Gage Chandler is descended from kings. That’s what his mother always told him.

Now he is a true-crime writer with one grisly success—and movie adaptation—to his name, along with a series of subsequent lesser efforts that have paid the bills but not much more. But he is being offered the chance for the big break: to move into the house—what the locals call “The Devil House”—in which a briefly notorious pair of murders occurred in 1980s, apparently the work of disaffected teens. He begins his research with diligence and enthusiasm, but soon the story leads him into a puzzle he never expected—back into his own work and what it means, back to the very core of what he does and who he is.

John Darnielle has long been known to millions of Mountain Goats fans as a storyteller of uncanny sensitivity and mythic power. In Universal Harvester, and in Wolf in White Van before it, he has proven himself a novelist of the highest order. With Devil House, Darnielle rises above with a novel that blurs the line between fact and fiction, that combines daring formal experimentation with a gripping tale of crime, writing, memory, and artistic obsession.

John Darnielle’s first novel, Wolf in White Van, was a New York Times bestseller, a National Book Award nominee, and a finalist for the Los Angeles Times Book Prize for first fiction, and was widely hailed as one of the best novels of the year. He is the writer, composer, guitarist, and vocalist for the Mountain Goats. He lives in Durham, North Carolina, with his wife and sons.

“Brilliant . . . Darnielle is a master at building suspense, and his writing is propulsive and urgent; it’s nearly impossible to stop reading . . . [Universal Harvester] is beyond worthwhile; it’s a major work by an author who is quickly becoming one of the brightest stars in American fiction.” —Michael Schau...
At first glance, the foods we eat appear more numerous and diverse than ever before. In many cities, cuisines from all six inhabited continents can be found within a radius of a single mile. But this fact obscures an important truth: globalization has homogenized what we eat, and done so ruthlessly. The numbers are stark: of the roughly six thousand different plants once consumed by human beings, only nine remain major staples today. Just three of these—rice, wheat, and corn—now provide fifty percent of all our calories. Dig deeper and the trends are more worrisome still: a single species of wheat accounts for ninety-five percent of global output. Ninety-five percent of milk consumed around the world comes from a single breed of cow, and half of all cheese is made with bacteria from a single company.

This consolidation has steep costs: a higher incidence of heart disease and diabetes; a lack of redundancy in the face of climate change, pests, and parasites; and the loss not only of traditional foodways, but of flavors, smells, and textures that may never be experienced again. If it strikes you that everything is starting to taste the same, you’re by no means alone.

In *Eating to Extinction*, the distinguished BBC food journalist Dan Saladino travels the world to experience and document our most at-risk foods before it's too late. He tells the fascinating stories of the people who continue to cultivate, fo...
In his blazing debut novel, *Last Resort*, Andrew Lipstein blurs the lines of fact and fiction with a thrilling story of fame, fortune, and impossible choices.

Caleb Horowitz is twenty-seven, and his wildest dreams are about to come true. His manuscript has caught the attention of the literary agent, who offers him fame, fortune, and a taste of the literary life. He can’t wait for his book to be shopped around to every editor in New York, except one: Avi Dietsch, a college rival and the novel’s “inspiration.” When Avi gets his hands on it, he sees nothing but theft—and opportunity. Caleb is forced to make a Faustian bargain, one that tests his theories of success, ambition, and the limits of art.

Andrew Lipstein’s *Last Resort* is the razor-edged account of a young man’s headlong journey into authenticity. As Caleb fights to right his mistakes and reclaim his name, he must burn every bridge, confront his own desire, and finally see his work from the perspective of those locked inside.

Andrew Lipstein lives in Brooklyn, New York, with his wife, Mette, and son, August.
Fear of Black Consciousness

Lewis R. Gordon

A groundbreaking account of Black consciousness by a leading philosopher.

In this original and penetrating work, Lewis R. Gordon, one of the leading scholars of Black existentialism and anti-Blackness, takes the reader on a journey through the historical development of racialized Blackness, the problems this kind of consciousness produces, and the many creative responses from Black and non-Black communities in contemporary struggles for dignity and freedom. Skillfully navigating a difficult and traumatic terrain, Gordon cuts through the mist of white narcissism and the versions of consciousness it perpetuates. He exposes the bad faith at the heart of many discussions about race and racism in America, including those who think of themselves as "color blind." As Gordon reveals, these lies offer many white people an inherited sense of being extraordinary, a license to do as they please. But for many if not most Blacks, to live an ordinary life in a white-dominated society is an extraordinary achievement.

Informed by Gordon’s life growing up in Jamaica and the Bronx, and taking as a touchstone the pandemic and the uprisings against police violence, Fear of Black Consciousness is a groundbreaking work that positions Black consciousness as a political commitment and creative practice, richly layered through art, love, and revolutionary action.

Lewis R. Gordon is an Afro-Jewish philosopher, political thinker, educator, and musician. He is a professor and head of the philosophy department at the University of Connecticut in Storrs. He has received accolades for his influential books and articles, many of which have been reprinted and translated around the world. He is Honorary President of the Global Center for Advanced Studies and a former president of the Caribbean Philosophical Association, for which he now serves as the chairperson of awards and global collaborations.

PRAISE

Praise for Lewis R. Gordon

"While Gordon did not coin the term ‘anti-Black’ or ‘anti-Blackness,’ he was the first to theorize and to use it in a rigorous and systematic way. His pioneering work on the life and thought of Frantz Fanon, as well as his own original contributions to formulating a philosophy of black existentialism, are widely ..."
Barrett Brown went to prison for four years for leaking intelligence documents. He was released to Trump’s America. This is his story.

After a series of escapades both online and off that brought him in and out of 4chan forums, the halls of power, heroin, and federal prison, Barrett Brown is a free man. Brown was arrested for his part in an attempt to catalog, interpret, and disseminate top-secret documents exposed in a security lapse by the intelligence contractor Stratfor in 2011. An influential journalist and active in the hacktivist collective Anonymous, Brown recounts exploits from a life shaped by an often self-destructive drive to speak truth to power. With inimitable wit and style, palpable anger and conviction, Brown exposes the incompetence and injustices that plague media and politics, reflects on the successes and failures of the transparency movement, and shows the way forward in harnessing digital communication tools for collective action.

But My Glorious Defeats is more than just the tale of the clever and hilarious Brown; it’s also a rigorously researched dissection of our decaying institutions, and of human nature itself. As Brown makes clear, institutions are made of people—people with personal ambitions and personal vices—and it is people, just like him, just like us, who hold power. As optimistic as it is heartbreaking, My Glorious Defeats is an entertaining and illuminating manual for insurgency in the information age.

Bold and combative, irreverent and erudite, My Glorious Defeats is both memoir and manifesto—a roar...

Barrett Brown is an award-winning journalist who has written for Vanity Fair, The Huffington Post, The Daily Beast, The Guardian, VICE, New York, The A.V. Club, and The Intercept. In 2016 he won the National Magazine Award for Columns and Commentary. He was released from federal prison in November 2016 after serving four years. He lives in Dallas, Texas, with his PlayStation 4, vapor nicotine inhaler, and other ultramodern luxury goods.
# Manywhere

## Stories

### Morgan Thomas

Lush and uncompromising stories about characters crossing geographical borders and gender binaries.

The nine stories in Morgan Thomas’s shimmering debut collection, *Manywhere*, witness Southern queer and genderqueer characters determined to find themselves reflected in the annals of history, at whatever cost. As each character traces deceit and violence through Southern tall tales and their own pasts, their journeys reveal the porous boundaries of body, land, and history, and the sometimes ruthless awakenings of self-discovery.

A trans woman finds her independence through the purchase of a pregnancy bump. A young Virginian flees their relationship, choosing instead to immerse themselves in the life of an intersex person from Colonial-era Jamestown. A young writer tries to evade the murky and violent legacy of an ancestor who supposedly disappeared into a midwifery bag. And in the uncanny title story, a young trans person brings home a replacement daughter for their elderly father.

Winding between reinvention and remembrance, transition and transcendence, these origin stories rebound across centuries. With warm, meticulous emotional intelligence, Thomas uncovers how the stories we borrow to understand ourselves in turn shape the people we become. Ushering in a new form of queer mythmaking, *Manywhere* introduces a storyteller of uncommon range and talent.

**Morgan Thomas**’s work has appeared in *The Atlantic, The Kenyon Review Online, VICE, Electric Literature, Ploughshares, The Greensboro Review, them.,* and *StoryQuarterly*, where their story won the 2019 Fiction Prize. They are the recipient of a Bread Loaf Work-Study Grant, a Fulbright Grant, and the Penny Wilkes Scholarship in Writing and the Environment, and they have received fellowships from the Sewanee Writers’ Conference, the Millay Colony for the Arts, and the Arctic Circle. A graduate of the University of Oregon MFA program, they live in Portland.

**PRAISE**

"Each story here is a gem, glimmering and precious to behold, but gathered together, *Manywhere* is a profusion of diamonds. The book is very queer, very well-written, and very goddamn good. Morgan Thomas is a wildly talented writer and *Manywhere* is a knockout." —Kristen Arnett, *New York Times* bestselling author of *Mostly Dead Things*
Present Tense Machine
A Novel

Gunnhild Øyehaug; Translated from the Norwegian by Kari Dickson

From the author of *Wait, Blink* and *Knots*, a playful and transcendent novel about language, family, and parallel universes.

On an ordinary day in Bergen, Norway, in the late 1980s, Anna is reading in the garden while her two-year-old daughter, Laura, plays on her tricycle. Then, in one startling moment, Anna misreads a word, an alternate universe opens up, and Laura disappears. Twenty years or so later, life has gone on as if nothing happened, but in each of the women’s lives, something is not quite right.

Both Anna and Laura continue to exist, but they are invisible to each other and forgotten in each other’s worlds. Both are writers and amateur pianists. They are married; Anna had two more children after Laura disappeared, and Laura is expecting a child of her own. They worry about their families, their jobs, the climate—and whether this reality is all there is.

In the exquisite, wistful, slyly profound *Present Tense Machine*, Gunnhild Øyehaug—called “one of the most exciting writers working today” by the bestselling author Jenny Offill—delivers another dazzling renovation of what fiction can do: a testament to the fact that language shapes the world.

Gunnhild Øyehaug is an award-winning Norwegian poet, essayist, and fiction writer. FSG has published her story collection *Knots* as well as her novel *Wait, Blink*, which was adapted into the acclaimed film *Women in Oversized Men’s Shirts*. Øyehaug lives in Bergen, where she teaches creative writing.

Kari Dickson was born in Edinburgh, Scotland, and grew up bilingual. She has a BA in Scandinavian studies and an MA in translation. Her translation of *Brown* by Håkon Øverås and Øyvind Torseter won the 2020 Batchelder Award. Before becoming a translator, she worked in theater in London and Oslo. She teaches in the Scandinavian department at the University of Edinburgh.

PRAISE

Praise for Gunnhild Øyehaug

"From my first reading of *Knots* in the original Nynorsk, I have been captivated by Gunnhild Øyehaug’s wit, imagination, ironic social commentary."
Call Me Cassandra
A Novel

Marcial Gala; Translated from the Spanish by Anna Kushner

From the author of the award-winning The Black Cathedral, a darkly magical tale of a haunted young dreamer, born in the wrong body and time, who believes himself to be a doomed prophetess from ancient Greek mythology.

Ten-year-old Rauli lives in a world that is often hostile. His older brother is violent; his philandering father doesn’t understand him; his intelligence and sensitivity do not endear him to the other children at school. He loves to read, especially Greek myths, but in Cuba in the 1970s, novels and gods can be dangerous. Despite the signs that warn Rauli to repress and fear what he is, he knows three things to be true: First, that he was born in the wrong body. Second, that he will die, aged eighteen, as a soldier in the Cuban intervention in Angola. And third, that he is the reincarnation of the Trojan princess Cassandra.

