

The Pulitzer Prizes



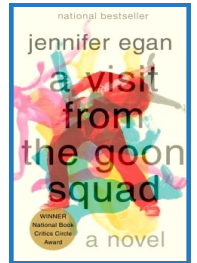
honoring
excellence
in journalism
and the arts
since 1917

FICTION

The Pulitzer Prize has been awarded by Columbia University since 1917. The awards are given for Journalism, Letters, Music and Drama. The awards for Letters include Fiction, listed here, as well as Nonfiction, Poetry, Biography, and History. The Pulitzer in Fiction is presented for distinguished fiction by an American author, preferably dealing with American life. It is left up to the Nominating Juries and The Pulitzer Prize Board to determine exactly what makes a work "distinguished." For more information, visit: www.pulitzer.org

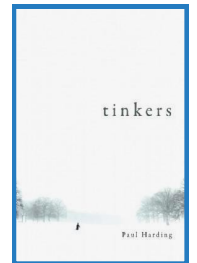
2011 [A Visit from the Goon Squad](#) by Jennifer Egan

Bennie is an aging former punk rocker and record executive. Sasha is the passionate, troubled young woman he employs. Here Jennifer Egan brilliantly reveals their pasts, along with the inner lives of a host of other characters whose paths intersect with theirs. With music pulsing on every page, *A Visit from the Goon Squad* is a startling, exhilarating novel of self-destruction and redemption.



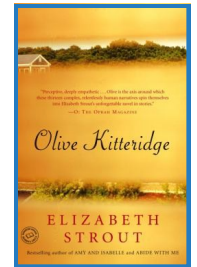
2010 [Tinkers](#) by Paul Harding

The life of George Washington Crosby and of his father, Howard, who left when George was 12, is explored through the metaphor of George's hobby of repairing clocks. Howard was a peddler, traveling with a cart and mule through eastern Maine around the turn of the century. This isolated profession allowed him to keep his affliction, epilepsy, successfully hidden from most everyone until, finally, his wife decides he has to be institutionalized for the safety of her children. It is to avoid this that Howard disappears. George, as he lays dying, considers his life and family coming in and out of reality and history.



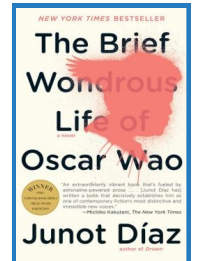
2009 [Olive Kitteridge](#) by Elizabeth Strout

At times stern, at other times patient, at times perceptive, at other times in sad denial, Olive Kitteridge, a retired schoolteacher, deplors the changes in her little town of Crosby, Maine, and in the world at large, but she doesn't always recognize the changes in those around her: a lounge musician haunted by a past romance; a former student who has lost the will to live; Olive's own adult child, who feels tyrannized by her irrational sensitivities; and her husband, Henry, who finds his loyalty to his marriage both a blessing and a curse.



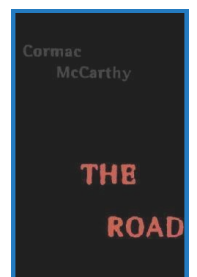
2008 [The Brief Wondrous Life of Oscar Wao](#) by Junot Díaz

Things have never been easy for Oscar, a sweet but overweight, lovesick Dominican ghetto nerd. From his home in New Jersey, where he lives with his old-world mother and rebellious sister, Oscar dreams of becoming the Dominican J.R.R. Tolkien and, most of all, of finding love. But, he may never get what he wants, thanks to the fukú, the curse that has haunted Oscar's family for generations, dooming them to prison, tragic accidents, and ill-starred love.

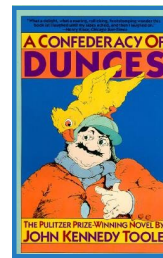
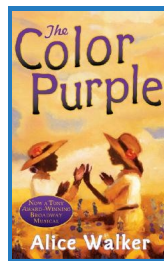
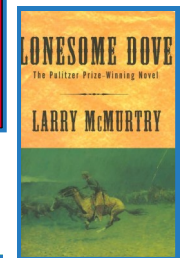
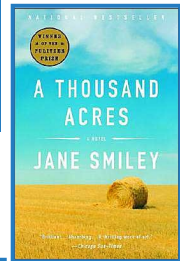
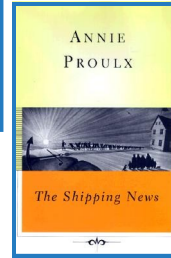
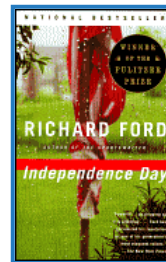
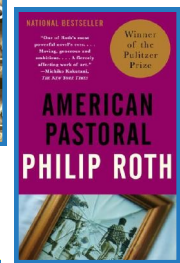
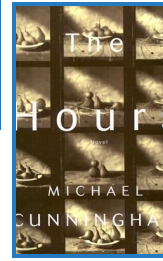
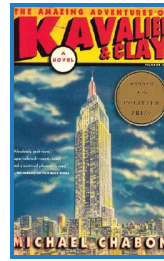
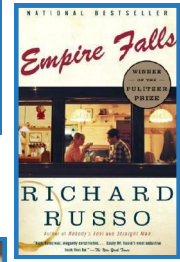
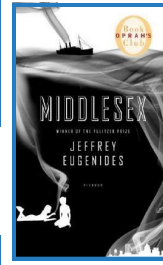


2007 [The Road](#) by Cormac McCarthy

In a novel set in an indefinite, futuristic, post-apocalyptic world, a father and his young son make their way through the ruins of a devastated American landscape, struggling to survive and preserve the last remnants of their own humanity.



- 2006 [March](#) by Geraldine Brooks
- 2005 [Gilead](#) by Marilynne Robinson
- 2004 [The Known World](#) by Edward P. Jones
- 2003 [Middlesex](#) by Jeffrey Eugenides
- 2002 [Empire Falls](#) by Richard Russo
- 2001 [The Amazing Adventures of Kavalier and Clay](#) by Michael Chabon
- 2000 [Interpreter of Maladies](#) by Jhumpa Lahiri
- 1999 [The Hours](#) by Michael Cunningham
- 1998 [American Pastoral](#) by Philip Roth
- 1997 [Martin Dressler](#) by Steven Millhauser
- 1996 [Independence Day](#) by Richard Ford
- 1995 [The Stone Diaries](#) by Carol Shields
- 1994 [The Shipping News](#) by E. Annie Proulx
- 1993 [A Good Scent from a Strange Mountain](#) by Robert Olen Butler
- 1992 [A Thousand Acres](#) by Jane Smiley
- 1991 [Rabbit At Rest](#) by John Updike
- 1990 [The Mambo Kings Play Songs of Love](#) by Oscar Hijuelos
- 1989 [Breathing Lessons](#) by Anne Tyler
- 1988 [Beloved](#) by Toni Morrison
- 1987 [A Summons to Memphis](#) by Peter Taylor
- 1986 [Lonesome Dove](#) by Larry McMurtry
- 1985 [Foreign Affairs](#) by Alison Lurie
- 1984 [Ironweed](#) by William Kennedy
- 1983 [The Color Purple](#) by Alice Walker
- 1982 [Rabbit Is Rich](#) by John Updike
- 1981 [A Confederacy of Dunces](#) by John Kennedy Toole
- 1980 [The Executioner's Song](#) by Norman Mailer



For more past winners, please see the [Pulitzer Prize website](#).