

# Dream Of Ding Village Yan Lianke

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**Red Sorghum** - Mo Yan 1994-04-01  
The acclaimed novel of love and resistance during late 1930s China by Mo Yan, winner of the 2012 Nobel Prize in Literature Spanning three generations, this novel of family and myth is told through a series of flashbacks that depict events of staggering horror set against a landscape of gemlike beauty, as the Chinese battle both Japanese invaders and each other in the turbulent 1930s. A legend in China, where it won major literary awards and inspired an Oscar-nominated film directed by Zhang Yimou, Red Sorghum is a book in which fable and history collide to produce fiction that is entirely new—and unforgettable.

**Awakening to the Great Sleep War** - Gert Jonke 2013-01-03  
One of the loveliest riddles of Austrian literature is finally available in English translation: Gert Jonke's 1982 novel, Awakening to the Great Sleep War, is an expedition through a world in constant nervous motion, where reality is rapidly fraying—flags refuse to stick to their poles, lids slide off of their pots, tram tracks shake their stops away like fleas, and books abandon libraries in droves. Our cicerone on this journey through the possible (and impossible) is an "acoustical decorator" by the name of

Burgmüller—a poetical gentleman, the lover of three women, able to communicate with birds, and at least as philosophically minded as his author: "Everything has suddenly become so transparent that one can't see through anything anymore." This enormously comic—and equally melancholic—tale is perhaps Jonke's masterwork.

**The Explosion Chronicles** - Yan Lianke 2016-10-04

"A rip-roaring Swiftian satire from a contemporary Chinese master" follows a rural community's transformation from small village to megalopolis (The Economist). With the Yi River on one side and the Balou Mountains on the other, the village of Explosion was founded more than a millennium ago by refugees fleeing a seismic volcanic eruption. But in the post-Mao era the name takes on a new significance as the community grows explosively from a small village to a vast metropolis. Behind this rapid expansion are members of the community's three major families, including the four Kong brothers; Zhu Ying, the daughter of the former village chief; and Cheng Qing, who starts out as a secretary and goes on to become a powerful political and business figure. Linked together by a complex web of loyalty, betrayal, desire, and ambition, these figures

are the driving force behind their hometown's transformation into an urban superpower. Brimming with absurdity, intelligence, and wit, *The Explosion Chronicles* considers the high stakes of passion and power, the consequences of corruption and greed, the polarizing dynamics of love and hate between families, as well as humankind's resourcefulness through the vicissitudes of life. "Yan's burlesque of a nation driven insane by money is equally a satire of some of the excesses of the Chinese Revolution." –*The Wall Street Journal*

**The Fat Years** - Chan Koonchung  
2012-01-10

Banned in China, this controversial and politically charged novel tells the story of the search for an entire month erased from official Chinese history. Beijing, sometime in the near future: a month has gone missing from official records. No one has any memory of it, and no one could care less—except for a small circle of friends, who will stop at nothing to get to the bottom of the sinister cheerfulness and amnesia that have possessed the Chinese nation. When they kidnap a high-ranking official and force him to reveal all, what they learn—not only about their leaders, but also about their own people—stuns them to the core. It is a message that will astound the world. A kind of *Brave New World* reflecting the China of our times, *The Fat Years* is a complex novel of ideas that reveals all too chillingly the machinations of the postmodern totalitarian state, and sets in sharp relief the importance of remembering the past to protect the future.

**The Explosion Chronicles** - Yan Lianke  
2017-03-02

With the Yi River on one side and the Balou Mountains on the other, the village of Explosion was founded a thousand years ago by refugees fleeing a volcanic eruption. But in

the post-Mao era, the name takes on a new significance as the rural community grows explosively from a small village to a town to a city to a vast megalopolis. Behind this rapid expansion are three rival families. Linked together by a web of ambition, madness and greed, the four Kong brothers; Zhu Ying, the daughter of the former village chief; and Cheng Qing, who starts out as a secretary and goes on to become a powerful political and business figure, transform their hometown into a Babylon of modern times -- an unrivalled urban superpower built on lies, sex and thievery. Brimming with absurdity, intelligence and wit, *The Explosion Chronicles* considers the high stakes of passion and power, the consequences of corruption and greed, the dynamics of love and hate, as well as the seemingly boundless excesses of capitalist culture. 'One of the masters of modern Chinese literature' Jung Chang 'One of China's most successful writers . . . [Yan Lianke] writes in the spirit of the dissident writer Vladimir Voinovich, who observed that "reality and satire are the same"' Evan Osnos, *New Yorker*

**Dream of Ding Village** - Yan Lianke  
2011-01-04

Officially censored upon its Chinese publication, and the subject of a bitter lawsuit between author and publisher, *Dream of Ding Village* is Chinese novelist Yan Lianke's most important novel to date. Set in a poor village in Henan province, it is a deeply moving and beautifully written account of a blood-selling ring in contemporary China. Based on a real-life blood-selling scandal in eastern China, *Dream of Ding Village* is the result of three years of undercover work by Yan Lianke, who worked as an assistant to a well-known Beijing anthropologist in an effort to study a small village

decimated by HIV/AIDS as a result of unregulated blood selling. Whole villages were wiped out with no responsibility taken or reparations paid. *Dream of Ding Village* focuses on one family, destroyed when one son rises to the top of the Party pile as he exploits the situation, while another son is infected and dies. The result is a passionate and steely critique of the rate at which China is developing and what happens to those who get in the way.

