Sooner

The Making of a Football Coach—Lincoln Riley's Rise from West Texas to the University of Oklahoma

Brandon Sneed

The remarkable rise of Lincoln Riley, the young head football coach at the University of Oklahoma, whose story shows how true leadership works and how it translates into sustainable success.

What makes a great football coach? And can one spot those qualities early on?

When the University of Oklahoma named Lincoln Riley its head football coach in 2017, he was a surprising successor to Bob Stoops, Barry Switzer, and Bud Wilkinson, the three coaches who were winners of seven national championships and thirty-six conference championships. Riley was only thirty-three years old, the youngest head coach in the entire top tier of college football, and he had just been entrusted with one of the sport’s crown jewels. Would he be up to the task, or would he crash and burn?

In Sooner, Brandon Sneed traces Lincoln Riley’s meteoric rise to the top ranks of football coaches, a tale of commitment, grit, long odds, relationships, growth, pain, brains, and passion. Riley’s coaching odyssey began when a shoulder injury dashed his dreams of playing college and pro football, but he was spotted by a coach who saw brilliance in him. At the age of nineteen he began his journey, working his way from personal assistant to positions coach to offensive coordinator, and ultimately to head coach of one of the biggest programs in college football.

Along the way Riley has proved himself a brilliant innovator in offensive strategy. He has also shown outstanding people skills and a knack for spotting and developing talent. In his first three seasons as head coach, his teams reached the national semifinals and two of his quarterbacks not only won the...

Brandon Sneed is the author of Head in the Game: The Mental Engineering of the World’s Greatest Athletes. He has written for Bleacher Report, ESPN, the New York Times, Rolling Stone, and Outside, among other publications. His work has been recognized multiple times in Best American Sports Writing, and he was a finalist for the Livingston Award. He lives in Greenville, North Carolina.
Before the Ruins

A Novel

Victoria Gosling

A multilayered literary debut in the tradition of Paula Hawkins and Tana French about four friends, an abandoned manor, and one fateful night that will follow them for the rest of their lives

That summer, there were four of them, all on the cusp of adulthood: Andy, her boyfriend Marcus, her best friend Peter, and Em, whiling away the hours in a deserted manor house with a rich, sordid history. Sorely without the ambition and opportunities that her friends have always counted on, Andy finds herself terrified of a future that will take them all down very different paths. Her newfound fears make her reckless, resulting in increasingly destructive behavior. Then David shows up. Magnetic, worldly, and on the run from the police, David presents an irresistible lure for both Andy and Peter, pitting the two lifelong friends against each other for the first time. When the group learns that a diamond necklace, stolen fifty years ago, might still be somewhere on the manor grounds, the Game—half treasure hunt, half friendly deception—begins. But the Game becomes much bigger than the necklace, growing to encompass years of secrets, lies, and, ultimately, one terrible betrayal.

Decades later, Andy and Peter struggle to maintain their friendship, meeting only to drink to the past and trying not to talk about what happened at the manor. But when Peter goes missing, Andy is thrust back to that summer—with all of its frantic energy, yearning, and loss—and the mysteries that still haven’t been solved.

Victoria Gosling grew up in Wiltshire, England and studied English Literature at Manchester University. She is the founder of The Reader Berlin, hosting salon nights in Berlin and writers’ retreats in Greece and Italy. She also organizes The Berlin Writing Prize.
Evan Meets World

Gnarly Encounters in the Animal Kingdom

Dr. Evan Antin

From Evan Antin, America’s most popular veterinarian, comes a wild look at our natural world. Perfect for fans of Steve Irwin, James Herriot and Bear Grylls.

Star of Animal Planet’s Evan Goes Wild and People magazine’s “Pet Vet” Dr. Evan Antin takes readers beyond his viral Instagram posts right into the wild world with him.

_Evan Meets World_ is an up close and personal look at planet earth, in all its wild glory. But beyond the laugh-out-loud stories and dangerous encounters with some of our planet’s most exotic creatures, it is a clarion call to protect our delicate environment.

