

foster by claire keegan ending

foster by claire keegan ending reveals a poignant and deeply emotional conclusion to a story that explores themes of family, belonging, and the complexities of human relationships. Claire Keegan's narrative artfully captures the subtle yet profound changes experienced by the young protagonist as she navigates her temporary life with foster parents. The ending leaves readers reflecting on the impact of kindness, love, and the bittersweet nature of separation. This article will delve into the detailed analysis of the foster by Claire Keegan ending, examining its thematic significance, character resolution, and the broader implications within the story. Additionally, this discussion will highlight how the conclusion ties together the narrative's key motifs and emotional undercurrents, offering a comprehensive understanding of the story's final moments.

- Overview of the Foster by Claire Keegan
- Detailed Analysis of the Ending
- Thematic Significance of the Conclusion
- Character Development and Resolution
- Symbolism and Literary Techniques in the Ending
- Reader Interpretation and Emotional Impact

Overview of the Foster by Claire Keegan

The story "Foster" by Claire Keegan centers on a young girl sent to live temporarily with foster parents in the Irish countryside. The narrative explores her experiences in this new environment, contrasting her previous life with the warmth and care she encounters. Keegan's storytelling is notable for its economy of language and emotional depth, painting a vivid picture of rural life and childhood innocence.

Set in a time and place where family dynamics and social expectations weigh heavily, the story captures the girl's internal transformation. Throughout the narrative, the author uses subtle details to build a sense of intimacy and tension, leading to a powerful and moving ending that resonates with readers long after they finish the story.

Detailed Analysis of the Ending

The foster by Claire Keegan ending is marked by a mixture of hope and melancholy. The young protagonist's temporary stay comes to an end, and she must return to her biological family. The conclusion does not offer a conventional resolution but rather a moment of quiet reflection and emotional complexity.

Key Moments in the Ending

Several pivotal moments characterize the conclusion:

- The girl's realization of the stark differences between her foster family's love and her own home environment.
- The foster mother's unspoken affection and the subtle gestures that convey deep care.
- The girl's internal conflict about leaving the foster family and returning to her previous life.
- The final scene's evocative imagery, which emphasizes separation and longing.

These elements combine to create an ending that is emotionally rich and open to interpretation, reflecting the story's nuanced approach to human relationships.

Thematic Significance of the Conclusion

The foster by Claire Keegan ending encapsulates several key themes that run throughout the story. Central among these are the ideas of belonging, love, and the search for identity. The ending highlights the impact of kindness and the profound need for connection in the protagonist's life.

Exploration of Major Themes

- **Belonging:** The ending underscores the girl's struggle to find a place where she feels accepted and loved unconditionally.

- **Love and Care:** The quiet, nurturing affection from the foster parents contrasts with the neglect she experiences at home, emphasizing different expressions of love.
- **Loss and Separation:** The bittersweet departure illustrates the pain of leaving a safe environment, highlighting the complexity of familial bonds.
- **Identity and Growth:** The experience with the foster family shapes the girl's understanding of herself and her desires.

The conclusion thus acts as a focal point where these themes converge, leaving readers with a profound emotional and intellectual engagement with the narrative.

Character Development and Resolution

The ending of *Foster* by Claire Keegan provides significant insight into the growth and transformation of the main characters, particularly the young girl and her foster mother. Their silent interactions and emotional exchanges reveal much about their inner worlds.

The Young Protagonist's Growth

Throughout the story, the girl evolves from a withdrawn, uncertain child into someone who experiences warmth, security, and emotional awakening. The ending reflects this development by portraying her conflicted feelings about leaving and the subtle hope for a better future.

The Foster Parents' Role

The foster mother, in particular, embodies unconditional love and quiet strength. Her actions and demeanor in the final scenes communicate a deep, unspoken bond with the girl, highlighting the transformative power of compassion.

Meanwhile, the foster father's presence contributes to the sense of stability and normalcy, reinforcing the contrast with the girl's original home life.

Symbolism and Literary Techniques in the Ending

Claire Keegan employs a range of literary devices and symbolism in the foster by Claire Keegan ending to enrich the narrative and evoke emotional responses. These techniques enhance the story's themes and character dynamics.

Use of Imagery and Symbolism

The ending is replete with symbolic imagery that conveys separation, longing, and hope. For example, natural elements such as the changing weather or the landscape serve as metaphors for the protagonist's emotional state.

Objects and gestures—like the handing over of a simple gift or the final embrace—carry significant weight, symbolizing care and the fleeting nature of the girl's foster experience.

Economy of Language and Subtlety

Keegan's sparse, precise prose in the ending avoids overt explanation, instead relying on suggestion and nuance. This style invites readers to engage deeply with the text, interpreting the emotional undercurrents and complexities beneath the surface.

Reader Interpretation and Emotional Impact

The foster by Claire Keegan ending resonates strongly with readers due to its emotional depth and ambiguity. It leaves space for multiple interpretations, allowing individuals to project their own experiences and feelings onto the story.

Emotional Responses Elicited

- A sense of empathy for the young protagonist and her plight.
- Reflection on the nature of family, care, and what constitutes a home.
- Recognition of the lasting impact brief moments of kindness can have on a person's life.

- Contemplation of loss and the complexity of human connections.

This openness and emotional richness contribute to the enduring popularity and critical acclaim of Claire Keegan's "Foster," particularly its memorable and thought-provoking ending.

Frequently Asked Questions

What is the ending of 'Foster' by Claire Keegan?

In the ending of 'Foster,' the narrator returns to her biological family after spending a transformative summer with the foster family, leaving readers with a sense of bittersweet reflection on love and belonging.

Does the narrator stay with the foster family at the end of 'Foster'?

No, the narrator does not stay with the foster family; she returns to her biological family but carries the emotional impact of her time with the foster family.

What message does the ending of 'Foster' by Claire Keegan convey?

The ending conveys themes of hope, love, and the complexity of family, emphasizing the lasting impact of kindness and care even in difficult circumstances.

How does the narrator feel in the ending of 'Foster'?

The narrator feels a mixture of sadness and gratitude, as she leaves the warmth and stability of the foster family but gains a deeper understanding of love and safety.

Is the ending of 'Foster' by Claire Keegan hopeful or tragic?

The ending is more hopeful than tragic, highlighting the emotional growth of the narrator and the positive influence of the foster family despite the challenges she faces.

What happens to the foster family after the story ends?

The story does not provide detailed information about the foster family after the ending, focusing instead on the narrator's experience and perspective.

Why does the narrator have to leave the foster family at the end of 'Foster'?

The narrator must leave because the foster placement is temporary, arranged to provide her with a safe and loving environment during a difficult time at home.

How does the ending of 'Foster' reflect Claire Keegan's writing style?

The ending reflects Keegan's minimalist and poignant writing style by leaving some questions unanswered, allowing readers to feel the emotional depth and ambiguity of real life.

What emotions does the ending of 'Foster' evoke in readers?

The ending evokes emotions of empathy, sadness, hope, and contemplation about family, love, and the impact of kindness.

Is there a resolution to the narrator's family situation at the end of 'Foster'?

The story does not provide a clear resolution to the narrator's family situation, instead focusing on the temporary refuge and emotional growth she experiences with the foster family.

Additional Resources

1. *Foster by Claire Keegan Ending Explained*

This book delves into the poignant and subtle conclusion of Claire Keegan's "Foster," unpacking the emotional and thematic layers of the story. It explores the complexities of family, belonging, and the fleeting nature of kindness depicted in the novella. Readers gain insight into the characters' motivations and the significance of the ending's ambiguity.

