

Chapter 1 : Great Canadian Lives – Faruq Hassan - She Magazine

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The Top 20 Canadian Authors, there are so many different things to love about Canada: Canadian authors are awesome because whether they were born in Canada or abroad, they write in a way that is unique and relatable, providing diverse perspectives on different people, places, and things. We recommend the authors listed below because we think they really showcase the amazing qualities of a true Canadian writer. So grab a cup of Red Rose tea and a Nanaimo bar, and get ready to read about 20 of the best Canadian authors. We hope this list introduces you to the finest in Canadian writing and gives you a greater appreciation for Canadian literature—and all other things Canadian!

Margaret Atwood Her stories have a Canadian approach—especially to wilderness—and she writes creative nonfiction and memoir, as well as historical, speculative, science, and dystopian fiction. Her writing has a feminist perspective, and her typical heroine is the modern urban woman. She looks to her own childhood when developing ideas about characters, settings, and storylines. Consequently, many of her novels are set in British Columbia, where she lived as a child. We recommend the *Guests of War* Trilogy, a story about the adventures of two English children who are sent to Canada for safety during the Blitz.

Yann Martel Yann Martel is a fiction writer with a paradoxical style of writing. Although his writing is playful, his approach to his craft is methodical and planned, not spontaneous. His writing process is slow; when he has an idea, he does research. We recommend *Life of Pi*, the fantasy-adventure novel about an Indian boy who explores his spirituality while stranded at sea in a lifeboat with wild animals.

Lucy Maud Montgomery She was most famous for her book *Anne of Green Gables*, a story about an orphan girl who is mistakenly sent to a brother and sister who are looking to adopt a boy to help on their farm. The story looks at how Anne deals with her new situation and her new life. As such, her writing style differed from the modernist styles and themes of the time. Her short stories, novels, and poems are still beloved today.

Rohinton Mistry Rohinton Mistry is an Indian-born Canadian author whose fiction has a precise writing style. He writes about the difficulties that Indian immigrants face when coming to Canada, and his characters are usually on a mission to find self-worth while dealing with difficult familial and social situations. His work is compassionate, transparent, natural, direct, and honest. Mistry writes historical fiction, postcolonial literature, realism, and Parsi literature. We recommend *A Fine Balance*, a novel about government power and the crackdowns on civil liberties in India between 1947 and 1977. The book will transport you to India and deepen your appreciation for family and friendship.

Alice Munro Alice Munro is a famous short story writer. Her narratives feel private and intimate, and her characters tend to be in search of a revelation. The stories she writes are often social critiques that take place around Huron County, Ontario, where she lives. Her central themes are love and work and the balance between the two; her characters are unsophisticated yet relatable. We recommend *Dear Life*, a rich collection of short stories about social mores and gender roles.

Miriam Toews As a novelist, Miriam Toews uses her own life as inspiration for her stories. Her writing style is direct and detailed; it exudes a sense of fearlessness. His writing is vivid and contemporary, often portraying the strengths of marginalized groups within Canada. He is candid about his opinions on the environment and First Nations issues, and he has a strong interest in Canadian-oriented activist concerns. We recommend *Three Day Road*, a story about the journey of two young Cree men who volunteer for the First World War and end up becoming snipers.

Emma Donoghue Emma Donoghue is a novelist as well as a writer of literary history and drama for stage, radio, and screen. Her writing shows humanity at its best and worst while also evoking empathy for outsiders. She excels at telling stories based on actual events, underscoring the anxiety and drama of real life. Her work exudes emotional intelligence, and she conducts extensive research before writing her novels. We recommend *Room*, a gripping tale told from the perspective of a five-year-old boy being held captive in a small room with his mother.

