

The Brief Wondrous Life Of Oscar Wao

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Cereus Blooms at Night - Shani Mootoo 2021-06-22

FINALIST FOR THE GILLER PRIZE FINALIST FOR THE ETHEL WILSON FICTION PRIZE Bold and lyrical, sensual and highly charged, *Cereus Blooms at Night* is the beautifully written, sensational first novel by Shani Mootoo, one of Canada's most exciting literary voices. At the core of this haunting multi-generational novel are the shifting faces of Mala—adventurer and protector, recluse, and madwoman. Told by the engaging voice of Tyler, Mala's vivacious male caretaker at the Paradise Alms House, *Cereus Blooms at Night* is layered with unforgettable scenes of a world where love and treachery collide.

Act Cool - Tobly McSmith 2021-09-07

Named a Rainbow Book List Title A trans teen walks the fine line between doing whatever it takes for his acting dream and staying true to himself in this moving, thought-provoking YA novel from the acclaimed author of *Stay Gold*. Aspiring actor August Greene just landed a coveted spot at the prestigious School of Performing Arts in New York. There's only one problem: His conservative parents won't accept that he's transgender. And to stay with his aunt in the city, August must promise them he won't transition. August is convinced he can play the part his parents want while acting cool and confident in the company of his talented new friends. But who is August when the lights go down? And where will he turn when the roles start hitting a little too close to home?

A Critical Study of Junot Diaz's the Brief Wondrous Life of Oscar Wao - Giorgia Scribellito 2014-02-18

This is a critical study of Junot Díaz's work *The Brief Wondrous Life of Oscar Wao*. It analyses the text from a narratological point of view and it also considers Latino identity in the book. It seeks to answer the questions "Who is Oscar Wao in American Society?" and "What did author mean with his figure?"

La breve y maravillosa vida de Óscar Wao / The Brief, Wondrous Life of Oscar Wao - Junot Díaz 2008-09-02

Una crónica familiar que abarca tres generaciones y dos países, *La breve y maravillosa vida de Oscar Wao* cuenta la historia del gordiflón y solitario Oscar de León en su intento de convertirse en el J.R.R. Tolkien Dominicano y su desafortunada búsqueda del amor. Pero Oscar sólo es la última víctima del fukú —una maldición que durante generaciones ha perseguido a su familia, condenándoles a vidas de tortura, sufrimiento y amor desdichado. Con unos personajes inolvidables y una prosa vibrante e hipnótica, esta novela confirma a Junot Díaz como una de las mejores y más deslumbrantes voces de nuestra época, y nos ofrece una sobrecogedora visión de la inagotable capacidad humana para perseverar y arriesgarlo todo por amor. ENGLISH DESCRIPTION Winner of: The Pulitzer Prize The National Book Critics Circle Award The Anisfield-Wolf Book Award The Jon Sargent, Sr. First Novel Prize A Time Magazine #1 Fiction Book of the Year One of the best books of 2007 according to: The New York Times, San Francisco Chronicle, New York Magazine, Entertainment Weekly, The Boston Globe, Los Angeles Times, The Washington Post, People, The Village Voice, Time Out New York, Salon, Baltimore City Paper, The Christian Science Monitor, Booklist, Library Journal, Publishers Weekly, New York Public Library, and many more... Nominated as one of America's best-loved novels by PBS's *The Great American Read* Oscar is a sweet but

disastrously overweight ghetto nerd who—from the New Jersey home he shares with his old world mother and rebellious sister—dreams of becoming the Dominican J.R.R. Tolkien and, most of all, finding love. But Oscar may never get what he wants. Blame the fukú—a curse that has haunted Oscar's family for generations, following them on their epic journey from Santo Domingo to the USA. Encapsulating Dominican-American history, *The Brief Wondrous Life of Oscar Wao* opens our eyes to an astonishing vision of the contemporary American experience and explores the endless human capacity to persevere—and risk it all—in the name of love.

Islandborn - Junot Díaz 2018-03-13

From New York Times bestseller and Pulitzer Prize winner Junot Díaz comes a debut picture book about the magic of memory and the infinite power of the imagination. A 2019 Pura Belpré Honor Book for Illustration Every kid in Lola's school was from somewhere else. Hers was a school of faraway places. So when Lola's teacher asks the students to draw a picture of where their families immigrated from, all the kids are excited. Except Lola. She can't remember *The Island*—she left when she was just a baby. But with the help of her family and friends, and their memories—joyous, fantastical, heartbreaking, and frightening—Lola's imagination takes her on an extraordinary journey back to *The Island*. As she draws closer to the heart of her family's story, Lola comes to understand the truth of her abuela's words: "Just because you don't remember a place doesn't mean it's not in you." Gloriously illustrated and lyrically written, *Islandborn* is a celebration of creativity, diversity, and our imagination's boundless ability to connect us—to our families, to our past and to ourselves.