2. *The Quiet Power of Claire Keegan's Foster*

An analytical exploration of the understated narrative style and emotional depth in "Foster," focusing on the ending's impact on the reader. The book highlights how Keegan uses minimalism to evoke profound feelings and reflects

on the implications of the story's resolution for contemporary Irish literature.

3. *After the Foster Care: Themes of Hope and Loss*

This title examines the themes of hope, loss, and resilience in "Foster," with a special focus on the ending. It discusses how the story portrays the complexities of foster care and the bittersweet experiences of the young protagonist, providing a broader context for the narrative's conclusion.

4. *Claire Keegan's Foster: A Study in Narrative Ambiguity*

Focusing on the ambiguous ending of "Foster," this book explores narrative techniques that leave readers questioning and reflecting. It analyzes how Keegan's choice to leave certain plot points open-ended serves to deepen the emotional resonance and invites multiple interpretations.

5. *Foster and the Irish Rural Landscape*

This work connects the setting of rural Ireland in "Foster" with the story's ending, illustrating how the environment shapes the characters' experiences and emotional journeys. It discusses the symbolism of the countryside and its role in the story's subtle yet powerful conclusion.

6. *The Emotional Landscape of Foster's Ending*

A psychological and emotional analysis of the novella's final moments, this book explores the protagonist's internal conflict and the impact of her foster experience. It highlights how the ending encapsulates themes of identity, belonging, and the search for love and security.

7. *From Foster to Freedom: The Journey of a Child*

This title traces the protagonist's journey throughout "Foster," emphasizing the ending as a pivotal moment of transformation. It discusses the implications of the ending for understanding childhood trauma, healing, and the possibility of new beginnings.

8. *Silence and Speech in Claire Keegan's Foster*

Investigating the use of silence and minimal dialogue in "Foster," this book considers how these elements influence the story's ending. It argues that the restrained communication style amplifies the emotional weight and leaves a lasting impression on the reader.

9. *Foster's Ending: A Reflection on Family and Belonging*

This book offers a reflective commentary on how the ending of "Foster" encapsulates themes of family dynamics and the human need for connection. It examines the bittersweet nature of the conclusion and its relevance to broader social and cultural discussions about foster care.

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Foster by Claire Keegan: Unpacking the Ending and Its Lasting Impact

Introduction:

Claire Keegan's *Foster* isn't your typical coming-of-age story. This novella, a masterclass in concise and impactful storytelling, leaves a lingering resonance long after the final page is turned. While seemingly simple in its narrative, the ending of *Foster* is deeply complex, prompting questions about family, societal structures, and the enduring power of human connection. This post will delve deep into the ambiguity of the ending, exploring its multiple interpretations and analyzing the thematic implications that make *Foster* such a powerful and unforgettable read. We'll examine the subtle shifts in tone, the unspoken emotions, and the lasting impact on both the protagonist, ten-year-old Chris, and the reader. Prepare to revisit this poignant tale and unearth the profound meaning hidden within its seemingly understated conclusion.

The Ambiguity of Farewell: Deconstructing the Ending

The ending of *Foster* is deliberately open-ended, allowing for multiple readings. There's no grand revelation or neatly tied-up bow. Instead, Keegan leaves us with a sense of quiet resignation and the lingering weight of unspoken emotions. Chris's return to his dysfunctional family is depicted with a stark simplicity. There's no dramatic reunion, no clear-cut resolution to the emotional turmoil he's experienced. This deliberate omission reflects the reality of many children's experiences with poverty and neglect; there's no easy escape, no fairytale ending.

The final image of Chris watching the bus leave, a symbol of his departure from the temporary sanctuary of his foster home, is pregnant with meaning. Is he relieved to return to a familiar, albeit difficult, life? Or is he heartbroken at leaving the only place he's truly felt loved and cared for? The ambiguity allows the reader to project their own interpretations onto Chris's emotional state, mirroring the complexities of human experience.

The Unseen Scars: Exploring the Lasting Impact on Chris

The ending isn't merely about Chris's physical departure; it highlights the enduring psychological scars left by both his neglectful upbringing and the contrastingly nurturing experience he finds with

Mrs. McNulty. The time spent at the farm isn't a magical cure-all; it's a brief respite from the harsh realities of his life. The contrast between the two worlds – the impoverished, chaotic environment of his home and the tranquil, loving home of Mrs. McNulty – serves to amplify the impact of his experience.

This contrast subtly underscores the long-lasting effects of trauma. The brief period of care and affection is not enough to completely erase the damage of years of neglect, demonstrating the complexity of healing from childhood trauma. The ending highlights the resilience of children in the face of adversity, yet it also acknowledges the enduring wounds that can persist even after exposure to kindness and care.

Beyond the Farm: Examining the Societal Context

Foster transcends the personal narrative, offering a poignant commentary on social structures and societal responsibility. The disparity between Chris's life and that of Mrs. McNulty is a stark reminder of the inequalities within society. The novella implicitly critiques a system that allows children to fall through the cracks, highlighting the limitations of social services and the immense burden placed on individuals like Mrs. McNulty who offer informal, unsanctioned care.

The ending serves to underscore the broader societal issue of child poverty and neglect. Chris's return to his original circumstances reinforces the ongoing need for systemic change and emphasizes the limitations of individual acts of kindness in addressing a systemic problem. The story doesn't offer easy solutions, but it forces the reader to confront the uncomfortable realities of societal inequities and their profound impact on vulnerable children.

The Power of Unspoken Emotions: Analyzing the Narrative Technique

Keegan's masterful use of understated language and unspoken emotions is integral to the impact of the ending. The narrative avoids sentimentality or melodrama. The quiet dignity of both Chris and Mrs. McNulty is powerfully communicated through subtle details and actions, rather than explicit emotional outbursts. This understated approach adds layers of depth and meaning, allowing the reader to fill in the emotional gaps and connect with the characters on a deeply personal level.

The absence of overtly emotional scenes underscores the resilience of both characters, highlighting their capacity to cope with difficult circumstances without succumbing to despair. This restraint, coupled with the open-ended narrative, allows for a far more profound and lasting impact than any emotionally charged climax could achieve.

Outline of Foster by Claire Keegan

- I. Introduction: The story introduces ten-year-old Chris and his impoverished, neglectful family.
- II. Arrival at the Farm: Chris's unexpected journey to Mrs. McNulty's farm and his initial adjustment to a new environment.
- III. Life on the Farm: Development of the relationship between Chris and Mrs. McNulty, showcasing her kindness and care, contrasted with Chris's past experiences.
- IV. The Change in Chris: Illustrates how Chris begins to thrive in this environment, experiencing comfort, care, and a sense of belonging he's never known.
- V. The Inevitable Departure: The foreshadowing of Chris's departure and the emotional complexities surrounding this event.
- VI. Return to Reality: Chris's return to his dysfunctional family and the lingering impact of his time at the farm.
- VII. Conclusion: The ambiguous ending and its implications for Chris's future and the broader themes of the novella.

Detailed Explanation of the Outline Points:

(I) Introduction: The novella begins with a stark portrayal of Chris's life: a home marked by poverty, neglect, and violence. His mother's alcoholism and his father's absence paint a grim picture of a childhood devoid of stability and affection. This sets the stage for the stark contrast that will follow.

(II) Arrival at the Farm: The sudden shift to Mrs. McNulty's farm is abrupt, mirroring the unpredictable nature of Chris's life. His initial apprehension and cautious interaction with Mrs. McNulty establish a foundation for the evolving relationship.

