

breakfast with buddha a novel

Breakfast with Buddha: A Novel That Inspires and Enlightens

breakfast with buddha a novel is much more than just a book title—it's an invitation to explore a journey of self-discovery, humor, and spirituality wrapped in a compelling narrative. Written by Roland Merullo, this novel has captured the hearts of readers seeking a blend of light-hearted storytelling and profound philosophical insights. If you've been curious about what makes this book resonate deeply with so many, let's dive into what breakfast with buddha a novel offers and why it continues to be a beloved read.

What Is Breakfast with Buddha About?

At its core, breakfast with buddha a novel tells the story of Otto Ringling, a self-described tough and cynical man who embarks on a cross-country road trip with Venerable Chandra, a young Buddhist monk. Otto's initial skepticism about spirituality and mindfulness is challenged and transformed as the duo travels together, encountering various adventures and philosophical lessons along the way.

The narrative cleverly balances humor and heartfelt moments, making complex Buddhist principles accessible to readers who may not have prior knowledge of the religion or philosophy. The road trip setting serves as a metaphor for the journey toward inner peace and self-awareness, themes that resonate universally regardless of one's background.

The Characters That Bring the Story to Life

The dynamic between Otto and Chandra is perhaps the most captivating element of breakfast with buddha a novel. Otto, a meat-loving, fast-food enthusiast, represents the modern, often cynical individual, while Chandra embodies tranquility and spiritual wisdom. Their interactions highlight the contrast between materialism and mindfulness without preaching, creating a natural dialogue that invites readers to reflect on their own lives.

Supporting characters they meet along the way add layers of humor, challenge, and warmth to the story, making the novel feel like a patchwork quilt of human experience and insight.

Why Breakfast with Buddha A Novel Strikes a Chord with Readers

The appeal of breakfast with buddha a novel lies in its ability to make spirituality approachable and relatable. It doesn't demand that readers adopt a particular belief

system but instead encourages an open-minded exploration of life's bigger questions.

Accessible Spirituality Through Storytelling

One of the standout features of this novel is its seamless integration of Buddhist teachings into everyday situations. Readers find themselves learning about mindfulness, compassion, and impermanence in a way that feels natural and engaging rather than didactic.

This storytelling technique allows the novel to serve as an informal guide to mindfulness. For those interested in meditation or personal growth, *breakfast with buddha* a novel provides gentle encouragement to embrace these practices without feeling overwhelmed.

Humor as a Vehicle for Insight

The humor woven throughout the novel is not just for entertainment—it acts as a bridge connecting readers to profound insights. Otto's sarcastic and often blunt observations create amusing contrasts with Chandra's calm demeanor. This interplay makes the book enjoyable while delivering meaningful messages about life, acceptance, and change.

Themes Explored in Breakfast with Buddha A Novel

Understanding the themes helps deepen appreciation for the novel's impact and why it resonates with such a wide audience.

Mindfulness and Presence

A central theme is the practice of mindfulness—being fully present in each moment. Through Chandra's teachings and Otto's evolving perspective, readers witness the transformative power of living attentively and appreciating life's simplicity.

Transformation and Personal Growth

The novel is essentially about change. Otto's journey from skepticism to openness mirrors the potential for anyone to grow beyond their limitations. It encourages readers to question their assumptions and embrace new ways of thinking.

Compassion and Connection

Throughout their travels, Otto and Chandra encounter people from all walks of life, emphasizing the importance of empathy and human connection. This theme reminds readers that spiritual growth is not isolated but deeply intertwined with how we relate to others.

How Breakfast with Buddha A Novel Can Inspire Your Own Journey

Beyond entertainment, this novel offers practical takeaways that readers can apply to their daily lives.

- **Embrace Curiosity:** Otto starts as a skeptic, but his willingness to engage opens him to new experiences. Readers are encouraged to remain curious and open to different perspectives.
- **Practice Mindfulness:** Small moments of awareness, such as appreciating a meal or a conversation, can lead to greater peace and satisfaction.
- **Find Humor in Life:** Laughing at life's absurdities can ease stress and foster resilience.
- **Value Human Connections:** Meaningful relationships are vital to personal fulfillment and spiritual growth.

