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LITERARY FICTION CATALOGUE
MAITE SALORD

The Country on the Other Shore

A story of love and survival between two continents.

A German plane that has just bombed the north coast of Africa crashes off the southeastern coast of Minorca. Meanwhile in the city of Algiers, Alfred Gold and his grandson Daniel, Jews who have left France fleeing the Nazis, open a tailor shop. When an elegant French settler, Michel Bisset, who runs the most luxurious restaurant in the Algerian capital—the Café de Paris—is their first customer, it gives them a sliver of hope. At the restaurant, young Daniel Gold meets Omar, a veteran of the French troops, and Isabel, a girl from Fort de l’Eau, a town in the Bay of Algiers founded and inhabited by Minorcans. Fifty years later, on the streets of Barcelona, Marta and Hanna meet and begin a relationship in which their secrets and family histories will weigh heavily. The intersection of the two stories weaves a tapestry showing that, despite the ravages of war, there are those who cling to love and solidarity.

In December 2021

Maité Salord (Ciutadella de Menorca, 1965) is a professor and member of the Minorcan Studies Institute. From 2011 to 2021, she was a minister of the Council of Minorca, which she chaired from 2015 to 2017. She is the author of La Mort de l’Ànima (2007), finalist of the Sant Jordi prize. For the novel L’alè de les cendres (2014) she collected the stories of those defeated in 1939 in the Balearic Islands.
LOLITA BOSCH

Take Me

A shocking novel based on a true story. The story of Roy and of all those who’ve disappeared in Mexico.

Today, in Mexico, 23 people disappeared. Yes, even in the 21st century, every day twenty-three young people are kidnapped because of drug trafficking. One of those missing is Roy Rivera. On an early January morning, some men dressed in police uniforms took him from his home, where he lived with his mother and younger brother. "Which one is older?" they asked. Their mother begged they take her instead, and spare her children, who were still young and hopeful, with friends, loves, lives to live. But Roy said, "Take me. I'm the older brother."

Lolita Bosch focuses on a real case to expose a pressing current issue: the disappearances in Mexico and their families' struggles to bring them home.

Raw, tender, poetic and lucid, Take Me is an exposé in novel format, written with great sensitivity. It appeals directly to readers and makes us open our eyes to a real current situation: Roy is one of the more than 85,000 young people disappeared in recent years because of drug trafficking.

In a style that straddles fiction, testimony, and reportage, Lolita Bosch returns with her poetic, concise and powerful style.

VICENÇ VILLATORO

Train to Maratea

A powerful little novel about returning home.

While Naples is partially confined by a cholera epidemic, an older man returns to the hometown he left thirty years ago, during the war, to join the partisans. He returns to bid farewell to life, after not wanting to return since the day he emigrated, the day after the war was won. On his last train journey to Maratea, his village, he coincides with a university professor; with her he shares the final stretch of his journey and the essential memories of his life, amid the discomfort at the official history and the memories of his childhood; amid his strong desire to live and the inevitable proximity of death.

JORDI AMAT

Overcoming Fear.
The Life of Gabriel Ferrater

A narrative biography, in Jordi Amat’s explosive style, of Gabriel Ferrater, an essential Catalan intellectual of the 60s and 70s, published now on the centenary of Ferrater’s birth.

Jordi Amat aspires to get to the bottom of Gabriel Ferrater’s character through a narrative biography revealing unpublished documents and an accurate portrayal that doesn’t shy away from the darkness of one of the most brilliant figures in the history of Catalan culture.

Lolita Bosch (Barcelona, 1970) is a novelist. She also edits anthologies, does research and journalism, and writes non-fiction and books for children and teenagers. Her work has been translated into numerous languages, received prestigious awards, been adapted to film, dance, and theater. Her many books include Qui vam ser, La família del meu pare, Tres històries europees and La ràbia.

Vicenç Villatoro (Terrassa, 1957) is a writer and journalist. He has published novels, literary diaries, poetry, and essays. He has won most of the awards in Catalan literature, such as the Sant Jordi for Evangelí gris, the Ciutat de Palma for La claror del juliol and the Prudenci Bertranra for La ciutat del fum. His recent novels have inspired great interest among critics and audiences: Un home que se’n va (2014) and El retorn dels Basut (2016).

Jordi Amat (Barcelona, 1978) is a philologist and writer. In 2007 he won the Casa de América Essay Award for Las voces del diálogo. Poesía y política en el medio siglo and in 2016 he won the Comillas Prize for History, Biography and Memoir with La primavera de Múnich. Esperanza y fracaso de una transición democrática. He has also written the controversial Largo proceso, amargo sueño and El hijo del chófer.
ANTONI CRUANYES

The Valley of Light

"This book is reminiscent of my grandfather's life, which is the story of a time, a country."

