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*Little Failure Gary
Shteyngart*

***“Absurdistan is not just a hilarious novel,
but a record of a particular peak in the
history of human folly. No one is more
capable of dealing with the transition***

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from the hell of socialism to the hell of capitalism in Eastern Europe than Shteyngart, the great-great grandson of one Nikolai Gogol and the funniest foreigner alive.” –Aleksandar Hemon
From the critically acclaimed, bestselling author of The Russian Debutante’s Handbook comes the uproarious and

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poignant story of one very fat man and one very small country Meet Misha Vainberg, aka Snack Daddy, a 325-pound disaster of a human being, son of the 1,238th-richest man in Russia, proud holder of a degree in multicultural studies from Accidental College, USA (don't even ask), and patriot of no

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country save the great City of New York. Poor Misha just wants to live in the South Bronx with his hot Latina girlfriend, but after his gangster father murders an Oklahoma businessman in Russia, all hopes of a U.S. visa are lost. Salvation lies in the tiny, oil-rich nation of Absurdistan, where a crooked consular

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officer will sell Misha a Belgian passport. But after a civil war breaks out between two competing ethnic groups and a local warlord installs hapless Misha as minister of multicultural affairs, our hero soon finds himself covered in oil, fighting for his life, falling in love, and trying to figure out if a normal life is still possible

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*in the twenty-first century. With the enormous success of **The Russian Debutante's Handbook**, Gary Shteyngart established himself as a central figure in today's literary world—"one of the most talented and entertaining writers of his generation," according to **The New York Observer**. In **Absurdistan**, he delivers an*

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even funnier and wiser literary performance. Misha Vainberg is a hero for the new century, a glimmer of humanity in a world of dashed hopes. Heralded as “one of his generation’s most original and exhilarating writers” by The New York Times, Gary Shteyngart has fused his literary chops and biting

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humor into one-of-a-kind fiction that provokes, inspires, and entertains—sometimes all at once. Throughout the two bestselling novels in this eBook bundle, Absurdistan and Super Sad True Love Story, Shteyngart is at the height of his powers: “wildly funny” (San Francisco Chronicle),

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*“freakishly intelligent” (Elle),
“ridiculously witty and painfully
prescient” (Time). Don’t miss Gary
Shteyngart’s highly anticipated memoir,
Little Failure, an American immigrant
story of a lifelong misfit who finally finds
his place in the world, told with the
author’s sharp powers of observation,*

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self-deprecating humor, surprising revelations, and moving insights into the human heart. ABSURDISTAN

“Exuberant, wise, hilarious . . . a long, funny, heartbreaking lament for home, whatever that means, and wherever that might be.”—Los Angeles Times Book Review Meet Misha Vainberg, son of the

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1,238th-richest man in Russia and a 325-pound patriot of no country save New York City. Misha just wants to live in the South Bronx with his hot Latina girlfriend, but after his gangster father murders an Oklahoma businessman, all hopes of a U.S. visa are lost. Salvation lies in tiny, oil-rich Absurdistan, where a

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crooked consular officer will sell Misha a Belgian passport. Then civil war breaks out, a local warlord installs Misha as minister of multicultural affairs, and our hero finds himself fighting for his life, falling in love, and trying to figure out if a normal life is still possible in the twenty-first century. SUPER SAD TRUE LOVE

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STORY “Wonderful . . . [combines] the tenderness of the Chekhovian tradition with the hormonal high jinks of a Judd Apatow movie.”—Michiko Kakutani, The New York Times

In the near future, America is crushed by a financial crisis, and our patient Chinese creditors may just be ready to foreclose on the whole

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mess. Then Lenny Abramov, son of a Russian immigrant janitor and ardent fan of “printed, bound media artifacts” (aka books), meets Eunice Park, an impossibly cute and impossibly cruel Korean American woman with a major in Images and a minor in Assertiveness. Could falling in love redeem a planet

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falling apart? All Lenny has to do is convince his fickle new love that there is still value in being a real human being. Praise for Gary Shteyngart “Compared with most young novelists his age . . . Shteyngart is a giant mounted on horseback. He ranges more widely, sees more sweepingly and gets where he’s

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going with far more aplomb.”—The New York Times Book Review “Obscenely gifted . . . [His] prose never fails to pop, and nothing escapes his satiric eye.”—Entertainment Weekly “The Joseph Heller of the information age.”—Salon “His imagination is either warped or prophetic; you choose. But his

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writing is brilliant.”—The Seattle Times

*“Not since mid-seventies Woody Allen
has anyone cracked so wise and so*

*well.”—Esquire “There is no one better at
skewering social systems.”—The Wall
Street Journal*

*Grossly ambitious and rooted in scientific
scholarship, The Other Dark Matter*

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shows how human excrement can be a life-saving, money-making resource—if we make better use of it. The average person produces about four hundred pounds of excrement a year. More than seven billion people live on this planet. Holy crap! Because of the diseases it spreads, we have learned to distance

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ourselves from our waste, but the long line of engineering marvels we've created to do so—from Roman sewage systems and medieval latrines to the immense, computerized treatment plants we use today—has also done considerable damage to the earth's ecology. Now scientists tell us: we've been wasting our

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waste. When recycled correctly, this resource, cheap and widely available, can be converted into a sustainable energy source, act as an organic fertilizer, provide effective medicinal therapy for antibiotic-resistant bacterial infection, and much more. In clear and engaging prose that draws on her extensive

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research and interviews, Lina Zeldovich documents the massive redistribution of nutrients and sanitation inequities across the globe. She profiles the pioneers of poop upcycling, from startups in African villages to innovators in American cities that convert sewage into fertilizer, biogas, crude oil, and even life-saving medicine.

