Lila
A Novel

Marilynne Robinson

A new American classic from the Pulitzer Prize–winning author of Gilead and Housekeeping

Marilynne Robinson, one of the greatest novelists of our time, returns to the town of Gilead in an unforgettable story of a girlhood lived on the fringes of society in fear, awe, and wonder.

Lila, homeless and alone after years of roaming the countryside, steps inside a small-town Iowa church—the only available shelter from the rain—and ignites a romance and a debate that will reshape her life. She becomes the wife of a minister, John Ames, and begins a new existence while trying to make sense of the days of suffering that preceded her newfound security.

Neglected as a toddler, Lila was rescued by Doll, a canny young drifter, and brought up by her in a hardscrabble childhood. Together they crafted a life on the run, living hand to mouth with nothing but their sisterly bond and a ragged blade to protect them. Despite bouts of petty violence and moments of desperation, their shared life was laced with moments of joy and love. When Lila arrives in Gilead, she struggles to reconcile the life of her makeshift family and their days of hardship with the gentle Christian worldview of her husband which paradoxically judges those she loves.

Revisiting the beloved characters and setting of Robinson’s Pulitzer Prize–winning Gilead and Home, a National Book Award finalist, Lila is a moving expression of the mysteries of existence that is destined to become an American classic.

Marilynne Robinson is the author of the novels Home, Gilead (winner of the Pulitzer Prize), and Housekeeping, and four books of nonfiction, When I Was a Child I Read Books, Mother Country, The Death of Adam, and Absence of Mind. She teaches at the University of Iowa Writers’ Workshop.

PRAISE

Praise for Home and Gilead


“Marilynne Robinson is so powerful a writer that she can reshape how we read.” —Mark Ath...
Faithful and Virtuous Night
Poems

Louise Glück

A luminous, seductive new collection from the “fearless” (The New York Times) Pulitzer Prize–winning poet

Louise Glück is one of the finest American poets at work today. Her Poems 1962–2012 was hailed as “a major event in this country’s literature” in the pages of The New York Times. Every new collection is at once a deepening and a revelation. Faithful and Virtuous Night is no exception.

You enter the world of this spellbinding book through one of its many dreamlike portals, and each time you enter it’s the same place but it has been arranged differently. You were a woman. You were a man. This is a story of adventure, an encounter with the unknown, a knight’s undaunted journey into the kingdom of death; this is a story of the world you’ve always known, that first primer where “on page three a dog appeared, on page five a ball” and every familiar facet has been made to shimmer like the contours of a dream, “the dog float[ing] into the sky to join the ball.” Faithful and Virtuous Night tells a single story but the parts are mutable, the great sweep of its narrative mysterious and fateful, heartbreaking and charged with wonder.

Louise Glück is the author of eleven books of poems and a collection of essays. Her many awards include the Pulitzer Prize, the National Book Critics Circle Award, the Bollingen Prize for Poetry, and the Wallace Stevens Award from the Academy of American Poets. She teaches at Yale University and lives in Cambridge, Massachusetts.

PRAISE

Praise for Poems 1962–2012

“Ms. Glück’s new and career-spanning Poems 1962–2012 is a major event in this country’s literature, perhaps this year’s most major . . . Put together, these compact volumes have a great novel’s cohesiveness and raking moral intensity. They display a supple and prosecutorial mind interrogating not merely her own ...
The Emerald Light in the Air
Stories

Donald Antrim

A masterful story collection—heartbreaking and hilarious—from one of America’s greatest writers

Nothing is simple for the men and women in Donald Antrim’s stories. As they do the things we all do—burn a cigarette at a party, stroll with a girlfriend down Madison Avenue, take a kid to the zoo—they’re confronted with their own uncooperative selves. These artists, writers, lawyers, teachers, and actors make fools of themselves, spiral out of control, have delusions of grandeur, despair, and find it hard to imagine a future. They talk, they listen, they hope, they dream. They look for communion in a city, both beautiful and menacing, which can promise so much and yield so little. But they are hungry for life. They want to love and be loved.

These stories, all published in The New Yorker over the last fifteen years, make it clear that Antrim is one of America’s most important writers. His work has been praised by his significant contemporaries, including Jonathan Franzen, Thomas Pynchon, Jeffrey Eugenides, and George Saunders, who described The Verificationist as “one of the most pleasure-giving, funny, perverse, complicated, addictive novels of the last twenty years.” And here, at last, is the story collection we have been waiting for, The Emerald Light in the Air, Antrim’s best book yet.

Donald Antrim is the author of Elect Mr. Robinson for a Better World, The Hundred Brothers, The Verificationist, and The Afterlife. He is a regular contributor to The New Yorker and has received fellowships from the National Endowment for the Arts, the John Simon Guggenheim Memorial Foundation, and the Dorothy and Lewis B. Cullman Center for Scholars and Writers at the New York Public Library. He is a 2013 MacArthur Fellow. He lives in New York City.

PRAISE

Praise for The Verificationist

“Not since the late Donald Barthelme have we had such a pitch-perfect surrealizing of domestic American life.” —Esquire

“Edgy, fantastical, absurdist, Dionysian, visionary.” —Newsday

“A superb literary achievement.” —Entertainment Weekly
Once in the West
Poems

Christian Wiman

A searing new collection from one of our country’s most important poets

Typically cryptic, God said three weasels
slipping electric over the rocks
one current conducting them up the tree
by the river in the woods of the country
into which I walked
away and away and away
—from “Witness”

Once in the West, Christian Wiman’s fourth collection of poetry, is as intense and intimate as poetry gets—from the “suffering of primal silence” that it plumbs to the “rockshriek of joy” that it achieves and enables. Readers of Wiman’s earlier books will recognize the sharp characterization and humor—“From her I learned the earthworm’s exemplary open-mindedness, / its engine of discriminate shit”—as well as his particular brand of reverent rage: “Lord if I implore you please just please leave me alone / is that a prayer that’s every instant answered?” But there is something new here, too: moving love poems to Wiman’s wife, tender glimpses of the poet’s children, and, amid the onslaughts of illness and fear and failures, “a trace / of peace.”

Christian Wiman is the author of seven previous books, including a memoir, My Bright Abyss: Meditation of a Modern Believer (FSG, 2013); Every Riven Thing (FSG, 2010), winner of the Ambassador Book Award in poetry; and Stolen Air: Selected Poems of Osip Mandelstam. From 2003 to 2013, he was the editor of Poetry magazine. He currently teaches religion and literature at the Yale Institute of Sacred Music and lives in Connecticut.

PRAISE

Praise for Christian Wiman

“[Wiman’s] poetry and his scholarship have a purifying urgency that is rare in this world. This puts him at the very source of theology, and enables him to say new things in timeless language, so that the reader’s surprise and assent are one and the same.” —Marilynne Robinson, author of Gilead
On September 20, 1940, one of the most famous European art dealers disembarked in New York, one of hundreds of Jewish refugees fleeing Vichy France. Leaving behind his beloved Paris gallery, Paul Rosenberg had managed to save his family, but his paintings—modern masterpieces by Cézanne, Monet, Sisley, and others—were not so fortunate. As he fled, dozens of works were seized by Nazi forces and the art dealer’s own legacy was eradicated.

More than half a century later, Anne Sinclair uncovered a box filled with letters. “Curious in spite of myself,” she writes, “I plunged into these archives, in search of the story of my family. To find out who my mother’s father really was . . . a man hailed as a pioneer in the world of modern art, who then became a pariah in his own country during the Second World War. I was overcome with a desire to fit together the pieces of this French story of art and war.”

Drawing on her grandfather’s intimate correspondence with Picasso, Matisse, Braque, and others, Sinclair takes us on a personal journey through the life of a legendary member of the Parisian art scene. Rosenberg’s story is emblematic of millions of Jews, rich and poor, whose lives were indelibly altered by World War II. Sinclair’s journey to reclaim her family history paints a picture of modern art on both sides of the Atlantic between the 1920s and 1950s that reframes twentieth-century art history.

Anne Sinclair is Paul Rosenberg’s granddaughter and France’s best-known journalist. For thirteen years she was the host of 7 sur 7, a weekly news and politics television series that had some of the highest ratings in France. While there she interviewed all the major global figures of the day, including Bill Clinton, Mikhail Gorbachev, and Madonna. The director of French Huffington Post, Sinclair has written two bestselling books on politics. Until 2012 she was married to Dominique Strauss-Khan.
De Potter's Grand Tour
A Novel

Joanna Scott

A gripping novel about a seemingly charmed marriage and a mysterious disappearance at sea

In 1905, a tourist agent and amateur antiques collector named Armand de Potter mysteriously disappeared off the coast of Greece. His body is never recovered and his wife is left to manage his affairs on her own. But as she starts to piece together his life, she realizes that everything was not as he had said. Infused with details from letters and diary entries, the narrative twists forward and backward through time, revealing a lost world of fake identities, underground antiques networks, and a husband who wasn't what he seemed.

Originally from Belgium, young Armand de Potter comes to New York without a penny in his pocket. With cunning ambition, he quickly makes a name for himself as both a worldwide travel guide and a trusted—if illegal—antiques dealer. After marrying, he moves the family to a luxurious villa in Cannes and embraces an aristocratic life. But as he grows increasingly entangled in the antiques trade and his touring business begins to falter, Armand's control starts to fray. As the world closes in, he believes he only has one option left.

Told with masterful narrative agility, De Potter's Grand Tour is a tale as grand as the tour guide at its center. Drawing on real letters, legal documents, and a trove of diaries only recently discovered, Joanna Scott points delicately toward the story's historical basis and unfolds a detective tale of the highest order.

Joanna Scott is the author of ten books, including The Manikin, which was a finalist for the Pulitzer Prize; Various Antidotes and Arrogance, which were both finalists for the PEN/Faulkner Award; and the critically acclaimed Make Believe, Tourmaline, Liberation, and Follow Me. She is a recipient of a MacArthur Fellowship, a Guggenheim Fellowship, and a Lannan Award.

PRAISE

Praise for Joanna Scott

“Scott’s prose is sensitive and beautifully crafted . . . Her characters are both eminently human and touched with magic and mystery.” —The Washington Post Book World

“The wit, the magical prose and the daring devices of Scott’s writing create an enchantment.” —The Nation
Father and Son
A Lifetime

Marcos Giralt Torrente;
Translated from the Spanish
by Natasha Wimmer

In a startling English-language debut, one of Spain’s foremost writers asks: How can you write about those who mean the most to you?

Many authors have wrestled with the death of a father in their writing, but few have grappled so fiercely or as powerfully as the brilliant Spanish writer Marcos Giralt Torrente does in Father and Son, the mesmerizing and discomfiting memoir that won him Spain’s highest literary award, the National Book Award. Giralt Torrente is best known for his fiction—which has only recently begun to appear in translation in the United States—but it is in this often savage memoir that his full gifts explode.

When his father is diagnosed with cancer, the author is struck by the blunt force of it all. Father and Son weaves in history and personal narrative to attempt to do justice to a relationship that the author finds difficult to reflect upon—but one that he can’t escape. In the end, the reader is left with an account that is neither homage nor reckoning, but instead an indelible dual portrait of a father and his son.

When McSweeney’s published The End of Love, the reviewer for Booklist wrote: “Torrente propels characters through time, jumping hours, weeks, and years (covering, at one point, decades in a single clause), building tension with Roberto Bolaño–like accumulation of plot . . . This is Torrente’s first book to appear in English. With luck, the first of many.”

Father and Son is an uncommonly gripping memoir by an uncommonly talented international writer.

Marcos Giralt Torrente was born in Madrid in 1968 and is the author of three novels, a novella, and a book of short stories. He was a writer in residence at the Spanish Academy in Rome and at the University of Aberdeen, and was part of the Berlin Artists-in-Residence Programme in 2002–2003. He is the recipient of several distinguished awards, including the Spanish National Book Award in 2011. His works have been translated into French, German, Greek, Italian, Korean, and Portuguese. Natasha Wimmer is a translator who has worked on Roberto Bolaño’s 2666, for which she was awarded the PEN Translation prize in 2009, and The Savage Detectives. She lives in New York.

PRAISE

Praise for The End of Love
A moving but unsentimental examination of one woman's life as she navigates life after war

It's Christmas Eve and twenty-seven-year-old Manuela Paris is returning home to a seaside town outside Rome. Years ago, she left to become a soldier. Then, Manuela was fleeing an unhappy, rebellious adolescence; with anger, determination, and sacrifice she painstakingly built the life she dreamed of as a platoon commander in the Afghan desert.

Now, she’s fleeing something else entirely: the memory of a bloody attack that left her seriously injured. Her wounds have plunged her into a very different and no less insidious war: against flashbacks, disillusionment, pain, and victimhood.

Numb and adrift, she is startled to life by an encounter with a mysterious stranger, a man without a past who is, like her, suspended in his own private limbo of expectation and hope. Their relationship—confusing, invigorating—forces her to confront her past and the secrets she, and those closest to her, are hiding.

In chapters that toggle between Manuela at home, grappling with her new life, and Manuela in Afghanistan, coming to terms with her role as a leader of fighting men and a peacemaker in a country that doesn’t seem to want her help, Melania G. Mazzucco limns a story of love and loss, death and resistance in terms both surprising and cathartic. Limbo asks its readers, no less than its protagonist, what it means to be a daughter, a sister, a woman, a citizen, a soldier—or, more simply, a human.

Melania G. Mazzucco has written eleven novels, including Vita (FSG, 2005), which was awarded the prestigious Strega Prize and named a New York Times Book Review Editors’ Choice. Her many honors include the Viareggio Tobino Literary Award in 2011 (as writer of the year) and the Premio Ignazio Silone 2013. She lives in Rome, Italy. Virginia Jewiss received her PhD in Italian literature from Yale University and taught at Dartmouth College before moving to Italy. Her translations into Italian of works by Groucho Marx, Lawrence Ferlinghetti, Johnston McCulley, and Edgar Rice Burroughs have been published by Mondadori. Her English translation of Melania Mazzucco’s novel Vita was published by FSG in 2005.
Deep Down Dark
The Untold Stories of 33 Men Buried in a Chilean Mine, and the Miracle That Set Them Free

Héctor Tobar

The exclusive, official story of the survival, faith, and family of Chile’s thirty-three trapped miners

When the San José mine collapsed outside of Copiapó, Chile, in August 2010, it trapped thirty-three miners beneath thousands of feet of rock for a record-breaking sixty-nine days. Across the globe, we sat riveted to television and computer screens as journalists flocked to the Atacama desert. While we saw what transpired above ground during the grueling and protracted rescue, the story of the miners’ experiences below the earth’s surface—and the lives that led them there—hasn’t been heard until now.

In Deep Down Dark, a master work by a Pulitzer Prize–winning journalist, Héctor Tobar gains exclusive access to the miners and their stories. The result is a miraculous and emotionally textured account of the thirty-three men who came to think of the San José mine as a kind of coffin, as a “cave” inflicting constant and thundering aural torment, and as a church where they sought redemption through prayer while the world watched from above. It offers an understanding of the families and personal histories that brought “los 33” to the mine, and the mystical and spiritual elements that surrounded working in such a dangerous place.

Héctor Tobar is a Pulitzer Prize–winning journalist and a novelist. He is the author of The Barbarian Nurseries, Translation Nation, and The Tattooed Soldier. The son of Guatemalan immigrants, he is a native of Los Angeles, where he lives with his wife and three children.

Praise

Praise for The Barbarian Nurseries

“A book of extraordinary scope and extraordinary power.” —Los Angeles Times

“Timely and timeless . . . Tobar continually creates moments of uncommon magic.” —Elle
Wolf in White Van
A Novel

John Darnielle

“Quiet, mysterious, menacing, taking you places you will never, never get out of your head.” —Daniel Handler

Welcome to Trace Italian, a game of strategy and survival! You may now make your first move.

Isolated by a disfiguring injury since the age of seventeen, Sean Phillips crafts imaginary worlds for strangers to play in. From his small apartment in southern California, he orchestrates fantastic adventures where possibilities, both dark and bright, open in the boundaries between the real and the imagined. As the creator of “Trace Italian”—a text-based, role-playing game played through the mail—Sean guides players from around the world through his intricately imagined terrain, which they navigate and explore, turn by turn, seeking sanctuary in a ravaged, savage future America.

Lance and Carrie are high school students from Florida, and are explorers of the Trace. But when they take their play into the real world, disaster strikes, and Sean is called on to account for it. In the process, he is pulled back through time, tracing back toward the moment of his own self-inflicted departure from the world in which most people live.

Brilliantly constructed, Wolf in White Van unfolds backward in time until we arrive at both the beginning and the climax: the event that has shaped so much of Sean’s life. Beautifully written and unexpectedly moving, John Darnielle’s audacious and gripping debut novel is a marvel of storytelling brio and genuine literary delicacy.

John Darnielle is a writer, composer, guitarist, and vocalist for the band the Mountain Goats; he is widely considered one of the best lyricists of his generation. He lives in Durham, North Carolina, with his wife and son.
Bad Paper
Chasing Debt from Wall Street to the Underworld

Jake Halpern

A trip to the underworld of debt collection, where bankers team up with ex-burglars and few rules apply

Bad Paper is a riveting exposé, a moving story of an unlikely friendship, and a gritty narrative of how scrappy entrepreneurs profit from our debts. Jake Halpern introduces us to a former banking executive and a former armed robber who become partners and go in quest of “paper”—the uncollected debts that are sold off by banks for pennies on the dollar. As Halpern shows, the world of consumer debt collection is a wild and unregulated shadowland, where operators may misrepresent a debtor’s situation, make illegal threats, and even lay claim to debts that are not theirs to collect in the first place. It is a realm of indelible individuals who possess a swagger and vocabulary that even David Mamet could not invent. Halpern follows his collectors as they intimidate competitors with weapons, manage high-pressure call centers, and scheme new ways to benefit from American’s debt-industrial complex. He also explores the history of collection agencies and reveals the human cost of a system that leaves hardworking Americans with little opportunity to retire their debts in a reasonable way. The result is a bravura work of storytelling that is also an important consciousness-raiser.

