
The Memory Of Love Aminatta Forna

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MALLORY HUGHES

Macmillan

“[A] luminous tale of passion and betrayal” set in the post-colonial and civil war eras of Sierra Leone (The New York Times). Winner of the Commonwealth Writers’ Prize for Best Book As a decade of civil war and political unrest comes to a devastating close, three men must reconcile themselves to their own fate and the fate of their broken nation. For Elias Cole, this means reflecting on his time as a young scholar in 1969 and the affair that defined his life. For Adrian Lockheart, it means listening to Elias’s tale and following his own heart into a heated romance. For Elias’s doctor, Kai Mansaray, it’s desperately battling his nightmares by trying to heal his patients. As each man’s story becomes inexorably bound with the others’, they discover that they are connected not only by their shared heritage, pain, and shame, but also by one remarkable woman. *The Memory of Love* is a beautiful and ambitious exploration of the influence history can have on generations, and the shared cultural burdens that each of us inevitably face. “A soft-spoken story of brutality and endurance set in postwar Sierra Leone . . . Tragedy and its aftermath are affectingly, memorably evoked in this multistranded narrative from a significant talent.” —Kirkus

Reviews

A Daughter's Quest W. W. Norton & Company

An award-winning Scottish and Sierra Leonean novelist “brilliantly portrays the atmosphere” of Croatia in this haunting tale of war, history, and secrets (The

Guardian). Visitors are not common in the small Croatian village of Gost, so Duro is surprised to see a strange car pull up to a well-known farmhouse just outside of town. Laura, a British woman, and her two children are refurbishing the home to be their summer cottage, and Duro agrees to lend a hand, becoming Laura’s confidant along the way. But the rest of the residents of Gost are not so pleased to have outsiders in their midst. As Duro works to shield Laura and her family from the town’s hostility, volatile secrets begin to bubble to the surface—secrets that could threaten everyone in the seemingly sleepy town, even the unwitting new residents. *The Hired Man* is a story of lost love, dangerous history, and quiet malice. “Not since *Remains of the Day* has an author so skillfully revealed the way history’s layers are invisible to all but its participants, who do what they must to survive” (The Boston Globe).

The Heart of the Matter: Granta Books

Yemen, 1935. Jama is a “market boy,” a half-feral child scavenging with his friends in the dusty streets of a great seaport. For Jama, life is a thrilling carnival, at least when he can fill his belly. When his mother—alternately raging and loving—dies young, she leaves him only an amulet stuffed with one hundred rupees. Jama decides to spend her life’s meager savings on a search for his never-seen father; the rumors that travel along clan lines report that he is a driver for the British somewhere in the north. So begins Jama’s extraordinary journey of more than a thousand miles north all the way to Egypt, by camel, by truck, by train, but mostly on foot. He slings himself from one perilous city to another, fiercely enjoying life on the road and

relying on his vast clan network to shelter him and point the way to his father, who always seems just a day or two out of reach. In his travels, Jama will witness scenes of great humanity and brutality; he will be caught up in the indifferent, grinding machine of war; he will crisscross the Red Sea in search of working papers and a ship. Bursting with life and a rough joyfulness, Black Mamba Boy is debut novelist Nadifa Mohamed's vibrant, moving celebration of her family's own history.

Still Water Bending The Memory of Love In the river-born community of Ophelia, Virginia, on the Chesapeake Bay, there are three religions: The Water, The Family, and The Land. This trinity has bound and sustained a community of proud, independent people for generations. But in the face of dwindling fisheries, falling prices for the catch, and land speculation by outsiders, a way of life is dying. Jines Arley Evans, a third generation waterman, clings to what is left of his past. His wife and young son are long dead, his estranged daughter far away. The family land and its silent house, the workboat called Jenny Rae after his wife, and the rhythms, mysteries, and seasons of the water are all that remain of a life that long ago lost any real purpose. His daughter, Lily Rae Evans, fled her father, the family home, and Ophelia fourteen years ago. Bitterly angry at Jines for his emotional abandonment, Lily Rae lives in Portland, Maine, where she works as a journalist. Like her father, disaffection and silence are her allies; the past remains a vault in which any kind of future is locked. When Jines suffers a stroke while fishing, the trajectories of their isolation from each other and from the rest of the world abruptly change. As Jines's only surviving family member, Lily Rae is