Tips for Readers New to Spiritual Novels

If you're new to books like breakfast with buddha a novel, here are some tips to enhance your reading experience:

1. **Read with an Open Mind:** Allow the story and its messages to unfold naturally without judgment.
2. **Reflect on Passages:** Take moments to pause and think about sections that resonate with you.
3. **Apply Lessons Gradually:** Incorporate simple mindfulness practices inspired by the book into your daily routine.
4. **Discuss with Others:** Sharing thoughts about the novel can deepen understanding and connection.

The Impact of Breakfast with Buddha A Novel in Contemporary Literature

Since its publication, breakfast with buddha a novel has carved a niche in the genre of spiritual fiction. It stands out for blending humor, narrative, and philosophy in a way that feels fresh and accessible. The book has inspired book clubs, mindfulness workshops, and readers worldwide to explore spirituality with a lighter heart.

Its success also highlights a growing appetite for stories that address life's complexities without heavy-handedness. Roland Merullo's skillful storytelling invites readers to explore spirituality as an ongoing, joyful journey rather than a fixed destination.

Comparisons with Similar Works

Fans of breakfast with buddha a novel often find themselves drawn to other road-trip or spiritual journey novels like "The Alchemist" by Paulo Coelho or "Eat Pray Love" by Elizabeth Gilbert. However, Merullo's work distinguishes itself with its balance of humor and simplicity, making profound ideas feel accessible and relatable.

Where to Find Breakfast with Buddha A Novel

For those interested in reading breakfast with buddha a novel, it is widely available in bookstores and online platforms in various formats including paperback, hardcover, and e-book. Audiobook versions are also popular for those who enjoy listening during commutes or walks.

Libraries often carry the book as well, making it easy to borrow and experience the journey without any cost.

Whether you're a seasoned reader of spiritual literature or someone looking for an engaging story with meaningful takeaways, breakfast with buddha a novel offers a unique blend of humor, wisdom, and heartfelt storytelling. It's a book that invites you to sit down, share a meal metaphorically, and reflect on what truly nourishes the soul.

Frequently Asked Questions

What is the main theme of 'Breakfast with Buddha' by Roland Merullo?

The main theme of 'Breakfast with Buddha' revolves around self-discovery, spirituality, and the transformative power of friendship as the protagonist embarks on a road trip with a Buddhist monk.

Who are the central characters in 'Breakfast with Buddha'?

The central characters are Otto Ringling, a skeptical and self-centered man, and Volya Rinpoche, a cheerful and wise Buddhist monk who guides Otto on his journey.

How does 'Breakfast with Buddha' explore spirituality?

The novel explores spirituality through the interactions between Otto and Volya, presenting Buddhist teachings in a relatable way and encouraging readers to reflect on mindfulness, compassion, and the meaning of happiness.

Is 'Breakfast with Buddha' suitable for readers new to Buddhism?

Yes, the novel is accessible to readers new to Buddhism as it introduces Buddhist concepts gently through storytelling, making complex ideas easy to understand and appreciate.

What kind of journey do the characters undertake in 'Breakfast with Buddha'?

The characters undertake a physical road trip across America that mirrors Otto's inner journey toward personal growth, acceptance, and spiritual awakening guided by Volya Rinpoche.

Additional Resources

Breakfast with Buddha: A Novel That Blends Humor, Spirituality, and Self-Discovery

breakfast with buddha a novel stands out as a unique literary work that has captured the imaginations of readers worldwide. Authored by Roland Merullo, this novel intertwines the themes of spirituality, humor, and personal growth, making it a compelling read for those interested in contemporary fiction with a philosophical twist. As the story unfolds, it invites readers to explore complex ideas about life, mindfulness, and the essence of happiness through the lens of an unexpected journey.

In-Depth Analysis of Breakfast with Buddha: A Novel

Roland Merullo's *Breakfast with Buddha* is far from a conventional novel. It narrates the story of Otto Ringling, a successful but emotionally distant restaurateur, who embarks on a road trip with his half-brother Volya, a charismatic Buddhist monk. The book's premise is simple, yet profound: two contrasting personalities on a journey that challenges their beliefs and assumptions.