Jake Halpern is a frequent contributor to The New Yorker and The New York Times Magazine, and is the author of previous works of journalism and a young adult novel. His New Yorker story on consumer debt collection is being developed into a dramatic series by Brad Pitt’s production company, Plan B. Jake is a fellow of Morse College at Yale University. His hour-long radio story “Switched at Birth” is one of the NPR program This American Life’s seven most popular shows.

PRAISE

Praise for Braving Home

“The old homily ‘there is no place like home’ has never been more poignantly and wittily revealed than by Jake Halpern in these lovely vignettes.” —Studs Terkel

“Strangely fascinating and endearing . . . In short, it’s terrific.” —Bill Bryson

“Not for a long time have I read a book so good and so wise.” —Robert Stone...
Limonov
The Outrageous Adventures of the Radical Soviet Poet Who Became a Bum in New York, a Sensation in France, and a Political Antihero in Russia

Emmanuel Carrère; Translated from the French by John Lambert

A thrilling page-turner that also happens to be the biography of one of Russia’s most controversial figures

This is how Emmanuel Carrère, the magnetic journalist, novelist, filmmaker, chameleon, describes his subject: “Limonov is not a fictional character. There. I know him. He was a rogue in Ukraine; an idol of the Soviet underground under Brezhnev; a bum, then a multimillionaire’s valet in Manhattan; a fashionable writer in Paris; a lost soldier in the Balkan wars; and now, in the chaotic ruins of postcommunist Russia, the elderly but charismatic leader of a party of young desperados. He sees himself as a hero; you might call him a scumbag: I suspend my judgment on the matter. It’s a dangerous life, an ambiguous life: a real adventure novel. It is also, I believe, a life that says something. Not just about him, Limonov, not just about Russia, but about all our history since the end of World War II.”

So Limonov isn’t fictional—but he might as well be. This pseudo-biography isn’t a novel, but it reads like one: from Limonov’s grim childhood; to his desperate, comical, ultimately successful attempts to gain the respect of Russia’s literary intellectual elite; to his emigration to New York, then to Paris; to his return to the motherland. Limonov could be read as a charming picaresque. But it could also be read as a troubling counter-narrative of the second half of the twentieth century, one that reveals a violence, an anarchy, a brutality that the stories we tell ourselves about progress tend to conceal.

Writer, scriptwriter, and film producer Emmanuel Carrère was born in Paris in 1957. He is the author of The Adversary (a New York Times Notable Book), My Life as a Russian Novel, Class Trip, The Mustache, and Lives Other Than My Own. Limonov was awarded the Prix Renaudot in 2011 as well as the Prix Européen de Littérature and the Prix des Prix. Carrère lives in Paris. A native of Vancouver, John Lambert studied philosophy in Paris before
Political Order and Political Decay
From the Industrial Revolution to the Globalization of Democracy
Francis Fukuyama

The second volume of the bestselling landmark work on the history of the modern state

Writing in The Wall Street Journal, David Gress called Francis Fukuyama’s Origins of Political Order “magisterial in its learning and admirably immodest in its ambition.” In The New York Times Book Review, Michael Lind described the book as “a major achievement by one of the leading public intellectuals of our time.” And in The Washington Post, Gerard DeGrott exclaimed “this is a book that will be remembered. Bring on volume two.”

Volume two is finally here, completing the most important work of political thought in at least a generation. Taking up the essential question of how societies develop strong, impersonal, and accountable political institutions, Fukuyama follows the story from the French Revolution to the so-called Arab Spring and the deep dysfunctions of contemporary American politics. He examines the effects of corruption on governance, and why some societies have been successful at rooting it out. He explores the different legacies of colonialism in Latin America, Africa, and Asia, and offers a clear-eyed account of why some regions have thrived and developed more quickly than others. And he boldly reckons with the future of democracy in the face of a rising global middle class and entrenched political paralysis in the West.

A sweeping, masterful account of the struggle to create a well-functioning modern state, Political Order and Political Decay is destined to be a classic.

Francis Fukuyama is the Olivier Nomellini Senior Fellow at Stanford University’s Freeman Spogli Institute for International Studies. He has previously taught at the Paul H. Nitze School of Advanced International Studies at Johns Hopkins University and at the George Mason University School of Public Policy. Fukuyama was a researcher at the RAND Corporation and served as the deputy director for the State Department’s policy planning staff. He is the author of The Origins of Political Order, The End of History and the Last Man, Trust, and America at the Crossroads: Democracy, Power, and the Neoconservative Legacy. He lives with his wife in California.

ALSO AVAILABLE

The Origins of Political Order: From Prehuman Times to the French Revolution
3/2012 | 9780374533229
Paperback / softback | $18.00 / $20.00 Can.
The Origins of Political Order: From Prehuman Times to the French Revolution
4/2011 | 9781429958936
The Unsubstantial Air
American Fliers in the First World War

Samuel Hynes

The vivid story of the young Americans who fought and died in the aerial battles of World War I

The Unsubstantial Air is a chronicle of war that is more than a military history; it traces the lives and deaths of the young Americans who fought in the skies over Europe in World War I. Using letters, journals, and memoirs, it speaks in their voices and answers primal questions: What was it like to be there? What was it like to fly those planes, to fight, to kill? The volunteer fliers were often privileged young men—the sort of college athletes and Ivy League students who might appear in an F. Scott Fitzgerald novel, and sometimes did. For them, a war in the air would be like a college reunion. Others were roughnecks from farms and ranches, for whom it would all be strange. Together they would make one Air Service and fight one bitter, costly war.

A wartime pilot himself, the memoirist and critic Samuel Hynes tells these young men’s saga as the story of a generation. He shows how they dreamed of adventure and glory, and how they learned the realities of a pilot’s life, the hardships and the danger, and how they came to know both the beauty of flight and the constant presence of death. They gasp in wonder at the world seen from a plane, struggle to keep their hands from freezing in open-air cockpits, party with actresses and aristocrats, and search for their friends’ bodies on the battlefield. Their romantic war becomes more than that—it becomes a harsh but often thrilling new reality.

Samuel Hynes is the Woodrow Wilson Professor of Literature Emeritus at Princeton University and the author of a celebrated memoir of serving as a marine pilot in World War II, Flights of Passage. His book on soldiers’ accounts of twentieth-century wars, The Soldier’s Tale, won a Robert F. Kennedy Award. He was a featured commentator on Ken Burns’s documentary The War. He is also the author of several works of literary criticism, including The Auden Generation and Edwardian Turn of Mind, and a memoir, The Growing Seasons. He lives in Princeton, New Jersey.

PRAISE

Praise for Flights of Passage

A School of the Heart
Learning the Most Valuable Lessons of the Spirit from the Most Unlikely Teachers

Timothy P. Shriver

On a quest for what matters most, the author discovers the joy of being fully alive

As chairman of Special Olympics, Timothy P. Shriver has dedicated his life to the world’s most forgotten minority—people with intellectual disabilities. And in a time when we are all more rudderless than ever, when we’ve lost our sense of what’s ultimately important, when we hunger for stability but get only uncertainty, he has looked to them for guidance. A School of the Heart chronicles Shriver’s discovery of a radically different, and inspiring, way of life. We see straight into the lives of those who seem powerless but who have turned that into a power of their own, and through them learn that we are all totally vulnerable and totally valuable at the same time.

In addition, Shriver offers a new look at his family: his parents, Sargent and Eunice Shriver, and his uncles, John, Robert, and Edward Kennedy, all of whom were resolute advocates for those on the margins. Here, for the first time, Shriver explores the tremendous impact his aunt Rosemary, born with intellectual disabilities, had on his entire family and their legacy.

Timothy P. Shriver is a social leader, educator, activist, film producer, and business entrepreneur. He is the third child of Eunice Shriver, founder of the Special Olympics. As chairman of the Special Olympics, he serves more than three million athletes in 180 countries. He cofounded and currently chairs the Collaborative for Academic, Social, and Emotional Learning (CASEL), the leading research organization in the United States in the field of social and emotional learning. Shriver earned his undergraduate degree from Yale University, a master’s degree from Catholic University, and a doctorate in education from the University of Connecticut. He lives in Maryland with his wife and five children.
Breaking In
The Rise of Sonia Sotomayor and the Politics of Justice
Joan Biskupic

From a leading judicial biographer comes the untold story of Sonia Sotomayor, the first Latina Supreme Court justice

To become the first Hispanic Supreme Court justice, Sonia Sotomayor went against the odds. Her historic appointment in 2009—made by President Obama, whose own 2008 victory appeared improbable—flowed from cultural and political changes in America that helped lift up this daughter of a Puerto Rican nurse and a factory worker. Sotomayor saw opportunities and, with street smarts and savvy, she seized them. Journalist Joan Biskupic weaves a political narrative centered on Sotomayor’s fortuitous timing and personal striving. From housing projects in the Bronx to Princeton University and Yale Law School, Sotomayor’s life tracked the ascent of Latinos in America.

Along the way, she elicited admiration and, as a self-described “affirmative action baby,” resentment. At every step in her climb to the federal bench, she almost did not make it. As Biskupic reveals with extensive research and reporting, Sotomayor developed the connections to navigate a system known for ravaging nominees, especially when race or ethnicity was an element. Obtaining close access to Sotomayor and interviews with the other justices, Biskupic shows how Sotomayor challenges an institution where justices, as a group, have been relatively bland and socially conforming even as they differ radically on the law. In a book that picks up where Sotomayor’s bestselling memoir left off, Biskupic explores the difference this justice is making.

Joan Biskupic has covered the Supreme Court for more than twenty years and is the author of several books, including American Original: The Life and Constitution of Supreme Court Justice Antonin Scalia (Sarah Crichton Books/FSG, 2009) and Sandra Day O’Connor. She currently is an editor in charge for Legal Affairs at Reuters News. Before joining Reuters in 2012, she was the Supreme Court correspondent for USA Today and for The Washington Post. A graduate of Georgetown University Law School, she is a regular panelist on PBS’s Washington Week and on NPR’s Diane Rehm Show. She lives in Washington, D.C., with her husband and daughter.

PRAISE

Praise for American Original

“From start to finish, this is a lively and engrossing read. Biskupic cuts through the legal jargon to make Scalia’s influence and limitations readily accessible to a general audience.” —Geoffrey Stone, Chicago Tribune
Goodhouse
A Novel
Peyton Marshall

A bighearted dystopian novel about the corrosive effects of fear and the redemptive power of love

With soaring literary prose and the tense pacing of a thriller, the first-time novelist Peyton Marshall imagines a grim and startling future. At the end of the twenty-first century—in a transformed America—the families of convicted felons are tested for a set of genetic markers. Boys who test positive become compulsory wards of the state—removed from their homes and raised on Goodhouse campuses, where they learn to reform their darkest thoughts and impulses. Goodhouse is a feral place—part prison, part boarding school—and now a radical religious group, the Holy Redeemer’s Church of Purity, has begun to target these schools for attack, with purifying fire.

We see all this through the eyes of James, a transfer student who watched the radicals set fire to his old Goodhouse and everyone he’d ever known. In addition to entering a new school with new rules, James now has to contend with Bethany, a wild tech genius with a heart defect who wants to save him, and her father, the sinister director of medical studies. Soon, however, James realizes that the biggest threat might already be there, inside the fortified walls of Goodhouse. Partly based on the true story of the nineteenth-century Preston School of Industry and the boys who lived and died in its halls, Goodhouse explores questions of identity and free will—and what it means to test the limits of human endurance.

Peyton Marshall is a graduate of the Iowa Writers’ Workshop and the recipient of a Maytag Fellowship and the Richard Yates Award for short fiction. Her story “Bunnymoon” was published in Best New American Voices 2004. Her work has appeared in such magazines as Tin House, A Public Space, Blackbird, Etiqueta Negra, and FiveChapters. She lives in Portland, Oregon. Goodhouse is her first novel.
Sailing the Forest
Selected Poems

Robin Robertson

A selection of poems spanning the career of a poet of the uncanny

Filled with haunting and visionary poems, *Sailing the Forest* is a selection of the finest work from an essential voice in contemporary poetry. Robin Robertson’s deceptively spare and mythically charged work is beautifully brutal, ancient and immediate, and capable of instilling menace and awe into our everyday landscape. These are poems drawn in shadow, tinged with salt and blood, that disarm the reader with their precise language and dreamlike illuminations. Robertson’s unique world is a place of forked storms where “Rain . . . is silence turned up high” and we can see “the hay marry the fire / and the fire walk.”

Through five extraordinary collections, Robertson has captured the intangible, illusory world in razor-sharp language. “The genius of this Scots poet is for finding the sensually charged moment—in a raked northern seascape, in a sexual or gustatory encounter—and depicting it in language that is simultaneously spare and ample, and reminiscent of early Heaney or Hughes” (*The New Yorker*). *Sailing the Forest* reveals a wild-hearted poet at the height of his talents.

Robin Robertson is from the northeast coast of Scotland. He has published five collections of poetry—most recently *Hill of Doors*—and has received numerous of accolades, including the Petrarca Prize, the E. M. Forster Award from the American Academy of Arts and Letters, and all three Forward Prizes. In 2006 he published *The Deleted World*, a selection of English versions of poems by Tomas Tranströmer, and has since translated two plays of Euripides’, *Medea* and *The Bacchae*.

PRAISE

Praise for Robin Robertson

“Each poem comes to us so cleansed of excess, so concentrated and perfectly pared down to its essence we can only wonder at the adamantine sharpness of its edges.” —Billy Collins

“Robertson is a superstar of Scottish poetry.” —Adam Newey, *The Guardian*
The Heart Is Strange
New Selected Poems

John Berryman; Edited and with an Introduction by Daniel Swift

A lively sampling from the work of one of the most celebrated and daring poets of the twentieth century

John Berryman was perhaps the most idiosyncratic American poet of the twentieth century. Best known for the painfully sad and raucously funny cycle of Dream Songs, he wrote passionately: of love and despair, of grief and laughter, of longing for a better world and coming to terms with this one. The Heart Is Strange, a new selection of his poems, along with reissues of Berryman’s Sonnets, 77 Dream Songs, and the complete Dream Songs, marks the centenary of his birth.

The Heart Is Strange includes a generous selection from across Berryman’s varied career: from his earliest poems, which show him learning the craft, to his breakthrough masterpiece, “Homage to Mistress Bradstreet,” then to his mature verses, which find the poet looking back upon his lovers and youthful passions, and finally, to his late poems, in which he battles with sobriety and an increasingly religious sensibility.

The defiant joy and wild genius of Berryman’s work has been obscured by his struggles with mental illness and alcohol, his tempestuous relationships with women, and his suicide. This volume, which includes three previously uncollected poems and an insightful introduction by the editor Daniel Swift, celebrates the whole Berryman: tortured poet and teasing father, passionate lover and melancholy scholar. It is a perfect introduction to one of the finest bodies of work yet produced by an American poet.

John Berryman (1914–1972) was an American poet and scholar. He won the Pulitzer Prize for 77 Dream Songs in 1965 and the National Book Award and the Bollingen Prize for His Toy, His Dream, His Rest, a continuation of the Dream Songs, in 1969. Daniel Swift is the author of Bomber County: The Poetry of a Lost Pilot’s War and Shakespeare’s Common Prayers. He teaches at the New College of the Humanities in London.

PRAISE

*Berryman’s own traumas are balanced against the wreckage of his literary generation, which he laments, and the sleaze and rubble of mid-century America, which he assails . . . Among the poets he counted as his peers only Lowell has produced as large a body of work which so vividly spoke to its time...
Things to Make and Do in the Fourth Dimension
A Mathematician's Journey Through Narcissistic Numbers, Optimal Dating Algorithms, at Least Two Kinds of Infinity, and More
Matt Parker

Math is boring, says the mathematician and comedian Matt Parker. Part of the problem may be the way the subject is taught, but it's also true that we all, to a greater or lesser extent, find math difficult and counterintuitive. This counterintuitiveness is actually part of the point, argues Parker: the extraordinary thing about math is that it allows us to access logic and ideas beyond what our brains can instinctively do—through its logical tools we are able to reach beyond our innate abilities and grasp more and more abstract concepts.

In the absorbing and exhilarating *Things to Make and Do in the Fourth Dimension*, Parker sets out to convince his readers to revisit the very math that put them off the subject as fourteen-year-olds. Starting with the foundations of math familiar from school (numbers, geometry, and algebra), he reveals how it is possible to climb all the way up to the topology and to four-dimensional shapes, and from there to infinity—and slightly beyond.

Both playful and sophisticated, *Things to Make and Do in the Fourth Dimension* is filled with captivating games and puzzles, a buffet of optional hands-on activities that entices us to take pleasure in math that is normally only available to those studying at a university level. *Things to Make and Do in the Fourth Dimension* invites us to re-learn much of what we missed in school and, this time, to be utterly enthralled by it.

Matt Parker is a stand-up comedian and mathematician. He writes about math for *The Guardian*, has a math column in *The Telegraph*, is a regular panelist on Radio 4’s *The Infinite Monkey Cage*, has appeared in and worked on *Five Greatest* on the Discovery Channel, and has performed his math stand-up routines in front of audiences of thousands.
No Man's Land
Preparing for War and Peace in Post-9/11 America

Elizabeth D. Samet

As the post-9/11 wars wind down, a literature professor at West Point explores what it means for soldiers, and our country, to be caught between war and peace

Elizabeth D. Samet, a professor of English at West Point and the author of the critically acclaimed Soldier’s Heart, came to question her settled understanding of post-9/11 America as a clear arc from peace to war. Over time, as she reckoned with her experiences—from a visit to a ward of wounded combat veterans to her correspondence with former cadets—Samet was led to profoundly rethink the last decade, an ambiguous passage that has left deep but difficult-to-read traces on our national psyche, our culture, our politics, and, most especially, an entire generation of military professionals. How will a nation that has refused to grapple honestly with these wars imagine its postwar responsibilities?

Samet calls the moment in which we live, lying as it does somewhere between war and peace, a “no man’s land.” She takes the reader on a vivid tour of that landscape, populated as much by the scars of war as by the everyday realities of life on the home front. Grounded in Samet’s experience as a teacher of future army officers, No Man’s Land is a moving, urgent examination of what it means to negotiate the tensions between soldier and civilian, between “over here” and “over there.”

The views expressed in this book are the author’s and do not necessarily reflect those of the United States Military Academy, the Department of the Army, or the Department of Defense.