Moving between Rauli’s childhood and adolescence, between the Angolan battlefield, the Cuban city of Cienfuegos, and the shores of ancient Troy, Marcial Gala’s Call Me Cassandra tells of the search for identity amid the collapse of Cuba’s utopian dreams. Burdened with knowledge of tragedies yet to come, Rauli nonetheless strives to know himself. Lyrical and gritty, heartbreaking and luminous, Rauli’s is the story of the inexorable pull of destiny.

Marcial Gala is a novelist, a poet, and an architect from Cuba. He won the Pinos Nuevos Prize for best short story in 1999. The Black Cathedral received the Critics’ Award and the Alejo Carpentier Award in 2012 and was published in English by FSG in 2020. Gala also won the 2018 Ñ Prize of the City of Buenos Aires-Clarín for Call Me Cassandra. He lives in Buenos Aires and Cienfuegos.

The daughter of Cuban exiles, Anna Kushner was born in Philadelphia and has been traveling to Cuba since 1999. In addition to The Black Cathedral and Call Me Cassandra, she has translated the novels of Norberto Fuentes, Leonardo Padura, Guillermo Rosales, and Gonçalo M. Tavares, as well as two collections of nonfiction by Mario Vargas Llosa.

PRAISE

Praise for The Black Cathedral

“Accidental cannibals, tenderhearted killers, angst-ridden ghosts and well-behaved artists soon populate [The Black Cathedral’s] topsy-turvy
Pure Colour
A Novel
Sheila Heti

Heartbreaking, exciting, profound: a short epic from Sheila Heti that redefines what the novel can do.

The world is failing to remain a world. It is coming apart. The ice caps are melting. The hot places are cooling. Species are dying. People, too—of different things. But what if this world is just a first draft, made by some great artist in order to be destroyed?

In this first draft of the world, a woman named Mira leaves home to study criticism. There, she meets Annie, whose tremendous power opens Mira’s chest like a portal—to what, she doesn’t know.

When Mira is older, her father dies, and his spirit passes into her. Together, they become a leaf, blissed and green on a great, old tree. But photosynthesis gets boring, and being alive is a problem that cannot be solved, even by a leaf. Eventually, Mira must remember the human world she’s left behind, including Annie, and choose whether or not to return.

Pure Colour is a galaxy of a novel: explosive, celestially bright, huge, and streaked with beauty. It is a contemporary bible, an atlas of feeling, and an absurdly funny field guide to being alive. Sheila Heti is a philosopher of modern experience, and she has redefined what a book can hold.

Sheila Heti is the author of several books of fiction and nonfiction, including Motherhood and How Should a Person Be?, which New York magazine called one of the “New Classics of the 21st Century.” She was named one of “The New Vanguard” by the book critics of The New York Times, who, along with a dozen other magazines and newspapers, chose Motherhood as a top book of 2018. Her books have been translated into twenty-one languages.

PRAISE

Praise for How Should a Person Be?

“Heti’s prose is dark and perceptive. She has a special gift, given to few, of being able to deliver prose that feels like actual, flickering, unmediated, sometimes humiliating thought . . . . She is drawing from a deep well, and . . . this will not be her last major book.” —Dwight Garner, The New York Time...
Dilla Time
The Life and Afterlife of the Hip-Hop Producer Who Reinvented Rhythm and Changed the Way Musicians Play

Dan Charnas; With musical analysis by Jeff Peretz

Equal parts musicology, biography, and cultural history, Dilla Time chronicles the invention of a new kind of beat by the most underappreciated musical genius of our time.

It’s Dilla Time. Finally. Dilla Time is the story of the invention of a new kind of time, a new kind of sound, by the most influential music producer of the last twenty-five years, someone you may never have heard of: J. Dilla. He’s revered by rappers and producers from Kanye West to Kendrick Lamar, and he worked with the likes of Michael Jackson and Janet Jackson—but Dilla himself never rose to mainstream fame, despite revolutionizing the way music sounds before his untimely death at the age of thirty-two.

In Dilla Time, Dan Charnas chronicles the life of J. Dilla, from his gifted childhood in Detroit, to the rare medical condition that caused his tragically premature death. He also records the histories of American rhythms: from the birth of funk and soul in Dilla’s own Motown, to techno and disco. Here, music is a story of Black culture in America and of what happens when human and machine times are synthesized into something totally new. With the help of analysis by the musicologist Jeff Peretz, Charnas teaches us to “see” sound differently, giving time itself texture, color, pattern.

Dilla’s beats, which to the untrained ear sound imprecise and chaotic, were born of the rigorous work ethic of a perfectionist almost spiritually devoted to his music. This is the story of the man, and the machines, that made up a new kind of time. Equal parts musicology, biography, and cultural history, Dilla Time is ...

Dan Charnas is the author of the definitive history of the hip-hop business, The Big Payback. He is also the author of Work Clean, a book that applies chefs' techniques to almost any life situation. He was the cocreator and executive producer of the VH1 movie and TV series The Breaks. He lives in Manhattan and is an associate professor at the Clive Davis Institute of Recorded Music at NYU.

Jeff Peretz is the head of the musicianship and performance department at the Clive
A new novel by one of the most important public intellectuals of our time, a vivid and moving meditation on the rise of New India, the effects of globalization, and the crisis of masculinity that accompanies these rapidly changing conditions.

Growing up in a small railway town, Arun always dreamed of escape. His acceptance at the prestigious Indian Institute of Technology, enabled through great sacrifice by his low-caste parents, is seemingly his golden ticket out of a life plagued by everyday cruelties and deprivations.

At the predominantly male campus, he meets two students from similar backgrounds. Unlike Arun—scarred by his childhood, and an uneasy interloper among go-getters—they possess the sheer will and confidence to break through merciless social barriers. The alumni of IIT eventually go on to become the financial wizards of their generation, working and playing hard from East Hampton to Tuscany—the recipients of unprecedented financial and sexual freedom. But while his friends play out Gatsby-style fantasies, Arun fails to leverage his elite education for social capital. He decides to pursue the writerly life, retreating to a small village in the Himalayas with his aging mother.

Arun's modest idyll is one day disrupted by the arrival of a young woman named Alia, who is writing an exposé on his former classmates. Alia, beautiful and sophisticated, draws Arun back to the prospering world where he must be someone else if he is to belong. And, when he is implicated in a terrible act of violence by his closest IIT friend, Arun will have to reckon with the person he has become.

Run and Hide is Pankaj Mishra's intimate story of achievement and aspiration, and the cost of breaking through social barriers in modern India.

Praise for The Romantics

"Grip[s] the reader as artfully and as compellingly as the first page of A Passage to India." —The New York Review of Books

Pankaj Mishra is the author of The Romantics, which won the Art Seidenbaum Award; Bland Fanatics; Age of Anger; and From the Ruins of Empire. He contributes political and literary essays to The Guardian, the London Review of Books, The New York Review of Books, and The New Yorker. A Fellow of the Royal Society of Literature, he lives in London and India.
The Sea Is Not Made of Water
Life Between the Tides

Adam Nicolson

Adam Nicholson explores the marine life inhabiting seashore rockpools with a scientist’s curiosity and a poet’s wonder in this beautifully illustrated book.

The sea is not made of water. Creatures are its genes. Look down as you crouch over the shallows of a rockpool and you will find a periwinkle or a prawn, a claw-displaying crab or a cluster of anemones ready to meet you. Go to the rocks and the living will say hello.

Inside each rockpool, tucked into one of the infinite crevices of the tidal coastline, lies a rippling, silent, unknowable universe. Below the stillness of the surface course different currents of endless motion—the ebb and flow of the tide, the steady forward propulsion of the passage of time, and the tiny lifetimes of its creatures, all of which coalesce into the grand narrative of evolution.

In The Sea Is Not Made of Water, Adam Nicolson investigates one of the most revelatory habitats on earth. Under his microscope, we see a prawn’s head become a medieval helmet and a group of “winkles” transform a Dickensian social scene, with mollusks munching on Stilton and glancing at their pocket watches. Or, rather, is a winkle more like Achilles, an ancient hero, throwing himself toward death for the sake of glory? For Nicolson, who writes “with scientific rigor and a poet’s sense of wonder” (The American Scholar), the world of the rockpools is infinite and as intricate as our own.

As Nicolson journeys between the tides, both in the pools he builds along the coast of Scotland and through the timeline of scientific discovery, he is accompanied by g...

Adam Nicolson is the author of many books on history, landscape, and great literature. He is the winner of the Somerset Maugham Award, the W. H. Heinemann Award, and the Ondaatje Prize. He lives on a farm in Sussex.

PRAISE

Praise for The Seabird's Cry

"Breathtaking . . . Nicolson’s mind is well stocked and acrobatic, and capable of vivid connections . . . He has an intuitive understanding of the birds that feels almost uncanny . . . His gift is to present this research in a way that is not just comprehensible but compelling, even moving, and to intercut it w...
Then the War
and Selected Poems, 2007-2020

Carl Phillips

A new collection of poems from one of America’s most essential, celebrated, and enduring poets.

I’m a song, changing. I’m a light
rain falling through a vast
darkness toward a different
darkness.

Carl Phillips has aptly described his work as an “ongoing quest;” *Then the War* is the next step in that meaningful process of self-discovery for both the poet and his reader. The new poems, written in a time of rising racial conflict in the United States, with its attending violence and uncertainty, find Phillips entering deeper into the landscape he has made his own: a forest of intimacy, queerness, and moral inquiry, where the farther one goes, the more difficult it is to remember why or where we started.

*Then the War* includes a generous selection of Phillips’s work from the previous thirteen years, as well as his recent lyric prose memoir, "Among the Trees," and his chapbook *Star Map with Action Figures*.

Ultimately, Phillips resists easy pessimism, arguing for tenderness and human connection as a profound force for revolution, conjuring a spell against indifference and the easy escapes of nostalgia. *Then the War* is luminous testimony to the power of self-reckoning and to Carl Phillips as an ever-changing, necessary voice in contemporary poetry.

**Carl Phillips** is the author of fifteen previous books of poetry, most recently *Pale Colors in a Tall Field*. He teaches at Washington University in St. Louis.

**PRAISE**

Praise for *Pale Colors in a Tall Field*

"Almost no one, to my ear, charts the perpetually shifting moods and meanings of the interior psychic landscape as sensitively, or as beautifully, as [Phillips] does. This book is one of his finest, an intoxicating cocktail of passion mixed with tentativeness, precision mixed with ambiguity, that trai...
The Religious Revolution
The Making of Modern Spirituality, 1848-1898

Dominic Green

A sweeping cultural and intellectual history of the birth of modern spirituality in the late nineteenth century.

The late nineteenth century was an age of grand ideas and great expectations fueled by rapid scientific and technological innovation. In Europe, the ancient authority of church and crown was overthrown for the volatile gambles of democracy and the capitalist market. If it was an age that claimed to liberate women, slaves, and serfs, it also harnessed children to its factories and subjected entire peoples to its empires. Amid this tumult, another sea change was underway: the religious revolution.

In *The Religious Revolution*, Dominic Green charts this shift, taking us on a whirlwind journey through the lives and ideas of Ralph Waldo Emerson and Walt Whitman; of Éliphas Levi and Helena Blavatsky; of Wagner and Nietzsche; of Marx, Darwin, and Gandhi. Challenged by the industrialization, globalization, and political unrest of their times, these figures found themselves connecting with the religious impulse in surprising new ways, inspiring others to move away from the strictures of religion and toward the thrill and intimacy of spirituality. We often link the modern era with a rise in secularism, but in this trenchant new work, Green demonstrates how the foundations of our society were laid as much by spirituality as by science or reason.

