

The International Booker Prize 2025

Reading Challenge

The Book of Disappearance
Ibtisam Azeem

My mother put on mismatched shoes and ran out of the house. Her curly hair was tied back with a black band. The edge of her white shirt hung over her gray skirts. Fear inhabited her face, making her blue eyes seem bigger. She looked crazed as she roamed the streets of Ajami, searching for my grandmother. Rushing, as if trying to catch up with herself, I followed her out. When she heard my footsteps, she looked back and gestured with her broomstick: thin arm: go back!
Translated by Sinan Antoon

ON CALCULATION OF THE VOLUME
SOLVEJ BALLE

THERE'S A MONSTER BEHIND THE DOOR
GAËLLE BÉLEM

SEMI
MIRCEA CĂRTĂRESCU

Reservoir Bitches
Dehbia de la Gerda

VINCENT DELECROIX
SMALL BOAT

HUNCHBACK
SAOU ICHIKAWA

Hiromi Kawakami
Under the Eye of the Big Bird

EUROTRASH
CHRISTIAN KRACHT

PERFECTION
VINCENZO LATRONICO

Heart Lamp
Selected Stories
Ebanu Mushtaq

On days when it was impossible for Shaziya to wake up in time for the dawn namaz, she would blame it on her high blood pressure, and had a habit of saying she had no peace because of those damn tablets. Her mother used to say: All this is Shaitan's game. Shaitan comes early in the morning, presses your legs, drapes a blanket around you, pats you back to sleep and stops you from offering namaz. You must kick him away...
Translated by Deepa Bhasini
Winner of an English PEN Award

On a Woman's Madness

Anne Serre
A Leopard-Skin Hat

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