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She breaks taboos surrounding sewage disposal and shows how hygienic waste repurposing can help battle climate change, reduce acid rain, and eliminate toxic algal blooms. Ultimately, she implores us to use our innate organic power for the greater good. Don't just sit there and let it go to waste.

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A unique work of fiction from the troubled streets of Ukraine, giving invaluable testimony to the new history unfolding in the nation's post-independence years "One of the most astounding novels to come out of modern Ukraine. Mesopotamia is seductive, twisted, brilliant, and fierce."--Gary

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Shteyngart, author of Little Failure and Absurdistan This captivating book is Serhiy Zhadan's ode to Kharkiv, the traditionally Russian-speaking city in Eastern Ukraine where he makes his home. A leader among Ukrainian post-independence authors, Zhadan employs both prose and poetry to address

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the disillusionment, complications, and complexities that have marked Ukrainian life in the decades following the Soviet Union's collapse. His novel provides an extraordinary depiction of the lives of working-class Ukrainians struggling against an implacable fate: the road forward seems blocked at every turn by

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demagogic forces and remnants of the Russian past. Zhadan's nine interconnected stories and accompanying poems are set in a city both representative and unusual, and his characters are simultaneously familiar and strange. Following a kind of magical-realist logic, his stories expose the grit and burden of

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stalled lives, the universal desire for intimacy, and a wistful realization of the off-kilter and even perverse nature of love.

My Life of Rock and Revolution in the '60s

Summary of Gary Shteyngart's Little Failure

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125 Years of Literary History

Mesopotamia

Psycho-Ostensive Expressions in Yiddish

A New York Times Notable

Book of the Year The

Discomfort Zone is Jonathan

Franzen's tale of growing up,

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squirming in his own über-sensitive skin, from a "small and fundamentally ridiculous person," into an adult with strong inconvenient passions. Whether he's writing about the explosive dynamics of a

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Christian youth fellowship in the 1970s, the effects of Kafka's fiction on his protracted quest to lose his virginity, or the web of connections between bird watching, his all-consuming

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marriage, and the problem of global warming, Franzen is always feelingly engaged with the world we live in now. The Discomfort Zone is a wise, funny, and gorgeously written self-portrait by one of

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***America's finest writers.
These eight new stories from
the celebrated novelist and
short-story writer Nathan
Englander display a gifted
young author grappling with
the great questions of modern***

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life, with a command of language and the imagination that place Englander at the very forefront of contemporary American fiction. The title story, inspired by Raymond Carver's masterpiece, is a

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provocative portrait of two marriages in which the Holocaust is played out as a devastating parlor game. In the outlandishly dark “Camp Sundown” vigilante justice is undertaken by a group of

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geriatric campers in a bucolic summer enclave. “Free Fruit for Young Widows” is a small, sharp study in evil, lovingly told by a father to a son. “Sister Hills” chronicles the history of Israel’s settlements

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from the eve of the Yom Kippur War through the present, a political fable constructed around the tale of two mothers who strike a terrible bargain to save a child. Marking a return to two

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of Englander's classic themes, "Peep Show" and "How We Avenged the Blums" wrestle with sexual longing and ingenuity in the face of adversity and peril. And "Everything I Know About My

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Family on My Mother's Side" is suffused with an intimacy and tenderness that break new ground for a writer who seems constantly to be expanding the parameters of what he can achieve in the short form.

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***Beautiful and courageous,
funny and achingly sad,
Englander's work is a
revelation.***

NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLER

***• A deliciously dark tale of
America's dysfunctional***

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coming years—and the timeless and tender feelings that just might bring us back from the brink. NAMED ONE OF THE BEST BOOKS OF THE YEAR BY The New York Times • The Washington Post • The Boston

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***Globe • San Francisco
Chronicle • The Seattle Times
• O: The Oprah Magazine •
Maureen Corrigan, NPR • Salon
• Slate • Minneapolis Star
Tribune • St. Louis Post-
Dispatch • The Kansas City***

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***Star • Charlotte Observer •
The Globe and Mail •
Vancouver Sun • Montreal
Gazette • Kirkus Reviews In
the near future, America is
crushed by a financial crisis
and our patient Chinese***

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creditors may just be ready to foreclose on the whole mess. Then Lenny Abramov, son of an Russian immigrant janitor and ardent fan of “printed, bound media artifacts” (aka books), meets Eunice Park, an

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***impossibly cute Korean
American woman with a major
in Images and a minor in
Assertiveness. Could falling in
love redeem a planet falling
apart?
In this delightful book, the***

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author enumerates and classifies the formulas Yiddish speakers use to express their emotions from blessings and thanks to lamentations and curses. A rarity among scholarly books, it brings joy

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while it teaches; it makes us smile, sometimes roar with laughter, while it develops the most rigorous linguistic argumentation."