A Study Guide for Junot Diaz's The Brief Wondrous Life of Oscar Wao - Gale, Cengage Learning 2015-03-13

A Study Guide for Junot Diaz's "The Brief Wondrous Life of Oscar Wao," excerpted from Gale's acclaimed *Novels for Students*. This concise study guide includes plot summary; character analysis; author biography; study questions; historical context; suggestions for further reading; and much more. For any literature project, trust *Novels for Students* for all of your research needs.

Decolonial Love in Junot Diaz's The Brief Wondrous Life Of Oscar Wao - Justin Adam Alle-Corliss 2016

The Brief Wondrous Life of Oscar Wao - Junot Diaz 2008-09-02

Overweight and nerdy Oscar lives with his Dominican American mother and sister in New Jersey and dreams of becoming a renowned author and finding true love, but unfortunately, a family curse stands in the way of his wishes.

A Long, Long Time Ago & Essentially True - Brigid Pasulka 2009-08-01

PEN/Hemingway Award Winner: A "gorgeous" novel weaving together stories of Poland past and present in one whimsically romantic epic (*Chicago Tribune*). On the eve of World War II, in a small Polish village, a young man nicknamed the Pigeon falls in love with a girl fabled for her angelic looks. To build a place in Aniela's heart, he transforms her family's modest hut into a beautiful home. But war arrives, cutting short their courtship and

sending the young lovers off to the promise of a fresh start in Krakow. Nearly fifty years later, the couple's granddaughter, Beata, repeats this journey, seeking a new life in the fairy-tale city of her grandmother's stories. But instead of the rumored prosperity of the New Poland, she discovers a city full of frustrated youths, caught between its future and its past. Taken in by her tough-talking cousin, Irena, and her glamorous daughter, Magda, Beata struggles to find her own place in the world. But unexpected events—tragedies and miracles both—change lives and open eyes. "A whimsical debut," (New York Times Book Review) A Long, Long Time Ago and Essentially True weaves together two remarkable stories, reimagining half a century of Polish history through the legacy of one unforgettable love affair. This magical, heartbreaking novel "rings hauntingly, enchantingly, real" (National Geographic Traveler). "With a touch of Marina Lewycka and a dash of Captain Corelli's Mandolin, this is storytelling that gets under your skin and forces you to press copies into your best friends' hands." —Elle (UK) "Funny and romantic like all the best true stories." —Charlotte Mendelson, author of When We Were Bad

The Melody - Jim Crace 2018-06-19

Alfred Busi lives alone in his villa overlooking the waves. Famed in his tiny Mediterranean town for his music, he is mourning the recent death of his wife and quietly living out his days. Then one night, Busi is viciously attacked by an intruder in his own courtyard—bitten and scratched. He insists his assailant was neither man nor animal. Soon, Busi's account of what happened is being embellished to fan the flames of old rumor—of an ancient race of people living in the surrounding forest. It is also used to spark new controversy, inspiring claims that something must finally be done about the town's poor, whose numbers have been growing. In trademark crystalline prose, Jim Crace portrays a man taking stock of his life and looking into an uncertain future, while bearing witness to a community in the throes of great change.

Drown - Junot Díaz 1997-07-01

From the beloved and award-winning author Junot Díaz, a spellbinding saga of a family's journey through the New World. A coming-of-age story of unparalleled power, *Drown* introduced the world to Junot Díaz's exhilarating talents. It also introduced an unforgettable narrator—Yunior, the haunted, brilliant young man who tracks his family's precarious journey from the barrios of Santo Domingo to the tenements of industrial New Jersey, and their epic passage from hope to loss to something like love. Here is the soulful, unsparing book that made Díaz a literary sensation.

Reading Junot Díaz - Christopher Gonzalez 2015-12-28

Dominican American author and Pulitzer Prize–winner Junot Díaz has gained international fame for his blended, cross-cultural fiction. *Reading Junot Díaz* is the first study to focus on his complete body of published works. It explores the totality of his work and provides a concise view of the interconnected and multilayered narrative that weaves throughout Díaz's writings. Christopher González analyzes both the formal and thematic features and discusses the work in the context of speculative and global fiction as well as Caribbean and Latino/a culture and language. Topics such as race, masculinity, migration, and Afro-Latinidad are examined in depth. González provides a synthesis of the prevailing critical studies of Díaz and offers many new insights into his work.

