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# The Collaborator Mirza Waheed

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## CLARK CURTIS

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Midnight's Borders Harper Collins

'A terrifying yet tender account of a girlhood spent under near-constant siege.' Madhuri Vijay, author of *The Far Field*  
'Extraordinary - this memoir of growing up in Kashmir in the 1990s is illuminating, heartbreaking, and beautifully told.' Kamila Shamsie, author of *Home Fire*  
'This is an unforgettable work that refuses silence. It is an urgent, brave call for justice.' Maaza Mengiste, author of *The Shadow King*  
'Page after page, Farah Bashir juxtaposes moments of heart-stopping terror and beauty in a stunning memoir of life and love under a bloody military occupation.' Mirza Waheed, author of *Tell Her Everything*  
'I couldn't put it down, and even after it had ended, the people and their stories - wonderful, horrific, familiar and unfathomable - stayed textured and formidable in my mind.' Jennifer Croft, author of *Homesick*  
'A beautifully tender and often heart-stopping memoir of growing up in a world that is spinning out of control.' Mahesh Rao, author of *Polite Society*  
*Rumours of Spring* is the unforgettable account of Farah Bashir's adolescence spent in Srinagar in the 1990s. As Indian troops and militants battle across the cityscape and violence becomes the new normal, a young schoolgirl finds that ordinary tasks - studying for exams, walking to the bus stop, combing her hair, falling asleep - are riddled with anxiety and fear. With haunting simplicity, Farah Bashir captures moments of vitality and resilience from her girlhood amidst the increasing trauma and turmoil of passing years - secretly dancing to pop songs on banned radio stations; writing her first love letter; going to the cinema for the first time - with haunting simplicity. This deeply affecting coming-of-age memoir portrays how territorial conflict surreptitiously affects everyday lives in Kashmir.  
*The Blind Man's Garden* Random House India  
Here Is A Haunted And Haunting Volume That Establishes Agha Shahid Ali As A Seminal Voice Writing In English. Amidst Rain And Fire And Ruin, In A Land Of `Doomed Addresses`, The Poet Evokes The Tragedy Of His Birth Place, Kashmir.

**In the Orchard, the Swallows** New York Review of Books

Literary, cinematic and media representations of the disputed category of the 'South Asian Muslim' have undergone substantial change in the last few decades and particularly since the events of September 11, 2001. Here we find the first book-length critical analysis of these representations of Muslims from South Asia and its diaspora in literature, the media, culture and cinema. Contributors contextualize these depictions against the burgeoning post-9/11 artistic interest in Islam, and also against cultural responses to earlier crises on the subcontinent such as Partition (1947), the 1971 Indo-Pakistan war and secession of Bangladesh, the 1992 Ayodhya riots, the 2002 Gujarat genocide and the Kashmir conflict. Offering a comparative approach, the book explores connections between artists' generic experimentalism and their interpretations of life as Muslims in South Asia and its diaspora, exploring literary and popular fiction, memoir, poetry, news media, and film. The collection highlights the diversity of representations of Muslims and the range of approaches to questions of Muslim religious and cultural identity, as well as secular discourse. Essays by leading scholars in the field highlight the significant role that literature, film, and other cultural products such as music can play in opening up space for complex reflections on Muslim identities and cultures, and how such imaginative cultural forms can enable us to rethink secularism and religion. Surveying a broad range of up-to-date writing and cultural production, this concise and pioneering critical analysis of representations of South Asian Muslims will be of interest to students and academics of a variety of subjects including Asian Studies, Literary Studies, Media Studies, Women's Studies, Contemporary Politics, Migration History, Film studies, and Cultural Studies.

