Purity
A Novel
Jonathan Franzen

A magnum opus for our morally complex times from the author of Freedom

Young Pip Tyler doesn't know who she is. She knows that her real name is Purity, that she's saddled with $130,000 in student debt, that she's squatting with anarchists in Oakland, and that her relationship with her mother-her only family-is hazardous. But she doesn't have a clue who her father is, why her mother chose to live as a recluse with an invented name, or how she'll ever have a normal life.

Enter the Germans. A glancing encounter with a German peace activist leads Pip to an internship in South America with the Sunlight Project, an organization that traffics in all the secrets of the world-including, Pip hopes, the secret of her origins. TSP is the brainchild of Andreas Wolf, a charismatic provocateur who rose to fame in the chaos following the fall of the Berlin Wall. Now on the lam in Bolivia, Andreas is drawn to Pip for reasons she doesn't understand, and the intensity of her response to him upends her conventional ideas of right and wrong.

Purity is a grand story of youthful idealism, extreme fidelity, and murder. The author of The Corrections and Freedom has imagined a world of vividly original characters-Californians and East Germans, good parents and bad parents, journalists and leakers-and he follows their intertwining paths through landscapes as contemporary as the omnipresent Internet and as ancient as the war between the sexes. Purity is the most daring and penetrating book yet by one ...

Jonathan Franzen is the author of four other novels, most recently Freedom and The Corrections, and five works of nonfiction and translation, including The Kraus Project and Farther Away, all published by FSG. He is a member of the American Academy of Arts and Letters, the German Akademie der Künste, and the French Ordre des Arts et des Lettres.

PRAISE

Praise for Freedom

Mysteries of the Mall
And Other Essays

Witold Rybczynski

A deep exploration of modern life that examines our cities, public places, and homes

Following How Architecture Works, Witold Rybczynski casts a seasoned critical eye over the modern scene with Mysteries of the Mall. His subject is nothing less than the broad setting of our metropolitan world.

In thirty-five discerning essays, Rybczynski ranges over subjects as varied as shopping malls, Central Park, the Paris opera house, and America's shrinking cities. Along the way, he examines our post-9/11 obsession with security, the revival of the big-city library, the rise of college towns, and our fascination with vacation homes, and he visits Disney's planned community of Celebration. By looking at contemporary architects as diverse as Frank Gehry, Moshe Safdie, and Bing Thom, revisiting old masters such as Christopher Wren, Le Corbusier, and Frank Lloyd Wright, and considering such unsung innovators as Stanley H. Durwood, the inventor of the Cineplex, Rybczynski ponders the role of global cities in an age of tourism and what places attract us in the modern city.

Mysteries of the Mall is required reading for anyone curious about the modern world and how it came to be that way.

Witold Rybczynski has written about architecture for The New Yorker, The Atlantic, The New York Times, and Slate. Among his award-winning books are Home, The Most Beautiful House in the World, and A Clearing in the Distance, which won the J. Anthony Lukas Book Prize. He is the winner of a 2014 National Design Award, and is an emeritus professor of architecture at the University of Pennsylvania. Learn more about Rybczynski at www.witoldrybczynski.com.

PRAISE

Praise for How Architecture Works

"[How Architecture Works]'s chief pleasure may be that Rybczynski, ever the engaging and thoughtful writer, offers a wide-ranging tour of the glories and curiosities, old and new, in the field." —Peter Whoriskey, The Washington Post

"The beautiful and the useful, in buildings as well as books, never become..."
Reconnaissance
Poems

Carl Phillips

A powerful, imaginative collection from one of America’s most respected poets

There’s a trembling inside the both of us, there’s a trembling, inside us both.

The territory of Reconnaissance is one where morals threaten to become merely "what the light falls through," "suffering [seems] in fact for nothing," and "all we do is maybe all we can do." In the face of this, Carl Phillips, reimagining and unraveling what we think we know, maps out the contours of a world in revision, where truth lies captured at one moment and at the next goes free, transformed. These are poems of searing beauty, lit by hope and shadowed by it, from a poet whose work "reinstates the possibility of finding meaning in a world that is forever ready to revoke the sources of meaning in our lives" (Jonathan Farmer, Slate).

Carl Phillips is the author of twelve books of poetry, including Silverchest, a finalist for the International Griffin Prize, and Double Shadow, winner of the Los Angeles Times Book Prize. His most recent book of prose is The Art of Daring: Risk, Restlessness, Imagination. Phillips teaches at Washington University in St. Louis.

PRAISE

"I have a candidate for the author of the most interesting contemporary English sentences, and he is not primarily a prose writer: the American poet Carl Phillips . . . Like Emily Dickinson, Phillips is always taking in the minute metamorphoses of his surroundings." -Dan Chiasson, The New Yorker
Wilberforce
A Novel

H. S. Cross

An unforgettable novel of adolescent lust and cruelty

At St. Stephen's Academy, the students are on the verge of revolt. While the younger boys plot an insurrection, the older ones are preoccupied with sneaking out-of-bounds, thrashing each other, tearing each other's clothes off— or some combination of the three. Morgan Wilberforce, for one, can't take it any longer.

Everything Wilberforce touches turns to disaster in his desperate attempts to fight off desire, boredom, and angst. He knocks himself unconscious tackling the unattainable Spaulding on the rugby pitch, his headmaster detests him for crimes committed years ago, and even his closest friends are subjecting him to physical tortures normally reserved for juniors. When an accident at the boarding school leaves him with more suffering than he could have fathomed, he finds himself alone and adrift. And the workaday charms of cricket practice, Victorian pornography, canings from classmates, and fumbling with the pub-keeper's daughter can only do so much to mend a broken body and a restless heart.

Stylishly inventive, H. S. Cross has crafted an imaginative, ritualistic world of men and boys narrowly confined by tradition and authority. Wilberforce is an indelible portrait of a young man caught between lust and cruelty, grief and God, frustrated love and abject longing—and a tour de force that heralds the arrival of a brilliant new novelist.

H. S. Cross was born in Grosse Pointe, Michigan, and studied at Harvard University. Wilberforce is her debut novel. She has taught at Friends Seminary and lives in New York. Cross is currently at work on a new novel set at St. Stephen's Academy.
The Crime and the Silence
Confronting the Massacre of Jews in Wartime Jedwabne

Anna Bikont; Translated from the Polish by Alissa Valles

A monumental work of nonfiction on a wartime atrocity, its sixty-year denial, and the impact of its truth

Jan Gross's hugely controversial Neighbors was a historian's disclosure of the events in the small Polish town of Jedwabne on July 10, 1941, when the citizens rounded up the Jewish population and burned them alive in a barn. The massacre was a shocking secret that had been suppressed for more than sixty years, and it provoked the most important public debate in Poland since 1989. From the outset, Anna Bikont reported on the town, combing through archives and interviewing residents who survived the war period. Her writing became a crucial part of the debate and she herself an actor in a national drama.

Part history, part memoir, The Crime and the Silence is the journalist's account of these events: both the story of the massacre told through oral histories of survivors and witnesses, and a portrait of a Polish town coming to terms with its dark past. Including the perspectives of both heroes and perpetrators, Bikont chronicles the sources of the hatred that exploded against Jews and asks what myths grow on hidden memories, what destruction they cause, and what happens to a society that refuses to accept a horrific truth.

A profoundly moving exploration of being Jewish in modern Poland that Julian Barnes called "one of the most chilling books," The Crime and the Silence is a vital contribution to Holocaust history and a fascinating story of a town coming to terms with its dark past.

Anna Bikont is a journalist for Gazeta Wyborcza, the main newspaper in Poland, which she helped found in 1989. For her articles on the crimes of Jedwabne and Radzilów, she was honored in 2001 with Poland's most prestigious award in journalism, the Press Prize. In 2011 she received the European Book Prize for Le crime et le silence, the French version of the book. In 2008 and 2009, Bikont was a Cullman Fellow of the New York Public Library.

Alissa Valles is a poet and the cotranslator of the collected poems and prose of Zbigniew Herbert, as well as the translator of other modern Polish poets, including Aleksander Wat, Miron Bialoszewski, and Ryszard Krynicki.

PRAISE

"The Crime and the Silence is an astonishing act of investigation and documentation... A terrifying and necessary book, unsparing in its detail, but
Worldmaking
The Art and Science of American Diplomacy

David Milne

A new intellectual history of U.S. foreign policy from the late nineteenth century to the present

Worldmaking is a fresh and compelling new take on the history of American diplomacy. Rather than retracing a familiar story of realism versus idealism, David Milne suggests that U.S. foreign policy has also been crucially divided between those who view statecraft as an art and those who believe it can aspire toward the certainties of science.

Worldmaking follows a colorful cast of characters who built on each other’s ideas to create the policies we have today. Woodrow Wilson’s Universalism and moralism led Sigmund Freud to diagnose a messiah complex. Walter Lippmann was an internationally syndicated columnist who commanded the attention of leaders as diverse as Theodore Roosevelt, Lyndon Johnson, and Charles de Gaulle. Paul Wolfowitz was the intellectual architect of the 2003 invasion of Iraq—an ardent admirer of Wilson’s attempt to "make the world safe for democracy." Each was engaged in a process of worldmaking, formulating strategies that sought to deploy the nation’s vast military and economic power—or indeed its retraction through a domestic reorientation—to "make" a world in which America is best positioned to thrive.

From the age of steam engines to the age of drones, Milne reveals patterns of aspirant worldmaking that have remained impervious to the passage of time. The result is a panoramic history of U.S. foreign policy driven by ideas and the lives and times of their creators.

David Milne is a senior lecturer in modern history at the University of East Anglia. He is the author of America’s Rasputin: Walt Rostow and the Vietnam War and senior editor of the two-volume Oxford Encyclopedia of American Military and Diplomatic History. Milne has held visiting fellowships at Yale University, the Gilder-Lehrman Institute for American History, and the American Philosophical Society. In addition to academic journals, his writing has appeared in the Los Angeles Times and The Nation.

PRAISE

Praise for America’s Rasputin

"Milne’s intellectual biography of Walt Whitman Rostow is a superb, and fresh, achievement.” —Steve Weinberg, The Philadelphia Inquirer
Only the Animals
Stories

Ceridwen Dovey

Perhaps only the animals can tell us what it is to be human

The souls of ten animals caught up in human conflicts over the last century and connected to both famous and little-known writers in surprising ways tell their astonishing stories of life and death. In a trench on the Western Front, a cat recalls her owner Colette’s theatrical antics in Paris. In Nazi Germany, a dog seeks enlightenment. A Russian tortoise once owned by the Tolstoys drifts in space during the Cold War. During the siege of Sarajevo, a starving bear tells a fairy tale. And a dolphin sent to Iraq by the U.S. Navy writes a letter to Sylvia Plath.

Exquisitely written, playful, and poignant, Ceridwen Dovey's Only the Animals is a remarkable literary achievement by one of our brightest young writers. An animal's-eye-view of humans at our brutal, violent worst and our creative, imaginative best, it asks us to find our way back to empathy not only for animals but for other people, and to believe again in the redemptive power of reading and writing fiction.

Ceridwen Dovey’s debut novel, Blood Kin, was published in fifteen countries, short-listed for the Dylan Thomas Award, and selected for the U.S. National Book Foundation’s prestigious 5 Under 35 honors list. The Wall Street Journal named her one of their “artists to watch.” She studied social anthropology at Harvard and New York University, and now lives with her husband and son in Sydney. Only the Animals recently won the 2014 Readings New Australian Writing Award.

PRAISE

"The life stories related by these very civilized animals are in some cases touching (the elephant), in others amusing (the mussel), but all are absorbing. They are transmitted to us with a light touch and no trace of sentimentality.” — J. M. Coetzee

"An audacious work of the imagination . . . An extraordinary series of fabulist tales . . .."
Selected Later Poems

C. K. Williams

A selection from the last twenty years of C. K. Williams's career, plus new work—proof of his enduring power

C. K. Williams's long career has been a catalog of surprises, of inventions and reinventions, of honors. His one constant is a remarkable degree of flexibility, a thrilling ability to shape-shift that goes hand in hand with an essential, enduring honesty. This rare, heady mix has ensured that his verses have remained, from book to book, as fresh and vibrant as they were when he first burst onto the scene.

Selected Later Poems—a generous selection of the last two decades of Williams's poetry, capped by a gathering of new work—is a testament to that enduring vibrancy. Here are the passionate, searching, clear-eyed explorations of empathy in The Vigil; here is the candor and revelation of Repair; here is the agonizing morality of The Singing and Wait, and the unsparring reflections on aging of Writers Writing Dying; here are the poignant prose vignettes of All at Once.

Williams's poetry is essential because its lyric beauty, precise and revealing images, and elegant digressions are coupled to a conscience both uneasy and unflinching. Selected Later Poems is at once a celebration of Williams's career, an affirmation of his continued position in the pantheon of American poets, and a kind of reckoning—a reminder of the ways in which art can serve both beauty and justice.

C. K. Williams's books of poetry include Flesh and Blood, which won the National Book Critics Circle Award; Repair, which won the Pulitzer Prize in Poetry; and The Singing, winner of the National Book Award. Williams was awarded the Ruth Lilly Poetry Prize in 2005. He has written a critical study, On Whitman; a memoir, Misgivings; and two books of essays, the most recent of which is In Time: Poets, Poems, and the Rest. He is a member of the American Academy of Arts and Letters.

Praise

Praise for C. K. Williams

"One feels in the textures of Williams's writing a pure conviction and a commitment to seeing a higher dimension to poetry. When Williams writes of educating the soul and of the spiritually transforming power of beauty, he is convincing." —Ian Tromp, Poetry
Gamelife
A Memoir

Michael W. Clune

A boyhood and adolescence told through the lens of seven primitive computer games

"You have been awakened."
Floppy disk inserted, computer turned on, a whirring, and then this sentence followed by a blinking cursor. So begins Suspended, the first computer game to obsess seven-year-old Michael, to worm into his head and change his sense of reality. Thirty years later he will write: "Computer games have taught me the things you can't learn from people."

Michael W. Clune's *Gamelife* is a sui generis memoir. It captures the essential strangeness of childhood, when the world is still revealing itself. It describes cafeteria politics, locker-room hazing, and divorce with a sharpness that will leave you laughing and squirming. It re-creates a place-1980s suburban Illinois, John Hughes movie territory-in all its quotidian glory. And it explores, like nothing before it, how the ephemeral worlds of video games gave shape to a boy's days.

Michael W. Clune is a professor of English at Case Western Reserve University. He is the author of a memoir titled *White Out: The Secret Life of Heroin* and of two scholarly books, *American Literature in the Free Market* and *Writing Against Time*.

"In Gamelife, Clune combines banality, fear, and beauty in a way that is both original and disturbingly familiar. His memoirs read like the very best fiction. Whether he's writing fiction or nonfiction, Michael Clune is the rare writer I'm willing to follow anywhere." -Rae Armantrout, author of *Just Saying*
Part comedy of manners, part treasure hunt, the first novel from the writer whom David Sedaris calls "perfectly, relentlessly funny"

Kezia, Nathaniel, and Victor are reunited for the extravagant wedding of a college friend. Now at the tail end of their twenties, they arrive completely absorbed in their own lives—Kezia the second-in-command to a madwoman jewelry designer in Manhattan; Nathaniel the former literary cool kid, selling his wares in Hollywood; and the Eeyore-esque Victor, just fired from a middling search engine. They soon slip back into old roles: Victor loves Kezia. Kezia loves Nathaniel. Nathaniel loves Nathaniel.

