Hummingbird Salamander
A Novel
Jeff VanderMeer

From the author of Annihilation, a brilliant speculative thriller of dark conspiracy, endangered species, and the end of all things

Software manager Jane Smith receives an envelope containing a list of animals along with a key to a storage unit that holds a taxidermied hummingbird and salamander. The list is signed “Love, Silvina.” Jane does not know a Silvina, and she wants nothing to do with the taxidermied animals.

The hummingbird and the salamander are, it turns out, two of the most endangered species in the world. Silvina Vilcapampa, the woman who left the note, is a reputed ecoterrorist and the daughter of a recently deceased Argentine industrialist. By removing the hummingbird and the salamander from the storage unit, Jane has set in motion a series of events over which she has no control.

Instantly, Jane and her family are in danger, and she finds herself alone and on the run from both Silvina’s family and her ecoterrorist accomplices—along with the wildlife traffickers responsible for the strange taxidermy. She seems fated to follow in Silvina’s footsteps as she desperately seeks answers about why Silvina contacted her, why she is now at the center of this global conspiracy, and what exactly Silvina was planning. Time is running out—for her and possibly for the world.

Hummingbird Salamander is the Annihilation author Jeff VanderMeer at his brilliant, cinematic best, wrapping profound questions about climate change, identity, and the world we live in into a tightly plotted thriller full of unexpected twists and elaborate cons...

Jeff VanderMeer is the author of Dead Astronauts, Borne, and The Southern Reach Trilogy, the first volume of which, Annihilation, won the Nebula Award and the Shirley Jackson Award and was adapted into a movie by Alex Garland. He speaks and writes frequently about issues relating to climate change. VanderMeer lives in Tallahassee, Florida, with his wife, Ann VanderMeer, and their cats, plants, and bird feeders.
Homo Irrealis
Essays
André Aciman

The New York Times–bestselling author of Find Me and Call Me by Your Name returns to the essay form with a collection of thoughts on time, the creative mind, and great lives and works.

Irrealis moods are the set of verbal moods that indicate that something is not actually the case or a certain situation or action is not known to have happened . . .

André Aciman returns to the essay form in Homo Irrealis to explore what the present tense means to artists who cannot grasp the here and now. Irrealis is not about the present, or the past, or the future, but about what might have been but never was—but could in theory still happen.

From meditations on subway poetry and the temporal resonances of an empty Italian street, to considerations of the lives and work of Sigmund Freud, Constantine Cavafy, W. G. Sebald, John Sloan, Éric Rohmer, Marcel Proust, and Fernando Pessoa, and portraits of cities such as Alexandria and St. Petersburg, Homo Irrealis is a deep reflection of the imagination’s power to shape our memories under time’s seemingly intractable hold.

André Aciman is the author of Find Me, Eight White Nights, Call Me by Your Name, Out of Egypt, False Papers, Alibis, Harvard Square, and Enigma Variations, and is the editor of The Proust Project (all published by FSG). He teaches comparative literature at the Graduate Center of the City University of New York. He lives with his wife in Manhattan.

PRAISE

Praise for Alibis

"André Aciman is, quite simply, one of the finest essayists of the last hundred years—you’d have to go back much farther, perhaps a visit to Montaigne, to find the combination of elegance, restraint, and longing that Aciman so generously bestows upon his reader." —Susan Salter Reynolds, Los Angeles Review of Books
Summerwater
A Novel
Sarah Moss

The acclaimed author of Ghost Wall offers a new, devastating, masterful novel of subtle menace

They rarely speak to each other, but they take notice—watching from the safety of their cabins, peering into the half-lit drizzle of a Scottish summer day, making judgments from what little they know of their temporary neighbors. On the longest day of the year, the hours pass nearly imperceptibly as twelve people go from being strangers to bystanders to allies, their attention forced into action as tragedy sneaks into their lives.

At daylight, a mother races up the mountain, fleeing into her precious dose of solitude. A retired man studies her return as he reminisces about the park’s better days. A young woman wonders about his politics as she sees him head for a drive with his wife, and tries to find a moment away from her attentive boyfriend. A teenage boy escapes the scrutiny of his family, braving the dark waters of the loch in a kayak. This cascade of perspective shows each wrapped up in personal concerns, unknown to each other, as they begin to notice one particular family that doesn’t seem to belong. Tensions rise, until nightfall brings an irrevocable turn.

From Sarah Moss, the acclaimed author of Ghost Wall—a “riveting” (Alison Hagy, The New York Times Book Review) “sharp tale of suspense” (Margaret Tablot, The New Yorker), Summerwater is a searing exploration of our capacity for kinship and cruelty, and a gorgeous evocation of the natural world that bears eternal witness.

Sarah Moss is the author of Ghost Wall, which was an Editors’ Choice in The New York Times Book Review, was long-listed for the Women’s Prize for Fiction, and was listed as a Best Book of the Year by The Guardian, Southern Living, Refinery29, The Times Literary Supplement, and Nylon, among other publications. Her other books include the novels Cold Earth, Night Waking, Bodies of Light, and Signs for Lost Children, and the memoir Names for the Sea: Strangers in Iceland. She was educated at the University of Oxford and now teaches at University College Dublin.

PRAISE

Most Anticipated at The Guardian, The Sunday Times, Cosmopolitan, Good Housekeeping, The Irish Times, Stylist, and iNews

“Sharp, searching, thoroughly imagined, Summerwater is utterly of the moment, placing its anxious human dots against a vast, indifferent landscape; with its wit and verve and beautiful organization, it throws much contem...
Pee Wees
Confessions of a Hockey Parent

Rich Cohen

The New York Times bestselling author takes a rollicking, personal deep dive into the ultra-competitive world of youth hockey


In Pee Wees: Confessions of a Hockey Parent, Cohen takes us through a season of hard-fought competition in Fairfield County, Connecticut, an affluent suburb of New York City. Part memoir and part exploration of youth sports and the exploding popularity of American hockey, Pee Wees follows the ups and downs of the Ridgefield Bears, the twelve-year-old boys and girls on the team, and the parents watching, cheering, conniving, and cursing in the stands. It is a book about the love of the game, the love of parents for their children, and the triumphs and struggles of both.

Rich Cohen is the author of the New York Times bestsellers The Chicago Cubs: Story of a Curse; Tough Jews; The Avengers; Monsters: The 1985 Chicago Bears and the Wild Heart of Football; Sweet and Low; When I Stop Talking, You’ll Know I’m Dead (with Jerry Weintraub); and The Sun & the Moon & the Rolling Stones. He is a co-creator of the HBO series Vinyl and a contributing editor at Vanity Fair and Rolling Stone. He has written for The New York Times, The New Yorker, The Atlantic, Airmail, and Harper’s Magazine, among other publications. Cohen has won the Great Lakes Book Award, the Chicago Public Library’s 21st Century Award, and the ASCAP Deems Taylor Award. His stories have been included in The Best American Essays and The Best American Travel...
A history of the controversial Oscar-winning film that signaled a dramatic shift in American popular culture

The director John Schlesinger’s *Darling* was nominated for five Academy Awards and introduced the world to the transcendentally talented Julie Christie. Suddenly the toast of Hollywood, Schlesinger used his newfound clout to film an expensive Eastmancolor adaptation of *Far from the Madding Crowd*. Expectations were huge, making the movie’s complete critical and commercial failure even more devastating, and Schlesinger suddenly found himself persona non grata in the Hollywood circles he had hoped to join.

Given his recent travails, Schlesinger’s next project seemed doubly daring, bordering on foolish. James Leo Herlihy’s novel *Midnight Cowboy*, about a Texas hustler trying to survive on the mean streets of 1960s New York, was dark and transgressive. Perhaps something about the book’s unsparing portrait of cultural alienation resonated with him. His decision to film it began one of the unlikelier convergences in cinematic history, centered around a city that seemed, at first glance, as unwelcoming as Herlihy’s novel itself.

Glenn Frankel’s *Shooting “Midnight Cowboy”* tells the story of a modern classic that, by all accounts, should never have become one in the first place. The film’s boundary-pushing subject matter—homosexuality, prostitution, sexual assault—earned it an X rating when it first appeared in cinemas in 1969. For *Midnight Cowboy*, Schlesinger—who had never made a film in the United States—enlisted J...

Glenn Frankel worked for many years at *The Washington Post*, winning a Pulitzer Prize in 1989. He taught journalism at Stanford University and the University of Texas at Austin, where he directed the School of Journalism. He won the National Jewish Book Award and was a finalist for the Los Angeles Times Book Prize. He is the *New York Times*—bestselling author of *The Searchers* and *High Noon*, and he lives in Arlington, Virginia.
The Copenhagen Trilogy
Childhood; Youth; Dependency

Tove Ditlevsen; Translated from the Danish by Tiina Nunnally and Michael Favala Goldman


Tove Ditlevsen is today celebrated as one of the most important and unique voices in twentieth-century Danish literature, and the Copenhagen Trilogy (1969–71) is her rediscovered masterpiece. Childhood tells the story of a misfit child’s single-minded determination to become a poet; Youth describes her early experiences of sex, work, and independence. In Dependency, the narrator embarks on the first of her four marriages and descends into drug addiction, enabled by her sinister, gaslighting doctor-husband.

Throughout, the narrator grapples with the tension between her vocation as a writer and her competing roles as daughter, wife, mother, and drug addict. Dismissed by the critical establishment in the author’s lifetime, and currently regarded as a literary triumph and spiritual forerunner of today’s autofiction, Ditlevsen’s trilogy is remarkable for its intensity and its immersive exploration of female friendships and family life, the struggles of a young woman to be taken seriously as a writer, and the vicious spiral of substance abuse.

Tove Ditlevsen was born in 1917 in a working-class neighborhood in Copenhagen. Her first volume of poetry was published when she was in her early twenties, and was followed by many more books, including her three brilliant volumes of memoir, Childhood (1967), Youth (1967), and Dependency (1971). She married four times and struggled with alcohol and drug abuse throughout her adult life until her death by suicide in 1978.

Tiina Nunnally is an award-winning translator of Danish, Norwegian, and Swedish. Her translation of Kristin Lavransdatter III: The Cross by Sigrid Undset won the PEN/Book-of-the-Month Club Translation Prize in 2001, and her translation of Peter Høeg’s Smilla’s Sense of Snow won the American Translators Association’s Lewis Galantière...
Nine Days
The Race to Save Martin Luther King Jr.'s Life and Win the 1960 Election

Stephen Kendrick and Paul Kendrick

The untold story of the 1960 presidential election and the civil rights struggle that propelled Kennedy to the White House

On a Sunday evening in late October 1960, Coretta Scott King sat in the elegant dining room of Paschal's restaurant, waiting for her husband to be released from the Fulton County jail. Four days earlier, Martin Luther King Jr. had been arrested along with dozens of students at a sit-in at Rich's, the iconic Atlanta department store whose policy of accepting black customers while barring them from its lunch counters and tearooms symbolized the hypocrisies of the Jim Crow South. In September of that year, John F. Kennedy and Richard Nixon had squared off in the first televised presidential debate, largely dancing around the issue of segregation. Now, hardly two weeks before the country would choose its next president, America's fraught racial divide exploded into full view as news broke over the wire: King, the young minister who was quickly making a name for himself as the nation's most eloquent champion of civil rights, wouldn't be getting out of jail after all.

A trumped-up charge—driving with an out-of-state license—served as a pretext for keeping King in jail, and later for his extralegal transfer to Reidsville, the notorious Georgia state prison where black inmates worked on chain gangs overseen by capricious white guards. While King's imprisonment was decried as a moral scandal in some quarters and celebrated in others, for Kennedy and Nixon it was the ultimate October surprise: a figure as saint-l...

Stephen Kendrick is the senior minister of First Church in Boston. Paul Kendrick is a writer whose work has appeared in The New York Times and The Washington Post, among other publications, and a former director of the Harlem Children's Zone College Success Program. They are coauthors of Douglass and Lincoln: How a Revolutionary Black Leader and a Reluctant Liberator Struggled to End Slavery and Save the Union and Sarah's Long Walk: The Free Blacks of Boston and How Their Struggle for Equality Changed America.
Small-town secrets loom large in this spellbinding rural noir about the aftershocks of crime and trauma that shake a Nebraskan town

"An atmospheric, slow-burning beauty of a book, rich with raw-edged lyricism and achingly real characters." —Tana French, author of The Searcher

In a dusty town in Nebraska’s rugged sandhills, weary sheriff’s deputy Harley Jensen patrols the streets at night, on the lookout for something—anything—out of the ordinary. It’s July 1978, and the heat is making people ornery, restless. That and the Reddick family patriarch has decided, decades after authorities ended the search for his murdered boy’s body, to lay a headstone. Instead of bringing closure, this decision is the spark that threatens to set Pickard County ablaze.

On a fateful night after the memorial service, Harley tails the youngest Reddick and town miscreant, Paul, through the abandoned farms and homes outside their run-down town. The pursuit puts Harley in the path of Pam Reddick, a restless young woman looking for escape, bent on cutting the ties of motherhood and marriage. Filled with desperate frustration, Pam is drawn to Harley’s dark history, not unlike that of her husband, Rick—a man raised in the wreckage of a brother’s violent death and a mother’s hardened fury.

