundamentalist Christianity "Half of our family,

the better-looking half, is missing," Nomi Nickel tells us at the beginning of *A Complicated Kindness*. Left alone with her sad, peculiar father, her days are spent piecing together why her mother and sister have disappeared and contemplating her inevitable career at Happy Family Farms, a chicken slaughterhouse on the outskirts of East Village. Not the East Village in New York City where Nomi would prefer to live, but an oppressive town founded by Mennonites on the cold, flat plains of Manitoba, Canada. This darkly funny novel is the world according to the unforgettable Nomi, a bewildered and wry

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sixteen-year-old trapped in a town governed by fundamentalist religion and in the shattered remains of a family it destroyed. In Nomi's droll, refreshing voice, we're told the story of an eccentric, loving family that falls apart as each member lands on a collision course with the only community any of them have ever known. A work of fierce humor and tragedy by a writer who has taken the American market by storm, this searing, tender, comic testament to family love will break your heart. "Brilliant." —New York Times Book Review "A darkly funny and provocative novel." —O, the Oprah Magazine

*irma-voth-miriam-toews*

**Janey's Girl** Gayle Friesen 1998

A mother and daughter, Jane and Claire, decide to spend the month of August on the family farm, which raises a lot of questions for Claire about why her mother left, and about the father she has never met.

Reprint. Jr Lib Guild.

**A Complicated Kindness** Miriam

Toews 2006-02-01 Her uncle, known as The Mouth, is head of the church, responsible for the harsh laws and cruel 'shunning', yet that doesn't stop Nomi falling for the town's most unsuitable boy - Travis. In such a secretive and god-fearing community, Nomi finds it impossible to find ways to express her many and growing

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passions.

**Swing Low** Miriam Toews 2001

Recounts the story of Mel Toews, a devoted husband and father, a popular schoolteacher, and faithful member of the Mennonite church who could no longer deal with the pain and darkness of manic depression.

**Five Wives** Joan Thomas

2019-09-03 In the tradition of *The Poisonwood Bible* and *State of Wonder*, a novel set in the rainforest of Ecuador about five women left behind when their missionary husbands are killed. Based on the shocking real-life events In 1956, a small group of evangelical Christian missionaries and their families journeyed to the rainforest in

Ecuador intending to convert the Waorani, a people who had never had contact with the outside world. The plan was known as Operation Auca. After spending days dropping gifts from an aircraft, the five men in the party rashly entered the “intangible zone.” They were all killed, leaving their wives and children to fend for themselves. *Five Wives* is the fictionalized account of the real-life women who were left behind, and their struggles – with grief, with doubt, and with each other – as they continued to pursue their evangelical mission in the face of the explosion of fame that followed their husbands’ deaths.

*Five Wives* is a riveting, often  
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wrenching story of evangelism and its legacy, teeming with atmosphere and compelling characters and rich in emotional impact.

[Fight Night](#) Miriam Toews

2022-08-23 NATIONAL

BESTSELLER SHORTLISTED

FOR THE 2021 SCOTIABANK

GILLER PRIZE FINALIST FOR

THE 2021 ATWOOD GIBSON

WRITERS' TRUST FICTION

PRIZE Named a Best Book of

the Year by The Globe and Mail

□ CBC □ USA Today □ NPR A

New York Times Book Review

Editors' Choice An Amazon

Editors' Pick An Indie Next Pick

An Apple Book of the Month

One of Indigo's "Top 10 Best

Canadian Fiction Books of

2021" The beloved author of bestsellers *Women Talking*, *All*

*My Puny Sorrows*, and *A*

*Complicated Kindness* returns

with a funny, smart, headlong

rush of a novel full of wit,

flawless writing, and a tribute to

perseverance and love in an

unusual family. *Fight Night* is

told in the unforgettable voice of

Swiv, a nine-year-old living in

Toronto with her pregnant

mother, who is raising Swiv

while caring for her own elderly,

frail, yet extraordinarily lively

mother. When Swiv is expelled

from school, Grandma takes on

the role of teacher and gives

her the task of writing to Swiv's

absent father about life in the

household during the last

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trimester of the pregnancy. In turn, Swiv gives Grandma an assignment: to write a letter to "Gord," her unborn grandchild (and Swiv's soon-to-be brother or sister). "You're a small thing," Grandma writes to Gord, "and you must learn to fight." As Swiv records her thoughts and observations, *Fight Night* unspools the pain, love, laughter, and above all, will to live a good life across three generations of women in a close-knit family. But it is Swiv's exasperating, wise and irrepressible Grandma who is at the heart of this novel: someone who knows intimately what it costs to survive in this world, yet has found a way--painfully,

joyously, ferociously--to love and fight to the end, on her own terms.

