

Margaret Laurence Estate

Jean Margaret Laurence was a Canadian novelist and short story writer, and is one of the major figures in Canadian literature. She was also a founder of the Writers' Trust of Canada, a non-profit literary organisation.



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Publications

Fiction

Publication Details	Notes
The Stone Angel 1964 McClelland & Stewart / CUP/Head of Zeus	Cantankerous, cranky and often befuddled at 90, Hagar Shipley isn't ready to give up her independence and go into an old-age home. But she is trapped in a body that is betraying her bit by bit and a mind that overwhelms her with passionate, painful memories. In this intimate accounting of her life, she recalls her privileged life as the daughter of Manawaka's only merchant, the rebellious spirit that led her to a miserable life as a farm wife, and the devastating death of her favourite child. When her son threatens to put her into a home, she takes matters into her own hands and seeks refuge in an abandoned cannery. Hagar might be an irascible, vicious, and even vulgar old woman, but her feisty resilience makes her one of the most remarkable and appealing characters in Canadian literature.

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A Jest of God 1966 McCelland & Stewart / CUP/Head of Zeus	Rachel Cameron is a shy, retiring schoolmistress, tethered to her overbearing invalid mother. Thirty-four and unmarried, she feels herself edging towards a lonely spinsterhood. But then she falls in love for the first time, and embarks upon an affair that will change her life in unforeseen ways.
The Fire-Dwellers 1974 McCelland & Stewart / CUP/Head of Zeus	Stacey Cameron, on the cusp of her forties, feels it's time for a change. Her marriage has worn threadbare and the children no longer need her. Should she have an affair? Take to drink? Or finally confront the woman in the mirror? Written in Margaret Laurence's distinctive style, this is a vivid portrait of a woman convinced that life has more to offer her than the tedious routine of her days.