Toni Cruanyes moves away from his more journalistic side to offer us an intimate, lucid and precise portrait. The Valley of Light, a village of reeds, wind and mud, awakens to modernity through the experiences with which a peasant family makes its way into a world that is transforming very quickly. A true story but written like a novel, with a high dramatic and evocative content.

Josep Pla Award 2022


SERGI BELBEL

Killing Seventeen

The confession of someone who takes justice into their own hands.

Ernest Calvo's parents moved from southern Spain to Catalonia and he was born and grew up in an industrial city in the Valles Occidental, where he totally assimilated. As he recounts, with nostalgia and humor, his childhood and teenage years – during which he discovers a culture and a language that both fascinates and unsettles him – he confesses to a series of murders committed in the period between the coup d'etat in February 1981 and the '92 Barcelona Olympic Games.

FRANCESC SERÈS

The House Of Fire

With The House of Fire, Francesc Serés brings up to date one of the great themes in literature: a man alone with no obligations arrives, like a castaway, to an unknown place, a true "vale of tears," isolated, indistinct, full of buried tensions. He is a teacher, and he soon realizes that, while he is trying to teach newly arrived children to read and write, he too is in a kind of classroom, a true trial by fire where he will have to do everything to adapt. He will also have to learn to "read" the world he has just come to know, to treat with attention and respect the people and the landscapes they've inhabited since time immemorial, to decipher the signs that make possible the many lives of others and their infinite stories, to unfold the layers of reality that conceal truths that always leave their trace.

Winner of the Proa Novel Prize and the Catalan's Booksellers Prize 2021.

Clara Queralto is a writer and philologist specializing in literary theory. She is a professor of Catalan language and literature.

CLARA QUERALTÓ

I’ll Call You R.

Lucía is a girl who leaves the village where her mother lives – a mother she can't get along with – and tries to make her way in the big city. There she makes friends with Talita, a nursing student. Together, they share their joys, upssets, and hopes. Lucía works as a waitress and cook in restaurants trying to make a living. But everything takes a turn when she gets pregnant by Horacio, a young intellectual with iconoclastic ideas who will soon abandon her. Solitude, economic strife, and unrequited love make her life a big question mark, but meeting again with a person from her past will make her look at things from a different perspective.

A brave debut about big cities, anonymity, fleeting relationships, economic precariousness, and young motherhood from an uncompromising, emotional present-day perspective.

"An author of extreme situations."

Diari Ara

Clara Queralto

Raw Materials, Russian Rales, and The Skin of the Frontier. He has won a number of prizes, among them the National Literature Prize and the City of Barcelona Prize.

English sample available

Toni Cruanyes

Sergi Belbel is a writer, translator, and theater director. He has directed productions of classic and contemporary authors and written scripts for film and television. Among his many awards are the Ignasi Iglesias (1987), the National Prize for Catalan Literature (1993-95), the Born Prize (1995), the National Prize for Dramatic Literature from the Ministry of Culture (1996), the Molière Prize for best comedic work for Après la pluie (1999), the Catalan National Theater Prize (2000), the Max Prize for international projection (2002), and several Butaca Awards.

Clara Queralto

Francesc Serés has published the trilogy of novels Of Women and Marble, the short story collections The Force of Gravity, Russian Rules, and Biting the Apple, and the nonfiction works Raw Materials and The Skin of the Frontier. He has won a number of prizes, among them the National Literature Prize and the City of Barcelona Prize.
TERESA COLOM

She is a poet and author from Andorra. She holds a degree in Economics from the Universitat Pompeu Fabra. She has published six poetry compilations so far and she is winner of the Miquel Martí i Pol Prize. She is named an 2009 FNAC Talent with *My mother was wondering about death* (Pagès, 2012). In 2010 she debuted *32 glasses*, a poetic/theatrical stage production.

*Miss Keaton and Other Beasts*, her first work of fiction, was awarded with the prestigious prize Maria Àngels Anglada (some other writers awarded with this prize in the past have been Quim Monzó, Carme Riera and Sergi Pàmies).

> “In Teresa Colom's stories, life is hard, animalistic, but with moments of beauty, little details that salvage existence. Teresa Colom isn't some delicate poetess: she is a storyteller, and a brutal one.”

*Diari Ara* (Andorra)

> “She makes her fiction debut with these five interlaced stories, fantastical in tone and with Gothic notes, reminiscent of Mary Shelley.”

*Diari Bon Dia* (Andorra)

**Winner of the 2016 Maria Àngels Anglada Prize for the book Miss Keaton And Other Beasts.**

**Miss Keaton And Other Beasts**

Set in an unspecified Gothic period and written with an exquisite lyricism, the fantastical and the everyday converge in these five interconnected stories. With the trigger of the birth of a baby, Teresa Colom creates an imaginary world, sometimes cruel, but full of tenderness and humour. Colom’s well-crafted, lyrical prose looks unflinchingly and tenderly at our longing to be parents, at our cruelty and our blinding love, at our obsessions and nightmares. Above all, these enigmatic tales remind us of the richness that those who are different bring to our world.

