The Electric Woman
A Memoir in Death-Defying Acts

Tessa Fontaine

A daughter’s astonishing memoir of pushing past fear, through life in a traveling sideshow and her mother’s illness

Turns out, one lesson applies to living through illness, keeping the show on the road, letting go of the person you love most, and eating fire:

*The trick is there is no trick.*

*You eat fire by eating fire.*

Two journeys—a daughter’s and a mother’s—bear witness to this lesson in *The Electric Woman.*

For three years Tessa Fontaine lived in a constant state of emergency as her mother battled stroke after stroke. But hospitals, wheelchairs, and loss of language couldn’t hold back such a woman; she and her husband would see Italy together, come what may. Thus Fontaine became free to follow her own piper, a literal giant inviting her to “come play” in the World of Wonders, America’s last traveling sideshow. How could she resist?

Transformed into an escape artist, a snake charmer, and a high-voltage Electra, Fontaine witnessed the marvels of carnival life: intense camaraderie and heartbreak, the guilty thrill of hard-earned cash exchanged for a peek into the impossible, and, most marvelous of all, the stories carnival folks tell about themselves. Through these, Fontaine trained her body to ignore fear and learned how to keep her heart open in the face of loss.

A story for anyone who has ever imagined running away with the circus, wanted to be someone else, or wanted a loved one to live forever, *The Electric Woman* is ultimately about death-defying acts of all kinds, especially that ever constant: good old-fashio...

*Tessa Fontaine*’s writing has appeared in *PANK, Seneca Review, The Rumpus, Sideshow World,* and elsewhere. She holds an MFA from the University of Alabama and is working on a PhD in creative writing at the University of Utah. She also eats fire and charms snakes, among other sideshow feats. She lives in South Carolina.

**PRAISE**

“A beautiful and ferocious book, *The Electric Woman* comes packed with fire eaters and knife throwers, survivors and caretakers, and yet somehow no marvel is more wondrous than the writing itself. Tessa Fontaine’s memoir is a brilliant testament to family, grief, love, and the astonishing trick of being—and feeling—alive. I loved every pag...
An entertaining guide to the most profound scientific and mathematical problems—and personalities—of recent centuries

From Jim Holt, the *New York Times* bestselling author of *Why Does the World Exist?*, comes an entertaining and accessible guide to the most profound scientific and mathematical ideas of recent centuries in *When Einstein Walked with Gödel: Excursions to the Edge of Thought*.

Does time exist? What is infinity? Why do mirrors reverse left and right but not up and down? In this scintillating collection, Holt explores the human mind, the cosmos, and the thinkers who’ve tried to encompass the latter with the former. With his trademark clarity and humor, Holt probes the mysteries of quantum mechanics, the quest for the foundations of mathematics, and the nature of logic and truth. Along the way, he offers intimate biographical sketches of celebrated and neglected thinkers, from the physicist Emmy Noether to the computing pioneer Alan Turing and the discoverer of fractals, Benoit Mandelbrot. Holt offers a painless and playful introduction to many of our most beautiful but least understood ideas, from Einsteinian relativity to string theory, and also invites us to consider why the greatest logician of the twentieth century believed the U.S. Constitution contained a terrible contradiction—and whether the universe truly has a future.


PRAISE

Praise for *Why Does the World Exist?*

“I’ve [read] *Why Does the World Exist?* by Jim Holt to get my existential buzz.” —Bruce Springsteen
Miss Subways
A Novel
David Duchovny

A supernatural New York love story

Emer is just a woman living in New York City who takes the subway, buys ice cream from the bodega on the corner, has writerly aspirations, and lives with her boyfriend, Con. But is this life she lives the only path she’s on? Taking inspiration from the myth of Emer and Cuchulain and featuring an all-star cast of mythical figures from all over the world, David Duchovny’s darkly funny fantasy novel Miss Subways is one woman’s trippy, mystical journey down parallel tracks of time and love. On the way, Emer will battle natural and supernatural forces to find her true voice, power, and destiny. A fairy tale of love lost and regained, Miss Subways is also a love letter to the city that enchants us all: New York.

David Duchovny is a television, stage, and screen actor, as well as a screenwriter and director. He lives in New York and Los Angeles.

PRAISE

Praise for Bucky F*cking Dent

“Hilarious and deeply touching . . . Not a baseball book any more than Field of Dreams is a baseball book, this moving, beautiful novel resonates with laughter and tears throughout.” —Don Oldenburg, USA Today

“Duchovny has hit this one out of the park . . . He does a terrific job of blending quirky and emoti...
Our Kind of Cruelty
A Novel
Araminta Hall

A spellbinding psychological thriller for fans of Gillian Flynn and Ruth Ware, with a refreshing twist—an unreliable male narrator.

This is a love story. Mike’s love story.

Mike Hayes fought his way out of a brutal childhood and into a quiet, if lonely, life before he met Verity Metcalf. V taught him about love, and in return, Mike has dedicated his life to making her happy. He’s found the perfect home, the perfect job; he’s sculpted himself into the physical ideal V has always wanted. He knows they’ll be blissfully happy together.

It doesn’t matter that she hasn’t been returning his e-mails or phone calls. It doesn’t matter that she says she’s marrying Angus.

It’s all just part of the secret game they used to play. If Mike watches V closely, he’ll see the signs. If he keeps track of her every move, he’ll know just when to come to her rescue . . .

A riveting, darkly twisted novel about desire and obsession, Our Kind of Cruelty introduces Araminta Hall, a chilling new voice in psychological suspense.

Araminta Hall is the author of Everything and Nothing. She has an MA in creative writing and authorship from the University of Sussex, and teaches creative writing at New Writing South in Brighton, where she lives with her husband and three children. Our Kind of Cruelty is her first book published in the United States.

PRAISE

One of Lit Hub’s Most Anticipated Thrillers of 2018

“This is simply one of the nastiest and most disturbing thrillers I’ve read in years. In short: I loved it, right down to the utterly chilling final line.” —Gillian Flynn, author of Gone Girl

“A perfect nightmare of a novel—as merciless a thriller as I’ve ever read. Astonishingly dark and ...
Talking to My Daughter About the Economy
or, How Capitalism Works—and How It Fails

Yanis Varoufakis; Translated from the Greek by Jacob Moe and Yanis Varoufakis

A provocative conversation about economics from the internationally bestselling activist and former finance minister

In Talking to My Daughter About the Economy, Yanis Varoufakis, Greece’s former finance minister and the author of the international bestseller Adults in the Room, explains the workings of the world economic system.

Yanis Varoufakis has appeared before heads of nations, assemblies of experts, and countless students around the world. Now, he faces his most important—and difficult—audience yet. Using clear language and vivid examples, Varoufakis offers a series of letters to his young daughter about the economy: how it operates, where it came from, how it benefits some while impoverishing others. Taking bankers and politicians to task, he explains the historical origins of inequality among and within nations, questions the pervasive notion that everything has its price, and shows why economic instability is a chronic risk. Finally, he discusses the inability of market-driven policies to address the rapidly declining health of the planet his daughter’s generation stands to inherit.

Throughout, Varoufakis wears his expertise lightly. He writes as a parent whose aim is to instruct his daughter on the fundamental questions of our age—and through that knowledge, to equip her against the failures and obfuscations of our current system and point the way toward a more democratic alternative.

Yanis Varoufakis is a former finance minister of Greece and a cofounder of an international grassroots movement, DiEM25, that is campaigning for the revival of democracy in Europe. He is the author of the international bestseller Adults in the Room, And the Weak Suffer What They Must?, and The Global Minotaur. After teaching for many years in the United States, Great Britain, and Australia, he is currently a professor of economics at the University of Athens.

PRAISE
In the Garden of the Fugitives

A Novel

Ceridwen Dovey

Celebrated by The New York Times as “a gifted prose stylist,” Ceridwen Dovey returns with a startling tale of obsession, control, and identity

In the Garden of the Fugitives takes the form of an exchange of letters between Vita, a South African woman now living in Australia, and Royce, an older man who was responsible many years earlier for awarding Vita a fellowship to study in the United States. Their dynamic, as the letters unfurl, is completely unexpected.

A tale of obsessive love, control, identity, and ideas, which moves from Mudgee in Australia to the United States via pre- and post-apartheid Cape Town and new and ancient Pompeii, Ceridwen Dovey’s In the Garden of the Fugitives is remarkable and unique.

Ceridwen Dovey’s debut novel, Blood Kin, was published in fifteen countries, shortlisted for the Dylan Thomas Award, and selected for the National Book Foundation’s prestigious 5 Under 35 honors list. The Wall Street Journal named her one of their “artists to watch.” Her short-story collection, Only the Animals, was published by FSG in 2015. She studied social anthropology at Harvard and New York University, and now lives with her husband and son in Sydney, Australia.

PRAISE

Praise for Ceridwen Dovey

“Dovey is a gifted prose stylist.” —Megan Mayhew Bergman, The New York Times Book Review
A lifelong geek lays out the history and aesthetic of this geekiest of moments in popular culture, beginning and ending with surprising new readings of *Star Wars*, the big bang of contemporary fandom.

In *I Find Your Lack of Faith Disturbing*, A. D. Jameson takes geeks and non-geeks alike on a surprising and insightful journey through the science fiction, fantasy, and superhero franchises that now dominate pop culture. Walking us through the rise of geekdom from its underground origins to the top of the box office and bestseller lists, Jameson takes in franchises like *The Lord of the Rings, Guardians of the Galaxy, Harry Potter, Star Trek*, and, in particular, *Star Wars*—as well as phenomena like fan fiction, cosplay, and YouTube parodies. Along the way, he blasts through the clichés surrounding geek culture: that its fans are mindless consumers who will embrace all things *Spider-Man* or *Batman*, regardless of quality; or that the popularity and financial success of *Star Wars* led to the death of ambitious filmmaking.

A lifelong geek, Jameson shines a new light on beloved classics, explaining the enormous love (and hate) they are capable of inspiring in fan and non-fan alike, while exploding misconceptions as to how and why they were made. *I Find Your Lack of Faith Disturbing* tells the story of how the geeks have inherited the earth.

A. D. Jameson is the author of five books, including *Cinemaps*, a collaboration with the artist Andrew DeGraff. A former blogger for *HTML Giant*, his fiction has appeared in *Conjunctions, Denver Quarterly, Unstuck*, and elsewhere. He is a PhD candidate in the Program for Writers at the University of Illinois in Chicago.

"Funny, incisive, and timely ... Jameson does for geeks what geek culture does for its superheroes: he takes them seriously, respects their power, and refuses to hide his deep affection." —Lawrence Kasdan, co-screenwriter of *The Empire Strikes Back, Return of the Jedi, The Force Awakens*, and *Solo: A Star Wars Story*
A View of the Empire at Sunset
A Novel

Caryl Phillips

A gripping novelization of the life of Jean Rhys, the author of Wide Sargasso Sea

Caryl Phillips’s A View of the Empire at Sunset is the sweeping story of the life of the woman who became known to the world as Jean Rhys. Born Ella Gwendolen Rees Williams in Dominica at the height of the British Empire, Rhys lived in the Caribbean for only sixteen years before going to England. A View of the Empire at Sunset is a look into her tempestuous and unsatisfactory life in Edwardian England, 1920s Paris, and then again in London. Her dream had always been to one day return home to Dominica. In 1936, a forty-five-year-old Rhys was finally able to make the journey back to the Caribbean. Six weeks later, she boarded a ship for England, filled with hostility for her home, never to return. Phillips's gripping new novel is equally a story about the beginning of the end of a system that had sustained Britain for two centuries but that wreaked havoc on the lives of all who lived in the shadow of the empire: both men and women, colonizer and colonized.

A true literary feat, A View of the Empire at Sunset uncovers the mysteries of the past to illuminate the predicaments of the present, getting at the heart of alienation, exile, and family by offering a look into the life of one of the greatest storytellers of the twentieth century and retelling a profound story that is singularly its own.

Caryl Phillips is the author of numerous works of fiction and nonfiction, including The Lost Child (FSG, 2015), Dancing in the Dark, Crossing the River, and Color Me English. His novel A Distant Shore won the Commonwealth Writers’ Prize; his other awards include the Martin Luther King Memorial Prize, a Guggenheim Fellowship, and the James Tait Black Memorial Prize. He is a fellow of the Royal Society of Literature and lives in New York.

PRAISE

Praise for The Lost Child

“Caryl Phillips is seen by many as the father of Afro-British fiction . . . At the heart of Phillips’s book is the widespread (and continuing) abuse of women and children, and he writes sympathetically and powerfully about both . . . Phillips’s point is clear: To survive and prosper, Britain’s orphans and outcasts...
Two mothers—a suburban housewife and a battle-hardened veteran—struggle to protect those they love in this modern retelling of *Beowulf*.

From the perspective of those who live in Herot Hall, the suburb is a paradise. Picket fences divide buildings—high and gabled—and the community is entirely self-sustaining. Each house has its own fireplace, each fireplace is fitted with a container of lighter fluid, and outside—in lawns and on playgrounds—wildflowers seed themselves in neat rows. But for those who live surreptitiously along Herot Hall’s periphery, the subdivision is a fortress guarded by an intense network of gates, surveillance cameras, and motion-activated lights.