*Haweswater* - Sarah Hall 2017-07-04

"Here is a writer of show-stopping genius: everyone should buy this novel."—The Guardian A remote village is threatened by industrialization and by a scandalous love affair in this debut novel by the author of *Burntcoat* and the Man Booker Prize finalist *The Electric Michelangelo*. The village of Marsdale is a quiet corner of the world, cradled in a remote dale in England's lovely Lake District. The rhythm of life in the deeply religious, sheltered community has not changed for centuries. But in 1936, when Waterworks representative Jack Ligget from industrial Manchester arrives with plans to build a new reservoir, he brings the much feared threat of impending change to this bucolic hamlet. And when he begins an intense and troubled affair with Janet Lightburn—a devout local woman of rare passion and strength of spirit—it can only lead to scandal, tragedy, and remarkable, desperate acts. From Sarah Hall, the internationally acclaimed author of the Man Booker Prize finalist *The Electric Michelangelo*, comes a stunning and transcendent novel of love, obsession, and the passing of an age.

**Three Brothers** - Yan Lianke

2020-03-10

From the Franz Kafka Prize-winning author. "Full of love, sorrow, and

tenderness . . . a deeply heartfelt account of his family in the 1960s and 70s." —Xiaolu Guo, award-winning author of *Nine Continents* With lyricism and deep emotion, Yan Lianke chronicles the extraordinary lives of his father and uncles, as well as his own during the Cultural Revolution. Living in a remote village, Yan's parents are so poor that they can only afford to use wheat flour on New Year and festival days, and while Yan dreams of fried scallion buns, and even steals from his father to buy sesame seed cakes. He yearns to leave the village, however he can, and soon novels become an escape. He resolves to become a writer himself after reading on the back of a novel that its author was given leave to remain in the city of Harbin after publishing her book. In the evenings, after finishing back-breaking shifts hauling stones at a cement factory, sometimes sixteen hours long, he sets to work writing. He is ultimately delivered from the drudgery and danger of manual labor by a career in the Army, but he is filled with regrets as he recalls these years of scarcity, turmoil, and poverty. A philosophical portrait of grief, death, home, and fate that gleams with Yan's quick wit and gift for imagery, *Three Brothers* is a personal portrait of a politically devastating period, and a celebration of the power of the family to hold together even in the harshest circumstances. "This engaging book asks readers to consider the nature of life and death, city versus country, and the impact generations can have on each other." —Winnipeg Free Press

*Lenin's Kisses* - Yan Lianke

2013-10-08

A mystifying climatic incongruity begins the award-winning novel *Lenin's Kisses*—an absurdist, tragicomic masterpiece set in modern day China. Nestled deep within the

Balou mountains, spared from the government's watchful eye, the harmonious people of Liven had enough food and leisure to be fully content. But when their crops and livelihood are obliterated by a seven-day snowstorm in the middle of a sweltering summer, a county official arrives with a lucrative scheme both to raise money for the district and boost his career. The majority of the 197 villagers are disabled, and he convinces them to start a traveling performance troupe highlighting such acts as One-Eye's one-eyed needle threading. With the profits from this extraordinary show, he intends to buy Lenin's embalmed corpse from Russia and install it in a grand mausoleum to attract tourism, in the ultimate marriage of capitalism and communism. However, the success of the Shuanghuai County Special-Skills Performance Troupe comes at a serious price. Yan Lianke, one of China's most distinguished writers—whose works often push the envelope of his country's censorship system—delivers a humorous, daring, and riveting portrait of the trappings and consequences of greed and corruption at the heart of humanity.

**The Four Books** - Yan Lianke  
2015-03-03

From the Franz Kafka Prize-winning author of *Lenin's Kiss*, a "stupendous and unforgettable" novel of Mao's China (*The Times*, London). In the ninety-ninth district of a re-education compound, freethinking artists and academics are detained to strengthen their loyalty to Communist ideologies. Here, the Musician and her lover, the Scholar, along with the Author and the Theologian, are subjected to grinding physical labor. They are also encouraged to inform on each other's dissident behavior—for the prize of a chance at freedom. Their preadolescent supervisor, the Child, delights in reward systems and

excessive punishments. But when agricultural and industrial production quotas are raised to an unattainable level, the ninety-ninth district dissolves into lawlessness. As inclement weather and famine set in, the people are abandoned by the regime and left alone to survive. Set inside a labor camp during Mao's Great Leap Forward, Booklist calls *The Four Books* a "rich and complex novel," from "China's most heralded and censored modern writer" (*The South China Morning Post*).

