How We Are
Book One of the How to Live Trilogy

Vincent Deary

The first book in a major new trilogy, How to Live: How We Are, How We Break, and How We Mend

We live in small worlds.

How We Are is an astonishing debut and the first part of the monumental How to Live trilogy, a profound and ambitious work that gets to the heart of what it means to be human: how we are, how we break, and how we mend.

In Book One, How We Are, we explore the power of habit and the difficulty of change. As Vincent Deary shows us, we live most of our lives automatically, in small worlds of comfortable routine—what he calls Act One. Conscious change requires deliberate effort, so for the most part we avoid it. But inevitably, from within or without, something comes along to disturb our small worlds—some News from Elsewhere. And with reluctance, we begin the work of adjustment: Act Two.

Over decades of psychotherapeutic work, Deary has witnessed the theater of change—how ordinary people get stuck, struggle with new circumstances, and finally transform for the better. He is keenly aware that novelists, poets, philosophers, and theologians have grappled with these experiences for far longer than psychologists. Drawing on his own personal experience and a staggering range of literary, philosophical, and cultural sources, Deary has produced a mesmerizing and universal portrait of the human condition.

Part psychologist, part philosopher, part novelist, Deary helps us to see how we can resist being habit machines, and make our acts and our lives more fully our own.

Vincent Deary is a health psychologist at Northumbria University who specializes in helping people change their lives for the better. This is his first book.
Outline
A Novel
Rachel Cusk

A luminous, powerful novel that establishes Rachel Cusk as one of the finest writers in the English language

A man and a woman are seated next to each other on a plane. They get to talking—about their destination, their careers, their families. Grievances are aired, family tragedies discussed, marriages and divorces analyzed. An intimacy is established as two strangers contrast their own fictions about their lives.

Rachel Cusk’s Outline is a novel in ten conversations. Spare and stark, it follows a novelist teaching a course in creative writing during one oppressively hot summer in Athens. She leads her students in storytelling exercises. She meets other visiting writers for dinner. She goes swimming in the Ionian Sea with her neighbor from the plane. The people she encounters speak volubly about themselves: their fantasies, anxieties, pet theories, regrets, and longings. And through these disclosures, a portrait of the narrator is drawn by contrast, a portrait of a woman learning to face a great loss.

Outline takes a hard look at the things that are hardest to speak about. It brilliantly captures conversations, investigates people’s motivations for storytelling, and questions their ability to ever do so honestly or unselfishly. In doing so it bares the deepest impulses behind the craft of fiction writing. This is Rachel Cusk’s finest work yet, and one of the most startling, brilliant, original novels of recent years.

Rachel Cusk is the author of three memoirs—A Life’s Work, The Last Supper, and Aftermath—and seven 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; and The Bradshaw Variations. She was chosen as one of Granta’s 2003 Best of Young British Novelists. She lives in London, England.

PRAISE

Praise for Aftermath

“[I] admire Cusk . . . for the gravity and ruthlessness of her self-examination . . . [Aftermath] is emotionally raw and deeply uncomfortable-making, while also being finely turned as a literary artifact.” —Rebecca Mead, The New Yorker
The Big Green Tent
A Novel

Ludmila Ulitskaya; Translated from the Russian by Bela Shayevich

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

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

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

PRAISE

Praise for Ludmila Ulitskaya

“One of the most important living Russian writers.” —Gary Shteyngart, author of Super Sad True Love Story
In These Times
Living in Britain Through Napoleon's Wars, 1793-1815

Jenny Uglow

A beautifully observed history of the British home front during the Napoleonic Wars by a celebrated historian

We know the thrilling, terrible stories of the battles of the Napoleonic Wars—but what of those left behind? The people on a Norfolk farm, in a Yorkshire mill, a Welsh iron foundry, an Irish village, a London bank, a Scottish mountain? The aristocrats and paupers, old and young, butchers and bakers and candlestick makers—how did the war touch their lives?

Jenny Uglow, the prizewinning author of The Lunar Men and Nature’s Engraver, follows the gripping back-and-forth of the first global war but turns the news upside down, seeing how it reached the people. Illustrated by the satires of Gillray and Rowlandson and the paintings of Turner and Constable, and combining the familiar voices of Austen, Wordsworth, Scott, and Byron with others lost in the crowd, In These Times delves into the archives to tell the moving story of how people lived and loved and sang and wrote, struggling through hard times and opening new horizons that would change their country for a century.

Jenny Uglow’s books include prizewinning biographies of Elizabeth Gaskell and William Hogarth. The Lunar Men (FSG, 2002) was described by Richard Holmes as “an extraordinarily gripping account,” while Nature’s Engraver won the National Arts Writers Award for 2007. A Gambling Man (FSG, 2009) was short-listed for the 2010 Samuel Johnson Prize for Non-Fiction. Uglow grew up in Cumbria and now lives in Canterbury, England.

PRAISE

Praise for The Pinecone

“[An] entrancing book . . . Always impeccable in her choice of the vivid anecdote and the memorable image with which to conjure life into the northern hillscape that she evidently loves so well, Uglow has produced a quiet masterpiece: a book to savour and treasure.” —Miranda Seymour, The Sunday Times (London)
The Man Who Couldn't Stop
OCD and the True Story of a Life Lost in Thought

David Adam

An intimate look at the power of intrusive thoughts, how our brains can turn against us, and living with OCD

Have you ever had a strange urge to jump from a tall building or steer your car into oncoming traffic? You are not alone. In this captivating fusion of science, history, and personal memoir, David Adam explores the weird thoughts that exist within every mind, and how they drive millions of us toward obsession and compulsion.

Adam, an editor at Nature and an accomplished science writer, has suffered from obsessive-compulsive disorder for twenty years, and The Man Who Couldn't Stop is his unflinchingly honest attempt to understand the condition and his experiences. What might lead an Ethiopian schoolgirl to eat a wall of her house, piece by piece, or a pair of brothers to die beneath an avalanche of household junk that they had compulsively hoarded? At what point does a harmless idea, a snowflake in a clear summer sky, become a blinding blizzard of unwanted thoughts? Drawing on the latest research on the brain, as well as historical accounts of patients and their treatments, this is a book that will challenge the way you think about what is normal and what is mental illness.

Told with fierce clarity, humor, and urgent lyricism, this extraordinary book is both the haunting story of a personal nightmare and a fascinating doorway into the darkest corners of our minds.

Dr. David Adam is a writer and editor at Nature, the world’s leading scientific journal. Before that he was a specialist correspondent for The Guardian for several years, writing on science, medicine, and the environment. He has been named feature writer of the year by the Association of British Science Writers, and has reported from Antarctica, the Arctic, China, and the depths of the Amazon jungle.

PRAISE

“This blew me away. Stunning.” —Ian Sample, The Guardian
The Season of Migration
A Novel

Nellie Hermann

The lyrically told story of one of the world’s greatest artists finding his true calling

Though Vincent van Gogh is one of the most popular painters of all time, we know very little about a ten-month period in the painter’s youth when he and his brother, Theo, broke off all contact. In The Season of Migration, Nellie Hermann conjures this period in a profoundly imaginative, original, and heartbreaking vision of Van Gogh’s early years, before he became the artist we know today.

In December 1878, Vincent van Gogh arrives in the coal-mining village of Petit Wasmes in the Borinage region of Belgium, a blasted and hopeless landscape of hovels and slag heaps and mining machinery. Not yet the artist he is destined to become, Vincent arrives as an ersatz preacher, barely sanctioned by church authorities but ordained in his own mind and heart by a desperate and mistaken spiritual vocation. But what Vincent experiences in the Borinage will change him. Coming to preach a useless gospel he thought he knew and believed, he learns about love, suffering, and beauty, ultimately coming to see the world anew and finding the divine not in religion but in our fallen human world.

In startlingly beautiful and powerful language, Hermann transforms our understanding of Van Gogh and the redemptive power of art.

Nellie Hermann is the creative director of the Program in Narrative Medicine at Columbia University. Her first novel, The Cure for Grief, received national acclaim in many publications, including Time, Elle, The Washington Post, and The Boston Globe.
Sympathy for the Devil
Four Decades of Friendship with Gore Vidal

Michael Mewshaw

A generous, entertaining, intimate look at Gore Vidal, a man who prided himself on being difficult to know

Detached and ironic; a master of the pointed put-down, of the cutting quip; enigmatic, impossible to truly know: This is the calcified, public image of Gore Vidal—one the man himself was fond of reinforcing. “I’m exactly as I appear,” he once said of himself. “There is no warm, lovable person inside. Beneath my cold exterior, once you break the ice, you find cold water.”

Michael Mewshaw’s Sympathy for the Devil, a memoir of his friendship with the stubbornly iconoclastic public intellectual, is a welcome corrective to this tired received wisdom. A complex, nuanced portrait emerges in these pages—and while “Gore” can indeed be brusque, standoffish, even cruel, Mewshaw also catches him in more vulnerable moments. The Gore Vidal the reader comes to know here is generous and supportive to younger, less successful writers; he is also, especially toward the end of his life, disappointed, even lonely.

Sparkling, often hilarious, and filled with spicy anecdotes about expat life in Italy, Sympathy for the Devil is an irresistible inside account of a man who was himself—faults and all—impossible to resist. As enlightening as it is entertaining, it offers a unique look at a figure many only think they know.

Michael Mewshaw’s more-than-four-decade career spans fiction, nonfiction, literary criticism, and investigative journalism. He is the author of, among other titles, the nonfiction works Life for Death, Short Circuit, and Between Terror and Tourism: An Overland Journey Across North Africa; the novel Year of the Gun; and the memoirs Do I Owe You Something? and If You Could See Me Now. He has published hundreds of articles, reviews, and literary profiles in The New York Times, The Washington Post, The Nation, Newsweek, Harper’s, Granta, and many other international outlets. During the winter he lives in Key West, Florida, with his wife, Linda, and he spends the rest of the year traveling in Europe and Africa.

PRAISE

Praise for Michael Mewshaw

“Perhaps the best American writer you never heard of.” —San Francisco Chronicle
Doing the Devil's Work
A Novel

Bill Loehfelm

A gripping third chapter for one of the most unforgettable and compelling heroines in crime fiction

“You have a temper, Officer Coughlin, and a propensity for violence . . . You're a bit of a hazard. To others. To yourself.”

Maureen Coughlin is a bona fide New Orleans cop now, and, with her training days behind her, she likes to think she’s getting the lay of the land. Then a mysterious corpse leads to more questions than answers, and a late-night traffic stop goes very wrong. The fallout leaves Maureen contending with troubled friends, fraying loyalties, cop-hating enemies old and new, and an elusive, spectral, and murderous new nemesis—and all the while navigating the twists and turns of a city and a police department infected with dysfunction and corruption.

Bill Loehfelm is a rising star in crime fiction. And his Maureen Coughlin is the perfect protagonist: complicated, strong-willed, sympathetic (except when she’s not), and as fully realized in Loehfelm’s extraordinary portrayal as the New Orleans she patrols. The first two installments in this series won Loehfelm accolades as well as fans, and Doing the Devil’s Work only ups the ante. It’s even faster, sharper, and more thrilling than its predecessors. Taut and fiery, vibrant and gritty, and peopled with unforgettable characters, this is the sinuous, provocative story of a good cop struggling painfully into her own.

Bill Loehfelm is the author of The Devil in Her Way, The Devil She Knows, Bloodroot, and Fresh Kills. He lives in New Orleans with his wife, the writer AC Lambeth, and plays drums in the Ibervillains, a rock-and-soul cover band.

PRAISE

“Bill Loehfelm writes about New Orleans with tenderness and grit, two qualities mirrored by his unforgettable protagonist, Maureen Coughlin. Compelling, whip-smart and completely original, Doing the Devil's Work will take your breath away.” —Hilary Davidson, author of Evil in All Its Disguises

"Bill Loehfelm, a rising star in crime fiction..."
When Globalization Fails
The Rise and Fall of Pax Americana

James Macdonald

A bold reinterpretation of twentieth-century history that is also an augury of the twenty-first’s

Is globalization a recipe for war? In the nineteenth century, liberals exulted that the spread of commerce would usher in prosperity and peace, but these dreams were dashed by imperial squabbles, the carnage of 1914–18, and the protectionism, depression, and conflict that followed. In the wake of World War II, the globalists tried again. With the Communist bloc disconnected from the global economy, a new international order was created, buttressing free trade with the informal supremacy of the United States. But this benign period is coming to an end.

Expertly combining political, economic, and military history in the manner of Niall Ferguson and Paul Kennedy, James Macdonald stresses that if industrial nations are more prosperous, they are also more vulnerable. While a dependence on trade may push toward cooperation, the attendant insecurity pulls in the opposite direction—leading to conflict. In Macdonald’s telling, World War I’s naval blockades were as important as its trenches, and World War II was a struggle for raw materials in a world that had rejected free trade. Today, the Pax Americana that kept insecurities at bay is being undermined by China’s rise, with potentially dangerous consequences. Rich in original historical analysis and enlivened by vivid quotation, When Globalization Fails recasts what we know about war, peace, and trade, and raises vital questions about the future.


PRAISE

Praise for A Free Nation Deep in Debt

“Remarkable . . . [This] book could scarcely be more comprehensive . . . Since Macdonald was for many years a British investment banker, he has a hands-on feel for his subject. But he has not allowed his technical expertise to get in the way of his lucid prose: his argument is readily accessible to a ...
One Thousand Things Worth Knowing
Poems
Paul Muldoon

Another wild, expansive collection from the eternally surprising Pulitzer Prize–winning poet

Smuggling diesel; *Ben-Hur* (the movie, yes, but also Lew Wallace’s original book, and Seosamh Mac Grianna’s Gaelic translation); a real trip to Havana; an imaginary trip to the Château d’If: Paul Muldoon’s newest collection of poems, his twelfth, is exceptionally wide-ranging in its subject matter—as we’ve come to expect from this master of self-reinvention. He can be somber or quick-witted—often within the same poem: The mournful refrain of “Cuthbert and the Otters” is “I cannot thole the thought of Seamus Heaney dead,” but that doesn’t stop Muldoon from quipping that the ancient Danes “are already dyeing everything beige / In anticipation, perhaps, of the carpet and mustard factories.”

If this masterful, multifarious collection does have a theme, it is watchfulness. “War is to wealth as performance is to appraisal,” he warns in “Recalculating.” And “Source is to leak as Ireland is to debt.” Heedful, head-turning, heartfelt, these poems attempt to bring scrutiny to bear on everything, including scrutiny itself. *One Thousand Things Worth Knowing* confirms Nick Laird’s assessment, in *The New York Review of Books*, that Muldoon is “the most formally ambitious and technically innovative of modern poets,” an experimenter and craftsman who “writes poems like no one else.”

Paul Muldoon is the author of eleven previous books of poetry, including the Pulitzer Prize–winning *Moy Sand and Gravel* (FSG, 2002). He is the Howard G. B. Clark University Professor at Princeton.

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**POETRY**

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A History of Loneliness
A Novel

John Boyne

The riveting narrative of an honorable Irish priest who finds the church collapsing around him at a pivotal moment in its history

Propelled into the priesthood by a family tragedy, Odran Yates is full of hope and ambition. When he arrives at Clonliffe Seminary in the 1970s, it is a time in Ireland when priests are highly respected, and Odran believes that he is pledging his life to "the good."

Forty years later, Odran’s devotion is caught in revelations that shatter the Irish people’s faith in the Catholic Church. He sees his friends stand trial, colleagues jailed, the lives of young parishioners destroyed, and he grows wary of venturing out in public for fear of disapproving stares and insults. At one point, he is even arrested when he takes the hand of a young boy and leads him out of a department store while looking for the boy’s mother.

But when a family event opens wounds from his past, he is forced to confront the demons that have raged within the church and to recognize his own complicity in their propagation, within both the institution and his own family.

A novel as intimate as it is universal, A History of Loneliness is about the stories we tell ourselves to make peace with our lives. It confirms John Boyne as one of the most searching storytellers of his generation.

John Boyne is the author of numerous works of fiction, including The Boy in the Striped Pajamas, a young adult novel that became an international bestseller and was made into an award-winning film. His books have been translated into forty-six languages, and he is the recipient of two Irish Book Awards, the Bistro Book of the Year, and numerous international awards. He lives in Dublin, Ireland.

PRAISE

Praise for John Boyne

“John Boyne brings a completely fresh eye to the most important stories. He is one of the great craftsmen in contemporary literature.” —Colum McCann

“Boyne’s plotting and pacing are first-rate, and his mastery of the slow-boil is evident.” —The Daily Beast
Love and Lies
An Essay on Truthfulness, Deceit, and the Growth and Care of Erotic Love

Clancy Martin

Is it possible to love well without lying? At least since Socrates’s discourse on love in Plato’s Symposium, philosophers have argued that love can lead us to the truth—about ourselves and the ones we love. But in the practical experience of erotic love—and perhaps especially in marriage—we find that love and lies often work hand in hand, and that it may be difficult to sustain long-term romantic love without deception, both of oneself and of others.

