

# Amsterdam Ian McEwan

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 Ian McEwan's books I've read □ \ "Amsterdam" By Ian McEwan Ian McEwan interview (2002) '□□□□□□□□' by □□□ □□□□□ : A Provocative  
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 Amsterdam by Ian McEwan, First Edition Ian McEwan- Lessons (Mostly Spoiler-Free) Review: Atonement by Ian McEwan

A Novel

The Cement Garden

The League of Gentlewomen Witches

Atonement

A Novel

In His Own Image

Amsterdam Condensed

A Novel

Notes

Masculinities in Post-war and Contemporary British Literature

A Novel

The Fortress of Solitude

The Cockroach

The Innocent

Saturday

India Since the Great Rebellion

*Amsterdam Ian McEwan*

*OMB No. 5214790328864 edited by*

## COHEN GEORGE

A Novel Random House

Alle haben sie dieselbe Frau geliebt, die nun nicht mehr ist: ein Politiker, ein Chefredakteur, ein Komponist. Als desto gegensätzlicher erweisen sich ihre Ambitionen: Ein Freundschaftspakt wird zum Teufelspakt, als es in Amsterdam zum Showdown kommt. Ian McEwan erhielt 1998 den Booker-Preis für diese ebenso witzige wie gnadenlose Geschichte über die Mechanismen der Medien und der Macht.

### THE CEMENT GARDEN

Knopf Canada

Ian McEwan is one of Britain's most established, and controversial, writers. This book introduces students to a range of critical approaches to McEwan's fiction. Criticism is drawn from selections in academic essays and articles, and reviews in newspapers, journals, magazines and websites, with editorial comment providing context, drawing attention to key points and identifying differences in critical perspectives. The book features selections from published interviews with Ian McEwan and covers all of the writer's novels to date, including his latest novel Saturday.

The League of Gentlewomen Witches Anchor

Amsterdam A Novel Anchor

### ATONEMENT

GRIN Verlag

A jewel of a short story from the author of Atonement and Nutshell—"My Purple Scented Novel" follows the perfect crime of

literary betrayal, scrupulously wrought yet unscrupulously executed. Published to celebrate Ian McEwan's 70th birthday. "You will have heard of my friend the once celebrated novelist Jocelyn Tarbet, but I suspect his memory is beginning to fade. . . . You'd never heard of me, the once obscure novelist Parker Sparrow, until my name was publicly connected with his. To a knowing few, our names remain rigidly attached, like the two ends of a seesaw. His rise coincided with, though did not cause, my decline. . . . I don't deny there was wrongdoing. I stole a life, and I don't intend to give it back. You may treat these few pages as a confession."

Vintage Canada

New from Ian McEwan, Booker Prize winner and international bestselling author of Atonement and The Children Act Machines Like Me takes place in an alternative 1980s London. Charlie, drifting through life and dodging full-time employment, is in love with Miranda, a bright student who lives with a terrible secret. When Charlie comes into money, he buys Adam, one of the first synthetic humans and—with Miranda's help—he designs Adam's personality. The near-perfect human that emerges is beautiful, strong, and clever. It isn't long before a love triangle soon forms, and these three beings confront a profound moral dilemma. In his subversive new novel, Ian McEwan asks whether a machine can understand the human heart—or whether we are the ones who lack understanding.

### A NOVEL

Anchor

The essays collected in Posting the Male examine representations of masculinity in post-war and contemporary British literature, focussing on the works of writers as diverse as John Osborne, Joe

Orton, James Kelman, Ian Rankin, Carol Ann Duffy, Alan Hollinghurst, Ian McEwan, Graham Swift and Jackie Kay. The collection seeks to capture the current historical moment of 'crisis', at which masculinity loses its universal transparency and becomes visible as a performative gender construct. Rather than denoting just one fixed, polarised point on a hierarchised axis of strictly segregated gender binaries, masculinity is revealed to oscillate within a virtually limitless spectrum of gender identities, characterised not by purity and self-containment but by difference and alterity. As the contributors demonstrate, rather than a gender 'in crisis' millennial manhood is a gender 'in transition'. Patriarchal strategies of man-making are gradually being replaced by less exclusionary patterns of self-identification inspired by feminism. Men have begun to recognise themselves as gendered beings and, as a result, masculinity has been set in motion.

