The world-famous political philosopher and the bestselling author of *Justice* reveals the driving force behind the resurgence of populism: the tyranny of the meritocracy and the resentments it produces

Our politics are fraught with rancor and resentment. Decades of rising inequality and stalled mobility have fueled a populist revolt against elites. But while the pundits focus on wages and jobs, they are missing a big part of the story: social esteem, and the broader moral dimensions of our current crisis.

In recent decades, mainstream politicians across the aisle—from Reagan to Obama—have offered a rhetoric of rising: everyone should be given an equal chance to get ahead. But the relentless focus on "equal opportunity" ignores the morally corrosive attitudes that even a fair meritocracy generates. Among the winners, it generates hubris; among the losers, humiliation.Meritocratic hubris reflects the tendency of winners to inhale too deeply of their success, to forget the luck and good fortune that helped them on their way. It diminishes our capacity to see ourselves as sharing a common fate and leaves little room for the solidarity that can arise when we reflect on the contingency of our talents and fortunes. More than a protest against immigrants, outsourcing, and stagnant wages, the populist complaint is about the tyranny of merit. And the complaint is justified.

In *The Tyranny of Merit*, a searing critique of contemporary public discourse, Michael J. Sandel, “the world’s most relevant living philosopher” (*Newsweek*), diagnoses our political moment by seeking out its moral underpinnings. He highlights...

**Michael J. Sandel** is the author of seven books, including *Justice: What's the Right Thing to Do?* and *What Money Can't Buy: The Moral Limits of the Market*. He is the Anne T. and Robert M. Bass Professor of Government at Harvard University, where he has taught since 1980. He has taught his undergraduate course "Justice" to more than 15,000 Harvard students over the years, and video footage of the course was adapted into a PBS television series. Sandel graduated summa cum laude from Brandeis University and received his doctorate from Oxford University, where he was a Rhodes Scholar. He served on the George W. Bush administration’s President's Council on Bioethics. He lives in Brookline, Massachusetts.
Likes
Sarah Shun-lien Bynum

National Book Award finalist Sarah Shun-lien Bynum’s highly anticipated return weaves together like and unlike, mythic and modern

In nine stories that range from the real to the unreal, strange to familiar, funny to frightening, Sarah Shun-lien Bynum reminds us why her wildly original debut, *Madeleine Is Sleeping*, and her masterful *Ms. Hempel Chronicles*, have become contemporary classics—celebrated and beloved.

In a nimble dance of lightness and gravity, *Likes* explores the full range and contradictions of our contemporary moment. Through unexpected visitors, Waldorf school fairs, aging indie-film stars, the struggle to gain a foothold in the capitalist shell-game of work, the Instagram posts of a twelve year-old—these stories of friendship and parenthood, celebrity and obsession, race and class and the passage of time, form an engrossing collection that is both otherworldly and suffused with the deceitful humdrum of everyday life.

For readers of Joy Williams, George Saunders, Lauren Groff, and Deborah Eisenberg, *Likes* helps us see into our unacknowledged desires and, in quick, artful, nearly invisible cuts, exposes the roots of our abiding terrors and delights.

Sarah Shun-lien Bynum is the author of two novels, *Ms. Hempel Chronicles*, a finalist for the PEN/Faulkner Award, and *Madeleine Is Sleeping*, a finalist for the National Book Award and winner of the Janet Heidinger Kafka Prize. Her fiction has appeared in many magazines and anthologies, including the *New Yorker*, *Ploughshares*, *Tin House*, *The Best American Short Stories*, and the *O. Henry Prize Stories*. The recipient of a Whiting Writers’ Award and an NEA Fellowship, she was named one of “20 Under 40” fiction writers by the *New Yorker*. She lives in Los Angeles.

PRAISE

"Sarah Shun-lien Bynum not only makes us see and feel what we may have missed in our busy lives, but articulates what we see and feel with the precise words we’ve always been searching for but rarely find. How does she capture the world in its shimmery and inexplicable state so deftly? Stories in this collection lead the readers to feel n..."
A powerful new collection by the award-winning poet

Daring, tender, truthful, the poems in *Blizzard*, Henri Cole’s tenth book, build on a reputation for quiet mastery. Whether he is wrestling with the mundane, history and its disasters, or sexual love, he can sound both classical and contemporary, with the modern austerity of Constantine Cavafy and Elizabeth Bishop. Often exploring the darker places of the heart, his sonnets do not lie down obediently but spark with an honest self-awareness.

Cole’s lucid, empathetic poems—with lyrical beauty and ethical depth—seem to transmute the anxious perplexities of our time.

**Henri Cole** was born in Fukuoka, Japan, in 1956. He has published nine previous collections of poetry and received many awards for his work, including the Jackson Poetry Prize, the Kingsley Tufts Award, the Rome Prize, the Berlin Prize, the Lenore Marshall Poetry Prize, and the Award of Merit Medal in Poetry from the American Academy of Arts and Letters. His most recent book is *Orphic Paris*, a memoir. He teaches at Claremont McKenna College.

**PRAISE**

Praise for Henri Cole

“An artist of the greatest gifts.” —Louise Glück
A new interpretation of the life of the Haitian revolutionary
Toussaint Louverture

Among the defining figures of the Age of Revolution, Toussaint Louverture is the most enigmatic. Though the Haitian revolutionary’s image has multiplied across the globe—appearing on banknotes and in bronze, on T-shirts and in film—the only definitive portrait executed in his lifetime has been lost. Well versed in the work of everyone from Rousseau to Machiavelli, he was nonetheless dismissed by Thomas Jefferson as a “cannibal.” A Caribbean acolyte of the European Enlightenment, Toussaint also nurtured a class of black Catholic clergymen who became one of the pillars of his rule. And for a leader who once summed up his modus operandi with the phrase “Say little but do as much as possible,” he was a prolific and indefatigable correspondent, famous for exhausting the five secretaries he maintained, simultaneously, at the height of his power in the 1790s.

Employing groundbreaking archival research and a keen interpretive lens, Sudhir Hazareesingh restores Toussaint to his full complexity in Black Spartacus. At a time when his subject has, variously, been reduced to little more than a one-dimensional icon of liberation or criticized for his personal failings—his white mistresses, his early ownership of slaves—Hazareesingh proposes a new conception of Toussaint’s understanding of himself and his role in the Atlantic order of the late eighteenth century. Black Spartacus is a work of both biography and intell...

Sudhir Hazareesingh was born in Mauritius. He is a Fellow of the British Academy and has been a Fellow and Tutor in Politics at Balliol College, Oxford, since 1990. He has written extensively about French intellectual and cultural history, and among his books are The Legend of Napoleon, In the Shadow of the General and How the French Think. He won the Prix du Mémorial d’Ajaccio and the Prix de la Fondation Napoléon for the first of these, a Prix d’Histoire du Sénat for the second, and the Grand Prix du Livre d’Idées for the third.
The second novel in the exhilarating Sands of the Emperor trilogy, following the Man Booker International Prize finalist
*Woman of the Ashes*

Mozambique, 1895. After an attack on his quarters, the defeated Portuguese sergeant Germano de Melo needs to be taken to the hospital. The only one within reach is along the river Inhambane, so his lover Imani undertakes an arduous rescue mission, accompanied by her father and brother. Meanwhile, war rages between the Portuguese occupiers and Ngungunyane’s warriors—battles waged with sword and spear, until the arrival of a devastating new weapon destined to secure European domination. Germano wants to start a new life with Imani, but the Portuguese military has other plans for the injured soldier. And Imani’s father has his own plan for his daughter’s future: as one of Ngungunyane’s wives, she would be close enough to the tyrant to avenge the destruction of their village.

With elegance and compassion, Mia Couto’s *The Sword and the Spear* illustrates the futility of war and the porous boundaries between apparently foreign cultures—boundaries of which entire societies, but also friends and lovers, conceive as simultaneously insuperable and in decline.

*Mia Couto*, born in Mozambique in 1955, is one of the most prominent writers in Portuguese-speaking Africa. After studying medicine and biology, he worked as a journalist and headed several Mozambican national newspapers and magazines. Couto has been awarded the Camões Prize for Literature and the prestigious Neustadt International Prize for Literature, among other awards. He was also shortlisted for the 2017 IMPAC DUBLIN Literary Award and was a finalist for the Man Booker International Prize in 2015. He lives in Maputo, where he works as a biologist.

*David Brookshaw* is an emeritus professor at the School of Modern Languages at the University of Bristol. He has translated several other books by Mia Couto, including *Woman of the Ashes, Confessio*...

PRAISE

Praise for *Woman of the Ashes*

"An exquisite, multi-layered novel . . . David Brookshaw has captured the African and European nuances in a translation that is poetic, agile and so..."
Wagnerism
Art and Politics in the Shadow of Music
Alex Ross

"A masterpiece—massive and magnificent. A book I’ve been waiting fifty years to read. It turns lights on in regions where I have bumbled in murk." —Peter Schjeldahl, critic and author of *Hot, Cold, Heavy, Light, 100 Art Writings 1988–2018*

For better or worse, Richard Wagner is the most widely influential figure in the history of music. Around 1900, the phenomenon known as Wagnerism saturated European and American culture. Such colossal creations as *The Ring of the Nibelung*, *Tristan und Isolde*, and *Parsifal* were models of formal daring, mythmaking, erotic freedom, and mystical speculation. A mighty procession of artists, including Virginia Woolf, Charles Baudelaire, Wassily Kandinsky, Isadora Duncan, and Luis Buñuel, felt his impact. Anarchists, fascists, communists, occultists, feminists, and gay-rights pioneers saw him as a kindred spirit. Then Adolf Hitler incorporated Wagner into the soundtrack of Nazi Germany, and the composer came to be defined by his ferocious anti-Semitism. His name is now almost synonymous with artistic evil.

In *Wagnerism*, Alex Ross restores the magnificent confusion of what it means to be a Wagnerian. A pandemonium of geniuses, madmen, charlatans, and prophets do battle over Wagner’s many-sided legacy. As readers of his brilliant essays for *The New Yorker* have come to expect, Ross ranges thrillingly across artistic disciplines, from the architecture of Louis Sullivan to the novels of Philip K. Dick, from the Zionist writings of Theodor Herzl to the civil rights essays of W.E.B. Du Bois, from *O Pioneers!* to *Apocalypse Now*. *Wagnerism* is a work of passionate discovery, urging us toward a more honest reckoning with...

Alex Ross has been the music critic for *The New Yorker* since 1996. His first book, the international bestseller *The Rest Is Noise: Listening to the Twentieth Century*, was a finalist for the Pulitzer Prize and won a 2007 National Book Critics Circle Award. His second book, the essay collection *Listen to This*, received an ASCAP Deems Taylor Award. He was named a MacArthur Fellow in 2008 and a Guggenheim Fellow in 2015.

PRAISE

Praise for *The Rest Is Noise*

“A great achievement. Rilke once wrote of how he learned to stand ‘more seeingly’ in front of certain paintings. Ross enables us to listen more...” —Peter Schjeldahl, critic and author of *Hot, Cold, Heavy, Light, 100 Art Writings 1988–2018*
Self-Portrait with Russian Piano
A Novel

Wolf Wondratschek; Translated from the German by Marshall Yarbrough

A portrait of the artist as an old man

Vienna is an uncanny, magical, and sometimes brutally alienating city. The past lives on in the cafés where lost souls come to kill time and hash over the bygone glories of the twentieth century—or maybe just a recent love affair. In one of these cafés, our anonymous narrator meets a strange character, "like someone out of a novel": a decrepit old Russian named Suvorin. A Soviet pianist of international renown, he committed career suicide when he developed a violent distaste for the sound of applause. This eccentric gentleman—sometimes charming, sometimes sulky, sometimes disconcertingly frank—knows the end of his life is approaching, and allows himself to be convinced to tell his life's story. Over a series of coffee dates, punctuated by confessions, anecdotes, and rages—and by the narrator's schemes to keep his quarry talking—a strained friendship develops between the two men, and it soon becomes difficult to tell who is the more dependent on the other.

Rhapsodic and melancholic, with shades of Vladimir Nabokov, W. G. Sebald, Hans Keilson, and Thomas Bernhard, Wolf Wondratschek's Self-Portrait with Russian Piano is a literary sonata circling the eternal question of whether beauty, music, and passion are worth the sacrifices some people are compelled to make to them.

Wolf Wondratschek, born 1943 in Rudolfstadt, studied literature and philosophy in Heidelberg, Göttingen, and Frankfurt. His first book, When the Day Still Started with a Bullet Wound, is legendary in the German-language world, initiating a one-man Beat Generation, and ensuring that he became one of Germany's most successful contemporary writers. His vast body of work comprises novels, collections of poems, short stories, essays, reportage, and radio plays. He lives in Vienna.