For Willa, the wife of Roger Herot (heir of Herot Hall), life moves at a charmingly slow pace. She flits between mommy groups, playdates, cocktail hour, and dinner parties, always with her son, Dylan, in tow. Meanwhile, in a cave in the mountains just beyond the limits of Herot Hall lives Gren, short for Grendel, as well as his mother, Dana, a former soldier who gave birth as if by chance. Dana didn’t want Gren, didn’t plan Gren, and doesn’t know how she got Gren, but when she returned from war, there he was. When Gren, unaware of the borders erected to keep him at bay, ventures into Herot Hall and runs off with Dylan, Dana’s and Willa’s worlds collide.

A retelling of *Beowulf* set in the suburbs, Maria Dahvana Headley’s *The Mere Wife* turns the epic on its head, recasting the classic tale of monstrosity and loss from the perspective of those presumed to be on the attack.

**Maria Dahvana Headley** is a #1 New York Times-bestselling author & editor, most recently of the novels *Magonia*, *Aerie*, *Queen of Kings*, and the memoir *The Year of Yes*. With Kat Howard she is the author of *The End of the Sentence*, and with Neil Gaiman, she is co-editor of *Unnatural Creatures*. Her short stories have been shortlisted for the Shirley Jackson, Nebula, and World Fantasy Awards, and her work has been supported by the MacDowell Colony and by Arte Studio Ginestrelle, where the first draft of this book was written. She was raised with a wolf and a pack of sled dogs in the high desert of rural Idaho, and now lives in Brooklyn.

**PRAISE**

"Maria Dahvana Headley is a firecracker: she’s whip-smart with a heart, and she writes like a dream." —Neil Gaiman
Mothers
An Essay on Love and Cruelty

Jacqueline Rose

A daring and provocative book-length essay on why we both romanticize and vilify mothers

A simple argument guides this book: motherhood is the place in our culture where we lodge, or rather bury, the reality of our own conflicts—and what it means to be fully human. By making mothers the objects of licensed cruelty, we blind ourselves to the world's iniquities and shut down the portals of the heart.

Mothers are the ultimate scapegoat for our personal and political failings, for everything that is wrong with the world, which becomes their task (unrealizable, of course) to repair. Unless we recognize the role that we are asking mothers to perform in the world, and for the world, we will continue to tear both the world and mothers to pieces.

Mothers is an incisive, rousing call to action from one of our most important contemporary thinkers.

"Jacqueline Rose has no peer among critics of her generation. The brilliance of her literary insight, the lucidity of her prose, and the subtlety of her analyses are simply breathtaking." —Edward Said

Jacqueline Rose is the author of numerous books about psychoanalysis, literature and culture, feminism, and the Middle East. She is codirector of the Birkbeck Institute for the Humanities, cofounder of Independent Jewish Voices, and a fellow of the British Academy. Rose is a frequent contributor to the London Review of Books and The Guardian, among many other publications.

PRAISE

Praise for Women in Dark Times

"A surfeit of elegance and intelligence." —Ali Smith

"A rigorously argued and at times breathtaking book... Her reasoning, ironically, is as tight and sinuous as a constrictor knot." —Frances Wilson
The Shepherd's Hut
A Novel
Tim Winton

An exhilarating new adventure from Australia’s most acclaimed writer

Tim Winton is Australia’s most decorated and beloved novelist. Short-listed twice for the Booker Prize and the winner of a record four Miles Franklin Literary Awards for Best Australian Novel, he has a gift for language virtually unrivaled among writers in English. His work is both tough and tender, primordial and new—always revealing the raw, instinctual drives that lure us together and rend us apart.

In The Shepherd’s Hut, Winton crafts the story of Jaxie Clackton, a brutalized rural youth who flees from the scene of his father’s violent death and strikes out for the vast wilds of Western Australia. All he carries with him is a rifle and a waterjug. All he wants is peace and freedom. But surviving in the harsh saltlands alone is a savage business. And once he discovers he’s not alone out there, all Jaxie’s plans go awry. He meets a fellow exile, the ruined priest Fintan MacGillis, a man he’s never certain he can trust, but on whom his life will soon depend. The Shepherd’s Hut is a thrilling tale of unlikely friendship and yearning, at once brutal and lyrical, from one of our finest storytellers.

The preeminent Australian novelist of his generation, Tim Winton is the author of the bestselling novels Cloudstreet, The Riders, and Dirt Music, among many other books. He has won the Miles Franklin Literary Award four times (for Shallows, Cloudstreet, Dirt Music, and Breath) and has twice been short-listed for the Booker Prize (for The Riders and Dirt Music). He lives in Western Australia.

PRAISE

Praise for Eyrie

“A brilliant tour-de-force.” —Adam Woog, The Seattle Times

Praise for Cloudstreet

“Winton is a one-man band of genius.” —Carolyn See, Los Angeles Times
Amity and Prosperity  
One Family and the Fracturing of America  
Eliza Griswold

A literary page-turner about the costs of fracking—and one woman’s quest to protect her family

In *Amity and Prosperity*, the prizewinning poet and journalist Eliza Griswold exposes the tattered edges of the social fabric in rural America. In a work rich with narrative suspense, she explores the volatile personalities and politics of a small Allegheny town that has an abundance of natural gas but no municipal water supply. The result is a definitive guide to the fracking debate, and to the larger social and environmental hazards that are upending rural America.

Stacey Haney, a lifelong resident of Amity, Pennsylvania, is struggling to support her children when the fracking boom comes to town. Like most of her neighbors, she sees the energy companies’ payments as a windfall. Soon trucks are rumbling down her unpaved road and a fenced-off fracking site rises on adjacent land. But her annoyance gives way to concern and then to fear as domestic animals and pets begin dying and mysterious illnesses strike her family—despite the companies’ insistence that nothing is wrong.

Griswold masterfully chronicles Haney’s transformation into an unlikely whistle-blower as she launches her own investigation into corporate wrongdoing. As she takes her case to court, Haney inadvertently reveals the complex rifts in her community and begins to reshape its attitudes toward outsiders, corporations, and the federal government. *Amity and Prosperity* uses her gripping and moving tale to show the true costs of our energy infr...
Kudos
A Novel

Rachel Cusk

Rachel Cusk, the critically acclaimed author of Outline and Transit, completes her pathbreaking trilogy with Kudos

A woman writer visits a Europe in flux, where questions of personal and political identity are rising to the surface and the trauma of change is opening up new possibilities of loss and renewal. Within the rituals of literary culture, Faye finds the human story in disarray amid differing attitudes toward the public enactment of the creative persona, and she begins to identify among the people she meets a tension between truth and representation that causes her to consider questions of acclaim, justice, and the ultimate value of suffering. The third in the trilogy that began with Outline, Rachel Cusk’s Kudos takes as its theme the relationship between pain and honor, and investigates the moral nature of success as a precept of both art and living.

Rachel Cusk is the author of three memoirs—A Life’s Work, The Last Supper, and Aftermath—and several novels: Saving Agnes, winner of the Whitbread First Novel Award; The Temporary; The Country Life, which won a Somerset Maugham Award; The Lucky Ones; In the Fold; Arlington Park; The Bradshaw Variations; Outline; and Transit. She was chosen as one of Granta’s 2003 Best of Young British Novelists. She lives in London.

PRAISE

Praise for Transit

“Cusk has torn up the rule book, and in the process created a work of stunning beauty, deep insight and great originality . . . Best of all, she has given us all this in a novel that is compulsively readable . . . [Transit] is a work of great ambition, beautifully executed, a worthy successor to the brilliant Outline, an...
Evolutions
Fifteen Myths That Explain Our World

Oren Harman

A brilliant lyrical exploration of how modern science illuminates what it means to be human

We don’t think anymore, like the ancient Chinese did, that the world was hatched from an egg, or, like the Maori, that it came from the tearing apart of a love embrace. The Greeks told of a tempestuous Hera and a cunning Zeus, but we now use genes and natural selection to explain fear and desire, and physics to demystify the workings of the universe.

Science is an astounding achievement, but are we really any wiser than the ancients? Has science revealed the secrets of fate and immortality? Has it provided protection from jealousy or love? There are those who believe that science has replaced faith, but must it also be a death knell for mythology?

Evolutions brings to life the latest scientific thinking on the birth of the universe and the solar system, the journey from a single cell all the way to our human minds. Reawakening our sense of wonder and terror at the world around us and within us, Oren Harman uses modern science to create new and original mythologies. Here are the earth and the moon presenting a cosmological view of motherhood, a panicking mitochondrion introducing sex and death to the world, the loneliness of consciousness emerging from the memory of an octopus, and the birth of language in evolution summoning humankind’s struggle with truth. Science may not solve our existential puzzles, but like the age-old legends, its magical discoveries can help us continue the never-ending search.

Oren Harman’s previous book, The Price of Altruism, won the Los Angeles Times Book Prize in Science and Technology and was a New York Times Notable Book of the Year. He is a renowned professor of the history of science and the Chair of the Program in Science Technology and Society at Bar Ilan University.

PRAISE

Praise for The Price of Altruism

"Uncommonly brilliant and deeply stimulating . . . Almost cinematically satisfying. Harman has a rare gift for bringing ideas and thinkers to life.”
—Leon Wieseltier

"Enthralling . . . Extremely well researched, and written with great love of the subject.” —Frans de Waal
The Removes
A Novel
Tatjana Soli

From the New York Times bestselling author Tatjana Soli, an expansive and transfixing new novel set on the American frontier

Spanning the years of the first great settlement of the West, The Removes tells the intertwining stories of fifteen-year-old Anne Cummins, frontierswoman Libbie Custer, and Libbie’s husband, the Civil War hero George Armstrong Custer. When Anne survives a surprise attack on her family’s homestead, she is thrust into a difficult life she never anticipated—living among the Cheyenne as both a captive and, eventually, a member of the tribe. Libbie, too, is thrown into a brutal, unexpected life when she marries Custer. They move to the territories with the U.S. Army, where Libbie is challenged daily and her worldview expanded: the pampered daughter of a small-town judge, she transforms into a daring camp follower. But when what Anne and Libbie have come to know—self-reliance, freedom, danger—is suddenly altered through tragedy and loss, they realize how indelibly shaped they are by life on the treacherous, extraordinary American plains.

With taut, suspenseful writing, Tatjana Soli tells the exhilarating stories of Libbie and Anne, who have grown like weeds into women unwilling to be restrained by the strictures governing nineteenth-century society. The Removes is a powerful, transporting novel about the addictive intensity and freedom of the American frontier.

Tatjana Soli is the bestselling author of The Lotus Eaters, The Forgetting Tree, and The Last Good Paradise. Her work has been awarded the UK’s James Tait Black Prize and been a finalist for the Los Angeles Times Book Award. Her books have also been twice listed as a New York Times Notable Book. She lives on the Monterey Peninsula of California.
History of Violence
A Novel

Édouard Louis; Translated from the French by Lorin Stein

A gripping autobiographical novel—the best work yet from the most talked-about French writer of his generation

On Christmas Eve 2012, in Paris, the novelist Édouard Louis was raped and almost murdered by a man he had just met. This act of violence left Louis shattered; its aftermath made him a stranger to himself and sent him back to the village, the family, and the past he had sworn to leave behind.

A bestseller in France, History of Violence is a short nonfiction novel in the tradition of Truman Capote’s In Cold Blood, but with the victim as its subject. Moving seamlessly and hypnotically between past and present, between Louis’s voice and the voice of an imagined narrator, History of Violence has the exactness of a police report and the searching, unflinching curiosity of memoir at its best. It records not only the casual racism and homophobia of French society but also their subtle effects on lovers, brothers and sisters, husbands and wives. It represents a great step forward for a young writer whose acuity, skill, and depth are unmatched by any novelist of his generation, in French or English.

Édouard Louis is the author of two international bestsellers, The End of Eddy and History of Violence, and the editor of a scholarly work on the social scientist Pierre Bourdieu. Compared to Jean Genet by The Paris Review, his work deals with sexuality, class, and violence. Louis was born Eddy Bellegeule in the working-class village of Hallencourt in northern France, and he attended the École Normale Supérieure and the École des Hautes Études en Sciences Sociales.

PRAISE

Praise for The End of Eddy

“A mesmerizing story about difference and adolescence, one that is far more realistic than most.” —Jennifer Senior, The New York Times

“Vivid and honest . . . Telling the truth about growing up gay among bigoted, bullying people requires bravery and brio; shaping that story into a memorable dramatic narrative ta...
Upstate
A Novel

James Wood

The keenly observed story of a ruptured family trying to heal old wounds, from “the strongest . . . literary critic we have” (The New York Review of Books)

In the years since his daughter Vanessa moved to America to become a professor of philosophy, Alan Querry has never been to visit. He has been too busy at home in northern England, holding together his business as a successful property developer. His older daughter, Helen—a music executive in London—hasn’t gone, either, and the two sisters, close but competitive, have never quite recovered from their parents’ bitter divorce and the early death of their mother. But when Vanessa’s new, much younger boyfriend sends word that she has fallen into a severe depression and that he’s worried for her safety, Alan and Helen fly to New York and take the train to Saratoga Springs.

Over the course of six wintry days in upstate New York, the Querry family begins to struggle with the questions that animate this profound and searching novel: Why do some people find living so much harder than others? Is happiness a skill that might be learned or a cruel accident of birth? Is reflection conducive to happiness or an obstacle to it? If, as a favorite philosopher of Helen’s puts it, “the only serious enterprise is living,” how should we live? Rich in subtle human insight, full of poignant and often funny portraits, and vivid with a sense of place, James Wood’s Upstate is a powerful, intense, beautiful novel.