Cobweb Castle - Jan Wahl 2014

Flemming Flinders, a dapper greengrocer more often engrossed in a book than attuned to his turnips, dreams of adventure, fame, and fortune. When the wide-eyed Mr. Flinders finally sets out with high hopes, he finds himself living one of his fairy tales. But everyone he encounters the wart-nosed Drukamella, the beautiful young Ingaborg, and the talking crow with his nemesis, Signor Monteverdi is surely not. In *Cobweb Castle*, author Jan Wahl and illustrator Edward Gorey whisk readers along to watch Flemming bumble through the brambles of reality, illustrating the extent to which our imaginations can take us. Wahl's prose keeps readers privy as the adventure becomes more frenetic, but the fantasy ends nearly as it started with a swift bonk on the head. Fleming

returns to his shop, dreaming.

Tree of Smoke - Denis Johnson 2007-09-04

Once upon a time there was a war . . . and a young American who thought of himself as the Quiet American and the Ugly American, and who wished to be neither, who wanted instead to be the Wise American, or the Good American, but who eventually came to witness himself as the Real American and finally as simply the Fucking American. That's me. This is the story of Skip Sands—spy-in-training, engaged in Psychological Operations against the Vietcong—and the disasters that befall him thanks to his famous uncle, a war hero known in intelligence circles simply as the Colonel. This is also the story of the Houston brothers, Bill and James, young men who drift out of the Arizona desert into a war in which the line between disinformation and delusion has blurred away. In its vision of human folly, and its gritty, sympathetic portraits of men and women desperate for an end to their loneliness, whether in sex or death or by the grace of God, this is a story like nothing in our literature. *Tree of Smoke* is Denis Johnson's first full-length novel in nine years, and his most gripping, beautiful, and powerful work to date. *Tree of Smoke* is the 2007 National Book Award Winner for Fiction.

The Brief Wondrous Life of Oscar Wao - Junot Díaz 2008

Living with an old-world mother and rebellious sister, an urban New Jersey misfit dreams of becoming the next J.R.R. Tolkien and believes that a long-standing family curse is thwarting his efforts to find love and happiness.

Tinkers - Paul Harding 2019-01-01

Special edition of Paul Harding's Pulitzer Prize–winning debut novel—featuring a new foreword by Marilynne Robinson and book club extras inside In this deluxe tenth anniversary edition, Marilynne Robinson introduces the beautiful novel *Tinkers*, which begins with an old man who lies dying. As time collapses into memory, he travels deep into his past, where he is reunited with his father and relives the wonder and pain of his impoverished New England youth. At once heartbreaking and life affirming, *Tinkers* is an elegiac meditation on love, loss, and the fierce beauty of nature. The story behind this New York Times bestselling debut novel—the first independently published Pulitzer Prize winner since *A Confederacy of Dunces* received the award nearly thirty years before—is as extraordinary as the elegant prose within it. Inspired by his family's history, Paul Harding began writing *Tinkers* when his rock band broke up. Following numerous rejections from large publishers, Harding was about to shelve the manuscript when Bellevue Literary Press offered a contract. After being accepted by BLP, but before it was even published, the novel developed a following among independent booksellers from coast to coast. Readers and critics soon fell in love, and it went on to receive the Pulitzer Prize, prompting the New York Times to declare the novel's remarkable success "the most dramatic literary Cinderella story of recent memory." That story is still being written as readers across the country continue to discover this modern classic, which has now sold over half a million copies, proving once again that great literature has a thriving and passionate audience. Paul Harding is the author of two novels about multiple generations of a New England family: *Enon* and the Pulitzer Prize–winning *Tinkers*. He teaches at Stony Brook Southampton.