In the midst of all this semi-merriment, Victor passes out in the mother of the groom's bedroom. He wakes to her jovially slapping him across the face. Instead of a scolding, she offers Victor a story she's never even told her son, about a valuable necklace that disappeared during the Nazi occupation of France.

And so a madcap adventure is set into motion, one that leads Victor, Kezia, and Nathaniel from Miami to New York and L.A. to Paris and across France, until they converge at the estate of Guy de Maupassant, author of the classic short story "The Necklace."

Heartfelt, suspenseful, and told with Sloane Crosley's inimitable spark and wit, The Clasp is a story of friends struggling to fit together now that their lives haven't gone as planned, of how to separate the real from the fake. Such a task might be possible when it comes to precious stones, but is far more difficult to pull off with humans.

Sloane Crosley is the author of the New York Times bestsellers I Was Told There'd Be Cake (a Thurber Prize finalist) and How Did You Get This Number. A frequent contributor to The New York Times, she lives in Manhattan.

PRAISE

Praise for Sloane Crosley

"Hilarious." —Los Angeles Times


"An exciting new talent." —San Francisco Chronicle

"Now that she's updated the role of ingenue by concocting a bracing cocktail of credulity and crankiness, [she has you wondering] what she might be able to
Submission
A Novel

Michel Houellebecq;
Translated from the French by Lorin Stein

A controversial, intelligent, and mordantly funny new novel from France's most famous literary figure

Paris, 2022. François is bored. He's a middle-aged lecturer at the Sorbonne and an expert on J. K. Huysmans, the famous nineteenth-century "decadent" author. But François's own decadence is considerably smaller in scale. He sleeps with his students, eats microwave dinners, reads the classics, queues up YouPorn.

Meanwhile, it's election season. And although François feels "about as politicized as a hand towel," things are getting pretty interesting. In an alliance with the socialists, France's new Islamic party sweeps to power. Islamic law comes into force. Women are veiled, polygamy is encouraged, and François is offered an irresistible academic advancement--on condition that he convert to Islam.

Adam Gopnik in The New Yorker has said of this novel that "Houellebecq is not merely a satirist but--more unusually--a sincere satirist, genuinely saddened by the absurdities of history and the madnesses of mankind." Michel Houellebecq's Submission may be satirical and melancholic, but it is also hilarious; a comic masterpiece by one of France's great novelists.

Michel Houellebecq is a French novelist, poet, and literary critic. His novels include the international bestseller The Elementary Particles and The Map and the Territory, which won the 2010 Prix Goncourt. He lives in France.

"Submission is a fine, deeply literary work . . . both hilariously and hurtfully true to Houellebecq's own sense of life being always a process of decay, survival always a contest between sex and death . . . It's electrifying; no recent English-language novel compares." --David Sexton, The Spectator
The Other Paris

Luc Sante

A trip through Paris as it will never be again—dark and dank and poor and slapdash and truly bohemian

Paris, the City of Light. The city of the Eiffel Tower and the Louvre, of soft cheese and fresh baguettes. Or so tourist brochures would have you believe. In The Other Paris, Luc Sante reveals the city's hidden past, its seamy underside—one populated by working and criminal classes that, though virtually extinct today, have shaped Paris over the past two centuries.

Drawing on testimony from a great range of witnesses—from Balzac and Hugo to assorted boulevardiers, rabble-rousers, and tramps—Sante, whose thorough research is matched only by the vividness of his narration, takes the reader on a whirlwind tour. Richly illustrated with more than three hundred images, The Other Paris scuttles through the knotted streets of pre-Haussmann Paris; through the improvised accommodations of the original bohemians; through the massive garbage dump at Montfaucon, active until 1849, in which, "at any given time the carcasses of 12,000 horses . . . were left to rot."

A wildly lively survey of labor conditions, prostitution, drinking, crime, and popular entertainment, of the reporters, réaliste singers, pamphleteers, and poets who chronicled their evolution, The Other Paris is a book meant to upend the story of the French capital, to reclaim the city from the bon vivants and the speculators, and to hold a light to the works and days of the forgotten poor.

Luc Sante was born in Verviers, Belgium. His other books include Low Life, Evidence, The Factory of Facts, and Kill All Your Darlings. He is the recipient of a Whiting Writers' Award, an Award in Literature from the American Academy of Arts and Letters, a Grammy (for album notes), an Infinity Award for Writing from the International Center of Photography, and Guggenheim and Cullman fellowships. He has contributed to The New York Review of Books since 1981, and has written for many other magazines. He is the visiting professor of writing and the history of photography at Bard College and lives in Ulster County, New York.

PRAISE

Praise for Low Life

"A tour-de-force . . . [Sante] has a novelist's eye for detail and an aesthete's taste for anecdotes . . . Low Life is unquestionably a book that can be read for instruction about New York as well as for pleasure." —David Rieff, The Times Literary Supplement
Witches of America
Alex Mar

Witches are gathering.

Although a self-proclaimed skeptic, Alex Mar has secretly longed for revelation, envying people with unshakable beliefs. And so when she set out to direct the documentary *American Mystic*, she was drawn deep into the world of present-day witchcraft. Most people hear "witches" and think of horror films and Halloween, but to the one million Americans who practice Paganism, it's a nature-worshipping, polytheistic, and very real religion. *Witches of America* follows Mar on her trip into Paganism and the occult, from its roots in 1950s England to its current American mecca in the Bay Area; from a gathering of more than a thousand witches in the Illinois woods to the New Orleans branch of one of the world's most influential magical societies. She takes part in dozens of rituals, some vast and some intimate, alongside all sorts of people-single mothers, programmers, veterans, and one California priestess who becomes a close friend. This world gives Mar the freedom to confront what she believes is possible—or hopes might be.

With the wit of Susan Orlean and the insight of Leslie Jamison, Mar provides a fresh, unexpected take on faith in America. Whether evangelical, Pagan priestess, or atheist, each of us craves a system of meaning to give structure to our lives, and we sometimes find it in unexpected places. *Witches of America* asks the central question: Why do we choose to believe in anything at all?

Alex Mar was born and lives in New York City. She has contributed to *The Believer, Oxford American, Elle, The New York Times Book Review, Slate, New York* magazine, and other publications. She is also the director of the documentary feature *American Mystic*.
A House in St. John's Wood
In Search of My Parents

Matthew Spender

A son's personal exploration of one of the most influential—and troubled—artistic couples of the twentieth century

Stephen Spender's life, with all its secrets, successes and contradictions, is a vivid prism through which to view the twentieth century. He made friends with W.H. Auden and Christopher Isherwood while at Oxford, and together the three had wild adventures in Europe where they became early critics of Hitler and the rise of fascism. Like his friends, Stephen was drawn to other men, yet he eventually married Natasha Litvin, an ambitious young concert pianist, and together they started a family.

Matthew Spender grew up in postwar England as the child of two celebrated artists deeply immersed in the political and cultural life of their times. Taught how to use adjectives by Auden and raised among an influential elite, Matthew led what might have been a charmed existence, were it not for the tensions within his own household. His father, always susceptible to the allure of young men, was unable either to stop himself for the sake of his family, or to reveal his secret; and his mother's suffering led her on a strange introspective quest of her own. A House in St. John's Wood is at once a remarkably clear-eyed attempt to make sense of the many conflicting messages of his unconventional youth and a deeply felt portrait of his magnetic father and guarded mother.

Drawing on a wide range of unpublished letters and diaries, secret documents and youthful memories, Matthew Spender tells the story of a singular fami...

Matthew Spender is a writer and sculptor. His previous books include Within Tuscany, From a High Place: A Life of Arshile Gorky, and Goats on the Roof. He lives in Italy.
I Ching
The Book of Change

Translated by David Hinton

A master translator's beautiful and accessible rendering of the seminal Chinese text

In a radically new translation and interpretation of the I Ching, David Hinton strips this ancient Chinese masterwork of the usual apparatus and discovers a deeply poetic and philosophical text. Teasing out an elegant vision of the cosmos as ever-changing yet harmonious, Hinton reveals the seed from which Chinese philosophy, poetry, and painting grew. Although it was and is widely used for divination, the I Ching is also a book of poetic philosophy, deeply valued by artists and intellectuals, and Hinton's translation restores it to its original lyrical form.

Previous translations have rendered the I Ching as a divination text full of arcane language and extensive commentary. Though informative, these versions rarely hint at the work's philosophical heart, let alone its literary beauty. Here, Hinton translates only the original strata of the text, revealing a fully formed work of literature in its own right. The result is full of wild imagery, fables, aphorisms, and stories. Acclaimed for the eloquence of his many translations of ancient Chinese poetry and philosophy, Hinton has reinvented the I Ching as an exciting contemporary text at once primal and postmodern.

David Hinton's many translations of classical Chinese poetry have earned wide acclaim for creating compelling contemporary poems that convey the actual texture and density of the originals. He is also the first translator in more than a century of the four seminal masterworks of Chinese philosophy: Tao Te Ching, Chuang Tzu, Analects, and Mencius. He has received fellowships from the Guggenheim Foundation, the National Endowment for the Arts, and the National Endowment for the Humanities, and has won the Landon Translation Award, the PEN Translation Award, and, most recently, the Thornton Wilder Award for lifetime achievement from the American Academy of Arts and Letters.

PRAISE

Praise for I Ching

"[The I Ching is] the only thing that is amazingly true, period . . . You don't have to believe anything to read it, because besides being a great book to believe in, it's also very fantastic poetry." —Bob Dylan

"The I Ching has never left my side." —John Cage
The Brain Electric
The Dramatic High-Tech Race to Merge Minds and Machines
Malcolm Gay

The gripping and revelatory story of the dramatic race to merge the human brain with machines

Leading neuroscience researchers are racing to unlock the secrets of the mind. On the cusp of decoding brain signals that govern motor skills, they are developing miraculous technologies to enable paraplegics and wounded soldiers to move prosthetic limbs, and the rest of us to manipulate computers and other objects through thought alone. These fiercely competitive scientists are vying for Defense Department and venture capital funding, prestige, and great wealth.

Part life-altering cure, part science fiction, part military dream, these cutting-edge brain-computer interfaces promise to improve lives—but also hold the potential to augment soldiers' combat capabilities. In The Brain Electric, Malcolm Gay follows the dramatic emergence of these technologies, taking us behind the scenes into the operating rooms, start-ups, and research labs where the future is unfolding. With access to many of the field's top scientists, Gay illuminates this extraordinary race—where science, medicine, profit, and war converge—for the first time. But this isn't just a story about technology. At the heart of this research is a group of brave, vulnerable patient-volunteers whose lives are given new meaning through participating in these experiments. The Brain Electric asks us to rethink our relationship to technology, our bodies, even consciousness itself—challenging our assumptions about what it means to be human.

Malcolm Gay is an award-winning journalist. He holds an MJ from the University of California, Berkeley, Graduate School of Journalism, and his writing and essays have appeared in The New York Times, The Atlantic, and Time.com, among others. He was named an Alicia Patterson Fellow in 2013. The Brain Electric is his first book.
Daydreams of Angels
Stories

Heather O'Neill

Inventive, outlandish, and tender fairy tales from a bestselling author

The fantastic has always been at the edges of Heather O'Neill's work. In her bestselling novels Lullabies for Little Criminals and The Girl Who Was Saturday Night, she transformed the shabbiest streets of Montreal with her beautiful, freewheeling metaphors. She described the smallest of things—a stray cat or a second-hand coat—with an intensity that made them otherworldly.

In Daydreams of Angels, O'Neill's first collection of short stories, she gives free reign to her imaginative gifts. In "The Ugly Ducklings," generations of Nureyev clones live out their lives in a grand Soviet experiment. In "Dear Piglet," a teenaged cult follower writes a letter to explain the motivation behind her crime. And in another tale, a grandmother reveals where babies come from: the beach, where young mothers-to-be hunt for infants in the surf. Each of these beguiling stories twists the beloved narratives of childhood—fairy tales, storybooks, Bible stories—to uncover the deepest truths of family life.

Heather O'Neill is a contributor to This American Life, and her work has appeared in The New York Times Magazine, among other publications. Her novel Lullabies for Little Criminals, an international bestseller, won the Paragraphe Hugh MacLennan Prize for Fiction and the Canada Reads competition in 2007; was short-listed for six prizes, including the Orange Prize for Fiction and the Governor General's Literary Award; and was long-listed for the International IMPAC Dublin Literary Award. Her second novel, The Girl Who Was Saturday Night, was short-listed for the 2014 Scotiabank Giller Prize. She lives in Montreal, Canada.

PRAISE

Praise for The Girl Who Was Saturday Night

"O'Neill's language . . . is what I find so beguiling about her work. Similes blow up the ordinary. Hyperbole extends throughout . . . O'Neill exceeds at inventing a place where magic really happens, where the mundane can become extraordinary." —Liz Fischer Greenhill, The Rumpus
Doomed to Succeed
The U.S.-Israel Relationship from Truman to Obama

Dennis Ross

A necessary and unprecedented account of America's changing relationship with Israel

When it comes to Israel, U.S. policy has always emphasized the unbreakable bond between the two countries and our ironclad commitment to Israel's security. Today our ties to Israel are close—so close that when there are differences, they tend to make the news. But it was not always this way. Dennis Ross has been a direct participant in shaping U.S. policy toward the Middle East, and Israel specifically, for nearly thirty years. He served in senior roles, including as Bill Clinton's envoy for Arab-Israeli peace, and was an active player in the debates over how Israel fit into the region and what should guide our policies. In Doomed to Succeed, he takes us through every administration from Truman to Obama, throwing into dramatic relief each president's attitudes toward Israel and the region, the often tumultuous debates between key advisers, and the events that drove the policies and at times led to a shift in approach.

Ross points out how rarely lessons were learned and how distancing the United States from Israel in the Eisenhower, Nixon, Bush, and Obama administrations never yielded any benefits and why that lesson has never been learned. Doomed to Succeed offers compelling advice for how to understand the priorities of Arab leaders and how future administrations might best shape U.S. policy in that light.

Dennis Ross is the Counselor and Davidson Fellow at the Washington Institute for Near East Policy and a Distinguished Professor in the Practice of Diplomacy at Georgetown. He was the director of policy planning in the State Department for George H. W. Bush, Bill Clinton's Middle East Peace envoy, and a special assistant to the president under Barack Obama.

PRAISE

Praise for The Missing Peace

"Important, voluminous and keenly balanced . . . Ross's analysis of the peace process is astute, but the real service he performs in this book is less in explaining the meaning of events than in setting the record straight." —Ethan Bronner, The New York Times Book Review
The Emperor of Water Clocks
Poems

Yusef Komunyakaa

The wildly enchanting new collection from the Pulitzer Prize-winning poet Yusef Komunyakaa

"If I am not Ulysses, I am / his dear, ruthless half-brother." So announces Yusef Komunyakaa early in his lush new collection, The Emperor of Water Clocks. But Ulysses (or his half brother) is but one of the beguiling guises Komunyakaa dons over the course of this densely lyrical book. Here his speaker observes a doomed court jester; here he is with Napoleon, as the emperor "tells the doctor to cut out his heart / & send it to the empress, Marie-Louise"; here he is at the circus, observing as "The strong man presses six hundred pounds, / his muscles flexed for the woman / whose T-shirt says, these guns are loaded"; and here is just a man, placing "a few red anemones / & a sheaf of wheat" on Mahmoud Darwish's grave, reflecting on why "I'd rather die a poet / than a warrior."

