

Adrift A True Story Of Love Loss And Survival At Sea

The Bailey's is a fantastic human story of adaptation to totally alien conditions. It is a story of amazing courage, resolution and endurance. Essential reading for all who enjoy a gripping true story, 117 Days Adrift is an inspiring tale that has become one of the classics of the sea.

The official NaNoWriMo handbook that inspires young people to tackle audacious goals and complete their creative projects. Includes pep talks from today's biggest authors! John Green, Marissa Meyer, Jennifer Niven, Daniel José Older, Danielle Paige, Celia C. Pérez, and Scott Westerfeld with an introduction by Jason Reynolds! Partly a how-to guide on the nitty-gritty of writing, partly a collection of inspiration to set (and meet) ambitious goals, Brave the Page is the go-to resource for middle-grade writers. Narrated in a fun, refreshingly kid-friendly voice, it champions NaNoWriMo's central mission that everyone's stories deserve to be told. The volume includes chapters on character, plot, setting, and the like; motivating essays from popular authors; advice on how to commit to your goals; a detailed plan for writing a novel or story in a month; and more! National Novel Writing Month (NaNoWriMo) is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit that believes in the transformational power of creativity. They provide the structure, community, and encouragement to help people find their voices, achieve creative goals, and build new worlds--on and off the page. With its first event in 1999, the organization's programs now include National Novel Writing Month in November, Camp NaNoWriMo, the Young Writers Program, Come Write In, and the "Now What?" Months.

The author recalls his harrowing two-month ordeal in a rubber life raft with his wife after their sloop was rammed by whales and sunk, plunging them into a nightmare of survival on the high seas, weathering storms, exposure to the elements, and sharks before they were finally rescued. Original. 30,000 first printing.

From critically acclaimed writer Paul Griffin comes a fast-paced young adult novel about five very different teens lost at sea with no one to count on but each other. Matt and John are best friends working out in Montauk for the summer. When Driana, JoJo and Stef invite the boys to their Hamptons mansion, Matt and John find themselves in a sticky situation where temptation rivals sensibility. The newfound friends head out into the Atlantic after midnight in a stolen boat. None of them come back whole, and not all of them come back.

In the Heart of the Sea: The Epic True Story that Inspired 'Moby Dick' (Text Only)

Adrift in the Atlantic

66 Days Adrift

How to Take Risks, Aim Higher, and Never Stop Learning

The Man Who Walked Through Time

Life of Pi

First published in 1966, Naguib Mahfouz's Adrift on the Nile is an atmospheric novel that dramatizes the rootlessness of Egypt's cosmopolitan middle class. Anis Zani is a bored and drug-addicted civil servant who is barely holding on to his job. Every evening he hosts a gathering on a houseboat on the Nile, where he and a motley group of cynical and aimless friends share a water pipe full of kif, a mixture of tobacco and marijuana. When a young female journalist—an "alarmingly serious person"—joins them and begins secretly documenting their activities, the group's harmony starts disintegrating, culminating in a midnight joyride that ends in tragedy.

Two very different worlds for two very different lives. When tragedy strikes, her love story is anything but over.

"The Narrative of Arthur Gordon Pym of Nantucket" is the only complete novel written by American writer Edgar Allan Poe. The story was inspired by a newspaper account of the shipwreck and subsequent rescue of the two men on board. Poe developed the story into a tale of the young Arthur Gordon Pym, who stows away aboard a whaling ship called the Grampus. Yet, it's not the mere adventures that make this book a literary masterpiece. Poe imbued his tale with allegorical richness, biblical imagery, and psychological insights. This novel has influenced numerous writers, including Melville, James, Verne, and Nabokov.

Fandom and first love collide in in this joyful, feminist contemporary romance from acclaimed author Cori McCarthy—perfect for fans of Rainbow Rowell and Ashley Poston Iris Thorne wants to blaze her own path. That's easier said than done when you're the granddaughter of M. E. Thorne, famous author of the Elementia series, hailed as the feminist response to J. R. R. Tolkien's Lord of the Rings. And with a major motion picture adaptation of her grandmother's books in the works, Iris can say goodbye to her dream of making her own way in the music industry. When Iris and her brother get invited to the film set in Ireland, she's pretty sure the trip will be a nightmare. Except Iris can't deny the rugged beauty of the Irish countryside. And brushing shoulders with the hot, young cast isn't awful, especially the infuriatingly charming lead actor, Eamon O'Brien. Iris even finds the impassioned female director inspiring. But when the filming falls into jeopardy, everything Iris thought she knew about Elementia—and herself—is in question. Will making a film for the big screen help Iris to see the big picture?