*Gods Without Men* - Hari Kunzru  
2012-03-06

In the desert, you see, there is everything and nothing . . . It is God without men. —Honoré de Balzac, *Une passion dans le désert*, 1830 Jaz and Lisa Matharu are plunged into a surreal public hell after their son, Raj, vanishes during a family vacation in the California desert. However, the Mojave is a place of strange power, and before Raj reappears inexplicably unharmed—but not unchanged—the fate of this young family will intersect with that of many others, echoing the stories of all those who have traveled before them. Driven by the energy and cunning of Coyote, the mythic, shape-shifting trickster, *Gods Without Men* is full of big ideas, but centered on flesh-and-blood characters who converge at an odd, remote town in the shadow of a rock formation called the Pinnacles. Viscerally gripping and intellectually engaging, it is, above all, a heartfelt exploration of the search for pattern and meaning in a chaotic universe. This eBook edition includes a Reading Group Guide.

*Serve the People!* - Yan Lianke  
2008-03-18

A satirical novel set in 1967 China from the Franz Kafka Prize-winning author of *Lenin's Kiss*—"one of China's greatest living authors" (*The*

Guardian). *Serve the People!* is the story of a forbidden love affair between Liu Lian, the young wife of a Division Commander in Communist China, and a servant in her household, Wu Dawang. Left to idle at home while her husband furthers the revolution, Liu Lian establishes a rule for her orderly: whenever the household's wooden *Serve the People!* sign is removed from its usual place on the dinner table and placed elsewhere, Wu Dawang is to stop what he is doing and attend to her needs upstairs. What follows is a "steamy and subversive" story and comic satire on Mao's slogan and the political and sexual taboos of his regime (The Guardian). Originally banned in China, *Serve the People!* is the first work from Yan Lianke to be translated into English, and "a scathing sendup of life in 1960s China during the chaos of the country's Cultural Revolution" (LA Times).

*Factory Girls* - Leslie T. Chang  
2009-08-04

An eye-opening and previously untold story, *Factory Girls* is the first look into the everyday lives of the migrant factory population in China. China has 130 million migrant workers—the largest migration in human history. In *Factory Girls*, Leslie T. Chang, a former correspondent for the Wall Street Journal in Beijing, tells the story of these workers primarily through the lives of two young women, whom she follows over the course of three years as they attempt to rise from the assembly lines of Dongguan, an industrial city in China's Pearl River Delta. As she tracks their lives, Chang paints a never-before-seen picture of migrant life—a world where nearly everyone is under thirty; where you can lose your boyfriend and your friends with the loss of a mobile phone; where a few

computer or English lessons can catapult you into a completely different social class. Chang takes us inside a sneaker factory so large that it has its own hospital, movie theater, and fire department; to posh karaoke bars that are fronts for prostitution; to makeshift English classes where students shave their heads in monklike devotion and sit day after day in front of machines watching English words flash by; and back to a farming village for the Chinese New Year, revealing the poverty and idleness of rural life that drive young girls to leave home in the first place. Throughout this riveting portrait, Chang also interweaves the story of her own family's migrations, within China and to the West, providing historical and personal frames of reference for her investigation. A book of global significance that provides new insight into China, *Factory Girls* demonstrates how the mass movement from rural villages to cities is remaking individual lives and transforming Chinese society, much as immigration to America's shores remade our own country a century ago. [The Oxford Handbook of Modern Chinese Literatures](#) - Carlos Rojas 2016-07-28 With over forty original essays, *The Oxford Handbook of Modern Chinese Literatures* offers an in-depth engagement with the current analytical methodologies and critical practices that are shaping the field in the twenty-first century. Divided into three sections--Structure, Taxonomy, and Methodology--the volume carefully moves across approaches, genres, and forms to address a rich range of topics that include popular culture in Late Qing China, Zhang Guangyu's *Journey to the West* in Cartoons, writings of Southeast Asian migrants in Taiwan, the Chinese Anglophone Novel, and depictions of HIV/AIDS in Chu T'ien-wen's *Notes of*

a Desolate Man.