Through these mutations and migrations and permutations and peregrinations there are constants: Komunyakaa's jazz-inflected rhythms; his effortlessly surreal images; his celebration of natural beauty and of love. There is also his insistent inquiry into the structures and struggles of power: not only of, say, king against jester but of man against his own desire and of the present against the pernicious influence of the past.

Another brilliant collection from the man David Wojahn has called one of our "most significant and individual voices," The Emperor of Water Clocks delights, challenges, and satisfies.

Yusef Komunyakaa's books of poetry include Neon Vernacular (for which he received the Pulitzer Prize), Talking Dirty to the Gods, Taboo, Warhorses, The Chameleon Couch, and Testimony: A Tribute to Charlie Parker. His plays, performance art, and libretti have been performed internationally and include Wakonda's Dream, Saturnalia, Testimony, and Gilgamesh (a verse play). He teaches at New York University.

PRAISE

Praise for Yusef Komunyakaa

"Yusef Komunyakaa is one of our period's most significant and individual voices . . . He has a near-revelatory capacity to give himself over to his subject matter and to the taut concision of his free verse . . . Dazzling." —David Wojahn, Poetry
The Mark and the Void
A Novel

Paul Murray

A brilliant, madcap novel set in an investment bank from the author of the surprise hit Skippy Dies

What links the Investment Bank of Torabundo, www.myhotswaitress.com (yes, with an s, don't ask), an art heist, a novel called For the Love of a Clown, a six-year-old boy with the unfortunate name of Remington Steele, a lonely French banker, a tiny Pacific island, and a pest control business run by an ex-KGB agent?

The Mark and the Void is Paul Murray's madcap new novel of institutional folly, following the success of his wildly original breakout hit, Skippy Dies. While marooned at his banking job in the bewilderingly damp and insular realm known as Ireland, Claude Martingale is approached by a down-on-his-luck author, Paul, looking for his next great subject. Claude finds that his life gets steadily more exciting under Paul's fictionalizing influence; he even falls in love with a beautiful waitress. But Paul's plan is not what it seems—and neither is Claude's employer, the Investment Bank of Torabundo, which swells through dodgy takeovers and derivatives trading until—well, you can probably guess how that shakes out.

The Mark and the Void is the funniest novel ever written about the recent financial crisis, and a stirring examination of the deceptions carried out in the names of art and commerce.

Paul Murray was born in 1975. He studied English literature at Trinity College in Dublin and creative writing at the University of East Anglia. His debut, An Evening of Long Goodbyes, was short-listed for the Whitbread First Novel Award in 2003 and was nominated for the Kerry Grove Irish Fiction Award. His second novel, Skippy Dies, was short-listed for the 2010 Costa Novel Award, was long-listed for the 2010 Man Booker Prize, was a finalist for the National Book Critics Circle Award, and was ranked third in Time's ten best books of 2010.

PRAISE

Praise for Skippy Dies

"Murray's humor and inventiveness never flag. And despite a serious theme—what happens to boys and men when they realize the world isn't the sparkly planetarium they had hoped for—Skippy Dies leaves you feeling hopeful and hungry for life. Just not for doughnuts." —Entertainment Weekly (Grade: A)
The White Road
Journey into an Obsession

Edmund de Waal

An intimate narrative history of porcelain, structured around five journeys through landscapes where porcelain was dreamed about, fired, refined, collected, and coveted.

A gripping blend of history and memoir, by the author of the award-winning and bestselling international sensation, The Hare with the Amber Eyes. In The White Road, bestselling author and artist Edmund de Waal gives us an intimate narrative history of his lifelong obsession with porcelain, or "white gold." A potter who has been working with porcelain for more than forty years, de Waal describes how he set out on five journeys to places where porcelain was dreamed about, refined, collected and coveted-and that would help him understand the clay's mysterious allure. From his studio in London, he starts by travelling to three "white hills"-sites in China, Germany and England that are key to porcelain's creation. But his search eventually takes him around the globe and reveals more than a history of cups and figurines; rather, he is forced to confront some of the darkest moments of twentieth-century history.

Part memoir, part history, part detective story, The White Road chronicles a global obsession with alchemy, art, wealth, craft, and purity. In a sweeping yet intimate style that recalls The Hare with the Amber Eyes, de Waal gives us a singular understanding of "the spectrum of porcelain" and the mapping of desire.

Edmund de Waal is one of the world's leading ceramic artists, and his porcelain is held in many major museum collections. His bestselling memoir The Hare with Amber Eyes has been published in thirty languages and won the Costa Biography Award, the Windham Campbell Literary Prize, and the RSL Ondaatje Prize. He lives in London with his family.
The Givenness of Things
Essays

Marilynne Robinson

A profound new essay collection from the beloved author of
Gilead, Houskeeping, and Lila

The spirit of our times can appear to be one of joyless urgency. As a culture we have become less interested in the exploration of the glorious mind, and more interested in creating and mastering technologies that will yield material well-being. But while cultural pessimism is always fashionable, there is still much to give us hope. In The Givenness of Things, the incomparable Marilynne Robinson delivers an impassioned critique of our contemporary society while arguing that reverence must be given to who we are and what we are: creatures of singular interest and value, despite our errors and depredations.

Robinson has plumbed the depths of the human spirit both in her novels, including the National Book Critics Circle Award-winning Lila and the Pulitzer Prize-winning Gilead, and in her new essay collection she trains her incisive mind on our modern predicament and the mysteries of faith. These seventeen essays examine the ideas that have inspired and provoked one of our finest writers throughout her life. Whether she is investigating how the work of the great thinkers of the past, Calvin, Locke, Bonhoeffer—and Shakespeare—can infuse our lives, or calling attention to the rise of the self-declared elite in American religious and political life, Robinson's peerless prose and boundless humanity are on display. Exquisite and bold, The Givenness of Things is a necessary call for us to find wisdom and...

Marilynne Robinson is the author of the novels Lila, 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

"Robinson's genius is for making indistinguishable the highest ends of faith and fiction . . . The beauty of Robinson's prose suggests an author continually threading with spun platinum the world's finest needle." -Michelle Orange, Bookforum
A Wild Swan
And Other Tales
Michael Cunningham; Illustrated by Yuko Shimizu

Fairy tales for our times from the Pulitzer Prize–winning author of The Hours

A poisoned apple and a monkey's paw with the power to change fate; a girl whose extraordinarily long hair causes catastrophe; a man with one human arm and one swan's wing; and a house deep in the forest, constructed of gumdrops and gingerbread, vanilla frosting and boiled sugar. In A Wild Swan and Other Tales, the people and the talismans of lands far, far away—the mythic figures of our childhoods and the source of so much of our wonder—are transformed by Michael Cunningham into stories of sublime revelation.

Here are the moments that our fairy tales forgot or deliberately concealed: the years after a spell is broken, the rapturous instant of a miracle unexpectedly realized, or the fate of a prince only half cured of a curse. The Beast stands ahead of you in line at the convenience store, buying smokes and a Slim Jim, his devouring smile aimed at the cashier. A malformed little man with a knack for minor acts of wizardry goes to disastrous lengths to procure a child. A loutish and lazy Jack prefers living in his mother's basement to getting a job, until the day he trades a cow for a handful of magic beans.

Reimagined by one of the most gifted storytellers of his generation, and exquisitely illustrated by Yuko Shimizu, rarely have our bedtime stories been this dark, this perverse, or this true.


PRAISE

Praise for The Snow Queen

"Regardless of your theological position on signs and wonders, that voice, Cunningham's inimitable style, is the real miracle of The Snow Queen. Sentence by sentence . . . he moves across the surface of these pages like some suave, literary god." —Ron Charles, The Washington Post
The Death of Cancer
After Fifty Years on the Front Lines of Medicine, a Pioneering Oncologist Reveals Why the War on Cancer Is Winnable--and How We Can Get There

Vincent T. DeVita Jr., M.D., and Elizabeth DeVita-Raeburn

The true story of the war on cancer from one of its generals

In *The Death of Cancer*, Dr. Vincent DeVita—former director of the National Cancer Institute, former physician-in-chief at Memorial Sloan Kettering, director of the Yale Cancer Center, former president of the American Cancer Society, and developer of the first successful chemotherapy treatment for Hodgkin's lymphoma, which first demonstrated that advanced cancers of a major organ system in adults could be cured by chemotherapy—provides a personal history of one of the greatest science stories of our time, covering our fight against cancer from a man who's seen it all.

But this is more than a history; it's also a work of advocacy. Despite declining mortality rates, DeVita argues, America's cancer patients are being shortchanged by timid doctors, misguided national agendas, and compromised bureaucracies. He gives readers an eye-opening look at the strengths and weaknesses of America's most prestigious cancer centers, showing how patients can use this information to their advantage. Though we're rapidly approaching total victory over cancer, he contends, we need to do more to synthesize our progress and help doctors put it into practice.

This is an ambitious book about a life-or-death subject, a vital entry into the cancer literature genre. With historical depth and authenticity, DeVita brings important information to readers about what cancer is, how best to fight it, and what we still have to learn.

Vincent T. DeVita Jr., M.D., is a professor of medicine and epidemiology and public health at Yale School of Medicine. He was the director of the National Cancer Institute and the National Cancer Program from 1980 to 1988. In 1988 he joined Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center as the physician-in-chief. In 1993 he became the director of the Yale Cancer Center. At the NCI, he developed a cure for Hodgkin's lymphoma with combination chemotherapy, proving that advanced cancers could be cured by drugs. He's a former president of the American Cancer Society and the coeditor of *Cancer: Principles & Practice of Oncology*, a textbook of cancer medicine. Elizabeth DeVita-Raeburn is the author of *The Empty Room*. She lives in New
The Poetry of Yehuda Amichai

Yehuda Amichai; Edited by Robert Alter

The largest English-language collection to date from Israel's finest poet

Few poets have demonstrated as persuasively as Yehuda Amichai why poetry matters. One of the major poets of the twentieth century, Amichai created remarkably accessible poems, vivid in their evocation of the Israeli landscape and historical predicament, yet with universal resonance. His are among the most moving love poems written in any language in the past two generations—some exuberant, some powerfully erotic, many suffused with sadness over the fate of separation that casts its shadow across love. In a country torn by armed conflict, these poems poignantly assert the preciousness of private experience cherished under the repeated threat of violence and death.

Amichai's poetry has attracted a variety of gifted translators on both sides of the Atlantic from the 1960s to the present. Assembled by the award-winning literary scholar and translator Robert Alter, The Poetry of Yehuda Amichai is by far the largest selection of the master poet's work to appear in English. Gathering the best of the existing translations alongside Alter's expert renderings, this edition offers both untranslated poems published for the first time and new, authoritative versions of Amichai's finest works. With this collection, a vital poetic voice is now available to English readers as it never has been before.

Yehuda Amichai (1924–2000) is considered to be Israel's greatest contemporary poet. Translated into forty languages, he may be the most widely translated Hebrew poet since King David. Amichai's work published in English includes Songs of Jerusalem and Myself, Time, The Great Tranquillity, Amen, Open Closed Open, and Even a Fist Was Once an Open Palm with Fingers. Robert Alter's achievements in scholarship ranging from the eighteenth-century novel to contemporary Hebrew and American literature earned him the Robert Kirsch Award for Lifetime Achievement from the Los Angeles Times. Alter is the Class of 1937 Emeritus Professor of Hebrew and Comparative Literature at the University of California, Berkeley.

PRAISE

Praise for Yehuda Amichai

"I've become more than ever convinced that Amichai is one of the biggest, most essential, most durable poetic voices of this past century—one of the most intimate, alive and human, wise, humorous, true, loving, inwardly free and resourceful, at home in every human situation. One of the real treasures." — Ted Hughes
What the Eye Hears
A History of Tap Dancing

Brian Seibert

The first authoritative history of tap dancing, one of the great art forms—along with jazz and musical comedy—created in America

Most dance arises from an interaction between music and movement. Tap is both dancing to music and dancing as music. We don't just watch it; we hear its rhythms and feel them in our muscles and bones.

Like jazz, tap was born in the United States. It's a hybrid of traditional African dances brought over by slaves and jig, clog, and other folk-dance forms from the British Isles. Brian Seibert's magisterial history illuminates tap's complex origins and its theatricalization in blackface minstrelsy. He charts tap's growth in the vaudeville circuits and nightclubs of the early twentieth century, chronicles its spread to ubiquity on Broadway and in Hollywood, analyzes its post–World War II decline, and celebrates its reinvention by new generations of American and international performers.

It is a story with a huge cast of characters, from Master Juba (whose performance Charles Dickens described) through Bill Robinson and Shirley Temple, Fred Astaire and Ginger Rogers, to Gregory Hines and Savion Glover. Seibert traces the stylistic development of tap while guiding us through the often surprising history of cultural exchange between black and white over centuries. What the Eye Hears is a central account of American popular culture, as well as the saga of African Americans in show business, wielding enormous influence as they grapple with the pain and pride of a complicated legacy.

Brian Seibert is a dance critic for The New York Times and a contributor to The New Yorker. Born and raised in Los Angeles, he lives in Brooklyn with his wife and daughter. This is his first book.
The Art of the Publisher

Roberto Calasso; Translated from the Italian by Richard Dixon

An interior look at Roberto Calasso's work as a publisher and his reflections on the art of book publishing

In this fascinating memoir, the author and publisher Roberto Calasso meditates on the art of book publishing. Recalling the beginnings of Adelphi in the 1960s, he touches on the Italian house's defining qualities, including the considerations involved in designing the successful Biblioteca series and the strategy for publishing a wide range of authors of high literary quality, as well as the historic critical edition of the works of Nietzsche.

With his signature erudition and polemical flair, Calasso transcends Adelphi to look at the publishing industry as a whole, from the essential importance of graphics, jackets, and cover flaps to the consequences of universal digitization. And he outlines what he describes as the "most hazardous and ambitious" profile of what a publishing house can be: a book comprising many books, a form in which "all the books published by a certain publisher could be seen as links in a single chain"—a conception akin to that of other twentieth-century publishers, from Giulio Einaudi to Roger Straus, of whom the book offers brief portraits.

An essential book for writers, readers, and editors, The Art of the Publisher is a tribute to the elusive yet profoundly relevant art of making books.

Roberto Calasso is the publisher of Adelphi Edizioni in Milan and is the author of many well-known books, including a work in various parts that presently comprises The Ruin of Kasch, The Marriage of Cadmus and Harmony, Ka, K, Tiepolo Pink, La Folie Baudelaire, and Ardor. Richard Dixon lives and works in Italy. His translations include The Prague Cemetery and Inventing the Enemy by Umberto Eco, and he is one of the translators of FSG's edition of Giacomo Leopardi's Zibaldone.

PRAISE

Praise for Roberto Calasso

"[Calasso is] a literary institution." —The Paris Review

"Calasso is not only immensely learned; he is one of the most original thinkers and writers we have today." —Charles Simic
All the Houses
A Novel
Karen Olsson

A bittersweet, biting, sharply observed family drama from the author of *Waterloo*

After her father has a heart attack and subsequent surgery, Helen Atherton returns to her hometown of Washington, D.C., to help take care of him and, perhaps more honestly, herself. She’s been living in Los Angeles, trying to work in Hollywood, slowly spiraling into a depression fueled by hours spent watching C-SPAN—her obsession with politics a holdover from a childhood interrupted by her father’s involvement in the Iran-Contra scandal. "I don’t know whether to think of him as a coconspirator or a complicit bystander or just someone who was in the wrong place at the wrong time." Though the rest of the world has forgotten that scandal, the Atherton family never quite recovered. While living with her father in her childhood home, Helen tries to piece together the political moves that pulled her family apart.

