Beautiful World, Where Are You
A Novel

Sally Rooney

A new novel by Sally Rooney, the bestselling author of Normal People and Conversations with Friends

Alice, a novelist, meets Felix, who works in a warehouse, and asks him if he’d like to travel to Rome with her. In Dublin, her best friend, Eileen, is getting over a break-up, and slips back into flirting with Simon, a man she has known since childhood.

Alice, Felix, Eileen, and Simon are still young—but life is catching up with them. They desire each other, they delude each other, they get together, they break apart. They have sex, they worry about sex, they worry about their friendships and the world they live in. Are they standing in the last lighted room before the darkness, bearing witness to something? Will they find a way to believe in a beautiful world?

Sally Rooney is the author of the novels Conversations with Friends and Normal People. She was the winner of the Sunday Times/Peters Fraser + Dunlop Young Writer Award in 2017. In 2018, Conversations with Friends was short-listed for both the Dylan Thomas Prize and the Rathbones Folio Prize, and Normal People was the Waterstones Book of the Year, won the Costa Novel Award, and was long-listed for the Booker Prize. Normal People won the Encore Award in 2019. Rooney was the editor of The Stinging Fly in 2018 and a Cullman Center Fellow at the New York Public Library from 2019 to 2020. She was nominated for an Emmy for her work on the Hulu/BBC television adaptation of Normal People in 2020.
Cranial Fracking
Ian Frazier

Dispatches from the front lines of American culture by the great humorist

Ian Frazier, "America’s greatest essayist" (Los Angeles Times), has gathered his insights on the most urgent issues of today in Cranial Fracking. From climate change (what did Al Gore say at his colloquium on the rising temperatures in Hell?) to the state of culture (what do you do when you’re afflicted with Loss of Funding?) to Texas (what should we do with Texas?), he has all the answers. Or, at the very least, a lot of questions.

Frazier is endlessly curious and perpetually delighted, and seeing the absurdity of the world through his eyes is irresistible. Once more, the author of Hogs Wild and Travels in Siberia has struck oil.


PRAISE

Praise for Ian Frazier

"Wickedly funny." —The New York Times

"Twain-like." —The New York Review of Books
Lost to the World
Shahbaz Taseer

Shahbaz Taseer’s memoir of his five-year-long captivity at the hands of the Islamic Movement of Uzbekistan

In late August 2011, Shahbaz Taseer was driving to his office in Lahore when he was dragged from his car at gunpoint and kidnapped by members of the Islamic Movement of Uzbekistan (IMU), a Taliban-affiliated Uzbek terrorist group. Shahbaz’s father, the late Pakistani governor, had recently been assassinated. His crime: speaking in support of a Christian woman who had been accused of blasphemy and sentenced to death. Though Shahbaz himself wasn’t much interested in politics, he was somewhat of a public figure, and he represented a more tolerant, internationally connected Pakistan that the IMU despised.

What followed was nearly five years of torture and harrowing danger while Shahbaz was held captive, his fate determined by the infighting of the IMU, Taliban, and ISIS. Lost to the World is his memoir of that time—a story of extraordinary sorrow, but also goodness and faith. While deeply dramatic, this tale is also comedic; for Shahbaz, humor, as much as the Quran, provided a light by which to see his own humanity even under the most inhumane conditions, and to find a way back to his family.

In a time when Western leaders use fear-mongering rhetoric to paint all followers of Islam as dangerous fundamentalists, Lost to the World illustrates the chasm between Muslim terrorists and ordinary Muslim citizens, and how terrorist organizations gain strength from the “war on terror.”

Shahbaz Taseer is a Pakistani businessman and the son of the former governor of Punjab (Pakistan) Salman Taseer. Taseer was held in captivity and was recovered from Kuchlak, Balochistan, on March 8, 2016. His kidnapping was referred to as one of the most high-profile kidnappings in Pakistan by The Guardian.
In 2010, Chelsea Manning, working as an intelligence analyst in the United States Army in Iraq, disclosed 720,000 classified military documents that she had smuggled out via the memory card of her digital camera. In March 2011, the army sentenced Manning to thirty-five years in military prison, charging her with twenty-two counts relating to the unauthorized possession and distribution of classified military documents. The day after her conviction, Manning declared her gender identity as a woman and began to transition. In 2017, President Barack Obama commuted her sentence and she was released from prison.

In her as yet untitled memoir, Manning recounts how her pleas for increased institutional transparency and government accountability took place alongside a fight to defend her rights as a trans woman. She reveals her challenging childhood, her struggles as an adolescent, what led her to join the military, and the fierce pride she took in her work. We also learn the details of how and why she made the decision to send classified military documents to WikiLeaks. This powerful, observant memoir will stand as one of the definitive testaments of the digital age.

Chelsea Manning is an American activist, whistle-blower, politician, and former soldier in the United States Army.
Against Silence
Poems
Frank Bidart

An urgent new collection from the winner of the Pulitzer Prize and the National Book Award and “one of the undisputed master poets of our time” (Craig Morgan Teicher, NPR)

Words, images reek of the worlds from which they emerge: different worlds, each with its all but palpable aroma, its parameters, limitations, promise.

Words—a gap, nonetheless always and forever, between words and the world—

slip, slide, are imprecise, BLIND, perish.

Set up a situation,—

. . . then reveal an abyss.

For more than fifty years, Frank Bidart has given voice to the inner self, to the depths of his own psyche and the unforgettable characters that populate his poems. In Against Silence, the Pulitzer Prize winner’s eleventh collection of poetry, he urges others to join the chorus. Bidart writes of the cycles we cannot escape and the feelings we cannot forget. Our history is not a tabula rasa, but a repeating, refining story of love and hate, of words spoken and cruelties enacted. Moving among the dead and the living, the figures of his life and of his past, Bidart calls forth—with nothing settled and nothing forgotten, we must speak.

Frank Bidart is the author of ten collections of poetry, including Metaphysical Dog, Watching the Spring Festival, Star Dust, Desire, and In the Western Night: Collected Poems 1965–90. He has won many prizes, including the Wallace Stevens Award, the Bollingen Prize for American Poetry, and the National Book Critics Circle Award. His book Half-light: Collected Poems 1965–2016 won the 2018 Pulitzer Prize and the 2017 National Book Award. He lives in Cambridge, Massachusetts.

PRAISE

Praise for Half-light

"[Half-light] comprises fifty years' worth of daring, revelatory poems. For me, it's the book not just of the year but of the decade." —Garth Greenwell, Bookforum

"[Bidart's] poetry over five decades has volubly modeled a wholly new approach to autobiographical material, chiefly by giving voice to the inner
In the years since 9/11, we have entered an age of endless war. With little debate or discussion, the United States carries out military operations around the globe. It hardly matters who’s president or whether liberals or conservatives operate the levers of power. The United States exercises dominion everywhere.

In *Humane: How the United States Abandoned Peace and Reinvented War*, Samuel Moyn asks a troubling but urgent question: What if efforts to make war more ethical—to ban torture and limit civilian casualties—have only shored up the military enterprise and made it sturdier? To advance this case, Moyn looks back at a century and a half of passionate arguments about the ethics of using force. In the nineteenth century, the founders of the Red Cross struggled mightily to make war less lethal even as they acknowledged its inevitability. Leo Tolstoy prominently opposed their efforts, reasoning that war needed to be abolished, not reformed—and over the subsequent century, a popular movement to abolish war flourished on both sides of the Atlantic. Eventually, however, reformers shifted their attention from opposing the crime of war to opposing war crimes, with fateful consequences.

The ramifications of this shift became apparent in the post-9/11 era. By that time, the US military had embraced the agenda of humane war, driven both by the availability of precision weaponry and the need to protect its image...

**Samuel Moyn** is the Henry R. Luce Professor of Jurisprudence at Yale Law School and a professor of history at Yale University. His books include *The Last Utopia* and *Not Enough: Human Rights in an Unequal World.*

**PRAISE**

Praise for Samuel Moyn

"It's difficult to think of a teacher in American academia whose students have made a greater contribution to leftist thought over the past decade."

—Yascha Mounk
An ambitious and highly entertaining novel of revisionist history from the author of the international bestseller HHhH

Freydis is a woman warrior and leader of a band of Viking explorers setting out to the south. They meet local tribes, exchange skills, are taken prisoner, and get as far as Panama. But nobody ultimately knows what became of them.

Fast forward five hundred years to 1492 and we're reading the journals of Christopher Columbus, mid-Atlantic on his own famous voyage of exploration to the Americas, dreaming of gold and conquest. But he and his men are taken captive by Incas. Even as their suffering increases, his faith in his superiority, and in his mission, is unshaken.

Thirty years later, Atahualpa, the last Inca emperor, arrives in Europe in the ships stolen from Columbus. He finds a continent divided by religious and dynastic quarrels, the Spanish Inquisition, Luther's Reformation, capitalism, the miracle of the printing press, endless warmongering between the ruling monarchies, and constant threat from the Turks. But most of all he finds downtrodden populations ready for revolution. Fortunately, he has a recent bestseller as a guidebook to acquiring power—Machiavelli's The Prince. The stage is set for a Europe ruled by Incas and Aztecs, and for a great war that will change history forever.

Laurent Binet's Civilization is nothing less than a strangely believable counterfactual history of the modern world, fizzing with ideas about colonization, empire-building, and the eternal human quest for domination. It...

Laurent Binet was born in Paris, France, in 1972. He is the author of the novels The Seventh Function of Language and HHhH, which was named one of the fifty best books of 2015 by The New York Times and received the Prix Goncourt du Premier Roman. He is a professor at the University of Paris III, where he lectures on French literature.

Sam Taylor has written for The Guardian, the Financial Times, Vogue, and Esquire, and has translated such works as Laurent Binet’s The Seventh Function of Language, HHhH, and the international bestseller The Truth About the Harry Quebert Affair, by Joël Dicker.
The Days of Afrekete
A Novel

Asali Solomon

Inspired by Mrs. Dalloway and Sula, a tender, surprising novel of two women at midlife who rediscover themselves—and perhaps each other

Liselle Belmont is having a dinner party. It seems a strange occasion—her husband, Winn, has lost his bid for the state legislature and they’re having the key supporters over to thank them for their work. Liselle was never sure about Winn becoming a politician, never sure about the limelight, about the life of fundraising and stump speeches. Now that it’s over she is facing new questions: Who are they to each other, after all this? How much of herself has she lost on the way—and was it worth it? Just before the night begins, she hears from an FBI agent, who claims that Winn is corrupt. Is it possible? How will she make it through this dinner party?

Across town, Selena is making her way through the same day, the same way she always does—one foot in front of the other, keeping quiet and focused, trying not to see the terrors all around her. Homelessness, starving children, the very living horrors of history that made America possible: these and other thoughts have made it difficult for her to live a normal life. The only time she was ever really happy was with Liselle back in college. But they’ve lost touch, so much so that when they run into each other at a drugstore just after Obama is elected president, they barely speak. But as the day wears on, Selena’s memories of Liselle begin to shift her path.

Inspired by Mrs. Dalloway and Sula, Asali Solomon's The Days of Afrekete is a deft, expertly layered, nat...

Asali Solomon’s first novel, Disgruntled, was named a best book of the year by the San Francisco Chronicle and The Denver Post. Her first book, Get Down, earned a Rona Jaffe Foundation Writers’ Award and a National Book Foundation’s 5 Under 35 honor, and was a finalist for the Hurston-Wright Legacy Award. Her work has appeared in O, The Oprah Magazine; Vibe; Essence; NPR; the Paris Review Daily; McSweeney’s; and several anthologies. Solomon teaches fiction writing and literature of the African Diaspora at Haverford College, where she is an associate professor, chair of English, and director of creative writing. She was born in Philadelphia, where she lives with her husband and two sons.

PRAISE

Praise for Asali Solomon

“Get Down established Asali Solomon as one of the finest writers of her generation: Disgruntled narrows it down to one of the finest writers alive.”
Thrilling, sharp, and deeply humane, the philosopher Amia Srinivasan’s *The Right to Sex: Feminism in the Twenty-First Century* upends the way we discuss—or avoid discussing—the problems and politics of sex

How should we think about sex? It is a thing we have and also a thing we do; a supposedly private act laden with public meaning; a personal preference shaped by outside forces; a place where pleasure and ethics can pull wildly apart.

How should we talk about sex? Since #MeToo, many have fixed on consent as the key framework for achieving sexual justice. Yet consent is a blunt tool. To grasp sex in all its complexity—its deep ambivalences, its relationships to gender, class, race, and power—we need to move beyond yes and no, wanted and unwanted.

We do not know the future of sex—but perhaps we could imagine it. Amia Srinivasan’s stunning debut helps us do just that. She traces the meaning of sex in our world, animated by the hope of a different world. She reaches back into an older feminist tradition that was unafraid to think of sex as a political phenomenon. She discusses a range of fraught relationships—between discrimination and preference, pornography and freedom, rape and racial injustice, punishment and accountability, students and teachers, pleasure and power, capitalism and liberation.