Drawing on contemporary philosophy, psychoanalysis and cognitive neuroscience, his own personal experience, and such famed and diverse writers on love as Shakespeare, Stendhal, Proust, Adrienne Rich, and Raymond Carver, Clancy Martin—himself divorced twice and married three times—explores how love, truthfulness, and deception work together in contemporary life and society. He concludes that learning how to love and loving well inevitably requires lying, but also argues that the best love relationships draw us slowly and with difficulty toward honesty and trust.

Love, Lies, and Marriage is a relentlessly honest book about the difficulty of love, which is certain to both provoke and entertain.

Clancy Martin is the author of the novel How to Sell (FSG, 2009) as well as many books on philosophy, and has translated works by Friedrich Nietzsche, Søren Kierkegaard, and other philosophers. A Guggenheim Fellow, he is a contributing editor at Harper’s Magazine and also writes for The New York Times, London Review of Books, The Wall Street Journal, GQ, The Atlantic, and many other publications. He is a professor of philosophy at the University of Missouri in Kansas City, where he lives with his wife, the writer Amie Barrodale, and three daughters.
Turtleface and Beyond
Stories

Arthur Bradford

Darkly funny stories by the man David Sedaris calls “the most outlandish and energetic writer I can think of”

Paddling down a remote, meandering river, Georgie’s friend Otto decides to do something both spectacular and stupid: He scales a sandy cliff that rises from the water and runs down its steep face, preparing for a triumphant running dive. As his friends look on, they watch something awful unfold: Otto lands with an odd smack and knocks himself unconscious, blood spilling from his nose and mouth. Georgie arrives on the scene first and sees a small turtle, its shell cracked, floating just below the water’s surface.

Otto and the turtle survive the collision, though both need help, and Georgie finds his compassions torn. This title story sets the tone for the rest of Arthur Bradford’s Turtleface and Beyond, a strangely funny collection featuring prosthetically limbed lovers, a snakebitten hitchhiker turned wedding crasher, a lawyer at the end of his rope, a ménage à trois at Thailand’s Resort Tik Tok, and a whole host of near disasters, narrow escapes, and complicated victories, all narrated by Georgie, who struggles with his poor decisions but finds redemption in the telling of each of his tales. Big-hearted and hilariously high-fueled, Turtleface and Beyond marks the return of a beloved and unforgettable voice in fiction.

Arthur Bradford is an O. Henry Award–winning writer and Emmy-nominated filmmaker. He is the author of Dogwalker, and his writing has appeared in Esquire, McSweeney’s, VICE, and Men’s Journal. He lives in Portland, Oregon, and serves as the co-director of Camp Jabberwocky, the nation’s longest-running residential summer camp for people with disabilities.

PRAISE

Praise for Dogwalker

“Sweet, haunting, resonant, generous, and true the way only the very strange is true.” —David Foster Wallace

“Quite simply the mutt’s nuts: One of the funniest, smartest writers at work in America today.” —Zadie Smith

“His stories run on childlike wonder, mitigated by the many mutations of adulthood.” —Dave Eggers
When Mary Anne Lewis met Benjamin Disraeli, she was married to Wyndham Lewis, a rich, mildly successful politician at the center of nineteenth-century British high society. The three became friends and with his deep pockets Wyndham helped Disraeli—young, ambitious, and swimming in debt—get his start in the political arena. Mary Anne even referred to him as her "Parliamentary protégé." But when Wyndham suddenly died of a heart attack, Mary Anne's friendship with Disraeli (fifteen years her junior) soon evolved into a peculiarly romantic and undoubtedly advantageous marriage: Mary Anne avoided life as a widow, while Benjamin used her financial means to stay out of prison and make a run for office.

Anecdotally the Disraelis cultivated an outrageous reputation. Once asked if he had read any new novels, Benjamin reportedly replied, "When I want to read a novel, I write one." Mary Anne, on the other hand, supposedly once told Queen Victoria that she always slept with her arms around her husband’s neck. "My wife is a very clever woman," Benjamin said, "but she can never remember who came first, the Greeks or the Romans."

An unusual story of Victorian romance and politics, Mr. and Mrs. Disraeli moves beyond the anecdotes to reveal the interior life of one of Britain’s most influential couples. Often eclipsed by Benjamin, Mary Anne had at least as much political acumen as her husband, and this dual biog...

Daisy Hay is the author of Young Romantics: The Shelleys, Byron, and Other Tangled Lives (FSG, 2010) and has a PhD in English literature from Cambridge University.
Holy Cow

David Duchovny

A rollicking, globe-trotting adventure with a twist: a four-legged heroine you won’t soon forget

Elsie Bovary is a cow, and a pretty happy one at that—her long, lazy days are spent eating, napping, and chatting with her best friend, Mallory. One night, Elsie and Mallory sneak out of their pasture; but while Mallory is interested in flirting with the neighboring bulls, Elsie finds herself drawn to the farmhouse. Through the window, she sees the farmer’s family gathered around a bright Box God—and what the Box God reveals about something called an “industrial meat farm” shakes Elsie’s understanding of her world to its core.

There’s only one solution: escape to a better, safer world. And so a motley crew is formed: Elsie; Jerry—excuse me, Shalom—a cranky, Torah-reading pig who’s recently converted to Judaism; and Tom, a suave (in his own mind, at least) turkey who can’t fly, but who can work an iPhone with his beak. Toting stolen passports and slapdash human disguises, they head for the airport.

Elsie is our wise-cracking, pop-culture-reference-dropping, slyly witty narrator; Tom—who does eventually learn to fly (sort of)—dispenses psychiatric advice in a fake German accent; and Shalom, rejected by his adopted people in Jerusalem, ends up unexpectedly uniting Israelis and Palestinians. David Duchovny’s charismatic creatures point the way toward a mutual understanding and acceptance that the world desperately needs.

David Duchovny is a television, stage, and screen actor, as well as a screenwriter and director.

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Find Me
A Novel
Laura van den Berg

Lorrie Moore meets Haruki Murakami in Laura van den Berg’s stunning debut novel

After two acclaimed story collections, Laura van den Berg brings us Find Me, her highly anticipated debut novel—a gripping, imaginative, darkly funny tale of a young woman struggling to find her place in the world.

Joy has no one. She spends her days working the graveyard shift at a grocery store outside Boston and nursing an addiction to cough syrup, an attempt to suppress her troubled past. But when a sickness that begins with memory loss and ends with death sweeps the country, Joy, for the first time in her life, seems to have an advantage: she is immune. When Joy’s immunity gains her admittance to a hospital in rural Kansas, she sees a chance to escape her bleak existence. There she submits to peculiar treatments and follows seemingly arbitrary rules, forming cautious bonds with other patients—including her roommate, whom she turns to in the night for comfort, and twin boys who are digging a secret tunnel.

As winter descends, the hospital’s fragile order breaks down and Joy breaks free, embarking on a journey from Kansas to Florida, where she believes she can find her birth mother, the woman who abandoned her as a child. On the road in a devastated America, she encounters mysterious companions, cities turned strange, and one very eerie house. As Joy closes in on Florida, she must confront her own damaged memory and the secrets she has been keeping from herself.

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 (published by FSG Originals in 2013), received the Rosenthal Family Foundation Award for Fiction from the American Academy of Arts and Letters. Find Me is her first novel. She lives in the Boston area.

PRAISE

Praise for Laura van den Berg

“Confident, gripping stories . . . Ms. van den Berg spins complex plots around a sense of emotional emptiness. Her stories are bursting at the seams, while her characters are lonely to the core.” —John Williams, The New York Times
Disgruntled
A Novel
Asali Solomon

An elegant, vibrant, startling coming-of-age novel, for anyone who’s ever felt the shame of being alive

Kenya Curtis is only eight years old, but she knows that she’s different, even if she can’t put her finger on how or why. It’s not because she’s black—most of the other students in the fourth-grade class at her West Philadelphia elementary school are too. Maybe it’s because she celebrates Kwanza, or because she’s forbidden from reciting the Pledge of Allegiance. Maybe it’s because she calls her father—a housepainter-slash-philosopher—“Baba” instead of “Daddy,” or because her parents’ friends gather to pour out libations “from the Creator, for the Martyrs” and discuss “the community.”

Kenya does know that it’s connected to what her Baba calls “the shame of being alive”—a shame that only grows deeper and more complex over the course of Asali Solomon’s long-awaited debut novel. Disgruntled, effortlessly funny and achingly poignant, follows Kenya from West Philadelphia to the suburbs, from public school to private, from childhood through adolescence, as she grows increasingly disgruntled by her inability to find any place or thing or person that feels like home.

A coming-of-age tale, a portrait of Philadelphia in the late eighties and early nineties, an examination of the impossible double-binds of race, Disgruntled is a novel about the desire to rise above the limitations of the narratives we’re given and the painful struggle to craft fresh ones we can call our own.

Asali Solomon was born and raised in Philadelphia. Get Down, her first book, earned her a Rona Jaffe Foundation Writers’ Award and was a finalist for the Hurston/Wright Legacy Award. In 2007 she was named one of the National Book Foundation’s 5 Under 35. She teaches English at Haverford College.

PRAISE

Praise for Get Down

“Fresh, intimate portraits of people trying to straddle contradictory worlds. While Asali Solomon writes with uncanny acumen about men, Get Down will resonate with anyone—male or female, black or white, young or old—who has ever felt like an outsider.” —Jennifer Egan, author of A Visit from the Goon Squad
How did a disheveled, intellectually combative gay Jew with a thick New Jersey–Massachusetts accent become one of the most effective politicians of his time?

In *Frank*, a candid and witty political memoir, Barney Frank relates his journey from the outskirts of New York City to Boston’s city hall and the Massachusetts legislature, and then to the U.S. Congress, where he played a vital role in the struggle for personal freedom and economic fairness for more than four decades. With his trademark directness and insight, Frank explores the emotional toll of living in the closet and how he became the first member of Congress to voluntarily disclose his homosexuality. And he chronicles his lifelong struggle against inequality, which culminated in cowriting the most significant Wall Street regulations since the Great Depression. He also demonstrates how he used his rhetorical skills to expose his opponents’ hypocrisies and delusions, and details the endless favors, grudges, and fears that compose a legislator’s career. From the Clinton impeachment to the economic meltdown of 2008 to the repeal of Don’t Ask, Don’t Tell, Frank’s words and deeds mattered, and *Frank* shows why. Here is a guide to how political change really happens—composed by a master of the art—and a testament to how Democrats, if they reject purism and passivity, can rebuild trust in an active government.

**Barney Frank** represented the Fourth Congressional District of Massachusetts for nearly five decades, and chaired the House Financial Services Committee from 2007 to 2013. He is the first member of congress to enter a same-sex marriage while serving in office. He is a regular commentator on MSNBC and lives near Portland, Maine, with his husband.
# The Sellout

## A Novel

Paul Beatty

**A biting satire about a young man’s isolated upbringing and the race trial that sends him to the Supreme Court**

Born in the “agrarian ghetto” of Dickens—on the southern outskirts of Los Angeles—the narrator of *The Sellout* resigns himself to the fate of lower-middle-class Californians: “I’d die in the same bedroom I’d grown up in, looking up at the cracks in the stucco ceiling that’ve been there since the ’68 quake.” Raised by a single father, a controversial sociologist, he spent his childhood as the subject in racially charged psychological studies. He is told that his father’s work will lead to a memoir that will solve their financial woes. But when his father is killed in a police shoot-out, he realizes there never was a memoir. All that’s left is the bill for a drive-thru funeral.

Fueled by this deceit and the general disrepair of his hometown, the narrator sets out to right another wrong: Dickens has literally been removed from the map to save California further embarrassment. Enlisting the help of the town’s most famous resident—the last surviving Little Rascal, Hominy Jenkins—he initiates the most outrageous action conceivable: reinstating slavery and segregating the local high school, which lands him in front of the Supreme Court.

Paul Beatty’s *The Sellout* showcases a comic genius at the top of his game. It challenges the sacred tenets of the U.S. Constitution, urban life, the civil rights movement, the father-son relationship, and the holy grail of racial equality—the black Chinese restaurant.


## PRAISE

Praise for Paul Beatty

“A fertile and original writer with enormous energy and verbal dazzle.” — *The New York Times*

“Farcical, topical, and fueled by a profoundly zany imagination . . . [His] satire is deadly.” — *Newsday*

“Laugh-out-loud funny and weep-in-silence sad . . . Vibrant and alluring.” — *The Nation*
The Discreet Hero
A Novel

Mario Vargas Llosa; Translated from the Spanish by Edith Grossman

The latest masterpiece—perceptive, funny, insightful, affecting—from the Nobel Prize–winning author

Nobel laureate Mario Vargas Llosa’s newest novel, *The Discreet Hero*, follows two fascinating characters whose lives are destined to intersect: neat, endearing Felícito Yanaqué, a small businessman in Piura, Peru, who finds himself the victim of blackmail; and Ismael Carrera, a successful owner of an insurance company in Lima, who cooks up a plan to avenge himself against the two lazy sons who want him dead.

Felícito and Ismael are, each in his own way, quiet, discreet rebels: honorable men trying to seize control of their destinies in a social and political climate where all can seem set in stone, predetermined. They are hardly vigilantes, but each is determined to live according to his own personal ideals and desires—which means forcibly rising above the pettiness of their surroundings. *The Discreet Hero* is also a chance to revisit some of our favorite players from previous Vargas Llosa novels: Sergeant Lituma, Don Rigoberto, Doña Lucrecia, and Fonchito are all here in a prosperous Peru. Vargas Llosa sketches Piura and Lima vividly—and the cities become not merely physical spaces but realms of the imagination populated by his vivid characters.

A novel whose humor and pathos shine through in Edith Grossman’s masterly translation, *The Discreet Hero* is another remarkable achievement from the finest Latin American novelist at work today.

*Mario Vargas Llosa* was awarded the Nobel Prize in Literature in 2010 “for his cartography of structures of power and his trenchant images of the individual’s resistance, revolt, and defeat.” He has been awarded the Cervantes Prize, the Spanish-speaking world’s most distinguished literary honor. His many works include *The Feast of the Goat*, *The Bad Girl*, and *Aunt Julia and the Scriptwriter*.

One of our most celebrated translators of literature in Spanish, *Edith Grossman* has translated the works of the Nobel laureates Mario Vargas Llosa and Gabriel García Márquez, among others. Her version of Miguel de Cervantes’s *Don Quixote* is considered the finest translation of the Spanish masterpiece in the English language.

PRAISE

Praise for Mario Vargas Llosa
The Lost Child
A Novel

Caryl Phillips

A gripping and inventive reimagining of Wuthering Heights

In the tradition of Jean Rhys’s Wide Sargasso Sea and J. M. Coetzee’s Foe, the award-winning novelist Caryl Phillips revisits Emily Brontë’s masterpiece Wuthering Heights as a lyrical tale of orphans and outcasts, absence and hope. A sweeping novel spanning generations, The Lost Child tells the story of young Heathcliff’s life before Mr. Earnshaw brought him home to his family; the Brontë sisters and their wayward brother, Branwell; Monica, whose father forces her to choose between her family and the foreigner she loves; and a boy’s disappearance into the wilderness of the moors and the brother he leaves behind.

Phillips deftly spins these disparate lives—bound by the past and struggling to liberate themselves from it—into a stunning literary work. Phillips has been called “in a league with Toni Morrison and V. S. Naipaul” (Donna Seaman, Booklist), and his work is charged with the complexities of migration, alienation, and displacement. Haunting and heartbreaking, The Lost Child transforms a classic into a profound story that is singularly its own.

Caryl Phillips is the author of numerous works of fiction and nonfiction, including 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 A Distant Shore

“Provocative . . . [Phillips’s] novels have a way of staying with you long after you’ve closed the book.” —The New York Times Book Review
Listening to Stone
The Art and Life of Isamu Noguchi

Hayden Herrera

From the author of Arshile Gorky, a major biography of the great American sculptor that redefines his legacy

A master of what he called “the sculpturing of space,” Isamu Noguchi was a vital figure for modern public art. Born to an American mother and a Japanese father, Noguchi never felt like he belonged anywhere and spent his life assembling identities in his statues, monuments, and gardens. He traveled incessantly from New York to remote Japanese islands, from Paris to Bangladesh, synthesizing aesthetic values. The result—massive sculptures of interlocking wood, Zen-like gardens of granite, and stone slides—is now seen as a powerful artistic link between East and West.

Using Noguchi’s personal correspondence and interviews with artists, patrons, assistants, and lovers, Hayden Herrera creates another compulsively readable biography of one of the twentieth century’s most important artists. Noguchi was elusive, forever uprooting himself to reinvigorate what he called the “keen edge of originality.” Yet Herrera locates this man in his friendships with artists like Buckminster Fuller and Arshile Gorky, and in his affairs with women like Frida Kahlo. Herrera reveals his playfulness and his intense immersion in his work, from designing sets for Martha Graham to creating the Noguchi Museum in Queens.

A rich meditation on art in a globalized milieu, Listening to Stone is a moving portrait of an artist compulsively driven to reinvent himself as he searched for his own “essence of sculpture.”