Blessings, Curses, Hopes, and Fears

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Stories

A Novel

***The Russian Debutante's
Handbook***

Paris. The name alone conjures
images of chestnut-lined

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boulevards, sidewalk cafés,
breathtaking façades around
every corner--in short, an
exquisite romanticism that has
captured the American
imagination for as long as there
have been Americans. In 1995,

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Adam Gopnik, his wife, and their infant son left the familiar comforts and hassles of New York City for the urbane glamour of the City of Light. Gopnik is a longtime New Yorker writer, and the magazine has sent its writers

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to Paris for decades--but his was above all a personal pilgrimage to the place that had for so long been the undisputed capital of everything cultural and beautiful. It was also the opportunity to raise a child who would know

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what it was to romp in the Luxembourg Gardens, to enjoy a croque monsieur in a Left Bank café--a child (and perhaps a father, too) who would have a grasp of that Parisian sense of style we Americans find so

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elusive. So, in the grand tradition of the American abroad, Gopnik walked the paths of the Tuileries, enjoyed philosophical discussions at his local bistro, wrote as violet twilight fell on the arrondissements. Of course, as

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readers of Gopnik's beloved and award-winning "Paris Journals" in The New Yorker know, there was also the matter of raising a child and carrying on with day-to-day, not-so-fabled life. Evenings with French intellectuals

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preceded middle-of-the-night baby feedings; afternoons were filled with trips to the Musée d'Orsay and pinball games; weekday leftovers were eaten while three-star chefs debated a "culinary crisis." As Gopnik

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describes in this funny and tender book, the dual processes of navigating a foreign city and becoming a parent are not completely dissimilar journeys--both hold new routines, new languages, a new

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set of rules by which everyday life is lived. With singular wit and insight, Gopnik weaves the magical with the mundane in a wholly delightful, often hilarious look at what it was to be an American family man in Paris at

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the end of the twentieth century.
"We went to Paris for a
sentimental reeducation-I did
anyway-even though the
sentiments we were instructed in
were not the ones we were
expecting to learn, which I

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believe is why they call it an education."

On the The Scotiabank Giller Prize 2015 Longlist A love story, an adventure story, a fable without a moral, and an ink-black comedy of manners. Lucien

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(Lucy) Minor is the resident odd duck in the hamlet of Bury. Friendless and loveless, young and aimless, Lucy is a compulsive liar, a sickly weakling in a town famous for begetting brutish giants. Then Lucy

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accepts employment assisting the majordomo of the remote, foreboding Castle Von Aux. While tending to his new post as undermajordomo, he soon discovers the place harbours many dark secrets, not least of

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which is the whereabouts of the castle ' s master, Baron Von Aux. In the local village, he also encounters thieves, madmen, aristocrats, and Klara, a delicate beauty whose love he must compete for with the

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exceptionally handsome partisan soldier, Adolphus. Thus begins a tale of polite theft, bitter heartbreak, domestic mystery, and cold-blooded murder. Undermajordomo Minor is a triumphant ink-black comedy of

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manners by the Governor
General ' s Award-winning author
of The Sisters Brothers. It is an
adventure, and a mystery, and a
searing portrayal of rural Alpine
bad behaviour, but above all it is
a love story. And Lucy must be

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careful, for love is a violent thing.
One of the Los Angeles Times
Top 10 California Books of 2020.
One of Publishers Weekly ' s Top
10 Fiction Books from 2020.
Longlisted for the Carnegie
Medal for Excellence and the

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Joyce Carol Oates prize. One of Exile in Bookville ' s Favorite Books of 2020. In The Last Great Road Bum, Héctor Tobar turns the peripatetic true story of a naive son of Urbana, Illinois, who died fighting with guerrillas in El

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Salvador into the great American novel for our times. Joe Sanderson died in pursuit of a life worth writing about. He was, in his words, a “road bum,” an adventurer and a storyteller, belonging to no place, people, or

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set of ideas. He was born into a childhood of middle-class contentment in Urbana, Illinois and died fighting with guerillas in Central America. With these facts, acclaimed novelist and journalist Héctor Tobar set out to

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write what would become *The Last Great Road Bum*. A decade ago, Tobar came into possession of the personal writings of the late Joe Sanderson, which chart Sanderson's freewheeling course across the known world,

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from Illinois to Jamaica, to Vietnam, to Nigeria, to El Salvador—a life determinedly an adventure, ending in unlikely, anonymous heroism. The Last Great Road Bum is the great American novel Joe Sanderson

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never could have written, but did truly live—a fascinating, timely hybrid of fiction and nonfiction that only a master of both like Héctor Tobar could pull off.

“ A series of dreamy, complex, poignant stories with language

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that is by turns gauzy-poetic and pinpoint-precise but unfailingly inventive. ” —Kirkus Reviews (starred review) The dynamic characters in Kingdom of the Young are searching: for adventure, work, love,

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absolution, better chances elsewhere. A fanatical child army loses faith in its commander as he ages unforgivably into his thirties. A woman possessed with wanderlust and a small inheritance seeks love among

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the cave-dwelling Roma in Granada. Traumatized war veterans run local rackets; smarmy bureaucrats rise through the ranks of repressive regimes; civilians attempt to escape the stranglehold of life under

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dictatorships. From the honeycombed caves outside the Alhambra to the streets of Havana, from hospital wards to quinceañera parties, these stories—along with the collection 's illuminating nonfiction

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coda—testify to the vast imaginative range of an author who has won a Kafka and a Whiting Award among other literary prizes. “ Ambitious, original, deliciously philosophical. Kingdom of the Young invites

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comparison to the crônicas of Clarice Lispector and the fabulas of Italo Calvino. ” —Carolyn Cooke, author of *Daughters of the Revolution*
What We Talk About When We Talk About Anne Frank

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Why I Don't Write Children's
Literature (and Other Stories)

The Beautiful Things That
Heaven Bears

Blue Plate Special

How to Read a Novelist

NEW YORK TIMES

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***BESTSELLER • GOOD
MORNING AMERICA
BUZZ PICK • ONE OF
THE BEST BOOKS OF
THE YEAR: The New York
Times Book Review,
Financial Times, The***

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***Washington Post, Time,
Los Angeles Times, New
York Post, Town &
Country, Good
Housekeeping, Kirkus
Reviews "A perfect novel
for these times and all***

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times, the single textual artifact from the pandemic era I would place in a time capsule as a representation of all that is good and true and beautiful about

