Chasing History

A Kid in the Newsroom

Carl Bernstein

The Pulitzer Prize–winning coauthor of All the President’s Men—the chronicle of the investigative report about the Watergate break-in and resultant political scandal which led to President Richard...

“Carl Bernstein, Washington Star.”

With these words, the sixteen-year-old senior at Montgomery Blair High School set himself apart from the high school crowd and set himself on a track that would define his life. Carl Bernstein was far from the best student in his class—in fact, he was in danger of not graduating at all—but he had a talent for writing, a burning desire to know things that other people didn’t, and a flair for being in the right place at the right time. Those qualities got him inside the newsroom at the Washington Star, the afternoon paper in the nation’s capital, in the summer of 1960, a pivotal time for America, for Washington, D.C., and for a young man on the cusp of adulthood.

Chasing History opens up the world of the early 1960s as Bernstein experienced it, chasing after grisly crimes with the paper's police reporter, gathering colorful details at a John F. Kennedy campaign rally, running afoul of union rules, and confronting racial tensions as the civil rights movement gained strength. We learn alongside him as he comes to understand the life of a newspaperman, and we share his pride as he hunts down information, gets his first byline, and discovers that he has a talent for the job after all.

By turns exhilarating, funny, tense, and poignant, Chasing History shows us a country coming into its own maturity along with young Carl Bernstein, and when he strikes out on his own after five years at the ...
Lorraine Hansberry: The Life Behind A Raisin in the Sun

The Life Behind A Raisin in the Sun

Charles J. Shields

The moving story of the life of the woman behind A Raisin in the Sun, the most widely anthologized, read, and performed play of the American stage, by the New York Times bestselling author of Mockingbird...

Written when she was just twenty-eight, Lorraine Hansberry’s landmark A Raisin in the Sun is listed by the National Theatre as one of the hundred most significant works of the twentieth century. Hansberry was the first Black woman to have a play performed on Broadway, and the first Black and youngest American playwright to win a New York Critics’ Circle Award.

Charles J. Shields’s authoritative biography of one of the twentieth century’s most admired playwrights examines the parts of Lorraine Hansberry’s life that have escaped public knowledge: the influence of her upper-class background, her fight for peace and nuclear disarmament, the reason why she embraced Communism during the Cold War, and her dependence on her white husband—her best friend, critic, and promoter. Many of the identity issues about class, sexuality, and race that she struggled with are relevant and urgent today.

This dramatic telling of a passionate life—a very American life through self-reinvention—uses previously unpublished interviews with close friends in politics and theater, privately held correspondence, and deep research to reconcile old mysteries and raise new questions about a life not fully described until now.

PRAISE

Praise for Mockingbird

“Shields is a scrupulous journalist who respects [Lee’s] privacy even as he opens up her life. This biography will not disappoint those who loved the novel and the feisty, independent, fiercely loyal Scout in whom Harper Lee put so much of herself.”—Garrison Keillor, The New York Times Book Review

“An impressively unauthorized biography of the famously reclusive author.”—New York, Best Summer Reading roundup

Real Easy

A Novel

Marie Rutkoski

A compulsive, tenacious, and unexpectedly hopeful thriller set in a midwestern strip club, told by New York Times bestselling author Marie Rutkoski in the spirit of Gillian Flynn and Tana French

It’s 1999, and Samantha has danced for years at the Lovely Lady strip club. She’s not used to taking anyone under her wing—after all, between her disapproving boyfriend and his daughter, who may as well be her own child, she has enough to worry about. But when Samantha overrides her better judgment to drive a new dancer home, they are run off the road. The police arrive at the scene of the accident—but find only one body.

Georgia, another dancer, is drawn into the investigation as she tries to assist Holly, a Harvard-educated detective with a complicated story of her own. As the point of view shifts from police officers and detectives to club patrons and children, the women round up a list of suspects, all the while grappling with their own understandings of loss and love.

Drawing on her personal experiences as well as interviews with police, Rutkoski immerses us in a subculture that is all too often reduced to cliché. Gripping, deeply feminist, and character-driven, Real Easy spellbinds us and gets to the heart of this timeless question: How do women live out their lives knowing that men can hurt them?

Born in Illinois, Marie Rutkoski is a graduate of the University of Iowa and Harvard University. She is a professor of English literature at Brooklyn College and a New York Times bestselling author of books for children and young adults. She lives in Brooklyn with her family.
Be My Baby

A Memoir

Ronnie Spector with Vince Waldron

Hailed by Rolling Stone magazine as one of the greatest rock memoirs of all time, Be My Baby is the true story of how Rock and Roll Hall of Famer Ronnie Spector carved out a space for herself aga...

Ronnie Spector’s first collaboration with producer Phil Spector, “Be My Baby,” stunned the world and shot girl group the Ronettes to stardom. No one could sing as clearly, as emotively as Ronnie. But her voice was soon drowned out in Phil Spector’s Wall of Sound, and lost in Ronnie and Phil’s ensuing romance and marriage.

Ronnie had to fight tooth and nail to wrest back control of her life, her music, and her legacy. And while she regained her footing, Ronnie found herself recording with Stevie Van Zandt, partying with David Bowie, and touring with Bruce Springsteen.

Smart, humorous, and self-possessed, Be My Baby is a whirlwind account of the twists and turns in the life of an artist. More than anything, Be My Baby is a testament to the fact that it is possible to stand up to a powerful abuser and start on a second—or third, or fifth—act. In fact, almost six decades into her career, Ronnie Spector is still touring.

Includes photographs

PRAISE

Rolling Stone: 50 Greatest Rock Memoirs of All Time (#14)
NME: 20 Rock Memoirs That Don’t Hold Back (#10)
Far Out Magazine (UK): 10 Greatest Rock Memoirs of All Time (#8)

“Funny and observant, consistently engaging. . . . Sprinkled with deadpan humor.”
—Mike Boehm, Los Angeles Times

“Entertaining, often disturbing. . . . well told. . . . Quite moving. Be My Baby . . . marks the passage of Ronnie Spector from victim to survivor.”
—Alan Light, Rolling Stone

“If you’re looking for self-pity, you’ll be disappointed, because her book, like her voice, is full of cocky, smart, self-aware humor. And, yes, in case you were wondering, it totally sucked to be ...

Ronnie Spector became an icon when she rose to fame as lead singer of the Ronettes, the influential girl group responsible for a string of hits that included “Walking in the Rain,” “Baby I Love You,” and “Be My Baby,” which Brian Wilson has called “the greatest record ever made.” The embodiment of the heart, soul, and passion of rock and roll, Ronnie Spector was inducted into
In the Shadow of the Mountain
A Memoir of Courage

Silvia Vasquez-Lavado

“In climbing the Seven Summits, Silvia Vasquez-Lavado did nothing less than take back her own life—one brave step at a time. She will inspire untold numbers of souls with this story, for her vict...

When Silvia’s mother called her home to Peru, she knew something finally had to give. A Latinx hero in the elite macho tech world of Silicon Valley, privately, she was hanging by a thread. She was deep in the throes of alcoholism, hiding her sexuality from her family, and repressing the abuse she’d suffered as a child.

Her visit to Peru would become a turning point in her life. Silvia started climbing. Something about the brute force required for the ascent—the restricted oxygen at altitude, the vast expanse of emptiness around her, the risk and spirit and sheer size of the mountains, the nearness of death—woke her up. And then, she took her biggest pain to the biggest mountain: Everest. “The Mother of the World,” as it’s known in Nepal, allows few to reach her summit, but Silvia didn’t go alone. She gathered a group of young female survivors and led them to base camp alongside her, their strength and community propelling her forward.

In the Shadow of the Mountain is a remarkable story of heroism, one which awakens in all of us a lust for adventure, gratitude for the strong women in our lives, and faith in our own resilience.

PRAISE

“Silvia Vasquez-Lavado is a woman possessed of uncommon strength, rare compassion, and a ferocious stubbornness to not allow the trauma of her childhood to destroy her life. In climbing the Seven Summits, she did nothing less than take back her own life—one brave step at a time. She will inspire untold numbers of souls with this story, for her victory is a win on behalf of all of us.” —Elizabeth Gilbert

“Silvia Vasquez-Lavado’s story gripped my heart. . . . What a beautiful and urgent offering.” —Eve Ensler

“[Silvia’s] personal story of the palliative effects of mountain climbing, which helped her rise above abuse, addiction, and marginaliza...