Unfolding over six tense days, Pickard County Atlas sets Harley and the Reddicks on a collision course—propelling them toward an incendiary moment that will either redeem or end them. Engrossing, darkly funny, and real, Chris Harding Thornton’s debut rings with authenticity an...

Chris Harding Thornton, a seventh-generation Nebraskan, holds an MFA from the University of Washington and a PhD from the University of Nebraska, where she currently teaches. She has worked as a quality assurance overseer at a condom factory, a jar-lid screwer at a plastics plant, a closer at Burger King, a record store clerk, an all-ages club manager, and a PR writer. Pickard County Atlas is her first novel.

"An atmospheric, slow-burning beauty of a book, rich with raw-edged lyricism and achingly real characters."
—Tana French, author of The Searcher

"Pickard County Atlas, by debut author Chris Harding Thornton, is a darkly..."
Black-and-White Thinking
The Burden of a Binary Brain in a Complex World

Kevin Dutton

A groundbreaking and timely book about how evolutionary biology can explain our black-and-white brains, and a lesson in how we can escape the pitfalls of binary thinking.

Several million years ago, natural selection equipped us with binary, black-and-white brains. Though the world was arguably simpler back then, it was in many ways much more dangerous. Not coincidentally, the binary brain was highly adept at detecting risk: the ability to analyze threats and respond to changes in the sensory environment—a drop in temperature, the crack of a branch—was essential to our survival as a species.

Since then, the world has evolved—but we, for the most part, haven’t. Confronted with a panoply of shades of gray, our brains have a tendency to “force quit:” to sort the things we see, hear, and experience into manageable but simplistic categories. We stereotype, pigeon-hole, and, above all, draw lines where in reality there are none. In our modern, interconnected world, it might seem like we are ill-equipped to deal with the challenges we face—that living with a binary brain is like trying to navigate a teeming city center with a map that shows only highways.

In Black-and-White Thinking, the renowned psychologist Kevin Dutton pulls back the curtains of the mind to reveal a new way of thinking about a problem as old as humanity itself. While our instinct for categorization often leads us astray, encouraging polarization, rigid thinking, and sometimes outright denialism, it is an essential component of the mental machinery we use to make sense of the world. Simply put, unless we pe...

Dr. Kevin Dutton is a Fellow of the British Psychological Society and a research psychologist at the University of Oxford. He regularly publishes in leading international scientific journals and speaks at conferences around the world. He is the author of Flipnosis and The Wisdom of Psychopaths, for which he was awarded a Best American Science and Nature Writing prize. His work has been translated into over twenty languages, and his writing and research have been featured in Scientific American, New Scientist, The Guardian, The Times, Psychology Today, The New York Times, The Wall St Journal, and The Washington Post, among other publications.
On the night of February 6, 1978, a catastrophic nor'easter struck the city of New York. On that night, in a penthouse in the Upper West Side’s stately Apelles, a crowd gathered for a wild party. And on that night, Mr. Albert Haynes Caldwell—a partner emeritus at Swank, Brady & Plescher; Harvard class of ’26; father of three; widower; atheist; and fiscal conservative—hatched a plan to fake a medical emergency and toss himself into the Hudson River, where he would drown.

In the eye of this storm: Hazel Saltwater, age six. The strange events of that night irrevocably altered many lives, but none more than hers. *The Blizzard Party* is Hazel’s reconstruction of that night, an exploration of love, language, conspiracy, auditory time travel, and life after death. Cinematic, with a vast cast of characters and a historical scope that spans WWII Poland, the lives of rich and powerful Manhattanites in the late 1970’s, and the enduring effects of 9/11, *The Blizzard Party* is an epic novel in the form of a final farewell.

Jack Livings is author of *The Dog*, which was awarded the PEN / Robert W. Bingham Prize, the Rome Prize for Literature, and was included on best book of the year lists by the *Times Literary Supplement* and *The New York Times*. His short stories have appeared in *Best American Short Stories* and have been awarded two Pushcart Prizes. His first novel, *The Blizzard Party*, will be published in winter 2021. He lives in New York with his family.
The World Turned Upside Down
A History of the Chinese Cultural Revolution
Yang Jisheng; Translated from the Chinese and edited by Stacy Mosher and Guo Jian

The definitive history of the Cultural Revolution, in withering and heartbreaking detail

As a major political event and a crucial turning point in the history of the People’s Republic of China, the Great Proletarian Cultural Revolution (1966–1976) marked the zenith as well as the nadir of Mao Zedong’s ultra-leftist politics. Reacting in part to the Soviet Union’s "revisionism," which he regarded as a threat to the future of socialism, Mao mobilized the masses in a battle against what he called "bourgeois" forces within the Chinese Communist Party. This ten-year-long class struggle devastated traditional Chinese culture as well as the nation’s economy.

Following Tombstone, his groundbreaking and award-winning history of the Great Famine, Yang Jisheng here presents the only history of the Cultural Revolution by an independent scholar based in mainland China, and makes a crucial contribution to understanding the lasting influence of those years.

Yang Jisheng’s The World Turned Upside Down puts every political incident, major and minor, of those ten years under extraordinary and withering scrutiny, and arrives in English at a moment when contemporary Chinese governance is leaning once more toward a highly centralized power structure and a Mao-style cult of personality.

Yang Jisheng was born in 1940, joined the Communist Party in 1964, and worked for the Xinhua News Agency from 1968 until his retirement in 2001. For fifteen years, he was a deputy editor at Yanhuang Chunqiu, an official journal that regularly skirts censorship with articles on controversial political topics. In 2015, he resigned under official pressure. Yang serves on the editorial board of Economic Reference and continues to write political commentaries. For Tombstone, Yang won Sweden’s Stieg Larsson Prize for journalistic courage, the Louis M. Lyons Award for Conscience and Integrity in Journalism, the Manhattan Institute’s Hayek Prize, and the Lemkin Book Award of the Institute for the Study of Genocide. Yang lives in Beijing with his wife an...
Truly Like Lightning
A Novel
David Duchovny

From the New York Times–bestselling author David Duchovny, an epic adventure that asks how we make sense of right and wrong in a world of extremes

For the past twenty years, Bronson Powers, former Hollywood stuntman and converted Mormon, has been homesteading deep in the uninhabited desert outside Joshua Tree with his three wives and ten children. Bronson and his wives, Yalulah, Mary, and Jackie, have been raising their family away from the corruption and evil of the modern world. Their insular existence—controversial, difficult, but Edenic—is upended when the ambitious young developer Maya Abbadesa stumbles upon their land. Hoping to make a profit, she crafts a wager with the family that sets in motion a deadly chain of events.

Maya, threatening to report the family to social services, convinces them to enter three of their children into a nearby public school. Bronson and his wives agree that if Maya can prove that the kids do better in town than in their desert oasis, they will sell her a chunk of their priceless plot of land. Suddenly confronted with all the complications of the twenty-first century that they tried to keep out of their lives, the Powerses must reckon with their lifestyle as they try to save it.

Truly Like Lightning, David Duchovny’s fourth novel, is a heartbreaking meditation on family, religion, sex, greed, human nature, and the vanishing environment of an ancient desert.

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

PRAISE

Praise for David Duchovny

"Duchovny finds the humor and poetry in life’s lost causes.” —Entertainment Weekly
Everyday Mojo Songs of Earth
New and Selected Poems, 2001-2021

Yusef Komunyakaa

New and selected poems from the great Pulitzer Prize–winning poet

These songs run along dirt roads
& highways, crisscross lonely seas
& scale mountains, traverse skies
& underworlds of neon honkytonk,
Wherever blues dare to travel.

Everyday Mojo Songs of Earth brings together selected poems from the past twenty years of Yusef Komunyakaa’s work, as well as new poems from the Pulitzer Prize winner. Komunyakaa’s masterful, concise verse conjures arresting images of peace and war, the natural power of the earth and of love, his childhood in the American South and his service in Vietnam, the ugly violence of racism in America, and the meaning of power and morality.

The new poems in this collection add a new refrain to the jazz-inflected rhythms of one of our “most significant and individual voices” (David Wojahn, Poetry). Komunyakaa writes of a young man fashioning a slingshot, workers who “honor the Earth by opening shine / inside the soil,” and the sounds of a saxophone filling a dim lounge in New Jersey. As April Bernard wrote in The New York Times Book Review, “He refuses to be trivial; and he even dares beauty.”

Yusef Komunyakaa’s books of poetry include The Emperor of Water Clocks, Testimony: A Tribute to Charlie Parker, The Chameleon Couch, Warhorses, Taboo, Talking Dirty to the Gods, and Neon Vernacular, for which he received the Pulitzer Prize. His plays, performance art, and librettos have been performed internationally and include Wakonda’s Dream, Saturnalia, Testimony, and Gilgamesh: A Verse Play. He teaches at New York University.

PRAISE

Praise for Yusef Komunyakaa

"Probably my favorite living poet. No one else taught me more about how important it was to think about how words make people feel. It’s not enough for people to know something is true. They have to feel it’s true." —Ta-Nehisi Coates, The New York Times Style Magazine
Aquarium
A Novel
Yaara Shehori; Translated from the Hebrew by Todd Hasak-Lowy

A debut novel following two sisters, both deaf and raised in seclusion by deaf parents, and the shattering consequences that unfold when that isolation comes to an end

Sisters Lili and Dori Ackerman are deaf. Their parents—beautiful, despondent Anna; fearsome and admired Alex—are deaf too. Alex, a scrap-metal collector and sometime prophet, opposes any attempts to integrate with the world of the hearing; to escape its destructive influence, the girls are educated at home. Deafness is no disability, their father says, but an alternative way of life, preferable by far to that of the strident, hypocritical hearing.

Lili and Dori grow up semi-feral, living in a world they have created together. Lili writes down everything that happens, just the facts. And Dori, the reader, follows her. On the block where the girls spend their childhood, the family is united against a hostile and alien world. They watch the hearing like they would fish in an aquarium.

But when the outside world intrudes, the cracks that begin to form will span the rest of their lives. Separated from the family that ingrained in them a sense of uniqueness and alienation, Lili and Dori must relearn how to live, and how to tell their own stories.

Sly, surprising, and as sharp-fanged as its protagonists, Yaara Shehori’s Aquarium is a stunning debut that interrogates the practices of storytelling—and storyhearing.

Yaara Shehori has been an editor of Hebrew literature at Keter Publishing House since 2013. In 2014, she was awarded the Prime Minister Levi Eshkol Creative Writing Prize for Writers and Poets and the Minister of Culture’s Prize for Upcoming Writers. She holds a PhD in Hebrew literature from the Hebrew University of Jerusalem and has been awarded a Fulbright scholarship and a fellowship from the University of Iowa International Writing Program. In 2017, Aquarium received the Bernstein Prize for the best original Hebrew-language novel.

Todd Hasak-Lowy is an American writer, translator, and professor of creative writing and literature at the School of the Arts Institute of Chicago. He is the author of The Task of This Translator, a short-story coll...
Why the Innocent Plead Guilty and the Guilty Go Free
And Other Paradoxes of Our Broken Legal System

Jed S. Rakoff

A senior federal judge’s incisive, unsettling exploration of some of the paradoxes that define the judiciary today

How can we be proud of a justice system where the innocent are often pressured to plead guilty? How can we claim that justice is equal when we imprison thousands of poor black men for relatively modest crimes but almost never prosecute rich white high-level executives who commit crimes that have far greater impact? How can we applaud the Supreme Court’s ever-more-confining view of its role in combating excess by the president?

Federal judge Jed S. Rakoff, a leading authority on the law of white-collar crime, explores these and other puzzles in a startling account of our broken legal system. Grounded in Rakoff’s twenty-four years as a federal trial judge in New York as well as the many years he worked as a federal prosecutor and criminal defense lawyer, Why the Innocent Plead Guilty and the Guilty Go Free illuminates some of our most urgent legal, social, and political issues: plea deals and class-action lawsuits, corporate impunity and the death penalty, the perils of eyewitness testimony and forensic science, the war on terror and executive power. A fundamental problem, he reveals, is that the judiciary itself is constraining its own constitutional powers.

Like few others, Rakoff understands the values that animate the best of our legal system—and he has a first-hand view of the failure to live up to these ideals. In this gap, however, he sees great potential for practical reforms and a public mandate ...

Jed S. Rakoff is a senior U.S. District Judge for the Southern District of New York and an adjunct professor at both Columbia Law School and New York University Law School. Rakoff has served on the National Commission on Forensic Science and as a co-chair of the National Academies of Science’s Committee on Eyewitness Identification, and has assisted the Departments of Commerce and State in training the judges of Azerbaijan, Bahrain, Bosnia, Dubai, Egypt, Iraq, Kuwait, Maldives, Morocco, Saudi Arabia, Tunisia, and Turkey. Rakoff is a regular contributor to The New York Review of Books. In 2014, Rakoff was listed by Fortune as one of the World’s 50 Greatest Leaders.
Mona
A Novel

Pola Oloixarac; Translated from the Spanish by Adam Morris

Success as a "writer of color" proves to be a fresh hell for a young Latin American woman at a literary conference in Sweden

Mona, a Peruvian writer based in California, presents a tough and sardonic exterior. She likes drugs and cigarettes, and when she learns that she is something of an anthropological curiosity—a woman writer of color treasured at her university for the flourish of rarefied diversity she brings—she pokes fun at American academic culture and its fixation on identity.

