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# The Stone Angel

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## LEVY BREWER

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The Stone Angel John d  
Calandra Italian-  
American  
The culmination and  
completion of Margaret  
Laurence's celebrated  
Manawaka cycle, The

Diviners is an epic  
novel. This is the  
powerful story of an  
independent woman  
who refuses to  
abandon her search for  
love. For Morag Gunn,  
growing up in a small  
Canadian prairie town  
is a toughening  
process - putting  
distance between

herself and a world that wanted no part of her. But in time, the aloneness that had once been forced upon her becomes a precious right – relinquished only in her overwhelming need for love. Again and again, Morag is forced to test her strength against the world – and finally achieves the life she had determined would be hers. The Diviners has been acclaimed by many critics as the outstanding achievement of Margaret Laurence’s writing career. In Morag Gunn, Laurence has created a figure whose experience emerges as that of all dispossessed people in search of their birthright, and one who survives as an inspirational symbol of courage and

endurance. The Diviners received the Governor General’s Award for Fiction for 1974.

### **The Stone Angel**

Rodopi

Tomorrow is her last chance to land a new job. But even as her anger still lingers, he appears before her again—as her interviewer! Tania is a nursing mother, behind on rent and on the verge of losing her apartment. One night, after she comes dangerously close to being run over by a car, she meets the handsome Enrico. But the two of them can’t seem to get along, thorny words flying between them, until at last her lips are sealed by a forceful kiss! The next day is her last chance to land a new job. But before her

anger has entirely dissipated, Enrico shows up again—as her prospective employer!  
*Crackpot* Penguin Group Australia  
The beautiful and haunting novel that launched David Almond as one of the best children's writers of today  
When a move to a new house coincides with his baby sister's illness, Michael's world seems suddenly lonely and uncertain. Then, one Sunday afternoon, he stumbles into the old, ramshackle garage of his new home, and finds something magical. A strange creature - part owl, part angel, a being who needs Michael's help if he is to survive. With his new friend Mina, Michael nourishes Skellig back to health,

while his baby sister languishes in the hospital. But Skellig is far more than he at first appears, and as he helps Michael breathe life into his tiny sister, Michael's world changes for ever . . .  
Skellig won the Carnegie Medal and the Whitbread Children's Book Award and is now a major Sky1 feature film, starring Tim Roth and John Simm. David Almond is also winner of the 2010 Hans Christian Andersen award. Powerful and moving - *The Guardian*  
This newly jacketed edition celebrates 15 years of this multi-award-winning novel.  
*Angel Thieves*  
University of Chicago Press  
Above the town, on the hill brow, the stone angel used to stand. I

wonder if she stands there yet... Hagar Shipley – an irascible, independent nonagenarian – has lived a quiet life full of rage. As she approaches her death, she retreats from the squabbling of her son and his wife to reflect on her past – her ill-advised marriage, her two sons, the harshness of farm life on the prairie, her own failures and the betrayals and failures of others.

The Stone Angel New Canadian Library

One of Canada's most accomplished authors combines the best qualities of both the short story and the novel to create a lyrical evocation of the beauty, pain, and wonder of growing up. In eight interconnected, finely

wrought stories, Margaret Laurence recreates the world of Vanessa MacLeod – a world of scrub-oak, willow, and chokecherry bushes; of family love and conflict; and of a girl's growing awareness of and passage into womanhood. The stories blend into one masterly and moving whole: poignant, compassionate, and profound in emotional impact. In this fourth book of the five-volume Manawaka series, Vanessa MacLeod takes her rightful place alongside the other unforgettable heroines of Manawaka: Hagar Shipley in *The Stone Angel*, Rachel Cameron in *A Jest of God*, Stacey MacAindra in *The Fire-Dwellers*, and Morag Gunn in *The Diviners*.

**The Diviners** New Canadian Library  
The Stone Angel, The Diviners, and A Bird in the House are three of the five books in Margaret Laurence's renowned "Manawaka series," named for the small Canadian prairie town in which they take place. Each of these books is narrated by a strong woman growing up in the town and struggling with physical and emotional isolation. In *The Stone Angel*, Hagar Shipley, age ninety, tells the story of her life, and in doing so tries to come to terms with how the very qualities which sustained her have deprived her of joy. Mingling past and present, she maintains pride in the face of senility, while recalling the life she led as a rebellious young bride,

and later as a grieving mother. Laurence gives us in Hagar a woman who is funny, infuriating, and heartbreakingly poignant. "This is a revelation, not impersonation. The effect of such skilled use of language is to lead the reader towards the self-recognition that Hagar misses."—Robertson Davies, *New York Times* "It is [Laurence's] admirable achievement to strike, with an equally sure touch, the peculiar note and the universal; she gives us a portrait of a remarkable character and at the same time the picture of old age itself, with the pain, the weariness, the terror, the impotent angers and physical mishaps, the realization that

others are waiting and wishing for an end."—Honor Tracy, *The New Republic*

"Miss Laurence is the best fiction writer in the Dominion and one of the best in the hemisphere."—Atlantic