Silvia Vasquez-Lavado is a humanitarian, mountaineer, explorer, social entrepreneur, and technologist living in San Francisco. In 2014, she launched Courageous Girls, a nonprofit that helps survivors of sexual abuse and trafficking with opportunities to find inner strength and cultivate their voices by demonstrating their physical strength. Courageous Girls has had projects in Nepal, India, the United States, and Peru. Vasquez-Lavado was recognized by Fortune magazine as one of the Corporate Her...
A Very Nice Girl

A Novel

Imogen Crimp

For readers of *Sweetbitter* and *Luster*, a razor-sharp debut novel about an ambitious young opera singer caught between devotion to her craft and an all-consuming affair with an older man

Anna knows she has talent, but she’s always felt out of place in the world of opera. A first-year student at a prestigious London conservatoire, she lives in a grim series of rented rooms with her friend Laurie, a sharp-tongued waitress and aspiring writer. Her days are devoted to highly competitive auditions and long, straining rehearsals. At night, she sings jazz in an expensive bar, relying on her popularity with the inebriated businessmen to make rent and stay afloat alongside her wealthy peers.

It’s there that Anna meets Max, a charismatic financier in the midst of a divorce who, at thirty-eight, is fourteen years Anna’s senior. Reluctantly impressed by Max—his stillness, his careful detachment—Anna soon finds herself desperate to hold his attention. As winter pervades the city, Anna begins a dangerous oscillation between hard-won moments on stage, where she can zip herself into the skin of her characters, and nightly stays at Max’s glass-walled flat. But as Anna’s fledgling career begins to demand her undivided attention, so too does Max, a situation that dangerously compounds until Anna must decide who—or what—she wants.

Intoxicatingly propulsive and written with lacerating precision, Imogen Crimp’s *A Very Nice Girl* is a clever, sexually charged portrait of a young woman on the teetering edge of adulthood. With heartrending authenticity and an arresting voice, it lays bare how we consciously shape our identities in the pu...

PRAISE

“Transfixing from the start, *A Very Nice Girl* steals the show. Gorgeous prose, bone-dry humor, and brutally shrewd observations make Imogen Crimp’s debut sing in this perilous love story about a talented young woman learning to wield her voice. Intimate and intoxicating, *A Very Nice Girl* absolutely dazzles.”
—Beck Dorey-Stein, *New York Times* bestselling author of *From the Corner of the Oval*

“Tender, devastating, witty. And deeply true. *Sweetbitter* meets *Normal People*.”
—Meg Mason, author of *Sorrow and Bliss*

Imogen Crimp studied English at Cambridge, followed by an MA in contemporary literature from University College London, where she specialized in female modernist writers. After university, she briefly studied singing at a London conservatoire. She was born in 1989 and lives in London.
Cost of Living

Essays

Emily Maloney

Girl, Interrupted meets The Empathy Exams in a memoir chronicling one woman’s experiences as both patient and caregiver, giving a unique perspective from both sides of the hospital bed.

What does it cost to live?

When we fall ill, our lives are itemized on a spreadsheet. A thousand dollars for a broken leg, a few hundred for a nasty cut while cooking dinner. Then there are the greater costs for even greater misfortunes. The car accidents, breast cancers, blood diseases, and dark depressions.

When Emily Maloney was nineteen, she tried to kill herself—an act that would not only cost a great deal personally but also financially, sending her down a dark spiral of misdiagnoses, years spent in and out of hospitals and doctor’s offices, and tens of thousands owed in medical debt. To work to pay off this crippling burden, Emily became an emergency room technician, doing the grunt work in a hospital, taking care of patients at their most vulnerable moments, and chronicling these interactions in searingly beautiful, surprising ways.

Shocking and often slyly humorous, Cost of Living is a brilliant examination of what exactly our troubled healthcare system asks us to pay, as well as a look at what goes on behind the scenes at our hospitals and in the minds of caregivers.

PRAISE

"Cost of Living completely blew me away."
— Leslie Jamison

Emily Maloney's work has also appeared in Glamour, the North American Review, the American Journal of Nursing, and the New England Journal of Medicine, among others. She has worked as a dog groomer, pastry chef, general contractor, tile setter, and catalog model and has sold her ceramics at art fairs. Emily has twice been awarded a MacDowell Fellowship. She lives in Evanston, Illinois.
Secret City

The Hidden History of Gay Washington

James Kirchick

Washington, D.C., has always been a city of secrets. Few have been more dramatic than the ones revealed in James Kirchick's Secret City.

For decades, the specter of homosexuality haunted Washington. The mere suggestion that a person might be gay destroyed reputations, ended careers, and ruined lives. At the height of the Cold War, fear of homosexuality became intertwined with the growing threat of international communism, leading to a purge of gay men and lesbians from the federal government. In the fevered atmosphere of political Washington, the secret “too loathsome to mention” paradoxically held enormous, terrifying power.

Utilizing thousands of pages of declassified documents, interviews with over one hundred people, and material unearthed from presidential libraries and archives around the country, Secret City: The Hidden History of Gay Washington, from FDR through Clinton is a chronicle of American politics like no other. Beginning with the tragic story of Sumner Welles, Franklin Delano Roosevelt’s brilliant diplomatic advisor and the man at the center of “the greatest national scandal since the existence of the United States,” award-winning journalist and author James Kirchick illuminates how the idea of homosexuality shaped each successive presidential administration, impacting everything from the creation of America’s earliest civilian intelligence agency to the rise and fall of McCarthyism, the struggle for African American civil rights, and the conservative movement.

Celebrating the men and women who courageously decided that the source of their priv...

PRAISE

“Secret City is a sweeping, grand look at what once was forced to be hidden. In his deeply researched narrative, Kirchick has restored men and women lost to history due to their sexuality, and in doing so he shines a new light on our understanding of politics and government. Evoking memories of And the Band Played On, this look at the ‘secret city’ makes our history clear.”


James Kirchick is an award-winning writer and the author of The End of Europe: Dictators, Demagogues and the Coming Dark Age. A visiting fellow at the Brookings Institution and a columnist for Tablet, he has reported from over forty countries and his work has appeared in the New York Times, the Washington Post, the Wall Street Journal, the Atlantic, the New York Review of Books, and the Times Literary Supplement. Previously, Kirchick was writer-at-large for Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty in Pra...
The Expectation Effect
How Your Mindset Can Change Your World

David Robson

A journey through the cutting-edge science of how our mindset shapes every facet of our lives, revealing how your brain holds the keys to unlocking a better you

What you believe can make it so.

You’ve heard of the placebo effect and how sugar pills can accelerate healing. But did you know that sham heart surgeries often work just as well as placing real stents? Or that people who think they’re particularly prone to cardiovascular disease are four times as likely to die from cardiac arrest? Such is the power and deadly importance of the expectation effect—how what we think will happen changes what does happen.

Melding neuroscience with narrative, science journalist David Robson takes readers on a deep dive into the many life zones the expectation effect permeates. We see how people who believe stress is beneficial become more creative when placed under strain. We see how associating aging with wisdom can add seven plus years to your life. People say seeing is believing but, over and over, Robson proves that the converse is truer: believing is seeing.

The Expectation Effect is not woo-woo. You cannot think your way into a pile of money or out of a cancer diagnosis. But just because magical thinking is nonsense doesn’t mean rational magic doesn’t exist. Pointing to accepted psychology and objective physiology, Robson gives us the practical takeaways we need to improve our fitness, productivity, intelligence, and happiness. Any reader who wants to take their fate into their own hands need only pick up this book.

PRAISE

Praise for David Robson’s The Intelligence Trap

“We need to find new and better ways to teach critical thinking and measure good judgment. Reading David Robson’s book would be a good place to start.”
—The Wall Street Journal

“Startling, provocative, and potently useful.”
—Sunday Times (UK)

“An engrossing standout in the thinking genre that will appeal to anyone who has ever been wrongheaded.”
—Kirkus Reviews (starred review)

“Impressively accessible, with engaging storytelling, depth of discussion, and counterintuitive conclusions.”
HENRY HOLT AND CO.
MARCH 2022

Never Simple

A Memoir

Liz Scheier

Liz Scheier's darkly funny and touching memoir—with shades of Jeannette Walls's The Glass Castle and Mira Bartók’s The Memory Palace—of growing up in '90s Manhattan with a brilliant, mendacious s...