The Return of the King

ADRIFT

A Heart Adrift

Failing Up

More of Us to the West

A True Story of Love, Loss, and Survival at Sea

The epic true-life story of one of the most notorious maritime disasters of the nineteenth century - and inspiration for 'Moby-Dick' - reissued to accompany a major motion picture due for release in December 2015, directed by Ron Howard and starring

Chris Hemsworth, Benjamin Walker and Cillian Murphy.

Could you survive being adrift in the middle of the ocean? Steven Callahan: *Adrift in the Atlantic* in the *True Survival* series explores Callahan's shocking survival story. The book is written with a high interest level and lower level of complexity to serve more mature students reading at lower levels. Clear visuals, colorful photographs (including images of the survivors!), and considerate text help with comprehension and wild facts hold the readers' interest from the first page to the last. A table of contents, glossary, and index all enhance comprehension and vocabulary.

Leslie Odom Jr., burst on the scene in 2015, originating the role of Aaron Burr in the Broadway musical phenomenon *Hamilton*. Since then, he has performed for sold-out audiences, sung for the Obamas at the White House, and won a Tony Award for Best Leading Actor in a Musical. But before he landed the role of a lifetime in one of the biggest musicals of all time, Odom put in years of hard work as a singer and an actor. With personal stories from his life, Odom asks the questions that will help you unlock your true potential and achieve your goals even when they seem impossible. What work did you put in today that will help you improve tomorrow? How do you surround yourself with people who will care about your dreams as much as you do? How do you know when to play it safe and when to risk it all for something bigger and better? These stories will inspire you, motivate you, and empower you for the greatness that lies ahead, whether you're graduating from college, starting a new job, or just looking to live each day to the fullest.

On December 4th, 1872, a 100-foot brigantine was discovered drifting through the North Atlantic without a soul on board. Not a sign of struggle, not a shred of damage, no ransacked cargo—and not a trace of the captain, his wife and daughter, or the crew. What happened on board the ghost ship *Mary Celeste* has baffled and tantalized the world for 130 years. In his stunning new book, award-winning journalist Brian Hicks plumbs the depths of this fabled nautical mystery and finally uncovers the truth. The *Mary Celeste* was cursed as soon as she was launched on the Bay of Fundy in the spring of 1861. Her first captain died before completing the maiden voyage. In London she accidentally rammed and sank an English brig. Later she was abandoned after a storm drove her ashore at Cape Breton. But somehow the ship was recovered and refitted, and in the autumn of 1872 she fell to the reluctant command of a seasoned mariner named Benjamin Spooner Briggs. It was Briggs who was at the helm when the *Mary Celeste* sailed into history. In Brian Hicks's skilled hands, the story of the *Mary Celeste* becomes the quintessential tale of men lost at sea. Hicks vividly recreates the events leading up to the crew's disappearance and then unfolds the complicated and bizarre aftermath—the dark suspicions that fell on the officers of the ship that intercepted her; the farcical Admiralty Court salvage hearing in Gibraltar; the wild myths that circulated after Sir Arthur Conan Doyle published a thinly disguised short story sensationalizing the mystery. Everything from a voodoo curse to an alien abduction has been hauled out to explain the fate of the *Mary Celeste*. But, as Brian Hicks reveals, the truth is actually grounded in the combined tragedies of human error and bad luck. The story of the *Mary Celeste* acquired yet another twist in 2001, when a team of divers funded by novelist Clive Cussler located the wreck in a coral reef off Haiti. Written with the suspense of a thriller and the vivid accuracy of the best popular history, *Ghost Ship* tells the unforgettable true story of the most famous and most fascinating maritime mystery of all time.

Adrift at Sea

Adrift [Movie tie-in]

The Narrative of Arthur Gordon Pym of Nantucket

Adrift

The True Story of Four Men Lost at Sea for 119 Days

Red Sky in Mourning

The remarkable classic of nature writing by the first man ever to have walked the entire length of the Grand Canyon.