*The Right to Sex: Feminism in the Twenty-First Century* is a provocation and a promise, transforming many of our most urgent political debates and asking what it might mean to be free.

Amia Srinivasan is the Chichele Professor of Social and Political Theory at All Souls College, Oxford. Previously Associate Professor of Philosophy at St John’s College, Oxford, she has held permanent or visiting academic posts at University College London, Yale, NYU, and UCLA. She is a contributing editor at the *LRB*. Her essays and criticism—on sex, animals, death, the university, technology, anger, politics, and other topics—have also appeared in *The New Yorker, The New York Review of Books, The New York Times, Harper’s Magazine*, the *Times Literary Supplement, The Nation*, and TANK.
Red Milk
A Novel

Sjón; Translated from the Icelandic by Victoria Cribb

A timely and provocative novel about a mysterious Icelandic neo-Nazi and the enduring global allure of fascism

In England in 1962, an Icelandic man is found dead on a train bound for Cheltenham Spa. In his possession, policemen find a map on which a swastika has been drawn with a red pen. Who was he, and where was he going?

In a novel that reads as both biography and mystery, the internationally celebrated novelist Sjón tells the story of Gunnar Kampen, the founder of Iceland’s anti-Semitic nationalist party, with ties to a burgeoning network of neo-Nazi groups across the globe. Told in a series of scenes and letters spanning Kampen’s lifetime—from his childhood in Reyjavik during the Second World War, in a household strongly opposed to Hitler and his views, through his education, political radicalization, and his final clandestine mission to England—Red Milk urges readers to confront the international legacy of twentieth-century fascism and the often unknowable forces that drive some people to extremism.

Based on one of the ringleaders of a little-known neo-Nazi group that operated in Reykjavík in the late 1950s and early 1960s, this taut and potent novel explores what shapes a young man and the enduring, disturbing allure of Nazi ideology.

Sjón is a celebrated Icelandic author whose novels have been published in more than thirty-five languages. He won the Nordic Council's Literary Prize for The Blue Fox, and From the Mouth of the Whale was short-listed for both the IMPAC Dublin Literary Award and the Independent Foreign Fiction Prize. Moonstone: The Boy Who Never Was received every literary prize in Iceland. CoDex 1962, a novel in three books written over twenty-five years, was published in Iceland in 2016 to great acclaim. Sjón has published more than a half dozen poetry collections and has written four opera libretti and lyrics for various artists. He is the president of the PEN International Icelandic Centre and lives in Reykjavik with his wife and two children.

PRAISE

Praise for CoDex 1962

"Sjón is a prodigal storyteller . . . A master of atmosphere, a fine observer of the cross-hatchings of human motivation, and a vivid noticer of detail."
Crossroads
A Novel

Jonathan Franzen

Crossroads is the first novel in Jonathan Franzen's magnum opus, *A Key to All Mythologies*. The trilogy tells the story of a Midwestern family across three generations, mirroring the preoccupations and dilemmas of the United States from the Vietnam War to the 2020s.

Jonathan Franzen has been universally recognized as the great novelist of his generation, a peer and inheritor of Steinbeck, Mailer, Updike, and Roth. Now in his sixties, he has been telling us the truth about the American family through novel after novel, from *The Twenty-Seventh City* to *The Corrections* to *Freedom* and beyond.

In *A Key to All Mythologies*, he is writing the books of his career: a sweeping yet deeply intimate story that encompasses all the "mythologies"—the political, religious, intellectual, social, and emotional crosscurrents that have swept like wildfire across American life in the past decades.

His subject this time is the Hildebrand family of New Prospect, Illinois, outside Chicago. The father, Russ, is the assistant pastor of the First Reformed Church and ex-director of Crossroads, its youth group. He and his wife, Marion, whose marriage has been slowly going stale, have four children. Clem has just left for college and is struggling with the moral dilemmas of the draft and his first sexual experience. Becky is the perfect apple of her father's eye and the most popular girl in school. And there are two younger boys: the scarly brilliant and erratic Perry, and Jay, the beloved baby of the family. All are at points of stress and crisis as Christmas 1971 approaches.

*Crossroads* is the first volume in a trilogy inspired in part by Elena Ferrante's rich and reverberant Naples books. Not s...

Jonathan Franzen is the author of *Purity*, *The Corrections*, and *Freedom*, among other novels, and works of nonfiction including *Farther Away* and *The Kraus Project*, all published by Farrar, Straus and Giroux. He is a member of the American Academy of Arts and Letters, the German Akademie der Künste, and the French Ordre des Arts et des Lettres.
Shelf Life
Chronicles of a Cairo Bookseller

Nadia Wassef

The warm and winning story of opening a modern bookstore where there were none, Shelf Life: Chronicles of a Cairo Bookseller recounts Nadia Wassef’s troubles and triumphs as a founder and manager of Cairo-based Diwan

The streets of Cairo make strange music. The echoing calls to prayer; the raging insults hurled between drivers; the steady crescendo of horns honking; the shouts of street vendors; the television sets and radios blaring from every sidewalk. Nadia Wassef knows this song by heart.

In 2002, with her sister, Hind, and their friend, Nihal, she founded Diwan, a fiercely independent bookstore. They were three young women with no business degrees, no formal training, and nothing to lose. At the time, nothing like Diwan existed in Egypt. Culture was languishing under government mismanagement, and books were considered a luxury, not a necessity. Ten years later, Diwan had become a rousing success, with ten locations, 150 employees, and a fervent fan base.

Frank, fresh, and very funny, Nadia Wassef’s memoir tells the story of this journey. Its eclectic cast of characters features Diwan’s impassioned regulars, like the demanding Dr. Medhat; Samir, the driver with CEO aspirations; meditative and mythical Nihal; silent but deadly Hind; dictatorial and exacting Nadia, a self-proclaimed bitch to work with—and the many people, mostly men, who said Diwan would never work.

Shelf Life is a portrait of a country hurtling toward revolution, a feminist rallying cry, and an unapologetic crash course in running a business under the law of entropy. Above all, it is a celebration of the power of words to bring us home.

Nadia Wassef is an owner of Diwan, Egypt's first modern bookstore, which she cofounded in 2002 with her sister, Hind. She received an MFA from Birkbeck College at the University of London; a master's in social anthropology from the University of London; and a master's in English from American University in Cairo. Before Diwan, she worked in research and advocacy for the Female Genital Mutilation Taskforce and in the Women and Memory Forum. Featured on the Forbes List of the 100 Most Powerful Women in the Middle East in 2014, 2015, and 2016, Wassef's work has been covered in Time, Monocle, Business Monthly, and elsewhere. She lives in London with her two daughters.
After a decade abroad, the National Book Award– and Pulitzer Prize–winning writer Evan Osnos returns to three places he has lived in the United States—Greenwich, CT; Clarksburg, WV; and Chicago, IL—to illuminate the origins of America’s political fury.

Evan Osnos moved to Washington, DC, in 2013 after a decade away from the United States, first as the Beijing bureau chief at the Chicago Tribune and then as the China correspondent for The New Yorker. While abroad, he often found himself making a case for America, urging the citizens of Egypt, Iraq, or China to trust that even though America had made grave mistakes throughout its history, it aspired to some foundational moral commitments—the rule of law, the power of truth, the right of equal opportunity for all. But when he returned to the United States, he found each of these principles under assault.

In search of an explanation for the crisis that reached an unsettling crescendo in 2020—a year of pandemic, civil unrest, and political turmoil—he focused on three places he knew firsthand: Greenwich, Connecticut; Clarksburg, West Virginia; and Chicago, Illinois. Reported over the course of six years, Wildland follows ordinary individuals as they navigate the varied landscapes of twenty-first-century America. Through their powerful, often poignant stories, Osnos traces the sources of America’s political dissolution. He finds answers in the rightward shift of the financial elite in Greenwich; in the collapse of social infrastructure and possibility in Clarksburg; and in the compounded effects of segregation and violence in Chicago. The truth about the state of the nation may be found not in the slogans o...

Wildland
The Making of America’s Fury
Evan Osnos

PRAISE

Praise for Age of Ambition

Evan Osnos is a staff writer at The New Yorker, a CNN contributor, and a senior fellow at the Brookings Institution. Based in Washington D.C., he writes about politics and foreign affairs. He was the China Correspondent at The New Yorker from 2008 to 2013. His first book, Age of Ambition: Chasing Fortune, Truth, and Faith in the New China, won the 2014 National Book award and was a finalist for the Pulitzer Prize. In 2020, he published the international bestseller, Joe Biden: The Life, the Run, and What Matters Now, based on interviews with Biden, Barack Obama, and others. Prior to The New Yorker, Osnos worked as the Beijing bureau chief of the Chicago Tribune, where he contributed to a series that won the 2008 Pulitzer Prize for investigative r...
From the incomparable Tamara Shopsin, a debut novel about a New York City printer repair technician who comes of age alongside the Apple computer

*LaserWriter II* is a coming-of-age tale set in the legendary New York City Mac repair shop Tekserve. The book is a voyage back in time to when the internet was new, New York City was gritty, and Apple made quirky computers for weirdos. Our guide is Claire, a nineteen-year-old who barely speaks to her bohemian coworkers, but knows when it’s time to strap on an antistatic bracelet.

The celebrated author and illustrator Tamara Shopsin brings us a classically New York novel that couldn’t feel more timely. Interleaving the history of digital technology with a tale both touchingly human and delightfully technical, Shopsin brings an idiosyncratic cast of characters to life with a light touch, a sharp eye, and an unmistakable voice.

Filled with pixelated philosophy and lots of printers, *LaserWriter II* is, at its heart, a parable about an apple.

**Tamara Shopsin** is a renowned illustrator, graphic designer, writer, part-time cook, and co-owner of the distinctly New York City eatery Shopsin’s. She is the author of *Mumbai New York Scranton, What Is This?,* and *Arbitrary Stupid Goal*; designer of the *5 Year Diary*; and coauthor, with Jason Fulford, of the books *This Equals That* and *Offline Activities.*

**PRAISE**

Praise for Tamara Shopsin

“Shopsin’s illustrations are instantly recognizable: economical, seemingly simple and straightforward, but always working on a few different levels. Tamara the person is similar: quiet but charming, warm, tough and determined . . . Her prose is the same way: funny and playful but revealing, and making us see the w...
The international star Sara Stridsberg returns with *The Antarctica of Love*, an unnamed woman's tale of her murder, her brief life, and the world that moves on after she left it.

They say you die three times. The first time for me was when my heart stopped beating under his hands by the lake, and the second was when what was left of me was lowered into the ground in front of Ivan and Raksha at Solna Church. The third time will be the last occasion my name is spoken on earth.

She was a neglected child, an unreliable mother, a sex worker, a drug user—like so many nameless victims of violent crime. But first she was a human being, a full, complicated person, and she insists that we know her fully as she tells her story from beyond the grave. We witness her short life, the harrowing murder that ended it, and her grief over the loved ones she has left behind. We see her parents struggle with guilt and loss. We watch her children grow up in adopted families and live imperfect lives. We feel her dreams, fears, and passions, even though we will never know her name.

A heartrending existential drama by the acclaimed Swedish writer Sara Stridsberg, *The Antarctica of Love* is an unflinchingly testament of a woman on the margins, a tale of family lost and found, and a report of a murder in the voice of the victim. This novel of life after death unfolds in brief vignettes, brimming with unexpected tenderness and hope.

Sara Stridsberg is the author of *Valerie*, which was named a Best Book of the Year by *The New Yorker* and won the Nordic Council Literature Prize. She is an internationally acclaimed writer and playwright whose work has been translated into more than twenty languages. A former member of the Swedish Academy, she is a leading feminist and artist in her native Sweden and around the world.

Deborah Bragan-Turner has a degree in Scandinavian languages from University College London. She translates Swedish literature, particularly literary fiction and biographies.

**PRAISE**

"[A] shattering read from one of Scandinavia’s truly modern storytellers, in prose that seems both more sophisticated and more accessible than..."
This central collection by the poet, dramatist, and Nobel laureate Nelly Sachs—newly translated from the German by Joshua Weiner (with Linda B. Parshall)—reveals the visionary poet’s remarkable power of creation and transformation.

So far out, in the open, cushioned in sleep.
In flight from the land with love’s heavy luggage.

A butterfly-zone of dreams like an open parasol held up against the truth.

Flight and Metamorphosis marks the culmination of Nelly Sachs’s development as a poet. Sachs, who was awarded the Nobel Prize in Literature in 1966, speaks from her own condition as a refugee from Nazi Germany—her loneliness while living in a small Stockholm flat with her elderly mother, her exile, her alienation, her feelings of romantic bereavement, and her search for the divine. Forced onto a journey of endless change, Sachs created her own path forward. From these sublime poems, she emerges as a visionary, one who harnesses language’s essential power to create and transform our world. Joshua Weiner’s translations are the first in more than half a century to elucidate Sachs’s enduring poetic power and relevance.