Scheier’s mother Judith was a news junkie, a hilarious storyteller, a fast-talking charmer you couldn’t look away from, a single mother whose devotion crossed the line into obsession, and—when in the grips of the mental illness that plagued every day of her life—a violent and abusive liar whose hold on reality was shaky at best. On an uneventful afternoon when Scheier was eighteen, her mother sauntered into the room to tell her two important things: one, she had been married for most of Scheier’s life to a man she’d never heard of, and two, the man she’d told Scheier was her father was entirely fictional. She’d made him up. Those two big lies were the start, but not the end; it took dozens of smaller lies to support them, and by the time she was done she had built a farcical, half-true life for the two of them, from fake social security number to fabricated husband.

One hot July day twenty years later, Scheier receives a voicemail from Adult Protective Services, reporting that Judith has stopped paying rent and is refusing all offers of assistance. That call is the start of a shocking journey that takes the Scheiers, mother and daughter, deep into the cascading effects of decades of lies and deception.

Never Simple is the story of learning to survive—and, finally, trying to save—a complicated parent, as feared as she is loved, and as self-destructive as she is adoring.

Liz Scheier is a former Penguin Random House editor who worked in publishing and content development for many years, including at Barnes & Noble.com and Amazon. She writes book reviews and feature articles for Publishers Weekly. She is now a product developer living in Washington, D.C., with her husband, two small children, and an ill-behaved cat. This is her first book.
Good Intentions

A Novel

Kasim Ali

*The Big Sick* meets Nick Hornby in Kasim Ali’s debut novel about a young man who has hidden a romance from his parents, unable to choose between familial obligation and the future he truly wants.

*If love really is a choice, how do you decide where your loyalties lie?*

It’s the countdown to midnight on New Year’s Eve and Nur is steeling himself to tell his parents that he’s seeing someone. A young British Pakistani man, Nur has spent years omitting details about his personal life to maintain his image as the golden eldest child. And it’s come at a cost.

Once, Nur was a restless and insecure college student, struggling to present himself after being transplanted from his hometown with only the vaguest sense of ambition. At a packed house party one night, he meets Yasmina, a beautiful and self-possessed aspiring journalist. They start a conversation—first awkward, then absorbing—that grabs Nur’s attention like never before. And as their relationship develops, moving from libraries and cramped coffee shops to an apartment they share together, so too does Nur’s self-destruction. He falls deeper into traps of his own making, attempting to please both Yasmina and his family until he no longer has a choice. He must finally be honest and reveal to those who raised him the truth he’s kept hidden: Yasmina is Black, and he loves her.

Deftly transporting readers between that first night and the years beyond, *Good Intentions* exposes with unblinking authenticity the complexities of immigrant families and racial prejudice. It is a crackling, wryly clever depiction of standing on the precipice of adulthood, attempting to piece together ...

**Kasim Ali** works at Penguin Random House, and has previously been shortlisted for Hachette’s Mo Siewcherran Prize and longlisted for the 4th Estate BAME Short Story Prize, and has contributed to *The Good Journal*. He comes from Birmingham and lives in London.
Chevy in the Hole

A Novel

Kelsey Ronan

Kelsey Ronan’s gorgeous, harrowing debut novel follows multiple generations of two families in Flint, Michigan, through the city’s notorious growth and decline, with a stunning contemporary love...

When we meet August “Gus” Molloy on the opening pages of Chevy in the Hole, he’s just coming to on the bathroom floor of the Detroit restaurant where he buses after being revived with Narcan. Shortly after, he packs it in and returns to his hometown of Flint for another shot at sobriety. There he meets and falls quickly in love with Monae Livingston, an urban farmer trying to coax a tenuous rebirth from the damaged land. As Gus and Monae begin dreaming up an urban oasis together in Flint, the city’s water supply is being quietly poisoned.

Woven throughout their story are the stories of Gus and Monae’s families, members of which have had their own triumphs and devastating setbacks trying to survive and thrive in their troubled city. In 1937, Gus’s great-grandmother runs supplies to the strikers at Chevrolet while her husband, a luckless salesman, daydreams of riches. Meanwhile, Monae’s grandmother, Esther Williams, arrives during the Great Migration to confront the limitations of “GM Crow.”

One of Esther’s sons finds his political voice in the civil rights movement while another works at the ill-fated theme park AutoWorld. We watch the families brush elbows long before Gus and Monae ever meet, on one now-infamous night, when The Who’s Keith Moon drives a Cadillac into the swimming pool of the Holiday Inn.

An unforgettable novel about love and betrayal, race and family, Chevy in the Hole is ultimately a love letter to Flint, and...

Kelsey Ronan grew up in Flint, Michigan. Her work has appeared in Lit Hub, Michigan Quarterly Review, The Kenyon Review and elsewhere. She lives in Detroit and teaches for InsideOut Literary Arts. Chevy in the Hole is her first novel.
Sleepwalk

A Novel

Dan Chaon

Sleepwalk is a high-speed and darkly comic road trip through a near-future America with a bighearted mercenary, from National Book Award finalist and New York Times bestselling author Dan Chaon.

Will Bear is fifty years old, and he’s been living off the grid for thirty years. He’s never had a real job, never paid taxes, never been in a committed relationship. A good-natured mercenary with a complicated and lonely past and an LSD micro-dosing problem, he spends his time driving across a fractured America beset with problems both new and old, running sometimes shady, often dangerous errands for a powerful and ruthless man he’s never troubled himself to learn too much about. He has lots of connections, but no true ties. His longest relationships are with an old rescue dog with post-traumatic stress and a childhood friend as deeply entrenched in the underworld as he is, whom, lately, he’s less and less sure he can trust. Will Bear isn’t his real name, of course, but one of the countless aliases necessary in his line of work.

Out of the blue, one of his many burner phones heralds a call from a twenty-year-old woman claiming to be his biological daughter, Cammie. She says she’s the product of one of his long-ago sperm donations; he’s half certain she’s a robot. She needs his help. She’s entrenched in a widespread and nefarious plot involving the very people Will works for, and continuing to have any contact with her increasingly blurs the line between the people Will is running errands for and the people he’s running from.

With his signature blend of haunting emotional realism and fast-paced intrigue, Chaon populates the vi...

PRAISE

Advance Praise for Sleepwalk

“Sleepwalk is a deeply satisfying thriller: the misadventures of a journeyman criminal crisscrossing an American hellscape. Though Dan Chaon’s novels are never quite what they seem, this book still surprises—it’s a frightening indictment of corporate power and the surveillance state, as well as a tender story about the depth of parental love. What an absolute marvel.”

—Rumaan Alam, author of the 2020 National Book Award Finalist Leave the World Behind

"Dan Chaon's future America may be truly wrecked but it's also familiar and perhaps quintessential. Out of this wreckage Chaon has constructed a gloriously entertaining...
Let's Not Do That Again

A Novel

Grant Ginder

From the author of The People We Hate at the Wedding comes a poignant, funny, and slyly beguiling novel about family, politics, and the lengths we’ll go to for our children, perfect for fans of H...

Nancy Harriman is running for Senate, and she’s going to win, God dammit. Not that that’s her slogan, although it should be. This is what she’s worked so hard for over the years after her husband’s untimely death (which was definitely not her fault) and inheriting his seat in the House of Representatives. She’s said all the right things. Passed all the right legislation. Chapped her lips kissing babies. There’s just one problem: her grown children.

Greta and Nick Harriman are adrift. Nick, recently heartbroken, is floundering in his attempts to write a musical about the life of Joan Didion (called Hello to All That). And then there’s his little sister Greta. Smart, pretty, and completely unmotivated by anything, allowing her life to pass her by like the shoppers at the Apple store where she works.

But then one morning the world wakes up not to Nancy making headlines, but Greta. She’s in Paris. With extremist protestors. Throwing a bottle of champagne through a beloved bistro’s front window. In order to save her campaign, not to mention her daughter, Nancy and Nick must find Greta before it’s too late.

Smart and poignant, funny and tear-jerking, Let’s Not Do That Again proves that like democracy, family is a messy and fragile thing that means more than any mother, or senator, could ever dream.

Grant Ginder’s novels include This Is How It Starts, Driver’s Education, and The People We Hate at the Wedding. He received his MFA from New York University, where he teaches writing. He lives in Brooklyn.
Start Without Me
(I'll Be There in a Minute)

Gary Janetti

From New York Times bestselling author, Family Guy writer, and HBO star Gary Janetti comes a collection of hilarious, laugh-out-loud, true life stories about the small moments that add up to a bi...

In his instant New York Times bestselling book Do You Mind If I Cancel? Gary Janetti had us all in stitches as he recounted the pains and indignities of everyday life in the way only he can. Now, in Start Without Me, Janetti returns with a hilarious collection about how sometimes the things we most want to get done and over with are the ones that define us for a lifetime. Gary turns his acid tongue (and secretly beating heart) to the moments and times that have defined him, no matter how embarrassing or annoying they might be to admit.

