

Author	Title	Notes	©	Pages	Ethnicity
Paul Auster	The Brooklyn Follies	...Auster's graceful, offhand storytelling carries readers along, with enough shadow to keep the tale this side of schmaltz. The result is an affectionate portrait of the city as the ultimate refuge of the human spirit.	2005	320	Jewish-Am
	Man in the Dark	Seventy-two-year-old August Brill is recovering from a car accident at his daughter's house in Vermont. When sleep refuses to come, he lies in bed and tells himself stories, struggling to push back thoughts about things he would prefer to forget.	2003		
	Invisible	Sinuously constructed in four interlocking parts, Paul Auster's fifteenth novel opens in New York City in the spring of 1967, when twenty-year-old Adam Walker, an aspiring poet and student at Columbia University, meets the enigmatic Frenchman Rudolf Born and his silent and seductive girlfriend, Margot. Before long, Walker finds himself caught in a perverse triangle that leads to a sudden, shocking act of violence that will alter the course of his life.	2006		
	Sunset Park	<i>Sunset Park</i> opens with twenty-eight-year-old Miles Heller trashing out foreclosed houses in Florida, the latest stop in his flight across the country. When Miles falls in love with Pilar Sanchez, he finds himself fleeing once again, going back to New York, where his family still lives, and into an abandoned house of young squatters in Sunset Park, Brooklyn. Woven together from various points of view—that of Miles's father, an independent book publisher trying to stay afloat, Miles's mother, a celebrated actress preparing her return to the New York stage, and the various men and women who live in the house.	2009		
Michael Chabon	Oracle Night				
	Travels in the Scriptorium				
Michael Chabon	The Yiddish Policeman's Union	The novel is a detective story set in an alternative history version of the present day, based on the premise that during World War II, a temporary settlement for Jewish refugees was established in Sitka, Alaska, in 1941, and that the fledgling State of Israel was destroyed in 1948. The novel is set in Sitka, which it depicts as a large, Yiddish-speaking metropolis.	2007		Jewish-Am
		A "swashbuckling adventure" ^[1] set in the kaganate of	2007		

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	Gentlemen of the Road	Khazaria (now southwest Russia) around AD 950. It follows two Jewish bandits who become embroiled in a rebellion and a plot to restore a displaced Khazar prince to the throne.			
Foer	Extremely Loud and Incredibly Close	In this excellent recording of Foer's second novel, Woodman artfully captures the voice of nine-year-old Oskar Schell, the precocious amateur physicist who is trying to uncover clues about his father's death on September 11. Oskar—a self-proclaimed pacifist, tambourine player and Steven Hawking fanatic—is the perfect blend of smart-aleck maturity and youthful innocence.	2006	368	Jewish-Am
Myla Goldberg	Wickett's Remedy	In a multidimensional, intricately wrought narrative, Myla Goldberg leads us back to Boston in the early part of the twentieth century and into two completely captivating worlds.	2005	336	Jewish-Am
	The False Friend	Twenty years after Celia's best friend, Djuna, went missing, memories of that terrible day come rushing back—including the lie Celia remembers having told to conceal her role in Djuna's disappearance. But when Celia returns to her hometown to confess the truth, her family and childhood friends recall that day very differently. As Celia learns more about what may or may not have happened, she becomes increasingly uncertain whom she should trust.	2011	272	
David Liss	The Coffee Trader	In 1600s Amsterdam, Portuguese Jew Miguel Lienzo ignores the strictures of his community and joins forces with a Dutchwoman to capture the coffee market.	2003	400	Jewish-Am
	The Twelfth Enchantment	Lucy is drawn into a dangerous conspiracy in which her life, and her country's future, are in the balance. Inexplicably finding herself at the center of cataclysmic events, Lucy is awakened to a world once unknown to her: where magic and mortals collide, and the forces of ancient nature and modern progress are at war for the soul of England . . . and the world.	2011		
Diana Abu-Jaber	Origin	The story of a murder mystery, told by a character with mysterious circumstances of her own.	2007		Arab-Am
	Birds of Paradise	A multilayered, beautifully textured novel about family and self, self-indulgence and generosity, against the vivid backdrop of contemporary Miami.	2011		