*The Collaborator* Penguin UK

"A bold, wise, magical, and authentic novel about youthful infatuation and its legacy. Hannah Pittard's beautifully confident prose is sure to make readers look back on their own teenage years with fresh wonder." —Vendela Vida, author of *The Lovers*  
Already acclaimed for her short fiction—a McSweeney's Amanda Davis Highwire Fiction Award winner whose work was selected by Salman Rushdie for inclusion in 2008 *Best American Short Stories*' 100 Distinguished Stories—Hannah Pittard proves herself a

master of long form fiction as well with her haunting, masterfully crafted debut novel, *The Fates Will Find Their Way*. A powerful and beautiful literary masterwork reminiscent of *The Virgin Suicides*, Pittard's *The Fates Will Find Their Way* tells the unforgettable story of a teenaged girl gone missing, and the boys she grew up with who find themselves caught in the mysterious wake of her absence for the rest of their lives.

**Maru** Penguin UK

Kashmir is one of the most protracted and bloody occupations in the world—and one of the most ignored. Under an Indian military rule that, at half a million strong, exceeds the total number of US forces in Iraq and Afghanistan, freedom of speech is non-existent, and human-rights abuses and atrocities are routinely visited on its Muslim-majority population. In the last two decades alone, over seventy thousand people have died. Ignored by its own corrupt politicians, abandoned by Pakistan and the West, which refuses to bring pressure to bear on its regional ally, India, the Kashmiri people's ongoing quest for justice and self-determination continues to be brutally suppressed. Exploring the causes and consequences of the occupation, *Kashmir: The Case for Freedom* is a passionate call for the end of occupation, and for the right of self-determination for the Kashmiri people.

No Guns at my Son's Funeral Melville House

Basharat Peer was a teenager when the separatist movement exploded in Kashmir in 1989. Over the following years countless young men, seduced by the romance of the militant, fuelled by feelings of injustice, crossed over the Line of Control to train in Pakistani army camps. Peer was sent off to boarding school in Aligarh to keep out of trouble. He finished college and became a journalist in Delhi. But Kashmir—angrier, more violent, more hopeless—was never far away. In 2003, the young journalist left his job and returned to his homeland to search out the stories and the people which had haunted him. In *Curfewed Night* he draws a harrowing portrait of Kashmir and its people. Here are stories of a young man's initiation into a Pakistani training camp; a mother who watches her son forced to hold an exploding bomb; a poet who finds religion when his entire family is killed. Of politicians living in refurbished torture chambers and former militants dreaming of discotheques; of idyllic villages rigged with

landmines, temples which have become army bunkers, and ancient sufi shrines decapitated in bomb blasts. And here is finally the old story of the return home—and the discovery that there may not be any redemption in it. Lyrical, spare, gutwrenching and intimate, *Curfewed Night* is a stunning book and an unforgettable portrait of Kashmir in war.

Gul Gulshan Gulfam Hachette India

It is Kashmir in the early 1990s and war has finally reached the isolated village of Nowgam close to the Pakistan border. Indian soldiers appear as if from nowhere to hunt for militants on the run. Four teenage boys, who used to spend their afternoons playing cricket, or singing Bollywood ballads down by the river, have disappeared one by one

**The Country Without a Post Office** Speaking Tiger Books

The son of a former militant, Fayaz is an aimless bureaucrat whose marriage to his wife Zeenat has broken down. His nephew Imran is a young student, a misfit in Srinagar, hoping to join a new kind of spectacular resistance. Shireen, the granddaughter of a spy, discovers how her painful and divisive family story is deeply intertwined with the history of Kashmir. The paths of these characters intersect and diverge in Nitasha Kaul's tour de force novel *Future Tense*, which traces the competing trajectories of modernity and tradition, freedom and suffocation, and the possibility of bridging the stories of different kinds of Kashmiris.