*All the Houses* is, at its heart, a father–daughter story. With razor-sharp prose, an alluring objectivity, and a dry sense of humor, Karen Olsson writes about the shape-shifting of our family relationships when outside forces work their way in—how Washington turns people into unnatural versions of themselves, how problematic and overbearing sisters can be, and how familial nostalgia that sets in during early adulthood can prove counterproductive to actually becoming an adult.

Karen Olsson is the author of the novel *Waterloo*. She has written about politics, science, and popular culture for magazines, including *The New York Times Magazine* and *Texas Monthly*, where she is a contributing editor. She is also a former editor of *The Texas Observer*. Born and raised in Washington, D.C., she now lives in Austin, Texas, with her family.

**PRAISE**

Praise for *Waterloo*


"A funny, intelligent novel about people who are at odds and at home with each other." —James Whorton Jr., *The Washington Post*
The Brothers Vonnegut
Science and Fiction in the House of Magic

Ginger Strand

Worlds collide in this true story of weather control in the Cold War era and the making of Kurt Vonnegut

In the mid-1950s, Kurt Vonnegut takes a job in the PR department at General Electric in Schenectady, where his older brother, Bernard, is a leading scientist in its research lab—or "House of Magic." Kurt has ambitions as a novelist, and Bernard is working on a series of cutting-edge weather-control experiments meant to make deserts bloom and farmers flourish.

While Kurt writes zippy press releases, Bernard builds silver-iodide generators and attacks clouds with dry ice. His experiments attract the attention of the government; weather proved a decisive factor in World War II, and if the military can control the clouds, fog, and snow, they can fly more bombing missions.

Maybe weather will even be—as a headline in American Magazine calls it— "The New Super Weapon." But when the army takes charge of his cloudseeding project (dubbed Project Cirrus), Bernard begins to have misgivings about the use of his inventions for harm, not to mention the evidence that they are causing alarming changes in the atmosphere.

In a fascinating cultural history, Ginger Strand chronicles the intersection of these brothers' lives at a time when the possibilities of science seemed infinite. As the Cold War looms, Bernard's struggle for integrity plays out in Kurt's evolving writing style. The Brothers Vonnegut reveals how science's ability to influence the natural world also influenced one of our most inventive novelists.

Ginger Strand is the author of three previous books, including Killer on the Road: Violence and the American Interstate. She has written for a wide variety of publications, including Harper's Magazine, This Land, The Believer, Tin House, The New York Times, and Orion, where she is a contributing editor.

PRAISE

Praise for Killer on the Road

"Ginger Strand is in possession of a sharp eye, a biting wit, a beguiling sense of fun—and a magnificent obsession." —Bloomberg

"Strand proves herself to be a first-rate storyteller." —Booklist
The Great Forgetting
A Novel

James Renner

A new genre-bending novel from the author of The Man from Primrose Lane

In The Man from Primrose Lane, James Renner fused time travel with serial-killer thrillers, resulting in what the Associated Press called "a superbly crazy and imaginative story." Now, in The Great Forgetting, he blends science fiction and conspiracy thrillers with a touch of pure fantasy, and the result is just as crazy and imaginative.

Jack Felter, a history teacher, returns home to bucolic Franklin Mills, Ohio, to care for his father, a retired pilot who suffers from dementia and is quickly losing his memory. Jack would love to forget about Franklin Mills, and about Sam, the girl he fell in love with, who ran off with his best friend, Tony. Except Tony has gone missing.

Soon Jack is pulled into the search for Tony, but the only one who seems to know anything is Tony's last patient, a paranoid boy named Cole. Jack must team up with Cole to follow Tony's trail—and maybe save the world. Their journey will lead them to Manhattan and secret facilities buried under the Catskills, and eventually to a forgotten island in the Pacific—the final destination of Malaysia Airlines Flight 370.

When Jack learns the details about the program known as the Great Forgetting, he's faced with the timeless question: Is it better to forget our greatest mistake or to remember, so it's never repeated?

James Renner's first novel, The Man from Primrose Lane, was released in 2012. He currently teaches creative nonfiction at the University of Akron.

PRAISE

Praise for The Man from Primrose Lane

"If you like your fiction tidy and predictable, look elsewhere." —The Washington Post
The Big Green Tent
A Novel

Ludmila Ulitskaya; Translated from the Russian by Polly Gannon

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, damming 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 Dostoevsky, 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 fourteen 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 Man Booker Prize and was short-listed for the Man Booker International 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*
Great Is the Truth
Secrecy, Scandal, and the Quest for Justice at the Horace Mann School

Amos Kamil with Sean Elder

A shocking exposé of sexual abuse and the struggle for justice at one of America's most prestigious schools

The Horace Mann School, located in the Riverdale section of the Bronx, represents the pinnacle of private education. With all its accolades and prestige, few could have anticipated the scandal that erupted in 2012 when The New York Times Magazine ran a cover story by the journalist and Horace Mann alumnus Amos Kamil detailing a decades-long pattern of sexual abuse by teachers.

In Great Is the Truth, Kamil and his coauthor, Sean Elder, uncover the full story of what happened at Horace Mann, and recount what has occurred in the aftermath of Kamil's watershed article. With craft and poise, they reveal a high-stakes environment of demanding academics and barely hidden debauchery, where many faculty members exploited their unchecked and undue influence to horrifying ends. Fast-forwarding to the present, Kamil and Elder relate how survivors emerged and petitioned for redress with the aid of celebrity lawyers while administrators and trustees scrambled to protect the school and themselves. They also look closely at how other schools have responded to scandal, often with far greater compassion and candor. How can institutions rectify their complicity in abuse and prevent it from recurring? How can victims achieve their due? "Great is the truth and it prevails," may be the motto of Horace Mann, but for many alumni, the truth remains all too hard to come by.

Amos Kamil is a playwright, screenwriter, and investigative reporter. His 2012 cover story in The New York Times Magazine brought the Horace Mann scandals to light. Sean Elder has been writing about men's issues for three decades in publications such as Parenting, Men's Health, Details, Men's Journal, and Psychology Today.
The Blizzard
A Novel

Vladimir Sorokin; Translated from the Russian by Jamey Gambrell

A dazzling, utterly distinctive saga from Russia's most celebrated—and most controversial—novelist

Vladimir Sorokin is one of Russia's most popular and provocative novelists. In his scabrous dystopian satire Day of the Oprichnik, American readers were introduced to his distinctive style, which combines an edgy avant-garde sensibility with a fondness for the absurd and even the grotesque—all in service of bringing out stinging truths about life in modern-day Russia.

In The Blizzard, we are immersed in the atmosphere of a nineteenth-century Russia. Garin, a district doctor, is desperately trying to reach the village of Dolgoye, where a mysterious epidemic is turning people into zombies. He carries with him a vaccine that will prevent the spread of this terrible disease but is stymied in his travels by an all-consuming snowstorm, an impenetrable blizzard that turns a drive that should last only a few hours into a voyage of days and, finally, a journey into eternity.

The Blizzard dramatizes a timeless metaphysical predicament. The characters in this nearly postapocalyptic world are constantly in motion and yet somehow trapped and frozen—spending day and night fighting their way through the storm on an expedition filled with extraordinary encounters, dangerous escapades, torturous imaginings, and amorous adventures. Hypnotic, fascinating, and richly descriptive, The Blizzard is a seminal work from one of the most inventive writers working today.

Vladimir Sorokin is the author of many plays, short stories, screenplays, and novels, including Day of the Oprichnik (FSG, 2011). He was short-listed for the Man Booker International Prize in 2013. He has won the Andrei Bely Prize and the Maxim Gorky Prize, and was nominated for the Booker–Open Russia Literary Prize. He lives in Moscow.

PRAISE

Praise for Day of the Oprichnik

"Sorokin [is] one of Russia's funniest, smartest and most confounding living writers." —Elaine Blair, The Nation
The Dawning Moon of the Mind
Unlocking the Pyramid Texts

Susan Brind Morrow

A stunning and original interpretation of an ancient system of poetic, religious, and philosophical thought

Buried in the Egyptian desert some 4,000 years ago, the Pyramid Texts are among the world's oldest poetry. Yet ever since the discovery of these hieroglyphs in 1881, they have been misconstrued by Western Egyptologists as a garbled collection of primitive myths and incantations, relegating to obscurity their radiant fusion of philosophy, scientific inquiry, and religion. Now, in a seminal work, the classicist and linguist Susan Brind Morrow has recast the Pyramid Texts as a coherent work of art, arguing that they should be recognized as a formative event in the evolution of human thought. In The Dawning Moon of the Mind she explains how to read hieroglyphs, contextualizes their evocative imagery, and interprets the entire poem. The result is a magisterial religious and philosophical text revealing a profound consciousness of the world with astonishing parallels to Judeo-Christian culture, Buddhism, and Tantra.

More than twenty years in the making, The Dawning Moon of the Mind is a monumental achievement that locates one of the origins of poetic thought in Western culture. Almost before science, art, and written language, these texts set forth the relationship between time and eternity, life and death, history and ideas. In The Dawning Moon of the Mind they emerge in their original luminosity and intelligence alongside a persuasive argument for their central importance to the history of language.

Susan Brind Morrow studied classics, Arabic, and Egyptology at Columbia University. She has traveled extensively in Egypt and Sudan, working as an archaeologist and studying natural history, language, and the uses of poetry. Her first book, The Names of Things: A Passage in the Egyptian Desert, was a finalist for the PEN Martha Albrand Award for the Memoir in 1998. She is also the author of Wolves and Honey: A Hidden History of the Natural World and is the recipient of a Guggenheim fellowship for her work on the Pyramid Texts.

PRAISE

Praise for The Names of Things

"Informative, perceptive, beautifully descriptive, Susan Morrow's book is a delight." —Elie Wiesel

"Curious jewels pop up on every page." —Pico Iyer, Time

Behind the Glass Wall
Inside the United Nations

Aleksandar Hemon

On the UN’s seventieth anniversary, an unprecedented glimpse into its strange and remarkable inner workings

Before he was invited to become the United Nations’ first Writer in Residence, Aleksandar Hemon had a complicated relationship with the institution. The image of the UN was forever tainted by the UN Protection Forces’ delinquent and disgraceful presence in the Bosnian War. And yet he also understood that “without the UN, without the very idea of it, the crimes against Bosnians couldn’t be perceived as crimes against all humanity.”

By the time Hemon had finished his residency at the United Nations—he and Magnum photographer Peter van Agtmael were invited into the iconic New York City headquarters and given access to the Secretary General, the General Assembly, and the Security Council—his relationship with the institution was even more complicated.

In Behind the Glass Wall, Hemon shows an essential, modern institution at work, an institution both beautifully driven and profoundly crippled by its noble ideals. But above all he shows an institution made up of cigarette-smoking, gossipy, hungry, angry, lovely, petty, brilliant people committed to the most inspiring of international principles, people who are at least as frustrated as we are by the world’s failure to live up to the UN Charter’s inarguable goals, people who get up every morning newly determined to achieve nothing less than peace on earth.

Aleksandar Hemon is the author of The Making of Zombie Wars; The Book of My Lives, which was a finalist for the National Book Critics Circle Award; The Lazarus Project, which was a finalist for the National Book Award and the National Book Critics Circle Award; and three books of short stories, including Nowhere Man, which was also a finalist for the National Book Critics Circle Award. He was the recipient of a Guggenheim Fellowship and a “genius grant” from the MacArthur Foundation. He lives in Chicago.

PRAISE


"A virtuoso linguist, stylist and social observer . . . Deeply human, totally irresistible and often hilarious, and by turns culturally specific and universal." — Kera Bolonik, San Francisco Chronicle
A Burglar's Guide to the City
Geoff Manaugh

The city seen from a unique point of view: those who want to break in and loot its treasures

At the heart of Geoff Manaugh's *A Burglar’s Guide to the City* is an unexpected and thrilling insight: the city as seen through the eyes of robbers. From experts on both sides of the law, readers learn to understand the city as an arena of possible tunnels and picked locks—and architecture itself as an obstacle to be outwitted and second-guessed.

From how to pick locks (and the tools required) to how to case a bank on the edge of town, readers will learn to detect the vulnerabilities, blind spots, and unseen openings that surround us all the time. This simultaneously allows us to view the city—from specific buildings and individual rooms to whole neighborhoods—through the privileged eyes of FBI investigating agents and security consultants, people dedicated both to solving and to preempting these attempts at devious entry.

Full of absurd and marvelous stories of heists and capers, *A Burglar’s Guide to the City* offers a kind of criminal X-ray of our built environment. Never again will readers enter a bank without imagining the vault geometry, or visit a museum without plotting ways to bring their favorite painting home with them.

Geoff Manaugh is the founder of BLDGBLOG, one of the most popular architecture sites on the Web.

"Geoff Manaugh has provided the reader with an excursion into a new world—part digital fantasy, part reality at the intersection of art, architecture, landscape design, and pure ideas. Like the blog, the book is personal, idiosyncratic, and, best of all, incredibly interesting." —Errol Morris, director of *Fast, Cheap & Out of Control* and ...
Normal
A Novel
Warren Ellis

A smart, tight, provocative techno-thriller straight out of the very near future—by an iconic visionary writer

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; 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.

Praise for Warren Ellis

"A beacon of brilliant irony and sardonic satire." —Sir Patrick Stewart

"Deliciously perverse." —Publishers Weekly
The Pickle Index
A Novel

Eli Horowitz

A pithy parable of prison breaks, performance anxiety, and pickled vegetables — and a publication complete with app, 3D printing, and more.

Zloty Kornblatt is the hapless ringmaster of an even more hapless circus troupe. But one fateful night, Zloty makes a mistake: he accidentally makes his audience laugh. Here on the outskirts of Burford—where both the cuisine and the economy, such as they are, are highly dependent upon pickled vegetables—laughter is a rare occasion. It draws the immediate attention of the local bureaucracy, and by morning Zloty has been branded an "instigator, conspirator, and fomentor" and confined to the top of the country's noble prison, the Confinement Needle.

When the circus troupe awakes, they gloomily assume that their leader has abandoned them in the night. But when a local functionary who happens to be one of the circus's few fans spills the truth about Zloty's fate, the performers rouse themselves to spring their leader from his cell, their arcane talents (a morose contortionist, a strongman who'd rather be miming, a lion tamer paired with an elderly dog…) suddenly strangely useful. Unlikely success follows unlikely success until, suddenly, it doesn't… and it's left to Flora Bialy, Zloty's understudy and our shy narrator, to save the day.

The Pickle Index is fast-moving fable, full of deadpan humor and absurd twists — and also an exhilarating, innovative storytelling experience by an author who, as a co-creator of The Silent History and McSweeney's editor, has long been pushing the edges of literary fiction. The ...

Eli Horowitz was the managing editor and then publisher of McSweeney's. He is the coauthor of The Clock Without a Face, a treasure-hunt mystery; Everything You Know Is Pong, an illustrated cultural history of Ping-Pong; The Silent History (FSG Originals), with Matthew Derby and Kevin Moffett; and The New World (FSG Originals), in collaboration with Chris Adrian. He lives in San Francisco.