Thomas King Thomas King, one of the top contemporary Aboriginal writers in North America, is a novelist, short story writer, essayist, screenwriter, and photographer. As an activist for North American Aboriginals, his

stories portray the challenges faced by indigenous peoples in Canada. His writing combines traditional Western narratives with an informal tone as well as strong and humorous characters. We recommend *Green Grass, Running Water*, an exploration of the lives of a group of characters in a small Canadian town. Stephen Leacock was a famous fiction and non-fiction writer, essayist, social critic, teacher, and political scientist. He valued community and organic growth, and those themes come through in his writing. We recommend *Sunshine Sketches of a Little Town*, a sequence of stories that are considered to be one of the most enduring classics of humorous Canadian literature. He was highly opposed to the governing principles of Canadian culture, and his moral positions were unpopular. In his body of work, he did a great job of describing the Canadian perspective. Sinclair Ross is a fiction writer whose naturalistic prose often deals with intellectual isolation. His novels, which are about life on the prairies of Western Canada, provide remarkable descriptions of the great Canadian landscape. Edna Robison is a novelist and short story writer who writes dark, disturbing Gothic fiction. Intuitive in her writing, she explores the darkest impulses of humanity in a frightening yet darkly funny way, often writing about drug dealers and serial killers—her greatest influences are Stephen King and David Cronenberg. Her writing tends to link historical colonialism and contemporary pop culture. We recommend *Traplines*, a story about four adolescents and their dysfunctional families. She started writing stories at the age of seven, and her passion for writing only grew from there. As an adult, she lived in Africa and saw firsthand the problems facing emergent nations, which was later reflected in her writing. Her short stories, essays, and memoirs display warmth, strength, and humor, and her stories—both about Canada and Africa—are always written from a rural perspective. We recommend *The Stone Angel*, a series of novels parallel narratives about a year-old woman facing the reality of death while looking back on her life. Susan Juby is a writer most widely known for her humorous works of young adult YA fiction. Throughout her writing career, one of her goals has been to write the kinds of books she loves to read. She currently represents the emerging generation of scholarly, scientific, and artistic leadership in Canada. We recommend the *Alice* series: Carolyn Arnold is a popular Canadian crime writer with a big imagination, creating riveting stories of killers and crimes that need to be solved. Arnold has always had a love of writing, especially crime writing. We recommend *Ties That Bind*, a mystery about a murder that escalates into a hunt for a serial killer. As a student teacher at a nursery school, Munsch displayed a passion for telling stories. His style of storytelling is exuberant and exaggerated, which is probably why it appealed—and continues to appeal—to so many children. Even I remember his books from my childhood! We recommend the classic *Love You Forever*, a picture book about the evolving relationship between a boy and his mother. Malcolm Gladwell is a very well-known non-fiction author, journalist, and speaker. His books are fascinating because he searches for the counterintuitive in the mundane. Interested in collecting stories and research—and overlapping the two—Gladwell weaves sociology, psychology, and social psychology into his writing. His ideas are fascinating, resulting in the popularity of his work worldwide. His books are suspenseful, intriguing, and full of ideas, which is why people love reading them. *The Story of Success*, which examines the factors that contribute to high levels of success. Dionne Brand is a poet, novelist, essayist, and documentarian. Her writing is formal, honest, and passionate, and she experiments with language while exploring her ancestry as a woman of color in Canada. We recommend *What We All Long For*, a story about urban life, the bittersweetness of youth, and the secrets that families try to hide. Many authors strive to have their books reviewed by a professional because a published review even a negative one can be a great source of publicity.

