

I Was An Elephant Salesman Adventures Between Dakar Paris And Milan Global African Voices Paperback 2010 Author Pap Khouma Rebecca Hopkins Graziella Parati

Many IBMers see Louis V. Gerstner as the savior of their company—indeed, Gerstner sees himself that way. Who Says Elephants Can't Dance? expresses this perspective quite well. What Gerstner never realized is that much of his success came from accidentally tapping into an eighty-year-old culture that he never understood. IBM's founders, the Watsons, created this culture in the 1910s, and then codified it in the 1950s with the creation of three Basic Beliefs: Respect, Service and Excellence. But today's IBM has lost its culture, its constitution and its way. Surely a century-old corporation is more than its founding words; but great leaders do not seek to abolish a people's constitution, rather they seek a return to its original intent. This book captures how that change occurred—a view from beneath the dancing elephant.

Set in the imaginary African Republic of Vietongo, *The Negro Grandsons of Vercingetorix* begins when conflict breaks out between rival leaders and the regional ethnic groups they represent. Events recorded in a series of notebooks under the watchful eye of Hortense Lloki show how civil war culminates in a series of outlandish actions perpetrated by the warring parties' private militias—the Anacondas and the Romans from the North who have seized power against Vercingetorix (named after none other than the legendary Gallic warrior who fought against Caesar's army) and his Little Negro Grandsons in the South who are eager to regain control. Award-winning author Alain Mabanckou is at his satiric best in this novel that catalogues the pain and suffering caused by the ravages of civil war. Translated into English for the first time, this novel provides a gritty slice of life in an active war zone.

This book on cultural studies aims to identify the status of the field in Italian cultural studies. It contains articles that will interest a variety of undergraduate and graduate classes and it is an invaluable resource for scholars of Italian studies.

The swelling flows of migration from Africa towards Europe have aroused interest not only in the socio-political consequences of the migrants' insistent appeals to 'fortress Europe' but also in the artistic integration of African migrants into the cultural world of Europe. While in recent years the creative output of Africans living in Europe has received attention from the media and in academia, little critical consideration has been given to African migrants' modes of narration and the manner in which these modes give expression to, or are an expression of, their creators' transcultural realities. *Transcultural Modernities: Narrating Africa in Europe* responds to this need for reflection by examining the manner in which migrants compose and negotiate their Euro-African affiliations in their narratives. The book brings together scholars in the fields of literary and art criticism, cultural studies, and anthropology for an extensive interdisciplinary exchange on the specific modes of narration displayed in Euro-African literatures, the visual arts, and cinema, as well as offering ethnographic case studies. The result is a wide range of reflections on how African artists, writers, and ordinary people living in Europe experience and explore their transcultural and/or postcolonial environments, and how their experiences and explorations in turn contribute to the construction of modern Euro-African life-worlds.

Explores the experiences of Senegalese in Paris, Rome, and New York as they make sense of who they are and how they fit into their local communities, the countries where they live, and the larger global Senegalese diaspora. They shape their identities through the creative ways they use multiple languages.

Folklore collection, originating at Brunswick and Orono, Me., and the University of Maine at Orono. Includes anecdotes and traveling salesman and elephant jokes.

Are you a Business Owner / Entrepreneur wanting to grow your business or scale from X to 10X OR you are a Sales Professional/Executive struggling on Sales, either ways every business on planet earth can be scaled only and only if they have a system of sales cycle, ability to do value selling, a proven process to convey the marketing message that makes customer rush and trip off to pay and buy your products/services/subscription. It's all about skilling your attributes to deliver results by making not just sales but make great sales happen. Woo.. so if you are looking to grow revenue and have 5 star clients paying 5 star money then this book is for you. This book is not for read and close, this book is for readers who believe in reading and taking actions simultaneously.

This is the first volume to present an international overview of immigrant and ethnic-minority writing in 14 national contexts and a conclusion discussing this writing as a vanguard of cultural change.