(III) Life on the Farm: This section forms the heart of the novella. Keegan masterfully portrays the simple yet profound acts of kindness and care extended by Mrs. McNulty. We see Chris slowly blossom, experiencing a nurturing environment that he's been deprived of. The farm becomes a symbol of hope and a brief respite from the harsh realities of his life.

(IV) The Change in Chris: Chris's transformation is subtly shown through small details: improved hygiene, a newfound sense of self-worth, and a blossoming connection with Mrs. McNulty. These small changes highlight the profound effect of love and care on a neglected child.

(V) The Inevitable Departure: The knowledge that Chris's stay is temporary creates a sense of foreboding. The narrative subtly foreshadows the painful return to his previous circumstances, building suspense and intensifying the emotional weight of the ending.

(VI) Return to Reality: The return to his family home is depicted with stark simplicity, emphasizing the enduring nature of the challenges Chris faces. The stark contrast with his time on the farm underscores the impact of his experience and the limitations of individual acts of kindness in solving systemic issues.

(VII) Conclusion: The open-ended nature of the ending leaves room for multiple interpretations. The lack of resolution mirrors the complexities of real-life experiences, particularly for children navigating poverty and neglect. The final image of Chris on the bus is rich with unspoken emotions, highlighting the lasting impact of his time at the farm and the challenges he'll continue to face.

9 Unique FAQs about the Ending of Foster:

1. Is the ending of Foster hopeful or depressing? The ending is intentionally ambiguous, allowing for both interpretations. While there's no happy resolution, the experience at the farm leaves a lasting positive impact on Chris.
2. What does the bus symbolize in the ending? The bus symbolizes both departure and transition. It represents Chris leaving the temporary sanctuary of the farm, but also marks his movement forward, however uncertain.
3. Does Mrs. McNulty's kindness ultimately change Chris's life? While Mrs. McNulty's kindness provides a brief respite and positive change, it's not a permanent fix for the systemic issues contributing to Chris's hardship.
4. Why is the ending so understated? Keegan's understated style reflects the realities of poverty and neglect. It avoids sentimentality and instead allows the reader to contemplate the complexities of Chris's situation.
5. What role does social commentary play in the ending? The ending highlights the failures of the system to adequately address child poverty and neglect, emphasizing the need for systemic change.
6. How does the ending affect the reader? The ending's ambiguity prompts reflection on the lasting impact of childhood experiences, societal inequalities, and the power of human connection.
7. Can the ending be interpreted as a metaphor for something larger? The ending can be seen as a metaphor for the fragility of hope and the persistent challenges of overcoming systemic disadvantages.
8. What is the significance of the unspoken emotions in the ending? The unspoken emotions add layers of depth and complexity, allowing the reader to empathize with Chris and Mrs. McNulty on a deeper level.
9. Does the ending provide closure? No, the ending deliberately avoids offering a neat resolution. It instead encourages readers to contemplate the lasting impact of the story and its themes.

9 Related Articles:

1. The Power of Understatement in Claire Keegan's Foster: Explores Keegan's narrative style and its

contribution to the story's emotional impact.

2. Child Poverty in Ireland: A Critical Analysis in Light of Foster: Examines the societal context of the novella and its relevance to contemporary issues.
3. Comparing Foster to Other Coming-of-Age Novels: Compares Foster's unique approach to themes of childhood and adolescence with other prominent works in the genre.
4. The Role of Women in Claire Keegan's Fiction: Focuses on the portrayal of female characters in Keegan's work and their significance to the overall narrative.
5. Analyzing the Symbolism of the Farm in Foster: Examines the symbolic meaning of the farm as a refuge and its contrast with Chris's home life.
6. The Importance of Unspoken Emotions in Literary Fiction: Explores the effectiveness of unspoken emotions in creating depth and resonance in literary works.
7. A Review of Claire Keegan's Short Story Collection, Antarctica: Provides insights into Keegan's broader body of work and stylistic consistency.
8. The Impact of Trauma on Child Development as Depicted in Foster: Explores the psychological themes of the novella and the lasting effects of childhood trauma.
9. Claire Keegan's Small Things Like These: A Comparative Study with Foster: Compares and contrasts two of Keegan's works, highlighting stylistic similarities and thematic overlaps.

foster by claire keegan ending: Foster Claire Keegan, 2022-11-01 An international bestseller and one of The Times' "Top 50 Novels Published in the 21st Century," Claire Keegan's piercing contemporary classic *Foster* is a heartbreaking story of childhood, loss, and love; now released as a standalone book for the first time ever in the US It is a hot summer in rural Ireland. A child is taken by her father to live with relatives on a farm, not knowing when or if she will be brought home again. In the Kinsellas' house, she finds an affection and warmth she has not known and slowly, in their care, begins to blossom. But there is something unspoken in this new household—where everything is so well tended to—and this summer must soon come to an end. Winner of the prestigious Davy Byrnes Award and published in an abridged version in the New Yorker, this internationally bestselling contemporary classic is now available for the first time in the US in a full, standalone edition. A story of astonishing emotional depth, *Foster* showcases Claire Keegan's great talent and secures her reputation as one of our most important storytellers.

foster by claire keegan ending: Small Things Like These Claire Keegan, 2021-11-30 Shortlisted for the 2022 Booker Prize A hypnotic and electrifying Irish tale that transcends country, transcends time. —Lily King, New York Times bestselling author of *Writers & Lovers* *Small Things Like These* is award-winning author Claire Keegan's landmark new novel, a tale of one man's courage and a remarkable portrait of love and family It is 1985 in a small Irish town. During the weeks leading up to Christmas, Bill Furlong, a coal merchant and family man faces into his busiest season. Early one morning, while delivering an order to the local convent, Bill makes a discovery which forces him to confront both his past and the complicit silences of a town controlled by the church. An international bestseller, *Small Things Like These* is a deeply affecting story of hope, quiet heroism, and empathy from one of our most critically lauded and iconic writers.

foster by claire keegan ending: Antarctica Claire Keegan, 2016-03-29 Compassionate, witty, and unsettling, *Antarctica* is the debut collection of one of Ireland's most exciting and versatile new

talents. Claire Keegan, winner of several prestigious awards including the William Trevor Prize, writes stories that have a razor-sharp narrative style and unembellished tone, and move from the cruel, hard life of rural Ireland to the hot landscape of the southern United States. From the title story about a married woman who takes a trip to the city with a single purpose in mind—to sleep with another man—*Antarctica* draws you into a world of obsession, betrayal, and fragile relationships. In *Love in the Tall Grass*, Cordelia wakes on the last day of the twentieth century and sets off along the coast road to keep a date, with her lover, that has been nine years in the waiting. In *Passport Soup*, Frank Corso mourns the curious disappearance of his nine-year-old daughter and tries desperately to reach out to his shattered wife who has gone mad with grief. Keegan's characters inhabit a world where dreams, memory, and chance can have crippling consequences for those involved. Moving in its quiet intensity, the award-winning *Antarctica* is a rare and arresting debut.

foster by claire keegan ending: Walk the Blue Fields Claire Keegan, 2016-03-29 Claire Keegan's brilliant debut collection, *Antarctica*, was a Los Angeles Times Book of the Year, and earned her resounding accolades on both sides of the Atlantic. Now she has delivered her next, much-anticipated book, *Walk the Blue Fields*, an unforgettable array of quietly wrenching stories about despair and desire in the timeless world of modern-day Ireland. In the never-before-published story "The Long and Painful Death," a writer awarded a stay to work in Heinrich Böll's old cottage has her peace interrupted by an unwelcome intruder, whose ulterior motives only emerge as the night progresses. In the title story, a priest waits at the altar to perform a marriage and, during the ceremony and the festivities that follow, battles his memories of a love affair with the bride that led him to question all to which he has dedicated his life; later that night, he finds an unlikely answer in the magical healing powers of a seer. A masterful portrait of a country wrestling with its past and of individuals eking out their futures, *Walk the Blue Fields* is a breathtaking collection from one of Ireland's greatest talents, and a resounding articulation of all the yearnings of the human heart.