James Wood is a book critic at The New Yorker and the recipient of a National Magazine Award in criticism. He is the author of three essay collections, one previous novel (The Book Against God), and the study How Fiction Works. He is a professor of the practice of literary criticism at Harvard University.

Praise

Praise for How Fiction Works

"Wood has made himself deservedly famous for the intellectual dazzle, literary acuteness and moral seriousness of his essays on everything from the King James Bible to Don DeLillo . . . A first-rate critic." —Daniel Mendelsohn, The New York Times Book Review

"Wood is among the very few contemporary writers of g..."
Wait, Blink
A Perfect Picture of Inner Life: A Novel

Gunnhild Øyehaug; Translated from the Norwegian by Kari Dickson

Wait, Blink is the award-winning Norwegian author Gunnhild Øyehaug’s startlingly inventive novel of interwoven lives, following a group of artistic women pursuing dreams, love, and self-discovery

Sigrid is a young literature student trying to find her voice as a writer when she falls in love with an older, established author, whose lifestyle soon overwhelms her values and once-clear artistic vision. Trine has reluctantly become a mother and struggles to create as a performance artist. The aspiring movie director Linnea scouts locations in Copenhagen for a film she will never make. As these characters’ stories collide and intersect, they find that dealing with the pressures of their lives also means coming to grips with a world both frightening and joyously ridiculous.

Wait, Blink combines wild associations, quotations, coincidences, and other peculiar details into a unique brew that is both humorous and profound. Full of the playfulness that drew acclaim for her story collection Knots, Gunnhild Øyehaug’s Wait, Blink—her first novel to be translated into English—is a jolt of desire and fantasy, romance and regret: a fable about what it means to own up to the weirdness inside us all.

Gunnhild Øyehaug is an award-winning Norwegian poet, essayist, and fiction writer. Her story collection Knots was published by FSG in 2017, and Wait, Blink has been made into the acclaimed film Women in Oversized Men’s Shirts. She has also worked as a coeditor of the literary journals Vagant and Kraftsentrum. Øyehaug lives in Bergen, where she teaches creative writing.

Kari Dickson was born in Edinburgh, Scotland, and grew up bilingual. She has a BA in Scandinavian studies and an MA in translation. Before becoming a translator, she worked in theater in London and Oslo. She teaches in the Scandinavian department at the University of Edinburgh.

PRAISE

Praise for Knots

"From my first reading of Knots in the original Nynorsk, I have been..."
Half Gods
Stories
Akil Kumarasamy

Three generations of a Sri Lankan family brave war and navigate the borders of nationality, religion, and love

Passing through countries and generations, Akil Kumarasamy’s *Half-Gods* is a vibrant interlinked collection following the unspooling threads of nationality, religion, and love. Through two brothers named after demigods from the ancient epic the *Mahabharata*, we explore the messy lines of their fractured origins, a place where the mythic and the mundane intersect. In Calcutta, a baby girl is renamed after a Hindu goddess but is raised as a Muslim. During a summer trip to Lake George, a young Sikh boy begins to speak to his dead aunt who was killed in the 1984 massacres in Delhi, and a family of refugees in New Jersey mourns the bloody end of the Sri Lankan civil war. Diverging across time, each of these ten stories reveals with prescient clarity how the past reverberates in unexpected ways, with parents, children, and friends acting as unknowing mirrors, reflecting weaknesses, hopes, grief, the human, and the divine.

Written with inventiveness and unflinching compassion, *Half-Gods* brings together the exiled, the displaced, and the multiplicity of lives characters carry with them as they struggle to find understanding and forgiveness, ultimately carving a home within themselves.

*Akil Kumarasamy* is a recent graduate of the Helen Zell Writers’ Program at the University of Michigan, where she received a Meijer postgraduate fellowship, the Henfield Prize, and the Frederick Busch Prize. She was a 2013–2014 Charles Pick South Asian fiction fellow at the University of East Anglia. Her fiction has appeared in *Harper’s Magazine*, *Boston Review*, *Glimmer Train*, and elsewhere. *Half Gods* is her first book.
For young writers of a certain temperament—if they haven’t had such notions beaten out of them by MFA programs and the Internet—the delusion persists that great writing must be sought in what W. B. Yeats once called the “foul rag and bone shop of the heart.” That’s where Peter Cunningham has been looking for inspiration for his novel—that is, when he isn’t teaching at the local women’s prison, walking his dog, getting high, and wondering whether it’s time to tie the knot with his college girlfriend, a medical student whose night shifts have become a standing rebuke to his own lack of direction. When Peter meets Leslie, a sexual adventurer taking a break from her fiancé, he gets a glimpse of what he wishes and imagines himself to be: a writer of talent and nerve. Her rag-and-bone shop may be as squalid as his own, but at least she knows her way around the shelves. Over the course of a Virginia summer, their charged, increasingly intimate friendship opens the door to difficult questions about love and literary ambition.

With a keen irony reminiscent of Sam Lipsyte or Lorrie Moore, and a romantic streak as wide as Roberto Bolaño’s, Andrew Martin’s *Early Work* marks the debut of a writer as funny and attentive as any novelist of his generation.


"The people in Andrew Martin’s *Early Work* have it all—youth, intelligence, ready wit, readier irony, terminally knowing tastes in books and music, affordable rents, abundant abusable substances, prolific sexual lives, even endearing dogs—and it’s perversely exhilarating to watch them, despite their fits of goodheartedness, turn a bucolic...
Metamorphica
Fiction
Zachary Mason

A brilliant and daring novel that reimagines Ovid’s *Metamorphoses*

In the tradition of his bestselling debut novel *The Lost Books of the Odyssey*, Zachary Mason’s *Metamorphica* transforms Ovid’s epic poem of endless transformation. It reimagines the stories of Narcissus, Pygmalion and Galatea, Midas and Atalanta, and strings them together like the stars in constellations—even Ovid becomes a story. It’s as though the ancient mythologies had been rewritten by Borges or Calvino; *Metamorphica* is an archipelago in which to linger for a while; it reflects a little light from the morning of the world.

**Zachary Mason** is a computer scientist and the author of *The Lost Books of the Odyssey* and *Void Star*. He lives in California.

**PRAISE**

Praise for *The Lost Books of the Odyssey*

“Stunning and hypnotic . . . This is a book that not only addresses the themes of Homer’s classic . . . but also poses new questions to the reader about art and originality and the nature of storytelling.” —Michiko Kakutani, *The New York Times*

Praise for *Void Star*

“[Zach Mason] writes with a mathemati...
**Interior**
A Novel

**Thomas Clerc; Translated from the French by Jeffrey Zuckerman**

“Show me where you live and I’ll tell you who you are”: a playful self-portrait consisting of a meticulous tour through the rooms of a small Parisian apartment

A comic experiment in sociology and self-absorption, the award-winning author Thomas Clerc’s autobiographical *Interior* is a unique invitation into a professor’s preoccupations and possessions within the rooms of a small Parisian apartment.

Composed of bite-size vignettes, remembrances, and digressions, and filled with lighthearted transitions from pure description to quirky reminiscence and back, this meticulous tour through the rooms of Clerc’s home reveals fascinating insights into the author’s obsessions, desires, and frustrations. Each space is described in painstaking detail, sometimes down to the centimeter, and the history of every object and appliance is fully excavated with self-deprecating wit. From the ideal varieties of bathroom reading material to the color of his dish rack to the chaos of his sock drawer, Clerc happily and shamelessly guides us through the most intimate crannies of his home, as well as through all the strata of his existence as a bourgeois city dweller approaching middle age.

Playful and irreverent, as well as a sly commentary on materialism, *Interior* finds drama in the domestic and dark humor in every doomed attempt to express individuality through the things that we own.

**Thomas Clerc** was born in 1965 and is the author of several books, including *The Man Who Killed Roland Barthes*, a collection of short stories for which he received the Grand Prix de la Nouvelle of the Académie Française. Clerc teaches at Université Paris Nanterre, where he specializes in contemporary French literature.

**Jeffrey Zuckerman** is an award-winning translator of numerous French authors, from Marie Darrieussecq and Ananda Devi to Antoine Volodine and Hervé Guibert.

**PRAISE**

“Leading us through *Interior*’s impeccable paragraphs is a maniacal, slightly pretentious narrator obsessed with his material possessions . . . and yet his over-the-top enthusiasm for everything from lemon squeezer to toilet paper reminds us of the literary game being played . . . Halfway between literature . . .”
The Dead
A Novel
Christian Kracht; Translated from the German by Daniel Bowles

A tale of international conspiracy, cinematic intrigue, memory, mysticism, and murder

In *The Dead*, the follow-up to his acclaimed novel *Imperium* (a *Publishers Weekly* Best Book of the Year), Christian Kracht mines the feverish early years of the Nazis’ rise to power for a Gothic tale of global conspiracy, personal loss, and historical entanglements large and small.

In Berlin, Germany, in the early 1930s, the acclaimed Swiss film director Emil Nägeli receives the assignment of a lifetime: travel to Japan and make a film to establish the dominance of Adolf Hitler’s Nazi empire once and for all. But his handlers are unaware that Nägeli has colluded with the Jewish film critics to pursue an alternative objective—to create a monumental, modernist, allegorical spectacle to warn the world of the horror to come.

Meanwhile, in Japan, the film minister Masahiko Amakasu intends to counter Hollywood’s growing influence and usher in a new golden age of Japanese cinema by exploiting his Swiss visitor. The arrival of Nägeli’s film-star fiancée and a strangely thuggish, pistol-packing Charlie Chaplin—as well as the first stirrings of the winds of war—soon complicates both Amakasu’s and Nägeli’s plans, forcing them to face their demons . . . and their doom.

Christian Kracht is a Swiss novelist whose books have been translated into twenty-seven languages. His previous novel, *Imperium*, was the recipient of the 2012 Wilhelm Raabe Literature Prize.

Daniel Bowles teaches German studies at Boston College. His previous translations include novels by Thomas Meinecke and short texts by Alexander Kluge and Rainald Goetz.

PRAISE

"In the troubled lands of Middle Europe, only one man can save the German-language novel, and his name is Christian Kracht. *The Dead* is the beautiful, brilliant, and utterly mad novel that Thomas Mann would have written had he known the East like Yukio Mishima and loved his adopted Hollywood with the gusto of Nathanael West.” —Joshua Cohe...
The Third Hotel
A Novel

Laura van den Berg

A magical, disconcerting novel set in Havana about a woman reckoning with the death of her husband

In Laura van den Berg’s surreal, mystifying, and deeply felt second novel, Clare, recently widowed, arrives in Havana, Cuba, to attend the 36th annual Festival of New Latin American Cinema, which her horror-loving film-professor husband, Richard, had purchased tickets for. The day after the screening of the movie Richard wanted most to see, Clare finds him standing outside the Museum of the Revolution. He’s wearing a white linen suit she’s never seen before, and he’s supposed to be dead.

Meticulously constructed and brimming with layered, poetic imagery, The Third Hotel follows Clare through her time in Havana as the distinction between reality and fantasy becomes increasingly blurred. In van den Berg’s Havana, animals escape from zoos and trains fly off the tracks while Clare follows her once-dead husband and charts her less-than-perfect marriage. As her search for clarity becomes increasingly opaque, the reader is forced to consider not only what is real and what is not, but what truths are lingering behind Clare’s own involvement in her husband’s disappearance and reemergence.

Filled with subtle but striking meditations on grief, marriage, art, misogyny, and the loneliness of travel, The Third Hotel is a singular, propulsive, brilliantly shape-shifting novel from an inventive author at the height of her narrative powers.

Laura van den Berg was raised in Florida. Her first collection of stories, What the World Will Look Like When All the Water Leaves Us, was a Barnes & Noble Discover Great New Writers selection and a finalist for the Frank O’Connor International Short Story Award. Her second collection of stories, The Isle of Youth (FSG Originals, 2013), received the Rosenthal Award for Fiction from the American Academy of Arts and Letters. Her first novel, Find Me (FSG, 2015), was long-listed for the 2016 International Dylan Thomas Prize. She lives in the Boston area.

PRAISE

Praise for The Third Hotel

“I love the way Laura van den Berg writes. The Third Hotel is another of her beguiling little masterpieces. One that, with ruminative grace and sublime wit, answers and elucidates the question of what it means to be human.”
—Miriam Toews, author of All My Puny Sorrows
Underbug
An Obsessive Tale of Termites and Technology
Lisa Margonelli

A kaleidoscopic story of mystery, scientific discovery—and one misunderstood bug

Are we more like termites than we ever imagined? In Underbug, the award-winning journalist Lisa Margonelli introduces us to the enigmatic creatures that collectively outweigh human beings ten to one and consume $40 billion worth of valuable stuff annually—and yet, in Margonelli’s telling, seem weirdly familiar. Over the course of a decade-long obsession with the little bugs, Margonelli pokes around termite mounds and high-tech research facilities, closely watching biologists, roboticists, and geneticists. Her globe-trotting journey veers into uncharted territory, from evolutionary theory to Edwardian science literature to the military industrial complex. What begins as a natural history of the termite becomes a personal exploration of the unnatural future we’re building, with darker observations on power, technology, historical trauma, and the limits of human cognition.

