

## CONTENTS

---

Publisher's Note . . . . .	vii
Complete Annotated List of Titles . . . . .	ix
Contributing Reviewers . . . . .	xxix
Academy Street— <i>Mary Costello</i> . . . . .	1
Against the Country— <i>Ben Metcalf</i> . . . . .	5
All the Old Knives— <i>Olen Steinhauer</i> . . . . .	9
Among the Ten Thousand Things— <i>Julia Pierpont</i> . . . . .	14
Ancillary Mercy— <i>Anne Leckie</i> . . . . .	18
The Arab of the Future: A Childhood in the Middle East, 1978–1984: A Graphic Memoir— <i>Riad Sattouf</i> . . . . .	23
Aurora— <i>Kim Stanley Robinson</i> . . . . .	28
Avenue of Mysteries— <i>John Irving</i> . . . . .	32
Barbara the Slut and Other People— <i>Lauren Holmes</i> . . . . .	37
Barbarian Days: A Surfing Life— <i>William Finnegan</i> . . . . .	41
The Beauty— <i>Jane Hirshfield</i> . . . . .	45
Beauty Is a Wound— <i>Eka Kurniawan</i> . . . . .	50
Best Boy— <i>Eli Gottlieb</i> . . . . .	54
Between the World and Me— <i>Ta-Nehisi Coates</i> . . . . .	58
Binary Star— <i>Sarah Gerard</i> . . . . .	62
Bone Gap— <i>Laura Ruby</i> . . . . .	67
Bonita Avenue— <i>Peter Buwalda</i> . . . . .	71
The Book of Aron— <i>Jim Shepard</i> . . . . .	75
Book of Numbers— <i>Joshua Cohen</i> . . . . .	79
Boys in the Trees— <i>Carly Simon</i> . . . . .	83
Bright Dead Things— <i>Ada Limón</i> . . . . .	87
The Buried Giant— <i>Kazuo Ishiguro</i> . . . . .	92
The Cartel— <i>Don Winslow</i> . . . . .	96
Challenger Deep— <i>Neal Shusterman</i> . . . . .	100
The Children's Crusade— <i>Ann Packer</i> . . . . .	104
China Rich Girlfriend— <i>Kevin Kwan</i> . . . . .	108
Circling the Sun— <i>Paula McLain</i> . . . . .	112
City on Fire— <i>Garth Risk Hallberg</i> . . . . .	116
Counternarratives— <i>John Keene</i> . . . . .	120
Crow Fair— <i>Thomas McGuane</i> . . . . .	124
A Cure for Suicide— <i>Jesse Ball</i> . . . . .	128

MAGIL'S LITERARY ANNUAL 2016

Dead Wake: The Last Crossing of the Lusitania— <i>Erik Larson</i> . . . . .	132
Death and Mr. Pickwick— <i>Stephen Jarvis</i> . . . . .	137
Delicious Foods— <i>James Hannaham</i> . . . . .	141
Did You Ever Have a Family— <i>Bill Clegg</i> . . . . .	145
Dietland— <i>Sarai Walker</i> . . . . .	149
Eileen— <i>Otessa Moshfegh</i> . . . . .	153
The Empty Form Goes All the Way To Heaven— <i>Brian Teare</i> . . . . .	157
Fates and Furies— <i>Lauren Groff</i> . . . . .	161
The Fifth Season— <i>N. K. Jemisin</i> . . . . .	165
Finders Keepers— <i>Stephen King</i> . . . . .	169
The First Bad Man— <i>Miranda July</i> . . . . .	173
The Fishermen— <i>Chigozie Obioma</i> . . . . .	177
The Folded Clock— <i>Heidi Julavits</i> . . . . .	181
Fortune Smiles— <i>Adam Johnson</i> . . . . .	185
Four-Legged Girl— <i>Diane Seuss</i> . . . . .	189
Funny Girl— <i>Nick Hornby</i> . . . . .	194
Furiously Happy: A Funny Book about Horrible Things— <i>Jenny Lawson</i> . . . . .	198
Get in Trouble— <i>Kelly Link</i> . . . . .	202
Ghettoside: A True Story of Murder in America— <i>Jill Leovy</i> . . . . .	206
The Girl in the Spider's Web— <i>David Lagercrantz</i> . . . . .	211
The Girl on the Train— <i>Paula Hawkins</i> . . . . .	215
Girl Waits with Gun— <i>Amy Stewart</i> . . . . .	219
Go Set a Watchman— <i>Harper Lee</i> . . . . .	223
God Help the Child— <i>Toni Morrison</i> . . . . .	228
A God in Ruins— <i>Kate Atkinson</i> . . . . .	232
Gold Fame Citrus— <i>Claire Vaye Watkins</i> . . . . .	236
Golden Age— <i>Jane Smiley</i> . . . . .	240
The Green Road— <i>Anne Enright</i> . . . . .	244
H is for Hawk— <i>Helen Macdonald</i> . . . . .	248
The Harder They Come— <i>T. C. Boyle</i> . . . . .	252
Hausfrau— <i>Jill Alexander Essbaum</i> . . . . .	257
Heaven— <i>Rowan Ricardo Phillips</i> . . . . .	261
A History of Loneliness— <i>John Boyne</i> . . . . .	265
Hold Still: A Memoir with Photographs— <i>Sally Mann</i> . . . . .	269
Honeydew— <i>Edith Pearlman</i> . . . . .	274
How to Be Drawn— <i>Terrance Hayes</i> . . . . .	278
How to Start a Fire— <i>Lisa Lutz</i> . . . . .	282
Hunger Makes Me a Modern Girl— <i>Carrie Brownstein</i> . . . . .	286