*The Religious Revolution* is a narrative tour de force that sweeps across several continents and five of the most turbulent and formative decades in history. Threading toge...

Dominic Green, PhD, is a critic, a historian, and the deputy editor of *The Spectator*’s US edition. He writes widely on the arts and current affairs, and contributes regularly to *The Wall Street Journal* and *The New Criterion*. He is the author of *Three Empires on the Nile, Armies of God*, *Benny Green: Words and Music*, and *The Double Life of Doctor Lopez*. A Fellow of the Royal Historical Society and the Royal Society of Arts, he has taught writing and history at Brandeis and Boston College. He lives in Cambridge, Massachusetts.

PRAISE

Praise for *Three Empires on the Nile*

"[A] tale of political intrigue and colonial warfare in a different era . . . with snappy writing and many telling anecdotes." —Nicholas van de Walle
Mecca
A Novel
Susan Straight

From the National Book Award finalist Susan Straight, a stunning epic tracing the intertwined lives of native Californians fighting for life and land.

Johnny Frias has California in his blood. A descendant of the state’s Indigenous people and Spanish settlers, he has Southern California’s forgotten towns and canyons in his soul. He spends his days working for the California Highway Patrol pulling over speeders, ignoring their racist insults, and pushing past the trauma of his rookie year, when he killed a man who was in the midst of assaulting a young woman named Bunny, who proceeded to run away. But like the Santa Ana winds, which every year bring risk of fire, Johnny’s moment of action twenty years ago sparks a slow-burning chain of connections that unites a vibrant, complex cast of characters in ways they never saw coming.

In *Mecca*, the celebrated novelist Susan Straight crafts an unforgettable American epic, examining race, history, family, and destiny through the interlocking stories of a group of native Californians all gasping for air. With sensitivity, furor, and a cinematic scope that captures California in all its injustice, history, and glory, she tells a story of the American West through the eyes of the people who built it—and continue to sustain it. As the stakes get higher and the intertwined characters in *Mecca* slam against barrier after barrier, we find that when push comes to shove, it’s always better to push back.

Susan Straight is the author of several novels, including the national bestseller *Highwire Moon*, a finalist for the National Book Award, and *A Million Nightingales*, a finalist for the Los Angeles Times Book Prize, as well as the memoir *In the Country of Women*, named a best book of 2019 by NPR and *Real Simple*. She is the recipient of the Edgar Award for Best Short Story, the O. Henry Prize, the Lannan Literary Award for Fiction, and a Guggenheim Fellowship, and her stories and essays have been published in *The New Yorker, The New York Times, The Guardian, Granta, Harper’s Magazine*, and elsewhere. She was born and continues to live in Riverside, California, with her family, where she serves as a distinguished professor of creative writing at the U...
And a Dog Called Fig
Solitude, Connection, the Writing Life

Helen Humphreys

_And a Dog Called Fig_ is the story of one writer’s life with dogs—including a frisky new puppy, how they are uniquely ideal companions for building a creative life, and a sprinkling of delightful tales about dogs with famous writer pals.

Into the writer’s isolation comes a dog, to sit beside the chair or to lie on the couch while the writer works, to force them outside for a walk, and suddenly, although still lonely, the writer has a companion.

An artist’s solitude is a sacred space, one to be guarded and kept apart from the chaos of the world. This isolation allows for uninhibited wandering, uninterrupted meditation, and the nurturing of sparks of inspiration into fires of creation. But in the artist’s quiet there is also loneliness, self-doubt, the possibility of collapsing too far inward.

What an artist needs is a familiar, a creature perfectly suited to accompany them on this coveted, difficult journey. They need a companion with emotional intelligence, innate curiosity, passion, energy, and an enthusiasm for the world beyond, but also the capacity to sleep contentedly for many hours. What an artist needs, Helen Humphreys would say, is a dog.

And a Dog Called Fig is a memoir of the writing life told through the dogs Humphreys has lived with and loved over a lifetime, culminating with the recent arrival and settling in of Fig, a Vizsla puppy. Interspersed are stories of other writers and their irreplaceable companions: Virginia Woolf and Grizzle, Gertrude Stein and Basket, Thomas Hardy and Wessex—the dog who walked the dining table at dinner parties, taking whatever he liked—and many more.

A love song to the dogs who come into our lives...

_Helen Humphreys_ is an acclaimed award-winning author of fiction, nonfiction, and poetry. Her work includes the novels _The Evening Chorus, Coventry, and Afterimage_, and the nonfiction works _The Ghost Orchard_ and _The Frozen Thames_. She has won the Rogers Writers’ Trust Fiction Prize and the Toronto Book Award, and has been a finalist for the Governor General’s Award for Fiction, the Trillium Book Award, the Lambda Literary Award, and CBC Radio’s Canada Reads.

**PRAISE**
The Trouble with Happiness
And Other Stories

Tove Ditlevsen; Translated
from the Danish by Michael Favala Goldman

A short-story collection from the acclaimed author of the
Copenhagen Trilogy, never before translated in English.

A newly married woman longs, irrationally, for a silk umbrella; a husband chases away his wife’s beloved cat; a betrayed mother impulsively sacks her housekeeper. Underneath the surface of these precisely observed tales of marriage and family life in mid-century Copenhagen pulse currents of desire, violence, and despair, as women and men struggle to escape from the roles assigned to them and dream of becoming free and happy—without ever truly understanding what that might mean.

Tove Ditlevsen is one of Denmark's most famous and beloved writers, and her autobiographical Copenhagen Trilogy was hailed as a masterpiece on re-publication in English, lauded for its wry humor, limpid prose, and powerful honesty. The poignant and understated stories in The Trouble with Happiness, written in the 1950s and 1960s and never before translated into English, offer readers a new chance to encounter the quietly devastating work of this essential twentieth-century writer.

Tove Ditlevsen (1917–1976) was born in a working-class neighborhood in Copenhagen. Her first volume of poetry was published when she was in her early twenties and was followed by many more books, including the three volumes of the Copenhagen Trilogy: Childhood (1967), Youth (1967), and Dependency (1971).

Michael Favala Goldman is a poet, a jazz clarinetist, and a widely published translator of Danish literature. More than one hundred of his translations have appeared in journals such as The Harvard Review and The Columbia Journal. Among his ten translated books are The Water Farm Trilogy, Farming Dreams, and Selected Poems of Benny Andersen. He lives in Florence, Massachusetts.

PRAISE

Praise for the Copenhagen Trilogy

"How does great literature—the Grade A, top-shelf stuff—announce itself to the reader? . . . I bring news of Tove Ditlevsen’s suite of memoirs with the kind of thrill and reluctance that tells me this must be a masterpiece . . . [The trilogy is] the product of a terrifying talent." —Parul Sehgal, The New Y...
The Fruit Thief
or, One-Way Journey into the Interior: A Novel

Peter Handke; Translated from the German by Krishna Winston

A major new novel from the Nobel laureate Peter Handke—one of his most inventive and dazzingly original works.

On a summer day under a blue sky a man is stung on his foot by a bee. “The sting signaled that the time had come to set out, to hit the road. Off with you. The hour of departure has arrived.” The man boards a train to Paris, crosses the city by Métro, then boards another, disembarking in a small town on the plains to the north. He is searching for a young woman he calls the Fruit Thief, who, like him, has set off on a journey to the Vexin plateau. What follows is a vivid but dreamlike exploration of topography both physical and affective, charting the Fruit Thief’s perambulations across France’s internal borderlands: alongside rivers and through ravines, beside highways and to a bolt-hole under the stairs of an empty hotel. Chance encounters—with a man scrambling through the underbrush in search of his lost cat, with a delivery boy who abandons his scooter to become a fellow traveler for a day—are like so many throws of the dice, each exposing new facets of this mysterious individual in the manner of a cubist portrait.

In prose of unrivaled precision, lucidly rendered into English by Krishna Winston, *The Fruit Thief* elevates the terrain of everyday life to epic status and situates the microgeography of an individual at the center of a book like few others. This is one of the Nobel laureate Peter Handke’s most significant and original achievements.

Peter Handke was born in Griffen, Austria, in 1942. A novelist, playwright, and translator, he is the author of such acclaimed works as *The Moravian Night*, *A Sorrow Beyond Dreams*, *The Goalie’s Anxiety at the Penalty Kick*, and *Repetition*. The recipient of multiple literary awards, including the Franz Kafka Prize and the International Ibsen Award, Handke is also a filmmaker. He wrote and directed adaptations of his novels *The Left-Handed Woman* and *Absence*, and he cowrote the screenplays for Wim Wenders’s *Wrong Movie* and *Wings of Desire*. He was awarded the 2019 Nobel Prize in Literature.

Krishna Winston is the Marcus L. Taft Professor of German Language and Literature at Wesleyan University. She has translated more than thirty books, including five ...
Quiet Places
Selected Essays
Peter Handke; Translated from the German by Krishna Winston and Ralph Manheim

The first complete edition of the Nobel laureate Peter Handke’s essays, featuring two new works never before published in English.

Quiet Places brings together Peter Handke’s forays into the border regions of life and story, upending the distinction between literature and the literary essay. Proceeding from the specificity of place (the mountains of Carinthia and Spain, the hinterlands of Paris) to specific objects (the jukebox, the boletus mushroom) to the irreducible particularity of our moods and mental impressions, these works—each a novella in its own right—offer rare insight into the affinities that can develop between a storyteller and the unlikeliest of subjects. Here, Handke does for European letters what Joan Didion did for American journalism, positing a reevaluation of the possibilities and proper concerns of literature in a style unmistakably his own. This collection unites the three essays from The Jukebox with two new works: “Essay on a Mushroom Maniac,” the story of a friend’s descent to and ascent from the depths of obsession, and “Essay on Quiet Places,” a memoiristic tour d’horizon of bathrooms and their place in Handke’s life and work. Featuring masterful translations by Krishna Winston and Ralph Manheim, this collection encapsulates the oeuvre of one of our greatest living writers.

Peter Handke was born in Griffen, Austria, in 1942. A novelist, playwright, and translator, he is the author of such acclaimed works as The Moravian Night, A Sorrow Beyond Dreams, The Goalie’s Anxiety at the Penalty Kick, and Repetition. The recipient of multiple literary awards, including the Franz Kafka Prize and the International Ibsen Award, Handke is also a filmmaker. He wrote and directed adaptations of his novels The Left-Handed Woman and Absence, and he cowrote the screenplays for Wim Wenders’s Wrong Movie and Wings of Desire. He was awarded the 2019 Nobel Prize in Literature.

Krishna Winston is the Marcus L. Taft Professor of German Language and Literature at Wesleyan University. She has translated more than thirty books, including five ...

PRAISE

Praise for Peter Handke

"Peter Handke commands one of the great German-language prose styles of the postwar period, a riverine rhetoric deep and swift and contrary of current."
From the author of *Summerwater*, a riveting novel of mutual responsibility, personal freedom, and the nearness of disaster.

At dusk on a November evening, a woman slips out of her garden gate and turns up the hill. Kate is in the middle of a two-week mandatory quarantine period, but she just can’t take it anymore—the closeness of the air in her small house, the confinement. And anyway, the moor will be deserted at this time. Nobody need ever know she’s stepped out.

Kate planned only a quick walk—a stretch of the legs, a breath of fresh air, on paths she knows too well. But somehow she falls. She lies injured, unable to move, her furtive walk suddenly a mountain rescue operation—or a missing persons case.

A story of compassion and kindness, Sarah Moss’s *The Fell* is suspenseful, witty, and wise, and it asks probing questions about who we are in the world, who we are to our neighbors, and who we are when the world demands we shut ourselves away.