The fifth book in the thrilling Donovan sci-fi series returns to a treacherous alien planet where corporate threats and dangerous creatures imperil the lives of the colonists. The Maritime Unit had landed in paradise. After a terrifying ten-year transit from Solar System aboard the *Ashanti*, the small band of oceanographers and marine scientists were finally settled. Perched on a reef five hundred kilometers out from shore, they were about to embark on the first exploration of Donovan's seas. For the twenty-two adults and nine children, everything is new, exciting, and filled with wonder as they discover dazzling sea creatures, stunning plant life, and fascinating organisms. But Donovan is never what it seems; the changes in the children were innocuous—oddities of behavior normal to kids who'd found themselves in a new world. Even then it was too late. An alien intelligence, with its own agenda, now possesses the children, and it

will use them in a most insidious way: as the perfect weapons. How can you fight back when the enemy is smarter than you are, and wears the face of your own child? Welcome to Donovan. It is 1755, and the threat of war with France looms over colonial York, Virginia. Chocolatier Esmée Shaw is fighting her own battle of the heart. Having reached her twenty-eighth birthday, she is reconciled to life alone after a decade-old failed love affair from which she's never quite recovered. But she longs to find something worthwhile to do with her life. Captain Henri Lennox has returned to port after a lengthy absence, intent on completing the lighthouse in the dangerous Chesapeake Bay, a dream he once shared with Esmée. But when the colonial government asks him to lead a secret naval expedition against the French, his future is plunged into uncertainty. Will a war and a cache of regrets keep them apart, or can their shared vision and dedication to the colonial cause heal the wounds of the past? Bestselling and award-winning author Laura Frantz whisks you away to a time fraught with peril--on the sea and in the heart--in this redemptive, romantic story.

"Adrift on an Ice-Pan" by Sir Wilfred Thomason Grenfell. Published by Good Press. Good Press publishes a wide range of titles that encompasses every genre. From well-known classics & literary fiction and non-fiction to forgotten-or yet undiscovered gems-of world literature, we issue the books that need to be read. Each Good Press edition has been meticulously edited and formatted to boost readability for all e-readers and devices. Our goal is to produce eBooks that are user-friendly and accessible to everyone in a high-quality digital format.

Fieldnotes from Almost-Motherhood

Adrift on an Ice-Pan

The Mysterious True Story of the Mary Celeste and Her Missing Crew

Jim Nalepka's Epic 119 Day Survival Voyage Aboard the Rose-Noelle

An Extraordinary True Story of Survival at Sea

Adrift on the Nile

Few parts of the shores of old England present more beautiful and romantic scenery than is to be found on the coast of Cornwall. There are deep bays, and bold headlands, and wild rocks, and lofty cliffs, and wooded heights, and bare downs, and yellow sands full of the most minute and delicate shells, so delicate that it is surprising how they could have existed in the rough and boisterous ocean, and been cast up whole from the depths below. In one of those beautiful bays, many years ago, a large party was collected, on a bright afternoon in the early part of autumn. Among the party were persons of all ages, but most of them were young, and all were apparently very busy. Some were engaged in tending a fire over which a pot was boiling, and others were collecting drift-wood thrown up close under the cliff, with which to feed it.

The heart-stopping memoir, soon to be a major motion picture starring Shailene Woodley and Sam Claflin, and directed by Baltasar Kormákur (Everest). "An inspirational and empowering read."—Shailene Woodley Young and in love, their lives ahead of them, Tami Oldham and her fiancé Richard Sharp set sail from Tahiti under brilliant blue skies, with Tami's hometown of San Diego as their ultimate destination. But the two free spirits and avid sailors couldn't anticipate that less than two weeks into their voyage, they would sail directly into one of the most catastrophic hurricanes in recorded history. They found themselves battling pounding rain, waves the size of skyscrapers, and 140 knot winds. Richard tethered himself to the boat and sent Tami below to safety, and then all went eerily quiet. Hours later, Tami awakened to find the boat in ruins, and Richard nowhere in sight. Adrift is the story of Tami's miraculous forty-one-day journey to safety on a ravaged boat with no motor and no masts, and with little hope for rescue. It's a tale of love and survival on the high seas-- an unforgettable story about resilience of the human spirit, and the transcendent power of love.