PRAISE

Praise for Wolf Wondratschek

"Wondratschek is eccentric, monomaniacal, romantic—his texts are imbued with a wonderful, reckless nonchalance. A romantic in a madhouse. To let Wondratschek's voice be drowned in the babble of today's literature would
Savage Kiss
A Novel
Roberto Saviano; Translated from the Italian by Antony Shugaar

The hotly anticipated follow-up to The Piranhas, the bestselling novel and major motion picture

Nicolas Fiorillo and his gang of children—his paranza—control the squares of Forcella after their rapid rise to power. But it isn’t easy being at the top.

Now that the Piranhas have power in the city, Nicolas must undermine the old families of the Camorra and remain united among themselves. Every paranzino has his own vendettas and dreams to pursue—dreams that might go beyond the laws of the gang. A new war may be about to break out in this city of cutthroat bargaining, ruthless betrayal, and brutal revenge. Roberto Saviano continues the story of the disillusioned boys of Forcella, the paranzini ready to give and receive kisses that leave a taste of blood.

Saviano’s Gomorrah was a worldwide sensation, and The Piranhas, called “raw and shocking” by The New York Times Book Review, captured readers with its tale of raw criminal ambition, told with “openhearted rashness” (Elena Ferrante). Savage Kiss, which again draws on the skills of the translator Antony Shugaar, is the latest thrilling installment from a brilliant Italian novelist.

Roberto Saviano was born in 1979 and studied philosophy at the University of Naples. His novel The Piranhas earned widespread acclaim and was adapted as a major motion picture. 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. He also translated Roberto Saviano’s The Piranhas.

PRAISE

Praise for The Piranhas

“Saviano’s characterization, dialogue, and set pieces are first-rate, but what sets the book apart (as with Gomorrah) is his quasi-anthropological portrayal of a microsociety. —The Sunday Times (London), Thriller of the Month
The WEIRDest People in the World
How the West Became Psychologically Peculiar and Particularly Prosperous

Joseph Henrich

A bold, epic account of how the co-evolution of psychology and culture created the peculiar Western mind that has profoundly shaped the modern world.

Perhaps you are WEIRD: raised in a society that is Western, Educated, Industrialized, Rich, and Democratic. If so, you’re rather psychologically peculiar.

Unlike much of the world today, and most people who have ever lived, WEIRD people are highly individualistic, self-obsessed, control-oriented, nonconformist, and analytical. They focus on themselves—their attributes, accomplishments, and aspirations—over their relationships and social roles. How did WEIRD populations become so psychologically distinct? What role did these psychological differences play in the industrial revolution and the global expansion of Europe during the last few centuries?

In The WEIRDest People in the World, Joseph Henrich draws on cutting-edge research in anthropology, psychology, economics, and evolutionary biology to explore these questions and more. He illuminates the origins and evolution of family structures, marriage, and religion, and the profound impact these cultural transformations had on human psychology. Mapping these shifts through ancient history and late antiquity, Henrich reveals that the most fundamental institutions of kinship and marriage changed dramatically under pressure from the Roman Catholic Church. It was these changes that gave rise to the WEIRD psychology that would coevolve with impersonal markets, occupational specialization, and free competition—laying the foundation for the modern world.

Provocat...

Joseph Henrich is an anthropologist and the author of The Secret of Our Success: How Culture Is Driving Human Evolution, Domesticating Our Species, and Making Us Smarter, among other books. He is the chair of the Department of Human Evolutionary Biology at Harvard University, where his research focuses on evolutionary approaches to psychology, decision-making, and culture.
Desert Oracle
Volume 1: Strange True Tales from the American Southwest
Ken Layne

The cult-y pocket-size field guide to the strange and intriguing secrets of the Mojave—its myths and legends, outcasts and oddballs, flora, fauna, and UFOs—becomes the definitive, oracular book of the desert

For the past five years, Desert Oracle has existed as a quasi-mythical, quarterly periodical available to the very determined only by subscription or at the odd desert-town gas station or the occasional hipster boutique, its canary-yellow-covered, forty-four-page issues handed from one curious desert zealot to the next, word spreading faster than the printers could keep up with. It became a radio show, a podcast, a live performance. Now, for the first time—and including both classic and new, never-before-seen revelations—Desert Oracle has been bound between two hard covers and is available to you.

Straight out of Joshua Tree, California, Desert Oracle is “The Voice of the Desert”: a field guide to the strange tales, singing sand dunes, sagebrush trails, artists and aliens, authors and oddballs, ghost towns and modern legends, musicians and mystics, scorpions and saguaros, out there in the sand. Desert Oracle is your companion at a roadside diner, around a campfire, in your tent or cabin (or high-rise apartment or suburban living room) as the wind and the coyotes howl outside at night.

From journal entries of long-deceased adventurers to stray railroad ad copy, and musings on everything from desert flora, rumored cryptid sightings, and other paranormal phenomena, Ken Layne’s Desert Oracle collects the weird and the wonderful of the American Southwest into a single, essential volume.

Ken Layne is a professional high-speed typist, a broadcaster, and the editor/publisher of Desert Oracle, the pocket-size quarterly field guide to the strange and intriguing American deserts.
Silences So Deep
Music, Solitude, Alaska

John Luther Adams

A memoir of a composer's life in the Alaskan wilderness and a meditation on making art in a landscape acutely threatened by climate change

In the summer of 1975, the composer John Luther Adams, then a twenty-two-year-old graduate of CalArts, boarded a flight to Alaska. So began a journey into the mountains and forests of the far north—and across distinctive mental and aural terrain—that would last for the next forty years.

Silences So Deep is Adams's account of these formative decades—and of what it’s like to live alone in the frozen woods, composing music by day and spending one’s evenings with a raucous crew of poets, philosophers, and fishermen. From adolescent loves—Edgard Varèse and Frank Zappa—to mature preoccupations with the natural world that inform such works as The Wind in High Places, Adams details the influences that have allowed him to emerge as one of the most celebrated and recognizable composers of our time. A Künstlerroman with an artistic sensibility all its own, Silences So Deep is also a memoir of solitude enriched by friendships with the likes of the conductor Gordon Wright and the poet John Haines. Whether describing the travails of environmental activism in the midst of an oil boom or midwinter conversations in a communal sauna, Adams writes with a voice both playful and meditative, one that evokes the particular beauty of the Alaskan landscape and the people who call it home.

Ultimately, it is also the story of Adams’s difficult decision to leave a rapidly warming Alaska and to strike out for new topographies a...

John Luther Adams was born in Meridian, Mississippi, and attended the California Institute of the Arts before moving to Alaska in 1978, where he lived until 2014. He was awarded the Pulitzer Prize for Music and a Grammy Award for his orchestral composition Become Ocean, which was premiered by the Seattle Symphony Orchestra in 2013. He is also the author of Winter Music: Composing the North. Adams lives in New York City and the Sonoran Desert of Mexico.
**Jack**

A Novel

Marilynne Robinson

**The winner of the Pulitzer Prize and the National Humanities Medal returns to the world of Gilead with **Jack**, the final installment in one of the greatest works of contemporary American fiction**

Marilynne Robinson’s mythical world of Gilead, Iowa—the setting of her novels *Gilead, Home*, and *Lila*, and now *Jack*—and its beloved characters have illuminated and interrogated the complexities of American history, the power of our emotions, and the wonders of a sacred world. *Jack* is Robinson’s fourth novel in this now-classic series. In it, Robinson tells the story of John Ames Boughton, the prodigal son of Gilead’s Presbyterian minister, and his romance with Della Miles, a high school teacher who is also the son of a preacher. Their deeply felt, tormented, star-crossed interracial romance resonates with all the paradoxes of American life, then and now.

Robinson’s Gilead novels, which have won one Pulitzer Prize and two National Book Critics Circle Awards, are a vital contribution to contemporary American literature and a revelation of our national character and humanity.

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

**PRAISE**

Praise for Marilynne Robinson

“At a moment in cultural history dominated by the shallow, the superficial, the quick fix, Marilynne Robinson is a miraculous anomaly: a writer who thoughtfully, carefully, and tenaciously explores some of the deepest questions confronting the human species. . . Robinson manages to convey the miracle of exist...
Gilead
A Novel

Marilynne Robinson

A major new novel by the author of *Housekeeping*

In 1956, toward the end of Reverend John Ames's life, he begins a letter to his young son, an account of himself and his forebears. Ames is the son of an Iowan preacher and the grandson of a minister who, as a young man in Maine, saw a vision of Christ bound in chains and came west to Kansas to fight for abolition: He "preached men into the Civil War," then, at age fifty, became a chaplain in the Union Army, losing his right eye in battle. Reverend Ames writes to his son about the tension between his father—an ardent pacifist—and his grandfather, whose pistol and bloody shirts, concealed in an army blanket, may be relics from the fight between the abolitionists and those settlers who wanted to vote Kansas into the union as a slave state. And he tells a story of the sacred bonds between fathers and sons, which are tested in his tender and strained relationship with his namesake, John Ames Boughton, his best friend's wayward son.

This is also the tale of another remarkable vision—not a corporeal vision of God but the vision of life as a wondrously strange creation. It tells how wisdom was forged in Ames's soul during his solitary life, and how history lives through generations, pervasively present even when betrayed and forgotten.

*Gilead* is the second novel by one of our finest writers, a hymn of praise and lamentation to the God-haunted existence that Reverend Ames loves passionately, and from which he ...

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

PRAISE

Praise for *Gilead*:

"So serenely beautiful, and written in a prose so gravely measured and thoughtful, that one feels touched with grace just to read it." —Michael Dirda, *The Washington Post*

"Beautiful work—demanding, grave and lucid . . . Robinson's words have a spiritual force that's very rare in contemporary fiction." —James Wood, *The Ne..."
Housekeeping
A Novel

Marilynne Robinson

A modern classic, *Housekeeping* is the story of Ruth and her younger sister, Lucille, who grow up haphazardly, first under the care of their competent grandmother, then of two comically bumbling great-aunts, and finally of Sylvie, the eccentric and remote sister of their dead mother. The family house is in the small town of Fingerbone on a glacial lake in the Far West, the same lake where their grandfather died in a spectacular train wreck and their mother drove off a cliff to her death. It is a town "chastened by an outsized landscape and extravagant weather, and chastened again by an awareness that the whole of human history had occurred elsewhere." Ruth and Lucille’s struggle toward adulthood beautifully illuminates the price of loss and survival, and the dangerous and deep undertow of transience.

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

PRAISE

"So precise, so distilled, so beautiful that one doesn't want to miss any pleasure it might yield."—*The New York Times Book Review*

"Here's a first novel that sounds as if the author has been treasuring it up all her life . . . You can feel in the book a gathering voluptuous release of confidence, a delighted surprise at the unexpected capa..."
Snow Approaching on the Hudson
Poems

August Kleinzahler

A new collection of poems from the award-winning poet and memoirist

August Kleinzahler has earned admiration for his musical, precise poems that are grounded in the people, places, and languages among which he has lived. *Snow Approaching on the Hudson* is a collection of poetry that moves back and forth across the country and abroad, and through the realm of dreams, past and present, and inner and outer landscapes. The haunting, shifting atmosphere Kleinzahler creates is peopled by characters that are intimate, historical, and imaginary.

Kleinzahler's signature rhythmic propulsion serves as the engine for his newest collection, and his always masterful free verse conveys a life thoroughly lived and brilliantly perceived.

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

**PRAISE**

Praise for *Before Dawn on Bluff Road: Hollyhocks in the Fog*

"The excellence of every poem in this beautifully designed and rigorously selected double collection reinforces the significance of his project. . . . [T]his should confirm, if any doubts remain, that [Kleinzahler] is among the best American poets writing today." —Michael Autrey, *B..."
The Shadow Drawing
How Science Taught Leonardo
How to Paint

Francesca Fiorani

An entirely new account of Leonardo the artist and Leonardo the scientist, and why they were one and the same man

Leonardo da Vinci has long been celebrated for his consummate genius. He was the painter who gave us the *Mona Lisa* and *The Last Supper*, and the inventor who anticipated the advent of airplanes, hot air balloons, and other technological marvels. But what was the connection between Leonardo the painter and Leonardo the scientist? Historians of Renaissance art have long supposed that Leonardo became increasingly interested in science as he grew older and turned his insatiable curiosity in new directions. They have argued that there are, in effect, two Leonardos—an artist and an inventor.

In this pathbreaking new interpretation, the art historian Francesca Fiorani offers a different view. Taking a fresh look at Leonardo’s celebrated but challenging notebooks, as well as other sources, Fiorani argues that Leonardo became familiar with advanced thinking about human vision when he was still an apprentice in a Florence studio—and used his understanding of optical science to develop and perfect his painting techniques. For Leonardo, the task of the painter was to capture the interior life of a human subject, to paint the soul. And even at the outset of his career, he believed that mastering the scientific study of light, shadow, and the atmosphere was essential to doing so. Eventually, he set down these ideas in a book—*A Treatise on Painting*—that he considered his greatest achievement, though it would be disfig...
The author of Straw Dogs turns his attention to cats—and what they reveal about humans' torturous relationship to the world and to themselves

Cats do not need to be instructed in the good life. Obeying their nature, they are content with the life that it gives them. In humans, on the other hand, discontent with our nature seems only natural. The human animal never ceases striving for higher meaning. Cats, however, make no such effort. They are just happy to be themselves. That is why cats have no need for philosophy. They already know how to live.