> “Birth and death are the central topics of five darkly evocative short stories from Teresa Colom, which is Tim Burton crossed with the Brothers Grimm.”

*The Guardian.*

**Consciousness**

In a world where humanity has had to reorganize to survive after an ecological catastrophe, it is now possible to buy immortality: all you have to do is upload the consciousness of a dead person to a computer system. Laura Verns, terminally ill, decides to purchase one of these “extended lives” before dying.

Twenty years later, after her body has died, Laura’s virtual life is threatened, and she will have to look deep into her memories to see what it is that’s threatening her.

> Blade runner, I, Robot, 2001... Science fiction has often looked at the question of what would happen if machines became human. But what would happen if the mind of a human was transplanted into a machine?

“A ground-breaking novel. A book that you can recommend with a mouth full of praise.”

*Julià Guillamón, La Vanguardia.*

**Consciousness**

**La Huerta Grande (Spain), Shanghai 99 (simplified Chinese), Jacqueline Chambon (France).**
MARTÍ DOMÍNGUEZ

The Spirit Of The Times

A major novel that recreates the life of an Austrian scientist who put himself at the service of the Nazis and won the 1973 Nobel Prize.

The spirit of the times led an Austrian doctor to become interested in the development of Darwinist theories. The spirit of the times led him to apply studies of animal behavior to the progress of the human species. The spirit of the times made him place his research at the service of politics. The spirit of the times made him a mainstay of the theories underlying the Nazis’ deeds. The spirit of the times took him to the Eastern Front in the war against the Russians. The spirit of the times didn’t keep this Nazi scientist from winning the Nobel Prize in Medicine at the beginning of the 1970s.

A novel that reflects on the most unnerving darkness of human nature.

Through these “false” memoirs, the main character confesses the barbaric events of the holocaust. There are real characters too: professors, academics, doctors, the military service and other implicates.

Winner of the Òmnium Prize for Best Novel of the Year.

“Martí Domínguez narrates in The Harvest the wild side of the human being […] A passionate adventure, with blood pounding and revenge”

La Vanguardia

“In The Harvest Mari Domínguez creates small verbal jewels of dazzling plasticity”

El País

“A very powerful text”

Núvol

The Harvest

A boy who grows up in a mountain village in the 1950s tells the story of his family, victims of the fight between the guerrillas of the maquis and the Spanish Police.

The Harvest takes place in a village of scattered farmhouses, in inland Spain during the 40s and 50s. It is a wooded area frequented by maquis guerrillas, who have the material and sentimental complicity of the farm’s daughter, Teresa, and the reluctance of her mother, who has seen her husband fall victim to the Spanish Police. The little son is the narrator of the story, who discovers the world in a context full of secrets and violence. One of the guerrillas in the maquis, who is in love with Teresa, is also a confidant of the Police. This will lead to some misunderstandings and some shootings. The novel follows the evolution of the child and his family, divided and shaken by the struggles between guerrillas and guards, in a Valencian mountain village.

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WOMEN’S FICTION CATALOGUE
**CARE SANTOS**

Care Santos is an author and literary critic. She has written ten novels, among them *Closed Rooms* (2011) – which was adapted for television – *The Air You Breathe* (2013), *Longing for Chocolate* (2014, winner of the Ramon Llull Prize), *Blue Diamond* (2015) and *Half Life*, which won the Premio Nadal in 2017. Her work has been translated into more than twenty languages, including English, German, French, Swedish, Italian, and Dutch.

**MODERN WOMEN**

Care Santos creates characters full of strength and contrasts, and she is known to be a master portrait writer of modern women.

**FAMILY**

Care Santos manages to reveal the depth of its roots and of all the individuals who compose it: their mistakes, judgments, weaknesses or fragilities among others.

**AWARDS**

- 2007 Finalist of Primavera de Novela Award
- 2014 Ramon Llull Prize for *Desire for Chocolate*
- 2017 Nadal Prize for *Half Life*

**TOPICS**

Care Santos's novels have a clear bookclub dimension that makes them stand out: love stories are important, but they are not the centre of the plot. Instead, her novels deal with real and day-to-day issues: maternity; economic, existential and matrimonial crisis, or stories from the past, among others.

**WOMEN’S FICTION**

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**Closed Rooms**

A family saga, a crime novel that transports us to an era when Barcelona was embracing modernity.

