

Pulitzer Prize for Fiction in the Library

2017

The Underground Railroad, by Colson Whitehead

Chronicles a young slave's adventures as she makes a desperate bid for freedom in the antebellum South.

"This is a luminous, furious, wildly inventive tale that not only shines a bright light on one of the darkest periods of history, but also opens up thrilling new vistas for the form of the novel itself." —**The Guardian**

2015

All the Light We Cannot See, by Anthony Doerr Tells the story of blind French girl and a German boy whose paths collide in occupied France as both try to survive the devastation of World War II.

"Doerr's "stunning sense of physical detail and gorgeous metaphors" (*San Francisco Chronicle*) are dazzling. Deftly interweaving the lives of Marie-Laure and Werner, he illuminates the ways, against all odds, people try to be good to one another. Ten years in the writing, a National Book Award finalist, *All the Light We Cannot See* is a magnificent, deeply moving novel from a writer "whose sentences never fail to thrill" (*Los Angeles Times*)." —**Los Angeles Times**

2013

The Orphan Master's Son, by Adam Johnson A story of a young man raised in the nightmare that is North Korea.

"Adam Johnson's remarkable novel *The Orphan Master's Son* is set in North Korea, an entire nation that has conformed to the fictions spun by a dictator and his inner circle...Mr. Johnson is a wonderfully flexible writer who can pivot in a matter of lines from absurdity to atrocity...We don't know what's really going on in that strange place, but a disquieting glimpse suggesting what it must be like can be found in this brilliant and timely novel." —**Wall Street Journal**

2009

Olive Kitteridge, by Elizabeth Strout A collection of 13 short stories set in small-town Maine whose title character, Olive, is blunt, flawed and fascinating.

"Fiction lovers, remember this name: *Olive Kitteridge*. . . . You'll never forget her. . . . [Elizabeth Strout] constructs her stories with rich irony and moments of genuine surprise and intense emotion. . . . Glorious, powerful stuff. **USA Today**"

2006

March, by Geraldine Brooks This is a novel that retells Louisa May Alcott's novel *Little Women* from the point of view the girls' father, who is serving in the Civil War.

"Brooks's luminous second novel, after 2001's acclaimed *Year of Wonders*, imagines the Civil War experiences of Mr. March, the absent father in Louisa May Alcott's *Little Women*." **Publishers Weekly**

2005

Gilead, by Marilynne Robinson Set in 1956, the novel is composed of the memoirs of Reverend John Ames, a Congregationalist minister in the fictional town of Gilead, Iowa, as he tries to set down the story of his life for his young son before he dies.

"*Gilead* is a beautiful work--demanding, grave and lucid . . . Robinson's words have a spiritual force that's very rare in contemporary fiction." --James Wood, **The New York Times Book Review**

2000

Interpreter of Maladies, by Jhumpa Lahiri A collection of short stories about the lives of Asian Indians and Indian Americans who are caught between their roots and the "New World."

"Ms. Lahiri chronicles her characters' lives with both objectivity and compassion while charting the emotional temperature of their lives with tactile precision. She is a writer of uncommon elegance and poise, and with "Interpreter of Maladies" she has made a precocious debut." **The New York Times Book Review**