

## **Dictionary Of The Khazars Male Edition Milorad Pavic**

*Alphonse, a young Walloon officer, is travelling to join his regiment in Madrid in 1739. But he soon finds himself mysteriously detained at a highway inn in the strange and varied company of thieves, brigands, cabbalists, noblemen, coquettes and gypsies, whose stories he records over sixty-six days. The resulting manuscript is discovered some forty years later in a sealed casket, from which tales of characters transformed through disguise, magic and illusion, of honour and*

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*cowardice, of hauntings and seductions, leap forth to create a vibrant polyphony of human voices. Jan Potocki (1761-1812) used a range of literary styles - gothic, picaresque, adventure, pastoral, erotica - in his novel of stories-within-stories, which, like the Decameron and Tales from the Thousand and One Nights, provides entertainment on an epic scale. This book is unique as no other novel can claim to be: one of 109,027,350,432,000 possible variations of the same work of fiction. Inspired by the legend of Tristan and Isolde, Tristano was first published in 1966 in Italian. But only recently has digital*

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*technology made it possible to realise the author's original vision. The novel comprises ten chapters, and the fifteen pairs of paragraphs in each of these are shuffled anew for each published copy. No two versions are the same. The random variations between copies enact the variegations of the human heart, as exemplified by the lovers at the centre of the story. The copies of the English translation of Tristano are individually numbered, starting from 10,000 (running sequentially from the Italian and German editions). Included is a foreword by Umberto Eco explaining how Balestrini's experiment with the physical medium of the novel demonstrates*

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*'that originality and creativity are nothing more than the chance handling of a combination'.*

*Borislav Pekic spent six years in jail as a political prisoner, his only reading material the Bible. In 1965, ten years after his pardon, his first novel, The Time of Miracles, was published and became an overnight sensation. A set of parables based on the miracles of the New Testament, the book rewrites the story of Jesus from the perspective of Judas (who is obsessed with the idea prophecy must be fulfilled) and from that of the individuals upon whom miracles were performed--without their consent and, in most cases, to their eventual*

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*dissatisfaction. Filled with humor and poignancy, The Time of Miracles is a trenchant commentary on the power of ideology in one's life, upon what it means to hold beliefs, and upon the nature of faith. In City of Saints and Madmen, Jeff VanderMeer has reinvented the literature of the fantastic. You hold in your hands an invitation to a place unlike any you've ever visited—an invitation delivered by one of our most audacious and astonishing literary magicians. City of elegance and squalor. Of religious fervor and wanton lusts. And everywhere, on the walls of courtyards and churches, an incandescent fungus of mysterious*

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*and ominous origin. In Ambergris, a would-be suitor discovers that a sunlit street can become a killing ground in the blink of an eye. An artist receives an invitation to a beheading—and finds himself enchanted. And a patient in a mental institution is convinced he’s made up a city called Ambergris, imagined its every last detail, and that he’s really from a place called Chicago.... By turns sensuous and terrifying, filled with exotica and eroticism, this interwoven collection of stories, histories, and “eyewitness” reports invokes a universe within a puzzlebox where you can lose—and find—yourself again. From the Trade Paperback*

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*edition.*

*DNA Evidence, Archeology,  
Analysis of Migrations, and Public  
and Family Records Show Twelfth  
Century Semitic Roots  
Gentlemen of the Road  
City of Saints and Madmen  
The Thirteenth Tribe the Khazar  
Empire and Its Heritage  
Hourglass*

*When Scotland Was Jewish  
This dictionary, indispensable for  
those interested in the Crimea,  
Ukraine, as well as Eurasian  
nomadism, is the result of year-long  
painstaking research into the  
etymology of Crimean pre-Russian  
habitation names, shedding light on  
the Turkic, Greek, Caucasian and  
other place-names in a comparative*

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*context, as well as the histories of these cities, towns and villages themselves. With detailed maps and indices.*

*Covering the political, social and historical background of each language, Dictionary of Languages offers a unique insight into human culture and communication. Every language with official status is included, as well as all those that have a written literature and 175 'minor' languages with special historical or anthropological interest. We see how, with the rapidly increasing uniformity of our culture as media's influence spreads, more languages have become extinct or are under threat of extinction. The text is highlighted by maps and charts of scripts, while proverbs, anecdotes and quotations reveal the*