So writes John Gray in this incisive new book about the follies of human exceptionalism and what we can learn from the animals that have long captured our imaginations.

The history of philosophy has been a "predictably tragic" succession of palliatives for human disquiet. Thinkers from Spinoza to Berdyaev have pursued the perennial questions of how to be happy, how to be good, and how to be loved—all of which held no relevance to their feline companions. In Feline Philosophy, Gray introduces us to some of these unburdened counterparts, showing how they approached issues of love and attachment, mortality, morality, and the Self: Montaigne's house cat, whose unexamined life may have been the one worth living; Meo, the Vietnam War survivor with an unshakable capacity for "fearless joy"; and Colette's Saha, the feline heroine of her subversive short story "The Cat", a parable about the pitfalls of human jealousy. The nature of cats, and what we can learn from it, is the subject of this book—and through i...

John Gray is the author of many critically acclaimed books, including The Silence of Animals, The Immortalization Commission, Black Mass, Seven Types of Atheism, 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 for Straw Dogs

“This powerful and brilliant book is an essential guide to the new Millennium. Straw Dogs challenges all our assumptions about what it is to be human, and convincingly shows that most of them are delusions.”
—J.G. Ballard
150 Glimpses of the Beatles

Craig Brown

A distinctive portrait of the Fab Four by one of the sharpest and wittiest writers of our time

Though fifty years have passed since the breakup of the Beatles, the fab four continue to occupy an utterly unique place in popular culture. Their influence extends far beyond music and into realms as diverse as fashion and fine art, sexual politics and religion. When they appeared on The Ed Sullivan Show in 1964, fresh off the plane from England, they provoked an epidemic of hoarse-throated fandom that continues to this day.

Who better, then, to capture the Beatles phenomenon than Craig Brown—the inimitable author of Ninety-Nine Glimpses of Princess Margaret and master chronicler of the foibles and foppishness of British high society? This wide-ranging portrait of the four lads from Liverpool rivals the unique spectacle of the band itself by delving into a vast catalog of heretofore unexamined lore. When actress Eleanor Bron touched down at Heathrow with the Beatles, she thought that a flock of starlings had alighted on the roof of the terminal—only to discover that the birds were in fact young women screaming at the top of their lungs. One journalist, mistaken for Paul McCartney as he trailed the band in his car, found himself nearly crushed to death as fans climbed atop the vehicle and pressed their bodies against the windshield. Or what about the Baptist preacher who claimed that the Beatles synchronized their songs with the rhythm of an infant’s heartbeat so as to induce a hypnotic state in listen...

Craig Brown is the author of nineteen other books. He has been a columnist for The Guardian, The Times (London), Spectator, and The Daily Telegraph, and currently writes for The Daily Mail.

PRAISE

Praise for Ninety-Nine Glimpses of Princess Margaret

"Rollicking, irresistible, un-put-downable." —Hamish Bowles, Vogue

"I ripped through the book with the avidity of Margaret attacking her morning vodka and orange juice . . . The wisdom of the book, and the artistry, is in how Brown subtly expands his lens from Margaret’s misbehavior . . .
Magic: A History
From Alchemy to Witchcraft, from the Ice Age to the Present
Chris Gosden

An Oxford professor of archeology explores the unique history of magic—the oldest and most neglected strand of human behavior and its resurgence today

Three great strands of belief run through human history: Religion is the relationship with one god or many gods, masters of our lives and destinies. Science distances us from the world, turning us into observers and collectors of knowledge. And magic is direct human participation in the universe: we have influence on the world around us, and the world has influence on us.

Over the last few centuries, magic has developed a bad reputation—thanks to the unsavory tactics of shady practitioners, and to a successful propaganda campaign on the part of religion and science, which denigrated magic as backward, irrational, and "primitive." In Magic, however, the Oxford professor of archeology Chris Gosden restores magic to its essential place in the history of the world—revealing it to be an enduring element of human behavior that plays an important role for individuals and cultures. From the curses and charms of ancient Greek, Roman, and Jewish magic, to the shamanistic traditions of Eurasia, indigenous America, and Africa; from the alchemy of the Renaissance to the condemnation of magic in the colonial period and the mysteries of modern quantum physics—Gosden's startling, fun, and colorful history supplies a missing chapter of the story of our civilization.

Drawing on decades of research around the world—touching on the first known horoscope, a statue ordered into exile, and the mystical power of tattoos—Gosden...

Chris Gosden is a professor of European archeology at the University of Oxford. Previously he was a curator and lecturer at the Pitt Rivers Museum, where he encountered many magical objects displayed in a scientific manner. Gosden is a Fellow of the British Academy and the Society of Antiquaries.
The Nightworkers
A Novel

Brian Selfon

An electrifying debut crime novel about a Brooklyn family of money launderers thrown into chaos when a runner ends up dead and a bag of dirty money goes missing.

Shecky Keenan’s family is under fire—or at least it feels that way. Bank accounts have closed unexpectedly, a strange car has been parked near the house at odd hours, and Emil Scott, an enigmatic artist and the family’s new runner, is missing—along with the $250,000 of dirty money he was carrying.

Shecky lives in old Brooklyn with his niece Kerasha and nephew Henry, and while his deepest desire is to keep his little makeshift family safe, that doesn’t stop him from taking advantage of their talents. Shecky moves money for an array of unsavory clients, and Henry, volatile and violent but tenderhearted, is his bagman. Kerasha, the famed former child-thief of Bushwick, is still learning the family trade, but her quick mind and quicker fingers are already being put to use. They love one another, but trust is thin when secrets are the family trade. And someone will be coming for that missing money—soon.

Inspired by a career that has included corruption cases and wiretaps as an investigative analyst for New York law enforcement, Brian Selfon unspools a tale of crime and consequence through shifting perspectives across the streets, alleys, bodegas, and art studios of Brooklyn. The Nightworkers is an evocative blend of genres: a literary crime thriller with a mystery at the center of its big beating heart: What really happened to Emil Scott, and what can the future possibly hold for a family when crime is what ...

Brian Selfon has worked in criminal justice for nearly twenty years, more than fifteen of them with law enforcement agencies in New York. As the Chief Investigative Analyst for the Brooklyn District Attorney’s Office, he handled cases ranging from money laundering to first-degree murder. Brian now lives with his family in Seattle, where he works as a public defense investigator. The Nightworkers is his debut novel.

PRAISE

“A gripping, big-hearted thriller about a family of criminals coming apart at the seams. Whip-smart and surprisingly funny, The Nightworkers is a terrific debut about loyalty and the ties that bind.”
—Harlan Coben, author of The Boy from the Woods

“Page-turning Brooklyn noir meets compellingly complex family drama in Brian Selfon’s atmosphere..."
The Book Collectors
A Band of Syrian Rebels and the Stories That Carried Them Through a War

Delphine Minoui; Translated from the French by Lara Vergnaud

A band of young men in a besieged town outside Damascus find hope in building a secret library from the rubble of war

Day in, day out, bombs fall on Daraya, a town outside Damascus, the very spot where the Syrian Civil War began. In the midst of chaos and bloodshed, a group searching for survivors stumbles on a cache of books. They collect the books, then look for more. In a week they have six thousand volumes. In a month, fifteen thousand. A sanctuary is born: a library where the people of Daraya can explore beyond the blockade.

Long a site of peaceful resistance to the Assad regimes, Daraya was under siege for four years. No one entered or left, and international aid was blocked.

In 2015, the French-Iranian journalist Delphine Minoui saw a post on Facebook about this secret library and tracked down one of its founders, twenty-three-year-old Ahmad, an aspiring photojournalist. Over WhatsApp and Facebook, Minoui learned about the young men who gathered in the library, exchanged ideas, learned English, and imagined how to shape the future, even as bombs fell above. They devoured a marvelous range of books—from American self-help like The Seven Habits of Highly Effective People to international bestsellers like The Alchemist, from Arabic poetry by Mahmoud Darwish to Shakespearean plays to stories of war in other times and places, such as the siege of Sarajevo. They also shared photos and stories of their lives before and during the war, planned how to build a democracy, and began to sustain a community in shell-shocked...

Delphine Minoui, a recipient of the Albert Londres Prize for her reporting on Iraq and Iran, is a journalist and Middle East correspondent for Le Figaro. Born in Paris in 1974 to a French mother and an Iranian father, she now lives in Istanbul. She is the author of I’m Writing You from Tehran.

PRAISE
Terror and transformation in the trenches of the First World War

Alfa Ndiaye is a Senegalese man who, never before having left his village, finds himself fighting as a so-called Chocolat soldier with the French army during World War I. When his friend Mademba Diop is seriously injured in battle, Diop begs Alfa to kill him and spare him the pain of a long and agonizing death in no-man’s-land. Alfa can’t bring himself to dispatch his friend, but madness creeps into his mind as he comes to see this refusal as a cruel failure of nerve. Anxious to avenge the death of his friend and find forgiveness for himself, he begins a macabre ritual: every night he sneaks across enemy lines to find and murder a blue-eyed German soldier, and every night he returns to base, unharmed, with the German’s severed hand. At first his comrades look at Alfa’s deeds with admiration, but soon rumors begin to circulate that this super soldier isn’t a hero, but a sorcerer, a soul-eater. Plans are hatched to get Alfa away from the front, and to separate him from his growing collection of hands, but how does one reason with a sorcerer, and how far will Alfa go to make amends to his dead friend?

Peppered with bullets and black magic, this remarkable novel fills in a forgotten chapter in the history of World War I. Blending oral storytelling traditions with the gritty, day-to-day, journalistic horror of life in the trenches, David Diop’s *At Night All Blood Is Black* is a dazzling tale of one man’s desc...

David Diop was born in Paris and was raised in Senegal. He is the head of the Arts, Languages, and Literature Department at the University of Pau, where his research includes such topics as eighteenth-century French literature and European representations of Africa in the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries. *At Night All Blood Is Black* is his second novel.

Anna Moschovakis’s books of poetry include the James Laughlin Award–winning *You and Three Others Are Approaching a Lake* and a novel, *Eleanor, or, The Rejection of the Progress of Love*. Her translations from the French include Albert Cossery’s *The Jokers*, Annie Ernaux’s *The Possession*, and *Bresson on Bresson*.

PRAISE

"A philosophical investigation into betrayal and loyalty, but also a story about emigration, a journey into the sorrows of the one who chooses to leave..."
Garner's Quotations
A Modern Miscellany
Dwight Garner

A selection of favorite quotes that the celebrated literary critic has collected over the decades.

From Dwight Garner, the New York Times book critic, a rollicking, irreverent, scabrous, amazingly alive selection of unforgettable moments from forty years of wide and deep reading. Garner's Quotations is like no commonplace book you'll ever read. If you've ever wondered what's really going on in the world of letters today, this book will make you sit up and take notice. Unputdownable!

Dark Archives
A Librarian's Investigation into the Science and History of Books Bound in Human Skin

Megan Rosenbloom

A fascinating, terrifying look at the rarest books—bound in human skin—and the stories of their creation

There are books out there, some shelved unwittingly next to ordinary texts, that are bound in human skin. Would you know one if you held it in your hand?

In Dark Archives, Megan Rosenbloom, a medical librarian and a cofounder of the Death Salon, seeks out the historic and scientific truths behind this anthropodermic bibliopegy. Dozens of these books still sit on the shelves of the world’s most famous libraries and museums. What are their stories? Dark Archives exhumes their origins and brings to life the doctors, murderers, mental patients, beautiful women, and indigents whose lives are bound together in this rare, scattered, and disquieting collection. It also tells the story of the scientists, curators, and librarians like Rosenbloom—interested in the full complicated histories behind these dark artifacts of nineteenth-century medicine—are developing tests to discover these books and sorting through the ethics of custodianship.

A whip-smart and witty writer, Rosenbloom has crafted a narrative that is equal parts detective work, academic intrigue, history, and medical curiosity. Thrilling, captivating, and macabre in all the right ways, Dark Archives encourages us to take another look at the very serious ways in which the powerful have objectified people over time—perfect for fans of Mary Roach, Lindsey Fitzharris, and the art of collecting.

Megan Rosenbloom is a medical librarian who studies the history of medicine and rare books. Formerly a journalist, she now serves as associate director for Instruction Services at the Norris Medical Library of the University of Southern California in Los Angeles. She is also the obituary editor of the Journal of the Medical Library Association and serves on the board of the George Dock Society for the History of Medicine. She is also the cofounder and director of the Death Salon, the event arm of the Order of the Good Death, and is a leader in the Death Positive movement.

