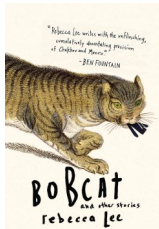


For the Love of Reading

Bobcat and Other Stories



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If you like short stories don't skip this new collection, *Bobcat*. Rebecca Lee's stories about architects, matchmakers, academics, depressed children, a writer's spouse, and student plagiarists are absorbing and continually offer fresh surprises. Lee writes fluid yet beautiful prose that cuts immediately to the chase.

In the story "Min," the title character's father, Albert, works in Hong Kong to resettle Vietnamese refugees for the UN. One summer Min invites his college friend to visit Asia with him for the summer. Although they are close friends, Min and Sarah are not in love.

While there, Sarah discovers that the promised job that Albert has chosen for her is to find Min a wife. Sarah's only training is to read the notes Albert's mother left when she selected her own son's bride. Here are a couple examples: "Possibility" Midnight black hair, walk is like a leopard, carnal desires strong, and "Monkey woman, scurries through the day, loves confusion." [Read more](#)

Posted by Dory L. on September 21, 2013

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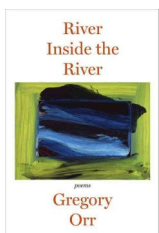
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River Inside the River



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What a beautiful collection Gregory Orr's tenth book of poetry is--moving, lyrical, concise, thought-provoking and full of a rich humanity. Orr has had a difficult life. As he describes in one poem, he accidentally shot his brother in a hunting accident as a child and his mother died a few months later. He doesn't say from heartache but that is implied.

The book is divided into three sections. The first "Eden and After" offers an overabundance of infinitive titles including: "To Speak," "To See," "To Write," "To Embrace," "To Stray," and a couple I can't mention here. The poems are much deeper and broader than the titles might imply. And yes, they are about Adam and Eve's time in the Garden of Eden and their later fall as these lines from "To Build" reveal: "No longer could they rest / Each night inside / God's breath / As in a tent that kept / Them from the cold."

The second section is more literary. It's called "The City of Poetry." Individual poets are mentioned including: Francois Villon, Coleridge, Rimbaud, Sappho, etc. but it's more a praise song to poetry itself: "There's only one river / That flows / Through the city / But different poems / Call it different names." [Read more](#)

Posted by Dory L. on September 16, 2013

[River inside the river : three lyric sequences](#)

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It's in the Bag - Book kits for book groups!



We get asked a lot at the reference desk for multiple copies of a book that several people want to read at once for a book club meeting. It makes sense that the library would want to support readers and local book groups, but due to shelf space and limited resources it is impossible to have multiple copies of every book. [Read more](#)

Posted by sbowman on September 12, 2013

[Book Clubs](#)

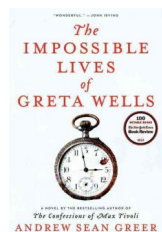
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Many Eras, Many Lives



[view in catalog](#)

Have you ever wondered how different you would have been if you'd lived during Napoleonic times, the First World War, or the Second? This novel explores how much the era a person lives

in affects his or her personality, and choices in life.

In the autumn of 1985, Greta Wells loses her twin brother to AIDS. She's also been injured in a serious car accident that has also harmed her dear Aunt Ruth. Because Greta sloughs through a deep depression that will not lift, her psychiatrist recommends an old treatment that is becoming new again. Greta calls it electric shock therapy. Dr. Cerletti corrects her??It's called electric convulsive therapy.?

During my college years, I worked as a psychiatric aide at two mental hospitals, and I watched this procedure several times. It struck me as something medieval and horrifying, but luckily in *The Impossible Lives of Greta Wells*, ECT is not described in great physical detail. [Read more](#)

Posted by Dory L. on September 11, 2013

[The Impossible Lives of Greta Wells](#)

[Historical](#)

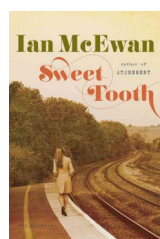
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Next Booksplus Discussion: This Sunday-- September 8th--at 2 p.m.



[view in catalog](#)

Our next book to be discussed is a thrilling read about early 70's Britain. I always enjoy novels set in the author's youth. In an interview, McEwan describes this period of rock and roll and changing mores as the time of his life, "when it was very bliss to be alive." Rent was cheap even in London. For only three pounds a month, McEwan scored a large apartment, and could live off writing a few reviews and articles each month. He spent the rest of his time, reading, writing, and socializing.

This novel combines a spy novel, a love story, and a journey into the literary world of early 70s England. McEwan, who has won many prizes, could have titled it a spy in the house of literature.

[Read more](#)

Posted by Dory L. on September 4, 2013

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A North Korean Emigré to Brazil



[view in catalog](#)

Want to read a novel but feeling pressed for time with all the craziness of back-to-school and fall a-coming? If so, try this new one, the highly lyrical *Snow Hunters* by Korean-American Paul Yoon. It tells the story of a North Korean prisoner of war who refuses to return home after the Korean War. Instead the administrators of his prison camp finds him a placement in Brazil. Yohan boards a cargo ship where the sailors befriend him and they set sail for South America. Yohan arrives at a small unnamed town in the rain as a young girl on a bicycle rides past. She gives him her umbrella. Yohan shelters himself under it as he goes in search of the tailor Kiyoshi who has agreed to give him an apprenticeship.

The former Japanese tailor and Yohan develop a relationship that is at first wordless. Neither speaks the same language. But Kiyoshi is both very kind and very observant. When Yohan wakes in the middle of the night with [Read more](#)

Posted by Dory L. on September 3, 2013

[Snow Hunters : a novel](#)

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