

Past Imperatives

MORDECAI RICHLER, *The Apprenticeship of Duddy Kravitz*, McClelland and Stewart, 1974; *Son of a Smaller Hero*, 1955, McClelland and Stewart, 1965; *St. Urbain's Horseman*, Bantam, 1972. Life in the old Jewish section of Montreal and in the great outside world. Richler is a funny, poignant moralist who accepts but does not approve.

GABRIELLE ROY, *Bonheur d'occasion*, McClelland and Stewart, 1959; *The Tin Flute*, McClelland and Stewart, 1969, Translated by Hannah Josephson. An excellent introduction to the stresses that strain Quebec.

ROGER LEMELIN, *Au pied de la pente douce*, McClelland and Stewart, 1968; *The Town Below*, McClelland and Stewart, 1961, Translated by Samuel Putnam. A vivid view of Quebec City's working class.

MARGARET LAURENCE, *A Jest of God* (also issued as *Rachel, Rachel*), 1966, McClelland and Stewart, 1974. A school teacher seeks fulfillment in rural midwestern Canada—a much better book than the resulting movie.

ROCH CARRIER, *La Guerre, yes sir!*, Editions du Jour, 1968; *Anansi*, 1970, Translated by Sheila Fischman. A bawdy portrait of French Canadian lowlife in the army.

BRIAN MOORE, *I Am Mary Dunne*, McClelland and Stewart, 1976. A desperate day in the life of a thirty-three-year-old woman who lost her sense of

self some place along her way from small town Ontario to Toronto to Montreal to New York, from husband to husband to husband, from reality to new reality to confusion.

ROBERTSON DAVIES, *Fifth Business*, *The Manticore* and *World of Wonders*, Macmillan, 1970-1975. The greatest trilogy of our time. All you need to know about English-speaking Canada in the twentieth century. Perhaps it is all you need to know. Mr. Davies is Canada's Dickens. He is as essential and as invisible in the world of his creation as God the Father is in His.

HUGH MACLENNAN, *Two Solitudes*, 1945, Macmillan, 1968. The classic French/English relations novel, covering 1914-1939.

MARGARET ATWOOD, *Surfacing*, *Paperjacks*, 1973. Young, discontented Canadians on a remote lake in northern Quebec. In the end, the heroine "surfaces," determined to be a victim no more.

SINCLAIR ROSS, *As For Me and My House*, 1941, McClelland and Stewart, 1970. A minister who is a would-be artist and his wife trapped by the prairie, wind, dust, isolation, his job, the town and themselves.

STEPHEN LEACOCK, *Sunshine Sketches of a Little Town*, 1912, McClelland and Stewart, 1948. One of the two funniest philosophers ever to grow up on the continent.

