

# Contents

---

<b>Introduction</b> .....	vii	<b>Bernard Cornwell</b> .....	55
<b>AAYA Advisory Board</b> .....	ix	Author of historical novels who is best known for his many works detailing the life and adventures of Richard Sharpe during the Napoleonic age, as well as the “Warlord Chronicles,” a trio of books about King Arthur.	
<b>Acknowledgments</b> .....	xi		
<b>Catherine Asaro</b> .....	1	<b>Kate DiCamillo</b> .....	63
Distinguished astrophysicist and Nebula Award-winning writer whose “Skolian Empire” series combines science fiction, adventure, and romance.		Former children’s bookshop clerk who received a 2001 Newbery Honor citation for her debut work <i>Because of Winn-Dixie</i> , and whose second novel, <i>The Tiger Rising</i> , was a finalist for the National Book Award in 2001.	
<b>Margaret Atwood</b> .....	9	<b>Marcel Duchamp</b> .....	69
Canadian author best known for novels such as <i>The Handmaid’s Tale</i> , <i>The Robber Bride</i> , and <i>The Blind Assassin</i> , for which she received the Booker Prize in 2000.		Creator of <i>Nude Descending a Staircase</i> —perhaps the most famous of all cubist paintings—and inventor of ready-made art who was regarded throughout his life as a resolute challenger of artistic convention.	
<b>Peter S. Beagle</b> .....	25	<b>Louise Erdrich</b> .....	79
Writer whose highly regarded fantasy fiction, including <i>A Fine and Private Place</i> and <i>The Last Unicorn</i> , has wrought comparisons to J. R. R. Tolkien, C. S. Lewis, Thomas Malory, and Lewis Carroll.		Through works such as <i>Love Medicine</i> and <i>The Beet Queen</i> , this author is credited with bringing Native Americans into mainstream fiction and inspiring an entire generation of new voices in Native American literature.	
<b>William Blake</b> .....	33	<b>Linda Greenlaw</b> .....	91
A leading English writer, poet, and illustrator of the Romantic period who was prone to mystical visions throughout his life and often incorporated these powerful images into his engravings and poems, such as “The Lamb” and “The Tyger.”		Believed to be the only female swordfish captain in the United States, this writer described her experiences on a typical, but difficult, fishing trip on the waters of the Grand Banks in <i>The Hungry Ocean: A Swordboat Captain’s Journey</i> .	
<b>T. Coraghessan Boyle</b> .....	45	<b>John Grisham</b> .....	95
Known for his blend of black humor and slightly off-kilter characters, this author has garnered a reputation for inserting verbal pyrotechnics and a bizarre mix of subjects in his novels and story collections, such as <i>World’s End</i> and <i>If the River Was Whiskey</i> .		One of the major success stories in publishing during the 1990s, this novelist has penned more than a dozen bestsellers, including <i>The Firm</i> , <i>The Pelican Brief</i> , <i>The Client</i> , and <i>The Rainmaker</i> , many of which have been turned into blockbuster movies.	

- Dan Gutman**..... 105  
Author of juvenile fiction whose most popular titles include the time-travel sports book *Honus and Me* and its sequels, and several baseball books, including *The Green Monster from Left Field*.
- Lillian Hellman**..... 111  
One of the most influential female playwrights of the twentieth century, this author explored controversial themes from lesbianism to fascism, and examined the stifling effects of greed and avarice in family relations, in such plays as *The Children's Hour*, *The Little Foxes*, and *Toys in the Attic*.
- Spike Jonze**..... 121  
Director of groundbreaking music videos, including Fatboy Slim's "Praise You," Weezer's "Buddy Holly," and the Beastie Boys' "Sabotage," who shot into the mainstream with his first feature film *Being John Malkovich*, which earned him an Oscar nomination for best director.
- Frida Kahlo**..... 129  
The wife of famed muralist Diego Rivera, this twentieth-century Mexican painter blended European influences with distinct Latin-American iconography in such works as "Frida and Diego" and the tortured self-portrait "The Wounded Deer."
- Joy Kogawa**..... 137  
Author of juvenile fiction, adult novels, and poetry, this writer is best known for her novel *Obasan*, a fictionalization of her own experiences as a Japanese Canadian during World War II, and for its sequel, *Itsuka*.
- Joyce McDonald** ..... 145  
Former publisher, bookstore owner, and educator turned author whose writing credits include the novels *Mail-Order Kid*, *Comfort Creek*, *Swallowing Stones*, and *Shadow People*.
- William Nicholson**..... 153  
Prolific English screenwriter, playwright, and television and film director twice nominated for Academy Awards: once for his script of *Shadowlands*, about the late-in-life love of British philosopher C. S. Lewis, and again for his screenplay for the 2000 blockbuster *Gladiator*.
- Jill Paton Walsh**..... 163  
Booker Prize-winning British author noted for her young adult novels, including *A Chance Child*, *The Dolphin Crossing* and *Fireweed*, that deal realistically with life, death, and maturation.
- Ezra Pound** ..... 175  
Considered one of the major literary figures of the twentieth century, this controversial poet authored the *Cantos*, a half-century attempt at codifying his chaotic world in verse that is considered one of the premier achievements of modernism.
- Pam Muñoz Ryan**..... 189  
Hispanic American author of picture books for children and two juvenile novels which feature strong female protagonists confronting life on their own terms: *Riding Freedom* and *Esperanza Rising*, winner of the Pura Belpré Award.
- David Sedaris**..... 197  
Humorist on *National Public Radio* whose wry and insightful observations about daily life, tales of growing up, and the angst of feeling different—captured in *Me Talk Pretty One Day*, *Barrel Fever: Stories and Essays*, and other works—have won over radio audiences and book readers alike.
- Mildred D. Taylor** ..... 203  
In her series of novels about the fictional Logan family, including *Roll of Thunder, Hear My Cry* and *The Land*, this Newbery Medal winner presents realistic accounts of the history of African Americans.
- Chris Ware** ..... 211  
Creative force behind *Jimmy Corrigan—The Smartest Kid on Earth*, the first graphic novel ever to win a major British literary prize when it earned the *Guardian* First Book Award in 2001.
- Author/Artist Index** ..... 219