*Hard Like Water* - Yan Lianke

2021-06-15

"Yan is one of those rare geniuses who finds in the peculiar absurdities of his own culture the absurdities that infect all cultures." –The Washington Post From the Kafka Prize winner and two-time Booker Prize finalist, this is a gripping and biting satirical story of ambition and betrayal, following two young communist revolutionaries whose forbidden love sets them apart from their traditionally minded village as the Cultural Revolution sweeps China. Gao Aijun is a son of the soil of Henan's Balou Mountains, and after his Army service, he is on his way back to his ancestral village, feeling like a hero. Close to his arrival, he sees a strikingly attractive woman walking barefoot alongside a railway track in the warm afternoon sun, and is instantly smitten. She is Xia Hongmei, and lives up to her name of "beautiful flower." Hiding their relationship from their spouses, the pair hurl themselves into the struggle to bring revolution to their backwater village. They spend their days and nights writing pamphlets, organizing work brigades, and attending rallies, feeling they are the vanguard for the full-blown revolution that is waiting in the wings. Emboldened by encouragement from the Party, the couple dig a literal "tunnel of love" between their homes where, while the unsuspecting villagers sleep, they sing revolutionary songs and compete in shouting matches of Maoist slogans before making earth-moving love. But when their torrid relationship is discovered and they have to answer to Hongmei's husband, their dreams of a bright future together begin to fray. Will their devotion to the cause save their skins, or will they too fall victim to the revolution that is

swallowing up the country? A novel of rare emotional force and surprising humor, *Hard Like Water* is an operatic and brilliantly plotted human drama about power's corrupting nature and the brute force of love and desire. "A blistering tour de force . . . poses the uncomfortable and timely question: how did each of us arrive at our certainties?" –The Guardian "One of China's most important—and certainly most fearless—living writers." –Kirkus Reviews

**The Day the Sun Died** - Yan Lianke

2018-12-11

An unforgettable tale of a village that descends into a sleepwalking spell as the sun threatens to never rise again, by the author of *Discovering Fiction*. Yan Lianke has secured his place as contemporary China's most essential and daring novelist, "with his superlative gifts for storytelling and penetrating eye for truth" (New York Times Book Review). His newest novel, *The Day the Sun Died*—winner of the Dream of the Red Chamber Award, one of the most prestigious honors for Chinese-language novels—is a haunting story of a town caught in a waking nightmare. In a little village nestled in the Balou mountains, fourteen-year-old Li Niannian and his parents run a funeral parlor. One evening, he notices a strange occurrence. Instead of preparing for bed, more and more neighbors appear in the streets and fields, carrying on with their daily business as if the sun hadn't already set. Li Niannian watches, mystified. As hundreds of residents are found dreamwalking, they act out the desires they've suppressed during waking hours. Before long, the community devolves into chaos, and it's up to Li Niannian and his parents to save the town before sunrise. Set over the course of one increasingly bizarre night, *The Day*

the Sun Died is a propulsive, darkly sinister tale from a world-class writer. A New York Times Book Review Editors' Choice Named Best Book of the Year at Publishers Weekly Named Best Fiction in Translation Selection by Kirkus Reviews An Amazon Best Book of the Month "[The Day the Sun Died is] the creepiest book I've read in years: a social comedy that bleeds like a zombie apocalypse . . . Yan's understated wit runs through these pages like a snake through fallen leaves . . . Invokes that fluid dream state in which everything represents something else, something deeper . . . A wake-up call about the path we're on." –Ron Charles, Washington Post "Floats between surrealism, sci-fi, horror, and absurdism, while never letting go of its satirical eye. Yet the language and structure of the novel reads more like Samuel Beckett or James Joyce than it does The Handmaid's Tale." –Ploughshares  
**Discovering Fiction** - Lianke Yan 2022-05-20

Eminent Chinese novelist Yan Lianke offers insights into his views on literature and realism, the major works that inspired him, and his theories of writing.

**The Explosion Chronicles** - Yan Lianke 2018-03

LONGLISTED FOR THE MAN BOOKER INTERNATIONAL 2017 With the Yi River on one side and the Balou Mountains on the other, the village of Explosion was founded a thousand years ago by refugees fleeing a volcanic eruption. But in the post-Mao era, the name takes on a new significance as the rural community grows explosively from a small village to a town to a city to a vast megalopolis. Behind this rapid expansion are three rival clans linked together by a web of ambition, madness and greed. Together they transform their hometown into a Babylon of modern times -- an

unrivalled urban superpower built on lies, sex and thievery. 'One of the masters of modern Chinese literature' Jung Chang

Please Look After Mom - Kyung-Sook Shin 2011-04-05

WINNER OF THE MAN ASIAN LITERARY PRIZE When sixty-nine-year-old So-nyo is separated from her husband among the crowds of the Seoul subway station, her family begins a desperate search to find her. Yet as long-held secrets and private sorrows begin to reveal themselves, they are forced to wonder: how well did they actually know the woman they called Mom? Told through the piercing voices and urgent perspectives of a daughter, son, husband, and mother, *Please Look After Mom* is at once an authentic picture of contemporary life in Korea and a universal story of family love.