Hayden Herrera is the author of the Pulitzer Prize–nominated Arshile Gorky: His Life and Work, Frida: A Biography of Frida Kahlo, and Matisse: A Portrait.
What if for just one year you explored everything you’d wondered about sex but hadn’t tried?

The project was simple: An attractive, successful magazine journalist, Robin Rinaldi, would move into a San Francisco apartment, join a dating site, and get laid. Never mind that she already owned a beautiful flat a few blocks away, that she was forty-four, or that she was married to a man she’d been in love with for eighteen years. What followed—a year of sex, heartbreak, and unexpected revelation—is the topic of this riveting memoir, *The Wild Oats Project*.

An open marriage was never one of Rinaldi’s goals—her priority as she approached midlife was to start a family. But when her husband insisted on a vasectomy, she decided that she could remain married only on her own terms. If I can’t have children, she told herself, then I’m going to have lovers. During the week she would live alone, seduce men (and women), attend erotic workshops, and partake in wall-banging sex. On the weekends, she would go home and be a wife.

At a time when the bestseller lists are topped by books about eroticism and the shifting roles of women, this brave memoir explores how our sexuality defines us—and it delivers the missing link: an everywoman’s account of sex. Combining the strong literary voice of Cheryl Strayed’s *Wild* with the adventurousness of Elizabeth Gilbert’s *Eat, Pray, Love, The Wild Oats Project* challenges our sensibilities and evokes the delicate balance between loving others and staying true to oneself.

**Robin Rinaldi** has worked for newspapers and magazines for fifteen years. She has been an executive editor at *7x7*, a lifestyle magazine covering San Francisco, and written an award-winning food column for *Philadelphia Weekly*. Her writing has appeared in *The New York Times* and *O, The Oprah Magazine*, among others. She lives in Los Angeles.
The Illuminations
A Novel

Andrew O'Hagan

An arresting story of myth and memory from an acclaimed British novelist

Anne Quirk’s life is built on stories—both the lies she was told by the man she loved and the fictions she told herself to survive. Nobody remembers Anne now, but this elderly woman was an artistic pioneer in her youth, a creator of groundbreaking documentary photographs. Her beloved grandson Luke, now a captain with the Royal Western Fusiliers in the British army, has inherited her habit of transforming reality. When Luke’s mission in Afghanistan goes horribly wrong, his vision of life is distorted and he is forced to see the world anew.

Once Luke returns to Scotland, the secrets and lies that have shaped generations of his family begin to emerge as he and Anne set out to confront a mystery from her past among the Blackpool Illuminations—the dazzling artificial lights that brighten the seaside resort town as the season turns to winter.

The Illuminations, the fifth novel from Andrew O’Hagan, “a novelist of astonishingly assured gifts” (The New York Times Book Review), is a beautiful, deeply charged story that reveals that no matter how we look at it, there is no such thing as an ordinary life.

Andrew O’Hagan is one of Britain’s most exciting and serious contemporary writers. He has twice been short-listed for the Man Booker Prize. He was voted one of Granta’s Best of Young British Novelists in 2003. He has won the Los Angeles Times Book Award and the E. M. Forster Award from the American Academy of Arts and Letters. He lives in London.

PRAISE

Praise for Andrew O’Hagan

“As if it is not enough that Andrew O'Hagan can write like an angel, one has to add that he does it in the style of an intelligent angel.” —Norman Mailer
In his bestselling book *Shop Class as Soulcraft*, Matthew B. Crawford explored the ethical and practical importance of manual competence, as expressed through mastery of our physical environment. In his brilliant follow-up, *The World Beyond Your Head*, Crawford investigates the challenge of mastering one’s own mind.

We often complain about our fractured mental lives and feel beset by outside forces that destroy our focus and disrupt our peace of mind. Any defense against this, Crawford argues, requires that we reckon with the way attention sculpts the self.

Crawford investigates the intense focus of ice hockey players and short-order chefs, the quasi-autistic behavior of gambling addicts, the familiar hassles of daily life, and the deep, slow craft of building pipe organs. He shows that our current crisis of attention is only superficially the result of digital technology, and becomes more comprehensible when understood as the coming to fruition of certain assumptions at the root of Western culture that are profoundly at odds with human nature.

*The World Beyond Your Head* makes sense of an astonishing array of common experience, from the frustrations of airport security to the rise of the hipster. With implications for the way we raise our children, the design of public spaces, and democracy itself, this is a book of urgent relevance to contemporary life.

Matthew B. Crawford is a senior fellow at the University of Virginia’s Institute for Advanced Studies in Culture and a fabricator of components for custom motorcycles. His bestselling book *Shop Class as Soulcraft: An Inquiry into the Value of Work*, which has been translated into nine languages, has prompted a wide rethinking of education and labor policies in the United States and Europe, leading *The Sunday Times* to call him “one of the most influential thinkers of our time.”
Lurid & Cute
A Novel
Adam Thirlwell

Lurid & Cute is a kind of machine for the reader’s corruption. It opens with all the things we’ve come to expect of Adam Thirlwell—“the playfulness of language, the way the mandarin wit, line by line, consorts with grisly or louche material,” as Jeffrey Eugenides has said—when the narrator wakes confused in a seedy hotel room. He has had the good education, and also the good job. Together with his wife and dog, he lives at home with his parents. But then the lurid overtakes him—a chain of events that feels to those inside it narcotic and neurotic, like one long and terrible descent: complete with lies, deceit, and chicanery, and including, in escalating order, one orgy, one brothel, and a series of firearms disputes.

Lurid & Cute balances the complexity of an interior world—our hero’s apparently innocent obsessions with food, old movies, and all the gaudy, shoddy building blocks of pop culture—with a picaresque plot delivered with expert, insidious pacing. For very possibly this is the story of a woebegone and global generation. And our hero, the sweetest narrator in world literature, also may well be the most fearsome.

It’s the most sophisticated and gruesome novel from an author celebrated for his precocious talents, and it will leave you feeling like you’ve been on one hell of a bender.

Adam Thirlwell was born in London in 1978. He is the author of the novels Politics and The Escape; of a project about international novels, The Delighted States, which won a Somerset Maugham Award; and of a compendium of translations edited for McSweeney’s. He has twice been selected as one of Granta’s Best Young Novelists. His work has been translated into thirty languages. He lives in London.

PRAISE

“Isn’t that what we’re looking for in the fiction we read . . . The world rarefied by art, yet kept down to earth. This is what I feel is happening in Thirlwell’s new fiction, and I can’t wait to read more.” —Jeffrey Eugenides, Granta

KL
A History of the Nazi Concentration Camps

Nikolaus Wachsmann

The first comprehensive history of the Nazi concentration camps

In a landmark work of history, Nikolaus Wachsmann offers an unprecedented, integrated account of the Nazi concentration camps from their inception in 1933 through their demise, seventy years ago, in the spring of 1945. The Third Reich has been studied in more depth than virtually any other period in history, and yet until now there has been no history of the camp system that tells the full story of its broad development and the everyday experiences of its inhabitants, both perpetrators and victims, and all those living in what Primo Levi called “the gray zone.”

In KL, Wachsmann fills this glaring gap in our understanding. He not only synthesizes a new generation of scholarly work, much of it untranslated and unknown outside of Germany, but also presents startling revelations, based on many years of archival research, about the functioning and scope of the camp system. Examining, close up, life and death inside the camps, and adopting a wider lens to show how the camp system was shaped by changing political, legal, social, economic, and military forces, Wachsmann produces a unified picture of the Nazi regime and its camps that we have never seen before.

A boldly ambitious work of deep importance, KL is destined to be a classic in the history of the twentieth century.

Nikolaus Wachsmann is a professor of modern European history at Birkbeck College, University of London. He is the author of the prizewinning Hitler’s Prisons and a coeditor of Concentration Camps in Nazi Germany: The New Histories.

PRAISE

Praise for Hitler’s Prisons

“One of the most important books to be published on Nazi Germany in many years.” —Richard J. Evans
Nothing to Declare

Poems

Henri Cole

A bold new collection of poems of feral beauty and intense vulnerability

The poems in Henri Cole’s ninth book, Nothing to Declare, explore life and need and delight. Each poem starts up from its own unique occasion and is then conducted through surprising (sometimes unnerving) and self-steadying domains. The result is a daring, delicate, unguarded, and tender collection.

After his last three books—Touch, Blackbird and Wolf, and Middle Earth—in which the sonnet was a thrown shape and not merely a template, Cole’s buoyant new poems seem trim and terse, with a first-place, last-ditch resonance. In their sorrowful richness, they combine a susceptibility to sensuousness and an awareness of desolation. With precise reliability of detail, a supple wealth of sound, and a speculative truthfulness, Cole transforms the pain of experience into the keen pleasure of expressive language. Nothing to Declare is a rare work, necessary and durable, light in touch but with just enough weight to mark the soul.

Henri Cole was born in Fukuoka, Japan, in 1956. He has published eight previous collections of poetry and received many awards for his work, including the Jackson Poetry Prize, the Kingsley Tufts Poetry Award, the Rome Prize, the Berlin Prize, a Guggenheim Fellowship, and the Lenore Marshall Poetry Prize. His most recent collection is Touch. He is the poetry editor of The New Republic and lives in Boston, where he is a fellow at the Radcliffe Institute for Advanced Study at Harvard University.

PRAISE

Praise for Touch

“[A] sumptuous new collection of poems . . . Cole is known for his hair-raising erotic intimacy . . . but these poems are emphatically universal.” —The New Yorker
The American People: Volume 1
Search for My Heart: A Novel
Larry Kramer

The long-awaited magnum opus of America’s master playwright and activist

Forty years in the making, The American People sets forth Larry Kramer’s vision of his homeland. As the founder of ACT UP and the author of Faggots and The Normal Heart, Kramer has decisively affected American lives and letters. Here he reimagines our history. This is the story of one nation under a plague, contaminated by greed, hate, and disease and host to transcendent acts of courage and kindness.

In this first volume, which runs up to the 1950s, we meet prehistoric monkeys who spread a peculiar virus; a Native American shaman whose sexual explorations mutate into occult visions; and early English settlers who establish loving same-sex couples only to fall prey to the forces of bigotry. George Washington and Alexander Hamilton revel in unexpected intimacies, and John Wilkes Booth’s motives for assassinating Abraham Lincoln are thoroughly revised. In the twentieth century, the nightmare of history deepens as a religious sect conspires with eugenicists, McCarthyites, and Ivy Leaguers to exterminate homosexuals and the AIDS virus begins to spread. Against all this, Kramer sets the intimate heartfelt story of a middle-class family outside Washington, D.C., trying to cope with the darkest of times.

The American People is a work of ribald satire, prophetic outrage, and dazzling imagination. It is an encyclopedic indictment, written with outrageous love.

Larry Kramer is an award-winning playwright and author, and a celebrated public health and gay rights advocate. He wrote the Academy Award–nominated screenplay adaptation of D. H. Lawrence’s Women in Love and rose to further prominence with his bestselling novel Faggots. A pioneering AIDS activist, he cofounded the Gay Men’s Health Crisis in 1982 and founded ACT UP in 1987. Kramer has won numerous awards for his plays and received the 2013 PEN/Laura Pels International Foundation for Theater Award for a Master American Dramatist.

PRAISE

Praise for Faggots

“Larry Kramer is one of America’s most valuable troublemakers. I hope he never lowers his voice.” —Susan Sontag

“True comic brilliance—a vicious Swiftian satire that, like all satire, contains a
Cool
How the Brain's Hidden Quest for Cool Drives Our Economy and Shapes Our World

Steven Quartz and Anette Asp

A bold argument that our “quest for cool” shapes modern culture and the global economy

Like it or not, we live in an age of conspicuous consumption. In a world of brand names, many of us judge ourselves and others by the products we own. Teenagers broadcast their brand allegiances over social media. Tourists flock to Rodeo Drive to have their pictures taken in front of luxury stores. Soccer moms switch from minivans to SUVs to hybrids, while hip beer connoisseurs flaunt their knack for distinguishing a Kölsch from a pilsner. How did this pervasive desire for “cool” emerge, and why is it so powerful today that it is a prime driver of the global economy?

In Cool, the neuroscientist and philosopher Steven Quartz and the political scientist Anette Asp bring together the latest findings in brain science, economics, and evolutionary biology to form a provocative theory of consumerism, revealing how the brain’s “social calculator” and an instinct to rebel are the crucial missing links in understanding the motivations behind our spending habits. Applying their theory to everything from grocery shopping to the near-religious devotion of Harley-Davidson fans, Quartz and Asp explore how the brain’s ancient decision-making machinery guides consumer choice. Using these revolutionary insights, they show how we use products to advertise ourselves to others in an often unconscious pursuit of social esteem. Surprising at every turn, Cool will change the way you think about money, status, desire, and ...
Young Eliot
A Biography

Robert Crawford

A groundbreaking new biography of one of the twentieth century’s most important poets

On the fiftieth anniversary of the death of T. S. Eliot, Robert Crawford presents us with the first volume of a definitive biography of this poetic genius. *Young Eliot* traces the life of the twentieth century’s most important poet from his childhood in St. Louis to the publication of his revolutionary poem *The Waste Land*. Crawford’s depiction of Eliot’s childhood—laced with tragedy and shaped by an idealistic, bookish family in which knowledge of saints and martyrs was taken for granted—provides readers with a new understanding of the foundations of some of the most widely read poems in the English language.

Quoting extensively from Eliot’s poetry and prose as well as drawing on new interviews, archives, and previously undisclosed memoirs, the award-winning biographer Robert Crawford shows how the poet’s background in Missouri, Massachusetts, and Paris made him a lightning rod for modernity. Most impressively, *Young Eliot* reveals the way he accessed his inner life—his anguishes and his fears—and blended them with his omnivorous reading to create his masterpieces “The Love Song of J. Alfred Prufrock” and *The Waste Land*. At last, we experience T. S. Eliot in all his tender complexity as student and lover, penitent and provocateur, banker and philosopher—but most of all, *Young Eliot* shows us as an epoch-shaping poet struggling to make art among personal disasters.

Robert Crawford is the author of *Scotland’s Books* and the coeditor of *The Penguin Book of Scottish Verse*. A fellow of the Royal Society of Edinburgh and the British Academy, he is the Professor of Modern Scottish Literature at the University of St Andrews. *The Bard*, his biography of Robert Burns, was awarded the Saltire Society Scottish Book of the Year 2009. Crawford’s six poetry collections include *The Tip of My Tongue* and *Full Volume*, which was shortlisted for the T. S. Eliot Prize. He lives in Scotland.

PRAISE

Praise for Robert Crawford’s *The Bard*

"Although these things are important, and certainly need to be written about, they can deflect our attention from what is less sensational and fundamentally more appealing about Burns: the unquenchable humanity of his poetry and songs. By combining a reliable account of the former with a rich appreciat..."
On July 22, 2011, Anders Behring Breivik detonated a bomb outside government buildings in central Oslo, killing eight people. He then proceeded to a youth camp on the island of Utøya, where he killed sixty-nine more, most of them teenage members of Norway’s governing Labour Party. In One of Us, the journalist Åsne Seierstad tells the story of this terrible day and what led up to it. What made Breivik, a gifted child from an affluent neighborhood in Oslo, become a terrorist?

As in her bestseller The Bookseller of Kabul, Seierstad excels at the vivid portraiture of lives under stress. She delves deep into Breivik’s troubled childhood, showing how a hip-hop and graffiti aficionado became a right-wing activist and Internet game addict, and then an entrepreneur, Freemason, and self-styled master warrior who sought to “save Norway” from the threat of Islam and multiculturalism. She writes with equal intimacy about Breivik’s victims, tracing their political awakenings, aspirations to improve their country, and ill-fated journeys to the island. By the time Seierstad reaches Utøya, we know both the killer and those he will kill. We have also gotten to know an entire country—famously peaceful and prosperous, and utterly incapable of protecting its youth.

Åsne Seierstad is an award-winning Norwegian journalist and writer known for her work as a war correspondent. She is the author of The Bookseller of Kabul, One Hundred and One Days: A Baghdad Journal, and Angel of Grozny: Inside Chechnya. She lives in Oslo, Norway.

“Seierstad’s enormously well written depictions of the perpetrator, the victims, and the Norway where this could happen makes the abstract real and shows us that the most horrible things can take place among all that we perceive as safe and normal. The wounds from Utøya will not heal on its own. They need Åsne Seierstad’s brave, sensitive..."
Far-Fetched
Poems

Devin Johnston

A new collection from one of contemporary American poetry’s finest craftsmen

Through birdcalls and ancient songs, rain patter and a child’s scribble, the poems in Far-Fetched “sound the empty space / to test how long / how far.” They follow the contours of Appalachian hillsides, Missouri river bends, and remote Australian coastlines, tuning language to landscape. They register emotional life with great care; this is a work of fierce and delicate attention to the world. It is also poetry meant to be heard, alert to the pleasures of sound. As August Kleinzahler has observed, “In Devin Johnston’s poetry every syllable is alive; the vowels and consonants combine to make a distinctive, lovely, austere music.”

