The Piranhas
The Boy Bosses of Naples: A Novel

Roberto Saviano; translated from the Italian by Antony Shugaar

The saga of a city under the rule of a criminal network, and the Neapolitan boys who create their own gang

Nicolas Fiorillo is a brilliant and ambitious fifteen-year-old from the slums of Naples, eager to make his mark and to acquire power and the money that comes with it. With nine friends, he sets out to create a new paranza, or gang. Together they roam the streets on their motorscooters, learning how to break into the network of small-time hoodlums that controls drug-dealing and petty crime in the city. They learn to cheat and to steal, to shoot semiautomatic pistols and AK-47s. Slowly they begin to wrest control of the neighborhoods from enemy gangs while making alliances with failing old bosses. Nicolas’s strategic brilliance is prodigious, and his cohorts’ rapid rise and envelopment in the ensuing maelstrom of violence and death is riveting and impossible to turn away from. In The Piranhas, Roberto Saviano imagines the lurid glamour of Nicolas’s story with all the vividness and insight that made Gomorrah a worldwide sensation.

Roberto Saviano was born in 1979 and studied philosophy at the University of Naples. Gomorrah, his first book, has won many awards, including the prestigious 2006 Viareggio Literary Award, and was adapted into a play, a film, and a television series.

Antony Shugaar is a writer and translator. He is the author of Coast to Coast and I Lie for a Living and the coauthor, with the late Gianni Guadalupi, of Discovering America and Latitude Zero.

PRAISE

"With the openhearted rashness that belongs to every true writer, Saviano returns to tell the story of the fierce and grieving heart of Naples.” —Elena Ferrante
Can Democracy Work?
A Short History of a Radical Idea, from Ancient Athens to Our World

James Miller

A new history of the world’s most embattled idea

Today, democracy is the world’s only broadly accepted political system, and yet it has become synonymous with disappointment and crisis. How did it come to this? In Can Democracy Work? James Miller, the author of the classic history of 1960s protest Democracy Is in the Streets, offers a lively, surprising, and urgent history of the democratic idea from its first stirrings to the present. As he shows, democracy has always been rife with inner tensions. The ancient Greeks preferred to choose leaders by lottery and regarded elections as inherently corrupt and undemocratic. The French revolutionaries sought to incarnate the popular will, but many of them came to see the people as the enemy. And in the United States, the franchise would be extended to some even as it was taken from others. Amid the wars and revolutions of the twentieth century, communists, liberals, and nationalists all sought to claim the ideals of democracy for themselves—even as they manifestly failed to realize them.

Ranging from the theaters of Athens to the tents of Occupy Wall Street, Can Democracy Work? is an entertaining and insightful guide to our most cherished—and vexed—ideal.


PRAISE

Praise for Examined Lives

"Fascinating . . . Miller does not rest with digging out petty failings or moments of hypocrisy. He shows us philosophers becoming ever more inclined to reflect on these failings, and suggests that this makes their lives more rather than less worth studying." —Sarah Bakewell, The New York Times Book Review
Heart: A History

Sandeep Jauhar

The bestselling author of Intern and Doctored tells the story of the thing that makes us tick

For centuries, the human heart seemed beyond our understanding: an inscrutable shuddering mass that was somehow the driver of emotion and the seat of the soul. As the cardiologist and bestselling author Sandeep Jauhar shows in Heart: A History, it was only recently that we demolished age-old taboos and devised the transformative procedures that have changed the way we live.

Deftly alternating between key historical episodes and his own work, Jauhar tells the colorful and little-known story of the doctors who risked their careers and the patients who risked their lives to know and heal our most vital organ. He introduces us to Daniel Hale Williams, the African American doctor who performed the world’s first open heart surgery in Gilded Age Chicago. We meet C. Walton Lillehei, who connected a patient’s circulatory system to a healthy donor’s, paving the way for the heart-lung machine. And we encounter Wilson Greatbatch, who saved millions by inventing the pacemaker—by accident. Jauhar deftly braids these tales of discovery, hubris, and sorrow with moving accounts of his family’s history of heart ailments and the patients he’s treated over many years. He also confronts the limits of medical technology, arguing that future progress will depend more on how we choose to live than on the devices we invent. Affecting, engaging, and beautifully written, Heart: A History takes the full measure of the only organ t...

Sandeep Jauhar, MD, PhD, is the director of the Heart Failure Program at Long Island Jewish Medical Center. He is the author of Doctored and Intern and writes regularly for The New York Times. He lives with his wife and their son and daughter on Long Island.

PRAISE

Praise for Doctored

“An extraordinary, brave and even shocking document. Dr. Jauhar’s sharply observed anxieties make him a compelling writer and an astute critic of the wasteful, mercenary, cronyistic and often corrupt practice of medicine today.”
—Florence Williams, The New York Times
The Golden State
A Novel
Lydia Kiesling

A gorgeous, raw debut novel about a young woman braving the ups and downs of motherhood in a fractured America

In Lydia Kiesling’s razor-sharp debut novel, The Golden State, we accompany Daphne, a young mother on the edge of a breakdown, as she flees her sensible but strained life in San Francisco for the high desert of Altavista with her toddler, Honey. Bucking under the weight of being a single parent—her Turkish husband is unable to return to the United States because of a “processing error”—Daphne takes refuge in a mobile home left to her by her grandparents in hopes that the quiet will bring clarity.

Boy, was she wrong. Over the next ten days Daphne is anxious, she behaves a little erratically, she drinks too much. She wanders the town looking for anyone and anything to punctuate the long hours alone with the baby. Among others, she meets Cindy, a neighbor who is active in a secessionist movement, and befriends the elderly Alice, who has traveled to Altavista as she approaches the end of her life. When her relationships with these women culminate in a dangerous standoff, Daphne must reconcile her inner narrative with the reality of a deeply divided world.

Keenly observed, bristling with humor, and set against the beauty of a little-known part of California, The Golden State is about class and cultural breakdowns, and desperate attempts to bridge old and new worlds. But more than anything, it is about motherhood: its voracious worry, frequent tedium, and enthralling, wondrous love.

Lydia Kiesling is the editor of The Millions. Her essays and criticism have appeared in The New York Times Magazine, The Guardian, Slate, and The New Yorker online, and have been recognized in The Best American Essays 2016. She lives in San Francisco with her family.

PRAISE

Praise for The Golden State

“The Golden State is a perfect evocation of the beautiful, strange, frightening, funny territory of new motherhood. Lydia Kiesling writes with great intelligence and candor about the surreal topography of a day with an infant, and toggles skillfully between the landscape of Daphne’s interior and the California d...
The Field of Blood
Violence in Congress and the Road to Civil War

Joanne B. Freeman

The previously untold story of the violence in Congress that helped spark the Civil War

In *The Field of Blood*, Joanne B. Freeman recovers the long-lost story of physical violence on the floor of the U.S. Congress. Drawing on an extraordinary range of sources, she shows that the Capitol was rife with conflict in the decades before the Civil War. Legislative sessions were often punctuated by mortal threats, canings, flipped desks, and all-out slugfests. When debate broke down, congressmen drew pistols and waved Bowie knives. One representative even killed another in a duel. Many were beaten and bullied in an attempt to intimidate them into compliance, particularly on the issue of slavery.

These fights didn’t happen in a vacuum. Freeman’s dramatic accounts of brawls and thrashings tell a larger story of how fisticuffs and journalism, and the powerful emotions they elicited, raised tensions between North and South and led toward war. In the process, she brings the antebellum Congress to life, revealing its rough realities—the feel, sense, and sound of it—as well as its nation-shaping import. Funny, tragic, and rivetingly told, *The Field of Blood* offers a front-row view of congressional mayhem and sheds new light on the careers of John Quincy Adams, Henry Clay, and other luminaries, as well as introducing a host of lesser-known but no less fascinating men. The result is a fresh understanding of the workings of American democracy and the bonds of Union on the eve of their greatest peril.

Joanne B. Freeman, a professor of history and American studies at Yale University, is a leading authority on early national politics and political culture. The author of the award-winning *Affairs of Honor: National Politics in the New Republic* and editor of *The Essential Hamilton* and *Alexander Hamilton: Writings*, she is a cohost of the popular history podcast *BackStory.*
Spanning eras, continents, genres, *Codex 1962*—twenty years in the making—is Sjón’s epic three-part masterpiece

Over the course of four dazzling novels translated into dozens of languages, Sjón has earned a global reputation as one of the world’s most interesting writers. But what the world has never been able to read is his great trilogy of novels, known collectively as *Codex 1962*—now finally complete.

Josef Löwe, the narrator, was born in 1962—the same year, the same moment even, as Sjón. Josef’s story, however, stretches back decades in the form of Leo Löwe—a Jewish fugitive during World War II who has an affair with a maid in a German inn; together, they form a baby from a piece of clay. If the first volume is a love story, the second is a crime story: Löwe arrives in Iceland with the clay-baby inside a hatbox, only to be embroiled in a murder mystery—but by the end of the volume, his clay son has come to life. And in the final volume, set in present-day Reykjavík, Josef’s story becomes science fiction as he crosses paths with the outlandish CEO of a biotech company (based closely on reality) who brings the story of genetics and genesis full circle. But the future, according to Sjón, is not so dark as it seems.

In *Codex 1962*, Sjón has woven ancient and modern material and folklore and cosmic myths into a singular masterpiece—encompassing genre fiction, theology, expressionist film, comic strips, fortean studies, genetics, and, of course, the rich tradition of Icelandic storytelling.

*Sjón* is the author of *The Blue Fox*, *From the Mouth of the Whale*, *The Whispering Muse*, and *Moonstone*. Born in Reykjavík in 1962, he is an award-winning novelist, poet, and playwright, and his novels have been translated into thirty-five languages. Alongside his work as a writer, Sjón has taken part in a wide range of art exhibitions and music events. His longtime collaboration with the Icelandic singer Björk led to an Oscar nomination for his lyrics for the Lars von Trier movie *Dancer in the Dark*. He lives in Reykjavík.

*Victoria Cribb* has spent the last twenty-five years immersed in Iceland’s language and literature. After reading Old Icelandic at Cambridge, she took an MA in Scandinavian Studies at University College London and a BPhil in Iceland...

**PRAISE**

“A masterpiece, meticulously executed from the first page to the last . . .”
Identity
The Demand for Dignity and the Politics of Resentment

Francis Fukuyama

The New York Times bestselling author of The Origins of Political Order offers a provocative examination of modern identity politics: its origins, its effects, and what it means for domestic and international affairs of state

In 2014, Francis Fukuyama wrote that American institutions were in decay, as the state was progressively captured by powerful interest groups. Two years later, his predictions were borne out by the rise to power of a series of political outsiders whose economic nationalism and authoritarian tendencies threatened to destabilize the entire international order. These populist nationalists seek direct charismatic connection to “the people,” who are usually defined in narrow identity terms that offer an irresistible call to an in-group and exclude large parts of the population as a whole.

Demand for recognition of one’s identity is a master concept that unifies much of what is going on in world politics today. The universal recognition on which liberal democracy is based has been increasingly challenged by narrower forms of recognition based on nation, religion, sect, race, ethnicity, or gender, which have resulted in anti-immigrant populism, the upsurge of politicized Islam, the fractious “identity liberalism” of college campuses, and the emergence of white nationalism. Populist nationalism, said to be rooted in economic motivation, actually springs from the demand for recognition and therefore cannot simply be satisfied by economic means. The demand for identity cannot be transcended; we must begin to shape identity in a way that supports rather than undermines democracy.

Identity is an urgent and necessary...

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

PRAISE
Life in Culture
Selected Letters of Lionel Trilling

Lionel Trilling; Edited by Adam Kirsch

A great critic's quarrels with himself and others, as revealed in his correspondence

In the mid-twentieth century, Lionel Trilling was America's most respected literary critic. His powerful and subtle essays inspired readers to think about how literature shapes our politics, our culture, and our selves. His 1950 collection, *The Liberal Imagination*, sold more than 100,000 copies, epitomizing a time that has been called the age of criticism.

To his New York intellectual peers, Trilling could seem reserved and circumspect. But in his selected letters, Trilling is revealed in all his variousness and complexity. We witness his ardent courtship of Diana Trilling, who would become an eminent intellectual in her own right; his alternately affectionate and contentious rapport with former students such as Allen Ginsberg and Norman Podhoretz; the complicated politics of *Partisan Review* and other fabled magazines of the period; and Trilling's relationships with other leading writers of the period, including Saul Bellow, Edmund Wilson, and Norman Mailer.

In *Life in Culture*, edited by Adam Kirsch, Trilling's letters add up to an intimate portrait of a great critic, and of America's intellectual journey from the political passions of the 1930s to the cultural conflicts of the 1960s and beyond.

**Lionel Trilling** (1905–75) taught at Columbia University from 1931 until his death and was the author of many books, including *Matthew Arnold* and a novel, *The Middle of the Journey*.


**PRAISE**

Praise for *The Moral Obligation to Be Intelligent*

"There was never just one thing, in [Trilling's] work. He was mentally indefatigable; there was order in his writing, but there was no repose."

—Leon Wieseltier
Seven Types of Atheism

John Gray

From the provocative intellectual author of *The Soul of the Marionette* comes an incisive, surprising intervention in the political and scientific debate over religion and atheism.

When you explore older atheisms, you will find that some of your firmest convictions—secular or religious—are highly questionable. If this prospect disturbs you, what you are looking for may be freedom from thought.

For a generation now, public debate has been corroded by a shrill, narrow derision of religion in the name of an often vaguely understood "science." John Gray’s stimulating and enjoyable new book, *Seven Types of Atheism*, describes the complex, dynamic world of older atheisms, a tradition that is, he writes, in many ways intertwined with and as rich as religion itself.

Along a spectrum that ranges from the convictions of “God-haters” like the Marquis de Sade to the mysticism of Arthur Schopenhauer, from Bertrand Russell’s search for truth in mathematics to secular political religions like Jacobinism and Nazism, Gray explores the various ways great minds have attempted to understand the questions of salvation, purpose, progress, and evil. The result is a book that sheds an extraordinary light on what it is to be human.

John Gray is the author of many critically acclaimed books, including *The Silence of Animals, The Immortalization Commission, Black Mass*, and *Straw Dogs*. A regular contributor to *The New York Review of Books*, he has been a professor of politics at Oxford, a visiting professor at Harvard and Yale, and a professor of European thought at the London School of Economics. He now writes full-time.

PRAISE

Praise for John Gray

“John Gray is one of the most consistently interesting and unpredictable thinkers in Britain.” —Jason Cowley, *The Observer*

"Sometimes I think John Gray is the great Schopenhauerian European Buddhist of our age. What he offers is a gloriously pessimistic cultural analysis, which rightly reduces to rubble the false idols..."
Like
Poems
A. E. Stallings

A stunning new collection by the award-winning young poet and translator

Like, that currency of social media, is a little word with infinite potential; it can be nearly any part of speech. Without it, there is no simile, that engine of the lyric poem, the lyre’s note in the epic. A poem can hardly exist otherwise. In Like, her most ambitious collection to date, A. E. Stallings continues her archaeology of the domestic, her odyssey through myth and motherhood in received and invented forms, from sonnets to syllabics. Stallings also eschews the poetry volume’s conventional sections for the arbitrary order of the alphabet. Contemporary Athens itself, a place never dull during the economic and migration crises of recent years, shakes off the dust of history and emerges as a vibrant character. Known for her wry and musical lyric poems, Stallings here explores her themes in greater depth, including the bravura performance "Lost and Found", a meditation in ottava rima on a parent’s sublunary dance with daily-ness and time, set in the moon’s Valley of Lost Things.