Whether in Namibia or Cambridge, Arizona or Australia, Margonelli turns up astounding facts and raises provocative questions. Is a termite an individual or a unit of a superorganism? Can we harness the termite’s properties to change the world? If we build termite-like swarming robots, will they inevitably destroy us? Is it possible to think without having a mind? Underbug burrows into these questions and many others—unearthing disquieting answers about the world’s most underrated insect and what it means to be human.

Lisa Margonelli is the author of the national bestseller Oil on the Brain: Petroleum’s Long, Strange Trip to Your Tank and writes the Small Science column for Zócalo Public Square, where she is a senior editor. From 2006 to 2012, she was a fellow at the New America Foundation. She has written for The Atlantic, Wired, Scientific American, The New York Times, and other publications. She lives in Maine.

PRAISE

Praise for Oil on the Brain

“There couldn’t be a better traveling companion than Margonelli. She’s fast, fearless, funny, and a brilliant observer.” —Barbara Ehrenreich, author of Nickel and Dimed
An offbeat office novel turns apocalyptic satire as a young woman transforms from orphan to worker bee to survivor

Candace Chen, a millennial drone self-sequestered in a Manhattan office tower, is devoted to routine. With the recent passing of her Chinese immigrant parents, she’s had her fill of uncertainty. She’s content just to carry on: She goes to work, troubleshoots the teen-targeted Gemstone Bible, watches movies in a Greenpoint basement with her boyfriend.

So Candace barely notices when a plague of biblical proportions sweeps New York. Then Shen Fever spreads. Families flee. Companies halt operations. The subways squeak to a halt. Her bosses enlist her as part of a dwindling skeleton crew with a big end-date payoff. Soon entirely alone, still unfevered, she photographs the eerie, abandoned city as the anonymous blogger NY Ghost.

Candace won’t be able to make it on her own forever, though. Enter a group of survivors, led by the power-hungry IT tech Bob. They’re traveling to a place called the Facility, where, Bob promises, they will have everything they need to start society anew. But Candace is carrying a secret she knows Bob will exploit. Should she escape from her rescuers?

A send-up and takedown of the rituals, routines, and missed opportunities of contemporary life, Ling Ma’s Severance is a moving family story, a quirky coming-of-adulthood tale, and a hilarious, deadpan satire. Most important, it’s a heartfelt tribute to the connections that drive us to do more than survive.

Ling Ma received her MFA from Cornell University. Prior to graduate school she worked as a journalist and editor. Her writing has appeared in Granta, Playboy, Chicago Reader, Ninth Letter, Time Out, ACM, and elsewhere. A chapter of Severance received the 2015 Graywolf SLS Prize. She teaches at the University of Chicago.
"From one of Granta’s Best of Young American Novelists comes Certain American States, whose insightful and lonely stories beg you to discover the emotional universes hiding at their cores.

The winner of a Whiting Award, Catherine Lacey brings her narrative mastery to Certain American States, her first collection of short stories. As with her acclaimed novels Nobody Is Ever Missing and The Answers, she gives life to a group of subtly complex, instantly memorable characters whose searches for love, struggles with grief, and tentative journeys into the minutiae of the human condition are simultaneously gripping and devastating.

The characters in Certain American States are continually coming to terms with their place in the world, and how to adapt to that place, before change inevitably returns. A woman leaves her dead husband’s clothing on the street, only for it to reappear on the body of a stranger; a man reads his ex-wife’s short story and neurotically contemplates whether it is about him; a young woman whose Texan mother insists on moving to New York City with her has her daily attempts to get over a family tragedy interrupted by a mute stranger showing her incoherent messages on his phone. These are stories of breakups, abandonment, and strained family ties; dead brothers and distant surrogate fathers; loneliness, happenstance, starting over, and learning to let go. Lacey’s elegiac and inspired prose is at its full power in this collection, further establishing her as one of the singular literary voices of her generation.

Catherine Lacey is the author of Nobody Is Ever Missing, winner of a 2016 Whiting Award and a finalist for the New York Public Library’s Young Lions Fiction Award, and The Answers. In 2017, she was named one of Granta’s Best of Young American Novelists. Her essays and fiction have been published widely and translated into Italian, French, Dutch, Spanish, and German. She was born in Mississippi and is based in Chicago.

Praise for The Answers

"[Lacey is] the real thing, and in The Answers she takes full command of her powers . . . This is a novel of intellect and amplitude that deepens as it moves forward, until you feel prickling awe at how much mental territory unfolds.” —Dwight Garner, The New York Times
The Disordered Mind
What Unusual Brains Tell Us About Ourselves

Eric R. Kandel

A Nobel Prize–winning neuroscientist’s probing investigation of what brain disorders can tell us about human nature

Eric R. Kandel, the winner of the Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine for his foundational research into memory storage in the brain, is one of the pioneers of modern brain science. His work has helped shape our understanding of how the mind works. Building from this scientific research, Kandel explores one of the most fundamental questions we face: How does our mind, our individual sense of self, arise from the physical matter of the brain? The brain’s 100 billion neurons communicate with one another through very precise connections. If those connections are disrupted, the brain processes that give rise to our mind can become disordered, resulting in diseases such as depression, schizophrenia, Parkinson’s, and autism.

The Disordered Mind illustrates how breakthrough studies of these disruptions can deepen our understanding of thought, feeling, behavior, memory, and creativity, and perhaps in the future will lead to the development of a unified theory of mind.

Eric R. Kandel is the University Professor and Fred Kavli Professor at Columbia University and a senior investigator at the Howard Hughes Medical Institute. The recipient of the 2000 Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine, he is the author of The Age of Insight: The Quest to Understand the Unconscious in Art, Mind, and Brain, from Vienna 1900 to the Present, which won the Kreisky Award in Literature, Austria’s highest literary award; In Search of Memory, a memoir that won a Los Angeles Times Book Prize; and Reductionism in Art and Science: Bridging the Two Cultures, a book of the New York School of abstract art. He is also the coauthor of Principles of Neural Science, the standard textbook in the field.

PRAISE

Praise for The Age of Insight

“A tour de force that sets the stage for a twenty-first-century understanding of the human mind in all its richness and diversity.” —Oliver Sacks

“Kandel, one of the great pioneers of modern neuroscience, has effectively bridged the ‘two cultures’—science and humanities.” —V. S. Ramachandran
A young woman who lost her mother to a climbing accident is resolved to summit India’s highest peak in this daring and lyrical novel

Mysterium, known as Mount Sarasvati, looms over the Indian Himalayas as the range’s tallest peak in the dazzling fictional world Susan Froderberg has created.

Sarasvati “Sara” Troy is determined to reach the peak for which she was christened, and to climb it in honor of her mother, who perished in a mountaineering accident when Sara was just a child. She asks her father, a celebrated mountaineer and philosophy professor, to organize and lead the expedition. The six climbers he recruits are an uneasy mix. They include his longtime friend Dr. Andrew Reddy, a recent widower, and Reddy’s son, who often challenges his father; Wilder Carson, the acclaimed climber who is tormented by the death of his brother; Wilder’s wife, Vida, a former lover of Dr. Reddy; and the distinguished scholar of climbing Virgil Adams and his wife, Hillary. Porters and Sherpas are recruited in India to assist and be part of the team.

The party’s journey is harrowing, taking them from the mountain’s gorge, into its sanctuary, and finally onto the summit, a path that evokes the hell, purgatory, and heaven of Dante’s *Inferno*. As the air thins and this unforgettable journey unfolds, Sara emerges as a Beatrice-like figure, buoying her companions up the mountain through the sheer strength and beauty of her being. Both monumental quest and dreamlike odyssey, *Mysterium* is infused with the language of climbing and profound existential insi...

Susan Froderberg is the author of *Old Border Road*, hailed by the *Los Angeles Times* as a “remarkable debut novel.” Her fiction has appeared in *Alaska Quarterly Review*, *The Antioch Review*, *Conjunctions*, and other publications. She worked for several years as a critical-care nurse in Seattle, Washington, before moving east to study medical ethics and philosophy at Columbia University, where she received her PhD in philosophy. Froderberg and her husband split their time between Seattle and New York City.

Praise for *Old Border Road*

“In *Old Border Road*, Susan Froderberg’s remarkable feat of literary ventriloquism gives us two inventive and haunting voices to remember. One
Brazil: A Biography

Lilia M. Schwarcz and Heloisa M. Starling

A sweeping and absorbing biography of Brazil, from the sixteenth century to the present

For many Americans, Brazil is a land of contradictions: vast natural resources and entrenched corruption; extraordinary wealth and grinding poverty; beautiful beaches and violence-torn favelas. Brazil occupies a vivid place in the American imagination, and yet it remains largely unknown.

In an extraordinary journey that spans five hundred years, from European colonization to the 2016 Summer Olympics, Lilia M. Schwarcz and Heloisa M. Starling's Brazil offers a rich, dramatic history of this complex country. The authors not only reconstruct the epic story of the nation but follow the shifting byways of food, art, and popular culture; the plights of minorities; and the ups and downs of economic cycles. Drawing on a range of original scholarship in history, anthropology, political science, and economics, Schwarcz and Starling reveal a long process of unfinished social, political, and economic progress and struggle, a story in which the troubled legacy of the mixing of races and postcolonial political dysfunction persist to this day.

Lilia M. Schwarcz was born in 1957 in São Paulo, Brazil. She is a professor of anthropology at the University of São Paulo, a visiting professor in the Department of Spanish and Portuguese Languages and Cultures and the Program in Latin American Studies at Princeton University, and the author of The Emperor's Beard and The Spectacle of the Races.

Heloisa M. Starling is a professor of history at the Universidade Federal de Minas Gerais and the author of Memories of Brazil and The Lords of Gerais.

PRAISE

"An exquisite synthesis of the Brazilian past.” —O Estado de São Paulo

"A sensitive and deep dive into the Brazilian soul.” —Folha de São Paulo
Blood Papa
Rwanda's New Generation

Jean Hatzfeld; Translated from the French by Joshua David Jordan

The continuation of a groundbreaking study of the Rwandan genocide, and the story of the survivor generation

In Rwanda from April to June 1994, 800,000 Tutsis were slaughtered by their Hutu neighbors in the largest and swiftest genocide since World War II. In his previous books, Jean Hatzfeld has documented the lives of the killers and victims, but after twenty years he has found that the enormity of understanding doesn’t stop with one generation. In Blood Papa, Hatzfeld returns to the hills and marshes of Nyamata to ask what has become of the children—those who never saw the machetes yet have grown up in the shadow of tragedy.

Fabrice, Sandra, Jean-Pierre, and others share the genocide as a common inheritance. Some have known only their parents’ silence and lies, enduring the harassment of classmates or the stigma of a father jailed for unspeakable crimes. Others have enjoyed a loving home and the sympathies offered to survivor children, but do so without parents or an extended family.

The young Rwandans in Blood Papa see each other in the neighborhood—they dance and gossip, frequent the same cafés, and, like teenagers everywhere, love sports, music, and fashion; they surf the Web and dream of marriage. Yet Hutu and Tutsi children rarely speak of the ghosts that haunt their lives. Here their moving first-person accounts combined with Hatzfeld’s arresting chronicles of everyday life form a testament to survival in a country devastated by the terrible crimes and trauma of the past.

Jean Hatzfeld, an international reporter for Libération since 1973, is the author of many books, including Machete Season: The Killers in Rwanda Speak (FSG, 2005) and The Antelope’s Strategy (FSG, 2010). He lives in Paris.

Joshua Jordan is a lecturer of French language and literature at Fordham and Columbia University and received the French Voices Award in 2016 for his translation of Aberrant Movements: The Philosophy of Gilles Deleuze by David Lapoujade.

PRAISE
Ninety-Nine Glimpses of Princess Margaret

Craig Brown

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

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

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

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

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

PRAISE

A Guardian Book of the Year

A Times Book of the Year

A Sunday Times Book of the Year

A Daily Mail Book of the Year

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

FARRAR, STRAUS AND GIROUX | AUGUST 2018
So Lucky
A Novel
Nicola Griffith

From the author of *Hild*, a fierce and urgent autobiographical novel about a woman facing down a formidable foe

So *Lucky* is the sharp, surprising new novel by Nicola Griffith—the profoundly personal and emphatically political story of a confident woman forced to confront an unnerving new reality when in the space of a single week her wife leaves her and she is diagnosed with multiple sclerosis.

Mara Tagarelli is, professionally, the head of a multimillion-dollar AIDS foundation; personally, she is a committed martial artist. But her life has turned inside out like a sock. She can’t rely on family, her body is letting her down, and friends and colleagues are turning away—they treat her like a victim. She needs to break that narrative: build her own community, learn new strengths, and fight. But what do you do when you find out that the story you’ve been told, the story you’ve told yourself, is not true? How can you fight if you can’t trust your body? Who can you rely on if those around you don’t have your best interests at heart, and the systems designed to help do more harm than good? Mara makes a decision and acts, but her actions unleash monsters aimed squarely at the heart of her new community.

This is fiction from the front lines, incandescent and urgent, a narrative juggernaut that rips through sentiment to expose the savagery of America’s treatment of the disabled and chronically ill. But *So Lucky* also blazes with hope and a ferocious love of self, of the life that becomes possible when we stop believing... 