When she is nominated for "the most important literary award in Europe," Mona sees a chance to escape her downward spiral of sunlit substance abuse and erotic distraction, so she trades the temptations of California for a small, gray village in Sweden, close to the Arctic Circle. Now she is stuck in the company of all her jet-lagged—and mostly male—competitors, arriving from Japan, France, Armenia, Iran, and Colombia. Isolated as they are, the writers do what writers do: exchange compliments, nurse envy and private resentments, stab rivals in the back, and hop in bed together. All the while, Mona keeps stumbling across the mysterious traces of a violence she cannot explain.

As her adventures in Scandinavia unfold, Mona finds that she has not so much escaped her demons as locked herself up with them in the middle of nowhere. In Mona, Pola Oloixarac paints a hypnotic, scabrous, and ultimately jaw-dropping portrait of a woman facing down a hipster elite to which she does and does not belong. A survivor of both patronization and bizarre sexual encour...

Pola Oloixarac was born in Buenos Aires in 1977. Her debut novel, Savage Theories, was a bestseller in Argentina, and in 2010 Granta recognized her as one of the best young contemporary novelists in Spanish. Oloixarac is a regular contributor to The New York Times, The Telegraph, and Rolling Stone, and her fiction has appeared in Granta, n+1, The White Review, and an issue of Freeman's dedicated to "The Future of New Writing." She has received scholarships from the Fondo Nacional de las Artes (Argentina), the International Writing Program in Iowa, and other institutions. She lives in San Francisco, California, where she is completing a PhD at Stanford University.
Pink
Poems

Sylvie Baumgartel

A sharp, visceral new collection of poems that touches on art, history, sex, bodies, language, and the color pink

The sack of Rome,
The siege of Florence.
The lights twinkle pink in Fiesole.
Pink furls, pink buds.
Wet pink veiny hearts in spring.
Pink can mean so many things.

Sylvie Baumgartel's *Pink* moves from the shadow of the Ponte Vecchio to a mission church in Santa Fe, from *Daily Mail* reports to a photograph of a girl from Tierra del Fuego, from a grandmother's advice ("Don't go to Smith and don't get fat") to legs wrapped around "a man who calls me *cake*.

Baumgartel, a poet of fierce, intimate, wry language, delivers a second collection about art, history, violence, bodies, fear, pain, reckoning, and transcendence. The poems travel back to the historical, linguistic, and emotional sources of things while surging forward with a stirring momentum, creating a whirlwind of birth and destruction.


PRAISE

Praise for *Song of Songs*

"The conventional power dynamics of heterosexual love appear in grotesque extremity ("I want to live forever chained at your feet"), but Sylvie's wit and charm make them more farcical than troubling. The result is a study of devotion and a celebration of the rewards that come from loving with abandon." —The New Yor...
The Recent East
A Novel

Thomas Grattan

"I fell in love with The Recent East, which is absolutely spellbinding. Thomas Grattan’s writing on family, displacement, and queerness is so well wrought, intimate, and mesmerizing. This is an exquisite and profound novel. I will be pushing it in the hands of everyone I know." --Etaf Rum, author of A Woman is No Man

An extraordinary family saga following a mother and two teens as they navigate a new life in East Germany

Shortly after the fall of the Berlin Wall, Beate Haas, who defected from East Germany as a child, is notified that her parents’ abandoned mansion is available for her to reclaim. Newly divorced and eager to escape her bleak life in upstate New York, where she moved as an adult, she arrives with her two teenagers to discover a city that has become an unrecognizable ghost town. The move fractures the siblings’ close relationship, as Michael, free to be gay, takes to looting empty houses and partying with wannabe anarchists, while Adela, fascinated with the horrors of the Holocaust, buries herself in books and finds companionship in a previously unknown cousin. Over time, the town itself changes—from dismantled city to refugee haven and neo-Nazi hotbed, and eventually to a desirable seaside resort town. In the midst of that change, two episodes of devastating, fateful violence come to define the family forever.

Moving seamlessly through decades and between the thoughts and lives of several unforgettable characters, Thomas Grattan’s spellbinding novel is a multigenerational epic that illuminates what it means to leave home, and what it means to return. Masterfully crafted with humor, gorgeous prose, and a powerful understanding of history and heritage, The Recent East is the profoundly affecting story of a family upended by displacement and loss, and the extraordinary debut of an empathetic and ambitious st...

Thomas Grattan is a graduate of the Brooklyn College MFA program, where he received the Lainoff Prize for excellence in fiction writing. His short fiction has appeared in several journals, including One Story and the Colorado Review. He currently teaches seventh- and eighth-grade English and lives in Brooklyn, New York.

PRAISE

"Between life and death, as The Recent East would have it, we move ‘from place to memory.’ This remarkably humane first novel manages the quantum..."
The intimate, gorgeous, garish confessions of Joshua Mohr—writer, father, alcoholic, addict

Her teeth marks in the wood are some of my favorite things. Every now and again she rips the pick out of my hand and tosses it inside the guitar . . . I hold it over my head, hole down, shaking it back and forth, the pick rattling around in there. And as it ricochets from side to side, I always think about pills. Maybe the pick has turned into oxy. Or Norco, codeine, Demerol. Maybe it’s a pill and when it falls out I can gobble it up.

After years of hard-won sobriety, while rebuilding a life with his wife and young daughter, Joshua Mohr suffers a stroke at the age of thirty-five—his third, it turns out—which uncovers a heart condition requiring surgery. And fentanyl, one of his myriad drugs of choice, is prescribed. This forced "freelapse" should fix his heart, but what will it do to his sobriety? And what if it doesn’t work?

Told in stunning, surreal, time-hopping vignettes, Model Citizen is a raw, revealing portrait of an addict. Mohr shines a harsh spotlight into all corners of his life, throwing the wild joys, tragedies, embarrassments, and adventures of his past into bold relief. His story is heartbreakingly real and yet unreal, which he captures in vivid, uncanny imagery, waking hallucinations that imagine hearts as hot air balloons, drug cravings as wry Nazi doctors, secrets as emaciated second selves.

And yet Mohr’s memoir pulses with humanity and humor, capturing the immediacy of an addict clim...

Joshua Mohr is the author of the memoir Sirens and of several novels, including Damascus, which The New York Times called "beat-poet cool." His novel All This Life won the Northern California Book Award. He is the founder of Decant Editorial.

PRAISE

"Relentlessly honest, hilarious, gut-wrenchingly sad, Model Citizen is the opposite of a pull-yourself-up-by-your-bootstraps memoir, and all the more hopeful (and profound) for it." —Pam Houston

"No one anywhere writes into the gap between grit and grace better than Joshua Mohr. Model Citizen is a ride-or-die book that changed my life." —L...
Fulfillment
Winning and Losing in One-Click America
Alec MacGillis

An inquiry into the wealth and poverty of regions, with one company at its core

They had their orders, they stopped for nothing. They were carrying a billion dollars, and such a sum of money cannot manifest either sympathy or curiosity; it has enough to do to take care of itself.

The year was 1937, and Upton Sinclair had just completed a novel bearing the subtitle *A Story of Ford-America*. Eighty-three years later, the market capitalization of Amazon.com has exceeded one trillion dollars, while the value of the Ford Motor Company hovers around thirty billion. We have, it seems, entered the age of one-click America.

Alec MacGillis’s *Fulfillment* is not another inside account or impassioned indictment of our most conspicuously dominant company. Rather, it is a beautifully wrought study of the America that falls within that company’s growing shadow. As MacGillis shows, Amazon’s sprawling network of delivery hubs, data centers, and corporate campuses epitomizes a land where winner and loser cities and regions are drifting steadily apart, the civic fabric is unraveling, and work has become increasingly rudimentary and isolated.

Ranging across the country, MacGillis tells the stories of those who’ve thrived and those who’ve struggled to thrive in this rapidly changing environment. In Seattle, new office towers displace a historic black downtown neighborhood, and the rise of housing costs and homelessness sparks a civic insurrection. In suburban Virginia, homeowners try to protect their neig...

**Alec MacGillis** is a senior reporter for *ProPublica* and the recipient of the George Polk Award, the Toner Prize, and other honors. He has worked at *The Washington Post, Baltimore Post,* and *The New Republic,* and his journalism has appeared in *The New York Times Magazine, The New Yorker, The Atlantic,* and other publications. His *ProPublica* reporting on Dayton, Ohio, was the basis of a PBS *Frontline* documentary. He is the author of *The Cynic,* a biography of Mitch McConnell. He lives in Baltimore, Maryland.
An aesthetic and existential coming-of-age novel exploring the apprenticeship of a young female painter

In Maylis de Kerangal’s *Painting Time*, we are introduced to the burgeoning young artist Paula Karst, who is enrolled at the famous Institut de Peinture in Brussels. Unlike the friends she makes at school, Paula strives to understand the specifics of what she’s painting—replicating a wood’s essence or a marble’s wear requires method, technique, and talent, she finds, but also something else: craftsmanship. She resolutely chooses the painstaking demands of craft over the abstraction of high art.

With the attention of a documentary filmmaker, de Kerangal follows Paula’s apprenticeship, punctuated by brushstrokes, hard work, sleepless nights, sore muscles, and long, festive evenings. After completing her studies at the Institute, Paula continues to practice her art in Paris, in Moscow, then in Italy on the sets of great films, all as if rehearsing for a grand finale: at a job working on Lascaux IV, a facsimile reproduction of the world’s most famous paleolithic cave art and the apotheosis of human cultural expression.

An enchanted, atmospheric, and highly aesthetic coming-of-age novel, *Painting Time* is an intimate and unsparing exploration of craft, inspiration, and the contours of the contemporary art world. As she did in her acclaimed novels *The Heart* and *The Cook*, Maylis de Kerangal unravels a tightly wound professional world to reveal the beauty within.

Maylis de Kerangal is the author of several books in French, including *Naissance d’un pont* (published in English as *Birth of a Bridge*), which won of the Prix Franz Hessel and the Prix Médicis in 2010; *Réparer les vivants*, which won the Grand Prix RTL-Lire and the Student Choice Novel of the Year from France Culture and Télérama and whose English translation, *The Heart*, was one of *The Wall Street Journal*’s Ten Best Fiction Works of 2016 and the winner of the 2017 Wellcome Book Prize; and *Un chemin de tables*, whose English translation, *The Cook*, was a *New York Times Book Review* Editors’ Choice. She lives in Paris.

PRAISE

Praise for *The Cook*

“Maylis de Kerangal beautifully evokes [and successfully translated] the world of...
The Art of Losing
A Novel

Alice Zeniter; Translated from the French by Frank Wynne

A gripping, multigenerational tale of a French Algerian woman reckoning with her family’s secret past and the inescapable legacies of colonialism

Naïma’s family comes from Algeria, but she knows it only from what she experiences in her grandparents’ tiny apartment in Normandy: the food her grandmother cooks, the precious things they carried when they fled. Naïma’s father claims to remember nothing, has made himself French. But now, one of them is going back; Naïma will see for herself what was left behind—including the family secrets.

How do we protect our families and choose the right side of war, revolution? What price will our descendants pay for the choices we make? Will they judge us fairly? During the War for Algerian Independence, Naïma’s grandfather went from being the wealthy owner of an olive grove to an immigrant scratching out a living in France. Her search reveals how the battle against colonial rule reshaped communities, created deep rifts within families, and let the whims of whoever might be in power instantly overturn the lives of ordinary people.

Alice Zeniter’s The Art of Losing is a powerful, moving family novel that spans three generations, across seventy years and two shores of the Mediterranean Sea. It is a resonant, accessible history of Algeria and the diaspora through the people who lived it. It is also the story of how we carry on in the face of loss: loss of a country, identity, language, connection. And it is, ultimately, an immersive, unforgettable excavation of the personal legacies of colonialism, immigration, and w...

Alice Zeniter is a French novelist, translator, scriptwriter, and director. Her novel Take This Man was published in English by Europa Editions in 2011. Zeniter has won many awards for her work in France, including the Prix Littéraire de la Porte Dorée, the Prix Renaudot des Lycéens, and the Prix Goncourt des Lycéens, which was awarded to The Art of Losing. She lives in Brittany.