foster by claire keegan ending: The Forester's Daughter Claire Keegan, 2019-03-07 Faber Stories, a landmark series of individual volumes, presents masters of the short story form at work in a range of genres and styles. The evening is fine. In the sky a few early stars are shining of their own accord. She watches the dog licking the bowl clean. This dog will break her daughter's heart, she's sure of it. Claire Keegan's mesmeric story takes us into the heart of the Wicklow countryside, and of the farming family of Victor Deegan, with his 'three teenagers, the milking and the mortgage'. When Deegan finds a gun dog and gives it as a present to his only daughter, his wife is filled with foreboding at this seeming act of kindness. As the seasons pass, long-buried family secrets threaten to emerge.

foster by claire keegan ending: The Secret Keeper Kate Morton, 2013-07-16 A cloth bag containing ten copies of the title.

foster by claire keegan ending: A Town Called Solace Mary Lawson, 2021-02-16 NATIONAL BESTSELLER LONGLISTED FOR THE 2021 BOOKER PRIZE NAMED A BEST BOOK OF THE YEAR BY THE GLOBE AND MAIL, CBC BOOKS AND THE DAILY TELEGRAPH I've been telling everyone I know about Mary Lawson . . . Each of her novels is just a marvel —Anne Tyler New York Times bestselling author Mary Lawson, acclaimed for digging into the wilderness of the human heart, is back after almost a decade with a fresh and timely novel that is different in subject but just as emotional and atmospheric as her beloved earlier work. *A Town Called Solace*, the brilliant and emotionally radiant new novel from Mary Lawson, her first in nearly a decade, opens on a family in crisis. Sixteen-year-old Rose is missing. Angry and rebellious, she had a row with her mother, stormed out of the house and simply disappeared. Left behind is seven-year-old Clara, Rose's adoring little sister. Isolated by her parents' efforts to protect her from the truth, Clara is bewildered and distraught. Her sole comfort is Moses, the cat next door, whom she is looking after for his elderly owner, Mrs. Orchard, who went into hospital weeks ago and has still not returned. Enter Liam Kane, mid-thirties, newly divorced, newly unemployed, newly arrived in this small northern town, who moves into Mrs. Orchard's house—where, in Clara's view, he emphatically does not

belong. Within a matter of hours he receives a visit from the police. It seems he is suspected of a crime. At the end of her life, Elizabeth Orchard is also thinking about a crime, one committed thirty years previously that had tragic consequences for two families, and in particular for one small child. She desperately wants to make amends before she dies. Told through three distinct, compelling points of view, the novel cuts back and forth among these unforgettable characters to uncover the layers of grief, remorse, and love that connect them. *A Town Called Solace* is a masterful, suspenseful, darkly funny and deeply humane novel by one of our great storytellers.

foster by claire keegan ending: Dark Matter Michelle Paver, 2010-10-21 January 1937. Clouds of war are gathering over a fogbound London. Twenty-eight year old Jack is poor, lonely and desperate to change his life. So when he's offered the chance to be the wireless operator on an Arctic expedition, he jumps at it. Spirits are high as the ship leaves Norway: five men and eight huskies, crossing the Barents Sea by the light of the midnight sun. At last they reach the remote, uninhabited bay where they will camp for the next year. Gruhuken. But the Arctic summer is brief. As night returns to claim the land, Jack feels a creeping unease. One by one, his companions are forced to leave. He faces a stark choice. Stay or go. Soon he will see the last of the sun, as the polar night engulfs the camp in months of darkness. Soon he will reach the point of no return - when the sea will freeze, making escape impossible. And Gruhuken is not uninhabited. Jack is not alone. Something walks there in the dark. This Special Edition Ebook will feature exclusive material: AUTHOR EXTRAS: *Dark Matter* & An exclusive interview with Michelle Paver and an extended author biography with integrated photos of the landscape of Spitsbergen. COVER DESIGN: *Dark Matter* & the jacket designer's take and cover design progression (5 x visuals). DARK MATTER - A SHORT FILM: *Dark Matter* & Turning the novel into a short promotional film and *Dark Matter - The Film Director's Cut*, the rejected film scripts, the final film script and behind the scenes at filming (3 x visuals).

foster by claire keegan ending: The Last of Her Kind Sigrid Nunez, 2006-12-12 The paths of two women from different walks of life intersect amid counterculture of the 1960s in this haunting and provocative novel from the National Book Award-winning author of *The Friend Named a Best Book of the Year* by the San Francisco Chronicle and the Christian Science Monitor Sigrid Nunez's *The Last of Her Kind* introduces two women who meet as freshmen on the Columbia campus in 1968. Georgette George does not know what to make of her brilliant, idealistic roommate, Ann Drayton, and her obsessive disdain for the ruling class into which she was born. She is mortified by Ann's romanticization of the underprivileged class, which Georgette herself is hoping college will enable her to escape. After the violent fight that ends their friendship, Georgette wants only to forget Ann and to turn her attention to the troubled runaway kid sister who has reappeared after years on the road. Then, in 1976, Ann is convicted of murder. At first, Ann's fate appears to be the inevitable outcome of her belief in the moral imperative to make justice in a world where there are no innocent white people. But, searching for answers to the riddle of this friend of her youth, Georgette finds more complicated and mysterious forces at work. The novel's narrator Georgette illuminates the terrifying life of this difficult, doomed woman, and in the process discovers how much their early encounter has determined her own path, and why, decades later, as she tells us, I have never stopped thinking about her.

foster by claire keegan ending: Girl Meets Boy Ali Smith, 2021-06-30 From the astonishingly talented writer of *The Accidental* and *Hotel World* comes Ali Smith's brilliant retelling of Ovid's gender-bending myth of Iphis and Ianthe, as seen through the eyes of two Scottish sisters. *Girl Meets Boy* is about girls and boys, girls and girls, love and transformation, and the absurdity of consumerism, as well as a story of reversals and revelations that is as sharply witty as it is lyrical. Funny, fresh, poetic, and political, *Girl Meets Boy* is a myth of metamorphosis for a world made in Madison Avenues image, and the funniest addition to the *Myths* series from Canongate since Margaret Atwood's *The Penelopiad*.