Nelly Sachs (1891–1970) was a dramatist and poet. Born into a Jewish family in Berlin, she was forced to flee Germany and escape to Sweden with her mother in 1940, where she worked as a translator. Her collections of poetry include In the Habitations of Death, Eclipse of Stars, And No One Knows Where to Go, and Flight and Metamorphosis. She was awarded the Nobel Prize in Literature in 1966.

Joshua Weiner is a poet and translator. He is the author of The Figure of a Man Being Swallowed by a Fish, From the Book of Giants, The World's Room, and Berlin Notebook: Where Are the Refugees, and the editor of At the Barriers: On the Poetry of Thom Gunn. He is an English professor at the University of Maryland, College Park, and the poetry editor at Tikku...
Winter Recipes from the Collective
Poems

Louise Glück

A haunting new book by a poet whose voice speaks of all our lifetimes

The 2020 Nobel Prize winner Louise Glück’s thirteenth book is among her most haunting. Here as in the Wild Iris there is a chorus, but the speakers are entirely human, simultaneously spectral and ancient. Winter Recipes from the Collective is chamber music, an invitation into that privileged realm small enough for the individual instrument to make itself heard, dolente, its line sustained, carried, and then taken up by the next instrument, spirited, animoso, while at the same time being large enough to contain a whole lifetime, the inconceivable gifts and losses of old age, the little princesses rattling in the back of a car, an abandoned passport, the ingredients of an invigorating winter sandwich, a sister’s death, the joyful presence of the sun, its brightness measured by the darkness it casts. “Some of you will know what I mean,” the poet says, by which she means, some of you will follow me. Hers is the sustaining presence, the voice containing all our lifetimes, “all the worlds, each more beautiful than the last.” This magnificent book couldn’t have been written by anyone else, nor could it have been written by the poet at any other time in her life.

Louise Glück is the author of two collections of essays and more than a dozen books of poems. Her many awards include the 2020 Nobel Prize in Literature, the 2015 National Humanities Medal, the 1993 Pulitzer Prize for The Wild Iris, the 2014 National Book Award for Faithful and Virtuous Night, the 1985 National Book Critics Circle Award for The Triumph of Achilles, the 2001 Bollingen Prize, the 2012 Los Angeles Times Book Prize for Poems 1962–2012, and the 2008 Wallace Stevens Award from the Academy of American Poets. She teaches at Yale University and Stanford University and lives in Cambridge, Massachusetts.
The Dawn of Everything
A New History of Humanity
David Graeber and David Wengrow

The renowned activist and public intellectual David Graeber teams up with the professor of comparative archaeology David Wengrow to deliver a trailblazing account of human history, challenging our most fundamental assumptions about social evolution—from the development of agriculture and cities to the emergence of "the state," political violence, and social inequality—and revealing new possibilities for human emancipation.

For generations, our remote ancestors have been cast as primitive and childlike—either free and equal innocents, or thuggish and warlike. Civilization, we are told, could be achieved only by sacrificing those original freedoms or, alternatively, by taming our baser instincts. David Graeber and David Wengrow show how such theories first emerged in the eighteenth century as a conservative reaction to powerful critiques of European society posed by Indigenous observers and intellectuals. Revisiting this encounter has startling implications for how we make sense of human history today, including the origins of farming, property, cities, democracy, slavery, and civilization itself.

Drawing on pathbreaking research in archaeology and anthropology, the authors show how history becomes a far more interesting place once we learn to throw off our conceptual shackles and perceive what's really there. If humans did not spend 95 percent of their evolutionary past in tiny bands of hunter-gatherers, what were they doing all that time? If agriculture, and cities, did not mean a plunge into hierarchy and domination, then what kinds of social and economic organization did they lead to? What was really happening during the periods that we usually describe as the emergence of "the state"? The answers are often unexpected, and suggest that the course of human history may be less set in stone, and more full of playful, hopeful...

David Graeber was a professor of anthropology at the London School of Economics. He is the author of Debt: The First 5,000 Years and Bullshit Jobs: A Theory, and was a contributor to Harper’s Magazine, The Guardian, and The Baffler. An iconic thinker and renowned activist, his early efforts in Zuccotti Park made Occupy Wall Street an era-defining movement. He died on September 2, 2020.

David Wengrow is a professor of comparative archaeology at the Institute of Archaeology, University College London, and has been a visiting professor at New York University. He is the author of three books, including What Makes Civilization?.
In short, gloriously inventive essays, Amy Leach invites us to see and celebrate our oddball, interconnected world

Are you feeling dismay, despair, disillusion? Need a break from the ho-hum, the hopeless, and the hurtful? Feel certain that there’s a version of our world that doesn’t break down into tiny categories of alliance, but brings everybody together into one clattering, sometimes discordant but always welcoming chorus of glorious pandemonium?

“Humans, please turn your guns into kazoos.”

Amy Leach, the celebrated author of the transcendent Things That Are, invites you into The Everybody Ensemble, a book filled with praise songs, poetry, ingenious critique, soul-lifting philosophy, and whimsical but scientific trips into nature. It is equal parts call to reason and joy—where reason involves a long view of self-interest that, necessarily, means taking care of the earth and everything in it.

In these pages, meet platypus, Tycho Brahe (and his moose), barnacle goslings, medieval mystics, music theory, photosynthetic bacteria, and a wholly fresh representation of the biblical Job. Through these and more, Leach delivers unexpected wisdom and a wake-up call that sounds from within.

For readers of Ross Gay, Eula Biss, Anne Lamott, Annie Dillard, Ralph Waldo Emerson, and even Lewis Carroll, these twenty-four essays will be a perfect match. They are an effervescent tonic for the curious, the exhausted, and anyone in need of a good mind-stretch or a liberating belly laugh.

Amy Leach grew up in Texas and earned her MFA in nonfiction creative writing from the University of Iowa Writers’ Workshop. Her work has appeared in Best American Essays, Best American Science and Nature Writing, and numerous publications, including A Public Space, Orion, Tin House, and Los Angeles Review of Books. She is the recipient of a Whiting Writers’ Award, a Rona Jaffe Writers’ Foundation Award, and a Pushcart Prize. Her first book was Things That Are. Leach lives in Montana.
To celebrate FSG's 75th anniversary, here is a unique anthology celebrating the riches and variety of its poetry list—past, present, and future.

Poetry has always been at the heart of Farrar, Straus and Giroux's identity, ever since Robert Giroux first brought T. S. Eliot to the company. FSG's personality and literary profile have been defined by both the poets and the prose writers who have made it an imprint with a unique place in American letters.

The FSG Poetry Anthology includes work by every one of the more than one hundred poets FSG has published in its seventy-five-year history. Robert Lowell, Elizabeth Bishop, John Berryman, and Randall Jarrell were central to the first generation of those poets, followed by the international figures and Nobel laureates Nelly Sachs, Seamus Heaney, Joseph Brodsky, and Derek Walcott.

Over time the list expanded to include James Schuyler, John Ashbery, C. K. Williams, Charles Wright, Yusef Komunyakaa, Grace Paley, Gjertrud Schnackenberg, Yehuda Amichai, Paul Valéry, Marianne Moore, Mina Loy, Ted Hughes, and Adam Zagajewski.

Today Carl Phillips, Maureen N. McLane, Ange Mlinko, Ishion Hutchinson, Rowan Ricardo Phillips, Frederick Seidel, Henri Cole, francine j. harris, and Valzhyna Mort are among the poets who continue FSG's tradition as a premier discoverer and promoter of the most vital and distinguished contemporary poetic voices.

Poetry and prose are two indissoluble sides of the same coin. This anthology offers a unique perspective on the best of contemporary literature over the past three generations.

FSG...

Jonathan Galassi is the president of Farrar, Straus and Giroux.

Robyn Creswell, who edits poetry at Farrar, Straus and Giroux, teaches Arabic literature at Yale.
Harsh Times
A Novel

Mario Vargas Llosa; Translated from the Spanish by Adrian Nathan West

The true story of Guatemala’s political turmoil of the 1950s as only a master of fiction can tell it

Guatemala, 1954. The military coup perpetrated by Carlos Castillo Armas and supported by the CIA topples the government of Jacobo Árbenz. Behind this violent act is a lie passed off as truth, which forever changes the development of Latin America: the accusation by the Eisenhower administration that Árbenz encouraged the spread of Soviet Communism in the Americas. Harsh Times is a story of international conspiracies and conflicting interests in the time of the Cold War, the echoes of which are still felt today.

In this thrilling novel, Mario Vargas Llosa fuses reality with two fictions: that of the narrator, who freely re-creates characters and situations, and the one designed by those who would control the politics and the economy of a continent by manipulating its history.

Harsh Times is a gripping, revealing novel that directly confronts recent history. No one is better suited to tell this riveting story than Vargas Llosa, and there is no form better for it than his deeply textured fiction. Not since The Feast of the Goat, his classic novel of the downfall of Trujillo’s regime in the Dominican Republic, has Vargas Llosa combined politics, characters, and suspense so unforgettable.

Mario Vargas Llosa was awarded the Nobel Prize in Literature “for his cartography of structures of power and his trenchant images of the individual’s resistance, revolt, and defeat.” He has also won the Miguel de Cervantes Prize, the Spanish-speaking world’s most distinguished literary honor. His many works include Sabers and Utopias, The Discreet Hero, The Feast of the Goat, The Bad Girl, and Aunt Julia and the Scriptwriter, all published by Farrar, Straus and Giroux.

Adrian Nathan West is a novelist, an essayist, and a translator based in Spain. His work has appeared in many publications, including The New York Review of Books, The Times Literary Supplement, The London Review of Books, McSweeney’s, and more. He is the author of The Aesthetics o...
Essays Two
Lydia Davis

A collection of essays on translation, foreign languages, Proust, and one French city, from the master short-fiction writer and acclaimed translator Lydia Davis

Lydia Davis, who has been called “a magician of self-consciousness” by Jonathan Franzen and “the best prose stylist in America” by Rick Moody, gathered a selection of her essays for the first time in 2019 with Essays One. Now she continues her nonfiction project with Essays Two.

This edition collects, for the first time, Davis’s essays and talks on the art of translation; the experience of translating Proust, Flaubert, and Michel Leiris; learning a foreign language through reading; and an extended immersion in the city of Arles.

Davis, the winner of the Man Booker International Prize for her fiction and a finalist for the National Book Award, showcases her sharp literary mind and invaluable insight in this new collection of her nonfiction works.

Lydia Davis is the author of Essays One, a collection of essays on writing, reading, and art. She is also the author of one novel and seven story collections, including Varieties of Disturbance, a finalist for the 2007 National Book Award, and, most recently, Can’t and Won’t. Davis is the acclaimed translator of Swann’s Way and Madame Bovary, both of which were awarded the French-American Foundation Translation Prize. The Collected Stories of Lydia Davis was described by James Wood in The New Yorker as a “grand cumulative achievement.” She is the winner of the 2013 Man Booker International Prize.
The Broken Constitution
Abraham Lincoln, Slavery, and the Refounding of America
Noah Feldman

An innovative account of Abraham Lincoln, constitutional thinker and doer

Abraham Lincoln is justly revered for his brilliance, compassion, humor, and rededication of the United States to achieving liberty and justice for all. He led the nation into a bloody civil war to uphold the system of government established by the US Constitution—a system he regarded as the “last best hope of mankind.” But how did Lincoln understand the Constitution?

In this groundbreaking study, Noah Feldman argues that Lincoln deliberately and recurrently violated the United States’ founding arrangements. When he came to power, it was widely believed that the federal government could not use armed force to prevent a state from seceding. It was also assumed that basic civil liberties could be suspended in a rebellion by Congress but not by the president, and that the federal government had no authority over slavery in states where it existed. As president, Lincoln broke decisively with all these precedents, and effectively rewrote the Constitution’s place in the American system. Before the Civil War, the Constitution was best understood as a compromise pact—a rough and ready deal between states that allowed the Union to form and function. After Lincoln, the Constitution came to be seen as a sacred text—a transcendent statement of the nation’s highest ideals.

The Broken Constitution is the first book to tell the story of how Lincoln broke the Constitution in order to remake it. To do so, it offers a r...

Noah Feldman is the Felix Frankfurter Professor of Law at Harvard Law School, a columnist for Bloomberg View, and host of Pushkin Industry’s Deep Background podcast. He is the author of ten books, including The Three Lives of James Madison and Scorpions: The Battles and Triumphs of FDR’s Great Supreme Court Justices.