The Brief Wondrous Life of Oscar Wao Sparknotes Literature Guide - Sparknotes 2020-10-06

Masculinities and Literary Studies - Josep M. Armengol 2017-02-03

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Men -- 7 "Men Who Cry in Their Sleep": Aging Male Hysteria in Martin Amis's London Stories -- 8 Negotiating Childhood and Boyhood Boundaries: Richard Linklater's Boyhood and Toni Morrison's Black Boys -- 9 Fighting the Monsters Inside: Masculinity, Agency, and the Aging Gay Man in Christopher Bram's Father of Frankenstein -- Part IV Masculinities and Affect -- 10 Theorizing the Masculinity of Affect -- 11 Men of War: Affect, Embodiment, and Western Heroic Masculinity in Dispatches and The Hurt Locker -- Part V Eco-masculinities -- 12 The "Wild, Wild World": Masculinity and the Environment in the American Literary Imagination -- 13 Green Intersections: Caring Masculinities and the Environmental Crisis -- Part VI Masculinities and/in Capitalism -- 14 Masculinities and Financial Capitalism -- 15 Capitalism, Slavery, and Mask-ulinities: New Directions -- 16 "To Love What Death Doesn't Touch": Questioning Capitalist Masculinity in Donna Tartt's The Goldfinch -- Part VII Epilogue Masculinity Studies: New Directions -- Index

The Brief Wondrous Life of Oscar Wao - Junot Díaz 2008-09-02

Winner of: The Pulitzer Prize The National Book Critics Circle Award The Anisfield-Wolf Book Award The Jon Sargent, Sr. First Novel Prize A Time Magazine #1 Fiction Book of the Year One of the best books of 2007 according to: The New York Times, San Francisco Chronicle, New York Magazine, Entertainment Weekly, The Boston Globe, Los Angeles Times, The Washington Post, People, The Village Voice, Time Out New York, Salon, Baltimore City Paper, The Christian Science Monitor, Booklist, Library Journal, Publishers Weekly, New York Public Library, and many more... Nominated as one of America's best-loved novels by PBS's The Great American Read Oscar is a sweet but disastrously overweight ghetto nerd who—from the New Jersey home he shares with his old world mother and rebellious sister—dreams of becoming the Dominican J.R.R. Tolkien and, most of all, finding love. But Oscar may never get what he wants. Blame the fukú—a curse that has haunted Oscar's family for generations, following them on their epic journey from Santo Domingo to the USA. Encapsulating Dominican-American history, *The Brief Wondrous Life of Oscar Wao* opens our eyes to an astonishing vision of the contemporary American experience and explores the endless human capacity to persevere—and risk it all—in the name of love.

Shakespeare's Kitchen - Lore Segal 2008-04-29

The thirteen interrelated stories of *Shakespeare's Kitchen* concern the universal longing for friendship, how we achieve new intimacies for ourselves, and how slowly, inexplicably, we lose them. Featuring six never-before-published pieces, Lore Segal's stunning new book evolved from seven short stories that originally appeared in the *New Yorker* (including the O. Henry Prize-winning "The Reverse Bug"). Ilka Weisz has accepted a teaching position at the Concordance Institute, a think tank in Connecticut, reluctantly leaving her New York circle of friends. After the comedy of her struggle to meet new people, Ilka comes to embrace, and be embraced by, a new set of acquaintances, including the institute's director, Leslie Shakespeare, and his wife, Eliza. Through a series of memorable dinner parties, picnics, and Sunday brunches, Segal evokes the subtle drama and humor of the outsider's loneliness, the comfort and charm of familiar companionship, the bliss of being in love, and the strangeness of our behavior in the face of other people's deaths. A magnificent and deeply moving work, *Shakespeare's Kitchen* marks the long-awaited return of a writer at the height of her powers.

Caribbean Discourse - Édouard Glissant 1989

Selected essays from the rich and complex collection of Édouard Glissant, one of the most prominent writers and intellectuals of the Caribbean, examine the psychological, sociological, and philosophical implications of cultural dependency.

American Migrant Fictions - Sonia Weiner 2018-07-17

American Migrant Fictions focuses on novels of five American migrant writers of the late twentieth and early twenty first centuries, who construct spatial paradigms within their narratives to explore linguistic diversity,

identities and be-longings.

The Birth of Venus - Sarah Dunant 2004-11-30

Alessandra Cecchi is not quite fifteen when her father, a prosperous cloth merchant, brings a young painter back from northern Europe to decorate the chapel walls in the family's Florentine palazzo. A child of the Renaissance, with a precocious mind and a talent for drawing, Alessandra is intoxicated by the painter's abilities. But their burgeoning relationship is interrupted when Alessandra's parents arrange her marriage to a wealthy, much older man. Meanwhile, Florence is changing, increasingly subject to the growing suppression imposed by the fundamentalist monk Savonarola, who is seizing religious and political control. Alessandra and her native city are caught between the Medici state, with its love of luxury, learning, and dazzling art, and the hellfire preaching and increasing violence of Savonarola's reactionary followers. Played out against this turbulent backdrop, Alessandra's married life is a misery, except for the surprising freedom it allows her to pursue her powerful attraction to the young painter and his art. *The Birth of Venus* is a tour de force, the first historical novel from one of Britain's most innovative writers of literary suspense. It brings alive the history of Florence at its most dramatic period, telling a compulsively absorbing story of love, art, religion, and power through the passionate voice of Alessandra, a heroine with the same vibrancy of spirit as her beloved city.

