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[\[INTERVIEW\] earth and ashes Offici è le trailer The Patience Stone - Atiq Rahimi - 2013](#) The Patience Stone EP 03: SCHOLASTIQUE MUKASONGA'S WRITINGS - (Re)membering

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Ashes.mov

Three short novels—including Prix Goncourt – winning The Patience Stone —that convey years of Afghan history, heartache, and hope. Never before in paperback. Atiq Rahimi ' s reputation for writing war stories of immense drama and intimacy began with his first novel, Earth and Ashes, about fathers and sons and the terrible strain inflicted on families, when an Afghan village is destroyed by the Russian army. A Thousand Rooms of Dream and Fear takes place in 1979, during a period of social and political upheaval in Kabul. On the way home from a night of drinking, a university student named Farhad is arrested and brutally beaten. A few hours later, broken and confused, he slowly regains consciousness, only to find himself in the care of a beautiful woman who has dragged him into her home to protect him. Winner of the Prix Goncourt, The Patience Stone is the tale of a woman caring for her brain-damaged husband, who was shot in the neck during a petty conflict. After years of living in a society of Islamic fundamentalism, she finds herself strangely liberated by her husband ' s condition. She tells him her innermost thoughts and secrets, many of them dark and deeply repressed, never knowing whether he ' s able to hear her or not.

"You know, father, sorrow can turn to water and spill from your eyes, or it can sharpen your tongue into a sword, or it can become a time bomb that, one day, will explode and destroy you" Earth and Ashes is the spare, powerful story of an Afghan man, Dastaguir, trying desperately to reach his son Murad, who has left his village to earn a living working at a mine. In the meantime the village has been bombed by the Russian army, and Dastaguir, with his newly-deaf grandson Yassin in tow, must reach Murad to tell him of the carnage. The old man is beset on all sides by sorrow, that of his grandson, who cannot understand, that of his son, who does not yet know, and his own, made even crueller by the message he must deliver. Atiq Rahimi, whose reputation for writing war stories of immense drama and intimacy began with this, his first novel, has managed to condense centuries of Afghan history into a short tale of three very different generations. But he has also created a universal story about fathers and sons, and the terrible strain inflicted on those bonds of family during the unpredictable carnage of war.

“ For far too long, Afghan women have been faceless and voiceless. Until now. With The Patience Stone, Atiq Rahimi gives face and voice to one unforgettable woman – and, one could argue, offers her as a proxy for the grievances of millions...it is a rich read, part allegory, part a tale of retribution, part an exploration of honor, love, sex, marriage, war. It is without doubt an important and courageous book. ” from the introduction by Khaled Hosseini, author of The Kite Runner and A Thousand Splendid Suns In Persian folklore, Syngue Sabour is the name of a magical black stone, a patience stone, which absorbs the plight of those who confide in it. It is believed that the day it explodes, after having received too much hardship and pain, will be the day of the Apocalypse. But here, the Syngue Sabour is not a stone but rather a man lying brain-dead with a bullet lodged in his neck. His wife is with him, sitting by his side. But she resents him for having sacrificed her to the war, for never being able to resist the call to arms, for wanting to be a hero, and in the end, after all was said and done, for being incapacitated in a small skirmish. Yet she cares, and she speaks to him. She even talks to him more and more, opening up her deepest desires, pains, and secrets. While in the streets rival factions clash and soldiers are looting and killing around her, she speaks of her life, never knowing if her husband really hears. And it is an extraordinary confession, without restraint, about sex and love and her anger against a man who never understood her, who mistreated her, who never showed her any respect or kindness. Her admission releases the weight of oppression of marital, social, and religious norms, and she leads her story up to the great secret that is unthinkable in a country such as Afghanistan. Winner of the Prix Goncourt, The

Patience Stone captures with great courage and spare, poetic, prose the reality of everyday life for an intelligent woman under the oppressive weight of the Taliban regime in Afghanistan. From the Hardcover edition.

Explores both the American and Arab sides of the September 11th terrorist attacks in an account of the people, ideas, events, and intelligence failures that led to the tragedies.

“ An amazing literary feat and a masterpiece of storytelling. Once again, Bharati Mukherjee prove she is one of our foremost writers, with the literary muscles to weave both the future and the past into a tale that is singularly intelligent and provocative. ” —Amy Tan This is the remarkable story of Hannah Easton, a unique woman born in the American colonies in 1670, “ a person undreamed of in Puritan society. ” Inquisitive, vital and awake to her own possibilities, Hannah travels to Mughal, India, with her husband, and English trader. There, she sets her own course, “ translating” herself into the Salem Bibi, the white lover of a Hindu raja. It is also the story of Beigh Masters, born in New England in the mid-twentieth century, an “ asset hunter ” who stumbles on the scattered record of her distant relative's life while tracking a legendary diamond. As Beigh pieces together details of Hannah's journeys, she finds herself drawn into the most intimate and spellbinding fabric of that remote life, confirming her belief that with “ sufficient passion and intelligence, we can deconstruct the barriers of time and geography.... ”

Isa repudiates her parents' strict adherence to Korean values to pursue her own sexual education and runs away with an albino boy, and suspecting her mother's involvement with another man, sets out to reveal the affair.