"[Laurence] demonstrates in *The Stone Angel* that she has a true novelist's gift for catching a character in mid-passion and life at full flood. . . . As [Hagar Shipley] daydreams and chatters and lurches through the novel, she traces one of the most convincing—and the most touching—portraits of an unregenerate sinner declining into senility since Sara Monday went to her reward in Joyce Cary's *The Horse's Mouth*."—Time

"Laurence's triumph is

in her evocation of Hagar at ninety. . . . We sympathize with her in her resistance to being moved to a nursing home, in her preposterous flight, in her impatience in the hospital. Battered, depleted, suffering, she rages with her last breath against the dying of the light. *The Stone Angel* is a fine novel, admirably written and sustained by unfailing insight."—Granville Hicks, *Saturday Review*

"*The Stone Angel* is a good book because Mrs. Laurence avoids sentimentality and condescension; Hagar Shipley is still passionately involved in the puzzle of her own nature. . . . Laurence's imaginative tact is strikingly at work, for surely this is what it feels like to be

old."—Paul Pickrel, Harper's *The Alzheimer's Prevention Plan* Emblem Editions Vivid, evocative, moving, The Stone Angel celebrates the triumph of the spirit, and reveals Margaret Laurence at the height of her powers as a writer of extraordinary craft and profound insight into the workings of the human heart. Margaret Laurence's most celebrated novel introduced readers to one of the most memorable characters in Canadian fiction. Hagar Shipley is stubborn, querulous, self-reliant, and, at ninety, with her life nearly behind her, she makes a bold last step towards freedom and independence. As her story unfolds, we are

drawn into her past. We meet Hagar as a young girl growing up in a black prairie town; as the wife of a virile but unsuccessful farmer with whom her marriage was stormy; as a mother who dominates her younger son; and, finally, as an old woman isolated by an uncompromising pride and by the stern virtues she has inherited from her pioneer ancestors. *Cruelty and Laughter* Berlin : Cornelsen One summer changed Stella Boyd forever. It was 1975. And his name was Zeph. Fifteen years later, Stella's life is full of excitement and danger as she travels the world writing magazine articles about women. But then one day she receives an urgent message that changes

everything. Her father is missing at sea. Stella heads home to Halfmoon Bay, the Tasmanian fishing village where she grew up. She desperately doesn't want to face the painful memories that await her. But as she takes part in the search for her father, the life of her old home draws in around her. She finds herself taken back to that extraordinary summer when she met a young man who was sailing the world alone. A time of devastating tragedy, but also of first love . . . Like the sea itself, the past rises up, refusing to be ignored. There are dark secrets to be unearthed, lost dreams recovered. Only then can hearts be healed, and an unexpected reward be claimed. 'A truly absorbing book

filled with secrets and conflicts.' Woman's Day

### **The Stone Angel and Other Works**

Hachette Children's  
NYPD Detective  
Kathleen Mallory is back--to face her most terrifying obsession--the murder of her own mother...

*Stone of Gabriel* The Stone Angel

Manchester, 1605 and Simeon is torn from his mother to sing at the cathedral school. In the here and now of modern Manchester, Kate's father has mysteriously vanished. Suddenly Simeon and Kate's lives are bound together by the power of the cathedral's angel stone. One of them must make a terrible sacrifice. But who will it be?

### **Stone Angel**

Sandstone Press Ltd



Margaret Laurence *Writes Africa and Canada* is the first book to examine how Laurence addresses decolonization and nation building in 1950s Somalia and Ghana, and 1960s and 1970s English Canada. Focusing on Laurence's published works as well as her unpublished letters not yet discussed by critics, the book articulates how Laurence and her characters are poised between African colonies of occupation during decolonization and the settler-colony of English Canada during the implementation of Canadian multiculturalism. Laurence's Canadian characters are often divided subjects who are not quite members of their ancestral

"imperial" cultures, yet also not truly "native" to their nation.

*Margaret Laurence Writes Africa and Canada* shows how Laurence and her characters negotiate complex tensions between "self" and "nation," and argues that Laurence's African and Canadian writing demonstrates a divided Canadian subject who holds significant implications for both the individual and the country of Canada. Bringing together Laurence's writing about Africa and Canada, Davis offers a unique contribution to the study of Canadian literature. The book is an original interpretation of Laurence's work and reveals how she displaces the simple notion that Canada is a

sum total of different cultures and conceives Canada as a mosaic that is in flux and constituted through continually changing social relations.

Stone Angel New

Canadian Library

The film adaptation of Margaret Laurence's *The Stone Angel*, starring acclaimed actresses Ellen Burstyn and Ellen Page, and introducing Christine Horne, opens in theatres May 9, 2008. This special fortieth-anniversary edition of Margaret Laurence's most celebrated novel will introduce readers again to one of the most memorable characters in Canadian fiction. Hagar Shipley is stubborn, querulous, self-reliant, and, at ninety, with her life nearly behind her, she makes a bold last step

towards freedom and independence. As her story unfolds, we are drawn into her past. We meet Hagar as a young girl growing up in a black prairie town; as the wife of a virile but unsuccessful farmer with whom her marriage was stormy; as a mother who dominates her younger son; and, finally, as an old woman isolated by an uncompromising pride and by the stern virtues she has inherited from her pioneer ancestors. Vivid, evocative, moving, *The Stone Angel* celebrates the triumph of the spirit, and reveals Margaret Laurence at the height of her powers as a writer of extraordinary craft and profound insight into the workings of the human heart.