PRAISE

"Megan Rosenbloom is the perfect guide to a dark and sinister world..."
Collected Stories

Shirley Hazzard; Edited by Brigitta Olubas; Foreword by Zoë Heller

Collected Stories includes both volumes of the National Book Award–winning author Shirley Hazzard’s short-story collections—Cliffs of Fall and People in Glass Houses—alongside uncollected works and two previously unpublished stories.

Including twenty-eight works of short fiction in all, Shirley Hazzard’s Collected Stories is a work of staggering breadth and talent. Taken together, Hazzard’s short stories are masterworks in telescoping focus, “at once surgical and symphonic” (The New Yorker), ranging from quotidian struggles between beauty and pragmatism to satirical sendups of international bureaucracy, from the Italian countryside to suburban Connecticut.

Hazzard once said, “The idea that somebody has expressed something, in a supreme way, that it can be expressed; this is, I think, an enormous feature of literature.” Her stories themselves are a supreme evocation of writing at its very best: probing, uncompromising, and deeply felt.

Shirley Hazzard (1931–2016) is the author of several works of nonfiction, including Greene on Capri, a memoir of Graham Greene, and of fiction, including The Evening of the Holiday, The Bay of Noon, The Transit of Venus, and The Great Fire, winner of the National Book Award. She lived in New York City and Capri.

PRAISE

Praise for Shirley Hazzard


“Hazzard’s prose is magic on the page, somehow at once surgical and symphonic... [Her sentences] are small masterpieces that amount to a large one.” —Tad Friend, The New...
In her letters to the dead, the prizewinning poet Valzhyna Mort relearns how to mourn those erased by violent history

In *Music for the Dead and Resurrected* Valzhyna Mort asks how we mourn after a century of silence and propaganda. How do we remember our history and sing after being silenced? Mort draws on intimate and paradoxical firsthand accounts of a past grandparent generation of the Soviet labor camps, redistribution of land, and massacres of World War II in Belarus. As her country is being run by a longtime dictator, the poet creates a ceremony of mythmaking for the erased history and family.

*Music for the Dead and Resurrected* is a space where the living and the dead can coexist, where the Belarusian woods can act as witnesses to forgotten lives, and where musical form can create a new lyric mythology and an uncompromised language of remembrance. Mort, born in Belarus and now living in America, teaches us that the remembrance of private histories has a power to confront collective, violent American myths.

Valzhyna Mort is the author of *Factory of Tears* and *Collected Body*. She has received the Lannan Foundation Fellowship, the Bess Hokin Prize, the Amy Clampitt Residency, the Gulf Coast Prize in Translation, and the Glenna Luschei Prairie Schooner Award. Born in Minsk, Belarus, she writes in English and Belarusian.

**PRAISE**

"Mort . . . strives to be an envoy for her native country, writing with almost alarming vociferousness about the struggle to establish a clear identity for Belarus and its language." — *The New Yorker*
Memory Rose into Threshold Speech
The Collected Earlier Poetry: A Bilingual Edition
Paul Celan; Translated from the German and with Commentary by Pierre Joris

Memory Rose into Threshold Speech gathers the first four books of celebrated poet Paul Celan’s oeuvre, written between 1952 and 1963, which established his reputation as perhaps the major post-World War II German-language poet.

Translated by the prizewinning translator Pierre Joris, this bilingual edition follows the publication of Breathturn into Timestead, Paul Celan’s collected later poetry. Finally, Celan’s readers are able to read his work in full, with a new introduction and expert commentary from Joris. Celan, a Romanian Jew who lived through the Holocaust, displays his sharp ability to pinpoint totalitarian cultural and political tendencies.

The work, however, is not only reflective: there is in Celan a profound need and desire to create a new, inhabitable world and a new language for it. In Memory Rose into Threshold Speech, the reader witnesses Celan’s poems, which start lush with surrealistic imagery and become pared down, with the syntax growing tighter and his trademark neologisms and word-creations increasing. The four volumes in this edition show the flowering of one of the major literary figures of the last century.

This volume includes Sprachgitter, Die Niemandsrose, Mohn und Gedächtnis, and Von schwelle zu Schwelle.

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

Pierre Joris is the author of more than fifty books of poetry, essays, translations, and anthologies, most recently Arabia (not so) Deserta and, with Adonis, Conversations in the Pyrenees. Joris is the editor and translator of Breathturn into Timestead: The Collected Later Poetry of Paul Celan. In 2005 he received the PEN Award for Poetry in Translation for his translation of Celan’s Lichtzwang/Lightduress.
Kraft
A Novel

Jonas Lüscher; Translated from the German by Tess Lewis

A ruthless satire of free-market optimism—winner of the 2017 Swiss Book Prize

Richard Kraft, a German professor of rhetoric, and an aging Reaganite and A-Team fan, is unhappily married and badly in debt. He sees no way out of his rut until he is invited to participate in a competition to be held in California that is sponsored by a Silicon Valley tycoon and "techno-optimist." The contest is to answer a literal "million-dollar question": each competitor must compose an eighteen-minute lecture on why our world is still, despite all evidence, the best of all possible worlds, and how we might improve it even further.

Entering into a surreal American landscape, Kraft soon finds what's left of his life falling to pieces as he struggles to justify as "best" a planet ruled by the hands of such blithe neoliberal cupidity as he encounters on his odyssey to California. Still, with the prize money, perhaps he could finally buy his way to a new life . . . But what contortions—physical and philosophical—will he have to subject himself to in order to claim it?

Jonas Lüscher's second novel, Kraft, is a hilarious and wicked tale about a man facing the ruins of his life, and his world.

Jonas Lüscher was born in Switzerland in 1976, and now lives in Munich. His bestselling debut novel, Barbarian Spring, was long-listed for the German Book Prize and nominated for the Swiss Book Prize. It has been translated into sixteen languages and was adapted for the stage. Kraft was ranked first in the February 2017 “SWR Bestenliste,” a list of the best fiction chosen by twenty-six prominent German critics, and went on to win the Swiss Book Prize in 2017.

Tess Lewis is a writer and translator from the French and German. Her translations include works by Peter Handke, Walter Benjamin, Klaus Merz, Hans Magnus Enzensberger, Christine Angot, Pascal Bruckner, and Jean-Luc Benoziglio.

PRAISE

Praise for Barbarian Spring

"Such are Lüscher’s narrative skills and deftness with language . . . that it’s a little hard to believe [Barbarian Spring] is the author’s first novel . . . He
The Book of Darryl

The Goggles

The illustrated, digitally augmented story of a sixteen-year-old who discovers heavy metal and the son of god in one heady summer in Roman-occupied Nazareth

For sixteen-year-old Darryl, life in Roman-occupied Nazareth is a real drag—especially when everyone at your high school thinks you’re a loser, and you’re convinced the spots on your forehead are sure signs of leprosy. But everything changes with the arrival of a new refugee neighbor, Jay, the son of god. When Jay decides to join Darryl’s band, they discover the most potent force of all time: the power of METAL. And friendship. But mostly METAL.

A radical, hilarious, and touching story of teen angst, The Book of Darryl is an augmented reality novel (an app allows you to view animated pages of the print book) featuring gif animations from the cult artist Scorpion Dagger, sound effects, and an original heavy metal score. Cowritten and directed by the Webby Award–winning team the Goggles (Welcome to Pine Point, Adbusters), The Book of Darryl recounts the genesis of heavy metal and the friendship behind one of the greatest untold musical partnerships in history.

The Goggles are Paul Shoebridge and Michael Simons, award-winning creators who have spent their professional lives telling stories in compelling new ways. Their interactive documentary, Welcome to Pine Point, received more than a dozen international awards. They are coauthors of the book I Live Here, and their work has been featured on CNN and MTV, and in documentaries for BBC, PBS, and Dutch National Television.
Metazoa
Animal Life and the Birth of the Mind

Peter Godfrey-Smith

The scuba-diving philosopher who wrote Other Minds explores the origins of animal consciousness

In his acclaimed 2016 book Other Minds, the philosopher and scuba diver Peter Godfrey-Smith explored the mind of the octopus—the closest thing to an intelligent alien on earth, as he put it. In Metazoa, Godfrey-Smith expands his inquiry to animals at large, investigating the evolution of subjective awareness with the assistance of the far flung species he has met undersea. Combining vivid animal encounters with philosophical reflections and the latest news from biology, Metazoa reveals that even in our hi-tech, AI-driven times, there is no understanding minds without understanding nerves, muscles, and our active bodies. The result is a story as rich and vibrant as life itself, one that explains the mystery of animal consciousness in accessible and riveting prose.

Peter Godfrey-Smith is a professor in the School of History and Philosophy of Science at the University of Sydney. He is the author of Other Minds: The Octopus, the Sea, and the Deep Origins of Consciousness as well as Theory and Reality: An Introduction to the Philosophy of Science and Darwinian Populations and Natural Selection, which won the 2010 Lakatos Award.
Aphasia
A Novel
Mauro Javier Cárdenas

A surreal, word-mad dash through the life of an Colombian immigrant sorting through love, fatherhood, self-help, literature, and ambition in contemporary California

Antonio wants to avoid thinking about his sister—even though he knows he won’t be able to avoid thinking about his sister—because his sister is on the run after allegedly threatening to shoot her neighbors, and has been claiming that Antonio, Obama, the Pentagon, and their mother are all conspiring against her. Nevertheless, Antonio is going to try his best to be as avoidant as possible, because he worries that what’s been happening to his sister might somehow infect his relatively contented, ordered American life, and destabilize the precarious arrangement with his ex-wife that’s allowed him to stay close to his two daughters.

In fact, he’s busy doing everything except facing his problems head-on: transcribing recordings of his mother speaking about their troubled life in Colombia, transcribing recordings of his ex-wife speaking about her idyllic life in the Czech Republic; writing about former girlfriends whose words and deeds still recur in his mind; rereading stories by Americans that allow him to skirt the subject of his sister’s state of mind without completely destroying his own.

Written in long, jagged sentences that accommodate all the detritus of thought—scenes real and imagined, headphones and heartache, Toblerones and Thomas Bernhard—Aphasia captures the immensity of the present moment as well as the pain of the past. It cements Mauro Javier Cárdenas’s place as one of the most innovative a...

Mauro Javier Cárdenas is the author of The Revolutionaries Try Again, which The New York Times called “an original, insubordinate novel.” In 2017, the Hay Festival included him in Bogotá39, a selection of the best young Latin American novelists working today.

PRAISE

Praise for The Revolutionaries Try Again

"This debut novel, 12 years in the writing, is a welcome example of how fiction can have urgency, how it’s still one of the greatest forms for tackling the incommensurable.” —Valerie Miles, The New York Times Book Review
Fevers, Feuds, and Diamonds
Ebola and the Ravages of History
Paul Farmer

The public health legend Paul Farmer offers a provocative account of the 2014 Ebola crisis and why it occurred

In 2014, Sierra Leone, Liberia, and Guinea suffered the worst epidemic of Ebola in history. The brutal virus spread rapidly through a clinical desert where basic health-care facilities were few and far between. Causing severe loss of life and economic disruption, the Ebola crisis was a major tragedy of modern medicine. But why did it happen, and what can we learn from it?

Paul Farmer, the internationally renowned doctor and anthropologist, experienced the Ebola outbreak firsthand—Partners in Health, the organization he founded, was among the international responders. In Fevers, Feuds, and Diamonds, he offers the first substantive account of this frightening, fast-moving episode and its implications. In vibrant prose, Farmer tells the harrowing stories of Ebola victims while showing why the medical response was slow and insufficient. Rebutting misleading claims about the origins of Ebola and why it spread so rapidly, he traces West Africa's chronic health failures back to centuries of exploitation and injustice. Under formal colonial rule, disease containment was a priority but care was not — and the region’s health care woes worsened, with devastating consequences that Farmer traces up to the present.

This thorough and hopeful narrative is a definitive work of reportage, history, and advocacy, and a crucial intervention in public-health discussions around the world.

Paul Farmer is the Kolokotrones University Professor and Chair of Global Health and Social Medicine at Harvard University as well as chief of the Division of Global Health Equity at Boston's Brigham and Women's Hospital, and a founding director of Partners In Health. Among his numerous awards and honors is the Public Welfare Medal from the National Academy of Sciences.

PRAISE

Praise for Paul Farmer

"If there were a Nobel Prize for being a world-class human being, [Paul Farmer] would have won it a long time ago . . . He never quits. There are mountains beyond mountains and he's still looking for them, and he's still climbing.” —Bill Clinton
# Ambergris
## City of Saints and Madmen; Shriek: An Afterword; Finch

**Jeff VanderMeer**

From the author of *Borne* and *Annihilation* comes the one-volume hardcover reissue of his cult classic Ambergris Trilogy: *City of Saints and Madmen*, *Shriek: An Afterword*, and *Finch*.