The *Oxford Handbook of Arab Novelistic Traditions* is the most comprehensive treatment of the subject to date. In scope, the book encompasses the genesis of the Arabic novel in the second half of the nineteenth century and its development to the present in every Arabic-speaking country and in Arab immigrant destinations on six continents. Editor Wail S. Hassan and his contributors describe a novelistic phenomenon which has pre-modern roots, stretching centuries back within the Arabic cultural tradition, and branching outward geographically and linguistically to every Arab country and to Arab writing in many languages around the world. The first of three innovative dimensions of this Handbook consists of examining the ways in which the Arabic novel emerged out of a syncretic merger between Arabic and European forms and techniques, rather than being a simple importation of the latter and rejection of the former, as early critics of the Arabic novel claimed. The second involves mapping the novel geographically as it took root in every Arab country, developing into often distinct though overlapping and interconnected local traditions. Finally, the Handbook concerns the multilingual character of the novel in the Arab world and by Arab immigrants and their descendants around the world, both in Arabic and in at least a dozen other languages. The *Oxford Handbook of Arab Novelistic Traditions* reflects the current status of research in the broad field of Arab novelistic traditions and signal toward new directions of inquiry.

Mahlet, a young Ethiopian girl with a gift for storytelling, has a special bond with Yacob, the oldest in her household. When Yacob tells her stories of how he and the other warriors fought in the resistance against the Italian occupation of Ethiopia, Mahlet vows to become the keeper and teller of her family's stories. From the time of Menelik to the present, Mahlet's long voyage through time and space links thousands of stories between Africa and Europe. Intensely personal, this powerful and beautifully narrated novel tells

the story of the Italian occupation of Ethiopia as well as of others around the globe who have suffered under colonialism or have been forcibly exiled from their homelands. *Race on Display in 20th- and 21st-Century France* argues that the way France displayed its colonized peoples in the twentieth century continues to inform how minority authors and artists make immigrants and racial and ethnic minority populations visible in contemporary France.

This annotated enumerative bibliography lists all English-language translations of twentieth- and twenty-first-century Italian literature.

Let there be no doubt, the stereotype is accurate: sales people, more than any other profession, truly love telling jokes and humorous stories. And considering the thousands of individuals they come into contact with throughout their careers, one fact is clear: if a career sales professional could somehow capture and save the best humorous anecdotes they had ever heard, an impressive stockpile of exceptional material would result. However, remembering all those jokes seems rather impossible, now doesn't it? Not so, for that's exactly what I've done, and the results are all there in *Jokes & Stories from a Salesman's Briefcase*.

This stimulating and insightful book reveals how increased control over immigration has changed cultural and social production in theater, literature, and even museum construction. Dominic Thomas's analysis unravels the complex cultural and political realities of long-standing mobility between Africa and Europe. Thomas questions the attempt to place strict limits on what it means to be French or European and offers a sense of what must happen to bring about a renewed sense of integration and global Frenchness. Multilingualism is a crucial if often unrecognized marker of new European identities. In this collection of essays, we observe how a plurilinguist and pluricultural political entity practices and theorizes multilingualism. We ask which types of multilingualism are defined, encouraged or discouraged at the level of official policies, but also at the level of communities. We look at speakers of hegemonic or minority languages, at travellers and long-term migrants or their children, and analyse how their conversations are represented in official documents, visual art, cinema, literature and popular culture. The volume is divided into two parts that focus respectively on "Multilingual Europe" and "Multilingual Europeans." The first series of chapters explore the extent to which multilingualism is treated as both a challenge and an asset by the European Union, examine which factors contribute to the proliferation of languages: globalisation, the enlargement of the European Union and EU language policies. The second part of the volume concentrates on the ways in which cultural productions represent the linguistic practices of Europeans in a way that emphasizes the impossibility to separate language from culture, nationality, but also class, ethnicity or gender. The chapters suggest that each form of plurilingualism needs to be carefully analysed rather than celebrated or condemned.

"This book offers samples of the literary and cultural production of an innovative group of new Italian-language writers whose autobiographical texts focus on exploring their identities as immigrants in a Western country. This anthology contributes to the ongoing discussions on exile, diaspora, and migration by documenting the unique Italian case."--BOOK JACKET.

The layman is introduced to modern physics when a personable bank clerk, interested in scientific matters, has fantastic adventures.