A. E. Stallings is the author of three books of poetry: Archaic Smile, which won the Richard Wilbur Award; Hapax, which won the Poet’s Prize and the American Academy of Arts and Letters’ Benjamin H. Danks Award; and Olives. She has also published a verse translation of Lucretius’s The Nature of Things. Stallings is a 2011 Guggenheim Fellow and a 2011 MacArthur Fellow. She lives in Athens, Greece.

PRAISE

Praise for A. E. Stallings

“One of the strongest talents to emerge in recent years.” —Poetry
Deviation
A Novel

Luce D’Eramo; Translated from the Italian by Anne Milano Appel

A devoted fascist changes her mind and her life after witnessing the horrors of the Holocaust

First published in Italy in 1979, Luce D’Eramo’s Deviation is a seminal work in Holocaust literature. It is a book that not only confronts evil head-on but expands that confrontation into a complex and intricately structured work of fiction, which has claims to standing among the greatest Italian novels of the twentieth century.

Lucia is a young Italian girl from a bourgeois fascist family. In the early 1940s, when she first hears about the atrocities being perpetrated in the Nazi concentration camps, she is doubtful and confused, unable to reconcile such stories with the ideology in which she’s been raised. Wanting to disprove these “slanders” on Hitler’s Reich, she decides to see for herself, running away from home and heading for Germany, where she intends to volunteer as camp labor. The journey is a harrowing, surreal descent into hell, which finds Lucia confronting the stark and brutal realities of life under Nazi rule, a life in which continual violence and fear are simply the norm. Soon it becomes clear that she must get away, but how can she possibly go back to her old life knowing what she now knows? Besides, getting out may not be as simple as getting in.

Finally available in English translation, Deviation is at once a personal testament, a work of the imagination, an investigation into the limits of memory, a warning to future generations, and a visceral scream at the horrors of the world.

Luce D’Eramo (1925–2001) was born in Reims, France, to Italian parents. She is the author of numerous works of fiction and nonfiction, including the novels Nucleo Zero and Partiranno. Deviation, a fictionalized account of her experiences during the Second World War, was an international bestseller.

Anne Milano Appel has been awarded the Italian Prose in Translation Award, the John Florio Prize for Italian Translation, and the Northern California Book Award for Translation—Fiction. She has translated works by Claudio Magris, Primo Levi, Paolo Maurensig, Roberto Saviano, and numerous others.
Ninety-Nine Glimpses of Princess Margaret

Craig Brown

A witty and profound portrait of one of the most vexing and alluring English royals.

She made John Lennon blush and Marlon Brando tongue-tied. She iced out Princess Diana and humiliated Elizabeth Taylor. Andy Warhol photographed her. Jack Nicholson offered her cocaine. Gore Vidal revered her. Francis Bacon heckled her. Peter Sellers was madly in love with her. For Pablo Picasso, she was the object of sexual fantasy.

Princess Margaret aroused passion and indignation in equal measures. To her friends, she was witty and regal. To her enemies, she was rude and demanding. In her 1950s heyday, she was seen as one of the most glamorous and desirable women in the world. By the time of her death in 2002, she had come to personify disappointment. One friend said he had never known an unhappier woman. The tale of Princess Margaret is Cinderella in reverse: hope dashed, happiness mislaid, life mishandled.

Such an enigmatic and divisive figure demands a reckoning that is far from the usual fare. Combining interviews, parodies, dreams, parallel lives, diaries, announcements, lists, catalogues, and essays, Craig Brown’s Ninety-Nine Glimpses of Princess Margaret is a kaleidoscopic experiment in biography and a witty meditation on fame and art, snobbery and deference, bohemia and high society.

Craig Brown is a prolific journalist and the author of eighteen books. He has been writing his parodic diary in Private Eye since 1989. He is the only person ever to have won three different Press Awards—for best humorist, columnist, and critic—in the same year. He has been a columnist for The Guardian, The Times (London), The Spectator, and The Daily Telegraph, among other publications. He currently writes for The Daily Mail and The Mail on Sunday. His last book, Hello Goodbye Hello, was translated into ten languages and was a New York Times bestseller.

PRAISE

A Guardian Book of the Year

A Times Book of the Year

A Sunday Times Book of the Year

A Daily Mail Book of the Year

“Rollicking, irresistible, un-put-downable . . . For anyone . . . who swooned to

FARRAR, STRAUS AND GIROUX | AUGUST 2018
The Flame
Poems Notebooks Lyrics
Drawings

Leonard Cohen; Edited by
Robert Faggen and Alexandra
Pleshoyano

The final collection of the seminal musician and poet, which he
was determined to complete before his death

Just weeks before his death in late 2016, Leonard Cohen told The New
Yorker that he was ready for the end to come. He just wanted enough time to
put his last book in order. Fortunately, that time was granted. The Flame is
Cohen’s eloquent farewell, a valedictory collection of lyrics, poems, notebook
sketches, and self-portraits that maps his singular creative journey. As noted
in the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame’s citation, “For six decades, Leonard
Cohen revealed his soul to the world through poetry and song—his deep and
timeless humanity touching our very core.”

In addition to new poems about war, desire, regrets, lamb chops, and
hummingbirds, and lyrics from his last three albums, including the chart-
topping “You Want It Darker,” The Flame includes carefully selected excerpts
from Cohen’s voluminous notebooks, which he kept faithfully over the years.
Readers will find in these pages the subjects that have always preoccupied
Cohen: the dimensions of love, the secret code of existence, and the hope
for transcendence in a broken world.

In the words of Cohen’s longtime manager and friend, Robert Kory, The
Flame “reveals to all the intensity of his inner fire” to the end.

Leonard Cohen was a hugely influential Canadian poet, songwriter, and cultural
icon who died on the eve of the 2016 presidential election. His “Hallelujah” is widely
considered the redemptive song of the resistance. Cohen’s many canonical songs
(“Suzanne,” “So Long, Marianne,” “Famous Blue Raincoat,” “Dance Me to the End
of Love,” and others) have earned him a place in the small pantheon that includes Bob
Dylan and Patti Smith. Cohen’s many honors include a Grammy Lifetime
Achievement Award, a Prince of Asturias Award for Literature, and election to the
Rock and Roll Hall of Fame.

PRAISE

Praise for Leonard Cohen

“There are rare men for whom one can use the word that Leonard Cohen...
The Ravenmaster
My Life with the Ravens at the Tower of London

Christopher Skaife

The first behind-the-scenes account of life with the legendary ravens at the world’s eeriest monument

The ravens at the Tower of London are of mighty importance: rumor has it that if a raven from the Tower should ever leave, the city will fall.

The title of Ravenmaster, therefore, is a serious title indeed, and after decades of serving the Queen, Yeoman Warder Christopher Skaife took on the added responsibility of caring for the infamous ravens. In The Ravenmaster, he lets us in on his life as he feeds his birds raw meat and biscuits soaked in blood, buys their food at Smithfield Market, and ensures that these unusual, misunderstood, and utterly brilliant corvids are healthy, happy, and ready to captivate the four million tourists who flock to the Tower every year.

A rewarding, intimate, and inspiring partnership has developed between the ravens and their charismatic and charming human, the Ravenmaster, who shares the folklore, history, and superstitions surrounding the ravens and the Tower. Shining a light on the behavior of the birds, their pecking order and social structure, and the tricks they play on us, Skaife shows who the Tower’s true guardians really are—and the result is a compelling and irreverent narrative that will surprise and enchant.

Christopher Skaife is Yeoman Warder (Beefeater) and Ravenmaster at the Tower of London. He has served in the British Army for twenty-four years, during which time he became a machine-gun specialist as well as an expert in survival and interrogation resistance. He has been featured on the History Channel, PBS, the BBC, BuzzFeed, Slate, and more. He lives at the Tower with his wife and, of course, the ravens. Follow him on Twitter: @ravenmaster1.
A riveting drama of marital therapy

Gretchen and Steve have been married for a long time. Living in San Francisco, recently separated, with two children and demanding jobs, they’ve started going to a marriage counselor. Unfolding over the course of ten months and taking place entirely in the marriage counselor’s office, John Jay Osborn’s *Listen to the Marriage* is the story of a fractured couple in a moment of crisis, and of the person who tries to get them to see each other again. A searing look at the obstacles we put in our own way, as well as the forces that drive us apart (and those that bring us together), *Listen to the Marriage* is a poignant exploration of marriage—heartbreaking and tender.

**John Jay Osborn** graduated from Harvard Law School in 1970. He wrote *The Paper Chase* while he was a full-time law student. Osborn has clerked for the United States Court of Appeals, practiced law in New York City, taught at the University of Miami School of Law, and practiced in the estate-planning field, as well as giving advice and representation to artists and writers. He is the author of four novels and has written episodes for a variety of television shows. Since 1991 he has been a professor at the law school of the University of San Francisco.

**PRAISE**

Praise for John Jay Osborn

“A writer of wit and style.” —*The New Yorker*
The Mamba Mentality
How I Play

Kobe Bryant; Photographs by Andrew D. Bernstein;
Introduction by Phil Jackson;
Foreword by Pau Gasol

The first book from the basketball superstar Kobe Bryant—a lavish, deep dive inside the mind of one of the most revered athletes of all time

In the wake of his retirement from professional basketball, Kobe “The Black Mamba” Bryant has decided to share his vast knowledge and understanding of the game to take readers on an unprecedented journey to the core of the legendary “Mamba mentality.” Citing an obligation and an opportunity to teach young players, hardcore fans, and devoted students of the game how to play it “the right way,” The Mamba Mentality takes us inside the mind of one of the most intelligent, analytical, and creative basketball players ever.

For the first time, and in his own words, Bryant reveals his famously detailed approach and the steps he took to prepare mentally and physically to not just succeed at the game, but to excel. Readers will learn how Bryant studied an opponent, how he channeled his passion for the game, how he played through injuries. They’ll also get fascinating granular detail as he breaks down specific plays and match-ups from throughout his career.

Bryant’s detailed accounts are paired with stunning photographs by the Hall of Fame photographer Andrew D. Bernstein. Bernstein, long the Lakers and NBA official photographer, captured Bryant’s very first NBA photo in 1996 and his last in 2016—and hundreds of thousands in between, the record of a unique, twenty-year relationship between one athlete and one photographer.

The combination of Bryant’s narrative and Bernstein’s photos make The Mamba Mentality an unp...
He Held Radical Light
The Art of Faith, the Faith of Art

Christian Wiman

A moving meditation on memory, oblivion, and eternity by one of our most celebrated poets

What is it we want when we can’t stop wanting? And how do we make that hunger productive and vital rather than corrosive and destructive? These are the questions that animate Christian Wiman as he explores the relationships between art and faith, death and fame, heaven and oblivion. Above all, He Held Radical Light is a love letter to poetry, filled with moving, surprising, and sometimes funny encounters with the poets Wiman has known. Seamus Heaney opens a suddenly intimate conversation about faith; Mary Oliver puts half of a dead pigeon in her pocket; A. R. Ammons stands up in front of an audience and refuses to read. He Held Radical Light is as urgent and intense as it is lively and entertaining—a sharp sequel to Wiman’s earlier memoir, My Bright Abyss.

Christian Wiman is the author of ten 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; Once in the West (FSG, 2014), a National Book Critics Circle Award finalist in poetry; and Stolen Air: Selected Poems of Osip Mandelstam. He teaches religion and literature at the Yale Institute of Sacred Music and Yale Divinity School.

PRAISE

Praise for Christian Wiman

“It is vanishingly rare for any poet to reach so many readers, so deeply, as Christian Wiman does today. Writing in the dark, he has lit the dark for thousands of people, of whom I am one.” —Adam Kirsch, citation for the Aiken Taylor Award in Modern American Poetry
Walking Backwards
Poems 1966-2016

John Koethe

Collected poems from America’s searching and thoughtful philosopher-poet

. . . There’s something
Comforting about rituals renewed, even adolescents’ pipe dreams:
They’ll find out soon enough, and meanwhile find their places
In the eternal scenery, less auguries or cautionary tales

Than parts of an unchanging whole, as ripe for contemplation
As a planisphere or the clouds: the vexed destinies, the shared life,
The sempiternal spectacle of someone preaching to the choir
While walking backwards in the moment on a warm spring afternoon.

John Koethe’s poems—always dynamic and in process, never static or complete—luxuriate in the questions that punctuate the most humdrum of routines, rendering a robust portrait of an individual: complicated, quotidian, and resounding with truth. Gathering for the first time his impressive and award-winning body of work, published between 1966 and 2016, Walking Backwards introduces this gifted poet to a new, wider readership.

John Koethe has published eleven books of poetry and has received the Lenore Marshall Poetry Prize, the Kingsley Tufts Poetry Award, and the Frank O’Hara Award. He has also published books on Ludwig Wittgenstein, philosophical skepticism, and poetry, and is the Distinguished Professor of Philosophy Emeritus at the University of Wisconsin–Milwaukee.

PRAISE

Praise for John Koethe

“Solemn and playful, John Koethe’s poems lock themselves gradually but firmly into one’s memory.” —John Ashbery
Hiking with Nietzsche
On Becoming Who You Are

John Kaag

A revelatory Alpine journey in the spirit of the great Romantic thinker Friedrich Nietzsche

Hiking with Nietzsche: Becoming Who You Are is a tale of two philosophical journeys—one made by John Kaag as an introspective young man of nineteen, the other seventeen years later, in radically different circumstances: he is now a husband and father, and his wife and small child are in tow. Kaag sets off for the Swiss peaks above Sils Maria where Nietzsche wrote his landmark work Thus Spoke Zarathustra. Both of Kaag’s journeys are made in search of the wisdom at the core of Nietzsche’s philosophy, yet they deliver him to radically different interpretations and, more crucially, revelations about the human condition.

Just as Kaag’s acclaimed debut, American Philosophy: A Love Story, seamlessly wove together his philosophical discoveries with his search for meaning, Hiking with Nietzsche is a fascinating exploration not only of Nietzsche’s ideals but of how his experience of living relates to us as individuals in the twenty-first century. Bold, intimate, and rich with insight, Hiking with Nietzsche is about defeating complacency, balancing sanity and madness, and coming to grips with the unobtainable. As Kaag hikes, alone or with his family, but always with Nietzsche, he recognizes that even slipping can be instructive. It is in the process of climbing, and through the inevitable missteps, that one has the chance, in Nietzsche’s words, to “become who you are.”