What makes *Breakfast with Buddha* a novel worthy of attention is its subtle approach to spirituality. Unlike many spiritual or self-help books that can be didactic or preachy, Merullo's work maintains a light-hearted tone. The narrative is laced with humor, making the philosophical insights more accessible and relatable. This balance between depth and levity appeals to a broad audience, from spiritual seekers to casual readers.

Thematic Exploration: Spirituality Meets Everyday Life

One of the novel's key strengths lies in its exploration of spirituality within the context of everyday life. Volya, as a Buddhist monk, embodies principles such as mindfulness, compassion, and acceptance. However, he does not impose these ideas on Otto; instead, his presence and actions naturally inspire reflection.

The novel gently critiques the modern obsession with material success and control through Otto's character, who is initially resistant to Volya's calm and unconventional worldview. Their interactions serve as a narrative device to examine how spirituality can coexist with, and even enhance, a busy, achievement-oriented life.

Character Development and Narrative Style

Merullo's writing style is straightforward and engaging, employing clear prose that avoids overly complex language. This accessibility is a deliberate choice, as it aligns with the novel's themes of simplicity and clarity in life and thought.

Character development is nuanced. Otto's transformation is gradual and believable, reflecting real-life struggles with change and acceptance. Volya, on the other hand, is portrayed as consistently serene yet approachable, a representation of spiritual ideals made human.

The duality between the brothers creates a dynamic that drives the story forward. Their contrasting perspectives allow readers to witness internal conflicts about faith, purpose, and happiness without feeling overwhelmed by heavy-handed messaging.

Comparative Context: Breakfast with Buddha and Similar Works

When situating *Breakfast with Buddha* within the genre of spiritual fiction, it shares some common ground with works like Hermann Hesse's *Siddhartha* or Paulo Coelho's *The Alchemist*. However, unlike these classics, Merullo's novel is rooted firmly in contemporary settings and concerns.

Many spiritual novels tend to adopt either a mystical ambiance or a philosophical discourse. In contrast, *Breakfast with Buddha* employs a road-trip motif, a literary device that symbolizes both physical and spiritual journeys. This aspect makes the novel particularly appealing to readers who enjoy travel narratives coupled with introspection.

Pros and Cons of *Breakfast with Buddha* as a Literary Work

- **Pros:**

- Accessible language and engaging storytelling
- Balanced integration of humor and spirituality
- Relatable characters with realistic development
- Unique blend of travel and philosophical narrative

- **Cons:**

- Some readers may find the spiritual content too light or simplified
- The pacing can feel slow during introspective passages
- Limited exploration of secondary characters

SEO-Friendly Keywords and Their Natural Integration

Analyzing the novel's reception online, it is evident that keywords such as "Breakfast with Buddha book review," "Roland Merullo novel," "spiritual fiction," "mindfulness in literature," and "road trip novels" frequently appear in discussions. Incorporating these terms helps in positioning the article for readers searching for information about this specific work or related genres.

For instance, exploring the "Breakfast with Buddha book review" theme allows potential readers to gauge whether the novel aligns with their interests in spiritual fiction. Similarly, highlighting "mindfulness in literature" connects the novel's themes with broader trends in contemporary writing focused on mental well-being and self-awareness.

Impact on Readers and Cultural Relevance

Breakfast with Buddha a novel has resonated with a diverse audience, particularly those navigating life transitions or seeking a fresh perspective on happiness. Its approachable treatment of Buddhist philosophy without overwhelming dogma has made it a popular recommendation among book clubs and mindfulness communities.

Moreover, the novel's emphasis on interpersonal relationships and self-reflection aligns with current cultural movements that prioritize mental health and emotional intelligence. This relevance enhances its appeal beyond traditional literary circles.

Final Thoughts on Breakfast with Buddha: A Novel Worth Exploring

By weaving humor and insight into a narrative about a simple journey, Breakfast with Buddha a novel opens a window into the possibility of transformation through openness and curiosity. Roland Merullo's work invites readers to question their assumptions about success, spirituality, and what it means to live a meaningful life.

While the novel may not satisfy those looking for an in-depth theological treatise or fast-paced action, it excels as a gentle reminder that profound lessons can emerge from everyday encounters and unexpected friendships. In an age where many seek quick fixes, this novel's slow, thoughtful pace offers a refreshing alternative, making it a noteworthy addition to the landscape of modern spiritual literature.