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Manil Suri	The Death of Vishnu	His protagonist, having purchased the right to sleep on the ground-floor landing of a Bombay apartment house, slips slowly from a coma into death. As this aging alcoholic takes leave of the earth, his neighbors surround him, arguing over who gave Vishnu a few dried chapatis, who called the doctor for him, and who will pay for the ambulance to cart him away. Includes vast Hindu allusions.	2002	304	Indian-Am
	The Age of Shiva	2 nd Book in the trilogy that starts with The Death of Vishnu	2008		
Chitra Banerjee Divakaruni	Palace of Illusions	<i>The Palace of Illusions</i> takes us back to the time of the Indian epic The Mahabharat—a time that is half-history, half-myth, and wholly magical. Through her narrator Panchaali, the wife of the legendary five Pandavas brothers, Divakaruni gives us a rare feminist interpretation of an epic story.	2008	384	Indian-Am
	One Amazing Thing	When an earthquake hits, nine men and women of diverse ages and backgrounds are trapped in an Indian consulate. Cameron, an African American Vietnam vet, takes charge, striving to keep them safe. College student Uma, who brought along <i>The Canterbury Tales</i> to read while waiting for clerk Malathi and her boss Mangalam to process her papers, suggests that they each tell an “important story” from their lives.	2010	240	
Bharti Kirchner	Darjeeling	Two Westernized sisters who grew up on a tea plantation in Darjeeling waste a decade in rivalry over the same unworthy man in Kirchner's firmly grounded, workmanlike novel of Indian mores.	2003	320	Indian-Am
	Pastries: A Novel of Desserts and Discoveries		2004	368	
Bharati Mukherjee	Desirable Daughters	Mukherjee follows the diverging paths taken by three extraordinary Calcutta-born sisters as they come of age in a changing world. Moving effortlessly between generations, she weaves together fascinating stories of the sisters' ancestors, childhood memories, and dramatic scenes from India's history.	2002	320	Indian-Am
	The Tree Bride	The quiet brahmin girl from Bengal becomes a passionate resister of foreign rule, against the British Raj . The narrator discovers her ancestor's struggle for her land, whilst seeking to establish herself as an American citizen. (sequel to <i>Desirable Daughters</i>)	2004	304	

Jhumpa Lahiri	Namesake	Any talk of <i>The Namesake</i> --Jhumpa Lahiri's follow-up to her Pulitzer Prize-winning debut, Interpreter of Maladies --must begin with a name: Gogol Ganguli. Born to an Indian academic and his wife, Gogol is afflicted from birth with a name that is neither Indian nor American nor even really a first name at all. (There is a film, which you MUST watch if you choose this book.)	2003	304	Indian-Am
Amy Tan	Saving Fish from Drowning	The story follows the trials and tribulations twelve American tourists face when they embark on an expedition to explore China and Burma .	2005		Chinese-Am
Gish Jen	Love Wife	The realities of mixed-heritage families are explored in <i>The Love Wife</i> : those serio-comic moments that all families run into, but that are particularly difficult when its members are of completely different backgrounds.	2005	400	Chinese-Am
	World and Town	<i>World and Town</i> , portrays a fragile America, its small towns challenged by globalization, development, fundamentalism, and immigration, as well as the ripples sent out by 9/11. ^[5] It poses the question, Can the center hold?	2011		
Ha Jin	A Free Life	Ha Jin, who emigrated from China in the aftermath of Tiananmen Square, had only been writing in English for 12 years when he won the National Book Award for <i>Waiting</i> in 1999. His latest novel sheds light on an émigré writer's woodshedding period. It follows the fortunes of Nan Wu, who drops out of a U.S. grad school after the repression of the democracy movement in China, hoping to find his voice as a poet while supporting his wife, Pingping, and son, Taotao.	2007		Chinese-Am
	War Trash		2004		
	The Crazy		2002		
	Nanking Requiem		2011		
Lisa See	Snow Flower and the Secret Fan	See's engrossing novel set in remote 19th-century China details the deeply affecting story of lifelong, intimate friends (<i>laotong</i> , or "old sames") Lily and Snow Flower, their imprisonment by rigid codes of conduct for women and their betrayal by pride and love.	2006	288	Chinese-Am