Millions follow Dr. Evan Antin and his wildlife adventures through social media, and on his popular Animal Planet television show Evan Goes Wild. Now in his first book, _Evan Meets World_, Evan takes us from the depths of the ocean swimming with sharks, to jungles filled with venomous snakes, and rivers full of crocodiles all in the name of adventure and a deep love for the wild around us. Part memoir, travelogue, and conservation guide book, _Evan Meets World_ is an unforgettable exploration of the world we all call home, and a love letter to the creatures we share it with.

**Dr. Evan Antin** is the host of Animal Planet's _Evan Goes Wild_. He is a world renowned animal expert and exotic animal veterinarian at Conejo Valley Veterinary Hospital.
Stories from Suffragette City

Stories of a Fine and Proper Nuisance

M.J. Rose and Fiona Davis

A collection of short stories from a chorus of bestselling writers all set on the same day, October 23, 1915, in which over a million women marched for the right to vote in New York City with an ...

Suffragette City is a collection of short stories from the leading voices in historical fiction that all take place on a single day. The day one million women marched for the right to vote in New York City in 1915. A day filled with a million different stories, and a million different voices longing to be heard. Taken together, these stories from writers at the top of their bestselling game become a chorus, stitching together a portrait of a country looking for a fight, and echo into a resounding force strong enough to break even the most stubborn of glass ceilings.

With stories from:
Paula McClain
Lisa Wingate
Steve Berry
Chris Bohjalian
Jamie Ford
Christina Baker Kline
Katherine Chen and many more
A Cat's Tale

A Journey Through Feline History

Paul Koudounaris

The first ever illustrated history of the world’s most noble species from prehistoric times to present day—as told by the cats who lived it

A Cat’s Tale will be the first true history of feline kind: our origins; our exploits; the evolution of our relationship with our human companions; and the surprising ways in which our history parallels that of humanity. Heretofore, our ambassadors to the human world have been fictitious, lumbering louts like Garfield—or real-life cats simply esteemed for being cute, such as Lil Bub. I’m here to tell you real cats do not hate Nermal or Mondays—we don’t use a weekly calendar at all. And real cats don’t pose for selfies.

With A Cat’s Tale, I am here to correct the record and expose the reality of feline greatness. Our story spans tens of thousands of miles and many thousands of years. It is a story that humanity has so far stubbornly refused to learn, ignored in favor of a fantasy history beginning with a lie: the absurd notion that you domesticated us. Really? If that’s what you believe, go find a bobcat and try.

From the prehistoric Felis (a large mammal from which all domestic cats have descended) to ancient Egyptian cat goddess, key cats of the Enlightenment to swashbuckling pirate felines and infamous American tabbies, the story of our kind is told here in its totality. And perhaps, dear reader, you will rightfully come to this book for the cats—but, I promise, you will walk away with a fun and interesting history lesson to boot.

Dr. Paul Koudounaris has a PhD in art history from UCLA and an international speaking career, and he is one of the world’s most popular historians of the eccentric, ephemeral, and macabre. A beloved fixture in the cat appreciation community, he is annually a speaker at the world’s largest cat convention, CatCon, with more than 20,000 attendees. Vice, LA Weekly, Brooklyn Paper, and the Las Vegas Review-Journal have all covered Dr. Koudounaris’s cat-related scholarship and photography.
Welcome to the New World

Jake Halpern and Michael Sloan

Now in a full-length book, the New York Times Pulitzer Prize–winning graphic story of a refugee family who fled the civil war in Syria to make a new life in America

After escaping a Syrian prison, Ibrahim Aldabaan and his family fled the country to seek protection in America. Among the few refugees to receive visas, they finally landed in JFK airport on November 8, 2016, Election Day. The family had reached a safe harbor, but woke up to the world of Donald Trump and a Muslim ban that would sever them from the grandmother, brothers, sisters, and cousins stranded in exile in Jordan.