Before Area X, there was Ambergris. Jeff VanderMeer conceived what would become his first cult classic series of speculative works: the Ambergris Trilogy. Now, for the first time ever, the story of the sprawling metropolis of Ambergris is collected into a single volume, including *City of Saints and Madmen*, *Shriek: An Afterword*, and *Finch*.

**Jeff VanderMeer**’s *NYT*-bestselling *Southern Reach* trilogy has been translated into over 35 languages. The first novel, *Annihilation*, won the Nebula Award and Shirley Jackson Award, and was made into a movie by Paramount in 2018. Recent works include *Dead Astronauts, Borne* (a finalist for the Arthur C. Clarke Award), and *The Strange Bird*. These novels, set in the *Borne* universe, are being developed for TV by AMC. Called “the weird Thoreau” by *The New Yorker*, VanderMeer frequently speaks about issues related to climate change and storytelling. He lives in Tallahassee, Florida, with his wife Ann, cat Neo, and a yard full of native plants.

### PRAISE

Before Area X, there was Ambergris. Jeff VanderMeer conceived what would become his first cult classic series of speculative works: The Ambergris Trilogy. Now, for the first time ever, the story of the sprawling metropolis of Ambergris is collected into a single volume, including *City of Saints and Madmen*, *Finch*, and *Shriek: An Afterword*. 

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**MARKETING**

- National review attention
- Print and online features and profiles
- Sci-fi and environmental media outreach
- NPR, podcast, and radio interviews
- Original author essays
- Author appearances
- Online advertising
- Promotional items
- Social media promotion and target...
Frederick Seidel Selected Poems
Frederick Seidel's Selected Poems

Frederick Seidel

An overview of Frederick Seidel's best and most famous poetry from the past five decades, showing the evolution of a master poet's craft

This collection provides readers with a perpetually exciting, compact edition of the revolutionary poet's most powerful work. Frederick Seidel has been hailed as "the poet of a new contemporary form" (The New York Review of Books), and "the most frightening American poet ever" (Boston Review).

His ambitious, disturbing, tender work has mystified and captured critics, poets, and readers for decades. Frederick Seidel's Selected Poems allows readers to appreciate the scope of Seidel's work over the past half-century and his uncanny ability to say the unsayable. Seidel is, in the words of the critic Adam Kirsch, "the best American poet writing today."

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

PRAISE

Praise for Frederick Seidel

"One of the world's most inspired and unusual poets." —Hillel Italie, USA Today

"In the desert of contemporary American poetry, Frederick Seidel's work awaits the weary reader like an oasis." —James Lasdun, The Guardian
Prefecture D
Four Novellas

Hideo Yokoyama; Translated from the Japanese by Jonathan Lloyd-Davies

Prefecture D continues Hideo Yokoyama’s exploration of the themes of obsession, saving face, office politics, and interdepartmental conflicts. Placing everyday characters between a rock and a hard place and then dialing up the pressure, he blends and balances the very Japanese with the very accessible, to spectacular effect.

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. Prefecture D is his third book to be...
The Seventh Mansion
A Novel
Maryse Meijer

Dark and propulsive, Maryse Meijer's debut novel examines activism, love, and purpose with uncanny intimacy

A sensitive and awkward loner who is deeply concerned with the environment, sixteen-year-old Xie finds community in his rural town with Jo and Leni, two queer girls his age, with whom he frees some captive mink from a local farm. When Xie is the only one caught, his small world gets smaller: Kicked out of high school, he becomes increasingly connected with nature, spending his time in the birch woods behind his house, attending extremist activist meetings, and serving as a custodian for what others ignore, abuse, and discard.

Exploring the woods alone one night, Xie finds the relic of a Catholic saint hidden in a nearby church. Regal and dressed in ornate armor, it captivates him. After weeks of visits, Xie steals the skeleton, hides it in his attic bedroom, and develops a passionate relationship with the bones and spirit of the saint—the martyred Pancratius, or P.—who becomes Xie’s companion. But when Xie’s beloved woods are threatened by loggers, he and P. go to great lengths to protect them as Xie struggles to balance his conflicting—and increasingly extreme—ideals of purity, sacrifice, and responsibility. When the logging finally begins, blood is suddenly on the leaves.

With the sinister imagination and twisted empathy that made her collections Heartbreaker and Rag cult classics, Maryse Meijer's debut novel is a moving, shocking, and profoundly original coming-of-age story that explores finding lo...

Maryse Meijer is the author of the story collections Heartbreaker, which was one of Electric Literature’s 25 Best Short Story Collections of 2016, and Rag, which was a New York Times Book Review Editors’ Pick and a finalist for the Chicago Review of Books Award for Fiction, as well as the novella Northwood. She lives in Chicago.

PRAISE

Praise for Rag

Voices from the Valley
Tech Workers Talk About What They Do—and How They Do It

Edited by Ben Tarnoff and Moira Weigel

From FSGO x Logic: anonymous interviews with tech workers at all levels, providing a bird’s-eye view of the industry

In *Voices from the Valley*, the celebrated writers and *Logic* cofounders Moira Weigel and Ben Tarnoff take an unprecedented dive into the tech industry, conducting unfiltered, in-depth, anonymous interviews with tech workers at all levels, including a data scientist, a start-up founder, a cook who serves their lunch, and a PR wizard. In the process, Weigel and Tarnoff open the conversation about the tech industry at large, a conversation that has previously been dominated by the voices of CEOs. Deeply illuminating, revealing, and at times lurid, *Voices from the Valley* is a vital and comprehensive view of an industry that governs our lives.

FSG Originals × *Logic* dissects the way technology functions in everyday lives. The titans of Silicon Valley, for all their utopian imaginings, never really had our best interests at heart: recent threats to democracy, truth, privacy, and safety, as a result of tech’s reckless pursuit of progress, have shown as much. We present an alternate story, one that delights in capturing technology in all its contradictions and innovation, across borders and socioeconomic divisions, from history through the future, beyond platitudes and PR hype, and past doom and gloom. Our collaboration features four brief but provocative forays into the tech industry’s many worlds, and aspires to incite fresh conversations about technology focused on nuanced and accessible explorations of the em...

**Moira Weigel** is the author of *Labor of Love: The Invention of Dating*. Her writing has appeared in *The New York Times*, *The Atlantic*, *The New Yorker*, *The Guardian*, *The Nation*, *The New Republic*, and *n+1*, among other publications, and she is a cofounder of *Logic* magazine. She received a fellowship to the Harvard Society of Fellows in 2016 and lives in Cambridge, Massachusetts.

**Ben Tarnoff** is the author of the books *A Counterfeiter’s Paradise* and *The Bohemians* and is a cofounder of *Logic* magazine. His writing has appeared in *The Guardian*, *The New Republic*, *Jacobin*, and *Lapham’s Quarterly*, among other publications. He lives in Cambridge, Massachusetts.
What Tech Calls Thinking
An Inquiry into the Intellectual Bedrock of Silicon Valley

Adrian Daub

Adrian Daub’s What Tech Calls Thinking is a lively dismantling of the ideas that form the intellectual bedrock of Silicon Valley. Equally important to Silicon Valley’s world-altering innovation are the language and ideas it uses to explain and justify itself. And often, those fancy new ideas are simply old motifs playing dress-up in a hoodie. From the myth of dropping out to the war cry of “disruption,” Daub locates the Valley’s supposedly original, radical thinking in the ideas of Heidegger and Ayn Rand, the New Age Esalen Foundation in Big Sur, and American traditions from the tent revival to predestination. Written with verve and imagination, What Tech Calls Thinking is an intellectual refutation of Silicon Valley’s ethos, pulling back the curtain on the self-aggrandizing myths the Valley tells about itself.

FSG Originals × Logic dissects the way technology functions in everyday lives. The titans of Silicon Valley, for all their utopian imaginings, never really had our best interests at heart: recent threats to democracy, truth, privacy, and safety, as a result of tech’s reckless pursuit of progress, have shown as much. We present an alternate story, one that delights in capturing technology in all its contradictions and innovation, across borders and socioeconomic divisions, from history through the future, beyond platitudes and PR hype, and past doom and gloom. Our collaboration features four brief...

Adrian Daub is a professor of comparative literature and German studies at Stanford University, and the director of Stanford’s Program in Feminist, Gender, and Sexuality Studies. His research focuses on the intersection of literature, music, and philosophy in the nineteenth century, and he is the author of several books published by academic presses. His writing has appeared in The Guardian, The New Republic, n+1, Longreads, and the Los Angeles Review of Books. He lives in San Francisco.
Subprime Attention Crisis
Advertising and the Time Bomb at the Heart of the Internet

Tim Hwang

From FSGO x Logic: a revealing examination of digital advertising and the internet’s precarious foundation

In *Subprime Attention Crisis*, Tim Hwang investigates the way big tech financializes attention. In the process, he shows us how digital advertising—the beating heart of the internet—is at risk of collapsing, and that its potential demise bears an uncanny resemblance to the housing crisis of 2008. From the unreliability of advertising numbers and the unregulated automation of advertising bidding wars, to the simple fact that online ads mostly fail to work, Hwang demonstrates that while consumers’ attention has never been more prized, the true value of that attention itself—much like subprime mortgages—is wildly misrepresented. And if online advertising goes belly-up, the internet—and its free services—will suddenly be accessible only to those who can afford it. Deeply researched, convincing, and alarming, *Subprime Attention Crisis* will change the way you look at the internet, and its precarious future.

FSG Originals × *Logic* dissects the way technology functions in everyday lives. The titans of Silicon Valley, for all their utopian imaginings, never really had our best interests at heart: recent threats to democracy, truth, privacy, and safety, as a result of tech’s reckless pursuit of progress, have shown as much. We present an alternate story, one that delights in capturing technology in all its contradictions and innovation, across borders and socioeconomic divisions, from history through the future, be...

Tim Hwang is a writer and researcher. He is the former director of the Harvard-MIT Ethics and Governance of AI Initiative, and previously served as the global public policy lead for artificial intelligence and machine learning at Google. His work has appeared in *The New York Times*, *The Washington Post*, *Wired*, *The Atlantic*, and *The Wall Street Journal*, among other publications. He lives in Los Angeles.
Blockchain Chicken Farm
And Other Stories of Tech in China's Countryside

Xiaowei Wang

From FSGO x Logic: stories about rural China, food, and tech that reveal new truths about the globalized world

In *Blockchain Chicken Farm*, the technologist and writer Xiaowei Wang explores the political and social entanglements of technology in rural China. Their discoveries force them to challenge the standard idea that rural culture and people are backward, conservative, and intolerant. Instead, they find that rural China has not only adapted to rapid globalization but has actually innovated the technology we all use today. From pork farmers using AI to produce the perfect pig, to disruptive luxury counterfeits and the political intersections of e-commerce villages, Wang unravels the ties between globalization, technology, agriculture, and commerce in unprecedented fashion. Accompanied by humorous “Sinofuturist” recipes that frame meals as they transform under new technology, *Blockchain Chicken Farm* is an original and probing look into innovation, connectivity, and collaboration in the digitized rural world.

FSG Originals x *Logic* dissects the way technology functions in everyday lives. The titans of Silicon Valley, for all their utopian imaginings, never really had our best interests at heart: recent threats to democracy, truth, privacy, and safety, as a result of tech’s reckless pursuit of progress, have shown as much. We present an alternate story, one that delights in capturing technology in all its contradictions and innovation, across borders and socioeconomic divisions, from history through the future, ...

*Xiaowei Wang* is a technologist, a filmmaker, an artist, and a writer. The creative director at *Logic* magazine, their work encompasses community-based and public art projects, data visualization, technology, ecology, and education. Their projects have been finalists for the Index Design Awards and featured by *The New York Times*, the BBC, CNN, *VICE*, and elsewhere. They are working toward a PhD at UC Berkeley, where they are a part of the National Science Foundation’s Environment and Society: Data Science for the 21st Century Research Traineeship.
Song of Songs
A Poem

Sylvie Baumgartel

A debut poetry collection from a writer whose vivid verse explores the connections and relationships that make us human.

I hold on to everything. Will you please help me let go? . . .

This is what makes sense to me. Nothing else does. You’re the only one I want to talk to. You’re the only one I like talking to. You are the only one who understands me. You are the only one who makes me make sense. Even though I never make sense. But you know.

In the spirit of the biblical Song of Solomon, Song of Songs, Sylvie Baumgartel’s powerful debut, takes the subjects of love and worship, of power and submission, and brings them to the desperate, wild spaces of the speaker’s domestic life. With a voice at once precise and oneiric, Baumgartel explores the landscapes of sex and desire in this groundbreaking book-length poem.