***"Science Friday" Summer Reading Pick** **Discover magazine Top 5 Summer Reads** **People magazine Best Summer Reads** "A lovely, big-hearted book...brimming with compassion and the tales of the many, many humans who devote their days to making animals well" (The New York Times). Have you ever wondered if your dog might be a bit depressed? How about heartbroken or homesick? *Animal Madness* takes these questions seriously, exploring the topic of mental health and recovery in the animal kingdom and turning up lessons that Publishers Weekly calls "illuminating...Braitman's delightful balance of humor and poignancy brings each case of life...[Animal Madness's] continuous dose of hope should prove medicinal for humans and animals alike." Susan Orlean calls *Animal Madness* "a marvelous, smart, eloquent book—as much about human emotion as it is about animals and their inner lives." It is "a gem...that can teach us much about the wildness of our own minds" (Psychology Today). This lively and engaging ethnography, written and designed with students in mind, uses the experiences and perspectives of a set of long-time market vendors in San Lorenzo, a neighborhood in the historic center of Florence, Italy, to explore how cultural identities are formed in periods of profound economic and social change.

Behind the bars on her window, Rosa Maria dreams of sunshine, love, calm, and leaving the city where she lives with her family. She suffers her father's beatings, hides her femininity behind shapeless clothing, and pines for the beautiful Jason as she awaits her opportunity to flee. Meanwhile, her older brother is found dead in a nearby parking lot, and the neighborhood explodes in a riot against the police. Rosa Maria resolves to act before she is devoured by family intrigues and despair. Wilfried N'Sondé's powerful voice creates a palpable sense of the absence of hope and the social and racial isolation that pervade the Paris projects, even as he never abandons the expansive capacity of individuals to dream of better lives beyond a seemingly hopeless reality.

Poetry gives us the opportunity to daydream, to float away. My Spirit Said to the Mirror, we have great and precious promise. We are so much more than meets the eye. We are brilliant, bold and blessed. We are spirits filled with love. We are not born to sit on the sidelines. We are born to shine brightly and illuminate the path so others may come and light their torches. In the midst of the world's way we fall prey to our own selfish wants and desires which will surely fade away. We ponder these matters and we question the Divine Plan. The poetry written here came to me as I pondered and may it comfort you as you ponder.

"Komla-Ebri writes about what he knows best: Togo remembered and revisited, Italy as his country of adoption, cross-cultural diversity and similarity, the challenges of assimilation and retention of cultural identity, and the struggle of the individual within these contexts. Each of these contexts, characteristic of today's migrant writers, are reassumed in the universal theme of nostalgia and return that is the inspiration and theme of *Neyla*. With this theme and through the use of various narrative strategies, Komla-Ebri has achieved, in *Neyla*, a universal lyric quality that transcends the categorization of African-Italian and places him in the mainstream of Italian and world literature."--BOOK JACKET.

Perfect White Elephant Gift Idea! Great and funny gag gift for your favorite co-worker, friend and/or family member! This blank lined journal with a funny saying will guarantee you and the gift recipient will have a laugh or two after getting this funny white elephant gift. Ideal for Secret Santa, Birthdays, and Holidays. This is great as a journal or notebook perfect for you to write your own thoughts, get a little creative writing done or just for writing down lists or ideas. It is a 100-page blank ruled journal ready for you to fill with your own writing and get a little creative every now and then. Grab yours today and order

one for a friend too! Everyone deserves a good laugh! 100 page of high quality crisp white paper (50 sheets) It can be used as a journal, notebook or just a composition book 6" x 9" Paperback notebook, soft matte cover Perfect for gel pen, ink or pencils Great size to carry everywhere in your bag, to work, school and random road trips!

This dark and suspenseful novel tells the story of a fictitious West African country caught in the grip of civil war. The dispassionate and deadpan narrator, Asante Kroma, is a former head of Secret Services and finds himself living with the corpse of the dictator, a man who once ruled his nation with an iron fist. Through a series of flashbacks and letters penned by the dictator, N'Zo Nikiema, readers discover the role of the French shadow leader, Pierre Castaneda, whose ongoing ambition to exploit the natural resources of the country knows no limits. As these powerful men use others as pawns in a violent real-life chess match, it is the murder of six-year-old Kaveena and her mother's quest for vengeance that brings about a surprise reckoning.