Welcome to the New World tells the Aldabaans’ story. Resettled in Connecticut with little English, few friends, and even less money, the family of seven strive to create something like home. As a blur of language classes, job-training programs, and the fearsome first days of high school (with hijab) give way to normalcy, the Aldabaans are lulled into a sense of security. A white van cruising slowly past the house prompts some unease, which erupts into full terror when the family receives a death threat and is forced to flee and start all over yet again. The America in which the Aldabaans must make their way is by turns kind and ignorant, generous and cruel, uplifting and heartbreaking.

Delivered with warmth and intimacy, Welcome to the New World is a wholly original view of the immigrant experience, revealing not only the trials and successes of one family but showing the spirit of a town and a country, for good and bad.

PRAISE

“By breaking new narrative ground, Welcome to the New World made two refugee families real to hundreds of thousands of people who might never meet a Syrian. That is a big achievement.”
—Anne Fadiman, author of The Spirit Catches You and You Fall Down

“Deeply human, harrowing, and ultimately uplifting, the storytelling is extraordinary in its ability to distill big issues and powerful emotions into just a few panels and a handful of words.”
—David Lindsay-Abaire, playwright, Rabbit Hole and Good People

Jake Halpern is the author of Bad Paper, an Amazon Best Book of 2014, and Nightfall, one of a number of young adult novels. His journalism has appeared in the New Yorker, the New York Times, the Wall Street Journal, and the Atlantic, among many other publications. He is also a contributor to NPR’s All Things Considered and This American Life and teaches journalism at Yale University in New Haven, where he lives.

Michael Sloan is a printmaker and illustrator whose work appears regularly in the New...
A Peculiar Indifference
Race, Violence, and Social Justice

Elliott Currie

From a Pulitzer Prize finalist, a devastating exploration of the racial disparities in violent death and injury in America and a blueprint for ending this fundamental social injustice

In the United States today, a young black man has a sixteen times greater chance of dying from violence than his white counterpart. Violence takes more years of life from black men than cancer, stroke, and diabetes combined. Even black women are more affected by violence than white men, despite its usual gender patterns. These disparities translate into starkly divergent experiences of life and death for whites and blacks in the United States. Yet aside from occasional flare-ups of violence that periodically hit the headlines, the problem has largely receded into the background of public discussion and has nearly disappeared as a target of public policy.

The country has been understandably outraged by the recent spate of police shootings of black Americans. But as acclaimed criminologist Elliott Currie points out, the far more widespread problem of “everyday” violent death and injury in black communities has received much less sustained attention or concern. Yet both kinds of violence reflect the same underlying condition: the continuing marginality and structural disadvantage of many black communities in America today. Our unwillingness to confront those conditions helps to perpetuate a level of preventable trauma and needless suffering that has no counterpart anywhere in the developed world.

The country has been understandably outraged by the recent spate of police shootings of black Americans. But as acclaimed criminologist ...
A Demon-Haunted Land

Witches, Wonder Doctors, and the Ghosts of the Past in Post–WWII Germany

Monica Black

A revelatory counterhistory of postwar Germany, not as a reborn democracy but as a nation convulsed by apocalyptic visions, witchcraft trials, and supernatural obsessions

In the aftermath of World War II, a succession of mass supernatural events swept through a war-torn Germany. As millions were afflicted by a host of seemingly incurable maladies (including blindness and paralysis), waves of apocalyptic rumors crashed over the land. A messianic faith healer rose to extraordinary fame, prayer groups performed exorcisms, and enormous crowds traveled to witness apparitions of the Virgin Mary. Most strikingly, scores of people accused their neighbors of witchcraft and found themselves in turn hauled into court on charges of defamation, assault, and even murder. What linked these events, in the wake of an annihilationist war and the Holocaust, was a widespread preoccupation with evil.

While many histories emphasize Germany’s rapid transition from genocidal dictatorship to liberal democracy, A Demon-Haunted Land places in full view the toxic mistrust, profound bitterness, and spiritual malaise that unfolded alongside the economic miracle. Drawing from a set of previously unpublished archival materials, acclaimed historian Monica Black argues that the surge of supernatural obsessions stemmed from the unspoken guilt and shame of a nation remarkably silent about what was euphemistically called “the most recent past.” This shadow history irrevocably changes our view of postwar Germany, revealing the country’s fraught emotional life, deep moral disquiet, and the cost of trying to bury a horrific legacy.