The Book Of Gold Leaves University of Washington Press

Over the last three decades, Kashmir has been ravaged by insurgency. While reams have been written on it - in human rights documents, academic theses, non-fiction accounts of the turmoil, and government and military reports - the effects of the violence on its inhabitants have rarely been rendered in fiction. Feroz Rather's *The Night of Broken Glass* corrects that anomaly. Through a series of interconnected stories, within which the same characters move in and out, the author weaves a tapestry of the horror Kashmir has come to represent. His visceral imagery explores the psychological impact of the turmoil on its natives - Showkat, who is made to wipe off graffiti on the wall of his shop with his tongue; Rosy, a progressive, jeans-wearing 'upper-caste' girl who is in love with 'lower-caste' Jamshid; Jamshid's father Gulam, a cobbler by profession who never finds his son's bullet-riddled body; the ineffectual Nadim 'Pasture', who proclaims himself a full-fledged rebel; even the barbaric and tyrannical

Major S, who has to contend with his own nightmares. Grappling with a society brutalized by the oppression of the state, and fissured by the tensions of caste and gender, Feroz Rather's remarkable debut is as much a paean to the beauty of Kashmir and the courage of its people as it is a dirge to a paradise lost.

**Life in the Clocktower Valley** Waveland Press

Yasin is driving through Europe with his seven year old son Leo, not sure where they're going. He just knows that he's 37, about to be divorced, and that this is his last chance to explain to Leo who he is and where he comes from. The problem is that Yasin isn't sure of the answers himself.

**The Collaborator** Random House

Set in the near future of 2020, this disconcerting philosophical fantasy depicts an America devastated by a war with China that has left its populace decimated, its government a shambles, and its natural resources tainted. The hero is Ben Turnbull, a sixty-six-year-old retired investment counselor, who, like Thoreau, sticks close to home and traces the course of one Massachusetts year in his journal. Something of a science buff, he finds that his disrupted personal history has been warped by the disjunctions and vagaries of the "many-worlds" hypothesis derived from the indeterminacy of quantum theory. His identity branches into variants extending back through the past and forward into the evolution of the universe, as both it and his own mortal, nature-haunted existence move toward the end of time.

Berlin Stories Random House India

A compelling story of a child born into unrest'. Aftab, a young Kashmiri boy, leads a double life. By day, he is a normal, bubbly teenager whose prime concerns are cricket, family and friends. The night holds the secrets of the life of a child, one who sneaks away to confabulate with Akram and his fledgling group of tearaway terrorists. Akram, so handsome, so exciting. But what Aftab doesn't realize, so dangerous. Aftab is in complete awe of Akram and is willing to follow him to the ends of the earth. And Akram is more than willing to send him there. Though set against the militancy in Kashmir, this novel could belong anywhere in today's world where violence is just a breath away. A brave story, never told in so raw a form, this is 'reality fiction' at its most real. A book for teenagers - and for adults of all ages - who live in a world where 'cops and robbers' is not fun any more, but a deadly game.

**The Fates Will Find Their Way** Zubaan Books

The acclaimed and award-winning novel, *Tell Her Everything*, is a heartbreaking, brilliant, and emotionally absorbing novel about ethics, filial love, and the corrosive nature of complicity. As he prepares for a visit from his estranged daughter, Dr K, a retired surgeon enjoying the comforts of retirement in London, rehearses the conversations he will have with her over the course of her visit. It's been years since he has seen her. He spent much of his time polishing the confession he wants to make to her. As her visit gets closer, he recalls the country, a prosperous oil monarchy, he left India for to make his home and career. A dream job, the hospital he worked was just a ten minute walk from home. He had access to a lifestyle that he would never have had back home. Money and success came quickly, but the price was steep and often unbearable, especially to a wife and daughter who watch him walk the perilous path of lifelong ambition. *TELL HER EVERYTHING* is a tense, visceral and moving novel about a father's love for his daughter and a medical professional gripping with remorse, shame and despair. Recalling the work of Ishiguro, Coetzee and Kafka, it asks: Where does one draw the line between empathy and sacrifice? Between integrity and survival. Between prosperity and love?