**All My Puny Sorrows** Miriam

Toews 2019-10-15 From the

bestselling author of *Women*

*Talking*, a "wrenchingly honest, darkly funny novel"

(*Entertainment Weekly*). Elf and

Yoli are sisters. While on the

surface Elfrieda's life is enviable

(she's a world-renowned pianist, glamorous, wealthy, and happily

married) and Yolandia's a mess

(she's divorced and broke, with

two teenagers growing up too

quickly), they are fiercely close-

raised in a Mennonite

household and sharing the

hardship of Elf's desire to end

her life. After Elf's latest

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attempt, Yoli must quickly determine how to keep her family from falling apart while facing a profound question: what do you do for a loved one who truly wants to die? *All My Puny Sorrows* is a deeply personal story that is as much comedy as it is tragedy, a goodbye grin from the friend who taught you how to live.

**Bookclub in a Box Discusses the Novel a Complicated Kindness** Marilyn Herbert  
2006-07-01 Discusses the novel, "A Complicated Kindness".

**All We Want is Everything** Andrew F. Sullivan 2013 The debut collection of short stories by Canadian author Andrew F.

Sullivan. Includes 20 stories.

***Summer of My Amazing Luck***

Miriam Toews 1996 By the author of *Swing Low*. Welcome to Have-a-Life welfare housing project (better known as Half-a-Life). The welfare regulations are endless and the ratfink neighbours won't mind their own business, but when Lish and Lucy head to Colorado to find the fire-eater, Lucy discovers this just may be the summer of her amazing luck.

**A Boy of Good Breeding** Miriam Toews 2008-06-01 Knute is a twenty-four-year-old single mother who returns home to Algren with her daughter to look after her father Tom, who has suffered a heart attack.

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Meanwhile, Hosea Funk, a friend of Tom's and the mayor of Algren has a lot on his mind. The prime minister has promised to pay a visit to whichever town in Canada has the smallest population. Algren has held this position for some time but recent baby booms and returning families, like Knute, threaten to tip Algren over the magic 1500 . . .

**Peace Shall Destroy Many** [text (large Print)] Rudy Wiebe 1993  
Conflicts between the disciplined, non-violent dedication of the thriving Mennonite community and the threats and challenges from the war-torn world they left behind reveal a lurking violence

beneath the peaceful surface of settlement life.

A Boy of Good Breeding Miriam Toews 2014-03-06 Knute is a twenty-four-year-old single mother who returns home to Algren with her daughter to look after her father Tom, who has suffered a heart attack.

Meanwhile, Hosea Funk, a friend of Tom's and the mayor of Algren has a lot on his mind.

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Swing Low Miriam Toews

2013-08-20 One morning Mel Toews put on his coat and hat and walked out of town, prepared to die. A loving husband and father, faithful member of the Mennonite church, and immensely popular schoolteacher, he was a pillar of his close-knit community. Yet after a lifetime of struggle, he could no longer face the darkness of manic depression. With razor-sharp precision, Swing Low tells his story in his own voice, taking us deep inside the experience of despair. But it is also a funny, winsome evocation of country life: growing up on farm, courting a wife, becoming a

teacher, and rearing a happy, strong family in the midst of private torment. A humane, inspiring story of a remarkable man, father, and teacher.

Women Talking Miriam Toews

2020-03-03 National Bestseller Winner of the Brooklyn Public Library Literary Prize for Fiction Shortlisted for the Governor General's Award for Fiction Shortlisted for the Reading Women Award "This amazing, sad, shocking, but touching novel, based on a real-life event, could be right out of The Handmaid's Tale." --Margaret Atwood, on Twitter "Scorching . . . Women Talking is a wry, freewheeling novel of ideas that touches on the nature of evil,

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questions of free will, collective responsibility, cultural determinism, and, above all, forgiveness." --New York Times Book Review, Editor's Choice

One evening, eight Mennonite women climb into a hay loft to conduct a secret meeting. For the past two years, each of these women, and more than a hundred other girls in their colony, has been repeatedly violated in the night by demons coming to punish them for their sins. Now that the women have learned they were in fact drugged and attacked by a group of men from their own community, they are determined to protect themselves and their daughters from future harm.