PRAISE

"John Kaag is the closest thing we have to William James: a breathtakingly good prose stylist; philosophically and psychologically courageous, inventive, and inspiring; ruthlessly honest; unsparing about the difficulties of love, intimacy, and experience; and, above all, human, in the most valuable and moral sense of t..."
Aden’s dream, however, is worlds removed from conventional fantasies of teen rebellion: she is determined to travel to Peshawar, Pakistan, to study Islam at a madrassa. To do so, she takes on a new identity, disguising herself as a young man named Suleyman. Aden fully commits to this new life, even burning her passport to protect her secret. But once she is on the ground, she finds herself in greater danger than she could possibly have imagined. Faced with violence, disillusionment, and loss, Aden must make choices that will test not only her faith but also her most fundamental understanding of who she is, and that will set her on a wild, brutal course toward redemption by blood. John Wray’s *Godsend* is an enduring coming-of-age novel.

**John Wray** is the author of the critically acclaimed novels *The Lost Time Accidents*, *Lowboy*, *The Right Hand of Sleep*, and *Canaan’s Tongue*. He was named one of *Granta*’s Best of Young American Novelists in 2007. The recipient of a Whiting Writers’ Award, he lives in Brooklyn, New York.

**PRAISE**

Praise for John Wray

"*The Lost Time Accidents* is a wonderful, delirious, layered confection... It is a conga line of a novel, a full brass band of a novel, an epic: not only because of its scale... but also because it samples wildly from other genres, and contains smaller universes within itself, studded like chocolate chips within t..."
The Hell of Good Intentions
America's Foreign Policy Elite and the Decline of U.S. Primacy

Stephen M. Walt

An expert diagnosis of U.S. foreign policy—why it keeps disappointing us, and what we can do to fix it

In 1992, the United States stood at the pinnacle of world power and Americans were confident that a new era of peace and prosperity was at hand. Twenty-five years later, those hopes have been dashed. Relations with Russia and China have deteriorated, the European Union is wobbling, and violent extremism is spreading.

The reason for these recurring failures, Stephen M. Walt argues in The Hell of Good Intentions, is the combination of America’s still-unmatched power and the foreign policy establishment’s stubborn consensus around a strategy of “liberal hegemony.” Because the United States is so powerful and secure, it can pursue ambitious foreign policy goals even when they are unnecessary and doomed to fail. Walt exposes the inner workings of the foreign policy elite across the Bush, Clinton, and Obama administrations and shows how they have been able to avoid accountability, keep discredited ideas and policies in vogue, and maintain influence despite past blunders.

Confronting the failures of three different presidents, Walt makes the case for a fresh approach. As the next president grapples with the consequences of America’s recent misadventures, The Hell of Good Intentions offers both a compelling diagnosis of our current malaise and a prescription for enduring success.

Stephen M. Walt is the Robert and Renee Belfer Professor of International Affairs at Harvard University. He is the author of The Origins of Alliances; Revolution and War; Taming American Power: The Global Response to U.S. Primacy; and, with John J. Mearsheimer, The Israel Lobby and U.S. Foreign Policy. He writes frequently for Foreign Policy.

Praise

Praise for Taming American Power


“A pathbreaking book for both the informed public and policy makers, for whom it should be required reading.” —Samuel P. Huntington, author of The Clash of Civilizations
Grand Improvisation
America Confronts the British Superpower, 1945-1957

Derek Leebaert

A bold new history of the early cold war, stressing the underappreciated power of Great Britain

An enduring myth of the twentieth century is that the United States rapidly became a superpower in the years after World War II, when the British Empire—the greatest in history—was too wounded to maintain a global presence. In fact, Derek Leebaert argues in *Grand Improvisation*, the idea that a traditionally insular United States suddenly transformed itself into the leader of the free world is illusory, as is the notion that the British colossus was compelled to retreat. The United States and the U.K. had a dozen abrasive years until Washington issued a “declaration of independence” from British influence. Only then did America explicitly assume leadership of the world order just taking shape.

Leebaert’s character-driven narrative shows such figures as Churchill, Truman, Eisenhower, and Kennan in an entirely new light, while unveiling players of at least equal weight on pivotal events. Little unfolded as historians believe: the Truman Doctrine and the Marshall Plan; the Korean War; America’s descent into Vietnam. Instead, we see nonstop U.S. improvisation until America finally lost all caution and embraced obligations worldwide, a burden we bear today.

Understanding all of this properly is vital to understanding the rise and fall of superpowers, why we’re now skeptical of commitments overseas, how the Middle East plunged into disorder, why Europe is fracturing, what China intends—and the ongoing peri...

Derek Leebaert is the author of *Magic and Mayhem: The Delusions of American Foreign Policy*, *The Fifty-Year Wound: How America’s Cold War Victory Shapes Our World*, and *To Dare and to Conquer: Special Operations and the Destiny of Nations*, and the coauthor of MIT Press’s trilogy on the information technology revolution. He runs a global management consulting firm and is a former Smithsonian Fellow, as well as a founding editor of the Harvard/MIT journal *International Security*. He has taught at Georgetown University and is also a founder of the National Museum of the U.S. Army. He lives in Connecticut and Washington, D.C.

PRAISE

Praise for *Magic and Mayhem*

“Derek Leebaert astutely portrays the overgrown delusions about American...
Fryderyk Chopin
A Life and Times

Alan Walker

A landmark biography of the Polish composer by one of the world’s leading authorities on Chopin and his time

Based on ten years of research and a vast cache of primary sources located in archives in Warsaw, Paris, London, New York, and Washington, D.C., Alan Walker’s monumental *Fryderyk Chopin: A Life and Times* is the most comprehensive biography of the great Polish composer to appear in English. Walker’s work is a corrective biography, intended to dispel the many myths and legends that continue to surround Chopin. *Fryderyk Chopin* is an intimate look into a dramatic life; of particular focus are Chopin’s childhood and youth in Poland, which are brought into line with Walker’s latest scholarly findings, and Chopin’s romantic life with George Sand, with whom he lived for nine years.

Comprehensive and engaging, and written in highly readable prose, the biography wears its scholarship lightly: this is a book suited as much for the professional pianist as it is for the casual music lover. Just as he did in his definitive biography of Liszt, Walker illuminates Chopin and his music with unprecedented clarity in this magisterial biography, bringing to life one of the nineteenth century’s most confounding, beloved, and legendary artists.

Dr. Alan Walker’s definitive three-volume biography, *Franz Liszt*, received the James Tait Black Memorial Prize in Biography and the Royal Philharmonic Society Book Award, among others. His writing has appeared in journals such as *The Musical Quarterly*, *The Times Literary Supplement*, and *Times Educational Supplement*. A professor emeritus at McMaster University, Walker was made a Fellow of the Royal Society of Canada in 1986 and was awarded the Knight’s Cross of the Order of Merit of the Republic of Hungary in 2012.

**PRAISE**

Praise for *Franz Liszt*

“A conscientious scholar passionate about his subject. Mr. Walker makes the man and his age come to life. These three volumes will be the definitive work to which all subsequent Liszt biographies will aspire.” —Harold C. Schonberg, *The Wall Street Journal*
Evening in Paradise
More Stories
Lucia Berlin

A collection of previously uncompiled stories from the short-story master and literary sensation Lucia Berlin


Evening in Paradise is a careful selection from the remaining Berlin stories—a jewel box follow-up for Lucia Berlin’s hungry fans.

Lucia Berlin (1936–2004) worked brilliantly but sporadically throughout the 1960s, 1970s, and 1980s. Her stories are inspired by her early childhood in various Western mining towns; her glamorous teenage years in Santiago, Chile; three failed marriages; a lifelong problem with alcoholism; her years spent in Berkeley, New Mexico, and Mexico City; and the various jobs she held to support her writing and her four sons. Sober and writing steadily by the 1990s, she took a visiting writer’s post at the University of Colorado in Boulder in 1994 and was soon promoted to associate professor. In 2001, in failing health, she moved to Southern California to be near her sons. She died in 2004 in Marina del Rey.

PRAISE

“In A Manual for Cleaning Women we witness the emergence of an important American writer, one who was mostly overlooked in her time. Ms. Berlin’s stories make you marvel at the contingencies of our existence. She is the real deal. Her stories swoop low over towns and moods and minds.”
Welcome Home
A Memoir with Selected Photographs and Letters

Lucia Berlin; Edited by Jeff Berlin

A compilation of sketches, photographs, and letters, Welcome Home is an essential nonfiction companion to the stories by Lucia Berlin

Before Lucia Berlin died, she was working on a book of previously unpublished autobiographical sketches called Welcome Home. The work consisted of more than twenty chapters that started in 1936 in Alaska and ended (prematurely) in 1966 in southern Mexico. In our publication of Welcome Home, her son Jeff Berlin is filling in the gaps with photos and letters from her eventful, romantic, and tragic life.

From Alaska to Argentina, Kentucky to Mexico, New York City to Chile, Berlin’s world was wide. And the writing here is, as we’ve come to expect, dazzling. She describes the places she lived and the people she knew with all the style and wit and heart and humor that readers fell in love with in her stories. Combined with letters from and photos of friends and lovers, Welcome Home is an essential nonfiction companion to A Manual for Cleaning Women and Evening in Paradise.

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PRAISE

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Seventeen
A Novel

Hideo Yokoyama; Translated from the Japanese by Louise Heal Kawai

A tense, powerful thriller from the bestselling author of Six Four

1985. Kazumasa Yuuki, a seasoned reporter at the North Kanto Times, runs a daily gauntlet of the power struggles and office politics that plague its newsroom. But when an air disaster of unprecedented scale occurs on the paper’s doorstep, its staff is united by an unimaginable horror and a once-in-a-lifetime scoop.

2003. Seventeen years later, Yuuki remembers the adrenaline-fueled, emotionally charged seven days that changed his and his colleagues’ lives. He does so while making good on a promise he made that fateful week—one that holds the key to its last solved mystery and represents Yuuki’s final, unconquered fear.

From Hideo Yokoyama, the celebrated author of Six Four, comes Seventeen—an investigative thriller set amid the aftermath of disaster.

Born in 1957, Hideo Yokoyama worked for twelve years as an investigative reporter with a regional newspaper north of Tokyo before becoming one of Japan’s most acclaimed and bestselling fiction writers. Seventeen is his second novel to be translated into English.

Louise Heal Kawai was born in Manchester, England. She has spent the past twenty years in Japan. Her translations include Daido Tamaki’s Milk and Tendo Shoko’s bestselling autobiography, Yazuka Moon.

PRAISE

Praise for Six Four

"This novel is a real, out-of-the-blue original. I’ve never read anything like it. Yokoyama . . . is a master . . . , rewarding our patience with an exceptionally clever and satisfying resolution of the case.” —Terrence Rafferty, The New York Times Book Review (cover review)

"Complex, ingenious, and engrossing . . . Yok..."
The End of the End of the Earth
Essays

Jonathan Franzen

A sharp and provocative new essay collection from the award-winning author of *Freedom* and *The Corrections*

In *The End of the End of the Earth*, which gathers essays and speeches written mostly in the past five years, Jonathan Franzen returns with renewed vigor to the themes—both human and literary—that have long preoccupied him. Whether exploring his complex relationship with his uncle, recounting his young adulthood in New York, or offering an illuminating look at the global seabird crisis, these pieces contain all the wit and disabused realism that we’ve come to expect from Franzen.

Taken together, these essays trace the progress of a unique and mature mind wrestling with itself, with literature, and with some of the most important issues of our day, made more pressing by the current political milieu. *The End of the End of the Earth* is remarkable, provocative, and necessary.

Jonathan Franzen is the author of five novels, including *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 Jonathan Franzen

“Franzen captivates readers whether ranting about such everyday concerns as bad cellphone manners or lamenting the diminishing relevance of the novel or examining the talented, troubled life and suicide of his close friend and literary brother, David Foster Wallace . . . At his best, Franzen exposes himself. He ...
Peaches Goes It Alone
Poems
Frederick Seidel

A stunning new collection from a “beguiling and magisterial” poet (The New York Times Book Review)

This is the End of Days.
This is what we’ve been waiting for always.
I walked over to the Hudson River, heading for Mars.
Each poem of mine is a suicide belt.
I say that to my girlfriend Life.

Peaches Goes It Alone, Frederick Seidel’s newest collection of poems, begins with global warming and ends with Aphrodite. In between is everything. It presents the sexual and political themes that have long preoccupied Seidel—and thrilled and offended his readers. Lyrical, grotesque, and elegiac, Peaches Goes It Alone adds new music and menace to Seidel’s masterful body of work.

Frederick Seidel’s many books of poems include The Cosmos Trilogy, Ooga-Booga, Poems 1959–2009, Nice Weather, and Widening Income Inequality, all published by FSG.

PRAISE

Praise for Frederick Seidel

“Among the two or three best poets writing in English.” —Alex Halberstadt, New York
Asymmetry
Poems
Adam Zagajewski; Translated from the Polish by Clare Cavanagh

A stunning new collection from Poland’s leading poet

Give me back my childhood,
republic of loquacious sparrows,
measureless thickets of nettles
and the timid wood owl’s nightly sobs.

One of the most vibrant voices of our time, Adam Zagajewski is a modern master of the poetic form. In Asymmetry, his first collection of poems in five years, he revisits the themes that have long concerned him: the enduring imprint of history, the beauty of nature, the place of the exile. Though as sanguine as ever, Zagajewski often turns to elegy in this deeply powerful collection, remembering loved ones he’s lost: a hairdresser, the philosopher Krzysztof Michalski, and, most poignantly, his parents. A moving reflection on family, the sublimity of everyday life, death, and happiness, Asymmetry is a magnificent distillation of an astounding poetic voice.

Adam Zagajewski was born in Lvov in 1945. His previous books include Tremor; Canvas; Mysticism for Beginners; Without End; Solidarity, Solitude; Two Cities; Another Beauty; A Defense of Ardor; Eternal Enemies; and Unseen Hand—all published by FSG. He lives in Kraków, Poland.

Clare Cavanagh is a professor of Slavic languages and literatures at Northwestern University. Her most recent book, Lyric Poetry and Modern Politics, received the National Book Critics Circle Award for criticism. She is currently working on an authorized biography of Czeslaw Milosz. She has also translated the poetry of Wislawa Szymborska.

PRAISE

Praise for Adam Zagajewski

“Seldom has the muse of poetry spoken to anyone with such clarity as in Zagajewski’s case.” —Joseph Brodsky
An energetic, lyrical, genre-defying account of the 2017 tennis season by one of our most exciting young poets

In *The Circuit*, the award-winning poet—and *Paris Review* sports columnist—Rowan Ricardo Phillips chronicles 2017 as seen through the unique prism of its pivotal, revelatory, and historic tennis season. The annual tennis schedule is a rarity in professional sports in that it encapsulates the calendar year. And like the year, it’s divided into four seasons, each marked by a final tournament: the Grand Slams. Phillips charts the year from winter’s Australian Open, where Roger Federer and Rafael Nadal renewed their rivalry in a match for the ages, to fall’s U.S. Open. Along the way, Phillips paints a new, vibrant portrait of tennis, one that captures not only the emotions, nerves, and ruthless tactics of the point-by-point game but also the quicksilver movement of victory and defeat on the tour, placing that sense of upheaval within a broader cultural and social context. Tennis has long been thought of as an escapist spectacle: a bucolic, separate bauble of life. *The Circuit* will convince you that you don’t leave the world behind as you watch tennis—you bring it with you.