[Breakfast With Buddha A Novel](#)

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breakfast with buddha a novel: Breakfast with Buddha Roland Merullo, 2008-08-26

Enlightenment meets On the Road in this witty, insightful novel. —The Boston Sunday Globe When his sister tricks him into taking her guru on a trip to their childhood home, Otto Ringling, a confirmed skeptic, is not amused. Six days on the road with an enigmatic holy man who answers every question with a riddle is not what he'd planned. But in an effort to westernize his passenger—and amuse himself—he decides to show the monk some American fun along the way. From a chocolate factory in Hershey to a bowling alley in South Bend, from a Cubs game at Wrigley field to his family farm near Bismarck, Otto is given the remarkable opportunity to see his world—and more important, his life—through someone else's eyes. Gradually, skepticism yields to amazement as he realizes that his companion might just be the real thing. In Roland Merullo's masterful hands, Otto tells his story with all the wonder, bemusement, and wry humor of a man who unwittingly finds what he's missing in the most unexpected place.

breakfast with buddha a novel: Dinner with Buddha Roland Merullo, 2015-01-01 If life is a journey—with detours, paths from which to choose, and myriad roadblocks to overcome—then Otto Ringling is most certainly on the journey of a lifetime. His first fifty or so years were pretty good. He felt he had it all, until one day he didn't. Seeking understanding, he calls on Volya Rinpoche, a wise man and spiritual leader. A man who accepts the world as it comes to him, a man without pride or vanity. But Rinpoche, as it turns out, is experiencing his own time of doubt. In hopes of finding answers to life's mysteries, the two embark on a journey through America, an amusing and enlightening road trip that becomes a lesson in love and gratitude.

breakfast with buddha a novel: The Delight of Being Ordinary Roland Merullo, 2017-04-11 What happens when the Pope and the Dalai Lama decide they need a secret vacation? Roland Merullo's playful, eloquent, and life-affirming novel finds the world's two holiest men teaming up for an unsanctioned road trip through the Italian countryside—where they rediscover the everyday joys and challenges of ordinary life. During the Dalai Lama's highly publicized official visit to the Vatican, the Pope suggests an adventure so unexpected and appealing that neither man can resist: they will shed their robes for several days and live as ordinary men. Before dawn, the two beloved religious leaders make a daring escape from Vatican City, slip into a waiting car, and are soon traveling the Italian roads in disguise. Along for the ride is the Pope's neurotic cousin and personal assistant, Paolo, who—to his terror—has been put in charge of arranging the details of their disappearance. Rounding out the group is Paolo's estranged wife, Rosa, an eccentric entrepreneur with a lust for life, who orchestrates the sublime disguises of each man. Rosa is a woman who cannot resist the call to adventure—or the fun. Against a landscape of good humor, intrigue, and spiritual fulfillment, *The Delight of Being Ordinary* showcases the uniquely charming sensibilities of author Roland Merullo. Part whimsical expedition, part love story, part spiritual search, this uplifting novel brings warmth and laughter to the universal concerns of family life, religious inspiration, and personal identity—all of which combine to transcend cultural and political barriers in the name of a once-in-a-lifetime adventure.

breakfast with buddha a novel: Dinner with Buddha Roland Merullo, 2025-04-08 With six unconventionally religious novels to date, this brave, meditative author has carved a unique niche in American literature. — Kirkus Reviews (starred review) If life is a journey—with detours, paths from which to choose, and myriad roadblocks to overcome—then Otto Ringling is most certainly on the journey of a lifetime. His first fifty or so years were pretty good. He felt he had it all, until one day he didn't. Seeking understanding, he calls on Volya Rinpoche, a wise man and spiritual leader. A man who accepts the world as it comes to him, a man without pride or vanity. But Rinpoche, as it turns out, is experiencing his own time of doubt. In hopes of finding answers to life's mysteries, the two embark on a journey through America, an amusing and enlightening road trip that becomes a lesson in love and gratitude. Merullo offers keen insight into and intelligent assessments of modern American life, but it is his compassionate portrait of a grieving Otto in search of inner tranquility that is most affecting. — Booklist Otto is such a full human, which is why we can empathize with his