### IN HIS OWN IMAGE

Anchor

From the Booker Prize winning author of *Amsterdam*, a brilliant new novel. On the hottest day of the summer of 1935, thirteen-year-old Briony Tallis sees her sister Cecilia strip off her clothes and plunge into the fountain in the garden of their country house. Watching her is Robbie Turner, son of the Tallis's cleaning lady, whose education has been subsidized by Cecilia's and Briony's father, and who, like Cecilia, has recently come down from Cambridge. By day's end, their lives will be changed - irrevocably. Robbie and Cecilia will have crossed a boundary they had not imagined at its start. And Briony will have witnessed mysteries, seen an unspeakable word, and committed a crime for which she will spend the rest of her life trying to atone... Brilliant and utterly enthralling in its depiction of love and war and class and childhood and England, *An Atonement* is a profound - and profoundly moving - exploration of shame and forgiveness, of atonement and of the possibility of absolution.

*Amsterdam Condensed* Diogenes Verlage

A best-selling work of wit from the Booker Prize-winning author, *Solar* brilliantly traces the arc of a Nobel Prize-winning physicist's ambitions and self-deception. Dr. Michael Beard's best work is behind him. Trading on his reputation, he speaks for enormous fees, lends his name to the letterheads of renowned scientific institutions, and halfheartedly heads a government-backed initiative tackling global warming. Meanwhile, Michael's fifth marriage is floundering due to his incessant womanizing. When his professional and personal worlds collide in a freak accident, an opportunity presents itself for Michael to extricate himself from his marital problems, reinvigorate his career, and save the world from environmental disaster. But can a man who has made a mess of his life clean up the messes of humanity?

*A Novel* RosettaBooks

A child's abduction sends a father reeling in this Whitbread Award-winning novel that explores time and loss with "narrative daring and imaginative genius" (Kirkus Reviews, starred review). Stephen Lewis, a successful author of children's books, is on a routine trip to the supermarket with his three-year-old daughter. In a brief moment of distraction, she suddenly vanishes—and is irretrievably lost. From that moment, Lewis spirals into bereavement that effects his marriage, his psyche, and his relationship with time itself: "It was a wonder that there could be so much movement, so much purpose, all the time. He himself had none at all." In *The Child in Time*, acclaimed author Ian McEwan "sets a story of domestic horror against a disorienting exploration in time" producing "a work of remarkable intellectual and political sophistication" that has been adapted into a PBS Masterpiece movie starring Benedict Cumberbatch (Kirkus

Reviews, starred review). "A beautifully rendered, very disturbing novel." —Publishers Weekly

*Notes* Bloomsbury Publishing

Seminar paper from the year 1999 in the subject English Language and Literature Studies - Literature, grade: 1 (A), University of Kassel (FB 8 Anglistics), 4 entries in the bibliography, language: English, abstract: Ian McEwan's ability to present his settings and themes in detail has been already noticed. In his novel *Amsterdam* he excellently describes for example the Lake District when Clive Linley hikes to find inspiration or the composing process when Clive tries to write the perfect ending for his symphony. But these are not the only passages where he uses his knowledge of perfectly drawing the reader into a certain theme. He also shows in this novel that he has deep insight into the media and especially in how modern newspapers are made. Media and especially the newspaper is one of Ian McEwan's main themes in *Amsterdam*. Besides Vernon Halliday, who as the editor of the British national daily *The Judge* is the character the most involved in the printing press, also George Lane and McEwan's secret main character Molly Lane are linked with the media. George owns a small part of the *Judge* and therefore is one of the proprietors to whom Vernon is responsible. Molly was part of the media establishment as well. She worked as critic for a magazine and later married George. I will show in this paper that McEwan succeeded in portraying his character Vernon Halliday in a way that strongly resembles an editor of a national daily newspaper in Great Britain today. He even managed to hint at changes that happened during the last decades in how editorship is characterized by using George Lane as old fashioned proprietor to counterbalance the modern editorship of the *Judge*. It will also become obvious how comprehensive McEwan's knowledge of the relationship between the media and politics is and how he weaved this aspect into the novel. Furthermore, I will point out that Ian McEwan portrays the *Judge* throughout his novel as a quality paper on its way to become a downmarket tablo"