Sarah Moss is the author of *Summerwater*, a best book of the year in *The Guardian* and *The Times* (London), and *Ghost Wall*, a *New York Times Book Review* Editors’ Choice and a best book of the year in *Elle*, *The Financial Times*, and other publications. Her previous books include the novels *Cold Earth*, *Night Waking*, *Bodies of Light*, and *Signs for Lost Children*, and the memoir *Names for the Sea: Strangers in Iceland*. She was educated at the University of Oxford and now teaches at University College Dublin.

Praise for *Summerwater*

A BEST BOOK OF JANUARY: *O, The Oprah Magazine*

The Greatest Invention
A History of the World in Nine Mysterious Scripts

Silvia Ferrara; Translated from the Italian by Todd Portnowitz

A code-cracking tour around the globe, sifting through our cultural and social behavior in search of the origins of our greatest invention—writing.

The L where a tabletop meets the legs, the T between double doors, the D of an armchair’s oval backrest—all around us is an alphabet in things. But how did these shapes make it onto the page, never mind form such complex structures as this sentence? In The Greatest Invention, Silvia Ferrara takes a profound look at how—and how many times—human beings have managed to produce the miracle of written language, taking us back in time to Mesopotamia, Crete, China, Egypt, Central America, Easter Island, and beyond.

With Ferrara as our guide, we examine the enigmas of undeciphered scripts, including famous cases like the Phaistos disk and the Voynich Manuscript; we touch the knotted, colored strings of the Incan khipu; we study the turtle shells and ox scapulae that bear the earliest Chinese inscriptions; we watch in awe as Sequoyah invents a script all on his own; and we venture to the cutting edge of decipherment, where high-powered laser scanners bring tears to an engineer’s eye. As Ferrara demonstrates, in the shadows and swirls of these ancient inscriptions, not only are we able to decipher the stories these peoples sought to record, but we can also tease out the timeless truths of human nature, of our ceaseless drive to connect, create, and be remembered.

An exhilarating celebration of human ingenuity and perseverance, The Greatest Invention chronicles an uncharted journey, one filled with past flashes o...

Silvia Ferrara is a professor of Aegean civilization at the University of Bologna. She studied at University College London and the University of Oxford and, after several years as a researcher in archaeology and linguistics at Oxford, returned to Italy. She has taught at University College London, the University of Oxford, and Sapienza, University of Rome.

What It Took to Win
A History of the Democratic Party
Michael Kazin

A leading historian’s definitive narrative of the world’s oldest political organization and its commitment to “moral capitalism,” from Andrew Jackson to Joseph Biden.

The Democratic Party is the world’s longest-running mass political organization. Since its inception in the early nineteenth century, it has played a leading role in defining American society, whether it was exercising power or contesting it. But what (if anything) has the party stood for through the centuries, and how has it managed to succeed in elections and govern? In What It Took to Win, the eminent historian Michael Kazin relates the party’s many past accomplishments and failures in the context of urgent present-day concerns. From the beginning, the Democrats were committed to creating “moral capitalism”—a system that mixed entrepreneurial freedom with the welfare of workers and consumers. And yet the same party that championed the rights of the white working man also vigorously protected or advanced the causes of slavery, segregation, and Indian removal. As the party evolved toward a more inclusive egalitarian vision, it won durable victories for Americans of all backgrounds. But it also struggled to hold together a majority coalition and advance a persuasive agenda for the use of government.

Kazin traces the party’s fortunes through vivid character sketches of its key thinkers and doers, from Martin Van Buren to the financier August Belmont and reformers such as Eleanor Roosevelt and Sidney Hillman. He also explores the records of totemic presidents from Andrew Jackson and Woodrow Wilson to Bill...


PRAISE

Praise for American Dreamers

“Illuminating . . . Kazin’s ambition is to illustrate and argue, and he does both with exemplary skill . . . A work of honest rigor . . . Kazin understands the limitations of the left, its self-destructive divisions, its difficulty in establishing an American presence within an international movement . . . It i...
The Brain in Search of Itself
Santiago Ramón y Cajal and the Story of the Neuron

Benjamin Ehrlich

The first major biography of the Nobel Prize–winning scientist who discovered the neuron and transformed our understanding of the human mind—illustrated with his extraordinary anatomical drawings.

Unless you’re a neuroscientist, Santiago Ramón y Cajal is likely the most important figure in the history of medicine you’ve never heard of. Along with Charles Darwin and Louis Pasteur, he ranks among the most brilliant and original biologists of the nineteenth century, and his discoveries have done for our understanding of the human brain what the work of Galileo and Sir Isaac Newton did for our conception of the physical universe. He was awarded the Nobel Prize in 1906 for his lifelong investigation of the structure of neurons: “The mysterious butterflies of the soul,” Cajal called them, “whose beating of wings may one day reveal to us the secrets of the mind.” And he produced a dazzling oeuvre of anatomical drawings, whose alien beauty grace the pages of medical textbooks and the walls of museums to this day.

Benjamin Ehrlich’s The Brain in Search of Itself is the first major biography in English of this singular figure, whose scientific odyssey mirrored the rocky journey of his beloved homeland of Spain into the twentieth century. Born into relative poverty in a mountaintop hamlet, Cajal was an enterprising and unruly child whose ambitions were both nurtured and thwarted by his father, a country doctor with a flinty disposition. A portrait of a nation as well as a biography, The Brain in Search of Itself follows Cajal from the hinterlands to Barcelona and Madrid, where he became an illustrious figur...
Continuous Creation
Poems

Les Murray

The final collection of poems by the great Australian poet Les Murray.

We bring nothing into this world
except our gradual ability
to create it, out of all that vanishes
and all that will outlast us.

In *Continuous Creation*, the great poet of modern Australia recalls moments from his youth and wryly observes the changing world, moving back and forth through time and history with characteristic curiosity and an ever-fresh commitment to capturing the rhythms of life in verse. Les Murray displays his miraculous ability to reinvent the language in order to plant his and our reality on the page, whether he is writing about the Australian landscape ("Kangaroo sleeping / ahead on the road turns out / to be twigs and leaves") or unsold books sitting in department stores.

*Continuous Creation* collects Murray’s final poems and demonstrates, once more, that he is one of the great poets of the English language. As Joseph Brodsky said of Murray, he is, “quite simply, the one by whom the language lives.”

Les Murray (1938–2019) was a widely acclaimed poet, recognized by the National Trust of Australia in 2012 as one of the nation’s treasures in 2012. He received the 1996 T. S. Eliot Prize for Best Book of Poetry in English for *Subhuman Redneck Poems*, and was also awarded the Gold Medal for Poetry. He served as poetry editor for the Australian journal *Quadrant* from 1990 to 2018. His other books include *Dog Fox Field, Translations from the Natural World, Fredy Neptune: A Novel in Verse, Learning Human: Selected Poems, Conscious and Verbal, Poems the Size of Photographs*, and *Waiting for the Past*.

PRAISE

Praise for Les Murray

“A necessary poetic intelligence, one that has ventured far on the prow of his continent and made its language his own.” —Albert Mobilio, *The New York Times Books Review*
You Hide That You Hate Me and I Hide That I Know

Philip Gourevitch

The long-awaited follow-up to Philip Gourevitch’s classic *We Wish to Inform You That Tomorrow We Will Be Killed with Our Families*.

Can a country recover from annihilating ethno-political polarization and violence? What future can a people defined by trauma imagine, much less realize?

Philip Gourevitch’s unforgettable book *We Wish to Inform You That Tomorrow We Will Be Killed with Our Families*—a modern classic—opened our eyes to the genocide of Tutsis in Rwanda as one of the defining experiences of humankind: in a hundred days as many as a million people were murdered by their fellow citizens, and the world refused to stop it. Now Gourevitch brings us another fiercely moving and essential literary reckoning. Drawn from twenty-five years of reporting on the aftermath of the slaughter, *You Hide That You Hate Me and I Hide That I Know* grapples with the burdens of memory and forgetting, of bloody division and enforced unity, of accountability and denial, of confession and forgiveness. Combining travelogue and investigative reportage, intimate personal testimony and national and global political debates, Gourevitch’s dramatic stories of survivors and killers living again as neighbors, against all expectations, are charged with immense moral and political significance. As he returns over the years to the same cluster of peasant families on one small hill, the stories become at once more complicated and more meaningful—more complete and more resistant to journalistic simplification.

In this powerful and necessary book, Gourevitch explores ...

Philip Gourevitch is a long-time staff writer at *The New Yorker* and a former editor of *The Paris Review*. He has reported from Africa, Asia, and Europe for a number of magazines, including *Granta*, *Harper’s Magazine*, and *The New York Review of Books*. He is the author of *Standard Operating Procedure/The Ballad of Abu Ghraib, A Cold Case*, and *We Wish to Inform You That Tomorrow We Will Be Killed with Our Families*, which won several awards, including the National Book Critics Circle Award.

PRAISE

Praise for *We Wish to Inform You That Tomorrow We Will Be Killed with Our Families*

"[It is the] the sobering voice of witness that Gourevitch has vividly captured in his work." —Wole Soyinka, *The New York Times Book Review*
From the award-winning author of The Dark Dark, a genre-bending work of nonfiction explores the idea of haunting—written large.

I carry each book I’ve ever read with me, just as I carry my dead—those things that aren’t really there, those things that shape everything I am.

A genre-bending work of nonfiction, Samantha Hunt’s The Unwritten Book explores the broadest sense of ghosts, ghost stories, and haunting. What is it to be haunted, to be a ghost, to die, to live, to read? Books are ghosts; reading is communion with the dead. Alcohol is a way of communing, too, as well as a way of dying.

Each chapter gathers subjects that haunt: dead people, the forest, the towering library of all those books we’ll never have time to read or write. Hunt, like a mad crossword puzzler, looks for patterns and clues. Through literary criticism, family history, history, and memoir, inspired by Sebald, Joyce, Ali Smith, Morrison, Faulkner, and many others, Hunt explores questions of motherhood, hoarding, legacies of addiction, grief, how we insulate ourselves from the past, how we misinterpret the world. Nestled within her inquiry is a very special ghost book, an incomplete manuscript about people who can fly without wings, written by her father and found in his desk just days after he died. What secret messages might his work reveal? What wisdom might she distill from its unfinished pages?

Hunt conveys a vivid and grateful life, one that comes from living closer to the dead and shedding fear for wonder. The Unwritten Book revels in the randomness, c...

Samantha Hunt’s novel about Nikola Tesla, The Invention of Everything Else, was a finalist for the Orange Prize and winner of the Bard Fiction Prize. Her first novel, The Seas, earned her selection as one of the National Book Foundation’s 5 Under 35. Her novel Mr. Splitfoot was an Indie Next Pick. Her story collection, The Dark Dark, was named a best book of the year by NPR and Vogue. It won the St. Francis College Literary Prize and was a finalist for the PEN/Faulkner Award. Hunt’s work has appeared in The New Yorker, The New York Times Magazine, McSweeney’s, Tin House, A Public Space, and elsewhere. She lives in upstate New York.

Praise

Praise for Samantha Hunt

“Wields such a subtle and alien power.” —Jia Tolentino, The New Yorker

“Requiling . . . Daring . . . Hunt at her best is . . . ‘so good at imagining things’...”
This “addictive and headlong” (Lauren Groff) debut novel traces the too-short life of a woman cast out by society and transformed by death into an agent of justice—or mercy

“*My grandmother, sitting at her doily-covered table, marmalade on her cheek, explained that the aswang is all the evil bad things that a town or a society would want to deny—eventually it has to come out, has to be personified into something or the truth will reveal itself.*”

Marina Salles’s life does not end the day she wakes up dead.