Nicola Griffith is the multiple-award-winning author of seven novels and a memoir. A native of Yorkshire, England—now a dual U.S./U.K. citizen—she is a onetime self-defense instructor who turned to writing full-time upon being diagnosed with multiple sclerosis. She holds a Ph.D. from Anglia Ruskin University and lives with her wife, the writer Kelley Eskridge, in Seattle.

PRAISE

Praise for Nicola Griffith

“Griffith is a writer of considerable gifts. Her sentences shimmer, her powers of observation and description are razor sharp.” —King Kaufman, *The New York Times*

“I found myself feeling gratitude twisting into every moment of admiration for Griffith’s craft: gratitude for agency, complexity, nuance, representation...
Nothing Good Can Come from This

Essays

Kristi Coulter

“What’s the opposite of disappointment? Oh right, pure joy. That’s what I felt reading Nothing Good Can Come from This.”
—Claire Dederer, author of Love and Trouble

When Kristi Coulter quit drinking, she started noticing things. Like when you give up a debilitating habit, it leaves a space, one that can’t easily be filled by mocktails or ice cream or sex or crafting. And when you cancel Rosé Season for yourself, you’re left with just summer, and that’s when you notice that the women around you are tanked—that alcohol is the oil in the motors that keeps them purring when they could be making other kinds of noises.

In her sharp, incisive debut essay collection, Coulter reveals a portrait of a life in transition by a keen-eyed observer no longer numbed into complacency. By turns hilarious and heartrending, Nothing Good Can Come from This introduces a fierce new voice to fans of Sloane Crosley, David Sedaris, and Cheryl Strayed—perfect for anyone who has ever stood in the middle of a so-called perfect life and looked for an escape hatch.

Kristi Coulter holds an MFA in creative writing from the University of Michigan. She is a former Ragdale Foundation resident and the recipient of a grant from the National Foundation for Advancement in the Arts. Her work has appeared in The Awl, Marie Claire, Vox, Quartz, and elsewhere. She lives in Seattle, Washington.

“Brave, whip-smart, and laugh-out-loud funny. Kristi Coulter does not pull any punches tackling the taboos in so many women’s lives: addiction, sex, money, privilege, ambition, adultery, and power. In these essays, she bares her own soul to a greater end, writing with unflinching honesty and unexpected poetry. Although this is framed as a...
The Moviegoer
A Novel
Walker Percy; With a new afterword

A classic of American fiction joins the FSG Classics list, featuring a new afterword by Richard Ford

Winner of the 1962 National Book Award and one of Time magazine’s 100 Best English-Language Novels, Walker Percy’s debut The Moviegoer is an American masterpiece and a classic of Southern literature. Insightful, romantic, and humorous, it is the story of a young man’s search for meaning amid a shallow consumerist landscape.

Binx Bolling, a young New Orleans stockbroker, fills his days with movies and casual sex. His life offers him nothing worth retaining; what he treasures are scenes from The Third Man or Stagecoach, not the personal experiences he knows other people hold dear. On the cusp of turning thirty, however, something changes: At Mardi Gras, he embarks on a quest for some form of authentic experience. The consequences of Binx’s quest, on both himself and his unstable cousin Kate, prove outrageous, absurd, moving, and indelible.


Walker Percy was the author of nine books of fiction and nonfiction, including the bestsellers The Moviegoer and The Thanatos Syndrome. He was awarded numerous prizes in his lifetime, including the National Book Award, and is considered one of the greatest American writers of the twentieth century. He lived in Covington, Louisiana, until his death in 1990.

PRAISE

“When The Moviegoer was published in 1961, its author was 44 years old—a doctor who hadn’t practiced, a writer whose only published work in 20 years was a batch of metaphysical essays, a member of a prominent southern family who chose to live in quiet obscurity . . . Today it is an internationally acclaimed classic.” —Phil McCombs, The Wa...
The Mighty Franks
A Memoir

Michael Frank

A psychologically acute memoir about an unusual and eccentric Hollywood family.

"My feeling for Mike is something out of the ordinary," Michael Frank overhears his aunt say to his mother when he is a boy. "I wish he were mine."

Michael’s childless Auntie Hankie and Uncle Irving, glamorous Hollywood screenwriters, are doubly his aunt and uncle—brother and sister married sister and brother. The two families live just blocks away from each other in Laurel Canyon. In this strangely intertwined family, even the author’s two grandmothers share an apartment together.

Talented, sparkling, and lavish with her money, attention, and love, Auntie Hankie takes charge of Michael’s education, showing him which books to read, which painters to admire, which houses to like, which people to adore. She literally trains his eye—until that eye wants to see on its own.

As his aunt’s moods begin to darken, it becomes apparent that beneath her magical exterior there lies a dangerous rage. His aunt stages a series of tumultuous scenes that devastate Michael, forcing him to reconstruct both himself and his family narrative as he tries to reconcile the woman he once cherished with the troubled figure he discovers her to be.

The Mighty Franks is a psychologically acute memoir that asks each of us where the boundaries of family life should be drawn, and who should draw them.

Michael Frank’s articles and essays have appeared in The New York Times Magazine, Tablet Magazine, and Travel and Leisure, among many other publications. His fiction has been presented at Symphony Space’s Selected Shorts: A Celebration of the Short Story, and his travel writing has been collected in Italy: The Best Travel Writing from The New York Times. He served as a Los Angeles Times book critic for nearly ten years. He lives in New York City and Liguria, Italy.

PRAISE

In 1791, a motley collection of American militiamen were routed in battle by Shawnee, Miami, and Delaware Indians in the Ohio River Valley. Stunned by the news, their commander in chief, George Washington, reached a fateful conclusion: The United States needed an army.

In evocative and absorbing prose, William Hogeland conjures up the woodland battles and the hardball politics that formed the Legion of the United States, the country’s first true standing army. His story builds to a crescendo as Washington and Alexander Hamilton, at enormous risk, outmaneuver Thomas Jefferson, James Madison, and other skeptics of standing armies—and Washington appoints General “Mad” Anthony Wayne to lead the Legion. Wayne marches into the forests of the Old Northwest, where the very Indians he is charged with defeating will bestow on him, with grudging admiration, a new name: Black Snake.

_Autumn of the Black Snake_ is a dramatic work of military and political history, offering memorable portraits of Indian and U.S. leaders alike. It is also an original interpretation of how greed, honor, political beliefs, and vivid personalities converged on the killing fields of the Ohio Valley, where the U.S. Army’s first victory opened the way to western settlement and established the precedent that the new nation would possess a military to reckon with.

William Hogeland is the author of three books on founding U.S. history, _The Whiskey Rebellion, Declaration_, and _Founding Finance_, as well as a collection of essays, _Inventing American History_. Born in Virginia and raised in Brooklyn, he lives in New York City.

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_PRAISE_

“A thorough, informative and entertaining read . . . yet it is also a devastatingly accurate mirror into our own political souls.” —Matthew Rozsa, _Salon_

“An enlightening history of American westward expansion.” —_Kirkus Reviews_
Adults in the Room
My Battle with the European and American Deep Establishment

Yanis Varoufakis

The internationally bestselling memoir by an insurgent finance minister

What happens when you take on the establishment? In Adults in the Room, renowned economist and former finance minister of Greece Yanis Varoufakis gives the full, blistering account of his momentous clash with the mightiest economic and political forces on earth.

After being swept into power with the leftwing Syriza party, Varoufakis attempts to re-negotiate Greece’s relationship with the EU—and sparks a spectacular battle with global implications. Varoufakis’s new position sends him ricocheting between mass demonstrations in Athens, closed-door negotiations in drab EU and IMF offices, and furtive meetings with power-brokers in Washington, DC. He consults and quarrels with Barack Obama, Emmanuel Macron, Christine Lagarde, the economists Larry Summers and Jeffrey Sachs, and others, as he struggles to relieve Greece’s debt crisis without resorting to punishing austerity measures. But, despite the mass support of the Greek people and the simple logic of Varoufakis’s arguments, he succeeds only in provoking the fury of Europe’s elite.

Varoufakis’s unvarnished memoir is an urgent warning that the economic policies once embraced by the EU and the White House have failed—and spawned authoritarianism, populist revolt, and instability throughout the Western world. Adults in the Room is an extraordinary tale of brinkmanship, hypocrisy, collusion, and betrayal that will shake the global establishment to its founda...

Yanis Varoufakis is the former finance minister of Greece and the co-founder of an international grassroots movement, DiEM25, campaigning for the revival of democracy in Europe. He is the author of And the Weak Suffer What They Must? and The Global Minotaur. After many years teaching in the United States, Britain, and Australia, he is currently professor of economics at the University of Athens.
Would Everybody Please Stop? Reflections on Life and Other Bad Ideas

Jenny Allen

Humorous essays about Jenny Allen’s attempt to make sense of the baffling and annoying world around her

“One of the funniest writers in America.”

That’s what The New Yorker’s Andy Borowitz calls Jenny Allen—and with good reason. In her debut essay collection, the longtime humorist and performer declares no subject too sacred, no boundary impassable.

With her eagle eye for the absurd and hilarious, Allen reports from the potholes midway through life’s journey. One moment she’s flirting shamelessly—and unsuccessfully—with a younger man at a wedding; the next she’s stumbling upon X-rated images on her daughter’s computer. She ponders the connection between her ex-husband’s questions about the location of their silverware, and the divorce that came a year later. While undergoing chemotherapy, she experiments with being a “wig person.” And she considers those perplexing questions that we never pause to ask: Why do people say “It is what it is”? What’s the point of fat-free half-and-half? And haven’t we heard enough about memes?

Jenny Allen’s musings range fluidly from the personal to the philosophical. She writes with the familiarity of someone telling a dinner party anecdote, forgoing decorum for candor and comedy. To read Would Everybody Please Stop? is to experience life with imaginative and incisive humor.

Jenny Allen is a writer and performer. Her essays and articles have appeared for years in many magazines, including The New Yorker, The New York Times, New York, Vogue, Esquire, More, The Huffington Post, and Good Housekeeping. Recent essays appear in Andy Borowitz’s anthology The Fifty Funniest American Writers and in In the Fullness of Time: 32 Women on Life After 50.

PRAISE

“Most of the 35 very short essays in Would Everybody Please Stop? are either hilarious, heartfelt, or both . . . Wonderful . . . Allen can be playful, sarcastic, and astute . . . There’s sharp wit and social commentary aplenty . . . As delightful as her humor is, her serious essays hit deeper . . . It’s all good.” —Heller McAlpin, NPR.org
**1944 Diary**

Hans Keilson; Translated from the German by Damion Searls

An account of the Nazi-occupied Netherlands from one of Europe’s most powerful chroniclers of the Holocaust

In 2010, FSG published two novels set in World War II by the German Jewish psychoanalyst Hans Keilson: *The Death of the Adversary* (1959) and *Comedy in a Minor Key* (1944). With their Chekhovian sympathy for perpetrators and bystanders as much as for victims and resisters, they were, as Francine Prose raved on the front page of *The New York Times Book Review*, “masterpieces” by “a genius.”

After Keilson’s death at age 101, a diary was found among his papers covering nine months in hiding with members of a Dutch resistance group. It tells the story not only of Keilson’s survival but also of the moral and artistic life he was struggling to make for himself. Along with Keilsonesque set pieces—such as an encounter with a pastor who is sick of having to help Jews, and a day locked upstairs during a Nazi roundup in the city—the diary is full of reading notes on Kafka, Rilke, Céline, Buber, and others. Forcibly separated from his wife and young child, Keilson was having a passionate love affair with a younger Jewish woman in hiding a few blocks away, and writing dozens of sonnets to her, struggling with claims of morality and of love.

*1944 Diary* is a revelatory new angle on an often-told history and the work of one of Europe’s most important novelists at a key moment of the twentieth century.

**Hans Keilson** is the author of *Life Goes On*, *Comedy in a Minor Key*, and *The Death of the Adversary*. Born in Germany in 1909, he published his first novel in 1933. During World War II he joined the Dutch resistance. Later, as a psychotherapist, he did pioneering work with children who had suffered war trauma. He died in 2011 at the age of 101.

**Damion Searls** specializes in translating literary works from German, Norwegian, French, and Dutch. Among the authors he has translated are Marcel Proust, Rainer Maria Rilke, Ingeborg Bachmann, Thomas Bernhard, and Peter Handke.

**PRAISE**

“An excellent English translation . . . As much an investigation of its author’s psychology as a document of its period.” —Dorian Stuber, *Numero Cinq*

“Here is found [Keilson’s] humanity, the tender and daring vulnerability.”
—Peter Lewis, *Star-Tribune* (Minneapolis)
The Songs We Know Best
John Ashbery's Early Life
Karin Roffman

The first biography of an American master.

The Songs We Know Best, the first comprehensive biography of the early life of John Ashbery—the winner of nearly every major American literary award—reveals the unusual ways he drew on the details of his youth to populate the poems that made him one of the most original and unpredictable forces of the last century in arts and letters.