Monica Black is a professor of history at the University of Tennessee and the author of Death in Berlin: From Weimar to Divided Germany, which won the prestigious Fraenkel Prize, among other awards. She lives in Knoxville.
Bodacious Dreams and Bevelations

Size Always Matters

Bevy Smith

From Andy Cohen Books comes Bevy Smith's inspirational memoir—an irreverent tale of how she tore her life down and started all over.

Not your typical candidate for a midlife crisis, Bevy Smith had what seemed like a fantastic life and career. As a fashion and beauty editor at *Vibe*, and then *Rolling Stone*, she traveled to Paris six times a year for fashion shows and was seen at every hot spot. She was a shopaholic with discounts at every store, and all her lovers were well-hung men of color. So it came as quite a shock to her when one day, after a Mercedes had dropped her off at her luxury Milan hotel, Bevy collapsed on the Frette sheets of her king-sized bed and sobbed.

After that, she resigned from *Rolling Stone* and set out on her own path, one that she carved from a tremendous amount of self-reflection and, ultimately, clarity. Going from a $350K annual salary to about $35K would have most running back to corporate America, but not Bevy. With renewed self-confidence and acceptance, she embraced this season as one of the most creative times of her life.

In her signature lively and infectious voice, Bevy provides her story as an example of how we too can manifest our biggest dreams. From reclaiming her bold childhood nature and realizing she’d become a Googleable star to envisioning where she’s headed next (Malibu Bevy, with natural hair, a huge charitable organization, and a midcentury house overlooking the Pacific Ocean), Bevy shows how each of us can live our best lives with honesty and joy.

**Bevy Smith** is the former co-host of the entertainment news show *Page Six TV* and the host of Sirius XM’s *Bevelations* on Radio Andy. She is a beloved motivational speaker, brand ambassador, pop culture aficionado, television personality, and business woman. Quintessential Harlem girl and lifelong New Yorker, Bevy was born, raised, and still lives in Harlem, New York.
# Index

Antin, Evan; *Evan Meets World: Gnarly Encounters in the Animal Kingdom* ........................................... 4

*Before the Ruins: A Novel*; Victoria Gosling .................. 3

Black, Monica; *A Demon-Haunted Land: Witches, Wonder Doctors, and the Ghosts of the Past in Post–WWII Germany* .......................... 9

*Bodacious Dreams and Bevelations: Size Always Matters*; Bevy Smith .............................................. 10

*Cat's Tale, A: A Journey Through Feline History*; Dr. Paul Koudounaris ........................................... 6

Currie, Elliott; *A Peculiar Indifference: Race, Violence, and Social Justice* ........................................ 8

*Demon-Haunted Land, A: Witches, Wonder Doctors, and the Ghosts of the Past in Post–WWII Germany*; Monica Black .................................................. 9

*Evan Meets World: Gnarly Encounters in the Animal Kingdom*; Evan Antin ........................................ 4

Gosling, Victoria; *Before the Ruins: A Novel* ................. 3

Halpern, Jake; *Welcome to the New World* ....................... 7

Koudounaris, Dr. Paul; *A Cat's Tale: A Journey Through Feline History* ......................................... 6

*Peculiar Indifference, A: Race, Violence, and Social Justice*; Elliott Currie ........................................... 8

Smith, Bevy; *Bodacious Dreams and Bevelations: Size Always Matters* .............................................. 10

Sneed, Brandon; *Sooner: The Making of a Football Coach—Lincoln Riley's Rise from West Texas to the University of Oklahoma* ....................... 2

*Sooner: The Making of a Football Coach—Lincoln Riley's Rise from West Texas to the University of Oklahoma*; Brandon Sneed ........................................... 2

*Stories from Suffragette City: Stories of a Fine and Proper Nuisance* ............................................... 5

*Welcome to the New World*; Jake Halpern ....................... 7