Oblivion Banjo
The Poetry of Charles Wright

Charles Wright

The selected works of one of our finest American poets

The thread that dangles us
between a dark and a darker dark,
Is luminous, sure, but smooth sided.
Don't touch it here, and don't touch it there.
Don't touch it, in fact, anywhere—
Let it dangle and hold us hard, let it flash and swing.
—from “Scar Tissue”

Over the course of his work—more than twenty books in total—Charles Wright has built “one of the truly distinctive bodies of poetry created in the second half of the twentieth century” (David Young, Contemporary Poets). Oblivion Banjo, a capacious new selection spanning his decades-long career, showcases the central themes of Wright’s poetry: “language, landscape, and the idea of God.” No matter the precise subject of each poem, on display here is a vast and rich interior life, a mind wrestling with the tenuous relationship between the ways we describe the world and its reality.

The recipient of almost every honor in poetry—the Pulitzer Prize, the National Book Award, and the Bollingen Prize, to name a few—and a former poet laureate of the United States, Wright is an essential voice in American letters. Oblivion Banjo is the perfect distillation of his inimitable career—for devout fans and newcomers alike.

Charles Wright, winner of the Pulitzer Prize, the National Book Critics Circle Award, the National Book Award, the Griffin Poetry Prize, and the Bollingen Prize for American Poetry, lives in Charlottesville, Virginia.

PRAISE

Praise for Charles Wright

“Inside [Wright’s] lyric, there resides a world well beyond the ordinary . . . It is the heart and soul that he delivers so eloquently.” —Thomas Curwen, Los Angeles Times
Frolic and Detour
Poems

Paul Muldoon

A new collection from the Pulitzer Prize–winning poet

Frolic and Detour, the thirteenth collection from the Pulitzer Prize–winning poet, shows all the energy and ambition we might generally associate with a first book. Here, we consider the pull of time’s interlocking spirals, the drinking habits of our most celebrated writers (Dante Alighieri: straight, no chaser), the Irish Rising and the Great War, how “a streak of ragwort / may yet shine / as an off-the-record / remark becomes the party line.” Frolic and Detour reminds us that the sidelong glance is the sweetest, the tangential approach the most telling, and why Paul Muldoon “has long been regarded as one of the most significant poets of the past fifty years” (Elizabeth Lund, The Washington Post).

Paul Muldoon was born in County Armagh in 1951. He now lives in New York. A former radio and television producer for the BBC in Belfast, he has taught at Princeton University for thirty years. He is the author of twelve collections of poetry, including Moy Sand and Gravel, for which he won the 2003 Pulitzer Prize. His most recent book is Selected Poems 1968–2014.

PRAISE

Praise for Selected Poems 1968–2014

"Paul Muldoon’s Selected Poems 1968–2014 demonstrates why he has long been regarded as one of the most significant poets of the past fifty years."
—Elizabeth Lund, The Washington Post

The correspondence between one of the most famous couples of twentieth-century literature

The Dolphin Letters offers an unprecedented portrait of Robert Lowell and Elizabeth Hardwick during the last seven years of Lowell’s life, a time of personal crisis and creative innovation for both writers. Lowell’s controversial sonnet sequence, The Dolphin (for which he used Hardwick’s letters as a source), and Hardwick’s Sleepless Nights were written during this period. Centered on the letters they exchanged with each other and with other members of their circle—writers, intellectuals, friends, and publishers, including Elizabeth Bishop, Caroline Blackwood, Mary McCarthy, and Adrienne Rich—the book has the narrative sweep of a novel, telling the story of the dramatic breakup of their twenty-one-year marriage and their extraordinary, but late, reconciliation. Lowell and Hardwick are acutely intelligent observers of marriages, children, and friends, and of the feelings that their personal crises gave rise to.

The Dolphin Letters, masterfully edited by Saskia Hamilton, is a debate about the limits of art—what occasions a work of art, what moral and artistic license artists have to make use of their lives as material, what formal innovations such debates give rise to. The crisis of Lowell’s The Dolphin was profoundly affecting to everyone surrounding him, and Bishop’s warning to Lowell—“art just isn’t worth that much”—haunts.

Elizabeth Hardwick (1915–2007) was a literary critic, a novelist, and one of the founders of The New York Review of Books. She is the author of Sleepless Nights and two other novels, a biography of Herman Melville, and four collections of essays, including Seduction and Betrayal: Essays on Women in Literature.

Robert Lowell (1917–1977) was the renowned and controversial author of many books of poetry, including Day by Day (FSG, 1977), For the Union Dead (FSG, 1964), and Life Studies (FSG, 1959).

Saskia Hamilton is the author of three books of poetry, including Corridor, named one of the best poetry books of 2014 by The New Yorker and The New York Times Book Review. She is the editor of The Letters of Robert Lowell and coeditor of Words in Air: Th...
Just Us
An American Conversation

Claudia Rankine

Claudia Rankine’s Citizen changed the conversation—Just Us urges all of us into it

As everyday white supremacy becomes increasingly vocalized with no clear answers at hand, how best might we approach one another? Claudia Rankine, without telling us what to do, urges us to begin the discussions that might open pathways through this divisive and stuck moment in American history.

Just Us is an invitation to discover what it takes to stay in the room together, even and especially in breaching the silence, guilt, and violence that follow direct addresses of whiteness. Rankine’s questions disrupt the false comfort of our culture’s liminal and private spaces—the airport, the theater, the dinner party, the voting booth—where neutrality and politeness live on the surface of differing commitments, beliefs, and prejudices as our public and private lives intersect.

This brilliant arrangement of essays, poems, and images includes the voices and rebuttals of others: white men in first class responding to, and with, their white male privilege; a friend’s explanation of her infuriating behavior at a play; and women confronting the political currency of dying their hair blond, all running alongside fact-checked notes and commentary that complements Rankine’s own text, complicating notions of authority and who gets the last word.

Sometimes wry, often vulnerable, and always prescient, Just Us is Rankine’s most intimate work, less interested in being right than in being true, being together.

Claudia Rankine is a poet, essayist, and playwright. Just Us completes her groundbreaking trilogy, following Don’t Let Me Be Lonely and Citizen. She is a MacArthur Fellow and teaches at Yale University.

PRAISE

“This brilliant and multilayered work is a call, an insistent, rightly impatient demand for a public conversation on whiteness. Just Us moves with tenacity, critical patience, and a rare honesty toward a potential affirmation. Anyone who turns away from this bold and vital invitation to get to work would be a damn fool.”—Judith Butler
Alexandria
A Novel
Paul Kingsnorth

A visionary and timely novel about a world out of balance by the prizewinning author of The Wake

When Swans return, Alexandria will fall.

One thousand years from now, a small religious community lives in what were once the fens of eastern England. They are perhaps the world’s last human survivors. Now they find themselves stalked by a force that draws ever closer, and that seems to have brought them to the brink of extinction. A force that offers them a promise and a threat: a place called Alexandria.

Set in a time on the far side of an apocalypse, and perhaps on the verge of another, Paul Kingsnorth’s radical new novel is a work of matchless, mythic imagination. It is driven by elemental themes: community versus the self, the mind versus the body, machine over man—and the tension between an unstable present and an unknown, unknowable future.

Alexandria is the rousing conclusion to an extraordinary fictional project that began with Kingsnorth’s prizewinning novel, The Wake, one that maps two thousand years of troubled human history.

Paul Kingsnorth is the author of Confessions of a Recovering Environmentalist, Beast, and The Wake. He cofounded the Dark Mountain Project, a global network of writers, artists, and thinkers in search of new stories for a world on the brink.

PRAISE

Praise for Beast

“Cements Kingsnorth’s reputation as a furiously gifted writer.” —The Washington Post

"Taut, thrilling and mystifying. . . . Taken in tandem with The Wake, it forms a powerful meditation on violence, society and the nature of exile.” —Star Tribune (Minneapolis)

"Kingsnorth is becoming an existential David Mitchell.” —Vulture
That Was Now, This Is Then
Poems

Vijay Seshadri

The brilliant new collection from Vijay Seshadri, author of the Pulitzer Prize–winning 3 Sections

No one blends ironic intelligence, emotional frankness, radical self-awareness, and complex humor the way Vijay Seshadri does. In this, his fourth collection, he affirms his place as one of America’s greatest living poets. That Was Now, This Is Then takes on the planar paradoxes of time and space, destabilizing highly tuned lyrics and elegies with dizzying turns in poems of unrequitable longing, of longing for longing, of longing to be found, of grief. In these poems, Seshadri’s speaker becomes the subject, the reader becomes the writer, and the multiplying refracted narratives yield an “anguish so pure it almost / feels like joy.”

Vijay Seshadri is the author of 3 Sections, winner of the Pulitzer Prize; The Long Meadow, winner of the James Laughlin Award of the Academy of American Poets; and Wild Kingdom. He teaches at Sarah Lawrence College and lives in Brooklyn, New York.

PRAISE

Praise for 3 Sections

“A compelling collection of poems that examine human consciousness, from birth to dementia, in a voice that is by turns witty and grave, compassionate and remorseless.”—Pulitzer Prize citation
Bring Me the Head of Quentin Tarantino
Stories

Julián Herbert

Virtuosic stories by one of “the more interesting and ambitious prose stylists of our time” (Los Angeles Times)

In this madcap, insatiably inventive, bravura story collection, Julián Herbert brings to vivid life people who struggle to retain a measure of sanity in an insane world. Here we become acquainted with a vengeful “personal memories coach” who tries to get even with his delinquent clients; a former journalist with a cocaine habit who travels through northern Mexico impersonating a famous author of Westerns; the ghost of Juan Rulfo; a man who discovers music in his teeth; and, in the deliriously pulpy title story, a drug lord who looks just like Quentin Tarantino, who kidnaps a mopey film critic to discuss Tarantino’s films while he sends his goons to find and kill the doppelgänger that has colonized his consciousness. Herbert’s astute observations about human nature in extremis feel like the reader’s own revelations.

The antic and often dire stories in Bring Me the Head of Quentin Tarantino depict the violence and corruption that plague Mexico today, but they are also deeply ruminative and layered explorations of the narrative impulse and the ethics of art making. Herbert asks: Where are the lines between fiction, memory, and reality? What is the relationship between power, corruption, and survival? How much violence can a person (and a country) take? The stories in this explosive collection showcase the fevered imagination of a significant contemporary writer.

Julián Herbert was born in Acapulco in 1971. He is a writer, musician, and teacher, and is the author of The House of the Pain of Others and Tomb Song.

PRAISE

Praise for Julián Herbert

“One of the most indispensable and widely read authors of contemporary Mexican literature.” —Los Angeles Review of Books

“[Herbert’s] books are mash-ups of memory, investigation and fictional ornamentation, marked with a fond disrespect for genre—much like life.” —The New York Times
A sensuous, textured novel of life in a refugee camp, long-listed for the Orwell Prize for Political Fiction

On a hill overlooking a refugee camp in Sudan, a young man strings up bedsheets that, in an act of imaginative resilience, will serve as a screen in his silent cinema. From the cinema he can see all the comings and goings in the camp, especially those of two new arrivals: a girl named Saba, and her mute brother, Hagos.

For these siblings, adapting to life in the camp is not easy. Saba mourns the future she lost when she was forced to abandon school, while Hagos, scorned for his inability to speak, must live vicariously through his sister. Both resist societal expectations by seeking to redefine love, sex, and gender roles in their lives, and when a businessman opens a shop and befriends Hagos, they cast off those pressures and make an unconventional choice.

With this cast of complex, beautifully drawn characters, Sulaiman Addonia details the textures and rhythms of everyday life in a refugee camp, and questions what it means to be an individual when one has lost all that makes a home or a future. Intimate and subversive, Silence Is My Mother Tongue dissects the ways society wages war on women and explores the stories we must tell to survive in a broken, inhospitable environment.

Sulaiman Addonia spent his early life in a refugee camp and went on to earn an MA from the University of London. His novel The Consequences of Love was short-listed for the Commonwealth Writers’ Prize and has been translated into more than twenty languages.

PRAISE

"Addonia’s prose layers imagery and insight to keep us glued right to the spectacular end. This is a splendid, compulsive reading experience.” —Maaza Mengiste

"The exchange of masculine and feminine roles within the context of a sexually conservative culture makes for a gripping and courageous narrative.” —The Guardian
Khaled Mattawa’s poetry contains “the complexity of a transnational identity” (MacArthur Fellowship citation)

Fugitive Atlas is a sweeping, impassioned account of refugee crises, military occupations, and ecological degradation, an acute and probing journey through a world in upheaval. Khaled Mattawa’s chorus of speakers finds moments of profound solace in searching for those lost—in elegy and prayer—even when the power of poetry and faith seems incapable of providing salvation.

With extraordinary formal virtuosity and global scope, these poems turn not to lament for those regions charted as theaters of exploitation and environmental malpractice but to a poignant amplification of the lives, dreams, and families that exist within them. In this exquisite collection, Mattawa asks how we are expected to endure our times, how we inherit the journeys of our ancestors, and how we let loose those we love into an unpredictable world.