While the men of the colony are off in the city, attempting to raise enough money to bail out the rapists and bring them home, these women—all illiterate, without any knowledge of the world outside their community and unable even to speak the language of the country they live in—have very little time to make a choice: Should they stay in the only world they've ever known or should they dare to escape? Based on real events and told through the “minutes” of the women's all-female symposium, Toews's masterful novel uses wry, politically engaged humor to relate this tale of women claiming their own power to

decide. Named a Best Book of the Year By THE NEW YORK TIMES BOOK REVIEW (Notable Books of the Year) \* NPR.ORG\* THE WASHINGTON POST \* REAL SIMPLE \* THE NEW YORK TIMES (PARUL SEHGAL'S TOP BOOKS OF THE YEAR) \* SLATE \* STAR TRIBUNE (MINNEAPOLIS-ST. PAUL) \* LITHUB \* AUSTIN CHRONICLE \* GOOP\* ELECTRIC LITERATURE \* KIRKUS REVIEWS \* JEZEBEL \* BUSTLE \* PUBLISHERS WEEKLY \* TIME\* LIBRARY JOURNAL \* THE AV CLUB \* MASHABLE \* VOX \*

Irma Voth Miriam Toews  
2011-10 The stifling, reclusive

life of nineteen-year-old Irma Voth, recently married and more recently deserted, is turned on its head when a film crew moves in to make a movie about the strict religious community in which she and her family live.

**Swing Low** Miriam Toews

2017-09-05 After her father took his own life in 1998, Miriam Toews decided to face her confusion and pain straight on. In writing her father's memoir, she was motivated by two primary goals: For her own sake, she needed to understand, or at least accept, her father's final decision. For her father's sake, she needed to honour him, to elucidate his

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life and to demonstrate its worth. Apart from its brief prologue and epilogue, *Swing Low* is written entirely from Mel Toews's perspective. Miriam Toews has her father tell his story from bed as he waits in a Steinbach hospital to be transferred to a psychiatric facility in Winnipeg. Mel turns to writing to make sense of his condition, to review his life in the hope of seeing it more clearly. He remembers himself as an anxious child, the son of a despondent father and an alcoholic mother, who never once made him feel loved. At seventeen he was diagnosed with manic depression (now known as bipolar disorder). His

psychiatrist's predictions were grim: Mel shouldn't count on marrying, starting a family or holding down a job. With great courage and determination, Mel went on to do all three: he married his childhood sweetheart, had two happy daughters and was a highly respected and beloved teacher for forty years. Although Mel was able to keep his disorder hidden from the community, his family frequently witnessed his unravelling. Over the years this schism between his public and private life grew wider. An outgoing and tireless trailblazer at school, he often collapsed into silence and despair at home. Ironically, in trying to win

his family's love through hard work and accomplishments, he deprived them of what they yearned for most: his presence, his voice. Once he retired from teaching – "the daily ritual of stepping outside himself" – Mel lost his creative outlet and, with it, his hope. In the *Globe and Mail*, author Moira Farr described *Swing Low* as "audacious, original and profoundly moving." She added: "Getting into the head of your own father – your own largely silent, mentally ill father, who killed himself – has to be a kind of literary high-wire act that few would dare to try.... Healing is a likely outcome of a book imbued with the righteous

anger, compassion and humanity of *Swing Low*." *Summer of My Amazing Luck* Miriam Toews 2019-04-09 "[A] memorable portrait of a struggling young person who finds unexpected resilience and peace . . . Hilarious, heartbreaking, and poignant." –Booklist Miriam Toews welcomes her readers to the *Have-a-Life* housing project (better known as *Half-a-Life*). The welfare regulations are endless and the rate-fink neighbors won't mind their own business. Lucy Von Alstyne sends fictitious letters to her friend Alicia, pretending to be the father of Alicia's twins.