called home. Thrown together, they must come to terms with their isolation from each other and the rest of the world. They begin to find a common language in an unlikely place—in a shed where Jines, now land-bound and needing Lily's help, begins to build a traditional deadrise skiff. As Jines's powerful life slowly recedes and contracts, Lily's expands as she becomes reacquainted with the place and people she had left behind, including Jamie Cockrell, her best childhood friend. Now a divorced father of a beautiful young daughter, he's yearning for what few other young men of Ophelia still want—a chance to run his own boat and work on the water. Lily is falling in love, not only with Jamie and his daughter but with her home.

A Novel African Books Collective

Long accepted as the best work on the subject, Oliver Rackham's book is both a comprehensive history of Britain's woodlands and a field work guide that presents trees individually and as part of the landscape.

Memories of Rain Holt Paperbacks

A woman's feminist awakening drives a hypocritical village to madness in rural Uruguay in this "wild, brutal paean to freedom" (NPR.org). Shortlisted for the National Translation Award "Somers' feminism is profound, and complicated." —NPR.org "A surreal, nightmarish book about women's struggle for autonomy—and how that struggle is (always, inevitably) met with violence." —Carmen Maria Machado, author of *Her Body and Other Parties* When *The Naked Woman* was originally published in 1950, critics doubted a woman writer could be responsible for its shocking erotic content. In this searing critique of Enlightenment values, fantastic themes are juxtaposed with brutal depictions of

misogyny and violence, and frantically build to a fiery conclusion. Finally available to an English-speaking audience, Armonía Somers will resonate with readers of Clarice Lispector, Djuna Barnes, and Leonora Carrington.

The Cry of the Go-Away Bird Europa Editions

Introducing an eloquent, sensual new Canadian voice that rings out in a first novel that is exquisitely rich and stunningly original. Roop is a sixteen-year-old village girl in the Punjab region of undivided India in 1937 whose family is respectable but poor -- her father is deep in debt and her mother is dead. Innocent and lovely, yet afraid she may not marry well, she is elated when she learns she is to become the second wife of a wealthy Sikh landowner, Sardarji, whose first wife, Satya, has failed to bear him any children. Roop trusts that the strong-willed Satya will treat her as a sister, but their relationship becomes far more ominous and complicated than expected. Roop's tale draws the reader immediately into her world, making the exotic familiar and the family's story startlingly universal, but *What the Body Remembers* is also very much Satya's story. She is mortified and angry when Sardarji takes Roop for a wife, a woman whose low status Satya takes as an affront to her position, and she adopts desperate measures to maintain her place in society and in her husband's heart. Yet it is also Sardarji's story, as the India he knows and understands -- the temples, cities, villages and countryside, all so vividly evoked -- begins to change. The escalating tensions in his personal life reflect those between Hindu and Muslim that lead to the cleaving of India and trap the Sikhs in a horrifying middle ground. Deeply imbued with the languages, customs and

layered history of colonial India, *What the Body Remembers* is an absolute triumph of storytelling. Never before has a novel of love and partition been told from the point of view of the Sikh minority, never before through Sikh women's eyes. This is a novel to read, treasure and admire that, like its two compelling heroines, resists all efforts to be put aside.

Pleasantview Pan Macmillan

A heartbreaking story of ordinary people in extraordinary circumstances by acclaimed writer Aminatta Forna.

The Devil that Danced on the Water Bloomsbury Publishing

Chronicles the lives of Zimbabwean women in two stories, the first a tale about a young woman fleeing the war to seek a new life in Harare, and the second about a mute teenager struggling to cope with the pain of incest.