Khaled Mattawa is the author of five collections of poetry. A MacArthur Fellow, he teaches at the University of Michigan.

PRAISE

Praise for Khaled Mattawa

“Mattawa continues to write a global poetry . . . one of daring necessity.” —The Bloomsbury Review

"One of the most original, lyrical and intellectually challenging American poets of his generation . . . Dazzling and pertinent." —Marilyn Hacker, Academy of American Poets Fellowship citation
My Name Will Grow Wide Like a Tree
Selected Poems

Yi Lei; Translated from the Chinese by Tracy K. Smith and Changtai Bi

One of China’s most significant contemporary poets, cotranslated by former US Poet Laureate Tracy K. Smith

Yi Lei published her poem “A Single Woman’s Bedroom” in 1987, when cohabitation before marriage was a punishable crime in China. She was met with major critical acclaim—and with outrage—for her frank embrace of women’s erotic desire and her unabashed critique of oppressive law. Over the span of her revolutionary career, Yi Lei became one of the most influential figures in contemporary Chinese poetry.

Passionate, rigorous, and inimitable, the poems in My Name Will Grow Wide Like a Tree celebrate the joys of the body, ponder the miracle of compassion, and proclaim an abiding reverence for the natural world. Presented in the original Chinese alongside English translations by Changtai Bi and Pulitzer Prize–winning poet Tracy K. Smith, this collection introduces American readers to a boundless spirit—one “composing an explosion.”

Yi Lei (1951–2018) received the Zhuang Zhongwen Literature Prize and published eight collections of poems, including A Single Woman’s Bedroom, The Love Poems of Yi Lei, and Women’s Age. Her work has been translated into five languages.

PRAISE

“Yi Lei writes as movingly of grief as of love, of joy as of deep unrest. She celebrates and aligns herself with nature... Her vision moves nimbly from the earthbound and everyday to the cosmic, the enduring.” —Tracy K. Smith, from her introduction
The Contradictions
Sophie Yanow

The Eisner Award–winning story about a student figuring out radical politics in a messy world

Sophie is young and queer and into feminist theory. She decides to study abroad, choosing Paris for no firm reason beyond liking French comics. Feeling a bit lonely and out of place, she’s desperate for community and a sense of belonging. She stumbles into what/who she’s looking for when she meets Zena. An anarchist student-activist committed to veganism and shoplifting, Zena offers Sophie a whole new political ideology that feels electric. Enamored—of Zena, of the idea of living more righteously—Sophie finds herself swept up in a whirlwind friendship that blows her even further from her rural California roots as they embark on a disastrous hitchhiking trip to Amsterdam and Berlin, full of couch surfing, drug tripping, and radical book fairs.

Capturing that time in your life where you’re meeting new people and learning about the world—when everything feels vital and urgent—The Contradictions is Sophie Yanow’s fictionalized coming-of-age story. Sophie’s attempts at ideological purity are challenged time and again, putting into question the plausibility of a life of dogma in a world filled with contradictions. Keenly observed, frank, and very funny, The Contradictions speaks to a specific reality while also being incredibly relatable, reminding us that we are all imperfect people in an imperfect world.

Sophie Yanow is an artist and writer based in the San Francisco Bay Area. The Contradictions is her first book with Drawn & Quarterly, the webcomic of which won an Eisner Award and was nominated for the Ringo- and Harvey Awards. Yanow is also the author of What Is a Glacier? and War of Streets and Houses. Her comics have appeared in The New Yorker, The Guardian, Fusion, Los Angeles Review of Books, and The Nib. She has been a MacDowell Colony Fellow, and her translation of Dominique Goblet’s Pretending Is Lying received the Scott Moncrieff prize for translation from French. Yanow has taught at the Center for Cartoon Studies, the New Hampshire Institute of Art, and the Animation Workshop in Denmark.

PRAISE

“Yanow is an author/illustrator to watch.” —Publishers Weekly

“With deft sketches and minimal text, [Yanow] shows how the streets of a city can simultaneously foster and crush social change, and how urban humans cling to personal freedom in an increasingly monitored world.” —The Atlantic
The City of Belgium

Brecht Evens

An exquisitely drawn, sinuous exploration of the city after hours

As night falls in the city of Belgium, three strangers in their late twenties—a most dangerous age—arrive at a popular restaurant. Jona is about to move away; he calls his wife, who’s already settled in Berlin, before trying to make plans with friends for one last night on the town. No one bites—they’re all busy, or maybe they just don’t want to party—but he’s determined to make this night something to remember. Victoria is lively and energetic, but is surrounded by friends and family who are buzzkills, always worrying about what is best for her. Rodolphe is consoled by a friend and snaps out of his funk, becoming the life of the party. The three careen through the city’s night spots and underbelly, chasing pleasure—or at least a few distractions from the thrum of the humdrum. Each has adventures that reveal them to be teetering on the edge between lucid dream and tooth-grinding nightmare.

Vibrantly rendered in Brecht Evens’s swirling watercolors, The City of Belgium continues the critically acclaimed streak of graphic novels he began with The Wrong Place, The Making Of, and Panther. His darkly comic stories of characters on the verge of personal discovery—people about to become who they will be for the rest of their lives—have never been more beautifully conceived, more intricately planned, than in his magical new graphic novel, The City of Belgium.

The Belgian cartoonist Brecht Evens was born in 1986 and studied illustration in Ghent, Belgium. The Wrong Place (2009) started out as a graduation project and was a departure from the more typical comic art of his earlier work. It won the Haarlem Comic Festival’s Willy Vandersteen Award for best Dutch-language graphic novel, and an award at the Angoulême International Comics Festival. He followed The Wrong Place with The Making Of (2012) and the critically acclaimed Panther (2016), which appeared on numerous best-of-the-year lists, including NPR, Vulture, Paste, and others. Evens lives in Paris in a charming and oh-so-Parisian garret apartment.

PRAISE

"Unlike anything else you’ll read this month . . . A triumph.” —Wired

"An assured and accomplished work that—fair warning—goes to a very dark place.” —NPR, Best Books of 2016

"One of the most beautiful and disturbing narratives of childhood ever produced in the comics medium.” —Vulture, Best Comics of 2016
I Want You

Lisa Hanawalt

The filthy, funny early work from the acclaimed illustrator and Bojack Horseman production designer

Before the critically acclaimed animated shows, the bestselling graphic novel Coyote Doggirl, or the humor collections Hot Dog Taste Test and My Dirty Dumb Eyes, cartoonist Lisa Hanawalt was a comic-book-industry sensation with her Ignatz Award-winning minicomic series I Want You. Hanawalt’s outlandish humor and ingenious formalism are evident in the comics collected here. Her love of anthropomorphism and scatology are on full display, all lovingly and grotesquely drawn by Hanawalt in obsessive, unnerving detail.

The stars here are She-Moose, who we join sex-toy shopping, and He-Horse, who we learn mid-flight suffers from ornithophobia. The true star of I Want You may just be Hanawalt’s hilarious command of the graphic listicle. “Top Causes of Freeway Accidents” is a prescient pre-BoJack display of Hanawalt’s love for all things equine. “Things We Are Sorry We Did Last Night” includes the murder of all Hanawalt’s Google doppelgängers. Whether she’s discussing the daily commute or masturbation, she packs each comic in I Want You with punchy cultural observations and sharp-witted reflections on typically taboo subjects. A master humorist, Hanawalt strikes the perfect balance between drawing the gorgeous and the repugnant, the fantastical and the lifelike, the bizarre and the hilarious—creating a deeply human experience that everyone can relate to.

Lisa Hanawalt is an artist living in Los Angeles, California. She is the creator of the Netflix original series Tuca and Bertie and the production designer/producer on Netflix’s Bojack Horseman. She has worked on illustrations, book covers, animations, comics, and textile patterns. She cohosts the podcast Baby Geniuses with the comedian Emily Heller. Hanawalt has published three previous books with Drawn & Quarterly: My Dirty Dumb Eyes, Hot Dog Taste Test, and Coyote Doggirl.

PRAISE

“Hilarious and cathartic and strange as hell.” —GQ

“A wildly entertaining artist with a masterly painting and drawing hand... and a very weird sense of humor.” —The New York Times

“Whether [she is] drawing horse-people inked with unnervingly detailed lines or a young moose fretting about her art practice, Hanawalt’s hybrids make use of the ..."
Paul at Home

Michel Rabagliati

An affecting exploration of the ways our roles as parents and children change over a lifetime

Paul at Home is Quebecois superstar Michel Rabagliati’s most personal book yet, a riveting, emotional, and frequently amusing take on the losses and loneliness of being closer to retirement than to university. Paul is in his mid-50s, a successful cartoonist with an achy shoulder living in a house he once shared with his wife and daughter. The backyard is unkempt, full of weeds. A swing set sits idle, slowly rusting beside a half-dead tree Paul planted with his then-five-year-old daughter. The room that belonged to his now-18-year-old daughter is mostly unused, especially once she decides to move overseas.

Left unspoken but lingering in the background is Paul’s divorce after a three decade relationship with his high school sweetheart. Amid all of this emotional turmoil, Paul visits his ailing mother in the final months of her life. Like Paul, she divorced in mid-life after a long marriage. She spent most of her remaining years alone or in unfulfilling relationships, which Paul implicitly fears might happen to him. Online dating only seems to make the world worse.

Rabagliati doesn’t shy away from these intimate issues, approaching them as much with self-deprecating humor as with sorrow or pain. Characterized by both a deep insight and a willingness to poke fun at life’s shortcomings, Paul at Home is a playful and poetic rumination on loss and the sometimes unsettling changes that come with middle age.

Michel Rabagliati was born in 1961 in Montreal. Since 1999, he has become a key figure in Quebec and beyond for his graphic novels starring the titular character Paul against the backdrop of Montreal. His sixth book in the series, Paul à Québec, earned the Prix du Public at the Angouleme International Comics Festival and was also made into a feature film. Translated into six languages, Rabagliati’s comics have won two Doug Wright Awards for Best Book and a Harvey Award. In 2017, Rabagliati was made a Compagnon des arts et des lettres du Québec, a distinction awarded in recognition of his contributions to the vitality and influence of Quebec culture.

PRAISE

"His cartooning [is] always sharp and energetic... and Rabagliati’s a whiz at endings, a talent few writers in any medium can claim."—Slate

"Balancing personal memoir, historical currents, and keenly observant drawing, the Paul books have slowly become a humble monument to both Rabagliati’s life and Quebec’s culture."—Globe & Mail
The League of Superfeminists
Mirion Malle

This hilarious and helpful primer on feminism teaches young readers what it is and why it matters

The League of Superfeminists is an energetic, fierce, and disruptive comic wherein cartoonist Mirion Malle guides young readers through some of the central tenets of feminism. Issues of consent, intersectionality, privilege, inclusivity, body image, and gender identity are demystified in the form of a witty, down-to-earth dialogue. Malle’s insightful and humorous comics effectively transport lofty concepts from the ivory tower to the eternally safer space of open discussion. Making reference to historical feminism as well as newer developments like the Bechdel test in film and Peggy McIntosh’s dissection of white privilege through the metaphor of the “invisible knapsack,” The League of Superfeminists is an asset to the classroom, library, and household alike.

Knights and princesses present problems associated with consent; sketches of superheroes reveal problematic stereotypes associated with gender and body-type; and grumpy onlookers show just how insidious cat-calling culture can be. No matter how women dress, Malle explains, there seems to always be someone ready to call it out. The League of Superfeminists articulates with both poise and clarity how unconscious biases and problematic thought processes can have tragic results.

Why does feminism matter? Are feminists man-haters? How do race and feminism interact? Malle answers these questions and more, in a comic that is as playful and hilarious as it...

Mirion Malle is a French cartoonist and illustrator who lives in Montreal. She studied comics at the Ecole Superieure des Arts Saint-Luc in Brussels before pursuing a Masters degree in sociology specializing in gender and feminist studies, via Paris Diderot and the Université du Québec à Montréal. Malle has published three books. The League of Superfeminists is her first book to be translated into English and is currently nominated for the Prix de Jeunesse at the Angouleme International Comics Festival.

PRAISE

"[The League of Superfeminists] revisits key pieces of feminist theory, like consent, beauty standards, and the way privilege is gendered. But in drawings. And with disconcerting simplicity."—Le Devoir
“[Ancco’s] stories liberate us to be what we are: friends, artists, monsters, mothers, human beings.” — The Globe and Mail

At nineteen, the idea that you have your whole life ahead of you with endless possibilities can leave you terrifyingly stiff. Throwing mobility to the wind, you dull yourself with booze. The grown-ups around you are stunted by their own failures so they act out—with alcohol, too, sometimes with violence. What was once the hope of youth quickly spirals into powerlessness and malaise as the days trickle by. Ancco expertly renders the moment of suspension between the desire to grow up and the fear that accompanies it.