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*features that make a language unique.*

*These stories of disparate experience travel beyond politics and multicultural manners to become an essential discussion of otherness.*

*By the author of the highly acclaimed literary bestseller "Dictionary of the Khazars, " "Landscape Painted with Tea, " Milorad Pavic's second novel, is a tale of mysterious quest that is part modern Odyssey and part crossword puzzle. It begins with the story of a brilliant but failed architect in Belgrade and his search for his father, an officer who vanished in Greece during World War II. The truth about his fate--some of it set in motion 2,000 years ago and some of it by the Nazis-- is raveled in the history and secrets of Mount Athos, the most ancient of all monasteries,*

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*perched atop its inaccessible  
mountain on the Aegean.*

*The Tao of Sexology*

*An Outline of Anthropology and  
Ethnography*

*Arab Travellers in the Far North*

*Lost Enlightenment*

*The Iron Curtain Over America*

*Central Asia's Golden Age from the  
Arab Conquest to Tamerlane*

A story of love and memory. On a train journey from Paris to Madrid a young opera singer becomes fascinated by those in his compartment: a middle-aged businessman, his alluring wife and their male traveling companion. Soon his life of constant travel, luxury hotels, rehearsal and performance will become entangled with these three people, and the singer will

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find himself fatefully consumed by Natalia's beauty. The Man of Feeling is the haunting story of the birth and death of a passion, told in retrospect. Intricately interweaving desire and memory, it explores the nature of love, and asks whether we can ever truly recall something that no longer exists.

In 922 AD, an Arab envoy from Baghdad named Ibn Fadlan encountered a party of Viking traders on the upper reaches of the Volga River. In his subsequent report on his mission he gave a meticulous and astonishingly objective description of Viking customs, dress, table manners, religion and sexual practices, as well as the only eyewitness account ever written of a Viking

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ship cremation. Between the ninth and fourteenth centuries, Arab travellers such as Ibn Fadlan journeyed widely and frequently into the far north, crossing territories that now include Russia, Uzbekistan and Kazakhstan. Their fascinating accounts describe how the numerous tribes and peoples they encountered traded furs, paid tribute and waged wars. This accessible new translation offers an illuminating insight into the world of the Arab geographers, and the medieval lands of the far north.

Unique among his fellow immortals and mortal folk alike, Jant Comet can fly. His talent is a gift and a curse that has earned him a place in the Castle Circle as

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Messenger to the Emperor San -- soaring high and free above the bloody battlefields of his world, carrying word back to his master of progress and regress in the ever-escalating conflict between man and the awful armies of giant, flesh-devouring insects. But while Jant's duty is to remain neutral in the petty squabbles and power plays of the fifty who will neither age nor die naturally, bitter rivalries that have festered for centuries now threaten to incite a savage civil war. And Jant may be the only being alive capable of stemming the onrushing tide of destruction and the unstoppable insect infestation. For only he can gain entrance -- through extreme doses of the narcotic that owns

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his soul -- into a place of darkest wonders and revelations; a strange and horrific alternate reality that none but Jant Comet believes exists. A literary triumph of the first water -- bold, stylish, and breathtakingly original -- Steph Swainston's *The Year of Our War* ascends like a rocket to the upper reaches of the imagination and loudly heralds the arrival of a true modern master of the fantastic.

In the tradition of *Cod and Olives*: a fascinating journey into the hidden history, culture, and commerce of caviar. Once merely a substitute for meat during religious fasts, today caviar is an icon of luxury and wealth. In *Caviar*, Inga Saffron tells, for the first time, the story of how the

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virgin eggs of the prehistoric-looking, bottom-feeding sturgeon were transformed from a humble peasant food into a czar's delicacy—and ultimately a coveted status symbol for a rising middle class. She explores how the glistening black eggs became the epitome of culinary extravagance, while taking us on a revealing excursion into the murky world of caviar on the banks of the Volga River and Caspian Sea in Russia, the Elbe in Europe, and the Hudson and Delaware Rivers in the United States. At the same time, Saffron describes the complex industry caviar has spawned, illustrating the unfortunate consequences of mass marketing such a rare commodity. The story of caviar