Instead, in the course of a moment, she is transformed into the stuff of myth, the stuff of her grandmother’s old Filipino stories—an *aswang*. She spent her life on the margins, knowing very little about her own life, let alone the lives of others; she was shot like a pinball through a childhood of loss, a veteran of Child Protective Services and a survivor, but always reacting, watching from a distance. Death brings her into the hearts and minds of those she has known—even her killer—as she is able to access their memories and to see anew the meaning of her own. In the course of these pages she traces back through her life, finally able to see what led these lost souls to this crushingly inevitable conclusion.

In *A Tiny Upward Shove*, the debut novelist Melissa Chadburn charts the heartbreaking journeys of two of society’s cast-offs as they find their way to each other and their roles as criminal and victim. What does it mean to be on the brink? When are those moments that change not only our lives but our very selves? And to what lengths will we go for mercy?

Melissa Chadburn’s writing has appeared in *The Los Angeles Times*, *The New York Times Book Review*, *The New York Review of Books*, *The Paris Review Daily*, *The Best American Food Writing*, and many other publications. Her extensive reporting on the child welfare system appears in the Netflix docuseries *The Trials of Gabriel Fernandez*. Melissa is a worker lover and through her own labor and literary citizenship strives to upend economic violence. Her mother taught her how to sharpen a pencil with a knife and she’s basically been doing that ever since. She is a Ph.D. candidate in Creative Writing at the University of Southern California and lives in greater Los Angeles.

“Melissa Chadburn writes with tenderness and grit, and *A Tiny Upward Shove* is a beautiful and brave novel about powerlessness, longing, and that universal, unavoidable desire to be loved. Let this book happen to you.”
In this compelling biography, William R. Cross chronicles the life story of the great painter and illustrator Winslow Homer (1836–1910), who captured America in the crucible of the Civil War and contributed to shaping American identity to this day.

In 1860, at the age of twenty-four, Winslow Homer was the most popular illustrator at Harper’s Weekly. That year alone, he sold the magazine twenty-three illustrations—wood engravings, carved into boxwood and transferred to metal plates to stamp on paper. One was a scene that Homer saw on a visit to Boston, his hometown, inside Tremont Temple. His illustration shows a crowd of abolitionists being thrown from the church; at their front is Frederick Douglass, declaring “the freedom of all mankind.” He is at the heart of the image, face turned skyward and right arm reaching out like a Roman orator.

Homer, born into the Panic of 1837 and raised in the years before the Civil War, came of age in an America in crisis. Nonetheless, he spent his life capturing scenes that were distinctively, quintessentially American. Whether in pencil, watercolor, or oil, Homer addressed the hopes and fears of his fellow man, invited his viewers into the stories the artist began, and delivered to those viewers universal, timeless questions of purpose and meaning.

Like his contemporary Mark Twain, the American everyman, Homer captured the landscape of a rapidly changing country with an artist’s probing perception. His story is the story of America in all its complexity and contradiction, as he evolved his style and adapted to the restless spirit of new invention transforming his world. In Winslow Homer: American Passage, William ...

William R. Cross is an independent scholar and a consultant to art and history museums. He served as the Curator of Homer at the Beach: A Marine Painter’s Journey, 1869–1880, a nationally renowned 2019 exhibition at the Cape Ann Museum on the formation of Winslow Homer as a marine painter. He is also the chairman of the advisory board of the Yale Center for Faith and Culture. Cross and his wife, Ellen, are the parents of two grown sons and live on Cape Ann, north of Boston.
Alexander MacLeod’s highly anticipated second collection carries us to the edge and then waits, for just a second, in that pure moment of stillness between desire and action.

She’d been wandering, badly, for a very long time. Most days, she saw herself as a forever busy person who always had too much to do. Too much of everything and not enough time. But then, suddenly, it could turn around and she’d feel like a person who had nothing at all. One sensation might follow right after the other or, sometimes, both arrived at the same time. Too much and nothing. Or too much, then nothing.

Alexander MacLeod’s writing contains “a rare kind of truthfulness” (Colm Tóibín). In this collection, his stories recenter the focus of human drama. An empty-nest couple, separated after years of coexisting, find themselves pulled into the dreams of their silent, gazing rabbit; a mysterious passenger wanders through the caverns of a 1970s LA airport in search of a missing suitcase; a proud great-aunt refuses to apologize as she works to find the right place for everything in her crowded senior’s complex. In the adjoining motel room, a serial killer plans his next move; and in a sterile hospital corridor, the physical therapist reaches across the gap, trying to find the right words to describe the most intimate actions of another person’s body. A petty argument between two sisters is interrupted by an unexpected visitor.

For MacLeod, the rhythm of our days is continuous, even relentless. Yet among its beats and measures, across the passing years and seasons, he finds moments of pause, sharp point...

Alexander MacLeod was born in Inverness, Cape Breton, and was raised in Windsor, Ontario. The winner of a 2019 O. Henry Prize, his first collection, Light Lifting, was short-listed for the Giller Prize, the Frank O’Connor International Short Story Award, and the Commonwealth Book Prize, and was a national bestseller. MacLeod holds degrees from the University of Windsor, the University of Notre Dame, and McGill; he lives in Dartmouth, Nova Scotia, and teaches at Saint Mary’s University in Halifax.
I Was the President's Mistress!!
A Novel

Miguel Syjuco

From the author of the Man Asian Award–winning Ilustrado, an unflinching satire about power, corruption, sex, and all the other topics you were told never to discuss in polite company.

First came the Sexy-Sexygate scandal. Then an impeachment trial. Finally, a battle royale for the presidency. At the center of this political typhoon is Vita Nova, the most famous movie star in the Philippines and a former paramour of the country’s most powerful man. Now, for the first time ever, she bares herself completely in a tell-all memoir that puts the sensational in sensationalistic.

The setting: a sweating, heaving country. The time: right now. The plot: a drug war rages, an assassin brandishes a pistol, a damsel rises from ashes to power, and a government teeters on the brink. Among the players: a dreamer who boxed and acted his way to the presidency, his Koran-toting nemesis in the senate, a horny bishop, a cowboy turned warlord, a poor little rich boy dying with his dynasty, a washed-up reporter redeemed by one last scoop, a high-school sweetheart driven mad by decades of disappointment, and an American naval officer tempting our heroine with a way out. As Vita warns, viewer discretion is advised.

In this masterful and audacious novel, Miguel Syjuco’s signature style—hilarious, insightful, playful, provocative—animates thirteen indelible voices whose stories present a cross-section of a complicated society. I Was the President’s Mistress!! hurls headlong into love, politics, faith, history, memory, and the ongoing war over who will tell the stories the world shall know as truth.

Miguel Syjuco is a Filipino author, journalist, civil society advocate, and professor at New York University Abu Dhabi. His debut novel, Ilustrado, was a New York Times Notable Book of the Year and won both the Man Asian Literary Prize and the Grand Prize at the Palarca Awards, his country’s top literary honor. He has worked as a contributing opinion writer for The International New York Times, written for many of the world’s most respected publications, and spoken on Philippine politics and culture at the World Forum for Democracy and the World Economic Forum. He serves on the advisory council for the Resilience Fund, a project by the Global Initiative Against Transnational Organized Crime to empower communities most threatened by criminality.

PRAISE
# Cain Named the Animal

## Poems

**Shane McCrae**

A prophetic new collection of poems from Shane McCrae, “a shrewd composer of American stories” (Dan Chiasson, *The New Yorker*).

Writing you I give the death I take  
I know I should feel wounded by your death  
I write to you to make a wound write back

Shane McCrae fashions a world of endings and infinites in *Cain Named the Animal*. With cyclical, rhythmic lines that create and re-create images of our shared and specific pasts, he writes into and through the wounds that we remember and “strains toward a vision of joy” (Will Brewbaker, *Los Angeles Review of Books*).

*Cain Named the Animal* expands upon the biblical, heavenly world that McCrae has been building throughout his previous collections; he writes of Eden, of the lost tribe that watched time enter the garden and God rehearse the world, and of the cartoon torments of hell. Yet for McCrae, these outer bounds of our universe are inseparable from the lives and deaths on Earth, from the mundanities and miracles of time passing and people growing up, growing old, and growing apart. As he writes, “God first thought time itself / Was flawed but time was God’s first mirror.”

**Shane McCrae** is the author of several books of poetry, including *In the Language of My Captor*, which won the Anisfield-Wolf Book Award for Poetry and was a finalist for the National Book Award, the Los Angeles Times Book Prize, and the William Carlos Williams Award. His most recent collection, *Sometimes I Never Suffered*, was short-listed for the T. S. Eliot Prize. McCrae is the recipient of a Whiting Award, a National Endowment for the Arts Fellowship, a Lannan Literary Award, and a Guggenheim Fellowship. He teaches at Columbia University and lives in New York City.

## Praise

Praise for *Sometimes I Never Suffered*

“In McCrae’s hands, poetry is reclamation. It is also transport: writing a way out and through.” —Kate Kellaway, *The Guardian*
Ange Mlinko alchemizes art and life into a dazzling collection of poetry.

In Venice, Ange Mlinko dissolves the boundaries between the sublime and the ordinary, the mythic and the rational, the past and the present. She sees a Roman tablet, scratched with Greek script, in the waxen wings of a bouffant bee, and she thinks of the abyss between two airport terminals when considering Rodin’s “Gates of Hell.” From Naples, Italy, to its sister city on the Gulf of Mexico, or at home, in the glow of a computer screen (“I worry / that Zoom is ruled by djinn / that filter out the wavelength of love / and so I wear my evil eye jewelry / as you advised, against being too/much in view . . .”), Mlinko probes the etymologies and eccentricities of all she encounters. As Dan Chiasson wrote in The New Yorker, “Her extraordinary wit, monitoring its own excesses, is her compass.”

On her travels, Mlinko scrapes at the patina of the past and considers the line between destruction and preservation. Sparking with wit and intelligence, the poet’s own lines break down and remake language, myth, and time. Mlinko is a poet of art and of life, and Venice is a sumptuous exploration of poetry’s capacity to capture the miracles and ironies of our times.

Ange Mlinko is the author of several books of poetry, including Distant Mandate and Marvelous Things Overheard. She has been the recipient of a Guggenheim Fellowship and the Randall Jarrell Award in Criticism, and served as poetry editor for The Nation. Her essays and reviews have been published in The Nation, London Review of Books, The New York Review of Books, Poetry, and Parnassus. Educated at St. John’s College and Brown University, she has lived in Morocco and Lebanon, and is currently a professor of English at the University of Florida in Gainesville.

PRAISE

Praise for Ange Mlinko

“The merely competent should study Mlinko’s work with envy. It’s as alive to sound as to social complexity . . . You hear Paul Muldoon, Marianne Moore, Elizabeth Bishop and Wallace Stevens in her poems, but as raw material transformed into something more than an amalgam of influence.” —Michael Robbins, Chicago Tribun...
A darkly comic suburban Gothic about a malevolent force that targets a group of Ohio misfits, harnessing their angst for its sinister designs.

Something strange is happening to the teens in Adena, Ohio.

A mysterious force is seeking inroads: vulnerabilities to exploit, friendships to hijack, untapped rage to harness toward its own ends. Who will serve it best? Claire is abrasive and aimless, embarrassed by her privileged upbringing. Weak-willed David is consumed by a recent breakup and harbors fantasies of violent, cultish orgies. Greg silently wages war against the voices in his head, while his sister Beth goes quietly mad, surrounded by lights. And at the center is the empathetic, naïve, sensitive Sarah. The force wants her most of all. The question is whether she will be the key to its success or to its destruction.