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***literature.”—Molly Young,
The New York Times
(Editors’ Choice) Eight
friends, one country
house, and six months in
isolation—a novel about
love, friendship, family,***

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***and betrayal hailed as a
“virtuoso performance”
(USA Today) and “an
homage to Chekhov with
four romances and a
finale that will break your
heart” (The Washington***

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Post) In the rolling hills of upstate New York, a group of friends and friends-of-friends gathers in a country house to wait out the pandemic. Over the next six months, new

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friendships and romances will take hold, while old betrayals will emerge, forcing each character to reevaluate whom they love and what matters most. The unlikely cast of

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***characters includes a
Russian-born novelist; his
Russian-born psychiatrist
wife; their precocious
child obsessed with K-
pop; a struggling Indian
American writer; a wildly***

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***successful Korean
American app developer;
a global dandy with three
passports; a Southern
flamethrower of an
essayist; and a movie star,
the Actor, whose arrival***

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***upsets the equilibrium of
this chosen family. Both
elegiac and very, very
funny, Our Country
Friends is the most
ambitious book yet by the
author of the beloved***

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***bestseller Super Sad True
Love Story.***

***In 1961, Richard
Goldstein saw Bob Dylan
perform for the first time
at Carnegie Hall. Rock
music was in its infancy,***

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and revolution was in the air. Criticism of the genre didn't yet exist but, as it began to change music and politics for ever, the serious discussion of rock became a thriving

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***institution. Aged just
twenty-two in 1966, and
the first rock critic in
New York, Goldstein
became a pivotal figure in
the industry. Forging
close relationships with***

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huge names - Jim Morrison, Brian Wilson and Janis Joplin to name just three - his life became a whirlwind of politics, sex and rock and roll. Another Little Piece

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***of My Heart is an
unparalleled document of
rock and revolution.***

NEW YORK TIMES

BESTSELLER •

NATIONAL BOOK

CRITICS CIRCLE AWARD

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***FINALIST NAMED ONE
OF THE TEN BEST
BOOKS OF THE YEAR BY
MICHIKO KAKUTANI,
THE NEW YORK TIMES •
NAMED ONE OF THE
TEN BEST NONFICTION***

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***BOOKS OF THE YEAR BY
TIME NAMED ONE OF
THE BEST BOOKS OF
THE YEAR BY MORE
THAN 45 PUBLICATIONS,
INCLUDING The New
York Times Book Review***

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• *The Washington Post* •
NPR • *The New Yorker* •
San Francisco Chronicle •
The Economist • *The*
Atlantic • *Newsday* •
Salon • *St. Louis Post-*
Dispatch • *The Guardian*

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• *Esquire (UK)* • *GQ (UK)*
Little Failure is the all too true story of an immigrant family betting its future on America, as told by a lifelong misfit who finally finds a place

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***for himself in the world
through books and words.
In 1979, a little boy
dragging a ginormous fur
hat and an overcoat made
from the skin of some
Soviet woodland creature***

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steps off the plane at New York's JFK International Airport and into his new American life. His troubles are just beginning. For the former Igor Shteyngart, coming

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***to the United States from
the Soviet Union is like
stumbling off a
monochromatic cliff and
landing in a pool of
Technicolor. Careening
between his Soviet home***

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life and his American aspirations, he finds himself living in two contradictory worlds, wishing for a real home in one. He becomes so strange to his parents

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that his mother stops bickering with his father long enough to coin the phrase failurchka—"little failure"—which she applies to her once-promising son. With

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affection. Mostly. From the terrors of Hebrew School to a crash course in first love to a return visit to the homeland that is no longer home, Gary Shteyngart has crafted a

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***ruthlessly brave and
funny memoir of
searching for every kind
of love—family, romantic,
and of the self. BONUS:
This edition includes a
reading group guide.***

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Praise for Little Failure
“Hilarious and moving . . .
The army of readers who
love Gary Shteyngart is
about to get
bigger.”—The New York
Times Book Review “A

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***memoir for the ages . . .
brilliant and
unflinching.”—Mary Karr
“Dazzling . . . a rich,
nuanced memoir . . . It’s
an immigrant story, a
coming-of-age story, a***

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***becoming-a-writer story,
and a becoming-a-mensch
story, and in all these
ways it is,
unambivalently, a
success.”—Meg Wolitzer,
NPR “Literary gold . . . [a]***

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***bruisingly funny
memoir.”—Vogue “A giant
success.”—Entertainment
Weekly***

***As Tess is about to get
married in her childhood
home in Haddonfield,***

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New Jersey, an uninvited guest wearing a wedding dress and gas mask holds the ensemble hostage, triggering hilarious chaos among the unusual cast of characters. By the

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author of Layover.

The Narrow Door

The Making and

Unmaking of an Editor

A Memoir of Friendship

A Memoir

Absurdistan

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In *The Narrow Door*, Paul Lisicky creates a compelling collage of scenes and images drawn from two long-term relationships, one with a woman novelist and the other with his ex-husband, a poet.

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The contours of these relationships shift constantly. Denise and Paul, stretched by the demands of their writing lives, drift apart, and Paul's romance begins to falter. And the world around them is frail:

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environmental catastrophes like the Deepwater Horizon oil spill, natural disasters like the earthquake in Haiti, and local disturbances make an unsettling backdrop to the pressing concerns of Denise's

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cancer diagnosis and Paul's impending breakup. Lisicky's compassionate heart and resilience seem all the stronger in the face of such searing losses. His survival--hard-won,

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unsentimental,
authentic--proves that in
turning toward loss, we
embrace life.

