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The Ruined Map-Kobo Abe 2011-12-14 Of all the great Japanese novelists, Kobe Abe was indubitably the most versatile. With The Ruined Map, he crafted a mesmerizing literary crime novel that combines the narrative suspense of Chandler with the psychological depth of Dostoevsky. Mr. Nemuro, a respected salesman, disappeared over half a year ago, but only now does his alluring yet alcoholic wife hire a private eye. The nameless detective has but two clues: a photo and a matchbook. With these he embarks upon an ever-more-puzzling pursuit that leads him into the depths of Tokyo's dangerous underworld, where he begins to lose the boundaries of his own identity. Surreal, fast-paced and hauntingly dreamlike, Abe's masterly novel delves into the unknowable mysteries of the human mind.

The Ruined Map-Kōbō Abe 2011 In this gripping novel by the author of The Woman in the Dunes, an alluring woman hires a private eye to track down her missing husband. The detective's investigation takes him deep into Tokyo's seedy underworld, with its back-alley nude bars, savage gangs, and relentless violence. Before long, he is facing both outward danger and inward turmoil as he comes to identify with the man he is hunting.

Secret Rendezvous-THE 2002 As a jump-shoe salesman searches for his wife in a sinister underground hospital, his fascination with the hospital's strange inhabitants, including a girl whose bones are gradually liquefying, causes him to barely notice his wife's unspeakable circumstances. Reprint.

The Box Man-Kubo Abe 2011-12-14 Kobo Abe, the internationally acclaimed author of Woman in the Dunes, combines wildly imaginative fantasies and naturalistic prose to create narratives reminiscent of the work of Kafka and Beckett. In this eerie and evocative masterpiece, the nameless protagonist gives up his identity and the trappings of a normal life to live in a large cardboard box he wears over his head. Wandering the streets of Tokyo and scribbling madly on the interior walls of his box, he describes the world outside as he sees or perhaps imagines it, a tenuous reality that seems to include a mysterious rifleman determined to shoot him, a seductive young nurse, and a doctor who wants to become a box man himself. The Box Man is a marvel of sheer originality and a bizarrely fascinating fable about the very nature of identity. Translated from the Japanese by E. Dale Saunders.

Kangaroo Notebook-Kōbō Abe 1997 An ordinary man finds himself caught in the power of bizarre and unpredictable forces when he discovers one morning at breakfast that radish sprouts have begun to grow out of his shins

The Face of Another-Kobe Abe 1966 Horribly disfigured in an accidental lab explosion and rejected by and alienated from the rest of society, a scientist develops a perfect mask, one that provides a new identity that even his wife cannot penetrate. Reprint.

Beasts Head for Home-Kōbō Abe 2017-05-23 In the aftermath of World War II, Kuki Kyūzō, a Japanese youth raised in the puppet state of Manchuria, struggles to return home to Japan. What follows is a wild journey involving drugs, smuggling, chases, and capture. Kyūzō finally makes his way to the waters off Japan but finds himself unable to disembark. His nation remains inaccessible to him, and now he questions its very existence. Beasts Head for Home is an acute novel of identity, belonging, and the vagaries of human behavior from an exceptional modern Japanese author.


Three Plays by Kobo Abe-Kōbō Abe 1993 Three plays by one of contemporary Japan's most prominent writers -- Involuntary Homicide, The Green Stockings, The Ghost is Here -- translated for this volume reveal Kobo Abe's deep love of absurdity in the face of universal concerns.

Night Train to Lisbon-Pascal Mercier 2008-10-07 The bestselling novel of love and sacrifice under fascist rule, and "a treat for the mind. One of the best books I have read in a long time" (Isabel Allende). Raimund Gregorius, a professor of dead languages at a Swiss secondary school, lives a life governed by routine. Then, an enigmatic Portuguese woman stirs his interest in an obscure, and mind-expanding book of philosophy that opens the possibility of changing Raimund's existence. That same night, he takes the train to Lisbon to research the book's phantom author, Amadeu de Prado, a renowned physician whose principles led him to confront Salazar's dictatorship. Raimund, now obsessed with unlocking the mystery behind the man, is determined to meet all those on whom Prado left an indelible mark. Among them: his eighty-year-old sister, who maintains her brother's house as if it were a museum; an elderly cleric and torture survivor confined to a nursing home; and Prado's childhood friend and eventual partner in the Resistance. The closer Raimund comes to the truth of Prado's life, and eventual fate, an extraordinary tale takes shape amid the labyrinthine memories of Prado's intimate circle of family and friends, writing in utmost secrecy to fight dictatorship, and the betrayals that threaten to expose them. "A meditative, deliberate exploration of loneliness, language, and the human condition" (The San Diego Union-Tribune). Night Train to Lisbon "call[s] to mind the magical realism of Jorge Amado or Gabriel Garcia Marquez . . . allusive and thought-provoking, intellectually curious and yet heartbeatingly jaded," and inexorably propelled by the haunting mystery at its heart (The Providence Journal). Night Train to Lisbon was adapted into