PRAISE

Winner of the Prix Goncourt des Lycéens * Winner of Le Monde's 2017 Literary Prize

“Addictive . . . A luminous family fresco [and] a universal story.” —Jean-Paul Marie, Oeuvres de France
An investigative journalist exposes what's wrong with much of today's bestselling behavioral science and its application to social problems

With their viral TED talks, bestselling books, and counterintuitive or hopeful takes on human nature and intractable problems, psychologists and allied social scientists have become the reigning thinkers of our time. Grit and "power posing" promise to overcome entrenched inequalities in schools and the workplace. Positive psychology is engaged to heal veterans of the Afghan war of their trauma. The implicit association test can reveal unconscious biases and reduce racism in police departments and human resources departments. But what if much of the science that circulates in the public realm is dubious or fallacious? What if a long-standing American preference for simplistic self-help nostrums is leading even respected academics and the media astray?

In *The Quick Fix*, the journalist Jesse Singal examines the influential ideas of recent decades and the shaky science that supports them. He begins with the California legislator who introduced self-esteem into classrooms around the country in the 1970s, and the Princeton political scientist who warned of an epidemic of youthful "superpredators" in the 1990s. Both were cases of a much-touted idea that had little basis in reality, but had a massive impact. Singal also examines the appeal of entertaining lab results and takes on the idea that subtle unconscious cues shape our behavior. As he shows, today's popular science emphasizes repairing, improving, and...

**Jesse Singal** is a contributing writer at *New York* and the former editor of the magazine's *Science of Us* online vertical. He is a former Bosch fellow in Berlin and holds a master's degree from Princeton University's Woodrow Wilson School. His work has appeared in *The New York Times, Slate, The Daily Beast, The Boston Globe*, and other publications.
A propulsive and destabilizing literary mystery that follows a man at a university in the San Francisco Bay area as he investigates his father’s death

N is employed at a prestigious California university, where he has distinguished himself as an aloof and somewhat eccentric presence. His meticulous, ordered life is violently disrupted by the death of his estranged father—unanticipated and, as it increasingly seems to N, surrounded by murky circumstances. His investigation leads him to a hotel built over a former Spanish mission, a site with a dark power and secrets all its own. On campus, a chance meeting with a young doctor provokes uncomfortable feelings on the direction of his life, and N begins to have vivid, almost hallucinatory daydreams about the year he spent in Ottawa, and a shameful episode from his past.

Meanwhile, a shadowy group of fringe academics surfaces in relation to his father’s death. Their preoccupation with a grim chapter in California’s history runs like a surreal parallel to the staid world of academic life, where N’s relations with his colleagues grow more and more hostile. As he comes closer to the heart of the mystery, his ability to distinguish between delusion and reality begins to erode, and he is forced to confront disturbing truths about himself: his irrational antagonism toward a young female graduate student, certain libidinal impulses, and a capacity for violence. Is he the author of his own investigation? Or is he the unwitting puppet of a larger conspiracy?

With this inventive, devilish debut, saturated with unexpect...
Second Nature
Scenes from a World Remade
Nathaniel Rich

From the author of Losing Earth, a deeply reported and beautifully told exploration of our post-natural world

We live at a time in which scientists race to reanimate extinct beasts, our most essential ecosystems require monumental engineering projects to survive, chicken breasts grow in test tubes, and multinational corporations conspire to poison the blood of every living creature. No rock, leaf, or cubic foot of air on Earth has escaped humanity's clumsy signature. The old distinctions—between natural and artificial, dystopia and utopia, science fiction and science fact—have blurred, losing all meaning. We inhabit an uncanny landscape of our own creation.

From Odds Against Tomorrow to Losing Earth to the film Dark Waters (adapted from the first chapter of this book), Nathaniel Rich’s stories have come to define the way we think of contemporary ecological narrative. In Second Nature, he asks what it means to live in an era of terrible responsibility. The question is no longer, How do we return to the world that we’ve lost? It is, What world do we want to create in its place?

Popisho
A Novel

Leone Ross

An uproarious, sensual novel, Popisho conjures a world where magic is everywhere, food is fate, politics are broken, and love awaits

Everyone in Popisho was born . . . with a little something . . . The local name for it was cors. Magic, but more than magic. A gift, nah? Yes. From the gods: a thing that felt so inexpressibly your own.

Somewhere far away-- or maybe right nearby-- lies an archipelago called Popisho. A place of stunning beauty and incorrigible mischief, destiny and mystery, it is also a place in need of change.

Xavier Redchoose is the macaenus of his generation, anointed by the gods to make each resident one perfect meal when the time is right. Anise, his long lost love, is on a march toward reckoning with her healing powers. The governor’s daughter, Sonteine, is getting married, her father demanding a feast out of turn. And graffiti messages from an unknown source are asking hard questions. A storm is brewing. Before it comes, before the end of the day, this wildly imaginative narrative will take us across the islands, their history, and into the lives of unforgettable characters.

Popisho is a masterful delight: a playful love story, a portrait of community, a boldly sensual meditation on desire and addiction, and a critique of the legacies of corruption and colonialism. Inspired by the author’s Jamaican homeland, inflected with rhythms and textures of an amalgam of languages, it is a dazzling, major work of fiction, in conversation with the likes of Gabriel García Márquez, Toni Morrison, and Arundhati Roy.

Leone Ross

Leone Ross is a fiction writer, an editor, and an academic. She was born in England and grew up in Jamaica. Her first novel, All the Blood Is Red, was long-listed for the Orange Prize, and her second novel, Orange Laughter, was named by Wasafiri magazine as one of the most influential British novels of the last twenty-five years. Her work has also been short-listed for the V. S. Pritchett Prize and the Edge Hill Prize. She is a senior lecturer in creative writing at Roehampton University in London, where she is the anthology editor for their micropublishing house, Fincham Press. She is a senior fellow of the UK Higher Education Academy.

PRAISE

Praise for Leone Ross

"A pointilliste, a master of detail whose world materialises in clusters of precisely placed dots of colour . . . As lyrical as Apsës Nin . . ."
Genesis
The Story of How Everything Began

Guido Tonelli; Translated from the Italian by Erica Segre and Simon Carnell

A breakout bestseller in Italy, Genesis is a short, humanistic tour of the origins of the universe, Earth, and life—drawing on the latest discoveries in physics to explain the seven most significant moments in the creation of the cosmos.

Curiosity and wonderment about the origins of the universe are at the heart of our experience of the world. From Hesiod's Chaos to today’s mind-bending theories of the multiverse, we have been consumed by the relentless pursuit of one awe-inspiring question: What exactly happened during those first moments of creation?

Guido Tonelli, an acclaimed particle physicist and a central figure in the discovery of the Higgs boson (the "God particle"), reveals the extraordinary story of our genesis—from the origins of the universe to the creation of spacetime, matter, and stars, and ultimately to the birth of human language and its power to describe the world. Evoking the seven days of biblical creation, Tonelli takes us on a brisk, lively tour of the evolution of our cosmos, and considers the incredible challenges scientists face in exploring its mysteries. A breakout bestseller in Italy, Genesis both explains the fundamental physics of our universe and marvels at the profound wonder of our existence.

Guido Tonelli is an Italian particle physicist who was involved in the discovery of the Higgs boson, which earned François Englert and Peter W. Higgs the 2013 Nobel Prize in Physics. Tonelli was awarded the Commendatore of the Order of Merit of the Italian Republic in 2012, the Enrico Fermi Prize from the Italian Physics Society, and the Special Fundamental Physics Prize. He has been a professor of general physics at the University of Pisa since 1992 and is a visiting scientist of the European Organization for Nuclear Research.
The Book of Difficult Fruit
Arguments for the Tart, Tender, and Unruly (with recipes)

Kate Lebo

Inspired by twenty-six fruits, the essayist, poet, and pie lady Kate Lebo expertly blends natural, culinary, medical, and personal history

A is for Aronia, berry member of the apple family, clothes-stainer, superfruit with reputed healing power. D is for Durian, endowed with a dramatic rind and a shifty odor—peaches, old garlic. M is for Medlar, name-checked by Shakespeare for its crude shape, beloved by gardeners for its flowers. Q is for Quince, which, fresh, gives off the scent of "roses and citrus and rich women's perfume" but if eaten raw is so astringent it wicks the juice from one's mouth.

In this work of unique invention, these and other difficult fruits serve as the central ingredients of twenty-six lyrical essays (and recipes!) that range from deeply personal to botanical, from culinary to medical, from humorous to philosophical. The entries are associative, often poetic, taking unexpected turns and giving sideways insights into life, relationships, self-care, modern medicine, and more. What if the primary way you show love is to bake, but your partner suffers from celiac disease? Why leave in the pits for Willa Cather's Plum Jam? How can we rely on bodies as fragile as the fruits that nourish them?

Lebo's unquenchable curiosity leads us to intimate, sensuous, enlightening contemplations. The Book of Difficult Fruit is the very best of food writing: graceful, surprising, and ecstatic.

Includes black and white illustrations

Kate Lebo is the author of the cookbook Pie School and the poetry chapbook Seven Prayers to Cathy McMorris Rodgers, and coeditor with Samuel Ligon of Pie & Whiskey: Writers Under the Influence of Butter and Booze. Her essay about listening through hearing loss, "The Loudproof Room," originally published in New England Review, was anthologized in Best American Essays 2015. She lives in Spokane, Washington, where she is an apprenticed cheesemaker to Lora Lea Misterly of Quillisascut Farm.

PRAISE

Praise for Kate Lebo
The Free World
Art and Thought in the Cold War
Louis Menand

In the long-awaited follow-up to the Pulitzer Prize–winning The Metaphysical Club, The New Yorker’s Louis Menand offers the definitive intellectual and cultural history of the postwar years

The Cold War was not just a contest of power. It was also about ideas, in the broadest sense—economic and political, artistic and personal. In The Free World, the acclaimed Pulitzer Prize–winning scholar and essayist Louis Menand tells the story of American culture in the pivotal years from 1945 to 1970 that shaped our era. How did elitism, formal sophistication, and an anti-totalitarian skepticism of passion and ideology give way to a new sensibility devoted to individual authenticity, freewheeling experimentation, and loving the Beatles?

With the urbanity and insight familiar to readers of The Metaphysical Club and his New Yorker essays, Menand takes us inside Hannah Arendt’s Manhattan salons, Merce Cunningham’s North Carolina dance workshop, and the Memphis studio where Sam Phillips and Elvis Presley concocted a new music for the American teenager. With authority and wit, he examines the postwar vogue for French existentialism, structuralism, and post-structuralism; the rise of abstract expressionism and pop art; Allen Ginsberg’s friendship with Lionel Trilling; James Baldwin’s and Susan Sontag’s challenges to the New York intellectuals; and the defeat of obscenity laws and the rise of the new Hollywood.

Throughout, Menand shows that the ferment of the 1960s was not just a rejection of the more straitened sensibility that preceded it but in many ways a natural evolution from it. Stressing the rich...

Louis Menand is the Lee Simpkins Family Professor of Arts and Sciences and the Anne T. and Robert M. Bass Professor of English at Harvard, where he also holds the title of Harvard College Professor. His books include The Metaphysical Club, which won the Pulitzer Prize for History, the Francis Parkman Prize from the Society of American Historians, and the Heartland Prize from the Chicago Tribune. Since 2001, he has been a staff writer at The New Yorker. In 2016, he was awarded the National Humanities Medal by President Barack Obama.
Enter the world of the Delivery Boy, who must peddle his way to five-star customer ratings—and, perhaps, to freedom

Countries go wrong sometimes, and sometimes the luckier citizens of those countries have a chance to escape and seek refuge in another country—a country that might itself be in the process of going wrong.

In the bustling indifference of an unnamed city, one such citizen finds himself trapped working for a company that makes its money dispatching an army of undocumented refugees to bring the well-off men and women of this confounding metropolis their dinners. Whatever he might have been at home, this citizen is now a Delivery Boy: a member of a new and invisible working class, pedaling his power-assist bike through traffic, hoping for a decent tip and a five-star rating.

He is decidedly a Delivery Boy; sometimes he even feels like a Delivery Baby; certainly he’s not yet a Delivery Man, though he’ll have to “man up” if he wants to impress N.—the aloof dispatcher who sends him his orders and helps him with his English.

Can our hero avoid the wrath of his Supervisor, get the girl, and escape his indentured servitude? Can someone in his predicament ever have a happy ending? Who gets to decide? And who’s telling this story, anyway?

Harrowing and hilarious, Peter Mendelsund’s The Delivery is a fable for and about our times: an exploration of the ways language and commerce unite and isolate every one of us, both native and immigrant.

Peter Mendelsund is a novelist and graphic designer. He is the former associate art director of Alfred A. Knopf, where his work was described by The Wall Street Journal as “the most instantly recognizable and iconic in contemporary fiction.” Mendelsund is the author of three books about design: What We See When We Read, Cover, and The Look of the Book: Jackets, Covers, and Art at the Edges of Literature. His debut novel, Same, Same, was published in 2019.

PRAISE

Praise for Same, Same

“A deeply inventive and wonderfully strange novel that takes dead aim at the question: Does it matter if something’s real?” —Jenny Offill, author of Dept. of Speculation
Refugee
A Memoir
Emmanuel Mbolela; Translated by Charlotte Collins from the German translation by Alexander Behr

A harrowing and insightful memoir about a migrant’s six-year journey from the Democratic Republic of the Congo to the Netherlands

Persecuted for political reasons, Emmanuel Mbolela left the Democratic Republic of the Congo in 2002. His search for a new home would take six years.