This lucid and finely crafted book explores how migration has made home a constantly evolving concept and how practices of home-making can extend through memory and imagination to include spaces as diverse as the call centre and the train station. Providing detailed new readings of a range of postcolonial texts in Italian, this book will be essential reading for all scholars and students who engage with cultural representations of migration. Emma Bond, Reader, University of St Andrews, Scotland This is an inspirational book that provides a compelling analysis of how migration literature negotiates and reconceives notions of home. Giuliani brilliantly explores how domestic and public spaces are reconfigured in postcolonial literature, allowing us to grasp the complexity of the lived experiences of migrants. Giuliani's engaging work offers an innovative perspective on migration culture; an essential reading for anyone interested in Postcolonial, Memory and Space Studies. Simone Brioni, Associate Professor, Stony Brook University, USA This book examines the meaning of home through the investigation of a series of public and private spaces recurrent in Italian postcolonial literature. The chapters, by considering Termini train station in Rome, phone centres, the condominium, and the private spaces of the bathroom and the bedroom, investigate how migrant characters inhabit those places and turn them into familiar spaces of belonging. Home, Memory and Belonging in Italian Postcolonial Literature suggests home spaces as a lens to examine these places and the practices enacted by their inhabitants to feel at home. Drawing on a wide array of sources, this book focuses on the role played by memory in creating transnational connections between present and past locations and on how these connections shape migrants sense of self and migrants identity. Dr Chiara Giuliani is Lecturer in Italian Studies at University College Cork (Ireland). She researches different aspects of postcolonial literature, questions of home and identity, as well as the cultural representation of the Chinese community in Italy. She has published widely on these topics in academic journals and books.

Containing almost 600 entries, this impressive 2-volume reference presents detailed and authoritative treatment of the field of Italian literature, with attention both to the work and influence of individual writers of all genres and to movements, styles, and critical approaches.

Africa's strong tradition of storytelling has long been an expression of an oral narrative culture. African writers such as Amos Tutuola, Naguib Mahfouz, Wole Soyinka and J. M. Coetzee have adapted these older forms to develop and enhance the genre of the novel, in a shift from the oral mode to print. Comprehensive in scope, these new essays cover the fiction in the European languages from North Africa and Africa south of the Sahara, as well as in Arabic. They highlight the themes and styles of the African novel through an examination of the works that have either attained canonical status - an entire chapter is devoted to the work of Chinua Achebe - or can be expected to do so. Including a guide to further reading and a chronology, this is the ideal starting-point for students of African and world literatures.

Set in a fictitious African nation, this novel by the distinguished writer Sony Labou Tansi takes aim at the corruption, degeneracy, violence, and repression of political life in Africa. At the heart of The Shameful State is the story of Colonel Martillimi Lopez, the nation's president, whose eccentricity and whims epitomize the "shameful situation in which humanity has elected to live." Lopez stages a series of grotesque and barbaric events while his nation falls apart. Unable to resist the dictator's will, his desperate citizens are left with nothing but humiliation. The evocation of this deranged world is a showcase for the linguistic and stylistic inventiveness that are the hallmark of Sony Labou Tansi's work. This first English translation by Dominic Thomas includes a foreword by Congolese writer Alain Mabanckou that contextualizes the novel's importance in literary history and the significance of Sony Labou Tansi for future generations of writers.

Jazz, aliens, and witchcraft collide in this collection of short stories by renowned author Emmanuel Dongala. The influence of Kongo culture is tangible throughout, as customary beliefs clash with party conceptions of scientific and rational thought. In the first half of Jazz and Palm Wine, the characters emerge victorious from decades of colonial exploitation in the Congo only to confront the burdensome bureaucracy, oppressive legal systems, and corrupt governments of the post-colonial era. The ruling political party attempts to impose order and scientific thinking while the people struggles to deal with drought, infertility, and impossible regulations and policies; both sides mix witchcraft, diplomacy, and violence in their efforts to survive. The second half of the book is set in the United States during the turbulent civil rights struggles of the 1960s. In the title story, African and American leaders come together to save the world from extraterrestrials by serving vast quantities of palm wine and playing American jazz. The stories in Jazz and Palm Wine prompt conversations about identity, race, and co-existence, providing contextualization and a historical dimension that is often sorely lacking. Through these collisions and clashes, Dongala suggests a pathway to racial harmony, peaceful co-existence, and individual liberty through artistic creation.

