

Recent college grad?
Retiring early?
Self-employed?

BlueCross
of Northeastern Pennsylvania

Independent member of the Blue Cross and Blue Shield Association
Member since 1998



BlueCross® Direct is offered by First Priority Life Insurance Company, a licensed affiliate of Blue Cross of the Northeast Pennsylvania. First Priority Life is an independent licensee of the Blue Cross and Blue Shield Association.

guardian.co.uk

[News](#) | [Sport](#) | [Comment](#) | [Culture](#) | [Business](#) | [Money](#) | [Life & style](#) | [Travel](#) | [Environment](#) | [TV](#) | [Video](#) | [Community](#) | [Blogs](#) | [Jobs](#)

[Culture](#) > [Books](#) > [Martin Amis](#)

Martin Amis says new novel will get him 'in trouble with the feminists'

Author expects criticism of *The Pregnant Widow*, but insists it's "actually a very feminist book" that shows how his sister fell victim to the sexual revolution

Alison Flood

guardian.co.uk, Friday 20 November 2009 15.09 GMT

[Article history](#)



'I'm a gynocrat' ... Martin Amis. Photograph: Juan Martin Msis/EPA

Martin Amis's new novel *The Pregnant Widow* will explore his belief that the apparent freedom of the sexual revolution actually placed huge pressure on women, with his late sister Sally one of its victims. The author has written his sister – who died in 2000 after periods of depression and alcoholism – into the forthcoming book's storyline, and has attributed many of her problems to the sexual revolution of the 60s and 70s.

"She was pathologically promiscuous. She really had the mental age of someone who was 12 or 13 and I think she was terrified. I think what she was doing was seeking protection from men, but it went the other way, she was often beaten up, abused and she simply used herself up," Amis is reported by the *Evening Standard* to have told a London festival audience earlier this week.

"She died at the age of 46, not of anything sudden; she was one of the most spectacular victims of the revolution. It would have needed the Taliban to protect her."

The Pregnant Widow will also include "a minor Islamic theme", he told the *Epsom Guardian*, which "has to do with how Muslims and Christians seemed to be getting on reasonably well and we had no idea that this millennium old hatred would burst forward on [September 11]."

Amis has previously come under fire over Islam, with Terry Eagleton accusing him of views appropriate to a "British National Party thug" following Amis's comment to a newspaper that "there's a definite urge – don't you have it? – to say the Muslim community will have to suffer until it gets its house in order".

(28)

Tweet this (43)

A larger | smaller

Books

Martin Amis · Fiction

Culture

[More news](#)

Take a fresh look at your retirement.

- Online Retirement Center with tools and guidance to help you manage your IRA
- Chartered Retirement Planning CounselorsSM to talk you through rollovers and transfers

OPEN AN IRA IN 15 MINUTES OR LESS

GET STARTED

AMERITRADE

On Books

Most viewed

Zeitgeist

Latest

Last 24 hours



1. AS Byatt: 'I don't believe in God. I believe in Wallace Stevens'

2. Ayn Rand fan spells out appreciation in world's largest book ad

3. *Alexander the Great* novel gets bum rap in Canada

4. Truce called in battle over ebook rights

5. James Patterson brings in \$70m to become world's highest-earning author

[More most viewed](#)

Guardian Books on Twitter

Latest news, views and links from the Guardian's books team



Sarah Crown: RT @parisreview "At night you dream six dreams. But ARE they six dreams?" - Philip Roth's Paris Review interview [#books](http://tpr.ly/dkPrPB) about 3 hours, 35 minutes ago



Sarah Crown: Couldn't agree more RT @brenstrong "This is the night mail" - WH Auden youtube.com/watch?v=zmcuK... feckin' great #books about 5 hours, 2 minutes ago



Sarah Crown: RTing for users of the #books site: early c20th Russia in colour: amazing (via @andydickson, @catherinesheard) <http://bit.ly/b9YfGI> about 1 day, 2 hours ago

- Find more tweets from our books team
- Follow our books team on a Twitter list

guardianbookshop

Web2PDF

converted by Web2PDFConvert.com

He has been accused of misogyny in the past, but told the Richmond Book Now festival audience he was a feminist himself. "Women can't rise far enough to suit me," he said. "I'm a gynocrat – I'd like rule by women."