Drawing on unpublished correspondence, juvenilia, and childhood diaries as well as more than one hundred hours of conversation with the poet, Karin Roffman offers an insightful portrayal of Ashbery during the twenty-eight years that led up to his stunning debut, Some Trees, chosen by W. H. Auden for the 1955 Yale Younger Poets Prize. Roffman shows how Ashbery’s poetry arose from his early lessons both on the family farm and in 1950s New York City—a bohemian existence that teemed with artistic fervor and radical innovations inspired by Dada and surrealism as well as lifelong friendships with painters and writers such as Frank O’Hara, Jane Freilicher, Nell Blaine, Kenneth Koch, James Schuyler, and Willem de Kooning.

Ashbery has a reputation for being enigmatic and playfully elusive, but Roffman’s biography reveals his deft mining of his early life for the flint and tinder from which his provocative later poems grew, producing a body of work that he calls “the experience of experience,” an intertwining of life and art in extraordinarily intimate ways.

Karin Roffman has taught literature at Yale, West Point, and Bard, and is the author of From the Modernist Annex. She lives in New Haven, Connecticut.

PRAISE

Praise for From the Modernist Annex

“This book has, at its heart, a smart and illuminating thesis about women modernists’ complex engagement with and analyses of various modern cultural and educational institutions.” —Francesca Sawaya, author of Modern Women, Modern Work
In the fairy tales about father–daughter incest—"The Girl Without Hands," "Thousand Furs," the original "Cinderella," "Donkey Skin," and the stories of Saint Dymphna, patron saint of incest survivors—the daughters are all as you would expect them to be: horrified by their fathers’ sexual advances. They do everything in their power to escape. But I didn’t. A child can’t escape. And later, when I could, it was too late.

Throughout her childhood and adolescence, the anonymous author of *The Incest Diary* was raped by her father. Beneath a veneer of normal family life, she grew up in and around this all-encompassing secret. Her sexual relationship with her father lasted, off and on, into her twenties. It formed her world, and it formed her deepest fears and desires. Even after she broke away—even as she grew into an independent and adventurous young woman—she continued to seek out new versions of the violence, submission, and secrecy she had struggled to leave behind.

In this graphic and harrowing memoir, the author revisits her early traumas and their aftermath—not from a clinical distance, but from deep within—to explore the ways in which her father’s abuse shaped her, and still does. As a matter of psychic survival, she became both a sexual object and a detached observer, a dutiful daughter and the protector of a dirty secret. And then, years later, she made herself write it down.

With lyric concision, in vi...
Ants Among Elephants
An Untouchable Family and the Making of Modern India

Sujatha Gidla

The stunning true story of an untouchable family who become teachers, and one, a poet and revolutionary

Like one in six people in India, Sujatha Gidla was born an untouchable. While most untouchables are illiterate, her family was educated by Canadian missionaries in the 1930s, making it possible for Gidla to attend elite schools and move to America at the age of twenty-six. It was only then that she saw how extraordinary—and yet how typical—her family history truly was. Her mother, Manjula, and uncles Satyam and Carey were born in the last days of British colonial rule. They grew up in a world marked by poverty and injustice, but also full of possibility. In the slums where they lived, everyone had a political side, and rallies, agitations, and arrests were commonplace. The Independence movement promised freedom. Yet for untouchables and other poor and working people, little changed. Satyam, the eldest, switched allegiance to the Communist Party. Gidla recounts his incredible life—how he became a famous poet, student, labor organizer, and founder of a left-wing guerrilla movement. And Gidla charts her mother’s battles with caste and women’s oppression. Page by page, Gidla takes us into a complicated, close-knit family as they desperately strive for a decent life and a more just society.

A moving portrait of love, hardship, and struggle, Ants Among Elephants is also that rare thing: a personal history of modern India told from the bottom up.

Sujatha Gidla was born an untouchable in Andhra Pradesh, India. She studied physics at the Regional Engineering College, Warangal. Her writing has appeared in The Oxford India Anthology of Telugu Dalit Writing. She lives in New York and works as a conductor on the subway.

PRAISE


“With her luminous command of fine details, Gidla manages a difficult and admirable task: she takes a tremend...
Distant Mandate
Poems

Ange Mlinko

A shimmering collection from a fascinating, formally engaged poet

In *Distant Mandate*, Ange Mlinko moves constantly to and fro: from the tormented Southern landscape with its alternately arid and flooded scrublands to the landscape of Texas, remembered Mediterranean scenes, and the imagined settings of Western art. Guided by her spiritual forebears—Orpheus, Mallarmé, Pound, Yeats, and others—Mlinko deftly places herself within the tradition of the poet in protest against the obduracy of the real yet enraptured in the torment of Eros.

Mlinko takes her title from a piece by László Krasznahorkai on the unknowable origins of the Alhambra, the monument “for the sight of which there is only a distant mandate . . . [One] can see, in any event, the moment of creation of the world, of course all the while understanding nothing of it.” This distant mandate, also the “bitter ideal” of Mallarmé, is the foundation upon which all works of art are composed—always shaking and ever shifting. Myth is central to these poems; some are based on the story of Cupid and Psyche, others serve as odes to Aphrodite or explorations of the myth of Orpheus and Eurydice. In *Distant Mandate*, Mlinko has given us a shimmering and vibrant collection, one that shows us not only how literature imagines itself through life but also how life reimagines itself through literature.

*Ange Mlinko* is the author of four previous books of poetry, including *Shoulder Season*, which was a finalist for the William Carlos Williams Award, and *Starred Wire*, a National Poetry Series pick and finalist for the James Laughlin Award. She has been the recipient of a Guggenheim Fellowship and the Randall Jarrell Award for Criticism, and served as the poetry editor for *The Nation*. Her essays and reviews have been published in *The Nation*, the *London Review of Books*, *Poetry*, and *Parnassus*. Educated at St. John’s College and Brown University, she has lived in Morocco and Lebanon, and is currently an associate professor of English at the University of Florida. She lives in Gainesville, Florida.

**PRAISE**

“Mlinko repurposes the archaic and deposits the mythic into a contemporary space, crafting glimmering poems of scrupulous linguistic intricacy that transcend time . . . Seeking order within chaos, Mlinko layers delicately wrought lines into crystalline solids.” —*Publishers Weekly*
Suzy Hansen left her country and moved to Istanbul—and discovered America

In the wake of the September 11 attacks and the U.S.-led invasion of Iraq, Suzy Hansen, who grew up in an insular conservative town in New Jersey, was enjoying early success as a journalist for a high-profile New York newspaper. Increasingly, though, the disconnect between the chaos of world events and the response at home took on pressing urgency for her. Seeking to understand the Muslim world that had been reduced to scaremongering headlines, she moved to Istanbul.

Hansen arrived in Istanbul with romantic ideas about a mythical city perched between East and West, and with a naïve sense of the Islamic world beyond. Over the course of her many years of living in Turkey and traveling in Greece, Egypt, Afghanistan, Iraq, and Iran, she learned a great deal about these countries and their cultures and histories and politics. But the greatest, most unsettling surprise would be what she learned about her own country—and herself, an American abroad in the era of American decline. It would take leaving her home to discover what she came to think of as the two Americas: the country and its people, and the experience of American power around the world. She came to understand that anti-Americanism is not a violent pathology. It is, Hansen writes, "a broken heart . . . A one-hundred-year-old relationship."

Blending memoir, journalism, and history, and deeply attuned to the voices of those she met on her travels, Not...

Suzy Hansen is contributing writer to The New York Times Magazine and has written for many other publications. In 2007, she was awarded a fellowship from the Institute of Current World Affairs to do research in Turkey. She currently lives in Istanbul. Notes on a Foreign Country is her first book.

PRAISE


"Searching and searing . . . [Suzy Hansen] combines a brisk history of America’s anguished intervention in the region; artful reporting on h...
Half-light
Collected Poems 1965-2016
Frank Bidart

The collected works of one of contemporary poetry’s most original voices

Gathered together, the poems of Frank Bidart perform one of the most remarkable transmutations of the body into language in contemporary literature. His pages represent the human voice in all its extreme registers, whether it’s that of the child murderer Herbert White, the obsessive anorexic Ellen West, the tormented genius Vaslav Nijinsky, or the poet’s own. And in that embodiment is a transgressive empathy, one that recognizes our wild appetites, the monsters, the misfits, the misunderstood among us, and inside of us. Few writers have so willingly ventured to the dark places of the human psyche, and allowed themselves to be stripped bare on the page with such candor and vulnerability. Over the past half century, Bidart has done nothing less than invent a poetics commensurate with the chaos and hunger of our experience.

Half-light encompasses all of Bidart’s previous books, and also includes a new collection, Thirst, in which the poet disarmingly surveys his life, laying it plain for us before venturing into something yet again new and unknown. Here Bidart finds himself a “Creature coterminous with thirst,” still longing, still searching in himself, one of the “queers of the universe.”

Visionary and revelatory, intimate and unguarded, the collected works of Frank Bidart are a radical confrontation with human nature, a conflict eternally renewed and reframed, restless line by restless line.

Frank Bidart is the author of Metaphysical Dog (FSG, 2013), Watching the Spring Festival (FSG, 2008), Star Dust (FSG, 2005), Desire (FSG, 1997), and In the Western Night: Collected Poems 1965-90 (FSG, 1990). He has won many prizes, including the Wallace Stevens Award, the 2007 Bollingen Prize in American Poetry, and the National Book Critics Circle Award. He teaches at Wellesley College and lives in Cambridge, Massachusetts.

PRAISE

“Relentless and ever willing to face his demons, no matter how terrifying, in the interest of making great art, Bidart is, to my ear, one of the very few major living poets who never wavers, never repeats himself (though he has always orbited the same concerns), and extends his questing and questioning through each new work. This collecte...
In the nine expansive, searching stories of *A Lucky Man*, fathers and sons attempt to salvage relationships with friends and family members and confront mistakes made in the past. An imaginative young boy from the Bronx goes swimming with his group from day camp at a backyard pool in the suburbs, and faces the effects of power and privilege in ways he can barely grasp. A teen intent on proving himself a man through the all-night revel of J’ouvert can’t help but look out for his impressionable younger brother. A pair of college boys on the prowl follow two girls home from a party and have to own the uncomfortable truth of their desires. And at a capoeira conference, two brothers grapple with how to tell the story of their family, caught in the dance of their painful, fractured history.

Jamel Brinkley’s stories, in a debut that announces the arrival of a significant new voice, reflect the tenderness and vulnerability of black men and boys whose hopes sometimes betray them, especially in a world shaped by race, gender, and class—where luck may be the greatest fiction of all.

Jamel Brinkley’s stories have appeared in *A Public Space*, *Gulf Coast*, and elsewhere. He is a graduate of the Iowa Writers’ Workshop and has been a Wisconsin Institute for Creative Writing Fellow. He lives in Los Angeles.

**PRAISE**

“There’s true magic in Jamel Brinkley’s stories . . . By using all his formidable talents, he’s shown us a vision of ourselves.” —Victor LaValle

"I loved this book. From sentence to sentence, these stories are beautifully written, and they are wonderfully moving and smart . . . Jamel Brinkley writes like an angel.” —Charles Baxter

"In vibra..."
The Last Englishmen
Love, War, and the End of Empire
Deborah Baker

A sumptuous biographical saga, both intimate and epic, about the waning of the British Empire in India

John Auden was a pioneering geologist of the Himalayas. Michael Spender was the first to survey the northern approach to the summit of Mount Everest. While their younger brothers—W. H. Auden and Stephen Spender—achieved literary fame, they vied to be included on an expedition that would deliver Everest's summit to an Englishman, a quest that had become a metaphor for Britain's struggle to maintain power over India. To this rivalry was added another: in the summer of 1938 both men fell in love with a painter named Nancy Sharp. Her choice would determine where each man's wartime loyalties would lie.

Set in Calcutta, London, the glacier-locked wilds of the Karakoram, and on Everest itself, The Last Englishmen is also the story of a generation. The cast of this exhilarating drama includes Indian and English writers and artists, explorers and Communist spies, Die Hards and Indian nationalists, political rogues and police informers. Key among them is a highborn Bengali poet named Sudhin Datta, a melancholy soul torn, like many of his generation, between hatred of the British Empire and a deep love of European literature, whose life would be upended by the arrival of war on his Calcutta doorstep.

Dense with romance and intrigue, and of startling relevance for the great power games of our own day, Deborah Baker's The Last Englishmen is an engrossing story that traces the end of empire and the stirring of a new w...

Deborah Baker is the author of Making a Farm; In Extremis, which was short-listed for the Pulitzer Prize for Biography; A Blue Hand; and The Convert, which was a finalist for the National Book Award. She lives in India and New York.

PRAISE

Praise for The Convert

"The most brilliant and moving book written about Islam and the West since 9/11." —Ahmed Rashid


"As absorbing as an excellent detective story." —The Plain Dealer (Cleveland)
Mirror, Shoulder, Signal
A Novel
Dorthe Nors

A smart, witty novel of driving lessons and vertigo, a finalist for the Man Booker International Prize

Sonja is ready to get on with her life. She’s over forty now, and the Swedish crime novels she translates are losing their fascination. She sees a masseuse, tries to reconnect with her sister, and is finally learning to drive. But under the overbearing gaze of her driving instructor, Sonja is unable to shift gears for herself. And her vertigo, which she has always carefully hidden, has begun to manifest at the worst possible moments.

Sonja hoped her move to Copenhagen years ago would have left rural Jutland in the rearview mirror. Yet she keeps remembering the dramatic landscapes of her childhood—the endless sky, the whooper swans, the rye fields—and longs to go back. But how can she return to a place that she no longer recognizes? And how can she escape the alienating streets of Copenhagen?