Elizabeth D. Samet is the author of Soldier’s Heart: Reading Literature Through Peace and War at West Point, which won the Los Angeles Times Book Prize for Current Interest and was named one of the 100 Notable Books of 2007 by The New York Times; and Willing Obedience: Citizens, Soldiers, and the Progress of Consent in America, 1776–1898. Her essays and reviews have been published in The New York Times Book Review, The New Republic, and Bloomberg View. Samet won the 2012 Hiett Prize in the Humanities and was also awarded a Guggenheim Fellowship to support the research and writing of a book about mythologies of the war veteran in Hollywood cinema. She is a professor of English at West Point.
Three Minutes in Poland
Discovering a Lost World in a 1938 Family Film

Glenn Kurtz

The author’s search for the annihilated Polish community captured in his grandfather’s 1938 home movie

Traveling in Europe in August 1938, one year before the outbreak of World War II, David Kurtz, the author’s grandfather, captured three minutes of ordinary life in a small, predominantly Jewish town in Poland on 16 mm Kodachrome color film. More than seventy years later, through the brutal twists of history, these few minutes of home movie footage would become a memorial to an entire community—an entire culture—that was annihilated in the Holocaust.

Three Minutes in Poland traces Glenn Kurtz’s remarkable four-year journey to identify the people in his grandfather’s haunting images. His search takes him across the United States; to Canada, England, Poland, and Israel; to archives, film preservation laboratories, and an abandoned Luftwaffe airfield. Ultimately, Kurtz locates seven living survivors from this lost town, including an eighty-six-year-old man who appears in the film as a thirteen-year-old boy.

Painstakingly assembled from interviews, photographs, documents, and artifacts, Three Minutes in Poland tells the rich, funny, harrowing, and surprisingly intertwined stories of these seven survivors and their Polish hometown. Originally a travel souvenir, David Kurtz’s home movie became the sole remaining record of a vibrant town on the brink of catastrophe. From this brief film, Glenn Kurtz creates a riveting exploration of memory, loss, and improbable survival—a monument to a lost world.

Glenn Kurtz is the author of Practicing: A Musician’s Return to Music and the host of Conversations on Practice, a series of public conversations about writing held at McNally Jackson Books in New York. He holds a PhD from Stanford University.
Ideas of Order
A Close Reading of Shakespeare's Sonnets

Neil Rudenstine

Shakespeare’s sonnets are the greatest single work of lyric poetry in English, as passionate, daring, intimate, and fiery as any love poems we may encounter. But they are often misunderstood—as W. H. Auden wrote, “more nonsense has been talked and written, more intellectual and emotional energy expended in vain, on the sonnets of Shakespeare than on any other literary work in the world.”

Ideas of Order instills pleasure in this extraordinary verse, revealing an underlying narrative within the 154 poems that illuminates the work—providing a guide that inspires a new understanding of this complex masterpiece. The Elizabethan scholar and former Harvard University president Neil Rudenstine makes a compelling case for the existence of a dramatic arc within the work through an expert interpretation of the poems in relationship to each other: the jealousies, petty squabbles, reconciliations, discoveries, and longings. The sonnets show us a poet in turmoil who falls for a young man who returns his affections—and the love is utterly transformative, binding him in such an irresistible way that it survives a number of heartbreaks. This spell is only broken when a dark lady comes into the poet’s life, and he becomes enmeshed in another coupling of lust and betrayal.

Rudenstine’s expert critical narrative makes Ideas of Order an invaluable companion for Shakespeare neophytes and experienced readers alike.

Neil Rudenstine is a literary scholar and the former president of Harvard University. A Rhodes Scholar, he received his PhD in English literature at Harvard, where he began teaching in 1964. He is also a Fellow of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, a former director of the American Council on Education, and a member of the Council on Foreign Relations, the American Philosophical Society, and the Committee for Economic Development. He currently serves as the chairman of the advisory board for ARTstor and teaches at Princeton. Rudenstine is the author of The House of Barnes: The Man, The Collection, The Controversy. He lives in New York City.
The Unspeakable
And Other Subjects of Discussion
Meghan Daum

A master of the personal essay candidly explores love, death, and the counterfeit rituals of American life

In her celebrated 2001 collection, My Misspent Youth, Meghan Daum offered a bold, witty, defining account of the artistic ambitions, financial anxieties, and mixed emotions of her generation. The Unspeakable is an equally bold and witty, but also a sadder and wiser, report from early middle age.

It’s a report tempered by hard times. In “Matricide,” Daum unflinchingly describes a parent’s death and the uncomfortable emotions it provokes; and in “Diary of a Coma” she relates her own journey to the twilight of the mind. But Daum also operates in a comic register. With perfect precision, she reveals the absurdities of the marriage-industrial complex, of the New Age dating market, and of the peculiar habits of the young and digital. Elsewhere, she writes searchingly about cultural nostalgia, Joni Mitchell, and the alternating heartbreak and liberation of choosing not to have children.

Combining the piercing insight of Joan Didion with a warm humor reminiscent of Nora Ephron, Daum dissects our culture’s most dangerous illusions, blind spots, and sentimentalities while retaining her own joy and compassion. Through it all, she dramatizes the search for an authentic self in a world where achieving an identity is never simple and never complete.

Meghan Daum is a columnist for the Los Angeles Times and the author of the essay collection My Misspent Youth. She is also the author of Life Would Be Perfect If I Lived in That House and The Quality of Life Report, a novel. Her essays and reviews have appeared in The New Yorker, Harper’s, The New York Times Book Review, Vogue, and other publications. She has also contributed to NPR’s Morning Edition, Marketplace, and This American Life. She lives in Los Angeles, California.

PRAISE

Praise for My Misspent Youth

“For several years now, I’ve kept copies of some of these essays . . . by my desk . . . Her writing has a clarity . . . that just makes you feel awake.” —Ira Glass

“A Joan Didion for the new millennium, Meghan Daum brings grace, wit, and insight to contemporary life, love, manners, and money.” —Dan Wakefield
Ugly Girls
A Novel
Lindsay Hunter

A powerful, voice-driven novel with the breakneck pace that people have come to expect from Lindsay Hunter

The Chicago Tribune called her stories "Mesmerizing . . . Visceral . . . Exquisite." The Boston Globe called them "incredibly urgent." And now we have the great pleasure of publishing Lindsay Hunter's searing, poignant, hilarious first novel, Ugly Girls.

Ugly Girls, at its core, is about the friendship between two girls, Perry and Baby Girl, and how that friendship descends into chaos, taking their world and the identities they hold dear with it. Their friendship is woven from the threads of never-ending dares and the struggle with power, their loyalty something they attend to like a pet but forget to feed. Ugliness is something they trade between themselves, one ugly on the outside and one on the inside.

While the girls spend their nights sneaking out, stealing cars for joyrides, and eating French fries at the twenty-four-hour Denny's, danger lurks. Jamey is pining after Perry from behind the computer screen inside his mother's trailer. He's been watching the girls for a while, on Facebook and in person (though they've never seen him in the flesh), posing as a boy from a high school a couple of neighborhoods over. When they finally meet Jamey face-to-face, they quickly realize he's far from a nice high-school boy, and the girls will do whatever is necessary to protect themselves.

Lindsay Hunter is the author of the story collections Don't Kiss Me and Daddy's. She lives in Chicago, where she is the cofounder and cohost of the flash-fiction reading series Quickies! Ugly Girls is her first novel.

PRAISE

Praise for Lindsay Hunter

"Hunter is remarkably talented at taking sentences and twining them around the brain, creating a beautiful pattern out of ugliness . . . use[ing] language as a tool to excavate our entrenched humanity." —Star Tribune (Minneapolis)
Where Have You Been?
Selected Essays
Michael Hofmann

An adventure with a roving genius of literary criticism

Michael Hofmann—a poet, translator, and intellectual vagabond—has established himself as one of the keenest critics of contemporary literature. Safely nestled between the covers of Where Have You Been?, he offers a hand to guide us and an encouraging whisper in our ear, leading us on a trip through what to read, how to think, and why to like. And while these essays bear sharp insights that will help us revisit writers with a fresh eye, they are also a story of love between a reader and his treasured books.

In these twenty-five essays, Hofmann brings his signature wit and sustained critical mastery to a poetic, penetrating, and candid discussion of the writers and artists of the last hundred years. Here are the indispensable poets without which contemporary poetry would be unimaginable—Elizabeth Bishop, “the poets’ poets’ poet,” the “ghostly skill” of Robert Lowell, and the man he calls the greatest English poet since Shakespeare, Ted Hughes. But he also illumines the despair of John Berryman and the antics of poetry’s bogeyman, Frederick Seidel.

In essays on art that are themselves works of art, Hofmann’s agile and brilliant mind explores a panoply of subjects from the mastery of translation to the best day job for a poet. What these diverse gems share are the critic’s insatiable curiosity and great charm. Where Have You Been? is an unmissable journey with literature’s most irresistible flaneur.

Michael Hofmann is an acclaimed poet, translator, and critic. He has published six books of poetry and has translated more than sixty books from the German, including Gottfried Benn’s Impromptus: Selected Poems and Some Prose, as well as works by Ernst Jünger, Franz Kafka, and Joseph Roth. His criticism appears regularly in the London Review of Books, The New York Review of Books, and Poetry. He currently teaches poetry and translation at the University of Florida.

PRAISE

Praise for Michael Hofmann

“Michael Hofmann has a skeptical intelligence, an observant eye, a compulsion to speak the unspeakable, and the useful wariness of the displaced person.” — Helen Vendler, The New York Review of Books

“Hofmann’s is one of the definitive bodies of work of the last half century.” — Stephen Knight, The Times Literary Su...
"Literchoor Is My Beat"
James Laughlin and New Directions
Ian S. MacNiven

A biography—thoughtful and playful—of the man who founded New Directions and transformed American publishing

James Laughlin—a poet, publisher, world-class skier—was the man behind some of the most daring, revolutionary works in verse and prose of the twentieth century. As the founder of New Directions, he published Ezra Pound’s *The Cantos* and William Carlos Williams’s *Paterson*; he brought Herman Hesse and Jorge Luis Borges to an American audience. Throughout his life, this charismatic intellectual and entrepreneur preferred to stay hidden. But no longer—in "Literchoor Is My Beat": *James Laughlin and New Directions*, Ian S. MacNiven has given us a sensitive and revealing portrait of this visionary and the understory of the last century of American letters.

Laughlin emerges as an impressive and complex figure: energetic, idealistic, and hardworking, but also plagued by doubts—not about his ability to identify and nurture talent, but about his own worth as a writer. Haunted by his father’s struggles with bipolar disorder, Laughlin threw himself into a flurry of activity, pulling together the first New Directions anthology before he’d graduated from Harvard and purchasing and managing a ski resort in Utah.

MacNiven’s portrait is comprehensive and vital, spiced with Ezra Pound’s eccentric letters, Laughlin’s romantic foibles, and anecdotes from a seat-of-your-pants era of publishing now gone by. A story about the struggle to publish only the best, it is itself an example of literary biography at its finest.

Ian S. MacNiven’s authorized biography of Lawrence Durrell was a *New York Times* Notable Book for 1998. He has edited two collections of Durrell’s correspondence (with Richard Aldington and Henry Miller), is the author of numerous articles on literary modernism, and has directed and spoken at conferences on three continents. He is also a past president of the D. H. Lawrence Society of North America and of the International Lawrence Durrell Society. MacNiven resides on the west bank of the Hudson, outside the town of Athens, New York.

PRAISE

Praise for Lawrence Durrell

“[A] fine, thoughtful and prudently detached biography . . . We are unlikely to be given a more thorough biography. Rich in anecdote, magisterial in scope.”
Breathturn into Timestead
The Collected Later Poetry: A Bilingual Edition

Paul Celan; Translated from the German and with commentary by Pierre Joris

Haunting poems from one of the twentieth century’s groundbreaking poets

Paul Celan, one of the greatest German-language poets of the twentieth century, created brilliant works of pure musicality and stark imagery in tension with the haunting memories of his life as a Romanian Jew during the Holocaust. *Breathturn into Timestead: The Collected Later Poetry* gathers the five final volumes of his life’s work in a bilingual edition, translated and with commentary by the award-winning poet and translator Pierre Joris.

This collection displays a mature writer at the height of his talents, following what Celan himself called the “turn” (die “Wende”) of his work away from the lush, surreal metaphors of his earlier verse. Given “the sinister events in its memory,” Celan wrote, the language of poetry has to become “more sober, more factual . . . ‘grayer.’” He abandoned the richer music of lyric poems, paring his compositions down to increase the accuracy of the language that now “does not transfigure or render ‘poetical’; it names, it posits, it tries to measure the area of the given and the possible.” In his need for an inhabitable post-Holocaust world that held the memory and anguish of that history, Celan experimented with a bold new poetics.

*Breathturn into Timestead* reveals a poet undergoing one of the most profound artistic reinventions of the twentieth century—creating a poetry grounded in his painful personal history and the ravages of postwar Europe.

Paul Celan was born in Czernowitz, Bukovina, in 1920, and is considered by many as the greatest German-language poet of the second half of the twentieth century. He survived the Holocaust and settled in Paris in 1948, where he lived and wrote until his suicide in 1970.

Pierre Joris is the author of some fifty books, including poetry, essays, translations, and anthologies. Most recently he published *Meditations on the Stations of Mansur al-Hallaj* and the anthology *Poems for the Millennium Vol. 4: The University of California Book of North African Literature*. In 2005 he received the PEN Award for Poetry in Translation for his translation of Celan’s *Lichtzwang/Lightduress.*
In this revelatory volume, Roberto Calasso, whom The Paris Review has called “a literary institution,” explores the ancient texts known as the Vedas. Little is known about the Vedic people who lived more than three thousand years ago in northern India: they left behind almost no objects, images, or ruins. They created no empires. Even the hallucinogenic plant the soma, which appears at the center of some of their rituals, has not been identified with any certainty. Only a “Parthenon of words” remains: verses and formulations suggesting a daring understanding of life.

“If the Vedic people had been asked why they did not build cities," writes Calasso, “they could have replied: we did not seek power, but rapture.” This is the ardor of the Vedic world, a burning intensity that is always present, both in the mind and in the cosmos.

With his signature erudition and profound sense of the past, Calasso explores the enigmatic web of ritual and myth that defines the Vedas. Often at odds with modern thought, these texts illuminate the nature of consciousness more than anybody else has managed up to now. Following the “hundred paths” of the Śatapatha Brāhmaṇa, an impressive exegesis of Vedic ritual, Ardor indicates that it may be possible to reach what is closest by passing through that which is most remote, as “the whole of Vedic India was an attempt to think further.”

Roberto Calasso, publisher of Adelphi in Milan, is the author of many books. Ardor is the seventh part, following The Ruin of Kasch, The Marriage of Cadmus and Harmony, Ka, K., Tiepolo Pink, and La Folie Baudelaire, of a work in progress.

PRAISE

Praise for La Folie Baudelaire

“Roberto Calasso [is] the most inquisitively suggestive literary critic in the world today.” —Thomas McGonigle, Los Angeles Times

“[La Folie Baudelaire] is as red-blooded as art criticism gets, and a suitable encomium for the greatest of art critics.” —Jad Adams, The Daily Telegraph
The Big Green Tent
A Novel

Ludmila Ulitskaya; Translated from the Russian by Bela Shayevich

An absorbing novel of dissident life in the Soviet Union, by one of Russia's most popular writers

The Big Green Tent is the kind of book the term "Russian novel" was invented for. A sweeping saga, it tells the story of three school friends who meet in Moscow in the 1950s and go on to embody the heroism, folly, compromise, and hope of the Soviet dissident experience. These three boys—an orphaned poet; a gifted, fragile pianist; and a budding photographer with a talent for collecting secrets—struggle to reach adulthood in a society where their heroes have been censored and exiled. Rich with love stories, intrigue, and a cast of dissenters and spies, The Big Green Tent offers a panoramic survey of life after Stalin and a dramatic investigation into the prospects for integrity in a society defined by the KGB. Each of the central characters seeks to transcend an oppressive regime through art, a love of Russian literature, and activism. And each of them ends up face-to-face with a secret police that is highly skilled at fomenting paranoia, division, and self-betrayal. An artist is chased into the woods, where he remains in hiding for four years; a researcher is forced to deem a patient insane, damning him to torture in a psychiatric ward; a man and his wife each become collaborators, without the other knowing. Ludmila Ulitskaya's big yet intimate novel belongs to the tradition of Dostoyevsky, Tolstoy, and Pasternak: a work of politics, love, and belief that is a revelation of life in dark times.

Ludmila Ulitskaya is one of Russia's most popular and renowned literary figures. A former scientist and the director of Moscow's Hebrew Repertory Theater, she is the author of thirteen works of fiction, three tales for children, and six plays that have been staged by a number of theaters in Russia and Germany. She has won Russia's Booker Prize and has been nominated for the International Man Booker Prize. A strong advocate for freedom of expression, she recently published a volume of her correspondence with the imprisoned Russian businessman Mikhail Khodorkovsky.

PRAISE

Praise for Ludmila Ulitskaya

“One of the most important living Russian writers.” —Gary Shteyngart, author of Super Sad True Love Story
La Vida Robot
Four Undocumented High School Students, Two Teachers Who Instilled Them with a Crazy Dream, and One High-Stakes Robot-Building Contest

Joshua Davis

Four undocumented Mexican American students, two great teachers, one robot-building contest . . . and a major motion picture

In 2004, four Latino teenagers arrived at the National Underwater Robotics Competition at UC Santa Barbara. They were born in Mexico but raised in Phoenix, Arizona, where they attended an underfunded, beat-up public high school. No one had ever suggested to Oscar, Cristian, Luis, or Lorenzo that they might amount to much—but two inspiring science teachers had convinced them that four impoverished, undocumented kids from the desert who had never even seen the ocean should try to build an underwater robot.

And build a robot they did. Their robot wasn’t pretty, especially compared to the competition. They were going up against some of the best collegiate engineers in the country, including a team from MIT backed by a $10,000 grant from ExxonMobil. The Phoenix teenagers had scraped together less than $1,000 and built their robot out of scavenged parts. This was never a level competition—and yet, against all odds . . . they won!

