

Samantha Harvey

Writer - Fiction and Non-fiction

Samantha Harvey is the author of five novels and one work of non-fiction. Her latest novel, *Orbital*, takes place on a space station and is an account of a single 24-hour day in low earth orbit.



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Publications

Fiction

Publication Details	Notes
THE WESTERN WIND 2018 Jonathan Cape	<p>Oakham, near Bruton, is a tiny village by a big river without a bridge. When a man is swept away by the river in the early hours of Shrove Saturday, an explanation has to be found. Was it murder, or suicide, or an accident? The whole story is relayed by the village priest, John Reve, who in his role as confessor is privy to a lot of information that others have not. But will he be able to explain what happened to the victim, Tom Newman, the wealthiest, most capable and industrious man in the village? And what will happen if he can't? Reve is an extraordinary creation, a patient shepherd to his wayward flock, and through his words Harvey creates a medieval world that is in no way alien but almost tangible in its immediacy. His language is modern, but steeped in medieval culture and beliefs.</p> <p>This is Samantha Harvey's fourth novel. The previous three appeared on countless prize lists, from the Women's Prize to the Man Booker. The Western Wind will surely join them.</p>

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DEAR THIEF 2014 Jonathan Cape	<p>In the middle of a winter's night, a woman wraps herself in a blanket, picks up a pen and starts writing to an estranged friend. In answer to a question you asked a long time ago, she writes, and so begins a letter that calls up a shared past both women have preferred to forget.</p> <p>Without knowing if her friend, Butterfly, is even alive or dead, she writes night after night - a letter of friendship that turns into something more revealing and recriminating. By turns a belated outlet of rage, an act of self-defence, and an offering of forgiveness, the letter revisits a betrayal that happened a decade and a half before, and dissects what is left of a friendship caught between the forces of hatred and love. Longlisted for the Fiction Uncovered Prize and the Baileys Women's Prize for Fiction. Shortlisted for the James Tait Black Prize 2015.</p>
ALL IS SONG 2012 Jonathan Cape	<p>Set against the backdrop of growing national unrest, tabloid frenzies and an escalating fuel crisis, All Is Song is a novel about filial and moral duty, and about the choice of questioning above conforming. It is a work of remarkable perception, intensity and resonance from one of Britain's most promising young writers.</p>
THE WILDERNESS 2010 Jonathan Cape	<p>This astonishing debut novel depicts the desperate struggle of Jake, an Alzheimer's sufferer, to piece together his few remaining memories. He has many important questions left to answer, but as the disease takes hold and his identity slips away, the concrete facts of his past life become increasingly remote. Can anything be salvaged, in any form, from his deteriorating mind? Winner of the Betty Trask Prize. Longlisted for the Man Booker Prize. Shortlisted for the Orange Prize and Guardian First Book Award.</p>