In the tumultuous and fascinating Barcelona of the modernist era, the granddaughter of the famous painter Amadeo Lax has asked for his family home be converted into a museum. And so the matriarch of one of the most prestigious bloodlines in the city prepares to move to her new residence, a gorgeous palace bordering what would soon become the storied Passeig de Gràcia. But just as renovation work in the old dwelling begins, a worker discovers a cabinet hidden beneath a fresco, and in it, the dead body of a woman. Who is she?

Violeta, the last of the line, struggles to unravel the secrets of her illustrious ancestors. She plunges into the shadowy past of one of the most eminent families in Barcelona, which has been witness to numerous political, economic, and cultural revolutions from the end of the nineteenth century to the middle of the twentieth.

The Lax family hides a terrible secret.

**Half Life**

Five friends, a night full of secrets and retribution, thirty years of memories, and a dinner that brings forgiveness.

During the summer of 1950, five teenage girls at a convent school play truth-or-dare together for the last time—the garb game. Two of them, the Viñó twins, are about to set forth on a new life. It’s a special occasion and they know it, but they can’t imagine that a cruel promise will wind up marking their lives forever. The girls lose sight of each other and take different roads: Marta becomes a celebrated cook book author, Olga loses thirty kilos, Nina finds a mysterious new boyfriend, Lola gets pregnant at forty-five and loses her husband, and Júlia becomes the first female member of congress in the newborn Spanish democracy.

After thirty-one years without seeing each other, they meet one night to have dinner in Marta’s new restaurant, Half Life. There they will resume their game of truth-or-dare. Each one has to submit to a question from the others and can’t refuse to answer. Their responses will bring to light secrets from their past and present that will weave together in surprising ways, until finally, Júlia tells her own story. She is the one who paid the highest price that last night they saw each other and she is the only one who can close the circle.
NÚRIA PRADAS

A Whole Life To Remember

A fascinating behind-the-scenes glimpse into the world of the iconic Disney Studios, A Whole Life To Remember is a fast-paced and utterly absorbing story which captures a beloved bygone era with acuity, wisdom, and heart.

A Whole Life to Remember is the story of Sophie Simmons, a talented young girl from New York, who travels to Los Angeles in the 1930s to become a cartoonist. The story follows Sophie in her way to achieve her dream in a world of men at the golden beginnings of the Disney Studios. Love, friendship, tragedy and glamour are all the ingredients of this fascinating novel that will transport you to the backstage of the big first Disney cartoon productions, such as Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs or Dumbo accompanied by a heroine who will stay with you for a long time.

Núria Pradas studied Catalan Language and Literature at the University of Barcelona. Her recent years in the classroom as a secondary school teacher were her motivation to begin writing children’s and YA literature, and she has produced some fifty works in these genres. The Carlemany Prize, which she received in 2012 for Under the Same Sky, opened the doors for her to writing for adults. Her first novel in this new phase was The Girl From the Library (2014). It was followed by Tailor-Made Dreams (2016), which has been translated into twelve languages, and then by The Aroma of Time (2017). A Whole Life to Remember (2020) is her latest novel.

Columna | 97,736 Words | March 2020
English sample available

RIGHTS SOLD TO:

Penguin Paperback (Germany).
UP-MARKET CATALOGUE
EMPAR MOLINER

Beloved

A masterpiece on surviving heartbreak.

Remei Duran is a prestigious illustrator in her fifties who considers herself an attractive, happily married mother. Yet one evening, sitting in the back seat of the family car, she clearly predicts that her younger husband, a principal violinist in an orchestra, will fall in love with the second violinist, the woman sitting beside him, as they head to their home to practice. Neither Remei’s husband nor the young woman have realized this yet. But Remei has.

This devastating certainty leads Remei, a determined woman who since childhood has had to fight to survive, to a harsh realization of what it is to grow old inside. She must suddenly accept the vulnerability of marital love, the addictive dependence of motherhood, and the expiration date on her artistic career.

“Now I have scientific confirmation of this volatile state I’ve unwittingly gotten trapped in over the past year without having paid attention. The drop in estrogen combined with lactose intolerance and waning near vision make me look at the world through dragonfly wings. That allows me to see, with perfect clarity, that my husband will fall in love with this other woman.”

In Dear, Empar Moliner displays her literary talents in a moving and unforgettable story about friendship, the passage of time, forgiveness and the secret rawness—that’s never spoken of and always down-played—of menopause.

MARTA BATALLÉ

This Is No Paradise

Three characters in crisis seek out an elusive happiness in this novel that is filled with emotion, and takes an ironic and critical view of our contemporary world.

Mai, Helena and Santos all live in the same building in the Raval neighborhood of Barcelona, a neighborhood where extremes—people, money, cultures—exist in close proximity. These three characters are of different generations, but they are each undergoing a personal crisis.