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has long been one of conflict, crisis, extravagant claims, and colorful characters, such as the Greek sea captain who first discovered the secret method of transporting the perishable delicacy to Europe, the canny German businessmen who encountered a wealth of untapped sturgeon in American waters, the Russian Communists who created a sophisticated cartel to market caviar to an affluent Western clientele, the dirt-poor poachers who eked out a living from sturgeon in the aftermath of the Soviet collapse and the "caviar Mafia" that has risen in their wake, and the committed scientists who sacrificed their careers to keep caviar on our tables. Filled with



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lore and intrigue, Caviar is a captivating work of culinary, natural, and cultural history.

The definitive reference to more than 400 languages

Stories of Cross Cultural Collision and Connection

Uvod u Microsoft Office professional : verzija 95

The Unfortunates

Ibn Fadlan and the Land of Darkness

**The Somerset Maugham**

**Prize – winning, international**

**bestselling debut novel: “a dazzling linguistic and formal achievement”**

**set in 18th century London (Salman**

**Rushdie). In eighteenth-century**

**London, John Lempriere works**

**feverishly on a celebrated**

**dictionary of classical mythology**

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that bears his name. But when he discovers a conspiracy against his family dating back 150 years, he embarks on a personal mission that will pit him against enemies he never new he had, allies he never thought he would ever want, and a destiny he never imagined . . . Told with the narrative drive of a political thriller and a Dickensian panorama of place and time, this “superbly entertaining” tale encompasses multinational conspiracies and a motley cast of scholars, eccentrics, prostitutes, assassins, drunken aristocrats, and octogenarian pirates—all brilliantly depicted across three continents and the world of classical mythology (The Washington Post).

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"Walter Abish has dovetailed his novel within a Procrustean scheme that has the terrifying and irrefutable logic of the alphabet. Alphabetical Africa is in the line of writers such as Raymond Roussel, Raymond Queneau, Georges Perec and Harry Mathews, who have used constrictive forms to penetrate the space on the other side of poetry." -- John Ashbery

A national bestseller, Dictionary of the Khazars was cited by The New York Times Book Review as one of the best books of the year. Written in two versions, male and female (both available in Vintage International), which are identical save for seventeen crucial lines, Dictionary is the imaginary book of

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knowledge of the Khazars, a people who flourished somewhere beyond Transylvania between the seventh and ninth centuries. Eschewing conventional narrative and plot, this lexicon novel combines the dictionaries of the world's three major religions with entries that leap between past and future, featuring three unruly wise men, a book printed in poison ink, suicide by mirrors, a chimerical princess, a sect of priests who can infiltrate one's dreams, romances between the living and the dead, and much more.

Two lovers in Belgrade, one from the 1700s, the other from the 1900s, reach out to each other across a gulf of time, in a story that

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parallels the myth of Hero and  
Leander. By the author of  
Dictionary of the Khazars.

A Novel

Only Revolutions

The Manuscript Found in  
Saragossa

Chronic City

Alphabetical Africa

The Mythopoeic Dimension in the  
Novel Dictionary of the Khazars by  
Milorad Pavic

**A New York Times Book Review  
Best Book of the Year. A searing  
and wildly entertaining love letter  
to New York City from the  
bestselling author of Motherless  
Brooklyn and Fortress of  
Solitude. Chase Insteadman,**

**former child television star, has a new role in life—permanent guest on the Upper East Side dinner party circuit, where he is consigned to talk about his astronaut fiancée, Janice Trumbull, who is trapped on a circling Space Station. A chance encounter collides Chase with Perkus Tooth, a wily pop culture guru with a vicious conspiratorial streak and the best marijuana in town. Despite their disparate backgrounds and trajectories Chase and Perkus discover they have a lot in common, including a cast of friends from all walks of life in Manhattan. Together and separately they attempt to define**

**the indefinable, and enter into a quest for the most elusive of things: truth and authenticity in a city where everything has a price. "Full of dark humor and dazzling writing" --Entertainment Weekly**

**The popular image of Scotland is dominated by widely recognized elements of Celtic culture. But a significant non-Celtic influence on Scotland's history has been largely ignored for centuries? This book argues that much of Scotland's history and culture from 1100 forward is Jewish. The authors provide evidence that many of the national heroes, villains, rulers, nobles, traders, merchants, bishops, guild**