When the two mothers and their

five children set off on a journey to find him, facing along the way the complications of living in poverty and raising fatherless children, Lucy discovers this just may be the summer of her amazing luck.

*Irma Voth* Miriam Toews

2011-06-02 The stifling, reclusive life of nineteen-year-old Irma Voth, recently married and more recently deserted, is turned on its head when a film crew moves in to make a movie about the strict religious community in which she and her family live. She is drawn to the creative passion and warmth of their world but her domineering father is determined to keep her from it

at all costs. The confrontation between them sets her on an irrevocable path towards something that feels like freedom as she and her young sister, Aggie, wise beyond her teenage years, flee to the city, upheld only by their love for each other and their smart wit, even as they begin to understand the tragedy that has their family in its grip. Irma Voth delves into the complicated factors that set us on the road to self-discovery and how we can sometimes find the strength to endure the really hard things that happen. It also asks that most difficult of questions: How do we forgive? And most importantly, how do we forgive

ourselves?The new novel from Miriam Toews returns to the subject of a Mennonite community, so powerfully rendered in her award-winning, number-one bestseller *A Complicated Kindness*.

*Invisible Allies* Aleksandr Isaevich Solzhenitsyn

2014-10-13 After his expulsion from Russia in 1974 for undermining the Communist regime, Solzhenitsyn wrote a secret record, while it was still fresh in his mind, of the courageous efforts of people who hid his writings and smuggled them to the West. Before the fall of Communism he could not have published *Invisible Allies* in conjunction

with his memoir *The Oak and the Calf* without putting those friends in jeopardy. Now the facts may be revealed in this intimate account of the network of individuals who risked life and liberty to ensure that his works were concealed, circulated in "samizdat", and exported via illicit channels.

These conspirators, often unknown to one another, shared a devotion to the dissident writer's work and a hatred of an oppressive regime of censorship and denunciation. The circle was varied enough to include scholars and fellow writers, and also elderly babushkas who acted as couriers. With tenderness,

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respect and humour, Solzhenitsyn speaks of these partners in conspiracy: the women who typed copies of his works under the noses of prying neighbours; the journalists and diplomats who covertly carried microfilms across borders; the friends who hid various drafts of his works from the vigilance of the secret police.

### **The Drawings of Annibale**

**Carracci** Daniele Benati 2000  
Widely regarded as one of the greatest draughtsmen of all time, Annibale Carracci (1560-1609) is celebrated for his naturalism. Born in a time when the elegant deformations and exaggerations of Italian mannerism were still in vogue,

Carracci turned instead to nature as his principal inspiration. Much attuned to the everyday world around him, he took as much interest in studying a man bowling, a butcher weighing a piece of meat, or a street entertainer with his monkey as he did in the preparatory studies for his grand mythological and religious paintings. The fruit of this intensive study is abundantly evident in his magnificent drawings of the human figure - from his early works in Bologna to those made in preparation for his greatest commission, the decoration of the Farnese Gallery in Rome. This stunning publication brings together a

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plethora of Carracci's masterful drawings to provide a unique insight into the technique and skill of one of the premier artists of his time.

### **Between Two Millstones, Book**

**2 Aleksandr Solzhenitsyn**

2020-11-15 This compelling

account concludes Nobel

Prize-winner Aleksandr

Solzhenitsyn's literary memoirs

of his years in the West after

his forced exile from the USSR

following the publication of The

Gulag Archipelago. The book

reflects both the pain of

separation from his Russian

homeland and the chasm of

miscomprehension between him

and Western opinion makers. In

Between Two Millstones,

Solzhenitsyn likens his position to that of a grain that becomes lodged between two massive stones, each grinding away—the Soviet Communist power with its propaganda machine on the one hand and the Western establishment with its mainstream media on the other.

