

# READ CANADIAN

EXPLORE AUTHORS ACROSS CANADA

## Canadian Author Suggestions

### Atwood, Margaret

Margaret Atwood is a celebrated Canadian author renowned for her distinctive writing style, thematic depth, and significant contributions to contemporary literature. Her works span multiple genres, including literary fiction, dystopian fiction, poetry, and speculative fiction. Throughout her career, Atwood has garnered critical acclaim for her exploration of complex societal issues, gender, power dynamics, and human nature. **Start with:** [The Handmaid's Tale](#)

### Beauchemin, Yves

Yves Beauchemin is a prolific Quebecois author known for his novels that blend social realism, humor, and deep humanity. He explores a variety of literary genres, ranging from realistic fiction to fantastical tales and historical fiction. **Start with :** [Charles the Bold ; 1](#)

### Donoghue, Emma

Emma Donoghue is an Irish-Canadian author acclaimed for her versatile storytelling across multiple genres, including contemporary and historical fiction, short stories, children's literature, and plays. Her works often centre on women and delve into themes of identity, resilience, and human connection. **Start with:** [Room](#)

### Edugyan, Esi

Esi Edugyan is a Giller prize winner acclaimed for her literary fiction that delves into themes of identity, race, and history. Her works often explore the complexities of the African

diaspora, the impacts of colonialism, and the intricacies of personal and collective memory. **Start with:** [Half-Blood Blues](#)

### **Gowda, Shilpi Somaya**

Shilpi Somaya Gowda is renowned for her emotionally resonant novels that explore themes of family, identity, and cultural intersection. Her works often delve into the complexities of relationships and the challenges faced by immigrant individuals navigating between different cultures. **Start with:** [The Secret Daughter](#)

### **Graham, Genevieve**

Genevieve Graham is renowned for her historical fiction novels that breathe life into Canada's past through compelling tales of love, sacrifice, and resilience. Often referred to as the "Queen of Canadian historical fiction," she focuses on lesser-known aspects of Canadian history. **Start with:** [Promises to Keep](#)

### **Kay, Guy Gavriel**

Guy Gavriel Kay is known for his intelligent, thought-provoking, and character-driven fantasy fiction. His world-building is full of sensuous detail, imaginative histories, folklore, and unique systems of magic. **Start with:** [Tigana](#)

### **Lapena, Shari**

Shari Lapena is the author of a number of suspense novels in which ordinary suburbanites find themselves embroiled in danger and deceit. In her intricately plotted page-turners, readers are sure to find dark family secrets, unreliable narrators, and a pervading sense of menace. **Start with:** [The Couple Next Door](#)

### **Lawson, Mary**

Mary Lawson writes quiet yet satisfying stories about ordinary people grappling with hardship and heartbreak, carefully guarded secrets, and familial conflict. Their sorrows are rooted in simple human frailty and thankfully, redemption is always within reach. **Start with:** [Crow Lake](#)

### **MacDonald, Ann-Marie**

Ann-Marie MacDonald is a Canadian author, playwright, and actor known for her richly layered novels that delve into themes of identity, family, and societal norms. Her works often blend elements of historical fiction, psychological drama, and Gothic literature, creating narratives that are both compelling and thought-provoking. **Start with:** [Fall On Your Knees](#)

### **Moore, Lisa**

Moore's works have garnered critical acclaim, earning nominations for prestigious awards such as the Giller Prize and the Man Booker Prize. Her ability to capture the nuances of human experience has solidified her place in contemporary Canadian literature. **Start with:** [Alligator](#)

### **O'Neill, Heather**

Heather O'Neill was raised in Montreal and still calls the city home. Her best-selling books focus on disenfranchised women in urban settings. Her works often explore themes of resilience, identity, and the complexities of human relationships, set against the vibrant backdrop of Montreal. **Start with:** [Lullabies for little criminals](#)

### **Prose, Nita**

Anthony Award winning author Nita Prose's charming, locked room and cozy mysteries depict a neurodivergent main character who cleverly and uniquely investigates curious happenings around her. **Start with:** [The Maid](#)

### **Proulx, Monique**

Monique Proulx is a celebrated Québécoise author and screenwriter known for her literary fiction, short stories, and screenplays. Her works often delve into themes of human complexity, identity, and the search for meaning, frequently set against the backdrop of Quebec's evolving social and cultural landscape. **Start with:** [The Heart is an Unvoluntary Muscle](#)

### **St. John Mandel, Emily**

Emily St. John Mandel is known for her genre-blending novels that often explore themes of memory, identity, and the impact of societal collapse. Her works typically feature non-linear narratives and multiple perspectives, creating intricate and immersive storytelling. **Start with:** [Station Eleven](#)

### **Toews, Miriam**

Miriam Toews writes with charm, humor, and compassion of characters cast adrift. Her thoughtful, whimsical novels delve into the lives of eccentric characters, celebrate small towns and small-town life, address social and family issues including mental illness and single parents, and provide insights into the lives and dreams of her young protagonists. **Start with:** [A Complicated Kindness](#)

**Tsabari, Ayelet**

Israeli-Canadian Ayelet Tsabari is an award-winning documentary filmmaker and writer of literary fiction and memoir. Informed by her rich Yemeni-Jewish culture, personal experiences growing up in Israel, and eventual immigration to Canada, Tsabari's books offer thoughtful meditations on identity, heritage, and personal belonging. **Start with:** [The Best Place on Earth](#)

**Urquhart, Jane**

Jane Urquhart pens award-winning literary fiction. Her character-driven plots often unfold over many decades and many miles, although they frequently return to the Great Lakes region. Her sensitivity to the many possibilities of the human heart lends both nuance and lyricism to her ruminative, absorbing prose. **Start with:** [The Underpainter](#)