Mbolela endured corrupt customs officials, duplicitous smugglers, Saharan ambushes, and untenable living conditions. In his firsthand account, he relates not only the storms of his long journey, but also the periods of calm. Faced with privation, he finds comfort in a migrants’ hideout, overseen by community leaders at once paternal and mercenary. When he finally reaches Morocco, he finds himself stranded for almost four years. And yet he perseveres in his search for the offices of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees—always closed indefinitely just before his arrival in a given city—where a migrant might receive an asylum seeker’s official certificates.

His account is of an experience both private and collective. As he testifies, the horrors of migration fall hardest on female migrants, but those same women embody the fiercest resistance to the regime of violence that would deny them their humanity. While still a migrant, Mbolela became an advocate. He tells the story of how he founded and headed the Association of Congolese Refugees and Asylum Seekers in Morocco to fight for migrant rights. Since obtaining political asylum in Holland in 2008, he has remained a committed activist. In Refugee, he provides an overlooked perspective on a global c...

Emmanuel Mbolela is an author, an activist, and a refugee. He was born in the Democratic Republic of the Congo and studied economics in Mbuji-Mayi. In 2002, he was arrested because of his political engagement. After his release, he was forced to emigrate, embarking on a six-year odyssey through West Africa, the Sahara, and Morocco. In 2008 he received asylum in the Netherlands. He originally published Refugee in German in 2014.
The celebrated poet Tove Ditlevsen's Copenhagen Trilogy begins with *Childhood*, her coming-of-age memoir about pursuing life and passion beyond the confines of her upbringing.

Tove knows she is a misfit whose childhood is made for a completely different girl. In her working-class neighborhood in Copenhagen, she is enthralled by her wild, red-headed friend Ruth, who initiates her into adult secrets. But Tove cannot reveal her true self to her or to anyone else. For "long, mysterious words begin to crawl across" her soul, and she comes to realize that she has a vocation, something unknowable within her—and that she must one day, painfully but inevitably, leave the narrow street of her childhood behind.

*Childhood*, the first volume in the Copenhagen Trilogy, is a visceral portrait of girlhood and female friendship, told with lyricism and vivid intensity.

Tove Ditlevsen was born in 1917 in a working-class neighborhood in Copenhagen. Her first volume of poetry was published when she was in her early twenties, and was followed by many more books, including her three brilliant volumes of memoir, *Childhood* (1967), *Youth* (1967), and *Dependency* (1971). She married four times and struggled with alcohol and drug abuse throughout her adult life until her death by suicide in 1978.

Tiina Nunnally is an award-winning translator of Danish, Norwegian, and Swedish. Her translation of Kristin Lavransdatter III: The Cross by Sigrid Undset won the PEN/Book-of-the-Month Club Translation Prize in 2001, and her translation of Peter Høeg's *Smilla's Sense of Snow* won the American Translators Association's Lewis Galantiè...
The acclaimed Danish poet Tove Ditlevsen’s autobiographical Copenhagen Trilogy ("A masterpiece" —The Guardian) continues with Youth. Following Childhood, this second volume finds the young author consumed in trials by fire that only fuel her relentless passion for artistic freedom—placing her on a devastating and destructive path recounted in the final volume, Dependency.

Forced to leave school early, Tove embarks on a checkered career in a string of low-paid, menial jobs. But she is hungry: for poetry, for love, for real life to begin. As Europe slides into war, she must navigate exploitative bosses, a Nazi landlady, and unwelcome sexual encounters on the road to hard-won independence. Yet she remains ruthlessly determined in the pursuit of her poetic vocation—until at last the miracle she has always dreamed of appears to be within reach.

Youth, the second volume in the Copenhagen Trilogy, is a strikingly honest and immersive portrait of adolescence, filled with biting humor, vulnerability, and poeticism.

Tove Ditlevsen was born in 1917 in a working-class neighborhood in Copenhagen. Her first volume of poetry was published when she was in her early twenties, and was followed by many more books, including her three brilliant volumes of memoir, Childhood (1967), Youth (1967), and Dependency (1971). She married four times and struggled with alcohol and drug abuse throughout her adult life until her death by suicide in 1978.

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Dependency
The Copenhagen Trilogy: Book 3
Tove Ditlevsen; Translated from the Danish by Michael Favala Goldman

The final volume in the renowned Danish poet Tove Ditlevsen’s autobiographical Copenhagen Trilogy ("A masterpiece" — *The Guardian*). Following *Childhood* and *Youth*, *Dependency* is the searing portrait of a woman’s journey through love, friendship, ambition, and addiction, from one of Denmark’s most celebrated twentieth century writers.

Tove is only twenty, but she’s already famous, a published poet, and the wife of a much older literary editor. Her path in life seems set, yet she has no idea of the struggles ahead—love affairs, wanted and unwanted pregnancies, artistic failure, and destructive addiction. As the years go by, the central tension of Tove’s life comes into painful focus: the terrible lure of dependency, in all its forms, and the possibility of living freely and fearlessly—as an artist on her own terms.

The final volume in the Copenhagen Trilogy, and arguably Ditlevsen’s masterpiece, *Dependency* is a dark and blisteringly honest account of addiction, and the way out.

*Tove Ditlevsen* was born in 1917 in a working-class neighborhood in Copenhagen. Her first volume of poetry was published when she was in her early twenties, and was followed by many more books, including her three brilliant volumes of memoir, *Childhood* (1967), *Youth* (1967), and *Dependency* (1971). She married four times and struggled with alcohol and drug abuse throughout her adult life until her death by suicide in 1978.

*Michael Favala Goldman* is a poet, a jazz clarinetist, and a widely-published translator of Danish literature. Over one hundred of his translations have appeared in journals like *The Harvard Review* and *The Columbia Journal*. Among his ten translated books are *The Water Farm trilogy, Farming Dreams* and *Selected Poems of Benny Anderse*...

**PRAISE**


"To get it out of the way: these are the best books I have read this year." — John Self, *New Statesman*
100 Boyfriends
Brontez Purnell

An irreverent, sensitive, and inimitable look at gay dysfunction through the eyes of a cult hero

“No one writes like Brontez Purnell. It’s not just that he is hilariously irreverent, which he is, but that he reserves reverence for that which is deserving. 100 Boyfriends is like a good lover, at turns vulgar and vulnerable, dirty and desperate, and always grinding toward magic.”
--Justin Torres, author of We the Animals

"It’s like that saying, 'Where god closes a door, he opens a window,' but in this particular case the window was on the fifth floor and the house was on fire."

Transgressive, foulmouthed, and devastatingly funny, Brontez Purnell’s 100 Boyfriends is a revelatory spiral into the imperfect lives of queer men desperately fighting—and often losing—the urge to self-sabotage. His characters solicit sex on their lunch breaks, expose themselves to racist neighbors, sleep with their coworker’s husbands, rub Preparation H on their hungover eyes, and, in an uproarious epilogue, take a punk band on a disastrous tour of Europe. They also travel to claim inheritances, push past personal trauma, and cultivate community while living on the margins of a white supremacist, heteronormative society.

Armed with a deadpan wit that finds humor in even the lowest of nadirs, Brontez Purnell—a widely acclaimed underground writer, filmmaker, musician, and performance artist—writes with the peerless zeal, insight, and horniness of a gay punk messiah. From dirty warehouses and gentrified bars in Oakland...

Brontez Purnell is a writer, musician, dancer, filmmaker, and performance artist. He is the author of a graphic novel, a novella, a children’s book, and, most recently, the novel Since I Laid My Burden Down. The recipient of a 2018 Whiting Writers’ Award for Fiction, he was named one of the 32 Black Male Writers of Our Time by The New York Times Magazine. Purnell is also the frontman for the band the Younger Lovers, a cofounder of the experimental dance group the Brontez Purnell Dance Company, the creator of the renowned cult zine Fag School, and the director of several short films, music videos, and the documentary Unstoppable Feat: The Dances of Ed Mock. He lives in Oakland, California.

PRAISE

"Each story in 100 Boyfriends is a minor eclipse: stunning in scope, technically binding, and entirely miraculous. I laughed and I cried and I laughed until I cried—Brontez Purnell is a marvel.”
--Bryan Washington, author of Memorial
The Rain Heron
A Novel

Robbie Arnott

"Astonishing...With the intensity of a perfect balance between the mythic and the real, The Rain Heron keeps turning and twisting, taking you to unexpected places. A deeply emotional and satisfying read. Beautifully written." --Jeff VanderMeer, author of Borne

A gripping novel of myth, environment, adventure, and an unlikely friendship, from an award-winning Australian author

Ren lives alone on the remote frontier of a country devastated by a coup d'état. High on the forested slopes, she survives by hunting, farming, trading, and forgetting the contours of what was once a normal life. But her quiet stability is disrupted when an army unit, led by a young female soldier, comes to the mountains on government orders in search of a legendary creature called the rain heron—a mythical, dangerous, form-shifting bird with the ability to change the weather. Ren insists that the bird is simply a story, yet the soldier will not be deterred, forcing them both into a gruelling quest.

Spellbinding and immersive, Robbie Arnott’s The Rain Heron is an astounding, mythical exploration of human resilience, female friendship, and humankind’s precarious relationship to nature. As Ren and the soldier hunt for the heron, a bond between them forms, and the painful details of Ren’s former life emerge—a life punctuated by loss, trauma, and a second, equally magical and dangerous creature. Slowly, Ren’s and the soldier’s lives entwine, unravel, and ultimately erupt in a masterfully crafted ending in which both women are forced to confront their biggest fears—and regrets.

Robbie Arnott, one of Australia’s most acclaimed young novelists, sews magic into reality with a steady, confident hand. Bubbling with rare imagination and ambition, The Rain Heron is an emotionally charged and dazzling novel, one th...

Robbie Arnott is the author of the novel Flames, which won the Margaret Scott Prize, was short-listed for the Victorian Premier’s Literary Prize for Fiction, the Guardian Not the Booker Prize, and the Readings Prize for New Australian Fiction, and was long-listed for the Miles Franklin Literary Award. In 2019, he was named a Sydney Morning Herald Best Young Australian Novelist. He lives in Tasmania.

PRAISE

“In this lush and harrowing novel, Ren joins Harker, a soldier, in her search for the mythic rain heron and both are forever changed by the
THE TRUTH OF YOGA

A SUSTAINABLE, APPROACHABLE GUIDE TO THE ORIGINS, DEVELOPMENT, KEY TEXTS, CONCEPTS, AND PRACTICES OF YOGA

Daniel Simpson

A SUSTAINABLE, APPROACHABLE GUIDE TO THE ORIGINS, DEVELOPMENT, KEY TEXTS, CONCEPTS, AND PRACTICES OF YOGA

Daniel Simpson

A succinct, approachable guide to the origins, development, key texts, concepts, and practices of yoga

Much of what is said about yoga is misleading. To take two examples, it is neither five thousand years old, as is commonly claimed, nor does it mean union, at least not exclusively. In perhaps the most famous text—The Yoga Sutras of Patanjali—the aim is separation, isolating consciousness from everything else. And the earliest evidence of practice dates back about twenty-five hundred years. Yoga may well be older, but no one can prove it.

Scholars have learned a lot more about the history of yoga in recent years, but their research can be hard to track down. Although their work is insightful, it is aimed more at specialists than at general readers. Daniel Simpson's The Truth of Yoga draws on many of their findings, presented in a format designed for practitioners. The aim is to highlight ideas on which readers can draw to keep traditions alive in the twenty-first century. It offers an overview of yoga's evolution from its earliest origins to the present. It can either be read chronologically or be used as a reference guide to history and philosophy. Each short section addresses one element, quoting from traditional texts and putting their teachings into context. The intention is to keep things clear without oversimplifying.

Daniel Simpson teaches at the Oxford Centre for Hindu Studies, in teacher trainings around the UK, and at Triyoga in London. He is a graduate of Cambridge University and has a master's degree from SOAS University of London.
Three Poems

Hannah Sullivan

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

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

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

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

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

PRAISE

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

“Intimate, experimental and rich in delicious description . . . She writes freshly about everything.” —Kate Kellaway, The Observer
Survival Is a Style
Poems

Christian Wiman

A striking new collection from the award-winning poet

Survival Is a Style, Christian Wiman’s first collection of new poems in six years, may be his best book yet. His many readers will recognize the musical and formal variety, the voice that can be tender and funny, credibly mystical and savagely skeptical. But there are many new notes in this collection as well, including a moving elegy to the poet’s father, sharp observations and distillations of modern American life, and rangy poems that merge and juxtapose different modes of speech and thought. The cumulative effect is extraordinary. Reading Survival Is a Style, one has the sense one is encountering work that will become a permanent part of American literature.

Christian Wiman is the author of several books, including two memoirs, My Bright Abyss: Meditation of a Modern Believer (FSG, 2013) and He Held Radical Light: The Art of Faith, the Faith of Art (FSG, 2018); Every Riven Thing (FSG, 2010), winner of the Ambassador Book Award in poetry; Once in the West (FSG, 2014), a National Book Critics Circle Award finalist in poetry; and Stolen Air: Selected Poems of Osip Mandelstam. He teaches religion and literature at the Yale Institute of Sacred Music and Yale Divinity School.