Eerie, hypnotic, and shot through with dark comedy, String Follow is a razor-sharp suburban Gothic that cuts deep, exposing the sweating, bleeding truth of how kids become adults in twenty-first-century America. In spellbinding, incisive prose, Simon Jacobs blends the startlingly original and the uncannily familiar, revealing the dark chaos that lurks under the surface of Midwestern suburbia.

Simon Jacobs is the author of the novel Palaces and of two collections of short fiction: Masterworks and Saturn. His fiction has appeared in Tin House, Black Warrior Review, and Joyland. Originally from Dayton, Ohio, he now lives in Portland, Oregon.

"String Follow is a work of evil genius that put me in a literal trance and didn't relinquish me until the final page. Like the irresistibly wise, dark, and unfathomable force it conjures, the voice got in my head and tainted my soul. I loved every insidious second." —Mona Awad, author of Bunny
Terraform
Watch/Worlds/Burn

Edited by Brian Merchant and Claire L. Evans

An anthology of near-future science fiction from VICE’s acclaimed Terraform.

Assembling a remarkable roster of writers, Terraform has established itself by publishing short fiction seemingly ripped from tomorrow’s headlines, speculative fiction about the very near future. Over the last six years, as science fiction itself has achieved a new kind of mainstream credibility and the media landscape has transformed entirely, Terraform has blazed an unexpected path that has seen short stories go viral and given fiction an unparalleled urgency and relevance.

Drawing from established luminaries like Bruce Sterling and Cory Doctorow, rising stars, and surprising newcomers, Terraform stories are marked by their convincing engagement with the world that we just might live in, putting our most existential issues into startling dramatic context. Edited by Brian Merchant and Claire L. Evans, and divided here into three categories—WATCH/WORLDS/BURN—these stories take on surveillance (Watch), artificial intelligence (Worlds), and climate collapse (Burn).

Brian Merchant is the senior editor of Motherboard, VICE’s science and technology outlet, and a founding editor of Terraform. His work has appeared in The Guardian, Slate, VICE, Salon, Fast Company, Discover, GOOD, Paste, Grist, and elsewhere.

Claire L. Evans is a writer and musician. She is a founding editor of Terraform, the former futures editor of Motherboard, and a contributor to The Guardian, WIRED, and Aeon; previously, she was a contributor to Grantland and wrote National Geographic’s popular culture and science blog Universe. She is an adviser to design students at the Art Center College of Design and a member of the cyberfeminist collective Deep Lab. She lives in Los Angeles.
The Doloriad
A Novel
Missouri Williams

Macabre, provocative, depraved, and unforgettable, The Doloriad marks the debut of a terrifyingly original new voice.

In the wake of a mysterious environmental cataclysm that has wiped out the rest of humankind, the Matriarch, her brother, and the family descended from their incest cling to existence on the edges of a ruined city. The Matriarch, ruling with fear and force, dreams of starting humanity over. Her children and the children they have with one another aren’t so sure. Surrounded by the silent forest and the dead suburbs, they feel closer to the ruined world than to their parents. Nevertheless, they scavenge supplies, collect fuel, plant seeds, and attempt to cultivate the poisoned earth, brutalizing and caring for one another in equal measure. For entertainment, they watch old VHS tapes of a TV show called Get Aquinas in Here, in which a problem-solving medieval saint faces down a sequence of logical and ethical dilemmas. But one day the Matriarch dreams of another group of survivors, and sends away one of her daughters, the legless Dolores, as a marriage offering. When Dolores returns a few days later, her reappearance triggers the breakdown of Matriarch’s fragile order and the control she wields over their sprawling family begins to weaken. As the children seize their chance to escape, the world of the television saint Aquinas and that of the family begin to melt together with terrible consequences.

Told in extraordinary, intricate prose that moves with a life of its own, at times striking with the power o...

Missouri Williams is a writer and editor who lives in London. Her work has appeared in The Nation, The Baffler, The Believer and Five Dials. The Doloriad is her first book.
Pink Poems

Sylvie Baumgartel

A sharp, visceral new collection of poems that touches on art, history, sex, bodies, language, and the color pink.

The sack of Rome,
The siege of Florence.
The lights twinkle pink in Fiesole.
Pink furls, pink buds.
Wet pink veiny hearts in spring.
Pink can mean so many things.

Sylvie Baumgartel’s Pink moves from the shadow of the Ponte Vecchio to a mission church in Santa Fe, from Daily Mail reports to a photograph of a girl from Tierra del Fuego, from a grandmother’s advice (“Don’t go to Smith and don’t get fat”) to legs wrapped around “a man who calls me cake.”

Baumgartel, a poet of fierce, intimate, wry language, delivers a second collection about art, history, violence, bodies, fear, pain, reckoning, and transcendence. The poems travel back to the historical, linguistic, and emotional sources of things while surging forward with a stirring momentum, creating a whirlwind of birth and destruction.


Praise for Song of Songs

"The conventional power dynamics of heterosexual love appear in grotesque extremity (‘I want to live forever chained at your feet’), but Sylvie’s wit and charm make them more farcical than troubling. The result is a study of devotion and a celebration of the rewards that come from loving with abandon.” —The New Yor...
These songs run along dirt roads
& highways, crisscross lonely seas
& scale mountains, traverse skies
& underworlds of neon honkytonk,
Wherever blues dare to travel.

Everyday Mojo Songs of Earth brings together selected poems from the past twenty years of Yusef Komunyakaa’s work, as well as new poems from the Pulitzer Prize winner. His masterful, concise verse conjures arresting images of peace and war, the natural power of the earth and of love, his childhood in the American South and his service in Vietnam, the ugly violence of racism in America, and the meaning of power and morality.

The new poems in this collection add a new refrain to the jazz-inflected rhythms of one of our “most significant and individual voices” (David Wojahn, Poetry). Komunyakaa writes of a young man fashioning a slingshot, workers who “honor the Earth by opening shine / inside the soil,” and the sounds of a saxophone filling a dim lounge in New Jersey. As April Bernard wrote in The New York Times Book Review, “He refuses to be trivial; and he even dares beauty.”

Yusef Komunyakaa’s books of poetry include The Emperor of Water Clocks, Testimony: A Tribute to Charlie Parker, The Chameleon Couch, Warhorses, Taboo, Talking Dirty to the Gods, and Neon Vernacular, for which he received the Pulitzer Prize. His plays, performance art, and librettos have been performed internationally and include Wakonda’s Dream, Satumalia, Testimony, and Gilgamesh: A Verse Play. He teaches at New York University.

Praise for Yusef Komunyakaa

"Probably my favorite living poet. No one else taught me more about how important it was to think about how words make people feel. It's not enough for people to know something is true. They have to feel it's true." —Ta-Nehisi Coates, The New York Times Style Magazine
A spellbinding novel that places one family’s tragedies against the uncontainable life force of the land itself.

Near a village high in the Pyrenees, Domènec wanders across a ridge, fancying himself more a poet than a farmer, to “reel off his verses over on this side of the mountain.” He gathers black chanterelles and attends to a troubled cow. And then storm clouds swell, full of electrifying power. Reckless, gleeful, they release their bolts of lightning, one of which strikes Domènec. He dies. The ghosts of seventeenth-century witches gather around him, taking up the chanterelles he’d harvested before going on their merry ways. So begins this novel that is as much about the mountains and the mushrooms as it is about the human dramas that unfold in their midst.

When I Sing, Mountains Dance, winner of the European Union Prize, is a giddy paean to the land in all its interconnectedness, and in it Irene Solà finds a distinct voice for each extraordinary consciousness: the lightning bolts, roe deer, mountains, the ghosts of the civil war, the widow Sió and later her grown children, Hilari and Mia, as well as Mia’s lovers with their long-buried secrets and their hidden pain.

Solà animates the polyphonic world around us, the fierce music of the seasons, as well as the stories we tell to comprehend loss and love on a personal, historical, and even geological scale. Lyrical, elemental, and mythic, hers is a fearlessly imaginative new voice that brilliantly renders both our tragedies and our triumphs.

Irene Solà is a Catalan writer and artist, winner of the Documenta Prize for first novels, the Llibres Anagrama Prize, the European Union Prize for Literature, and the Amadeu Oller Poetry Prize. Her artwork has been exhibited in the Whitechapel Gallery in London.

Mara Faye Lethem is an award-winning translator and author of the novel A Person’s A Person, No Matter How Small. Her recent translations include books by Patricio Pron, Max Besora, Javier Calvo, Marta Orriols, Toni Sala, and Alicia Kopf.

PRAISE

“The entire novel emits light, hope, and vitality . . . [Solà] seduces us with her exultant ability to write about memory, knowledge, and life.” —El País

“Luminous and exciting . . . Blanding history, legend, reality, literature.”
Winner of the Graywolf Press African Fiction Prize, a lush experimental novel about love as a weapon of empire.

In the aftermath of the Arab Spring, an Egyptian American woman and a man from the village of Shobrakheit meet at a café in Cairo. He was a photographer of the revolution, but now finds himself unemployed and addicted to cocaine, living in a rooftop shack. She is a nostalgic daughter of immigrants “returning” to a country she’s never been to before, teaching English and living in a light-filled flat with balconies on all sides. They fall in love and he moves in. But soon their desire—for one another, for the selves they want to become through the other—takes a violent turn that neither of them expected.

A dark romance exposing the gaps in American identity politics, especially when exported overseas, If an Egyptian Cannot Speak English is at once ravishing and wry, scathing and tender. Told in alternating perspectives, Noor Naga’s experimental debut examines the ethics of fetishizing the homeland and punishing the beloved . . . and vice versa. In our globalized twenty-first-century world, what are the new faces (and races) of empire? When the revolution fails, how long can someone survive the disappointment? Who suffers and, more crucially, who gets to tell about it?

Noor Naga is an Alexandrian writer and the author of a verse novel, Washes, Prays. She is a winner of the Bronwen Wallace Award, the RBC/PEN Canada Award, and the Disquiet Fiction Prize. She teaches at the American University in Cairo.

"Noor Naga’s writing is fearless, virtuosic, and pithy with aphorism, her sentences honed to dagger point, thrumming with swag. This is a writer who looks and listens with an assiduous, sensual attention, and whose voice, in this engrossing debut novel, has found a subject to make it sing." —A. Igoni Barrett, judge’s statement, Graywolf P...
Shelter
A Tale of Homeland, Baltimore

Lawrence Jackson

“A stirring consideration of homeownership, fatherhood, race, faith, and the history of an American city.”

In 2016, Lawrence Jackson accepted a new job in Baltimore, searched for schools for his sons, and bought a house. It would all be unremarkable but for the fact that he had grown up in West Baltimore and now found himself teaching at Johns Hopkins, whose vexed relationship to its neighborhood, to the city and its history, provides fodder for this captivating memoir in essays.

With sardonic wit, Jackson describes his struggle to make a home in the city that had just been convulsed by the uprising that followed the murder of Freddie Gray. His new neighborhood, Homeland—largely White, built on racial covenants—is not where he is “supposed” to live. But his purchase, and his desire to pass some inheritance on to his children, provides a foundation for him to explore his personal and spiritual history, as well as Baltimore’s untold stories. Each chapter is a new exploration: a trip to the Maryland shore is an occasion to dilate on Frederick Douglass’s complicated legacy; an encounter at a Hopkins shuttle-bus stop becomes a meditation on public transportation and policing; and Jackson’s beleaguered commitment to his church opens a pathway to reimagine an urban community through jazz.

Shelter is an extraordinary biography of a city and a celebration of our capacity for domestic thriving. Jackson’s story leans on the essay to contain the raging absurdity of Black American life, establishing him as a maverick, e...

Lawrence Jackson is a biographer and critic whose work has appeared in Harper’s Magazine, n+1, and Best American Essays. He teaches English and history at Johns Hopkins and founded the Billie Holiday Project for Liberation Arts.