Born in 1970, Devin Johnston spent his childhood in North Carolina. He is the author of four previous books of poetry and two books of prose, including Creaturely and Other Essays. He works for Flood Editions, an independent publishing house, and teaches at Saint Louis University in Missouri.

PRAISE

Praise for Devin Johnston

“Johnston is a formal master . . . Traveler’s considerable ambition can be seen in the ways each piece quietly, even tenderly tests the barriers it assembles.”
—David Orr, NPR
A vibrant, intimate, hypnotic portrait of one woman’s life, from an important new writer

Tess Lohan is the kind of woman that we meet and fail to notice every day. A single mother. A nurse. A quiet woman, who nonetheless feels things acutely—a woman with tumultuous emotions and few people to share them with.

Academy Street is Mary Costello’s luminous portrait of a whole life. It follows Tess from her girlhood in western Ireland through her relocation to America and her life there, concluding with a moving reencounter with her Irish family after forty years of exile. The novel has a hypnotic pull and a steadily mounting emotional force. It speaks of disappointments but also of great joy. It shows how the signal events of the last half century affect the course of a life lived in New York City.

Anne Enright has said that Costello’s first collection of stories, The China Factory, “has the feel of work that refused to be abandoned; of stories that were written for the sake of getting something important right . . . Her writing has the kind of urgency that the great problems demand” (The Guardian).

Academy Street is driven by this same urgency. In sentence after sentence it captures the rhythm and intensity of inner life.

Mary Costello grew up in Galway and now lives in Dublin. Her 2012 short-story collection, The China Factory, was nominated for the Guardian First Book Award and short-listed for an Irish Book Award. Her stories have been published in various anthologies and broadcast on radio.

PRAISE

Praise for The China Factory

“Costello’s work is true, her problems distinctive and the voice all her own.” — Anne Enright, The Guardian
The Road Home
A Contemporary Exploration of the Buddhist Path

Ethan Nichtern; Foreword by Sharon Salzberg

A lively exploration of contemporary Buddhism from one of its most admired teachers

Do you feel at home right now? Or do you sense a hovering anxiety or uncertainty, an underlying unease that makes you feel just a bit uncomfortable, a bit distracted and disconnected from those around you?

In The Road Home, Ethan Nichtern, a senior teacher in the Shambhala Buddhist tradition, investigates the journey each of us takes to find where we belong. Drawing from contemporary research on meditation and mindfulness and his experience as a Buddhist teacher and practitioner, Nichtern describes in fresh and deeply resonant terms the basic existential experience that gives rise to spiritual seeking—and also to its potentially dangerous counterpart, spiritual materialism. He reveals how our individual quests for self-awareness ripple forward into relationships, communities, and society at large. And he explains exactly how, by turning our awareness to what’s happening around us and inside us, we become able to enhance our sense of connection with others and, at the same time, change for the better our individual and collective patterns of greed, apathy, and inattention.

In this wise and witty invitation to Buddhist meditation, Nichtern shows how, in order to create a truly compassionate and enlightened society, we must start with ourselves. And this means beginning by working with our own minds—in whatever state we find them in.

Ethan Nichtern is a Shastri, a senior teacher in the Shambhala Buddhist tradition, and the author of One City: A Declaration of Interdependence. He is also the founder of the Interdependence Project, a nonprofit organization dedicated to Buddhist-inspired meditation and psychology, integral activism, mindful arts, and meaningful media. Nichtern has taught meditation and Buddhist psychology classes in New York and around the country for the last ten years.
Unlikely Warrior
A Jewish Soldier in Hitler's Army
Georg Rauch

An astounding memoir about a Jewish teenager forced to become a German soldier

As a young adult in wartime Vienna, Georg Rauch helped his mother hide dozens of Jews from the Nazis behind false walls in their top-floor apartment and arrange for their safe transport out of the country. His family was among the few who worked underground to resist Nazi rule. Then came the day he was shipped out to fight on the Eastern front as part of the German infantry—in spite of his having confessed his own Jewish ancestry. Thus begins the incredible journey of a young man thrust unwillingly into an unjust war, who must use his smarts, skills, and bare-knuckled determination to stay alive in the trenches, avoid starvation and exposure during the brutal Russian winter, survive more than one Soviet labor camp, and travel hundreds of miles to find his way back home.

After surviving the war, Georg Rauch (1924–2006) spent several years at an alpine TB clinic in Austria. His lifelong love of painting and drawing eventually led him to a successful career in fine art. In 1965, he met his future wife, Phyllis, in Vienna, and in the spring of 1966 they married, eventually settling in Guadalajara, Mexico. In 1984, he began writing his wartime memoir in German and worked with his wife on translating it simultaneously into English. He self-published it in 2006, four months before his death.

PRAISE

An Unlikely Warrior:
"A fascinating account of what it was like for a partial Jew to serve in the German military during World War II. Rauch’s experiences and hardships dramatically depict the physical and emotional struggles of a ‘Mischling’ during the Third Reich."
—Bryan Mark Rigg, author of Hitler’s Jewish Soldiers

READER REVIEW...
Normal
A Novel
Warren Ellis

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

Some people call it “abyss gaze.” Gaze into the abyss all day and the abyss will gaze into you.

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

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

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

Warren Ellis is the author of FSG’s first digital original, Dead Pig Collector; the New York Times bestselling novel Gun Machine; and the underground classic Crooked Little Vein. He is also the award-winning creator of a number of iconic, bestselling original graphic novels, including Red, Ministry of Space, Planetary, and Transmetropolitan, and has been behind some of the most successful reimaginings of mainstream comic superheroes, including the Fantastic Four and Iron Man. He has written extensively for Vice, Wired, and Reuters on technological and cultural matters, and is working on a nonfiction book about the future of cities for FSG Originals. He lives on the southeast coast of England.

PRAISE

Praise for Warren Ellis

“A beacon of brilliant irony and sardonic satire.” —Sir Patrick Stewart
A searing new collection from the inimitable Amelia Gray

A woman creeps through the ductwork of a quiet home. A medical procedure reveals an object of worship. A carnivorous reptile divides and cauterizes a town. Amelia Gray’s curio cabinet expands in Gutshot, where isolation and coupling are pushed to their dark and outrageous edges. These singular stories live and breathe on their own, pulsating with energy and humanness and a glorious sense of humor. Hers are stories that you will read and reread—raw gems that burrow into your brain, reminders of just how strange and beautiful our world is. These collected stories come to us like a vivisected body, the whole that is all the more elegant and breathtaking for exploring its most grotesque and intimate lightless viscera.

Amelia Gray is the author of AM/PM and Museum of the Weird, for which she won the Ronald Sukenick Innovative Fiction Prize. Her first novel, Threats (FSG Originals, 2012), was long-listed for the University of Wales Dylan Thomas Prize and short-listed for the PEN/Faulkner Award for Fiction. Her fiction and nonfiction have appeared in Tin House, Ninth Letter, Hobart, Poets & Writers, Lucky Peach, American Short Fiction, GOOD, Guernica, Annalemma, Sonora Review, VICE, McSweeney’s, Los Angeles Review of Books, and DIAGRAM, among others. She received a BA from Arizona State and an MFA from Texas State. She lives in Los Angeles, where she is currently working on a novel.

“[Gray’s stories] register as leaps of faith, brave excursions into the realms of the unreal—and convince me that Gray may yet prove an important voice in experimental writing.” —J. Robert Lennon, The New York Times Book Review
Area X

The Southern Reach Trilogy: Annihilation; Authority; Acceptance

Jeff VanderMeer

In time for the holidays, a single-volume hardcover edition that brings together the three volumes of the Southern Reach Trilogy, which were originally published as paperback originals in February, May, and September 2014.

Annihilation is the first volume in Jeff VanderMeer’s Southern Reach trilogy, Authority is the second, and Acceptance is the third.

Area X—a remote and lush terrain—has been cut off from the rest of the continent for decades. Nature has reclaimed the last vestiges of human civilization. The first expedition returned with reports of a pristine, Edenic landscape; all the members of the second expedition committed suicide; the third expedition died in a hail of gunfire as its members turned on one another; the members of the eleventh expedition returned as shadows of their former selves, and within months of their return, all had died of aggressive cancer.

This is the twelfth expedition.

Their group is made up of four women: an anthropologist; a surveyor; a psychologist, the de facto leader; and our narrator, a biologist. Their mission is to map the terrain and collect specimens; to record all their observations, scientific and otherwise, of their surroundings and of one another; and, above all, to avoid being contaminated by Area X itself.

They arrive expecting the unexpected, and Area X delivers—they discover a massive topographic anomaly and life forms that surpass understanding—but it’s the surprises that came across the border with them, and the secrets the expedition members are keeping from one another, that change everything.

After the disastrous twelfth expedition chronicled i...

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

PRAISE

“Original and beautiful, maddening and magnificent.” —Warren Ellis
Khirbet Khizeh
A Novel

S. Yizhar; Translated from the Hebrew by Nicholas de Lange and Yaacob Dweck; Afterword by David Shulman

“Exhilarating . . . How often can you say about a harrowing, unquiet book that it makes you wrestle with your soul?” —Neel Mukherjee, The Times (London)

It’s 1948 and the Arab villagers of Khirbet Khizeh are about to be violently expelled from their homes. A young Israeli soldier who is on duty that day finds himself battling on two fronts: with the villagers and, ultimately, with his own conscience.

Published just months after the founding of the state of Israel and the end of the 1948 war, the novella Khirbet Khizeh was an immediate sensation when it first appeared. Since then, the book has continued to challenge and disturb, even finding its way onto the school curriculum in Israel. The various debates it has prompted would themselves make Khirbet Khizeh worth reading, but the novella is much more than a vital historical document: it is also a great work of art. Yizhar’s haunting, lyrical style and charged view of the landscape are in many ways as startling as his wrenchingly honest view of modern Israel’s primal scene.

Considered a modern Hebrew masterpiece, Khirbet Khizeh is an extraordinary and heartbreaking book that is destined to be a classic of world literature.

S. Yizhar was the pen name of Yizhar Smilansky, born in Rehovot in 1916. A longtime member of the Knesset, he is most famous as the author of Khirbet Khizeh and the untranslated magnum opus Days of Ziklag. He died in 2006. Nicholas de Lange, a professor emeritus of Hebrew and Jewish studies at Cambridge University, has translated many Hebrew novels, including Preliminaries by S. Yizhar (2007). Yaacob Dweck translated Haim Sabato’s The Dawning of the Day (2006). He is an assistant professor of history and Judaic studies at Princeton University. David Shulman teaches Sanskrit and other Indian languages at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem. He has published numerous books and is the author of Dark Hope: Working for Peace in Israel and Palestine (2...

PRAISE

*Khirbet Khizeh resonates as both historical experience and art.” —The Times Literary Supplement
Radiance of Tomorrow
A Novel
Ishmael Beah

When Ishmael Beah’s *A Long Way Gone* was published in 2007, it soared to the top of bestseller lists, becoming an instant classic: a harrowing account of Sierra Leone’s civil war and the fate of child soldiers that “everyone in the world should read” (*The Washington Post*). Now Beah, whom Dave Eggers has called “arguably the most read African writer in contemporary literature,” has returned with his first novel, an affecting, tender parable about postwar life in Sierra Leone.

At the center of *Radiance of Tomorrow* are Benjamin and Bockarie, two longtime friends who return to their hometown, Imperi, after the civil war. The village is in ruins, the ground covered in bones. As more villagers begin to come back, Benjamin and Bockarie try to forge a new community by taking up their former posts as teachers, but they’re beset by obstacles: a scarcity of food; a rash of murders, thievery, rape, and retaliation; and the depredations of a foreign mining company intent on sullying the town’s water supply and blocking its paths with electric wires. As Benjamin and Bockarie search for a way to restore order, they’re forced to reckon with the uncertainty of their past and future alike.

With the gentle lyricism of a dream and the moral clarity of a fable, *Radiance of Tomorrow* is a powerful novel about preserving what means the most to us, even in uncertain times.

*Ishmael Beah* was born in Sierra Leone in 1980. He came to the United States when he was seventeen and studied political science at Oberlin College, graduating in 2004. His first book, *A Long Way Gone: Memoirs of a Boy Soldier*, was a number-one New York Times bestseller and has been published in more than forty languages. *Time* magazine named it one of their Top 10 Nonfiction Books of 2007. Beah is a UNICEF Ambassador and Advocate for Children Affected by War; a member of the Human Rights Watch Children’s Rights Advisory Committee; an advisory board member of the Center for the Study of Youth & Political Violence at the University of Tennessee, Knoxville; a former visiting scholar at the Center for International Conflict Resolution at Columbia Uni...

PRAISE

“Written with the moral urgency of a parable and the searing precision of a firsthand account . . . There is an allegorical richness to Beah’s storytelling and a remarkable humanity to his characters. We see tragedy arriving not through the big wallops of war, but rather in corrosive increments.” —Sara Corbett, *The New York Times Book Rev*...
Flappers
Six Women of a Dangerous Generation

Judith Mackrell

A new look at the movement that shattered the boundaries of conventional femininity

Glamorized, mythologized, and demonized, the women of the 1920s prefigured the 1960s in their determination to reinvent the way they lived. Judith Mackrell’s *Flappers: Six Women of a Dangerous Generation* explores the ethos of that restless generation, starting with its first fashionable acts of rebellion before World War I and continuing to the Wall Street crash of 1929, discovering what exemplified the range and daring of the flapper spirit.

We meet Lady Diana Cooper, whose coterie included some of the most influential intellectuals and aristocrats of the time; Nancy Cunard, the steamship heiress; Tallulah Bankhead, the politically outspoken actress; Zelda Fitzgerald, whose tumultuous relationship with F. Scott was often tabloid fodder; Josephine Baker, the African American dancer, singer, and actress who relinquished her citizenship and moved to France; and Tamara de Lempicka, the Polish-born art deco painter. These women were far from typical flappers—they made themselves prominent among the artists, icons, and heroines of their age. Talented, reckless, and willful, with personalities that transcended their class and background, they rewrote their destinies in remarkable, entertaining, and tragic ways.

Nearly a century later, their stories continue to fascinate as we grapple with the contradictions they faced and match ourselves against the reach of their desires.

Judith Mackrell has been one of Britain’s leading dance critics since 1986, writing first for *The Independent* and currently for *The Guardian*. She broadcasts regularly on TV and radio and has written several critically acclaimed books on dance. Her first biography, *Bloomsbury Ballerina*, a portrait of the Russian ballerina Lydia Lopokova, was published in 2008 and was short-listed for the Costa Biography Award. She lives in London with her family.

PRAISE

“Mackrell, a dance critic, loves a romp, and tales of her high-flying subjects lose none of their adrenaline in the retelling. Her writing is bright and nimble, but she’s also astute enough to delve beyond the flash and dazzle, the public illusions cast to hide private insecurity, pain and frustration.” —Jessica Kerwin Jenkins, *The New Yo..."
The Man Who Loved Dogs
A Novel
Leonardo Padura; Translated from the Spanish by Anna Kushner

A gripping novel about the assassination of Leon Trotsky in Mexico City in 1940

In his youth, Iván Cádernas Maturell was the great promise of modern Cuban literature. But after Iván dared to write a story that was deemed counterrevolutionary, he suffered the consequences and became not just a loser but a defeated man. After two years of obligatory social service, Iván returns to Havana and takes a job editing a veterinary magazine. One afternoon, he meets a mysterious foreigner in the company of two Russian wolfhounds, whom he quickly names “the man who loved dogs.”

Their initially superficial exchanges eventually lead to more heartfelt conversations in which Iván discloses his own fears and frustrations and the man who loved dogs admits that he is dying. In the shadow of death, the foreign man feels compelled to relay the details of his life to another person, and confesses to Iván that he is actually Ramón Mercader, the man who killed Leon Trotsky in Mexico City.

Moving seamlessly between Iván’s life in Cuba, Ramón’s early years in Spain and France, and Trotsky’s long years of exile, The Man Who Loved Dogs is Leonardo Padura’s most ambitious and brilliantly executed novel yet. It is the story of revolutions fought and betrayed, the ways in which men’s political convictions are continually tested and manipulated, and a powerful critique of the role of fear in consolidating political power.

Leonardo Padura was born in Havana, Cuba, in 1955. A novelist, journalist, and critic, he is the author of several novels, one collection of essays, and a volume of short stories. His novels featuring the detective Mario Conde have been translated into many languages and have won literary prizes around the world. The Man Who Loved Dogs was a finalist for Book of the Year in Spain. Padura still lives in Havana.

PRAISE

“The Man Who Loved Dogs is a book that nurtures a reader’s soul . . . In Leonardo Padura, earlier Cuban writers such as José Lezama Lima and Guillermo Cabrera Infante have found a worthy successor.” —Oscar Hijuelos, Pulitzer Prize–winning author of The Mambo Kings Play Songs of Love
The Greek House
The Story of a Painter's Love Affair with the Island of Sifnos

Christian Brechneff with Tim Lovejoy

A richly rewarding narrative about a young painter's love affair with the Greek island of Sifnos

When Christian Brechneff first set foot on the Greek island of Sifnos, it was the spring of 1972 and he was a twenty-one-year-old painter searching for artistic inspiration and a quiet place to work. There, this Swiss child of Russian émigrés, adrift and confused about his sexuality, found something extraordinary. In Sifnos, he found a muse, a subject he was to paint for years, and a sanctuary.