The crew of the Rose-Noelle consisted of four men, barely acquainted before the start of their voyage. By the time the wrecked yacht ran aground on Great Barrier Island they had overcome fears and suspicions, developed unsuspected strengths and resources and learnt that co-operation was essential for survival. Revised and expanded edition, with a New Introduction by the Author. "An intriguing tale of personal victories claimed from disaster." - PUBLISHERS WEEKLY "Soulful, emotional ... earnest and engrossing." - KIRKUS "Will no doubt grip any reader." - Adam Braver, author of November 22, 1963 and Misfit In a superb narrative, NY Times bestselling author Steven Callahan chronicles the four-month (April - August 1989) struggle of Jim Nalepka and three other crew to survive on their capsized trimaran adrift in the the stormy seas of the wintry South Pacific. For shelter, the four huddled together in a dank hull compartment 20 inches high and only as wide as a double-bed. Most of their gear was lost in the same gale that caused them to capsize. They were drenched nearly constantly with frigid seawater, and caught fish and collected rain for sustenance before the wind and current finally carried them to New Zealand's Great Barrier Island. Capsized was originally published with a slightly different title by HarperCollins in 1992. This new edition has been thoroughly revised by Callahan (with additional text, illustrations and a new Introduction).

Adrift on a Sea of Blue Light

A Novel

The Voyage of the "Neptune II" from Newfoundland to Scotland

Our Last Chance

Sixty-Six Deadly Days Adrift

A True Story of Tragedy on the Icy Atlantic and the One Who Lived to Tell about It

A timely and relevant picture book about the power of community. In a gentle metaphor for the global pandemic, Adrift is a way to start conversations with young readers about fear and hope, and being together even from afar.

This is a survival tale set in Australia, but it is also the account of a boy realistically developing insight into his family and himself.

When Commander Baath takes his French guests, with his crew of four, on a dive trip off Sir Hugh Rose Island, 20 nautical miles from Port Blair, it turns out to be the wrong day for a sea adventure. The calm sea, an endless liquid mirror before they dived, turns rough when they surface in an hour, as a violent storm looms over them. What was supposed to be a day trip turns into an endless drifting in the Andaman Sea thick with pirates, without a sense of direction or sight of land. Adrift follows their terrifying ordeal, battling hunger and thirst, and most of all their sanity, as they encounter the primal face of nature. Based on a real incident, Adrift is a gripping tale of survival, perseverance and fortitude.

A story of tragedy at sea where every desperate act meant life or death The small ship making the Liverpool-to-New York trip in the early months of 1856 carried mail, crates of dry goods, and more than one hundred passengers, mostly Irish emigrants. Suddenly an iceberg tore the ship asunder and five lifeboats were lowered. As four lifeboats drifted into the fog and icy water, never to be heard from again, the last boat wrenched away from the sinking ship with a few blankets, some water and biscuits, and thirteen souls. Only one would survive. This is his story. As they started their nine days adrift more than four hundred miles off Newfoundland, the castaways--an Irish couple and their two boys, an English woman and her daughter, newlyweds from Ireland, and several crewmen, including Thomas W. Nye from Fairhaven, Massachusetts--began fighting over food and water. One by one, though, day by day, they died. Some from exposure, others from madness and panic. In the end, only Nye and the ship's log survived. Using Nye's firsthand descriptions and later newspaper accounts, ship's logs, assorted diaries, and family archives, Brian Murphy chronicles the horrific nine days that thirteen people suffered adrift on the cold gray Atlantic. Adrift brings readers to the edge of human limits, where every frantic decision and desperate act is a potential life saver or life taker.

438 Days

The Spirit of Rose-Noëlle

Ghost Ship

Brave the Page

119 Days Adrift, a Survival Story

A True Story

"An edge-of-the-seat epic of survival and adventure in deep space." - Gareth L. Powell, BSFA Award-Winning author Sigma Station. The ultimate luxury hotel, in the far reaches of space. For one small group, a tour of the Horsehead Nebula is meant to be a short but stunning highlight in the trip of a lifetime. But when a mysterious ship destroys Sigma Station and everyone on it, suddenly their tourist shuttle is stranded. They have no weapons. No food. No water. No one back home knows they're alive. And the mysterious ship is hunting them. For more from Rob Boffard, check out: The Outer Earth Trilogy TracerZero - GImpact Outer Earth (Omnibus Edition)