foster by claire keegan ending: Lighthousekeeping Jeanette Winterson, 2006-04-03 An orphaned girl is held spellbound by the tales of a lighthouse keeper on the Scottish coast, in a novel

by the Costa Award-winning author of *The Passion*. After her mother is literally swept away by the savage winds off the Atlantic coast of Salts, Scotland, never to be seen again, the orphaned Silver is feeling particularly unmoored. Taken in by the mysterious keeper of a lighthouse on Cape Wrath, Silver finds an anchor in Mr. Pew—blind, as old and legendary as a unicorn, and a yarn spinner of persuasive power. The tale he has to tell Silver is that of a nineteenth-century clergyman named Babel Dark, whose life was divided between a loving light and a mask of deceit. Peopled with such luminaries as Charles Darwin and Robert Louis Stevenson, Mr. Pew's story within a story within a story soon unfolds like a map. It's one that Silver must follow if she's to be led through her own darkness, and to find her own meaning in life, in this novel by a winner of the Costa, Lambda, and E.M. Forster Awards, the author of *Oranges are Not the Only Fruit*; *Why Be Happy When You Could Be Normal?* and other acclaimed works. "In her sea-soaked and hypnotic eighth novel, Winterson turns the tale of an orphaned young girl and a blind old man into a fable about love and the power of storytelling...Atmospheric and elusive, Winterson's high-modernist excursion is an inspired meditation on myth and language."—*The New Yorker*

foster by claire keegan ending: *The Book of Not* Tsitsi Dangarembga, 2021-05-18 The powerful sequel to *Nervous Conditions*, by the Booker-shortlisted author of *This Mournable Body* *The Book of Not* continues the saga of Tambudzai, picking up where *Nervous Conditions* left off. As Tambu begins secondary school at the Young Ladies' College of the Sacred Heart, she is still reeling from the personal losses that have been war has inflicted upon her family—her uncle and sister were injured in a mine explosion. Soon she'll come face to face with discriminatory practices at her mostly-white school. And when she graduates and begins a job at an advertising agency, she realizes that the political and historical forces that threaten to destroy the fabric of her community are outside the walls of the school as well. Tsitsi Dangarembga, honored with the 2021 PEN Award for Freedom of Expression, digs deep into the damage colonialism and its education system does to Tambu's sense of self amid the struggle for Zimbabwe's independence, resulting in a brilliant and incisive second novel.

foster by claire keegan ending: *Afterwards* Rosamund Lupton, 2013-04-02 A GRIPPING NOVEL. —*New York Times Book Review* When her children's school is set ablaze, Grace runs into the burning building to rescue her teenage daughter, Jenny. In the aftermath, badly injured, Grace learns the police have identified the arsonist, but they have blamed the wrong person. Only Detective Sarah McBride, the sister-in-law Grace has never liked, is searching for the real arsonist--a hunt that becomes urgent when it's clear Jenny is still the perpetrator's target. Page-turning suspense combines with a beautiful portrayal of deep family bonds to make this a stunning and riveting read. Now with Extra Libris material, including a reader's guide and bonus content

foster by claire keegan ending: *Our Homesick Songs* Emma Hooper, 2018-08-07 LONGLISTED FOR THE SCOTIABANK GILLER PRIZE From Emma Hooper, acclaimed author of *Etta and Otto* and *Russell and James*, a *People* magazine "Pick of the Week," comes a "haunting fable about the transformative power of hope" (Booklist, starred review) in a charming and mystical story of a family on the edge of extinction. Newfoundland, 1992. When all the fish vanish from the waters and the cod industry abruptly collapses, it's not long before the people begin to disappear from the town of Big Running as well. As residents are forced to leave the island in search of work, ten-year-old Finn Connor suddenly finds himself living in a ghost town. There's no school, no friends, and whole rows of houses stand abandoned. And then Finn's parents announce that they too must separate if their family is to survive. But Finn still has his sister, Cora, with whom he counts the dwindling boats on the coast at night, and Mrs. Callaghan, who teaches him the strange and ancient melodies of their native Ireland. That is until his sister disappears, and Finn must find a way of calling home the family and the life he has lost.

foster by claire keegan ending: *The Lonely Passion of Judith Hearne* (Harper Perennial Modern Classics) Brian Moore, 2012-09-27 A timeless classic dealing with the complexity and hardships of relationships, addiction and faith.

foster by claire keegan ending: *Keeping Lucy* T. Greenwood, 2019-08-06 This story will have

readers not only rooting for Ginny and Lucy, but thinking about them long after the last page is turned. -- Lisa Wingate, New York Times Bestselling Author of *Before We Were Yours* PopSugar's 30 Must-Read Books of 2019 Good Housekeeping's 25 Best New Books for Summer 2019 Better Homes & Gardens 13 New Books We Can't Wait to Read This Summer The heartbreaking and uplifting story, inspired by incredible true events, of how far one mother must go to protect her daughter. Dover, Massachusetts, 1969. Ginny Richardson's heart was torn open when her baby girl, Lucy, born with Down Syndrome, was taken from her. Under pressure from his powerful family, her husband, Ab, sent Lucy away to Willowridge, a special school for the "feeble-minded. Ab tried to convince Ginny it was for the best. That they should grieve for their daughter as though she were dead. That they should try to move on. But two years later, when Ginny's best friend, Marsha, shows her a series of articles exposing Willowridge as a hell-on-earth--its squalid hallways filled with neglected children--she knows she can't leave her daughter there. With Ginny's six-year-old son in tow, Ginny and Marsha drive to the school to see Lucy for themselves. What they find sets their course on a heart-racing journey across state lines—turning Ginny into a fugitive. For the first time, Ginny must test her own strength and face the world head-on as she fights Ab and his domineering father for the right to keep Lucy. Racing from Massachusetts to the beaches of Atlantic City, through the Blue Ridge Mountains of Virginia to a roadside mermaid show in Florida, *Keeping Lucy* is a searing portrait of just how far a mother's love can take her. A heartrending yet inspiring novel that kept me reading late into the night." —Kristina McMorris, New York Times bestselling author of *Sold on a Monday* and *The Edge of Lost*

foster by claire keegan ending: *There but for the* Ali Smith, 2011-06-02 A sparkling satire from the Booker Prize-shortlisted, Women's Prize-winning author of *How to be both* and the critically acclaimed Seasonal quartet 'Playful, humorous, serious, profoundly clever and profoundly affecting' Guardian 'There once was a man who, one night between the main course and the sweet at a dinner party, went upstairs and locked himself in one of the bedrooms of the house of the people who were giving the dinner party . . .' As time passes by and the consequences of this stranger's actions ripple outwards, touching the owners, the guests, the neighbours and the whole country, so Ali Smith draws us into a beautiful, strange place where everyone is so much more than they first appear... ***** 'Adventurous, intoxicating, dazzling. This is a novel with serious ambitions that remains huge fun to read' Literary Review 'Smith can make anything happen, which is why she is one of our most exciting writers today' Daily Telegraph

foster by claire keegan ending: *The Son of the House* Cheluchi Onyemelukwe-Onuobia, 2021-05-04 SHORTLISTED for the Scotiabank Giller Prize 2021 • WINNER of the Nigeria Prize for Literature 2021 • SHORTLISTED for the Chinua Achebe Prize for Nigerian Writing 2021 • WINNER of the SprinNG Women Authors Prize 2020 • WINNER of the Best International Fiction Book Award, Sharjah International Book Fair 2019 "The Son of the House is a compelling novel about two women caught in a constricting web of tradition, class, gender, and motherhood." — FOREWORD REVIEWS, starred review The lives of two Nigerian women divided by class and social inequality intersect when they're kidnapped, held captive, and forced to await their fate together. In the Nigerian city of Enugu, young Nwabulu, a housemaid since the age of ten, dreams of becoming a typist as she endures her employers' endless chores. She is tall and beautiful and in love with a rich man's son. Educated and privileged, Julie is a modern woman. Living on her own, she is happy to collect the gold jewellery lovestruck Eugene brings her, but has no intention of becoming his second wife. When a kidnapping forces Nwabulu and Julie into a dank room years later, the two women relate the stories of their lives as they await their fate. Pulsing with vitality and intense human drama, Cheluchi Onyemelukwe-Onuobia's debut is set against four decades of vibrant Nigeria, celebrating the resilience of women as they navigate and transform what remains a man's world.