**members, burgesses, and ministers of Scotland were of Jewish descent, their ancestors originating in France and Spain. Much of the traditional historical account of Scotland, it is proposed, rests on fundamental interpretive errors, perpetuated in order to affirm Scotland's identity as a Celtic, Christian society. A more accurate and profound understanding of Scottish history has thus been buried. The authors' wide-ranging research includes examination of census records, archaeological artifacts, castle carvings, cemetery inscriptions, religious seals, coinage, burgess and guild**



**member rolls, noble genealogies, family crests, portraiture, and geographic place names.**

**Moving back and forth in American history, a kaleidoscopic novel follows Hailey and Sam, two wayward teenagers, as they crash New Orleans parties, barrel up the Mississippi, head through the Badlands, and take on other adventures.**

**In 1988 Milorad Pavic burst upon the literary scene with his critically acclaimed, international best seller, Dictionary of the Khazars. In it he asked his readers to experience his book in a new and exciting way, as he challenged their traditional**

**concepts of the reading process. In his next two novels, Landscape Painted With Tea and The Inner Side of the Wind, he continued to challenge as he joined a modern Odyssey with a crossword puzzle, and then he told the same tale of two lovers from two perspectives -- male and female -- and asked us to read it from either front or back. His new novel, Last Love in Constantinople, does not disappoint, as Pavic once again demonstrates himself to be a master of narrative legerdemain. John W. Campbell, Isaac Asimov, Robert A. Heinlein, L. Ron Hubbard, and the Golden Age of Science Fiction**

**The End of Books--or Books  
Without End?**

**The Year of Our War**

**Bats of the Republic**

**A Lexicon Novel in 100,000 Words**

**Reading Interactive Narratives**

*A sports journalist, sent to a Midlands town on a weekly assignment, finds himself confronted by ghosts from the past when he disembarks at the railway station. Memories of one of his best, most trusted friends, a tragically young victim of cancer, begin to flood through his mind as he attempts to go about the routine business of*

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*reporting a football match. B S Johnson's famous 'book in a box', in which the chapters are presented unbound, to be read in any order the reader chooses, is one of the key works of a novelist now undergoing an enormous revival of interest. The Unfortunates is a book of passionate honesty and dark, courageous humour: a meditation on death and a celebration of friendship which also offers a remarkably frank self-portrait of its author. The Thirteenth Tribe is a*

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*ground breaking work of great importance, if only because it has shaped the way that people think about The Jews. It is based on the theory that European Jews, Ashkenazi Jews from Europe, are not descendants of Abraham but rather are the remnants of a tribe, the Khazars, that converted to Judaism in the Eighth Century. We know little about the Khazars, but we do know for certain that they existed and that they were Jewish. The Jews, Russians, Georgians and Armenians all wrote about*

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*the Khazars, but the Khazars left no literature, no books. This was perhaps because the Khazars existed during the Dark Ages, a period from which few books survive today. Koestler's thesis is that while the Khazars as a unified tribe may have disappeared, their descendants survived, only that they were no longer known as the Khazars. Instead, these people are now Eastern European Jews and they continue to live in the same places where the Khazars lived such as in Kiev and Odessa. The*

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*view of Arthur Koestler  
who himself was Jewish is  
that none of the mass  
movements of the Jewish  
people happened at all.  
Rather, the Jews stayed in  
exactly the same place  
where they have been all  
along because the Eastern  
European Jews are the  
Khazars. They are the same  
people. Just their name  
has been changed. Which is  
more logical: The  
Traditional Jewish view or  
Arthur Koestler's theory?  
A dictionary compiled by a  
17th century Serbian  
warlord is destroyed  
during the Inquisition,*

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except for two copies. A novel written as a dictionary, this version is written from a MALE viewpoint. The FEMALE edition is almost identical but not quite. Be warned one paragraph is crucially different. Of all Danilo Kis's books, HOURGLASS, the account of the final months in one man's life before he is sent to a concentration camp, is generally considered his masterpiece. "A finely sustained, complex fictional performance. It is full of pain and rage



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*and gusto and joy of living, at once side-splitting and a heartbreaker".--WASHINGTON POST BOOK WORLD.*