But the book is much more than a barrel of laughs. In the vein of David Sedaris and Jenny Lawson, the collection is also deeply poignant, exploring the complexities of family, frustrations of careers, and the paradox of life where sometimes everything is frustrating, and also exhilarating. Start Without Me will have readers wishing it would never end.

PRAISE

Praise for Gary Janetti

“From “Family Guy” to his own Instagram account, Janetti has been behind some of his generation’s greatest comedy. This book of essays is no exception.”
— The New York Times

“Gary Janetti’s book is so rolling-on-the-floor funny, so brilliantly observant, and so full of heart, I’m sure a jealous Prince George will decree that Gary be locked up in the Tower of London.”
— Kevin Kwan, New York Times bestselling author of the Crazy Rich Asians trilogy

“The writing of Gary Janetti, whether televised or tweeted, is famously incisive and sharp-tongued. What a revelation it was, therefore, to discover in these revealing personal essay...

Gary Janetti is the bestselling author of Do You Mind If I Cancel? and the writer and producer of such shows as Family Guy, Will & Grace, and Vicious. He lives in Los Angeles.
**Betting on You**  
*How to Put Yourself First and (Finally) Take Control of Your Career*

Laurie Ruettimann

An essential guide for how to snap out of autopilot and become your own best advocate, with candid anecdotes and easy-to-adopt steps, from veteran HR specialist and popular podcast host Laurie Ru...

Chances are you’ve spent the past few months cooped up inside, buried under a relentless news cycle and work that never seems to switch off. Millions of us worldwide are overworked, exhausted, and trying our hardest—yet not getting the recognition we deserve. It’s time for a fix.

Top career coach and HR consultant Laurie Ruettimann knows firsthand that work can get a hell of a lot better. A decade ago, Ruettimann was uninspired, blaming others and herself for the unhappiness she felt. Until she had an epiphany: if she wanted a fulfilling existence, she couldn’t sit around and wait for change. She had to be her own leader. She had to truly take ahold of life—the good, the bad, and the downright ugly—in order to transform her future.

Today, as businesses prioritize their bottom lines over employee satisfaction and workers become increasingly isolated, the need to safeguard your well-being is crucial. And though this sounds intimidating, it’s easier to do than you think. Through tactical advice on how to approach work in a smart and healthy manner, which includes knowing when to sign off for the day, doubling down on our capacity to learn, fixing those finances, and beating impostor syndrome once and for all, Ruettimann lays out the framework necessary to champion your interests and create a life you actually enjoy.

Packed with advice and stories of others who regained control of their lives, *Betting on You* is a game-changing must-r...

**PRAISE**

“Never before have we been so collectively burnt out. But with pragmatic advice and an infectious jumpstart attitude, Laurie Ruettimann provides the groundwork—and inspiration—needed to change course. *Betting on You* is indispensable reading for anyone seeking to improve their professional selves and attain that elusive ‘work-life balance.’”

—Daniel H. Pink, #1 *New York Times* bestselling author of *When, Drive*, and *To Sell is Human*

“Part manifesto and part manual for anyone who is willing to put their own health and happiness ahead of a miserable job. . . . [Ruettimann is] right there with you, sharing her own journey, stumbles included.”

—New Yor...
Bevelations

Lessons from a Mutha, Auntie, Bestie

Bevy Smith

From the host of the fabulous and popular show Bevelations on SiriusXM’s Radio Andy channel, Bevy Smith’s irreverent and inspiring memoir about learning to live a big, authentic, and unapologetic...

Bevy Smith was living what seemed like a glamorous dream as a fashion advertising executive, blazing a lucrative career for herself in the whitewashed magazine world. She jetsetted to Europe for fashion shows, dined and danced at every hot spot, and enjoyed a mighty roster of lovers.

So it came as quite a shock to Bevy when one day, after arriving at her luxury hotel in Milan, she collapsed on the Frette bedsheets and sobbed. Years of rolling with the in-crowd had taken its toll. Her satisfaction with work and life had hit rock bottom. But Bevy could not be defeated, and within minutes (okay, days) she grabbed a notepad and started realizing a truer path—one built on self-reflection and, ultimately, clarity. She figured out how to redirect her life toward meaningful creativity and freedom.

In her signature lively and infectious voice (there’s no one like Bevy!), Bevelations candidly shares how she reclaimed her life’s course and shows how we too can manifest our most bodacious dreams. From repossessing her bold childhood nature to becoming her own brand to envisioning her life’s next great destination (which will feature natural hair, important charitable giving, and a midcentury house overlooking the Pacific Ocean), Bevy invites readers along on the route of her personal transformation to reveal how each of us can live our best lives with honesty, joy, and, when we’re in the mood, a killer pair of shoes.

PRAISE

“Of all the great and amazing women I know, Bevy Smith is one I honor and cherish. She is real and honest and I never question her integrity. AND she makes me laugh. Bevy knows what’s what, and she is the kind of woman you want in your corner. If you don’t believe me . . . buy the book.”
—Whoopi Goldberg

“Most people are pretty singular in the way they see the world and themselves. Not Bevy. She’s magnanimous in the way she looks at things. The clarity in her perspective really highlights how magical she is. Funny, wise, well-experienced, empathetic, colorful? Bevy brings the spirit of humanity wherever she goes. I want to be more like her, we ...”

Bevy Smith is the host of SiriusXM’s Bevelations on Radio Andy and a former cohost of Bravo’s Fashion Queens and the entertainment news show Page Six TV. She is a beloved motivational speaker, brand ambassador, pop culture aficionado, television personality, and businesswoman. Quintessential Harlem girl and lifelong New Yorker, Bevy was born, raised, and still lives and
Before the Ruins

A Novel

Victoria Gosling

A gripping, multilayered debut in the tradition of Donna Tartt and Tana French about four friends, an abandoned manor, and one fateful night that will follow them for the rest of their lives

It's the summer of 1996 and school's out forever for Andy, her boyfriend Marcus, her best friend Peter, and Em. When Andy's alcoholic mother predicts the apocalypse, the four teenagers decide to see out the end of the world at a deserted manor house, the site of a historic unsolved mystery. There they meet David—charming and unreliable, he seems to have appeared out of nowhere.

David presents an irresistible lure for both Andy and Peter and complicates the dynamics of their lifelong friendship. When the group learns that a diamond necklace, stolen fifty years ago, might still be somewhere on the manor grounds, the Game—half treasure hunt, half friendly deception—begins. But the Game becomes much bigger than the necklace, growing to encompass years of secrets, lies, and, ultimately, one terrible betrayal.

Meticulously plotted and gorgeously written, Before the Ruins is a page-turner of the highest order about the sealed-off places in our pasts and the parts of ourselves waiting to be retrieved from them.

PRAISE

“Gosling is a stylish, sophisticated writer, and we realize that we are following Andy on what amounts to a grand scavenger hunt for the truth. Rain falls relentlessly, and the ensuing floods form an ominous backdrop to a story that becomes darker as it goes along.”
—The New York Times Book Review

“Before the Ruins is a lush and layered thriller that mystery lovers will savor.”
—Real Simple

"In this wonderfully sophisticated and beautifully conceived novel, the exceptionally talented Gosling does what many new authors can't: She skillfully navigates several interconnecting timelines in an already multifaceted and complex story. This can be proble...

Victoria Gosling grew up in Wiltshire, England and studied English Literature at Manchester University. She is the founder of The Reader Berlin, hosting salon nights in Berlin and writers’ retreats in Greece and Italy. She also organizes The Berlin Writing Prize.
Sonic Boom

The Impossible Rise of Warner Bros. Records, from Hendrix to Fleetwood Mac to Madonna to Prince

Peter Ames Carlin

In Sonic Boom, bestselling music journalist Peter Ames Carlin captures the rollicking story of the most successful record label in the history of rock and roll, Warner Bros. Records, and the rema...

The roster of Warner Brothers Records and its subsidiary labels reads like the roster of the Rock & Roll Hall of Fame: Jimi Hendrix, the Grateful Dead, Joni Mitchell, Neil Young, James Taylor, Fleetwood Mac, the Eagles, Prince, Van Halen, Madonna, Tom Petty, R.E.M., Red Hot Chili Peppers, and dozens of others. But the most compelling figures in the Warner Bros. story are the sagacious Mo Ostin and the unlikely crew of hippies, eccentrics, and enlightened execs. Ostin and his staff transformed an out-of-touch company, revolutionized the industry, and, within just a few years, created the most successful record label in the history of the American music industry.

