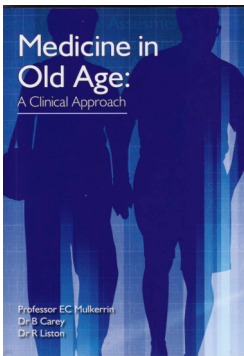


## Textbook

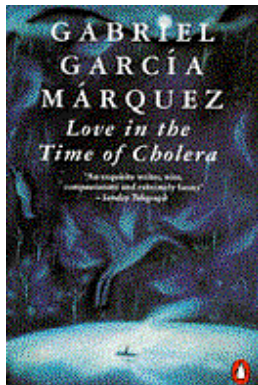


Medicine in Old Age: a Clinical Approach. Mulkerrin, Carey and Liston. Superb Irish handbook of Geriatric Medicine (2009) ISBN:0-9547202-2-9

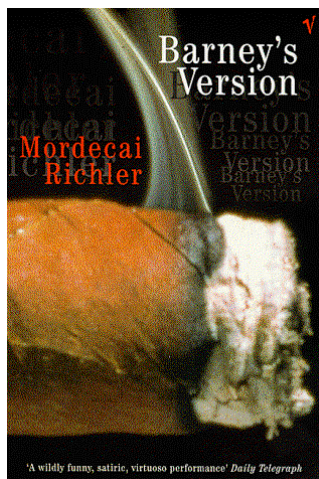
## Literature

In clinical medicine, we are sometimes too close to the anvil to gain insight and perspective into the impact of ageing and age-related diseases. Literary narrative, both fictional and factual, is one source of enlightenment. The following list is eclectic and represents a work in progress. Any suggestions that you have for other works are welcome!

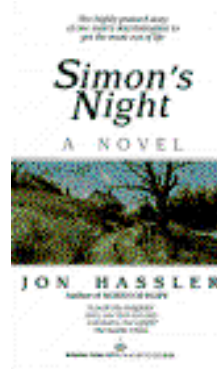
An remarkable essay is Susan Sontag's *Illness as Metaphor*. Sontag shows how the metaphors and myths surrounding certain illnesses, especially cancer, add greatly to the suffering of the patients and often inhibit them from seeking proper treatment - a good introduction to ageism! Penguin, ISBN: 0385267053



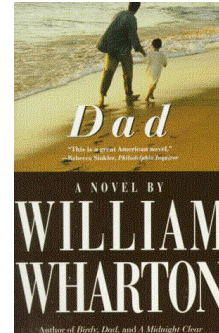
One of the most celebrated accounts of ageing in literature ISBN: 0140119906



Raucous and rowdy novel, the narrator suffering from early dementia. Unmissable scene where the MMSE is administered ISBN: 0671028464



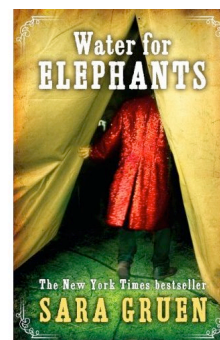
Simon's Night by Jon Hassler. Wonderful read about a retired professor of English who over-anticipates the problems of ageing ISBN: 0345333748



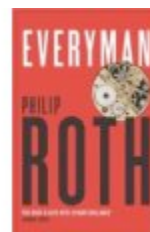
Interesting perspective of father/son relationship and ageing by author of *Birdy*. Some confusion of sentiment with emotion but worthwhile ISBN: 155704256X



Animal Dreams by Barbara Kingsolver: A novel where one of the characters is a family doctor with early Alzheimer's disease: sensitive realization of preserved function and anxieties of early dementia ISBN: 0060921145



Water for Elephants, Sara Gruen. Interesting and comedic life course review, alternating between a nursing home and a circus! ISBN-10:0340935464

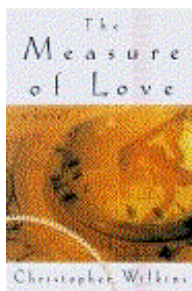


Everyman, Philip Roth: elegaic and often depairing insight into ageing, social relationships and illness ISBN-10: 0099501465