With the acclaim won by her first two novels, Hanan al-Shaykh established herself as the Arab world's foremost woman writer. Beirut Blues, published to similar acclaim, further confirms her place in Arabic literature, and brings her writing to a new, groundbreaking level. The daring fragmented structure of this epistolary novel mirrors the chaos surrounding the heroine, Asmahan, as she futilely writes letters to her loved ones, to her friends, to Beirut, and to the war itself--letters of lament that are never to be answered except with their own resounding echoes. In Beirut Blues, Hanan al-Shaykh evokes a Beirut that has been seen by few, and that will never be seen again.

An NYRB Classics Original Basti is a beautifully written reckoning with the tragic history of Pakistan. Basti means settlement, a common place, and Intizar Husain ' s extraordinary novel begins with a mythic, even mystic, vision of harmony between old and young, man and woman, Muslim and Hindu. Then Zakir, the hero, wakes to the modern world. Crowds gather. Slogans echo. Cities burn. Whether hunkered down with family or furtively meeting to exchange news with friends in caf é s, Zakir is alone in a country lost to the politics of loneliness.

From the author of Smilla's Sense of Snow, an epic novel about faith and the magic of everyday life. Told from the precocious perspective of fourteen-year-old Peter, The Elephant Keepers ' Children is about three siblings and how they deal with their eccentric parents. Peter ' s father is a vicar, his mother is an artisan, and both are equally and profoundly devout. The family lives on the (fictional) island of Finø , where people of all religious faiths coexist peacefully. Yet nothing is at it seems. When Peter ' s parents suddenly go missing, Peter and his siblings fear the worst—has their parents ' relentless quest to boost church attendance finally put them in danger? Told with poignancy and humor, The Elephant Keepers ' Children is a fascinating exploration of fundamentalism versus spiritual freedom, the vicissitudes of romantic and familial love, and the triumph of the human spirit.

Voted Best Indie Book by Kirkus Reviews and awarded a prestigious Blue Star. Ping, an American citizen, returns to Singapore after many years and sees a country transformed by prosperity. Gone are the boatmen and hawkers who once lived along the crowded riverside and in their place rise the gleaming towers of the financial district. Her childhood growing up among the river people had been very different, and leaving her first love Weng, a musician, for America, had been devastating. Now that she is back in Singapore, can she face her former lover and reveal the secret that has separated them for many years? Reviews: “ Lim ' s affecting, lushly textured historical novel... A fine, deeply felt saga of lives caught up in progress that ' s as heartbreaking as it is hopeful. ” Kirkus, 5 * Blue Star Review "The River ' s Song is a startling work of brilliance that leaves the reader spellbound." kitaab.org “ ...just as the best novels should be but so rarely are: like immersion in a vivid dream. I couldn ' t decide whether to read it slowly in order to savour every word, or to race along, mesmerised by Lim ' s dazzling story-telling. ” Jill Dawson, British author of The Great Lover, (Richard and Judy ' s Bookclub) “ ...a winning coming of age novel that bridges the years and countries. Here is the buoyancy of sentences and a testimony of resilience. ” Krys Lee, award-winning Korean author of The Drifting House “ ...powerful, deep and moving – draws you in and pulls you along irresistibly. Its heartfelt swell will carry you away to a place of passion and resonant conviction. ” Kevin MacNeil, Scottish author of the best-selling The Stornoway Way “ A touching story that retrieves Singapore ' s fast disappearing past and gives its famous river the depth and colour of a people ' s history, and a wonderful rendition of the pipa, on the page, as mother and daughter play their songs from the heart. ” Romesh Gunasekera author of Reef, shortlisted for the Booker Prize Singapore Literature Prize Winner and South East Asia Write Award winner Suchen Christine Lim is one of Singapore ' s most distinguished writers. In 1992, her third novel, Fistful of Colours, was awarded the Inaugural Singapore Literature Prize. A Bit Of Earth (2000), her fourth novel, and her popular short-story collection, The Lies That Build A Marriage (2007) were later shortlisted for the same prize. Awarded a Fulbright grant in 1997, she is a Fellow of the International Writers Program, University of Iowa, and the first Singapore writer honoured as the university ' s International Writer-in-Residence in 2000. A regular guest at Writers' Festivals in Singapore, Malaysia, Philippines, Australia, and UK she has also held writing residencies in Myanmar, the Philippines, South Korea and at the University of Western Australia in Perth. In 2011, she was the Visiting Fellow in Creative Writing at the Nanyang Technological University (NTU), Singapore. In 2012, she won the South East Asia Write Award. In the UK, she has regularly been writer-in- residence at the Arvon Foundation and has tutored at Moniack Mhor in Scotland.

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