PRAISE

"[The Silent History] handsomely fashions a relationship between digital and print media; but most of all this is a compelling story about difference, rights and power." —Richard House, The Guardian

"Ingenious . . . [The Silent History is] a richly textured vision of a dystopian future." —Publishers Weekly (starred review)
Ugly Girls
A Novel

Lindsay Hunter

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

BuzzFeed Books' Best Book of 2014

Perry and Baby Girl are best friends, though you wouldn't know it if you met them. Their friendship is woven from the threads of never-ending dares and power struggles, their loyalty fierce but incredibly fraught. They spend their nights sneaking out of their trailers, stealing cars for joyrides, and doing all they can to appear hard to the outside world. With all their energy focused on deceiving themselves and the people around them, they don't know that real danger lurks: Jamey, an alleged high school student from a nearby town, has been pining after Perry from behind the computer screen in his mother's trailer for some time now, following Perry and Baby Girl's every move-on Facebook, via instant messaging and text, and, unbeknownst to the girls, in person. When Perry and Baby Girl finally agree to meet Jamey face-to-face, they quickly realize he's far from the shy high school boy they thought he was, and they'll do whatever is necessary to protect themselves.

Lindsay Hunter's stories have been called "mesmerizing...visceral...exquisite" (Chicago Tribune), and in Ugly Girls she calls on all her faculties as a wholly original storyteller to deliver the most searing, poignant, powerful debut novel in years.

Lindsay Hunter is the author of the story collections Don't Kiss Me and Daddy's. Originally from Florida, she now lives in Chicago with her husband, son, and two pit bulls. Ugly Girls is her first novel.

PRAISE

"Hunter's first novel exposes the ugly truths about human desire while showing off her skill at crafting poignant scenes...her sentences, like her characters, are burning at both ends. They're punchy and fascinating and planted firmly in the present."--Maddie Crum, The Huffington Post
American Apostles
When EvangelicalsEntered the World of Islam
Christine Leigh Heyrman

The surprising tale of the first American Protestant missionaries to proselytize in the Muslim world

On November 3, 1819, Pliny Fisk and Levi Parsons embarked from Boston on the first American mission to the Middle East. A year later they were joined by their friend Jonas King. Poor boys reared on hardscrabble New England farms and steeped in evangelical piety, they imagined themselves martyrs to the cause of converting the world. So too did their large and devoted following in the United States.

Christine Leigh Heyrman’s American Apostles brilliantly chronicles the first collision between American evangelicalism and the diverse religious cultures of the Levant. The founding members of the "Palestine mission" thrilled readers with tales of crossing the Sinai and exploring Cairo and Jerusalem. But their missions did not go according to plan. The Muslims of the Middle East showed no interest in converting. Instead of saving souls, the New Englanders found themselves engaging scholars in theological debate, marveling at the local folkways, and pursuing an elusive Bostonian convert to Islam. From the start, the American encounter with Islam was an unstable mix of crusading vigor and cosmopolitan curiosity.

In the end, Heyrman argues that the failure of the foreign missions movement bolstered a more militant Christianity that became America’s unofficial creed. The missionaries did not convert Muslims but they did transform themselves—with political and religious legacies that last to this day.

Christine Leigh Heyrman is the Robert W. and Shirley P. Grumble Professor of American History at the University of Delaware. She is the author of Commerce and Culture: The Maritime Communities in Colonial Massachusetts, 1690–1750 and Southern Cross: The Beginnings of the Bible Belt, winner of the 1998 Bancroft Prize.
Strange Tools
Art and Human Nature

Alva Noë

A philosopher makes the case for thinking of works of art as tools for investigating ourselves

In his new book, *Strange Tools: Art and Human Nature*, the philosopher and cognitive scientist Alva Noë raises a number of profound questions: What is art? Why do we value art as we do? What does art reveal about our nature? Drawing on philosophy, art history, and cognitive science, and making provocative use of examples from all three of these fields, Noë offers new answers to such questions. He also shows why recent efforts to frame questions about art in terms of neuroscience and evolutionary biology alone have been and will continue to be unsuccessful.

Alva Noë is a professor of philosophy at the University of California, Berkeley, where he also serves as a member of the Institute for Cognitive and Brain Sciences and the Center for New Media. A graduate of Columbia College, he holds a BPhil from the University of Oxford and a PhD from Harvard University. The focus of his work in recent years has been on the nature of mind and human experience, with particular emphasis on perception and consciousness. In addition, he is a weekly contributor to National Public Radio's science blog *13.7: Cosmos and Culture*.

PRAISE

Praise for Alva Noë

"As a neurologist, confronted every day by questions of mind, self, consciousness, and their basis, I find Alva Noë’s concepts both astounding and convincing." —Oliver Sacks, Columbia University Medical Center

Out of Our Heads: Why You Are Not Your Brain, and Other Lessons from the Biology of Consciousness

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Trade Paperback | $15.00 / $17.00 Can.
Masters of Empire
Great Lakes Indians and the Making of America
Michael A. McDonnell

A radical reinterpretation of early American history from a native point of view

In *Masters of Empire*, the historian Michael A. McDonnell reveals the pivotal role played by the native peoples of the Great Lakes in the history of North America. Though less well known than the Iroquois or Sioux, the Anishinaabeg who lived along Lakes Michigan and Huron were equally influential. McDonnell charts their story, and argues that the Anishinaabeg have been relegated to the edges of history for too long. Through remarkable research into 19th-century Anishinaabeg-authored chronicles, McDonnell highlights the long-standing rivalries and relationships among the great tribes of North America, and how Europeans often played only a minor role in their stories. McDonnell reminds us that it was native people who possessed intricate and far-reaching networks of trade and kinship, of which the French and British knew little. And as empire encroached upon their domain, the Anishinaabeg were often the ones doing the exploiting. By dictating terms at trading posts and frontier forts, they played a crucial role in the making of early America. Through vivid depictions of early conflicts, the French and Indian War, and Pontiac's Rebellion, all from a native perspective, *Masters of Empire* overturns our assumptions about colonial America and the origins of the Revolutionary War. By calling attention to the Great Lakes as a crucible of culture and conflict, McDonnell reimagines the landscape of American histor...

Michael A. McDonnell is an associate professor of history at the University of Sydney. He is the author of *The Politics of War: Race, Class, and Conflict in Revolutionary Virginia*, winner of the 2008 New South Wales Premier's History Prize, and coeditor of *Remembering the Revolution: Memory, History, and Nation-Making from Independence to the Civil War*. His work was included in the *Best American History Essays 2008* and he won the Lester Cappon Prize for the best article published in the *William and Mary Quarterly* in 2006. He has received numerous research scholarships and grants in the United States and Australia and has served as a distinguished lecturer for the Organization of American Historians. He lives in Sydney, Australia.

PRAISE

Praise for *The Politics of War*

"Required reading for students of the American Revolution." - *The Historian*
Brain Storms
The Race to Unlock the Mysteries of Parkinson’s Disease

Jon Palfreman

A star science journalist with Parkinson’s reveals the inner workings of this perplexing disease

Seven million people worldwide suffer from Parkinson’s—sixty thousand new cases diagnosed each year in the U.S. alone—and it remains an enigma, with doctors, researchers, and patients hunting for a cure. In *Brain Storms*, award-winning journalist Jon Palfreman tells their story, a story that takes on urgency when he is diagnosed with the debilitating illness. Palfreman chronicles how scientists have labored to crack the mystery of what was once called “the shaking palsy,” from the earliest clinical descriptions to the cutting edge of molecular neuroscience. He charts the victories and setbacks of a massive international effort to best the disease, referred to as one of the best windows into the brain itself. *Brain Storms* is also a profoundly personal investigation into Palfreman’s own struggles and those of others living with Parkinson’s. From a professional ballet dancer who “tricks” her body to move freely again, to a “frozen” patient who cannot walk but astounds doctors when he is able to ride a bicycle, Palfreman shines a light on the varied and ingenious ways patients cope with having their bodies steadily taken away from them.

The race is on to discover a means to stop or reverse neurodegenerative conditions like Parkinson’s and Alzheimer’s. *Brain Storms* is the long-overdue, riveting detective story of that race, and a passionate, insightful account into the lives of those affected.

Jon Palfreman, PhD, is the KEZI Distinguished Professor of Broadcast Journalism at the University of Oregon. He is an Emmy, DuPont, and Peabody Award-winning journalist, and the recipient of the Victor Cohn Prize for Excellence in Medical Writing. He is a three-time winner of an AAAS Science Journalism Award and a three-time winner of the NASW Science in Society Journalism Award. Palfreman is the author of *The Case of the Frozen Addicts* and *The Dream Machine*. He lives in Lexington, Massachusetts.

**PRAISE**

Praise for *The Case of the Frozen Addicts*

"I could not put it down." —Oliver Sacks
The Horse
The Epic History of Our Noble Companion
Wendy Williams

The revelatory and groundbreaking adventure into the 56-million-year history of the horse

Horses have a story to tell, one of resilience, sociability, and intelligence, and of partnership with human beings. In The Horse, the journalist and equestrienne Wendy Williams brings that story to life. Williams chronicles the 56-million-year journey of horses as she visits with horse experts around the world, revealing what our biological affinities and differences can tell us about the bond between horses and humans, and what our noble companion may think and feel. Indeed, recent breakthroughs regarding the cognitive capacities of the horse and its ability to adapt to changing ecosystems indicate that this animal is an evolutionary triumph. Williams charts the fascinating course that leads to modern Equus—from the protohorse to the thoroughbreds of today—creating a unique biography of the horse as a sentient being with a finely nuanced mind. She also observes magnificent cave art that signals our respect for horses well before they were domesticated, visits Wyoming to understand the dynamics of mustangs, contemplates what life is like for the Garrano horses who thrive on the rugged terrain of Galicia, celebrates the Takhi horses of Mongolia, and more. The Horse is a revelatory account of the animal who has been at our side through the ages. Enriched by Williams’s own experience with horses, The Horse is a masterful work that pays tribute to this champion of the natural world.

Wendy Williams is a journalist whose work has appeared in The Boston Globe, The Wall Street Journal, The New York Times, and The Christian Science Monitor, among others. She is the author of several books, including Kraken and Cape Wind, and is an avid lifelong equestrienne. She lives in Mashpee, Massachusetts.

PRAISE

Praise for Kraken

"Williams writes with a deft, supple hand as she surveys these spindly, extraordinary beasts and their world. She reminds us that the known world might be considerably larger than in the days of the bestiary-makers, but there is still room for wonder and strangeness." —Los Angeles Times
Spooky Action at a Distance
The Phenomenon That Reimagines Space and Time—and What It Means for Black Holes, the Big Bang, and Theories of Everything

George Musser

What is space? It isn't a question that most of us normally stop to ask. Space is the venue of physics; it's where things exist, where they move and take shape. Yet over the past few decades, physicists have discovered a phenomenon that operates outside the confines of space and time. The phenomenon—the ability of one particle to affect another instantly across the vastness of space—appears to be almost magical. Einstein grappled with this oddity and couldn't quite resolve it, describing it as "spooky action at a distance." But this strange occurrence has direct connections to black holes, particle collisions, and even the workings of gravity. If space isn't what we thought it was, then what is it?

In Spooky Action at a Distance, George Musser sets out to answer that question, offering a provocative exploration of nonlocality and a celebration of the scientists who are trying to understand it. Musser guides us on an epic journey of scientific discovery into the lives of experimental physicists observing particles acting in tandem, astronomers discovering galaxies that look statistically identical, and cosmologists hoping to unravel the paradoxes surrounding the big bang. Their conclusions challenge our understanding not only of space and time but of the origins of the universe—and their insights are spurring profound technological innovation and suggesting a new grand unified theory of physics.

George Musser is an award-winning journalist, a contributing editor for Scientific American, and the author of The Complete Idiot's Guide to String Theory. He is the recipient of an American Astronomical Society's Jonathan Eberhart Planetary Sciences Journalism Award and the 2011 American Institute of Physics Science Writing Award. He has appeared on The Today Show, CNN, NPR, the BBC, and more. He lives in Glen Ridge, New Jersey, with his wife and daughter. Follow him on Twitter at @gmusser.
The Copernicus Complex
Our Cosmic Significance in a Universe of Planets and Probabilities

Caleb Scharf

"When it comes to scientific thought-provocation, Scharf is there with Paul Feyerabend and Richard Feynman, Marie Curie and Peter Higgs." —The Barnes & Noble Review

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. Follow him on Twitter at @caleb_scharf.

PRAISE

A Publishers Weekly Top 10 Science Book of Fall 2014

"Beautifully written . . . A grand tour of important findings from astronomy to biology that are relevant to the cosmic and microscopic search for life." —Mario
Fully Alive
Discovering What Matters Most

Timothy Shriver

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

As chairman of Special Olympics, Timothy 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. Fully Alive 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 Shriver is an educator, a social activist, a film producer, and an entrepreneur. He is the third child of Eunice Shriver, the founder of Special Olympics. As chairman of Special Olympics, he serves more than four million athletes in 170 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. They have five children.

"Bursting with life energy. Profound and inspiring. A must-read." —Deepak Chopra

"Timothy Shriver has written a lovely, honest, and inspiring book that draws on his own wisdom, life experiences, and pioneering work as a champion of the intellectually disabled to offer important lessons for all of us." —Michael Beschloss, author of President...
Faithful and Virtuous Night
Poems

Louise Glück

Winner of the 2014 National Book Award for Poetry

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" by 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 twelve books of poems and a collection of essays. Her many awards include the National Book Award, 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.

"The high art and deep pleasure of Faithful and Virtuous Night derive from . . . moments of startling presence . . . It is a great good fortune to hold these poems in hand." —Peter Campion, The New York Times Book Review
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," "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 I Don't Have Time to Write 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


Chosen as Best Nonfiction Book of 2014 by Bustle

"Probing, bracing, and captivating . . . A cornucopia of compact, playfully profound observations on life in and out of theater." —Lisa Shea, Elle
Once in the West
Poems

Christian Wiman

A disarming new collection from one of our country's most important poets

Memories mercies mostly aren’t but here were I swear days veined with graces

-from "Memory’s Mercies"

Once in the West, Christian Wiman’s fourth collection, 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 characterizations 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 his wife, tender glimpses of his children, and, amid the onslaughts of illness and fear and failures, "a trace / of peace."

Christian Wiman is the author of seven 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 Yale Divinity School. He lives in Connecticut.

"Once in the West is Mr. Wiman's fourth book of poems, and his best." -Dwight Garner, The New York Times
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 of the Johns Hopkins University and at the George Mason University School of Public Policy. Fukuyama was a researcher at the RAND Corporation and served on 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, among other books. He lives with his wife in California.

PRAISE


"[A] monumental study [that] rest[s] on an astonishing body of learning." — The
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, is intent on destroying each campus and purifying every child with fire.

We see all this through the eyes of James, a transfer student who watched as the radicals set fire to his old Goodhouse and everyone he'd ever known. In addition to adjusting to a new campus with new rules, James now has to contend with Bethany, a brilliant, medically fragile girl who wants to save him, and her father, the school's sinister director of medical studies. Soon, however, James realizes that the biggest threat might already be there, inside the fortified walls of Goodhouse itself. 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.