But this is just the beginning for these four, whose story—which became a key inspiration to the DREAMers movement—will go on to include special recognition from President Obama, to deportation and years spent picking beans in Mexico, to service in Afghanistan.

La Vida Robot is a story about overcoming insurmountable odds and four young men who proved they were among the most patriotic and talented Americans in this country—even as the country tried to kick them out.

Joshua Davis is a contributing editor at Wired and a cofounder of Epic Magazine. He has also written for The New Yorker, GQ, Outside, Men’s Journal, and others, and his writing is anthologized in the 2012 edition of Best American Science and Nature Writing as well as in the 2006, 2007, and 2009 editions of Best Technology Writing. He lives in San Francisco, California with his family.
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Acceptance
A Novel

Jeff VanderMeer

The final installment of Jeff VanderMeer’s Southern Reach Trilogy

It is winter in Area X. A new team embarks across the border on a mission to find a member of a previous expedition who may have been left behind. As they press deeper into the unknown—navigating new terrain and new challenges—the threat to the outside world becomes more daunting. In Acceptance, the last installment of Jeff VanderMeer’s Southern Reach Trilogy, the mysteries of Area X may have been solved, but their consequences and implications are no less profound—or terrifying.

Jeff VanderMeer is an award-winning novelist and editor. His fiction has been translated into twenty languages and has appeared in the Library of America’s American Fantastic Tales and in multiple year’s-best anthologies. He writes nonfiction for The Washington Post, The New York Times Book Review, the Los Angeles Times, and The Guardian, among others. He grew up in the Fiji Islands and now lives in Tallahassee, Florida, with his wife.

PRAISE

Praise for The Southern Reach Trilogy

“Original and beautiful, maddening and magnificent.” —Warren Ellis

“After their high-risk expedition disintegrates, it’s every scientist for herself in this wonderfully creepy blend of horror and science fiction . . . Speculative fiction at its most transfixing.” —Kirkus Reviews (starred review)
New York 1, Tel Aviv 0
Stories
Shelly Oria

Sharply observed, beautifully rendered stories about gender, sexuality, and nationality by a fresh new voice

The stories in New York 1, Tel Aviv 0 speak to a contemporary generation and explore the tension between an anonymous, globalized world and an irrepressible lust for connection. The result is an intimate document of niche moments, when relationships either run their course, take flight, or enter holding patterns.

The characters in this collection are as intelligent and charming as they are lonely. In some stories, realistic urges materialize in magical settings: a couple discovers the ability to stop time together; another couple lives in an apartment where only one of them can hear a constant beeping, while the other must try to believe. In other stories, a nameless voice narrates the arc of a love affair through a list of the couple’s best and worst kisses; a father leaves his daughter in Israel to pursue a painting career in New York; and a sex worker falls in love with the Israeli photographer who studies her. The stories in this ambitious and exciting debut share a prevailing sense of existential strangeness, otherworldliness, and the search to belong, while the altering of time and space and memory creates unexpected magic. And yet there is something entirely familiar about the experiences of these characters, who are so brilliantly and subtly rendered by Shelly Oria’s capable mind.

Shelly Oria was born in Los Angeles, California, and grew up in Israel. Her fiction has appeared in McSweeney’s, Quarterly West, cream city review, and FiveChapters, and won the 2008 Indiana Review Fiction Prize, among other awards. A MacDowell Fellow in 2012, Oria curates the series Sweet! Actors Reading Writers in the East Village and lives in Brooklyn, New York, where she teaches fiction at Pratt Institute.
Some people call it “abyss gaze.” Gaze into the abyss all day and the abyss will gaze into you.

There are two types of people who think professionally about the future: foresight strategists are civil futurists who think about geo-engineering and smart cities and ways to evade Our Coming Doom; strategic forecasters are spook futurists, who think about geopolitical upheaval and drone warfare and ways to prepare clients for Our Coming Doom. The former are paid by nonprofits and charities, the latter by global security groups and corporate think tanks.

For both types, if you’re good at it, and you spend your days and nights doing it, then it’s something you can’t do for long. Depression sets in. Mental illness festers. And if the “abyss gaze” takes hold there’s only one place to recover: Normal Head, in the wilds of Oregon, within the secure perimeter of an experimental forest.

When Adam Dearden, a foresight strategist, arrives at Normal Head, he is desperate to unplug and be immersed in sylvan silence. But then a patient goes missing from his locked bedroom, leaving nothing but a pile of insects in his wake. A staff investigation ensues; surveillance becomes total. As the mystery of the disappeared man unravels in Warren Ellis’s Normal, Dearden uncovers a conspiracy that calls into question the core principles of how and why we think about the future—and the past, and the now.

Warren Ellis is the author of FSG’s first digital original, Dead Pig Collector, and The New York Times bestselling novel Gun Machine and the underground classic Crooked Little Vein. He is also the award-winning creator of a number of iconic, bestselling original graphic novels, including Red, Ministry of Space, Planetary, and Transmetropolitan, and has been behind some of the most successful reimaginings of mainstream comic superheroes, including the Fantastic Four and Iron Man. He has written extensively for Vice, Wired, and Reuters on technological and cultural matters, and is working on a nonfiction book about the future of cities for FSG Originals. He lives on the southeast coast of England.
Any hall where she has ever read her poetry is filled to the gills. Women like her, girls like her, and men like her, too. In Italy, Patrizia Cavalli is as beloved as Wislawa Szymborska is in Poland, and if Italy were Japan she’d be designated a national treasure. The Italian philosopher Giorgio Agamben said of Cavalli that she has written “the most intensely ‘ethical’ poetry in Italian literature of the twentieth century.” One could add that it is, easily, also the most sensual and comical. Though Cavalli has been widely translated into German, French, and Spanish, My Poems Won’t Change the World is her first substantial American anthology.

The book is comprised of poems from Cavalli’s collections published by Einaudi from 1974 to 2006, now freshly translated by an illustrious group of poets, some of them already familiar with her work: Mark Strand, Jorie Graham, Jonathan Galassi, Rosanna Warren, Geoffrey Brock, J. D. McClatchy, and David Shapiro. Gini Alhadeff’s translations, which make up half the book, are the result of a five-year collaboration with Cavalli.

Patrizia Cavalli was born in Todi, Umbria, and lives in Rome. She has published six collections of poetry and translations of Shakespeare and Molière. Gini Alhadeff is the author of a memoir, The Sun at Midday: Tales of a Mediterranean Family, and a novel, Diary of a Djinn. She was born in Alexandria, Egypt, to Italian parents. She is completing The Magic Horn, about a psychiatrist and her therapeutic sculpture garden at Bellevue Hospital.

“This reading Patrizia Cavalli is nothing short of ecstasy. She conjures the witty eroticism of Catullus, the purity of haiku. She articulates, with disarming precision, the instability, the absurdity, the exquisite anguish of love. Perhaps her poems can’t change the world, but they have changed my life.” —Jhumpa Lahiri, author of The Lowland
Marvelous Things Overheard

Poems

Ange Mlinko

A vibrant and eclectic collection from a stunningly mature young poet

“The world—the time has come to say it, though the news will not be welcome to everyone—has no intention of abandoning enchantment altogether.” Roberto Calasso’s words in *Literature and the Gods* remind us that in an age of reason, of mechanization, of alienation, of rote drudgery, we still seek out the transcendent, the marvelous. Ange Mlinko’s luminous fourth collection is both a journey toward and the space of that very enchantment.

*Marvelous Things Overheard* takes its title from a collection of ancient rumors about the lands of the Mediterranean. Mlinko, who lived in Beirut and traveled to Greece and Cyprus, has penned poems that seesaw between the life lived in those ancient and strife-torn places and the life imagined through their literature, from the *Greek Anthology* to the *Mu‘allaqat*. Throughout, Mlinko grapples with the passage of time on two levels: her own aging (alongside the growing up of her children) and the incontrovertible evidence of millennia of human habitation. This is an assured and revealing collection—one that readers will want to seek refuge in again and again.

Ange Mlinko was born in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, in 1969. Educated at St. John’s College and Brown University, she lived in New York for many years and also spent time in Ifrane, Morocco, and Beirut, Lebanon. Her previous books include *Matinées*, *Starred Wire*, and *Shoulder Season*. She has received the Poetry Foundation’s Randall Jarrell Award in Criticism and teaches in the University of Houston’s Creative Writing Program. She currently lives in Houston, Texas, with her husband and two children.

PRAISE

Praise for Ange Mlinko

“[Ange Mlinko’s] intoxicating, cerebral poems display a unique sense of humor and mystery.” —*The New Yorker*
The Hotel Oneira
Poems

August Kleinzahler

A thrilling new collection from one of the most original poets of his generation

“His work is a modernist swirl of sex, surrealism, urban life, and melancholy with a jazzy backbeat.” While this praise appeared in the pages of The New York Times in 2005, it applies no less to August Kleinzahler’s newest collection.

Kleinzahler’s poetry is, as ever, concerned with permeability: voices, places, the real and the dreamed, the present and the past, all mingle together in verses that always ring true. Whether the poem is three lines long or spans several pages—whether the voice embodied is that of “an adult male of late middle age, // about to weep among the avocados and citrus fruits / in a vast, overlit room next to a bosomy Cuban grandma” as in “Whitney Houston,” or that of the title character in “Hootie Bill Do Polonius,” who is bidding “adios compadre // To a most galuptious scene Kid”—Kleinzahler finds the throbbing human heart at the core of experience.

This is a poet searching for—and finding—a cadence to suit life as it’s lived today. Kleinzahler’s verses are, as noted in the judges’ citation for the 2004 Griffin Poetry Prize for his collection The Strange Hours Travelers Keep, “ferociously on the move, between locations, between forms, between registers.” The Hotel Oneira finds Kleinzahler at his shape-shifting, acrobatic best, unearthing the “moments of grace” buried under the detritus of our hectic, modern lives.

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

PRAISE

Praise for August Kleinzahler

“[August Kleinzahler] might be the best poet in America, I don’t know—I can’t trust my judgment after I finish one of his too infrequent collections, high on its cartoon-jazz fumes.” —Michael Robbins, Chicago Tribune
How Architecture Works
A Humanist's Toolkit

Witold Rybczynski

An essential toolkit for understanding architecture as both art form and the setting for our everyday lives

We spend most of our days and nights in buildings, living and working and sometimes playing. Architecture is both the setting for our everyday lives and a public art form—but it remains mysterious to most of us.

In How Architecture Works, Witold Rybczynski, one of our best, most stylish critics and the winner of the Vincent Scully Prize for his writing on architecture, answers our most fundamental questions about how good—and not so good—buildings are designed and constructed. Introducing the reader to the rich and varied world of modern architecture, he reveals how architects as diverse as Frank Gehry, Renzo Piano, and Robert A. M. Stern envision and create their designs. He teaches us how to “read” plans, how buildings respond to their settings, and how the smallest detail—of a stair balustrade, for instance—can convey an architect’s vision. How Architecture Works explains the central elements that make up good building design, ranging from a war memorial in London to an opera house in Saint Petersburg, from the National Museum of African American History and Culture in Washington, D.C., to a famous architect’s private retreat in Princeton, New Jersey. It is an enlightening humanist’s toolkit for thinking about the built environment and seeing it afresh.

“Architecture, if it is any good, speaks to all of us,” Rybczynski writes. This revelatory book is his grand tour of architecture today.


PRAISE

Praise for Witold Rybczynski

“Home is serious, historically minded, and exquisitely readable. It is a triumph of intelligence.” —The New Yorker

“One Good Turn is a good short read in the classic Rybczynski mode—an ordinary thing, explained extraordinarily.” —Toronto Star
Jack London: An American Life

Earle Labor

A revelatory look at the life of the great American author—and how it shaped his most beloved works

Jack London was born a working-class, fatherless Californian in 1876. In his youth he was a boundlessly energetic adventurer on the bustling West Coast—by turns playing the role of hobo, sailor, prospector, and oyster pirate. He spent his brief life rapidly accumulating the experiences that would inform his acclaimed, bestselling books The Call of the Wild, White Fang, and The Sea Wolf.

London was plagued by contradictions. He chronicled nature at its most savage but wept helplessly at the deaths of his favorite animals. At his peak as the highest-paid writer in America, he was nevertheless constantly broke. An irrepressibly optimistic crusader for social justice, he burned himself out at forty: sick, angry, and disillusioned, but left behind a voluminous literary legacy, much of it ripe for rediscovery.

In Jack London, the noted scholar Earle Labor explores the forgotten London—at once a hard-living globe-trotter and a man alive with ideas, whose passion for social justice roared until the day he died. Returning London to his proper place in the American pantheon, Labor resurrects a major American novelist in his full fire and glory.

Earle Labor is the official biographer of the novelist Jack London and the curator of the Jack London Museum in Shreveport, Louisiana. He is also the Wilson Professor of American Literature at Centenary College of Louisiana and lives in Shreveport.

PRAISE

Praise for Jack London: An American Life:
"A lively and authoritative biography." - Caleb Crain, The New Yorker
"Labor is the world's foremost Jack London scholar. His working-class background and deep erudition make him the right man to chronicle the life of this most popular American author. Now curator of the Jack London Museum and Re...
Roth Unbound
A Writer and His Books
Claudia Roth Pierpont

Philip Roth—one of the most renowned writers of his generation—hardly needs introduction. From his debut, Goodbye, Columbus, which won the National Book Award, to his Pulitzer Prize–winning American Pastoral, to his eternally inventive later works such as Exit Ghost and Nemesis, Roth has produced some of the greatest literature of the past hundred years. And yet there has been no major critical work about him, until now.

Here, at last, is the story of Roth’s creative life. Claudia Roth Pierpont, a staff writer for The New Yorker, tells an engaging story as she delves into the many complexities of Roth’s work and the controversies it has raised. This is not a biography—though it contains many biographical details—but something more rewarding: an attempt to understand a great writer through his art.

Pierpont, who has known Roth for several years, peppers her gracefully written and carefully researched account with conversational details, providing insights and anecdotes previously accessible only to a few, touching on Roth’s family, his inspirations, his critics, the full range of his fiction, and his literary friendships with such figures as Saul Bellow and John Updike.

Roth Unbound is a major achievement, a fascinating and highly readable work that will set the standard for Roth scholarship for years to come.

Claudia Roth Pierpont is a staff writer for The New Yorker, where she has written about the arts for more than twenty years. The subjects of her articles have ranged from James Baldwin to Katharine Hepburn, from Machiavelli to Mae West. A collection of Pierpont’s essays on women writers, Passionate Minds: Women Rewriting the World, was nominated for a National Book Critics Circle Award in 2000. She has been the recipient of a Whiting Writers’ Award, a Guggenheim Fellowship, and a fellowship at the Cullman Center for Scholars and Writers of the New York Public Library. She has a PhD in Italian Renaissance art history from New York University. She lives in New York City.

PRAISE

“Roth Unbound is filled with intelligent readings and smart judgments. Because of the author’s sympathy and sharp mind, it offers real insight into the creative process itself, and into Philip Roth’s high calling as a great American artist. The book is, in some ways, a radical rereading of Roth’s life and his work. It is impossible, by th...
Holding On Upside Down
The Life and Work of Marianne Moore

Linda Leavell

A mesmerizing and essential biography of the modernist poet Marianne Moore

To readers who know Marianne Moore as a demure baseball fan and courtly Brooklyn eccentric, Linda Leavell’s *Holding On Upside Down*—the first authorized biography of this major American poet—will come as a shock. This mesmerizing, essential book will change forever how we view the woman and her poetry.

Drawing on previously untapped depths in the Moore family archives, *Holding On Upside Down* reveals a passionate, canny young woman caught between genuine devotion to her hovering mother, with whom she lived for sixty years, and her own irrepressible desire for freedom. Her many poems about survival, it turns out, are not just quirky nature studies but acts of survival themselves.

Leavell places this mother-daughter drama within a historical context of emerging modernity. “Everyone loved her,” recalled William Carlos Williams of the years she lived in Greenwich Village, yet no one could fathom the “mother thing,” as he referred to it. After her mother’s death, the aging recluse transformed herself, against all expectations, into a charismatic performer and beloved celebrity who was widely hailed as the greatest living poet in the United States.

Elegantly written, meticulously researched, and critically acute, *Holding On Upside Down* at last provides the biography that this major modernist and complex personality deserves.

Linda Leavell has been studying Marianne Moore’s life and work for nearly three decades. Among her previous publications is the award-winning critical study *Marianne Moore and the Visual Arts: Prismatic Color*. She lives with her husband in Fayetteville, Arkansas.

PRAISE

“*Holding On Upside Down* captures well the strange and entrancing drama of Marianne’s family life.” —Abigail Deutsch, *The Wall Street Journal*
Happy City: Transforming Our Lives Through Urban Design

Charles Montgomery

A globe-trotting, eye-opening exploration of how cities can—and do—make us happier people

Charles Montgomery’s *Happy City* is revolutionizing the way we think about urban life.

After decades of unchecked sprawl, more people than ever are moving back to the city. Dense urban living has been prescribed as a panacea for the environmental and resource crises of our time. But is it better or worse for our happiness? Are subways, sidewalks, and condo towers an improvement on the car dependence of the suburbs?

The award-winning journalist Charles Montgomery finds answers to such questions at the intersection between urban design and the emerging science of happiness, during an exhilarating journey through some of the world’s most dynamic cities. He meets the visionary mayor who introduced a “sexy” bus to ease status anxiety in Bogotá; the architect who brought the lessons of medieval Tuscan hill towns to modern-day New York City; the activist who turned Paris’s urban freeways into beaches; and an army of American suburbanites who have hacked the design of their own streets and neighborhoods.

Rich with new insights from psychology, neuroscience, and Montgomery’s own urban experiments, *Happy City* reveals how cities can shape our thoughts as well as our behavior. The message is ultimately as surprising as it is hopeful: by retrofitting cities and our own lives for happiness, we can tackle the urgent challenges of our age. The happy city can save the world—and we can all help build it.

Charles Montgomery is a journalist and an urban experimentalist whose writings on cities, psychology, culture, and history have appeared in magazines and journals around the world. His first book, *The Shark God*, won the Charles Taylor Prize for literary nonfiction. He was an original team member of the BMW Guggenheim Lab and continues to produce city programs with the Museum of Vancouver. He has advised and lectured planners, students, and urban decision-makers across North America and England. Visit [www.charlesmontgomery.ca](http://www.charlesmontgomery.ca) and [www.thehappycity.com](http://www.thehappycity.com) for more information.