PRAISE

Praise for My Father’s Name

“Strangely and beautifully evocative . . . We not only learn about the deprivations, inhumanity, and constant humiliations perpetrated on black people in the nineteenth century, but we gain a deeper understanding of what constitutes American culture and society today.” —Edward P. Jones
Aurelia, Aurélia
A Memoir
Kathryn Davis

An eerily dreamlike memoir, and the first work of nonfiction by one of our most inventive novelists.

Aurelia, Aurélia begins on a boat. The author, sixteen years old, is traveling to Europe at an age when one can “try on personae like dresses.” She has the confidence of a teenager cultivating her earliest obsessions—Woolf, Durrell, Bergman—sure of her maturity, sure of the life that awaits her. Soon she finds herself in a Greece far drearier than the Greece of fantasy, “climbing up and down the steep paths every morning with the real old women, looking for kindling.”

Kathryn Davis’s hypnotic new book is a meditation on the way imagination shapes life, and how life, as it moves forward, shapes imagination. At its center is the death of her husband, Eric. The book unfolds as a study of their marriage, its deep joys and stinging frustrations; it is also a book about time, the inexorable events that determine beginnings and endings. The preoccupations that mark Davis’s fiction are recognizable here—fateful voyages, an intense sense of place, the unexpected union of the magical and the real—but the vehicle itself is utterly new.

Aurelia, Aurélia explodes the conventional bounds of memoir. It is an astonishing accomplishment.

Kathryn Davis is the author of eight novels, including The Silk Road and Duplex. She is the senior fiction writer on the faculty of the writing program at Washington University.

PRAISE

Praise for Kathryn Davis

“[Davis’s] writing exists outside of genre and trends and time . . . The boundaries between reality and fantasy dissolve into a place where imagination is akin to gravity and exerts a pull just as powerful.” —The New York Times Book Review

“The most original novelist in America.” —Slate
The King's Touch
Poems

Tom Sleigh

A profound encounter with the hyperreality of our time of global upheaval, violence, and pandemic.

Tom Sleigh’s poems are skeptical of the inevitability of our fate, but in this brilliant new collection, they are charged with a powerful sense of premonition, as if the future is unfolding before us, demanding something greater than the self. Justice is a prevailing force, even while the poems are fully cognizant of the refugee crisis, war, famine, and the brutal reality of a crowded hospital morgue.

The King’s Touch collides the world of fact and the world of mystery with a resolutely secular register. The title poem refers to the once-held belief that the king, as a divine representative, is imbued with the power of healing touch. Sleigh turns this encounter between illness and human contact toward his own chronic blood disease and the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic and its mounting death tolls. One poem asks, “isn’t it true that no matter how long you / wear them, masks don’t grieve, only faces do?”

In this essential new work, Sleigh shows how the language of poetry itself can revive and recuperate a sense of a future under the conditions of violence, social unrest, and global anxiety about the fate of the planet.

Tom Sleigh is the author of the poetry collections House of Fact, House of Ruin; Station Zed; and Army Cats, and the essay collections The Land between Two Rivers and Interview with a Ghost. He teaches at Hunter College in New York.

PRAISE

Praise for House of Fact, House of Ruin

“In these poems Tom Sleigh draws on his experience working as a journalist in the Middle East and Africa, confronting various forms of trauma without averting his gaze. His complex, disturbing vision and poetic mastery make this book an arresting read.” —Arthur Sze, The New York Times
The devastating second collection by Solmaz Sharif, author of Look, a finalist for the National Book Award.

In Customs, Solmaz Sharif examines what it means to exist in the nowhere of the arrivals terminal, a continual series of checkpoints, officers, searches, and questionings that become a relentless experience of America. With resignation and austerity, these poems trace a pointed indoctrination to the customs of the nation-state and the English language, and the realities they impose upon the imagination, the paces they put us through. While Sharif critiques the culture of performed social skills and poetry itself—its foreclosures, affects, successes—she begins to write her way out to the other side of acceptability and toward freedom.

Customs is a brilliant, excoriating new collection by a poet whose unfolding works are among the groundbreaking literature of our time.

Solmaz Sharif is the author of a previous poetry collection, Look, which was a finalist for the National Book Award and a New York Times Notable Book. She teaches at Arizona State University.

PRAISE

Praise for Look

"Language, in this collection, is called upon as victim, executioner, and witness . . . An artful lexicographer, Sharif shows us that the diameter of a word is often as devastating as the diameter of a bomb." —Natalie Diaz, The New York Times Book Review

"A brilliant, even perfect, book of poems." —Eileen Myles
Men in My Situation
A Novel

Per Petterson; Translated from the Norwegian by Ingvild Burkey

A tender, merciless portrait of a life going to pieces by the internationally acclaimed author of Out Stealing Horses.

Men in My Situation, Per Petterson’s evocative and moving new novel, finds Arvid Jansen in a tailspin, unable to process the grief of losing his parents and brothers in a tragic ferry accident. In the aftermath, Arvid’s wife, Turid, divorced him and took their three daughters with her. One year later, Arvid still hasn’t recovered. He spends his time drinking, falling into fleeting relationships with women, and driving around in his Mazda. When Turid unexpectedly calls for a ride home from the train station, he has to face the life they’ve made without him.

Critics have already hailed Men in My Situation as the equal of Petterson’s international bestseller Out Stealing Horses, in part for his unflinching portrayal of Arvid’s dark night of the soul. In this moment of faltering hope and despair, Arvid’s daughter Vigdis—who he’s always felt understood him best—has a crisis of her own and reaches out. Now he must find a way to respond to someone who, after everything, still needs him. Reaching the heights of Petterson’s best work, Men in My Situation is a heartrending, indelible story from a celebrated author.

Per Petterson is the author of seven novels, including I Refuse and Out Stealing Horses, which has been translated into fifty languages. Petterson has received the Nordic Council Literature Prize and the Norwegian Critics Prize. He lives in Norway.

Ingvild Burkey was born in Oslo in 1967. A translator of Karl Ove Knausgaard and Per Petterson, she has authored a number of her own books in Norwegian. She lives in Oslo, Norway and Borje, Croatia.

PRAISE

"Men in My Situation is the author’s best novel since Out Stealing Horses . . . [It] will stand as the core of his work, because Per Petterson digs deeper into the momentous events that have shaped his writing." —Aftenposten (Norway)

"[Men in My Situation gets] better with every new reading, the surest mark of lasting literary value . . . ."
Echoland
A Novel
Per Petterson; Translated from the Norwegian by Don Bartlett

The shimmering, windswept first novel by the internationally acclaimed author of Out Stealing Horses.

Echoland is the powerful and emotionally resonant first novel from Per Petterson. Written in the mold of his early story collection Ashes in My Mouth, Sand in My Shoes, it features a young Arvid Janssen, who is now twelve, on the verge of his teenage years and beginning to understand more about the world and his place in it. Set over the course of a single formative summer, the novel captures a series of episodes from Arvid’s long visit to his grandparents’ home in Denmark. He rides his bike around town, befriends other children on the beach, fishes for plaice, and weatheres misunderstandings with his mother and grandparents, all of which Petterson imbues with the hope and yearning that come with this stage of life. Echoland is an assured and poignant beginning for an author—and character—who would go on to be loved the world over.

Per Petterson is the author of eight novels, including Men in My Situation and Out Stealing Horses, which has been translated into more than fifty languages. Petterson has received the Nordic Council Literature Prize and the Norwegian Critics Prize. He lives in Norway.

Don Bartlett has translated novels by many Danish and Norwegian authors, including Per Petterson, Roy Jacobsen, Ida Jessen, Jo Nesbo, and Gunnar Staalesen. He is the translator of Karl Ove Knausgaard’s My Struggle series. He lives with his family in Norfolk, England.

PRAISE

"A compelling mix of fable with the day-to-day account of a working-class boy . . . It is hard to think of a novel that so precisely and vividly conveys the pain and disorientation of puberty.” —John Burnside, The Guardian

"[Echoland] packs a powerful punch . . . A clear-cut jewel of nameless dread and nagging anxiety: Scandinavian gloom p...
Against Heaven
Poems

Kemi Alabi

Winner of the Academy of American Poets First Book Award, selected by Claudia Rankine.

Kemi Alabi’s transcendent debut reimagines the poetic and cultural traditions from which it is born, troubling the waters of some of our country’s central and ordained fictions—those mythic politics of respectability, resilience, and redemption. Instead of turning to a salvation that has been forced upon them, Alabi turns to the body and the earth as sites of paradise defined by the pleasure and possibility of Black, queer fugitivity. Through tender love poems, righteous prayers, and vital provocations, we see the colonizers we carry within ourselves being laid to rest.

Against Heaven is a praise song made for the flames of a burning empire—a freedom dream that shapeshifts into boundless multiplicities for the wounds made in the name of White supremacy and its gods. Alabi has written an astonishing collection of magnificent range, commanding the full spectrum of the Black, queer spirit’s capacity for magic, love, and ferocity in service of healing—the highest power there is.

Kemi Alabi’s work has been published in Poetry, The BreakBeat Poets Vol. 2, Best New Poets 2019, and elsewhere, and they are the recipient of the 2020 Beacon Street Prize. Alabi is a coeditor of The Echoing Ida Collection and lives in Chicago.

PRAISE

“In Against Heaven, Kemi Alabi activates multiple lexicons, seeking to construct the immensity of black queer subjectivity with guile and formal virtuosity. At once sonic and disruptive, these poems pull together everything in a world where nothing is sacred.” —Claudia Rankine, judge’s statement, Academy of American Poets First Book Award
That Was Now, This Is Then
Poems

Vijay Seshadri

Now in paperback, Vijay Seshadri’s brilliant follow-up to his Pulitzer Prize–winning 3 Sections.

No one blends ironic intelligence, emotional frankness, radical awareness, and intricate humor the way Vijay Seshadri does. His fourth collection takes on the paradoxes of time and space, destabilizing highly tuned lyrics and elegies with sharp and exquisite turns in poems steeped in the complexities of being a self in the world, and being a human among other humans. In these poems, Seshadri’s speaker becomes the subject, the reader becomes the writer, and the multiplying refracted narratives yield an “anguish so pure it almost / feels like joy.” That Was Now, This Is Then affirms Seshadri’s place as one of America’s greatest living poets.

Vijay Seshadri is the author of 3 Sections, winner of the Pulitzer Prize; The Long Meadow, winner of the James Laughlin Award; and Wild Kingdom. He teaches at Sarah Lawrence College.

PRAISE

“Testily smart, often funny, conceptually intricate . . . [Seshadri] mesmerizes not by stillness but by zigs and zags.” —The New York Times Book Review

“Poems of lacerating self-awareness and stoic compassion. That Was Now, This Is Then is a book we need, right now.” —Rosanna Warren

“Inconceivably, Seshadri’s best yet.” —Kaveh Akbar
Putin's Russia
The Rise of a Dictator

Darryl Cunningham

From schoolyard thug to Russian president: Putin’s rise to power comes under the microscope.

Darryl Cunningham (Billionaires) returns with the riveting life story of Vladimir Putin, Russia’s infamous autocrat. He traces Putin’s development from schoolyard thug in Soviet-era Leningrad, to KGB officer, to corrupt commodities dealer, all the way to his presidency and beyond. In this educational and frank biography, Putin’s journey is characterized by shifting loyalties, brutal treatment of detractors, and lawless financial dealings. Despite all of this, Putin has retained public support and tremendous importance in Russian society, due to his ever-tightening control over the media and harsh muzzling of critics.