PRAISE

Praise for Christian Wiman

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

A bracing renewal of civic poetry from the author of Heaven and The Ground

. . . and we’d do this again
And again and again, without ever
Knowing we were the weapon ourselves,
Stronger than steel, story, and hydrogen.
— from "Even Homer Nods"

A revelation, a shoring up, a transposition: Rowan Ricardo Phillips’s Living Weapon is a love song to the imagination, a new blade of light honed in on our political moment. A winged man plummets from the troposphere; four NYPD officers enter a cellphone store; concrete sidewalks hang overhead. Here, in his third collection of poems, Phillips offers us ruminations on violins and violence, on hatred, on turning forty-three, even on the end of existence itself. Living Weapon reveals to us the limitations of our vocabulary, that our platitudes are not enough for the brutal times in which we find ourselves. But still, our lives go on, and these are poems of survival as much as they are an indictment. Couched in language both wry and ample, Living Weapon is a piercing addition from a “virtuoso poetic voice” (Granta).

Rowan Ricardo Phillips is the author of two books of poems (The Ground, Heaven) and two essay collections (The Circuit, When Blackness Rhymes with Blackness). His many awards include a Whiting Writers’ Award, the PEN/Osterweil Award, the Anisfield-Wolf Book Award, the PEN/ESPN Award for Literary Sports Writing, and the Nicolás Guillén Outstanding Book Award. He lives in New York City and Barcelona.

PRAISE

Praise for Heaven

"[Heaven] is full of grace and beauty . . . No matter where [Phillips] goes, his language is hauntingly astute, and the reality he conjures is multi-layered."
—Elizabeth Lund, The Washington Post
If Men, Then
Poems

Eliza Griswold

A darkly humorous collection of poems by the Pulitzer Prize–winning journalist and author of Wideawake Field and Amity and Prosperity

If Men, Then, Eliza Griswold’s second poetry collection, charts a radical spiritual journey through catastrophe. Griswold’s language is forthright and intimate as she steers between the chaos of a tumultuous inner world and an external landscape littered with SUVs, CBD oil, and go-bags, talismans of our time. Alternately searing and hopeful, funny and fraught, the poems explore the world’s fracturing through the collapse of the ego, embodied in a character named “I”—a soul attempting to wrestle with itself in the face of an unfolding tragedy.

Eliza Griswold is the author of an acclaimed first book of poems, Wideawake Field, as well as The Tenth Parallel: Dispatches from the Fault Line Between Christianity and Islam, which won the 2011 J. Anthony Lukas Book Prize. In 2010 the American Academy in Rome awarded her the Rome Prize for her poems, and in 2015 her collection of Afghan women’s folk poems, I Am the Beggar of the World, was awarded the PEN Award for Poetry in Translation. Currently a Distinguished Writer in Residence at New York University and a contributing writer at The New Yorker, she has published, most recently,Amity and Prosperity: One Family and the Fracturing of America, for which she was awarded the 2019 Pulitzer Prize in General Nonfiction.

PRAISE

"Griswold has taken the Whitmanesque ‘I’—‘I’ as everyone—and made it unmistakably singular . . . Though the sequence nods to the surreal and the psychological—Rimbaud’s ‘Je est un autre’—there are also echoes of John Berryman and Sylvia Plath, poets closer to home whose self-awareness was enacted on the page in the form of characters, mas..."
Pale Colors in a Tall Field
Poems
Carl Phillips

A powerful, inventive collection from one of America's most critically admired poets

Carl Phillips's new poetry collection, Pale Colors in a Tall Field, is a meditation on the intimacies of thought and body as forms of resistance. The poems are both timeless and timely, asking how we can ever truly know ourselves in the face of our own remembering and inevitable forgetting. Here, the poems metaphorically argue that memory is made up of various colors, with those most prominent moments in a life seeming more vivid, though the paler colors are never truly forgotten. The poems in Pale Colors in a Tall Field approach their points of view kaleidoscopically, enacting the self's multiplicity and the difficult shifts required as our lives, in turn, shift. This is one of Phillips's most tender, dynamic, and startling books yet.

Carl Phillips teaches at Washington University in St. Louis. His recent books include Wild Is the Wind and the prose collection The Art of Daring: Risk, Restlessness, Imagination.

PRAISE

Praise for Carl Phillips

"To read Carl Phillips is to have one's vision sharpened, one's ear engaged, in the search for pattern and perception and meaning." —Rachel Richardson, Los Angeles Review of Books

"[Phillips is] one of our major poets, one who continues to find a way to define the ways we experience and imagine our language." —Keith...
A Certain Clarity
Selected Poems

Lawrence Joseph

A selection of poems from the celebrated poet and lawyer

Beginning with his first book, *Shouting at No One*, published in 1983, through to his most recent, *So Where Are We?*, published in 2017, *A Certain Clarity* provides a generous selection of Lawrence Joseph’s poetry “of great dignity, grace, and unrelenting persuasiveness” (John Ashbery), each poem “an inspired, made thing by a poet-advocate who has honed a timely song within an urgent testimony that embraces the complex density of truth” (Yusef Komunyakaa). Joseph’s poems comprise one of the most essential and visionary bodies of work in contemporary American poetry. No other American poet covers the poetic territory Joseph does, as he invents an imaginatively spacious language global in ambition, acutely attentive to power structures that are violent and create violence, bearing witness to the velocities of historical change embodied in endless wars, unleashed finance capital, racism, and ecological destruction. But his poetry also reflects a deep, sensual intimacy, driven by an awareness of a poetic order in which beauty, love, and justice are indistinguishable. Joseph has written an ongoing chronicle of what it means to write poetry in the turbulent times in which we live. His ever-new, always alive interactions of shifting thoughts, voices, and languages—impacted by his Lebanese and Syrian Catholic heritage, his professional life as a lawyer and legal scholar, and the economies of the world of working—...

Lawrence Joseph was born and raised in Detroit, the grandson of Lebanese and Syrian Catholic immigrants. A graduate of the University of Michigan, University of Cambridge, and University of Michigan Law School, he is the author of six books of poetry, most recently *So Where Are We?*, and two books of prose: *Lawyerland*, a nonfiction novel; and *The Game Changed: Essays and Other Prose*. He is the Tinnelly Professor of Law at St. John’s University School of Law, and has taught creative writing at Princeton. He lives in New York City.

PRAISE

Praise for Lawrence Joseph

“Throughout his career (he published his first book in 1983) Joseph has synthesized the unlikeliest lexicons—from legalese and street slang to overheard speech and jargon—and created a taut, sinuous medium capable of handling modern life without sacrificing his ability to sing. His is a poetry of the immediate pr...
Heir to Mallarmé and the symbolists, godfather to the modernists, Paul Valéry was a poet with thousands of readers and few followers, great resonance and little echo. Along with Rilke and Eliot, he stands as a bridge between the tradition of the nineteenth century and the novelty of the twentieth. His reputation as a poet rests on three slim volumes published in a span of only ten years. Yet these poems, it turns out, are inseparable from another, much vaster intellectual and artistic enterprise: the \textit{Notebooks}.

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

\textit{The Idea of Perfection} shows both sides of Valéry: the craftsman of ...
A wrenching debut about the causes and effects of poverty, as seen by a father and son living in a pickup

Evicted from their trailer on New Year’s Eve, Henry and his son, Junior, have been reduced to living out of a pickup truck. Six months later, things are even more desperate. Henry, barely a year out of prison for pushing opioids, is down to his last pocketful of dollars, and little remains between him and the street. But hope is on the horizon: Today is Junior’s birthday, and Henry has a job interview tomorrow.

To celebrate, Henry treats Junior to dinner at McDonald’s, followed by a night in a real bed at a discount motel. For a moment, as Junior watches TV and Henry practices for his interview in the bathtub, all seems well. But after Henry has a disastrous altercation in the parking lot and Junior succumbs to a fever, father and son are sent into the night, struggling to hold things together and make it through tomorrow.

In an ingenious structural approach, Jakob Guanzon organizes Abundance by the amount of cash in Henry’s pocket. A new chapter starts with each debit and credit, and the novel expands and contracts, revealing the extent to which the quality of our attention is altered by the abundance—or lack thereof—that surrounds us. Set in an America of big-box stores and fast food, this incandescent debut novel trawls the fluorescent aisles of Walmart and the booths of Red Lobster to reveal the inequities and anxieties around work, debt, addiction, incarceration, and health care i...

Jakob Guanzon was born in New York and raised in Minnesota. He holds an MFA from Columbia University’s School of the Arts, and lives in New York City. Abundance is his first novel.
Subdivision
A Novel

J. Robert Lennon

A heady, inventive, fantastical novel about the nature of memory and the difficulty of confronting trauma

An unnamed woman checks into a guesthouse in a mysterious district known only as the Subdivision. The guesthouse’s owners, Clara and the Judge, are welcoming and helpful, if oddly preoccupied by the perpetually baffling jigsaw puzzle in the living room. With little more than a hand-drawn map and vague memories of her troubled past, the narrator ventures out in search of a job, an apartment, and a fresh start in life.

Accompanied by an unusually assertive digital assistant named Cylvia, the narrator is drawn deeper into an increasingly strange, surreal, and threatening world, which reveals itself to her through a series of darkly comic encounters reminiscent of Gulliver’s Travels. A lovelorn truck driver . . . a mysterious child . . . a watchful crow. A cryptic birthday party. A baffling physics experiment in a defunct office tower where some calamity once happened. Through it all, the narrator is tempted and manipulated by the bakemono, a shape-shifting demon who poses a distinctly terrifying danger.

Harrowing, meticulous, and deranged, Subdivision is a brilliant maze of a novel from the writer Kelly Link has called “a master of the dark arts.” With the narrative intensity and mordant humor familiar to readers of Broken River, J. Robert Lennon continues his exploration of the mysteries of perception and memory.

J. Robert Lennon is the author of nine novels and three story collections, including Let Me Think. His fiction has appeared in Paris Review, Granta, Harper’s Magazine, and New Yorker.

PRAISE

Praise for Broken River

“A novel that watches as its own plot unfolds, wondering at the way that ‘everything is exquisitely interconnected, malevolent, and dangerous.’”—The Wall Street Journal

“[Broken River] proves, as ever, that the novel can do things nothing but the novel can do.”—Jonathan Lethem, The New York Times
Let Me Think
Stories

A new collection of short fiction by the author of the cult classic
Pieces for the Left Hand

Let Me Think is a meticulous selection of short stories by one of the
preeminent chroniclers of the American absurd. Through J. Robert Lennon’s
mordant yet sympathetic eye, the quotidian realities of marriage, family, and
work are rendered powerfully strange in this rich and innovative collection.

These stories, most no more than a few pages, are at once experimental
and compulsively readable, the work of an expert craftsman who can sketch
whole lives in a mere handful of lines, or reveal, over pages, the boundless
complexity of a passing thought. Here you’ll find a heist gone wrong, a case
of mistaken identity, a hostile encounter with a neighborhood eccentric, a
glass eye, a talking owl, and a six-fingered hand. Whatever the subject,
Lennon disarms the reader with humor before pivoting to pathos, pain, and
disappointment—most notably in an extraordinary sequence of darting,
painfully funny fictions about a disintegrating marriage that captures the
myriad ways intimacy can fail us, and the ways that we can fail it.

Like Lennon’s earlier story collection Pieces for the Left Hand, Let Me Think
holds a mirror up to our long-held grudges and secret desires, our petty
resentments and moments of redeeming grace, and confirms him as a
virtuoso of the form.

J. Robert Lennon is the author of nine novels, including Subdivision, and three
story collections. His fiction has appeared in Paris Review, Granta, Harper’s
Magazine, and New Yorker.

PRAISE

Praise for the stories of J. Robert Lennon:

“Step through a portal into one of Lennon’s tales, and you will find a
suburban dystopia peppered with lyricism and wonder, touched with
moments of transformation and grace.”—The New York Times Book Review

“Beautifully told, engrossing little stories . . . A pleasure on every level.”
—Lydia Davis
Wild Swims
Stories

Dorthe Nors; Translated from the Danish by Misha Hoekstra

A dazzling return to the short story by a finalist for the Man Booker International Prize

In fourteen effervescent stories, Dorthe Nors plumbs the depths of the human heart, from desire to melancholy and everything in between. Just as she did in her English-language debut, Karate Chop, Nors slices straight to the core of the conflict in only a few pages. But Wild Swims expands the borders of her gaze, following people as they travel through Copenhagen, London, Los Angeles, Minneapolis, and elsewhere.

Here are portraits of men and women full of restless longing, people who are often seeking a home but rarely finding it. A lie told during a fraught ferry ride on the North Sea becomes a wound that festers between school friends. A writer at a remote cabin befriends the mother of an ex-lover. Two friends knock doors to solicit fraudulent donations for the cancer society. A woman taken with the idea of wild swims ventures as far as the local swimming pool.