**Oreo** - Fran Ross 2015-07-07

A pioneering, dazzling satire about a biracial black girl from Philadelphia searching for her Jewish father in New York City *Oreo* is raised by her maternal grandparents in Philadelphia. Her black mother tours with a theatrical troupe, and her Jewish deadbeat dad disappeared when she was an infant, leaving behind a mysterious note that triggers her quest to find him. What ensues is a playful, modernized parody of the classical odyssey of Theseus with a feminist twist, immersed in seventies pop culture, and mixing standard English, black vernacular, and Yiddish with wisecracking aplomb. *Oreo*, our young hero, navigates the labyrinth of sound studios and brothels and subway tunnels in Manhattan, seeking to claim her birthright while unwittingly experiencing and triggering a mythic journey of self-discovery like no other.

*The Routledge Companion to Yan Lianke* - Riccardo Moratto 2022-03-11

Yan Lianke is one of the most important, prolific, and controversial writers in contemporary China. At the forefront of the "mythorealist" Chinese avant-garde and using absurdist humor and grotesque satire, Yan's works have caught much critical attention not only in the Chinese mainland, Hong Kong, and Taiwan but also around the world. His critiques of modern China under both Mao-era socialism and contemporary capitalism draw on a deep knowledge of history, folklore, and spirituality. This companion presents a collection of critical essays by leading scholars of Yan Lianke from around the world, organized into some of the key themes of his work: Mythorealism; Absurdity and Spirituality; and History and Gender, as well as the challenges of translating his work into English and other languages. With an essay written by Yan Lianke himself, this is a vital and authoritative resource for students and scholars looking to understand Yan's works from both his own perspective and those of leading critics.

*The Years, Months, Days* - Yan Lianke  
2017-12-05

Over the last decade, Yan Lianke has been continually heralded as one of the "best contemporary Chinese writers" (The Independent) and "one of the country's fiercest satirists" (The Guardian). Among many awards and honors, he has been twice a finalist for the Man Booker International Prize and he was awarded the prestigious Franz Kafka Prize for his impressive body of work. Now, for the first time, his two most acclaimed novellas are being published in English. "Timeless" and "marvelous" (Asian Review of Books), *Marrow* is a haunting story of a widow who goes to extremes to provide a normal life for her four physically and mentally disabled children. When she finds out

that bones "the closer from kin the better" can cure their illnesses and prevent future generations from the same fate, she feeds them a medicinal soup made from the bones of her dead husband. But after running out of bones, she resorts to a measure that only a mother can take. A luminous, moving fable, *The Years, Months, Days*—a bestselling classic in China and winner of the prestigious Lu Xun Literary Prize—tells of an elderly man who stays in his small village after a terrible drought forces everyone to leave. Unable to make the grueling march through the mountains, he becomes the lone inhabitant, along with a blind dog. Tending to a single ear of corn, and fending off the natural world from overtaking the village, every day is a victory over death. With touches of the fantastical, these two novellas—masterpieces of the form—reflect the universality of mankind's will to live, live well, and live with purpose.

*The Struggle for Sustainability in Rural China* - Bryan Tilt 2009-12-15  
Though China's economy is projected to become the world's largest within the next twenty years, industrial pollution threatens both the health of the country's citizens and the natural resources on which their economy depends. Capturing the consequences of this reality, Bryan Tilt conducts an in-depth, ethnographic study of Futian Township, a rural community reeling from pollution. The industrial township is located in the populous southwestern province of Sichuan. Three local factories—a zinc smelter, a coking plant, and a coal-washing plant—produce air and water pollution that far exceeds the standards set by the World Health Organization and China's Ministry of Environmental Protection. Interviewing state and company officials, factory workers,



farmers, and scientists, Tilt shows how residents cope with this pollution and how they view its effects on health and economic growth. Striking at the heart of the community's environmental values, he explores the intersection between civil society and environmental policy, weighing the tradeoffs between protection and economic growth. Tilt ultimately finds that the residents are quite concerned about pollution, and he investigates the various strategies they use to fight it. His study unravels the complexity of sustainable development within a rapidly changing nation.

The Notebook - Agota Kristof 1997  
Kristof's postmodern saga begins with *The Notebook*, in which the brothers are children, lost in a country torn apart by conflict, who must learn every trick of evil and cruelty merely to survive.

*Marrow* - Yan Lianke 2016-07-28  
In a small village in the Balou Mountains, Fourth Wife You despairs of what the future holds for her four mentally-impaired children. A cure for the family curse appears, but it will extract a price so primal and complete that no one can be expected to make it except, perhaps, for a mother. A chilling and relentless tale of family responsibility and a mother's sacrifice, *Marrow* is Yan Lianke at his best. Translated from the original Chinese by Carlos Rojas