Born in 1952, Putin grew up idealizing the KGB, and he became a member of its ranks by early adulthood. Cunningham posits that the speed with which Putin advanced politically was a reflection of the KGB’s need to cement their control of the Russian political system after the dissolution of the Soviet Union in 1991. Since Boris Yeltsin appointed him to the presidency in 2000, Putin has annexed Crimea, rolled back democratic reforms, and led a life of luxury, all the while fostering a cult of personality. In Putin’s Russia, Cunningham situates the contentious leader in an analytical framework that is at times hilarious and always compelling.

Darryl Cunningham is the cartoonist of five nonfiction books, including Supercrash: How to Hijack the Global Economy and Billionaires. His comics explore subjects as diverse as mental health, science, economics, and politics. Cunningham has given talks at the London School of Economics and the City of Arts and Lights, Valencia. In 2015 he was one of thirty world-renowned photographers, painters, sculptors, writers, filmmakers, and musicians who were invited to contribute to the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation’s Art of Saving a Life project, to promote vaccination in the developing world. In 2018 he was awarded an Honorary Degree of Master of Arts from Leeds Arts University. Cunningham lives in the United Kingdom.

PRAISE

Praise for Billionaires:

“Cunningham jumps from shot to shot through panels infused with irony and symbolism, [offering] a witty but brutal critique of capitalism and corruption.” —Publishers Weekly

“An illuminating analysis of the origins and ideological evolutions of four key players in the American private sector.” —The Comics Beat
Come Over, Come Over

Lynda Barry

The classic book featuring Maybonne Mullen and her little sister Marlys is back in print!

Lynda Barry captures all the glorious magic and excruciating pain of junior high school in this Ernie Pook Comeek collection from the early 90s. The star of this collection is 14 year old Maybonne who relays the angst and insecurity of life through hand scrawled diary entries, class assignments, and letters, in cursive with doodle and bubble letters. Of course, there is the ever-annoying yet adorable little sister Marlys who never fails to read her big sister’s diary. Barry deftly portrays the capricious nature of teen friendships, adolescent peer-pressure, and the kill or be killed nature of a middle school’s social scene in her signature style.

No one but Lynda Barry can so naturally zero in on the joyous urgency yet heartbreaking poignancy of childhood. In an authentic teen voice full of diffidence and melodrama, the bespectacled and freckled Maybonne relates all of life’s indignities on equal measure. Heartbreaking stories of a broken home, child molestation, an alcoholic absentee father and a bitter mom emerge between strips about home ec class, summer vacation, and babysitting, illustrating Barry’s peerless ability to make the reader both cry and laugh.

Lynda Barry has worked as a painter, cartoonist, writer, illustrator, playwright, editor, commentator, and teacher and found that they are very much alike. She is the inimitable creator behind the seminal comic strip Ernie Pook’s Comeek as well as numerous comic books and graphic novels, and is the recipient of both the Eisner Award and the R. R. Donnelly Award. In 2019 Barry received a MacArthur Genius Grant. She lives in Wisconsin, where she is an associate professor of art and a Discovery Fellow at the University of Wisconsin–Madison.

PRAISE

"Barry’s prose cleverly reveals the comedy inherent in adolescent self-dramatization; her quirky drawings, which resemble notebook doodles, somehow capture the appearance of the nerdy heroine and her baby sister."—Charles Solomon, Los Angeles Times
Our Little Secret

Emily Carrington

A memoir about trauma and writing yourself to a place of healing

At 15, Emily is a relatively typical teenage girl living in the Maritimes. She lives with her eccentric dad as he prepares to build a log cabin. She rides her beloved horse and spends all her free time taking in the fresh air. But things aren’t perfect, the winters are harsh and her dad’s place is cold and draughty. Enter their neighbour who sees a girl in need and offers to lend a hand. Three words: “OUR LITTLE SECRET,” and Emily's fate is sealed.

Twenty five years later, Emily is adrift and depressed when she spots her neighbour again on a ferry. The events of that long-ago winter come rushing back, and she is forced to reckon with the past anew. She vows that she will bring him to justice, tell her secret, and come to terms with the wounds that defined so many years of her life. Inept lawyers, expensive therapy, and a broken justice system block Emily’s path to peace. Only when she rediscovers her youthful artistic talent by putting pen to paper does she see a way out.

Now in her fifties, Carrington has crafted a compulsively readable debut that shows a powerful command of the comics medium. Our Little Secret is a testament to survival and to the importance of telling your story your way.

Emily Carrington grew up in rural PEI. She’s done illustrations for Orca Books and was longlisted for the CBC Poetry prize for her poem “Stone” in 2017. Currently, Emily lives on the Gulf Islands where she grows a lot of her own food, works on comics, watches Star Trek reruns, and trains her pet laying hens to do tricks.
Rave

Jessica Campbell

A queer coming-of-age story, complete with secret cigarettes, gross gym teachers, and a lot of church.

It’s the early 2000s. Lauren is fifteen, soft-spoken, and ashamed of her body. She’s a devout member of an evangelical church, but when her Bible-thumping parents forbid Lauren to bring evolution textbooks home, she opts to study at her schoolmate Mariah’s house. Mariah has dial-up internet, an absentee mom, and a Wiccan altar—the perfect setting for a study session and sleepover to remember. That evening, Mariah gives Lauren a makeover and the two melt into each other, in what becomes Lauren’s first queer encounter. Afterward, a potent blend of Christian guilt and internalized homophobia causes Lauren to question the experience.

Author Jessica Campbell (XTC69) uses frankness and dark humor to articulate Lauren’s burgeoning crisis of faith and sexuality. She captures teenage antics and banter with astute comedic style, simultaneously skewering bullies, a culture of slut-shaming, and the devastating impact of religious zealotry. Rave is an instant classic, a coming-of-age story about the secret spaces young women create and the wider social structures that fail them.

Jessica Campbell is a Canadian artist originally from Victoria, British Columbia. Her fine art has been exhibited across North America, and in 2019 she had a solo exhibit at the Museum of Contemporary Art in Chicago. An educator of comics art and history, Campbell has taught at a variety of institutions, including the School of the Art Institute of Chicago. She is the author of the graphic novels Hot or Not: 20th Century Male Artists and XTC69.

PRAISE

Praise for XTC69

“Singular, honest, and hilarious.” —The Comics Beat

“In Jessica Campbell’s scathing take on gender dynamics, a trio of gender-fluid space explorers return to a futuristic Earth . . . Campbell skewers contemporary misogyny in these pages, but also praises the strength and perseverance of women and non-binary individuals.” —T...
Offshore Lightning

Nazuna Saito

Anxiety and longing suffuse incisive portraits of postwar Japan.

Nazuna Saito began making comics late. She was in her forties when she submitted a story to a major Japanese publishing house and won an award for newcomers. She continued to work through the 1990s until she stopped drawing to take care of her ailing parents. In her sixties, she took a job teaching drawing at Kyoto Seika University and became inspired by her talented students. When she returned to teaching, her storytelling interests had shifted. Before suffering a stroke she drew "In Captivity" (2012) and "Solitary Death Building" (2015)—both focused on aging and death. Offshore Lightning collects Saito’s early work as well as these two recent graphic novellas.

Stories like “Buy Dog Food and Go Home” and “Offshore Lightning” focus on middle-aged men caught in a cycle of self pity and self reflection. Saito gently pokes fun at their anguish and self-involvement while capturing the pathos of these men as they revisit childhood friendships and lost loves. By contrast, “In Captivity” follows three siblings visiting their ailing mother who is succumbing to dementia and resentful at her loss of agency. The siblings take a drive as they reckon with balancing the painful legacy of her caustic personality with attempting to honor this woman at the end of her life. "Solitary Death Building" documents an eccentric cast of elderly gossips as death descends upon the housing complex where they all live.

Nazuna Saito was born in 1946 near Mount Fuji. She became an illustrator almost by chance when a coworker left and Saito replaced her. She drew her first comics at the age of forty.
Walk Me to the Corner

Anneli Furmark

Stability withers where passion blossoms in this cool-toned meditation on mid-life relationships.

A loving home and husband; two grown sons; a lakeside cabin with a picnic table where their initials are carved; and the chance encounter at a party that destabilizes it all. Elise is in her mid-fifties and is satisfied with life. But the moment she sees Dagmar, she’s entranced. What begins as eye contact transitions to harmless texting, and quickly swells into the type of lust and yearning Elise did not know her life was lacking. Both are happily married and there’s trepidation, but they can’t resist. The two arrange to meet, changing the course of Elise’s stable and consistent life forever.

Though Elise’s husband attempts to support her exploration, he also begins an affair with a much younger woman—a postgraduate student in her thirties. The cliché of it all is too much for Elise to bear. As her marriage unravels, Elise’s love for Dagmar grows stronger. But with Dagmar content to stay in her marriage, Elise is stranded, adrift, completely alone for the first time in her adult life, and searching for someone to blame—the other woman. In the blur of a breakdown, she’s left facing the reality that, after all, she started it.

In lush watercolor washes and pencil crayons, Anneli Furmark’s Walk Me to the Corner is a gorgeous portrait of desire and heartbreak, and the painful gamble the heart sometimes choses in spite of the mind.

Anneli Furmark is a Swedish painter, illustrator, and creator of graphic novels. She grew up in Luleå but now lives and works in Umeå, where she moved in 1991 to study at Umeå Academy of Fine Arts (MFA). Red Winter (2018) was her first graphic novel to be published in English, and it appeared on best-of-the-year lists from The Guardian and the Herald Scotland. Furmark’s comics and fine art have been exhibited across Europe, as well as in Japan, Korea, and Iceland.

Translated from the Swedish by Hanna Strömberg

PRAISE

“A love story that takes place against the darkness of winter in 1970s Sweden.” —The New York Times

“[Anneli Furmark is] a wonderfully lyrical cartoonist . . . Best of all, though, are her gorgeous watercolours, which utilise blue and orange—ice and fire—to such marvellous effect.” —The Guardian
Time Zone J

Julie Doucet

A wormhole into a fleeting romance told in a mind-bending first-person chorus.

Time Zone J is Julie Doucet’s first inked comic since she famously quit in the nineties after an exhausting career in an industry that, at the time, made little room for women.

The year is 1989 and twenty-three-year-old Doucet is flying to France to meet with a soldier. He’s a man she only knows through their mail correspondence, a common enough reality of the zine era, when comics were mailed from cartoonist to reader and close relationships were formed. Time is not on their side—the soldier is just on furlough for a few days—but the two make the most of their visit and discuss future plans, maybe even Christmas in Doucet’s city, Montreal.

Based on diary entries from the whirlwind romance, the passion and high emotions of youth—before you know the limits of love, before you know the difference between love and lust—seep through the pages. In contrast to the tryst, Doucet draws herself today, at fifty-five.

After years of being in a crowd of men, Doucet compulsively returns to drawing, creating an alternate universe that foregrounds women. The pages of Time Zone J overflow with images pulled from past and present, faces and people that have inspired Doucet across more than three decades of creative work.

Julie Doucet was born near Montreal in 1965 and is best known for her frank, funny, and sometimes shocking comic book series Dirty Plotte, which changed the landscape of alternative cartooning. In the 1990s, Doucet moved between New York, Seattle, Berlin, and Montreal, publishing the graphic novels My New York Diary; Lift Your Leg, My Fish Is Dead!; My Most Secret Desire; and The Madame Paul Affair. In 2000, she quit comics to concentrate on other art forms. From these experiments emerged the collection of engravings and prints Long Time Relationship; her one-year visual journal, 365 Days; and her collaged fumetto comics, Carpet Sweeper Tales. Her post-comics artwork includes silkscreened artist’s books, text-based collages, sculpture, and anima...

PRAISE

“Seething, exuberant . . . Doucet’s entire comics oeuvre [is] a lavish history lesson for those who might take today’s outpouring of feminist comics for granted.” —The New York Times Book Review

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