Resisting Disappearance Vintage

'With flashes of brilliance, tenderness and fury, Mirza Waheed's *The Collaborator* does what fiction should. It makes you listen' Arundhati Roy, author of *The God of Small Things* By the waters running through the valleys of Kashmir, teenage boys come to play cricket, talk about girls, and just be. But a few years later, when they are young men and violence grips the region, they are gone. Only the son of the local headman has stayed. He knows his friends have slipped over the border to Pakistan, and turned militant to bear arms against the Indian army. He would like to join them - but he cannot. Instead, put in an impossible position by an Indian army Captain, he must cross into the shadowland between the opposing sides, a ghost walking among the dead. His fate, like that of his lost brothers, unknown . . . 'Waheed's prose burns with the fever of anger and despair; the scenes in the valley are exceptional, conveying, a hallucinatory living nightmare that has become an everyday reality for Kashmiris' Metro 'Waheed builds an atmosphere of menace and despair . . . his tale possesses a disturbing power that is both lingering and profound'

Independent on Sunday 'Compelling . . . An important and poetic testimony to an all-too-easily forgotten war' Daily Mail Mirza Waheed was born and brought up in Kashmir. His debut novel *The Collaborator* was shortlisted for the Guardian First Book Award and the Shakti Bhat Prize, and longlisted for the Desmond Elliott Prize. It was also book of the year for the Telegraph, New Statesman, Financial Times, Business Standard and Telegraph India. Waheed has written for the BBC, the Guardian, Granta, Al Jazeera English and The New York Times. He lives in London.

**Toward the End of Time** A&C Black

'Love is not consolation, it is light' From the author of *Maps for Lost Lovers* and *The Wasted Vigil* comes a novel set in the months after 9/11, when Western armies invaded Afghanistan—a story of love, hope and grief, of uncorrupted faith and of what it means to be alive. Jeo and his foster-brother Mikal leave their home in Pakistan to help care for wounded Afghans. Within hours of entering the wide-horizoned Afghan landscape, Mikal and Jeo are separated and, emerging from the carnage, Mikal begins his search for Jeo. But his deepest wish is to return home—to the young woman he loves and who loves him, Jeo's wife. *The Blind Man's Garden* maps a place both phantasmally beautiful and chilling. Taking us on a journey from Al Qaeda's hideouts in Waziristan and American-built military prisons to a family left behind—Mikal's and Jeo's blind, regretful father, Jeo's resolute wife and her superstitious mother—it unflinchingly examines war and brotherhood, devastation, separation and remorse, while celebrating the redemptive power of nature, art and literature.

*Scattered Souls* Anchor

Winner of the Scotiabank Giller Prize Man Booker Prize Finalist 2011 An Oprah Magazine Best Book of the Year Shortlisted for the Governor General's Literary Award for Fiction Berlin, 1939. The Hot Time Swingers, a popular jazz band, has been forbidden to play by the Nazis. Their young trumpet-player Hieronymus Falk, declared a musical genius by none other than Louis Armstrong, is arrested in a Paris café. He is never heard from again. He was twenty years old, a German citizen. And he was black. Berlin, 1952. Falk is a jazz legend. Hot Time Swingers band members Sid Griffiths and Chip Jones, both African Americans from Baltimore, have appeared in a documentary about Falk. When they are invited to attend the film's premier, Sid's role in Falk's fate will be

questioned and the two old musicians set off on a surprising and strange journey. From the smoky bars of pre-war Berlin to the salons of Paris, Sid leads the reader through a fascinating, little-known world as he describes the friendships, love affairs and treacheries that led to Falk's incarceration in Sachsenhausen. Esi Edugyan's *Half-Blood Blues* is a story about music and race, love and loyalty, and the sacrifices we ask of ourselves, and demand of others, in the name of art.

**Star Island** HarperCollins UK

This tale of innocence and corruption in Pakistan is "a beautiful, often painful, journey of a young man's doomed yearning for love" (The Guardian). During a village wedding in Pakistan, a boy risks speaking to the beautiful daughter of a powerful local politician. As night falls, the two meet in his father's orchard, inadvertently falling asleep as they wait for the light of dawn to reveal the orchard's beauty, naive to the dangers posed by their innocent mistake. As first light approaches, and the girl's father realizes the young couple's mutual attraction, he has the boy sent to prison without explanation or the benefit of a trial. Fifteen years later, the boy—now a man—is released without a word. Bereft of family and weakened from years of abuse, he collapses on the side of the road and is taken in by a kindly scholar. As time passes, the man recovers enough to take daily walks to his father's now abandoned orchard, where he last saw his young beloved among the trees, beneath soaring, fluttering swallows . . .

