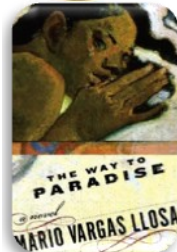


Nobel Prize for Literature

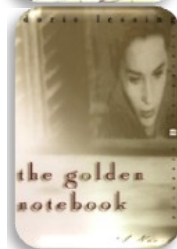


This international prize is presented to honor an author's entire body of work, not just one novel. The Nobel Prize in Literature recognizes the whole spectrum of literary works: poetry, novels, short stories, plays, essays and speeches. It is announced annually each fall, usually in October or November. The ceremony and official presentation are held each year on December 10th, the anniversary of Alfred Nobel's death. For more information please visit: nobelprize.org/nobel_prizes/literature

2010 [Mario Vargas Llosa](#) for his cartography of structures of power and his trenchant images of the individual's resistance, revolt, and defeat.

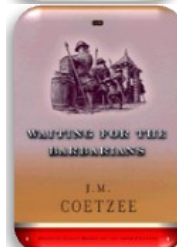


2009 [Herta Müller](#) who, with the concentration of poetry and the frankness of prose, depicts the landscape of the dispossessed.



2008 [Jean-Marie Gustave Le Clézio](#) author of new departures, poetic adventure and sensual ecstasy, explorer of a humanity beyond and below the reigning civilization.

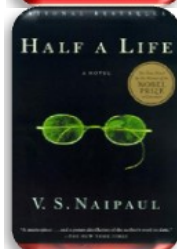
2007 [Doris Lessing](#) a prolific author of epic poetry and novels of the female experience, also known for her criticism of colonial African society.



2006 [Orhan Pamuk](#) who in the quest for the melancholic soul of his native city has discovered new symbols for the clash and interlacing of cultures.

2005 [Harold Pinter](#) who in his plays uncovers the precipice under everyday prattle and forces entry into oppression's closed rooms.

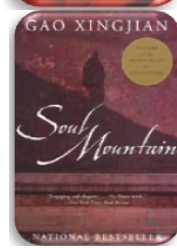
2004 [Elfriede Jelinek](#) for her musical flow of voices and counter-voices in novels and plays that with extraordinary linguistic zeal reveal the absurdity of society's clichés and their subjugating power.



2003 [John Maxwell Coetzee](#) who in innumerable guises portrays the surprising involvement of the outsider.

2002 [Imre Kertész](#) for writing that upholds the fragile experience of the individual against the barbaric arbitrariness of history.

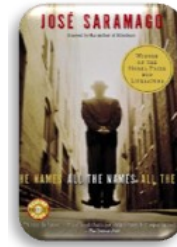
2001 [V. S. Naipaul](#) for having united perceptive narrative and incorruptible scrutiny in works that compel us to see the presence of suppressed histories.



2000 [Gao Xingjian](#) for an oeuvre of universal validity, bitter insights and linguistic ingenuity, which has opened new paths for the Chinese novel and drama.

1999 [Gunter Grass](#) whose frolicsome black fables portray the forgotten face of history.

1998 [Jose Saramago](#) who with parables sustained by imagination, compassion and irony continually enables us once again to apprehend an elusory reality.



1997 [Dario Fo](#) who emulates the jesters of the Middle Ages in scourging authority and upholding the dignity of the downtrodden.

1996 [Wisława Szymborska](#) for poetry that with ironic precision allows the historical and biological context to come to light in fragments of human reality.

1995 [Seamus Heaney](#) for works of lyrical beauty and ethical depth, which exalt everyday miracles and the living past.

1994 [Kenzaburo Oe](#) who with poetic force creates an imagined world, where life and myth condense to form a disconcerting picture of the human predicament today.



1993 [Toni Morrison](#) who in novels characterized by visionary force and poetic import, gives life to an essential aspect of American reality.

1992 [Derek Walcott](#) for a poetic oeuvre of great luminosity, sustained by a historical vision, the outcome of a multicultural commitment.

1991 [Nadine Gordimer](#) who through her magnificent epic writing has - in the words of Alfred Nobel - been of very great benefit to humanity.

1990 [Octavio Paz](#) for impassioned writing with wide horizons, characterized by sensuous intelligence and humanistic integrity.

1989 [Camilo José Cela](#) for a rich and intensive prose, which with restrained compassion forms a challenging vision of man's vulnerability.

1988 [Naguib Mahfouz](#) who, through works rich in nuance-now clear-sightedly realistic, now evocatively ambiguous-has formed an Arabian narrative art that applies to all mankind.

1987 [Joseph Brodsky](#) for an all-embracing authorship, imbued with clarity of thought and poetic intensity.

1986 [Wole Soyinka](#) who in a wide cultural perspective and with poetic overtones fashions the drama of existence.

1985 [Claude Simon](#) who in his novel combines the poet's and the painter's creativeness with a deepened awareness of time in the depiction of the human condition.

1984 [Jaroslav Seifert](#) for his poetry which endowed with freshness, sensuality and rich inventiveness provides a liberating image of the indomitable spirit and versatility of man.

1983 [Sir William Golding](#) for his novels which, with the perspicuity of realistic narrative art and the diversity and universality of myth, illuminate the human condition in the world of today.

1982 [Gabriel García Márquez](#) for his novels and short stories, in which the fantastic and the realistic are combined in a richly composed world of imagination, reflecting a continent's life and conflicts.

1981 [Elias Canetti](#) for writings marked by a broad outlook, a wealth of ideas and artistic power.

1980 [Czesław Miłosz](#) who with uncompromising clear-sightedness voices man's exposed condition in a world of severe conflicts.

1979 [Odysseus Elytis](#) (pen-name of Odysseus Alepoudhelis), for his poetry, which, against the background of Greek tradition, depicts with sensuous strength and intellectual clear-sightedness modern man's struggle for freedom and creativeness.

1978 [Isaac Bashevis Singer](#) for his impassioned narrative art which, with roots in a Polish-Jewish cultural tradition, brings universal human conditions to life.

1977 [Vicente Aleixandre](#) for a creative poetic writing which illuminates man's condition in the cosmos and in present-day society, at the same time representing the great renewal of the traditions of Spanish poetry between the wars.

1976 [Saul Bellow](#) for the human understanding and subtle analysis of contemporary culture that are combined in his work.

1975 [Eugenio Montale](#) for his distinctive poetry which, with great artistic sensitivity, has interpreted human values under the sign of an outlook on life with no illusions.

1974 The prize was equally divided between:

[Eyvind Johnson](#) for a narrative art, far-seeing in lands and ages, in the service of freedom.

[Harry Martinson](#) for writings that catch the dewdrop and reflect the cosmos.

1973 [Patrick White](#) for an epic and psychological narrative art which has introduced a new continent into literature.

1972 [Heinrich Boll](#) for his writing which through its combination of a broad perspective on his time and a sensitive skill in characterization has contributed to a renewal of German literature.