**The Four Books** - Yan Lianke  
2015-03-19  
SHORTLISTED FOR THE MAN BOOKER INTERNATIONAL PRIZE 2016 'One of China's greatest living authors and fiercest satirists' Guardian In the ninety-ninth district of a sprawling labour camp, the Author, Musician, Scholar, Theologian and Technician - and hundreds just like them - are undergoing Re-education, to restore their revolutionary zeal and credentials. In charge of this

process is the Child, who delights in draconian rules, monitoring behaviour and confiscating treasured books. But when bad weather arrives, followed by the 'three bitter years', the intellectuals are abandoned by the regime and left on their own to survive. Divided into four narratives, *The Four Books* tells the story of the Great Famine, one of China's most devastating and controversial periods. WINNER OF THE FRANZ KAFKA PRIZE 2014 NOMINATED FOR CZECH AWARD MAGNESIA LITERA 2014 HUA ZHONG WORLD CHINESE LITERATURE PRIZE 2013 FINALIST FOR THE MAN BOOKER INTERNATIONAL PRIZE 2013 WINNER OF THE HUA ZHONG WORLD CHINESE LITERATURE PRIZE 2013 SHORTLISTED FOR THE INDEPENDENT FOREIGN FICTION PRIZE 2012 SHORTLISTED FOR THE PRIX FEMINA ETRANGER 2012 SHORTLISTED FOR THE MAN ASIAN LITERARY PRIZE 2011 WINNER OF THE LAO SHE LITERATURE AWARD 2004 WINNER OF THE LU XUN AWARD 1997

**The Years, Months, Days** - Yan Lianke  
2018-04-05  
A terrible drought hits the population of a small mountain village and they flee to better climes. Incapable of marching for days, one old man and his blind dog stay behind, keeping watch over his single ear of corn. Every day is a victory over death. *The Years, Months, Days* is a universal story, an homage to all that is good in mankind. A bestseller in China and now available in English for the first time, this is a powerful, moving fable by 'one of China's greatest living authors' (Guardian).  
*Uproot* - Jace Clayton 2016-08-16  
Confessions of a DJ -- Auto-tune gives you a better me -- How music travels -- World music 2.0 -- Red Bull gives you wings -- Cut & paste -- Tools -- Loops -- How to hold on? -- Active listening  
**Chronicle of a Blood Merchant** - Yu Hua 2007-12-18

From the acclaimed author of *Brothers and China in Ten Words*: here is Yu Hua's unflinching portrait of life under Chairman Mao. A cart-pusher in a silk mill, Xu Sanguan augments his meager salary with regular visits to the local blood chief. His visits become lethally frequent as he struggles to provide for his wife and three sons at the height of the Cultural Revolution. Shattered to discover that his favorite son was actually born of a liaison between his wife and a neighbor, he suffers his greatest indignity, while his wife is publicly scorned as a prostitute. Although the poverty and betrayals of Mao's regime have drained him, Xu Sanguan ultimately finds strength in the blood ties of his family. With rare emotional intensity, grippingly raw descriptions of place and time, and clear-eyed compassion, Yu Hua gives us a stunning tapestry of human life in the grave particulars of one man's days.

*China Road* - Rob Gifford 2007-05-29  
Route 312 is the Chinese Route 66. It flows three thousand miles from east to west, passing through the factory towns of the coastal areas, through the rural heart of China, then up into the Gobi Desert, where it merges with the Old Silk Road. The highway witnesses every part of the social and economic revolution that is turning China upside down. In this utterly surprising and deeply personal book, acclaimed National Public Radio reporter Rob Gifford, a fluent Mandarin speaker, takes the dramatic journey along Route 312 from its start in the boomtown of Shanghai to its end on the border with Kazakhstan. Gifford reveals the rich mosaic of modern Chinese life in all its contradictions, as he poses the crucial questions that all of us are asking about China: Will it really be the next global superpower? Is it as

solid and as powerful as it looks from the outside? And who are the ordinary Chinese people, to whom the twenty-first century is supposed to belong? Gifford is not alone on his journey. The largest migration in human history is taking place along highways such as Route 312, as tens of millions of people leave their homes in search of work. He sees signs of the booming urban economy everywhere, but he also uncovers many of the country's frailties, and some of the deep-seated problems that could derail China's rise. The whole compelling adventure is told through the cast of colorful characters Gifford meets: garrulous talk-show hosts and ambitious yuppies, impoverished peasants and tragic prostitutes, cell-phone salesmen, AIDS patients, and Tibetan monks. He rides with members of a Shanghai jeep club, hitchhikes across the Gobi desert, and sings karaoke with migrant workers at truck stops along the way. As he recounts his travels along Route 312, Rob Gifford gives a face to what has historically, for Westerners, been a faceless country and breathes life into a nation that is so often reduced to economic statistics. Finally, he sounds a warning that all is not well in the Chinese heartlands, that serious problems lie ahead, and that the future of the West has become inextricably linked with the fate of 1.3 billion Chinese people.