questions and immerse ourselves in his experiences. In the end, we are all humanized by the spiritual journey of Dinner with Buddha. —Spirituality and Practice Merullo masterfully depicts the struggles of practicing mindfulness moment by moment . . . [The] novel is full of nuanced, thoughtful prose and is an immensely satisfying conclusion to the series. — Publishers Weekly

breakfast with buddha a novel: Mudbound Hillary Jordan, 2008-03-04 The International Bestseller Now a major motion picture from Netflix, directed by Dee Rees, nominated in four categories for the Academy Awards. In Jordan's prize-winning debut, prejudice takes many forms, both subtle and brutal. It is 1946, and city-bred Laura McAllan is trying to raise her children on her husband's Mississippi Delta farm—a place she finds foreign and frightening. In the midst of the family's struggles, two young men return from the war to work the land. Jamie McAllan, Laura's brother-in-law, is everything her husband is not—charming, handsome, and haunted by his memories of combat. Ronsel Jackson, eldest son of the black sharecroppers who live on the McAllan farm, has come home with the shine of a war hero. But no matter his bravery in defense of his country, he is still considered less than a man in the Jim Crow South. It is the unlikely friendship of these brothers-in-arms that drives this powerful novel to its inexorable conclusion. The men and women of each family relate their versions of events and we are drawn into their lives as they become players in a tragedy on the grandest scale. As Barbara Kingsolver says of Hillary Jordan, Her characters walked straight out of 1940s Mississippi and into the part of my brain where sympathy and anger and love reside, leaving my heart racing. They are with me still.

breakfast with buddha a novel: The Grandest Deception Dr. Jack Pruet, 2011-04-07 Over the last 30 years, an outstanding author and researcher named Zecharia Sitchin has written a total of nine books which describe a race of ancient beings who came to Earth about 450,000 years ago. These books go into great detail about these beings and their activities on Earth. Sitchin's books are based on ancient tablets found in Mesopotamia, the lands of the Garden of Eden described in the Bible. The Grandest Deception is a book that is based on Sitchin's work and the Bible; it describes how the ancient tablets and the Bible are related to current events. The Grandest Deception describes how the Earth was created and how mankind was created. It also describes the conditions that mankind will face during the New World Order; as well as the fate of mankind if we continue down the path that we are presently on.

breakfast with buddha a novel: *2009 Novel & Short Story Writer's Market* Editors Of Writers Digest Books, 2008-07-01 For 28 years, Novel & Short Story Writer's Market has been the only resource of its kind exclusively for fiction writers. Covering all genres from romance to mystery to horror and more, this resource helps you prepare your submissions and sell your work. This must-have guide includes listings for over 1,300 book publishers, magazines, literary agents, writing contests and conferences, each containing current contact information, editorial needs, schedules and guidelines that save you time and take the guesswork out of the submission process. With more than 100 pages of listings for literary journals alone and another 100 pages of book publishers, plus special sections dedicated to the genres of romance, mystery/thriller, speculative fiction, and comics/graphic novels, the 2009 edition of this essential resource is your key to successfully selling your fiction.

breakfast with buddha a novel: *2009 Novel & Short Story Writer's Market - Articles* Editors Of Writers Digest Books, 2008-07-01 For 28 years, Novel & Short Story Writer's Market has been the only resource of its kind exclusively for fiction writers. Covering all genres from romance to mystery to horror and more, this resource helps you prepare your submissions and sell your work. This must-have guide includes listings for over 1,300 book publishers, magazines, literary agents, writing contests and conferences, each containing current contact information, editorial needs, schedules and guidelines that save you time and take the guesswork out of the submission process. With more than 100 pages of listings for literary journals alone and another 100 pages of book publishers, plus special sections dedicated to the genres of romance, mystery/thriller, speculative fiction, and comics/graphic novels, the 2009 edition of this essential resource is your key to successfully selling your fiction.