Twenty-something Mai is a progressive young woman who ekes out a living with precarious jobs and is weighed down by the burden of a family drama. Helena is forty years old and in a more conventional and stable situation (married with children, two good salaries), yet watches as the life she’s built crumbles around her. Santos is an idealistic rock musician whose career slump has led him to a life on the margins of society, growing marijuana.

The three vulnerable neighbors unite to find a way out of their respective plights; they judge the world lucidly and find that they are dissatisfied with both the city’s accelerated pace and the people in their lives.

A critical view of the world in which we live, written with nerve and irony.

A contemporary urban novel about ordinary lives in crisis.
LAIA AGUILAR

Other Mothers

Three lives and an inescapable fate.

Emma is eight months pregnant when she must face the unexpected loss of her child. Jhanet travels from Bolivia to Barcelona to reunite with a mother she has not seen for years, who is a stranger to her. Natalia, in the Ukraine, has agreed to be a surrogate mother and will have to deliver the baby to an Irish couple right after she gives birth.

These are the protagonists of Other Mothers. Women who live outside the limits of motherhood, non-mothers. Three impressive stories that intertwine and that will end up sharing a common fate.

“When she hears the word baby, a ball of anguish is born in her chest. She has to concentrate on breathing, on holding together her body cleaved in half, on fighting and fighting as she always has. Her mama used to tell her that she was a fragile girl and that “you won’t make it on your own.” But now she knows her mother was wrong, like so many people who’ve always looked down on her. She has more strength than anyone, no matter how many people tell her otherwise, and if necessary, she will endure, breathe, survive for that baby... because even though no one else understands it, this baby already forms part of her being.”

AGNÈS MARQUÈS

Nobody Knows I'm Here

All the things no one will ever know about us, revealed in Agnès Marquès’s novelistic debut.

Clara and Alex are going through a critical moment in their relationship and put themselves to the test as a new couple at a music festival with old friends of his. During one of the concerts Clara gets lost and has a series of experiences that force her to confront her desires. Meanwhile, Alex and his friends are searching for her among the thousands of attendees, which takes them back to their last music festival eight years ago, before they had any family or professional obligations, back to the memories they hadn’t been able to face until now.

This intense story features imperfect relationships, music, sex, drugs and a secret. Its everyday yet profound nature leaves us shaken, make up an intense story, apparently everyday but at the same time profound, that shakes us. "I’m naked and my body is drenched in sweat. I try to move my legs, but I can’t. I can feel the sheets stuck to my skin. I try to open my eyes, but I can’t. They’re heavy and stinging. I can sense an orange gleam. It must be almost noon already. My head is buzzing, mixed with some sort of mechanical sound that must be coming from outside. Is it music? Electronic music? And there’s laughter. And someone else's breathing. I open my eyes.”
**MONTSE BARDERI**

**Real Life**

Olive Bou always stood out for his writing. When he was a boy, he composed love letters for his classmates. Now, fifty years old and a successful author, he receives a request from his friend Pere to write letters in his name to Roxana Segarra, an editor he likes and hopes to make fall in love with him. The letters have the desired effect, and Pere and Roxana start a relationship. She suspects Pere isn't the author of the letters—he's not exactly a man of substance—but she feels comfortable and secure with him, until an unexpected event makes Roxana rethink everything and take a radical turn in her life.

A new take on Cyrano de Bergerac: a man who writes love letters for a friend to make a woman fall in love, who ends up falling in love himself, and who is forced to suffer in silence when his operation is a success.

**JAIR DOMÍNGUEZ**

**Deep Structures**

In a city ravaged by climate change and social inequality, a group of young pest control workers struggle to make it to the end of the month. Their difficult lives and hard jobs, badly paid and with no hope of getting ahead, don’t keep them from having dreams and fighting to make them a reality. While we follow them through the city’s neighborhoods, we see what is hidden in the world’s sewers with a growing sensation of familiarity and disgust.

Deep Structures is the tale of a dystopian society that criticizes social inequality, climate change, and labor in a rotten, expired society.

An irreverent, politically incorrect novel that harbors a deep, devastating critique of society.

---

**DAVID CASTILLO**

**Dien Bien Phu's Tango**

*Joanot Martorell Prize 2019*

The anarchist Dani Cajal, perhaps a stand-in for the author, has resumed his research and now focuses his gaze on a pretext for a quite different journey: the search for the lyrics of a vanished Gardel tango, the anthem of the refugees on the beaches of Argeles, which will take him to Vietnam and through many of the wars and conflicts of the twentieth century.

Using witness testimony, memoirs, and documents from military archives, Cajal revisits almost forgotten events and settings for some of the bloodiest events of the foregoing century. From the march of the anarchist columns across the border in 1939 to the French defeat in Vietnam in 1954.

In this historical novel, David Castillo looks through the eyes of the protagonist and embodies the critical gaze of the generation that came before us.