Autobiography blends with fiction in these coming-of-age stories about people reckoning with their place in their community and women coming to terms with other women. A boy living with HIV tries to decide how he’s going to tell his parents—or whether he should tell them at all. A mother puts pressure on her daughter to pass her exams, and the stress drives them both to drink, fueling a toxic relationship with a lot of care just below the ugly surface. Another girl keeps getting bruises, but who’s inflicting the damage—herself or a loved one? And dogs—seemingly the only ones capable of unconditional love—offer some reprieve.

In Nineteen, Ancco delivers a cutting panorama of contemporary Korean society that’s much darker than one might expect, while also brimming with life and the vitality of youth.

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 fiction shares these strengths, bringing an authentic and genuine voice to a generation of Korean youth. Bad Friends won the Korean Comics Today prize and the Prix Révélation at the Angoulême International Comics Festival in 2016, before being translated into English in 2018. Ancco was born in 1983 just outside of Seoul, Korea.

PRAISE

“An electrifying, heart-crushing story about violence, friendship, desire, and cycles of abuse in 1990s South Korea.” — R.O. Kwon, Vulture

Available now in paperback, this award-winning masterpiece shows the rise of Nazism in Germany

Berlin is one of the high-water marks of the comics medium. For twenty years, Jason Lutes toiled on this intimate, sweeping epic before the collected Berlin was published in 2018 to widespread acclaim, including rave reviews in The New York Times, The Guardian, The Nation, Vulture, The Washington Post, and many other outlets.

Lutes's historical fiction about the decline of the Weimar Republic and the rise of fascism is seen through the eyes of the Jews and the Nazis, the socialists and the socialites, the lavishly decorated queer clubs and the crumbling tenement apartments. Marthe Müller is an aspiring artist escaping the memory of a brother killed in World War I by throwing herself into a life-altering romance. Kurt Severing is an idealistic journalist losing faith in the printed word as fascism and extremism take hold. The Brauns are a family torn apart by poverty, politics, and the May Day protests of 1929. The Cocoa Kids are an American jazz band slowly realizing there's no place left for them in a changing Berlin.

Lutes weaves these characters' lives into the larger fabric of a city slowly ripping apart, crafting a polyphonic novel that is rich in its historical detail and as timely as ever in its depiction of a society slowly awakening to the stranglehold of fascism.


PRAISE

"The magic in Berlin is in the way Lutes conjures a city so remote from him in time and space." — The New York Times

"Uncompromising." — The Boston Globe, Best of 2018

"A modern classic." — The Guardian, Best of 2018

"In the fraying and polarized America of Donald Trump, the Weimar Republic looks more like a mirror than a fading photograph." — T...
Little Lulu: The Fuzzythingus Poopi

John Stanley

One of the best comic books of all time, featuring an introduction from Eileen Myles!

Lulu Moppet is back with even more outlandish adventures and misadventures, as the cartoonist John Stanley settles into kooky and entertaining suburban storylines starring Lulu, Tubby, Alvin, and the rest of the gang.

Lulu is a strong, assertive young girl who is both entertaining and empowering to girls and women of all ages—even if she sometimes finds herself in hot water. In *Little Lulu: The Fuzzythingus Poopi*, she outsmarts criminals who mistake her for a wealthy young girl, gets into high jinks during a day at the beach, and plays hooky—but only by accident! Over the course of these stories, Stanley excels at visual gags, from Lulu using a pencil sharpener on lipstick to a disgruntled Alvin being flocked by girls after trying his mother’s perfume.

This is the second installment in Drawn & Quarterly’s landmark reprint series of the classic John Stanley comic strip that was first published by Dell Comics in the 1940s and ’50s. *Little Lulu: The Fuzzythingus Poopi* will delight longtime fans of the series and new readers alike. Now with an introduction by poet and writer Eileen Myles (*Chelsea Girls*), we learn just how much a little girl’s bravery, silliness, and free will can inspire us all.

**John Stanley** was born in New York City in 1914. He was a journeyman comics scripter from the 1940s through the 1960s. He began working on *Little Lulu* in 1945 and wrote his final issue in 1959, just after beginning to work on Ernie Bushmiller’s *Nancy*. Stanley is considered by many comics historians to be the most consistently funny and idiosyncratic writer to ever work in the medium.

**PRAISE**

“For decades, Little Lulu’s presence on the comics page meant that millions habitually read the adventures of a young girl who consistently bested—outsmarter, outplayed and outmaneuvered—boys.” —NPR

“John Stanley is one of the funniest and quirkiest creators.” —*The New York Times*

“Easily one of the great comics runs of all time.” —*Comics Be...*
The Idea of Perfection
The Poetry and Prose of Paul Valéry; A Bilingual Edition

Paul Valéry; Translated from the French by Nathaniel Rudavsky-Brody

A fresh look into the monumental work of Paul Valéry

Heir to Mallarmé and the symbolists, godfather to the modernists, Paul Valéry was a poet with thousands of readers and few followers, great resonance and little echo. Along with Rilke and Eliot, he stands as a bridge between the tradition of the nineteenth century and the novelty of the twentieth. His reputation as a poet rests on three slim volumes published in a span of only ten years. Yet these poems, it turns out, are inseparable from another, much vaster intellectual and artistic enterprise: the Notebooks.

Behind the published works, behind the uneventful life of the almost forgotten and then exceedingly famous poet, there hides another story, a private life of the mind, that has its record in 27,000 pages of notes revealed in their entirety only after his death. Their existence had been hinted at, evoked in rumors and literary asides; but once made public it took years for their significance to be fully appreciated. It turned out that the prose fragments published in Valéry’s lifetime were not the after-the-fact musings of an accomplished poet, nor his occasional sketchbook, nor excerpts from his private journal. They were a disfigured glimpse of a vast and fragmentary “exercise of thought,” a restless intellectual quest as unguided and yet as persistent, as rigorous, and as uncontainable as the sea that is so often their subject.

The Idea of Perfection shows both sides of Valéry: the craftsman of...

One of the major figures of twentieth-century French literature, Paul Valéry was born in 1871. After a promising debut as a young symbolist in Mallarmé’s circle, Valéry withdrew from public view for nearly twenty years, and was almost forgotten by 1917 when the publication of the long poem La Jeune Parque made him an instant celebrity. He was best known in his day for his small output of highly polished lyric poetry, and posthumously for the 27,000 pages of his Notebooks. He died in 1945.

Nathaniel Rudavsky-Brody was born in Columbus, Ohio. He has translated the work of French and Belgian poets, including Benjamin Fondane, for which he was awarded the Susan Sontag Prize for Translation. He is the author of two volumes of poetry in French and one.
Three Poems

Hannah Sullivan

The winner of the 2018 T. S. Eliot Prize for Poetry, Three Poems is an “exhilarating” (London Review of Books) debut of formal height and emotional depth.

Hannah Sullivan’s debut collection is a revelation—three poems of startling intensity, ambition, and length. Though each poem stands apart, their inventive and looping encounters make for a compelling unity.

“You, Very Young in New York” is a study of romantic possibility and disillusion in a great American city. “Repeat Until Time” begins with a move to California and unfolds into a philosophical essay on repetition. “The Sandpit After Rain” explores the birth of a child and the loss of a father with exacting clarity.

Eliciting comparisons to such poets as Eliot, Pound, Whitman, and Auden, Three Poems explores coming-of-age, motherhood, capitalism, social media, and other contemporary concerns from Sullivan’s unique perspective and exquisite voice.

Hannah Sullivan lives in London and teaches English at Oxford. She studied classics at Cambridge, and then lived in the United States for a decade. Three Poems is her debut collection. It was awarded the 2018 T. S. Eliot Prize and the John Pollard Foundation International Poetry Prize.

PRAISE

“[Sullivan’s] authority, reach and ambition are exhilarating. Her metaphorical scope is that of the internet.” —Lavinia Greenlaw, London Review of Books

“Intimate, experimental and rich in delicious description . . . She writes freshly about everything.” —Kate Kellaway, The Observer
This Is Not My Memoir

André Gregory and Todd London

The autobiography-of-sorts of André Gregory, an iconic figure in American theater and the star of My Dinner with André

This Is Not My Memoir tells the life story of André Gregory, iconic theatre director, writer, and actor. For the first time, Gregory shares memories from a life lived for art, including stories from the making of My Dinner with André. Taking on the dizzying, wondrous nature of a fever dream, This Is Not My Memoir includes fantastic and fantastical stories that take the reader from wartime Paris to golden-age Hollywood, from avant-garde theaters to monasteries in India. Along the way we meet Jerzy Grotowski, Helene Weigel, Gregory Peck, Gurumayi Chidvilasananda, Wallace Shawn, and many other larger-than-life personalities.

This Is Not My Memoir is a collaboration between Gregory and Todd London, who together create a portrait of an artist confronting his later years. Here, too, are the reflections of a man who only recently learned how to love. What does it mean to create art in a world that often places little value on the process of creating it? And what does it mean to confront the process of aging when your greatest work of art may well be your own life?

André Gregory has been directing in New York for more than half a century. He has collaborated on film versions of his theater productions with Wallace Shawn, Louis Malle, and Jonathan Demme. The now legendary My Dinner with André was created by Gregory, Shawn, and Malle. He is also an actor, writer, teacher, and painter.

Todd London’s books include An Ideal Theater, The Importance of Staying Earnest, and two novels. A past winner of the George Jean Nathan Award for Dramatic Criticism, he was the inaugural recipient of the Visionary Leadership Award for his contributions to the American theater.

PRAISE

"André Gregory has lived a life in the theatre filled with wildly uncalculated risks, thrilling successes, dazzling failures (at least as interesting) and endlessly fascinating memories. He is and always has been the boldest hero of our avant-garde.” —Wes Anderson

"Reading this book was like having André sit by my side and tell me the st..."
Bland Fanatics
Liberals, the West, and the
Afterlives of Empire

Pankaj Mishra

A wide-ranging collection of essays on the political hysteria plaguing the West by one of our most important public intellectuals

Decades of violence and chaos have produced a political and intellectual hysteria—ranging from imperial atavism to paranoia about an Islamic threat to Western civilization—that has affected even the most liberal of American and British writers. In Bland Fanatics, Pankaj Mishra examines this hysteria and its fantasists, taking on its arguments and the atmosphere in which it has festered and become influential. In essays that grapple with colonialism, human rights, and the doubling down of liberalism against a background of faltering economies and weakening Anglo-American hegemony, Mishra confronts writers from Jordan Peterson to Ayaan Hirsi Ali. With an introduction by Mishra written for this collection, these essays provide a vantage point from which to look seriously at the current crisis.

Pankaj Mishra is the author of From the Ruins of Empire, Age of Anger, and several other books. He is a columnist at Bloomberg View and writes regularly for The Guardian, London Review of Books, and The New Yorker. A fellow of the Royal Society of Literature, he lives in London.

PRAISE

Praise for Pankaj Mishra

“Mishra dwells in the realm of ideas and emotions, which get short shrift in most accounts of global politics . . . A decent liberalism would read sharp critics like Mishra and learn.” —Franklin Foer, The New York Times Book Review
Places of Mind
A Life of Edward Said
Timothy Brennan

The first comprehensive biography of the most influential, controversial, and celebrated Palestinian intellectual of the twentieth century

As one of Edward Said’s graduate students and close friends until his death in 2003, Timothy Brennan had unprecedented access to his thesis adviser’s ideas and legacy. In this authoritative work, Said, the pioneer of postcolonial studies, a tireless champion for his native Palestine, and an erudite literary critic, emerges as a self-doubting, tender, eloquent advocate of literature’s dramatic effects on politics and civic life.

Charting the intertwined routes of Said’s intellectual development, Places of Mind reveals him as a study in opposites: a cajoler and strategist, a New York intellectual with a foot in Beirut, an orchestra impresario in Weimar and Ramallah, a raconteur on national television, a Palestinian negotiator at the State Department, and an actor in films in which he played himself. Brennan traces the Arab influences on Said’s thinking along with his tutelage under Lebanese statesmen, off-beat modernist auteurs, and New York literati, as Said grew into a scholar whose influential writings changed the face of university life forever. With both intimidating brilliance and disarming charm, Said melded these resources into a groundbreaking and influential countertradition of radical humanism, set against the backdrop of techno-scientific dominance and religious war. With unparalleled clarity, Said gave the humanities a new authority in the age of Reaganism, one that continues today.

Drawing...

Timothy Brennan is the author of several books, including At Home in the World: Cosmopolitanism Now; Borrowed Light: Vico, Hegel, and the Colonies; and Salman Rushdie and the Third World: Myths of the Nation. His writing has appeared in The Nation, The Times Literary Supplement, the London Review of Books, and other outlets. The Samuel Russell Chair in the Humanities at the University of Minnesota, he has received fellowships from the Fulbright Foundation and the National Endowment for the Humanities.
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