Little Failure A Memoir Penguin
Books Limited

Andrew Yancy—late of the

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Miami Police and soon-to-be-late of the Monroe County sheriff's office—has a human arm in his freezer. There's a logical (Hiaasenian) explanation for that, but not for how and why it parted from

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its shadowy owner. Yancy thinks the boating-accident/shark-luncheon explanation is full of holes, and if he can prove murder, the sheriff might rescue him from his grisly Health Inspector gig

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(it's not called the roach patrol for nothing). But first—this being Hiaasen country—Yancy must negotiate an obstacle course of wildly unpredictable events with a crew of even more wildly unpredictable

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characters, including his just-ex lover, a hot-blooded fugitive from Kansas; the twitchy widow of the frozen arm; two avariciously optimistic real-estate speculators; the Bahamian voodoo witch known

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as the Dragon Queen, whose suitors are blinded unto death by her peculiar charms; Yancy's new true love, a kinky coroner; and the eponymous bad monkey, who with hilarious aplomb earns his

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place among Carl Hiaasen's greatest characters. Here is Hiaasen doing what he does better than anyone else: spinning a tale at once fiercely pointed and wickedly funny in which the greedy, the corrupt,

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and the degraders of what's left of pristine Florida—now, of the Bahamas as well—get their comeuppance in mordantly ingenious, diabolically entertaining fashion.

After the husband and wife

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that she works for disappear, live-in maid Araceli takes their two boys on a journey through sprawling Los Angeles to locate their grandfather. By the Pulitzer Prize-winning author of Translation Nation.

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75,000 first printing.

A God at the Door

Foreskin's Lament

Another Little Piece of My
Heart

It's News to Me

The Barbarian Nurseries

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A visionary novel from the author of Super Sad True Love Story and Little Failure. The Russian Debutante's Handbook introduces Vladimir Girshkin, one of the most original and unlikely heroes of recent times. The twenty-five-year-

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old unhappy lover to a fat
dungeon mistress, affectionately
nicknamed "Little Failure" by his
high-achieving mother, Vladimir
toils his days away as a lowly
clerk at the bureaucratic Emma
Lazarus Immigrant Absorption

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Society. When a wealthy but psychotic old Russian war hero appears, Vladimir embarks on an adventure of unrelenting lunacy that takes us from New York's Lower East Side to the hip frontier wilderness of Prava--the

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Eastern European Paris of the nineties. With the help of a murderous but fun-loving Russian mafioso, Vladimir infiltrates the Prava expat community and launches a scheme as ridiculous as it is brilliant. Bursting with wit,

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humor, and rare insight, *The Russian Debutante's Handbook* is both a highly imaginative romp and a serious exploration of what it means to be an immigrant in America.

The beloved writer returns to

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entertain in a fresh collection of essays

A thorough, illuminating, and entertaining guide to crafting point of view, a fiction writer's most essential choice. Who is telling the story to whom is the

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single most important question about any work of fiction; the answer is central to everything from style and tone to plot and pacing. Using hundreds of examples from Jane Austen to Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie, Leo

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Tolstoy to Stephen King, novelist and longtime MFA professor Lisa Zeidner dives deep into the points of view we are most familiar with—first and third person—and moves beyond to second-person narration, frame tales, and even

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animal points of view. Engaging and accessible, *Who Says?* presents any practicing writer with a new system for choosing a point of view, experimenting with how it determines the narrative, and applying these ideas to

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revision.

A “delightful” (Vanity Fair) collection from the longest-running, most influential book review in America, featuring its best, funniest, strangest, and most memorable coverage over the past

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125 years. Since its first issue on October 10, 1896, The New York Times Book Review has brought the world of ideas to the reading public. It is the publication where authors have been made, and where readers first encountered

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the classics that have enriched their lives. Now the editors have curated the Book Review's dynamic 125-year history, which is essentially the story of modern American letters. Brimming with remarkable reportage and

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photography, this beautiful book collects interesting reviews, never-before-heard anecdotes about famous writers, and spicy letter exchanges. Here are the first takes on novels we now consider masterpieces, including a long-

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forgotten pan of Anne of Green Gables and a rave of Mrs. Dalloway, along with reviews and essays by Langston Hughes, Eudora Welty, James Baldwin, Nora Ephron, and more. With scores of stunning vintage

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photographs, many of them sourced from the Times's own archive, readers will discover how literary tastes have shifted through the years—and how the Book Review's coverage has shaped so much of what we read

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today.

The Discomfort Zone

The Science and Business of
Turning Waste into Wealth and
Health

The New York Times Book Review
Bad Monkey

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The Other Dark Matter

Please note: This is a companion version & not the original book. Sample Book Insights: #1 I graduated college in 1996, and that same year, I worked as a paralegal for a civil

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rights law firm. I was not cut out for the law, and I never will be. My parents were disappointed in me, and so was I. #2 I would spend hours at the Strand Book Annex, searching for someone just like me on the

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back cover of a book. I was looking for the sloppy turn of phrase or the MFA cliché that would mark the book inferior to the one gestating in my office computer. #3 I was in love with a woman who had already

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criticized my bookshelves for containing material that was either too lightweight or too masculine. I had spent four years after college without so much as kissing a girl. I was lonely. #4 I began to panic

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when I thought about the girl I loved at the time. I saw her as a censor of my bookshelf and my tastes, and I thought about how she was taller than me and her gray teeth.