These stories have already been featured in the pages of New Yorker, Harper's Magazine, Tin House, and A Public Space. They sound the darker tones of human nature and yet find the brighter chords of hope and humor as well. Cutting and offbeat without ever losing its warmth, Wild Swims is a master class in concision and restraint, and a path to living life without either. With Wild Swims Nors’s star will continue to be ascendant.

Dorthe Nors is the author of Mirror, Shoulder, Signal, a finalist for the Man Booker International Prize; So Much for That Winter; Karate Chop, the winner of the Per Olov Enquist Literary Prize; and four other novels. She lives in Denmark.

Misha Hoekstra is an award-winning translator whose recent work includes the translation of Mirror, Shoulder, Signal by Dorthe Nors. He lives in Aarhus, where he writes and performs songs under the name Misha Hoist.

PRAISE

Praise for Mirror, Shoulder, Signal

“... in flowing and absorbing prose, Nors illustrates how . . . to overcome immense loneliness and make a connection.”—The New Yorker

“Nors gives the invisible woman the dignity of her artful gaze . . . This triumphant novel sounds the depths of women’s unseen strength.”—The
frank: sonnets

Diane Seuss

A resplendent life in sonnets from the author of Four-Legged Girl, a finalist for the Pulitzer Prize

“The sonnet, like poverty, teaches you what you can do / without,” Diane Seuss writes in this brilliant, candid work, her most personal collection to date. These poems tell the story of a life at risk of spilling over the edge of the page, from Seuss’s working-class childhood in rural Michigan to the dangerous allures of New York City and back again. With sheer virtuosity, Seuss moves nimbly across thought and time, poetry and punk, AIDS and addiction, Christ and motherhood, showing us what we can do, what we can do without, and what we offer to one another when we have nothing left to spare. Like a series of cels on a filmstrip, frank: sonnets captures the magnitude of a life lived honestly, a restless search for some kind of “beauty or relief.” Seuss is at the height of her powers, devastatingly astute, austere, and—in a word—frank.

Diane Seuss is the author of four poetry collections, including Still Life with Two Dead Peacocks and a Girl, a finalist for the National Book Critics Circle Award and the Los Angeles Times Book Prize. She lives in Michigan.

PRAISE

Praise for Still Life with Two Dead Peacocks and a Girl

"By the end of the book, everything is larger and more vibrant—the paintings, the speaker’s life, the reader and the world."—Los Angeles Times

"Death, class, gender and art are among the entwined preoccupations in this marvelous, complex, attractive, frightening book."—The New York ...
An engrossing, incantatory novel about the legacy of historical crimes by the author of Space Invaders

It is 1984 in Chile, in the middle of the Pinochet dictatorship. A member of the secret police walks into the office of a dissident magazine and finds a reporter, who records his testimony. The narrator of Nona Fernández’s mesmerizing and terrifying novel The Twilight Zone is a child when she first sees this man’s face on the magazine’s cover with the words “I Tortured People.” His complicity in the worst crimes of the regime and his commitment to speaking about them haunt the narrator into her adulthood and career as a writer and documentarian. Like a secret service agent from the future, through extraordinary feats of the imagination, Fernández follows the “man who tortured people” to places that archives can’t reach, into the sinister twilight zone of history where morning routines, a game of chess, Yuri Gagarin, and the eponymous TV show of the novel’s title coexist with the brutal yet commonplace machinations of the regime.

How do crimes vanish in plain sight? How does one resist a repressive regime? And who gets to shape the truths we live by and take for granted? The Twilight Zone pulls us into the dark portals of the past, reminding us that the work of the writer in the face of historical erasure is to imagine so deeply that these absences can be, for a time, spectacularly illuminated.

Nona Fernández was born in Santiago, Chile. She is an actress and writer, and has published two plays, a collection of short stories, and six novels, including Space Invaders and The Twilight Zone, which was awarded the Sor Juana Inés de la Cruz Prize.

Natasha Wimmer is the translator of Space Invaders by Nona Fernández, as well as nine books by Roberto Bolaño, including The Savage Detectives and 2666. Her most recent translation is The Dinner Guest by Gabriela Ybarra.

PRAISE

Praise for Space Invaders

“[The narrators’] valiant, doomed efforts to make sense of the political violence they witnessed in childhood are moving and haunting and will linger long after the book is done.”—NPR
God of Nothingness
Poems

Mark Wunderlich

A magnificent book of hope and resolve written out of profound losses, by award-winning poet Mark Wunderlich

God of Nothingness is a book for those who have seen death up close or even quietly wished for it. In these poems, honed to a devastating edge, Mark Wunderlich asks: How is it we go on as those around us die? And why go on at all? This collection is a brilliant testament to the human ability to make something tough-minded and resilient out of despair and the inevitability of death drawing near. Some poems are moving elegies addressed to mentors, friends, and family recently gone; some contend with the unasked-for responsibilities of inheritance and the family name; others call forth the understanding of being the end of a genetic line; still others remember a rural midwestern coming-of-age and, chillingly, an encounter with the serial killer Jeffrey Dahmer. Present all the while are the prevailing comforts and wonders found in the natural world, work, and the longing for traditions that seem to be passing from our time. Exquisite in its craft and capaciousness, God of Nothingness is an unflinching journal of solitude and survival.

Mark Wunderlich is the author of The Earth Avails, winner of the Rilke Prize; Voluntary Servitude; and The Anchorage, winner of the Lambda Literary Award. He teaches at Bennington College and lives in the Hudson Valley in New York.

PRAISE

Praise for The Earth Avails

"Wunderlich has imagined a way to make the unmistakable ambition of his writing align with his wish for a more humble image of human life.”—Slate

"Immediate and urgent . . . The Earth Avails is a refreshing read. It is a book to carry with you.”—Orion Magazine
The Wild Fox of Yemen
Poems

Threa Almontaser

Winner of the Walt Whitman Award of the Academy of American Poets, selected by Harryette Mullen

By turns aggressively reckless and fiercely protective, always guided by faith and ancestry, Threa Almontaser’s incendiary debut asks how mistranslation can be a form of self-knowledge and survival. A love letter to the country and people of Yemen, a portrait of young Muslim womanhood in New York after 9/11, and an extraordinarily composed examination of what it means to carry in the body the echoes of what came before, Almontaser’s polyvocal collection sneaks artifacts to and from worlds, repurposing language and adapting to the space between cultures. Half-crunk and hungry, speakers move with the force of what cannot be contained by the limits of the American imagination, and instead invest in troublemaking and trickery, navigate imperial violence across multiple accents and anthems, and apply gang signs in henna, utilizing any means necessary to form a semblance of home. In doing so, The Wild Fox of Yemen fearlessly rides the tension between carnality and tenderness in the unruly human spirit.

Threa Almontaser is a Yemeni American author from New York City. Her work can be found in the Adroit Journal, Passages North, Diode Poetry Journal, The Rumpus, wildness, and elsewhere. She lives in Raleigh, North Carolina.

PRAISE

“Formally and linguistically diverse, these bold, defiant declarations of ‘reckless’ embodiment acknowledge the self’s nesting identities, proclaiming the individual’s intricate relations to others . . . They ask how to belong to others without losing oneself, how to be faithful to oneself without forsaking others.”—Harryette Mullen
American Harvest
God, Country, and Farming in the Heartland

Marie Mutsuki Mockett

An epic story of the American wheat harvest, the politics of food, and the culture of the Great Plains

For over one hundred years, the Mockett family has owned a seven-thousand-acre wheat farm in the panhandle of Nebraska, where Marie Mutsuki Mockett’s father was raised. Mockett, who grew up in bohemian Carmel, California, with her father and her Japanese mother, knew little about farming when she inherited this land. Her father had all but forsworn it.

In American Harvest, Mockett accompanies a group of evangelical Christian wheat harvesters through the heartland at the invitation of Eric Wolgemuth, the conservative farmer who has cut her family’s fields for decades. As Mockett follows Wolgemuth’s crew on the trail of ripening wheat from Texas to Idaho, they contemplate what Wolgemuth refers to as “the divide,” inadvertently peeling back layers of the American story to expose its contradictions and unhealed wounds. She joins the crew in the fields, attends church, and struggles to adapt to the rhythms of rural life, all the while continually reminded of her own status as a person who signals “not white,” but who people she encounters can’t quite categorize.

American Harvest is an extraordinary evocation of the land and a thoughtful exploration of ingrained beliefs, from evangelical skepticism of evolution to cosmopolitan assumptions about food production and farming. With exquisite lyricism and humanity, this astonishing book attempts to reconcile competing versions of our national story.

Marie Mutsuki Mockett is the author of a novel, Picking Bones from Ash, and a memoir, Where the Dead Pause, and the Japanese Say Goodbye, which was a finalist for the PEN Open Book Award. She lives in San Francisco, California.

PRAISE

Praise for Where the Dead Pause, and the Japanese Say Goodbye

“[Mockett] has the ability, fully available only to those on the margins, ‘to see through more than one set of eyes.’” —The New York Times Book Review

“Part memoir, part travelogue and part investigation . . . Fascinating, wide-reaching.” —San Francisco Chronicle
Cyclopedia Exotica
Aminder Dhaliwal

A comic about dating, the art world, and being a cyclops, from the creator of the wildly popular Woman World

Following the critical and popular success of Woman World—the hit Instagram comic which appeared on 25 best of lists—Aminder Dhaliwal returns with Cyclopedia Exotica. Also serialized on Instagram to her 250,000 followers, this graphic novel showcases Dhaliwal’s quick wit and astute socio-cultural criticism.

In Cyclopedia Exotica, doctor’s office waiting rooms, commercials, dog parks, and dating app screenshots capture the experiences and interior lives of the cyclops community; a largely immigrant population displaying physical differences from the majority. Whether they’re artists, parents, or yoga students, the cyclops have it tough: they face microaggressions and overt xenophobia on a daily basis. However, they are bent on finding love, cultivating community, and navigating life alongside the two-eyed majority with patience and the occasional bout of rage.

Through this parallel universe, Dhaliwal comments on race, difference, beauty, and belonging, touching on all of these issues with her distinctive deadpan humour steeped in millennial references. Cyclopedia Exotica is a triumph of hilarious candor.

Aminder Dhaliwal grew up in Brampton, Ontario and received a Bachelors of Animation from Sheridan College. She has worked as Director at Disney TV Animation, Storyboard Director at Cartoon Network, and Storyboard Director on the Nickelodeon show Sanjay and Craig. Her first book with D+Q, Woman World, was serialized on Instagram beginning in March 2017 and garnered over 250,000 followers. Woman World appeared on 25 best of the year lists, was nominated for the Eisner, Ignatz, Harvey, Ringo, and Doug Wright Award, and was named a YALSA Great Graphic Novel for Teens. It has been optioned for television by Felicia Day. Dhaliwal lives in Los Angeles.

PRAISE

"Hilarious, silly, and surprisingly deep all at the same time."-Wired

"Quietly hysterical...Dhaliwal manages to both critique society and deliver a lot of laughs."-Boston Globe

"Sly and quietly devastating."-NPR

"One of the most remarkable, funny, compassionate, acerbic, hilarious comics."-Boing Boing
Billionaires

Darryl Cunningham

An informative and funny deconstruction of how the giants of American capitalism shape our world

In Billionaires, Darryl Cunningham offers an illuminating analysis of the origins and ideological evolutions of four key players in the American private sector—Amazon founder and CEO Jeff Bezos, media mogul Rupert Murdoch, and oil and gas tycoons Charles and David Koch. What emerges is a vital critique of American capitalism and the power these individuals have to assert a corrupting influence on policy-making, political campaigns, and society writ large.

Cunningham focuses on a central question: Can the world afford to have a tiny global elite squander resources and hold unprecedented political influence over the rest of us? The answer is detailed through hearty research, common sense reasoning, and astute comedic timing. Billionaires reveals how the fetishized free market operates in direct opposition with the health of our planet and needs of the most vulnerable -- how Murdoch’s media mergers facilitated his war-mongering, how Amazon’s litigiousness and predatory acquisitions made them “The Everything Store,” and how the Kochs’ father’s refineries literally fueled Nazi Germany.

In criticizing the uncontrolled reach of power by Rupert Murdoch (in fueling the far right), the Koch Brothers (in advocating for climate change denial), and Jeff Bezos (in creating unsafe working conditions), Cunningham speaks truth to power. Billionaires ends by suggesting alternatives for a safer and more just society.

Darryl Cunningham is the cartoonist of five non-fiction books, including Supercrash: How to Hijack the Global Economy, and Billionaires. His comics explore subjects as diverse as mental health, science, economics, and politics. Cunningham has given talks at the London School of Economics and the City of Arts and Lights, Valencia. In 2015 he was one of 30 world-renowned photographers, painters, sculptors, writers, filmmakers and musicians who were invited to contribute to the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation’s Art of Saving a Life project, to promote vaccination in the developing world. In 2018 he was awarded an Honorary Degree of Master of Arts from Leeds Arts University. Cunningham lives in the United Kingdom.