Book 2 picks up the story of

Solzhenitsyn's remarkable life

after the raucous publicity over

his 1978 Harvard Address has

died down. The author parries

attacks from the Soviet state

(and its many fellow-travelers in

the Western press) as well as

from recent émigrés who,

according to Solzhenitsyn,

defame Russian culture, history,

and religion. He shares his

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unvarnished view of several infamous episodes, such as a sabotaged meeting with Ronald Reagan, aborted Senate hearings regarding Radio Liberty, and Gorbachev's protracted refusal to allow The Gulag Archipelago to be published back home. There is also a captivating chapter detailing his trips to Japan, Taiwan, and Great Britain, including meetings with Margaret Thatcher and Prince Charles and Princess Diana. Meanwhile, the central themes of Book 1 course through this volume, too—the immense artistic quandary of fashioning The Red Wheel, staunch Western hostility to the

historical and future Russia (and how much can, or should, the author do about it), and the challenges of raising his three sons in the language and spirit of Russia while cut off from the homeland in a remote corner of rural New England. The book concludes in 1994, as Solzhenitsyn bids farewell to the West in a valedictory series of speeches and meetings with world leaders, including John Paul II, and prepares at last to return home with his beloved wife Natalia, full of misgivings about what use he can be in the first chaotic years of post-Communist Russia, but never wavering in his conviction that, in the long run, his books would

speak, influence, and convince.

This vibrant, faithful, and long-awaited first English translation of *Between Two Millstones*, Book 2, will fascinate Solzhenitsyn's many admirers, as well as those interested in twentieth-century history, Russian history, and literature in general.

**Mi chiamo Irma Voth** Miriam Toews 2012

**A Complicated Kindness** Miriam Toews 2004 Doomed to work at the Happy Family Farm, a chicken slaughterhouse in a town run by religious fundamentalists, sixteen-year-old Nomi Nickel nevertheless manages to bear witness to the dissolution of her family with a

dark, sly wit.

*A Complicated Kindness* Miriam Toews 2014-04-03 A work of fierce originality and brilliance, Miriam Toews' novel explores the ties that bind families together and the forces that tear them apart. It is the world according to Nomi Nickel, a heartbreakingly bewildered and wry young woman trapped in a small Mennonite town that seeks to set her on the path to righteousness and smother her at the same time. 'Half of our family, the better-looking half, is missing,' Nomi tells us at the beginning of *A Complicated Kindness*. Left alone with her father Ray, her days are spent piecing together the reasons

her mother Trudie and her sister Tash have gone missing, and trying to figure out what she can do to avoid a career at Happy Family Farms, a chicken abattoir on the outskirts of East Village - not the neighbourhood in Manhattan where Nomi most wants to live but the small town in southern Manitoba. East Village is ministered by Hans, Nomi's pious uncle, otherwise known as The Mouth. As Nomi gets to the bottom of the truth behind her mother's and sister's disappearances, she finds herself on a direct collision course with her uncle and the only community she has ever known. In this funny, compassionate and moving

novel, Miriam Toews has created a character who will stay in the hearts of readers long after they've put the book down.

**Women Talking** Miriam Toews  
2022-12-06 Now a Major Motion Picture from Director Sarah Polley. Starring Frances McDormand, Rooney Mara, Ben Whishaw, Jessie Buckley, and Claire Foy. INTERNATIONAL BESTSELLER "This amazing, sad, shocking, but touching novel, based on a real-life event, could be right out of *The Handmaid's Tale*." -Margaret Atwood, on Twitter "Scorching . . . a wry, freewheeling novel of ideas that touches on the nature of evil, questions of free

will, collective responsibility, cultural determinism, and, above all, forgiveness." -New York Times Book Review, Editors' Choice One evening, eight Mennonite women climb into a hay loft to conduct a secret meeting. For the past two years, each of these women, and more than a hundred other girls in their colony, has been repeatedly violated in the night by demons coming to punish them for their sins. Now that the women have learned they were in fact drugged and attacked by a group of men from their own community, they are determined to protect themselves and their daughters from future harm.

While the men of the colony are off in the city, attempting to raise enough money to bail out the rapists and bring them home, these women—all illiterate, without any knowledge of the world outside their community and unable even to speak the language of the country they live in—have very little time to make a choice: Should they stay in the only world they've ever known or should they dare to escape? Based on real events and told through the “minutes” of the women's all-female symposium, Toews's masterful novel uses wry, politically engaged humor to relate this tale of women claiming their own power to

decide.

**Fight Night Miriam Toews**

2022-03-08 'I doubt I'll read a

better novel.' Big Issue 'Go

Grandma Elvira!' Margaret

Atwood 'Wickedly funny and

fearlessly honest.' The New

Yorker 'Glorious.' Sarah Moss

'A love letter to our brave and

brilliant matriarchs.' Glamour

'Miriam Toews is a genius.' R.