In Mirror, Shoulder, Signal, Dorthe Nors brings her distinctive blend of style, humor, and insight to a poignant journey of one woman in search of herself when there’s no one to ask for directions.

Dorthe Nors is the author of two novellas, So Much for That Winter; a story collection, Karate Chop, winner of the Per Olov Enquist Literary Prize; and four novels. Her work has appeared in the New Yorker, Harper’s Magazine, A Public Space, Tin House, and elsewhere. She lives in Denmark.

PRAISE

“Sonja is a thoroughly modern heroine—middle-aged, single, chronically alone, struggling to shift the gears of her entire life . . . Comical, clever, with a knife-twist of uneasiness.” —The Times (London)

“Trenchant and empathetic . . . Nors’s reinvention of experimental fiction is so marvellous.” —The Guardian (UK)
This Mournable Body
A Novel

Tsitsi Dangarembga

A searing novel about the obstacles facing women in Zimbabwe, by one of the country’s most notable authors

Anxious about her prospects after leaving a stagnant job, Tambudzai finds herself living in a run-down youth hostel in downtown Harare. For reasons that include her grim financial prospects and her age, she moves to a widow’s boarding house and eventually finds work as a biology teacher. But at every turn in her attempt to make a life for herself, she is faced with a fresh humiliation, until the painful contrast between the future she imagined and her daily reality ultimately drives her to a breaking point.

In *This Mournable Body*, Tsitsi Dangarembga returns to the protagonist of her acclaimed first novel, *Nervous Conditions*, to examine how the hope and potential of a young girl and a fledgling nation can sour over time and become a bitter and floundering struggle for survival. As a last resort, Tambudzai takes an ecotourism job that forces her to return to her parents’ impoverished homestead. This homecoming, in Dangarembga’s tense and psychologically charged novel, culminates in an act of betrayal, revealing just how toxic the combination of colonialism and capitalism can be.

Tsitsi Dangarembga is the author of two previous novels, including *Nervous Conditions*, winner of the Commonwealth Writers’ Prize. She is also the director of the Institute of Creative Arts for Progress in Africa Trust. She lives in Harare, Zimbabwe.

**PRAISE**

Praise for *Nervous Conditions*

“This is the novel we have been waiting for. . . . It will become a classic.”
—Doris Lessing
Nevada Days
A Novel

Bernardo Atxaga

A seductive, unclassifiable blend of autobiography and fiction set in Reno, from the preeminent Basque author

Nine months as a writer in residence can prove unnerving for anyone. For Bernardo Atxaga, newly arrived with his wife and two daughters, research at the Center for Basque Studies in Reno, Nevada, is anything but straightforward. The neon lights and harsh, windswept desert appear full of ominous signs: A raccoon that watches the house at night, eyes glowing. A series of sexual assaults on campus by an unknown assailant. A spider scuttling endlessly in a glass jar kept by a colleague. And the kidnapping and murder of a young college girl in the house next door.

Fragments of the Basque diaspora appear everywhere: A photo of the heavyweight boxer Paulino Uzcudun, who fought Max Baer in the 1930s. The funeral of a Basque sheepherder. Daily life also turns up some unusual characters—a university friend suspected of involvement in the assaults on campus, a neighbor who takes Atxaga for long drives in the desert, and cowboys at a Tex-Mex joint.

Nevada Days, told in a series of diary-like entries, mixes fragments of the Basque diaspora with a constellation of lively incidents in Reno and memories from Atxaga’s childhood. The routines of everyday life are the only way to resolve the deep wounds of history and relationships, however fleeting or enduring. Trapped in the deeply alien landscape of Nevada, Atxaga weaves together past and present to see the American West from a refreshing, if also ominous and unsettling...

Bernardo Atxaga is a prizewinning author whose books, including Seven Houses in France and The Accordionist’s Son, have won international critical acclaim. His works have been translated into thirty-two languages. He lives in the Basque Country.

PRAISE

"Nevada Days is a remarkable book, both for its breadth of landscape and history and for its depth of feeling. Atxaga wanders across time and between continents, all the while still orbiting around the book's central, haunting preoccupations of isolation and violence. Through Atxaga's vision of the American West, we are given access to el...
“Hoagland’s verse is consistently, and crucially, bloodied by a sense of menace and by straight talk.” —The New York Times

My heroes are the ones who don’t say much.
They don’t hug people they just met.
They don’t play louder when confused.
They use plain language even when they listen.

Wisdom doesn’t come to every Californian.
Chances are I too
will die with difficulty in the dark.

If you want to see a lost civilization,
why not look in the mirror?
If you want to talk about love, why not begin
with those marigolds you forgot to water?

—from “Real Estate”

Tony Hoagland’s poems interrogate human nature and contemporary culture with an intimate and wild urgency, located somewhere between outrage, stand-up comedy, and grief. His new poems are no less observant of the human and the worldly, no less skeptical, and no less amusing, but they have drifted toward the greater depths of open emotion. Over six collections, Hoagland’s poetry has gotten bigger, more tender, and more encompassing. The poems in Priest Turned Therapist Treats Fear of God turn his clear-eyed vision toward the hidden spaces—and spaciousness—in the human predicament.

Tony Hoagland is the author of five previous poetry collections, including Application for Release from the Dream and What Narcissism Means to Me, a finalist for the National Book Critics Circle Award. He lives in Santa Fe, New Mexico.
Still Life with Two Dead Peacocks and a Girl
Poems

Diane Seuss

Diane Seuss’s brilliant follow-up to *Four-Legged Girl*, a finalist for the Pulitzer Prize for Poetry

Still life with stack of bills phone cord cig butt and freezer-burned Dreamsicle
Still life with Easter Bunny twenty caged minks and rusty meat grinder
Still life with whiskey wooden leg two potpies and a dead parakeet
Still life with pork rinds pickled peppers and the Book of Revelation
Still life with feeding tube oxygen half-eaten raspberry Zinger
Still life with convenience store pecking order shotgun blast to the face

— from "American Still Lifes"

*Still Life with Two Dead Peacocks and a Girl* takes its title from Rembrandt’s painting, a dark emblem of femininity, violence, and the viewer’s own troubled gaze. In Diane Seuss’s new collection, the notion of the still life is shattered and Rembrandt’s painting is presented across the book in pieces—details that hide more than they reveal until they’re assembled into a whole. With invention and irreverence, these poems escape gilded frames and overturn traditional representations of gender, class, and luxury. Instead, Seuss invites in the alienated, the washed-up, the ugly, and the freakish—the overlooked many of us who might more often stand in a Walmart parking lot than before the canvases of O’Keeffe, Pollock, and Rothko. Rendered with precision and profound empathy, this extraordinary gallery of lives in shards shows us that “our memories are local, acute, and unrelenting.”

Diane Seuss is the author of three previous poetry collections, including *Four-Legged Girl*, a finalist for the Pulitzer Prize, and *Wolf Lake, White Gown Blown Open*, winner of the Juniper Prize. She lives in Michigan.

PRAISE

Praise for *Four-Legged Girl*

“A richly improvisational poetry collection that leads readers through a gallery of incisive and beguiling portraits and landscapes.” —Pulitzer Prize finalist citation

“Seuss’s fevered lines get under your skin until reading becomes a visceral experience.” —*San Francisco Chronicle*
New Poets of Native Nations
Edited by Heid E. Erdrich

A landmark anthology celebrating twenty-one Native poets first published in the twenty-first century

New Poets of Native Nations gathers poets of diverse ages, styles, languages, and tribal affiliations to present the extraordinary range and power of new Native poetry. Heid E. Erdrich has selected twenty-one poets whose first books were published after the year 2000 to highlight the exciting works coming up after Joy Harjo and Sherman Alexie. Collected here are poems of great breadth—long narratives, political outcries, experimental works, and traditional lyrics—and the result is an essential anthology of some of the best poets writing now.


Heid E. Erdrich is the author of five collections of poetry, including Curator of Ephemera at the New Museum for Archaic Media. She is Ojibwe enrolled at Turtle Mountain, and lives and teaches in Minneapolis.

PRAISE

As an editor and judge on panels for literary prizes, I have found among my peer poets and critics a general lack of understanding of what Native American writing looks like, what it might be about, what styles it might choose, and how it can be recognized within the whole of American poetry. It has seemed to me that, unless poetry confor...
If You Have to Go
Poems

Katie Ford

The transformative new book from “one of the most important American poets at work today” (Dunya Mikhail)

I am content because before me looms the hope of love.
I do not have it; I do not yet have it.

It is a bird strong enough to lead me by the rope it bites;
unless I pull, it is strong enough for me.

I do worry the end of my days might come
and I will not yet have it. But even then I will be brave

upon my deathbed, and why shouldn’t I be?
I held things here, and I felt them.

—From "Psalm 40"

The poems in Katie Ford’s fourth collection implore their audience—the divine and the human—for attention, for revelation, and, perhaps above all, for companionship. The extraordinary sequence at the heart of this book taps into the radical power of the sonnet form, bending it into a kind of metaphysical and psychological outcry. Beginning in the cramped space of selfhood—in the bedroom, cluttered with doubts, and in the throes of marital loss—these poems edge toward the clarity of "what I can know and admit to knowing." In song and in silence, Ford inhabits the rooms of anguish and redemption with scouring exactness. This is poetry that "can break open, // it can break your life, it will break you // until you remain." If You Have to Go is Ford’s most luminous and moving collection.

Katie Ford is the author of three previous poetry collections: Blood Lyrics, Colosseum, and Deposition. The recipient of a Lannan Literary Fellowship and the Levis Reading Prize, she teaches at the University of California, Riverside.

PRAISE

"This book is astonishing, a formal miracle that rhymes and meter then breaks the rhymes and meters in such perfectly and imperfectly perfect ways. I am in awe."—Sherman Alexie
Love That Bunch
Aline Kominsky-Crumb

The early work of the pioneering feminist cartoonist plus her acclaimed new story “Dream House”

Aline Kominsky-Crumb immediately made her mark in the Bay Area’s underground comix scene with unabashedly raw, dirty, unfiltered comics chronicling the thoughts and desires of a woman coming of age in the 1960s. Kominsky-Crumb didn’t worry about self-flattery. In fact, her darkest secrets and deepest insecurities were all the more fodder for groundbreaking stories. Her exaggerated comix alter ego, Bunch, is self-destructive and grotesque but crackles with the self-deprecating humor and honesty of a cartoonist confident in the story she wants to tell.

Collecting comics from the 1970s through today, Love That Bunch is shockingly prescient while still being an authentic story of its era. Kominsky-Crumb was ahead of her time in juxtaposing the contradictory nature of female sexuality with a proud, complicated feminism. Most important, she does so without apology.

One of the most famous and idiosyncratic cartoonists of our time, Kominsky-Crumb traces her steps from a Beatles-loving fangirl, an East Village groupie, an adult grappling with her childhood, and a 1980s housewife and mother, to a new thirty-page story, “Dream House,” that looks back on her childhood forty years later. Love That Bunch will be Kominsky-Crumb’s only solo-authored book in print. Originally published as a book in 1990, this new expanded edition follows her to the present, including an afterword penned by the noted comics scholar Hilla...

Aline Kominsky-Crumb was born on Long Island, New York, and is one of the most influential cartoonists of the underground era as the cartoonist behind Dirty Laundry Comics and Arcade; a contributor to Wimmen’s Comix; cofounder of Twisted Sisters; editor of the anthology Weirdo; and author of the graphic memoir Need More Love. Since the 1990s, she has lived in the south of France with her husband, Robert Crumb. In 2017, the David Zwirner Gallery in New York City held a joint exhibition of their artwork: Aline Kominsky-Crumb & R. Crumb: Drawn Together.

PRAISE

“For over 40 years, Kominsky-Crumb has chronicled agony and ecstasy through brutally honest portraits . . . She changed the game for women comics—not to mention women comedians, authors and artists.” —The Huffington Post

“Kominsky-Crumb’s line has a freshness and energy that make her strips feel more honest and closer to autobiography than..."
Sabrina

Nick Drnaso

Conspiracy theories, breakdown, murder: Everything’s gonna be all right—until it isn’t

How many hours of sleep did you get last night? Rate your overall mood from 1 to 5, 1 being poor. Rate your stress level from 1 to 5, 5 being severe. Are you experiencing depression or thoughts of suicide? Is there anything in your personal life that is affecting your duty?

When Sabrina disappears, an airman in the U.S. Air Force is drawn into a web of suppositions, wild theories, and outright lies. He reports to work every night in a bare, sterile fortress that serves as no protection from a situation that threatens the sanity of Teddy, his childhood friend and the boyfriend of the missing woman. Sabrina’s grieving sister, Sandra, struggles to fill her days as she waits in purgatory. After a videotape surfaces, we see devastation shown through a cinematic lens, as true tragedy is distorted when fringe thinkers and conspiracy theorists begin to interpret events to fit their own narratives.

The follow-up to Nick Drnaso’s Beverly, winner of the Los Angeles Times Book Prize, Sabrina depicts a modern world devoid of personal interaction and responsibility, where relationships are stripped of intimacy through glowing computer screens. Presenting an indictment of our modern state, Drnaso contemplates the dangers of a fake-news climate. Timely and articulate, Sabrina leaves you gutted, searching for meaning in the aftermath of disaster.