**QUIM ARANDA**

**The Three Last Names of Lucía van Haart**

The journalist Martín Genoves finds this out firsthand when Lucía, a love from his youth, reappears in his life with a strange request: she wants Martin to find out what happened between the actress Eva Marie Saint and her uncle, Zacarías Gil, an aspiring actor in the Barcelona of the thirties, who wound up at a repertory cinema in the city’s hill. A blurry photo taken in Biarritz and published in Paris Match seems to reveal that Eva Marie and Zacarías had a brief affair after the debut of the film North by Northwest at the 1959 San Sebastian Film Festival. It’s an impossible story and Genoves knows it, but he accepts the challenge because deep down, he is still in love with Lucía.

A novel that shows how the past isn’t an unalterable truth, how it depends on how we remember it, how we tell it, how we analyze it, and what we’re looking for.
THRILLER & NOIR CATALOGUE
MELCIOR COMES

Each and Every Mechanism

Two powerful families go head-to-head in Melcior Comes’s most spectacular novel.

A fraudulent land purchase sets off a conflict between the Torrus family, owners of a predatory real estate agency in Barcelona, and the Súbac family, powerful Majorcan businessmen accustomed to taking what they want. The Torrus family is unwilling to give in, and instead start airing the Súbac family’s dirty laundry, which includes an unsolved murder from twenty years ago. In a style with touches of Fargo and Faulkner, this is a novel of children and parents, of changing loyalties, of failures, horses and boxers. It is a visceral tragedy with touches of black comedy told in multiple voices and in a range of narrative styles, all at the service of – perhaps illusory – investigation into personal and collective truths.

An exuberant novel that makes spectacular and masterful use of all the mechanisms of literary fiction.

Highly entertaining, hypnotic, brilliant, and extraordinarily versatile writing.

“Like Flaubert, the narrator is “the idiot of the family” and, like Flaubert, the narrator experiments with points of view and plays with rhythm and timelines. The powerful family treats him like an idiot and underestimates him, but he has a vocation for vigilante hero that is also a way to get rid of the certainty of being a complete looser.”

Vicenç Pagès Jordà, El Periódico

“One of the most ambitious and spectacular novels born in contemporary Catalan fiction.”

Pere Antoni Pons, Última Hora.

On The Impure Earth

A struggling writer is drawn back to his native Majorca when he’s hired to compose the memoirs of Dora Bonnín, a recently deceased singer and mother of his childhood best friend Leo, whom he hasn’t seen in years. Leo’s father Higini Verdera is heir to the family shoe business, and the reigning patriarch of this extremely wealthy clan.

Delving into Dora’s diaries the writer soon discovers hints of some dark secrets, and loses all impartiality when he gets involved with Leo’s stepsister. Leo’s wife disappears on their wedding night, and Leo’s theory is that his father has kidnapped his bride. Then Dora’s diaries vanish as well; again Leo blames Higini.

As violent, criminal links to the Verdera family are exposed, Leo’s accusations start to seem less far-fetched, and the narration becomes much less reliable. How far have the Verderas gone to maintain the power of their empire, and how far are they willing to go?

On The Impure Earth is 2018’s Best Catalan Novel and after several recognitions, it is being hailed as “the great Majorcan novel”.

“A book about the family, friends, and secrets. It is also a book about the things that we will never know, about parents and children, and how parents determine the world that children will live in. It is a book about the ability of literature to make us see and feel what has been hidden from us.”

Lluís Llort, El Punt Avui.
XAVIER MORET

Mystery in Deià

Detective Max Riera solves a case in the picturesque towns of Majorca’s Serra de Tramuntana.

The disappearance of a Ukrainian poet who lived in the Majorcan village of Deià, in a cave on a cliff by the sea. Unlikely detective Max Riera sets out to follow his trail from the few clues he finds. And the main clue is that the poet was obsessed by the legendary writer Robert Graves. The investigation has curious connections with the art world and takes him, along with his friend Roc, to several places on the island. As he did in Formentera Blues, Xavier Moret uses Max’s investigation to paint a magnificent portrait of the island of Majorca, and the book ends up being an interesting and entertaining blend of detective novel and travel book.

Xavier Moret is a journalist and writer. He has seen the world as a correspondent and travel writer. He has published several travel books and also popular detective novels including Qui paga, mana (1987), Formentera Blues (2019), and Misteri a Deià (2022).
The Vienna Imposter
What if you had the power to dominate the world?
Bruno lives in a small town in Italy with his adoptive mother. When World War I broke out, his mother is murdered by a general who is looking for something in their house. The boy flees hiding in the caravan of a magician, after finding the object coveted by the soldier: a flute with special powers that can change history.