How did they do it? One day in 1967, the newly tapped label president Mo Ostin called his team together to share his grand strategy: he told them to stop trying to make hit records.

“Let’s just make good records and turn those into hits.”

With that, Ostin ushered in a counterintuitive model that matched the counterculture. His offbeat crew recruited outsider artists and gave them free rein, while rejecting out-of-date methods of advertising, promotion, and distribution. And even as they set new standards for in-house weirdness, the upstarts’ experiments and innovations paid off, to the tune of hundreds of legendary hit albums.

Warner Bros. Records conquered the music business by focusing on the music rather than the business. Their story is as raucous as it is inspiring—pur...

PRAISE

Praise for Bruce

“Interviews with bandmates, family members, and exes paint an unflinching portrait of the rock icon... [Carlin] dives into Springsteen’s personal life in unprecedented depth... No previous biographer has uncovered as much about Springsteen’s family.”—Rolling Stone

Praise for Homeward Bound: The Life of Paul Simon

“You can almost hear the melodic anthems Simon created through Carlin’s substantive, nuanced, deeply felt prose.”—Howard Rosen
I Came As a Shadow

An Autobiography

John Thompson with Jesse Washington

The long-awaited autobiography from Georgetown University's legendary coach, whose life on and off the basketball court throws America's unresolved struggle with racial justice into sharp relief

John Thompson was never just a basketball coach and I Came As a Shadow is categorically not just a basketball autobiography.

After three decades at the center of race and sports in America, the first Black head coach to win an NCAA championship is ready to make the private public. Chockful of stories and moving beyond mere stats (and what stats! three Final Fours, four times national coach of the year, seven Big East championships, 97 percent graduation rate), Thompson's book drives us through his childhood under Jim Crow segregation to our current moment of racial reckoning. We experience riding shotgun with Celtics icon Red Auerbach, and coaching NBA Hall of Famers like Patrick Ewing and Allen Iverson. How did he inspire the phrase “Hoya Paranoia”? You’ll see. And thawing his historically glacial stare, Thompson brings us into his negotiation with a DC drug kingpin in his players’ orbit in the 1980s, as well as behind the scenes on the Nike board today.

Thompson’s mother was a teacher who couldn’t teach because she was Black. His father could not read or write, so the only way he could identify different cements at the factory where he worked was to taste them. Their son grew up to be a man with his own life-sized statue in a building that bears his family’s name on a campus once kept afloat by the selling of 272 enslaved people. This is a great American story, and John Thompson’s experience sheds light on many of the issues r...

PRAISE

"Plainspoken and profound. . . . An unusually good sports memoir. . . . a consequential book."
—The New York Times

"This superb book. . . . has been eagerly awaited for years. . . . Thompson stresses the racial undercurrent that ran through his and Georgetown’s performances on the court."
—Washington Post

"In August, I offered NPR listeners an appetizer at the end of John Thompson’s life. I Came As a Shadow is the full meal. What drives you forward as a reader are the experiences. The moments you’d heard about and the ones you had not; the private thoughts of a public man; the complexity of a Black man who both raged against society’s racial inju..."
What Doesn't Kill You
A Life with Chronic Illness - Lessons from a Body in Revolt

Tessa Miller

"Should be read by anyone with a body. . . . Relentlessly researched and undeniably smart."
—The New York Times

What Doesn’t Kill You is the riveting account of a young journalist’s awakening to ch...

Tessa Miller was an ambitious twentysomething writer in New York City when, on a random fall day, her stomach began to seize up. At first, she toughed it out through searing pain, taking sick days from work, unable to leave the bathroom or her bed. But when it became undeniable that something was seriously wrong, Miller gave in to family pressure and went to the hospital—beginning a yearslong nightmare of procedures, misdiagnoses, and life-threatening infections. Once she was finally correctly diagnosed with Crohn’s disease, Miller faced another battle: accepting that she will never get better.

Today, an astonishing three in five adults in the United States suffer from a chronic disease—a percentage expected to rise post-Covid. Whether the illness is arthritis, asthma, Crohn’s, diabetes, endometriosis, multiple sclerosis, ulcerative colitis, or any other incurable illness, and whether the sufferer is a colleague, a loved one, or you, these diseases have an impact on just about every one of us. Yet there remains an air of shame and isolation about the topic of chronic sickness. Millions must endure these disorders not only physically but also emotionally, balancing the stress of relationships and work amid the ever-present threat of health complications.

Miller segues seamlessly from her dramatic personal experiences into a frank look at the cultural realities (medical, occupational, social) inherent in receiving a lifetime d...

PRAISE

“[Miller] writes with precision, conviction, respect and thoughtfulness about pain as well as the disparate, and at times unjust, experiences that people face when navigating the American health care system. . . . What Doesn’t Kill You is relentlessly researched and undeniably smart, but more than that, it is humane and offers r...

Tessa Miller is a Brooklyn-based health and science journalist. Her writing has appeared in the...
American Dirt (Oprah's Book Club)
A Novel

Jeanine Cummins

The #1 New York Times bestseller that has sold over 1.4 million copies is finally available in paperback.

Lydia Quixano Perez lives in the Mexican city of Acapulco and runs a bookstore. She has a son, Luca, the love of her life, and a wonderful husband who is a journalist. And while there are cracks beginning to show in Acapulco because of the drug cartels, her life is, by and large, fairly comfortable.

Even though she knows they’ll never sell, Lydia stocks some of her all-time favorite books in her store. And then one day a man enters the shop to browse and comes up to the register with four books he would like to buy—two of them her favorites. Javier is erudite. He is charming. And, unbeknownst to Lydia, he is the jefe of the newest drug cartel that has gruesomely taken over the city. When Lydia’s husband’s tell-all profile of Javier is published, none of their lives will ever be the same.

Forced to flee, Lydia and eight-year-old Luca soon find themselves miles and worlds away from their comfortable middle-class existence. Instantly transformed into migrants, Lydia and Luca ride La Bestia—trains that make their way north toward America, which is the only place Javier’s reach doesn’t extend. As they join the thousands of people trying to reach American dirt, Lydia soon sees that everyone is running from something. But what exactly are they running to?

PRAISE

#1 New York Times Bestseller
#1 Indie Next Pick
OPRAH'S BOOK CLUB PICK

“American Dirt just gutted me, and I didn’t just read this book—I inhabited it….Everything about this book was so extraordinary. It’s suspenseful, the language is beautiful, and the story really opened my heart. I highly recommend it, and you will not want to put it down. It is just a magnificent novel.”
—Oprah

“American Dirt is a literary novel with nuanced character development and arresting language; yet, its narrative hurtles forward with the intensity of a suspense tale. Its most profound achievement, though, is something I never could’ve been told…American Dirt is the nov...

Jeanine Cummins is the author of three books: the novels The Outside Boy and The Crooked Branch and the bestselling memoir A Rip in Heaven. She lives in New York with her husband and
American Delirium

A Novel

Betina González; translated by Heather Cleary

From award-winning novelist Betina González, a dizzying, luminous English-language debut about an American town overrun by a mysterious hallucinogen and the collision of three unexpected characters...

First, in a small Midwestern city, the deer population starts attacking people. So Beryl, a feisty senior with a troubled past, decides to take matters into her own hands, training a squad of fellow retirees to hunt the animals down and reclaim their own vitality.

At the same time, a group of protesters decides to abandon the “system” and live in the woods, leaving their children and all responsibility behind. Berenice never thought her mother would join the “dropouts,” but she’s been gone for several days, and the only clue to what might have happened to her is hidden somewhere in her old scrapbook.

Vik, a taxidermist at the natural history museum and an immigrant from the Caribbean, is beginning to see the connections between the dropouts, the deer, and the discord. But he’s not about to act on his suspicions—he knows he would somehow be the one to go to jail. Each of these heartfelt and engrossing characters struggles to see their place in a society full of contradictions, but they ultimately rescue one another in surprising ways.

PRAISE

“An intense and moving novel where the suspense derives from a political gaze... the search for identity, and the preservation of a species that won’t save itself.”
—Radar Libros, Página12

“[American Delirium] makes us see again, achieving the historical calling of the novel: inventing fiction that forces us ultimately to stare at reality very closely.”—José Ovejero, Jot Down

Betina González is the bestselling author of several novels and short story collections, for which she has won several awards, including the prestigious Premio Tusquets. She earned her MFA in bilingual creative writing at the University of Texas at El Paso and her PhD from the University of Pittsburgh. She lives in Buenos Aires and teaches at the University of Buenos Aires and New York University Buenos Aires.