O. Kwon 'As compelling and

hilarious and indecently sad as

life can be.' Financial Times

\_\_\_\_\_ You are a small

thing, and you must learn to

fight. Swiv has taken her

grandmother's advice too

literally. Now she's at home,

suspended from school. Mom is

pregnant and preoccupied - and

so Swiv is in the older woman's

charge, receiving a very

different form of education from

a teacher with a style all her

own. Grandma likes her stories

fast, troublesome and funny.

She's known the very worst that

life can throw at you - and has

met it every time with a wild,

unnamable spirit, fighting for joy

and independence every step of

the way. But will maths lessons

based on Amish jigsaws and

classes on How to Dig a Winter

Grave inspire the same fire in

Swiv, and ensure it never goes

out? Time is running short.

Grandma's health is failing, the

baby is on the way, as a family

of three extraordinary women

prepare to face life's great

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changes together. Poignant, hilarious and deeply moving, *Fight Night* is a girl's love letter to the women raising her and a tribute to one family's fighting spirit.

[The Flying Troutmans](#) Miriam Toews 2014-03-06 Meet the Troutmans. Hattie is living in Paris, city of romance, but has just been dumped by her boyfriend. Min, her sister back in Canada, is going through a particularly dark period. And Min's two kids, Logan and Thebes, are not talking and talking way too much, respectively. When Hattie receives a phone call from eleven-year-old Thebes, begging her to return to

Canada, she arrives home to find Min on her way to a psychiatric ward, and becomes responsible for her niece and nephew. Realising that she is way out of her league, Hattie hatches a plan to find the kids' long-lost father. With only the most tenuous lead to go on, she piles Logan and Thebes into the family van, and they head south . . .

*Women Talking* Miriam Toews 2018-08-28 Between 2005 and 2009, in a remote religious Mennonite colony, over a hundred girls and women were knocked unconscious and raped, often repeatedly, by what many thought were ghosts or demons, as a punishment for

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their sins. As the women tentatively began to share the details of the attacks-waking up sore and bleeding and not understanding why-their stories were chalked up to 'wild female imagination.' Women Talking is an imagined response to these real events. Eight women, all illiterate, without any knowledge of the world outside their colony and unable even to speak the language of the country they live in, meet secretly in a hayloft with the intention of making a decision about how to protect themselves and their daughters from future harm. They have two days to make a plan, while the men of the colony are away in the city attempting to raise

enough money to bail out the rapists (not ghosts as it turns out but local men) and bring them home. How should we live? How should we love? How should we treat one another? How should we organise our societies? These are questions the women in Women Talking ask one another-and Miriam Toews makes them the questions we must all ask ourselves.

**Once Removed** Andrew Unger  
2020-09-15 Timothy Heppner is a frustrated ghostwriter struggling to make ends meet in Edenfeld, a small Mennonite community bulldozing its way towards modernity--if it's old, it has to go!

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Preservation Society but desperate to keep his job with the mayor's Parks and "Wreck" department, Timothy finds himself in an awkward position when he is hired to write an updated version of the town's history book. Fuelled by two warring agendas, the threat of personal bankruptcy, and a good deal of fried bologna, Timothy must find his own voice to tell the one story that could make--or break--him. Honest and laugh-out-loud funny, *Once Removed* explores the real costs of "progress" in this new Mennonite classic.

Women Talking \* Film Tie In \*

TOEWS M 2022-11-17

*The Bear* Claire Cameron

*irma-voth-miriam-toews*

2014-02-13 Longlisted for the Women's Fiction Prize *Mummy* never yells. Mostly not ever. Except sometimes. Anna is five. Her little brother, Stick, is almost three. They are camping with their parents in Algonquin Park, in three thousand square miles of wilderness. It's the perfect family trip. But then Anna awakes in the night to the sound of something moving in the shadows. Her father is terrified. Her mother is screaming. Then, silence. Alone in the woods, it is Anna who has to look after Stick, battling hunger and the elements to stay alive. Narrated by Anna, this is white-knuckle storytelling that captures the fear, wonder

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and bewilderment of our worst nightmares - and the power of one girl's enduring love for her family.