Swift to Chase-Laird Barron 2018-06-21 Introduction by Paul Tremblay Publishers Weekly top ten list for most anticipated horror/SciFi Fall 2016 releases. Laird Barron’s fourth collection gathers a dozen stories set against the backdrops of the Alaskan wilderness, far-future dystopias, and giallo-fueled nightmare vistas. All hell breaks loose in a massive apartment complex when a modern day Jack the Ripper strikes under cover of a blizzard; a woman, famous for surviving a massacre, hits the road to flee the limelight and finds her misadventures have only begun; while tracking a missing B-movie actor, a team of man hunters crashes in the Yukon Delta and soon realize the Arctic is another name for hell; an atomic-powered cyborg war dog loyally assists his master in the overthrow of a far-future dystopian empire; following an occult initiation ritual, a man is stalked by a psychopathic sorority girl and her team of horrifically disfigured henchmen; a rich lunatic invites several high school classmates to his mansion for a night of sex, drugs, and CIA-funded black ops experiments; and other glimpses into occulted realities a razor’s slice beyond our own. Combining hardboiled noir, psychological horror, and the occult, Swift to Chase continues three-time Shirley Jackson Award winner Barron’s harrowing inquiry into the darkness of the human heart.

Lea-Pascal Mercier 2017-09-12 From the author of Night Train to Lisbon: a father’s story about his daughter unrelives “[a] tale of grief, fraud, guilt and madness . . . Releatory” (The New York Times Book Review). Pascal Mercier’s international bestseller Night Train to Lisbon mesmerized readers around the world, and was adapted into a film starring Jeremy Irons. Now, in Lea, Mercier returns with a mysterious tale of a father’s love and a daughter’s ambition in the wake of devastating tragedy. It starts with the death of Martijn van Vliet’s wife. Grief-stricken, his young daughter Lea retreats into the darkness of mourning. Then she hears the unfamiliar sound of a violin being played in the hall of a train station, and she is brought back to life—owing to learn the instrument. Martijn, witnessing this delicate spark, promises to tell everything in his power to keep her happy. But as Lea blossoms into a musical prodigy, her relationship with her father starts to disintegrate. Desperate to hold on to her, Martijn is pushed to commit an act that threatens to destroy them both. A revelatory portrayal of artistic genius and madness, Lea delves into the damaging power of jealousy as well as the poignant ways we strive to understand our families and ourselves. A New York Times Book Review Paperback Row Selection.

My Mother, Madame Edwarda, The Dead Man-Georges Bataille 2015-05-07 In these three works of erotic prose Georges Bataille fuses sex and spirituality in a highly personal and philosophical vision of the self. My Mother is a frank and intense depiction of a young man’s sexual initiation and corruption by his mother, where the profane becomes sacred, and intense experience is shown as the only way to transcend the boundaries of society and morality. Madame Edwarda is the story of a prostitute who calls herself God, and The Dead Man, published in 1964 after Bataille’s death, is a startling short tale of cruelty and desire. This volume also contains Bataille’s own introductions to his texts as well as essays by Yukio Mishima and Ken Hollings.

Girls Against God-Jenny Hval 2020-10-20 A genre-warping, time-travelling horror novel-slash-feminist manifesto for fans of Clarice Lispector and Jenny Hval’s own introductions to his texts as well as essays by Yukio Mishima and Ken Hollings.