Heather Cleary translated César Rendueles’s Sociophobia and Sergio Chejfec’s The Planet...
Standoff
Race, Policing, and a Deadly Assault That Gripped a Nation
Jamie Thompson

Standoff is award-winning journalist Jamie Thompson’s gripping account of a deadly night in Dallas, told through the eyes of those at the center of the events, who offer a nuanced look at race an...

On the evening of July 7, 2016, protesters gathered in cities across the nation after police shot two Black men, Philando Castile and Alton Sterling. As officers patrolled a march in Dallas, a young man stepped out of an SUV wearing a bulletproof vest and carrying a high-powered rifle. He killed five officers and wounded eleven others.

It fell to a small group of cops to corner the shooter inside a community college, where a fierce gun battle was followed by a stalemate. The crisis negotiator Larry Gordon, a twenty-one-year department veteran, spent hours bonding with the gunman—over childhood ghosts and death and shared experiences of racial injustice in America—while his colleagues devised an unprecedented plan to bring the night to its dramatic end.

Thompson’s minute-by-minute account includes intimate portrayals of the negotiator, a surgeon who operated on the fallen officers, a mother of four shot down in the street, and the SWAT officers tasked with stopping the gunman. This is a deeply affecting story of real people navigating a terrifying crisis and a city’s attempts to heal its divisions.

PRAISE

“A fine and powerful narrative...As with any good book, Standoff brims with strong characters. One of the more compellingly drawn is Larry Gordon...It’s a profile so effectively rendered that it’s not hard to see, say, Denzel Washington playing Gordon in a movie version of Standoff.”
—The Dallas Morning News

“[A] ticktock, scene-driven account...eerily prescient.”
—The New York Times Book Review

"In Standoff, Jamie Thompson elegantly tells the story of one of the deadliest days in the history of American law enforcement. She deftly weaves dozens of individual stories into one, transforming her subjects fro...

Jamie Thompson covered the Dallas police shooting for the Washington Post. Her later account of that night for the Dallas Morning News won an Edward R. Murrow Award for excellence in writing. She has been a contributing editor for D Magazine and an associate professor of journalism at the University of Dallas. Her work also has appeared in Texas Monthly and the Tampa Bay
We Begin at the End

Chris Whitaker

There are two kinds of families: the ones we are born into and the ones we create.

Walk has never left the coastal California town where he grew up. He may have become the chief of police, but he’s still trying to heal the old wound of having given the testimony that sent his best friend, Vincent King, to prison decades before. Now, thirty years later, Vincent is being released.

Duchess is a thirteen-year-old self-proclaimed outlaw. Her mother, Star, grew up with Walk and Vincent. Walk is in overdrive trying to protect them, but Vincent and Star seem bent on sliding deeper into self-destruction. Star always burned bright, but recently that light has dimmed, leaving Duchess to parent not only her mother but her five-year-old brother. At school the other kids make fun of Duchess—her clothes are torn, her hair a mess. But let them throw their sticks, because she’ll throw stones. Rules are for other people. She’s just trying to survive and keep her family together.

A fortysomething-year-old sheriff and a thirteen-year-old girl may not seem to have a lot in common. But both have come to expect that people will disappoint you, loved ones will leave you, and if you open your heart it will be broken. So when trouble arrives with Vincent King, Walk and Duchess find they will be unable to do anything but usher it in, arms wide closed.

Chris Whitaker has written an extraordinary novel about people who deserve so much more than life serves th...

PRAISE

"We Begin at the End is a vibrant, engrossing, unputdownable thriller that packs a serious emotional punch. This is one of those rare books that surprise you along the way and then linger in your mind long after you have finished it. A powerful, compelling novel."
—Kristin Hannah, #1 New York Times bestselling author

“Two damaged children—one timid and sweet, the other foul-mouthed and furious—will break readers’ hearts in this well-plotted and perfectly-paced novel. If, like me, you love stories that kidnap your intended schedule because you can’t not keep turning the pages, then I wholeheartedly recommend Chris Whitaker’s We Begin at the End...."

Chris Whitaker lives in the United Kingdom with his wife and three young children. When not writing he works part-time at a local library, where he gets to surround himself with books. Follow Chris on Twitter @WhittyAuthor.
Stories from Suffragette City

Edited by M. J. Rose and Fiona Davis; introduction by Kristin Hannah

A collection of short stories from a chorus of bestselling writers all set on the same day, October 23, 1915, in which over a million women marched for the right to vote in New York City, with an...

Stories from Suffragette City is a collection of short stories from the leading voices in historical fiction that all take place on a single day: the day one million women marched for the right to vote in New York City in 1915. A day filled with a million different stories, and a million different voices longing to be heard. Taken together, these stories from writers at the top of their bestselling game become a chorus, stitching together a portrait of a country looking for a fight, and echo into a resounding force strong enough to break even the most stubborn of glass ceilings.

With stories from:
Lisa Wingate
M. J. Rose
Steve Berry
Paula McLain
Katherine J. Chen
Christina Baker Kline
Jamie Ford
Dolen Perkins-Valdez
Megan Chance
Alyson Richman
Chris Bohjalian
and Fiona Davis

M. J. Rose is the New York Times and USA Today bestselling author of more than eighteen novels, including The Book of Lost Fragrances and Cartier’s Hope. Among other awards, her last eleven novels have all appeared on the Indie Next List. The Fox TV series Past Lives was based on M. J.’s novel The Reincarnationist. Her books have been translated into more than thirty languages. She is also the founder of AuthorBuzz.com and the cofounder of 1001DarkNights.com and Blue Box Press.

Fiona Davis is...
Your Turn

How to Be an Adult

Julie Lythcott-Haims

New York Times bestselling author Julie Lythcott-Haims is back with a groundbreaking frank guide to being a grown-up.

What does it mean to be an adult? In the twentieth century, psychologists came up with five markers of adulthood: finish your education, get a job, leave home, marry, and have children. Since then, every generation has been held to those same markers. Yet so much has changed about the world and living in it since that sequence was formulated. All of those markers are choices, and they’re all valid, but any one person’s choices along those lines do not make them more or less an adult.

A former Stanford dean of freshman and undergraduate advising and author of the perennial bestseller How to Raise an Adult and the lauded memoir Real American, Julie Lythcott-Haims has encountered hundreds of twentysomethings (and thirtysomethings, too), who, faced with those markers, feel they’re just playing the part of “adult,” while struggling with anxiety, stress, and general unease. In Your Turn, Julie offers compassion, personal experience, and practical strategies for living a more authentic adulthood, as well as inspiration through interviews with dozens of voices from the rich diversity of the human population who have successfully launched their adult lives.

Being an adult, it turns out, is not about any particular checklist; it is instead a process, one you can get progressively better at over time, becoming more comfortable with uncertainty and gaining the knowhow to keep going. Once you begin to practice it, being an adult becomes the ...
Broken (in the best possible way)

Jenny Lawson

From #1 New York Times bestselling author Jenny Lawson comes her most personal book yet.

As Jenny Lawson’s hundreds of thousands of fans know, she suffers from depression. In Broken, she explores her experimental treatment of transcranial magnetic stimulation with brutal honesty. But also with brutal humor. Jenny discusses the frustration of dealing with her insurance company in “An Open Letter to My Insurance Company,” which should be an anthem for anyone who has ever had to call their insurance company to try and get a claim covered. She tackles such timelessly debated questions as “How do dogs know they have penises?” We see how her vacuum cleaner almost set her house on fire, how she was attacked by three bears, business ideas she wants to pitch to Shark Tank, and why she can never go back to the post office. Of course, Jenny’s long-suffering husband Victor—the Ricky to Jenny’s Lucille Ball—is present throughout.

A treat for Jenny Lawson’s already existing fans, and destined to convert new ones, Broken is a beacon of hope and a wellspring of laughter.

