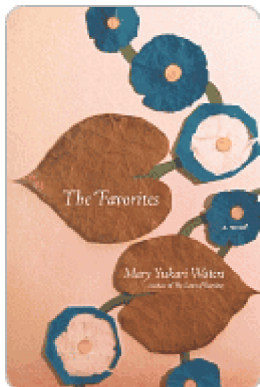


# NEW ARRIVALS!

## Fiction at the Ames Free Library

### September 2009



**The Favorites**  
Mary Yukari Waters

Set in Japan in the late 1970s and early 1980s, Waters debut novel explores the complex ties between three generations of women in a Japanese family. Delicately balancing drama and restraint, Waters captures these women -- their deep passions and tumultuous histories -- in this tender and moving novel about the power and beauty of mother-daughter relationships.

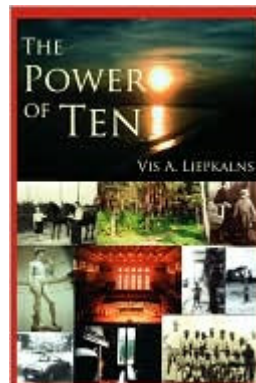
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**Border Songs**  
Jim Lynch

Lynch digs into the strange culture of a U.S.-Canada border town in his lush second novel (after *The Highest Tide*). Brandon Vanderkool, the town freak people talk about the way they discuss earthquakes, eclipses and other phenomena, is pushed into joining the Border Patrol by his dairy-farmer father. Though the dyslexic, six-foot-eight Brandon prefers to bird-watch and tend to the cows on his father's farm, he proves to be surprisingly adept at spotting drug smugglers and illegal immigrants, which brings a wave of attention to both him and the town. The illegal goings-on provide excellent plot fodder, though the novel is equally concerned with smalltown life.

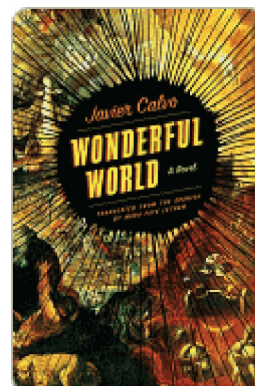
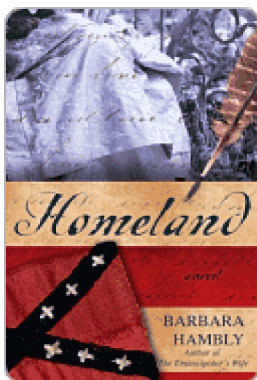
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**The Power of Ten**  
Vis Liepkalns

Book traces ten gifted individuals who are underachievers and their inability to accept success due to traumatic childhood experiences that shaped their character.

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**Homeland**  
Barbara Hambly

Two women, one a Northerner with a husband fighting for the Confederacy, and one a Southerner yearning to attend art school in Philadelphia, exchange letters and find in their unlikely friendship the strength to survive the Civil War. Those who loved "Cold Mountain" or Geraldine Brooks's "March" will embrace and long remember this spellbinding novel of two remarkable women torn apart by conflict, sustained by literature and art, united by friendship and hope.

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**It's Beginning to Hurt**  
James Lasdun

This remarkable collection shows what happens when we break through the gauze of everydayness and existential panic hits. Hard-edged truths about our predicament poke through this work. In "Annals of the Honorary Secretary," a believably surreal tale, a society that meets regularly to display special talents is upended by a young woman with the telepathic ability to make members see truly ugly and frightening things.

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**Wonderful World: A Novel**  
Javier Calvo

Calvo's first novel to appear in English is a frenetic and magnificent mashup of family drama, mob revenge story and surreal mystery featuring a gigantic enforcer obsessed with comic books, a 12-year-old girl fixated on Stephen King, a namby-pamby antiques dealer on a mad quest and a crime lord with a penchant for women's coats. Wonderful World is clearly not for all readers, but it will have its passionate advocates and has all the earmarks of a cult favorite in the making.

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