*Caviar*

*Dictionary of Languages*

*An Illuminated Novel*

*Landscape Painted with Tea*

*Lemprière's Dictionary*

*Shalimar the Clown*

*Everything you need to know about the universe.*

*The collected short stories and selected microfiction of the elusive CTRLCREEP, a being of unknown origin and mysterious intent.*

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*Will you brave the  
paradox and madness  
contained herein for a  
chance to glimpse the  
incomprehensible poetry  
of the stars? Purchase  
these writings, and  
learn what it is to be  
lost anew in a fractal  
world of worlds! Angels,  
androids, AI, gods. From  
sexbots to suicide  
booths, we thread a path  
through wonder: coral  
super-computers, drones,  
galaxies as libraries  
and spines. The cosmos  
vibrates with beauty and  
horror, and there is so*

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*much to explore. Over 40 stories. An almanac for alternate realities.*

*"Archetypes of the cowboy story, tropes drawn from sci-fi, love letters, diaries, confessions all abound in this relentlessly engaging tale. Dodson has quite brilliantly exposed the gears and cogs whirring in the novelist's imagination. It is a mad and beautiful thing."*

*--Keith Donohue, The Washington Post Winner of Best of Region for*

*the Southwest in PRINT's  
2016 Regional Design  
Awards Bats of the  
Republic is an  
illuminated novel of  
adventure, featuring  
hand-drawn maps and  
natural history  
illustrations,  
subversive pamphlets and  
science-fictional  
diagrams, and even a  
nineteenth-century novel-  
within-a-novel—an  
intrigue wrapped in  
innovative design. In  
1843, fragile naturalist  
Zadock Thomas must leave  
his beloved in Chicago*

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*to deliver a secret letter to an infamous general on the front lines of the war over Texas. The fate of the volatile republic, along with Zadock's future, depends on his mission. When a cloud of bats leads him off the trail, he happens upon something impossible... Three hundred years later, the world has collapsed and the remnants of humanity cling to a strange society of paranoia. Zeke Thomas has*

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*inherited a sealed envelope from his grandfather, an esteemed senator. When that letter goes missing, Zeke engages a fomenting rebellion that could free him—if it doesn't destroy his relationship, his family legacy, and the entire republic first. As their stories overlap and history itself begins to unravel, a war in time erupts between a lost civilization, a forgotten future, and the chaos of the wild.*

*Bats of the Republic is a masterful novel of adventure and science fiction, of elliptical history and dystopian struggle, and, at its riveting core, of love. In the segregated South of the mid-1900s, fourteen-year-old Nell bears witness to a world that embraces the oppression of women. She is fascinated with the prospect of being an independent person—but when she turns sixteen, she is married off and brought to the city of*

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*Boston as a bride. Nell is a shy girl who must quickly learn how to be a wife and mother. She quickly discovers that she must acquire new skills to navigate the unknown territory of the North, as well as her relationship with her husband, Henry, who is controlling and emotionally abusive. After giving birth to three children, her body begins to fail her and Henry, concerned for her health, pulls away from her physically. But this*



*void of intimacy drives Nell into the arms of another man. It's through her encounter with Charles in the church kitchen, at the point when she is most vulnerable, that Nell finds escape from her depressed life with Henry. The cost though, is another pregnancy. When Charles finds out the baby is his, at first it appears he plans to leave Nell; ultimately, however, his love for her brings him back.*

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*An exploration of the possibilities of hypertext fiction as art form and entertainment*  
*Unique Item*

*Dictionary of the Khazars*

*A Tarot Novel for Divination*

*Tristano*

*The Strange History and Uncertain Future of the World's Most Coveted Delicacy*

*Astounding*

***This book is unique in that it not only discusses the internal decay and the external disasters which threaten the life of American people***

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***(in fact, of ALL the people), but diagnoses the growing cancer of which they are merely the symptoms. Going behind the iron curtain of propaganda, censorship and deception, the author, former Colonel of the Military Intelligence Service, gives to the reader the first comprehensive documented account of the origin, the scope, and the intentions of the Òinsidious forces working from within, Ó which are seeking to destroy Western civilization. ÒAn honest and courageous dispeller of the fog of propaganda in which most minds seem to dwell.Ó ð Lt. General P. A. Del Valle, USMC (ret.) ÒI think it ought to be compulsory reading in every public school in America.Ó ð Senator William A. Langer, former Chairman, Judiciary Committee***