Includes photographs and illustrations

PRAISE

Praise for Broken (in the best possible way)

“I consider Jenny Lawson to be a therapist colleague—not because she’s a fellow clinician, but because in courageously sharing the truth of her story, she makes us feel instantly seen and fully understood in all of our alternately painful and hilarious humanity.”
—Lori Gottlieb, New York Times bestselling author of Maybe You Should Talk To Someone

Jenny Lawson is an award-winning humorist known for her great candor in sharing her struggle with mental illness. She lives in Texas with her husband and daughter and was constantly “buying too many books” (“Not a real thing,” she insists), so she decided to skip the middle-man and just started her own bookshop, which also serves booze because books and booze are what magic is made of. She has previously written Let’s Pretend This Never Happened and Furiously Happy, both of which were #1 New Yor...
The Folly and the Glory
America, Russia, and Political Warfare 1945–2020
Tim Weiner

From Pulitzer Prize and National Book Award winner Tim Weiner, a gripping, deeply contextual look at the development of political warfare between the United States and Russia from the Stalin era ...

With vivid storytelling and access to insider accounts, Weiner sets out to trace the roots of Russian-American political warfare—conflict waged without weapons—over the last seven decades to understand how a president landed in the White House with the help of an expansive, covert Russian campaign. Russia’s modern revival of Soviet-era intelligence operations constitutes one of the most significant threats to democracy in the United States and around the world, and yet the US has not engaged its own political warfare methods in defense, even as our own justice department has concluded unequivocally that Russia influenced the 2016 election.

To get to the heart of what’s at stake and find potential solutions, Weiner examines long-running twentieth-century CIA operations, political machinations by the Soviet KGB around the world, the erosion of American political warfare after the Cold War, and why twenty-first century Russia has returned to the practice while the US has not. Weiner takes us behind closed doors and into the deliberation rooms of past and present Russian and American intelligence operations that directly led to—and help illuminate—the current administration and the future of American democracy.

PRAISE
A Kirkus Reviews Best Nonfiction Book of 2020

“The Folly and the Glory is a riveting spy thriller made all the more chilling because thanks to Tim Weiner's meticulous reporting, it is all true. Anyone trying to understand the current tensions between the U.S. and Russia over election interference and much else needs to read this fascinating history.”

“A well-written and provocative journey to this era’s perilous fight...And Weiner is especially adept at unearthing and explaining the covert side of it all....as a summation, The Folly and the...”

Tim Weiner has won the Pulitzer Prize and the National Book Award for his reporting and writing on national security and intelligence. He covered the CIA, the war in Afghanistan, and crises and conflicts in fourteen nations for the New York Times. Weiner has taught history and writing at Princeton and Columbia. The Folly and the Glory is his sixth book.
The New Breed
What Our History with Animals Reveals about Our Future with Robots

Kate Darling

The MIT Media Lab researcher and robot ethicist offers an optimistic look at our future with robots based on our historical relationships with animals.

People name their robot vacuum cleaners and feel bad for them when they get stuck. Participants in workshops refuse to strike baby dinosaur robots. Soldiers have been reported to risk their lives to save the robots they work with. Broken robot dogs get funerals.

The New Breed chronicles the past, present, and future of our relationships to animals to create a compelling vision of what our robotic future could look like. Darling argues that if we harness technology like we’ve harnessed animals in the past, we will start to see massive potential for new kinds of practices, achievements, and even relationships with machines—for the benefit of individuals and society at large.

As consumer robotics investment booms and human-robot interaction increasingly enters into workplaces and households all over the world, much space has been devoted to talking about robots as replacements for humans. The New Breed looks at our rich legal and cultural history of using animals for weaponry, work, and companionship to considers how people and machines will work together.

PRAISE

“Well-researched, well-developed, and well-written, Darling’s innovative proposal—to use our history of human-animal interactions as a blueprint for the future of human-robot interactions—is a must read for anyone interested in the emerging ethics of robotics. The New Breed raises serious questions and provides some intriguing answers.”
—Irene M. Pepperberg, PhD; Associate Professor at Harvard and author of the New York Times bestseller Alex & Me

"In this extraordinary and wide-ranging book, Kate Darling fundamentally reframes how we should understand these new forces within our life. From their effect upon the nature of work, to their critical...

Dr. Kate Darling is a leading expert in robot ethics and policy. She’s a researcher at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology Media Lab, a former fellow at the Harvard Berkman Klein Center for Internet & Society, and the Yale Information Society Project. Darling’s work has been featured by the New Yorker, the Guardian, PBS, the Boston Globe, Wired, Slate, NPR, and more.
Rouge Street

Three Novellas

Shuang Xuetao; translated by Jeremy Tiang

Already compared to Hemingway and Murakami, Shuang Xuetao is one of the most highly celebrated young Chinese writers—his English-language debut collects three dazzling novellas of Northeast China...

An enterprising inventor dreams of escaping his drab surroundings in a flying machine. A criminal, trapped beneath a frozen lake, transforms into a giant fish. A strange girl pledges to ignite a field of sorghum stalks.

Rouge Street collects three novellas by Shuang Xuetao, the lauded young Chinese writer whose frank, fantastical short fiction has already inspired comparisons to Ernest Hemingway and Haruki Murakami. Located in China’s frigid Northeast, Shenyang, the author’s birthplace, boasts an illustrious past—legend holds that the emperor’s makeup was manufactured here. But while the city enjoyed renewed importance as an industrial hub under Mao Zedong, China’s subsequent transition from communism to a private economy led to an array of social ills—unemployment, poverty, alcoholism, domestic violence, divorce, suicide—which gritty Shenyang epitomizes.

Orbiting the toughest neighborhood of a postindustrial city whose vast, inhospitable landscape makes every aspect of life a struggle, these many-voiced missives are united by Shuang Xuetao’s singular style—one which balances hardscrabble naturalism with the transcendent, and faces the bleak environs with winning humor. Lyrical, masterful, Rouge Street illuminates not only the hidden pains of those left behind in an extraordinary economic boom, but also the unlikely, nourishing grace they, nevertheless, manage to discover.

PRAISE

Praise for Shuang Xuetao

“What draws me to Shuang Xuetao’s work is his superlative language. He favors short, playful sentences that contain a great deal of muscularity. His narratives unfold at a leisurely pace and have a down-to-earth quality, yet they remain powerful. This adds up to a singular mode of storytelling.”

—Mo Yan, author of Red Sorghum

“We unanimously gave an exclamation for the author’s adventurous spirit, thanking him for creating a literary magnetic field that offers us a new method to spin.”

—Su Tong, author of Raise the Red Lantern

"Shuang Xuetao's meteoric rise in the last few years is a testament to the power of his reali...
Worm

A Cuban American Odyssey

Edel Rodriguez

From “American’s illustrator in chief” (Fast Company), a stunning graphic memoir of a childhood in Cuba, coming to America on the Mariel Boatlift, and a defense of democracy, here and there

Hailed for his iconic art on the cover of Time and on jumbotrons around the world, Edel Rodriguez is among the most prominent political artists of our age. Now for the first time, he draws his own life, revisiting his childhood in Cuba and his family’s passage on the infamous Mariel Boatlift.

When Edel was nine, Fidel Castro announced his surprising decision to let 125,000 traitors of the revolution, or “worms,” leave the country. The faltering economy and his family’s vocal discomfort with government surveillance had made their daily lives on a farm outside Havana precarious, and they secretly planned to leave. But before that happened, a dozen soldiers confiscated their home and property and imprisoned them in a detention center near the port of Mariel, where they were held with dissidents and criminals before being marched to a flotilla that miraculously deposited them, overnight, in Florida.

Through vivid, stirring art, Worm tells a story of a boyhood in the midst of the Cold War, of a family’s displacement in exile, and of their tenacious longing for those they left behind. It also recounts the coming of age of an artist and activist, who, witnessing America’s turn from democracy to extremism, struggles to differentiate his adoptive country from the dictatorship he fled. Confronting questions of patriotism and the liminal nature...

PRAISE

Praise for Edel Rodriguez

“Explosive. . . . Rodriguez has weaponized the magazine cover not just as content, but as context as well, playing a nuanced subversive role. . . . Rodriguez takes the role of the image further, establishing it as a catalyst that mobilizes the otherwise hesitant.”

—NBC

“Rodriguez, a Cuban immigrant with an uncanny gift for satire, is America’s illustrator in chief.”

—Fast Company

Edel Rodriguez is a Cuban American artist who has exhibited internationally with shows in New York, Los Angeles, Havana, Berlin, La Paz, Cape Town, Prague and London. A regular contributor to the New Yorker, the New York Times, and Time magazine, he has created over 200 magazine and book covers and illustrated ten children’s books, including Sonia Sotomayor: A Judge Grows in the Bronx, and is the author of Sergio Jumps and Sergio Saves the Game. Rodriguez’s artwork is...
A Peculiar Indifference

The Neglected Toll of Violence on Black America

Elliott Currie


“A smart, timely, deeply disturbing and essential book by a veteran scholar and leading expert on the criminal legal system. . . .