In *The Greek House*, Brechneff tells a funny, touching narrative about his relationship to Sifnos, writing with warmth about its unforgettable residents and the house he bought in a hilltop farm village. This is the story of how he fell in love with Sifnos, and how it became a haven from the complexities of his life in Western Europe and New York. It is the story of his village and of the island during the thirty-odd years he owned the house—from a time when there were barely any roads to the arrival of the modern world with its tourists and high-speed boats and the euro. And it is the story of the end of the love affair—how the island changed and he changed, how he discovered he had outgrown Sifnos, or couldn’t grow there anymore.

*The Greek House* is a celebration of place and an honest narrative of self-discovery. In its pages, a naïve and inexperienced young man comes into his own. Weaving himself into the life of the island, painting it year after year, he finds a place he can call home.

Born in the Belgian Congo in 1950, Christian Brechneff was educated in Switzerland and the United States (St. Olaf College). In 1975 he received his master of arts degree from the Royal College of Art in London. He has exhibited in Switzerland, Spain, England, Germany, Sri Lanka, and the United States, and his paintings appear in public and private collections all over the world, including the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York. Brechneff is also the author of *Homage: Encounters with the East*, a book of travel drawings published in 2007. He lives in Hadlyme, Connecticut.

PRAISE

"After reading *The Greek House* by the painter Christian Brechneff . . . I wanted to drop everything and go to Sifnos, the rocky island in the Aegean Sea lovingly
Genesis
Truman, American Jews, and the Origins of the Arab/Israeli Conflict

John B. Judis

A probing look at one of the most incendiary subjects of our time—the relationship between the United States and Israel

There has been more than half a century of raging conflict between Jews and Arabs—a violent, costly struggle that has had catastrophic repercussions in a critical region of the world. In Genesis, John B. Judis argues that while Israelis and Palestinians must shoulder much of the blame, the United States has been the principal power outside the region since the end of World War II, and as such must account for its repeated failed efforts to resolve this enduring strife.

The fatal flaw in American policy, Judis shows, can be traced back to the Truman years. What happened between 1945 and 1949 sealed the fate of the Middle East for the remainder of the century. As a result, understanding that period holds the key to explaining almost everything that follows—right down to George W. Bush’s unsuccessful and ill-conceived effort to win peace through holding elections among the Palestinians, and Barack Obama’s failed attempt to bring both parties to the negotiating table. A provocative narrative history animated by a strong analytical and moral perspective and peopled by colorful and outsize personalities, Genesis offers a fresh look at these critical postwar years, arguing that if we can understand how this stalemate originated, we will be better positioned to help end it.

After years alone in a cell, an aging prisoner is released without explanation, expelled into a great city now utterly unfamiliar to him. Broken by years of brutality at the hands of the prison guards, he scrounges for scraps, sleeping wild, until a museum curator rescues him from an assault. The museum has just opened its most controversial exhibit: a perfect replica of the marshes, an expansive wilderness still wracked by conflict. There the man had spent years as a doctor among the hated and feared marshmen, who have been colonized but never conquered.

Then *Marshlands* reveals one of its many surprises: It is written in reverse. The novel leaps backward once, twice, returning to the marshes and unraveling time to reveal the doctor’s ambiguous relationship to the austerely beautiful land and its people. As the pieces of his past come together, a great crime and its consequences begin to take shape. The true nature of the crime and who committed it will be saved for the breathtaking ending—or, rather, for the beginning.

In the tradition of Wilfred Thesiger’s *The Marsh Arabs* and J. M. Coetzee’s *Waiting for the Barbarians*, *Marshlands* explores a culture virtually snuffed out under Saddam Hussein, and how we cement our identities by pointing at someone to call “other.” Elegant, brief, and searing, Matthew Olshan’s *Marshlands* shivers with the life of a fragile, lost world.

Matthew Olshan is the author of several books for young readers, including *Finn*, *The Flown Sky*, and *The Mighty Lalouche*. He lives in Baltimore, Maryland.

**PRAISE**

“I am haunted by this book.” —Ellen Akins, *Star Tribune* (Minneapolis)

“Terse, outraged at the inhumanity, the environmental and cultural ruination, *Marshlands* is a work of insistent witness.” —Floyd Skloot, *The New York Times Book Review*

“Devastatingly beautiful . . . Searing and evocative.” —Laura Eggertson, *Toronto Star*
The Tastemaker
Carl Van Vechten and the Birth of Modern America
Edward White

A critically acclaimed biography of a cultural titan who embodied an age

The Tastemaker explores the many lives of Carl Van Vechten, the most influential cultural impresario of the early twentieth century: a patron and dealmaker of the Harlem Renaissance, a photographer who captured the era’s icons, and a novelist who created some of the Jazz Age’s most salacious stories. A close confidant of Langston Hughes, Gertrude Stein, and F. Scott Fitzgerald, Van Vechten frolicked in the 1920s Manhattan demimonde, finding himself in Harlem jazz clubs, Hell’s Kitchen speakeasies, and the Greenwich Village underground gay scene. New York City was a hotbed of vice as well as creativity, and Van Vechten was at the center of it all.

Edward White’s biography—the first comprehensive biography of Carl Van Vechten in nearly half a century—depicts a controversial figure who defined an age. Embodying many of the contradictions of modern America, Van Vechten was a devoted husband with a coterie of boys by his side, a supporter of difficult art who also loved lowbrow entertainment, and a promoter of the Harlem Renaissance whose bestselling novel infuriated many of the same African American artists he championed. The Tastemaker is a remarkable portrait of a man whose brave journeys across boundaries of race, sexuality, and taste helped make America fully modern.

Edward White studied European and American history at Mansfield College, Oxford, and Goldsmiths College, London. Since 2005 he has worked in the British television industry, including two years at the BBC, devising programs in the art and history departments. He is a contributor to The Times Literary Supplement. The Tastemaker is his first book. White lives in London, England.

PRAISE

A New York Times Book Review Editor’s Choice

Christopher and His Kind
A Memoir

Christopher Isherwood

An indispensable memoir by one of the most prominent writers of his generation

Originally published in 1976, *Christopher and His Kind* covers the most memorable ten years in the writer’s life—from 1928, when Christopher Isherwood left England to spend a week in Berlin and decided to stay there indefinitely, to 1939, when he arrived in America. His friends and colleagues during this time included W. H. Auden, Stephen Spender, and E. M. Forster, as well as colorful figures he met in Germany and later fictionalized in his two Berlin novels—and who appeared again, fictionalized to an even greater degree, in *I Am a Camera* and *Cabaret*.

What most impressed the first readers of this memoir, however, was the candor with which he describes his life in gay Berlin of the 1930s and his struggles to save his companion, a German man named Heinz, from the Nazis. An engrossing and dramatic story and a fascinating glimpse into a little-known world, *Christopher and His Kind* remains one of Isherwood’s greatest achievements.

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

PRAISE

Prater Violet
A Novel

Christopher Isherwood

“Prater Violet is the most charming novel I have read in a long time.” —Diana Trilling

Originally published in 1945, Christopher Isherwood’s Prater Violet is a stinging satirical novel about the film industry. It centers around the production of the vacuous fictional melodrama Prater Violet, set in nineteenth-century Vienna, providing an ironic counterpoint to tragic events as Hitler annexes the real Vienna of the 1930s. The novel features vivid portraits of the imperious, passionate, and witty Austrian director Friedrich Bergmann and his disciple, a genial young screenwriter—the fictionalized Christopher Isherwood.

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

PRAISE

“Prater Violet, in my view, is one of the best short novels in English written in this century.” —Stanley Kauffmann

“A deliberate historical parable. Prater Violet resembles the episodes in Goodbye to Berlin and keeps up the same high level of excellence.” —Edmund Wilson

ALSO AVAILABLE

The Animals: Love Letters Between Christopher Isherwood and Don Bachardy
5/2014 | 9780374105174
Hardcover | $30.00 / $34.50 Can.
A Meeting by the River: A Novel
11/2013 | 9780374533793
Trade Paperback | $14.00 / $16.00 Can.
Caribou
Poems

Charles Wright

A powerfully moving meditation on life and the beyond from one of our finest American poets

Charles Wright’s truth—the truth of nature, of man’s yearning for the divine, of aging—is at the heart of the renowned poet’s latest collection, Caribou. This is an elegy to transient beauty, a song for the “stepchild hour, / belonging to neither the light nor dark, / The hour of disappearing things,” and an expression of Wright’s restless questing for a reality beyond the one before our eyes (“We are all going into a world of dark . . . It’s okay. That’s where the secrets are, / The big ones, the ones too tall to tell”). Caribou’s strength is in its quiet, wry profundity.

“It’s good to be here,” Wright tells us. “It’s good to be where the world’s quiescent, and reminiscent. And to be here—in the pages of this stirring collection—is more than good; Caribou is another remarkable gift from the poet around whose influence “the whole world seems to orbit in a kind of meditative, slow circle” (Poetry).

Charles Wright is the United States Poet Laureate. His poetry collections include Country Music, Black Zodiac, Chickamauga, Bye-and-Bye: Selected Later Poems, Sestets, and Caribou. He is a winner of the Pulitzer Prize, the National Book Critics Circle Award, the National Book Award, the Griffin Poetry Prize, and the 2013 Bollingen Prize for American Poetry. Born in Pickwick Dam, Tennesee in 1935, he currently lives in Charlottesville, Virginia.

PRAISE

“Inside [Wright’s] lyric, there resides a world well beyond the ordinary . . . It is the heart and soul that he delivers so eloquently.” —Thomas Curwen, Los Angeles Times
This singular memoir begins with a transgression—the invasion of a private home in Johannesburg. But it is far more than the story of a theft. *Lost and Found in Johannesburg* is a luminous exploration of place, one in which the author’s and the reader’s assumptions are constantly being tested.

As a child growing up in apartheid South Africa, Mark Gevisser was obsessed with maps—and with *Holmden’s Register*, Johannesburg’s street guide, in particular. He played a game called Dispatcher with this eccentric guide, transporting himself across the city into places that would otherwise be forbidden to him. It was through Dispatcher that he discovered apartheid by realizing that he could not find an access route to the neighboring township of Alexandra and, later, by realizing that Soweto was not mapped at all. This was the beginning of his lifelong obsession with maps and photographs, and what they tell us about borders and boundaries—how we define ourselves by staying within them or by transgressing them. This memoir is an account of getting lost in one’s hometown and then finding oneself as a gay Jewish South African who was raised under apartheid and who eventually married a man of a different race as the country moved toward freedom.

Using maps, shards of memory, photographs, and stories, Gevisser constructs a stunning portrait of race and sexuality, heritage and otherness.


**PRAISE**

“Outstanding. A genuinely strange, marvelous, and complex account of a self and a city. Mark Gevisser does for Johannesburg what Orhan Pamuk did for Istanbul. Gevisser is as intimate and sophisticated a guide as one would wish for to this great, troubled metropolis.” —Teju Cole, author of *Open City*
All at Once
Prose Poems

C. K. Williams

Short, sharp musings on things profound and mundane (and sometimes both) from the Pulitzer Prize–winning poet

C. K. Williams has never been afraid to push the boundaries of poetic form—in fact, he’s known for it, with long, narrative lines that compel, enthrall, and ensnare. In his latest work, All at Once, Williams again embodies this spirit of experimentation, carving out fresh spaces for himself and surprising his readers once more with inventions both formal and lyrical.

Somewhere between prose poems, short stories, and personal essays, the musings in this collection are profound, personal, witty, and inventive—sometimes all at once. Here are the starkly beautiful images that also pepper his poems: a neighbor’s white butane tank in March “glares in the sunlight, raw and unseemly, like a breast inappropriately unclothed in the painful chill.” Here are the tender, masterful sketches of characters Williams has encountered: a sign painter and skid-row denizen who makes an impression on the young soon-to-be poet with his “terrific focus, an intensity I’d never seen in an adult before.” And here are a husband’s hymns to his beloved wife, to her laughter, which “always has something keen and sweet to it, an edge of something like song.”

This is a book that provokes pathos and thought, that inspires sympathy and contemplation. It is both fiercely representative of Williams’s work and like nothing he’s written before—a collection to be admired, celebrated, and above all read again and again.

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

PRAISE

Praise for Writers Writing Dying

“[Williams knows] how to make love to the page, urging the reader to go slow—which is how all poetry should be read.” —Dana Jennings, The New York Times
Talking to Ourselves
A Novel

Andrés Neuman; Translated from the Spanish by Nick Caistor and Lorenza Garcia

A searing family drama from one of Latin America’s most original voices

One trip. Two love stories. Three voices.

Lito is ten years old and almost sure he can change the weather with his mind. His father, Mario, is gravely ill and anxious to create a memory that will last his son’s lifetime. Without revealing the truth of his health, Mario takes Lito on a journey through strange geographies that seem to meld the different parts of the Spanish-speaking world. In the meantime, Lito’s mother, Elena, restlessly seeks comfort in books but soon undertakes an adventure of her own, full of moral ambiguity. Each narrative—of father, son, and mother—embodies a different way that we talk to ourselves: speech, thought, and writing. While none of the three dares to tell the complete truth to the other two, their intersecting voices create a gripping story.

Circling around one family’s loss, Andrés Neuman movingly narrates the ways the lives of those who survive are transformed, and how the acts of reading, sex, driving, and silence can serve as powerful modes of resistance. Talking to Ourselves presents a tender yet unsentimental portrait of love and family; a reflection both on grief and on the consolation of language. With his characteristic humor and wide-ranging intellect, Neuman, the author of the award-winning Traveler of the Century, delivers a rich melody of three singular voices in a profound tribute to all those who have had to care for a loved one.

Andrés Neuman was born in 1977 in Buenos Aires, Argentina, and grew up in Spain. He was selected as one of Granta’s Best of Young Spanish-Language Novelists and was elected to the Bogotá39 list. Traveler of the Century (FSG, 2012) was the winner of the Alfaguara Prize and the National Critics Prize, Spain’s two most prestigious literary awards, as well as of a special commendation from the jury of the Independent Foreign Fiction Prize. Neuman has taught Latin American literature at the University of Granada.

PRAISE

“At the heart of this braided tale is a profound grief, but at the heart of that grief is the ecstatic joy of living . . . Talking to Ourselves is both brilliant and wise, and Andrés Neuman is destined to be one of the essential writers of our time.”
—Teju Cole, author of Open City
This Blue
Poems

Maureen N. McLane

A vital, exhilarating new collection of poems from the National Book Critics Circle Award nominee

From lichens to malls to merchant republics, it’s "another day in this here cosmos," in Maureen N. McLane’s stunning third poetry collection, This Blue. Here are songs for and of a new century, poems both archaic and wholly now. In the middle of life, stationed in our common “Terran Life,” the poet conjures urban pigeons, Adirondack mountains, Genoa, Andalucía, Belfast, Parma; here is a world sounded out, broken, possibly shareable, newly named: "Take it up Old Adam— / everyday the world exists / to be named." This Blue is a searching and a singing—intricate, sexy, smart.

Maureen N. McLane is the author of two collections of poetry, Same Life (FSG, 2008) and World Enough (FSG, 2010). Her book My Poets (FSG, 2012), a hybrid of memoir and criticism, was a finalist for the 2012 National Book Critics Circle Award for autobiography.

PRAISE

"To read McLane is to be reminded that the brain may be an organ, but the mind is a muscle. Hers is a roving, amphibious intelligence; she’s at home in the essay and the fragment, the polemic and the elegy . . . What I’m trying to say is that McLane has moves.” —Parul Sehgal, Bookforum
I Am the Beggar of the World
Landays from Contemporary Afghanistan

Translated by Eliza Griswold;
Photographs by Seamus Murphy

An eye-opening collection of clandestine poems by Afghan women

Because my love’s American,
blisters blossom on my heart.

Afghans revere poetry, particularly the high literary forms that derive from Persian or Arabic. But the poem above is a folk couplet—a landay, an ancient form created by and for mostly illiterate people: the more than twenty million Pashtun women who span the border between Afghanistan and Pakistan. War, separation, homeland, love—these are the subjects of landays, which are brutal and spare, can be remixed like rap, and are powerful in that they make no attempts to be literary. From Facebook to drone strikes to the songs of the ancient caravans that first brought these poems to Afghanistan thousands of years ago, landays reflect contemporary Pashtun life and the impact of three decades of war. With the U.S. withdrawal looming, these are the voices of protest most at risk of being lost when the Americans leave.

After learning the story of a teenage girl who was forbidden to write poems and set herself on fire in protest, the poet Eliza Griswold and the photographer Seamus Murphy journeyed to Afghanistan to learn about these women and to collect their landays. The poems gathered in I Am the Beggar of the World express a collective rage, a lament, a filthy joke, a love of homeland, an aching longing, a call to arms—all of which belie any facile image of a Pashtun woman as nothing but a mute ghost beneath a blue burqa.

