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**A. A. Attanasio** ............................................................. 1
Prominent writer of science fiction, fantasy, and historical novels whose major works include the “Radix Tetrad” and the “Tales of Arthur” series, as well as stand-alone titles such as *Wyvern* and *Hunting the Ghost Dancer.*

**Russell Banks** ............................................................... 7
Native New Englander who has drawn on his experiences in the region’s small towns hard hit by economic decline to create fiction that captures the lives of Northeastern people, including such acclaimed novels as *Continental Drift* and *Cloudsplitter.*

**Michael Chabon** ........................................................... 17
One of the preeminent literary authors of his generation who won the Pulitzer Prize in 2001 for his novel *The Amazing Adventures of Kavalier and Clay.*

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Former philosophy professor whose young adult novels, including *The Goats* and *Celine,* have won numerous awards for their realistic portrayal of contemporary issues.

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Popular crime writer whose mystery-solving team of Scotland Yard Detective Superintendent Duncan Kincaid and Sergeant Gemma James has appeared in such works as *A Share in Death* and *Dreaming of the Bones.*

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Pioneering photographer well-known for his unforgettable image of a sailor and nurse carried away in an embrace in Times Square at the announcement of victory over Japan in 1945.

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Author, diplomat, editor, political writer, and essayist who pens works which blend realism, fantasy, social protest, psychological insight, and history, including *Where the Air Is Clear* and *The Death of Artemio Cruz.*

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Author of *Grendel,* a retelling of the Beowulf legend in novel form that is considered a classic work of twentieth-century literature, as well as criticism, short stories, works for young readers, a biography of Chaucer, plays, and libretti.

**Cathy Guisewite** ........................................................... 77
Creator of the *Cathy* comic strip, featuring a single, angst-ridden, career woman, that has been viewed by seventy million readers worldwide in the twenty-five years it has been in production.

**Sherryl Jordan** ........................................................... 85
Award-winning New Zealand author whose works, including *Winter of Fire,* *Secret Sacrament,* and *The Raging Quiet,* blend fantasy with science fiction and romantic realism.

**Amy Goldman Koss** ...................................................... 93
In such middle-grade novels as *The Trouble with Zinny Weston,* *Smoke Screen,* *Stranger in Dadland,* and *Stolen Words,* this author blends humor with realistic situations to sensitively convey the pain of growing up.

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*New York Times* journalist who, with the publication of his groundbreaking work *The Contender,* transformed the sports novel from its action-oriented model into a character-oriented genre in which sports serves as a metaphor for a young adult’s coming of age.
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Author of nonfiction works like Never to Forget: The Jews of the Holocaust and All Times, All Peoples: A World History of Slavery who was honored with the 2001 Laura Ingalls Wilder Award for his lifetime contributions to literature.

Frank Miller ............................................................. 119
Among a handful of writer-illustrators who, in the 1980s, transformed the comic industry into a source of entertainment for adults as well as children, this author’s seminal 1986 Batman: The Dark Knight Returns was a crossover success as a graphic novel.

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This author explores a sense of wonder in her fantasy novels for young adults, including the “Dragonbards” trilogy and the “Ring of Fire” quintet, as well as in her popular “Joe Grey” series featuring a pair of mystery-solving felines.

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Russian émigré who is considered one of the most brilliant and inventive writers of the twentieth century, penning such works as Lolita and Pale Fire.

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Author of fiction, nonfiction, and poetry for children and young adults, including the Newbery Medal honor book A Fine White Dust and the Newbery Medal-winning novel Missing May.

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Talented sculptor who battled racism, sexism, and poverty to become one of the most distinguished members of the Harlem Renaissance.

Ralph Steadman .................................................. 167
Working with American writer Hunter S. Thompson, this author and illustrator cofounded the movement known as “Gonzo Journalism,” typified by rabid subjectivity, stridency, over-the-top images and scathing criticism of the status quo.

Dylan Thomas .................................................. 177
Poet, essayist, and short story writer whose work, including the poem “Do not go gentle into that good night,” is sometimes overshadowed by his legend, that of the hard-drinking romantic artist at odds with the modern world.

Hunter S. Thompson ..................................... 189
Among the first and foremost practitioners of “Gonzo Journalism,” and author of such widely read books as Fear and Loathing in Las Vegas, and Fear and Loathing on the Campaign Trail ’72, in which he recorded both the disillusionment and the delirium of a volatile era.

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In works like Welcome to the Ark and Flight of the Raven, this author of young adult fiction examines poverty, education, housing, abuse, and other social issues.

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Scottish-born Canadian writer who has authored the “Camulod Chronicles,” books that depict the events of fifth-century Britain that ultimately culminates in the rise of the legendary warrior King Arthur.

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Academy Award-winning special effects wizard whose talents are on display in such blockbusters as Aliens, Terminator 2, Batman Returns, and Jurassic Park.

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