PRAISE

“*Happy City* is its own opiate: an eye-opening, pleasurable, utterly necessary tour through the best and worst neighborhoods of our urbanized world. Charles Montgomery shows us the way to a beautiful city.” —Andrew Blum, author of *Tubes*
Dogfight: How Apple and Google Went to War and Started a Revolution

Fred Vogelstein

“If you want to understand . . . what the future might look like, read this superb book.” —Ken Auletta

Today, amid the many manufacturers of smartphones, tablets, and apps, two names tower above the others: Apple and Google. Their philosophies, leaders, and commercial acumen have steamrolled the competition—and now threaten to steamroll each other. In the age of the iPad and Android, the two companies are locked in a feud that will play out not only in the marketplace but in the courts and on screens around the world. It’s a tale of friendships gone sour, of trust betrayed, and of agreements breached.

Fred Vogelstein has reported on the tech and media industries for more than fifteen years, and he’s followed this rivalry from the beginning. He has rare access to its players, major and minor alike. In Dogfight, he takes us into the offices and conference rooms where company dogma becomes ruthless business, into a world where employees are regularly poached and alliances are always shifting.

Dogfight reads like a novel; it’s vivid nonfiction with never-before-heard details. This is more than a story about which devices will replace our phones and laptops. It’s about who will control the content on those devices and where that content will come from—about the future of media and information and thousands of careers in Silicon Valley, New York, Hollywood, and around the globe.


PRAISE

“No battle in the business world is more important than Apple versus Google in the quest for smartphone supremacy, and now Fred Vogelstein has provided the essential blow-by-blow. Dogfight has teeth!” —Steven Levy, author of In the Plex: How Google Thinks, Works, and Shapes Our Lives

“Loaded with fresh, never-before-reported details.” —For...
Three Plays
Blood Wedding; Yerma; The House of Bernarda Alba

Federico García Lorca; The New Authorized English Translations by Michael Dewell and Carmen Zapata; Introduction by Christopher Maurer

Few modern playwrights rival Federico García Lorca in the creation of poetic drama. In these three plays, his acknowledged masterpieces, he searched for a contemporary mode of tragedy and reminded his audience that dramatic poetry—or poetic drama—depends less on formal convention than on an elemental, radical outlook on human life. His images are strikingly beautiful and poetically exact, but no American translator has ever been able to make his characters speak unafectedly. Here, Michael Dewell of the National Repertory Theatre and Carmen Zapata of the Bilingual Foundation of the Arts have created versions that are both performable and readable. This edition is introduced by Christopher Maurer, the general editor of the Complete Poetical Works of García Lorca.

Federico García Lorca, one of Spain's greatest poets and dramatists, was born in a village near Granada in 1898 and murdered in 1936, at the beginning of the Spanish Civil War. Michael Dewell was until his death in 1994 the president of the National Repertory Theatre Foundation, for which he produced a wide range of works, from Euripides' to Arthur Miller's. Carmen Zapata is the founder of the Bilingual Foundation of the Arts, a Hispanic American theater in Los Angeles that has played on tour throughout the United States and at theater festivals in Colombia, Spain, and Mexico. Christopher Maurer is a leading García Lorca scholar and professor of Spanish at Boston University.

PRAISE

"Nimble and wise... A fresh, flowering translation." —Robert Kohler, Los Angeles Times
Collected Poems

Federico García Lorca; Edited by Christopher Maurer

The collected poems from “one of the greatest poets of all time” (Allen Josephs, Newsday).

Federico García Lorca was the most beloved poet of twentieth-century Spain and one of the world’s most influential modernist writers. His work has long been admired for its passionate urgency and haunting evocation of sorrow and loss. Perhaps more persistently than any writer of his time, he sought to understand and accommodate the numinous sources of his inspiration. Though he died at age thirty-eight, he left behind a generous body of poetry, drama, musical arrangements, and drawings, which continue to surprise and inspire.

Christopher Maurer, a leading García Lorca scholar and editor, has brought together new and substantially revised translations by twelve poets and translators, improving on the first edition of Collected Poems, published in 1991. The seminal volume Poet in New York is also included here in its entirety. This is the most comprehensive collection in English of a poet who—as Maurer writes in his illuminating introduction—“spoke unforgottably of all that most interests us: the otherness of nature, the demons of personal identity and artistic creation, sex, childhood, and death.”

Federico García Lorca, one of Spain’s greatest poets and dramatists, was born in a village near Granada in 1898 and murdered in 1936, at the beginning of the Spanish Civil War. Christopher Maurer is a leading García Lorca scholar and a professor of Spanish at Boston University.

PRAISE

Selected Verse
Revised Bilingual Edition

Federico García Lorca; Edited by Christopher Maurer

Selected verse from the poet who “expanded the scope of lyric poetry” (Rafael Campo, The Washington Post).

The work of Federico García Lorca, Spain’s greatest modernist poet, has long been admired for its emotional intensity and metaphorical brilliance. The revised Selected Verse, which incorporates changes made to García Lorca’s Collected Poems, is an essential addition to any poetry lover’s bookshelf. In this bilingual edition, García Lorca’s poetic range comes clearly into view, from the playful Suites and stylized evocations of Andalusia to the utter gravity and mystery of the final elegies, confirming his stature as one of the twentieth century’s finest poets.

Federico García Lorca, one of Spain’s greatest poets and dramatists, was born in a village near Granada in 1898 and murdered in 1936, at the beginning of the Spanish Civil War. Christopher Maurer is a leading García Lorca scholar and a professor of Spanish at Boston University.

PRAISE

“Rarely has anyone written with such duende (soul), such fervent eloquence, such vividness and audacity as Lorca.” —David H. Rosenthal, The New York Times Book Review

“García Lorca’s poems remain influential, mysterious, and some of the most emotional we have.” —The Bloomsbury Review
77 Dream Songs
Poems

John Berryman; Edited by Daniel Swift; Introduction by Henri Cole

A wild, masterful Pulitzer Prize–winning cycle of poems that half a century later still shocks and astounds

John Berryman was hardly unknown when he published 77 Dream Songs, but the volume was, nevertheless, a shock and a revelation. A “spooky” collection in the words of Robert Lowell—“a maddening work of genius.”

As Henri Cole notes in his elegant, perceptive introduction, Berryman had discovered “a looser style that mixed high and low dictions with a strange syntax.” Berryman had also discovered his most enduring alter ego, a paranoid, passionate, depressed, drunk, irrepressible antihero named Henry or, sometimes, Mr. Bones: “We touch at certain points,” Berryman claimed, of Henry, “But I am an actual human being.”

Henry may not be real, but he comes alive on the page. And while the most famous of the Dream Songs begins, “Life, friends, is boring,” these poems never are. Henry lusts: seeing a woman “Filling her compact & delicious body / with chicken páprika” he can barely restrain himself: “only the fact of her husband & four other people / kept me from springing on her.” Henry despairs: “All the world like a woolen lover / once did seem on Henry’s side. / Then came a departure.” Henry, afraid of his own violent urges, consoles himself: “Nobody is ever missing.”

77 Dream Songs won the Pulitzer Prize in 1965, but Berryman’s formal and emotional innovations—he cracks the language open, creates a new idiom in which to express eternal feelings—remain as alive and immediate today as ever.

John Berryman (1914–1972) was an American poet and scholar. He won the Pulitzer Prize for 77 Dream Songs in 1965 and the National Book Award and the Bollingen Prize for His Toy, His Dream, His Rest in 1969.

PRAISE

Praise for The Dream Songs

“[The Dream Songs] . . . [is] indeed, the most entertaining American long poem written this century.” —Nicholas Everett, The London Review of Books
Berryman's Sonnets

John Berryman; Edited by Daniel Swift; Introduction by April Bernard

A brilliant and fiercely pitched sonnet cycle about love: at once passionate, forbidden, and doomed

John Berryman was an unconventional poet, but he must have surprised even himself when, in his thirties, he found he was suddenly compelled to write sonnets. It was an unusual choice—even an unpopular one—for a poet in a midcentury American literary scene that was less interested in forms. But it was the right choice, for Berryman found himself in a situation that called for the sonnet: after several years of a happy marriage, he had fallen helplessly, hopelessly in love with the young wife of a colleague.

“Passion sought; passion requited; passion delayed; and, finally, passion utterly thwarted”: this is how the poet April Bernard, in her vivid, intimate introduction, characterizes the sonnet cycle, and it is the cycle that Berryman found himself caught up in. Of course the affair was doomed to end, and end badly. But in the meantime, on the page Berryman performs a spectacular dance of tender, obsessive, impossible love in his “characteristic tonal mixture of bravado and lacerating shame-facedness.” Here is the poet as lover, genius, and also, in Bernard’s words, as nutcase.

In Berryman’s Sonnets, the poet draws on the models of Petrarch and Sidney to reanimate and reimagine the love-sonnet sequence. Complex, passionate, filled with verbal fireworks and the emotional strains of joy, terror, guilt, and longing, these poems are ripe for rediscovery by contemporary readers.

John Berryman (1914–1972) was an American poet and scholar. He won the Pulitzer Prize for 77 Dream Songs in 1965 and the National Book Award and the Bollingen Prize for His Toy, His Dream, His Rest in 1969.

PRAISE

“Among the poets [John Berryman] counted as his peers only Lowell has produced as large a body of work which so vividly spoke to its time and continues to reverberate beyond it.” —Robert Shaw, Poetry
The Dream Songs
Poems

John Berryman; Edited by Daniel Swift; Introduction by Michael Hofmann

The complete *Dream Songs*—hypnotic, seductive, masterful—as thrilling to read now as they ever were

John Berryman’s *Dream Songs* are perhaps the funniest, saddest, most intricately wrought cycle of poems by an American in the twentieth century. They are also, more simply, the vibrantly sketched adventures of a uniquely American antihero named Henry. Henry falls in and out of love, and is in and out of the hospital; he sings of joy and desire, and of beings at odds with the world. He is lustful; he is depressed.

And while Henry is breaking down and cracking up and patching himself together again, Berryman is doing the same thing to the English language, crafting electric verses that defy grammar but resound with an intuitive truth: “if he had a hundred years,” Henry despairs in “Dream Song 29,” “& more, & weeping, sleepless, in all them time / Henry could not make good.”

This volume collects both *77 Dream Songs*, which won Berryman the Pulitzer Prize in 1965, and their continuation, *His Toy, His Dream, His Rest*, which was awarded the National Book Award and the Bollingen Prize in 1969. *The Dream Songs* are witty and wild, an account of madness shot through with searing insight, winking word play, and moments of pure, soaring elation. This is a brilliantly sustained and profoundly moving performance that has not yet—and may never be—equaled.

John Berryman (1914–1972) was an American poet and scholar. He won the Pulitzer Prize for *77 Dream Songs* in 1965 and the National Book Award and the Bollingen Prize for *His Toy, His Dream, His Rest* in 1969.

**PRAISE**

“A major achievement . . . [Berryman] has written an elegy on his brilliant generation and, in the process, he has also written an elegy on himself.” —A. Alvarez, *The Observer*
Cancer Ward
A Novel

Aleksandr Solzhenitsyn;
Translated from the Russian
by Nicholas Bethell and David Burg

The Russian Nobelist’s semiautobiographical novel set in a Soviet cancer ward shortly after Stalin’s death

One of the great allegorical masterpieces of world literature, Cancer Ward is both a deeply compassionate study of people facing terminal illness and a brilliant dissection of the cancerous Soviet police state.

Cancer Ward examines the relationship of a group of people in the cancer ward of a provincial Soviet hospital in 1955, two years after Stalin’s death. We see them under normal circumstances and then reexamined at the eleventh hour of illness. Together they represent a remarkable cross section of contemporary Russian characters and attitudes. The experiences of the central character, Oleg Kostoglotov, closely reflect the author’s own: Aleksandr Solzhenitsyn became a patient in a cancer ward in the mid-1950s, on his release from a labor camp, and later recovered.

Aleksandr Solzhenitsyn was a Russian novelist and historian, and the winner of the 1970 Nobel Prize in Literature. He served as a decorated commander in the Red Army during World War II before he was arrested for anti-Soviet propaganda and sentenced to eight years in a Soviet labor camp, where he drew inspiration for his controversial novel A Day in the Life of Ivan Denisovich. Exiled in 1974, he returned to Russia after the dissolution of the Soviet Union and died in Moscow in 2008.

PRAISE

“A literary event of the first magnitude.” —Time

“The most moving of Solzhenitsyn’s novels.” —Clifton Fadiman
Stories and Prose Poems
Aleksandr Solzhenitsyn; Translated from the Russian by Michael Glenny

A new edition of the Russian Nobelist's collection of novellas, short stories, and prose poems

Stories and Prose Poems contains twenty-two works of widely varied style and character from the Nobel Prize winner Aleksandr Solzhenitsyn. These shorter pieces demonstrate the extraordinary mastery of language that places Solzhenitsyn among the greatest Russian prose writers of the twentieth century.

When the two superb stories “Matryona’s House” and “An Incident at Krechetovka Station” were first published in Russia in 1963, the Moscow Literary Gazette, the mouthpiece of the Soviet literary establishment, wrote: “His talent is so individual and so striking that from now on nothing that comes from his pen can fail to excite the liveliest interest.”

For some readers the most exciting discovery will be the astonishing group of sixteen prose poems. In these works of varying lengths, Solzhenitsyn has distilled the joy and bitterness of Russia’s fate into language of unrivaled lyrical purity.

Aleksandr Solzhenitsyn was a Russian novelist and historian, and the winner of the 1970 Nobel Prize in Literature. He served as a decorated commander in the Red Army during World War II before he was arrested for anti-Soviet propaganda and sentenced to eight years in a Soviet labor camp, where he drew inspiration for his controversial novel A Day in the Life of Ivan Denisovich. Exiled in 1974, he returned to Russia after the dissolution of the Soviet Union and died in Moscow in 2008.

PRAISE

“His new collection, with its stoical, plain, inward beauty, movingly reminds us that Solzhenitsyn seems never to have written a line that was not somehow tinged with hope.” —Kirkus Reviews
Poets in Their Youth
A Memoir

Eileen Simpson

An intimate, clear-eyed, loving memoir about soon-to-be literary lions on the cusp of greatness

In 1942, Eileen Simpson—then Eileen Mulligan—married John Berryman. Both were in their twenties; Eileen had just graduated from Hunter College and John had but one slim volume of poetry to his name. They moved frequently—from New York to Boston, then Princeton—chasing jobs, living simply, relying on the hospitality of more successful friends like Robert Lowell and Jean Stafford, or R. P. Blackmur and his wife, Helen. Rounding out their circle of intimates were other struggling poets like Randall Jarrell and Delmore Schwartz. Berryman alternately wrote and despaired of writing. Everyone stayed up late arguing about poetry.

Poets in Their Youth is a portrait of their marriage, yes, but it is also a portrait of a group of spectacularly intelligent friends at a particular time, in a particular place, all aflame with literature. Simpson’s recollections are so tender, her narrative so generous, it is almost possible to imagine the story has a different ending—even as Schwartz’s marriage crumbles, as Lowell succumbs to a manic episode, as her own relationship with Berryman buckles under the strain of his drinking, his infidelity, his depression.

Filled with winning anecdotes and moments of startling poignancy, Simpson’s now classic memoir shows some of the most brilliant literary minds of the second half of the twentieth century at their brightest and most achingly human.

Eileen Simpson (1918–2002) was a writer and psychologist. Her books include The Maze, a novel; Reversals: A Personal Account of Victory over Dyslexia; Orphans: Real and Imaginary; and Late Love: A Celebration of Marriage After Fifty.

PRAISE

Praise for Poets in Their Youth:
“Lowell, Jarrell, Schwartz, Eliot and above all John Berryman. Eileen Simpson’s touch is graceful, funny, astute, and at all times sympathetic.” —Joyce Carol Oates
Freud and Yoga
Two Philosophies of Mind Compared

T.K.V. Desikachar and Hellfried Krusche; Translated from the German by Anne-Marie Hodges

Lessons from a great yoga master and an eminent psychoanalyst that explore what psychotherapy and yoga philosophy have in common

Yoga philosophy and Freud’s revolutionary approach to psychology could not have been developed in more different times, places, or cultural conditions. And yet these two profound and dynamic systems of understanding human behavior, emotions, perception, and what’s essential in our existence have an astonishing amount to share. What we learn by comparing their similarities as well as their differences can enhance how we comprehend our lives and our potential for change.

In *Freud and Yoga*, the great yoga master T.K.V. Desikachar and the eminent psychoanalyst Hellfried Krusche examine forty classic sayings, or *śūtras*, from the vantage point of their respective disciplines. Through clear, candid conversations that draw on long experience and are illustrated by case studies from the clinic and the *shala*, these two experts explain the concepts, terms, forces, and processes in their traditions.

Therapists and patients, yoga adepts and professionals, and readers interested in psychology and spirituality will find this unique investigation fascinating, enriching, and useful. In a time when Western and Eastern modalities have ever more to offer each other, *Freud and Yoga* is a watershed work—one that draws us closer to understanding our own nature and the deep workings of the human psyche.

**T.K.V. Desikachar**, the son and student of the legendary yoga teacher Krishnamacharya, is a world-renowned authority on the therapeutic uses of yoga. He has been teaching internationally since 1962 and in 1976 founded the Krishnamacharya Yoga Mandiram in Chennai, India, which functions as a training ground for teachers as well as a clinic for treatment. He is the author of several influential books, including, with R. H. Cravens, *Health, Healing, and Beyond* (NPP, 2011). **Hellfried Krusche** is a doctor of psychology, an analyst, and a member of the German Psychoanalytical Association. He has trained as a yoga instructor in Belgium and France and has sojourned on numerous occasions with Desikachar at the Krishnamacharya Yoga Mandiram.
The Copernicus Complex
Our Cosmic Significance in a Universe of Planets and Probabilities

Caleb Scharf

A groundbreaking revision of the Copernican principle

Though the concept of “the universe” suggests the containment of everything, the latest ideas in cosmology hint that our universe may be just one of a multitude of others—a single slice of an infinity of parallel realities.