"Informative, delightful, and powerfully moving . . . Rob Gifford's acute powers of observation, his sense of humor and adventure, and his determination to explore the wrenching dilemmas of China's explosive development open readers' eyes and reward their minds." –Robert A. Kapp, president, U.S.-China Business Council, 1994-2004  
[The Transmigration of Bodies and Signs Preceding the End of the World](#)

- Yuri Herrera 2016-11-28

Two astonishing novellas, by 'Mexico's greatest novelist', in one volume. Hilarious and horrifying, Yuri Herrera's *The Transmigration of Bodies* is a gritty, feverish novella, written in dazzling prose that is both bawdy and poetic. A plague has brought death to the city. Two feuding crime families with blood on their hands need our hard-boiled hero, *The Redeemer*, to broker peace. Both his instincts and the vacant streets warn him to stay indoors, but *The Redeemer* ventures out into the city's underbelly to arrange for the exchange of the bodies they hold hostage. Lust and crime and a lack of condoms all feature in this brilliant novella about living in a city filled with the dead, and where no one can distinguish between the guilty and the innocent. A response to the violence of contemporary Mexico, with echoes of *Romeo and Juliet*, Roberto Bolaño and Raymond Chandler, *The Transmigration of Bodies* is a noir tragedy and a tribute to those bodies—loved, sanctified and defiled—that violent crime has touched. *Signs Preceding the End of the World* is a masterpiece, haunting and arresting, spare and poetic, a condensed epic about immigration. Yuri Herrera does not simply write about the border between Mexico and the United States and those who cross it. He explores the crossings and translations people make in their minds and language as they move from one country to another, especially when there's no going back. Traversing this lonely territory is Makina, a young woman who knows only too well how to survive in a violent, macho world. Leaving behind her life in Mexico to search for her brother, she is smuggled into the USA carrying a pair of secret messages—one from her mother and one from the Mexican underworld.

*Heart Sutra* - Yan Lianke 2023-03-14  
From "China's foremost literary satirist" (Financial Times) comes a captivating new novel set at a religious training center in Beijing, focusing on the unlikely love story of a Buddhist nun and a Daoist priest. At the Religious Training Center on the campus of Beijing's National Politics University, disciples of China's five main religions—Buddhism, Daoism, Protestantism, Catholicism, and Islam—gather for a year of intensive study and training. In this hallowed yet jovial atmosphere, the institute's two youngest disciples—Yahui, a Buddhist jade nun, and Gu Mingzheng, a Daoist master—fall into a fast friendship that might bloom into something more. This year, however, the worldly Director Gong has an exciting new plan: he has organized tug-of-war competitions between the religions. The fervor of competition offers excitement for the disciples, as well as a lucrative source of fundraising, but Yahui looks on the games with distrust: her beloved mentor collapsed after witnessing one of these competitions. Gu Mingzheng, meanwhile, has his own mission at the institute, centering on his search for his unknown father. Soon it becomes clear that corruption is seeping ever more deeply into the foundation of the institute under Director Gong's watch, and Yahui and Gu Mingzheng will be forced to ask themselves whether it is better to stay committed to an increasingly fraught faith or to return to secular life forever—and nothing less than the fate of the gods itself is at stake. Illustrated throughout with beautiful original papercuts, animated by Yan Lianke's characteristically incisive sense of humor, *Heart Sutra* is a stunning and timely novel that highlights the best and worst in mankind and interrogates

the costs of division.

**Film Studies** - Ed Sikov 2010

American film scholar Ed Sikov discusses all aspects of narrative films, describing mise-en-scène, the significance of montages, editing, lighting, the use of color and sound, and related topics; and providing practical advice, suggested assignments, and other resources.

The Village - Nikita Lalwani

2013-07-09

In her award-winning debut novel, *Gifted*, Nikita Lalwani crafted a brilliant coming-of-age story that “[called] to mind the work of such novelists as Zadie Smith and Monica Ali” (The Washington Post Book World). Now Lalwani turns her gimlet eye on an extraordinary village in India, and explores the thin boundary between morality and evil, innocence and guilt. After a long trip from London, twenty-seven-year-old BBC filmmaker Ray Bhullar arrives at the remote Indian village of Ashwer, which will be the subject of her newest documentary. From the outside, the town projects a cozy air of domesticity—small huts bordering earthen paths, men lounging and drinking tea, women guiding bright cloth through noisy sewing machines. Yet Ashwer is far from traditional. It is an experimental open prison, a village of convicted murderers and their families. As Ray and her crew settle in, they seek to win the trust of Ashwer’s residents and administrators: Nandini, a women’s counselor and herself an inmate; Jyoti, a prisoner’s wife who is raising her children on the grounds; Sujay, the progressive founder and governor of the society. Ray aims to portray Ashwer as a model of tolerance, yet the longer she and her colleagues stay, the more their need for a dramatic story line intensifies. And as Ray’s moral judgment competes with her

professional obligation, her assignment takes an uneasy and disturbing turn. Incisive, moving, and superbly written, *The Village* deftly examines the limits of empathy, the slipperiness of reason, and the strength of our principles in the face of personal gain. Praise for *The Village* “Powerful . . . One of the novel’s great strengths is how it maintains an ambience of mystery and menace.”—The New York Times Book Review “Extraordinary . . . Lalwani writes with wonderful clarity and intelligence.”—The Times (U.K.) “*The Village* can creep up and grab you unawares.”—Toronto Star “[Lalwani’s] prose is evocative and excellent.”—Publishers Weekly “Thoughtful and beautifully written.”—The Guardian (U.K.) “Gripping.”—Marie Claire (U.K.) “Intelligent and disturbing . . . a sharply observed, highly personal book.”—Pittsburgh Post-Gazette “A thoughtful novel that envelops us in the oppression and beauty of the rural prison . . . Each voice is distinct, believable and stubborn in its refusal to be easily known. . . . Touchingly evocative.”—Financial Times “Thoughtfully and often beautifully written . . . a candid exploration of journalistic ethics.”—The Observer