*Alone in the Classroom*

Elizabeth Hay 2012-08-30 In a small prairie school in 1929, Connie Flood helps a backward student, Michael Graves, learn how to read. Observing them and darkening their lives is the principal, Parley Burns, whose strange behaviour culminates in an attack so disturbing its repercussions continue to the present day. Connie's niece, Anne, tells the story. Impelled by curiosity about her dynamic, adventurous aunt and her more conventional mother, she revisits Connie's past and her

mother's broken childhood. In the process she unravels the enigma of Parley Burns and the mysterious, and unrelated, deaths of two young girls.

*Menno-Nightcaps* S. L. Klassen

2021-09-06 A satirical cocktail book featuring seventy-seven cocktail recipes accompanied by arcane trivia on Mennonite history, faith, and cultural practices. At last, you think, a book of cocktails that pairs punny drinks with Mennonite history! Yes, cocktail enthusiast and author of the popular Drunken Mennonite blog Sherri Klassen is here to bring some Low German love to your bar cart. Drinks like Brandy

Anabaptist, Migratarita, Thrift

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Store Sour, and Pimm’s Cape Dress are served up with arcane trivia on Mennonite history, faith, and cultural practices. Arranged by theme, the book opens with drinks inspired by the Anabaptists of sixteenth-century Europe (Bloody Martyr, anyone?), before moving on to religious beliefs and practices (a little like going to a bar after class in Seminary, but without actually going to class). The third chapter toasts the Mennonite history of migration (Old Piña Colony), and the fourth is all about the trappings of Mennonite cultural identity (Singalong Sling). With seventy-seven recipes, ripping satire,

comical illustrations, a cocktails-to-mocktails chapter for the teetotalers, and instructions on scaling up for barn-raising and funerals, it’s just the thing for the Mennonite, Menno-adjacent, or merely Menno-curious home mixologist.

*A Boy of Good Breeding* Miriam Toews 2019-03-12 Winner of the McNally Robinson Book of the Year Award “Tonic for the spirit: a charming, deeply moving, unerringly human story, perfectly shaped and beautifully told.” –The Globe and Mail Life in Winnipeg didn’t go as planned for Knute and her daughter. But living back in Algren with her parents and working for the longtime mayor,

Hosea Funk, has its own challenges: Knute finds herself mixed up with Hosea's attempts to achieve his dream of meeting the Prime Minister—even if that means keeping the town's population at an even 1,500. Bringing to life small-town Canada and all its larger-than-life characters, *A Boy of Good Breeding* is a big-hearted, hilarious novel about finding out where you belong.

[Cue for Treason](#) Geoffrey Trease 2009-04-02 Fleeing from the evil Sir Philip Morton, Peter Brownrigg finds himself on the wrong side of the law. On the run to London he meets Kit and the two decide to stick together.

But a chance discovery endangers their lives and soon Peter is deep in murderous plots, secrets and even treason. Set in the turbulent days of Elizabeth I, this classic story of danger and intrigue conjures up a world of mystery, twists and turns and thrilling action.

*All My Puny Sorrows* Miriam Toews 2014-06-03 Miram Toews's *All My Puny Sorrows* - Sunday Times Top Choice Summer Read Elf and Yoli are two smart, loving sisters. Elf is a world-renowned pianist, glamorous, wealthy, happily married: she wants to die. Yoli is divorced, broke, sleeping with the wrong men: she desperately wants to keep her older sister

alive. When Elf's latest suicide attempt leaves her hospitalised weeks before her highly anticipated world tour, Yoli is forced to confront the impossible question of whether it is better to let a loved one go. Miriam Toews's *All My Puny Sorrows*, at once tender and unquiet, offers a profound reflection on the limits of love, and the sometimes unimaginable challenges we experience when childhood becomes a new country of adult commitments and

responsibilities. 'The novel she has written - so exquisitely that you'll want to savour every word - reads as if it has been wrenched from her heart.' Christina Patterson, *Sunday Times* '[Miriam Toews] has produced a masterly book of such precise dignity. It is, also against all the odds, at times a desperately humorous novel.' *Daily Mail* 'Toews takes her place alongside Alice Munro, Robertson Davies, Margaret Atwood and Mordicai Richler as the loveliest quintet of Canadian writing.' *Los Angeles Times*