Eliza Griswold, a Guggenheim fellow, is the author of a collection of poems, Wideawake Field (FSG, 2007) and a nonfiction book, The Tenth Parallel: Dispatches from the Fault Line Between Christianity and Islam (FSG, 2010), a New York Times bestseller that was awarded the J. Anthony Lukas Book Prize. She lives in New York City. Seamus Murphy has photographed extensively in Europe, the Middle East, Asia, Africa, and Latin America. His photography from Afghanistan, begun in 1994, chronicles the tumultuous life of the Afghan people. A collection of this work, titled A Darkness Visible: Afghanistan, was published in 2008 and was produced as an award-winning film. He has won seven World Press Photo Awards. He lives in London.
The Road to Emmaus
Poems

Spencer Reece

A moving, subtle sequence of narrative poems, from a sharp new poetic voice

Two strangers walk toward Emmaus. Christ has just been crucified, and they are heartbroken—until a third man joins them on the road and comforts them. Once they reach Emmaus and break bread, the pair realizes they have been walking with Christ himself. But the moment they recognize him, he disappears. Spencer Reece draws on this tender story in his mesmerizing collection—one that fearlessly confronts love and its loss, despair and its consolation, and faith in all its various guises.

Reece’s central figure in The Road to Emmaus is a middle-aged man who becomes a priest in the Episcopal Church; these poems follow him to New York City, to Honduras, to a hospital where he works as a chaplain, to a prison, to an Alcoholics Anonymous meeting. With language of simple, lyrical beauty that gradually accrues weight and momentum, Reece spins compelling dramas out of small moments: the speaker, living among a group of orphans, wondering “Was it true, what they said, that a priest is a house lit up?”; two men finding each other at a Coming Out Group; a man trying to become visible after a life that had depended on not being seen.

A yearning for connection, an ache of loneliness, and the instant of love disappearing before our eyes haunt this long-awaited second collection from Spencer Reece.

Spencer Reece is a poet and priest; his first collection, The Clerk’s Tale, won the Bakeless Prize in 2003. He has received an NEA grant, a Guggenheim grant, the Witter Bynner Prize from the Library Congress, a Whiting Writers’ Award, and the Amy Lowell Travelling Scholarship. His poems have been published in The New Yorker, Poetry, The American Scholar, and The New Republic. He served at the Honduran orphanage Our Little Roses, and as the chaplain to the Bishop of Spain for the Reformed Episcopal Church, Iglesia Española Reformada Episcopal. Currently he is completing a book of prose, The Little Entrance, about his decision to become a priest in middle age.

PRAISE

“These poems form a true and riveting narrative. Reading Spencer Reece makes you recall why you love poetry.” —Annie Dillard, author of The Maytrees and Pilgrim at Tinker Creek
"Between my fingers and my thumb
The squat pen rests.
I'll dig with it."

Selected Poems 1966–1987 assembles the groundbreaking work of the first half of Seamus Heaney's extraordinary career. This edition, arranged by the author himself, includes the seminal early poetry that struck readers with the force of revelation and heralded the arrival of an heir to Gerard Manley Hopkins, W. B. Yeats, and Robert Frost.

Helen Vendler called Heaney "a poet of the in-between," and the work collected here dwells in the borderlands dividing the ancient and the contemporary, the mythic and the quotidian. Gathering poetry from his first seven collections, Selected Poems 1966-1987 presents the young man from County Derry, Northern Ireland, who "emerged from a hidden, a buried life" in Death of a Naturalist (1966), with his cherished poems "Digging" and "Mid-term Break"; the poet of conscience "as bleak as he is bright" in "Whatever You Say Say Nothing" and "Singing School"; and the astonishingly gifted, mature craftsman behind Field Work (1979) and Station Island (1984)—an artist uncannily attuned to the "music of what happens," restlessly searching "for images and symbols adequate to our predicament."

This volume, together with its companion Selected Poems 1988–2013, allows us to revisit the essential work of one of the great writers of our age through his own compilation.

Seamus Heaney (1939-2013) received the Nobel Prize in Literature in 1995. His poems, plays, translations, and essays include Opened Ground, Electric Light, Beowulf, The Spirit Level, District and Circle, and Finders Keepers. Robert Lowell praised Heaney as the "most important Irish poet since Yeats."

PRAISE

Praise for Seamus Heaney

"Perhaps the best descriptions of Seamus Heaney's extraordinarily rich and varied oeuvre come from the poet's own work. Mr. Heaney has created a remarkable series of poems that stay 'true to the impact of external reality' while at the same time remaining 'sensitive to the inner laws of the poet's being.'" -Michi...
Selected Poems 1988-2013

Seamus Heaney

A new edition of the later selected work of a Nobel Prize-winning poet

Often considered to be "the greatest poet of our age" (The Guardian), Seamus Heaney was awarded the Nobel Prize in Literature in 1995 "for works of lyrical beauty and ethical depth, which exalt everyday miracles and the living past." He saw poetry as a vocation and credited it with "the power to persuade the vulnerable part of our consciousness of its rightness in spite of the evidence of wrongness all around it, the power to remind us that we are hunters and gatherers of values." Paul Muldoon wrote that Heaney was "the only poet I can think of who was recognized worldwide as having moral as well as literary authority."

Shortly before his death in 2013, Seamus Heaney began to compile Selected Poems 1988–2013, and although he was unable to complete the project, his choices have been followed here. This volume encapsulates the finest work from Seeing Things (1991) with its lines of loss and revelation; The Spirit Level (1996) where we experience "the poem as ploughshare that turns time / Up and over."
; the landmark translation of Beowulf (1999); Electric Light (2001), a book of origins and oracles; and his final collections, District and Circle (2006) and Human Chain (2010), which limn the interconnectedness of being, our lifelines to our inherited past.

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PRAISE

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Cancer Ward
A Novel

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

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

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

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

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

PRAISE

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

PRAISE

“His new collection, with its stoical, plain, inward beauty, movingly reminds us that Solzhenitsyn seems never to have written a line that was not somehow tinged with hope.” —Kirkus Reviews
Neutrino Hunters
The Thrilling Chase for a Ghostly Particle to Unlock the Secrets of the Universe

Ray Jayawardhana

A Publishers Weekly Best Science Book of the Season

For more than eighty years, brilliant and eccentric scientists around the world have been searching for the incredibly small bits of matter we call neutrinos. Trillions of these ghostly particles pass through our bodies every second, but they are so pathologically shy that neutrino hunters have to use Olympic-size pools deep underground and a gigantic cube of Antarctic ice to catch just a handful. Neutrinos may hold the secrets to the nature of antimatter and what the universe was like just seconds after the big bang, but they are extremely elusive and difficult to pin down—much like the adventurous scientists who doggedly pursue them.

In Neutrino Hunters, the renowned astrophysicist and award-winning author Ray Jayawardhana takes us on a thrilling journey into the shadowy world of neutrinos and the colorful lives of those who chase them. Demystifying particle science along the way, he tells a detective story with cosmic implications—interweaving the tales of the irascible Casanova Wolfgang Pauli; the troubled genius Ettore Majorana, who disappeared without a trace; and Bruno Pontecorvo, whose defection to the Soviet Union caused a Cold War ruckus. Ultimately, Jayawardhana reveals just how significant these fast-moving particles are to the world we live in, and why the next decade of neutrino hunting will redefine how we think about physics, cosmology, and our lives on Earth.


PRAISE

“Jayawardhana’s storytelling skill shines.” —Discover

“An intriguing story, deftly told . . . with commendable brevity and clarity . . . Comprehensive without being overburdened with detail or weighed down with too much theory . . . A great ghost story and a thumping good piece of science writing rolled into one.” —The Guardian
In *The Improbability Principle*, the renowned statistician David J. Hand unveils his groundbreaking argument that extraordinarily rare events are in fact commonplace. Weaving together fascinating new ways to think about chance, Hand highlights his “law of near enough,” the “look elsewhere effect,” and more, doing for probability what Newton’s laws of motion did for mechanics.

Through humorous and engaging tales of two-time lottery winners, gambling gone wrong, and bizarre coincidences that we can’t quite fathom, Hand argues that extremely unlikely events *must* happen, and no mystical or supernatural explanation is necessary to understand why. Hand’s investigation, grounded in statistics and brought to life with fascinating anecdotes, finally explains “unexplainable” events such as unexpectedly bumping into a friend in a foreign country and coming across an unfamiliar word twice in one day. Along the way, we learn what the Bible and Shakespeare have in common, just how to win the lottery, why financial crashes are par for the course, and why lightning does strike the same place (and the same person) more than once. As Hand makes clear, we can rest assured that we’ll experience a “miracle” roughly once per month.

An irresistible adventure into the laws behind chance moments, *The Improbability Principle* transforms how we think about business decisions, everyday encounters, serendipity, and luck.

David J. Hand is an emeritus professor of mathematics and senior research investigator at Imperial College, London. He is the former president of the Royal Statistical Society and the chief scientific adviser to Winton Capital, Europe’s most successful algorithmic trading hedge fund. He is the author of seven books, including *The Information Generation* and *Statistics: A Very Short Introduction*, and has published more than three hundred scientific papers. He lives in London, England.

**PRAISE**

“Sure to be an odds-on favorite, even for those without much background in the subject.” —*Booklist*
Encounters at the Heart of the World
A History of the Mandan People
Elizabeth A. Fenn

A book that radically changes our understanding of North America before and after the arrival of Europeans

Encounters at the Heart of the World concerns the Mandan Indians, iconic plains people whose teeming, busy towns on the upper Missouri River were for centuries at the center of the North American universe. We know of them mostly because Lewis and Clark spent the winter of 1804–1805 with them, but why don’t we know more? Who were they, really? In this extraordinary book, Elizabeth A. Fenn retrieves their history by piecing together important new discoveries in archaeology, anthropology, geology, climatology, epidemiology, and nutritional science. Her boldly original interpretation of these diverse research findings offers us a new perspective on early American history, a new interpretation of the American past.

By 1500, more than 12,000 Mandans were established on the northern plains, and their commercial prowess, agricultural skills, and reputation for hospitality became famous. Recent archaeological discoveries show how they thrived, and then how they collapsed. The damage wrought by imported diseases like smallpox and the havoc caused by the arrival of horses and steamboats were tragic for the Mandans, yet, as Fenn makes clear, their sense of themselves as a people with distinctive traditions endured.

A riveting account of Mandan history, landscapes, and people, Fenn’s narrative is enriched and enlivened not only by science and research but by her own encounters at the heart of the world.

Elizabeth A. Fenn is an associate professor at the University of Colorado–Boulder, where she holds the Walter S. and Lucienne Driskill Chair in Western American History. She is the coauthor of Natives and Newcomers and the author of the award-winning Pox Americana (Hill and Wang, 2001). She lives in Longmont, Colorado.

PRAISE

“Readers who follow [Fenn] toward . . . the heart of the Mandans’ world will be richer for the journey.” —Daniel K. Richter, The Wall Street Journal

“A rich and remarkably detailed history of this nearly forgotten tribe . . . This wonderfully interesting book . . . should finally help the Mandans claim their rightful place in history.” —St...
The Cartoon Introduction to Philosophy

Michael F. Patton and Kevin Cannon

Philosophy like you’ve never seen it before

The latest in the celebrated Cartoon Introduction series, *The Cartoon Introduction to Philosophy* is an authoritative and engaging guide to the fundamental questions about our existence. In this indispensable primer, Kevin Cannon—one of the talented illustrators behind *Evolution* and *The Stuff of Life*—and the philosopher Michael F. Patton introduce the wisecracking Greek Heraclitus, who hops in a canoe with us as we navigate the great debates of Western thought. As we make our way down the winding river of philosophy, we meet the pre-Socratics, who first questioned mythology and wondered about the world around them; encounter the disciplines of logic, perception, and epistemology; face the central problem of free will; and witness historic arguments over the existence of God. Along the way, famous thinkers like René Descartes and Immanuel Kant spell out their work in clear, lighthearted conversations that will put readers at ease.

Patton’s prose, combined with Cannon’s rich artistry, puts the fun back into the quest for fundamental truths, imparting the love of wisdom to anyone willing to grab a paddle and join the ride. A rich combination of education and entertainment, *The Cartoon Introduction to Philosophy* is a must-have book for students and professors alike.

Michael F. Patton is a professor of philosophy and the program director of philosophy and religion at the University of Montevallo. He lives in Montevallo, Alabama. Kevin Cannon is an award-winning illustrator and a cofounder of Big Time Attic. He and his studio partner, Zander Cannon (no relation), have worked together on many comics and illustration projects, including *Evolution* and *The Stuff of Life* (both Hill and Wang Novel Graphics). He lives in Minneapolis, Minnesota.

PRAISE

Praise for *Evolution*

“It’s hard to imagine instructional science cartooning better than this.” — *Booklist*

“Illustrated by a talented (and nonrelated) duo in cartoon format, this book is funny, fun, and authoritative.” —Dolly Setton, *Natural History*

Praise for *The Stuff of Life*
Headscarsves and Hymens
Why the Middle East Needs a Sexual Revolution

Mona Eltahawy

A passionate manifesto decrying misogyny in the Arab world, by an Egyptian American journalist and activist

When the Egyptian journalist Mona Eltahawy published an article in Foreign Policy in 2012 titled “Why Do They Hate Us?,” it provoked a firestorm of controversy. The response it generated, with more than four thousand posts on the website, broke all records for the magazine, prompted dozens of follow-up interviews on radio and television, and made it clear that misogyny in the Arab world is an explosive issue, one that engages and often enrages the public.

In Headscarves and Hymens, Eltahawy takes her argument further. Drawing on her years as a campaigner and commentator on women's issues in the Middle East, she explains that since the Arab Spring began, women in the Arab world have had two revolutions to undertake: one fought with men against oppressive regimes, and another fought against an entire political and economic system that treats women as second-class citizens in countries from Yemen and Saudi Arabia to Egypt, Tunisia, and Libya.

Eltahawy has traveled across the Middle East and North Africa, meeting with women and listening to their stories. Her book is a plea for outrage and action on their behalf, confronting the “toxic mix of culture and religion that few seem willing or able to disentangle lest they blasphme or offend.” A manifesto motivated by hope and fury in equal measure, Headscarves and Hymens is as illuminating as it is incendiary.

Birth of a Theorem
A Mathematical Adventure

Cédric Villani; Translated from the French by Malcolm DeBevoise

An intimate look inside a mathematician's mind as he wrestles with the theorem that will make his reputation

Cédric Villani is a rock-star mathematician. An intellect of unusual depth and breadth, he is the director of France’s greatest mathematics research institute. In 2010 he received the Fields Medal, the most coveted prize in mathematics, for his proofs resolving one of the most controversial theories of classical physics. Birth of a Theorem is his own account of the year leading up to the award. It invites readers inside the mind of a genius as he wrestles with the most important work of his career.

But you don’t have to understand nonlinear Landau damping to love Birth of a Theorem. It doesn’t simplify or overexplain; rather, it invites readers into collaboration. Villani’s diaries, e-mails, and musings enmesh you in the process of discovery. You join him in unproductive lulls and late-night breakthroughs. You’re privy to the mess-hall conversations of the world’s greatest research institutions. Villani discusses his favorite songs, his love of manga, and the imaginative stories he tells his children. Mathematics is like any other creative work in that the thinker’s whole life propels discovery—and with Birth of a Theorem, Villani welcomes you into his.

Cédric Villani is a French mathematician working primarily on partial differential equations and mathematical physics. He is a professor at Lyon University and the director of the Institut Henri Poincaré. He has been the recipient of the Jacques Herbrand Prize, the Prize of the European Mathematical Society, the Fermat Prize, and the Henri Poincaré Prize. In 2010 he was awarded the Fields Medal for his work on Landau damping and the Boltzmann equation. Malcolm DeBevoise was educated at Amherst College and Johns Hopkins University. He has translated more than thirty works from the French and Italian in every branch of scholarship.

PRAISE

“This is a book of a new genre.” — Yann Moix, Le Figaro

“This Cédric Villani proves us how a mathematical genius... is a man like any other.” — Sylvestre Huet, Libération
On Leave
A Novel

Daniel Anselme; Translated from the French by David Bellos

A long-lost French novel in which three soldiers return home from an unpopular, unspeakable war

When On Leave was published in Paris in 1957, as France’s engagement in Algeria became ever more bloody, it told people things they did not want to hear. It vividly described what it was like for soldiers to return home from an unpopular war in a faraway place. The book received a handful of reviews, it was never reprinted, it disappeared from view. With no outcome to the war in sight, its power to disturb was too much to bear.

Through David Bellos’s translation, this lost classic has been rediscovered. Spare, forceful, and moving, it describes a week in the lives of a sergeant, a corporal, and an infantryman, each home on leave in Paris. What these soldiers have to say can’t be heard, can’t even be spoken; they find themselves strangers in their own city, unmoored from their lives. Full of sympathy and feeling, informed by the many hours Daniel Anselme spent talking to conscripts in Paris, On Leave is a timeless evocation of what the history books can never record: the shame and the terror felt by men returning home from war.