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History[edit] Nomadic tribes historically survived on hunting and gathering. People hunted the American Bison or buffalo to make items used in everyday life, such as food, cups, decorations, crafting tools, knives, and clothing. The tribes followed the seasonal grazing and migration of the bison. The Plains Indians lived in teepees because they were easily disassembled and allowed the nomadic life of following game. While searching for a reputedly wealthy land called Quivira in , Coronado came across the Querechos in the Texas panhandle. The Querechos were the people later called Apache. According to the Spaniards, the Querechos lived "in tents made of the tanned skins of the cows bison. They dry the flesh in the sun, cutting it thin like a leaf, and when dry they grind it like meal to keep it and make a sort of sea soup of it to eat They season it with fat, which they always try to secure when they kill a cow. They empty a large gut and fill it with blood, and carry this around the neck to drink when they are thirsty. The horse[edit] Blackfoot warrior, painted between and by Karl Bodmer The Plains Indians found by Coronado had not yet obtained horses; it was the introduction of the horse that revolutionized Plains culture. When horses were obtained, the Plains tribes rapidly integrated them into their daily lives. People in the southwest began to acquire horses in the 16th century by trading or stealing them from Spanish colonists in New Mexico. As horse culture moved northward, the Comanche were among the first to commit to a fully mounted nomadic lifestyle. This occurred by the s, when they had acquired enough horses to put all their people on horseback. Riders were able to travel faster and farther in search of bison herds and to transport more goods, thus making it possible to enjoy a richer material environment than their pedestrian ancestors. For the Plains peoples, the horse became an item of prestige as well as utility. They were extravagantly fond of their horses and the lifestyle they permitted. Coronado brought horses with him on his " expedition. At the time, the Indians of these regions had never seen a horse, although they had probably[according to whom? His horse herd included mares as well as stallions. Stump Horn and his family Cheyenne with a horse and travois , c. The Spanish attempted to keep knowledge of riding away from Native people, but nonetheless, they learned and some fled their servitude to their Spanish employers"and took horses with them. Some horses were obtained through trade in spite of prohibitions against it. Other horses escaped captivity for a feral existence and were captured by Native people. In all cases the horse was adopted into their culture and herds multiplied. By , the Navajo from northwestern New Mexico were raiding the Spanish colonies to steal horses. By , the Apache were trading captives from other tribes to the Spanish for horses. The real beginning of the horse culture of the plains began with the expulsion of the Spanish from New Mexico in when the victorious Pueblo people captured thousands of horses and other livestock. They traded many horses north to the Plains Indians. In , a few horses were found by the Spanish among the Indians living at the mouth of the Colorado River of Texas and the Caddo of eastern Texas had a sizeable number. Another Frenchman, Bourgmont , could only buy seven at a high price from the Kaw in , indicating that horses were still scarce among tribes in Kansas. While the distribution of horses proceeded slowly northward on the Great Plains, it moved more rapidly through the Rocky Mountains and the Great Basin. The Shoshone in Wyoming had horses by about and the Blackfoot people , the most northerly of the large Plains tribes, acquired horses in the s. Soon afterwards pressure from Europeans on all sides and European diseases caused its decline. It was the Comanche, coming to the attention of the Spanish in New Mexico in , who first realized the potential of the horse. As pure nomads, hunters, and pastoralists, well supplied with horses, they swept most of the mixed-economy Apaches from the plains and by the s were dominant in the Great Plains south of the Arkansas River. The southern Plains Indians acquired vast numbers of horses. By the 19th century, Comanche and Kiowa families owned an average of 35 horses and mules each " and only six or seven were necessary for transport and war. The horses extracted a toll on the environment as well as required labor to care for the herd. Formerly egalitarian societies became more divided by wealth with a negative impact on the role of women. The richest men would have several wives and captives who

