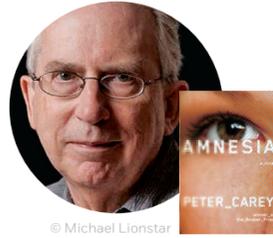


Peter Carey

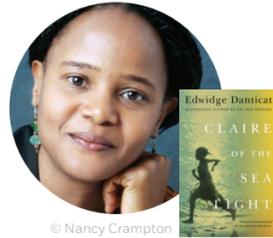
Throughout his illustrious career, Peter Carey has acquired many dedicated fans along with accolades from critics and two Booker prizes (for *Oscar and Lucinda* and *True History of the Kelly Gang*). A gifted teacher and a natural speaker, Carey is most recently the author of *Amnesia*, a novel about the cyber underworld and international power politics.



© Michael Lionstar

Edwidge Danticat

A Haitian-American bestselling author and social activist, Edwidge Danticat has been awarded a MacArthur Fellowship, the National Book Critics Circle Award, and the Dayton Literary Peace Prize, among others. She is the author of *Claire of the Sea Light*, *Brother, I'm Dying*, and *Breath, Eyes, Memory*. She speaks about craft and her experiences as a writer.



© Nancy Crampton

Jennifer Egan

Jennifer Egan is the author of five books, including the Pulitzer Prize-winning *A Visit from the Goon Squad*. As engaging as one of her characters, Egan captivates crowds with tales of her early days as a struggling writer, her approach to storytelling, and her ultimate success as one of today's most innovative authors.



© Pieter M. Van Hatten

Nathan Englander

2013 Pulitzer Prize finalist Nathan Englander draws upon his Orthodox Jewish upbringing in both his writing and lectures. Englander's debut story collection, *For the Relief of Unbearable Urges*, became an international bestseller and earned him the PEN/Faulkner Malamud Award. He is most recently the author of *What We Talk About When We Talk About Anne Frank*.



© Juliana Sohn

Danielle Evans

A graduate of Columbia University and the Iowa Writers' Workshop, Danielle Evans has been honored with the National Book Foundation's 5 Under 35 Award and a PEN Prize for *Before You Suffocate Your Own Fool Self*. In her work and speaking engagements, the University of Wisconsin professor explores racial identity in post-civil rights movement America.



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Steven Galloway

Steven Galloway is the author of three novels, including the international bestseller *The Cellist of Sarajevo* and his most recent, *The Confabulist*. Using skills honed as a professor of creative writing at the University of British Columbia, he discusses the techniques of fiction writing and the role of art in civilization.



© Frances Raud

Cristina Henríquez

Iowa Writers' Workshop graduate Cristina Henríquez is the author of *The Book of Unknown Americans*. A gifted writer with a great talent for creating intimate and authentic character portraits, Henríquez speaks to aspiring writers about craft, identity, and common narratives about immigration.



© Sarah Jane Semrad

Edward Hirsch

Edward Hirsch is a National Book Critics Circle Award winner, one of the world's most celebrated living poets, and a passionate advocate for the power and necessity of poetry. Hirsch is the author of nine books of poetry and four works of prose. His lectures are transformative experiences and are sure to make audiences fall in love with poetry.



© Julie Dermansky

Phil Klay

United States Marine Corps veteran Phil Klay wowed critics and readers alike with his short story collection *Redeployment*. With hard-eyed realism and emotional depth, the Dartmouth College graduate takes audiences to the front lines of the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan to show what happened there, and afterward, to soldiers who experienced the conflicts firsthand.



© Hannah Dunphy



© Annika Lee

Chang-rae Lee

A deeply influential speaker and writer, Chang-rae Lee explores race, class, and immigrant life in America with poignancy and originality. His debut novel *Native Speaker* won the Hemingway Foundation/PEN Award. Since that award, his status as a literary master has been confirmed by, among other works, *The Surrendered*, a finalist for the Pulitzer Prize, and *On Such a Full Sea*, his most recent novel.



© Matt Valentine

Colum McCann

Hailed as an incomparable storyteller, Colum McCann's bestselling novel *Let the Great World Spin* was awarded the National Book Award in 2009. His most recent novel, *TransAtlantic*, has been hailed as his most spectacular achievement to date. A true literary scholar and international artist, Colum McCann speaks with great passion about the writer's craft and journey.



© Beowulf Sheehan

Téa Obreht

National Book Award finalist for *The Tiger's Wife*, Baileys Women's Prize for Fiction winner, and the youngest writer on *The New Yorker's* 20 Under 40 list, Téa Obreht is one of the most exciting literary voices to emerge in recent years. In her lectures, she shares with audiences her own tale of becoming a writer with the same storytelling expertise displayed in her novel.



© Mark Bennington

Jane Smiley

Pulitzer Prize-winning author Jane Smiley is one of America's most celebrated literary treasures. Her most exciting project to date is a trilogy of novels that spans a hundred years, beginning with her most recent book *Some Luck*. As a speaker, Smiley's topics are as diverse as her body of work, ranging from literature to politics, child rearing to farming.



© Sharona Jacobs Photography LLC

Kelly Link

Indie publisher and short story writer Kelly Link has been hailed as "the most darkly playful voice in American fiction." Her recent collection *Get in Trouble* is her first for adult readers in a decade. In her lectures, Link transports audiences into the vibrant "pocket universes" of her stories, while also sharing thoughtful and entertaining reflections from her writing and publishing careers.