Daniel Anselme was born Daniel Rabinovitch in 1927 and adopted the name Anselme while serving in the French Resistance. A vocal protester of France’s war with Algeria, he addressed the war in On Leave. Anselme published a second novel, Relations, in 1964; ran the journal Les Cahiers de Mai from 1968 to 1974; and was one of the leaders of Solidarity Radio in Paris in 1981–82. He published a semiautobiographical account of his wartime experiences called The Secret Companion in 1984, and died five years later in Paris. David Bellos is the director of the Program in Translation and Intercultural Communication at Princeton University, where he is also a professor of French and comparative literature.

PRAISE


“A small classic of antiwar fiction . . . David Bellos’s translation is an unexpected gift.” —The...
The French Intifada
The Long War Between France and Its Arabs
Andrew Hussey

A provocative rethinking of France’s long relationship with the Arab world

Beyond the affluent center of Paris and other French cities, in the deprived banlieues, a war is going on. This is the French intifada, a guerrilla war between the French state and the former subjects of its empire, for whom the mantra “liberty, equality, fraternity” conceals a bitter history of domination, oppression, and brutality. This history began in the early 1800s with Napoleon’s aggressive lust for all things Oriental and continued with the armed colonization of Algeria, Morocco, and Tunisia. Decades of bloody conflict followed, all in the name of civilization.

Here, against the backdrop of the Arab Spring, Andrew Hussey walks the front lines of this war—from Gare du Nord in Paris to the souks of Marrakesh and the mosques of Tunis—to tell the strange and complex story of the relationship between France and the Muslim world of North Africa. The result is a completely new portrait of an old nation. Combining a fascinating and compulsively readable mix of history, politics, and literature with Hussey’s years of personal experience traveling across the Arab world, The French Intifada reveals the role played by the countries of the Magreb in shaping French history, and explores the challenge being mounted by today’s dispossessed heirs to the colonial project—a challenge that is angrily, violently staking a claim to France’s future.

Andrew Hussey is the dean of the University of London Institute in Paris, a regular contributor to The Guardian and the New Statesman, and the writer and presenter of several BBC documentaries on French food and art. He is the author of The Game of War: The Life and Death of Guy Debord and Paris: The Secret History. He was awarded an Order of the British Empire in the 2011 New Year’s Honours List for services to cultural relations between the United Kingdom and France.

PRAISE


“Fascinating and hugely readable . . . Hussey makes a strong case that France’s contemporary malaise can only be understood in the light of this tragic history.” —Matthew Campbell, The Sunday Times (London)
American Smoke
Journeys to the End of the Light
Iain Sinclair

The visionary writer Iain Sinclair turns his sights to the Beat Generation in his most epic journey yet

“How best to describe Iain Sinclair?” asks Robert Macfarlane in The Guardian. “A literary mud-larker and tip-picker? A Travelodge tramp (his phrase)? A middle-class dropout with a gift for bullshit (also his phrase)? A toxicologist of the twenty-first-century landscape? A historian of countercultures and occulted pasts? An intemperate WALL-E, compulsively collecting and compacting the city’s textual waste? A psycho-geographer (from which term Sinclair has been rowing away ever since he helped launch it into the mainstream)? He’s all of these, and more.”

Now, for the first time, the enigma that is Iain Sinclair lands on American shores for his long-awaited engagement with the memory-filled landscapes of the American Beats and their fellow travelers.

A book filled with bad journeys and fated decisions, American Smoke is an epic walk in the footsteps of Malcolm Lowry, Charles Olson, Jack Kerouac, William Burroughs, Gary Snyder, and others, heated by obsession (the Old West, volcanoes, Mexico) and enlivened by false memories, broken reports, and strange adventures.

With American Smoke, Sinclair confirms his place as the most innovative of our chroniclers of the contemporary.

Iain Sinclair is the author of Downriver (winner of the James Tait Black Memorial Prize and the Encore Award); Landor’s Tower; White Chappell, Scarlet Tracings; Lights Out for the Territory; Lud Heat; Rodinsky’s Room (with Rachel Lichtenstein); Radon Daughters; London Orbital; Dining on Stones; Hackney, That Rose-Red Empire; and Ghost Milk. He is also the editor of London: City of Disappearances.

PRAISE

Praise for Ghost Milk

“Inventive, dazzling, arresting. A superb chronicle of an impossible dream that has descended to a nightmare.” — New Statesman

“Brilliant, superb. Sinclair has gone from cult author to national treasure.” — Robert Macfarlane, The Guardian
Werner Herzog: A Guide for the Perplexed
Conversations with Paul Cronin
Edited by Paul Cronin

An invaluable set of career-length interviews with the German genius once hailed by François Truffaut as "the most important film director alive."

Most of what we’ve heard about Werner Herzog is untrue. The sheer number of false rumors and downright lies disseminated about the man and his films is truly astonishing. Yet Herzog’s body of work is one of the most important in postwar European cinema.

His international breakthrough came in 1973 with Aguirre, The Wrath of God, in which Klaus Kinski played a crazed Conquistador. For The Enigma of Kaspar Hauser, Herzog cast in the lead a man who had spent most of his life institutionalized, and two years later he hypnotized his entire cast to make Heart of Glass. He rushed to an explosive volcanic Caribbean island to film La Soufrière, paid homage to F. W. Murnau in a terrifying remake of Nosferatu, and in 1982 dragged a boat over a mountain in the Amazon jungle for Fitzcarraldo. More recently, Herzog has made extraordinary "documentary" films such as Little Dieter Needs to Fly. His place in cinema history is assured, and Paul Cronin’s volume of dialogues provides a forum for Herzog’s fascinating views on the things, ideas, and people that have preoccupied him for so many years.

This revised edition features new interviews discussing Herzog’s films up to From One Second to the Next (2013), as well as additional text from Herzog, his collaborator Herbert Golder, physicist Lawrence Krauss, and filmmaker Harmony Korine.

Paul Cronin is a writer and filmmaker. He edited Roman Polanski: Interviews, and writes for publications including Sight and Sound.

PRAISE

Praise for Werner Herzog: A Guide for the Perplexed
"[A] magnificent volume of interviews. . . This book presents an opportunity to enjoy extended musings from one of the most fascinating minds to which we are fortunate enough to have collective access. . . Reading [Herzog] expounding on his myriad interests and obsessions, in tones tha..."
I Refuse
A Novel

Per Petterson; Translated from the Norwegian by Don Bartlett

A masterful new novel from Per Petterson, who “provides one of literature’s greatest gifts . . . a welcome refuge from our cacophonous world” (NPR)

Per Petterson’s hotly anticipated new novel, I Refuse, is the work of an internationally acclaimed novelist at the height of his powers. In Norway the book has been a huge bestseller, and rights have already been sold into sixteen countries. In his signature spare style, Petterson weaves a tale of two men whose accidental meeting one morning recalls their boyhood thirty-five years ago. Back then, Tommy was separated from his sisters after he stood up to their abusive father. Jim was by Tommy’s side through it all. But one winter night, a chance event on a frozen lake forever changed the balance of their friendship. Now Jim fishes alone on a bridge as Tommy drives by in a new Mercedes, and it’s clear their fortunes have reversed. Over the course of the day, the life of each man will be irrevocably altered. I Refuse is a powerful, unforgettable novel, and its publication is an event to be celebrated.

Per Petterson won the International IMPAC Dublin Literary Award for his novel Out Stealing Horses, which has been translated into forty-nine languages and was named a Best Book of 2007 by The New York Times Book Review.

PRAISE

Praise for Per Petterson

“Reading a Petterson novel is like falling into a northern landscape painting—all shafts of light and clear palpable chill.”—Time

“Subtly incisive . . . Clean sentence after clean sentence, Petterson conveys both the melancholy and the demi-pleasurable sensation of being fundamentally untethered.”—Stacey D’Erasmo,...
Ashes in My Mouth, Sand in My Shoes
Stories

Per Petterson; Translated from the Norwegian by Don Bartlett

The heartwarming debut that brought Per Petterson, the author of the highly acclaimed Out Stealing Horses, to prominence

Young Arvid Jansen lives on the outskirts of Oslo. It’s the early sixties; his father works in a shoe factory and his Danish mother works as a cleaner. Arvid has nightmares about crocodiles and still wets his bed at night, but slowly he begins to understand the world around him. Vivid images accompany each new event: A photo of his mother as a young woman makes him cry as he realizes how time passes, and the black car that comes to collect his father on the day Arvid’s grandfather dies reminds him of the passing of his bullfinch. And then, one morning, his teacher tells his class to pray because a nuclear war is looming. Ashes in My Mouth, Sand in My Shoes, Per Petterson’s debut, in which he introduces Arvid Jansen to the world, is a delicate portrait of childhood in all its complexity, wonder, and confusion that will delight fans of Out Stealing Horses and new readers alike.

Per Petterson won the International IMPAC Dublin Literary Award for his novel Out Stealing Horses, which has been translated into forty-nine languages and was named a Best Book of 2007 by The New York Times.

PRAISE

“Shot through with a tender, nostalgic quality . . . Petterson brings the book to an unexpectedly moving conclusion.” —Financial Times

“This is a small book that packs a punch . . . Petterson’s style . . . is stripped like a bleached Wallander landscape and leaves you no place to hide from Arvid’s all-too-vivid reality. You are gripped by ...
Ongoingness
The End of a Diary
Sarah Manguso

A dazzling philosophical investigation of the challenge of living in the present, by a brilliant practitioner of the new essay

In her third book that continues to define the contours of the contemporary essay, Sarah Manguso confronts a meticulous diary that she has kept for twenty-five years. "I wanted to end each day with a record of everything that had ever happened," she explains. But this simple statement belies a terror that she might forget something, that she might miss something important. Maintaining that diary, now 800,000 words, had become, until recently, a kind of spiritual practice.

Then Manguso became pregnant and had a child, and these two Copernican events generated an amnesia that put her into a different relationship with the need to document herself amid ongoing time. Ongoingness is a spare, meditative work that stands in stark contrast to the volubility of the diary—it is a haunting account of mortality and impermanence, of how we struggle to find clarity amid the chaos of time that rushes around and over and through us.

Sarah Manguso is the author of two memoirs, The Guardians and The Two Kinds of Decay; two poetry collections; and a short-story collection. Born and raised near Boston, she was educated at Harvard and the Iowa Writers' Workshop. She lives in Los Angeles.

PRAISE

"After I had my son I looked everywhere for a book that might serve as some kind of mirror. I bought so many silly books. Now I see what the problem was: I wanted a book about time—about mortality. I can't think of a writer who is at once so experimentally daring and so rigorously uncompromising. Ongoingness is an incredibly elegant, wise..."
The Infernal
A Novel

Mark Doten

A fierce, searing response to the chaos of the war on terror—an utterly original and blackly comic debut

In the early years of the Iraq War, a severely burned boy appears on a remote rock formation in the Akkad Valley. A shadowy, powerful group within the U.S. government speculates: Who is he? Where did he come from? And, crucially, what does he know? In pursuit of that information, an interrogator is summoned from his prison cell, and a hideous and forgotten apparatus of torture, which extracts “perfect confessions,” is retrieved from the vaults. Over the course of four days, a cavalcade of voices rises up from the Akkad boy, each one striving to tell his or her own story. Some of these voices are familiar: Osama bin Laden, L. Paul Bremer, Condoleezza Rice, Mark Zuckerberg. Others are less so. But each one has a role in the world shaped by the war on terror. Each wants to tell us: This is the world as it exists in our innermost selves. This is what has been and what might be. This is The Infernal.

Mark Doten’s writing has appeared in Conjunctions, Guernica, The Believer, and New York magazine. He has an MFA from Columbia University and is the recipient of fellowships from Columbia and the MacDowell Colony. He is currently a senior editor at Soho Press and lives in Brooklyn.

PRAISE

“Serious, future-altering genius.” —Dennis Cooper, author of The Marbled Swarm and The Sluts

“Mark Doten is a tremendous and protean talent. The Infernal—monstrous and resplendent—is an essential novel of the war on terror, which Doten renders plainly as the cacophonous self-made Hell that it plainly is. His demonic vision reveals crucial...
Dark Lies the Island
Stories
Kevin Barry

“Outstanding . . . [These] stories triumph . . . They are funny, sad, troubling, illuminating, often in equal measure.” — Financial Times

Kevin Barry’s deliciously wicked collection Dark Lies the Island delivers on the many reckless promises made by his virtuosic and prizewinning debut novel, City of Bohane. It firmly establishes him as both a world-class word slinger and a masterful storyteller.

“[Kevin Barry] isn’t sparing with his powers. Even his throwaway lines are keepers.”—The New York Times

“He does humor. He does high drama. He even dabbles in horror (of a kind). And he can handle just about any other narrative form you might think of.”—Star Tribune (Minneapolis)

“Barry’s best short stories are like a spade to the face . . . . [He] earns comparison with the great and shamefully neglected V. S. Pritchett, whose short stories also employed pronounced comic means for serious, compassionate ends.”—The Guardian

Kevin Barry is the author of the novel City of Bohane, winner of the International IMPAC Dublin Literary Award, and the story collection There Are Little Kingdoms. He lives in County Sligo, Ireland.

PRAISE

“By the end of a story, Barry has me in full sympathy with someone I might edge away from on the train. His regard for characters big and small and capacity to be funny without playing them for cheap laughs recalls George Saunders.”—The New York Times Book Review

“Stealthy and shimmering . . . Darkness abounds in these thirteen stories, ...
Letter to a Future Lover
Marginalia, Errata, Secrets, Inscriptions, and Other Ephemera Found in Libraries

Ander Monson

An exuberant, expansive cataloging of the intimate physical relationship between a reader and a book

Readers of physical books leave traces: marginalia, slips of paper, fingerprints, highlighting, inscriptions. All books have histories, and libraries are not just collections of books and databases, but a medium of long-distance communication with other writers and readers.

Letter to a Future Lover collects several dozen brief pieces written in response to library ephemera—with "library" defined broadly, ranging from university institutions to friends’ shelves, from a seed library to a KGB prison library—and addressed to readers past, present, and future.

Through these witty, idiosyncratic essays, Ander Monson reflects on the human need to catalog, preserve, and annotate; the private and public pleasures of reading; the nature of libraries; and how the self can be formed through reading and writing.

Ander Monson is the author of Vanishing Point, a finalist for the National Book Critics Circle Award, and Neck Deep and Other Predicaments. He edits DIAGRAM and the New Michigan Press. He lives in Tucson and teaches at the University of Arizona.

PRAISE

Like you, I’ve read so many ‘books about the book’ by now: the thick tomes of bibilioscholarship, the collections of (think Horatio Alger’s Ragged Dick) weird titles, the books that saved somebody’s childhood, plus the bucket list books, and the histories of papermaking and font design . . . And now, as if these books have met to form a pri...
A moving and revealing exploration of ultra-Orthodox Judaism and one man’s loss of faith

Shulem Deen was raised to believe that questions are dangerous. As a member of the Skverers, one of the most insular Hasidic sects in the US, he knows little about the outside world—only that it is to be shunned. His marriage at eighteen is arranged and several children soon follow. Deen’s first transgression—turning on the radio—is small, but his curiosity leads him to the library, and later the Internet. Soon he begins a feverish inquiry into the tenets of his religious beliefs, until, several years later, his faith unravels entirely. Now a heretic, he fears being discovered and ostracized from the only world he knows. His relationship with his family at stake, he is forced into a life of deception, and begins a long struggle to hold on to those he loves most: his five children. In All Who Go Do Not Return, Deen bravely traces his harrowing loss of faith, while offering an illuminating look at a highly secretive world.

Shulem Deen is a former Skverer Hasid, and the founding editor of Unpious. His work has appeared in the The Jewish Daily Forward, Tablet, and Salon. He lives in Brooklyn, New York.
Tesla: A Portrait with Masks
A Novel

Vladimir Pistalo; Translated from the Serbian by Bogdan Rakic and John Jeffries

An electric novel of the extraordinary life of one of the twentieth century’s most prodigious and colorful inventors

Nikola Tesla was a man forever misunderstood. From his boyhood in what is present-day Croatia, where his father, a Serbian Orthodox priest, dismissed his talents, to his tumultuous years in New York City, where his heated rivalry with Thomas Edison yielded triumphs and failures, Tesla was both demonized and lionized. Tesla captures the whirlwind years of the dawn of the electrical age, when his flair for showmanship kept him in the public eye. For every successful invention—the alternating current electrical system and wireless communication among them—there were hundreds of others. But what of the man behind the image? Vladimir Pistalo reveals the inner life of a man haunted by the loss of his older brother, a man who struggled with flashes of madness and brilliance whose mistrust of institutional support led him to financial ruin. Tesla: A Portrait with Masks is an impassioned account of a visionary whose influence is still felt today.

Vladimir Pistalo has published eleven books of fiction. Tesla, his first book to be translated into English, won the 2008 NIN Literary Award, the most prestigious award in Serbia, and has appeared in ten languages. He teaches at Becker College in Massachusetts.