The Face of Another-Kraus, Ottessa Moshfegh, and Maggie Nelson.” —Pitchfork

The Face of Another-Kobô Abe 1982

Nowhere Man-Aleksandar Hemon 2009-12-23 In this stylishly adventurous, brilliantly funny tour de force—the most highly acclaimed debut since Nathan Englander’s-Aleksandar Hemon writes of love and war, Sarajevo and America, with a skill and imagination that are breathtaking. A love affair is experienced in the blink of an eye as the Archdeacon Ferdinand watches his wife succumb to an assassin’s bullet. An exiled writer, working in a sandwich shop in Chicago, adjusts to the absurdities of his life. Love letters from war torn Sarajevo navigate the art of getting from point A to point B without being shot. With a surefooted sense of detail and life-saving humor, Aleksandar Hemon examines the overwhelming events of history and the effect they have on individual lives. These heartbreaking stories bear the unmistakable mark of an important new international writer.

Ms Ice Sandwich-Mieko Kawakami 2020-08-04 A quixotic and funny tale about first love - from the Akutagawa Prize-winning author. A boy is obsessed with a woman who sells sandwiches. He goes to the supermarket almost every day, just so he can look at her face. She is beautiful to him, and he calls her “Ms Ice Sandwich,” and endlessly draws her portrait. But the boy’s friend hears about this hesitant adoration, and suddenly everything changes. His visits to Ms Ice Sandwich stop, and with them the last hopes of his childhood. A moving and surprisingly funny tale of growing up and learning how to lose, Ms Ice Sandwich is Mieko Kawakami at her very best.

Behold the Undead of Dracula-Matthew M Bartlett 2019-08-22 The classic monsters have returned... again! During the gothic horror revival of the late 1950s through the 1970s, vampires, witches, devil worshipers, occultists, spirits, ghouls, and grave-robbing mad scientists returned to terrify a new generation of thrill-seeking movie audiences. Influenced by the social and cultural upheavals of the time and the ever-present specter of nuclear war, these classic terrors became more violent, more subversive— and more seductive. Behold the Undead of Dracula features stories inspired by the films of the gothic horror revival, dripping with blazing bright-red blood and radiating sex appeal. Eleven of the best authors in underground horror fiction offer up unique and terrifying takes on this special era of cinematic history, summoning spine-tingling tales sure to frighten and seduce unwary readers. Grab your popcorn, take a seat, and watch as the curtain rises on these gothic nightmares. Bear witness to the lurid and sensual horrors of Behold the Undead of Dracula! Featuring: “Go to the Devil” by Matthew M. Bartlett, “Vilely the Violent” by Jeanette Winterson, “Diabolus in Musica” by William Tea “Taste of Fear in the Night (European Release Title: Curse of the Mountain Witches)” by Tom Breen “You Should Smile More: The Blood Coven of Arkana” by Heath I. Levy “Mina’s Castle” by Sean M. Thompson “Cleaver Castle of Carnage Presents: The Coven Strikes Back” by Christa Carmen “The Bloody Cask of Rasputin” by Thomas C. Mavroudis “The Filthy Creation of Franklinstein” by Gemma Files Cover art by Trevor Henderson Interior illustration by Mat Fitzsimmons Editing and layout by Jonathan Raab.

Friends-Kõbõ Abe 1982

Missing Girl, The-Kerry McGinnis 2021-07-02 The darkest secrets are buried the deepest. Meg Morrissey has just lost her job, and her partner to an overseas assignment, when she is called back to the family home of Hunters Reach in the picturesque Adelaide Hills. Her ailing grandmother, who raised her when she was orphaned as a child, has always been a formidable figure in her life, and this is hardly a welcome summons. When Meg arrives at the ramshackle old homestead, she learns that the place is in desperate need of work—the house is falling down, the land needs to be restored, and the property must be turned into a working farm. As she begins the arduous work of bringing the grand old homestead back to its former glory, she is forced to examine the question that has plagued her all her life— why nobody loved her as a child. As the house unfolds the history of an earlier era, it also spills out secrets Meg had never imagined— in particular, the love story of her aunts, who raised her. The discovery brings horror into its wake, as Meg learns the secrets of the missing girl and the truth behind a wicked heart where love simply never existed. The more she uncovers, the more questions she has. With her grandmother unwilling to share what she knows, Meg must seek out the truth for herself.
Set against the stunning backdrop of the Australian bush in summer, with the ever-present threat of bushfire at its back, this is a highly evocative story of secrets and betrayal from the bestselling author of Croc Country.

