

Matthew Lansburgh

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*Enormous in the Moonlight*

Sometimes patients who don't see their children for a long time think they've simply died. It's a way of coping.

Zehra Nabi

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*Cowkiller*

The banker was driving down Sir Syed Road when a cow ran across the street. The banker killed the cow. Cowkiller, cow-killer, cowkiller, the five surviving cows thought as they stood at the side of the road.

Toby Wallis

Toby Wallis

*The Sudden End of Everything*

I have no idea what a bivouac is, but I don't say so. I just make a little *ah* noise, trying to sound interested but noncommittal.

Mark Fishman

Mark Fishman  
*Songwad Road*

I didn't see what I thought I saw, a little reassurance, or maybe I did, joking with himself, Khamsing putting a roselle and tamarind candy, Kra Jiab Daeng, in his mouth, no more cigarettes, and he knew that what he'd seen had really happened.

Polly Rosenwaila

Polly Rosenwaila

*Ten Warning Signs of Postpartum Depression*

Today, while the baby watched with half-closed eyes in his bouncy seat, like you were some kind of dreary show, you read. Syria. Afghanistan. International terrorism.

U.S. gun violence. Alzheimer's. PTSD.

The world still out there, still going down in flames and hanging on.

Kirstin Valdez Quade

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*Interview by Jeremiah Chamberlin*

When I was a kid, we moved to Salt Lake City. My family was Catholic and also atheist. We were both.



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*"In two straight lines they broke their bread  
and brushed their teeth and went to bed."  
Madeline by Ludwig Bemelmans, 1939*

Angela So

Angela So

*The Water in Our Hearts Has Fallen*

He'll think about walking across the street and knocking on the door and speaking to their mother, offering his condolences, but he will shrink and his goodness will fail him.

Karen Malley

Karen Malley

*Fragile*

She's thinking about something, Doug remarked to himself, and I'm thinking about something, and what I'm thinking about has nothing to do with what she's thinking about. In their minds, he thought, people are always pretty far away from each other.

Nicholas Clemente

Nicholas Clemente

*Eugene*

It was hard for us to stay put. I don't know what it was. What it was with the world, what it was with us.

Tim Raymond

Tim Raymond  
*Come Running*

"Oh, that little blue blanket from the plane! I've never seen those in real life. Out and about. You know what I mean!"

Julia Phillips

Julia Phillips  
*Nadia*

Back there, in that village they'd left behind, like a child trapped in a stone playpen, was Chegga. His garbage palace of a rental house where they'd spent the last three years.

Erin Rose Belair

Erin Rose Belair

*Rare Items from the Universe*

Everyone was tired from the seventies and seemed to be settling down. We rented a one-bedroom bungalow, the floors a milk-white tile.

Doug Crandell

Doug Crandell

*Manhood in the Veal Barns  
of the Hoosier Tundra*

"Listen," said Perry, leaning by the sink, "you've got to get used to the way they raise livestock here."