

MAGIC REALISM

Fiction that integrates realistic elements with supernatural or fantastic experiences

Fiction Allen, Sarah

Allen, Sarah. **Garden Spells**

Successful caterer uses the magical plants that have always grown behind her family's mansion in her cooking.

Fiction Allende, Isabel

Allende, Isabel. **The House of the Spirits**

Story of the Trueba family from the turn of the century to the overthrow of the Salvador Allende government in 1973.

Fiction Amado, Jorge

Amado, Jorge. **The War of the Saints**

Statue of Saint Barbara of the Thunder comes to life.

Fiction Anaya, Rudolpho

Anaya, Rudolpho. **Bless Me, Ultima**

Antonio Marez is six years old when Ultima comes to stay with his family in New Mexico.

Fiction Barth, John

Barth, John. **The Last Voyage of Somebody the Sailor**

Man falls overboard during a cruise retracing the legendary voyages of Sinbad the Sailor and is pulled from the water by contemporaries of the real Sinbad.

Fiction Block, Francesca

Block, Francesca. **Ruby**

Midwestern girl, who has the ability to know her own destiny, escapes her abusive family and heads to Los Angeles.

Fiction Borges, Jorge Luis

Borges, Jorge Luis. **A Universal History of Infamy**

This collection of stories about the lives of noted scoundrels is widely regarded as the first work of magical realism.

Fiction Bozai, Agota

Bozai, Agota. **To Err is Divine**

Middle-aged atheist schoolteacher finds herself crowned with a halo.

Fiction Bulgakov, Mikhail

Bulgakov, Mikhail. **The Master and Margarita**

The devil visits Moscow and all hell breaks loose.

Fiction Calvino, Italo

Calvino, Italo. **Invisible Cities**

Marco Polo conjures up for the emperor Kublai Khan the images of cities he has visited.

Story Collection Masterworks

Canfield, Cass, ed. **Masterworks of Latin American Short Fiction**

Eight novellas by major Latin American writers.

Fiction Carey, Peter

Carey, Peter. **The Unusual Life of Tristan Smith**

Freak tries to find out his father's identity.

Fiction Carpentier, Alejo

Carpentier, Alejo. **Concierto Barroco**

Wealthy 18th century musician journeys to Venice where he dances with Vivaldi, Handel, and Scarlatti.

Fiction Carter, Angela

Carter, Angela. **Nights at the Circus**

Story about a trapeze artist who has real wings.

Fiction Chamoiseau, Patrick

Chamoiseau, Patrick. **Chronicle of the Seven Sorrows**

Story traces the rise and fall of Papi Soleil, "king of the wheelbarrow" at the vegetable market of Fort-de-France, Martinique.

Story Collection Short

Correas de Zapata, Celia, ed. **Short Stories by Latin American Women: The Magic and the Real**

Stories by 31 authors from fourteen countries.

Fiction Cortazar, Julio

Cortazar, Julio. **Final Exam**

Set in a surreal Buenos Aires, two students prepare for an exam.

Fiction Davis, Kathryn

Davis, Kathryn. **The Thin Place**

Three schoolgirls encounter their seemingly dead neighbor on the beach, and while two of them run to get help, the third brings the body back to life.

Fiction DeLillo, Don

DeLillo, Don. **The Body Artist**

Artist meets a strange, ageless man with an uncanny knowledge of her life.

Science Fiction De Lint, Charles

De Lint, Charles. **The Onion Girl**

Talented painter, whose works reveal the hidden life of the mythical Canadian town of Newford, is nearly killed by a hit-and-run driver.

Fiction Desai, Kiran

Desai, Kiran. **Hullabaloo in the Guava Orchard**

Young postal worker flees the claustrophobia of his home and job and lives in a tree, only to become a famous holy man.

Fiction Eco, Umberto

Eco, Umberto. **Baudolino**

During the 4th Crusade, an Italian peasant tells his story to a historian and high court official.

Fiction Erdrich, Louise

Erdrich, Louise. **The Antelope Wife**

Story of the Roy and Shawano families and their “colliding histories and destinies.”

Fiction Escandon, Maria

Escandon, Maria. **Esperanza’s Box of Saints**

Beautiful young widow searches for her missing child.

Fiction Esquivel, Laura

Esquivel, Laura. **Like Water for Chocolate**

Tale of culinary wizardry.

Fiction Foer, Jonathan

Foer, Jonathan. **Everything is Illuminated**

Young writer hopes to find the woman who saved his grandfather from the Nazis.

Fiction Fowles, John

Fowles, John. **The Ebony Tower**

Five stories that explore the affinities between human experience and fantasy.

Fiction Fuentes, Carlos

Fuentes, Carlos. **Terra Nostra**

History is scrambled.

Fiction Garcia Marquez, Gabriel

Garcia Marquez, Gabriel. **One Hundred Years of Solitude**

History of the mythical Columbian shanty town of Macondo, home of the mystical Buendia family, for whom ghosts are real and time obeys no laws.