In The Copernicus Complex, the renowned astrophysicist and author Caleb Scharf takes us on a cosmic adventure like no other, from tiny microbes within the Earth to distant exoplanets and beyond, asserting that the age-old Copernican principle is in need of updating. As Scharf argues, when Copernicus proposed that the Earth was not the fixed point at the center of the known universe (and therefore we are not unique), he set in motion a colossal scientific juggernaut, forever changing our vision of nature. But the principle has never been entirely true—we do live at a particular time, in a particular location, under particular circumstances. To solve this conundrum we must put aside our Copernican worldview and embrace the possibility that we are in a delicate balance between mediocrity and significance, order and chaos.

Weaving together cutting-edge science and classic storytelling, historical accounts and speculations on what the future holds, The Copernicus Complex presents a compelling argument for what our true cosmic status is, and proposes a way forward for the ultimate quest: to determine life’s abundance not just across this universe but across all realities.

Caleb Scharf is the director of the Columbia Astrobiology Center. He writes for The New Yorker, New Scientist, Science, Scientific American, and Nature, among other publications, and has served as a consultant for the Discovery Channel, the Science Channel, and The New York Times. Scharf has been a keynote speaker for the American Museum of Natural History and the Rubin Museum of Art, and is the author of Gravity’s Engines. He lives in New York City with his wife and two daughters.

PRAISE

Praise for Gravity’s Engines

A Barnes and Noble Review Editors’ Pick for Best Nonfiction of 2012
A New Scientist Top 10 Science Book of 2012
In his eye-opening book *Perv*, the award-winning columnist and psychologist Jesse Bering argues that we are all sexual deviants on one level or another. As Bering takes us into the lives of a woman who falls madly in love with the Eiffel Tower, a young man who is addicted to seductive sneezes, and a pair of deeply affectionate identical twins, among others, he challenges us to move beyond our judgments of and attitudes toward "deviant" sex and consider the alternative: What would happen if we rose above our fears and revulsions and accepted our true nature?

With his signature wit and irreverent style, Bering pulls back the curtains on the history of perversions, the biological reasons behind our distaste for unusual sexual proclivities, and the latest research on desire. Armed with reason, science, and an insatiable appetite for knowledge, he humanizes deviants while asking some very provocative questions about the nature of hypocrisy, prejudice, and when sexual desire can lead to harm.

A groundbreaking look at our complex relationship with our carnal urges and the ways in which we disguise, deny, and shame the sexual deviant in all of us, *Perv* brings our hidden desires into the light.

**Jesse Bering** is a psychologist and author whose writing and research has appeared in *New York* magazine, *Cosmopolitan*, *Scientific American*, *Slate*, *The Guardian*, and *The New Republic*, among others. He has been featured on NPR, Playboy Radio, *Conan*, *Chelsea Lately*, and more. The author of *The Belief Instinct* and *Why Is the Penis Shaped Like That?*, Bering is the former director of the Institute of Cognition and Culture at the Queen’s University, Belfast, and began his career as a professor at the University of Arkansas. He lives in Ithaca, New York.

**PRAISE**

“As a sex writer, Jesse Bering is fearless—and peerless.” —Dan Savage

“Bering’s latest is a delightful, intelligent, and thought-provoking addition to the growing body of our sexual knowledge of self.” —*Publishers Weekly* (starred review)

“A master craftsman at refashioning reproductive biology into provocative composition.” —*Kirkus Reviews*
10:04
A Novel
Ben Lerner

A beautiful and utterly original novel about making art, love, and children during the twilight of an empire

Ben Lerner’s first novel, *Leaving the Atocha Station*, was hailed as “one of the truest (and funniest) novels . . . of his generation” (Lorin Stein, *The New York Review of Books*), “a work so luminously original in style and form as to seem like a premonition, a comet from the future” (Geoff Dyer, *The Observer*). Now, his second novel departs from *Leaving the Atocha Station*’s exquisite ironies in order to explore new territories of thought and feeling.

In the last year, the narrator of 10:04 has enjoyed unexpected literary success, has been diagnosed with a potentially fatal heart condition, and has been asked by his best friend to help her conceive a child, despite his dating a rising star in the visual arts. In a New York of increasingly frequent superstorms and political unrest, he must reckon with his biological mortality, the possibility of a literary afterlife, and the prospect of (unconventional) fatherhood in a city that might soon be under water.

In prose that Jonathan Franzen has called “hilarious . . . cracklingly intelligent . . . and original in every sentence,” Lerner captures what it’s like to be alive now, when the difficulty of imagining a future has changed our relation to our present and our past. Exploring sex, friendship, medicine, memory, art, and politics, 10:04 is both a riveting work of fiction and a brilliant examination of the role fiction plays in our lives.

**Ben Lerner** is a poet, novelist, essayist, and critic. He has been a Fulbright scholar, a finalist for the National Book Award, a Howard Foundation fellow, and a Guggenheim fellow. In 2011 he won the Preis der Stadt Muenster für Internationale Poesie, the first American to receive this honor. He is the author of a novel, *Leaving the Atocha Station*, and the poetry collections *The Lichtenberg Figures*, *Angle of Yaw*, and *Mean Free Path*. Lerner is a professor of English at Brooklyn College.
100 Essays I Don't Have Time to Write
On Umbrellas and Sword Fights, Parades and Dogs, Fire Alarms, Children, and Theater

Sarah Ruhl

One hundred incisive, idiosyncratic essays on life and theater from a major American playwright

“Don’t send your characters to reform school!” pleads Sarah Ruhl in one of her essays. With titles as varied as “On Lice” to “On Sleeping in Theaters” and “Motherhood and Stools (The Furniture Kind),” these essays are artful meditations on life in the arts and joyous jumbles of observations on everything in between. The pieces combine admonition, celebration, inquiry, jokes, assignments, entreaties, prayers, and advice: honest reflections distilled from years of working in the theater. They offer candid accounts of what it is like to be a mother and an artist, along with descriptions of how Ruhl’s children’s dreams, jokes, and songs work themselves into her writing. 100 Essays is not just a book about the theater. It is a map of a very particular artistic sensibility and a guide for anyone who has chosen an artist’s life.

Sarah Ruhl’s plays include In the Next Room, or the Vibrator Play (Pulitzer Prize finalist, Tony Award nominee), The Clean House (Pulitzer Prize finalist, Susan Smith Blackburn Prize); Passion Play, a Cycle (PEN American Award); Dead Man’s Cell Phone (Helen Hayes Award); and most recently, Stage Kiss and Dear Elizabeth. She has been the recipient of a MacArthur fellowship, the Helen Merrill Emerging Playwrights Award, the Whiting Writers’ Award, the PEN Center Award for a midcareer playwright, the Feminist Press’s Forty Under Forty Award, and the 2010 Lilly Award. She is currently on the faculty at Yale School of Drama and lives in Brooklyn, New York, with her family.

PRAISE

Praise for Sarah Ruhl

“Ruhl’s playwriting is inspired.” —John Lahr, The New Yorker
Dear Elizabeth
A Play in Letters from Elizabeth Bishop to Robert Lowell and Back Again

Sarah Ruhl

A moving, innovative play based on one of the greatest correspondences in literary history

From 1947 to 1977, Robert Lowell and Elizabeth Bishop exchanged more than four hundred letters. Cataloging the composition of their poems, their travel and daily routines, the pyrotechnics of their romantic relationships, and the profound affection they had for each other, these letters are the most intimate record of both poets and one of the greatest correspondences in American letters.

Sarah Ruhl is one of the most lauded and produced playwrights working today, with plays beloved for their unembarrassed lyricism, casual surrealism, and naked emotional force. In Dear Elizabeth, Ruhl attempts the impossible: adapting Lowell and Bishop’s thirty-year correspondence into a stage play. And she succeeds brilliantly, re-embodifying the letters and poems in human voices, elegantly suggesting the poets’ lives outside of the letters, and poignantly depicting the emotional closeness and geographical distance that defined their thirty-year relationship. Dear Elizabeth offers a reading experience as engaging as a live performance, one that will entrance anyone curious about the lives of these legendary poets.

Sarah Ruhl’s plays include In the Next Room, or the Vibrator Play (Pulitzer Prize finalist, Tony Award nominee), The Clean House (Pulitzer Prize finalist, Susan Smith Blackburn Prize); Passion Play, a Cycle (PEN American Award); Dead Man’s Cell Phone (Helen Hayes Award); and most recently, Stage Kiss and Dear Elizabeth. She has been the recipient of a MacArthur fellowship, the Helen Merrill Emerging Playwrights Award, the Whiting Writers’ Award, the PEN Center Award for a midcareer playwright, the Feminist Press’s Forty Under Forty Award, and the 2010 Lilly Award. She is currently on the faculty at Yale School of Drama and lives in Brooklyn, New York, with her family.

PRAISE

“Ruhl’s gentle treatment of the poems, the way she finds the breathing space between life and art, can’t be overpraised. She crystallizes the magic of what is left unsaid and the piercing intimacy of regret in one beguiling passage after another.” —Karen D’Souza, San Jose Mercury News
Ways of Curating

Hans Ulrich Obrist

The world’s most influential contemporary-art curator explores the history and practice of his craft

Whether in London, New York, Zurich, or Beijing, no one in the art world today is more visible or more active than Hans Ulrich Obrist. Since curating his first exhibit in his kitchen at age twenty-three, he has curated more than 250 shows internationally, creating some of the most influential exhibits of our age. There is no one better qualified to write about curation, and in Ways of Curating, he synthesizes his experience and research into the definitive treatise on this practice.

In short, accessible chapters, Obrist traces the history of curation, from the nineteenth-century wunderkammer to the twenty-first century. There are biographical sketches of a panoply of artists and thinkers, including figures as diverse as Sergei Diaghilev, Robert Walser, and Lucy Lippard. Obrist also describes his own trajectory and his idea of the curator as a facilitator between artists and audiences, leading him to discuss his collaborations with modern art luminaries such as Christian Boltanski, Rem Koolhaas, Cy Twombly, Gerhard Richter, Félix González-Torres, and Tino Sehgal.

“Curating” is a major buzzword today, and interest in the concept of curating, in the interaction between audiences and artworks, has never been greater. Ways of Curating is filled with insights for everyone from art professionals and students to casual museumgoers.

Hans Ulrich Obrist, the renowned Swiss-born art curator, critic, and historian, is currently the codirector of exhibitions and programs and the director of international projects at the Serpentine Galleries, London. In the November 2009 issue of ArtReview, Obrist was named the most powerful figure in the international art world in its annual Power 100 list. He is the author of Ai Weiwei Speaks and has published nearly thirty volumes of his Conversation Series of interviews with contemporary artists as well as countless art monographs.

PRAISE

Praise for Hans Ulrich Obrist

“One of the most colourful figures in the artworld today . . . Not so much a curator as a human whirlwind.” —Charlotte Higgins, The Guardian
Happiness
Ten Years of n+1

Selected by the editors of n+1 magazine

A selection from the first ten years of “the best goddamn literary magazine in America” (Mary Karr)

The first issue of n+1 appeared in the fall of 2004 as the brainchild of a group of writers working out of a Brooklyn apartment. Intended to revive the leftist social criticism that was the hallmark of Dissent and Partisan Review, n+1 was a fierce rejoinder to the consumerism and complacency of the Bush years. It hasn’t slowed down since. It has given us the first sociological survey of the Brooklyn hipster, the best criticism of the New York City literary scene, and the most clear-eyed, boots-on-the-ground reportage of the 2008 crash and the Occupy movement. No media, new or old, has escaped its ire, and n+1’s firebrand contributors have had the last word on reality TV, Twitter, diploma deflation, drone strikes, and Internet porn.

Happiness, released on the occasion of n+1’s tenth anniversary, collects the best of the magazine as selected by its editors. These essays are fiercely contentious, disconcertingly astute, and screamingly funny, taking a searching moral inventory of the strange times we live in. Founding lights Chad Harbach, Keith Gessen, Benjamin Kunkel, Marco Roth, and Mark Greif are featured, as well as the essays that launched some of the most electric young writers working today, talents such as Elif Batuman, Emily Witt, and Kristen Dombek. This anthology is the definitive work of the definitive intellectual magazine of our time.

n+1, a New York-based literary magazine, publishes social criticism, political commentary, essays, art, poetry, book reviews, and short fiction. It was founded in 2004 by Keith Gessen, Mark Greif, Chad Harbach, Benjamin Kunkel, Allison Lorentzen, and Marco Roth.

PRAISE

Praise for n+1

“Just when you’re thinking you’re intellectually alone in the world, something like n+1 falls into your hands.” —Jonathan Franzen

“n+1 is rigorous, curious and provocative. Intelligent thought is not dead in New York. It has simply moved to Brooklyn.” —Malcolm Gladwell
Candy
A Century of Panic and Pleasure
Samira Kawash

A lively cultural history that explores how candy in America became food and how food became more like candy

Many adults who wouldn’t dream of indulging in a Snickers bar or jelly beans feel fine snacking on sports bars and giving their children fruit snacks. For most Americans, candy is enjoyed guiltily and considered the most unhealthy thing we eat. But why? Candy accounts for less than ten percent of the added sugar in the American diet. And at least it’s honest about what it is—a processed food, eaten for pleasure, with no particular nutritional benefit. What should really worry consumers is the fact that today every aisle in the supermarket contains highly manipulated products that have all the qualities of candy. So how did our definitions of food and candy come to be so muddled?

Candy tells the strange, fascinating story of how candy evolved in America and how it became a scapegoat for all our fears about the changing nature of food. Samira Kawash takes us from the moral crusaders at the turn of the century, who blamed candy for everything from poisoning to alcoholism to sexual depravity; to the reason why the government made candy an essential part of rations during World War I (and how the troops came back craving it like never before); to current worries about hyperactivity, cavities, and obesity.

Candy is an essential, addictive read for anyone who loves lively cultural history, cares about food, and wouldn’t mind feeling a bit better about eating candy.

Samira Kawash has a PhD in literary studies from Duke University and is a professor emerita at Rutgers University. She is the author of Dislocating the Color Line and the founder of the website Candyprofessor.com. Kawash lives in Brooklyn, New York.

PRAISE

“Kawash dives deep into the American relationship with candy, finding irrational and interesting ideas everywhere . . . [She is] interested in untangling the threads of control, danger and temptation that candy has carried since it became widely available in the 1880s.” —Julia Moskin, The New York Times
Constellations
A Play

Nick Payne


One relationship. Infinite possibilities.

In the beginning Marianne and Roland meet at a party. They go for a drink, or perhaps they don’t. They fall madly in love and start dating, but eventually they break up. After a chance encounter in a supermarket they get back together, or maybe they run into each other and Marianne reveals that she’s now engaged to someone else and that’s that. Or perhaps Roland is engaged. Maybe they get married, or maybe their time together will be tragically short.

Nick Payne’s Constellations is a play about free will and friendship; it’s also about quantum multiverse theory, love, and honey.

Nick Payne is the author of the plays If There Is I Haven’t Found It Yet, which won the London Evening Standard Theatre Award for best play; Wanderlust; One Day When We Were Young; and Lay Down Your Cross, among others. He is the winner of the 2009 George Devine Award for Most Promising Playwright and the 2012 Harold Pinter Playwright’s Award. He is currently under commission with the Royal Court Theatre, the Donmar Warehouse, and the Manhattan Theatre Club. He was born in 1984 and lives in Norwich, England.

PRAISE


“Constellations gets into your head and under your skin with an immediacy that sometimes tickles and often hurts.” —Ben Brantley, The New York Times
Second Avenue Caper
The Story of the Colombian Arts Council

Joyce Brabner; Art by Mark Zingarelli

A triumphant memoir of grassroots activism and change in New York City

In Second Avenue Caper, the renowned graphic-book author Joyce Brabner brings to life the true story of a male nurse, a jazz piano player, a drag queen, an actor, an author, and others, who were living in New York City in the early 1980s when they were suddenly affected by a new, mysterious illness. At the center of this emotional, character-driven memoir of the AIDS crisis as it emerged in the city are a small group of friends who gathered at a Second Avenue apartment on the Lower East Side late one night to come up with a new way to respond to the crisis.

Struggling to understand what exactly this disease was, how they could alleviate the suffering of those afflicted, and how to combat the terrible discrimination they all witnessed and faced, the friends hatched a plan that set in motion an underground pharmaceutical drug smuggling deal to bring illegal drugs across the border—drugs that a rogue group of doctors believed would help their patients.

Selling marijuana to help with their real business of getting illegal pharmaceuticals into the hands of those in need, this group of brave, selfless, caring young men and women fought to make grassroots change. Fast-paced, poignant, and beautifully illustrated by the award-winning cartoonist Mark Zingarelli, Second Avenue Caper is both witty and wise, a book that will be cherished by fans of graphic memoirs for years to come.

Joyce Brabner is an award-winning author who frequently collaborated with her late husband, Harvey Pekar, on his American Splendor series. Her work includes the Real War Stories series, Activists!, Brought to Light (with Alan Moore), and Our Cancer Year (with Pekar). She lives in Cleveland Heights, Ohio. Mark Zingarelli is a cartoonist and illustrator whose work has appeared in The New Yorker, Esquire, Sports Illustrated, Fortune, Time, and more. He lives in Pennsylvania.

PRAISE

Praise for Not the Israel My Parents Promised Me

A New York Times Hardcover Graphic Books bestseller
It is widely believed that Americans of the 1970s and '80s were exhausted by the upheavals of the '60s and eager to retreat to the private realm. It is also believed that when they did take action, it was mainly to express their disillusionment with government by supporting the right.

In fact, as Michael Stewart Foley shows, neither of these assumptions is correct. On the community level, the 1970s and '80s saw vibrant new forms of political activity emerge. Tenants challenged landlords, farmers practiced civil disobedience to protect their land, and laid-off workers asserted a right to own their idled factories. Activists fought to defend the traditional family or to expand the rights of women, while entire towns organized to protest the toxic sludge in their basements. Disregarding conventional ideas of "left" and "right," they turned to political action when they perceived an immediate threat to the safety and security of their families, homes, and dreams.