Declared "the best survival book in a decade" by Outside Magazine, 438 Days is the true story of the man who survived fourteen months in a small boat drifting seven thousand miles across the Pacific Ocean. On November 17, 2012, two men left the coast of Mexico for a weekend fishing trip in the open Pacific. That night, a violent storm ambushed them as they were fishing eighty miles offshore. As gale force winds and ten-foot waves pummeled their small, open boat from all sides and nearly capsized them, captain Salvador Alvarenga and his crewmate cut away a two-mile-long fishing line and began a desperate dash through crashing waves as they sought the safety of port. Fourteen months later, on January 30, 2014, Alvarenga, now a hairy, wild-bearded and half-mad castaway, washed ashore on a nearly deserted island on the far side of the Pacific. He could barely speak and was unable to walk. He claimed to have drifted from Mexico, a journey of some seven thousand miles. A "gripping saga," (Daily Mail), 438 Days is the first-ever account of one of the most amazing survival stories in modern times. Based on dozens of hours of exclusive interviews with Alvarenga, his colleagues, search-and-rescue officials, the remote islanders who found him, and the medical team that saved his life, 438 Days is not only "an intense, immensely absorbing read" (Booklist) but an unforgettable study of the resilience, will, ingenuity and determination required for one man to survive more than a year lost and adrift at sea. The Companions of the Ring have become involved in separate adventures as the quest continues. Aragorn, revealed as the hidden heir of the ancient Kings of the West, joined with the Riders of Rohan against the forces of Isengard, and took part in the desperate victory of the Hornburg. Merry and Pippin, captured by orcs, escaped into Fangorn Forest and there encountered the Ents. Gandalf returned, miraculously, and defeated the evil wizard, Saruman. Meanwhile, Sam and Frodo progressed towards Mordor to destroy the Ring, accompanied by Smagol - Gollum, still obsessed by his 'precious'. After a battle with the giant spider, Shelob, Sam left his master for dead; but Frodo is still alive - in the hands of the orcs. And all the time the armies of the Dark Lord are massing. JRR Tolkien's great work of imaginative fiction has been labelled both a heroic romance and a classic fantasy fiction. By turns comic and homely, epic and diabolic, the narrative moves through countless changes of scene and character in an imaginary world which is totally convincing in its detail.

"Six-year-old Sachiko and her family suffered greatly after the atomic bombing of Nagasaki, and in the years that followed, the miraculous survival of a ceramic bowl became a key part of Sachiko's journey toward peace"--

A Bowl Full of Peace

117 Days Adrift

Steven Callahan

A Vietnamese Boy's Story of Survival

A True Story of Survival at Sea

Capsized

NOW A MAJOR MOTION PICTURE STARRING SHAILENE WOODLEY AND SAM CLAFLIN A compelling, at times devastating, ultimately inspiring account of how much can go wrong on the ocean and how, miraculously, one woman conquered her own fears. Young and in love, their lives ahead of them, Tami Oldham and her fiancé Richard Sharp set sail from Tahiti under brilliant blue skies, with Tami's hometown of San Diego as their ultimate destination. But less than two weeks into their voyage, disaster struck. Despite their best efforts to steer clear of an approaching hurricane, they became trapped in the storm's path, and found themselves battling pounding rain, waves the size of skyscrapers, and 140 knot winds. Richard tethered himself to the boat and sent Tami below to safety, and then all went eerily quiet. Tami's last memory was her fiancé's scream, followed by darkness. She awoke hours later, alone, venturing on deck to discover only Richard's safety line, the clasp meant to hold him broken. *Adrift* is the story of Tami's miraculous forty-one-day journey to safety on a ravaged boat with no motor and no masts, sustained by Richard's memory to guide her. It's an unforgettable tale of love, loss, and survival on the high seas, and an inspiring reminder that even in our darkest moments, we are never truly alone.

Before *The Perfect Storm*, before *In the Heart of the Sea*, Steven Callahan's dramatic tale of survival at sea was on the *New York Times* bestseller list for more than thirty-six weeks. In some ways the model for the new wave of adventure books, *Adrift* is an undeniable seafaring classic, a riveting firsthand account by the only man known to have survived more than a month alone at sea, fighting for his life in an inflatable raft after his small sloop capsized only six days out. "Utterly absorbing" (*Newsweek*), *Adrift* is a must-have for any adventure library.