The Pregnant Widow, described by its publisher as a tragicomedy, follows the lives of six young people spending a long, hot summer holiday in an Italian castle during the sexual revolution and the "sea change" of 1970.

Amis said he had been told it would get him "in trouble with the feminists", but he insisted that it was actually "a very feminist book" and that "they haven't got a case".

The title of the novel, which will be published in February 2010, is taken from the Russian intellectual Alexander Herzen, who said that after a revolution we are left with "not an heir but a pregnant widow".

"In other words, revolution isn't a flip," said Amis. "It's a churning process that goes on for a long time before the baby is born. It's not the instant replacement of one order by another."

[Printable version](#) [Send to a friend](#) [Share](#) [Clip](#) [Contact us](#) [Article history](#)

Ads by Google

How To Publish A Book

Publish Your Book Today. Expert Support. Free Publishing Guide.
www.AuthorHouse.com

Novel

Expert Reviews, Bestsellers & More. Find Your Next Book at Target.
www.Target.com/Books

Literature Study Guides

Complete & Detailed Guides to Over 3,500 Works of Literature.
eNotes.com/Literature-Guides

Related information

Books

[Martin Amis · Fiction](#)

Culture



Video (10min 23sec),
[Martin Amis on euthanasia](#)

1 Feb 2010:

Video: Controversial author Martin Amis joins the Guardian book club to discuss his 1991 novel *Time's Arrow* and is asked about his views on euthanasia

[More video](#)

12 Jun 2010

[The Ask](#) by Sam Lipsyte

23 May 2010

[Is there a new Martin Amis to chart the coalition's flaws?](#) | Nick Cohen

17 Mar 2010

[Short is sweet when it comes to fiction](#)

25 Feb 2010

[Letters: Ford, Amis and a dance to the music of time](#)



Gallery (14 pictures):
[Martin Amis at 60](#)
25 Aug 2009:

Martin Amis, the one-time enfant terrible of the British literary establishment, turns 60 today. Take a look at a life in pictures of the author of *Money*, *London Fields*, and *Time's Arrow*

[More galleries](#)

This week's bestsellers



1. American Caesars
by Nigel Hamilton
£25.00

2. It's All About the Bike
by Robert Penn £16.99

3. Red Men
by John Williams £16.99

4. Finkler Question
by Howard Jacobson £18.99

5. Flavour Thesaurus
by Niki Segnit £18.99

Search the Guardian bookshop

Latest reviews



[On Deception](#) by Harry Houdini

[Electric Eden: Unearthing Britain's Visionary Music](#) by Rob Young

[Human Chain](#) by Seamus Heaney

[John L Williams: Mss](#) Shirley Bassey

[Encounter: Essays](#) by Milan Kundera

Milan Kundera's exhumed essays cast a spell with their insights into creativity, writes **Geoff Dyer**

[More books reviews](#)

Bestsellers from the Guardian shop



[Loose top socks](#) by HJ Hall
Twelve pairs (black, navy, grey and oatmeal) for only £24.99
From: £24.99

[Visit the Guardian reader offers shop](#)
Green & ethical shopping at Guardian ecostore

Latest news on guardian.co.uk

Last updated less than one minute ago

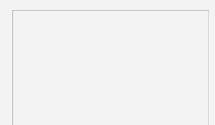
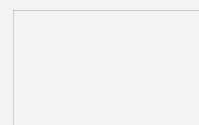
News

[Clegg says report calling budget unfair is 'partial'](#)

Sport

['I never hit him,' says Woods ex-wife](#)

Sponsored features



[guardianjobs](#)

Upload your CV



Get jobs by email



Web2PDF

converted by Web2PDFConvert.com

and get spotted by
recruiters

and get the latest jobs
in your inbox

Interview
advice



we'll help you prepare
for that interview

Jobs by
Twitter



follow our bespoke
Twitter feeds

arts

Search



**Legacy Development
Executive**
London | £22,472 pa
ENGLISH HERITAGE

Hot topics [Comic-Con](#) [Book news](#) [Book reviews](#)

[License/buy our content](#) | [Privacy policy](#) | [Terms & conditions](#) | [Advertising guide](#) | [Accessibility](#) | [A-Z index](#) | [Inside guardian.co.uk blog](#) | [About guardian.co.uk](#) | [Join our dating site today](#)
guardian.co.uk © Guardian News and Media Limited 2010