The Assassin of Venice
A thrilling adventure in search of freedom.
Venice, 1914. Carla Herzog, about to turn fourteen, discovers that she has the power to foresee misfortunes shortly before they occur. Her father, a very rich and powerful man who is very strict and conservative, accuses her of witchcraft and locks her up in a reform school. One night, Carla manages to escape with two companions. The three of them will travel to various places in Europe in search of a mysterious book that contains the explanation of her powers, while the Venice police search for Carla, falsely accusing her of murder. Meanwhile, the First World War breaks out...

Fire Trilogy
1. Cities of Smoke
Fight for your freedom!
Alice has never been out in the world. Her dinner is at nine o’clock, her sleep lasts exactly eight hours, she never has a single wrinkle in her clothes, she blinks 86400 times a day, she breathes 30000 times a day, she only speaks when asked, she has never raised her voice and, most importantly, she has never wondered what would happen if everything changed. But what if that were to happen?
A novel whose plot, with dystopian and science fiction overtones, distances itself from the usual romantic literature since the love story is between an android and a human.

2. Ash Cities
A thrilling adventure in search of freedom.
In a world where freedom is entirely controlled, how far would you go to get it back? How far would you go to survive?

Winner of the Ramon Muntaner Award 2021.

Pol Castellanos Mayós (Barcelona, 1991) holds a degree in Literary Studies from the University of Barcelona and a master’s degree in Literary Creation from Pompeu Fabra University. He currently combines writing with teaching. In 2019 he made his debut with The Impostor of Vienna (Polar Star), Alba Award for Best Fantastic Book for Young People in Catalan.

Joana Marcús (Mallorca, 2000). She is currently studying Psychology and lives with her family in a small town on the island. She started as a writer in Wattpad, where her novels obtained several recognitions and awards.
JAUME FUNES

I Still Have to Live

The debut novel by an expert on adolescents.
Mandatory secondary school is finally over. Six young teenagers promise each other that life will not tear them apart and that they won’t become adults who betray their principles. But their new journeys of young adulthood present them with many unknowns. They don’t know what they want to do with their lives, and it doesn’t even seem that the decision is in their hands. Maybe they should run away from home so they won’t end up like their parents. It’s hard to dream of that when you don’t have a euro in your pocket. How many lovers do you have to have before you reach sexual maturity? Why not go off the grid and live in the mountains? Or why not start a revolution?
The six teens’ lives intersect, and they are reunited when they turn eighteen, just as it seems they will finally be free of adults making all the decisions for them.

MARTA BELLVEHÍ

Bruna Brown

When everything you thought was true falls to pieces, all you can do is flee.
Bruna is an introverted, insecure girl from Barcelona with a love of order. On the day she takes her first standardized university admission test, her fear of failure gives her a panic attack. This drives her to make a life-changing decision: to go to England to work as an au pair. In Birmingham she lives through some experiences that are painful and others that are liberating, surrounds herself with people who fill her small world with intensity, learns to overcome obstacles, and begins to make her own decisions.
The novel speaks honestly of such important topics as mental health in adolescents, family relationships and friendships, sexual awakening, financial precariousness, and sexist violence.
The book also includes illustrations by the author in her unmistakable style, bringing to life some images in her first novel.

Jaume Funes is a psychologist, educator and journalist and a top expert on adolescence. His first novel is a perfect reflection of the uncertainty experienced between 16 and 18 years of age, and can serve as a guide for parents and educators.

Marta Bellvéhi (Palamós, 1989) is an illustrator and graphic designer. She teaches creativity courses for teens and adults, collaborates with campaigns against sexist violence, and has painted more than a dozen murals with powerful social messages. In recent years she has been studying writing. In 2019 she published the fanzine Casa soc jo (Edicions Tremendes). Bruna Brown is her first novel.
LAIA AGUILAR

Wolfgang

Winner of the 2016 Carlemany Prize for the promotion of reading. A prize awarded by young readers!

Wolfgang is an 11-year-old boy with an IQ of 152. He likes to make lists of impossible things, snack between mealtimes, find out how to travel to Neptune and fantasize about becoming a great pianist. His great passion is playing the piano, which is how he takes refuge from his emotions. After his mother’s untimely death, he is forced to go to live with his father, who is a stranger to him, but he comes up with a plan to run away to the best music academy in the world. During the trip, he will find out who his father really is, the family secret hidden by the ‘grown-ups’ and why he is so afraid of something he has never tried to explain before...

GERARD GUIX

My Season in Hell

A spiral of facts and emotions that will shake us and show us the dark part of a village and some seemingly normal villagers...

13 years ago, in a mountain village where nothing ever happens, a teenager died in a truculent hunting accident. In this same village, now, my mother has disappeared in strange circumstances. The two events, in their own way, are connected and related and upset this seemingly idyllic place: the death of the teenager who has become the black legend of the village, which frightens children and worries adults; the disappearance of the mother is a palpable threat, which arouses the murkiest feelings of the villagers.