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	Peony in Love	Set in 17th-century China, See's fifth novel is a coming-of-age story, a ghost story, a family saga and a work of musical and social history. As Peony, the 15-year-old daughter of the wealthy Chen family, approaches an arranged marriage, she commits an unthinkable breach of etiquette when she accidentally comes upon a man who has entered the family garden.	2007	297	
	Shanghai Girls	In 1937 Shanghai—the Paris of Asia—twenty-one-year-old Pearl Chin and her younger sister, May, are having the time of their lives. Both are beautiful, modern, and carefree—until the day their father tells them that he has gambled away their wealth. To repay his debts, he must sell the girls as wives to suitors who have traveled from Los Angeles to find Chinese brides.	2009	336	
Chang-rae Lee	Aloft	Jerry Battle, 59-year-old widower and father of two, retired from the family business--the unmistakably earthbound Battle Brothers Brick and Mortar--buys a small airplane because "From up here, a half mile above the Earth, everything looks perfect to me." All is not well below.	2004	352	Chinese-Am
	The Surrendered	June Han was orphaned as a girl by the Korean War. Hector Brennan was a young GI who fled the petty tragedies of his small town to serve his country. When the war ended, their lives collided at a Korean orphanage, where they vied for the attention of Sylvie Tanner, a beautiful yet deeply damaged missionary.	2010	469	
Alice Walker	Now is the Time to Open Your Heart	Kate, a successful author fearful of aging and uncertain about continuing her relationship with Yolo, an artist, sets off on a journey of spiritual discovery.	2005	240	African-Am
Walter Mosley	Fortunate Son	In spite of remarkable differences, Tommy and Eric are as close as brothers. Tommy, a delicate black boy, is cursed with health problems and drawn to trouble more often than not. Eric is a Nordic Adonis, graced by a seemingly endless supply of good fortune. When tragedy rips their makeshift family apart, the two boys are set on courses that diverge astonishingly.	2006	313	African-Am
Mosley	47 (YA)	Number 47, a fourteen-year-old slave boy growing up under the watchful eye of a brutal master in 1832, meets the mysterious Tall John, who introduces him to a magical science and also teaches him the meaning of freedom.	2006	240	

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Edwidge Danticat	The Dew Breaker	In her third novel, <i>The Dew Breaker</i> , the prolific Edwidge Danticat spins a series of related stories around a shadowy central figure, a Haitian immigrant to the U.S. who reveals to his artist daughter that he is not, as she believes, a prison escapee, but a former prison guard, skilled in torture and the other violent control methods of a brutal regime.	2005	256	Haitian-Am
Jamaica Kincaid	Mr. Potter	Jamaica Kincaid's first obsession, the island of Antigua, comes vibrantly to life under the gaze of Mr. Potter, an illiterate taxi chauffeur who makes his living along the roads that pass through the only towns he has ever seen and the graveyard where he will be buried.	2002		Caribbean
Toni Morrison	Love	<i>Love</i> is the story of Bill Cosey, a charismatic but dead hotel owner. Or rather, it is about the people around him, all affected by his life — even long after his death.	2003	208	African-Am
	A Mercy	Morrison examines the roots of racism going back to slavery's earliest days, providing glimpses of the various religious practices of the time, and showing the relationship between men and women in early America that often ended in female victimization.	2008	176	
Edward P. Jones	The Known World	In a crabbed, powerful follow-up to his National Book Award-nominated short story collection (<i>Lost in the City</i>), Jones explores an oft-neglected chapter of American history, the world of blacks who owned blacks in the antebellum South.	2006	432	African-Am
Isabel Allende	Zorro	Critics agree that while <i>Zorro</i> is light and entertaining, it is also a serious piece of literature—even if some reviewers were confounded by Allende's mix of history and reality. Allende inserts a postmodern bent into her traditional storytelling, drawing feminist and racial themes and presenting a narrator with a hidden identity.	2005	400	Peruvian-Am
	Ines of My Soul		2007		
	Island beneath the Sea		2010		
Judith Ortiz Cofer	Call Me Maria (YA)	Maria is a girl caught between two worlds: Puerto Rico, where she was born, and New York, where she now lives in a basement apartment in the barrio. While her mother remains on the island, Maria lives with her father, the super of their building.	2006	144	Puerto-Rican-Am
	The Meaning of Consuelo (YA)		2003	208	