_Front Porch Politics_ is a people’s history told through on-the-ground experiences. Recalling crusades famous and forgotten, Foley shows how Americans followed their outrage into the streets. Their distinctive style of visceral, local, and highly personal activism remains a vital resource for the renewal of American democracy.

Michael Stewart Foley is the author of _Confronting the War Machine: Draft Resistance During the Vietnam War_, winner of the Scott Bills Memorial Prize from the Peace History Society. He has edited or coedited three other books and is a founding editor of _The Sixties: A Journal of History, Politics and Culture_. A native New Englander, he has taught American history at the City University of New York and, in England, at the University of Sheffield. He is now a professor of American political culture at the University of Groningen in the Netherlands.

"Important work . . . [Foley] helps to advance an understanding of the era that cuts across well-worn ideological lines." —Sara Marcus, _Bookforum_

"Carefully researched and vividly written." —_Booklist_
Junipero Serra
California's Founding Father

Steven W. Hackel

A portrait of the priest and colonialist who is one of the most important figures in California’s history

As the founder of the first Catholic missions in California, Father Junipero Serra is regarded as the crucial early apostle of the Golden State. He’s been beatified by the Catholic Church and widely celebrated as a pioneer. And yet his legacy is complicated by his missions’ devastation of much of coastal California’s indigenous population.

Steven W. Hackel’s groundbreaking biography, Junipero Serra: California’s Founding Father, is the first to remove Serra from the realm of religious polemic and place him within the currents of history. Beginning with Serra’s years in Mallorca as a priest and professor, exploring his time in Mexico working among Native Americans and as an itinerant preacher, and detailing his final years on the California coast as an uncompromising missionary and shrewd administrator, Hackel reveals Serra’s potent blend of Franciscan piety and worldly cunning.

A man of indomitable will, Serra outmaneuvered a series of royal officials to establish himself as the great mission builder of his time. But for all his success in bringing Spanish customs and Christian beliefs to Native Americans on the Pacific coast, his legacy today is highly contested. Hackel’s biography presents a complex, authoritative study of a man whose life continues to be both celebrated and denounced.

Steven W. Hackel is an associate professor of history at the University of California, Riverside, and the author of the award-winning Children of Coyote, Missionaries of Saint Francis: Indian-Spanish Relations in Colonial California, 1769–1850. He also directs a project in digital history, the Early California Cultural Atlas, and was the curator of Missions, Myths, and Memories: The Life and Legacies of Junipero Serra, an exhibit that ran at the Huntington Library from August 2013 to January 2014. He lives in Riverside, California.

PRAISE

“Nuanced and revealing.” — The San Diego Union-Tribune

“Meticulously researched . . . A must-read for anyone interested in Serra, California, or the history of colonialism in the Americas.” — Publishers Weekly

“A consummate archivist of California history, Hackel has produced a definitive Golden State biography.” — Kirkus Reviews
A Massacre in Memphis
The Race Riot That Shook the Nation One Year After the Civil War

Stephen V. Ash

An unprecedented account of one of the bloodiest and most significant racial clashes in American history

In May 1866, just a year after the Civil War ended, Memphis erupted in a three-day spasm of racial violence that saw whites rampage through the city’s black neighborhoods. By the time the fires consuming black churches and schools were put out, forty-six freed people had been murdered. Congress, furious at this and other evidence of white resistance in the conquered South, launched what is now called Radical Reconstruction, policies to ensure the freedom of the region’s four million blacks—and one of the most remarkable experiments in American history.

Stephen V. Ash’s *A Massacre in Memphis* is a portrait of a Southern city that opens an entirely new view onto the Civil War and its aftermath. A momentous national event, the riot is also remarkable for being “one of the best-documented episodes of the American nineteenth century.” Yet Ash is the first to mine the sources available to full effect. Bringing postwar Memphis to vivid life, he takes us among newly arrived Yankees, former Rebels, boisterous Irish immigrants, and striving freed people, and shows how Americans of the period worked, prayed, expressed their politics, and imagined the future. And how they died: Ash’s harrowing and profoundly moving present-tense narration of the riot has the immediacy of the best journalism.

Told with nuance, grace, and a quiet moral passion, *A Massacre in Memphis* is Civil War-era history like no other.

Stephen V. Ash is a professor emeritus of history at the University of Tennessee. He is the author of *Firebrand of Liberty*, *A Year in the South*, and other books on the Civil War era. He lives in Knoxville, Tennessee.

PRAISE

"Meticulous . . . Ash offers remarkable portraits of ordinary Memphians . . . caught up in the tumult of their time . . . riveting."
-Kirkus (starred review)

"This detailed account of the lengthy riot and its reverberations surges at the reader . . . For those who want to understand the roots of America’s racial
Geek Sublime
The Beauty of Code, the Code of Beauty

Vikram Chandra

The nonfiction debut from the author of the international bestseller Sacred Games about the surprising overlap between writing and computer coding

Vikram Chandra has been a computer programmer for almost as long as he has been a novelist. In this extraordinary new book, his first work of nonfiction, he searches for the connections between the worlds of art and technology. Coders are obsessed with elegance and style, just as writers are, but do the words mean the same thing to both? Can we ascribe beauty to the craft of writing code?

Exploring such varied topics as logic gates and literary modernism, the machismo of tech geeks, the omnipresence of an “Indian Mafia” in Silicon Valley, and the writings of the eleventh-century Kashmiri thinker Abhinavagupta, Geek Sublime is both an idiosyncratic history of coding and a fascinating meditation on the writer’s art. Part literary essay, part technology story, and part memoir, it is an engrossing, original, and heady book of sweeping ideas.

Vikram Chandra is the author of three highly acclaimed works of fiction, most recently Sacred Games, which won the 2006 Hutch Crossword Award. Chandra lives in Oakland, California and teaches at the University of California, Berkeley.

PRAISE

Praise for Sacred Games

"Bold, fresh, and big . . . Sacred Games deserves praise for its ambitions but also for its terrific achievement." —Maureen Corrigan, NPR, Fresh Air


“Ravishing . . . Extraordinary . . . A chaotic and lumin..."
On Immunity
An Inoculation

Eula Biss

Why do we fear vaccines? A provocative examination by Eula Biss, the author of Notes from No Man’s Land, winner of the National Book Critics Circle Award

Upon becoming a new mother, Eula Biss addresses a chronic condition of fear—fear of the government, the medical establishment, and what is in your child’s air, food, mattress, medicine, and vaccines. She finds that you cannot immunize your child, or yourself, from the world.

In this bold, fascinating book, Biss investigates the metaphors and myths surrounding our conception of immunity and its implications for the individual and the social body. As she hears more and more fears about vaccines, Biss researches what they mean for her own child, her immediate community, America, and the world, both historically and in the present moment. She extends a conversation with other mothers to meditations on Voltaire’s Candide, Bram Stoker’s Dracula, Rachel Carson’s Silent Spring, Susan Sontag’s AIDS and Its Metaphors, and beyond. On Immunity is a moving account of how we are all interconnected—our bodies and our fates.

Eula Biss is the author of Notes from No Man’s Land, winner of the National Book Critics Circle Award for criticism, and The Balloonists. Her essays have appeared in the Believer and Harper’s Magazine. She teaches at Northwestern University and lives in Chicago, Illinois.

PRAISE

Praise for Notes from No Man’s Land

“The most accomplished book of essays anyone has written or published so far in the twenty-first century . . . It is strident and brave in its unwillingness to offer comfort . . . It is unimpeachably great.” —Kyle Minor, Salon

“I fought with this book. I shouted, ‘Amen!’ I cursed at it for being so wild...
**Duplex**

A Novel

Kathryn Davis

“Utterly compelling . . . Davis writes with a stunning brilliance, creating fractured worlds that are both extraordinary and routine.” — *The Boston Globe*


“Enchanting . . . Hums beautifully to its own rhythm. It’s a series of dreamlike, often erotic, images and interconnected plot lines that . . . swell to create an intoxicating atmosphere.” — *Slate*

“For fans of the fantastical, Davis’s writing style is a glass of ice-cold water in today’s desert of conventional fiction.” — *Star Tribune* (Minneapolis)

**Kathryn Davis** is the author of six previous novels, most recently *The Thin Place*. She is the senior fiction writer on the faculty of the writing program at Washington University.

“[I fell] in love with Davis’s writing . . . I’m grateful for every word . . . When you are lost in the uncanny woods of this astonishing, double-hinged book, just keep reading, and remember to look up. Kathryn Davis knows right where you are.” — Lynda Barry, *The New York Times Book Review*

“Reading this book is a blast . . . *Duplex* is a tr...
See You in Paradise
Stories

J. Robert Lennon

The first substantial collection of short fiction from “a writer with enough electricity to light up the country” (Ann Patchett)

“I guess the things that scare you are the things that are almost normal,” observes one narrator in this collection of effervescent and often uncanny stories. Drawing on fifteen years of work, See You in Paradise is the fullest expression yet of J. Robert Lennon’s distinctive and brilliantly comic take on the pathos and surreality at the heart of American life.

In Lennon’s America, a portal to another universe can be discovered with surprising nonchalance in a suburban backyard, adoption almost reaches the level of blood sport, and old pals return from the dead to steal your girlfriend. Sexual dysfunction, suicide, tragic accidents, and career stagnation all create surprising opportunities for unexpected grace in this full-hearted and mischievous depiction of those days (weeks, months, years) we all have when things just don’t go quite right.


PRAISE

Praise for Familiar

“As tightly wound as a great Alfred Hitchcock movie . . . Lennon has executed a literary puzzle, a marvelous trick of the mind.” —Los Angeles Times

“This is an important book, one that reflects the twenty-first-century human’s fragmentary condition in both content and form, told in a manner so thrilling that it achieve...
On the twenty-fifth anniversary of the fall of the Berlin Wall comes the paperback edition of the internationally bestselling portrait of an East German family

“An important, highly accomplished debut novel . . . In Times of Fading Light is aptly named, for the reading feels as if we are working our way through a photograph album—vignettes about various members of this family—as the light in their lives grows dimmer . . . To write the history of a country through the prism of a family is an enormous task, but Ruge has cut it up and somehow put the pieces together in a way that at first may seem confusing but later makes perfect sense . . . This splendid, beautifully translated novel becomes richer as it acquires a logic of its own.” —The Boston Globe

“Powerful . . . Ruge has managed to weave the person into the political in a book that functions as an ethnography of a lost time as much as it does a novel.” —San Francisco Chronicle

In 2011, Eugen Ruge came to international acclaim when he won the German Book Prize for In Times of Fading Light, his debut novel, which went on to be translated into more than twenty languages.

“Ruge’s novel is a pulsing, vibrant, thrillingly alive work, full of formal inventiveness, remarkable empathy, and, above all, mordant and insightful wit . . . You can see that from the ruins of the former Eastern bloc something has emerged with the power to survive and outlast the world from which it came: the art represented by Mr. Ruge...
Tumbledown
A Novel

Robert Boswell

“A winning ensemble cast of therapists and patients make stabs at sanity in Robert Boswell’s mordantly funny novel Tumbledown.” —Vanity Fair

“A complicated, nuanced look at human experience and the insights into that experience contributed by people of varying kinds of intelligence.” —The Washington Post

“A moving and often darkly hilarious meditation on sanity.” —Houston Chronicle

“A deft twining of irony and insight on nearly every page... Tumbledown wryly mines the heartache in emotional disturbances, some present from birth and the rest brought on by the business of living.” —The New York Times

“Within a suspenseful plot spiked with love triangles and flashbacks, Boswell renders each complex psyche and scene with magnificent precision and penetrating vision, fine-tuning our definitions of disorder and healing and deepening our perception of what it is to be normal, what it is to be human.” —Booklist (starred review)

Robert Boswell is the author of eleven books, including The Heyday of the Insensitive Bastards. He shares the Cullen Chair in Creative Writing at the University of Houston with his wife, Antonya Nelson. They live in Houston, Texas; Telluride, Colorado; and Las Cruces, New Mexico.

PRAISE

“Like a funnier One Flew Over the Cuckoo’s Nest, this story focuses on a therapist and his wild yet well-meaning patients, bumbling through life, trying to make sense of the world and one another.” —O, The Oprah Magazine, Ten Titles to Pick Up Now

“Boswell can write the most refreshingly old-fashioned kind of narrative: one that evokes de...
Blood Lyrics
Poems

Katie Ford

“Katie Ford’s is a finely-wrought lyrical beauty, a poetry of detail and care, but she has set it within an epic arc.” —Poetry

I lie still, play dead, am delivered decree:
our daughter weighs seven hundred dimes,
paperclips, teaspoons of sugar,
this child of grams
for which the good nurse
laid out her studies
as a coin purse
into which our tiny wealth clinked,
our daughter spilling almost
to the floor.

—from "Of a Child Early Born"

In Katie Ford’s third collection, she sets her music into lyrics wrung from the world’s dangers. Blood Lyrics is a mother’s song, one seared with the knowledge that her country wages long, aching wars in which not all lives are equal. There is beauty imparted, too, but it arrives at a cost: "Don’t say it’s the beautiful / I praise," Ford writes. "I praise the human, / gutted and rising."

Katie Ford is the author of two previous poetry collections, Colosseum and Deposition. She has received a Lannan Literary Fellowship and the Larry Levis Reading Award. She lives in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, and teaches at Franklin & Marshall College.

PRAISE

Praise for Katie Ford

“Katie Ford has emerged as one of the most recognizably thoughtful poets of her talented generation. Manifesting a rigorous aesthetic combining allusiveness with inwardness, her poems mark the multivalent ways by which the moral conscience registers dailiness with history (also myth) and how consciousness itself perc...
Citizen
An American Lyric
Claudia Rankine

A provocative meditation on race, Claudia Rankine’s long-awaited follow up to her groundbreaking book Don’t Let Me Be Lonely: An American Lyric

Claudia Rankine’s bold new book recounts mounting racial aggressions in ongoing encounters in twenty-first-century daily life and in the media. Some of these encounters are slights, seeming slips of the tongue, and some are intentional offensives in the classroom, at the supermarket, at home, on the tennis court with Serena Williams and the soccer field with Zinedine Zidane, online, on TV—everywhere, all the time. The accumulative stresses come to bear on a person’s ability to speak, perform, and stay alive. Our addressability is tied to the state of our belonging, Rankine argues, as are our assumptions and expectations of citizenship. In essay, image, and poetry, Citizen is a powerful testament to the individual and collective effects of racism in our contemporary, often named “post-race” society.

Claudia Rankine is the author of four previous books, including Don’t Let Me Be Lonely: An American Lyric. She currently is a chancellor of the Academy of American Poets and teaches at Pomona College.

PRAISE

Praise for Don’t Let Me Be Lonely

“Don’t Let Me Be Lonely records or annotates separate discrete episodes of consciousness; these accumulate, in this extraordinary book, into what seems less a sequence than a set of overlapping patterns. In place of smug moral judgments, Rankine contrives a mosaic of intimate vignettes and tense hypothese...
Invisible Strings: Poems

3/2011 | 9781555975814
Paperback / softback | $15.00 / $17.00 Can.
Lightning at Dinner: Poems
8/2005 | 9781555974251
Paperback / softback | $15.00 / $17.00 Can.

Underground
New and Selected Poems

Jim Moore

“Jim Moore writes of history, of love, of pain, of the intimate revelations of a consciousness alive to itself.” —C. K. Williams

“It’s coming so fast,”
says an old woman across from me,
speaking to no one in particular:
she nods her head in agreement with herself
and strictly speaking
who can argue with her?

—from “Underground”

Jim Moore’s first career retrospective shows a poet whittling down experience to its essential confrontation with one’s own limitations, whether it be time running short, or understanding running thin, or capacity to think or feel or love enough running low. Underground gathers the best poems from Moore’s seven previous books and includes twenty new poems. This is the definitive volume by a poet of great depth and generosity.

Jim Moore is the author of seven books of poetry, including Invisible Strings and Lightning at Dinner. His poetry has appeared in The New Yorker, The Nation, and The Paris Review. He lives in Minneapolis, Minnesota, and Spoleto, Italy.

Praise for Jim Moore

“Jim Moore’s poems are an artful amalgam of humor and fierce attention, suffused by a passion for ancient Asian poetry. Like his sage poet-teachers he grasps the quiet power of white space, knowing that what is unsaid is often just as crucial as what is.” —The New York Times

“I have loved Jim Moore’s brief ‘invisible...
Twenty Poems That Could Save America and Other Essays

Tony Hoagland

A fearless, wide-ranging book on the state of poetry and American literary culture by Tony Hoagland, the author of *What Narcissism Means to Me*

Live American poetry is absent from our public schools. The teaching of poetry languishes, and that region of youthful neurological terrain capable of being ignited only by poetry is largely dark, unpopulated, and silent, like a classroom whose shades are drawn. This is more than a shame, for poetry is our common treasure-house, and we need its vitality, its respect for the subconscious, its willingness to entertain ambiguity, its plaintive truth-telling, and its imaginative exhibitions of linguistic freedom, which confront the general culture’s more grotesque manipulations. We need the emotional training sessions poetry conducts us through. We need its previews of coming attractions: heartbreak, survival, failure, endurance, understanding, more heartbreak.

—from “Twenty Poems That Could Save America”

_ Twenty Poems That Could Save America _ presents insightful essays on the craft of poetry and a bold conversation about the role of poetry in contemporary culture. Essays on the “vertigo” effects of new poetry give way to appraisals of Robert Bly, Sharon Olds, and Dean Young. At the heart of this book is an honesty and curiosity about the ways poetry can influence America at both the private and public levels. Tony Hoagland is already one of this country’s most provocative poets, and this book confirms his role as a restless and perceptive literary and cultural critic.

_Tony Hoagland _ is the author of four poetry collections, including *What Narcissism Means to Me*, and a collection of essays, *Real Sofistikashun: Essays on Poetry and Craft*. He teaches at the University of Houston.

**PRAISE**

Praise for Tony Hoagland

“Few [poets] deliver more pure pleasure. [Hoagland’s] erudite comic poems are backloaded with heartache and longing, and they function, emotionally, like improvised explosive devices . . . This plain, unincorporated, free-range American poet is one you’ll want to know about.” —Dwight Garner, _The New York Times_
Repast
Tea, Lunch, and Cocktails

D. A. Powell; Introduction By David Leavitt

D. A. Powell's first three groundbreaking books

Published together for the first time, D. A. Powell’s landmark trilogy of Tea, Lunch, and Cocktails make up a three-course Divine Comedy for our day. With a new introduction by novelist David Leavitt, Repast presents a major achievement in contemporary poetry.