PRAISE

Praise for The Three Lives of James Madison

"Illuminating and absorbing . . . Feldman’s deeply thoughtful study shows that the three identities of James Madison constituted one exceptional life, which effectively mirrored the evolving identity of the American republic in its most formative phase. In Feldman’s capable hands, Madison becomes..."
Solid Ivory
Memoirs
James Ivory; Edited by Peter Cameron

The irreverent, brilliant memoirs of the legendary filmmaker
James Ivory

In Solid Ivory, the Academy Award–winning filmmaker James Ivory, a partner in the legendary Merchant Ivory Productions and director of A Room with a View, Howards End, Maurice, and The Remains of the Day, tells stories from the remarkable life and career of one of the most influential directors of his time in a carefully crafted mosaic of memories, portraits, and reflections. At times, they touch on his love affairs as he looks back coolly, and with unexpected frankness.

From first meeting his longtime collaborator and life partner Ismail Merchant at the Indian Consulate in New York to winning an Academy Award at eighty-nine for Call Me by Your Name; from seeing his first film at five in Klamath Falls, Oregon, to memories of Satyajit Ray, Federico Fellini, Vanessa Redgrave, George Cukor, Kenneth Clark, Bruce Chatwin, Ruth Prawer Jhabvala, and Ismail Merchant—Ivory writes with invariable fluency, wit, and perception about what made him who he is and how he made the movies for which he is known and loved.

Solid Ivory, edited by Peter Cameron, is an utterly winning portrait of an extraordinary life told by an unmatched storyteller.

Includes Black-and-White Illustrations

James Ivory is an Academy Award–winning director, producer, and screenwriter. His directorial work includes A Room with a View, Howards End, and The Remains of the Day, for each of which he was nominated for the Academy Award for Best Director. In 2017, he won an Academy Award for Best Adapted Screenplay for Call Me by Your Name. He has also won three BAFTA Awards, a Directors Guild of America Lifetime Achievement Award, and a Writers Guild of America Award, among many other honors.

Peter Cameron’s novels include What Happens at Night, Coral Glynn, Someday This Pain Will Be Useful to You, and The City of Your Final Destination. He is also the author of three collections of short fiction, and more than ten of his stories have been published in T...
Looking for the Good War
American Amnesia and the Violent Pursuit of Happiness

Elizabeth D. Samet

A wide-ranging work of cultural history and criticism that reexamines the impact of post–World War II myths of the “good war”

In Looking for the Good War, Elizabeth D. Samet reexamines the literature, art, and culture that emerged after World War II, bringing her expertise as a professor of English at West Point to bear on the complexity of the postwar period in national life. She exposes the confusion about American identity that was expressed during and immediately after the war, and the deep national ambivalence toward war, violence, and veterans—all of which were suppressed in subsequent decades by a dangerously sentimental attitude toward the United States’ “exceptional” history and destiny. Ranging across film and literature, she finds the war’s ambivalent legacy in some of its most heavily mythologized figures: the war correspondent epitomized by Ernie Pyle; the character of the erstwhile G.I. turned either cop or criminal in the pulp fiction and feature films of the late 1940s; the disaffected Civil War veteran who looms so large on the screen in the Cold War Western; and the resurgent military hero of the post-Vietnam period. Taken together, these figures reveal key elements of postwar attitudes toward violence, liberty, and nation—attitudes that have shaped domestic and foreign policy and that respond in various ways to various assumptions about national identity and purpose established or affirmed by World War II.

As the United States reassesses its roles in Afghanistan and the Middle East, the time has come to reth...

Elizabeth D. Samet is the author of No Man’s Land: Preparing for War and Peace in Post-9/11 America; Soldier’s Heart: Reading Literature Through Peace and War at West Point, which won the Los Angeles Times Book Prize for Current Interest and was named one of the 100 Notable Books of 2007 by The New York Times; and Willing Obedience: Citizens, Soldiers, and the Progress of Consent in America, 1776–1898. Samet is the editor of Leadership: Essential Writings by Our Greatest Thinkers and, most recently, The Annotated Memoirs of Ulysses S. Grant. The recipient of a National Endowment for the Humanities Public Scholar Grant and the Hiett Prize in the Humanities, she was also awarded a Guggenheim Fellowship to support the research and writing of Lookin...

PRAISE

Praise for Elizabeth D. Samet

...
Jena 1800
The Republic of Free Spirits

Peter Neumann; Translated from the German by Shelley Frisch

An award-winning poet and philosophy professor reveals the history of the German idealist oasis where discussions of revolution, literature, beliefs, romance, and concepts gave birth to the modern world

Around the turn of the nineteenth century, a steady stream of young German poets and thinkers coursed to the town of Jena to make history. The French Revolution and the Napoleonic Wars had dealt a one-two punch to the dynastic system. Confidence in traditional social, political, and religious norms had been replaced by a profound uncertainty that was as terrifying for some as it was exhilarating for others. Nowhere was the excitement more palpable than among the extraordinary group of poets, philosophers, translators, and socialites who gathered in this Thuringian village of just four thousand residents.

Jena became the place for the young and intellectually curious, the site of a new departure, of philosophical disruption. Influenced by Johann Wolfgang von Goethe, then an elder statesman and artistic eminence, the leading figures among the disruptors—the translator August Wilhelm Schlegel; the philosophers Fritz Schlegel and Friedrich Schelling; the dazzling, controversial intellectual Caroline Schlegel, married to August; Dorothea Schlegel, a poet and translator, married to Fritz; and the poets Ludwig Tieck and Novalis—resolved to rethink the world, to establish a “Republic of Free Spirits.” They didn’t just question inherited societal traditions; with their provocative views of the individual and of nature, they revolutionized our understanding of freedom and reality.

With wit and elegance, Peter Neu...

Peter Neumann, born in Neubrandenburg in 1987, studied philosophy, political science, and economics in Jena and Copenhagen. He holds a PhD in philosophy and teaches at the University of Jena, specializing in German Idealism. He is the author of two collections of poetry, which have been awarded several prizes and scholarships.

Shelley Frisch’s translations from the German, which include biographies of Friedrich Nietzsche, Albert Einstein, Leonardo da Vinci, Marlene Dietrich/Leni Riefenstahl (dual biography), and Franz Kafka, have been awarded numerous prizes including the Gabriel&Pompiere-Preis.
The Transcendentalists and Their World

Robert A. Gross

The eminent and award-winning historian Robert A. Gross presents his long-awaited, immersive journey through Concord in the age of Emerson and Thoreau

In the year of the nation’s bicentennial, Robert A. Gross published The Minutemen and Their World, a paradigm-shaping study of Concord, Massachusetts, during the American Revolution. It won the prestigious Bancroft Prize and became a perennial bestseller. Forty years later, in this highly anticipated new work, Gross returns to Concord and explores the meaning of an equally crucial moment in the American story: the rise of transcendentalism.

The Transcendentalists and Their World offers a fresh view of the thinkers whose outsize impact on philosophy and literature would spread from tiny Concord to all corners of the earth. Ralph Waldo Emerson, Henry David Thoreau, Nathaniel Hawthorne, and the Alcotts called this New England town home, and Thoreau drew on its life extensively in his classic Walden. But Concord from the 1820s through the 1840s was no pastoral place fit for poets and philosophers.

The transcendentalists and their neighbors lived through a transformative epoch of American life. A place of two thousand–plus souls in the antebellum era, Concord was a community in ferment, whose small, ordered society founded by Puritans and defended by Minutemen was dramatically unsettled through the expansive forces of capitalism and democracy and tightly integrated into the wider world. These changes challenged a world of inherited institutions and involuntary associations with a new premium on autonomy and...


PRAISE

Praise for The Minutemen and Their World

"For historians, The Minutemen and Their World was a shot heard round the world. It taught us that fine history combines good scholarship with good writing. Its reverberations are still being heard.” — Laurel Thatcher Ulrich
**Miss Dior**

A Story of Courage and Couture

Justine Picardie

The overdue restoration of Catherine Dior’s extraordinary life, from her brother’s muse to Holocaust survivor

When the French designer Christian Dior presented his first collection in Paris in 1947, he changed fashion forever. Dior’s “New Look” created a striking, romantic vision of femininity, luxury, and grace, making him—and his last name—famous overnight. One woman informed Dior’s vision more than any other: his sister, Catherine, a Resistance fighter, concentration camp survivor, and cultivator of rose gardens who inspired Dior’s most beloved fragrance, Miss Dior. Yet the story of Catherine’s remarkable life—so different from her famous brother’s—has never been told, until now.

Drawing on the Dior archives and extensive research, Justine Picardie’s Miss Dior is the long-overdue restoration of Catherine Dior’s life. The siblings’ stories are profoundly intertwined: in Occupied France, as Christian honed his couture skills, Catherine dedicated herself to the Resistance, ultimately being captured by the Gestapo and sent to Ravensbruck, the only Nazi camp solely for women. Seeking to trace Catherine’s story as well as her influence on her brother, Picardie traveled to the significant places of Catherine’s life, including Les Rhumbs, the Dior family villa with its magnificent gardens; the House of Dior in Paris; and La Colle Noire, Christian’s château that he bequeathed to his sister.

Inventive and captivating, and shaped by Picardie’s own journey, Miss Dior examines the legacy of Christian Dior, the secrets of...

**Justine Picardie** is the former editor in chief of the British editions of Harper’s Bazaar and Town & Country. She has also served as the features editor of British Vogue and the editor of The Observer Magazine. She is the author of several books, including the critically acclaimed memoir If the Spirit Moves You and an illustrated biography of Coco Chanel, which was a Sunday Times bestseller. She lives in London.

**PRAISE**

Praise for Coco Chanel

“Fascinating . . . Intriguing reading . . . In researching this book, Justine Picardie has shown as much doggedness in uncovering her subject’s life as Chanel did in disguising it.” —Edwina Ings-Chambers, The Sunday Times
The Loft Generation
From the de Koonings to Twombly: Portraits and Sketches, 1942-2011

Edith Schloss; Edited by Mary Venturini

A bristling and brilliant memoir of the mid-twentieth-century New York School of painters and their times by the renowned artist and critic Edith Schloss, who, from the early years, was a member of the group that shifted the center of the art world from Paris to New York.

Schloss was born in Germany and moved to New York City during World War II. She became part of a thriving community of artists and intellectuals, from Elaine and Willem de Kooning and Larry Rivers to John Cage and Frank O’Hara. She married the photographer and filmmaker Rudy Burckhardt. She was both a working artist and an incisive art critic, and was a candid and gimlet-eyed observer of the close-knit community that was redefining American art. In later life she lived in Italy and spent time with artists such as Giorgio Morandi, Cy Twombly, Meret Oppenheim, and Francesca Woodman.

In The Loft Generation, Schloss creates a rare and irreplaceable up-close record of an era of artistic innovation and the colorful characters who made it happen. There is no other book like it. Her firsthand information is indispensable reading for all critics and researchers of that vital period in American art.

Includes Black-and-White Illustrations and 8 Pages of Color Illustrations

Edith Schloss (1919–2011) was an observant member of the abstract expressionist movement and the New York School. She created paintings, assemblages, collages, watercolors, and drawings and worked as an art critic, writer, and editor until her death. Her paintings were shown in galleries all over the world and are in many...
Howdie-Skelp
Poems

Paul Muldoon

The Pulitzer Prize–winning poet delivers a sharp wake-up call with his fourteenth collection

A “howdie-skelp” is the slap in the face a midwife gives a newborn. It’s a wake-up call. A call to action. The poems in Howdie-Skelp, Paul Muldoon’s new collection, include a nightmarish remake of The Waste Land, an elegy for his fellow Northern Irish poet Ciaran Carson, a crown of sonnets that responds to the early days of the COVID-19 pandemic, a translation from the ninth-century Irish, and a Yeatsian sequence of ekphrastic poems that call into question the very idea of an “affront” to good taste. Muldoon is a poet who continues not only to capture but to hold our attention.

Paul Muldoon was born in County Armagh in 1951. He now lives in New York. A former radio and television producer for the BBC in Belfast, he has taught at Princeton University for thirty years. He is the author of more than a dozen collections of poetry, including Moy Sand and Gravel, for which he won the 2003 Pulitzer Prize; Selected Poems 1968–2014; and, most recently, Frolic and Detour.
The Book of All Books

Roberto Calasso; Translated from the Italian by Tim Parks

A book that begins before Adam and ends after us. In this magisterial work by the Italian intellectual superstar Roberto Calasso, figures of the Bible and its whole outline emerge in a new light: one that is often astonishing and disquieting, as indeed—more than any other—is the book from which they originate.

Roberto Calasso's The Book of All Books is a narration that moves through the Bible as if through a forest, where every branch—every verse—may offer some revelation. Where a man named Saul can become the first king of a people because his father had sent him off to search for some donkeys that had gone astray. Where the queen of a remote African realm spends three years leading a long caravan of young men and girls dressed in purple, as well as animals and carrying quantities of spices, in answer to an invitation from the king of Jerusalem and to ask him certain questions. And where a man named Abraham heard these words from a divine voice: “Go away from your land, from your kindred and from the house of your father toward the land that I will tell you.” Words that reverberate throughout the Bible, a story about a separation and a promise, followed by many other separations and promises. The Book of All Books is the tenth part of a work in progress, in many ways parallel to the second part, The Marriage of Cadmus and Harmony. There, gods and heroes of the Greek myths revealed new physiognomies, whereas here many figures of the Bible and its whole outline emerge in a new light: one that is often astonishing and disquieting, as indeed—more than any other—is the book from which they originate.