foster by claire keegan ending: *The Marriage Plot* Jeffrey Eugenides, 2011-10-11 The long-awaited new novel from the Pulitzer Prize-winning author Jeffrey Eugenides. There is no happiness in love, except at the end of an English novel. —Anthony Trollope, Barchester Towers Madeleine Hanna was the dutiful English major who didn't get the memo. While everyone else in the

early 1980s was reading Derrida, she was happily absorbed with Jane Austen and George Eliot: purveyors of the marriage plot that lies at the heart of the greatest English novels. Madeleine was the girl who dressed a little too nicely for the taste of her more bohemian friends, the perfect girlfriend whose college love life, despite her good looks, hadn't lived up to expectations. But now, in the spring of her senior year, Madeleine has enrolled in a semiotics course to see what all the fuss is about, and, for reasons that have nothing to do with school, life and literature will never be the same. Not after she falls in love with Leonard Morten - charismatic loner, college Darwinist and lost Oregon boy - who is possessed of seemingly inexhaustible energy and introduces her to the ecstasies of immediate experience. And certainly not after Mitchell Grammaticus - devotee of Patti Smith and Thomas Merton - resurfaces in her life, obsessed with the idea that Madeleine is destined to be his mate. The triangle in this amazing and delicious novel about a generation beginning to grow up is age old, and completely fresh and surprising. With devastating wit, irony and an abiding understanding and love for his characters, Jeffrey Eugenides resuscitates the original energies of the novel while creating a story so contemporary that it reads like the intimate journal of our own lives.

foster by claire keegan ending: Gold Fame Citrus Claire Vaye Watkins, 2015-09-29 Named a Best Book of the Year by The Washington Post, NPR, Vanity Fair, LA Times, San Francisco Chronicle, Huffington Post, The Atlantic, Refinery 29, Men's Journal, Ploughshares, Lit Hub, Book Riot, Los Angeles Magazine, Powells, BookPage and Kirkus Reviews The much-anticipated first novel from a Story Prize-winning "5 Under 35" fiction writer. In 2012, Claire Vaye Watkins's story collection, *Battleborn*, swept nearly every award for short fiction. Now this young writer, widely heralded as a once-in-a-generation talent, returns with a first novel that harnesses the sweeping vision and deep heart that made her debut so arresting to a love story set in a devastatingly imagined near future: Unrelenting drought has transfigured Southern California into a surreal, phantasmagoric landscape. With the Central Valley barren, underground aquifer drained, and Sierra snowpack entirely depleted, most "Mojavs," prevented by both armed vigilantes and an indifferent bureaucracy from freely crossing borders to lush regions, have allowed themselves to be evacuated to internment camps. In Los Angeles' Laurel Canyon, two young Mojavs—Luz, once a poster child for the Bureau of Conservation and its enemies, and Ray, a veteran of the "forever war" turned surfer—squat in a starlet's abandoned mansion. Holdouts, they subsist on rationed cola and whatever they can loot, scavenge, and improvise. The couple's fragile love somehow blooms in this arid place, and for the moment, it seems enough. But when they cross paths with a mysterious child, the thirst for a better future begins. They head east, a route strewn with danger: sinkholes and patrolling authorities, bandits and the brutal, omnipresent sun. Ghosting after them are rumors of a visionary dowser—a diviner for water—and his followers, who whispers say have formed a colony at the edge of a mysterious sea of dunes. Immensely moving, profoundly disquieting, and mind-blowingly original, Watkins's novel explores the myths we believe about others and tell about ourselves, the double-edged power of our most cherished relationships, and the shape of hope in a precarious future that may be our own.

foster by claire keegan ending: The Fishermen Chigozie Obioma, 2015-04-14 In this striking novel about an unforgettable childhood, four Nigerian brothers encounter a madman whose mystic prophecy of violence threatens the core of their close-knit family Told by nine-year-old Benjamin, the youngest of four brothers, *The Fishermen* is the Cain and Abel-esque story of a childhood in Nigeria, in the small town of Akure. When their father has to travel to a distant city for work, the brothers take advantage of his absence to skip school and go fishing. At the forbidden nearby river, they meet a madman who persuades the oldest of the boys that he is destined to be killed by one of his siblings. What happens next is an almost mythic event whose impact—both tragic and redemptive—will transcend the lives and imaginations of the book's characters and readers. Dazzling and viscerally powerful, *The Fisherman* is an essential novel about Africa, seen through the prism of one family's destiny.

foster by claire keegan ending: The Best American Short Stories 2011 Geraldine Brooks, Heidi Pitlor, 2011-10-04 Twenty of the best American short stories of 2011, chosen by the New York

Times bestselling author of *The Secret Chord*. The twenty tightly crafted stories collected here by Pulitzer Prize-winning author Geraldine Brooks are full of deftly drawn characters, universal truths, and often surprising humor. Richard Powers's "To the Measures Fall" is a comic meditation on the uses of literature in the course of a life. In the satirical "The Sleep," Caitlin Horrocks puts her fictional prairie town to bed—the inhabitants hibernate through the long winter as a form of escape—while in Steve Millhauser's imagined town, the citizens are visited by ghostlike apparitions in "Phantoms." Allegra Goodman's spare but beautiful "La Vita Nuova" finds a jilted fiancée letting her art class paint all over her wedding dress as a poignant act of release. Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie wryly captures the social change in the air in Lagos, Nigeria, in "Ceiling," her story of a wealthy young man who is not entirely at ease with what his life has become. As Brooks perused these richly imagined and varied landscapes, she found that it was like walking into the best kind of party, where you can hole up in a corner with old friends for a while, then launch out among interesting strangers. The Best American Short Stories 2011 also includes contributions from: Megan Mayhew Bergman • Tom Bissell • Jennifer Egan • Nathan Englander • Ehud Havazelet • Bret Anthony Johnston • Claire Keegan • Sam Lipsyte • Rebecca Makkai • Elizabeth McCracken • Ricardo Nuila • Joyce Carol Oates • Jess Row • George Saunders • Mark Slouka

foster by claire keegan ending: *Catch Me When I Fall* Nicci French, 2006-06-20 Be careful who you trust. It just might be the death of you... Holly Krauss lives in the fast lane. A successful young businesswoman with a stable home life, she is loved and admired by all who meet her. But that's only one side of Holly. The other sees her take regular walks on the wild side, where she makes ever-more-reckless mistakes. And when those mistakes start mounting, the two sides of Holly blur, and her life spins out of control. She thinks she's being stalked, someone is demanding money from her, threats lurk around every corner—and those closest to Holly are running out of patience. But is she alone responsible for what's happening? Are her fears just the paranoia of an illness or intimations of very real danger? And if she can no longer rely on her own judgment, who can she trust to catch her when she falls?

foster by claire keegan ending: *To the Stars and Back* Camilla Isley, 2019-06-14 When Hollywood's sexiest bachelor meets the girl next door their relationship doesn't follow the script... On-screen, Christian Slade is America's favorite heartthrob. Off-screen, letting romance into his life isn't as easy. The women he dates all seem to want a piece of his glamorous life rather than his heart, and trust doesn't come easy for him. Then along comes Lana. A beautiful rocket scientist who's also sweet, smart, sexy, and has absolutely no idea who he is. But what will happen when she finds out? Will their worlds prove too far apart or could love really be like in the movies?