***O******This book is a magnificent contribution to those who would preserve our American ideals. Ó Đ Lt. Gen. Edward M. Almond, USA (ret.)***

***It is not very often that we get to read a story told by a dog. However O. Henry's "Memoirs of a Yellow Dog" gives us a peek through the dog Lovey's mind. Lovey feels a strong despise for his mistress - a fat lady who does nothing but eat and gossip. At the same time he is determined to save his owner who is constantly working and trying to provide for his unthankful wife. This comic tale about the love and loyalty between a pet and his owner is turned upside down. But this is exactly why O. Henry's stories with surprise endings are so popular and loved. William Sydney Porter,***

***better known as O. Henry, was an American writer who lived in the late 19th century. He gains wide popularity with his short stories which often take place either in New York or some small American towns. The plot twists and the surprise endings are a typical and integral part of O. Henry's short stories. Some of his best known works are "The Gift of the Magi", "The Cop and the Anthem", "A Retrieved Reformation". His stories often deal with ordinary people and the individual aspects of life. As a result of the outstanding literature legacy that O. Henry left behind, there is an American annual award after his name, given to exceptional short stories.***

***In Khwadāynāmag. The Middle Persian Book of Kings Jaakko***

***Hāmeen-Anttila analyses the lost sixth-century historiographical work of the Sasanians, its lost Arabic translations, and the sources of Firdawsī's Shāhnāme. A rollicking saga set a thousand years ago along the ancient Silk Road, by the Pulitzer Prize-winning author of The Amazing Adventures of Kavalier & Clay. Gentlemen of the Road is set in the Kingdom of Arran, in the Caucasus Mountains, between the Black Sea and the Caspian Sea, A.D. 950. It tells the tale of two wandering adventurers and unlikely soul mates, variously plying their trades as swords for hire, horse thieves, and flimflam artists—until fortune entangles them in the myriad schemes and battles following a bloody coup in the medieval Jewish empire of the***

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***Khazars. Hired as escorts for a fugitive prince, they quickly find themselves half-willing generals in a mad rebellion, struggling to restore the prince's family to the throne. As their increasingly outrageous exploits unfold, they encounter a wondrous elephant, wily Rhandanite tradesman, whores, thieves, soldiers, an emperor, and the truth about their young royal charge, whose slender frame conceals a startling secret and a warrior's heart.***

***The Search for the Mythical State of Innocence***

***Stranger Among Us***

***The Time of Miracles***

***Child Bride***

***The Man of Feeling***

Shalimar the Clown is a masterpiece from one of

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our greatest writers, a dazzling novel that brings together the fiercest passions of the heart and the gravest conflicts of our time into an astonishingly powerful, all-encompassing story. Max Ophuls' memorable life ends violently in Los Angeles in 1993 when he is murdered by his Muslim driver Noman Sher Noman, also known as Shalimar the Clown. At first the crime seems to be politically motivated—Ophuls was previously ambassador to India, and later US counterterrorism chief—but



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it is much more. Ophuls is a giant, an architect of the modern world: a Resistance hero and best-selling author, brilliant economist and clandestine US intelligence official. But it is as Ambassador to India that the seeds of his demise are planted, thanks to another of his great roles—irresistible lover. Visiting the Kashmiri village of Pachigam, Ophuls lures an impossibly beautiful dancer, the ambitious (and willing) Boonyi Kaul, away from her husband, and installs her as his

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mistress in Delhi. But their affair cannot be kept secret, and when Boonyi returns home, disgraced and obese, it seems that all she has waiting for her is the inevitable revenge of her husband: Noman Sher Noman, Shalimar the Clown. He was an acrobat and tightrope walker in their village's traditional theatrical troupe; but soon Shalimar is trained as a militant in Kashmir's increasingly brutal insurrection, and eventually becomes a terrorist with a global remit and a deeply

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personal mission of vengeance. In this stunningly rich book everything is connected, and everyone is a part of everyone else. A powerful love story, intensely political and historically informed, Shalimar the Clown is also profoundly human, an involving story of people's lives, desires and crises, as well as—in typical Rushdie fashion—a magical tale where the dead speak and the future can be foreseen.