Nick Drnaso was born in 1989 in Palos Hills, Illinois. His debut graphic novel, Beverly, received the Los Angeles Times Book Prize for Best Graphic Novel. He has contributed to several comics anthologies, self-published a handful of comics, been nominated for three Ignatz Awards, and coedited the second and third issues of Linework, Columbia College’s annual comic anthology. Drnaso lives in Chicago, where he works as a cartoonist and illustrator.

PRAISE

“Drnaso’s diagnosis of the sickness at the soul of sheltered communities is novel in its discordant effects and keen observation.” — The Globe and Mail

“Uncomfortable, fascinating . . . Full of moments in which the bubbling reservoir of anxiety or feeling or darkness boils to the surface.” — Slate
A raucous skewering of the art world as told by a master of absurdity

Matthew Thurber’s *Art Comic* is a blunt and hilarious assault on the swirling hot mess that is the art world. From sycophantic fans to duplicitous gallerists, fatuous patrons to self-aggrandizing art stars, he lampoons each and every facet of the eminently ridiculous industry of truth and beauty. Follow Cupcake, the Matthew Barney obsessive; Epiphany née Tiffany Clydesdale, the divinely inspired performance artist; Ivanhoe, a modern knight in search of artistic vengeance, and his squire, Turnbuckle. Each artist is more ridiculous than the last, yet they are tested and transformed by the even more absurd machinations of Thurber’s fantastical art world. Can the Free Little Pigs destroy this blighted system? Will “The Group” continue its indirect assassination of promising young artists? Can artistic integrity exist in this world amid the capitalist co-opting, petty rivalries, otherworldly portals, heavenly interventions, and murders at sea?

*Art Comic* is brimming with references and cameos, outsize personalities and shuddering nonsense—Robert Rauschenberg smashes a beer bottle, Francesca Woodman, a wineglass. In the center of it all, Thurber’s twisted drawings and laugh-out-loud dialogue convey a complicated picture of an industry at the intersection of fantasy and reality. Part scathing condemnation, part irreverent appreciation, Thurber’s comics skewer the art world in a way only an art lover can.

Matthew Thurber is an artist and musician living in Brooklyn. He is the author of the graphic novels *1-800-MICE* (2011) and *Infomaniacs* (2013). Thurber was the recipient of a NYFA fellowship in fiction in 2010 for *1-800-MICE*, which *The Paris Review* called “the *Gravity’s Rainbow*–Sherlock Holmes–Professor Sutwell–Inspector Clouseau–*Silent Spring* of comics.” Ambergris, his ongoing multimedia performance project, has performed its “Anti-Matter Cabaret” since 2003 at venues such as Issue Project Room, the Hammer Museum in Los Angeles, and the Fumetto Festival in Switzerland. His full-length play *Mining the Moon* was produced at the Brick Theater in July 2014. His artwork has been shown in galleries such as Southfirst and Knowmoregames in New York and W...

**PRAISE**

“*[Art Comic]* mercilessly deflates the pomposity of the mainstream art world.” —*Blouin Artinfo*

“Thurber’s at his best experimenting with a wide array of visual techniques, none of which get tiresome, revealing an artist and storyteller who is wonderfully inventive.” —*Publishers Weekly* (starred review)
Carnet de Voyage
Craig Thompson

A unique insight into an acclaimed cartoonist’s travels through Europe and Morocco

Riding the international success of Blankets, Craig Thompson sets out on a tour across Europe and Morocco, promoting the various European editions of his book and beginning research for his next graphic novel, Habibi. Carnet de Voyage is a gorgeous sketchbook diary of his travels as he finds intellectual and spiritual stimulation during the day-to-day work of being an author. From wandering around Paris and Barcelona between events, to navigating markets in Fez and fleeing tourist traps in Marrakesh, we see glimpses of each place, rendered in Thompson’s exquisite ink line.

While desert landscapes and crowded street scenes flow across the pages, the sketchbook is packed first and foremost with people—travelers passing through, the friends and lovers he meets along the way, distant figures of old friends and other cartoonists who freely weave in and out of his subconscious. This expanded edition also includes a new epilogue drawn from his most recent European book tour, including several familiar faces and Thompson’s reflections on keeping a sketchbook. Carnet de Voyage is a casual yet intimate portrait of a celebrated cartoonist at a moment between works—surprisingly open and candid in his observations and revelations.

Craig Thompson is a cartoonist and the author of the award-winning books Blankets; Good-bye, Chunky Rice; and Habibi. He was born in Michigan in 1975, and grew up in a rural farming community in central Wisconsin. His graphic novel Blankets won numerous industry awards and has been published in nearly twenty languages. Thompson lives in Portland, Oregon.

PRAISE

"Incredible, lush line-work and telling detail . . . Thought provoking and touching." — Publishers Weekly

"Beautiful, touching and surprisingly engaging . . . A window into one man’s struggle to deal with emotional turmoil far from home." — Exclaim!

"Inspiring, escapist, and achievable." — Boing Boing
The Strange
Jérôme Ruillier

The story of one undocumented immigrant’s journey, told by the people who employ him, feed him, and report on him

The Strange follows an unnamed, undocumented immigrant who tries to forge a new life in a Western country where he doesn’t speak the language. The story is deftly told through myriad viewpoints, as each narrator recounts a situation in which they crossed paths with the newly arrived foreigner. Many of the people he meets are suspicious of his unfamiliar background, or of the unusual language they do not understand. By employing this third-person narrative structure, Jérôme Ruillier masterfully portrays the complex plight of immigrants and the vulnerability of being undocumented. The Strange shows one person’s struggle to adapt while dealing with the often brutal and unforgiving attitudes of the employers, neighbors, and strangers who populate this new land.

Ruillier employs a bold visual approach of colored pencil drawings complemented by a stark, limited palette of red, orange, and green backgrounds. Its beautiful simplicity represents the almost childlike hope and promise that is often associated with new beginnings. But as he implicitly suggests, it’s a promise that can shatter at a moment’s notice when the threat of being deported is a daily and terrifying reality.

Jérôme Ruillier was born in 1966 in Madagascar and has lived much of his adult life in France. After spending the first dozen years of his career as a children’s book illustrator, in 2009 he wrote and drew his first graphic novel, Le Coeur-enclume, a deeply personal account of the first six days following the birth of a child with disabilities. His next graphic novel, Les Mohamed, was based on interviews with immigrants from North Africa conducted by the writer Yamina Benguigui, which explored the challenges that many immigrants in France face as they attempt to integrate in a new society. The Strange is Ruillier’s first graphic novel translated into English.

PRAISE

"[A] delicate allegory to the current refugee crisis.” —Words Without Borders

"An insightful and sensitive account.” —Le Monde

"Jérôme Ruillier manages to perfectly convey the reality of migrants who are at times treated as objects instead of subjects.” —Libération
A Bubble
Geneviève Castrée

The artist and musician Geneviève Castrée’s last work—an expression of love, meant to last longer than words

Drawn near the end of her life, surrounded by the nature and calm of Anacortes, Washington, Geneviève Castrée drew one final gift for her two-year-old daughter, the stunning board book *A Bubble*. Leaving behind a last note for a young child is an incomprehensible task; Castrée responds with grace and subtlety. Using precise, exquisite drawings of herself and her daughter, Castrée depicts changes in their daily routines as a greater story unfolds. Mother and daughter float from page to page, encased in a bubble that protects them from the outside world. A contemplation of love and loss, *A Bubble* is a lasting declaration, a final memory, a comfort for others experiencing grief, and a beautiful archive of one of the world’s most talented cartoonist’s final artistic achievements.

Known for her hauntingly beautiful music (under the names Ô PAON and Woelv), engrossingly detailed album illustrations, and delicate, subtle comics, Castrée’s previous graphic novel, *Susceptible*, shows her rare ability to handle difficult personal material with intimacy and honesty. *A Bubble* acts as an extension of her life story and the final chapter of a beautifully full existence. Castrée passed away in 2016 after a long battle with pancreatic cancer.

*Geneviève Castrée* (1981-2016) was born in Québec. Swept away by comics, she wanted to be a cartoonist since the age of nine. Castrée felt the urge to publish her mini-comics early, and appeared in the Montréal underground scene while she was still a teenager. In addition to her books, Castrée had a number of exhibitions in Canada, the United States, Europe, Australia, and Japan. She spent her adult life in the Pacific Northwest with her husband and daughter, where she drew, made small sculptures out of porcelain, and played music under the name Ô PAON.

**PRAISE**

“[Susceptible’s] pervasive melancholy is still lingering with me, a reminder of why we really read: to feel things besides our own emotions.” —*The Paris Review*

The Mushroom Fan Club

Elise Gravel

Join Elise Gravel as she explores the science of some of nature’s weirdest and wildest characters—mushrooms!

Elise Gravel is back with a whimsical look at one of her family’s most beloved pastimes: mushroom hunting! Combining her love of exploring nature with her talent for anthropomorphizing everything, she takes us on a magical tour of the forest floor and examines a handful of her favorite alien specimens up close. While the beautiful coral mushroom looks like it belongs under the sea, the peculiar Lactarius indigo may be better suited for outer space. From the fun-to-stomp puffballs to the prince of the stinkers—the stinkhorn mushroom—and the musically inclined chanterelles, Gravel shares her knowledge of this fascinating kingdom by bringing each species to life in full felt-tip-marker glory.

The Governor General Award–winning author Gravel’s first book with Drawn & Quarterly, If Found . . . Please Return to Elise Gravel, was a Junior Library Guild selection and an instant hit among librarians, parents, and kids alike. Fostering the same spirit of creativity and curiosity, The Mushroom Fan Club promises to inspire kids to look more closely at the world around them and to seek out all of life’s little treasures, stinky or not!

Elise Gravel is an author-illustrator from Montreal, Quebec. After studying graphic design, she pursued a career writing and illustrating children’s books, where her quirky and charming characters quickly won the hearts of children and adults worldwide. In 2012, Gravel received the Governor General’s Literary Award for La clé à molette. A prolific artist, she has more than thirty children’s books to her name, which have been translated into a dozen languages—including the Disgusting Critters series and If Found . . . Please Return to Elise Gravel, her challenge to young artists to keep a sketchbook. Gravel lives in Montreal with her spouse, two daughters, cats, and a few spiders.

PRAISE

Praise for If Found . . . Please Return to Elise Gravel

“A rare mix of wackiness and savvy counsel—just right for getting the creative juices flowing.” —Kirkus Reviews

“A bright, colorful and quirky paean to drawing, imagination, and creativity.” —NPR

“If Found . . . feels like accidentally uncovering the greatest (and silliest) sketchbook o...
The Dangerous Journey
A Tale of Moomin Valley
Tove Jansson

Get swept away in this otherworldly adventure to Moominvalley through treacherous yet beautiful landscapes

Tove Jansson takes us on a beautifully illustrated and delightfully quirky journey through Moominvalley, perfectly capturing the experience and its emotional impact as seen through the innocent eyes of Susanna, who is bored with her life: Her cat is too content; her surroundings, too gentle. She craves adventure when there is none to be had. But when a new pair of glasses appears in front of her, she gets an opportunity to live the bold life that she has always longed for as her surroundings are transformed into a dark and sinister landscape. At first Susanna is afraid, but then her daring side takes over and she moves forward to an unknown destination, seeing some familiar faces along the way. Combating everything from an exploding volcano to a fierce winter storm, from mysterious monsters to stormy seas, Susanna and her newfound friends are given the adventure of a lifetime.

With subtle existential themes, a lyrical rhythm, and delicate watercolor illustrations, The Dangerous Journey captures the curiosity of children and adults alike. Published for the first time in North America, and the last picture book completed by the world-renowned Jansson, The Dangerous Journey pushes the emotions that underlie our nostalgia out into the open with an unparalleled viewpoint that always brings forth a new perspective. Take this fantastical journey to Moominvalley and never look back.

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

PRAISE

“A lost treasure now rediscovered—one of the sweetest, strangest comics strips ever drawn or written. A surrealist masterpiece. Honest.” —Neil Gaiman

“Here is where Jansson’s weird but true world begins; where fear, loneliness and insecurity are banished by love and the force of imagination.” —Time
The Moomins and the Great Flood

Tove Jansson

Join the Moomins in their very first adventure, crossing a huge flood to search for missing Moominpappa!

Moominmamma and Moomintroll need to find a home for the winter, someplace where sun is plentiful and safe from the dangers of the unknown. But before they can settle down, they must cross a dark and sinister forest and find their way through a flood of epic proportions, all the while hoping that they will find Moominpappa again. Their journey seems daunting but they forge ahead, with Moominmamma’s kindness and patience giving Moomin the courage he needs to face the strange, unexplored path that lies ahead of them.

Written during the 1939-40 Finnish-Soviet Union conflict, or The Winter War, Jansson uses the unusual setting of a natural catastrophe to provide the background of her first children’s book and the first appearance of her beloved Moomin characters. She wrote this as her escape from the horrors of war and its many consequences, but rather than avoiding the problems that war raises, she uses these as a basis for the many obstacles that the characters face, from separated families to forced displacement. With beautiful black and white artwork interspersed throughout the text and curious, playful prose, you find yourself rooting for the Moomins and their quest to find Moominpappa and a place to call home.

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