The Memory of Love Open Road + Grove/Atlantic

This is an intimate and moving portrait of a family combined with an account of the events which swept through Africa in the post-independence period. As the child of a Sierra Leonian medical student and a white, working class woman in 1960s Aberdeen, Aminatta Forna saw bricks thrown through the windows of the family home and her mother spat on in the street and disowned by her own father. On moving to Sierra Leone, where her parents set up a clinic, she enjoyed an idyllic childhood playing among the mango trees. But her father's increasing involvement in politics became too much of a strain for her mother, who fled back to England. Aminatta's father married a Sierra Leonian and became Deputy Prime Minister and the family enjoyed the life of the elite.

Happiness Open Road + Grove/Atlantic
 In the city of Accra, the Voyager Hotel is widely known as a well-run lodging perfectly suited to cash-strapped tourists. But one early March morning, hotel guest Heather Peterson, a beautiful, young Oregonian teacher, is found dead at the bottom of the pool. The police authorities deem it an accidental drowning, but that raises doubts. Heather was a strong swimmer. How could she have drowned, and why was she naked? Paula Djan, principal of the school at which Heather was a volunteer, suspects foul play and begins to dig around. As she discovers an increasing number of suspects, she encounters hostility from the police investigators, who take a dim view of her snooping. But much more than stepping on a few toes, she may be headed down a dangerous path where the killer lies in wait with every intention to make Paula the second death at the Voyager Hotel.

The Naqib's Daughter Back Bay Books
 From the winner of the Orange Award for New Writers, an epic novel of childbirth—past, present, and future The year is 1865. In Vienna, Dr. Ignasz Semmelweiss has been hounded into an asylum by his medical peers, ridiculed for his claim that doctors' unwashed hands are the root cause of childbed fever. In present-day London, Bridget Hughes juggles her young son, husband, and mother as she plans her home birth, unprepared for the trial she is about to endure. Somewhere in 2135, in a world where humans are birthed and raised in breeding farms, Prisoner 730004 is on trial for concealing a pregnancy. Through three stories spanning centuries, acclaimed novelist Joanna Kavenna explores the most basic plight of women, from the slaughterhouse of primitive medicine to a futuristic vision of

technological oppression. Poised at the midpoint is Bridget, whose fervent belief in the wisdom of nature is tested in one of the most gripping accounts of labor to appear in fiction. Original, powerful, and played out against a vast canvas, *The Birth of Love* is at once a novel about the creation of human life, science and faith, madness and compromise, and the epic journey of motherhood.

Travelers: A Novel Prabhat Prakashan
 When Julia flies in to war-scarred Sierra Leone from London, she is apprehensive about seeing her Uncle Moses for the first time in twenty years. But nothing could have prepared her for her encounter with her eight-year-old cousin, Citizen, a former child soldier, and for the shocking truth of what he has done. Driven by a desire to understand Citizen, Julia takes the disturbed child into the 'bush'. There they meet other child soldiers, and a story-teller, Bemba G., who provides a safe haven for them all and strives to return them to childhood through play, love, story-telling and performance. As Julia gradually rediscovers Africa, the different generations of her family rediscover their bonds. And then Bemba G. directs the child soldiers in a version of Shakespeare's *Julius Caesar*, with powerful effect.

Night Theatre Cambridge University Press

In *Queer Africa 2: New Stories*, the 26 stories by writers from Kenya, Nigeria, Rwanda, Sierra Leone, Somalia, South Africa, Uganda and the USA present exciting and varied narratives on life. There are stories on desire, disruption and dreams; others on longing, lust and love. The stories are representative of the range of human emotions and experiences that abound in the lives of Africans and those of the diaspora, who

identify variously along the long and fluid line of the sexuality, gender and sexual orientation spectrum in the African continent. Centred in these stories and in their attendant relationships is humanity. The writers showcase their artistry in storytelling in thought-provoking and delightful ways.

Black Mamba Boy Head to Wind Publishing

Originally published: London: Picador, 2010.