© Elisabeth C. Prochnik

Rebecca Mead

Rebecca Mead is a staff writer at *The New Yorker* and the author of the critically acclaimed memoir *My Life in Middlemarch*. Her book and lectures are accessible and entertainingly informative. A perfect fit for an audience of book lovers, Mead shares with audiences the tremendous influence that great fiction can have on our lives.



© Saneesh Sukumaran

Helen Oyeyemi

Praised for her fresh voice and lyrical style, British novelist and playwright Helen Oyeyemi is the author of five novels and a winner of the Somerset Maugham Award and the Hurston/Wright Legacy Award. Voted by *Granta* as "One of the Best Young British Novelists," she dazzles fans with her stunning feats of imagination.



© Joni Kabana

Cheryl Strayed

Cheryl Strayed is the author of the #1 *New York Times* bestselling memoir *Wild* (recently an Oscar-nominated film) and was the voice behind *The Rumpus's* "Dear Sugar" column. Strayed holds an MFA from Syracuse University and speaks to young writers about craft and shaping her own stories of loss and recovery with grit and humor.



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Emily St. John Mandel

Contrasting present-day and a post-apocalyptic North America, *Station Eleven* is what Mandel herself calls "a love letter to this extraordinary world in which we live." The author of three previous highly acclaimed novels, Mandel is a poised and thoughtful speaker, drawing audiences in with her lectures on her writing craft and her bestselling novels.



© Mathieu Zazzo

Dinaw Mengestu

Dinaw Mengestu is the highly acclaimed author of three novels; his latest, *All Our Names*, further cemented his reputation as one of the brightest literary talents of his generation. His numerous accolades include a MacArthur Genius Grant, *The New Yorker's* 20 Under 40 list, and the National Book Award Foundation's 5 Under 35 Award.



© Kris Krug

Ruth Ozeki

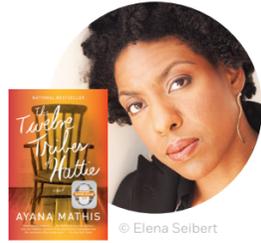
Ruth Ozeki is a filmmaker, novelist, and Zen Buddhist priest. Her novels have been published internationally, and her most recent work, *A Tale for the Time Being*, was shortlisted for the Man Booker Prize. Whether discussing the meat industry, agribusiness, or Zen Buddhism, Ruth Ozeki's lectures are always thoughtful, sometimes philosophical, but never without her trademark wit.



© Leonardo Cendamo

Elizabeth Strout

A Pulitzer Prize-winning author and *New York Times* bestselling mainstay, Elizabeth Strout captivates audiences with her distinctively New England stories and powerful narrative ability to transform the ordinary into the extraordinary. Her short story collection, *Olive Kitteridge*, won the 2009 Pulitzer Prize, and her most recent novel, *The Burgess Boys*, was published to critical acclaim.



© Elena Seibert

Ayana Mathis

Iowa Writers' Workshop graduate Ayana Mathis is the *New York Times* bestselling author of the widely acclaimed novel *The Twelve Tribes of Hattie*. She is a dynamic speaker on the craft of storytelling, the creative writing process, African American history, and literature—all within the context of the larger American experience.



© Lisa Cohen

Claire Messud

Claire Messud is a celebrated fiction writer and journalist. A seasoned speaker, she lectures on gender and literature as well as the origins of storytelling. Among her best-known novels are *The Emperor's Children* and *The Woman Upstairs*.



© Michael Lionstar

Karen Russell

Her debut novel *Swamplandia!* was one of *The New York Times's* Ten Best Books of 2011. Most recently the author of *Vampires in the Lemon Grove*, Russell is one of *The New Yorker's* 20 Under 40 and a MacArthur Fellow. She captivates crowds with her wild imagination, infectious enthusiasm, and lively sense of humor.



© Nina Subin

Meg Wolitzer

New York Times bestselling author Meg Wolitzer explores gender politics, motherhood, sexuality, the life of the artist, and more in dynamic and critically acclaimed works such as *The Uncoupling*, *The Ten-Year Nap*, and *The Interestings*. An MFA instructor at Stony Brook Southampton, Wolitzer discusses her work and themes and the challenges of being a female writer.



© Jemma Mickleburgh

Eimear McBride

Eimear McBride's debut novel, *A Girl Is a Half-formed Thing*, has won almost every major literary award, including the Baileys Women's Prize for Fiction, and has elicited widespread international praise that includes comparisons to Virginia Woolf and James Joyce. In her lectures McBride discusses feminism, modernism, and literary experimentation, as well as her journey to publication.



© Kevin Day Photography

Celeste Ng

Celeste Ng's debut novel, *Everything I Never Told You*, graced numerous Best of 2014 lists and was the winner of the 2014/15 Asian/Pacific American Award for Literature in Adult Fiction. Ng addresses how Asian-Americans fit into conversations about race, how people identify, and her own path to becoming a writer. She earned her MFA from the University of Michigan.



© Brigitte Lacombe

Gary Shteyngart

Some call them immigrant stories, but actually what Gary Shteyngart writes is global fiction. A *New York Times* bestselling author, Shteyngart is a masterful storyteller and memorable performer, winning audiences over with his satirical takedowns of modern society and self-deprecating accounts of his life as the young Igor (his Russian birth name). He currently teaches writing at Columbia University.



© Marty Umans

Jacqueline Woodson

Jacqueline Woodson won the 2014 National Book Award for her *New York Times* bestselling memoir *Brown Girl Dreaming*. The author of more than two dozen books for young readers, Woodson is a four-time Newbery Honor winner and a recipient of the NAACP Image Award. She gives stirring lectures that explore the inspiration behind her books and tackle important issues of race, gender, and bullying.