PRAISE

Political and thought-provoking, Goodhouse is above all else an adventure, a page-turning account of one boy's journey through a vivid and dangerous world. A remarkable start from a remarkable writer.
A smart, literate thriller set in a foreseeable future where genetic profiling is meant to prevent crime but becomes--instead--a terrifying ...
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. In Breaking In: The Rise of Sonia Sotomayor and the Politics of Justice, the 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 tracks 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 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

"Biskupic, who used to report on the Supreme Court for The Washington Post and is now an editor at Reuters, does tell the story of Sotomayor's rise, but the book has a considerably broader scope." —The Washington Post
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. 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 hardcover publication of 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, marked 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 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.

"These books make a fierce little pile. When you aren't looking, they may scald a hole through your bedside table." —Dwight Garner, The New York Times
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

"Both thrilling and poignant . . . From its pilot's-eye view it presents a somewhat different World War I from the muddy, poison-gassed charnel house described in so many of the books published to commemorate the war's 100th anniversary." —Charles McGrath, The New York Times

"Written with personal knowledge of what it is to be young and le..."
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 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 by Euripides, *Medea* and *The Bacchae*.

**PRAISE**

"Robin Robertson is one of the finest contemporary poets, as this collection amply shows. His is a wonderful hard clear music, and the muscularity and toughness of his verse is everywhere counterpointed by a deep-lying tenderness."

—John Banville
The FSG Book of Twentieth-Century Italian Poetry
An Anthology
Edited by Geoffrey Brock

The first comprehensive anthology of modern Italian poetry, in a beautiful bilingual edition

More than a century has passed since F. T. Marinetti's "Futurist Manifesto" slammed the door on the nineteenth century and trumpeted the arrival of modernity. Since then, against the backdrop of two world wars and many social upheavals, Italian poets have explored the possibilities of verse in a modern age, creating one of the great bodies of twentieth-century poetry.

Even before Marinetti, poets such as Giovanni Pascoli had begun to clear the weedy rhetoric and withered diction from the once-glorious but by then decadent grounds of Italian poetry. And their winter labors led to an extraordinary spring: Giuseppe Ungaretti's wartime distillations and Eugenio Montale's "astringent music"; Umberto Saba's song of himself and Salvatore Quasimodo's hermetic involutions. After World War II, new generations—including such marvelously diverse poets as Sandro Penna, Pier Paolo Pasolini, Amelia Rosselli, Vittorio Sereni, and Raffaello Baldini—extended the promise of the prewar era into our time.

Surprising and illuminating, The FSG Book of Twentieth-Century Italian Poetry invites the reader to examine the works of these and other poets—seventy-three in all—in conversation with one another. Edited by the poet and translator Geoffrey Brock, these poems have been rendered into English by some of our finest English-language poets, including Charles Wright, Paul Muldoon, and many exciting younger voices.

Geoffrey Brock is the author of Weighing Light and the translator of numerous volumes from the Italian, including Cesare Pavese's Disaffections: Complete Poems 1930–1950. His awards include fellowships from the National Endowment for the Arts, the Guggenheim Foundation, and the New York Public Library's Cullman Center. He teaches in the MFA program in creative writing and translation at the University of Arkansas.

"A few anthologies ... are so thoughtfully conceived that the experience of reading them feels like the experience of reading an intricate novel ... The pleasure lies in the buried narrative created by the anthologist's choices. The FSG Book of Twentieth-Century Italian Poetry is such an anthology." —James Longenbach, The Nation
Behind the Beautiful Forevers
A Play

David Hare

A stage adaptation of Katherine Boo’s National Book Award–winning study of life in a Mumbai slum

India is surging with global ambition. But beyond the luxury hotels surrounding Mumbai airport lies a makeshift slum, Annawadi, full of people with plans of their own.

Zehrunisa and her son Abdul aim to recycle enough rubbish to fund a proper house. Sunil, twelve and stunted, wants to eat until he’s as tall as Kalu the thief. Asha seeks to steal government antipoverty funds to turn herself into a "first-class person," while her daughter Manju intends to become the slum's first female graduate.

But their schemes are fragile; global recession threatens the garbage trade, and another slum dweller is about to make an accusation that will destroy herself and shatter the neighborhood.

For Behind the Beatiful Forevers, journalist Katherine Boo spent three years in Annawadi recording the lives of its residents. From her uncompromising book, David Hare has fashioned a tumultuous play on an epic scale.

David Hare is a playwright, screenwriter, and theater and film director. He was won numerous awards and is best known for his screenplays for The Hours (2002) and The Reader (2008) and the plays Plenty (which he adapted into a film starring Meryl Streep in 1985), Racing Demon (1990), Skylight (1997), and Amy’s View (1998). He lives in London.

PRAISE

"[David Hare is] one of the few major playwrights in our language." —New York Post
Lost Lake
A Play

David Auburn

An engrossing new drama from the author of Proof, winner of the Pulitzer Prize and a Tony Award

The lakeside rental cabin Veronica has managed to afford is a far cry from the idyllic getaway she and her children were planning. Exhausted from her life as a New York City nurse and by her troubled marriage, Veronica finds herself on vacation without any adult company except for Hogan, the disheveled property owner, who becomes more unreliable by the day. Hogan has problems of his own, problems that Veronica finds herself inevitably—and irrevocably—pulled into.

David Auburn's Lost Lake is a tense, carefully wrought drama about the surprising, complicated friendship formed by two very different people with no one else to turn to.

David Auburn is an American playwright whose 2000 play, Proof, won the Tony Award for Best Play and the Pulitzer Prize for Drama, and was also adapted into a film. He has received the Helen Merrill Playwriting Award and a Guggenheim Fellowship. He lives in New York City.

PRAISE

Praise for Proof

"Auburn has taken on some biggies here; what the link may be between genius and mental instability, why it is that lives get stuck, and how elusive the truth can be . . . [Proof's] level of accomplishment and the realness of its characters show that Auburn has both depth and a voice." —The New Yorker
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.

PRAISE

"Three Minutes in Poland begins as the story of an old family film rediscovered and veers into an important tale of Polish shtetls during World War II. It is intensely moving and brilliantly researched, and it reads like a thriller." —Elie Wiesel, author of Night
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

A revolutionary book from the stand-up mathematician that makes math fun again—now in paperback!

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 takes us on a grand tour, from four dimensional shapes, knot theory, the mysteries of prime numbers, optimization algorithms, and the math behind barcodes and iPhone screens to the different kinds of 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 entice us to take pleasure in mathematics at all levels. Parker invites us to relearn much of what baffled us 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 BBC Radio 4's The Infinite Monkey Cage, has appeared in and worked on World's Top 5 on the Discovery Channel, and has performed his math stand-up routines in front of audiences of thousands.
The Mambo Kings Play Songs of Love
A Novel
Oscar Hijuelos

From FSG Classics, a special twenty-fifth anniversary edition of Oscar Hijuelos's beloved Pulitzer Prize–winning novel

It's 1949 and two young Cuban musicians make their way from Havana to the grand stage of New York City. It is the era of mambo, and the Castillo brothers, workers by day, become stars of the dance halls by night, where their orchestra plays the lush, sensuous, pulsing music that earns them the title of the Mambo Kings. This is their moment of youth, exuberance, love, and freedom—a golden time that decades later is remembered with nostalgia and deep affection.

Hijuelos's marvelous portrait of the Castillo brothers, their families, their fellow musicians and lovers, their triumphs and tragedies, re-creates the sights and sounds of an era in music and an unsung moment in American life.

Exuberantly celebrated from the moment it was published in 1989, The Mambo Kings Play Songs of Love won the Pulitzer Prize for Fiction in 1990 (making Hijuelos the first Hispanic recipient of the award). It was adapted for a major motion picture in 1992 and remains a perennial bestseller. The story's themes of cultural fusion and identity are as relevant today as they were twenty-five years ago, proving Hijuelos's novel to be a genuine and timeless classic.

Oscar Hijuelos was born of Cuban parentage in New York in 1951 and graduated from City College with a master's in creative writing, studying under the likes of Susan Sontag, Donald Barthelme, and William S. Burroughs. His first novel, Our House in the Last World, was published in 1985. In 1990 he became the first Hispanic writer to be awarded the Pulitzer Prize for Fiction. He is also the recipient of the Rome Prize in Literature from the American Academy in Rome, an Ingram Merrill Foundation Award, and the Hispanic Heritage Award for Literature, along with several grants from the Guggenheim Foundation and the National Endowment for the Arts. He wrote eight novels which, have been translated into more than twenty-five languages. He passed away i...

PRAISE

"By turns street-smart and lyrical, impassioned and reflective, The Mambo Kings Play Songs of Love is a rich and provocative book—a moving portrait of a man, his family, a community and a time." —Michiko Kakutani, The New York Times

"One lush, tipsy, all-night mambo of a novel about Cuban musicians in strange places like New York City." —P...
Kathleen and Frank
The Autobiography of a Family
Christopher Isherwood

A pivotal book in Isherwood’s career that reveals as much about him as the parents he set out to portray

*Kathleen and Frank* is the story of Christopher Isherwood's parents—their meeting in 1895, marriage in 1903 after his father had returned from the Boer War, and his father's death in an assault on Ypres in 1915, which left his mother a widow until her own death in 1960. As well as a family memoir, it is a social history of a period of striking change, and a portrait of the world that shaped Isherwood and that he rejected.

Christopher Isherwood (1902–1986) lived in Berlin from 1928 to 1933 and immigrated to the United States in 1939. A major figure in twentieth-century fiction and the gay rights movement, he wrote more than twenty books.

PRAISE

"Shows a deeper understanding of much that he had once rebelled against.” — *The Guardian"

"A moving account of his parents' marriage based on their letters and diaries.” — *The Independent"

"A social history of the first half of the twentieth century and a study of artistic megalomania . . . Christopher writes about Christopher with fine, clear,..."
Lions and Shadows
An Education in the Twenties

Christopher Isherwood

A witty, appealing, and often outrageous portrait of some of the twentieth century's most influential and creative minds

Subtitled "An Education in the Twenties," Lions and Shadows blends autobiography and fiction to describe the inner life of a writer evolving from precocious schoolboy to Cambridge dropout-at-large in London's bohemia. It contains thinly veiled portraits of Christopher Isherwood's contemporaries W. H. Auden, Edward Upward, and Stephen Spender, whose intimate friendships and cult of rebellion shaped the literary identity of England in the 1930s. Witty and outrageous, Isherwood pokes fun at the stars of his generation, above all himself, even as he testifies to their unique early gifts.

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BIOGRAPHY & AUTOBIOGRAPHY

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Everything That Rises Must Converge
Stories
Flannery O'Connor; Introduction by Robert Fitzgerald

The exquisite collection of stories Flannery O'Connor was working on at the time of her death

The death of Flannery O'Connor at thirty-nine marked the loss of one of America's most gifted contemporary writers at the height of her powers. This volume is the collection on which she was working at the time of her death. Each of the nine stories carries her highly individual stamp and could have been written by no one else. Everything That Rises Must Converge is the most worthy memorial that O'Connor could have left behind to be added to her three previously published books. As Elizabeth Bishop has written, "I am sure her books will live on and on in American literature."

Flannery O'Connor was born in Savannah, Georgia, in 1925. A devout Catholic, she lived most of her life on a farm in Milledgeville, Georgia, where she raised peacocks and wrote. She was the author of two novels, Wise Blood and The Violent Bear It Away; thirty-one short stories; and numerous essays and reviews. When she died at the age of thirty-nine, America lost one of its most gifted writers at the height of her powers.

PRAISE

"Her stories are full of life and drama and real humanity." —Tobias Wolff, The Paris Review

"Flannery O'Connor was never better. This is a fine collection." —J. F. Powers

"The current volume of posthumous stories is the work of a master, a writer's writer—but a reader's too—an incomparable craftsman who wrote, let it be said, some of the f..."
Mystery and Manners
Occasional Prose
Flannery O'Connor; Selected and Edited by Sally and Robert Fitzgerald

This bold and brilliant collection is a must for all readers, writers, and students of American literature

When she died in 1964, Flannery O'Connor left behind a body of unpublished essays and lectures as well as a number of critical articles that had appeared in scattered publications during her lifetime. The brilliant pieces in Mystery and Manners, selected and edited by O'Connor's lifelong friends Sally and Robert Fitzgerald, are characterized by the boldness and simplicity of her style, a finely tuned wit, understated perspicacity, and profound faith.

The book opens with "The King of the Birds," her famous account of raising peacocks at her home in Milledgeville, Georgia. There are three essays on regional writing, including "The Fiction Writer & His Country" and "Some Aspects of the Grotesque in Southern Fiction"; two on teaching literature, including "Total Effect and the Eighth Grade"; and four on the writer and religion, including "The Catholic Novelist in the Protestant South." Essays such as "The Nature and Aim of Fiction" and "Writing Short Stories" are gems. Their value to the contemporary reader—and writer—is inestimable.

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PRAISE

"Flannery O'Connor ranks with Mark Twain and Scott Fitzgerald among our finest prose stylists. Her epigrams alone are worth the price of this book . . . which should be read by every writer and would-be writer and lover of writing."
The Complete Stories

Flannery O'Connor; Introduction by Robert Giroux

Winner of the National Book Award

The publication of The Complete Stories firmly established Flannery O'Connor's monumental contribution to American fiction. There are thirty-one stories here in all, including twelve that do not appear in the only two story collections O'Connor put together in her short lifetime—Everything That Rises Must Converge and A Good Man Is Hard to Find. O'Connor published her first story, "The Geranium," in 1946, while she was working on her master's degree at the University of Iowa. Arranged chronologically, this collection shows that her last story, "Judgment Day"—sent to her publisher shortly before her death—is a brilliantly rewritten and transfigured version of "The Geranium." Taken together, these stories reveal a lively, penetrating talent that has given us some of the most powerful and disturbing fiction of the twentieth century. Also included is an introduction by O'Connor's longtime editor and friend, Robert Giroux.

Flannery O'Connor was born in Savannah, Georgia, in 1925. A devout Catholic, she lived most of her life on a farm in Milledgeville, Georgia, where she raised peacocks and wrote. She was the author of two novels, Wise Blood and The Violent Bear It Away; thirty-one short stories; and numerous essays and reviews. When she died at the age of thirty-nine, America lost one of its most gifted writers at the height of her powers.

PRAISE

"What we lost when she died is bitter. What we have is astonishing: the stories burn brighter than ever, and strike deeper." —Walter Clemons, Newsweek
The Violent Bear It Away
A Novel

Flannery O'Connor

A brilliant, innovative novel, acutely alert to where the sacred lives—and where it does not

First published in 1960, The Violent Bear It Away is a landmark in American literature—a dark and absorbing example of the Gothic sensibility and bracing satirical voice that are united in Flannery O'Connor's work.

In this, O'Connor's second novel, the orphaned Francis Marion Tarwater and his cousin, the schoolteacher Rayber, defy the prophecy of their dead uncle that Tarwater will become a prophet and baptize Rayber's young son, Bishop. A series of struggles ensues as Tarwater fights an internal battle against his faith and the voices calling him to God, while Rayber tries to draw him into a more "reasonable" modern world. Both wrestle with the legacy of their dead relative and lay claim to Bishop's soul. All this is observed by O'Connor with an astonishing combination of irony and compassion, humor and pathos.

Flannery O'Connor was born in Savannah, Georgia, in 1925. A devout Catholic, she lived most of her life on a farm in Milledgeville, Georgia, where she raised peacocks and wrote. She was the author of two novels, thirty-one short stories, and numerous essays and reviews.

When she died at the age of thirty-nine, America lost one of its most gifted writers at the height of her powers.