Rowan Ricardo Phillips is the author of *Heaven* (FSG, 2015) and *The Ground* (FSG, 2012). He is the recipient of a Whiting Writers’ Award, the PEN/Joyce Osterweil Award, and the GLCA New Writers Award for Poetry, and of a Guggenheim Fellowship. He lives in New York City.

PRAISE

Praise for Rowan Ricardo Phillips

"Phillips demonstrates extraordinary range and remarkable acuity . . . Consistently smart and clearly talented, Phillips is one to read now and to watch for in the future." —Diego Baez, *Booklist*
Muck
A Novel

Dror Burstein; Translated from the Hebrew by Gabriel Levin

“One of the finest, most intricate, and most daring novels ever written in the Hebrew language.” —Zichronim

In a Jerusalem both ancient and modern, where the First Temple squats over the populace like a Trump casino, where the streets are literally crawling with prophets and heathen helicopters buzz over Old Testament sovereigns, two young poets are about to have their lives turned upside down.

Struggling Jeremiah is worried that he might be wasting his time trying to be a writer; the great critic Broch just beat him over the head with his own computer keyboard. Mattaniah, on the other hand, is a real up-and-comer—but he has a secret he wouldn’t want anyone in the literary world to know: his late father was king of Judah.

Jeremiah begins to despair, and in that despair has a vision: that Jerusalem is doomed, and that Mattaniah will not only be forced to ascend to the throne but will thereafter witness his people slaughtered and exiled. But what does it mean to tell a friend and rival that his future is bleak? What sort of grudges and biases turn true vision into false prophecy? Can the very act of speaking a prediction aloud make it come true? And, if so, does that make you a seer, or just a schmuck?

Dramatizing the eternal dispute between poetry and power, between faith and practicality, between haves and have-nots, Dror Burstein’s Muck is a brilliant and subversive modern-dress retelling of the book of Jeremiah: a comedy with apocalyptic stakes by a star of Israeli fiction.

Dror Burstein was born in 1970 in Netanya, Israel, and lives in Tel Aviv. A novelist, poet, and translator, he is the author of fourteen books, including the novels Kin and Netanya, and has been awarded numerous national prizes.

Gabriel Levin is the author of six collections of poetry, translations, and a collection of essays, The Dune’s Twisted Edge: Journeys in the Levant. He lives in Jerusalem.

PRAISE

“Every page is a pleasure: the humor in the midst of its highly serious subject matter, its rich language, beautifully rendered in this translation. In short, Muck is a literary achievement that will be cherished long into the future.” —James L. Kugel, author of The Bible As It Was and How to Read the Bible
The British in India
A Social History of the Raj

David Gilmour

An immersive portrait of the lives of the British in India, from the seventeenth century to Independence

Who of the British went to India, and why? We know about Kipling and Forster, Orwell and Scott, but what of the youthful forestry official, the enterprising boxwallah, the fervid missionary? What motivated them to travel halfway around the globe, what lives did they lead when they got there, and what did they think about it all?

Full of spirited, illuminating anecdotes drawn from long-forgotten memoirs, correspondence, and government documents, The British in India weaves a rich tapestry of the everyday experiences of the Britons who found themselves in “the jewel in the crown” of the British Empire. David Gilmour captures the substance and texture of their work, home, and social lives, and illustrates how these transformed across the several centuries of British presence and rule in the subcontinent, from the East India Company’s first trading station in 1615 to the twilight of the Raj and Partition and Independence in 1947. He takes us through remote hill stations, bustling coastal ports, opulent palaces, regimented cantonments, and dense jungles, revealing the country as seen through British eyes, and wittily reveling in all the particular concerns and contradictions that were a consequence of that limited perspective. The British in India is a breathtaking accomplishment, a vivid and balanced history written with brio, elegance, and erudition.

David Gilmour is one of Britain’s most admired and accomplished historical writers and biographers. He is the author of prize-winning lives of Lord Curzon, Rudyard Kipling and Giuseppe di Lampedusa. His other books include The Ruling Caste, an acclaimed study of district officers and political agents in Victorian India, and most recently The Pursuit of Italy: A History of a Land, its Regions and their Peoples.

PRAISE

Praise for The Ruling Caste

“Gilmour’s prose is fluent, elegant, and witty . . . The Ruling Caste is a joy to read, and probably the best-written and most thoroughly researched social history of the Victorian British in India.” —William Dalrymple, The New York Review of Books

A vivid, sexy barn burner of a historical crime novel, *The Best Bad Things* introduces readers to the fiery Alma Rosales—detective, smuggler, spy

It is 1887, and Alma Rosales is on the hunt for stolen opium. Trained in espionage by the Pinkerton Detective Agency—but dismissed for bad behavior and a penchant for going undercover as a man—Alma now works for Delphine Beaumond, the seductive mastermind of a West Coast smuggling ring.

When product goes missing at their Washington Territory outpost, Alma is tasked with tracking the thief and recovering the drugs. In disguise as the scrappy dockworker Jack Camp, this should be easy—once she muscles her way into the local organization, wins the trust of the magnetic local boss and his boys, discovers the turncoat, and keeps them all from uncovering her secrets. All this, while sending coded dispatches to the circling Pinkerton agents to keep them from closing in.

Alma’s enjoying her dangerous game of shifting identities and double crosses as she fights for a promotion and an invitation back into Delphine’s bed. But it’s getting harder and harder to keep her cover stories straight and to know whom to trust. One wrong move and she could be unmasked: as a woman, as a traitor, or as a spy.

A propulsive, sensual tour de force, *The Best Bad Things* introduces Katrina Carrasco, a bold new voice in crime fiction.

Katrina Carrasco holds an MFA in fiction from Portland State University, where she received the Tom and Phyllis Burnam Graduate Fiction Scholarship and the Tom Doulis Graduate Fiction Writing Award. Her work has appeared in *Witness* magazine, *Post Road Magazine*, *Quaint Magazine*, and other journals. *The Best Bad Things* is her first novel.

"A brazen, brawny, sexy standout of a historical thrill ride, *The Best Bad Things* is full of unforgettable characters and insatiable appetites. I was riveted. Painstakingly researched and pulsing with adrenaline, Katrina Carrasco’s debut will leave you thirsty for more." —Lyndsay Faye, author of *The Gods of Gotham*

"HOLY SHIT! I nearly chip..."
In *Bringing Down the Colonel*, the journalist Patricia Miller tells the story of Madeline Pollard, an unlikely nineteenth-century women’s rights crusader. After an affair with a prominent politician left her “ruined,” Pollard brought the man—and the hypocrisy of America’s control of women’s sexuality—to trial. And, surprisingly, she won.

Pollard and the married Colonel Breckinridge began their decade-long affair when she was just a teenager. After the death of his wife, Breckinridge asked for Pollard’s hand—and then broke off the engagement to marry another woman. But Pollard struck back, suing Breckinridge for breach of promise in a shockingly public trial. With premarital sex considered irredeemably ruinous for a woman, Pollard was asserting the unthinkable: that the sexual morality of men and women should be judged equally.

Nearly 125 years after the Breckinridge-Pollard scandal, America is still obsessed with women’s sexual morality. And in the age of Donald Trump and Harvey Weinstein, we’ve witnessed fraught public reckonings with a type of sexual exploitation unnervingly similar to that experienced by Pollard. Using newspaper articles, personal journals, previously unpublished autobiographies, and letters, *Bringing Down the Colonel* tells the story of one of the earliest women to publicly fight back.

**Patricia Miller** is a journalist and an editor who has written extensively about the intersection of politics, sex, and religion. Her work has appeared in *The Atlantic*, *Salon*, *The Nation*, *The Huffington Post*, *RH Reality Check*, and *Ms.* magazine. She is a senior correspondent for *Religion Dispatches*, where she writes about the politics of sexuality and the Catholic Church. She was formerly the editor of *Conscience* magazine and the editor in chief of *National Journal*’s daily health-care briefings—including the *Kaiser Daily Reproductive Health Report* and *American Healthline*. She has a master’s in journalism from New York University and is based in Washington, D.C.
The Patch

John McPhee

An “album quilt,” an artful assortment of nonfiction writings by John McPhee that have not previously appeared in any book

The Patch is the seventh collection of essays by the nonfiction master, all published by Farrar, Straus and Giroux. It is divided into two parts. Part 1, “The Sporting Scene,” consists of pieces on fishing, football, golf, and lacrosse—from fly casting for chain pickerel in fall in New Hampshire to walking the linksland of St. Andrews at an Open Championship. Part 2, called “An Album Quilt,” is a montage of fragments of varying length from pieces done across the years that have never appeared in book form—occasional pieces, memorial pieces, reflections, reminiscences, and short items in various magazines including The New Yorker. They range from a visit to the Hershey chocolate factory to encounters with Oscar Hammerstein, Joan Baez, and Mount Denali. Emphatically, the author’s purpose was not merely to preserve things but to choose passages that might entertain contemporary readers. Starting with 250,000 words, he gradually threw out 75 percent of them, and randomly assembled the remaining fragments into “an album quilt.” Among other things, The Patch is a covert memoir.

John McPhee is a staff writer at The New Yorker and the author of thirty-two books. He lives in Princeton, New Jersey.

PRAISE

Praise for Draft No. 4

“A book that any writer, aspiring or accomplished, could profitably read, study and argue with . . . For over half a century, John McPhee—now 86—has been writing profiles of scientists, eccentrics and specialists of every stripe. All are exceptional at what they do. So, too, is their discerning chronicler.”

—Michael ...
Breaking News
The Remaking of Journalism and Why It Matters Now

Alan Rusbridger

An urgent account of the revolution that has upended the news business, written by one of the most accomplished journalists of our time

Technology has radically altered the news landscape. Once-powerful newspapers have lost their clout or been purchased by owners with particular agendas. Algorithms select which stories we see. The Internet allows consequential revelations, closely guarded secrets, and dangerous misinformation to spread at the speed of a click.

In *Breaking News*, Alan Rusbridger demonstrates how these decisive shifts have occurred, and what they mean for the future of democracy. In the twenty years he spent editing *The Guardian*, Rusbridger managed the transformation of the progressive British daily into the most visited serious English-language newspaper site in the world. He oversaw an extraordinary run of world-shaking scoops, including the exposure of phone hacking by London tabloids, the Wikileaks release of U.S. diplomatic cables, and later the revelation of Edward Snowden’s National Security Agency files. At the same time, Rusbridger helped *The Guardian* become a pioneer in Internet journalism, stressing free access and robust interactions with readers. Here, Rusbridger vividly observes the media’s transformation from close range while also offering a vital assessment of the risks and rewards of practicing journalism in a high-impact, high-stress time.

Alan Rusbridger was editor in chief of Guardian News and Media from 1995 to 2015. He is the author of *Play It Again: An Amateur Against the Impossible* and is currently chair of the Reuters Institute for the Study of Journalism and principal of Lady Margaret Hall, Oxford University.
Thom Gunn has been described as “one of the most singular and compelling poets in English during the past half-century” (*Times Literary Supplement*). He was an Elizabethan poet in modern guise, though there’s nothing archaic, quaint, or sepia-toned about his poetry. His method was dispassionate and rigorous, uniquely well suited for making a poetic record of the tumultuous time in which he lived. Gunn’s dozens of brilliantly realized poems about nature, friendship, literature, sexual love, and death are set against the ever-changing backdrop of San Francisco— the druggy, politically charged sixties and the plague years of AIDS in the eighties. Perhaps no contemporary poet was better equipped—by temperament, circumstance, or poetic gift— to engage the subjects of Eros and Thanatos than Gunn. *New Selected Poems*, compiled by his friend Clive Wilmer and accompanied by insightful notes, is the first edition to represent the full arc of Gunn’s inimitable career.

Thom Gunn (1929–2004) was educated at Cambridge University and had his first collection of poems, *Fighting Terms*, published while still an undergraduate. He moved to Northern California in 1954 and taught in American universities until his death. His last collection was *Boss Cupid* (FSG, 2000).

Clive Wilmer is a poet and translator. He lives in Cambridge, England.
The Gilded Auction Block
Poems
Shane McCrae

An incisive new collection of poetry on political and contemporary themes

I’m made of murderers I’m made
Of nobodies and immigrants and the poor

and a whole / Family the mother’s
liver and her lungs

In The Gilded Auction Block, the acclaimed poet Shane McCrae considers the present moment in America on its own terms as well as for what it says about the American project and Americans themselves. In the book’s four sections, McCrae alternately responds directly to Donald Trump and contextualizes him historically and personally, exploding the illusions of freedom of both black and white Americans. A moving, incisive, and frightening exploration of both the legacy and the current state of white supremacy in this country, The Gilded Auction Block is a book about the present that reaches into the past and stretches toward the future.

Shane McCrae is the author of five previous books of poetry: In the Language of My Captor, which was a finalist for the National Book Award, the Los Angeles Times Book Prize, and the William Carlos Williams Award; The Animal Too Big to Kill, winner of the 2014 Lexi Rudnitsky / Editor’s Choice Award; Forgiveness Forgiveness; Blood; and Mule. He is the recipient of a Whiting Writers’ Award and a National Endowment for the Arts Fellowship. He teaches at Columbia University and lives in New York City.
An inspirational collection filled with wisdom accumulated over a long career writing books for children, from the beloved author of Tuck Everlasting.

In this collection of essays and speeches written over the course of four decades, this beloved storyteller explores what it was like to be a “little dog” in the literary world, continually being forced to justify her choice to write books for children—instead of doing something more serious. Filled with incisive commentary on classic children’s books as well as contemporary works, Barking with the Big Dogs offers colorful insight into the creative life of a writer who was a true literary giant of her day.

Includes an introduction by Newbery Medalist Katherine Applegate, photographs, and other illustrations.

Artist and writer Natalie Babbitt (1932–2016) is the award-winning author of the modern classic Tuck Everlasting, The Eyes of the Amaryllis, Kneeknock Rise, and many other brilliantly original books for young people. She began her career in 1966 as the illustrator of The Forty-ninth Magician, written by her husband. When her husband became a college president and no longer had time to collaborate, Babbitt tried her hand at writing. Her first novel, The Search for Delicious, established her gift for writing magical tales with profound meaning. Kneeknock Rise earned her a Newbery Honor Medal, and, in 2002, Tuck Everlasting was adapted into a major motion picture. Natalie Babbitt lived in Hamden, Connecticut.

Tuck Everlasting:

“A fearsome and beautifully written book that can’t be put down or forgotten.”
—The New York Times

"With serious intentions and light touch, the story is, like the Tucks, timeless."
—Chicago Sun-Times

“Babbitt’s great skill is spinning fantasy with the lilt and sense of timeless wisdom of the old fairy tales. . . . It linge...
Destroy All Monsters
The Last Rock Novel

Jeff Jackson

The last rock-and-roll novel: a dark valentine to small-town music scenes everywhere

An epidemic of violence is sweeping the country: musicians are being murdered onstage in the middle of their sets by members of their audience. Are these random copycat killings, or is something more sinister at work? Has music itself become corrupted in a culture where everything is available, everybody is a "creative," and attention spans have dwindled to nothing?