Roberto Calasso is the publisher of Adelphi Edizioni in Milan and the author of The Ruin of Kasch, The Marriage of Cadmus and Harmony, Ka, K., Tiepolo Pink, La Folie Baudelaire, Ardor, The Unnamable Present, and, most recently, The Celestial Hunter. He has also written Literature and the Gods, The Forty-Nine Steps, and The Art of the Publisher, and is the editor of The Zürau Aphorisms by Franz Kafka.

Tim Parks is the author of many novels, translations, and works of nonfiction, most recently Out of My Head: On the Trail of Consciousness and Italian Life: A Modern Fable of Loyalty and Betrayal.
Garbo
Her Life, Her Films

Robert Gottlieb

From a master critic, a singular and multifaceted look at the life of Greta Garbo and the culture that worshipped her

"Wherever you look in the period between 1925 and 1941," Robert Gottlieb writes in Garbo, "Greta Garbo is in people's minds, hearts, and dreams." Strikingly glamorous and famously inscrutable, she managed, in sixteen short years, to infiltrate America's subconscious; her decision to suddenly end her film career at the age of thirty-six made her even more irresistible. Garbo appeared in only twenty-four movies, yet her impact on the world—and that indescribable, transcendent presence she possessed—was rivaled only by Marilyn Monroe's. She was a phenomenon, a Sphinx, a myth, but also a Swedish peasant girl, uneducated, naïve, and always on her guard.

In Garbo, the acclaimed critic and editor Robert Gottlieb attempts to capture the ever-elusive essence of Garbo through the eyes of others. In addition to a vivid and thorough retelling of her life, Gottlieb combs through glimpses of Garbo in literature, music, private letters, and, of course, films in order to better understand her. Discovering her within For Whom the Bell Tolls and in the letters of Marianne Moore, and following her from her early movies with MGM to her career-defining role in Camille to her world-stopping decision to leave the limelight, Gottlieb crafts a biography of unprecedented intimacy and scope in the hopes of capturing the woman that only the camera knew.

Includes Black-and-White Photographs

Robert Gottlieb has been the editor in chief of Simon and Schuster; the president, publisher, and editor in chief of Alfred A. Knopf; and the editor of The New Yorker. As a writer, he contributes frequently to The New York Times Book Review and The New York Review of Books and is the author of Great Expectations: The Sons and Daughters of Charles Dickens; George Balanchine: The Ballet Maker; Sarah: The Life of Sarah Bernhardt; Avid Reader: A Life; and Near Death Experiences . . . and Others. In 2015, he was presented the Award for Distinguished Service to the Arts by the American Academy of Arts and Letters.

PRAISE

Praise for Robert Gottlieb

"Gottlieb’s brilliance as an editor comes across in his seemingly unerring sense of what can and cannot be done." —Christopher Benfey, The New York Review of Books
The Women I Love
A Novel
Francesco Pacifico; Translated from the Italian by Elizabeth Harris

A provocative and bracing sendup of modern masculinity, from the author of Class and The Story of My Purity

Marcello, an editor and poet, is on the brink of his forties. Like everyone in his life, including his sister-in-law, he's writing a novel. This novel. This novel will be about women. Love. Growing older. Maybe even taking responsibility. But unfortunately for Marcello, the women in his life resist definition. They flit and flicker constantly between archetype and actuality: sirens and saviors, subordinates and savants, vixens and villains.

So Marcello cannot write plainly about love. Instead, he tries to write into the complexities of his many relationships: Eleanora, the junior editor, his former protegée and sometime lover; Barbara, his claustrophobic girlfriend; his estranged gay sister; his elegant mother.

Fresh, frank, and painfully cool, Francesco Pacifico's The Women I Love dives nakedly into gender, sex, and power. Set in a vivid and alcoholic Italy, it acknowledges and subverts the narrow ways canonical male writers gaze at, and somehow fail to see, women—which illuminating the possibility of equity between people in love, in bed, in work, and in life.

Francesco Pacifico lives in Rome. He is the author of the novels The Story of My Purity and Class, a New York Times Critics' Book of the Year. A frequent contributor to La Repubblica and n+1, his work has also appeared in McSweeney's, the White Review, and elsewhere. He is a founder and senior editor of the literary magazine Il Tascabile. He has translated the work of F. Scott Fitzgerald, Kurt Vonnegut, Henry Miller, Dave Eggers, Hanya Yanagihara, Ralph Ellison, Chris Ware, Matt Groening, Dave Mazucchelli, and Alison Bechel.

Elizabeth Harris has translated works by Mario Rigoni Stern, Giulio Mozzi, Antonio Tabucchi, and Andrea Bajani. For her various translations of Tabucchi, she has received an NEA Translation Fellowship, the Italian Prose in Tr...
The Impossible Art
An Adventure in Opera
Matthew Aucoin

A user’s guide to opera—Matthew Aucoin, "the most promising operatic talent in a generation" (The New York Times Magazine), describes the creation of his groundbreaking new work, Eurydice, and shares his reflections on the past, present, and future of opera.

From its beginning, opera has been an impossible art. Its first practitioners, in seventeenth-century Florence, set themselves the unreachable goal of reproducing the glory of ancient Greek drama, which no one can be sure was sung in the first place. Its greatest artists have strived to capture more-than-human ideas and emotions in their compositions. Matthew Aucoin, a rising star of the opera world, posits that it is this impossibility, at the very core of the form, that gives opera its exceptional power. The strength required to sing and play its parts, the spectacle of the production, the creation of a whole new world—in pursuit of impossible goals, opera’s greatness comes into being.

The Impossible Art tells the story of Aucoin’s new opera, Eurydice, from its inception to its premiere on the Metropolitan Opera’s iconic stage. Aucoin has crafted an artist’s notebook that traces the creation and development of the production, and he punctuates his entries with reflections on the art of opera—its history, its miracles, and its enduring relevance. The Impossible Art opens the theater door and invites the reader into the extraordinary, synesthetic world of opera.

Matthew Aucoin is an American composer, conductor, writer, and pianist, and a MacArthur Fellow. He has worked as a composer and conductor with the Metropolitan Opera, Lyric Opera of Chicago, American Repertory Theater, Los Angeles Philharmonic, and Music Academy of the West. He was the Los Angeles Opera’s Artist in Residence from 2016 to 2020, and is a cofounder of the American Modern Opera Company.
We need quiet to feel nothing, to hear silence that brings back proportion and the beauty of not knowing except for the outlines of what we live every day. Something inner settles. The right to silence unmediated by social judgment. Sitting at a table in an empty kitchen, peeling an apple, I wait for its next transformation. For a few seconds, the red, mottled, dangling skin unwinds what happened to it on earth.

Wallis Wilde-Menozzi set out to touch silence for brief experiences of what’s real. In images, dreams, and actions, the challenge leads to her heart as a writer. The pages of *Silence and Silences* form a vast tapestry of meanings—shaped by many forces outside personal circumstance. Moving closer, the reader notices intricacies that shift when touched. As the writer steps aside, there is cosmic joy, biological truth, historical injustice. Women’s voices and women’s silences; Agnes Martin’s thin, fine lines and D. H. Lawrence’s artful letters; an active engagement with personal memories as the self changes over time. COVID-19 thrusts itself into the unbounded narrative, and isolation brings with it a new kind of stillness.

As Wilde-Menozzi writes, “Reading a book is a way of withdrawing into silence. It is a way of seeing and listening, of pulling back from what is happening at that very moment.” The author has created a record of how we tell ourselves stories, how we think and how we know. Above ...

Wallis Wilde-Menozzi is the author of *Mother Tongue*, *The Other Side of the Tiber*, and *Toscanelli’s Ray*. Her poetry, essays, and translations have appeared in *Granta*, *The Best Spiritual Writing*, *Words Without Borders*, and *Tel Aviv Review*. A collection of her essays was published in Italian as *L’Oceano e’ dentro di noi*. She lives in Parma, Italy.
How to Wrestle a Girl
Stories
Venita Blackburn

Hilarious, tough, and tender stories from a farseeing star on the rise

Venita Blackburn’s characters bully and suffer, spit and tease, mope and blame. They’re hyperaware of their bodies and fiercely observant, fending off the failures and advances of adults with indifferent ease. In “Biology Class,” they torment a teacher to the point of near insanity, while in “Bear Bear Harvest™,” they prepare to sell their excess fat and skin for food processing. Stark and sharp, hilarious and ominous, these pieces are scabbed, bruised, and prone to scarring.

Many of the stories, set in Southern California, follow a teenage girl in the aftermath of her beloved father’s death and capture her sister’s and mother’s encounters with men of all ages, as well as the girl’s budding attraction to her best friend, Esperanza. In and out of school, participating in wrestling and softball, attending church with her hysterically complicated family, and dominating boys in arm wrestling, she grapples with her burgeoning queerness and her emerging body, becoming wary of clarity rather than hoping for it.

A rising star, Blackburn is a trailblazing stylist, and in How to Wrestle a Girl she masterfully shakes loose a vision of girlhood that is raw, vulnerable, and never at ease.

Venita Blackburn is the author of the story collection Black Jesus and Other Superheroes, which won the Prairie Schooner Book Prize and was a finalist for the 2018 Young Lions Fiction Award and the PEN/Robert W. Bingham Prize for Debut Fiction. Her stories have appeared in The Paris Review, Pleiades, Madison Review, Bat City Review, American Short Fiction, and Bellevue Literary Review. She is a faculty member in the creative writing program at Fresno State University and the founder and president of Live, Write, an organization devoted to offering free creative writing workshops for communities of color.

PRAISE

Praise for Black Jesus and Other Superheroes

"With thoughtful subtext and symbols that address themes of race, sexuality, family, love and (dis)ability, Blackburn’s remarkably short stories are characterized by a wild imagination and beautiful prose." —Taliah Mancini, Ms.
This Thing Between Us
A Novel

Gus Moreno

A widower battles grief, rage, and the mysterious evil inhabiting his home smart speaker, in this mesmerizing horror thriller

It was Vera's idea to buy the Itza. The "world's most advanced smart speaker!" didn't interest Thiago, but Vera thought it would be a bit of fun for them amid all the strange occurrences happening in the condo. It made things worse. The cold spots and scratching in the walls were weird enough, but peculiar packages started showing up—who ordered industrial lye? Then there was the eerie music at odd hours, Thiago waking up to Itza projecting light shows in an empty room.

It was funny and strange right up until Vera was killed, and Thiago's world became unbearable. Pundits and politicians all looking to turn his wife's death into a symbol for their own agendas. A barrage of texts from her well-meaning friends about letting go and moving on. Waking to the sound of Itza talking softly to someone in the living room . . .

The only thing left to do was get far away from Chicago. Away from everything and everyone. A secluded cabin in Colorado seemed like the perfect place to hole up with his crushing grief. But soon Thiago realizes there is no escape—not from his guilt, not from his simmering rage, and not from the evil hunting him, feeding on his grief, determined to make its way into this world.

A bold, original horror novel about grief, loneliness, and the oppressive intimacy of technology, Gus Moreno's This Thing Between Us marks the arrival of a spectacular new talent.

Gus Moreno's stories have appeared in Aurealis, PseudoPod, Bluestem Magazine, and the anthology Burnt Tongues. He lives in the suburbs with his wife and dogs, but never think for one second that he's not from Chicago.

PRAISE

"Gus Moreno's This Thing Between Us is as original as it is affecting. It is a meditation on grief and on what it means to belong, and there were scenes that left me genuinely creeped out, unsettled, and shaken. An existentially frightening book. Count me as a fan." —Paul Tremblay, author of A Head Full of Ghosts and Survivor Song

"Get rea...
Henri Cole, one of our greatest poets, explores the discordant nature of our condition on earth in *Blizzard*, his tenth collection.

Daring, tender, truthful, the poems in *Blizzard*, Henri Cole’s tenth book, build on a reputation for quiet mastery. Whether he is wrestling with the mundane, history and its disasters, or sexual love, he can sound both classical and contemporary, with the modern austerity of Constantine Cavafy and Elizabeth Bishop. Often exploring the darker places of the heart, his sonnets do not lie down obediently but spark with an honest self-awareness.

Cole’s lucid, empathetic poems—with lyrical beauty and ethical depth—seem to transmute the anxious perplexities of our time.

Henri Cole was born in Fukuoka, Japan, in 1956. He has published nine previous collections of poetry and received many awards for his work, including the Jackson Poetry Prize, the Kingsley Tufts Award, the Rome Prize, the Berlin Prize, the Lenore Marshall Poetry Prize, and the Award of Merit Medal in Poetry from the American Academy of Arts and Letters. His most recent book is *Orphic Paris*, a memoir. He teaches at Claremont McKenna College.