D. A. Powell is the author of five collections of poetry, including Useless Landscape, or A Guide for Boys, winner of the National Book Critics Circle Award, and Chronic, winner of the Kingsley Tufts Poetry Award. He lives in San Francisco, California.

PRAISE

“Powell’s long, stuttering line helps his extravagant imagination encompass the practical troubles long illness entails. No accessible poet of his generation is half as original, and no poet as original is this accessible. With his open-secret sexiness, his confident collage effects, and his grave subjects, Powell could reach far beyond t...
Useless Landscape, or A Guide for Boys
Poems

D. A. Powell

Winner of the National Book Critics Circle Award, now in paperback

D. A. Powell’s fifth book of poetry, *Useless Landscape, or A Guide for Boys*, explores the darker side of divisions and developments, the interstitial spaces of boonies, backstage, bathhouse, and bar. With witty banter, emotional resolve, and powerful lyricism, this collection demonstrates Powell’s exhilarating range.

D. A. Powell is the author of five collections of poetry, including *Chronic*, winner of the Kingsley Tufts Poetry Award. He lives in San Francisco, California.

PRAISE

“Powell has a perfect ear . . . [His] great subject is passion, in all its stages and manifestations: passion sought, spent, relived in the mind, played out in language.” —Dan Chiasson, *The New Yorker*

“With his typical wry eroticism, an eagle eye for the places where men converge, and a compass that points always to desire, poet D. A. Pow...”
Syllabus
Notes from an Accidental Professor

Lynda Barry

Writing exercises and creativity advice from Barry’s pioneering, life-changing workshop

The award-winning author Lynda Barry is the creative force behind the genre-defying and bestselling work What It Is. She believes that anyone can be a writer and has set out to prove it. For the past decade, Barry has run a highly popular writing workshop for nonwriters called Writing the Unthinkable, which was featured in The New York Times Magazine. Syllabus: Notes from an Accidental Professor is the first book to make her innovative lesson plans and writing exercises available to the public for home or classroom use. Barry teaches a method of writing that focuses on the relationship between the hand, the brain, and spontaneous images, both written and visual. It has been embraced by people across North America—prison inmates, postal workers, university students, high-school teachers, and hairdressers—for opening pathways to creativity.

Syllabus takes the course plan for Barry’s workshop and runs wild with it in her densely detailed signature style. Collaged texts, ballpoint-pen doodles, and watercolor washes adorn Syllabus’s yellow lined pages, which offer advice on finding a creative voice and using memories to inspire the writing process. Throughout it all, Barry’s voice (as an author and as a teacher-mentor) rings clear, inspiring, and honest.

Lynda Barry has worked as a painter, cartoonist, writer, illustrator, playwright, editor, commentator, and teacher and found that they are all very much alike. She is the author of the acclaimed graphic novel One Hundred Demons!, the cartoonist behind the long-running Ernie Pook’s Comeek, and the author of the creative how-to memoir comic books What It Is and Picture This. She lives in Wisconsin, where she is an assistant professor of art and a Discovery Fellow at the University of Wisconsin-Madison.

PRAISE

“Barry isn’t particularly interested in the writer’s craft. She’s more interested in where ideas come from—and her goal is to help people tap into what she considers to be an innate creativity.” —The New York Times

“In Barry’s work, the transcendent power of the imagination awaits.” —Laura Miller, Salon.com
(Unforgettable Graphic Novels of...
Bumperhead
Gilbert Hernandez

A fascinatingly disjointed tale of drugs, rock and roll, and adolescence from a legendary cartoonist

The Love and Rockets author, Gilbert Hernandez, returns with Bumperhead, a companion book to Marble Season. Whereas Marble Season explored the exuberant and occasionally troubled existence of the wide-eyed preteen Huey, Bumperhead zeroes in on disaffected teenhood with its protagonist, Bobby.

Bumperhead follows Bobby, a young slacker who narrates his life as it happens but offers very little reflection on the events that transpire. He lives in the moment exclusively and is incapable of seeing the world outside of his experiences. He comes of age in the 1970s, making a rapid progression through that era’s different subcultures and in a short period of time segues from a stoner glam rocker to a drunk rocker to a speed-freak punk. He drifts in and out of relationships with friends, both male and female. Life zooms past him.

Hernandez’s approach captures the numbness and raw undirected anger and passion of a young man who waits for life to happen to him, not noticing all the while that it is happening. Subtle and thought-provoking, Bumperhead is a fascinating read.

Gilbert Hernandez was born in 1957 in Oxnard, California. In 1981, he co-self-published the first issue of Love and Rockets with his brothers, Mario and Jaime. Embracing strong female lead characters and punk culture, the series stood out from the male-dominated comics of the time. Hernandez and his brother Jaime have continued Love and Rockets for three decades. In the ensuing years, Hernandez has won nearly every industry award, as well as the prestigious United States Artists Literature Fellowship. He currently lives in Las Vegas, Nevada, with his wife, Carol, and his daughter, Natalia.

PRAISE

Praise for Marble Season

“Hernandez is brilliant on the particular embarrassments of growing up . . . Marble Season is a treat: beady, nostalgic and sometimes unexpectedly piercing.” —The Guardian

“Marble Season sometimes feels like one long, seamless shot of budding love, brimming violence and suddenly struck friendships.” —The Washington ...
Moomin: The Deluxe Anniversary Edition

Tove Jansson

A celebration of Tove Jansson’s legacy, one hundred years after her birth

Tove Jansson’s Moomin stories made her one of the most beloved Scandinavian authors of the twentieth century. Jansson’s whimsical tales of Moominvalley resonate with children for their lighthearted spirit, and with adults for their incisive commentary on the banality of everyday life. The year 2014 marks the centenary of her birth, and Jansson is being honored with events in Japan, Scandinavia, England, Germany, Russia, Australia, Italy, Spain, and France. Drawn & Quarterly is joining the festivities by releasing *Moomin: The Deluxe Anniversary Edition*, a slipcased hardcover collection of the complete Tove Jansson–penned *Moomin* comic strip, replete with all of her most popular storylines and original pencil sketches.

It has been more than sixty years since the *Moomin* comic strip debuted in the *London Evening News*. By the end of its run in 1975, *Moomin* was syndicated in more than forty newspapers around the world and hailed for its light-handed, charming stories. The comics were revived in 2005 by Drawn & Quarterly and published to widespread acclaim, sparking a new generation of devoted Moomin fans with international editions around the world. *Moomin: The Deluxe Anniversary Edition* celebrates the classic comics the world adores, and will feature an essay about Tove’s work on the *Moomin* strip.


**PRAISE**

Praise for the Moomin series

“Tove Jansson . . . created a quirky, original comic strip masterpiece . . . Moomins are the vehicles through which Jansson explores everything that’s laughable, charming, laudable and suspect about being human.” —Myla Goldberg, NPR
Showa 1944-1953
A History of Japan

Shigeru Mizuki; Translated from the Japanese by Zack Davisson

A sweeping yet intimate portrait of the legacy of World War II in Japan

Showa 1944–1953: A History of Japan continues the award-winning author Shigeru Mizuki’s autobiographical and historical account of the Showa period in Japan. This volume recounts the events of the final years of the Pacific War, and the consequences of the war’s devastation for Mizuki and the Japanese populace at large.

After the surprise attack at Pearl Harbor, Japan and the United States are officially at war. The two rival navies engage in a deadly game of feint and thrust, waging a series of microwars across the tiny Pacific islands. From Guadalcanal to Okinawa, Japan slowly loses ground. Finally, the United States unleashes the deathblow with a new and terrible weapon—the atomic bomb. The fallout from the bombs is beyond imagining.

On another front, Showa 1944–1953 traces Mizuki’s own life story across history’s sweeping changes during this period, charting the impact of the war’s end on his life choices. After losing his arm during the brutal fighting, Mizuki struggles to decide where to go: whether to remain on the island as an honored friend of the local Tolai people or return to the rubble of Japan and take up his dream of becoming a cartoonist. Showa 1944–1953 is a searing condemnation of the personal toll of war from one of Japan’s most famous cartoonists.

Shigeru Mizuki, born on March 8, 1922 in Sakaiminato, Tottori, is a specialist in stories of yōkai and is considered a master of the genre. In Japan, the life of Mizuki and his wife has been made in an extremely popular daily television drama. Mizuki is the recipient of many awards, including the Best Album award for NonNonBō at the Angoulême International Comics Festival, the Tezuka Osamu Cultural Prize Special Award, a Kyokujitsu Shō Decoration, a Minister of Education Award, Shiju Hōshō Decoration, and the Kodansha Manga Award. His works have been published in Japan, South Korea, France, and Spain.

PRAISE

Praise for Shigeru Mizuki

“Shigeru Mizuki’s artwork is really something to behold. It’s absolutely gorgeous with lush, heavily detailed backgrounds . . . Mizuki’s characters’ designs are simple and lovely.”—Comic Book Resources
Palookaville #22

Seth

A collection of wry, meditative comics from the cartoonist and Lemony Snicket illustrator

Palookaville #22 is a new collection of work from It’s a Good Life, If You Don’t Weaken’s Seth. This installment of Seth’s critically acclaimed one-man anthology features an autobiographical comic about his childhood, part four of his long-running Clyde Fans serial, a photo essay about a barbershop he designed, and a comic strip about the art of barbering.

“Nothing Lasts” revisits Seth’s childhood in 1960s Ontario, with a special focus on the salvation that he found in library books and drugstore comic books. Drawn in the sketchbook style Seth popularized in Wimbledon Green and The Great Northern Brotherhood of Canadian Cartoonists, “Nothing Lasts” offers a glimpse at the agonies of adolescence for a shy, often alienated, small-town teen. The Clyde Fans chapter included here shows the conclusion of brothers Abe and Simon Matchcard’s first lengthy conversation, and Abe’s pensive, self-questioning mood as he drives back to Dominion to meet up with his old flame, Alice.

Rounding out the collection is a photo essay on Seth’s wife’s barbershop, the Crown Barbershop, and a short story in comics form about barbering. Palookaville #22 displays the range of Seth’s cartooning and design career, and is a thing of beauty from cover to cover.

Seth has been producing comic art for twenty years. His books include It’s a Good Life, If You Don’t Weaken, Wimbledon Green, and George Sprott. Apart from comics, he is the illustrator for the Lemony Snicket All the Wrong Questions series. He is also the designer behind the Complete Peanuts series. From his home in Guelph, Ontario, he does illustrations for numerous magazines, including The New Yorker.

PRAISE

“Seth is one of our premiere artists of isolation in any medium.” — National Post

The Hospital Suite
John Porcellino

Poetic musings on illness and the art of getting by from a mini-comics master

*The Hospital Suite* is a landmark work by the celebrated cartoonist and small-press legend John Porcellino—an autobiographical collection detailing his struggles with illness in the 1990s and early 2000s.

In 1997, John began to have severe stomach pain. He soon found out he needed emergency surgery to remove a benign tumor from his small intestine. In the wake of the surgery, he had numerous health complications that led to a flare-up of his preexisting tendencies toward anxiety and obsessive-compulsive disorder. *The Hospital Suite* is Porcellino’s response to these experiences—simply told stories drawn in the honest, heart-wrenching style of his much-loved *King-Cat* mini-comics. His gift for spare yet eloquent candor makes *The Hospital Suite* an intimate portrayal of one person’s experiences that is also intensely relatable.

Porcellino’s work is lauded for its universality and quiet, clear-eyed contemplation of everyday life. *The Hospital Suite* is a testimony to this subtle strength, making his struggles with the medical system and its consequences for his mental health accessible and engaging.

John Porcellino was born in Chicago, Illinois, in 1968, and began drawing and writing at an early age, compiling his work into handmade booklets. His acclaimed self-published zine, *King-Cat Comics and Stories*, begun in 1989, has found a devoted worldwide audience, and is one of the most influential comics series of the past twenty-five years.

**PRAISE**

Praise for John Porcellino

“*[King-Cat Classix features] artist-writer Porcellino’s intentionally simple drawings, largely autobiographical tales and renderings of dreams . . . Porcellino is a master at miniature poignance.*” — *Entertainment Weekly*

“John Porcellino has created some of the most important autobio comics of all time . . . Spare, ...
Earthling
Aisha Franz; Translated from the German by Helge Dascher

A finely wrought account of aliens and alienation in the suburbs

The German cartoonist Aisha Franz’s debut graphic novel details a few short days in the life of two sisters and their single mother. Set in a soulless suburb populated by block after block of identical row houses bordered by empty fields and an industrial no-man’s-land, *Earthling* explores the loneliness of everyday life through these women’s struggle to come to terms with what the world expects of them.

*Earthling* unveils a narrative rich with surrealist twists and turns, where the peas on the dinner plate and the ads on television can both literally and figuratively speak to the most private strife and deepest hopes in a person’s life. As the sisters begin to come to terms with their sexuality, they are confronted by harsh realities and a world that has few escape routes for young women.

Drawn in deep gray pencil, the claustrophobia of Franz’s crosshatching and smudging matches the tone of the book perfectly. *Earthling* is an atmospheric and haunting account of the inevitability of losing the dream worlds of childhood.

*Aisha Franz* was born in Fürth, Germany, and was named after an elephant on TV. She studied illustration at the School of Art and Design in Kassel and since graduating has worked as a freelance illustrator and cartoonist. She has published two graphic novels, which have been translated into Italian and French. Her work has been exhibited in Germany, Belgium, and Italy. She currently lives in Berlin, where she’s part of the comics collective the Treasure Fleet.

**PRAISE**

“*Earthling* is a melancholy tale of exquisite sensitivity.” —Les Inrocks

“From her pencil drawings to her naive yet dry illustrations, each image she’s whisked out of her brain is so funny and sweet at the same time it’s enough to make you have a little cry.” —It’s Nice That
Even More Bad Parenting Advice

Guy Delisle; Translated from the French by Helge Dascher

**Laugh-out-loud anecdotes from the front lines of parenting**

Ever wanted to know how to be awarded the Best Dad in the Whole World? Guy Delisle has all the answers for you in these lighthearted, entertaining tales of parental mishaps and practical jokes gone wrong. Whether he’s helping remove a pesky, wobbly, but not quite loose tooth or trying to win at hide-and-seek, his antics will resonate with every parent who has wanted to give a sarcastic answer to a funny question from their kid.

*Even More Bad Parenting Advice* marks Delisle’s second foray into the world of offering bad advice to parents, and a second opportunity to express the minor frustrations and many joys of parenting. His skillful hand at illustration and ironic way with words, which helped to popularize his travelogues about daily life in faraway places, are just as much the stars here as he or his children are. His sense of comic timing shines through in these simply told stories; with their lively flow, a change in facial expression or a few words can serve as the punch line. *Even More Bad Parenting Advice* celebrates the reality that parenting isn’t all first steps and gold-starred report cards; it’s stinky diapers and never-ending drives to the grocery store, too.

**Guy Delisle** spent ten years, mostly in Europe, working in animation, which allowed him to learn about movement and drawing, and he is now focusing on cartooning. He lives in Montpelier, France, with his wife and two children.

**PRAISE**

Praise for *A User’s Guide to Neglectful Parenting*

“*A User’s Guide* . . . shares with [Delisle’s] previous work a keen appreciation for the clash of cultures; this time, however, the cultures in question are those of adults and children, and the damage that ensues is played for a rueful laugh.” —NPR

“A *User's Guide* . . . is a funny and trut...
Pippi Won't Grow Up

Astrid Lindgren and Ingrid Vang Nyman; Translated from the Swedish by Tiina Nunnally

“The stories are funny and mischievous and ahead of their time.” — USA Today, Best Comics of 2013

The world’s strongest girl, Pippi Longstocking, is back with a fresh set of funny problems and even funnier solutions. In Pippi Won't Grow Up, she takes on school quizzes, refuses to be evicted from her home, and brings Tommy and Annika to visit the island where her father lives. Astrid Lindgren’s expert storytelling and Ingrid Vang Nyman’s vivid characters and bright colors make this eye-catching volume stand out.

Astrid Lindgren (1907–2002) was the creator of one of Sweden’s most iconic fictional characters, Pippi Longstocking. The Pippi books have been translated into more than sixty languages. Ingrid Vang Nyman (1916–1959) was a noted Danish children’s book illustrator, as well as the original illustrator of the Pippi chapter books.

PRAISE

“It’s remarkable how universal the stories and art are.” — School Library Journal

“These are fun, colorful comics that are perfect for elementary school–age readers.” — Comic Book Resources

“Relying on bold blocks of color and bright, simple designs, the panels are midcentury children’s art at its finest.” — The Paris Review

Pippi fixes Everything

9/2013 | 9781770461314

Hardback | $14.95
# Moomin on the Riviera

**Tove Jansson**

A rerelease of the classic comic in honor of the centenary of Tove Jansson’s birth

As springtime dawns in Moominvalley and the first northern crocus opens, Moominpappa and Snorkmaiden, glamorized by the prospects of movie stars and gambling, insist the whole family take a trip down to the Riviera. Reluctantly Moomin and Moominmamma agree to go along, and the Moomins set off on a grand adventure, complete with butlers, luxury shops, indoor swimming pools, and duels at dawn. With their innocent curiosity about everything, the Moomins prove the perfect foil for the cynical, world-weary residents of the Riviera.

Tove Jansson’s *Moomin on the Riviera* is a classic Moomin story reworked in full color, with a kid-friendly size, price, and format. A delight for the whole family!

**Tove Jansson** (1914–2001) was a legendary Finnish children’s book author/artist and the creator of the Moomins, who came to life in books, comic strips, theater, opera, film, radio, theme parks, and television.

## PRAISE

Praise for the Moomin series

“*[Moomin is] a quirky, original comic strip masterpiece . . . Moomins are the vehicles through which Jansson explores everything that’s laughable, charming, laudable, and suspect about being human . . . The Moomin series . . . is the sort of thing you can read at age eight or at forty-eight and find equally gra..."