With its cast of ambitious bands, yearning fans, and enigmatic killers, Destroy All Monsters tells a haunted and romantic story of overdue endings and unlikely beginnings that will resonate with anybody who’s ever loved rock and roll.

Like a classic vinyl single, Destroy All Monsters has two sides, which can be read in either order. At the heart of Side A, “My Dark Ages,” is Xenie, a young woman who is repulsed by the violence of the epidemic but who still finds herself drawn deeper into the mystery. Side B, "Kill City," follows an alternate history, featuring familiar characters in surprising roles, and burrows deeper into the methods and motivations of the murderers.

Jeff Jackson is the author of Mira Corpora, a finalist for the Los Angeles Times Book Prize. His short fiction has appeared in Guernica, Vice, and The Collagist, and five of his plays have been produced by the Obie Award–winning Collapsible Giraffe theater company in New York City.

PRAISE

“Jeff Jackson’s new novel surges with new-century anxiety and paranoia as it documents a fraught new state of vulnerability in which maybe everything is coming to an end. In other words, it’s a clear-eyed, stone-cold vision of what’s to come.” —Ben Marcus

“Jeff Jackson is one of contemporary American fiction’s most sterling and gifted new...
Bridget Jones meets *The Exorcist* in this wickedly funny, dark novel about one woman’s post-cancer retreat to a remote Australian town and the horrors awaiting her.

It wasn’t just the bad breakup that turned Eleanor Mellett’s life upside down. It was the cancer. And all the demons that came with it.

One day she felt a bit of a bump when she was scratching her armpit at work. The next thing she knew, her breast was being dissected and removed by an inappropriately attractive doctor, and she was suddenly deluged with cupcakes, judgy support groups, and her mum knitting sweaters.

Luckily, Eleanor discovers Talbingo, a remote little town looking for a primary-school teacher. Their Miss Barker up and vanished in the night, despite being the most caring teacher ever, according to everyone. Unfortunately, Talbingo is a bit creepy. It’s not just the communion-wine-guzzling friar prone to mad rants about how cancer is caused by demons. Or the unstable, overly sensitive kids, always going on about Miss Barker and her amazing sticker system. It’s living alone in a remote cabin, with no cell or Internet service, wondering why there are so many locks on the front door and who is knocking on it late at night.

Riotously funny, deeply unsettling, and surprisingly poignant, Shirley Barrett’s *The Bus on Thursday* is a wickedly weird, wild ride for fans of Helen Fielding, Maria Semple, and Stephen King.

**Shirley Barrett** is an award-winning filmmaker and writer. She is the author of *Rush Oh!* and has written and directed three feature films and worked extensively as a director in television. Barrett was born in Melbourne and lives in Sydney, Australia.

"I don’t know that I’ve read a book before that made me laugh out loud while remaining totally unnerved, but *The Bus on Thursday* does just that. It’s a novel overrun with a rapidly metastasizing host of unreliable outbursts, odd characters and suspicious events. I’d willingly bear witness to any world through sociopathic Eleanor’s eyes." ...
Impossible Owls
Essays
Brian Phillips

A globe-spanning, ambitious book of essays from one of the most enthralling storytellers in narrative nonfiction

In his highly anticipated debut essay collection, Impossible Owls, Brian Phillips demonstrates why he’s one of the most iconoclastic journalists of the digital age, beloved for his ambitious, off-kilter, meticulously reported essays that read like novels.

The eight essays assembled here—five from Phillips’s Grantland and MTV days, and three new pieces—go beyond simply chronicling some of the modern world’s most uncanny, unbelievable, and spectacular oddities (though they do that, too). Researched for months and even years on end, they explore the interconnectedness of the globalized world, the consequences of history, the power of myth, and the ways people attempt to find meaning. He searches for tigers in India, and uncovers a multigenerational mystery involving an oil tycoon and his niece turned stepdaughter turned wife in the Oklahoma town where he grew up. Through each adventure, Phillips’s remarkable voice becomes a character itself—full of verve, rich with offhanded humor, and revealing unexpected vulnerability.

Dogged, self-aware, and radiating a contagious enthusiasm for his subjects, Phillips is an exhilarating guide to the confusion and wonder of the world today. If John Jeremiah Sullivan’s Pulphead was the last great collection of New Journalism from the print era, Impossible Owls is the first of the digital age.


PRAISE

Praise for Impossible Owls

“...There is a section in Impossible Owls where Brian Phillips writes about tigers, and he notes that what's most astonishing about the animal is not its size or power or beauty, but its capacity to disappear. This is an excellent description of a tiger, but also an excellent description of how Phillips writes. Thes...
Hardly Children
Stories

Laura Adamczyk

An eerie debut collection featuring missing parents, unrequited love, and other uncomfortable moments

A man hangs from the ceiling of an art gallery. A woman spells out messages to her sister using her own hair. Children deemed “bad” are stolen from their homes. In Hardly Children, Laura Adamczyk’s rich and eccentric debut collection, familiar worlds—bars, hotel rooms, cities that could very well be our own—hum with uncanny dread.

The characters in Hardly Children are keyed up, on the verge, full of desire. They’re lost, they’re in love with someone they shouldn’t be, they’re denying uncomfortable truths using sex or humor. They are children waking up to the threats of adulthood, and adults living with childlike abandon.

With command, caution, and subtle terror, Adamczyk shapes a world where death and the possibility of loss always emerge. Yet the shape of this loss is never fully revealed. Instead, it looms in the periphery of these stories, like an uncomfortable scene viewed out of the corner of one’s eye.

Laura Adamczyk’s fiction has won awards from the Union League Civic & Arts Foundation of Chicago and has appeared in Hobart, Chicago Reader, PANK, Salt Hill, Vol. 1 Brooklyn, Bellevue Literary Review, Necessary Fiction, and elsewhere. Her story “Girls,” published in Guernica, won the 2014 Dzanc Books / Disquiet International Literary Program Award. She works at The A.V. Club in Chicago.
The Poems of T. S. Eliot: Volume I
Collected and Uncollected Poems

T. S. Eliot; Edited by Christopher Ricks and Jim McCue

A two volume collection of T. S. Eliot's monumental work

This critical edition of T. S. Eliot’s poems establishes a new text of the Collected Poems, 1909–1962, rectifying accidental omissions and errors that have crept in during the century since Eliot’s astonishing debut, “The Love Song of J. Alfred Prufrock.” As well as the masterpieces, The Poems of T. S. Eliot: Volume I contains the poems of his youth, which were rediscovered only decades later; others that circulated privately during his lifetime; and love poems from his final years, written for his wife, Valerie. Christopher Ricks and Jim McCue have provided a commentary that illuminates the imaginative life of each poem.

Calling upon Eliot’s critical writings as well as his drafts, letters, and other original materials, Ricks and McCue illustrate not only the breadth of Eliot’s interests and the range of his writings but how it was that the author of “Gerontion” came to write “Triumphant March” and then Four Quartets. Thanks to the family and friends who recognized Eliot’s genius and preserved his writings from an early age, the archival record is exceptionally complete, enabling us to follow in unique detail the progress of a mind that never ceased exploring.


Jim McCue is the author of Edmund Burke and Our Present Discontents (1997) and
The Poems of T. S. Eliot: Volume II
Practical Cats and Further Verses

T. S. Eliot; Edited by Christopher Ricks and Jim McCue

The collected poems of the renowned modernist poet.

The Poems of T. S. Eliot is the authoritative edition of one of our greatest poets, scrupulously edited by Christopher Ricks and Jim McCue. To accompany Eliot’s poems, Ricks and McCue have provided a commentary that illuminates the creative activity that came to constitute each poem, calling upon drafts, correspondence and other original materials to provide a vivid account of the poet’s working processes, his reading, his influences and his revisions.

This second volume opens with two books of verse: the children’s verse of Old Possum’s Book of Practical Cats and his translation of St. John Perse’s Anabase. This volume then gathers the verses Eliot contributed to the learnedly lighthearted exchanges of Noctes Binianianae and others for intimate friends or written off the cuff. Each of these sections is accompanied by its own commentary. Finally, there is a comprehensive textual history that contains not only variants from all known drafts and the many printings but also extended passages amounting to hundreds of lines of compelling verse.

The Poems of T. S. Eliot is a work of enlightening scholarship that will delight and inform all those who read it.


Sir Christopher Ricks is the William M. and Sara B. Warren Professor of the Humanities at Boston University, having formerly been a professor of English at Bristol and at Cambridge. He is a member of the Association of Literary Scholars, Critics, and Writers, of which he was president (2007–2008).

Jim McCue, a former editor of The Times, is the author of Edmund Burke and Our Present Discontents and the editor of Penguin Classics’ Selected Poems of Arthur Hugh Clough. His imprint, the Foundling Press, began with the first separate publication...
Draft No. 4
On the Writing Process

John McPhee

The long-awaited guide to writing long-form nonfiction by the legendary author and teacher

Draft No. 4 is a master class on the writer’s craft. In a series of playful, expertly wrought essays, John McPhee shares insights he has gathered over his career and has refined while teaching at Princeton University, where he has nurtured some of the most esteemed writers of recent decades. McPhee offers definitive guidance in the decisions regarding arrangement, diction, and tone that shape nonfiction pieces, and he presents extracts from his work, subjecting them to wry scrutiny. In one essay, he considers the delicate art of getting sources to tell you what they might not otherwise reveal. In another, he discusses how to use flashback to place a bear encounter in a travel narrative while observing that “readers are not supposed to notice the structure. It is meant to be about as visible as someone’s bones.” The result is a vivid depiction of the writing process, from reporting to drafting to revising—and revising, and revising.

Draft No. 4 is enriched by multiple diagrams and by personal anecdotes and charming reflections on the life of a writer. McPhee describes his enduring relationships with The New Yorker and Farrar, Straus and Giroux, and recalls his early years at Time magazine. Throughout, Draft No. 4 is enlivened by his keen sense of writing as a way of being in the world.

John McPhee is a staff writer at The New Yorker. He is the author of thirty-two books, all published by FSG. He lives in Princeton, New Jersey.

PRAISE

“A book that any writer, aspiring or accomplished, could profitably read, study and argue with.” —Michael Dirda, The Washington Post

“[Draft No. 4’s] combination of shop talk, war stories, slices of autobiography, and priceless insights and lessons suggests what it must be like to occupy a seat in the McPhee classroom . . . McPhee’s observ...
The Dharma of The Princess Bride
What the Coolest Fairy Tale of Our Time Can Teach Us About Buddhism and Relationships

Ethan Nichtern

“How can I not read this book!” —Mandy Patinkin, a.k.a. Inigo Montoya

Is there any such thing as a ‘relationship expert’? Why do people become friends? What brings us together in the first place? What perils await us on the high seas of dating? In romantic partnership, is boredom a positive or a negative development? How can we be enlightened around our own family—‘the last frontier of awakening’?

Friendship. Romance. Family. These are the three areas The Dharma of “The Princess Bride” dives deeply into as it teaches us to understand and navigate our most important relations from a twenty-first century Buddhist perspective. The indelible characters from the film The Princess Bride, and the memorable challenges they face, become departure points for a spiritual journey that’s serious and playful, nostalgic and cool, and which effortlessly charms its reader into evolving on the path of enlightenment.

Ethan Nichtern is a senior teacher in the Shambala Buddhist tradition and the author of The Road Home: A Contemporary Exploration of the Buddhist Path and One City: A Declaration of Interdependence. He is also the founder of the Interdependence Project, a nonprofit organization dedicated to secular Buddhist study as it applies to transformational activism, mindful arts and media projects, and Western psychology. Nichtern has taught meditation and Buddhist studies classes and retreats across the United States since 2002. He is based in New York City.

PRAISE

“A glorious book: a wise, pragmatic toolkit for creating meaningful relationships with friends, in romance, and with family. Reading it is like a warmhearted friend taking your hand and helping you figure out how to live.” —Sharon Salzberg, author of Real Love

“This powerful book inspired me to start meditating again.” —Duncan Trussell, ho...
Unstoppable
My Life So Far
Maria Sharapova

From the five-time Grand Slam winner Maria Sharapova, the candid, captivating story of her rise to tennis stardom

In the middle of the night, a father and his daughter step off a Greyhound bus in Florida and head straight to the Nick Bollettieri Tennis Academy. They ring the bell, though no one is expecting them and they don’t speak English. The two have arrived from Russia with only seven hundred dollars and the conviction that this six-year-old will be the next tennis star. Amazingly, they are right.

Young Maria Sharapova went on to win Wimbledon at just seventeen years old, in an astonishing upset against the reigning champion Serena Williams—the match that kicked off their legendary rivalry and placed Sharapova on the international stage. At eighteen, she reached the number one WTA ranking for the first time, and has held that ranking many times since. In this gripping autobiography, the five-time Grand Slam winner recounts the story of her phenomenal rise to success, narrated with the same no-holds-barred, fiercely provocative attitude that characterizes her tennis game. Full of thrilling, insightful episodes from her beginnings in Siberia, from career-defining games, and from her recent fight to get back on the court, Unstoppable is an inspiring tale of persistence, pulsing with fearlessness and candor. Sharapova’s is an utterly unforgettable story.

Born in Nyagan, Russia, Maria Sharapova moved to the United States when she was six years old. At seventeen, Sharapova beat Serena Williams to win Wimbledon. She reached the number one world ranking at eighteen, and has held that ranking a number of times since. To date, she has won five Grand Slams. She lives in Manhattan Beach, California.

PRAISE

"Sharapova's book is an illuminating account of, as the subtitle has it, her life so far . . . Sharapova's a careful observer, and Unstoppable is full of astute psychological insights." —Vogue
The Butchering Art
Joseph Lister's Quest to Transform the Grisly World of Victorian Medicine

Lindsey Fitzharris

The gripping story of how Joseph Lister's antiseptic method changed medicine forever

In The Butchering Art, the historian Lindsey Fitzharris reveals the shocking world of nineteenth-century surgery and shows how it was transformed by advances made in germ theory and antiseptics between 1860 and 1875. She conjures up early operating theaters—no place for the squeamish—and surgeons, who, working before anesthesia, were lauded for their speed and brute strength. These pioneers knew that the aftermath of surgery was often more dangerous than patients’ afflictions, and they were baffled by the persistent infections that kept mortality rates stubbornly high. At a time when surgery couldn’t have been more hazardous, an unlikely figure stepped forward: a young, melancholy Quaker surgeon named Joseph Lister, who would solve the riddle and change the course of history.

Fitzharris dramatically reconstructs Lister’s career path to his audacious claim that germs were the source of all infection and could be countered by a sterilizing agent applied to wounds. She introduces us to Lister’s contemporaries—some of them brilliant, some outright criminal—and leads us through the grimy schools and squalid hospitals where they learned their art, the dead houses where they studied, and the cemeteries they ransacked for cadavers.

Eerie and illuminating, The Butchering Art celebrates the triumph of a visionary surgeon whose quest to unite science and medicine delivered us into the modern world.