PRAISE

“It can take other authors whole books to say what Darryl can say in a single illustration.”—Jon Ronson, The Psychopath Test

“Tremendously well researched... I’m always in awe of the amount of information that Darryl manages to pack in to every one of his comic books.”—Robin Ince, BBC’s The Infinite Monkey Cage
Heaven No Hell

Michael DeForge

"One of the most inventive and prolific cartoonists working today."—Vulture

In the past ten years, Michael DeForge has released eleven books. While his style and approach have evolved, he has never wavered from taut character studies and incisive social commentary with a focus on humor. He has deeply probed subjects like identity, gentrification, fame, and sexual desire.

In “No Hell,” an angel’s tour of the five tiers of heaven reveals her obsession with a haunting infidelity. In “Raising,” a couple uses an app to see what their unborn child would look like. Of course, what begins as a simple face-melding experiment becomes a nightmare of too-much-information where the young couple is forced to confront their terrible choices.

“Recommended for You” is an anxious retelling of our narrator’s favorite TV show—a Purge-like societal collapse drama—as a reflection of our desire for meaning in pop culture. Each of these stories shows the inner turmoil of an ordinary person coming to grips with a world vastly different than their initial perception of it. The humor is searing and the emotional weight lingers long after the story ends.

Heaven No Hell collects DeForge’s best work yet. His ability to dig into a subject and break it down with beautiful drawings and sharp writing makes him one of the finest short story writers of the past decade, in comics or beyond. Heaven No Hell is always funny, sometimes sad, and continuously innovative in its deconstruction of society.

Michael DeForge is a cartoonist, illustrator, and community organizer in Toronto, Ontario.

PRAISE

“One of the comic-book industry's most exciting, unpredictable talents.”—NPR

“Another DeForge classic—tender, depressing, and overflowing with his mind-melting, uber-satisfying surrealists style.”—Interview Magazine
Shigeru Mizuki—Japan’s grand master of yokai comics—adapts one of the most important works of supernatural literature into comic book form. The cultural equivalent of the fairy tales of the Brothers Grimm, *Tono Monogatari* is a defining text of Japanese folklore and one of the country’s most important works of literature. This graphic novel was created during the later stage of Mizuki’s career, after he had retired from the daily grind of commercial comics to create personal, lasting works of art.

Originally written in 1910 by folklorists and field researchers Kunio Yanagita and Kizen Sasaki, *Tono Monogatari* celebrates and archives legends from the Tono region. These stories were recorded as Japan’s rapid modernization led to the disappearance of traditional culture. This adaptation mingles the original text with autobiography: Mizuki attempts to retrace Yanagita and Sasaki’s path, but finds his old body is not quite up to the challenge of following in their footsteps. As Mizuki wanders through Tono he retells some of the most famous legends, manifesting a host of monsters, dragons, and foxes. In the finale, Mizuki meets Yanagita himself and they sit down to discuss their works.

Translated and with additional essays by Mizuki scholar Zack Davisson, *Tono Monogatari* displays Mizuki at his finest, exploring the world he most cherished.

**Shigeru Mizuki** (1922-2015) was one of Japan’s most respected artists and a forefather of manga. He invented the yokai genre with *GeGeGe no Kitaro* and founded the gekiga—dramatic manga—movement with autobiographical wartime accounts such as *Onward Towards Our Noble Deaths*. He received the Kodansha Manga Award, the Eisner Award, and the Angouleme Award, as well as the Shiju Hosho Medal of Honor and the Order of the Rising Sun.

Shigeru Mizuki was a specialist in stories of yokai. As a member of the Japanese Society of Cultural Anthropology, he traveled to sixty countries around the world to engage in fieldwork on the spirits of different cultures. He has been published in Japan, South Korea, France, Spain, Taiwan, and Italy.

**PRAISE**

“Shigeru Mizuki resurrected Japan’s folk creatures as pop culture for the masses.”—Matt Alt, *The New Yorker*

“Shigeru Mizuki’s excellent little spooky comics [are] humorous, satirical and folkloric, populated with countless Japanese ghosts and fairies.”—Satoshi
Red Flowers

Yoshiharu Tsuge

The influential cartoonist hits his stride as he celebrates the charms and oddities of rural postwar culture

Yoshiharu Tsuge leaves early genre trappings behind, taking a light, humorous approach in these stories based on his own travels. *Red Flowers* ranges from deep character studies to personal reflections to ensemble comedies set in the hotels and bathhouses of rural Japan. There are irascible old men, drunken gangsters, reflective psychiatric-hospital escapees, and mysterious dogs. Tsuge’s stories are mischievous and tender even as they explore complex relationships and heartache. It’s a world of extreme poverty, tradition, secret fishing holes, and top-dollar koi farming.

The title story highlights the nuance and empathy that made Tsuge’s work stand out from that of his peers. A nameless traveler comes across a young girl running an inn. While showing the traveler where the best fishing hole is, a bratty schoolmate reveals the girl must run the business because her alcoholic father is incapable. At the story’s end, the traveler witnesses an unusual act of kindness from the boy as the girl suffers her first menstrual cramps — and a simple travelogue takes on unexpected depth.

*Red Flowers* affirms why Tsuge went on to become one of the most important cartoonists in Japan. These vital comics inspired a wealth of fictionalized memoir from his peers and a desire within the postwar generation to document and understand the diversity of their country’s culture.

**Yoshiharu Tsuge** was born in Tokyo in 1937. Influenced by the realistic and gritty rental manga of Yoshihiro Tatsumi, he began making his own comics. He was also briefly recruited to assist Shigeru Mizuki in the 1960s. In 1968, working for *Garo* magazine, Tsuge published the groundbreaking story “Neji-shiki” (commonly called “Screw Style” by Western readers), which established Tsuge as an influential manga-ka and a cultural touchstone in the changing Japanese art world. He is considered the originator and greatest practitioner of the “I-novel” method of comics-making. In 2005, Tsuge was nominated for the Best Album Award at Angoulême International and in 2017 won the Japan Cartoonists Association Grand Award.

**PRAISE**

“Fascinating… one of Japan’s most celebrated and reclusive artists.”—*The Guardian*

“A revered creator of gegika manga [who works] in a style both spare and lush.”—*New York Times Book Review*

“Exemplary... an elucidating glimpse into modern manga’s origins.”
King-Cat Classix

John Porcellino

King-Cat Classix collects material from the first fifty issues of John Porcellino's King-Cat Comics as they appeared in self-published, handmade zines throughout the 1990s. These strips span Porcellino's dynamic evolution from saturated, punk drawings to his characteristic refined minimalism, revealing his work as nothing short of a catalyst that has inspired artists like Chris Ware in the emerging literary comics scene. In the inky drawings featuring beloved pets, awkward teenage one-night-stands, and everyday blunders, we see a nascent style steeped in truth and transparency—one that continues to ring true today.

Porcellino's mind is spread out on the page, with an uninhibited id running wildly about dreams and sexual fantasies, not unlike the gritty, stabbing pen strokes of Julie Doucet. He sketches fragmented moments and glimpses of interaction that seem to reflect the very manner in which we process memory: we are made up of a stream of consciousness, captured in fleeting mental images, and Porcellino externalizes that messy internal reality. Follow along the path of Porcellino's dynamic evolution and relish in the inspirational power of this groundbreaking collection.

John Porcellino was born in Chicago in 1968, and has been writing, drawing, and publishing minicomics, comics, and graphic novels for over thirty years. His celebrated self-published series King-Cat Comics, begun in 1989, has inspired a generation of cartoonists. According to artist Chris Ware, "John Porcellino's comics distill, in just a few lines and words, the feeling of simply being alive."

PRAISE

"Unvarnished. Punk."—The New York Times

"Porcellino is a master at miniature poignance."—Entertainment Weekly

"Porcellino's short stories and observations about his life and the nature around him are simple and spare, but manage to capture his awe at the world."—The Globe & Mail

"The best way to treat this book is like a collection of poems,...
A melancholic memoir of saying goodbye to the familiar

Brimming with empathy and a charming, self-aware wit, *Perfect Example* is King-Cat zinester John Porcellino’s coming-of-age memoir about the momentous, but seemingly never-ending year between the end of high school and the start of university. His year spans awkward house parties, first kisses, guitar practice, and the cultivation of new friendships. Yet, even though he has a new girlfriend, and goes on spontaneous road trips to sneak in to 21+ concerts, Porcellino is plagued by incessant sadness, seeking him to contemplate suicide. As he traverses the 1980s Chicago suburbs on his skateboard, Porcellino seeks to engage with society all the while struggling to keep his own sadness at bay. When he fails to remedy his depression, he turns inward, offering illuminating graphic depictions of psychological distress.

Porcellino’s minimalism proves uniquely evocative in this novel, revealing the universality of his narrative. His auto-biographical renderings frame difficult experiences within the context of empathetic reflection, offering up a new way for us to read our own pasts, and be kind to our younger selves. In his transparency and attention to the minute details of human interaction, Porcellino’s inventive storytelling is as affecting now as it was upon its original distribution in mini comics.

John Porcellino was born in Chicago in 1968, and has been writing, drawing, and publishing minicomics, comics, and graphic novels for over thirty years. His celebrated self-published series *King-Cat Comics*, begun in 1989, has inspired a generation of cartoonists. According to artist Chris Ware, "John Porcellino's comics distill, in just a few lines and words, the feeling of simply being alive."

**PRAISE**

Praise for *Perfect Example*:

"John Porcellino creates some of the most thoughtful, intelligent, sympathetic and, yes, beautiful comix in America."—*Time.com*

"John Porcellino's comics distill, in just a few lines and words, the feeling of simply being alive."—*Chris Ware*

"What I immediately liked about *Perfect Example* was the spareness of the wa..."
Map of My Heart

John Porcellino

Never before have so few lines conveyed such a wealth of meaning as in John Porcellino’s quietly riveting book about memory, relationships, and selfhood. During a period of isolation following a divorce, Porcellino penned Map of My Heart, endowing it with the sensitivity and emotional depth so characteristic to his minimalist style. His tender drawings and spacious panels shape an autobiographical testimony where no moment is too small or insignificant for posterity. Pensive walks in the forest, encounters with rogue woodland creatures, school yard fights, zen meditations, long lost crushes, and childhood exploits are the heart of this therapeutic account of the ever-fleeting present.

John Porcellino was born in Chicago in 1968, and has been writing, drawing, and publishing minicomics, comics, and graphic novels for over thirty years. His celebrated self-published series King-Cat Comics, begun in 1989, has inspired a generation of cartoonists. According to artist Chris Ware, “John Porcellino's comics distill, in just a few lines and words, the feeling of simply being alive.”

PRAISE

“It’s the most personal experience anywhere in comics today.”—Newsarama

“Porcellino’s visual style is here, as always, simplified to the essential gesture: iconographic but infused with the authentic feeling of a note written in love or friendship.”—Salon

“These are still stories drawn in simple, clean lines that sketch out Porcellino’s eve...
Vibrate Higher
A Rap Story
Talib Kweli

From one of the most lyrically gifted, socially conscious rappers of the past twenty years, Vibrate Higher is a firsthand account of hip-hop as a political force

Before Talib Kweli became a world-renowned hip hop artist, he was a Brooklyn kid who liked to cut class, spit rhymes, and wander the streets of Greenwich Village with a motley crew of artists, rappers, and DJs who found hip hop more inspiring than their textbooks (much to the chagrin of the educator parents who had given their son an Afrocentric name in hope of securing for him a more traditional sense of pride and purpose). Kweli’s was the first generation to grow up with hip hop as established culture—a genre of music that has expanded to include its own pantheon of heroes, rich history and politics, and distinct worldview.

Eventually, childhood friendships turned into collaborations and Kweli gained notoriety as a rapper in his own right. From collaborating with some of hip hop’s greatest—including Mos Def, Common, Kanye West, Pharrell Williams, and Kendrick Lamar—to selling books out of the oldest African-American bookstore in Brooklyn, and ultimately leaving his record label and taking control of his own recording career, Kweli tells the winding, always compelling story of the people and events that shaped his own life as well as the culture of hip hop which informs American culture at large.

Vibrate Higher illuminates Talib Kweli’s upbringing and artistic success, but so too does it give life to hip hop as a political force—one that galvanized the Movement for Black Lives, and serves a continual ch...

Talib Kweli is one of the world’s most talented and accomplished hip-hop artists. Whether working with Mos Def as one half of Black Star, partnering with the producer Hi-Tek for Reflection Eternal, releasing landmark solo material, or collaborating with Kanye West, Pharrell Williams, Just Blaze, J Dilla, or Madlib, Kweli commands attention by delivering top-tier lyricism, crafting captivating stories, and showing the ability to rhyme over virtually any type of instrumental. In 2011, Kweli founded Javotti Media, “a platform for independent thinkers and doers.” Kweli hopes to make Javotti Media into a media powerhouse that releases music, films, and books.

PRAISE

“If skills sold, truth be told / Lyrically, I’d probably be Talib Kweli.” —Jay Z
The Book of Darryl

The Goggles

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

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

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

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