

Ellipsis Two (Comma Modern Shorts Book 1)



A bank manager arrives at work one day to find himself the new employer of his ex-wife. In the middle of a shift a divorced bus driver abandons his vehicle, to search for his estranged son. Two sisters come to terms with their fathers disappearance with the help of a skeleton called Indira. The stories in *Ellipsis 2* explore the inherent dysfunctionality of almost all relationships, their aftermaths, and the lengths people go to to redeem them. From the ingrained resentments of Jane Rogers parent-child histories, to the twisted claustrophobia of Polly Clarks couples, and the absence that travels beside each passenger in Zoe Lamberts bus sequence these stories demonstrate the transforming, often alienating affect a relationship can have on the individuals in it, and remind us that being next of kin isnt always kind. *Ellipsis* is a unique series presenting linked or themed sequences of short stories by three writers in each volume. ABOUT THE AUTHORS: JANE ROGERS is the author of several novels, including *Separate Tracks* (1983); *Her Living Image* (1984), winner of a Somerset Maugham Award; *The Ice is Singing* (1987); *Mr Wroes Virgins* (1991); *Promised Lands* (1995), winner of the Writers Guild Award (Best Fiction); *Island* (1999), and *The Voyage Home* (2004), and *The Testament of Jessie Lamb* (Sandstone Press, 2011) which was long-listed for the Booker and won the Arthur C Clarke Award. She is the editor of the OUPs *Good Fiction Guide*, and writes for television and radio. Her Channel 4 drama *Dawn and the Candidate* (1989) won a Samuel Beckett Television Award; and her adaptation of *Mr Wroes Virgins* (1993), directed by Danny Boyle, was nominated for a BAFTA. She teaches on the MA writing course at Sheffield Hallam University and is a Fellow of the Royal Society of Literature. Her short story collection *Hitting Trees with Sticks* is forthcoming from Comma Press. POLLY

CLARK is the author of three collections of poetry from Bloodaxe Books. Her work has been shortlisted for the TS Eliot Prize and won an Eric Gregory Award. A new collection LETHE is forthcoming in 2016 and her current project is a novel, LARCHFIELD, inspired by the poet WH Audens years as a schoolmaster in Helensburgh. Her memoir THANK YOU SO MUCH FOR WRITING won the 2014 Tony Lothian Prize. Polly Clark lives on the West Coast of Scotland and is the Literature Programme Producer for Cove Park, Scotlands International Artist Residency Centre. More details about her work can be found on her website: www.pollyclark.co.uk ZOE LAMBERT is a Manchester based writer. She has an MA in Creative Writing at UEA and she is a PhD from MMU. Her first short story collection, The War Tour (in which several of these stories appear) was published in 2012.

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