The Lunar Trilogy—Jerzy Zulawski 2020-06-16 Try logia Ksiezcowa (The Lunar Trilogy or The Moon Trilogy is a trilogy of science fiction novels by the Polish writer Jerzy Zulawski, written between 1981 and 1983. It has been translated into Russian, Czech, German, and Hungarian, and has been reprinted several times in Poland, but never into English. Try logia Ksiezcowa (The Lunar Trilogy or The Moon Trilogy is a trilogy of science fiction novels by the Polish writer Jerzy Zulawski, written between 1981 and 1983. It has been translated into Russian, Czech, German, and Hungarian, and has been reprinted several times in Poland, but never into English. The first volume, Na Srebrnym Globie (On the Silver Globe, 1983) describes, in the form of a diary, the story of a marooned expedition of Earth astronauts who find themselves stranded on the Moon and found a colony. After several generations, they lose most of their knowledge and are ruled by a religious cult. The second volume, Zwyciastwo (The Conqueror or The Victor 1980), focuses upon the colonists’ anticipated Messiah, another traveler from Earth. After initial success, he fails to meet their expectations and is killed in an allegory to the death of Jesus Christ. The third volume, Stara Ziemia (The Old Earth, 1981) describes the visit of two Lunar colonists to 20th-century Earth. It is one of the early works of science fiction, long recognized as an influential work that has not previously been available in English.

The Man who Turned Into a Stick—Kôbô Abe 1975 Transl. from the Japanese original Bô ni natta otoko

Perlmann’s Silence—Pascal Mercier 2012-01-03 An academic finds himself contemplating the unthinkable in a “tour de force” psychological thriller by the philosopher and author of Night Train to Lisbon (De Volkskrant, Netherlands). Pascal Mercier’s critically acclaimed debut novel, Night Train to Lisbon, became an international bestseller and is the basis for a film starring Jeremy Irons. Now, in Perlmann’s Silence, Mercier delivers a deft psychological portrait of a man striving to get his life back on track in the wake of his beloved wife’s death. Philipp Perlmann, prominent linguist and speaker at a gathering of international academics in a seaside town near Genoa, is struggling to maintain his grip on reality. Derailed by grief and no longer confident of his professional standing, writing his keynote address seems like an insurmountable task. Terrified of failure, he decides to plagiarize the work of Leskov, a Russian colleague, and begins a sigh of relief once the text has been submitted. But when Leskov’s imminent arrival is announced, Perlmann’s mounting desperation leads him to contemplate drastic measures. A captivating portrayal of a slowly unraveling mind, Perlmann’s Silence is a brilliant meditation on the complex interplay between language, memory, and the depths of the human psyche.

Your Face in Mine—Jess Row 2014-08-14 An award-winning writer delivers a poignant and provocative novel of identity, race, and the search for belonging in the age of globalization. One afternoon in New York, not long after Kelly Thornbikle has moved back to his hometown of Baltimore, an African American man he doesn’t recognize calls out to him. To Kelly’s shock, the man identifies himself as Martin, who was one of Kelly’s closest friends in high school—and, before his disappearance nearly twenty years before, skinny, white, and Jewish. Martin then tells an astonishing story: After years of immersing himself in black culture, he’s had a plastic surgeon perform “racial reassignment surgery”—altering his hair, skin, and phisognomy to allow him to pass as African American. Unknown to his family or childhood friends, Martin has been living a new life ever since. Now, however, Martin feels he can no longer keep his new identity a secret; he wants Kelly to help him ignite a controversy that will help sell racial reassignment surgery to the world. Kelly, still recovering from the death of his wife and child and looking for a way to begin anew, agrees, and things quickly begin to spiral out of control. Inventive and thought-provoking, Your Face in Mine is a brilliant novel about cultural and racial alienation and the nature of belonging in a world where identity can be a stigma or a lucrative brand.

The Night—Rodrigo Blanco Calderon 2022-01-18 For readers who love Bolaño, a new voice of Latin American fiction, winner of the Mario Vargas Llosa Prize. Recurring blackouts envelop Caracas in an inscapable darkness that makes nightmares come true. Real and fictional characters, most of them are writers, exchange the role of narrator in this polyphonic novel. They recount contradictory versions of the plot, a series of femicides that began with the energy crisis. The central narrator is a psychiatrist who manipulates the accounts of his friend, an author writing a book titled The Night; and his patient, an advertising executive obsessed with understanding the world through word puzzles. The author shifts between crime fiction and metafiction, cautioning readers that the events retold are both true and manipulated. This is a political novel about the financial crisis and socio-political division in Venezuela from 2008 to 2010. The title of the book, originally also in English, is a gesture towards Chavism’s failure to resist US influence. Yet, the form is unapologetically literary, a reflection on the depiction and distortion of reality through storytelling. Blanco Calderón said about the potential of language, “I am convinced that all the evil in the world begins in: in words” (Canecas, 2010).