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Edgardo Vega Yunque	Blood Fugues	In his ambitious third novel, Vega Yunque charts the intricately interrelated fortunes of two American families united by marriage: the Puerto Rican Romeros and the Irish Boyles. Adopting a loose, fuguelike structure, the author intercuts his central theme--the coming-of-age story of 17-year-old Kenny Romero--with the emerging personal and political life histories of his parents and grandparents.	2005	288	Puerto-Rican-Am
	<i>The Lamentable Journey of Omaha Bigelow into the Impenetrable Loisaida Jungle</i>		2004	368	
Cristina Garcia	Monkey Hunting	Garcia, of <i>Dreaming in Cuban</i> (1992) and <i>The Aguero Sisters</i> (1997) renown, writes pristinely lyrical and enchanting prose, and creates powerfully alluring characters, delectable qualities she takes to new heights in this many-faceted tale about an extended Chinese Cuban family.	2003	272	Cuban-Am
	Handbook to Luck The Lady Matador's Hotel		2007 2010		
Oscar Hijuelos	Dark Dude (YA)	In Wisconsin, Rico could blend in. His light hair and lighter skin wouldn't make him the "dark dude" or the punching bag for the whole neighborhood. The Midwest is the land of milk and honey, but for Rico Fuentes, it's really a last resort. Trading Harlem for Wisconsin, though, means giving up on a big part of his identity. And when Rico no longer has to prove that he's Latino, he almost stops being one. Except he can never have an ordinary white kid's life, because there are some things that can't be left behind, that can't be cut loose or forgotten. These are the things that will be with you forever.... These are the things that will follow you a thousand miles away.	2008	320	Cuban-Am
	Beautiful Maria of My Soul	Sequel to the Mambo Kings: She's the great Cuban beauty who stole musician Nestor Castillo's heart and broke it, inspiring him to write the Mambo Kings' biggest hit, "Beautiful Maria of My Soul." Now in her sixties and living in Miami with her pediatrician daughter, Teresa, Maria remains a beauty, still capable of turning heads. But she has never forgotten Nestor, and as she thinks back to her days--and nights--in Havana, an entirely new perspective on the Mambo Kings story unfolds.	2010	352	

Junot Diaz	The Brief Wondrous Life of Oscar Wao	The titular Oscar is a 300-pound-plus "lovesick ghetto nerd" with zero game (except for Dungeons & Dragons) who cranks out pages of fantasy fiction with the hopes of becoming a Dominican J.R.R. Tolkien. The book is also the story of a multi-generational family curse that courses through the book, leaving troubles and tragedy in its wake.	2007	352	Dominican Republic-Am
Julia Alvarez	Before We Were Free (YA)	What would life be like for a teen living under a dictatorship? Afraid to go to school or to talk freely? Knowing that, at the least suspicion, the secret police could invade your house, even search and destroy your private treasures? Or worse, that your father or uncles or brothers could be suddenly taken away to be jailed or tortured or killed? Such experiences have been all too common in the many Latin American dictatorships of the last 50 years.	2002	192	Dominican Republic-AM
	Finding Miracles (YA) Saving the World (YA)				
Jaime Manrique	Our Lives Are the Rivers	Based on actual events, this sweeping novel tells the life story of a woman who was willing to risk it all for her country and her lover—in whose legacy lies the history of an entire continent.	2007	384	Colombian-Am
Sandra Cisneros	Caramelo (YA)	Caramelo is a romantic tale of homelands, sometimes real, sometimes imagined. Vivid, funny, intimate, historical, it is a brilliant work destined to become a classic: a major new novel from one of our country's most beloved storytellers.	2002	464	Mexican-Am
Ana Castillo	The Guardians	a suspenseful, moving novel about a sensuous, smart, and fiercely independent woman. Eking out a living as a teacher's aide in a small New Mexican border town, Tía Regina is also raising her teenage nephew, Gabo, a hardworking boy who has entered the country illegally and aspires to the priesthood. When Gabo's father, Rafa, disappears while crossing over from Mexico, Regina fears the worst.	2007	224	Born in Chicago—considered Chicano
	Watercolor Women and Opaque Men : A Novel in Verse	<i>Watercolor Women / Opaque Men</i> is a wild and raucous narrative of a single, working mother, the daughter of Chicano migrant workers, and her struggles for upward mobility. With a remarkable combination of tenderness, wicked humor, and biting satire, the main character, Ella-or "She"-moves toward establishing her sexual identity (she has affairs with both men and women) and finding her rightful	2005		