Red Sky in Mourning A True Story of Love, Loss, and Survival at Sea **Adrift** A True Story of Tragedy on the Icy Atlantic and the One Who Lived to Tell about It Da Capo Press

It is 1981. In the middle of the Pacific Ocean, a fishing boat overloaded with 60 Vietnamese refugees drifts. The motor has failed; the hull is leaking; the drinking water is nearly gone. This is the dramatic true story recounted by Tuan Ho, who was six years old when he, his mother, and two sisters dodged the bullets of Vietnam's military police for the perilous chance of boarding that boat. Told to multi-award-winning author Marsha Forchuk Skrypuch and illustrated by the celebrated Brian Deines, Tuan's story has become *Adrift At Sea*, the first picture book to describe the flight of Vietnam's "Boat People" refugees. Illustrated with sweeping oil paintings and complete with an expansive historical and biographical section with photographs, this non-fiction picture book is all the more important as the world responds to a new generation of refugees risking all on the open water for the chance at safety and a new life.

Seventy-six Days Lost at Sea

Book 1 of the Adrift Series

The Story of the First Trip Afoot Through the Grand Canyon

A True Story of Disaster and Survival on the Open Sea

Forty-eight Days Adrift

'The world is not neatly divided into two camps of women, those who wanted to reproduce and did, and those who didn't want to, and didn't. So many of us are caught here, in between, neither one thing nor the other, drifting towards a receding horizon, in our own camp . . .' When Miranda Ward and her husband decided to have a baby, they were optimistic. There was no reason not to be: they were both young, they were both healthy. But five years, three miscarriages and one ectopic pregnancy later, Ward finds herself still dealing with the ongoing aftermath of that decision: the waiting, the doubting, the despairing, the hoping. *ADRIFT* is a memoir about the unique place of almost-motherhood. Some people pass through it without even noticing; others languish there, held safe, held prisoner, by the walls of not-knowing - for as long as there is still a question mark, an open ending, there is a chance of escape. Inspired by her childhood on the California coast, Ward turns to the water, seeking solace in a landscape of a different kind - the swimming pool. Hoping to make sense of the uncertainty, she begins to ask questions of geography on the most intimate scale. How do we learn to feel at home in our own bodies, even when they disobey? How can we find our way, even when we feel adrift? What language do we have for the spaces in between? Charting a journey through territory at once deeply personal and widely shared, Ward offers a searing, lyrical and radically honest narrative of fertility and motherhood that is less often told.

A man whose boat capsized in the South Pacific describes his experiences

New York Times Bestseller The heart-stopping memoir, soon to be a major motion picture starring Shailene Woodley and Sam Claflin, and directed by Baltasar Kormákur (*Everest*). "An inspirational and empowering read."—Shailene Woodley Young and in love, their lives ahead of them, Tami Oldham and her fiancé Richard Sharp set sail from Tahiti under brilliant blue skies, with Tami's hometown of San Diego as their ultimate destination. But the two free spirits and avid sailors couldn't anticipate that less than two weeks into their voyage, they would sail directly into one of the most catastrophic hurricanes in recorded history. They found themselves battling pounding rain, waves the size of skyscrapers, and 140 knot winds. Richard tethered himself to the boat and sent Tami below to safety, and then all went eerily quiet. Hours later, Tami awakened to find the boat in ruins, and Richard nowhere in sight. *Adrift* is the story of Tami's miraculous forty-one-day journey to safety on a ravaged boat with no motor and no masts, and with little hope for rescue. It's a tale of love and survival on the high seas-- an unforgettable story about resilience of the human spirit, and the transcendent power of love.

What do work and love have in common? They can both take over your life... Saori Fujimura and her boss, Ayako Asano, are an unbeatable duo at work, but after hours their relationship is more than just professional. As tensions mount between Ayako and her husband and Saori's feelings grow stronger, they'll have to decide-is it love they seek, or merely pleasure?

Now a Major Motion Picture

I Love You So Much, I Hate You

Adrift in a Boat

Life of Pi is a masterful and utterly original novel that is at once the story of a young castaway who faces immeasurable hardships on the high seas, and a meditation on religion, faith, art and life that is as witty as it is profound. Using the threads of all of our best stories, Yann Martel has woven a glorious spiritual adventure that makes us question what it means to be alive, and to believe.