NEW YORK TIMES

Page 144/239

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*BESTSELLER • NATIONAL
BOOK CRITICS CIRCLE
AWARD FINALIST NAMED
ONE OF THE TEN BEST
BOOKS OF THE YEAR BY
MICHIKO KAKUTANI, THE
NEW YORK TIMES • NAMED*

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*ONE OF THE TEN BEST
NONFICTION BOOKS OF THE
YEAR BY TIME NAMED ONE
OF THE BEST BOOKS OF THE
YEAR BY MORE THAN 45
PUBLICATIONS, INCLUDING
The New York Times Book*

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*Review • The Washington Post
• NPR • The New Yorker • San
Francisco Chronicle • The
Economist • The Atlantic •
Newsday • Salon • St. Louis
Post-Dispatch • The Guardian •
Esquire (UK) • GQ (UK) After*

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three acclaimed novels, Gary Shteyngart turns to memoir in a candid, witty, deeply poignant account of his life so far.

Shteyngart shares his American immigrant experience, moving back and forth through time

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and memory with self-deprecating humor, moving insights, and literary bravado. The result is a resonant story of family and belonging that feels epic and intimate and distinctly his own. Born Igor Shteyngart

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in Leningrad during the twilight of the Soviet Union, the curious, diminutive, asthmatic boy grew up with a persistent sense of yearning—for food, for acceptance, for words—desires that would follow him into

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adulthood. At five, Igor wrote his first novel, Lenin and His Magical Goose, and his grandmother paid him a slice of cheese for every page. In the late 1970s, world events changed Igor's life. Jimmy

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Carter and Leonid Brezhnev made a deal: exchange grain for the safe passage of Soviet Jews to America—a country Igor viewed as the enemy. Along the way, Igor became Gary so that he would suffer one or two

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fewer beatings from other kids. Coming to the United States from the Soviet Union was equivalent to stumbling off a monochromatic cliff and landing in a pool of pure Technicolor. Shteyngart's

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loving but mismatched parents dreamed that he would become a lawyer or at least a “conscientious toiler” on Wall Street, something their distracted son was simply not cut out to do. Fusing English

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and Russian, his mother created the term Failurchka—Little Failure—which she applied to her son. With love. Mostly. As a result, Shteyngart operated on a theory that he would fail at

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everything he tried. At being a writer, at being a boyfriend, and, most important, at being a worthwhile human being. Swinging between a Soviet home life and American aspirations, Shteyngart found

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*himself living in two
contradictory worlds, all the
while wishing that he could find
a real home in one. And
somebody to love him. And
somebody to lend him sixty-nine
cents for a McDonald's*

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hamburger. Provocative, hilarious, and inventive, Little Failure reveals a deeper vein of emotion in Gary Shteyngart's prose. It is a memoir of an immigrant family coming to America, as told by a lifelong

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misfit who forged from his imagination an essential literary voice and, against all odds, a place in the world.

Praise for Little Failure

"Hilarious and moving . . . The army of readers who love Gary

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Shteyngart is about to get bigger.”—The New York Times Book Review “A memoir for the ages . . . brilliant and unflinching.”—Mary Karr “Dazzling . . . a rich, nuanced memoir . . . It’s an immigrant

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story, a coming-of-age story, a becoming-a-writer story, and a becoming-a-mensch story, and in all these ways it is, unambivalently, a success.”—Meg Wolitzer, NPR
“Literary gold . . . bruisingly

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funny.—*Vogue* “A giant
success.”—*Entertainment
Weekly*

“Spectacular.”—NPR •

“Uproariously funny.”—*The
Boston Globe* • “An artistic
triumph.”—*San Francisco*

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Chronicle • “A novel in which comedy and pathos are exquisitely balanced.”—*The Washington Post* •

“Shteyngart’s best book.”—*The Seattle Times* The bestselling author of *Super Sad True Love*

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*Story returns with a biting,
brilliant, emotionally resonant
novel very much of our times.*

*NAMED ONE OF THE TEN
BEST BOOKS OF THE YEAR BY
SAN FRANCISCO CHRONICLE
AND MAUREEN CORRIGAN,*

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*NPR'S FRESH AIR AND
NAMED ONE OF THE BEST
BOOKS OF THE YEAR BY The
New York Times Book Review •
NPR • The Washington Post •
O: The Oprah Magazine •
Mother Jones • Glamour •*

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*Library Journal • Kirkus
Reviews • Newsday • Pamela
Paul, KQED • Financial Times •
The Globe and Mail
Narcissistic, hilariously self-
deluded, and divorced from the
real world as most of us know*

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it, hedge-fund manager Barry Cohen oversees \$2.4 billion in assets. Deeply stressed by an SEC investigation and by his three-year-old son's diagnosis of autism, he flees New York on a Greyhound bus in search of a

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simpler, more romantic life with his old college sweetheart. Meanwhile, his super-smart wife, Seema—a driven first-generation American who craved the picture-perfect life that comes with wealth—has

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her own demons to face. How these two flawed characters navigate the Shteyngartian chaos of their own making is at the heart of this piercing exploration, a poignant tale of familial longing and an

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unsentimental ode to America.