I was an Elephant Salesman Adventures Between Dakar, Paris, and Milan Indiana University Press

To the sound of machine gun fire and the smell of burning flesh, award-winning author In Koli Jean Bofane leads readers on a perilous, satirical journey through the civil conflict and political instability that have been the logical outcome of generations of rapacious multinational corporate activity, corrupt governance, widespread civil conflict, human rights abuses, and environmental degradation in Africa.

Isookanga, a Congolese Pygmy, grows up in a small village with big dreams of becoming rich. His vision of the world is shaped by his exploits in Raging Trade, an online game where he seizes control of the world's natural resources by any means possible: high-tech weaponry, slavery, and even genocide. Isookanga leaves his sleepy village to make his fortune in the pulsating capital Kinshasa, where he joins forces with street children, warlords, and a Chinese victim of globalization in this blistering novel about capitalism, colonialism, and the world haunted by the ghosts of Bismarck and Leopold II. Told with just enough levity to make it truly heartbreaking, Congo Inc. is a searing tale about ecological, political, and economic failure.

In The Tears of the Black Man, award-winning author Alain Mabanckou explores what it means to be black in the world today. Mabanckou confronts the long and entangled history of Africa, France, and the United States as it has been shaped by slavery, colonialism, and their legacy today. Without ignoring the injustices and prejudice still facing blacks, he distances himself from resentment and victimhood, arguing that focusing too intensely on the crimes of the past is limiting. Instead, it is time to ask: Now what? Embracing the challenges faced by ethnic minority communities today, The Tears of the Black Man looks to the future, choosing to believe that the history of Africa has yet to be written and seeking a path toward affirmation and reconciliation.

An elephant who loves to smash small cars is a problem to a car salesman until he smashes the elephant with big cars.

Contemporary Italian Diversity in Critical and Fictional Narratives brings together creative literary works and scholarly articles. Both address the changes and challenges to identity formation in an Italy marked by the migrations, populism, nationalism, and xenophobia, and analyze diversity and the affirmation of belonging.

A landmark bestseller in Italy, *I Was an Elephant Salesman* gives a name and a face to the thousands of anonymous African street vendors in cities across Europe. Through the voice of a thinly veiled first-person narrator, Pap Kouma offers us a chilling, intimate, and often ironic glimpse into the life of an illegal immigrant. Kouma invents a life for himself as an itinerant trader of carved elephants, small ivories, and other "African" trinkets, struggling to maintain courage and dignity in the face of despair and humiliation. Constantly on the run from the authorities, he finds insight into the vicissitudes of law and politics, the constraints of citizenship, national borders, skin color, and the often paralyzing difficulties of obtaining basic human needs. His story reveals a contemporary Europe struggling to come to terms with its multiracial, multireligious, and multicultural identity.

In terms of migration, Italy is often thought of as a source country - a place from which people came rather than one to which people go. However, in the past few decades, Italy has indeed become a destination for many people from poor or war-torn countries seeking a better life in a stable environment. Graziella Parati's *Migration Italy* examines immigration to Italy in the past twenty years, and explores the processes of cultural hybridization that have occurred. Working from a cultural studies viewpoint, Parati constructs a theoretical framework for discussing Italy as a country of immigration. She gives special attention to immigrant literature, positing that it functions as an act of resistance, a means to talk back to the laws that regulate the lives of migrants. Parati also examines Italian cinema, demonstrating how native and non-native filmmakers alike create parallels between old and new migrations, complicating the definitions of sameness and difference. These definitions and the complexities inherent in the different cultural, legal, and political positions of Italy's people are at the heart of *Migration Italy*, a unique work of immense importance for understanding society in both modern-day Italy and, indeed, the entire European continent.

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