The Ruined Map—Kôbô Abe 1971-01-01

Killing Floor—Lee Child 2012 Ex-MP Jack Reacher goes into action to find his brother’s killers after a series of brutal crimes terrorize tiny Margrave, Georgia, only to uncover the dark and deadly conspiracy concealed behind the town’s peaceful facade.

The Silent Dead—Tetsuya Honda 2016-05-17 When a body wrapped in a blue plastic tarp and tied up with twine is discovered near the bushes near a quiet suburban Tokyo neighborhood, Lt. Reiko Himedakawa and her squad take the case. The victim was slaughtered brutally—his wounds are bizarre, and no one can figure out the “what” or the “why” of this crime. At age twenty-nine, Reiko Himedakawa of the Tokyo Metropolitan Police’s Homicide Division is young to have been made lieutenant, particularly because she lacks any kind of political or family connections. Despite barriers created by age, gender, and lack of connections, she is mentally tough, oblivious to danger, and has an impressive ability to solve crimes. Reiko makes a discovery that leads the police to uncover eleven other bodies, all wrapped in the same sort of plastic, a crime that is hard to identify, but the ones that have no connection to each other. The only possible clue is a long shot lead to a website spoken only in whispers on the Internet, something on the dark web known as “Strawberry Night.” But while she is hunting the killer, the killer is hunting her... and she may very well have been marked as the next victim.

Directory of World Cinema: Japan 2—John Berra 2012 Building on and bringing up to date the material presented in the first installment of Directory of World Cinema: Japan, this volume continues the exploration of the enduring classics, cult favorites, and contemporary blockbusters of Japanese cinema with new contributions from leading critics and film scholars. Among the additions to this volume are in-depth treatments of two previously unexplored genres—youth cinema and films depicting lower-class settings—considered alongside discussions of popular narrative forms, including J-Horror, samurai cinema, anime, and the Japanese New Wave. Accompanying the critical essays in this volume are nearly 200 new film reviews, complemented by full-color film stills, and significantly expanded references for further study. From the Golden Age to the film festival favorites of today, Directory of World Cinema: Japan 2 completes this comprehensive treatment of a consistently fascinating national cinema.

The Box Man—Kôbô Abe 2020-10-29 ‘A spellbinder from beginning to end, an edgy masterpiece’ Chicago Sun Times ‘This is the record of a box man’. Anonymous and alone, the box man peeps out of his cut-out eyeholes and watches the world from behind his four cardboard walls. At first repulsed by the strange phenomenon of people who have decided to abandon society and live in boxes on the Tokyo streets, he has found himself drawn into the anonymity and voyeurism of their life. As he becomes obsessed with spying on a young nurse, his identity slips away, in Kobo Abe’s eerie, disorienting and seductive masterpiece of unease. ‘Funny, sad and destructive ... an invention with its own crazy pull, it gnaws at the reader... a stunning addition to the literature of eccentricity’ The New York Times

The Archivist—Martha Cooley 2008-11-15 A young woman's impassioned pursuit of a sealed cache of T. S. Eliot's letters lies at the heart of this emotionally charged novel — a story of marriage and madness, of faith and desire, of Jazz Age New York and Europe in the shadow of the Holocaust. The Archivist was a word-of-mouth bestseller and one of the most jubilantly acclaimed first novels of recent years.