Lindsey Fitzharris has a PhD in the history of science and medicine from the University of Oxford. She is the creator of the popular website The Chirurgeon's Apprentice, and is the writer and presenter of the YouTube series Under the Knife. She writes for The Guardian, The Huffington Post, The Lancet, and New Scientist. Visit her website at www.drliindseyfitzharris.com, follow her on Twitter at @DrLindseyFitz, and find her on Instagram at @drlindseyfitzharris.

PRAISE

Praise for Lindsey Fitzharris
The Gourmands' Way
Six Americans in Paris and the Birth of a New Gastronomy

Justin Spring

A biography of six writers whose lives and careers intersected in mid-twentieth-century France and whose writing forever changed how we think about food

During les trente glorieuses—a thirty-year boom period in France between the end of World War II and the 1974 oil crisis—Paris was not only the world’s most delicious, stylish, and exciting tourist destination; it was also the world capital of gastronomic genius and innovation. The Gourmands’ Way explores the lives and writings of six Americans who chronicled the food and wine of “the glorious thirty,” paying particular attention to their individual struggles as writers, to their life circumstances, and, ultimately, to their particular genius at sharing awareness of French food with mainstream American readers. In doing so, this group biography also tells the story of an era when America adored all things French. The group is comprised of the war correspondent A. J. Liebling; Alice B. Toklas, Gertrude Stein’s life partner, who reinvented herself at seventy as a cookbook author; M.F.K. Fisher, a sensualist and fabulist storyteller; Julia Child, a television celebrity and cookbook author; Alexis Lichine, an ambitious wine merchant; and Richard Olney, a reclusive artist who reluctantly evolved into a brilliant writer on French food and wine.

Together, these writer-adventurers initiated an American cultural dialogue on food that has continued to this day. Justin Spring’s The Gourmands’ Way is the first book ever to look at them as a group and to specifically chronicle their Paris experiences.

Justin Spring is a writer specializing in twentieth-century American art and culture, and the author of many monographs, catalogs, museum publications, and books, including Secret Historian: The Life and Times of Samuel Steward, Professor, Tattoo Artist, and Sexual Renegade; Fairfield Porter: A Life in Art; and Paul Cadmus: The Male Nude.

PRAISE

Praise for Justin Spring

“The probity and expansive vision of Spring’s work is a reminder that a great, outspread terrain of gay history remains to be mapped . . . One suspects there are many more stories of that time worth telling, and too few treasure-packed attics.” —Mark Harris, The New York Times Book Review

Now in Paperback!

FARRAR, STRAUS AND GIROUX | OCTOBER 2018
Reckless Daughter
A Portrait of Joni Mitchell

David Yaffe

An intimate new biography of Joni Mitchell, one of the greatest musicians of the twentieth century

Joni Mitchell is a cultural touchstone for generations of Americans. In her heyday she released ten experimental, challenging, and revealing albums; her lyrics captivated people with the beauty of their language and the rawness of their emotions, both deeply personal to Mitchell and universally relatable to her audience. In this intimate biography, composed of dozens of in-person interviews with Mitchell, David Yaffe reveals the backstory behind the famous songs—from her youth on the Canadian prairie, her pre-vaccine bout with polio at age nine, and her early marriage and the child she gave up for adoption, up through the quintessential albums and love affairs, and all the way to the present—and shows us why Mitchell has so enthralled her listeners, her lovers, and her friends.

Yaffe has had unprecedented access both to Mitchell and to those who know her, drawing on interviews with childhood friends and the cast of famous characters (Joan Baez, Judy Collins, Leonard Cohen, David Crosby, and more) with whom she has crossed paths and influenced, as well as insightful analyses of her famous lyrics, their imagery and style, and what they say about the woman herself. Reckless Daughter tells the story of Mitchell and also of the fertile, exciting musical time of which she was an integral part, one that had a profound effect that can still be felt today on American music and the industry.

David Yaffe was born in Dallas, Texas, in 1973. He has written on numerous subjects (music, film, theater, dance, higher education) for The Nation, New York, Slate, The New York Times, The New Republic, and other publications. He is currently a professor of English at Syracuse University, and is the author of Fascinating Rhythm: Reading Jazz in American Writing and Bob Dylan: Like a Complete Unknown.

PRAISE

"David Yaffe has crafted a beautiful, heartbreaking, fierce and uncompromising look at one of the greatest artists of the past 50 years... A lush, complex, carefully researched examination... Reckless Daughter will most likely prove to be the best, most comprehensive look at all sides of this powerful and still meaningful, still inf..."
How the United States underdeveloped Appalachia

Appalachia—among the most storied and yet least understood regions in America—has long been associated with poverty and backwardness. But how did this image arise and what exactly does it mean? In *Ramp Hollow*, Steven Stoll launches an original investigation into the history of Appalachia and its place in U.S. history, with a special emphasis on how generations of its inhabitants lived, worked, survived, and depended on natural resources held in common.

*Ramp Hollow* traces the rise of the Appalachian homestead and how its self-sufficiency resisted dependence on money and the industrial society arising elsewhere in the United States—until, beginning in the nineteenth century, extractive industries kicked off a “scramble for Appalachia” that left struggling homesteaders dispossessed of their land. As the men disappeared into coal mines and timber camps, and their families moved into shantytowns or deeper into the mountains, the commons of Appalachia were, in effect, enclosed, and the fate of the region was sealed.

*Ramp Hollow* takes a provocative look at Appalachia, and the workings of dispossession around the world, by upending our notions about progress and development. Stoll ranges widely from literature to history to economics in order to expose a devastating process whose repercussions we still feel today.

Steven Stoll is a professor of history at Fordham University and the author of *The Great Delusion* (Hill and Wang, 2008) and *Larding the Lean Earth* (Hill and Wang, 2002). His writing has appeared in *Harper’s Magazine, Lapham’s Quarterly*, and the *New Haven Review*.

PRAISE

“A deep and moving chronicle of dispossession. Steven Stoll’s book manages, like no other account I have seen, to combine a subtle understanding of Appalachian subsistence practices with a global understanding of the importance of the commons. Erudite, conceptually powerful, and deeply sympathetic. Winstanley’s rage against the theft of t..."
The Wine Lover's Daughter
A Memoir

Anne Fadiman

A new memoir by the celebrated essayist that explores her relationship with her father, a lover of wine

In The Wine Lover's Daughter, Anne Fadiman examines—with all her characteristic wit and feeling—her relationship with her father, Clifton Fadiman, a renowned literary critic, editor, and radio host whose greatest love was wine.

An appreciation of wine—along with a plummy upper-crust accent, expensive suits, and an encyclopedic knowledge of Western literature—was an essential element of Clifton Fadiman’s escape from lower-middle-class Brooklyn to swanky Manhattan. But wine was not just a class-vaulting accessory; it was an object of desire. The Wine Lover’s Daughter traces the arc of a man’s infatuation, from the glass of cheap Graves he drank in Paris in 1927; through the Château Lafite Rothschild 1904 he drank to celebrate his eightieth birthday, when he and the bottle were exactly the same age; to the wines that sustained him in his last years, when he was blind but still buoyed, as always, by hedonism.

Wine is the spine of this touching memoir; the life and character of Fadiman’s father, along with her relationship with him and her own less ardent relationship with wine, are the flesh. The Wine Lover’s Daughter is a poignant exploration of love, ambition, class, family, and the pleasures of the palate by one of our finest essayists.

Anne Fadiman is the author of The Spirit Catches You and You Fall Down (FSG, 1997), winner of the National Book Critics Circle Award, the Los Angeles Times Book Prize, and the Salon Book Award. She is also the author of two essay collections, At Large and At Small and Ex Libris, and the editor of Rereadings: Seventeen Writers Revisit Books They Love (all published by FSG). Her essays and articles have appeared in Harper’s Magazine, The New Yorker, and The New York Times, among other publications. She is the Francis Writer-in-Residence at Yale.

"A wonderfully engaging memoir . . . Consistently absorbing . . . You will be hard-pressed to stop reading . . . Anne Fadiman’s prose, like a proper gentleman’s suit, is beautifully tailored without drawing attention to itself."—Michael Dirda, The Washington Post
Everything Under
A Novel

Daisy Johnson

An eerie, watery reimagining of the Oedipus myth set on the canals of Oxford, from the author of Fen

The dictionary doesn’t contain every word. Gretel, a lexicographer by trade, knows this better than most. She grew up on a houseboat with her mother, wandering the canals of Oxford and speaking a private language of their own invention. Her mother disappeared when Gretel was a teen, abandoning her to foster care, and Gretel has tried to move on, spending her days updating dictionary entries.

One phone call from her mother is all it takes for the past to come rushing back. To find her, Gretel will have to recover buried memories of her final, fateful winter on the canals. A runaway boy had found community and shelter with them, and all three were haunted by their past and stalked by an ominous creature lurking in the canal: the bonak. Everything and nothing at once, the bonak was Gretel’s name for the thing she feared most. And now that she’s searching for her mother, she’ll have to face it.

In this electrifying reinterpretation of a classical myth, Daisy Johnson explores questions of fate and free will, gender fluidity, and fractured family relationships. Everything Under—a debut novel whose surreal, watery landscape will resonate with fans of Fen—is a daring, moving story that will leave you unsettled and unstrung.

Daisy Johnson is the author of the short-story collection Fen. She is the winner of the Harper's Bazaar Short Story Prize, the A. M. Heath Prize, and the Edge Hill Short Story Prize. She lives in Oxford, England, by the river.

PRAISE

Praise for Fen

"Dazzling . . . One hell of an experience." —NPR.org

"Fen blew my mind. Daisy Johnson is a new goddamn swaggering monster of fiction." —Lauren Groff

"Johnson has a marshy imagination and wind-whipped prose. . . . The privations of rural teenage existence yield wild and elemental bewitchments.” —Hermione Hoby, The New York Tim...
She Would Be King
A Novel

Wayétu Moore

A novel of exhilarating range, magical realism, and history—a dazzling retelling of Liberia's formation

Wayétu Moore’s powerful debut novel, *She Would Be King*, reimagines the dramatic story of Liberia’s early years through three unforgettable characters who share an uncommon bond. Gbessa, exiled from the West African village of Lai, is starved, bitten by a viper, and left for dead, but still she survives. June Dey, raised on a plantation in Virginia, hides his unusual strength until a confrontation with the overseer forces him to flee. Norman Aragon, the child of a white British colonizer and a Maroon slave from Jamaica, could fade from sight, at will, just as his mother could. When the three meet in the settlement of Monrovia, their gifts help them salvage the tense relationship between the African American settlers and the indigenous tribes, as a new nation forms around them.

Moore’s intermingling of history and magical realism finds voice not just in these three characters but also in the fleeting spirit of the wind, who embodies an ancient wisdom. “If she was not a woman,” the wind says of Gbessa, “she would be king.” In this vibrant story of the African diaspora, Moore, a talented storyteller and a daring writer, illuminates with radiant and exacting prose the tumultuous roots of a country inextricably bound to the United States. *She Would Be King* is a novel of profound depth set against a vast canvas and a transcendent debut from a major new author.

*Wayétu Moore* is the founder of One Moore Book and is a graduate of Howard University, Columbia University, and the University of Southern California. She teaches at the City University of New York’s John Jay College and lives in Brooklyn.

**PRAISE**

"This magical retelling of Liberia’s beginning is so original, so bold and poetic, Wayétu Moore is destined for comparisons to Yann Martel, Markus Zusak, and Paulo Coelho."—Susan Henderson, author of *The Flicker of Old Dreams*

"Wayétu Moore has written a powerful novel which sheds light on the struggles of a people to cast off the yoke of s..."
A haunting, evocative tale about the power of storytelling

A brutal civil war has ravaged the country, and contagious fevers have decimated the population. Abandoned farmhouses litter the isolated mountain valleys and shady hollows. The economy has been reduced to barter and trade.

In this craggy, unwelcoming world, the central character of Scribe ekes out a lonely living on the family farmstead where she was raised and where her sister met an untimely end. She lets a migrant group known as the Uninvited set up temporary camps on her land, and maintains an uneasy peace with her cagey neighbors and the local enforcer. She has learned how to make paper and ink, and she has become known for her letter-writing skills, which she exchanges for tobacco, firewood, and other scarce resources. An unusual request for a letter from a man with hidden motivations unleashes the ghosts of her troubled past and sets off a series of increasingly calamitous events that culminate in a harrowing journey to a crossroads.

Drawing on traditional folktales and the history and culture of Appalachia, Alyson Hagy has crafted a gripping, swiftly plotted novel that touches on pressing issues of our time—migration, pandemic disease, the rise of authoritarianism—and makes a compelling case for the power of stories to both show us the world and transform it.

Alyson Hagy was raised on a farm in the Blue Ridge Mountains of Virginia. She is the author of seven previous works of fiction, most recently Boleto. She lives in Laramie, Wyoming.

PRAISE

Praise for Boleto

"In her gift for the language of horses, as in the beauty of her prose, Hagy will inevitably recall Annie Proulx, Kent Haruf, and Cormac McCarthy. But she is writing as much about wealth and class, about work and privilege, as about horses and the Western landscape."—The Washington Post

"[The] reader who takes time to sav...
American Journal
Fifty Poems for Our Time

Tracy K. Smith

A landmark anthology envisioned by Tracy K. Smith, Poet Laureate of the United States

*American Journal* presents fifty contemporary poems that explore and celebrate our country and our lives. Poet Laureate of the United States and Pulitzer Prize winner Tracy K. Smith has gathered a remarkable chorus of voices that ring up and down the registers of American poetry. In the elegant arrangement of this anthology, we hear stories from rural communities and urban centers, laments of loss in war and in grief, experiences of immigrants, outcries at injustices, and poems that honor elders, evoke history, and praise our efforts to see and understand one another. Taking its title from a poem by Robert Hayden, the first African American appointed as Consultant in Poetry to the Library of Congress, *American Journal* investigates our time with curiosity, wonder, and compassion.

Among the fifty poets included are: Jericho Brown, Natalie Diaz, Matthew Dickman, Mark Doty, Ross Gay, Aracelis Girmay, Joy Harjo, Terrance Hayes, Cathy Park Hong, Marie Howe, Major Jackson, Ilya Kaminsky, Robin Coste Lewis, Ada Limón, Layli Long Soldier, Erika L. Sánchez, Solmaz Sharif, Danez Smith, Susan Stewart, Mary Szybist, Natasha Trethewey, Brian Turner, Charles Wright, and Kevin Young.

Tracy K. Smith is the author of four poetry collections, including *Wade in the Water* and *Life on Mars*, winner of the Pulitzer Prize. In 2017, she was appointed Poet Laureate of the United States. She teaches at Princeton University.