The Marriage Plot - Jeffrey Eugenides 2011-10-11

A New York Times Notable Book of 2011 A Publisher's Weekly Top 10 Book of 2011 A Kirkus Reviews Top 25 Best Fiction of 2011 Title One of Library Journal's Best Books of 2011 A Salon Best Fiction of 2011 title One of The Telegraph's Best Fiction Books of the Year 2011 It's the early 1980s—the country is in a deep recession, and life after college is harder than ever. In the cafés on College Hill, the wised-up kids are inhaling Derrida and listening to Talking Heads. But Madeleine Hanna, dutiful English major, is writing her senior thesis on Jane Austen and George Eliot, purveyors of the marriage plot that lies at the heart of the greatest English novels. As Madeleine tries to understand why "it became laughable to read writers like Cheever and Updike, who wrote about the suburbia Madeleine and most of her friends had grown up in, in favor of reading the Marquis de Sade, who wrote about deflowering virgins in eighteenth-century France," real life, in the form of two very different guys, intervenes. Leonard Bankhead—charismatic loner, college Darwinist, and lost Portland boy—suddenly turns up in a semiotics seminar, and soon Madeleine finds herself in a highly charged erotic and intellectual relationship with him. At the same time, her old "friend" Mitchell Grammaticus—who's been reading Christian mysticism and generally acting strange—resurfaces, obsessed with the idea that Madeleine is destined to be his mate. Over the next year, as the members of the triangle in this amazing, spellbinding novel graduate from college and enter the real world, events force them to reevaluate everything they learned in school. Leonard and Madeleine move to a biology Laboratory on Cape Cod, but can't escape the secret responsible for Leonard's seemingly inexhaustible energy and plunging moods. And Mitchell, traveling around the world to get Madeleine out of his mind, finds himself face-to-face with ultimate questions about the meaning of life, the existence of God, and the true nature of love. Are the great love stories of the nineteenth century dead? Or can there be a new story, written for today and alive to the realities of feminism, sexual freedom, prenups, and divorce? With devastating wit and an abiding understanding of and affection for his characters, Jeffrey Eugenides revives the motivating energies of the Novel, while creating a story so contemporary and fresh that it reads like the intimate journal of our own lives.

Don't Get Caught - Kurt Dinan 2016-04-01

10:00 tonight at the water tower. Tell no one. -Chaos Club When Max receives a mysterious invite from the untraceable, epic prank-pulling Chaos Club, he has to ask: why him? After all, he's Mr. 2.5 GPA, Mr. No Social Life. He's Just Max. And his favorite heist movies have taught him this situation calls for Rule #4: Be suspicious. But it's also his one shot to leave Just Max in the dust... Yeah, not so much. Max and four fellow students—who also

received invites-are standing on the newly defaced water tower when campus security "catches" them. Definitely a setup. And this time, Max has had enough. It's time for Rule #7: Always get payback. Let the prank war begin. Oceans 11 meets The Breakfast Club in this entertaining, fast-paced debut filled with pranks and cons that will keep readers on their toes, never sure who's pulling the strings or what's coming next.

Junot Díaz and the Decolonial Imagination - Monica Hanna 2015-12-18

The first sustained critical examination of the work of Dominican-American writer Junot Díaz, this interdisciplinary collection considers how Díaz's writing illuminates the world of Latino cultural expression and trans-American and diasporic literary history. Interested in conceptualizing Díaz's decolonial imagination and his radically re-envisioned world, the contributors show how his aesthetic and activist practice reflect a significant shift in American letters toward a hemispheric and planetary culture. They examine the intersections of race, Afro-Latinidad, gender, sexuality, disability, poverty, and power in Díaz's work. Essays in the volume explore issues of narration, language, and humor in *The Brief Wondrous Life of Oscar Wao*, the racialized constructions of gender and sexuality in *Drown* and *This Is How You Lose Her*, and the role of the zombie in the short story "Monstro." Collectively, they situate Díaz's writing in relation to American and Latin American literary practices and reveal the author's activist investments. The volume concludes with Paula Moya's interview with Díaz. Contributors: Glenda R. Carpio, Arlene Dávila, Lyn Di Iorio, Junot Díaz, Monica Hanna, Jennifer Harford Vargas, Ylce Irizarry, Claudia Milian, Julie Avril Minich, Paula M. L. Moya, Sarah Quesada, José David Saldívar, Ramón Saldívar, Silvio Torres-Saillant, Deborah R. Vargas