**PRAISE**

Praise for Henri Cole

"An artist of the greatest gifts." —Louise Glück
Snow Approaching on the Hudson
Poems

August Kleinzahler

August Kleinzahler, National Book Critics Circle Award–winning “poetry star” (The New York Times), presents Snow Approaching on the Hudson, his thirteenth collection of poetry

August Kleinzahler has earned admiration for his musical, precise poems that are grounded in the people, places, and languages among which he has lived. Snow Approaching on the Hudson is a collection of poetry that moves back and forth across the country and abroad, and through the realm of dreams, past and present, and inner and outer landscapes. The haunting, shifting atmosphere Kleinzahler creates is peopled by characters that are intimate, historical, and imaginary.

Kleinzahler's signature rhythmic propulsion serves as the engine for his newest collection, and his always masterful free verse conveys a life thoroughly lived and brilliantly perceived.

August Kleinzahler was born in Jersey City, New Jersey, in 1949. He is the author of twelve books of poems and a memoir, Cutty, One Rock. His collection The Strange Hours Travelers Keep was awarded the 2004 Griffin Poetry Prize, and Sleeping It Off in Rapid City won the 2008 National Book Critics Circle Award for poetry. That same year he received a Lannan Literary Award. He lives in San Francisco.

PRAISE

Praise for Before Dawn on Bluff Road / Hollyhocks in the Fog

"The excellence of every poem in this beautifully designed and rigorously selected double collection reinforces the significance of his project . . . This should confirm, if any doubts remain, that [Kleinzahler] is among the best American poets writing today." —Michael Autrey, Bo...
Music for the Dead and Resurrected
Poems
Valzhyna Mort

In her letters to the dead, the prizewinning poet Valzhyna Mort relearns how to mourn those erased by violent history

In *Music for the Dead and Resurrected*, Valzhyna Mort asks how we mourn after a century of silence and propaganda. How do we remember our history and sing after being silenced? Mort draws on intimate and paradoxical firsthand accounts of a past grandparent generation of the Soviet labor camps, redistribution of land, and massacres of World War II in Belarus. As her country is being run by a longtime dictator, the poet creates a ceremony of mythmaking for the erased history and family.

*Music for the Dead and Resurrected* is a space where the living and the dead can coexist, where the Belarusian woods can act as witnesses to forgotten lives, and where musical form can create a new lyric mythology and an uncompromised language of remembrance. Mort, born in Belarus and now living in America, teaches us that the remembrance of private histories has a power to confront collective, violent American myths.

Valzhyna Mort is the author of *Factory of Tears* and *Collected Body*. She has received the Lannan Foundation Fellowship, the Bess Hokin Prize, the Amy Clampitt Residency, the Gulf Coast Prize in Translation, and the Glenna Luschei Prairie Schooner Award. Born in Minsk, Belarus, she writes in English and Belarusian.

PRAISE

Praise for Valzhyna Mort

"Mort . . . strives to be an envoy for her native country, writing with almost alarming vociferousness about the struggle to establish a clear identity for Belarus and its language." —*The New Yorker*
Frederick Seidel Selected Poems

Frederick Seidel

An overview of Seidel’s best and most famous poetry from the past five decades, showing the evolution of a master poet’s craft

Frederick Seidel Selected Poems provides readers with a perpetually exciting, compact edition of the revolutionary poet’s most powerful work. Seidel has been hailed as "the poet of a new contemporary form" (New York Review of Books) and "the most frightening American poet ever" (Boston Review). His ambitious, disturbing, and tender work has mystified and captured critics, poets, and readers for decades. This new selection allows readers to appreciate the scope of Seidel’s work over the past half century and his uncanny ability to say the unsayable.

Frederick Seidel has written many books of poems, including The Cosmos Trilogy, Ooga-Booga, Nice Weather, Widening Income Inequality, and Peaches Goes It Alone.

PRAISE

Praise for Frederick Seidel

"One of the world's most inspired and unusual poets." —Hillel Italie, USA Today

"In the desert of contemporary American poetry, Frederick Seidel's work awaits the weary reader like an oasis." —James Lasdun, The Guardian
The Art of Revision
The Last Word

Peter Ho Davies

The fifteenth volume in the Art of series takes an expansive view of revision—on the page and in life

In The Art of Revision: The Last Word, Peter Ho Davies takes up an often discussed yet frequently misunderstood subject. He begins by addressing the invisibility of revision—even though it’s an essential part of the writing process, readers typically only see a final draft, leaving the practice shrouded in mystery. To combat this, Davies pulls examples from his novels The Welsh Girl and The Fortunes, as well as from the work of other writers, including Flannery O’Connor, Carmen Machado, and Raymond Carver, shedding light on this slippery subject.

Davies also looks beyond literature to work that has been adapted or rewritten, such as books made into films, stories rewritten by another author, and the practice of retconning in comics and film. In an affecting frame story, Davies recounts the story of a violent encounter in his youth, which he then retells over the years, culminating in a final telling at the funeral of his father. In this way, the book arrives at an exhilarating mode of thinking about revision—that it is the writer who must change, as well as the writing. The result is a book that is as useful as it is moving, one that asks writers to reflect upon themselves and their writing.

Peter Ho Davies is the author of three novels, including A Lie Someone Told You About Yourself, and two story collections. The winner of the Anisfield-Wolf Award and the PEN/Malamud Prize, he teaches at the University of Michigan and lives in Ann Arbor.

PRAISE

Praise for Peter Ho Davies

“A master storyteller.” —Entertainment Weekly

“A memorable writer of sinewy intelligence and rare grace.” —David Mitchell

“Davies writes with a rare emotional resonance and a deft sense of structure.” —NPR.org
On Freedom
Four Songs of Care and Constraint

Maggie Nelson

An expansive, exhilarating work of criticism by one of the most significant writers of our day

So often deployed as a jingoistic, even menacing rallying cry, or limited by a focus on passing moments of liberation, the rhetoric of freedom both rouses and repels. Does it remain key to our autonomy, justice, and well-being, or is freedom’s long star turn coming to a close? Does a continued obsession with the term enliven and emancipate, or reflect a deepening nihilism (or both)? On Freedom examines such questions by tracing the concept’s complexities in four distinct realms: art, sex, drugs, and climate.

Drawing on a vast range of material, from critical theory to pop culture to the intimacies and plain exchanges of daily life, Maggie Nelson explores how we might think, experience, or talk about freedom in ways responsive to the conditions of our day. Her abiding interest lies in ongoing “practices of freedom” by which we negotiate our interrelation with—indeed, our inseparability from—others, with all the care and constraint that entails, while accepting difference and conflict as integral to our communion.

For Nelson, thinking publicly through the knots in our culture—from recent art-world debates to the turbulent legacies of sexual liberation, from the painful paradoxes of addiction to the lure of despair in the face of the climate crisis—is itself a practice of freedom, a means of forging fortitude, courage, and company. On Freedom is an invigorating, essential book for challenging times.

Maggie Nelson is the author of several books of poetry and prose, most recently the New York Times bestseller and National Book Critics Circle Award winner The Argonauts. She teaches at the University of Southern California and lives in Los Angeles.

PRAISE

Praise for The Argonauts

"One of the most electrifying writers at work in America today." —Olivia Laing, The Guardian

"Nelson is so outrageously gifted a writer and thinker." —The Washington Post
Just Us
An American Conversation
Claudia Rankine

Now in paperback, Claudia Rankine’s “skyscraper in the literature on racism” (Christian Science Monitor)

In Just Us, Claudia Rankine invites us into a necessary conversation about Whiteness in America. What would it take for us to breach the silence, guilt, and violence that arise from addressing Whiteness for what it is? What are the consequences if we keep avoiding this conversation? What might it look like if we step into it? “I learned early that being right pales next to staying in the room,” she writes.

With new material added to the paperback edition, this brilliant assembly of essays, poems, documents, and images disrupts the false comfort of our culture’s liminal and private spaces—the airport, the theater, the dinner party, the voting booth—where neutrality and politeness deflect true engagement in our shared problems. Rankine makes unprecedented art out of the actual voices and rebuttals of others: White men responding to, and with, their White male privilege; a friend clarifying her unexpected behavior at a play; and women on the street expressing the political currency of dyeing their hair blond, all running alongside fact-checked notes and commentary that complement Rankine’s own text, complicating notions of authority and who gets the last word. Funny, vulnerable, and prescient, Just Us is Rankine’s most intimate and urgent book, a crucial call to challenge our vexed reality.

Claudia Rankine is a poet, an essayist, and a playwright. Just Us completes her groundbreaking trilogy, following Don’t Let Me Be Lonely and Citizen. She is a MacArthur Fellow and teaches at New York University.

PRAISE

“Rankine has emerged as one of America’s foremost scholars on racial justice . . . [To] a past we have avoided reckoning, Rankine will be helping America understand itself, one conversation at a time.” —The Associated Press

“A work that should move, challenge, and transform every reader who encounters it.” —Kirkus Reviews (starred review)
The Trees
A Novel

Percival Everett

An uncanny literary thriller addressing the painful legacy of lynching in the US, by the author of Telephone

Percival Everett’s *The Trees* is a page-turner that opens with a series of brutal murders in the rural town of Money, Mississippi. When a pair of detectives from the Mississippi Bureau of Investigation arrive, they meet expected resistance from the local sheriff, his deputy, the coroner, and a string of racist White townsfolk. The murders present a puzzle, for at each crime scene there is a second dead body: that of a man who resembles Emmett Till.

The detectives suspect that these are killings of retribution, but soon discover that eerily similar murders are taking place all over the country. Something truly strange is afoot. As the bodies pile up, the MBI detectives seek answers from a local root doctor who has been documenting every lynching in the country for years, uncovering a history that refuses to be buried. In this bold, provocative book, Everett takes direct aim at racism and police violence, and does so in a fast-paced style that ensures the reader can’t look away. *The Trees* is an enormously powerful novel of lasting importance from an author with his finger on America’s pulse.

**Percival Everett** is author to more than thirty books. He voted for Joe Biden.

**PRAISE**

Praise for *Telephone*

"God bless Percival Everett, whose dozens of idiosyncratic books demonstrate a majestic indifference to literary trends, the market or his critics." —*The Wall Street Journal*

"Like watching a skilled juggler execute a six-ball fountain, the experience of reading *Telephone* is astonishing." —*Los Angeles Times*
A reinvestigation of chemical biological weapons dropped on the Hmong people in the fallout of the Vietnam War

In this staggering work of documentary, poetry, and collage, Mai Der Vang reopens a wrongdoing that deserves a new reckoning. As the United States abandoned them at the end of the Vietnam War, many Hmong refugees recounted stories of a mysterious substance that fell from planes during their escape from Laos starting in the mid-1970s. This substance, known as “yellow rain,” caused severe illnesses and thousands of deaths. These reports prompted an investigation into allegations that a chemical biological weapon had been used against the Hmong in breach of international treaties. A Cold War scandal erupted, wrapped in partisan debate around chemical arms development versus control. And then, to the world’s astonishment, American scientists argued that yellow rain was the feces of honeybees defecating en masse—still held as the widely accepted explanation. The truth of what happened to the Hmong, to those who experienced and suffered yellow rain, has been ignored and discredited.

Integrating archival research and declassified documents, Yellow Rain calls out the erasure of a history, the silencing of a people who at the time lacked the capacity and resources to defend and represent themselves. In poems that sing and lament, that contend and question, Vang restores a vital narrative in danger of being lost, and brilliantly explores what it means to have access to the truth and how marginalized groups are of...

Mai Der Vang is the author of Afterland, which won the Walt Whitman Award, was named a finalist for the Kate Tufts Discovery Award, and was long-listed for the National Book Award. She teaches at Fresno State University.

PRAISE

Praise for Afterland

“Among the most satisfying débuts by an American poet in some time.”
—The New Yorker

“We now know that traumas are genetically heritable—they’re not isolated instances but cascades of generational grief. What can’t be erased can be overwritten, but only if the pen is bold enough. Vang’s certainly is.” —The Paris Review
The Swank Hotel
A Novel

Lucy Corin

A stunningly ambitious, prescient novel about madness, generational trauma, and cultural breakdown

At the outset of the 2008 financial crisis, Em has a dependable, dull marketing job generating reports of vague utility while she anxiously waits to hear news of her sister, Ad, who has gone missing—again. Em’s days pass drifting back and forth between her respectably cute starter house (bought with a “responsible, salary-backed, fixed-rate mortgage”) and her dreary office. Then something unthinkable, something impossible, happens and she begins to see how madness permeates everything around her while the mundane spaces she inhabits are transformed, through Lucy Corin’s idiosyncratic magic, into shimmering sites of the uncanny.

The story that swirls around Em moves through several perspectives and voices. There is Frank, the tart-tongued, failing manager at her office; Jack, the man with whom Frank has had a love affair for decades; Em and Ad’s eccentric parents, who live in a house that is perpetually being built; and Tasio, the young man from Chiapas who works for them and falls in love with Ad. Through them Corin portrays porousness and breakdown in individuals and families, in economies and political systems, in architecture, technology, and even in language itself.