breakfast with buddha a novel: *2009 Novel & Short Story Writer's Market - Listings* Editors Of Writers Digest Books, 2008-07-01 For 28 years, *Novel & Short Story Writer's Market* has been the only resource of its kind exclusively for fiction writers. Covering all genres from romance to mystery to horror and more, this resource helps you prepare your submissions and sell your work. This must-have guide includes listings for over 1,300 book publishers, magazines, literary agents, writing contests and conferences, each containing current contact information, editorial needs, schedules and guidelines that save you time and take the guesswork out of the submission process. With more than 100 pages of listings for literary journals alone and another 100 pages of book publishers, plus special sections dedicated to the genres of romance, mystery/thriller, speculative fiction, and comics/graphic novels, the 2009 edition of this essential resource is your key to successfully selling your fiction.

breakfast with buddha a novel: A Little Love Story Roland Merullo, 2019-11-15 Selected as one of the 10 Wonderful Romance Novels by Good Housekeeping magazine, *A Little Love Story* is a sometimes poignant, sometimes hilarious tale of attraction and loyalty, jealousy and grief. It's a classic love story-with some modern twists. Janet Rossi is a very smart aide to the governor of Massachusetts, but she suffers from an illness that makes her, as she puts it, not exactly a good long-term investment. Jake Entwistle is a few years older, a carpenter and portrait painter, also smart-but with a shadow over his romantic history. After meeting when Janet accidentally backs into Jake's antique truck, they begin a love affair marked by courage, humor, a deep and erotic intimacy . . . and modern complications. Thoughtful, restrained (yet very sexy). . . . Roland Merullo captures what it feels like when you meet 'the one'-and what you're willing to do to hold onto that person, wrote The New York Times.

breakfast with buddha a novel: Driving Jesus to Little Rock Roland Merullo, 2021-09-19 Roland Merullo's *Driving Jesus to Little Rock*, fits neatly on the shelf with his other beloved, quirky-spiritual books: *Golfing with God*, *American Savior*, *Vatican Waltz*, *The Delight of Being Ordinary*, and the Buddha trilogy (*Breakfast*, *Lunch*, and *Dinner*)-a list that has sold over half a million copies and been widely translated. This time, the narrator, Eddie Valpolicella, is on his way from Massachusetts to Arkansas to give a talk on his novel, *Breakfast with Buddha*, when, not far from home, he picks up a mysterious hitchhiker. Plainly dressed, insisting that he's a fan of the author, the hitchhiker claims to be Jesus, the Jesus, and accompanies Eddie on a five-day road trip that challenges him in an amusing variety of ways. Every night on the way south, Eddie calls home to speak with his wife, and Anna Maria's fiery insistence on choosing trust over suspicion gradually pushes him out of his original cynicism. Jesus plays tricks appearing and disappearing, changing shape, vacillating from stern teacher to affectionate friend-and Eddie, confused, suspicious, and wrestling with his own preconceived notions of spirituality, only very slowly realizes that he's being given precious guidance in the art of living. As he did in his other road trip adventures, Merullo manages to walk a tightrope by raising deep philosophical questions without sounding preachy. The author provokes readers to think about life while also making them laugh and providing them with a boots-on-the-ground view of America. This journey includes wealthy Russian businessmen, poor Appalachian deer hunters, South American spirit guides, and tours of places as seemingly disparate as a therapeutic massage studio in Lower Manhattan, the Civil Rights Museum in Memphis, and Thomas Merton's Gethsemane monastery in rural Kentucky. Along the way there are meals and drinks, wrong turns and intriguing scenery, all brought into focus beside the book's utterly original yet strangely believable Jesus. *Driving Jesus to Little Rock* amuses, illuminates, and entertains, ultimately serving as the perfect comfort-food for battered, post-Covid readers.

breakfast with buddha a novel: The Girl who Fell from the Sky Heidi W. Durrow, 2011-01-01 After a family tragedy orphans her, Rachel, the daughter of a Danish mother and a black G.I., moves into her grandmother's mostly black community in the 1980s, where she must swallow her grief and confront her identity as a biracial woman in a world that wants to see her as either black or white. A first novel. Reprint.

breakfast with buddha a novel: The Algonquin Reader Algonquin Books of Chapel Hill,