Hugo and Locus Award  
Finalist An Economist Best  
Book of the Year A

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Milwaukee Journal Sentinel  
Best Book of 2018 “An  
amazing and engrossing  
history...Insightful,  
entertaining, and  
compulsively readable.” –  
George R. R. Martin  
Astounding is the landmark  
account of the  
extraordinary partnership  
between four controversial  
writers—John W. Campbell,  
Isaac Asimov, Robert A.  
Heinlein, and L. Ron  
Hubbard—who set off a  
revolution in science  
fiction and forever  
changed our world. This  
remarkable cultural  
narrative centers on the

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figure of John W. Campbell, Jr., whom Asimov called "the most powerful force in science fiction ever." Campbell, who has never been the subject of a biography until now, was both a visionary author—he wrote the story that was later filmed as *The Thing*—and the editor of the groundbreaking magazine best known as *Astounding Science Fiction*, in which he discovered countless legendary writers and published classic works ranging from the *I, Robot* series to *Dune*. Over a

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period of more than thirty years, from the rise of the pulps to the debut of Star Trek, he dominated the genre, and his three closest collaborators reached unimaginable heights. Asimov became the most prolific author in American history; Heinlein emerged as the leading science fiction writer of his generation with the novels *Starship Troopers* and *Stranger in a Strange Land*; and Hubbard achieved lasting fame—and infamy—as the founder of the Church of Scientology. Drawing on unexplored archives,

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thousands of unpublished letters, and dozens of interviews, Alec Nevala-Lee offers a riveting portrait of this circle of authors, their work, and their tumultuous private lives. With unprecedented scope, drama, and detail, *Astounding* describes how fan culture was born in the depths of the Great Depression; follows these four friends and rivals through World War II and the dawn of the atomic era; and honors such exceptional women as Doña Campbell and Leslyn Heinlein, whose pivotal

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roles in the history of the genre have gone largely unacknowledged. For the first time, it reveals the startling extent of Campbell's influence on the ideas that evolved into Scientology, which prompted Asimov to observe: "I knew Campbell and I knew Hubbard, and no movement can have two Messiahs." It looks unsparingly at the tragic final act that estranged the others from Campbell, bringing the golden age of science fiction to a close, and it illuminates



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how their complicated legacy continues to shape the imaginations of millions and our vision of the future itself.

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Nasar, New York Times  
bestselling author of A  
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fall, and enduring legacy  
In this sweeping and  
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history, S. Frederick  
Starr tells the  
fascinating but largely  
unknown story of Central  
Asia's medieval  
enlightenment through the  
eventful lives and  
astonishing  
accomplishments of its  
greatest minds—remarkable  
figures who built a bridge

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to the modern world. Because nearly all of these figures wrote in Arabic, they were long assumed to have been Arabs. In fact, they were from Central Asia—drawn from the Persianate and Turkic peoples of a region that today extends from Kazakhstan southward through Afghanistan, and from the easternmost province of Iran through Xinjiang, China. Lost Enlightenment recounts how, between the years 800 and 1200, Central Asia led the world in trade and economic development, the

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size and sophistication of its cities, the refinement of its arts, and, above all, in the advancement of knowledge in many fields. Central Asians achieved signal breakthroughs in astronomy, mathematics, geology, medicine, chemistry, music, social science, philosophy, and theology, among other subjects. They gave algebra its name, calculated the earth's diameter with unprecedented precision, wrote the books that later defined European medicine, and penned some of the

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world's greatest poetry. One scholar, working in Afghanistan, even predicted the existence of North and South America—five centuries before Columbus. Rarely in history has a more impressive group of polymaths appeared at one place and time. No wonder that their writings influenced European culture from the time of St. Thomas Aquinas down to the scientific revolution, and had a similarly deep impact in India and much of Asia. Lost Enlightenment chronicles

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this forgotten age of achievement, seeks to explain its rise, and explores the competing theories about the cause of its eventual demise. Informed by the latest scholarship yet written in a lively and accessible style, this is a book that will surprise general readers and specialists alike.

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