Fiction Garrigues, Eduardo

Garrigues, Eduardo. **West of Babylon**

Author uses portions of the myth of Gilgamesh to tell a story of war and vengeance in a New Mexico town.

Fiction Grandbois, Peter

Grandbois, Peter. **The Gravedigger**

Poor Spanish gravedigger can communicate with the dead but the truths he reveals from the recently departed don't always go over well with surviving relatives and friends.

Fiction Grass, Gunter

Grass, Gunter. **The Tin Drum**

Man wills himself not to grow up and prefers communicating through the bang of his drum.

Fiction Greer, Andrew

Greer, Andrew. **The Confessions of Max Tivoli**

Set in San Francisco at the turn of the 19th century, Max Tivoli, born as an old man, lives his life aging backwards.

Fiction Harington, Donald

Harington, Donald. **With**

Young Arkansas girl survives a kidnapping and undergoes a series of life changes.

Fiction Hoffman, Alice

Hoffman, Alice. **Practical Magic**

Guardian aunts hand down their magical powers to two sisters.

Science Fiction Hopkinson, Nalo

Hopkinson, Nalo. **The New Moon's Arms**

Set on a Caribbean island, this is the story of a 50-something grandmother whose hot flashes restore objects from her childhood.

Fiction Kafka, Franz

Kafka, Franz. **The Trial**

Man is arrested without having done anything wrong.

Fiction Kehlmann, Daniel

Kehlmann, Daniel. **Measuring the World**

Towards the end of the 18th century, two young Germans set out to measure the world.

Fiction Kundera, Milan

Kundera, Milan. **The Unbearable Lightness of Being**

Set in Prague just after the Soviet invasion, this is the story of Tomas, a philandering surgeon and his wife, Tereza.

Fiction Millet, Lydia

Millet, Lydia. **Oh Pure and Radiant Heart**

When atom bomb physicists J. Robert Oppenheimer, Enrico Fermi and Leo Szilard appear in Santa Fe in 2003, Ann, a reference librarian and her husband, Ben take the long-dead scientists in as houseguests.

Fiction Morrison, Toni

Morrison, Toni. **Beloved**

Woman sacrifices her child to save her from the terrible life she herself has suffered as a slave.

Fiction Murakami, Haruki

Murakami, Haruki. **A Wild Sheep Chase**

Ordinary man is coerced into searching for a supernatural sheep with plans for world domination.

Fiction Ngugiwa Thiong'o

Ngugiwa Thiong'o. **Wizard of the Crow**

Monstrous ruler of an imaginary African country wants to build the world's tallest building but when things don't go according to plan, he enlists the aid of a wizard.

Fiction O'Brien, Flann

O'Brien, Flann. **The Third Policeman**

One-legged gentleman-farmer participates in a botched robbery-turned-murder and ends up having a conversation with the dead man shortly after the deed.

Fiction Ozick, Cynthia

Ozick, Cynthia. **The Puttermesser Papers**

Ruth Puttermesser creates a female golem to help her with the housework.

Fiction Power, Susan

Power, Susan. **The Grass Dancer**

Young Sioux tries to understand his place among people whose intertwined lives and shared heritage move backward in time in the narrative from the 1980s to the middle of the 19th century.

Fiction Pynchon, Thomas

Pynchon, Thomas. **Gravity's Rainbow**

British intelligence discovers that a map of London pinpointing the sexual conquests of Lieutenant Tyrone Slothrop corresponds exactly to a map showing German V-2 rocket bomb impact sites.

Fiction Rushdie, Salman

Rushdie, Salman. **Midnight's Children**

All children born at midnight on August 15, 1947, when Indian independence was declared, can communicate with one another telepathically.

Fiction Saramago, Jose

Saramago, Jose. **All the Names**

Lowly clerk in an unnamed city's Central Registry, obsessively collects the birth certificates of famous people.

Fiction Suskind, Patrick

Suskind, Patrick. **Perfume**

Story of an amoral foundling, born with a peculiarly intense sense of smell, who begins the serial killing of young girls in order to extract and bottle their odor.

Fiction Tennant, Emma

Tennant, Emma. **Adele: Jane Eyre's Hidden Story**

The story of Jane Eyre and Rochester as witnessed by Rochester's ward Adele.

Fiction Thomas, Rosanne

Thomas, Rosanne. **Awaiting Grace**

Sheila Jericault does not know she is awaiting Grace, but God does, and it is God who narrates the tale of this particular mortal.

Fiction Vargas Llosa, Mario

Vargas Llosa, Mario. **The Storyteller**

After seeing a photograph of an Amazon tribal storyteller, a Peruvian writer is convinced that the man is one of his old school friends.

Fiction Winterson, Jeanette

Winterson, Jeanette. **Sexing the Cherry**

In the reign of Charles II, Jordan and his mother, the Dog-Woman live on the banks of the stinking Thames but when Jordan decides to follow his dreams, he encounters a series of fantastical adventures.

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