CONTENTS

I Am Radar—*Reif Larsen* . . . . . 290  
In the Country—*Mia Alvar* . . . . . 294  
In the Unlikely Event—*Judy Blume*. . . . . 298  
The Incarnations—*Susan Barker* . . . . . 302  
The Invention of Nature: Alexander von Humboldt’s  
New World—*Andrea Wulf*. . . . . 306  
  
The Japanese Lover—*Isabel Allende*. . . . . 311  
  
Killing and Dying—*Adrian Tomine*. . . . . 316  
Kitchens of the Great Midwest—*J. Ryan Stradal*. . . . . 321

## CONTENTS

---

Complete Annotated List of Titles . . . . .	ix
Lafayette in the Somewhat United States— <i>Sarah Vowell</i> . . . . .	325
Last Bus to Wisdom— <i>Ivan Doig</i> . . . . .	329
A Little Life— <i>Hanya Yanagihara</i> . . . . .	333
M Train— <i>Patti Smith</i> . . . . .	337
Make Your Home among Strangers— <i>Jennine Capó Crucet</i> . . . . .	341
A Manual for Cleaning Women— <i>Lucia Berlin</i> . . . . .	345
March: Book Two— <i>John Lewis and Andrew Aydin</i> , with artwork by <i>Nate Powell</i> . . . . .	349
The Mare— <i>Mary Gaitskill</i> . . . . .	354
The Mark and the Void— <i>Paul Murray</i> . . . . .	358
The Mersault Investigation— <i>Kamel Daoud</i> . . . . .	362
Mislaid— <i>Nell Zink</i> . . . . .	367
Mistaking Each Other for Ghosts— <i>Lawrence Raab</i> . . . . .	372
Monograph— <i>Simeon Berry</i> . . . . .	377
More Happy Than Not— <i>Adam Silvera</i> . . . . .	382
Most Dangerous: Daniel Ellsberg and the Secret History of the Vietnam War— <i>Steve Sheinkin</i> . . . . .	387
Mothers, Tell Your Daughters— <i>Bonnie Jo Campbell</i> . . . . .	391
Mrs. Engels— <i>Gavin McCrea</i> . . . . .	395
My Life on the Road— <i>Gloria Steinem</i> . . . . .	399
My Struggle: Book 4— <i>Karl Ove Knausgaard</i> . . . . .	403
My Sunshine Away— <i>M. O. Walsh</i> . . . . .	407
Mycroft Holmes— <i>Kareem Abdul-Jabbar and Anna Waterhouse</i> . . . . .	411
The Nature of the Beast— <i>Louise Penny</i> . . . . .	416
Negroland— <i>Margo Jefferson</i> . . . . .	420
The Nightingale— <i>Kristin Hannah</i> . . . . .	424
Nimona— <i>Noelle Stevenson</i> . . . . .	428
Notes on the Assemblage— <i>Juan Felipe Herrera</i> . . . . .	432
On the Move— <i>Oliver Sacks</i> . . . . .	437
The Only Ones— <i>Carola Dibbell</i> . . . . .	441
Oracle: Poems— <i>Cate Marvin</i> . . . . .	445
Ordinary Light— <i>Tracy K. Smith</i> . . . . .	449
Orhan's Inheritance— <i>Aline Ohanesian</i> . . . . .	453
Our Souls at Night— <i>Kent Haruf</i> . . . . .	457
Outline— <i>Rachel Cusk</i> . . . . .	461