Savage Tongues—Azareen Van der Vliet Oloomi 2021-08-03 “A luxurious fevered quest for reclamation...Political, poetical, and spooky good.” —Joy Williams “A love story of the most fevered, brutal order...Propulsive, erotic, and darkly dreamlike.” —Vulture A new novel by PEN/Faulkner Award winner Azareen Van der Vliet Oloomi, “written with the intensity of early Marguerite Duras and Ferrante’s Days of Abandonment,” about a young...
woman's search for healing in the fall-out of an affair with a much older man, a personal and political exploration of desire, power, domination, and human connection (The Millions). It’s summer when Arezu, an Iranian-American teenager, goes to Spain to meet her estranged father at an apartment he owns there. He never shows up, instead sending her a weekly allowance, care of his step-nephew, Omar, a forty-year-old Lebanese man. As the weeks progress, Arezu is drawn into a mercurial, charged, and ultimately catastrophic affair with Omar, a relationship that shatters her just at the cusp of adulthood. Two decades later, Arezu inherits the apartment. She returns with her best friend, Ellie, an Israeli-American scholar devoted to the Palestinian cause, to excavate the place and finally put to words a trauma she’s long held in silence. Together, she and Ellie catalog the questions of agency, sexuality, displacement, and erasure that surface as Arezu confronts the ghosts of that summer, crafting between them a story that spans continents and centuries. Equal parts Marguerite Duras and Shirley Jackson, Rachel Cusk and Clarice Lispector, Savage Tongues is a compulsive, unsettling, and bravely observed exploration of violence and eroticism, haunting and healing, the profound intimacy born of the deepest pain, and the life-long search for healing.

The Life of a Stupid Man - Ryunosuke Akutagawa 2015-02-26 'What is the life of a human being - a drop of dew, a flash of lightning? This is so sad, so sad.' Autobiographical stories from one of Japan’s masters of modernist story-telling. Introducing Little Black Classics: 80 books for Penguin’s 80th birthday. Little Black Classics celebrate the huge range and diversity of Penguin Classics, with books from around the world and across many centuries. They take us from a balloon ride over Victorian London to a garden of blossom in Japan, from Tierra del Fuego to 16th-century California and the Russian stepppe. Here are stories lyrical and savage; poems epic and intimate; essays satirical and inspirational; and ideas that have shaped the lives of millions. Ryunosuke Akutagawa (1892-1927). Akutagawa’s Rashomon and Seventeen Other Stories is also available in Penguin Classics.

Honest Abe - Edith Kunhardt 1998-01-21 From a log cabin in Kentucky to the White House, the life of Abraham Lincoln is an inspiring saga of courage and dedication. Simple words and timeless pictures weave the important threads of Lincoln’s life into a colorful folk tapestry that illustrates a true American pioneer of justice. “Zeldis’s oversized gouache paintings give this picture-book biography a folkloric look that suits its larger-than-life subject. Kunhardt’s brief text avoids any fictionalization and presents the important events in Lincoln’s youth and many careers in a straightforward, objective fashion.... A praiseworthy effort.” School Library Journal. “Hits the high spots and finds time for memorable tidbits... Consider multiple copies.” Booklist (starred review).

Running the Light - Sam Tallent 2020-02-26 Debauched, divorced and courting death, Billy Ray Schafer is a comedian who has forgotten how to laugh. Over the course of seven spin-out days across the American Southwest, he travels from from hell gig to hell gig in search of a reason to keep living in this bleak and violent glimpse into the psyche of a thoroughly ruined man. Ex-inmate, ex-husband, ex-father - comedian is the only title Schafer has left. Trapped in the wreckage of his wasted career, Billy Ray knows the answer to the question: what happens when the opportunity doesn’t come - or worse - it comes and goes?

Intercourse - Andrea Dworkin 2009-09-17 Intercourse is a book that moves through the sexed world of dominance and submission. It moves in descending circles, not in a straight line, and as in a vortex each spiral goes down deeper. Its formal model is Dante’s Inferno; its lyrical debt is to Rimbaud; the equality it envisions is rooted in the dreams of women, silent generations, pioneer voices, lone rebels, and masses who agitated, demanded, cried out, broke laws, and even begged. The begging was a substitute for retaliatory violence: doing bodily harm back to those who use or injure you. I want women to be done with begging. The public censure of women as if we are rabid because we speak without apology about the world in which we live is a strategy of threat that usually works. Men often react to women’s words - speaking and writing - as if they were acts of violence; sometimes men react to women's words with violence. So we react to women's words - speaking and writing - as if they were acts of violence; sometimes women react to women's words with violence. So we lower our voices. Women whisper. Women apologize. Women shut up. Women trivialize what we know. Women shrink. Women pull back. Most women have experienced enough dominance from men - control, violence, insult, contempt - that no threat seems empty. Intercourse does not say, forgive me and love me. It does not say, I forgive you, I love you. For a woman writer to thrive (or, arguably, to survive) in these current hard times, forgiveness and love must be subtext. No. I say no. Intercourse is search and assertion, passion and fury; and its form - no less than its content - deserves critical scrutiny and respect.—— PREFACE