My name is Ricard. Ricky for friends. Rick for mom. This story is that of the losing side, made up of people like you who one day found themselves in an unforeseen, unintended situation, with alarm and surprise, and takes place during the most confusing week, the saddest days, the hours darkest of my life.

First loves, disappearances, deaths, doubts, double lives... all this and much more takes place on October 13, 2021, a place where nothing ever happens... apparently. What does that village and its villagers hide? A novel that goes in crescendo and that dominates the tension of masterful way.
NON FICTION CATALOGUE
How did you lose your arm, Balchowsky?

A prodigious storyteller.

A young pianist from Chicago enlists in the International Brigades and travels to Spain during the Civil War to fight against fascism, where he will lose his right arm. On his return to the United States, his indomitable will to overcome his handicap will turn him into a legend of Chicago’s artistic bohemianism, a prodigious storyteller and a pioneer of counterculture. His story will give us wings, as if it were a book of chivalry, to fly over the North American history of the second half of the twentieth century.

“He was a survivor who clung to life. A walking lesson of resistance and of smiling overcoming. A loser among losers for whom nothing went right, but who inspired affection in everyone. An idealist who was severely mistreated by life. Spiritual mentor and savior guru for many, even though he didn’t know how to save himself, like all good messiahs. An essentially free man with a certain candor. A good guy. A gullible idealist. A master of the streets. A one-armed pianist. A friendly sinner. The king of alleys.”

Columna | 625.000 Words | January 2022

Soccer Women

The story -or stories- of pioneers, fighters, referents and new stars that have built within soccer a space of dignity for women.

Recent important moments, such as the World Cup in France, which was a media success around the world, or Barça’s victory in the Champions League, have reinforced a place of interest for women’s soccer. There are more and more fans and there is more and more investment. Professional soccer is now a solid, viable option for the best women’s clubs in Europe and the United States, and many players are beginning to add advertising deals to their sports contracts. But reality has not always been so generous to the female soccer player, who for decades has had to fight against insults, bans, sexism and harassment in order to be able to play soccer.

This book is an exciting journey through the almost one hundred and forty years of history of women’s soccer that, in Spain, was not recognized by the Royal Spanish Football Federation until late in 1980. And all of this with the energy of hundreds of courageous women who paved the way.

The only function that Victorian society attributed to women was to maintain intact their reproductive faculties, and it was considered that intense sport - a category in which soccer obviously fell, and even more so that early, primitively regulated soccer - affected their fertility. The medical community of the time argued from the beginning against the practice of soccer by women and only recommended sports such as golf, fencing, tennis or swimming, activities that were not even accessible to everyone. They were sports reserved for the upper bourgeoisie.

But nothing could keep women from feeling attracted to the sport that was revolutionizing British society. The first recorded international women’s match was played in Edinburgh on 9 May 1881. Some media reported on the duel and their chronicles help us to understand the view with which the female footballer was judged at that time.

Columna | 332.000 Words | January 2022
XAVIER GINESTÀ & SERGI TORRES

Humanitas

From stardust to the conscious revolution.

This is a book that talks about life in a global way, from the past, the Big Bang, to the future that awaits us as a species and the vital challenges we must face: the rise of AI, inequalities, climate change... This book, which is informative, scientific and philosophical, explains the mysteries of science in an accessible way and shares a revolutionary philosophy based on the latest discoveries about consciousness. The authors take a journey through the history of science and humanity and propose consciousness as the great engine of evolution, understanding the origin of the universe from a collaborative vision and life as a design executed by an intelligence that seems to be both transcendent and inherent.

This book is a journey into the core of humanity’s belief system, an exploration layer by layer of how it has been forged and, ultimately, to discover how the convergence between science and spirituality is opening the way to new perspectives that invite us to reinterpret reality. The book is not written in defense of any particular hypothesis. In any case, it is written in defense of the certainty that, although we consider ourselves wise, we are essentially ignorant beings and that, as a result of this ignorance, we live in the grip of highly limiting belief systems.

The work is in itself an invitation to observe with humility how the mechanisms of the evolutionary process work and to surrender ourselves to their perfection. To understand that we are part of the process and not its new engine. To discover that nothing has the rational meaning that we would like to give it and that, if we want to give it a meaning, it is better to find one that helps us to evolve. In short, to trust that we are humanitas and that it is love and not fear that, in the end, guides the evolutionary process. There is no reason to suffer the effects of our unconsciousness if we learn to flow with our essence.

The book that Yuval Noah Harari and Eckhart Tolle would have written together.

The work is in itself an invitation to observe with humility how the mechanisms of the evolutionary process work and to surrender ourselves to their perfection.