**Angel Stones Book**

**One** University of Alberta  
In fourteen sweeping and sublime stories, five of which have been published in *The New Yorker*, the bestselling and Pulitzer Prize-winning author of *The Known World* shows that his grasp of the human condition is firmer than ever. Returning to the city that inspired his first prizewinning book, *Lost in the City*, Jones has filled this new collection with people who call Washington, D.C., home. Yet it is not the city's power brokers that most concern him but rather its ordinary citizens. All Aunt Hagar's Children turns an unflinching eye to the men, women, and children caught between the old ways of the South

and the temptations that await them further north, people who in Jones's masterful hands, emerge as fully human and morally complex, whether they are country folk used to getting up with the chickens or people with centuries of education behind them. In the title story, in which Jones employs the first-person rhythms of a classic detective story, a Korean War veteran investigates the death of a family friend whose sorry destiny seems inextricable from his mother's own violent Southern childhood. In "In the Blink of God's Eye" and "Tapestry" newly married couples leave behind the familiarity of rural life to pursue lives of urban promise only to be challenged and disappointed. With

the legacy of slavery just a stone's throw away and the future uncertain, Jones's cornucopia of characters will haunt readers for years to come.

The Stone Angel by Margaret Laurence

Gold Eagle

Reaching for a curiously shaped stone in a southern California riverbed, Kurt, a motherless 13-year-old out on a father-son bonding camp trip, feels a pulsing tremor of energy. Confused, he shares this oddly colored rock with his two friends, both who touch it briefly and throw it away in cries of pain. Unsure what to do, the three boys agree to keep this strange phenomenon a secret. After bringing the stone back home, Kurt senses he's being

followed, possibly by a lone detective. To add to his unease, the city of San Diego is besieged by what seems like a disturbing and violent serial killer, one who leaves distinctive clues, as if he (or it) is itching to get caught. When he finally makes contact with Steve Bailey, an unflinching detective with a disturbing past, Kurt uncovers his own startling heritage of power, danger and, ultimately, justice. In this unnerving urban thriller, the creators have reunited with their demons, and humans with inherited, but unwieldy gifts, may be the only barrier between survival and celestial destruction. *Harlequin Comics Seal Books* Alzheimer's disease and age-related

memory loss are on the increase. The burden this condition places on sufferers, their families and health care systems is immense. In this reassuring and practical book, top nutritionist and mental health expert Patrick Holford argues that memory decline and Alzheimer's disease can be arrested, and the risks of developing such diseases reduced significantly, if you take action early. **THE ALZHEIMER'S PREVENTION PLAN** is based on research into nutritional medicine from experts around the world, and features the latest scientific findings on how nutrition can help prevent this devastating condition. It features a specially formulated Alzheimer's

prevention diet and a ten-step plan to enhance your memory, which includes a simple test to discover your risk, and reverse it in eight weeks; memory boosting vitamins and minerals; essential fats that help your brain think faster; and simple lifestyle changes and exercises to keep your mind young.

**Margaret Laurence and Jack McClelland, Letters** BookRix

The authors present a guide book to the major sculpture of the Piccirilli brothers in New York City.

*Stone Angel* Harper Collins

A rollicking review of popular culture in 18th century Britain, this text turns away from sentimental and polite literature to focus instead on the

jestbooks, farces, comic periodicals, variety shows and minor comic novels that portray a society in which no subject was taboo and political correctness unimagined.

A Jest of God Wilfrid

Laurier Univ. Press

In this celebrated novel, Margaret Laurence writes with grace, power, and deep compassion about Rachel Cameron, a woman struggling to come to terms with love, with death, with herself and her world. Trapped in a milieu of deceit and pettiness – her own and that of others – Rachel longs for love, and contact with another human being who shares her rebellious spirit.

Through her summer affair with Nick Kazlik, a schoolmate from

earlier years, she learns at last to reach out to another person and to make herself vulnerable. A Jest of God won the Governor General's Award for 1966 and was released as the successful film, Rachel, Rachel. The novel stands as a poignant and singularly enduring work by one of the world's most distinguished authors.

**The Stone Angel**

University of Chicago Press

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**A Guide to Piccirilli Sculpture in New York City** Ballantine Books  
 In the crumbling remains of a tunnel that was part of the Underground Railroad, a mysterious artifact reveals one of the darkest secrets of Africa's ancient past. Intrigued by the strange, encrypted stone, archaeologist



Annja Creed opens a door to a world—and a legend—bound by a fierce and terrible force. She is not alone in her pursuit of the impossible. A bloodthirsty African warlord, and an international corporate magnate exploiting a land, a culture and a

people, are equally anxious to stake their claim on the relic's unknown power. Annja's odyssey deep into the primeval jungles of Senegal becomes a desperate race to stop those eager to unleash the virulence of the Spider God....