*LONGLISTED FOR THE
CARNEGIE MEDAL FOR
EXCELLENCE IN FICTION*

*“The fuel and oxygen of
immigrant*

literature—movement, exile,

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nostalgia, cultural disorientation—are what fire the pistons of this trenchant and panoramic novel. . . . [It is] a novel so pungent, so frisky and so intent on probing the dissonances and

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delusions—both individual and collective—that grip this strange land getting stranger.”—The New York Times Book Review

“Shteyngart, perhaps more than any American writer of his

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generation, is a natural. He is light, stinging, insolent and melancholy. . . . The wit and the immigrant's sense of heartbreak—he was born in Russia—just seem to pour from him. The idea of riding along

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behind Shteyngart as he glides across America in the early age of Trump is a propitious one. He doesn't disappoint."—The New York Times

Winner of the VCU Cabell First Novelist Award Winner of the

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*American Library Association's
Sophie Brody Medal Finalist for
the National Jewish Book Award
A singularly talented writer
makes his literary debut with
this provocative, soulful, and
sometimes hilarious story of a*

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failed journalist asked to do the unthinkable: Forge Holocaust-restitution claims for old Russian Jews in Brooklyn, New York. Yevgeny Gelman, grandfather of Slava Gelman, "didn't suffer in the exact way"

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he needs to have suffered to qualify for the restitution the German government has been paying out to Holocaust survivors. But suffer he has—as a Jew in the war; as a second-class citizen in the USSR; as an

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immigrant to America. So? Isn't his grandson a "writer"? High-minded Slava wants to put all this immigrant scraping behind him. Only the American Dream is not panning out for him—Century, the legendary

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magazine where he works as a researcher, wants nothing greater from him. Slava wants to be a correct, blameless American—but he wants to be a lionized writer even more. Slava's turn as the Forger of

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South Brooklyn teaches him that not every fact is the truth, and not every lie a falsehood. It takes more than law-abiding to become an American; it takes the same self-reinvention in which his people excel.

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Intoxicated and unmoored by his inventions, Slava risks exposure. Cornered, he commits an irrevocable act that finally grants him a sense of home in America, but not before collecting a price from

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his family. A Replacement Life is a dark, moving, and beautifully written novel about family, honor, and justice.

*A Personal History
Undermajordomo Minor
Unremarried Widow*

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Our Country Friends
Little Failure

A delectable memoir about the transformative power of food, *Blue Plate Special* is a deeply personal narrative in which food becomes the

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vehicle for exploring a life. Here, novelist Kate Christensen tells her own story, from her unorthodox childhood in 1960s Berkeley as the daughter of a legal activist who ruled the house

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with his fists to her extraordinary success as a PEN/Faulkner Award-winning author. Hungry not just for food, but for love and a sense of belonging, Christensen writes honestly

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about her struggle to find the contentment she has always yearned for. A beautifully written account of a knockabout life, full of sorrows, pleasures—and, of course, food—Blue Plate

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Special is a delicious reading experience.

"A journalist travels the world and investigates current socioeconomic theories of happiness to discover why most modern

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**cities are designed to make us miserable, what we can do to change this, and why we have more to learn from poor cities than from prosperous ones"--
Edward Kosner's stunning,**

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articulate journalism memoir ranks with the tradition of important tell-alls like Cass Canfield, Howell Raines, and Ben Bradlee. Kosner, whiz-kid star at Newsweek, editor of New York Magazine,

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editor of the New York Daily News, editor of Esquire, gives us the inside scoop on Kay Graham, Mort Zuckerman, Tina Brown, and many others — and provides as well a primer for aspiring

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and veteran journalists alike. No one, before or since, has achieved the kind of influence in the world of New York's print media that Kosner did; here is an intimate description of the

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experiences that built one of the industry's most talented editors. From his beginnings in World War II-era Washington Heights, to his days on college publications, to his position at the helm of

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several of New York's leading news publications, Kosner provides a clear narrative of his life's course, peppering the way with his singular perspective and poignant memories, offering

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**irresistible, well-written
fodder for media
aficionados.**

**Understanding Gary
Shteyngart, the first
comprehensive examination
of Shteyngart's novels and**

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memoir, introduces readers to one of the most critically acclaimed and commercially successful contemporary American authors. Born in Leningrad in 1972, Shteyngart immigrated to

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the United States in 1979, attended Oberlin College and the City University of New York, and currently teaches in the Writing Program at Columbia University. His novels

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**include Super Sad True Love
Story, winner of the
Bollinger Everyman
Wodehouse Prize;
Absurdistan, chosen as one
of the ten best books of the
year by the New York Times**

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**Book Review and Time
magazine; and The Russian
Debutante's Handbook,
winner of the Stephen Crane
Award for First Fiction and
the National Jewish Book
Award for Fiction. Geoff**

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Hamilton studies three broad, overlapping elements of Shteyngart's work: his construction of Russian-Jewish identity in the United States, his appraisal of communism's imaginative

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legacy for the wider East European diaspora and former Soviet republics, and his representation of the deadening effects of late capitalism. Focusing on Shteyngart's themes of the

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**fracturing and decay of
ethnic identities, the limits
and pitfalls of
multiculturalism, and the
decline of privacy and
civility against the creeping
power of technological**

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mediation, Hamilton also tracks the author's playful manipulation of literary traditions and his incisive revision of seminal mythologies of Russian, Jewish, and American

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selfhood. Although Shteyngart has sometimes been pigeon holed as an immigrant author working a rather marginal ethnic shtick, Hamilton demonstrates that

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Shteyngart's work deserves attention for its remarkable centrality, that is, its relevance to core questions of identity formation and beliefs common to globalized societies.