About 170,000 Black Americans have died in homicides just since the year 2000. Violence takes more years of life from Black men than cancer, stroke, and diabetes combined; a young Black man in the United States has a fifteen times greater chance of dying from violence than his white counterpart. Even Black women suffer violent death at a higher rate than white men, despite homicide’s usual gender patterns. Yet while the country has been rightly outraged by the recent spate of police killings of Black Americans, the shocking amount of “everyday” violence that plagues African American communities receives far less attention, and has nearly disappeared as a target of public policy.

As the acclaimed criminologist Elliott Currie makes clear, this pervasive violence is a direct result of the continuing social and economic marginalization of many Black communities in America. Those conditions help perpetuate a level of preventable trauma and needless suffering that has no counterpart anywhere in the developed world. Compelling and accessible, drawing on a rich array of both classic and contemporary research, A Peculiar Indifference describes the dimensions and consequences of this enduring emergency, explains its causes, and offers an urgent plea for long-overdue social action to end it.

PRAISE

“A damning examination of violence in Black America and a call for intervention that is long overdue . . . Meticulously researched and densely packed with stats and studies, Currie’s book paints a heartbreaking picture, but it also makes an urgent case for bold measures to turn the tide in Black communities.” —Kirkus Reviews (starred review)

“Jaw-dropping . . . The most powerful takeaway from A Peculiar Indifference is that to prove once and for all that Black lives matter, Americans must stop ignoring the violence devastating Black communities.” —The Progressive

Elliott Currie is the author of Crime and Punishment in America, which was a finalist for the Pulitzer Prize, and numerous other acclaimed works on crime and criminal justice. He is a professor of criminology, law, and society at the University of California, Irvine.
Soul City
Race, Equality, and the Lost Dream of an American Utopia

Thomas Healy

“One of the greatest least-told stories in American history. . . .
Healy does an excellent job recounting the details.”
—The New York Times Book Review

In 1969, with America’s inner cities in turmoil and racial tensions high, civil rights leader Floyd McKissick announced an audacious plan: he would build a new city in rural North Carolina, open to all races but intended primarily to benefit Black people. The idea attracted planning help from places like Harvard and MIT, interest from companies such as GM, and a loan guarantee from the federal government worth $86 million today. Soon, the brand-new community had roads, houses, a health care center, and an industrial plant. By the year 2000, projections said, Soul City would have 50,000 residents.

But the utopian vision was not to be. The virulently racist Jesse Helms, newly elected as senator from North Carolina, swore to block any further government spending on the project. At the same time, the liberal Raleigh News & Observer, on the lookout for government malfeasance, ran a series of articles mistakenly claiming fraud and corruption in the construction effort. Battered from the left and the right, Soul City went bankrupt in 1979. Today, it is a ghost town—and its industrial plant, erected to promote Black economic freedom, has been converted into a prison.

In a brilliantly vivid, gripping narrative, acclaimed author Thomas Healy resurrects this forgotten saga of race, capitalism, and the struggle for equality. Was it an impossible, misbegotten dream from the beginning? Or a brilliant idea thwarted by prejudice and bad timing?...

PRAISE

“The Soul City project was a fascinating one, and Healy does a wonderful job explaining how and why it ultimately failed. The book is meticulously researched, and Healy expertly provides ample context; he paints an excellent, and accurate, picture of America in the 1970s, a country still in denial about the racism that was poisoning the nation to its core. He also manages to craft a deft, readable narrative out of the ups and downs of the project.”
—NPR

“Deeply moving... The tale of Soul City stands as a powerful – particular, vivid, and easily grasped – rebuke to narratives that deny the effects of structural racism.”
—The New Republic

Thomas Healy is the author of The Great Dissent, which won the Robert F. Kennedy Book Award and the Hugh M. Hefner Free Speech Award. He is a professor of law at Seton Hall Law School, and was awarded the Guggenheim Fellowship in support of his work on Soul City. A native of North Carolina, he lives in New York City.
The Passenger

A Novel

Ulrich Alexander Boschwitz; translated by Philip Boehm; preface by André Aciman

A SUNDAY TIMES BESTSELLER

“A jewel of a rediscovery . . . . A riveting, noirish, intensely filmic portrait of an ambivalent fugitive, cornered but not captured, safest when in motion, at greatest . . .

Berlin, November 1938. Jewish shops have been ransacked and looted, synagogues destroyed. As storm troopers pound on his door, Otto Silbermann, a respected businessman, is forced to sneak out the back of his own home. Turned away from establishments he had long patronized, and fearful of being exposed as a Jew despite his Aryan looks, he boards a train. And then another. And another . . . until his flight becomes a frantic odyssey across Germany, as he searches first for information, then for help, and finally for escape. Taut, immediate, infused with acerbic Kafkaesque humor, The Passenger is an indelible portrait of a man and a society careening out of control.

Twenty-three-year-old Ulrich Boschwitz wrote The Passenger at breakneck speed in 1938, fresh in the wake of the Kristallnacht pogroms, and his prose flies at the same pace. Long considered lost, the original manuscript was only recently discovered in the German archives and has now been published throughout the world and universally hailed as a masterpiece.

PRAISE

“Uncannily prescient. . . . The Passenger plunges the reader into the gloom of Nazi Germany as the darkness was descending. It deserved to be read when it was written. It certainly deserves to be read now.”

—The Guardian

“Powerful. . . . A prophetic and chilling portrait of the terror of life under the Nazi regime . . . Compared to masterpieces by Franz Kafka and Hans Fallada.”

—The Telegraph

“A highly accomplished work, filled with vivid characterisation, sharp dialogue and intensely observed scenes . . . A fitting memorial to a writer of great insight and talent—and an important historical work that vividly recreates the terror experienced by J..."

Ulrich Alexander Boschwitz was born in Berlin in 1915. He left Germany in 1935 for Oslo, Norway, studied at the Sorbonne in Paris, and wrote two novels, including The Passenger. Boschwitz eventually settled in England in 1939, although he was interned as a German “enemy alien” after war broke out—despite his Jewish background—and subsequently shipped to Australia. In 1942, Boschwitz was allowed to return to England, but his ship was torpedoed by a German submarine and he was killed along with 36
The Death of the Artist
How Creators Are Struggling to Survive in the Age of Billionaires and Big Tech
William Deresiewicz

A deeply researched warning about how the digital economy threatens artists' lives and work—the music, writing, and visual art that sustain our souls and societies—from an award-winning essayist ...

There are two stories you hear about earning a living as an artist in the digital age. One comes from Silicon Valley. There's never been a better time to be an artist, it goes. If you've got a laptop, you've got a recording studio. If you've got an iPhone, you've got a movie camera. And if production is cheap, distribution is free: it's called the Internet. Everyone's an artist; just tap your creativity and put your stuff out there.

The other comes from artists themselves. Sure, it goes, you can put your stuff out there, but who's going to pay you for it? Everyone is not an artist. Making art takes years of dedication, and that requires a means of support. If things don't change, a lot of art will cease to be sustainable.

So which account is true? Since people are still making a living as artists today, how are they managing to do it? William Deresiewicz, a leading critic of the arts and of contemporary culture, set out to answer those questions. Based on interviews with artists of all kinds, The Death of the Artist argues that we are in the midst of an epochal transformation. If artists were artisans in the Renaissance, bohemians in the nineteenth century, and professionals in the twentieth, a new paradigm is emerging in the digital age, one that is changing our fundamental ideas about the nature of art and the role of the artist in society.

PRAISE

"Deresiewicz astutely examines the state of the arts in contemporary culture . . . [painting] a vivid picture of the challenges involved in making art, finding an audience, and being self-supporting as an artist. . . . A savvy assessment of how artists can, and should, function in the marketplace."
—Kirkus Reviews

"The Death of the Artist by William Deresiewicz pulls off an extraordinary trick. It's a brilliant analysis of the state of art—one that doesn't shy away from the truth about how hard it can be to make a life from one's artistry. But it also shines a light through the darkness to show how musicians, authors, illustrators, and more ..."

William Deresiewicz is an award-winning essayist and critic, frequent college speaker, and former professor at Yale University. His writing has appeared in the Atlantic, the New York Times, Harper's, The Nation, The New Republic, The American Scholar, and more. He is the recipient of a National Book Critics Circle award for excellence in reviewing and the New York Times bestselling author of Excellent Sheep and A Jane Austen Education.
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