“Beautifully written, immensely entertaining, and astonishingly original in the way it tells the story of a man who they used to say ‘invented the twentieth century,’ but whose life is still an enigma, Tesla: A Portrait with Masks has the richness, the high jinks and the originality of such modern classics as Günter Grass’s The Tin Drum a...
3 Sections
Poems

Vijay Seshadri

The winner of the 2014 Pulitzer Prize in Poetry, now in paperback

First I had three apocalyptic visions, each more terrible than the last. The graves open, and the sea rises to kill us all.

Then the doorbell rang, and I went downstairs and signed for two packages—

—from "This Morning"

In an array of poetic forms from the rhyming lyric to the philosophical meditation to the prose essay, 3 Sections confronts perplexing divisions of contemporary life—a wayward history, an indeterminate future, and a perpetual longing to out-think time. This is a vital book by one of America’s best poets.

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

PRAISE

An extraordinarily naked modern consciousness, an intensely experienced dislocation, a beautiful intelligence: Seshadris poetry is exhilarating." — Jonathan Franzen

"Vijay Seshadri is a skeptic and a seeker, and the speaker, the philosophical hero, of these beautifully understated, intellectually ambitious poems is also onewry, self-scrutin...
The Last Two Seconds
Poems

Mary Jo Bang

The eagerly awaited new poetry collection by Mary Jo Bang, winner of the National Book Critics Circle Award

We were told that the cloud cover was a blanket about to settle into the shape of the present which, if we wanted to imagine it as a person, would undoubtedly look startled—as after a verbal berating or in advance of a light pistol whipping.
The camera came and went, came and went, like a masked man trying to light a too-damp fuse.
The crew was acting like a litter of mimics trying to make a killing.

Anything to fill the vacuum of time.

—from “The Doomsday Clock”

The Last Two Seconds is an astonishing confrontation with time—our experience of it as measured out by our perceptions, our lives, and our machines. In these poems, full of vivid imagery and imaginative logic, Mary Jo Bang captures the difficulties inherent in being human in the twenty-first century, when we set our watches by nuclear disasters, species collapse, pollution, mounting inequalities, warring nations, and our own mortality. This is brilliant and profound work by an essential poet of our time.

Mary Jo Bang is the author of six previous books of poetry, including Elegy, winner of the National Book Critics Circle Award. She has also published a celebrated translation of Dante’s Inferno. She teaches at Washington University in St. Louis.

POETRY

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PRAISE

Praise for Mary Jo Bang

“Bang can be an ingenious phrase maker, startling English out of its idiomatic slumber with subtle, deliberate awkwardness.” —The New York Times Book Review

“[Bang’s work] bridges a gap between an experimental tradition in American poetry and an older high lyric tradition.” —Publishers Weekly (starred review)
Station Zed
Poems

Tom Sleigh

“What delights me most is seeing a poet of [Sleigh’s] accomplishments and his large and well-earned reputation . . . pushing into greatness.” —Philip Levine, Ploughshares

The AK wants to tell a different truth—
a truth ungarbled that is so obvious
no one could possibly mistake its meaning.

If you look down the cyclops-eye of the barrel
what you’ll see is a boy with trousers
rolled above his ankles.

You’ll see a mouth of bone moving in syllables
that have the rapid-fire clarity
of a weapon that can fire 600 rounds a minute.

—from “Oracle”

Station Zed is the terminal outpost beyond which is the unknown. It is also the poet Tom Sleigh’s finest work. In this latest collection, Sleigh brings to these poems his experiences as a journalist on tours of Lebanon, Somalia, Iraq, and Libya. But these are also dispatches from places of grief, history, and poetic traditions as varied as Scottish ballads and the journeys of Bashō.

Tom Sleigh’s books of poetry include Army Cats, winner of the American Academy of Arts and Letters’ Updike Award, and Space Walk, winner of the Kingsley Tufts Award. He is also the author of Interview with a Ghost. He teaches at Hunter College in New York.

PRAISE

Praise for Tom Sleigh

“Tom Sleigh’s poetry is hard-earned and well founded. I greatly admire the way it refuses to cut emotional corners and yet achieves a sense of lyric absolution.” —Seamus Heaney

“Sleigh has been publishing formidable poetry for almost thirty years, and among American poets of his generation there is no one better.” —D...
The Overhaul
Poems

Kathleen Jamie

Winner of the 2012 Costa Poetry Award, the latest collection by Kathleen Jamie, “the leading Scottish poet of her generation” (The Sunday Times)

See when it all unravels—the entire project reduced to threads of moss fleeing a nor’wester;
d’you ever imagine chasing just one strand, letting it lead you to an unsung cleft in a rock, a place you could take to, dig yourself in—but what are the chances of that?

Of the birds,

few remain all winter; half a dozen waders mediate between sea and shore, that space confirmed —don’t laugh—by your own work.

—from “Materials”

The Overhaul continues Kathleen Jamie’s lyric inquiry into the aspects of the world our rushing lives elide, and even threaten. Whether she is addressing birds or rivers, or the need to accept loss, or, sometimes, the desire to escape our own lives, her poetry is earthy and rigorous, her language at once elemental and tender. The Overhaul is a midlife book of repair, restitution, and ultimately hope—of the wisest and most worldly kind.

Kathleen Jamie’s poetry collections have received the Costa Poetry Award, the Forward Prize for Poetry, and the Scottish Book of the Year Award. She is also the author of two books of nonfiction, Findings and Sightlines. She lives in Fife, Scotland.

PRAISE

Praise for Waterlight: Selected Poems

“Read Waterlight: Selected Poems . . . Kathleen Jamie describes ordinary things—a puddle, a brooch, some frogs—with the rhythm of plain speech made starkly dramatic.” —Entertainment Weekly

“American readers can now meet a sensibility who attends to the living world, and the world as made in language wi...
First Year Healthy
Michael DeForge

A mysterious, unsettling parable from one of North America’s most popular cartoonists

First Year Healthy purports to be the story of a young woman, recently released from the hospital after an outburst, and her burgeoning relationship with an odd, perhaps criminal Turkish immigrant. In a scant forty-five pages, working with a vibrant, otherworldly palette of magentas, yellows, and grays, Michael DeForge brings to life a world whose shifting realities are as treacherous as the thin ice its narrator walks on. First Year Healthy is all it appears to be and more: a parable about mental illness, a folktale about magical cats, and a bizarre, compelling story about relationships.

DeForge’s singular voice and vision have, in a few short years, rocketed his work to the apex of the contemporary comics canon. Ant Colony was his first book with Drawn & Quarterly: It appeared on The New York Times Graphic Bestseller List and was lauded by the Chicago Tribune, The Globe and Mail, and Harper’s Magazine. His effortless storytelling and eye for striking page design make each page of First Year Healthy a fascinating puzzle to be unraveled. First Year Healthy, knotty and mysterious, demands to be read and reread.

Michael DeForge was born in 1987 and grew up in Ottawa, Ontario. After a few years of experimenting with short strips and zines, he created Lose #1, his first full-length comic, for which he won Best Emerging Talent at the Doug Wright Awards. He has since published a handful of comic books, which have received industry praise and two Eisner Award nominations. His illustrations have been published in The New York Times and Bloomberg View; his comics have appeared in The Believer, Maisonneuve, and the Adventure Time comic book series.

PRAISE

Praise for Michael DeForge

"DeForge always seems utterly in control—from the dreamscape-on-drugs palette of electric blues, acid tangerines and lemon yellows, to the deft world-building worthy of Jack Kirby." —The Washington Post

"[Ant Colony] is filled with memorable characters, burning philosophical questions, and moments of true humanit...
Trash Market

Tadao Tsuge; Edited and Translated from the Japanese by Ryan Holmberg

Dark and funny comics from a Garo magazine manga-ka

Tadao Tsuge was one of the key contributors to the legendary avant-garde Japanese comics magazine Garo during its heyday in the late 1960s and early 1970s, renowned for his unpretentious journalistic storytelling and clear, elegant cartooning. Trash Market brings together six of Tsuge’s compelling, character-driven stories about life in post–World War II Japan.

“Trash Market” and “Gently Goes the Night” touch on key topics for Tsuge: the charming lowlifes of the Tokyo slums and the veterans who found themselves unable to forget the war. “Song of Showa” is an autobiographical piece about growing up in a Tokyo slum during the occupation with an abusive grandfather and an ailing father, and finding brightness in the joyful people of the neighborhood. Trash Market blurs the lines between fiction and reportage; it’s a moving testament to the grittiness of life in Tokyo during the postwar years.

Trash Market features an essay from the collection’s editor and translator, Ryan Holmberg, who is a specialist in Japanese art history. He explores Tsuge’s early career as a cartoonist and the formative years the artist spent working in Tokyo’s notorious for-profit blood banks.

Tadao Tsuge (born in 1941) has been drawing comics since the late 1950s. In the 1960s and 1970s, he was one of the central contributors to the underground comics magazine Garo, and the magazines Yako and Gento. In addition to cartooning, Tsuge is an avid fisherman and has written essays on the subject. He has held full-time blue-collar jobs for most of his artistic career, most significantly on the cleaning staff at one of Tokyo’s for-profit blood banks, which figures prominently in a number of his works. In 1995, cult-film director Teru Ishii made a movie based on Tsuge’s comics. Tsuge lives in Saitama Prefecture, near Tokyo.
Adult Contemporary

Bendik Kaltenborn; Translated from the Norwegian by Matthias Wivel

A collection of absurdist comics from a New Yorker illustrator

Look through Bendik Kaltenborn’s kaledescopic glasses and glimpse the world the way he sees it: a vibrantly colorful planet populated by lumpy, big-nosed people totally absorbed in their own off-kilter personal dramas. Adult Contemporary is a collection of odd imaginings, surrealist comics, and physical comedy gags from Kaltenborn, a New Yorker and New York Times illustrator. People scramble around in a world they don’t understand, happy as can be. An author finds unexpected and lethal love in his own garden. A marriage is threatened by soup. Drunk old men quarrel about literature in the witching hour. A con details a small and silly bank robbery from the 1980s. CEOs do push-ups.

Kaltenborn’s Adult Contemporary reads as an homage to the art of mid-twentieth-century cartooning and absurdist sketch comedy. His characters pace about like Groucho Marx, do pratfalls like Dick Van Dyke, and mug like Jim Carrey. His virtuosic gift as an illustrator and designer shines through in these pages, indisputable in the multiplicity of styles he employs and in the immediate appeal of the book as a whole. From extended offbeat jokes about obnoxious businessmen to gorgeous full-page gag illustrations, Adult Contemporary is always able to find something to laugh at.

Bendik Kaltenborn (born in 1980) studied art in Oslo and Stockholm, after which he began a career in contemporary art, graphic design, animation, illustration, and comics. In 1997, he and Kristoffer Kjelberg cofounded the Dongery zine collective. Kaltenborn has published two collections of comics in Norway, which have been translated into French and Spanish and are coming out in German and Swedish as well. He has exhibited in Norway, Italy, Serbia, Taiwan, Sweden, Japan, and the United Kingdom, and his client list includes The New Yorker, The New York Times, Google, and Todd Terje. Kaltenborn lives in Oslo, Norway.

PRAISE

Praise for Bendik Kaltenborn

“[Kaltenborn creates] cheerful, kinetic illustrations of people rendered in bright colors and simple shapes who don’t seem to understand the absurdity of the situations they’re in.” — Resident Advisor

“Bendik Kaltenborn’s playful illustrations are as hilarious as they are skillful.” — It’s Nice That
Jerusalem
Chronicles from the Holy City

Guy Delisle; Translated from the French by Helge Dascher

“[Jerusalem] is a small miracle: concise, even-handed, highly particular.” —The Guardian

Jerusalem: Chronicles from the Holy City is the acclaimed graphic memoirist Guy Delisle’s strongest work yet, a thoughtful and moving travelogue about life in contemporary Jerusalem. Delisle expertly lays the groundwork for a cultural road map of the Holy City, utilizing the classic “stranger in a strange land” point of view that made his other books required reading for understanding what daily life is like in cities few are able to travel to. Jerusalem explores the complexities of a city that represents so much to so many. It eloquently examines the impact of conflict on the lives of people on both sides of the wall while drolly recounting the quotidien: checkpoints, traffic jams, and holidays.

When observing the Christian, Jewish, and Muslim populations that call Jerusalem home, Delisle’s drawn line is both sensitive and fair, assuming nothing and drawing everything. A sixteen-page appendix to the paperback edition lets the reader behind the curtain, revealing intimate process sketches from Delisle’s time in Jerusalem.

Jerusalem is a masterfully hewn travelogue; topping Best of 2012 lists from The Guardian, Paste, and the Montreal Gazette, it was the graphic novel of the year.

Guy Delisle is the award-winning author of the travelogues Burma Chronicles, Jerusalem, Pyongyang, and Shenzhen as well as the 2013 graphic novel A User’s Guide to Neglectful Parenting. He spent ten years working in animation, which allowed him to learn about movement and drawing, and he is now focusing on his cartooning. In 2008–2009, he accompanied his wife, an administrator for Doctors Without Borders, on a yearlong posting in Jerusalem. He lives in the south of France with his family.

PRAISE

“The cultural and physical barriers among the Jewish, Muslim and Christian communities become the source of dark but gentle comedy: absurdity teetering on the edge of tragedy.” —The New York Times

“The tone of [Jerusalem] is by turns gently humorous and dumbfounded. His drawing style . . . suits his brisk, snapshot approach.” —Financial Ti...
Intelligent Sentient?

Luke Ramsey

Delicate, complex drawings tell of a science-fiction world

*Intelligent Sentient?* feels like an artifact from another time—a lost feature in *OMNI* magazine or the album booklet for a late-1970s Hawkwind record or perhaps a print version of *Koyaanisqatsi*. Beautiful, detailed filigreed drawings fold in on themselves and blossom out at the reader as time speeds up and contracts. A loose story is told that involves a society of giant people, strange art, and inexplicable scientific experiments utilizing nonexistent technology. Factories and tree houses teem with life, and the city nestles up against a landscape filled with dinosaurs, apes, and dragonflies living peacefully side by side.

*Intelligent Sentient?* is a series of images that are tied together not in narrative but in a progressing theme, the takeaway being that everything is connected. The drawings contain the fine detail of a watchmaker and the visual scope of a social reform muralist. This book is meant to be read forward and backward and returned to and treated like a mystical text.

**Luke Ramsey** cofounded the Islands Fold residency, exhibits internationally, and works as a freelance illustrator for clients such as *The New York Times*. His practice includes collaboration, design, public art projects, and detailed freehand drawing. Ramsey’s collaborative mural with Josh Holinaty won an award of excellence from the city of Edmonton and a National Urban Design Medal from the Royal Architectural Institute of Canada. He lives on Pender Island, British Columbia.

**PRAISE**

Praise for Luke Ramsey

“Looking closely at one of Luke Ramsey’s images, one sees the big bold shapes dissolve into a chaos of squiggles only to find new patterns emerging. Somehow he manages to distill the sense of order and chaos found in nature into his work.” —*Squidface and the Meddler*
Walt and Skeezix: Book Six
1931-1932

Frank King; Edited by Chris Ware; Introduction by Jeet Heer

“The loveliest rediscovery of the vintage-comic-strip renaissance is [Walt and Skeezix].”—The Washington Post

The Gasoline Alley gang enters a new decade with this volume: Skeezix moves from childhood to early adolescence and the high spirits of the 1920s give way to the Great Depression of the 1930s. Walt and Phyllis Wallet travel to England, an extended tour that echoes the real-life journey taken by the cartoonist Frank King and his family in the late 1920s. While his parents are away, Skeezix tries to solve the mystery of an arsonist. Now entering his teens, he comes to the fore of the strip as an adventurous boy surrounded by a gang of like-minded pals, and Gasoline Alley becomes an influential pillar of teenage culture, soon to be widely imitated in Mickey Rooney and Judy Garland films as well as in Archie comics.

Designed and edited by Chris Ware (Building Stories), this sixth volume of Walt and Skeezix is a celebration of and an homage to American middle-class life in the early twentieth century. An introductory essay from the comics historian Jeet Heer (In Love with Art: Francoise Mouly’s Adventures in Comics with Art Spiegelman), historical appendixes from the Chicago cultural historian Tim Samuelson, and tons of extras make this book a dream come true for Gasoline Alley fans.

One of the pioneering giants of American comic strips, Frank King was born in Cashton, Wisconsin, in 1883. He joined the staff of the Chicago Tribune in 1909. Almost from the start of his career, King’s cartoons were frequently featured on the front page of the paper. He made his lasting mark in 1919 by creating Gasoline Alley, which became one of the most widely syndicated and read strips in North America until King’s death in 1969.

PRAISE

“King’s artwork continues to flower and his flair for finding the affective kernel in each day of his characters’ lives never flags.”—Booklist

“There is a lovely, often wrenching gravity to the strip. King knows how humans as well as cars work, especially toddlers.”—The New York Times Book Review
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