PRAISE

"There is very little contemporary fiction which touches the level of Flannery O'Connor at her best." —Alan Pryce-Jones, New York Herald Tribune
Wise Blood
A Novel

Flannery O'Connor

Flannery O'Connor's haunting first novel of faith, false prophets, and redemptive wisdom

Wise Blood, Flannery O'Connor's astonishing and haunting first novel, is a classic of twentieth-century literature. It is the story of Hazel Motes, a twenty-two-year-old caught in an unending struggle against his inborn, desperate fate. He falls under the spell of a "blind" street preacher named Asa Hawks and his degenerate fifteen-year-old daughter, Sabbath Lily. In an ironic, malicious gesture of his own non-faith, and to prove himself a greater cynic than Hawks, Motes founds the Church Without Christ, but is still thwarted in his efforts to lose God. He meets Enoch Emery, a young man with "wise blood," who leads him to a mummified holy child and whose crazy maneuvers are a manifestation of Motes's existential struggles. This tale of redemption, retribution, false prophets, blindness, blindings, and wisdom gives us one of the most riveting characters in American fiction.

Flannery O'Connor was born in Savannah, Georgia, in 1925. A devout Catholic, she lived most of her life on a farm in Milledgeville, Georgia, where she raised peacocks and wrote. She was the author of two novels, thirty-one short stories, and numerous essays and reviews. When she died at the age of thirty-nine, America lost one of its most gifted writers at the height of her powers.

PRAISE

"No other American writer of our century has constructed a fictional world so energetically and forthrightly charged by religious investigation." —Brad Leithauser, The New Yorker

"I was more impressed by Wise Blood than any novel I have read for a long time. [O'Connor's] picture of the world is literally terrifying." —Caroline Gordon
The Wake
A Novel
Paul Kingsnorth

"A work that is as disturbing as it is empathetic, as beautiful as it is riveting."
- Eimear McBride, New Statesman

In the aftermath of the Norman Invasion of 1066, William the Conqueror was uncompromising and brutal. English society was broken apart, its systems turned on their head. What is little known is that a fractured network of guerrilla fighters took up arms against the French occupiers.

In The Wake, a postapocalyptic novel set a thousand years in the past, Paul Kingsnorth brings this dire scenario back to us through the eyes of the unforgettable Buccmaster, a proud landowner bearing witness to the end of his world. Accompanied by a band of like-minded men, Buccmaster is determined to seek revenge on the invaders. But as the men travel across the scorched English landscape, Buccmaster becomes increasingly unhinged by the immensity of his loss, and their path forward becomes increasingly unclear.

Written in what the author describes as "a shadow tongue"—a version of Old English updated so as to be understandable to the modern reader—The Wake renders the inner life of an Anglo-Saxon man with an accuracy and immediacy rare in historical fiction. To enter Buccmaster's world is to feel powerfully the sheer strangeness of the past. A tale of lost gods and haunted visions, The Wake is both a sensational, gripping story and a major literary achievement.

Paul Kingsnorth is a former journalist and deputy editor of the Ecologist magazine and has won several awards for his poetry and essays. He is also the author of two works of nonfiction. In 2009, he cofounded the Dark Mountain Project, an international network of writers, artists, and thinkers in search of new stories for troubled times. The Wake is his first novel.

PRAISE

"Extraordinary." - Philip Pullman

"Reading [The Wake] is to be immersed in the past and in a story in a way that I haven't really felt since childhood . . . The most glorious experience I've had with a book in years." - Lucy Mangan, The Guardian

"My top book of the year so far. Just superb." - Eleanor Catton, winner of the 2013 Man Booker Pr...
On Immunity
An Inoculation

Eula Biss

A New York Times Book Review Top Ten Book of the Year, On Immunity by Eula Biss-now in paperback

In this bold, fascinating book, Eula Biss addresses our fear of the government, the medical establishment, and what may be in our children’s air, food, mattresses, medicines, and vaccines. Reflecting on her own experience as a new mother, she suggests that we cannot immunize our children, or ourselves, against the world. As she explores the metaphors surrounding immunity, Biss extends her conversations with other mothers to meditations on the myth of Achilles, Voltaire’s Candide, Bram Stoker’s Dracula, Rachel Carson’s Silent Spring, Susan Sontag’s AIDS and Its Metaphors, and beyond. On Immunity is an inoculation against our fear and a moving account of how we are all interconnected—our bodies and our fates.

Eula Biss is the author of The Balloonists and Notes from No Man’s Land, which won the National Book Critics Circle Award in criticism and which Salon deemed “the most accomplished book of essays anyone has written or published so far in the twenty-first century.” Her work has appeared in The Believer, Harper’s Magazine, and The New York Times. She has received fellowships from the Guggenheim Foundation, the Howard Foundation, and the National Endowment for the Arts. She lives in the Chicago area and teaches at Northwestern University.

PRAISE

Publishers Weekly Top Ten Books of the Year
Kirkus Reviews Books of the Year in Nonfiction
The New York Times Editors’ Choice
BEA Editors Buzz Book

"Subtle, spellbinding . . . Sontag said she wrote Illness as Metaphor to 'calm the imagination, not to incite it,' and On Immunity also seeks to cool and console . . . [Biss] advances from all si...
Application for Release from the Dream
Poems

Tony Hoagland

The eagerly awaited, brilliant, and engaging new poems by Tony Hoagland, author of What Narcissism Means to Me

The parade for the slain police officer
goes past the bakery

and the smell of fresh bread
makes the mourners salivate against their will.
—from "Note to Reality"

Are we corrupt or innocent, fragmented or whole? Are responsibility and freedom irreconcilable? Do we value memory or succumb to our forgetfulness? Application for Release from the Dream, Tony Hoagland's fifth collection of poems, pursues these questions with the hobnailed abandon of one who needs to know how a citizen of twenty-first-century America can stay human. With whiplash nerve and tender curiosity, Hoagland both surveys the damage and finds the wonder that makes living worthwhile. Mirthful, fearless, and precise, these poems are full of judgment and mercy.

Tony Hoagland is the author of four previous poetry collections, including Unincorporated Persons in the Late Honda Dynasty and What Narcissism Means to Me, a finalist for the National Book Critics Circle Award. He is also the author of two collections of essays, Twenty Poems That Could Save America and Other Essays and Real Sofistikashun: Essays on Poetry and Craft. He has received the Jackson Poetry Prize from Poets & Writers, the Mark Twain Award from the Poetry Foundation, and the O. B. Hardison, Jr. Poetry Prize from the Folger Shakespeare Library. He teaches at the University of Houston and in the low-residency MFA program at Warren Wilson College. He lives in Santa Fe, New Mexico.

PRAISE

Praise for Tony Hoagland

"Few [poets] deliver more pure pleasure. His erudite comic poems are backloaded with heartache and longing, and they function, emotionally, like improvised explosive devices." —Dwight Garner, The New York Times

"Tony Hoagland is a provocateur, a brash interventionist, a deeply engaged Whitmanian poet and critic wh..."
Changing the Subject
Art and Attention in the Internet Age
Sven Birkerts

Trenchant, expansive essays on the cultural consequences of ongoing, all-permeating technological innovation

In 1994, Sven Birkerts published The Gutenberg Elegies, his celebrated rallying cry to resist the oncoming digital advances, especially those that might affect the way we read literature and experience art—the very cultural activities that make us human.

After two decades of rampant change, Birkerts has allowed a degree of everyday digital technology into his life. He refuses to use a smartphone, but communicates via email and spends some time reading online. In Changing the Subject, he examines the changes that he observes in himself and others—the distraction when reading on the screen; the loss of personal agency through reliance on GPS and one-stop information resources; an increasing acceptance of "hive" behaviors. "An unprecedented shift is underway," he argues, and "this transformation is dramatically accelerated and more psychologically formative than any previous technological innovation." He finds solace in engagement with art, particularly literature, and he brilliantly describes the countering energy available to us through acts of sustained attention, even as he worries that our increasingly mediated existences are not conducive to creativity.

It is impossible to read Changing the Subject without coming away with a renewed sense of what is lost by our wholesale acceptance of digital innovation and what is regained when we immerse ourselves in a good book.

Sven Birkerts is the author of nine previous books, including The Other Walk, The Gutenberg Elegies, The Art of Time in Memoir, and My Sky Blue Trades. Director of the Bennington Writing Seminars, he also edits the journal AGNI based at Boston University. Birkerts lives in Arlington, Massachusetts.

PRAISE

Praise for Sven Birkerts

"One of America's most distinguished, eloquent servants of the poetry and fiction that matter." -Susan Sontag

"Birkerts on reading fiction is like M.F.K. Fisher on eating or Norman Maclean on fly casting. He makes you want to go do it." -Jonathan Franzen, The New Yorker
Half an Inch of Water

Percival Everett

A new collection of stories set in the West from "one of the most gifted and versatile of contemporary writers" (NPR)

Percival Everett's long-awaited new collection of stories, his first since 2004's Damned If I Do, finds him traversing the West with characteristic restlessness. A deaf Native American girl wanders off into the desert and is found untouched in a den of rattlesnakes. A young boy copes with the death of his sister by angling for an unnaturally large trout in the creek where she drowned. An old woman rides her horse into a mountain snowstorm and sees a long-dead beloved dog.

For the plainspoken men and women of these stories—fathers and daughters, sheriffs and veterinarians—small events trigger sudden shifts in which the ordinary becomes unfamiliar. A harmless comment about how to ride a horse changes the course of a relationship, a snakebite gives rise to hallucinations, and the hunt for a missing man reveals his uncanny resemblance to an actor. Half an Inch of Water tears through the fabric of the everyday to examine what lies beneath the surface of these lives. In the hands of master storyteller Everett, the act of questioning leads to vistas more strange and unsettling than could ever have been expected.

Percival Everett is Distinguished Professor of English at the University of Southern California and the author of nearly thirty books, including Percival Everett by Virgil Russell, Assumption, Erasure, I Am Not Sidney Poitier, and Glyph. He is the recipient of the Academy Award from the American Academy of Arts and Letters, the Hurston/Wright Legacy Award, the Believer Book Award, and the 2006 PEN USA Center Award for Fiction. He has fly-fished the west for more than thirty years. He lives in Los Angeles.

PRAISE


"Percival Everett numbers among his very best." —Lydia Millet, Los Angeles Times

"Funny, insightful, and unpredictable . . . Everett is a master of his trade." —Time Out Chicago
One Out of Two
A Novel

Daniel Sada; Translated from the Spanish by Katherine Silver

"A literary titan of his time, one of the most innovative novelists in contemporary Latin American letters." -The Washington Post

The most distinctive thing about the Gamal sisters is that they are, essentially, indistinguishable (except for a modest mole). The twin spinsters spend their time trying to mask any perceptible differences they have while working hard at their thriving tailoring business in a small town in rural northern Mexico. When? Thirty years ago? Fifty years ago? Who can say—the world seems not to intrude on Ocampo very much.

Gloria and Constitución take an almost perverse delight in confusing people about which one is which. But then a suitor enters the picture, and one of the sisters decides that she doesn't want to live a life without romance and all the good things that come with it. The ensuing competition between the sisters brings their relationship to the breaking point until they come up with an ingenious solution that carries this buoyant farce to its tender and even liberating conclusion.

Suffused with the tension between our desire for union and our desire for independence, Daniel Sada's One Out of Two is a giddy and comic fable by one of the giants of contemporary Latin American literature.

Daniel Sada was born in Mexicali, Mexico, in 1953, and died in 2011, in Mexico City. Considered by many to be the boldest and most innovative writer in Spanish of his generation, he published eight volumes of short stories, nine novels, and three volumes of poetry. He has been awarded numerous prizes, including the Herralde Prize for Almost Never. Just hours before he died, he was awarded Mexico's most prestigious literary award, the National Prize for Arts and Sciences for Literature. Katherine Silver is an award-winning translator whose recent translations include works by Horacio Castellanos Moya and César Aira. She is the director of the Banff International Literary Translation Centre and lives in Berkeley, California.

PRAISE

Praise for Daniel Sada

"It's impossible not to be swept along by Sada's manic language, his Cervantean plot twists." -The New York Times Book Review

"Sada's works were a polyphonic parade of voices, a Mexican cacophony." -The Paris Review
Rails Under My Back
A Novel

Jeffery Renard Allen

"Will put Allen in the company of writers such as James Joyce, August Wilson, and Ralph Ellison." -The Philadelphia Inquirer

When it was first published fifteen years ago, Jeffery Renard Allen's debut novel, Rails Under My Back, earned its author comparisons to some of the giants of twentieth-century modernism. The publication of Allen's equally ambitious second novel, Song of the Shank, cemented those lofty claims. Now, the book that established his reputation is being restored to print in its first Graywolf Press edition. Together, the two novels stand as significant achievements of twenty-first-century literature.

Rails Under My Back is an epic that tracks the interwoven lives of two brothers, Lucius and John Jones, who are married to two sisters, Gracie and Sheila McShan. For them, their parents, and their children, life is always full of departures; someone is always fleeing town and leaving the remaining family to suffer the often dramatic, sometimes tragic consequences. The multiple effects of the comings and goings are devastating: These are the almost mythic expression of the African American experience in the half century that followed the Second World War.

The story ranges, as the characters do, from the city, which is somewhat like both New York and Chicago, to Memphis, to the West, and to many "inner" and "outer" locales. Rails Under My Back is a multifaceted, brilliantly colored, intensely musical novel that pulses with urgency and originality.

Jeffery Renard Allen is the author of two poetry collections, two novels, and a story collection. His essays, reviews, fiction, and poetry have appeared in many publications and anthologies. Born in Chicago, he holds a PhD in English from the University of Illinois at Chicago and is a professor of English at Queens College, as well as an instructor in the writing program at the New School and at New York University. He is the fiction director at the Norman Mailer Center Writers Colony and has also taught for Cave Canem, the Farafina Writers Workshop in Lagos, the VONA workshop for writers of color, the Summer Literary Seminars program in St. Petersburg, Russia, and Nairobi, Kenya, and in the writing program at Columbia University.

PRAISE

"A tour de force." -Chicago Tribune

"Besides Joyce and Faulkner, other twentieth-century novelists whose work Allen's calls to mind are Dos Passos, Ellison and Henry Roth—an indication of the remarkable literary company in which this novel may be seen to move." -The New York Times Book Review
Empty Chairs
Selected Poems: A Bilingual Edition

Liu Xia; Translated from the Chinese by Ming Di and Jennifer Stern

The first publication of the poetry of Liu Xia, wife of the imprisoned Nobel Peace Prize recipient Liu Xiaobo

Empty Chairs presents the poetry of Liu Xia for the first time freely in both English translation and in the Chinese original. Selected from thirty years of her work, and including some of her haunting photography, this book creates a portrait of a life lived under duress, a voice in danger of being silenced, and a spirit that is shaken but so far indomitable. Liu Xia's poems are potent, acute moments of inquiry that peel back to expose the fraught complexity of an interior world. They are felt and insightful, colored through with political constraints even as they seep beyond those constraints and toward love.

I didn't have a chance
to say a word before you became
a character in the news,
everyone looking up to you
as I was worn down
at the edge of the crowd
just smoking
and watching the sky.

A new myth, maybe, was forming
there, but the sun was so bright
I couldn't see it.