A Short History of Tractors in Ukrainian: Maria Lewycka. Absorbing and humorous but with elder abuse at its core ISBN-10: 0141020520

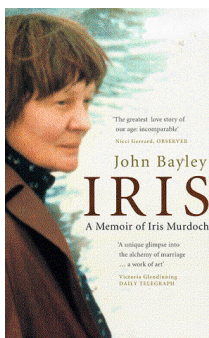
# AgePage -READING LIST



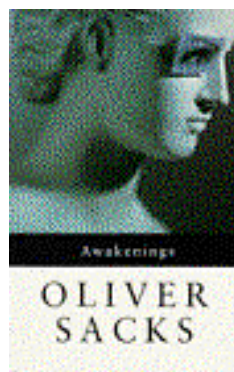
**The Horizontal Instrument** (US, *The Measure of Love*), Christopher Wilkins. A novel reflecting on time, watch-making and dementia. Excellent. ISBN: 0385600313



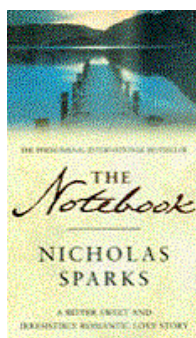
**The Diving Bell and the Butterfly**; Jean-Dominique Bauby. Extraordinary and moving account of life with a brain-stem stroke where the author could only move his eye-lids ISBN: 1857027949



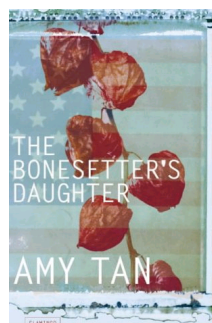
Account by Iris Murdoch's husband of her descent into Alzheimer's disease. Absorbing (possibly voyeuristic and opportunist) ISBN: 0349112150



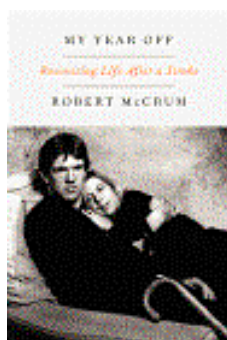
**Awakenings**: Sensational account of the introduction of L-dopa therapy for Parkinsonism ISBN: 0330320912



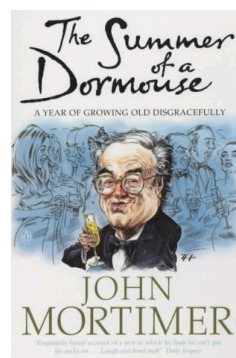
Lachrymose, sentimental, Mills & Boonish but with an incredible perspective on preserved emotional life in dementia ISBN: 0553504894



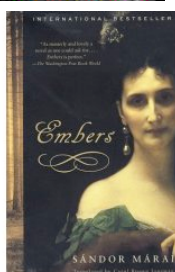
**The BoneSetter's Daughter**: fascinating tale of interaction between octogenerian Chinese woman with Alzheimer's disease who is trying to record her memories and her daughter, a writer ISBN: 0006550436



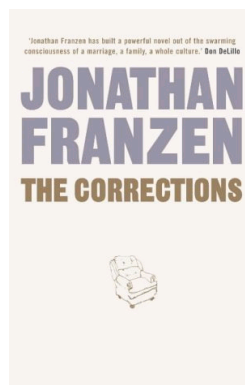
Literary editor of the Observer recovering from a major stroke: a little agnostic of his privileged treatment vis-à-vis standard treatment, but insightful otherwise ISBN: 0330352407



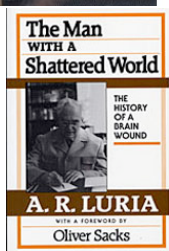
Droll account of growing old disgracefully! ISBN: 0140291121



**Embers**, Sandor Marai. Minor classic, with telling version of life-course review. ISBN-10: 0375707425



Clumsy family saga but major insight into the impact of Alzheimer's disease. ISBN: 1841156728



**The Man with a Shattered World**. Extraordinary account of brain injury, may parallel the subjective experience of those with dementia. ISBN-10: 0-674-54625-3