"The Brief Wondrous Life of Oscar Wao" by Junot Díaz. How Does the Language Used Reflect the Transcultural Identity of the Characters? - Silvia Schilling 2017-02-03

Studienarbeit aus dem Jahr 2016 im Fachbereich Englisch - Literatur, Werke, Note: 1,0, Universität Konstanz, Veranstaltung: Hauptseminar: American Literature and Culture 2, Sprache: Deutsch, Abstract: This term paper analyzes the language used in "The Brief Wondrous Life of Oscar Wao" by Junot Díaz and intends to find out how the language mirrors the transcultural identity of the characters. In order to do so, first the terms "Identity" and "Transcultural Identity" are defined and explained, followed by a subchapter discussing the relationship between the language a person uses and his or her identity. Following that, a detailed analysis of the language in the novel is made. This includes the two languages English and Spanish as well as the methods of mixing them and switching between them. Furthermore, there is a variety of speech registers to be found in the novel, two of which are discussed in detail, namely "Nerdspeak" and Academic English. The analysis includes the description of when and how specific words or registers are used, as well as the interpretation as to what this reveals about the sense of belonging or the confusion of identity found in the characters.

Dreaming in Cuban - Cristina García 2011-06-08

"Impressive . . . [Cristina García's] story is about three generations of Cuban women and their separate responses to the revolution. Her special feat is to tell it in a style as warm and gentle as the 'sustaining aromas of vanilla and almond,' as rhythmic as the music of Beny Moré."—Time Cristina García's acclaimed book is the haunting, bittersweet story of a family experiencing a country's revolution and the revelations that follow. The lives of Celia del Pino and her husband, daughters, and grandchildren mirror the magical realism of Cuba itself, a landscape of beauty and poverty, idealism and corruption. *Dreaming in Cuban* is "a work that possesses both the intimacy of a Chekov story and the hallucinatory magic of a novel by Gabriel García Márquez" (The New York Times). In celebration of the twenty-fifth anniversary of the novel's original publication, this edition features a new introduction by the author. Praise for *Dreaming in Cuban* "Remarkable . . . an intricate weaving of dramatic events with the supernatural and the cosmic . . . evocative and lush."—San Francisco Chronicle "Captures the pain, the distance, the frustrations and the dreams of these family dramas with a vivid, poetic prose."—The Washington Post

"Brilliant . . . With tremendous skill, passion and humor, García just may have written the definitive story of Cuban exiles and some of those they left behind."—The Denver Post

This Is How You Lose Her - Junot Díaz 2013-09-03

Finalist for the 2012 National Book Award A Time and People Top 10 Book of 2012 Finalist for the 2012 Story Prize Chosen as a notable or best book of the year by The New York Times, Entertainment Weekly, The LA Times, Newsday, Barnes & Noble, Amazon, the iTunes bookstore, and many more... "Electrifying." —The New York Times Book Review "Exhibits the potent blend of literary eloquence and street cred that earned him a Pulitzer Prize... Díaz's prose is vulgar, brave, and poetic." —O Magazine From the award-winning author, a stunning collection that celebrates the haunting, impossible power of love. On a beach in the Dominican Republic, a doomed relationship flounders. In a New Jersey laundry room, a woman does her lover's washing and thinks about his wife. In Boston, a man buys his love child, his only son, a first baseball bat and glove. At the heart of these stories is the irrepressible, irresistible Yuniors, a young hardhead whose longing for love is equaled only by his recklessness--and by the extraordinary women he loves and loses. In prose that is endlessly energetic, inventive, tender, and funny, these stories lay bare the infinite longing and inevitable weakness of the human heart. They remind us that passion always triumphs over experience, and that "the half-life of love is forever."

The Cheater's Guide to Love - Junot Diaz 2019-10-17

Slapboxing with Jesus - Victor LaValle 2011-07-20

Twelve original and interconnected stories in the traditions of Junot Díaz and Sherman Alexie. Victor D. LaValle's astonishing, violent, and funny debut offers harrowing glimpses at the vulnerable lives of young people who struggle not only to come of age, but to survive the city streets. In "ancient history," two best friends graduating from high school fight to be the one to leave first for a better world; each one wants to be the fortunate son. In "pops," an African-American boy meets his father, a white cop from Connecticut, and tries not to care. And in "kids on colden street," a boy is momentarily uplifted by the arrival of a younger sister only to discover that brutality leads only to brutality in the natural order of things. Written with raw candor, grit, and a cautious heart, *slapboxing with jesus* introduces an exciting and bold new craftsman of contemporary fiction. LaValle's voices echo long after their stories are told.