PRAISE

"These fifty poems bear witness to what it means to come from and belong to this remarkably vast and varied nation. In these lines, I am reminded that no matter who we are, we have something urgent and life-changing to offer one another. *American Journal* is an invitation to listen and to feel." —Tracy K. Smith
American Journal
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PRAISE

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Daring and original stories set in New Testament times, from a rising young Norwegian author

Lars Petter Sveen’s *Children of God* recounts the lives of people on the margins of the New Testament; thieves, Roman soldiers, prostitutes, lepers, healers, and the occasional disciple all get a chance to speak. With language free of judgment or moralizing, Sveen covers familiar ground in unusual ways. In the opening story, a group of soldiers are tasked with carrying out King Herod’s edict to slaughter the young male children in Bethlehem but waver in their resolve. These interwoven stories harbor surprises at every turn, as the characters reappear. A group of thieves on the road to Jericho encounters no good Samaritan but themselves. A boy healed of his stutter will later regress. A woman searching for her lover from beyond the grave cannot find solace. At crucial moments an old blind man appears, urging the characters to give in to their darker impulses.

*Children of God* was a bestseller in Norway, where it won the Per Olov Enquist Literary Prize and gathered ecstatic reviews. Sveen’s subtle elevation of the conflict between light and dark focuses on the varied struggles these often-ignored individuals face. Yet despite the dark tone, Sveen’s stories retain a buoyancy, thanks to Guy Puzey’s supple and fleet-footed translation. This deeply original and moving book, in Sveen’s restrained and gritty telling, brings to light stories that reflect our own time, from a setting everyone knows.

**Lars Petter Sveen** was named one of Norway’s ten best authors under thirty-five by *Morgenbladet*, and has received Tarjei Vesaas’ Debutant Prize and the Per Olov Enquist Literary Prize. *Children of God* is his first book to be translated into English.

**PRAISE**

“A visionary novel without a single bad sentence.” — *Aftenposten*

“A major literary achievement . . . Convincing and emotionally strong because it so strongly reflects our time.” — *Dagsavisen*

“*Children of God* is in every way a well-deserved breakthrough for a young author whose work is mature, original and bold.” — Per Olov Enquist Literary Pri
We Begin in Gladness
How Poets Progress
Craig Morgan Teicher

One of our most perceptive critics on the ways that poets develop poems, a career, and a life

Though it seems, at first, like an art of speaking, poetry is an art of listening. The poet trains to hear clearly and, as much as possible, without interruption, the voice of the mind, the voice that gathers, packs with meaning, and unpacks the language the poet knows. It can take a long time to learn to let this voice speak without getting in its way. This slow learning, the growth of this habit of inner attentiveness, is poetic development, and it is the substance of the poet’s art. Of course, this growth is rarely steady, never linear, and is sometimes not actually growth but diminishment—that’s all part of the compelling story of a poet’s way forward.

—from the Introduction

“The staggering thing about a life’s work is it takes a lifetime to complete,” Craig Morgan Teicher writes in these luminous essays. We Begin in Gladness considers how poets start out, how they learn to hear themselves, and how some offer us that rare, glittering thing: lasting work. Teicher traces the poetic development of the works of Sylvia Plath, John Ashbery, Louise Glück, and Francine J. Harris, among others, to illuminate the paths they forged—by dramatic breakthroughs or by slow increments, and always by perseverance. We Begin in Gladness is indispensable for readers curious about the artistic life and for writers wondering how they might light out—or even scale the peak of the mountain.

Craig Morgan Teicher is an acclaimed poet and critic. He is the author of three books of poetry, including The Trembling Answers, and regularly writes reviews for the Los Angeles Times, NPR, and The New York Times Book Review. He lives in New Jersey.

PRAISE

"Horace asked poets to delight and instruct, and this collection of thoughtful, readable essays by a very attentive poet and critic does both. . . . Teicher does the right thing for poets (like Brenda Hillman and Lucille Clifton) not rodinarily read together, and that skill makes him an exemplary guide. . . . We Begin in Gladness is very ...
Catherine Barnett’s tragicomic third collection, *Human Hours*, shuttles between a Whitmanian embrace of others and a kind of rapacious solitude. Barnett speaks from the middle of hope and confusion, carrying philosophy into the everyday. Watching a son become a young man, a father become a restless beloved shell, and a country betray its democratic ideals, the speakers try to make sense of such departures. Four lyric essays investigate the essential urge and appeal of questions that are “accursed,” that are limited—and unanswered—by answers. What are we to do with the endangered human hours that remain to us? Across the leaps and swerves of this collection, the fevered mind tries to slow—or at least measure—time with quiet bravura: by counting a lover’s breaths; by remembering a father’s space-age watch; by envisioning the apocalyptic future while bedding down on a hard, cold floor, head resting on a dictionary. *Human Hours* pulses with the absurd, with humor that accompanies the precariousness of the human condition.

*Catherine Barnett* is the author of *Into Perfect Spheres Such Holes Are Pierced* and *The Game of Boxes*. She has received a Whiting Award and a Guggenheim Fellowship. She lives in New York City.

"*Human Hours*, in its restless questioning, performs the drama of desire inside a world where hours accumulate towards loss. . . . What remains is a brilliant (at times very funny) phenomenological exploration of that which marks our capacious possibilities."—Claudia Rankine
Situated in the outreaches of southwest Texas, the town of Marfa has long been an oasis for artists, immigrants looking for work, and ranchers, while the ghosts of the indigenous and the borders between languages and nations are apparent everywhere. The poet and translator Jeffrey Yang experienced the vastness of desert, township, sky, and time itself as a profound clash of dislocation and familiarity. What does it mean to survive in a physical and metaphorical desert? How does a habitat long associated with wilderness and death become a center for nourishment and art?

Yang has fashioned a fascinating, multifaceted work—an anti-travel guide, an anti-Western, a book of last words—that is a lyrical, anthropological investigation into history, culture, and extremity of place. Paintings and drawings of Marfa's landscapes and substations by the artist Rackstraw Downes intertwine with Yang's texts as mutual nodes and lines of energy. *Hey, Marfa* is a desert diary scaled to music that aspires to emit particles of light.

**Jeffrey Yang** is the author of two previous poetry books, *Vanishing-Line* and *An Aquarium*, winner of the PEN/Joyce Osterweil Award. He is the translator of the Nobel Peace Prize recipient Liu Xiaobo's *June Fourth Elegies*. Yang lives in Beacon, New York.

**PRAISE**

"Jeffrey Yang's collaboration with Rackstraw Downes (painter here of substations—substations transform voltage) is a commonplace book, memoir, and hybrid obituary for things. . . . *Hey, Marfa* transmits voltage or vialized matter as words reach to words."—Susan Howe
Half-Hazard
Poems

Kristen Tracy

Half-Hazard is a book of near misses, would-be tragedies, and luck. As Kristen Tracy writes in the title poem, “Dangers here. Perils there. It’ll go how it goes.” The collection follows her wide curiosity, from growing up in a small Mormon farming community to her exodus into the forbidden world, where she finds snakes, car accidents, adulterers, meteors, and death-marked mice. These wry, observant narratives are accompanied by a ringing lyricism, and Tracy’s knack for noticing what’s so funny about trouble and her natural impulse to want to put all the broken things back together. Full of wrong turns, false loves, quashed beliefs, and a menagerie of animals, Half-Hazard introduces a vibrant new voice in American poetry, one of resilience, faith, and joy.

Kristen Tracy is a poet and the acclaimed author of more than a dozen novels for young readers. Her poems have been published in Poetry, Prairie Schooner, and The Threepenny Review, among other magazines. She lives in Los Angeles with her husband and son.

PRAISE

"What animal grace in these poems of the human stumble and dance on the road to becoming human. . . . This first collection of poetry by Kristen Tracy is a keeper."—Joy Harjo

"Kristen Tracy's dazzling Half-Hazard . . . poem after authentic poem [is] as thrilling a read as I've had in a long time. Here is an unmistakable talent.”
—Stephen Du...
Bunk
The Rise of Hoaxes, Humbug, Plagiarists, Phonies, Post-Facts, and Fake News

Kevin Young

Has the hoax now moved from the sideshow to take the center stage of American culture?

Award-winning poet and critic Kevin Young traces the history of the hoax as a peculiarly American phenomenon—the legacy of P. T. Barnum’s “humbug” culminating with the currency of Donald J. Trump’s “fake news.” Young then turns to the hoaxing of history and the ways that forgers, plagiarists, and frauds invent backstories and falsehoods to sell us lies about themselves and about the world in our own time, from pretend Native Americans Grey Owl and Nasdijj to the deadly imposture of Clark Rockefeller, from the made-up memoirs of James Frey to the identity theft of Rachel Dolezal. Disturbingly, Young finds that fakery is woven from stereotype and suspicion, with race being the most insidious American hoax of all. Brilliant and timely, Bunk asks what it means to live in a post-factual world of “truthiness” where everything is up for interpretation and everyone is subject to a contagious cynicism that damages our ideas of reality, fact, and art.

Kevin Young is the author of a previous book of nonfiction, The Grey Album: On the Blackness of Blackness, which won the PEN Open Book Award, was recognized as a New York Times Notable Book, and was named a finalist for the National Book Critics Circle Award for criticism. He is also the author of eleven books of poetry, including Brown; Blue Laws: Selected & Uncollected Poems 1995-2015; and Jelly Roll: A Blues, which was a finalist for the National Book Award. He is the director of the Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture and poetry editor for the New Yorker.

PRAISE

“There Kevin Young goes again, giving us books we greatly need, cleverly disguised as books we merely want. Unexpectedly essential.” —Marlon James
Notes from No Man's Land
American Essays
Eula Biss

A reissue of Eula Biss's groundbreaking essay collection, winner of the National Book Critics Circle Award

Acclaimed for its frank and fascinating investigation of racial identity, and reissued on its ten-year anniversary, Notes from No Man's Land begins with a series of lynchings, ends with a list of apologies, and in an unsettling new coda revisits a litany of murders that no one seems capable of solving. Eula Biss explores race in America through the experiences chronicled in these essays—teaching in a Harlem school on the morning of 9/11, reporting from an African American newspaper in San Diego, watching the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina from a college town in Iowa, and rereading Laura Ingalls Wilder in the Rogers Park neighborhood of Chicago. What she reveals is how families, schools, communities, and our country participate in preserving white privilege. Notes from No Man's Land is an essential portrait of America that established Biss as one of the most distinctive and inventive essayists of our time.


PRAISE

"Biss is telling us the story of our country—one we never saw coming."
—Chicago Tribune

"Notes from No Man's Land is a beautiful exercise in consciousness; in bringing both intelligence and experience to bear on a subject that has implications for the way one behaves in the world." —Los Angeles Times
In an unnamed city, middle sister stands out for the wrong reasons. She reads while walking, for one. And she has been taking French night classes downtown. So when a local paramilitary named Milkman begins pursuing her, she suddenly becomes “interesting,” the last thing she ever wanted to be. Despite middle sister’s attempts to avoid him—and to keep her mother from finding out about her maybe-boyfriend—rumors spread and the threat of violence lingers. *Milkman* is a story of the way inaction can have enormous repercussions, in a time when the wrong flag, wrong religion, or even a sunset can be subversive. Told with ferocious energy and sly, wicked humor, *Milkman* establishes Anna Burns as one of the most consequential voices of our day.

Anna Burns was born in Belfast, Northern Ireland. She is the author of two novels, *No Bones* and *Little Constructions*, and of the novella, *Mostly Hero*. *No Bones* won the Winifred Holtby Memorial Prize and was shortlisted for the Orange Prize for Fiction. She lives in East Sussex, England.

"Eccentric and oddly beguiling . . . What makes it memorable is the funny, alienated, common-sensical voice of middle sister, who refuses to join in the madness." —The *Sunday Times* (UK)

"*Milkman* is delivered in a breathless, hectic, glorious torrent . . . It’s an astute, exquisite account of Northern Ireland’s social landscape . . . A pote...
Twenty years in the making, this sweeping masterpiece charts Berlin through the rise of Nazism

During the past two decades, Jason Lutes has quietly created one of the masterworks of the graphic novel golden age. Serialized in twenty-two issues, collected in two volumes, with a third to be released at the same time as this omnibus, Berlin has more than 100,000 copies in print and is one of the high-water marks of the medium: rich in its well-researched historical detail, compassionate in its character studies, and as timely as ever in its depiction of a society slowly awakening to the stranglehold of fascism.

Berlin is an intricate look at the fall of the Weimar Republic through the eyes of its citizens—Marthe Müller, a young woman escaping the memory of a brother killed in World War I, Kurt Severing, an idealistic journalist losing faith in the printed word as fascism and extremism take hold; the Brauns, a family torn apart by poverty and politics. Lutes weaves these characters’ lives into the larger fabric of a city slowly ripping apart.

The city itself is the central protagonist in this historical fiction. Lavish salons, crumbling sidewalks, dusty attics, and train stations: all these places come alive in Lutes’ masterful hand. Weimar Berlin was the world’s metropolis, where intellectualism, creativity, and sensuous liberal values thrived, and Lutes maps its tragic, inevitable decline. Devastatingly relevant and beautifully told, Berlin is one of the great epics of the comics medium.

Jason Lutes was born in New Jersey in 1967 and grew up reading American superhero and Western comics. In the late 1970s he discovered Heavy Metal magazine and the tabletop role-playing game Dungeons & Dragons, both of which proved major influences on his creative development. Lutes graduated from the Rhode Island School of Design with a BFA in illustration, and in 1993 he began drawing a weekly comics page called Jar of Fools for Seattle’s The Stranger. Lutes lives in Vermont with his partner and two children, where he teaches comics at the Center for Cartoon Studies.

PRAISE

"With its rich sense of time and place, nuanced portrayal of individual destinies, precisely rendered imagery, and poetic expression of themes, Jason Lutes’s Berlin is truly a masterful narrative."—Amor Towles, A Gentleman in Moscow

“A watershed achievement—Berlin charted new territory for the graphic novel and comics at the same time, at ..."
Berlin Book Three
City of Light
Jason Lutes

The thrilling conclusion to a masterful graphic novel trilogy that follows Berlin citizens as Nazism rises

The third and final act of Jason Lutes’s historical fiction about the Weimar Republic begins with Hitler arriving in Berlin. With the National Socialist party now controlling Parliament, the citizenry becomes even more divided.

Lutes steps back from the larger political upheaval, using the intertwining lives of a small group of Germans to zero in on the rise of fascism and how swiftly it can replace democracy. The idle rich, the naïve bourgeoisie, and the struggling lower classes: all seek meaning in the warring political factions dividing their nation. He especially focuses on the Brauns—a working-class family torn apart by a political system that doesn’t care about them. Lovers couple and uncouple; families and friends share rituals and laughter; most of Berlin’s citizens go about their day with little sense of the larger threat to their existence. Meanwhile, the journalist Kurt Severing and the artist Marthe Muller watch in horror as their society begins a dizzying descent into extremism.

Lutes’ Berlin Book Three: City of Light is one of the most anticipated graphic novels of 2018, and the long-awaited conclusion to his beloved trilogy.