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**A memoir
An Autobiography of My
Appetites
A Replacement Life
Happy City: Transforming
Our Lives Through Urban
Design**

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Kingdom of the Young

A New York Times Notable Book, and a "chaotic, laugh riot" (San Francisco Chronicle) of a memoir. Shalom Auslander was raised with a terrified respect for God. Even as he grew up and

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was estranged from his community, his religion and its traditions, he could not find the path to a life where he didn't struggle daily with the fear of God's formidable wrath. Foreskin's Lament reveals Auslander's

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*“painfully, cripplingly,
incurably, miserably
religious” youth in a
strict, socially isolated
Orthodox Jewish community,
and recounts his rebellion
and efforts to make a new
life apart from it. His*

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combination of unrelenting humor and anger renders a rich and fascinating portrait of a man grappling with his faith and family. Emotionally raw and heartbreakingly honest, an award-winning journalist and

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*essayist traces the
difficult process of picking
up the pieces of her life
after it was shattered by
the death of her husband, a
Texan soldier whose Apache
helicopter crashed in Iraq,
The novel is alive and well,*

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thank you very much For the last fifteen years, whenever a novel was published, John Freeman was there to greet it. As a critic for more than two hundred newspapers worldwide, the onetime president of the National

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Book Critics Circle, and the former editor of Granta, he has reviewed thousands of books and interviewed scores of writers. In How to Read a Novelist, which pulls together his very best profiles (many of them new

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or completely rewritten for this volume) of the very best novelists of our time, he shares with us what he's learned. From such international stars as Doris Lessing, Haruki Murakami, Salman Rushdie, and Mo Yan,

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*to established American
lions such as Don DeLillo,
Norman Mailer, Toni
Morrison, Marilynne
Robinson, Philip Roth, John
Updike, and David Foster
Wallace, to the new guard of
Edwidge Danticat, Dave*

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Eggers, Jonathan Franzen, and more, Freeman has talked to everyone. What emerges is an instructive and illuminating, definitive yet still idiosyncratic guide to a diverse and lively literary culture: a vision

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of the novel as a varied yet vital contemporary form, a portrait of the novelist as a unique and profound figure in our fragmenting global culture, and a book that will be essential reading for every aspiring writer

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and engaged reader—a perfect companion (or gift!) for anyone who's ever curled up with a novel and wanted to know a bit more about the person who made it possible. “We are homesick everywhere,” writes Tishani

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Doshi, "even when we're home." With aching empathy, righteous anger, and rebellious humor, A God at the Door calls on the extraordinary minutiae of nature and humanity to redefine belonging and

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unveil injustice. In an era of pandemic lockdown and brutal politics, these poems make vital space for what must come next—the return of wonder and free movement, and a profound sense of connection to what matters

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most. From a microscopic cell to flightless birds, to a sumo wrestler and the tree of life, Doshi interrupts the news cycle to pause in grief or delight, to restore power to language. A God at the Door invites the reader

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*on a pilgrimage—one that
leads us back to the sacred
temple of ourselves. This is
an exquisite, generous
collection from a poet at
the peak of her powers.
Super Sad True Love Story
Understanding Gary*

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Shteyngart

The Last Great Road Bum

Absurdistan and Super Sad

True Love Story: Two

Bestselling Novels

Paris to the Moon

Little Failure is an

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**autobiography of comic
genius by the hilarious Gary
Shteyngart. Little Failure - its
title the same as the alarming
pet-name given to the young
Gary Shteyngart by his father
when growing up in pre-**

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Glasnost Russia - is one of the most remarkable immigrant memoirs ever written. A candid and deeply poignant story of a Soviet family's trials and tribulations, and of their escape in 1979 to the

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consumerist promised land of the USA, it is also an exceptionally funny account of the author's transformation from asthmatic toddler in Red Square to 40-something Manhattanite with a receding

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**hairline and a memoir to write.
'Kicks ass - more fantastic,
more unbelievable than his
novels' Mary Karr, author of
The Liars' Club 'A marvel of a
story. His finest book yet'
Zadie Smith 'Little Failure is a**

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delight' Aravid Adiga Gary Shteyngart was born in Leningrad in 1972. In 2007 he was named one of Granta's Best Young American novelists. His debut The Russian Debutante's

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**Handbook was widely
acclaimed (and won the
National Jewish Book Award
for Fiction), as were his
second, Absurdistan (one of
the 10 Best Books of the Year
in the New York Times) and**

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Super Sad True Love Story. He writes regularly for the New Yorker.

Seventeen years ago, Sepha Stephanos fled the Ethiopian Revolution for a new start in the United States. Now he

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finds himself running a failing grocery store in a poor African-American section of Washington, D.C., his only companions two fellow African immigrants who share his bitter nostalgia and longing for

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his home continent. Years ago and worlds away Sepha could never have imagined a life of such isolation. As his environment begins to change, hope comes in the form of a friendship with new

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neighbors Judith and Naomi, a white woman and her biracial daughter. But when a series of racial incidents disturbs the community, Sepha may lose everything all over again.

Watch a QuickTime interview

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**with Dinaw Mengestu about
this book.**

**'How will I ever measure up to
the gentle, smiling giants
strolling this land who launch
their cars like cosmonauts into
the infinite American sky and**

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who live like lords in their castles?' In 1979 seven-year-old Gary Shteyngart and his parents left the Soviet Union for the consumerist paradise of America. As good Russian Jews, Gary's parents were

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determined that he make something of himself. As a diminutive asthmatic with a runny nose, Gary knew his was to be a life of spectacular disappointments. He wasn't wrong. In Little Failurehe

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reveals how, by ending up a prize-winning novelist, he visited great shame on his family. 'Terrific.' Sunday Times 'Frenetically funny, overwhelmingly enjoyable.' Financial Times 'Dazzling,

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exquisitely charted. Time spent with Shteyngart is like being with Woody Allen on speed- razor-sharp, funny and deeply moving.' Mail on Sunday'Hilarious and moving.' New York Times'Seriously

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funny.' Daily

**Telegraph'Terrific, hilarious,
beautiful and revealing -**

**Shteyngart's funniest, saddest
and most honest work to date.'**

**Guardian'Witty, heartbreaking
and irrepressibly funny.**

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**Hilarious.' Observer
Love Bomb
Lake Success
Who Says?: Mastering Point of
View in Fiction**