The Brief Wondrous Life of Oscar Wao - Junot Diaz 2008-09-04

Things have never been easy for Oscar. A ghetto nerd living with his Dominican family in New Jersey, he's sweet but disastrously overweight. He dreams of becoming the next J.R.R. Tolkien and he keeps falling hopelessly in love. Poor Oscar may never get what he wants, thanks to the Fukú - the curse that has haunted his family for generations. With dazzling energy and insight Díaz immerses us in the tumultuous lives of Oscar; his runaway sister Lola; their beautiful mother Belicia; and in the family's uproarious journey from the Dominican Republic to the US and back. Rendered with uncommon warmth and humour, *The Brief Wondrous Life of Oscar Wao* is a literary triumph, that confirms Junot Díaz as one of the most exciting writers of our time.

Austerlitz - W.G. Sebald 2011-12-06

Austerlitz, the internationally acclaimed masterpiece by "one of the most gripping writers imaginable" (The New York Review of Books), is the story of a man's search for the answer to his life's central riddle. A small child when he comes to England on a Kindertransport in the summer of 1939, one Jacques Austerlitz is told nothing of his real family by the Welsh Methodist minister and his wife who raise him. When he is a much older man, fleeting memories return to him, and obeying an instinct he only dimly understands, he follows their trail back to the world he left behind a half century before. There, faced with the void at the heart of twentieth-century Europe, he struggles to rescue his heritage from oblivion.

Mere Reading - Lee Clark Mitchell 2017-04-20

Named a Choice Outstanding Academic Title of the Year *Mere Reading* argues for a return to the foundations of literary study established nearly a century ago. Following a recent period dominated by symptomatic analyses of fictional texts (new historicist, Marxist, feminist, identity-political), Lee Clark Mitchell joins a burgeoning neo-formalist movement in challenging readers to embrace a rationale for literary criticism that has too long been ignored—a neglect that corresponds, perhaps not coincidentally, to a flight from literature courses themselves. In close readings of six American novels spread over the past century—Willa Cather's *The Professor's House*, Vladimir Nabokov's *Lolita*, Marilynne Robinson's *Housekeeping*, Cormac McCarthy's *Blood Meridian* and *The Road*, and Junot Díaz's *The Brief Wondrous Life of Oscar Wao*—Mitchell traces a shifting strain of late modernist innovation that celebrates a species of magic and wonder, of aesthetic “bliss” (as Barthes and Nabokov both coincidentally described the experience) that dumbfounds the reader and compels a reassessment of interpretive assumptions. The novels included here aspire to being read slowly, so that sounds, rhythms, repetitions, rhymes, and other verbal features take on a heightened poetic status—in critic Barbara Johnson's words, “the rigorous perversity and seductiveness of literary language”—thwarting pressures of plot that otherwise push us ineluctably forward. In each chapter, the return to “mere reading” becomes paradoxically a gesture that honors the intractability of fictional texts, their sheer irresolution, indeed the way in which their “literary” status rests on the play of irreconcilables that emerges from the verbal tensions we find ourselves first astonished by, then delighting in.

[The Best American Short Stories 2016](#) - Junot Díaz 2016-10-04

“The literary ‘Oscars’ features twenty outstanding examples of the best of the best in American short stories.”
—Shelf Awareness for Readers *The Best American Short Stories 2016* will be selected by Pulitzer Prize winner Junot Díaz. He brings “one of the most distinctive and magnetic voices in contemporary fiction: limber, streetwise, caffeinated and wonderfully eclectic” (Michiko Kakutani, *The New York Times*) to the collection.