2015-03-01 Get an inside look at Algonquin's outstanding forthcoming fiction with the Spring 2015 Algonquin Reader. Discover the inspiration behind each book through an original essay by the author. Then enjoy a preview of each novel. The Miracle Girl by Andrew Roe On Sale April 21, 2015 "To believe or not to believe--that is the question facing all who are touched by the comatose 'miracle girl' at the swirling center of Roe's dazzling debut. But more than an exploration of the mysteries of faith, it's also the unforgettable story of one family's struggle against tragedy. The result is an uplifting miracle of a book." —Will Allison, author of Long Drive Home The Daylight Marriage by Heidi Pitlor On Sale May 5, 2015 "Hypnotically readable--I absolutely couldn't put it down. The structure is brilliant, and I turned the pages with increasing dread. This book is terrific." —Stephen King Orhan's Inheritance by Aline Ohanesian On Sale April 7, 2015 "Aline Ohanesian draws from her family's own dark history to create a tender, powerful story of love and reclamation. A breathtaking and expansive work of historical fiction and proof that the past can sometimes rewrite the future." —Christina Baker Kline, author of Orphan Train The Wisdom of Perversity by Rafael Yglesias On Sale March 24, 2015 "The sly courage, the deft intelligence, and the fierceness of vision that we, his fans, have come to expect from a Raphael Yglesias novel all blaze brightly forth—and cast very dark shadows—in The Wisdom of Perversity." —Michael Chabon, Pulitzer Prize-winning novelist Dinner with Buddha by Roland Merullo On Sale June 2, 2015 Algonquin's long-awaited follow-up to the bestselling Breakfast with Buddha finds Otto Ringling and Mongolian monk Volya Rinpoche on another unexpected road trip of discovery. Cover art by Melinda Beck

breakfast with buddha a novel: Exley Brock Clarke, 2011-09-01 "The literary equivalent of a half-court shot . . . Extraordinary."—NPR For young Miller Le Ray, life has become a search. A search for his dad, who may or may not have joined the army and gone to Iraq. A search for a notorious (and, unfortunately, deceased) writer, Frederick Exley, author of the "fictional memoir" A Fan's Notes, who may hold the key to bringing Miller's father back. But most of all, his is a search for truth. As Miller says, "Sometimes you have to tell the truth about some of the stuff you've done so that people will believe you when you tell them the truth about other stuff you haven't done." In Exley as in his previous bestselling novel, An Arsonist's Guide to Writers' Homes in New England, Brock Clarke takes his reader into a world that is both familiar and disorienting, thought-provoking and thoroughly entertaining. Told by Miller and Dr. Pahnee, both unreliable narrators, it becomes an exploration of the difference between what we believe to be real and what is in fact real.

breakfast with buddha a novel: The Puzzle King Betsy Carter, 2024-09-24 This compelling novel of three sisters—and the immigrant who invented the jigsaw puzzle—captures the squalor and bustle of early 20th century New York (The Miami Herald). Lively, beautiful Flora was sent to America from Germany by her family to find a better life. Brooding, studious Simon came from Lithuania with the same goal. An improbable match, they meet in New York City and fall in love. Simon—inventor of the first mass-market jigsaw puzzle—eventually makes his fortune. But now that they have achieved wealth, Flora and Simon become obsessed with rescuing those they left behind in Europe. Inspired by the author's own family lore, and interweaving the stories of Flora's two sisters, one the mistress of a wealthy WASP and the other struggling back in the old country, this is a work of genealogical fiction from the late 19th century to the eve of World War II . . . It balances the Jewish immigrant experience in New York—both the achievement of the American dream and the curdling of it—against the insidious anti-Semitism of Germany and Eastern Europe (Los Angeles Times). Everybody loves an inspiring rags-to-riches story, and The Puzzle King delivers that in spades. — San Francisco Book Review

breakfast with buddha a novel: The Ghost of Milagro Creek Melanie Sumner, 2025-04-08 A story of love, death, and mystery that shimmers with the light and landscape of New Mexico (The Atlanta Journal-Constitution). Ignacia Vigil Romero, a full Jicarilla Apache and a curandera—a medicine woman, though some say a witch—begins this tale of star-crossed lovers . . . The two boys she raised in a barrio of Taos, New Mexico—a mixed community of Native Americans, Hispanics, and whites—Mister and Tomás, were best friends until their late teens. Then they both fell for Raquel, a.k.a. Rocky, a mysterious gringa from Santa Fe. Tomás takes the girl for himself, but in a moment of