foster by claire keegan ending: (Re)writing and Remembering James Dalrymple, Jonathan Fruoco, Virginia Sherman, 2016-02-08 Recounting past events is intrinsic to the storytelling function, as most fiction assumes the past tense as the natural means of narrating a story. Few narratives draw attention to this process, yet others make the act of remembering a primary part of the narrative situation. Ranging in its focus from poetry to novels, autobiographical memoirs and biopics – from the ostensibly fictional to the implicitly real – this volume discusses the extent to which such fictional acts of remembering are also acts of rewriting the past to suit the needs of the present. How seamlessly does experience yield to the ordering strictures of narrative and what is at stake in the process? What must be omitted or stylised, and to what (ideological) end? In making an artefact of the past, what role does artifice play, and what does this process also tell us about history-making?

foster by claire keegan ending: Born to Run Christopher McDougall, 2010-12-09 A New York Times bestseller 'A sensation ... a rollicking tale well told' - The Times At the heart of *Born to Run* lies a mysterious tribe of Mexican Indians, the Tarahumara, who live quietly in canyons and are reputed to be the best distance runners in the world; in 1993, one of them, aged 57, came first in a prestigious 100-mile race wearing a toga and sandals. A small group of the world's top ultra-runners (and the awe-inspiring author) make the treacherous journey into the canyons to try to learn the tribe's secrets and then take them on over a course 50 miles long. With incredible energy and smart

observation, McDougall tells this story while asking what the secrets are to being an incredible runner. Travelling to labs at Harvard, Nike, and elsewhere, he comes across an incredible cast of characters, including the woman who recently broke the world record for 100 miles and for her encore ran a 2:50 marathon in a bikini, pausing to down a beer at the 20 mile mark.

foster by claire keegan ending: The Feast Margaret Kennedy, 2023-06-06 Kennedy is not only a romantic but an anarchist. —Anita Brookner *Summer*, 1947. A bizarre catastrophe rocks a seaside village in Cornwall when a cliff tumbles down on the Pendizack Manor Hotel. The hotel is obliterated, and seven guests are killed in the disaster. Everyone else makes a narrow escape. As the survivors tell their stories, the events of the previous week are revealed, and a parade of sins exposed. Gluttony, Lecherousness, Sloth, Pride, Covetousness, Envy and Wrath: all are in residence at Pendizack Manor, and as the day of the disaster creeps closer, it becomes clear that who's spared and who's lost might not be as arbitrary as first assumed. A modern upstairs-downstairs comedy with an old-fashioned morality play tucked away inside, *The Feast* is sly, kaleidoscopic, and utterly ingenious, a novel that only Margaret Kennedy could have written.

foster by claire keegan ending: Tell Me Why Archie Roach, 2019-11-01 A powerful memoir of a true Australian legend: stolen child, musical and lyrical genius, and leader. Not many have lived as many lives as Archie Roach – stolen child, seeker, teenage alcoholic, lover, father, musical and lyrical genius, and leader – but it took him almost a lifetime to find out who he really was. Roach was only two years old when he was forcibly removed from his family. Brought up by a series of foster parents until his early teens, his world imploded when he received a letter that spoke of a life he had no memory of. In this intimate, moving and often shocking memoir, Archie's story is an extraordinary odyssey through love and heartbreak, family and community, survival and renewal – and the healing power of music. Overcoming enormous odds to find his story and his people, Archie voices the joy, pain and hope he found on his path through song to become the legendary singer-songwriter and storyteller that he is today – beloved by fans worldwide. *Tell Me Why* is a stunning account of resilience and the strength of spirit – and of a great love story. Winner of the 2020 Indie Book of the Year Non-Fiction Winner of the 2021 Victorian Premier's Literary Award for Indigenous Writing Shortlisted for the 2020 ABIA Biography Book of the Year Shortlisted for the 2020 Victorian Premier's Literary Awards, Non-Fiction Shortlisted for the Booksellers' Choice 2020 Book of the Year Awards, Non-Fiction Archie Roach was the 2020 VIC Australian of the Year 'Tell Me Why is an extraordinary odyssey and offering. Archie has come through snares, pits and suffering to bring us an inspiring tale of survival, grace and generosity. This book should be in every school.' Paul Kelly 'Just like his early songs, *Tell Me Why* was written with empathy as its impetus and that intent shines through on every page. This is a phenomenal work by one of the most articulate and recognisable members of the Stolen Generations. It will be read, studied and discussed for many years to come.' The Australian 'Beautiful, gut-wrenching and compelling memoir' Sydney Morning Herald 'Archie's deeply resonant voice sings out – of a broken country and a life renewed. The voice of Australia.' Daniel Browning, ABC journalist and producer 'Roach is honest and humble in his oft-heartbreaking retelling of his search for identity, belonging and purpose' Courier Mail 'Best book of 2019: *Tell Me Why* by Archie Roach, a beautifully written autobiography that captures one of the most remarkable lives in Australian music' Weekend Australia

foster by claire keegan ending: The Heather Blazing Colm Toibin, 2012-10-30 Colm Tóibín's "lovely, understated" novel that "proceeds with stately grace" (The Washington Post Book World) about an uncompromising judge whose principles, when brought home to his own family, are tragic. Eamon Redmond is a judge in Ireland's high court, a completely legal creature who is just beginning to discover how painfully unconnected he is from other human beings. With effortless fluency, Colm Tóibín reconstructs the history of Eamon's relationships—with his father, his first "girl," his wife, and the children who barely know him—and he writes about Eamon's affection for the Irish coast with such painterly skill that the land itself becomes a character. The result is a novel of stunning power, "seductive and absorbing" (USA Today).

foster by claire keegan ending: Daddy Love Joyce Carol Oates, 2013-01-08 From the author of

Bellefleur: A “psychologically incisive” glimpse into the mind of a deranged predator and the boy he abducts to be his son (Booklist). Robbie Whitcomb is five years old when he’s taken from his mother in a mall parking lot. In her attempt to chase the kidnapper, she’s left badly injured and permanently disfigured. Such are the methods of the man who calls himself Daddy Love—a man known to the rest of the world as charismatic preacher Chester Cash. For the next six years, Robbie is to be Daddy’s son. That means doing whatever Daddy says—and giving him whatever he wants. Soon Robbie learns to accept his new name, Gideon. He also learns that he is not the first of Daddy Love’s sons. And that each of the others, after reaching a certain age, was never seen again. As Robbie’s mother recovers from her wounds, her life and marriage are a daily struggle. But as years go by, she maintains a flicker of hope that her son is still alive. Meanwhile, Robbie approaches the “bittersweet age” with no illusions about his fate. But somewhere within this tortured child lies a spark of rebellion. And he knows all too well what survival requires. “After all these years, Joyce Carol Oates can still give me the creeps.” —Marilyn Stasio, *The New York Times Book Review* “A lean and disturbing tale that reverberates after its ending.” —*The Columbus Dispatch* “Oates makes us squirm as she forces us to see some of the action through Love’s twisted and warped perspective.” —*Kirkus Reviews* “This unsettling tale showcases Oates’s masterful storytelling.” —*Publishers Weekly*