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		place in the world while simultaneously raising her son to be independent and self-sufficient.			
Luis Alberto Urrea	The Hummingbird's Daughter	The novel brings to life not only the deeply pious figure whom Díaz himself dubbed "the Most Dangerous Girl in Mexico" but also the blood-soaked landscape of pre-revolutionary Mexico.	2005	528	Mexican-Am
	Into the Beautiful North		2009		
Sherman Alexie	Absolutely True Diary of a Part-Time Indian (YA)	Grade 7–10—Exploring Indian identity, both self and tribal, Alexie's first young adult novel is a semiautobiographical chronicle of Arnold Spirit, aka Junior, a Spokane Indian from Wellpinit, WA. The bright 14-year-old was born with water on the brain, is regularly the target of bullies, and loves to draw. He says, "I think the world is a series of broken dams and floods, and my cartoons are tiny little lifeboats."	2007	240	Native American
	Flight	A powerful, fast and timely story of a troubled foster teenager — a boy who is not a "legal" Indian because he was never claimed by his father — who learns the true meaning of terror. About to commit a devastating act, the young man finds himself shot back through time on a shocking sojourn through moments of violence in American history.	2007		
Louise Erdrich	Master Butcher's Singing Club	Woven with intrigue, romance, death, sex and humor, it's an emotionally complex tale of European immigrants who have settled in the fictional town of Erdrich's previous novels, Argus, N.Dak. Bordering on magical realism, this marvelous yarn introduces a world of rich, expansive imagery and an abundance of memorably compelling characters.	2003	416	Native American
	Four Souls		2004		
	The Painted Drum		2005		
	The Plague of Doves		2008		
	Shadow Tag	When Irene America discovers that her artist husband, Gil, has been reading her diary, she begins a secret Blue Notebook, stashed securely in a safe-deposit box. There she records the truth about her life and marriage, while turning her Red Diary—hidden where Gil will find it—into a manipulative charade. As Irene and Gil fight to keep up	2010		

appearances for their three children, their home becomes a place of increasing violence and secrecy. And Irene drifts into alcoholism, moving ever closer to the ultimate destruction of a relationship filled with shadowy need and strange ironies.

Linda Hogan	People of the Whale	Raised in a remote seaside village, Thomas Witka Just marries Ruth, his beloved since infancy. But an ill-fated decision to fight in Vietnam changes his life forever: cut off from his Native American community, he fathers a child with another woman. When he returns home a hero, he finds his tribe in conflict over the decision to hunt a whale, both a symbol of spirituality and rebirth and a means of survival. In the end, he reconciles his two existences, only to see tragedy befall the son he left behind.	2008	312	Native American
Gerald Vizenor	Trickster of Liberty	Inventive, provocative, and ultimately affirmative, <i>The Trickster of Liberty</i> has become a classic in the repertoire of celebrated author Gerald Vizenor. A series of related stories, the novel follows the lives of seven mixedblood trickster siblings who began their lives on a reservation in northern Minnesota. Behaving in unpredictable ways, these siblings defy any attempt to fit them within stereotypical notions of the Indian.	2005	188	Native American