would help manage their possessions, especially horses. The scarcity of horses in the north encouraged raiding and warfare in competition for the relatively small number of horses that survived the severe winters. They had relatively small horse herds, thus having less impact on their ecosystem. At the same time, they occupied the heart of prime bison range which was also an excellent region for furs, which could be sold to French and American traders for goods such as guns. The Lakota became the most powerful of the Plains tribes. By the 19th century, the typical year of the Lakota and other northern nomads was a communal buffalo hunt as early in spring as their horses had recovered from the rigors of the winter. In June and July the scattered bands of the tribes gathered together into large encampments, which included ceremonies such as the Sun Dance. These gatherings afforded leaders to meet to make political decisions, plan movements, arbitrate disputes, and organize and launch raiding expeditions or war parties. In the fall, people would split up into smaller bands to facilitate hunting to procure meat for the long winter. Between the fall hunt and the onset of winter was a time when Lakota warriors could undertake raiding and warfare. With the coming of winter snows, the Lakota settled into winter camps, where activities of the season ceremonies and dances as well as trying to ensure adequate winter feed for their horses. Without bison, the people were forced to move onto reservations or starve. A pile of bison skulls in the s. The railroad industry also wanted bison herds culled or eliminated. Herds of bison on tracks could damage locomotives when the trains failed to stop in time. Herds often took shelter in the artificial cuts formed by the grade of the track winding through hills and mountains in harsh winter conditions. As a result, bison herds could delay a train for days. Buffalo Bill Cody , among others, spoke in favor of protecting the bison because he saw that the pressure on the species was too great. But these were discouraged since it was recognized that the Plains Indians, often at war with the United States, depended on bison for their way of life. In , President Ulysses S. Grant " pocket vetoed " a Federal bill to protect the dwindling bison herds, and in General Philip Sheridan pleaded to a joint session of Congress to slaughter the herds, to deprive the Plains Indians of their source of food. American Indian Wars The Ghost Dance ritual, which the Lakota believed would reunite the living with spirits of the dead, cause the white invaders to vanish, and bring peace, prosperity, and unity to Indian peoples throughout the region Armed conflicts intensified in the late 19th Century between Native American nations on the plains and the U. Expressing the frontier anti-Indian sentiment, Theodore Roosevelt believed the Indians were destined to vanish under the pressure of white civilization, stating in an lecture: The dance was part of a religious movement founded by the Northern Paiute spiritual leader Wovoka that told of the return of the Messiah to relieve the suffering of Native Americans and promised that if they would live righteous lives and perform the Ghost Dance properly, the European American colonists would vanish, the bison would return, and the living and the dead would be reunited in an Edenic world.

Great Canadian Lives has 3 ratings and 1 review. Una said: I'm a fan of Canadiana and well written obituaries so this book was a definite must read for m.

Some of these peninsulas even contain smaller peninsulas, like the Keweenaw Peninsula , the Thumb Peninsula , the Bruce Peninsula , and the Niagara Peninsula. Most Great Lakes trade is of bulk material, and bulk freighters of Seawaymax -size or less can move throughout the entire lakes and out to the Atlantic. Despite their vast size, large sections of the Great Lakes freeze over in winter, interrupting most shipping from January to March. Some icebreakers ply the lakes, keeping the shipping lanes open through other periods of ice on the lakes. An alternate track is via the Illinois River from Chicago , to the Mississippi, up the Ohio, and then through the Tennesseeâ€™Tombigbee Waterway a combination of a series of rivers and lakes and canals , to Mobile Bay and the Gulf. Commercial tug-and-barge traffic on these waterways is heavy. Historically, evaporation has been balanced by drainage, making the level of the lakes constant. Lake Michiganâ€™Huron hit all-time record low levels in ; according to the US Army Corps of Engineers , the previous record low had been set in The indigenous Ojibwe call it gichi-gami from Ojibwe gichi "big, large, great"; gami "water, lake, sea". This is enough water to cover the 48 contiguous U. A valley was formed providing a basin that eventually became modern day Lake Superior. The Great Lakes are estimated to have been formed at the end of the last glacial period the Wisconsin glaciation ended 10, to 12, years ago , when the Laurentide Ice Sheet receded. Land below the glaciers "rebounded" as it was uncovered. A notable modern phenomenon is the formation of ice volcanoes over the lakes during wintertime. The process is only well-documented in the Great Lakes, and has been credited with sparing the southern shorelines from worse rocky erosion. Lake-effect snow The location of common lake effect bands on the Great Lakes The most well-known winter effect of the Great Lakes on regional weather is the lake effect in snowfall, which is sometimes very localized. Even late in winter, the lakes often have no icepack in the middle. The prevailing winds from the west pick up the air and moisture from the lake surface, which is slightly warmer in relation to the cold surface winds above. As the slightly warmer, moist air passes over the colder land surface, the moisture often produces concentrated, heavy snowfall that sets up in bands or "streamers". This is similar to the effect of warmer air dropping snow as it passes over mountain ranges. During freezing weather with high winds, the "snow belts" receive regular snow fall from this localized weather pattern, especially along the eastern shores of the lakes. The lakes also moderate seasonal temperatures to some degree, but not with as large an influence as do large oceans; they absorb heat and cool the air in summer, then slowly radiate that heat in autumn. They protect against frost during transitional weather, and keep the summertime temperatures cooler than further inland. This effect can be very localized and overridden by offshore wind patterns. This temperature buffering produces areas known as " fruit belts ", where fruit can be produced that is typically grown much farther south. For instance, Western Michigan has apple and cherry orchards, and vineyards cultivated adjacent to the lake shore as far north as the Grand Traverse Bay and Nottawasaga Bay in central Ontario. The eastern shore of Lake Michigan and the southern shore of Lake Erie have many successful wineries because of the moderating effect, as does the Niagara Peninsula between Lake Erie and Lake Ontario. Related to the lake effect is the regular occurrence of fog over medium-sized areas, particularly along the shorelines of the lakes. The Great Lakes have been observed to help intensify storms, such as Hurricane Hazel in , and the Goderich, Ontario tornado , which moved onshore as a tornadic waterspout. In a rare tropical or subtropical storm was observed forming in Lake Huron, dubbed the Lake Huron cyclone. Rather large severe thunderstorms covering wide areas are well known in the Great Lakes during mid-summer; these Mesoscale convective complexes or MCCs [60] can cause damage to wide swaths of forest and shatter glass in city buildings. These storms mainly occur during the night, and the systems sometimes have small embedded tornadoes, but more often straight-line winds accompanied by intense lightning. Ecology[edit] Generalized schematic of Great Lakes waterline ecosystem Historically, the Great Lakes, in addition to their lake ecology , were surrounded by various forest ecoregions except in a relatively small area of southeast Lake Michigan where savanna or prairie occasionally intruded.