*The Swank Hotel* is an acrobatic, unforgettable, surreal, and unexpectedly comic novel that interrogates the illusory dream of stability that pervaded early twenty-first-century America.

Lucy Corin is the author, most recently, of *One Hundred Apocalypses and Other Apocalypses*. She is the recipient of an American Academy of Arts and Letters Rome Prize and a National Endowment for the Arts Literature Fellowship. She lives in Berkeley, California.

PRAISE

Praise for Lucy Corin

“There is no writer quite like Lucy Corin. Her control over language . . . leads the reader willingly to their own reckoning.” —Kevin Wilson

“Lucy Corin sounds like no one; prickly, shrewd, faintly paranoid or furtive, witty and also savage . . . Her achievement is already dazzling, her promise immense.” —Louise Glück
Such Color  
New and Selected Poems  

Tracy K. Smith

“Tracy K. Smith’s poetry is an awakening itself.” —Vogue

Celebrated for its extraordinary intelligence and exhilarating range, the poetry of Tracy K. Smith opens up vast questions. *Such Color: New and Selected Poems*, her first career-spanning volume, traces an increasingly audacious commitment to exploring the unknowable, the immense mysteries of existence. Each of Smith’s four collections moves farther outward: when one seems to reach the limits of desire and the body, the next investigates the very sweep of history; when one encounters death and the outer reaches of space, the next bears witness to violence against language and people from across time and delves into the rescuing possibilities of the everlasting. Smith’s signature voice, whether in elegy or praise or outrage, insists upon vibrancy and hope, even—and especially—in moments of inconceivable travesty and grief.

*Such Color* collects the best poems from Smith’s award-winning books and culminates in thirty pages of brilliant, excoriating new poems. These new works confront America’s historical and contemporary racism and injustices, while they also rise toward the registers of the ecstatic, the rapturous, and the sacred—urging us toward love as a resistance to everything that impedes it. This magnificent retrospective affirms Smith’s place as one of the twenty-first century’s most treasured poets.

Tracy K. Smith is the author of four books of poetry, including *Life on Mars*, winner of the Pulitzer Prize, and *Wade in the Water*, winner of the Anisfield-Wolf Book Award. From 2017 to 2019, she served as the poet laureate of the United States.

PRAISE

Praise for Tracy K. Smith

“Smith is a storyteller who loves to explore how the body can respond to a lover, to family, and to history.” —Hilton Als, *The New Yorker*

“Smith’s poems dance the boundaries between private and public, give voice to the voiceless, and shine with a resolute spiritual vision.” —*San Francisco Chronicle*
The House of Rust
A Novel

Khadija Abdalla Bajaber

The first Graywolf Press Africa Prize winner, a story of a girl’s fantastical sea voyage to rescue her father

The House of Rust is an enchanting novel about a Hadrami girl in Mombasa. When her fisherman father goes missing, Aisha takes to the sea on a magical boat made of a skeleton to rescue him. She is guided by a talking scholar’s cat (and soon crows, goats, and other animals all have their say, too). On this journey Aisha meets three terrifying sea monsters. After she survives a final confrontation with Baba wa Papa, the father of all sharks, she rescues her own father, and hopes that life will return to normal. But at home, things only grow stranger.

Caught between her grandmother’s wish to safeguard her happiness with marriage and her own desire for adventure, Aisha is pushed toward a match with a sweet local boy that she doesn’t want. But before she can fight her way to independence—as embodied in the book by the mirage-like House of Rust—she must first gain experience and skills to vanquish Almassi, the imprisoned snake-demon ruler of Mombasa. Khadija Abdalla Bajaber’s debut is a magical realist coming-of-age tale told through the lens of the Swahili and diasporic Hadrami culture in Mombasa, Kenya. Richly descriptive and written with an imaginative hand and sharp eye for unusual detail, The House of Rust is a memorable novel by a thrilling new voice.

Khadija Abdalla Bajaber is a Mombasarian writer of Hadrami descent and the winner of the inaugural Graywolf Press Africa Prize. Her work has appeared in Enkare Review, Lolwe, and Down River Road, among other places. She lives in Mombasa, Kenya.

PRAISE

“Khadija Abdalla Bajaber has infused new life into the age-old story of adventure on the high seas. . . . On the surface this is a limpid tale . . . but it is eddied and enriched by what lurks beneath the surface of both the sea and the prose. Everything in this story sparkles.” —A. Igoni Barrett, judge’s statement
Brickmakers
A Novel

Selva Almada; Translated from the Spanish by Annie McDermott

A piercing and passionate novel, set in rural Argentina, about violence and masculinity

Oscar Tamai and Elvio Miranda, the patriarchs of two families of brickmakers, have for years nursed a mutual hatred, but their teenage sons, Pájaro and Ángelito, somehow fell in love. Brickmakers begins as Pájaro and Marciano, Ángelito’s older brother, lie dying in the mud at the base of a Ferris wheel. Inhabiting a dreamlike state between life and death, they recall the events that forced them to pay the price of their fathers’ petty feud.

The Tamai and Miranda families are caught, like the Capulets and the Montagues, in an almost mythic conflict, one that emerges from stubborn pride and intractable machismo. Like her heralded debut, The Wind That Lays Waste, Selva Almada’s fierce and tender second novel is an unforgettable portrayal of characters who initially seem to stand in opposition, but are ultimately revealed to be bound by their similarities.

Almada enlarges the tradition of some of the most distinctive prose stylists of our time. In Brickmakers, she furthers her extraordinary exploration of masculinity and the realities of working-class rural life. This is another exquisitely written and powerfully told story by a major international voice.

Selva Almada is the author of The Wind That Lays Waste and Dead Girls. She is considered one of the most potent literary voices in Argentina and Latin America and one of the region’s most influential feminist intellectuals.

Annie McDermott is a literary translator working from Spanish and Portuguese. Her translations include Dead Girls by Selva Almada, Empty Words and The Luminous Novel by Mario Levrero, Loop by Brenda Lozano, and Wars of the Interior by Joseph Zárate.

PRAISE

Praise for The Wind That Lays Waste

“Like Flannery O’Connor and Juan Rulfo, Almada fills her taut, eerie novel with an understanding of rural life, loneliness, temptation and faith.” —BBC Culture
Prognosis
Poems

Jim Moore

Jim Moore’s poems “are chips of reality, obsidian flakes of the heart and mind” (Jane Hirshfield)

In his eighth collection, the celebrated poet Jim Moore looks into unrelenting darkness where moments of tenderness and awe illuminate, at times suddenly like lightning in the night, at others, more quietly, as the steady glow of streetlights in a snowstorm. These are poems of both patience and urgency, of necessary attendance and helpless exuberance in the breathing world—something rare in contemporary poetry. Written in Minneapolis amid the COVID-19 pandemic’s masked and distanced loneliness, after the police murder of George Floyd, as an empire comes to an end, Prognosis turns toward the living moment as a surprising source of abundance. Here we find instances of essential human connection animated by a saving grace that pulls us back from depression and despair. Contemplating with playful wisdom what it is to brave the later years of one’s life, Moore revels in the possibilities of joy and mourns the limits of our capacity to greet the unknown with resolve and wonder. The prognosis Moore foresees demands continued stillness, continued movement: “Also known as going home,” he writes. “Also known as getting over yourself.”


PRAISE

Praise for Jim Moore

“An artful amalgam of humor and fierce attention . . . [Moore] grasps the quiet power of white space, knowing that what is unsaid is often just as crucial as what is.” —The New York Times

“Moore makes the political seem personal and the personal seem universal to just about anyone.”—Star Tribune (Minneapolis)
Secret Life
Theo Ellsworth and Jeff VanderMeer

An uncanny and eye-opening journey into a mysterious building, adapted from a short story by Jeff VanderMeer

To the west: trees. To the east: a mall. North: fast food. South: darkness. And at the center is The Building, an office building wherein several factions vie for dominance. Inside, the walls are infiltrated with vines, a mischief of mice learn to speak English, and something eerie happens once a month on the fifth floor. In Secret Life, Theo Ellsworth uses a deep-layered style to interpret Nebula Award–winning author Jeff VanderMeer’s short story. What emerges is a mind-bending narrative that defamiliarizes the mundanity of office work and makes the arcane rituals of The Building home.

When his manager borrows his pen for a presentation, a man is driven to unspeakable acts as he questions the role the pen has played in his workplace success. The despised denizens of the second floor develop their own tongue, incomprehensible to everyone else in The Building. A woman plants a seed of insurgency that quickly permeates every corner of the building with its sweet, nostalgic perfume.

With deft insight, Secret Life observes the sinister individualism of bureaucratic settings in contrast with an unconcerned natural world. As the narrative progresses, you may begin to suspect that the world Ellsworth has brought to life with hypnotic visuals is not so secret after all; in fact, it’s uncannily similar to our own.

Jeff VanderMeer is the New York Times–bestselling author of The Southern Reach Trilogy, the first volume of which, Annihilation, won the Nebula Award and the Shirley Jackson Award for best novel and was adapted into a movie by Alex Garland. His novels set in the Borne universe are being adapted for TV by AMC, and Netflix has optioned his next novel, Hummingbird Salamander, for film. Called “the weird Thoreau” by The New Yorker, VanderMeer speaks and writes frequently about issues relating to climate change as well as urban rewilding. He lives in Tallahassee, Florida, on the edge of a ravine, with his wife, Ann VanderMeer, and their cat, Neo.
Omnis Temporalis
A Visual Long-Playing Record

Seth

The musical adaptation of Seth’s George Sprott on vinyl, packaged by the Giller-nominated cartoonist himself!

“Something strange happens when you pass your work along to another artist for interpretation. It goes away a relative and comes back a stranger. Lines of dialogue I had written in my graphic novel, now spoken or sung by actors, were odd and moving. I could suddenly recognize from what wellspring of emotion they had originated in me. A truly moving experience.”

—Seth

Seth’s acclaimed graphic novel George Sprott has now inspired a modern opera by the artistic director and musician Mark Haney. Captured on a classic vinyl record with a sumptuous, over-the-top design by Seth, Omnis Temporalis: A Visual Long-Playing Record is part chamber music, part song cycle, and part audio drama. Haney’s unique project builds on Seth’s original picture novella while standing alone as a musical triumph.

Omnis Temporalis remixes elements of Seth’s George Sprott to bring the main character and several other residents of Dominion to life, telling a story of time, memory, loss, and the ties that bind. Featuring the acclaimed TV and voice actor Richard Newman as George and the soprano Dory Hayley as Daisy, the cast includes many of Canada’s best-known stage and TV actors.

The trio of alto flute, cello, and double bass create a musical palette on which the dialogue and songs float in an ethereal, atmospheric narrative that traces parts of George’s life as we accompany him through the last day of his life.

Seth is the cartoonist behind Clyde Fans, the first graphic novel nominated for the Scotiabank Giller Prize. His comics have appeared in The New York Times Magazine, Best American Comics, and Timothy McSweeney’s Quarterly Concern. His illustrations have appeared on the covers of The New Yorker, The Walrus, and Canadian Notes & Queries. He designs collections of work by Charles Schulz, John Stanley, and Doug Wright, and was the subject of a National Film Board documentary entitled Seth’s Dominion. Seth lives in Guelph, Canada, in a house he has named Inkwell’s End.

Mark Haney is the artistic director of The Little Chamber Music Series That Could as well as the composer in residence at Vancouver’s Mountain View Cemetery. He is acclaimed for his wor...

PRAISE
George Sprott
(1894-1975)

Seth


How to encapsulate a life in all its messiness, epiphanies, misunderstandings, disappointments, and joys? Seth, cartoonist of Clyde Fans, the first graphic novel nominated for the Scotiabank Giller Prize, offers his tragicomic answer with George Sprott: 1894–1975. Page by page, we learn about George—outmoded television host, creature of habit, charming if pompous old man, selfish lover, man about to die—and though this is ultimately the story of one man’s death, Seth leavens it with humor and restraint.

The book’s omniscient narrator offers a patchwork tale: a series of “interviews” with the people who cared about George, flashbacks, and personal reminiscences. The thwarted love of his life, Olive Mott, and the woman he marries, Helen. His trips to the Arctic and the exoticized portrait his documentaries painted of a Great White North. His habit of falling asleep on-air. His humdrum demise. What emerges is a story about memory, loss, time, and the stories we tell (and retell) to get through the day. George’s romanticizing and repeating of his adventures up North, “adventures” that are revealed to be entirely fictional, holds a mirror to the ways we each historicize our own lives.

Originally serialized in The New York Times Magazine before being published in an expanded, large-format hardcover by Drawn & Quarterly, this new edition is the definitive George Sprott.