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PRAISE

"Jason Lutes’s [Berlin] offer[s] a history of the city in a way that’s accessible and yet mind-opening." —NPR

"What began as an esoteric obsession, a fictional journey into the annals of history, suddenly seems timely . . . Berlin looks back at the past, but its characters look forward, toward the future." —Literary Hub
Dirty Plotte
The Complete Julie Doucet

Julie Doucet

An enduring collection of revolutionary comics from a genre-transforming and critically acclaimed cartoonist

Julie Doucet arrived in comics in the 1990s as a fully formed cartoonist. Her comic book series *Dirty Plotte* was visionary both for the medium and for storytelling. Her stories are candid, funny and intimate, plumbing the depths of the female psyche while charting the fragility of the men around her. Her artwork is dense and confident, never wavering in the wit and humour of its owner. Doucet was active in comics for fifteen years before she moved on to other mediums. Her influence casts a long shadow over the medium, *Dirty Plotte* is quite simply one of the most iconic comic book series to have ever been created.

*Dirty Plotte: The Complete Julie Doucet* collects the entire comic book series, including the acclaimed *My New York Diary*, as well as rare comics and previously unpublished material; a reproduction of the first *Dirty Plotte* mini comic; essays about her comics legacy and feminist influence by curator Dan Nadel and academic Martine Delvaux respectively; an interview by comics scholar Christian Gasser; and personal anecdotes from Jami Attenberg, Adrian Tomine, and more.

Doucet uses the covers of this two-book box set to present an all-new comic that explores her complicated relationship with femininity and the importance of her relationships with female readers. Astonishingly honest, brutal, and funny, *Dirty Plotte* is a revelatory journey into a legendary cartoonist’s oeuvre.

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

**PRAISE**

"While stretching the boundaries of what a ‘comic book’ can be, Doucet makes work that functions as a warm blanket in a cold, cold world.”
—Kathleen Hanna
Coyote Doggirl

Lisa Hanawalt

A raucous and fierce Western by the BoJack Horseman producer/production designer and award-winning cartoonist

Coyote is a dreamer and a drama queen, brazen and brave, faithful yet fiercely independent. She beats her own drum and sews her own crop tops. A gifted equestrian, she’s half dog, half coyote, and all power. With the help of her trusty steed, Red, there’s not much that’s too big for her to bite off, chew up, and spit out right into your face, if you deserve it. But when Coyote and Red find themselves on the run from a trio of vengeful bad dogs, get clobbered by arrows, and are tragically separated, our protagonist is left fighting for her life and longing for her displaced best friend. Taken in by a wolf clan, Coyote may be wounded, but it’s not long before she’s back on the open road to track down Red and tackle the dogs who wronged her.

An homage to and a lampoon of Westerns like Butch Cassidy and the Sundance Kid, Lisa Hanawalt’s Coyote Doggirl is a self-aware, playful subversion of tropes. As our fallible hero attempts to understand the culture of the wolves, we see a journey in understanding and misunderstanding, adopting and co-opting. Uncomfortable at times but nonetheless rewarding and empowering, the story of these flawed, anthropomorphized characters is nothing if not relentlessly hilarious and heartbreakingly human. Told in Hanawalt’s technicolor absurdist style, Coyote Doggirl is not just a send-up of the Western genre but a deeply personal story told by an enormously talented cartoonist.

Lisa Hanawalt is the producer and production designer of the Netflix original series BoJack Horseman. She has worked on illustrations, book covers, animations, comics, murals, and textile patterns, and exhibits her work in galleries. Her quarterly food column for Lucky Peach won her a James Beard Award for humor. She cohosts the podcast Baby Geniuses with the comedian Emily Heller. Hanawalt’s first collection with Drawn & Quarterly was the critically acclaimed My Dirty Dumb Eyes. Her second book with D+Q, Hot Dog Taste Test, won her the Ignatz Award and appeared on best-of-the-year lists from The Washington Post, The Guardian, NPR, and elsewhere.

PRAISE

"Lisa’s work is a reminder of the limitless boundaries of one’s imagination. She somehow creates fantastical worlds within our own, commenting on some of our most timely issues while exploring our most minute absurdities. I could spend all day inside this heartfelt, beautiful, twisted take on a classic Western."—Abbi Jacobson, co-creator...
Woman World

Aminder Dhaliwal

The hilarious and wildly popular Instagram comic about a world with no men

With her startling humor, it’s no surprise that Aminder Dhaliwal’s web comic *Woman World* has a devoted audience of more than 120,000 readers, updated biweekly with each installment earning an average of 25,000 likes. Now, readers everywhere will delight in the print edition as Dhaliwal seamlessly incorporates feminist philosophical concerns into a series of perfectly-paced strips that skewer perceived notions of femininity and contemporary cultural icons. D+Q’s edition of *Woman World* will include new and previously unpublished material.

When a birth defect wipes out the planet’s entire population of men, *Woman World* rises out of society’s ashes. Dhaliwal’s infectiously funny Instagram comic follows the rebuilding process, tracking a group of women who have rallied together under the flag of “Beyonce’s Thighs.” Only Grandma remembers the distant past, a civilization of segway-riding mall cops, Blockbusters movie rental shops, and “That’s What She Said” jokes. For the most part, *Woman World*’s residents are focused on their struggles with unrequited love and anxiety, not to mention that whole “survival of humanity” thing.

*Woman World* is an uproarious and insightful graphic novel from a very talented and funny new voice.

Aminder Dhaliwal is a native of Brampton, Ontario and received a Bachelors of Animation from Sheridan College. She now lives in Los Angeles, where she is the Director at Disney TV Animation. Previously, she worked as a Storyboard Director at Cartoon Network and Storyboard Director on the Nickelodeon show *Sanjay and Craig*. She has serialized *Woman World* biweekly on Instagram since March 2017 and has garnered more than 120,000 followers. *Woman World* was nominated for an Ignatz Award for Outstanding Online Comic.

PRAISE

“*Woman World* is an overdue, welcome and slyly hilarious glimpse into the complex, heartfelt, and existential bonds between women of all stripes and makes. Each scene reminded me of the wild paradox of wanting to do good in the world, but also being undeniably human. I couldn’t get enough.”

— Aparna Nancherla

“Turns out a world without men is...
Pyongyang
A Journey in North Korea

Guy Delisle; Translated from the French by Helge Dascher

The perennial graphic novel about a “hermit country,” with a new cover and an introduction by Gore Verbinski

Guy Delisle’s *Pyongyang: A Journey in North Korea* is the graphic novel that made his career, an international bestseller for more than ten years. Delisle became one of the few Westerners to be allowed access to the fortress-like country when he was working in animation for a French company.

While living in the nation’s capital for two months on a work visa, Delisle observed everything he was allowed to see of the culture and lives of the few North Koreans he encountered, bringing a sardonic and skeptical perspective on a place rife with propaganda. As a guide to the country, Delisle is a non-believer with a keen eye for the humor and tragedy of dictatorial whims, expressed in looming architecture and tiny, omnipresent photos of the president. The absurd vagaries of everyday life become fodder for a frustrated animator’s musings as boredom and censorship sink in. Delisle himself is the ideal foil for North Korean spin, the grumpy outsider who brought a copy of George Orwell’s *1984* with him into the totalitarian nation.

*Pyongyang* is an informative, personal, and accessible look at a dangerous and enigmatic country.

The award-winning cartoonist Guy Delisle is the author of the bestselling travelogues *Shenzhen, Pyongyang, Burma Chronicles*, and *Jerusalem: Chronicles from the Holy City*, for which he won the Fauve d’Or at the Angoulême International Comics Festival. His most recent book is *Hostage*, which details the kidnapping of a Doctors Without Borders employee and appeared on best-of-the-year lists from *The Washington Post*, NPR, *Globe and Mail*, *Quill & Quire*, and more. Born in Québec in 1966, Delisle now lives in the south of France with his wife and two children.

PRAISE

“Delisle chronicles the surreal nature of this hidden city filled with NGO workers, diplomats and a total absence of, say, dissidents and disabled people.” —Rolling Stone

“A rare first-hand look at life inside North Korea.” —*The New York Review of Books*

“Pyongyang [is] a quick read. Yet it repays careful scrutiny.” —*The Guardian*
Bad Friends
Ancco; Translated from the Korean by Janet Hong

A story of the enduring quality of female friendship amid a gritty landscape of abuse

Jinju is bad. She smokes, drinks, runs away from home, and has no qualms about making her parents worry. Her mother and sister beg her to be a better student, sister, daughter; her beleaguered father expresses his concerns with his fists. *Bad Friends* is set in the 1990s in a South Korea torn between tradition and Western modernity and haunted by an air of generalized gloom. Cycles of abuse abound as the characters enact violence within their power structures: parents beat children, teachers beat students, older students beat younger students. But at each moment that the duress verges on bleakness, Ancco pulls back with soft moments of friendship between Jinju and her best friend, Jung-ae. What unfolds is a story of female friendship, a Ferrante-esque connection formed through youthful excess, malaise, and struggle that stays with the young women into adulthood.

Served by a dry and precise line, *Bad Friends* viscerally captures the adolescent years of two young women who want and know they deserve something different but, ultimately, are unable to follow through. In a culture where young women are at a systemic disadvantage, Ancco creates a testimonial to female friendship as a powerful tool for survival. Jinju forgets her worst adolescent memories, but she cannot ever shake the memory of her friendship with Jung-ae during her most tumultuous years.

*Ancco* began publishing diary comics in 2002 to quick acclaim, capturing an audience with the immediacy and honesty of her cartooning. Rooted in her lived experience, Ancco’s works of fiction share these strengths, bringing an authentic and genuine voice to a generation of Korean youth. The original edition of her most recent graphic novel, *Bad Girls*, won the Korean Comics Today Prize, and the French translation (which was her second book to be translated into French) won the Prix Révélation at the Angoulême International Comics Festival in 2016, a prize awarded to stand-out work from young cartoonists. Ancco was born in 1983 just outside of Seoul, Korea, in Seongnam.

PRAISE

"Harsh and sensitive, *Bad Friends* offers little respite to the reader . . . The comic borrows the bumpy roads of memory . . . Real and remembered intertwine and clash." —*Libération*

"Ancco looks back on her own life and plunges the reader into the bleak day-to-day reality of Korean teens in the 1990s." —*FranceInfo*
Blame This on the Boogie

Rina Ayuyang

The true story of how Hollywood musicals got one person through school, depression, and the challenges of parenthood

Inspired by the visual richness and cinematic structure of the Hollywood musical, *Blame This on the Boogie* chronicles the adventures of a Filipino American girl born in the decade of disco who escapes life’s hardships and mundanity through the genre’s feel-good song-and-dance numbers. Rina Ayuyang explores how the glowing charm of the silver screen can transform reality, shaping a person’s approach to childhood, relationships, sports, reality TV, and eventually politics, parenthood, and mortality.

Ayuyang’s comics are as vibrant as the movies that she loves. Her deeply personal, moving stories unveil the magic of the world around us—rendering the ordinary extraordinary through a jazzed-up song-and-dance routine. Ayuyang showcases the way her love of musicals became a form of therapeutic distraction to circumnavigate a childhood of dealing with cultural differences, her struggles with postpartum depression, and an adulthood overshadowed by an increasingly frightening and depressing political climate.

*Blame This on the Boogie* is Ayuyang’s ode to the melody of the world, and shows how tuning out of life and into the magic of Hollywood can actually help an outsider find her place in it.

Born and raised in Pittsburgh, Rina Ayuyang was always inspired by the Sunday funnies and slice-of-life tales. Her short stories have been nominated for the Ignatz and Eisner Awards, and she has been honored with a MoCCA Arts Festival Awards of Excellence Silver Medal. Her comics have appeared in *Mutha Magazine* and *The Comics Journal*. She is also the publisher of the micro-comics imprint Yam Books. Her first book was *Whirlwind Wonderland*. Ayuyang lives in Oakland, California, with her husband and son.

**PRAISE**

“[Ayuyang’s comics] delightfully revolve around everyday subjects with a subtle humor that points out life’s small absurdities.” — *Hyphen Magazine*

“[Ayuyang’s] autobiographical stories . . . find something wondrous in the kind of moments that most let slip past without a thought.” — *Pittsburgh Tribune-Review*
The Snooty Bookshop
Fifty Literary Postcards by Tom Gauld

Tom Gauld

Fifty postcards from *The Guardian*, by Britain’s most well regarded cartoonist

Tom Gauld (*Mooncop, You’re All Just Jealous of My Jetpack, Goliath*) has created countless iconic strips for *The Guardian* over the course of his illustrious career. A master of condensing grand, highbrow themes into one-to-eight-panel comics, his weekly strips embody his trademark British humor while simultaneously opening comics to an audience unfamiliar with the artistry that cartooning has to offer. Funny but serious, these comics allow Gauld to put his impressive knowledge of history, literature, and pop culture on full display—his impeccable timing and distinctive visual style setting him apart from the rest.

This postcard set celebrates more than a decade of Gauld’s contributions to *The Guardian*, with thirty of his most beloved strips, on everything from Samuel Beckett’s sitcom pitches (such as *Waiting for Kramer*: a show where two men await the arrival of a man named Kramer who never comes), “Procrastination for Creative Writers, a 10-Week Course,” and “Poetry Anthologies for People Who Don’t Like Poems.” Witty and beautifully drawn, *The Snooty Bookshop* will make you chuckle at least thirty times, guaranteed.

**Tom Gauld** is a cartoonist and illustrator. He has weekly comic strips in *The Guardian* and *New Scientist* and his comics have been published in *The New York Times* and *The Believer*. In addition to his graphic novels *Goliath, You’re All Just Jealous of My Jetpack, and Mooncop*, he has designed a number of book covers. Gauld lives and works in London.

**PRAISE**

“Quippy, slightly sardonic takes that go down easy . . . but will make you think long after you’ve left them.” —*The Huffington Post*

“Simply hilarious.” —*Buzzfeed*

“Minimalist, elegant, and witty.” —*The Verge*

“[Gauld] finds new things to say about the literary world, pop culture and the way people interact with stories in general.” —*The Hollyw...
Beautiful Darkness

Kerascoët and Fabien Vehlmann; Translated from the French by Helge Dascher

A group of little people find themselves without a home in this horror fantasy classic

Newly homeless, a group of fairies find themselves trying to adapt to their new life in the forest. As they dodge dangers from both without and within, optimistic Aurora steps forward to organize and help build a new community. Slowly, the world around them becomes more treacherous as petty rivalries and factions form.

Beautiful Darkness became a bestseller and an instant classic when it was released in 2014. This paperback edition of the modern horror classic contains added material, preparatory sketches, and unused art. While Kerascoët mix gorgeous watercolors and spritely cartoon characters, Fabien Vehlmann takes the story into bleaker territory as the seasons change and the darkness descends. As with any great horror, there are moments of calm and jarring shocks while a looming dread hangs over the forest.

Kerascoët is a husband-and-wife cartooning team who have produced several less terrifying comics for the French market as well as making recent forays into North American children’s books.

Fabien Vehlmann is a French comics writer who has been nominated for the Angoulême International Comics Festival Award a number of times. He is best known to North American audiences for his collaboration with the Norwegian cartoonist Jason on Isle of 100,000 Graves.

PRAISE


“A twisted tale that draws from the likes of Alice in Wonderland and The Borrowers, only Beautiful Darkness presents a much bleaker allegory.” —Los Angeles Ti...
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