Logging, urbanization, and agriculture uses have changed that relationship. Some of these forests are second or third growth i. At least 13 wildlife species are documented as becoming extinct since the arrival of Europeans, and many more are threatened or endangered. Fish of the Great Lakes , and Asian carp in North America Lake sturgeon , the largest native fish in the Great Lakes and the subject of extensive commercial fishing in the 19th and 20th centuries is listed as a threatened species [61] The organisms living on the bottom of shallow waters are similar to those found in smaller lakes. The deep waters, however, contain organisms found only in deep, cold lakes of the northern latitudes. These include the delicate opossum shrimp order mysida , the deepwater scud a crustacean of the order amphipoda , two types of copepods , and the deepwater sculpin a spiny, large-headed fish. Early European settlers were astounded by both the variety and quantity of fish; there were different species in the Great Lakes. According to the bi-national U. An Environmental Atlas and Resource Book: Other protective legislation was passed, as well, but enforcement remained difficult. Concerns by the midth century included obstructions in the rivers which prevented salmon and lake sturgeon from reaching their spawning grounds. The states have removed dams from rivers where necessary. Moreover, between and , reported whitefish harvests declined from some By the mids, the lake trout populations of Lakes Michigan and Huron were reduced, with the lamprey deemed largely to blame. This led to the launch of the bi-national Great Lakes Fishery Commission. An Environmental Atlas and Resource Book noted: Introductions into the Great Lakes include the zebra mussel , which was first discovered in , and quagga mussel in The mollusks are efficient filter feeders, competing with native mussels and reducing available food and spawning grounds for fish. In addition, the mussels may be a nuisance to industries by clogging pipes. By the s, the small silver fish had become a familiar nuisance to beach goers across Lakes Michigan, Huron, and Erie. In the late s, the various state and federal governments began stocking several species of salmonids, including the native lake trout as well as non-native chinook and coho salmon ; by the s, alewife populations had dropped drastically. Its range, which has expanded to Lake Huron, poses a significant threat to the lower lake fishery. Clair River, the round goby can now be found in all of the Great Lakes. The goby is considered undesirable for several reasons: Several species of crayfish have also been introduced that may contend with native crayfish populations. More recently an electric fence has been set up across the Chicago Sanitary and Ship Canal in order to keep several species of invasive Asian carp out of the area. These fast-growing planktivorous fish have heavily colonized the Mississippi and Illinois river systems.

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Chapter 6 : Karen Ford (Author of Great Canadian Lives)

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