In clear, crystalline prose, this novel reveals the ability of the human spirit to conquer the random cruelties of life, and how the power of love and hope, once known, can never truly be extinguished. "Hobbs' prose is spare, clean, and lyrical, giving *In the Orchard*, the *Swallows* a timeless feeling; however, the markers of the Afghan war and the changes in the landscape remind the reader that this story is very contemporary."

—Booklist "A perfectly cut jewel of a book." —The Financial Times  
*Tell Her Everything* A&C Black

'In times like these, truth is perhaps the only justice we can have, the only vengeance we can wreak.' Blood drips from the pellet-stricken eyes of young Kashmiri men as Oubaid watches insurgency and violence rip through the streets of his homeland. A voice in his head tells him he knows who brought this plague upon them. But acknowledging it would mean that he must relive

the horrors that have been inflicted on those he loves... Yet the voice will not leave Oubaid alone, and as he reluctantly confronts his past, there emerge four echoes of a story, narrated by four childhood friends – a youth caught in conflict, the daughter of a social climber, the son of a moneyed landlord and a militant. As their tales diverge and coalesce, they unravel a truth that is not always the sum of its parts – one that reveals the full tragedy of a people buffeted by circumstance and desperately seeking salvation. A taut, searing reflection of our times, *The Plague upon Us* announces the arrival of an arresting new voice in contemporary fiction.

*The Night of Broken Glass* Picador

It was the 1990s. The army descended upon Kashmir to quell a massive armed rebellion against Indian rule. They entered not just the land, but also the lives of its people, fracturing their idea of home and punctuating their days and nights with curfews. This extraordinary collection brings together the stories of some of those people probing the quandaries of their precarious existence. There is that ex-militant whose past continues to stalk his present; the wife who begins to dress like her husband after losing him to a crossfire. There is the boy who obsessively follows President Obama's India visit, hoping to hear him mention the 'K' word; and the man whose transistor triggers paranoia in his neighbourhood. *Unassuming yet hard-hitting*, *Scattered Souls* journeys through a destroyed Kashmir swaddled in the memories of its fragile beauty.

*Dust and Smoke* Verso Books

Eleven-year-old Harrison Opoku, the second best runner in Year 7, races through his new life in England with his personalised trainers - the Adidas stripes drawn on with marker pen - blissfully unaware of the very real threat around him. Newly-arrived from Ghana with his mother and older sister Lydia, Harri absorbs the many strange elements of city life, from the bewildering array of Haribo sweets, to the frightening, fascinating gang of older boys from his school. But his life is changed forever when one of his friends is murdered. As the victim's nearly new football boots hang in tribute on railings behind fluorescent tape and a police appeal draws only silence, Harri decides to act, unwittingly endangering the fragile web his mother has spun around her family to keep them safe.

Best Sellers - Books :

- [8 Rules Of Love: How To Find It, Keep It, And Let It Go](#)
- [How To Catch A Leprechaun By Adam Wallace](#)
- [We'll Always Have Summer \(the Summer I Turned Pretty\) By Jenny Han](#)
- [American Prometheus: The Triumph And Tragedy Of J. Robert Oppenheimer](#)
- [Brown Bear, Brown Bear, What Do You See?](#)
- [Saved: A War Reporter's Mission To Make It Home By Benjamin Hall](#)
- [The Boy, The Mole, The Fox And The Horse](#)
- [The Light We Carry: Overcoming In Uncertain Times](#)
- [You Will Own Nothing: Your War With A New Financial World Order And How To Fight Back By Carol Roth](#)
- [Lord Of The Flies](#)