foster by claire keegan ending: [The Summer House](#) Santa Montefiore, 2012-07-19 THE STUNNING NOVEL, PERFECT FOR A SUMMER HOLIDAY, FROM THE NUMBER ONE BESTSELLING AUTHOR A life-changing secret. An unforgettable summer. Arriving at the familiar old stone church nestled in the beautiful countryside of Hampshire, Antoinette prepares to say goodbye to her husband; the man she has loved for as long as she can remember. Little does she know, the arrival of the beautiful and mysterious Phaedra will make her question everything about the man she shared her life with. Phaedra loved George too, and couldn’t bear to stay away from his funeral. But Phaedra is hiding a deeply buried secret. One that will change the lives of Antoinette and her family forever, and one that she can no longer keep hidden . . . Bestselling author Santa Montefiore delivers a captivating novel about love, family and secrets that will stay with you long after you’ve finished reading. A beautiful summer read for fans of Lucinda Riley, Victoria Hislop and Joanna Trollope. ***PRAISE FOR SANTA MONTEFIORE*** ‘Nobody does epic romance like Santa Montefiore’ JOJO MOYES ‘An enchanting read overflowing with deliciously poignant moments’ DINAH JEFFERIES on *Songs of Love and War* ‘Santa Montefiore hits the spot for my like few other writers’ SARRA MANNING ‘One of our personal favourites’ THE TIMES on *The Last Secret* of the Deverills ‘Accomplished and poetic’ Daily Mail ‘Santa Montefiore is a marvel’ Sunday Express

foster by claire keegan ending: **Once We Were Here** Christopher Cosmos, 2020-10-20 As World War II intrudes upon their home, three young friends risk everything for freedom, love, and a chance at a better life. On October 28th, 1940, Mussolini provides Greek Prime Minister Ioannis Metaxas with an ultimatum: either allow Axis forces to occupy their country, or face war, and Greece's response is swift. Oxi! they say. No! In a small village nestled against the radiant waters of the Aegean Sea, we find Alexei, the son of a local fisherman, and his best friend Costa, who were both born on the same night eighteen years earlier and have been like brothers ever since, though now, like all the other young men in their village and throughout Greece, they will leave their homes to bravely fight for their country. But before they go, Alexei asks Philia, the girl that he's loved his entire life, to marry him, which sets into motion the events which will change the lives of these three and their family and friends forever, and begins an epic and unforgettable story of courage, survival, sacrifice, the strength of the human spirit, and of a love and friendship that will echo across time and generations. A spellbinding novel and sweeping romance that performs the remarkable feat of creating action-packed scenes, characters that we care deeply about, and revealing in vivid detail the untold true story of how Greece helped the Allies to win World War II, *Once We Were Here* is an unforgettable tale that pays tribute to the brave men and women who fought and gave everything for their country, for each other, and for freedom.

foster by claire keegan ending: **Burning Bright** Ron Rash, 2010-03-09 “A gorgeous, brutal

writer.” —Richard Price, New York Times bestselling author of *Lush Life* and *Clockers* In *Burning Bright*, Pen/Faulkner finalist and New York Times bestselling author of *Serena*, Ron Rash, captures the eerie beauty and stark violence of Appalachia through the lives of unforgettable characters. With this masterful collection of stories that span the Civil War to the present day, Rash, a supremely talented writer who “recalls both John Steinbeck and Cormac McCarthy” (*The New Yorker*), solidifies his reputation as a major contemporary American literary artist.

foster by claire keegan ending: *Drift* Caryl Lewis, 2023-03-28 'A truly beautiful and haunting novel, and an incredible feat of storytelling' DONAL RYAN, author of *FROM A LOW AND QUIET SEA* 'A tender, unusual and gorgeously wrought love story' RACHEL JOYCE, author of *THE UNLIKELY PILGRIMAGE OF HAROLD FRY* 'In times of war, Lewis finds resilience, redemption and hope...*DRIFT* feels perfectly judged' OBSERVER 'A truly magical and transformative novel. I loved it.' KIRSTY CAPES, author of *CARELESS* THE ENGLISH LANGUAGE DEBUT FROM TWO-TIME WINNER OF WALES BOOK OF THE YEAR CARYL LEWIS: A STORY OF LOVE, MAGIC AND THE IRRESISTIBLE LURE OF THE SEA. Nefyn has always been an enigma, even to her brother Joseph with whom she lives in a small cottage above a blustery cove. Hamza is a Syrian mapmaker, incarcerated in a military base a few miles up the coast. A violent storm will bring these two lost souls together - but other forces will soon try to tear them apart... Moving between the wild Welsh coast and war-torn Syria, *Drift* is a love story with a difference, a hypnotic tale of lost identity, the quest for home and the wondrous resilience of the human spirit.

foster by claire keegan ending: *A Heartbreaking Work of Staggering Genius* Dave Eggers, 2001-02-13 I think this book is kind of malleable. I've never really wanted to put it away and be done with it forever -- the second I first 'finished' it, I wanted to dig back in and change everything around. So I'm looking forward to getting back into the text, and straightening and focusing and deleting. Most of all, I'm thrilled that Vintage will be letting me include all the cool chase scenes, previously censored. -- Dave Eggers The literary sensation of the year, a book that redefines both family and narrative for the twenty-first century. *A Heartbreaking Work of Staggering Genius* is the moving memoir of a college senior who, in the space of five weeks, loses both of his parents to cancer and inherits his seven-year-old brother. Here is an exhilarating debut that manages to be simultaneously hilarious and wildly inventive as well as a deeply heartfelt story of the love that holds a family together. *A Heartbreaking Work of Staggering Genius* is an instant classic that will be read in paperback for decades to come. PAPERBACK EDITION -- 15% MORE STAGGERING - Eggers has written 15,000 additional words for the Vintage Canada edition, including an entirely new appendix.

foster by claire keegan ending: *A Question of Upbringing* Anthony Powell, 2011-01-18 'He is, as Proust was before him, the great literary chronicler of his culture in his time.' GUARDIAN 'A Dance to the Music of Time' is universally acknowledged as one of the great works of English literature. Reissued now in this definitive edition, it stands ready to delight and entrance a new generation of readers. In this first volume, Nick Jenkins is introduced to the ebbs and flows of life at boarding school in the 1920s, spent in the company of his friends: Peter Templer, Charles Stringham, and Kenneth Widmerpool. Though their days are filled with visits from relatives and boyish pranks, usually at the expense of their housemaster Le Bas, a disastrous trip in Templer's car threatens their new friendship. As the school year comes to a close, the young men are faced with the prospects of adulthood, and with finding their place in the world.

foster by claire keegan ending: *The Lesser Dead* Christopher Buehlman, 2014-10-07 WINNER OF THE AMERICAN LIBRARY ASSOCIATION'S BEST HORROR NOVEL OF THE YEAR "As much F. Scott Fitzgerald as Dean Koontz" (#1 New York Times bestselling author Patricia Briggs), Christopher Buehlman excels in twisting the familiar into newfound dread in his "genre-bending" (*California Literary Review*) novels. Now the acclaimed author of *Those Across the River* delivers his most disquieting tale yet... The secret is, vampires are real and I am one. The secret is, I'm stealing from you what is most truly yours and I'm not sorry... New York City in 1978 is a dirty, dangerous place to live. And die. Joey Peacock knows this as well as anybody—he has spent the last forty years as an adolescent vampire, perfecting the routine he now enjoys: womanizing in punk clubs and

discotheques, feeding by night, and sleeping by day with others of his kind in the macabre labyrinth under the city's sidewalks. The subways are his playground and his highway, shuttling him throughout Manhattan to bleed the unsuspecting in the Sheep Meadow of Central Park or in the backseats of Checker cabs, or even those in their own apartments who are too hypnotized by sitcoms to notice him opening their windows. It's almost too easy. Until one night he sees them hunting on his beloved subway. The children with the merry eyes. Vampires, like him...or not like him. Whatever they are, whatever their appearance means, the undead in the tunnels of Manhattan are not as safe as they once were. And neither are the rest of us.

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foster by claire keegan ending: What the Birds See Sonya Hartnett, 2007-09-25 While the residents of his town concern themselves with the disappearance of three children, a lonely, rejected nine-year-old boy worries that he may inherit his mother's insanity. Reprint.

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