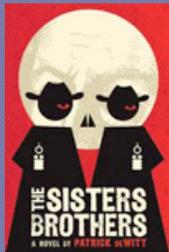
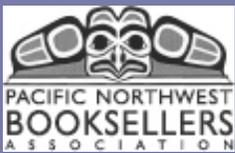


# 2012 Book Awards



## The Sisters Brothers

Patrick deWitt

Ecco/HarperCollins

With off-kilter wit and the kind of charm that should leave the Coen Brothers tickled, deWitt has crafted a Western novel for people who think they don't like Westerns. Soft-hearted brother Eli's narration in the trail dust of gun-slinging brother Charlie is philosophical and funny—very funny—amidst a stark and violent backdrop. Filled with vividly drawn characters and sharp dialogue, *The Sisters Brothers* is a gritty, vibrant book. —PNBA Awards Committee

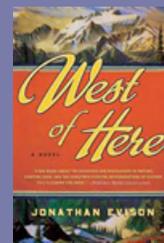


## West of Here

Jonathan Evison

Algonquin Books of Chapel Hill/Workman

Evison gleefully chews up the Northwest landscape from 1890, when dreamers, drifters, scoundrels and hardworking settlers dove in with unrestrained ambition to harness the wilderness for profit and posterity, to 2006 and their descendants, now suffering the consequences of that wild enthusiasm. The Olympic Peninsula is some of the most beautiful country in the world, and Evison has paid tribute to it. —PNBA Awards Committee



## Feathers

Thor Hanson

Basic Books/Perseus Books Group

Feathers are pretty remarkable. And reading about them in Thor Hanson's well-researched book is like sitting down for a lively chat with a particularly bright friend. Such enthusiasm, thorough research and rich language! Like the best teachers from our school days—fun. —PNBA Awards Committee

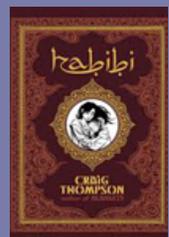


## Shards

Ismet Prsic

Black Cat/Grove/Atlantic

Families visiting the country on the weekend, browsing the shops, going to dinner. Bosnian families whose lives are just like ours—then one day, they are not. Powerful, gorgeous writing, complicated without a hint of intellectual grandstanding. This novel is a difficult treasure. —PNBA Awards Committee



## Habibi

Craig Thompson

Pantheon/Random House

The intricate artwork in *Habibi* weaves the beauty of Arabic calligraphy and traditional patterns into a story that feels simultaneously ancient and modern, starkly realistic and mythological. And the discovery doesn't end with the last sentence of the story. The footnotes add another stunning dimension. The appeal of this book will reach far beyond comics fans. *Habibi* should take its place alongside groundbreaking classics, such as *Maus* and *Persepolis*. —PNBA Awards Committee



## Chronology of Water

Lidia Yuknavitch

Hawthorne Books

Genuine and generous, this memoir risks much and succeeds powerfully. Yuknavitch has a striking story to tell, but the way she tells it is even more striking. The book becomes experiential, which fosters an intimacy between the writer and reader. You will be moved. —PNBA Awards Committee

