

## The Literature of Protest

Recent years have brought an upsurge in the demand for protest literature after the US 2016 Presidential election. Many people wonder, "Where's all the protest literature when we need it." Yet "protest" literature shines light on the world for thousands of years, drawings in caves to Lysistrata, from songs of weavers replaced by factories to the blue, blazing novels, incendiary poems,, and astonishing stories from the Amazon to Tokoyo, from South Africa to Scotland. Here are some of the most intricate, artistic works of global protest fiction( 20 and 21 century emphasis)

God's Bits of Wood- Ousmane Sembene. A communist-led national railroad strike, features a militant three hundred mile march to the capital by wives, mothers and sisters of strikers, forcing French colonialism from Senegal.

The Case of Comrade Tulayev- Victor Serge. A stunning work about genuine communists caught in the murderous purges of Stalin with a surprising "ending".

Beloved- Toni Morrison. By far, one of the "GREAT AMERICAN NOVELS." The ferocious resistance to slavery replete with ghosts and an earned love story.

Beijing Coma- Ma Jjian. An inside view of student and community radicals at Tienanmen Square in Beijing rebelling against an intransigent government.

The End of Spring- Sahar Khalifeh. A complex novel of Palestinians fighting for freedom against the British in the middle of the twentieth century.

I Hotel- Karen Yamashita. This novel chronicles the mighty struggle of the Asian-American community and hundreds of Bay Area supporters to save cherished homes for older farmworkers and restaurant workers in California as persistent picketing families and friends prevented evictions for years,

The Children of the Future- Assia Djaber. Algerian mountain women take charge of their village while their men in the mountains wage guerilla war against the French.

Storming Heaven- Denise Giardina. Women of union miners help their men battle unsafe conditions and greedy mine owners in 1919 West Virginia and Kentucky.

One Day Of Life- Manlio Argueta. Intense multiple point of view novel about the civil wars in El Salvador is marked by a young teenager's leadership in city demos. demonstrations while her countryside grandparents resist the militia.

The General of The Dead Army - Ismail Kadare. An Italian priest in post WWII Albania wants to dig up dead soldiers, shocking locals who with other ideas.

The Factory Ship and the Absentee Landlord- Takeshi Kobayashi. Two unusual socialist realist novellas about Japanese workers rebelling during World War II.

The Brothers Ashkenazi by IJ Singer. Two Jewish brothers involved in late nineteenth century labor struggles at a garment factory in the bustling city of Oudz have different ideas and practices to build stronger unions leading to increasingly anxious relationships among themselves and with the people of the city. A towering coming of age novel that doesn't exclude politics by concentrating too much on the family.