### Masculinities in Post-war and Contemporary British Literature

 Random House

THE BOOK: A narrative counterpoint between two women, two South Africas. Kristien Muller returns from London to her homeland to fulfil a promise. Her grandmother lies on her deathbed unleashing a turmoil of myth, legend and brute fact. Confronted by the realities of a land hurtling towards change, Kristien discovers that the present holds its own moments of savagery. A searing panorama of South Africa's experience, reminiscent in its political & imaginative scope of Marquez's *One Hundred Years Of Solitude*.

**A Novel** Rosetta Books

A New York Times Book Review EDITORS' CHOICE. From the National Book Critics Circle Award-winning author of *Motherless Brooklyn*, comes the vividly told story of Dylan Ebdus growing up white and motherless in downtown Brooklyn in the 1970s. In a neighborhood where the entertainments include muggings along with games of stoopball, Dylan has one friend, a black teenager, also motherless, named Mingus Rude. Through the knitting and unraveling of the boys' friendship, Lethem creates an overwhelmingly rich and emotionally gripping canvas of race and class, superheros, gentrification, funk, hip-hop, graffiti tagging, loyalty, and memory. "A tour de force.... Belongs to a venerable New York literary tradition that stretches back through *Go Tell It on the Mountain*, *A Walker in the City*, and *Call it Sleep*." --The New York Times Magazine "One of the richest, messiest, most ambitious, most interesting novels of the year.... Lethem grabs and captures 1970s New York City, and he brings it to a story worth telling." --Time

**The Fortress of Solitude** Random House

The Booker Prize-winning contemporary morality tale—cleverly disguised as a comic novel—from the acclaimed author of *Atonement*. On a chilly February day, two old friends meet in the throng outside a London crematorium to pay their last respects to Molly Lane. Both Clive Linley and Vernon Halliday had been Molly's lovers in the days before they reached their current eminence: Clive is Britain's most successful modern composer, and Vernon is a newspaper editor. Gorgeous, feisty Molly had other lovers, too, notably Julian Garmony, Foreign Secretary, a notorious right-winger tipped to be the next prime minister. In the days that follow Molly's funeral, Clive and Vernon will make a pact with consequences that neither could have foreseen...

*The Cockroach* Rodopi

A magnet for trade and travellers from all over the world, stylish, cosmopolitan Amsterdam is a city of dreams and nightmares, of grand civic architecture and legendary beauty, but also of civil wars, bloody religious purges, and the tragedy of Anne Frank. In this fascinating examination of the city's soul, part history, part travel guide, Geert Mak imaginatively recreates the lives of the early Amsterdammers, and traces Amsterdam's progress from waterlogged settlement to a major financial centre and thriving modern metropolis

*The Innocent* Vintage Canada

In the novel that won her the Booker Prize and established her international reputation, Anita Brookner finds a new vocabulary for framing the eternal question "Why love?" It tells the story of Edith Hope, who writes romance novels under a pseudonym. When her life begins to resemble the plots of her own novels, however, Edith flees to Switzerland, where the quiet luxury of the Hotel du Lac promises to restore her to her senses. But instead of peace and rest, Edith finds herself sequestered at the hotel with an assortment of love's casualties and exiles. She also attracts the attention of a worldly man determined to release her unused capacity for mischief and pleasure. Beautifully observed, witheringly funny, Hotel du Lac is Brookner at her most stylish and potently subversive.