Seth is the cartoonist behind the comic book series Palookaville and Clyde Fans, the first graphic novel nominated for the Scotiabank Giller Prize. His comics have appeared in The New York Times Magazine, Best American Comics, and McSweeney’s Quarterly. His illustrations have appeared on the covers of The New Yorker, The Walrus, and Canadian Notes & Queries. He is Lemony Snicket’s partner for the series All the Wrong Questions and designs several classic comics reprint series, notably collections of work by Charles Schulz, John Stanley, and Doug Wright. He was the subject of a National Film Board documentary entitled Seth’s Dominion. Seth lives in Guelph, Canada, with his wife, Tania, and two cats in a house he has named Inkwell’s End.

PRAISE

“A stunning oversize fictional biography of a local television host, bore, and boor who fancies himself a man of the world.” —The New York Times
Library
Michael Dumontier and Neil Farber

Two of Canada’s most famous visual artists take on the book medium in their own hilarious way


In Dumontier and Farber’s Library, titles like I Lost the Human Race, Change Your Relationship to Your Unchangeable Past, and I Have a Medical Condition That Makes It So I Don’t Have to Talk to You offer surprising and astute observations, all in the duo’s characteristic deadpan style. The simplicity of the shapes and text evokes an immediate but lasting profundity, with each piece causing one to wonder about the thoughts that roam their consciousness, and the books that take up residence on their—and our—shelves.

Dumontier and Farber are founding members of the influential art collective the Royal Art Lodge, and have been collaborating on art projects for more than fifteen years, exhibiting internationally. Library is playful and insightful as it pokes and prods at the human condition.

Michael Dumontier and Neil Farber are founding members of the Royal Art Lodge. Since the dissolution of the influential Winnipeg art collective, Dumontier and Farber continue to work and create art together. Their work is in the permanent collections of the National Gallery of Canada, Vancouver Art Gallery, Canada Council Art Bank, Winnipeg Art Gallery, Centro De Arte Caja De Burgos (Spain), Takashi Murakami (Tokyo), Folkwang Museum (Essen), and La Maison Rouge (Paris). They both reside in Winnipeg, Canada.

PRAISE


“Two of the funniest, smartest guys in Winnipeg . . . The way they cook a punchline into its most economical, high-impact form is a triumph of restrictive poetry.” —Canadian Art

“Absurd, hilarious, twee, and poignant.” —Blouin ArtInfo
Join acclaimed author Elise Gravel on a dazzling and revelatory tour of the insect world!

In *The Bug Club*, Elise Gravel shares all of her favorite and most interesting facts about these marvelous creatures, some of which are so unique and strange, you could almost imagine them living in outer space!

Most people know that spiders have eight eyes, but what about the caterpillar? These little critters have them beat with a whopping twelve! Did you know mosquitoes are attracted to smelly feet? That the honey bee has hair on her eyeballs? That butterly feet double as noses? And grasshoppers have ears on their bellies? These are just some of the many things about bugs that make them endlessly enchanting. Elise’s inquisitiveness and charm pop off the page as she takes us on a walk through her mind—and the awe-inspiring natural wonders that exist right outside our doorsteps.

If you’re curious what the inside of a slug looks like, *The Bug Club* has got you covered. Not only does Elise answer these burning questions, but she draws it all beautifully and brightly in her signature cartoony style.

The followup to her award-winning *The Mushroom Fan Club*, where Elise shares her delightful and family-friendly mushroom-hunting adventures, *The Bug Club* offers more activities and fun for the whole family. This time, the treasure is hiding just below a rock or that pile of fresh fall leaves.

**Elise Gravel** is an author and illustrator from Montreal, Quebec. After studying graphic design, she pursued a career writing and illustrating children’s books, where her quirky and charming characters quickly won the hearts of children and adults worldwide. In 2012, Gravel received the Governor General’s Literary Award for her book *La clé à molette*. A prolific artist, she currently has over thirty children’s books to her name which have been translated into a dozen languages, including *The Mushroom Fan Club, The Worst Book Ever, and If Found…Please Return to Elise Gravel*, her challenge to young artists to keep a sketchbook. Gravel still lives in Montreal with her spouse, two daughters, cats, and a few spiders.

**PRAISE**

“It’s these non-fiction books that combine biology with a comic aesthetic where her work really comes to life.” —*The Globe & Mail*

“Strange and wonderful . . . That’s all I’m giving you. You’ll read it and like it.” —*The Guardian*
The Waiting

Keum Suk Gendry-Kim; Translated from the Korean by Janet Hong

The story begins with a mother’s confession . . . sisters permanently separated by a border during the Korean War

Keum Suk Gendry-Kim was an adult when her mother revealed a family secret: She had been separated from her sister during the Korean War. It’s not an uncommon story—the peninsula was split across the 38th parallel, dividing one country into two. As many fled violence in the north, not everyone was able to make it south. Her mother’s story inspired Gendry-Kim to begin interviewing her and other Koreans separated by the war; that research fueled a deeply resonant graphic novel.

*The Waiting* is the fictional story of Gwija, told by her novelist daughter, Jina. When Gwija was seventeen years old, after hearing that the Japanese were seizing unmarried girls, her family married her in a hurry to a man she didn’t know. Japan fell, Korea gained its independence, and the couple started a family. But peace didn’t come. The young family of four fled south. On the road, while breastfeeding and changing her daughter, Gwija was separated from her husband and son.

Then seventy years passed. Seventy years of waiting. Gwija is now an elderly woman and Jina can’t stop thinking about the promise she made to help find her brother.


Keum Suk Gendry-Kim was born in Goheung, Korea, a town famous for its beautiful mountains and sea. She is the author of numerous graphic novels, including 2019’s *Grass*, winner of the Krause Essay Prize, Cartoonist Studio Prize, and the Harvey Award, and nominated for the Los Angeles Times Book Prize, YALSA’s Alex Awards, and more. Gendry-Kim received the Best Creative Manhwa Award for her short manhwa “Sister Mija,” about a comfort woman. She has had exhibitions of her work in Korea and Europe, and her graphic novels and manhwa deal mostly with people who are outcasts or marginalized.

**PRAISE**

“Unflinching . . . Gendry-Kim can capture Lee’s gap toothed raucousness as

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An affecting glimpse into the ways millennials cope with mental health struggles

Clara’s at a breaking point. She’s got writer’s block, her friends ask a lot without giving much, her psychologist is useless, and her demanding publishing job leaves little time for self care. She seeks solace in the community around her, yet, while her friends provide support and comfort, she is often left feeling empty, unable to express an underlying depression that leaves her immobilized and stifles any attempts at completing her poetry collection. In *This Is How I Disappear*, Mirion Malle paints an empathetic portrait of a young woman wrestling with psychological stress and the trauma following a sexual assault.

Malle displays frankness and a remarkable emotional intelligence as she explores depression, isolation, and self-harm in her expertly drawn novel. Her heroine battles an onslaught of painful emotions, and while Clara can provide consolation to those around her, she finds it difficult to bestow the same understanding on herself. Only when she allows her community to guide her toward self-love does she find relief.

Filled with twenty-first-century idioms and social media communication, *This Is How I Disappear* opens a window onto the lives of young people as they face a barrage of mental health hurdles. Scenes of sisterhood, fun nights out singing karaoke, and impromptu FaceTime therapy sessions show how this generation is coping, connecting, and healing together.

Mirion Malle is a French cartoonist and illustrator who lives in Montreal. She studied comics at the École Supérieure des Arts Saint-Luc in Brussels before pursuing a master’s degree in sociology specializing in gender and feminist studies, via Université Paris Diderot and the Université du Québec à Montréal. Malle has published three books. *The League of Super Feminists* was her first book to be translated into English and was nominated for the 2020 Prix Jeunesse at the Angoulême International Comics Festival.
Tunnels
Rutu Modan

A race for the Ark of the Covenant finds an exploration into the ethics and world of the international antiquities trade

When a great antiquities collector is forced to donate his entire collection to the Hebrew University in Jerusalem, Nili Broshi sees her last chance to finish an archaeological expedition begun decades earlier—a dig that could possibly yield the most important religious artifact in the Middle East. Motivated by the desire to reinstate her father’s legacy as a great archaeologist after he was marginalized by his rival, Nili enlists a ragtag crew—a religious nationalist and his band of hilltop youths, her traitorous brother, and her childhood Palestinian friend, now an archaeological smuggler. As Nili’s father slips deeper into dementia, warring factions close in on and fight over the Ark of the Covenant!

Backed by extensive research into this real-world treasure hunt, Rutu Modan sets her affecting novel at the center of a political crisis. She posits that the history of biblical Israel lies in one of the most disputed regions in the world, occupied by Israel and contested by Palestine. Often in direct competition, Palestinians and Israelis dig alongside one another, hoping to find the sacred artifact believed to be a conduit to God. Two-time Eisner Award winner Rutu Modan’s third graphic novel, Tunnels, is her deepest and wildest yet. Potent and funny, Modan reveals the Middle East as no westerner could.

Rutu Modan is an illustrator, comics artist, and associate professor at the Bezalel Academy of Art & Design in Jerusalem. After publishing several comic strips in the Israeli media, Modan cofounded the Actus Comics group. In 2008 her book Exit Wounds won the Eisner Award. Her 2013 graphic novel The Property won the Eisner Award for Best Graphic Novel, the Special Jury Prize in the International Comics Festival in Angoulême, France, and the first prize for best book of the year in Lucca Comics & Games Festival, Italy. Modan’s comics and children’s books have been translated into fifteen languages. In 2013 she cofounded an independent publishing house specializing in comics for young children.

PRAISE

“[An] adventure story that dives deep into the world of Israeli archaeology, gets its hands dirty digging for lost treasures, plunges into the intrigues and rivalries of academia, and collides head-on with the Israeli-Palestinian conflict.” —Haaretz

“Masterful.” —Los Angeles Times

“Everything you could possibly want in a comic.” —The Guardi...
Leonard Cohen opens in Los Angeles on the last night of the man’s life in 2016. Alone in his final hours, the beloved writer and musician ponders his existence in a series of flashbacks that reveal the ups and downs of a storied career.

A young Cohen traded in the promise of steady employment in his family’s Montreal garment business for the unlikely path of a literary poet. His life took another sharp turn when, already in his thirties, he recorded his first album to widespread international acclaim. Along the way he encountered a who’s who of musical luminaries, including Lou Reed, Nico, Janis Joplin, and Joni Mitchell. And then there’s Phil Spector, the notorious music impresario who held a gun to Cohen’s head during a coke-fueled, all-night recording session.

Later in Cohen’s life, there’s the story of “Hallelujah,” one of his most famous songs, and its slow rise from relative obscurity when first recorded in the 1980s to its iconic status a decade later with covers by John Cale and Jeff Buckley. And the period when Cohen went broke after his manager embezzled his lifetime savings, which ironically sparked an unlikely career resurgence and several worldwide tours in the 2000s.

Written with careful attention to detail and drawn with a palette of warm, lush colors by the Quebec-based cartoonist Philippe Girard, Leonard Cohen is an engaging portrait of a cultural icon.

Philippe Girard was born in Québec City, Canada, in 1971. He published his first comic in a children’s magazine when he was eight years old and has since published more than twenty books. His comics have received the Joe Shuster, the Bedelys Quebec, and the Bedeis Causa Awards. He lives in Quebec, Canada.
The Uninnocent
Notes on Violence and Mercy

Katharine Blake

A harrowing intellectual reckoning with crime, mercy, and heartbreak through the lens of a horrific murder

On a Thursday morning in June 2010, Katharine Blake McGowan's sixteen-year-old cousin Scott stole his father's hunting knife, walked to a nearby bike path, and killed an eight-year-old boy he didn't know. He turned himself in to the police soon after. It was a psychological break that tore through Scott's brain, and into the hearts of those who loved both boys—one brutally killed, the other sentenced to die in Angola, the country's most notorious prison.

In *The Uninnocent*, McGowan, a law student at Stanford at the time, wrestles with the fallout of her cousin's actions, as well as the broken machinations of America's justice system. As Scott languished on death row, and as his victim's family sought closure, McGowan struggled to keep her faith in the institution she was training to join. Consumed with understanding her and her family's new reality, McGowan became obsessed with heartbreak, seeing it everywhere: in Scott's isolation, in his victim's loss, in the students she taught at various prisons, in the way our justice system breaks rather than mends, in the history of her parents and their violent childhoods. As she delves into a history of heartbreak—through science, medicine, and literature—and chronicles her uneasy yet tender bond with Scott, McGowan asks probing questions about justice, faith, inheritance, family, and, most of all, mercy.

Sensitive, singular, and powerful, effortlessly b...

**Katharine Blake McGowan** is an adjunct professor at Vermont Law School's Center for Justice Reform. She received her JD, with pro bono distinction, from Stanford Law School, where she was an editor of the *Stanford Law & Policy Review*. She has taught English at San Quentin Prison and served as assistant general counsel and director of special projects for the Children's Defense Fund. She lives with her family in Burlington, Vermont.
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