Lenin's Kisses - Yan Lianke

2012-10-02

This “blistering satire” of modern China was a finalist for the Man Booker International Prize and a New York Times Editor’s Choice novel (Publishers Weekly, starred review). *Lenin’s Kisses* is set in modern day China, in the village of Liven. Nestled within the Balou Mountains, the people have enough food and leisure to be content—until their crops and livelihood are obliterated by a snowstorm in the middle of summer. Then a county official arrives with a peculiar plan. He

wants to use the villagers to start a traveling performance troupe. Next, he'll take the profits and buy Lenin's embalmed corpse from Russia and install it in a mausoleum to attract tourism. But the success of the Shuanghuai County Special-Skills Performance Troupe comes at a serious price. Named a finalist for the 2013 Man Booker International Prize, Lenin's Kisses is "a satirical masterpiece" (Kirkus) that was on Best Book of 2012 lists from the New Yorker, MacLeans, and Kirkus, and was also a New York Times Editors' Choice.

**Happy Dreams** - Pingwa Jia 2017  
"First published in English by AmazonCrossing in 2017."

**Foal's Bread** - Gillian Mears 2011  
The long-awaited new novel from the award-winning author of The Grass Sister tells the story of two generations of the Nancarrow family and the high-jumping horse circuit prior to the Second World War. A love story of impossible beauty and sadness, it is also a chronicle of dreams 'turned inside out', and miracles that never last, framed against a world both tender and unspeakably hard.

**Dream of Ding Village** - Lianke Yan 2011  
A previously banned work based on a true scandal finds an impoverished village targeted by a blood-selling operation that leads to a catastrophic outbreak of AIDS and decimates an entire community. By the award-winning author of Serve the People!

The Mahabharata - R. K. Narayan 2016-02-12  
"Narayan makes this treasury of Indian folklore and mythology readily accessible to the general reader . . . he captures the spirit of the narrative."—Library Journal  
The Mahabharata tells a story of such violence and tragedy that many people

in India refuse to keep the full text in their homes, fearing that doing so would invite a disastrous fate upon their house. Covering everything from creation to destruction, this ancient poem remains an indelible part of Hindu culture and a landmark in ancient literature. Centuries of listeners and readers have been drawn to The Mahabharata, which began as disparate oral ballads and grew into a sprawling epic. The modern version is famously long, and at more than 1.8 million words—seven times the combined lengths of the Iliad and Odyssey—it can be incredibly daunting. But contemporary readers have a much more accessible entry point to this important work, thanks to R. K. Narayan's masterful, elegant translation and abridgement of the poem. Now with a new foreword by Wendy Doniger, as well as a concise character and place guide and a family tree, The Mahabharata is ready for a new generation of readers. Narayan ably distills a tale that is both traditional and constantly changing. He draws from both scholarly analysis and creative interpretation and vividly fuses the spiritual with the secular. Through this balance he has produced a translation that is not only clear, but graceful, one that stands as its own story as much as an adaptation of a larger work.

**The Seventh Day** - Yu Hua 2015-01-13  
From the acclaimed author of Brothers and To Live: a major new novel that limns the joys and sorrows of life in contemporary China. Yang Fei was born on a moving train. Lost by his mother, adopted by a young switchman, raised with simplicity and love, he is utterly unprepared for the tempestuous changes that await him and his country. As a young man, he searches for a place to belong in a nation that is ceaselessly reinventing itself, but he remains on

the edges of society. At age forty-one, he meets an accidental and unceremonious death. Lacking the money for a burial plot, he must roam the afterworld aimlessly, without rest. Over the course of seven days, he encounters the souls of the people he's lost. As Yang Fei retraces the path of his life, we meet an extraordinary cast of characters: his adoptive father, his beautiful ex-wife, his neighbors who perished in the demolition of their homes.

Traveling on, he sees that the afterworld encompasses all the casualties of today's China—the organ sellers, the young suicides, the innocent convicts—as well as the hope for a better life to come. Yang Fei's passage maps the contours of this vast nation—its absurdities, its sorrows, and its soul. Vivid, urgent, and panoramic, *The Seventh Day* affirms Yu Hua's place as the standard-bearer of modern Chinese fiction.