The White Cascade - Gary Krist 2008-01-22

The never-before-told story of one of the worst rail disasters in U.S. history in which two trains full of people, trapped high in the Cascade Mountains, are hit by a devastating avalanche. In February 1910, a monstrous blizzard centered on Washington State hit the Northwest, breaking records. The world stopped—but nowhere was the danger more terrifying than near a tiny town called Wellington, perched high in the Cascade Mountains, where a desperate situation evolved minute by minute: two trainloads of cold, hungry passengers and their crews found themselves marooned without escape, their railcars gradually being buried in the rising drifts. For days, an army of the Great Northern Railroad's most dedicated men—led by the line's legendarily courageous superintendent, James O'Neill—worked round-the-clock to rescue the trains. But the storm was unrelenting, and to the passenger's great anxiety, the railcars—their only shelter—were parked precariously on the edge of a steep ravine. As the days passed, food and coal supplies dwindled. Panic and rage set in as snow accumulated deeper and deeper on the cliffs overhanging the trains. Finally, just when escape seemed possible, the unthinkable occurred: the earth shifted and a colossal avalanche tumbled from the high pinnacles, sweeping the trains and their sleeping passengers over the steep slope and down the mountainside. Centered on the astonishing spectacle of our nation's deadliest avalanche, Gary Krist's *The White Cascade* is the masterfully told story of a supremely dramatic and never-before-documented American tragedy. An adventure saga filled with colorful and engaging history, this is epic narrative storytelling at its finest.

A Study Guide for Junot Díaz's *The Brief Wondrous Life of Oscar Wao* - Cengage Learning Gale 2017-07-25

A Study Guide for Junot Díaz's "The Brief Wondrous Life of Oscar Wao," excerpted from Gale's acclaimed *Novels for Students*. ~~The Study Guide~~ *Novels for Students* guide includes plot summary; character analysis; author biography; study questions; historical context; suggestions for further reading; and much more. For any literature project, trust *Novels for Students* for all of your research needs.

- Caroline F. Levander 2007-10-04

This landmark collection brings together a range of exciting new comparative work in the burgeoning field of hemispheric studies. Scholars working in the fields of Latin American studies, Asian American studies, American studies, American literature, African Diaspora studies, and comparative literature address the urgent question of how scholars might reframe disciplinary boundaries within the broad area of what is generally called American studies. The essays take as their starting points such questions as: What happens to American literary, political, historical, and cultural studies if we recognize the interdependency of nation-state developments throughout all the Americas? What happens if we recognize the nation as historically evolving and contingent rather than already formed? Finally, what happens if the “fixed” borders of a nation are recognized not only as historically produced political constructs but also as component parts of a deeper, more multilayered series of national and indigenous histories? With essays that examine stamps, cartoons, novels, film, art, music, travel documents, and governmental publications, *Hemispheric American Studies* seeks to excavate the complex cultural history of texts and discourses across the ever-changing and stratified geopolitical and cultural fields that collectively comprise the American hemisphere. This collection promises to chart new directions in American literary and cultural studies.

[The Brief Wondrous Life of Oscar Wao](#) - Junot Díaz 2007

Read by Lin-Manuel Miranda, the Tony Award(R)-winning creator and star of the musical *Hamilton*, and Tony Award(R)-winning actress, Karen Olivo. This brilliant narration adds another layer of lyricism and depth to this Pulitzer Prize-winning classic novel. Things have never been easy for Oscar, a sweet but disastrously overweight, lovesick Dominican ghetto nerd. From his home in New Jersey, where he lives with his old-world mother and rebellious sister, Oscar dreams of becoming the Dominican J. R. R. Tolkien and, most of all, of finding love. But he may never get what he wants, thanks to the Fuku: the curse that has haunted Oscar's family for generations, dooming them to prison, torture, tragic accidents, and, above all, ill-starred love. Oscar, still waiting for his first kiss, is just its most recent victim. Díaz immerses us in the tumultuous life of Oscar and the history of the family at large, rendering with genuine warmth and dazzling energy, humor, and insight the Dominican-American experience - and, ultimately, the endless human capacity to persevere in the face of heartbreak and loss. A true literary triumph, *The Brief Wondrous Life of Oscar Wao* confirms Junot Díaz as one of the best and most exciting voices of our time.

The Sleeping Father - Matthew Sharpe 2004

At a Halloween party that neither Bernie or his two children really want to be at, Bernie collapses and falls into a coma bought on by the accidental combination of two anti-depressants. He emerges from the coma to find his son Chris, the perpetual smart-ass, and his daughter Cathy, a Jewish teen turned self-martyred Catholic, stumbling headlong toward trauma-induced maturity. His ex-wife, his nurse, his nurse's father and his son's best friend are also drawn into the bizarre, frustrating and touching world that surrounds the job of rehabilitating Bernie. *The Sleeping Father* is about the loss of innocence, the disorientating experience of a second childhood and the nature of love and meaning. But most of all it's about the Schwartz's, a singular American family, making their way the best way they know how.