MAGILL'S LITERARY ANNUAL 2016

Purity— <i>Jonathan Franzen</i> . . . . .	465
Refund— <i>Karen E. Bender</i> . . . . .	469
Satin Island— <i>Tom McCarthy</i> . . . . .	474
Scattered at Sea— <i>Amy Gerstler</i> . . . . .	478
The Sculptor— <i>Scott McCloud</i> . . . . .	483
The Secret Chord— <i>Geraldine Brooks</i> . . . . .	488
The Sellout— <i>Paul Beatty</i> . . . . .	492
Sevенеves— <i>Neal Stephenson</i> . . . . .	496
The Shepherd's Crown— <i>Terry Pratchett</i> . . . . .	501
Slade House— <i>David Mitchell</i> . . . . .	505
So You Don't Get Lost in the Neighborhood— <i>Patrick Modiano</i> . . . . .	509
The Soul of an Octopus: A Surprising Exploration into the Wonder of Consciousness— <i>Sy Montgomery</i> . . . . .	513
A Spool of Blue Thread— <i>Anne Tyler</i> . . . . .	518
The State We're In: Maine Stories— <i>Ann Beattie</i> . . . . .	523
Step Aside, Pops— <i>Kate Beaton</i> . . . . .	527
The Story of My Teeth— <i>Valeria Luiselli</i> . . . . .	531
The Story of the Lost Child— <i>Elena Ferrante</i> . . . . .	535
A Strangeness in My Mind— <i>Orhan Pamuk</i> . . . . .	539
A Stranger's Mirror: New and Selected Poems, 1994–2014— <i>Marilyn Hacker</i> . . . . .	543
Submission— <i>Michael Houellebecq</i> . . . . .	548
Surrounded by Friends— <i>Matthew Rohrer</i> . . . . .	553
The Sympathizer— <i>Viet Thanh Nguyen</i> . . . . .	559
The Thing about Jellyfish— <i>Ali Benjamin</i> . . . . .	564
The Tsar of Love and Techno— <i>Anthony Marra</i> . . . . .	568
The Turner House— <i>Angela Flournoy</i> . . . . .	572
Twain and Stanley Enter Paradise— <i>Oscar Hijuelos</i> . . . . .	576
Two Years Eight Months and Twenty-Eight Nights— <i>Salman Rushdie</i> . . . . .	581
Under the Udala Trees— <i>Chinelo Okparanta</i> . . . . .	585
Uprooted— <i>Naomi Novik</i> . . . . .	589
The Visiting Privilege— <i>Joy Williams</i> . . . . .	593
Voyage of the Sable Venus— <i>Robin Coste Lewis</i> . . . . .	597
War of the Foxes— <i>Richard Siken</i> . . . . .	602
The Watchmaker of Filigree Street . . . . .	606
The Water Knife— <i>Paolo Bacigalupi</i> . . . . .	610
Welcome to Braggsville— <i>T. Geronimo Johnson</i> . . . . .	614
The Whites— <i>Richard Price (Harry Brandt)</i> . . . . .	618

CONTENTS

A Wild Swan—*Michael Cunningham* . . . . . 622  
World Gone By—*Dennis Lehane* . . . . . 626  
The Wright Brothers—*David McCullough* . . . . . 630  
  
X—*Ilyasah Shabazz with Kekla Magoon* . . . . . 635  
  
Category Index . . . . . 641  
Title Index . . . . . 645  
Author Index . . . . . 649