A Memoir of Africa Afram Publications (Ghana)

In the spirit of *Humans of New York* and *PostSecret*, this is a gorgeous gift book celebrating the objects that outlast love: a poignant, funny, sometimes bizarre and always delightful window into modern love and loss. "Leave[s] your heart feeling full and connected." -- Frank Warren, *PostSecret* A postcard from a childhood sweetheart. A wedding dress sealed in a jar. A roll of undeveloped film. An axe used to chop an ex-lover's furniture in a fit of rage. A wind-up toy, a bar of bath soap, a tin of Love Potion with the simple caption "Doesn't work." These objects, and many more, make up the whimsical, imaginative, poignant population of the Museum of Broken Relationships. Started by two former lovers who wanted a way to commemorate their relationship even after it ended, who couldn't bear to simply throw away the objects that had once meant so much, the Museum of Broken Relationships has captured hearts and imaginations around the globe since its founding in 2010. Anonymous submissions have poured in by the thousands: objects with brief, compelling captions confessing to the story behind their meaning. The museum's Croatian exhibit quickly became a main draw for tourists from

around the globe, and has garnered enthusiastic, glowing media attention from sources as disparate as the *New York Times* and the Chinese national news. Now, as the physical museum arrives for a permanent spot in Los Angeles, the authors have collected the best, funniest, most heartwarming and heartrending stories from their huge selection of submissions. Much like the bestselling *PostSecret* series, this beautiful oversized, four-color book will offer an irresistible glimpse inside other people's secret worlds, creating moments of deep human connection. It is a must read for anyone who has ever loved and lost.

The Memory of Love A&C Black

Kidnapped as a teenage girl, Ma has been locked inside a purpose built room in her captor's garden for seven years. Her five year old son, Jack, has no concept of the world outside and happily exists inside Room with the help of Ma's games and his vivid imagination where objects like Rug, Lamp and TV are his only friends. But for Ma the time has come to escape and face their biggest challenge to date: the world outside Room.

The Civilized World HarperCollins UK

Sitting there, facing Bond Street, he had his face turned to the sea. His pallor showed how recently he had emerged from it into the port: so did his lack of interest in the schoolgirls opposite. He was like the lagging finger of the barometer, still pointing to Fair long after its companion had moved to Stormy. Below him the black clerks moved churchward, but their wives in brilliant afternoon dresses of blue and cerise aroused no interest in Wilson. He was alone on the balcony except for one bearded Indian in a turban who had already tried to tell his fortune: this was

not the hour or the day for white men they would be at the beach five miles away, but Wilson had no car. He felt almost intolerably lonely. On either side of the school the tin roofs sloped towards the sea, and the corrugated iron above his head clanged and clattered as a vulture alighted.

About the Night Akashic Books

A remarkable literary debut--shortlisted for the Man Booker Prize! The unflinching and powerful story of a young girl's journey out of Zimbabwe and to America. Darling is only ten years old, and yet she must navigate a fragile and violent world. In Zimbabwe, Darling and her friends steal guavas, try to get the baby out of young Chipo's belly, and grasp at memories of Before. Before their homes were destroyed by paramilitary policemen, before the school closed, before the fathers left for dangerous jobs abroad. But Darling has a chance to escape: she has an aunt in America. She travels to this new land in search of America's famous abundance only to find that her options as an immigrant are perilously few. NoViolet Bulawayo's debut calls to mind the great storytellers of displacement and arrival

who have come before her--from Junot Diaz to Zadie Smith to J.M. Coetzee--while she tells a vivid, raw story all her own.

Securing Ajax Applications Random House

A tale of stunning passion, reckless danger, and the fierce will of a remarkable woman who can wield a sword as powerfully as any man--and who dares to fight for her most uninhibited desires. . . . Spirited, iron-willed Rhonwyn is the bastard child of the Prince of Wales, raised more boy than girl, able to ride and fight with the best. Against her wishes, she is married off to an English lord, Edward de Beaumont, who is stunned to discover that his lovely gilt-haired bride is a fiery wildcat with a mind of her own. Slowly, he wins her trust and her heart, and she accompanies him on the Crusades to North Africa. But when Edward falls ill, Rhonwyn boldly leads his troops, only to become a captive of the sensual Emir of Cinnebar, a man who will teach her the ways of erotic love--passions that will be put to the test when she returns to England to battle once more . . . this time for the man who rules her heart.

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