

2008 Book Awards

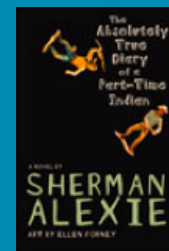


The Absolutely True Diary of a Part-Time Indian

Sherman Alexie

Little Brown Books for Young Readers

In his first young adult novel, Sherman Alexie hilariously and heartbreakingly chronicles the contemporary adolescence of one unlucky but resilient boy trying to rise above the life everyone expects him to live on the Spokane Indian Reservation.



Tree of Smoke

Denis Johnson

Farrar, Straus & Giroux

"Instantly compelling, Tree of Smoke is, at its core, a novel about the Vietnam War and the people, places, and history that were forever changed because of it. Like the war itself, the storylines dart and weave and are only truly understood as they connect themselves in the end." --PNBA Awards Committee

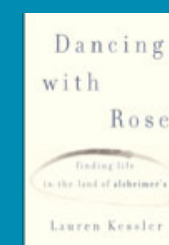


Dancing with Rose: Finding Life in the Land of Alzheimer's

Lauren Kessler

Viking

"Lauren Kessler confronts the confounding disease that took her mother as only a journalist could -- she becomes a caregiver at an Alzheimer's facility. By turns brutally honest, compassionate, and instructive, Kessler finds grace, humor and unexpected connections with the patients and the caregivers." --PNBA Awards Committee



Returning to Earth

Jim Harrison

Grove Press

"Life and death; family and friends; past and future -- Returning to Earth covers the full range of human experience as the reader shares a journey with a Michigan man of Finnish and Native American ancestry. Told as four stories, each with a different central character, Jim Harrison deftly explores how we all search for redemption." --PNBA Awards Committee

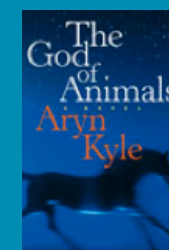


The God of Animals

Aryn Kyle

Scribner

A breathtaking debut novel about a girl growing up amid a dying way of life on a horse ranch in small-town Colorado, The God of Animals beautifully captures familiar themes of the West: families, horses, love, death, class and weather. As novelist Andrew Sean Greer says, it's "a perfect read."



Bad Monkeys

Matt Ruff

HarperCollins

Matt Ruff wins his second PNBA Award with this page-turning, psychological thriller full of funhouse twists and turns. Bad Monkeys is, as Neal Stephenson says, "Fast. Wicked. Scarily clever and equally fun for those who like thrillers and those who don't."