despair, a pledge between the young men leads to murder. The story is taken over by police reports, witness statements, and caseworker interviews that, together, draw an electrifying portrait of a troubled community, and of the vulnerable players in this mounting tragedy. From a Whiting Award-winning author, set in a terrain that becomes a character in its own right, *The Ghost of Milagro Creek* brilliantly illuminates this hidden corner of American society, both a suspenseful drama and a love story that unfolds in compelling and unexpected ways (Joshilyn Jackson). A splendid novel, rich in character and landscape, daring in form and voice. —Robert Olen Butler

breakfast with buddha a novel: *Gossip of the Starlings* Nina de Gramont, 2025-05-01 When Catherine Morrow is admitted to the Esther Percy School for Girls, it's on the condition that she reform her ways. But that's before the beautiful and charismatic Skye Butterfield, daughter of the famous Senator Butterfield, chooses Catherine for her best friend. Skye is in love with danger and the thrill of breaking rules, taking risks, and crossing boundaries, no matter the stakes. The problem is, the stakes keep getting higher, and Catherine can neither resist Skye nor stop her from taking down everyone around her. De Gramont's chilling novel is a portrait of the seductions of adolescence in all their beauty and terror. Caught in this alluring world, the girls of Esther Percy are optimistic and willful, loving and selfish, daring and cruel—all the while believing they're utterly indestructible.

breakfast with buddha a novel: *A Friend of the Family* Lauren Grodstein, 2010-11-09 The New York Times bestseller that “unfolds with suspense worthy of Hitchcock . . . Grodstein is a terrific storyteller.” —The New York Times Book Review Pre-order author Lauren Grodstein's new simply can't-be-missed novel, *We Must Not Think of Ourselves*, coming November 28, 2023. A truly unforgettable story about the fight for life—and love—in the Warsaw Ghetto during World War II. Pete Dizinoff, a skilled and successful New Jersey internist, has a loving and devoted wife, a network of close friends, an impressive house, and, most of all, a son, Alec, now nineteen, on whom he has pinned all his hopes. But Pete hadn't expected his best friend's troubled daughter to set her sights on his boy. When Alec falls under her spell, Pete sets out to derail the romance, never foreseeing the devastating consequences. In a riveting story of suburban tragedy, Lauren Grodstein charts a father's fall from grace as he struggles to save his family, his reputation, and himself.

breakfast with buddha a novel: *Big Steal* Emyl Jenkins, 2009-07-14 Hired to assess the value of broken and missing antiques following a suspicious burglary at a Virginia manor house, intrepid appraiser and amateur sleuth Sterling Glass finds that her job is more complicated than she'd anticipated. The antiques, she realizes, are not always what they seem: some are worth tens of thousands, others are well-done replicas. Whether the well-traveled and well-heeled couple who once owned Wynderly could have been trafficking in fakes is what Sterling must unravel from the secret rooms, hidden treasures, uncovered diaries, and convoluted trail of paperwork and provenance. As our sharp-witted heroine sifts through details doled out by the museum's curators, board members, and the town's local residents, she discovers that objects, unlike people, do not lie. *The Big Steal* is a delightful mystery that enhances readers' antiques acumen and provides an easy guide to identifying the most popular styles and periods in an illustrated appendix.

breakfast with buddha a novel: *The Taste of Salt* Martha Southgate, 2011-09-13 Award-winning novelist Martha Southgate (who, in the words of Julia Glass, “can write fat and hot, then lush and tender, then just plain truthful and burning with heart”) now tells the story of a family pushed to its limits by addiction over the course of two generations. Josie Henderson loves the water and is fulfilled by her position as the only senior-level black scientist at the Woods Hole Oceanographic Institute. In building this impressive life for herself, she has tried to shed the one thing she cannot: her family back in landlocked Cleveland. Her adored brother, Tick, was her childhood ally as they watched their drinking father push away all the love that his wife and children were trying to give him. Now Tick himself has been coming apart and demands to be heard. Weaving four voices into a beautiful tapestry, Southgate charts the lives of the Hendersons from the parents' first charmed meeting to Josie's realization that the ways of the human heart are more complex than anything seen under a microscope.

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