From "June 2nd, 1989 (for Xiaobo)"

Liu Xia is a Chinese poet and artist. English translations of her poetry by Ming Di and Jennifer Stern have been published by PEN America, Chinese PEN, the BBC, The Guardian, the Margins for the Asian American Writers' Workshop, Poetry, the Poetry Society of America, and Words Without Borders. Liu Xia's photographs have appeared in galleries throughout the world. She has been living under strict house arrest since her husband, the poet and activist Liu Xiaobo, was imprisoned in 2009 for "inciting subversion of state power" and then received the Nobel Peace Prize in 2010.
Four-Legged Girl
Poems

Diane Seuss

"Diane Seuss writes with the intensity of a soothsayer." —Laura Kasischke

In Diane Seuss's Four-Legged Girl, her audacious, hothouse language swerves into pain and rapture, as she recounts a life lived at the edges of containment. Ghostly, sexy, and plaintive, these poems skip to the tune of a jump rope, fill a wishing well with desire and other trinkets, and they remember past lush lives in New York City, in rural Michigan, and in love. In the final poem, she sings of the four-legged girl, the body made strange to itself and to others. This collection establishes Seuss's poetic voice as rich and emotional as any in contemporary poetry.

For, having imagined your body one way I found it to be another way, it was yielding,
but only as the Destroying Angel mushroom yields, its softness allied with its poison, and your legs were not petals or tendrils as I'd believed,
but brazen, the deviant tentacles beneath the underskirt of a secret queen

-from "Oh four-legged girl, it's either you or the ossuary"


PRAISE

Praise for Four-Legged Girl

"A great passion issues from the pages of Four-Legged Girl. . . . This book is a wise, wild, continuous gift. It will make you lean in and listen; it will make you this poet's devotee. These poems are tremendous in every way. Diane Seuss: holy smoke!"-Terrance Hayes

"Seuss blazes up into the dark and dirty c..."
Step Aside, Pops
A Hark! A Vagrant Collection

Kate Beaton

A follow-up to Hark! A Vagrant, which spent five months on the New York Times bestseller list

Ida B. Wells, the Black Prince, and Benito Juárez burst off the pages of Step Aside, Pops: A Hark! A Vagrant Collection, armed with modern-sounding quips and amusingly on-point repartee. Kate Beaton's second D+Q book brings her hysterically funny gaze to bear on these and even more historical, literary, and contemporary figures. Irreverently funny and carefully researched, no target is safe from Beaton's incisive wit in these satirical strips.

Beaton began her infectiously popular web comic, Hark! A Vagrant, in 2007 and it quickly attracted the adoration of hundreds of thousands of fans. It was an unequivocal hit with critics and fans alike, topping best-of-the-year lists from E!, Amazon, Time, and more. Now Beaton returns with a refined pen, ready to make jokes at the expense of hunks, army generals, scientists, and Canadians in equal measure. With a few carefully placed lines, she captures the over-the-top evil of the straw feminists in the closet, the disgruntled dismay of Heathcliff, and Wonder Woman's all-conquering ennui. Step Aside, Pops is sure to be the comedic hit of the year: sharp, insightful, and very funny.

Kate Beaton is a Canadian cartoonist who appeared on the comics scene in 2007 with her online work Hark! A Vagrant. Since then, she has become a fan favorite and has garnered a significant following, with illustrations appearing in places like The New Yorker, Harper's Magazine, and Marvel's Strange Tales anthology. Her first book with D+Q, Hark! A Vagrant, spent five months on the New York Times bestseller list, and topped best-of-the-year lists from Time, E!, Amazon, and Publishers Weekly. Beaton lives in Toronto, Canada.

PRAISE

"Hark! A Vagrant is the wittiest book of the year." — Time Top Ten of Everything 2011

"Hark! A Vagrant [is] an entertaining and anachronistic send-up of canonical texts." — The Economist

"[Kate Beaton's comics] are witty reinventions of literary and historical figures navigating modern times." — Los Angeles Times
"One of the most gifted graphic novelists of our time." —Wired

*Killing and Dying* is a stunning showcase of the possibilities of the graphic novel medium and a wry exploration of loss, creative ambition, identity, and family dynamics. With this work, Adrian Tomine (*Shortcomings, Scenes from an Impending Marriage*) reaffirms his place not only as one of the most significant creators of contemporary comics but as one of the great voices of modern American literature. His gift for capturing emotion and intellect resonates here: the weight of love and its absence, the pride and disappointment of family, the anxiety and hopefulness of being alive in the twenty-first century.

"Amber Sweet" shows the disastrous impact of mistaken identity in a hyper-connected world; "A Brief History of the Art Form Known as Hortisculpture" details the invention and destruction of a vital new art form in short comic strips; "Translated, from the Japanese" is a lush, full-color display of storytelling through still images; the title story, "Killing and Dying", centers on parenthood, mortality, and stand-up comedy. In six interconnected, darkly funny stories, Tomine forms a quietly moving portrait of contemporary life. Tomine is a master of the small gesture, equally deft at signaling emotion via a subtle change of expression or writ large across landscapes illustrated in full color. *Killing and Dying* is a fraught, realist masterpiece.

Adrian Tomine was born in 1974 in Sacramento, California. He began self-publishing his comic book series *Optic Nerve*. His comics have been anthologized in publications such as *McSweeney’s, Best American Comics*, and *Best American Nonrequired Reading*, and his graphic novel *Shortcomings* was a *New York Times* Notable Book of 2007. Since 1999, Tomine has been a regular contributor to *The New Yorker*. He lives in Brooklyn with his wife and daughter.

**PRAISE**

Praise for *Optic Nerve*

"Adrian Tomine’s *Optic Nerve* [is] smart, understated and with a subtle yet pointed bite . . . Merging straight realism with an impressionistic sense of narrative, his stories are . . . highly structured and defined." —*Los Angeles Times*

"*[Optic Nerve]* is a sumptuous showcase of Tomine’s precision draftsmanship." —A.V. ...
Shigeru Mizuki’s Hitler
Shigeru Mizuki; Translated from the Japanese by Zack Davisson

A master cartoonist and veteran tells the life story of the man who started the Second World War

Seventy years after his death, Adolf Hitler remains a mystery. Historians, military tacticians, and psychologists have tried in vain to unravel his complex motivations for leading Germany into the Holocaust and World War II. With Shigeru Mizuki’s Hitler, the manga-ka (Kitaro, NonNonba, Showa: A History of Japan) delves deep into the history books to create an absorbing and eloquent portrait of Hitler’s life.

Beginning with Hitler’s time in Austria as a starving art student and ending with a Germany in ruins, Shigeru Mizuki’s Hitler retraces the path Hitler took in life, coolly examining his charismatic appeal and his calculated political maneuvering. The Munich Beer Putsch, Hitler’s ascent to chancellor, the sudden death of his half-niece Geli, the Battle of Stalingrad, his relationship with Eva Braun, and his eventual demise: all are given equal attention in this thorough and compelling biography.

In Mizuki’s signature style, which populates incredibly realistic backgrounds with cartoony people, Japan’s most famous living cartoonist has created an overview of Hitler’s life that is as fascinating as it is informative.

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

PRAISE

Praise for Showa: A History of Japan

"Showa is literature, illustrated or not, at its finest: a story that sweeps you off your feet only to find, when you return to Earth, that nothing looks quite the same." —Los Angeles Times
Puke Force
Brian Chippendale

"Chippendale's... obsessively detailed [comics] feel like [they've] been shot straight from his brain onto the page." — Village Voice

Puke Force is social satire written dark and dense across Brian Chippendale's deconstructed multiverse of walking, talking M&Ms, hamsters, and cycloptic-yet-glamorous trivia hosts. In scathingly funny single-page strips that build and build, he takes on social media narcissism, governmental propaganda, racism, the hypocrisies of the left, and a culture of violence.

A bomb explodes in a coffee shop: the incident is played out over and over again from the perspective of each table in the shop, revisiting moments from ten and twenty years before. We see the inevitable as the characters bicker or celebrate, unaware of what's coming. Throughout this dystopic graphic novel, Chippendale uses humor and a frantic drawing style to show how the insidious nature of corporate greed and the commodification of everything have warped society into a killing machine.

Sardonic and self-aware, Puke Force asks all the right questions, providing a startling and on-point take on contemporary social issues. Chippendale’s artwork makes each panel a masterpiece of thrumming linework and lo-fi magic, as his storytelling wends and winds its way to a fascinating conclusion.

Brian Chippendale is a musician and artist based in Providence, Rhode Island. He was one of the founding members of the Fort Thunder collective. Chippendale is the author of Maggots, If n Oof, and Ninja, and the drummer/singer half of the noise rock band Lightning Bolt.

PRAISE

Praise for Brian Chippendale

"Chippendale's howling hyperspeed attack on every page with his pen [is] the kind of manifestation of pure style that has more to do with the contemporary visual art scene than with traditional comics." — Salon

"His visual art bears [an] electric aesthetic... [that] emerge[s] from his obsessive illustrative...
Red Colored Elegy

Seiichi Hayashi; Translated from the Japanese by Taro Nettleton; Essay by Ryan Holmberg

An influential and experimental work, in an all-new paperback edition!

Ichiro and Sachiko are young artists, temperamental and discouraged about what life has to offer them. They fall in and out of love, jealous of each other's interests and unchallenged by their careers. *Red Colored Elegy* charts their heartache, passions, and bickering with equal tenderness, creating a revelatory portrait of a stormy love affair.

A cornerstone of the Japanese underground scene of the 1960s, Seiichi Hayashi wrote *Red Colored Elegy* between 1970 and 1971, in the aftermath of a politically turbulent and culturally vibrant decade that promised but failed to deliver new possibilities. Sparse line work and visual codes borrowed from animation and film beautifully capture the quiet lives of a young couple struggling to make ends meet. Ichiro and Sachiko hope for something better, but they're no revolutionaries; their spare time is spent drinking, smoking, daydreaming, and sleeping together and at times with others.

*Red Colored Elegy* is informed as much by underground Japanese comics of the time as it is by the French New Wave. Its influence in Japan was so large that Morio Agata, a prominent Japanese folk musician and singer/songwriter, debuted with a love song written and named after it. This new paperback edition features an essay on *Red Colored Elegy* and Hayashi's contributions to contemporary Japanese comics from the art historian Ryan Holmberg.

Born in Manchuria in 1945, Seiichi Hayashi published his first comics work in Japan's influential underground magazine *Garo*. A prolific artist, he is also a film and commercial director, a children's book author, an animator, and an illustrator.

PRAISE

"[Red Colored Elegy] is a condensed visual poetry that still feels avant-garde nearly forty years later." —The Believer

"Traced photographs, blank word balloons and nearly cubist sex scenes . . . beautifully lament Ichiro and Sachiko's failed relationship . . . The story is heartbreakingly universal." —Publishers Weekly (starred review)
Native Trees of Canada: A Postcard Set
Postcard set with 30 postcards

Leanne Shapton

"An artistic ode to Canada’s majestic foliage." —National Post

Leanne Shapton’s bold, vibrant watercolor portraits of the trees of Canada come to new life in this postcard set. The lively hues of the garry oak and the simple elegance of the staghorn sumac are perfectly presented in a beautiful keepsake box, great as a gift for a friend or yourself!

Native Trees of Canada: A Postcard Set collects thirty of Shapton’s spirited and singular drawings of the native trees of Canada.

Leanne Shapton is an illustrator, author, and publisher based in New York City. She is a cofounder of J&L Books. She has been the art director of the National Post's Avenue page and Saturday Night magazine, and from 2008 to 2009 was the art director for the New York Times op-ed page. Shapton is the author of six books: Toronto; Was She Pretty?; Important Artifacts and Personal Property from the Collection of Lenore Doolan and Harold Morris, Including Books, Street Fashion, and Jewelry; The Native Trees of Canada; Swimming Studies, which won the 2013 National Book Critics’ Circle Award for autobiography; and Sunday Night Movies.

PRAISE

"[In The Native Trees of Canada, Shapton has] distilled each image into its simplest form, using vivid colours in gouache, stripping the complex objects down to bold, abstract shapes and colours." —The Globe and Mail
Pippi Longstocking
The Strongest in the World!

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

Celebrate the seventieth anniversary of Pippi!

Who can rescue babies from a burning building, outwit burglars, overpower a circus strongman, and still get home in time for Christmas? Pippi Longstocking can! *Pippi Longstocking: The Strongest in the World!* collects more than one hundred pages of comics from Pippi’s creator, Astrid Lindgren, and her collaborator, the illustrator Ingrid Vang Nyman.

Unearthed by D+Q and republished between 2011 and 2014, these mid-century comics had never before been seen by North American audiences. *Pippi Longstocking: The Strongest in the World!* is a fitting tribute to one of the world’s most beloved fictional characters.

**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**

Praise for the *Pippi* books

"Relying on bold blocks of color and bright, simple designs, *Pippi Moves In* is mid-century art at its finest." —*The Paris Review*

"Wonderfully offbeat Pippi Longstocking comics . . . Buy a copy for your kids, but secretly read it when they’re asleep." —*USA Today* Pop Candy
The Owner's Manual to Terrible Parenting

Guy Delisle; Translated from the French by Helge Dascher

Guy Delisle knows all the worst parenting techniques

Guy Delisle, the author of Jerusalem: Chronicles from the Holy City and A User's Guide to Neglectful Parenting, shares hilarious new comic strips that pay tribute to all the ways parents can drive their kids crazy, and vice versa, in The Owner's Manual to Terrible Parenting.

Slipping grammar lessons into bedtime stories, being challenged by difficult toys, and pretending to forget you even have a son: it's all in a day's work for Delisle. In The Owner's Manual, Delisle doesn't hesitate to make a slightly bumbling, fictionalized version of himself the butt of the joke, though his children often contribute zingy repartee and laugh-out-loud insight in the stories on display here.

The Owner's Manual is the perfect antidote to frustrating car rides filled with "Are we there yet?" and epic battles over homework. Delisle's effortless pacing and witty punch lines reign supreme here, making each vignette zip along to its conclusion.

Born in Québec City, Canada, in 1966, Guy Delisle now lives in the south of France with his wife and two children. He spent ten years working in animation, which allowed him to learn about movement and drawing. He is best known for his travelogues about life in faraway countries: Burma Chronicles, Jerusalem: Chronicles from the Holy City, Pyongyang, and Shenzhen. In 2012, Delisle was awarded the Prize for Best Album for the French edition of Jerusalem at the Angoulême International Comics Festival.

PRAISE

Praise for A User's Guide to Neglectful Parenting

"A funny and truthful book about being a parent." —Boing Boing

"Guy Delisle is the real thing: a skilled and wryly funny Québécois cartoonist . . . The brevity of each vignette [in A User's Guide] highlights Delisle's acute sense of timing." —NPR
Moominmamma's Maid

Tove Jansson

With a maid to help around the house, will the Moomons become respectable?

Another classic Moomin story reworked in full color, with a kid-proof but kid-friendly size, price, and format.

A housekeeping and mother-craft expert named Mrs. Fillyjonk moves in next door to the Moomins. Seeing the state of the Moomin house, she takes action, shaming them into hiring a maid. When Misabel the maid arrives, it's immediately clear she needs a little cheering up, and since Mrs. Fillyjonk has mysteriously disappeared, the Moomins set about teaching her how to enjoy life. Lessons and poignant reminders of the importance of simple pleasures abound in Moominmamma's Maid, the classic tale from Tove Jansson.

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

PRAISE

"A lost treasure now rediscovered, one of the sweetest, strangest comics strips ever drawn or written. A surrealist masterpiece. Honest." —Neil Gaiman, author of The Ocean at the End of the Lane
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