*Saturday* Vintage

From Goncourt Prize-winning author Jérôme Ferrari, a bewitching story of passion, death, and love, and a powerful reflection on the ambiguous relationship between art and reality. Born in a small town in Corsican countryside, Antonia grows up in a place of deeply-rooted traditions and strong family ties. When she's fourteen, her uncle, a priest, gives her a camera—suddenly changing the way she looks at the world and igniting a passion that will prompt her to become a photojournalist. Over two decades later, Antonia is walking around the port of Calvi when she runs into Dragan, a soldier whom she had met when she was reporting on the war in the former Yugoslavia. The two spend the entire night in deep conversation, reminiscing about their experience of the conflict. Shortly after saying goodbye, as she drives home Antonia loses control of her car, plunges off a cliff and is killed instantly. Tasked with officiating his niece's funeral, Antonia's uncle is forced to reflect on her life and legacy, and on the profound questions they beg about ambition and doubt, passion and guilt, representation and reality. Wide in scope but rich in detail, restrained yet deeply moving, *In His Own Image* masterly weaves together the story of an individual life with universal themes that resonate across time and space.

*India Since the Great Rebellion* Harlequin

A twisted relationship between two couples reaches a terrible

climax in this novel by the New York Times-bestselling author of *Machines Like Me*. Colin and Mary are lovers on holiday in Italy, their relationship becoming increasingly problematic as they become increasingly alienated from one and other. They move from place to place in this foreign land but seemingly without aim or purpose, seemingly bored and without attachment. Then they meet a man named Robert and his disabled wife, Caroline. Colin and Mary seem happy for the diversion—happy to meet another couple that takes their focus off of each other for a while. But things become strange when they attempt to leave: Robert and Caroline insist that they stay with them for a while longer. While Mary and Colin do rediscover an erotic attraction to each other during this time, they also find that their relationship with Robert and Caroline is taking a dreadful and horrific turn, in this "fine novel" by the Booker Prize-winning author of *Saturday* and *On Chesil Beach* (New Statesman). "McEwan perfectly captures the thrill of travel when one is divorced from familiar surroundings and the chance of something unusual and out-of-character seems possible. Of course, this being a McEwan fiction, the possibility is a brutal truth about how people find love in extreme ways."—*The Daily Beast*

*A Novel* Sceptre

On a chilly February day two old friends meet in the throng outside a crematorium to pay their last respects to Molly Lane. Both Clive Linley and Vernon Halliday had been Molly's lovers in the days before they reached their current eminence, Clive as Britain

*Lessons* Vintage Canada

A triumphant story of a father and his little boy—and a love that knows no limits. Rob Coates is a survivor. He'd thought he'd won the lottery of life—a beautiful home, an incredible wife Anna, and their precious son Jack, who makes every day an extraordinary adventure. But when tragedy befalls his family, Rob becomes his own worst enemy, pushing away all he holds dear. With his world now suddenly just outside of his grasp, Rob turns to photography, capturing the beautiful skyscrapers and clifftops he used to visit—memories of the time when his family was happy. And just when it feels as though there's nowhere left to turn, Rob embarks on the most unforgettable of journeys to reclaim the joy and love he thought he'd lost. Deeply emotional, beautifully written, and filled with tremendous heart, *We Own the Sky* is a soaring debut about the strength of the human spirit and the boundlessness of love. It is a stunningly honest reminder of life's greatest gifts, showing how even a broken heart can learn to beat again.

**VISHNU'S CROWDED TEMPLE**

## Vintage

These three bestselling novels by the Booker Award-winning author explore the dark sides of love, family and sexuality. *The Child in Time* On a routine Saturday morning trip to the supermarket, a father's brief moment of distraction turns his life upside down when his daughter is kidnapped. His spiral of guilt and bereavement has effects on his marriage, his psyche—and time itself. *The Cement Garden* When their mother suddenly dies, four siblings hide her body in the basement to prevent others from discovering her death and placing them in foster care. But their dark secret sets them on a path of isolation and boundary-crossing intimacy. *The Comfort of Strangers* Colin and Mary are vacationing in Venice in hopes of reigniting their relationship. But after losing their way in the winding streets, their acquaintance with another couple takes turns that are likewise erotic and violent in nature.

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