The Roommates
True Tales of Friendship, Rivalry, Romance, and Disturbingly Close Quarters

Stephanie Wu; Series Editor Hanya Yanagihara

THE SECOND ENTRY OF PICADOR TRUE TALES: ONE OF LIFE’S TRICKIEST RIGHTS OF PASSAGE COLLECTED INTO AN UNFORGETTABLE VOLUME OF STORIES

The fraught relationship between roommates is a true cultural obsession. Shows like Friends, The Golden Girls, The Odd Couple, and New Girl have held us rapt for decades, simultaneously delighting and disconcerting us with their depictions of mismatched couples’ cringe-worthy awkwardness and against-all-odds friendship. Maybe it’s that uniquely unnatural experience of living with a total stranger that ignites our curiosity, or just that almost all of us, for better or worse, have had one of our own.

In The Roommates, people of all ages reveal their disastrous, hilarious, and sometimes moving stories of making their best friend for life or lifelong nemesis. Learn what it’s like to share a room in places as unusual as a thirty-person beach house, a billionaire’s yacht, a reality show mansion, and a retirement hotel, and those as familiar as sleepaway camps, boarding schools, and college dorms. Put down your roommate’s dirty dishes and passive-aggressive Post-its for this eye-opening glimpse into how people live together in the modern age.

• Perfect gifts for “back to school” season
• Picador True Tales is a new series of books in which reporters select short, candid, as-told-to, first-person narratives, and curate them in fascinating anthologies. The stories you’ll discover within these books will be by turns hilarious, wise, and heartbreaking.

STEPHANIE WU is an editor at Town & Country, covering culture, food, and travel. She is also the founder and editor in chief of MochiMag.com, an online publication for young Asian American women. She was raised in Taipei and now lives in New York with a roommate.
How to Deal with Adversity

Christopher Hamilton

AN INSPIRATIONAL, ENTERTAINING, AND INSTRUCTIVE GUIDE ON WHAT TO DO WHEN FACED WITH ADVERSITY AND HOW TO DERIVE MEANING FROM IT

No matter how insulated we are by wealth or friends we can all expect to undergo some form of loss, failure, or disappointment. The common reaction is to bear it as best we can—some do this better than others—and move on with life. Dr. Christopher Hamilton proposes a different response to adversity. Focusing on the arenas of family, love, illness, and death, he explores constructive ways to deal with adversity and embrace it to derive unique insight into our condition. Offering examples from history, literature, and science, he suggests how we might recognize it as a precious source of enlightenment, shaping our very existence.

• The School of Life is dedicated to exploring life’s big questions: How can we fulfill our potential? Can work be inspiring? Why does community matter? Can relationships last a lifetime? We don’t have all the answers, but we will direct you toward a variety of useful ideas—from philosophy to literature, from psychology to the visual arts—that are guaranteed to stimulate, provoke, nourish, and console.

PRAISE

Praise for The School of Life


“It’s like Cosmo meets Plato—finally!”—Salon

“The School of Life offers radical ways to help us raid the treasure trove of human knowledge.”—Independent on Sunday (London)

DR. CHRISTOPHER HAMILTON is Senior Lecturer in the Philosophy of Religion at King’s College, London. He is the author of Middle Age, part of the Art of Living series published by Acumen Books, and Living Philosophy, published by Edinburgh University Press.
IN THIS AGE OF CONSTANT CONNECTIVITY, LEARN HOW TO ENJOY SOLITUDE AND FIND HAPPINESS WITHOUT OTHERS.

Our fast-paced society does not approve of solitude; being alone is antisocial and some even find it sinister. Why is this so when autonomy, personal freedom and individualism are more highly prized than ever before? Sara Maitland answers this question by exploring changing attitudes throughout history. Offering experiments and strategies for overturning our fear of solitude, she helps us to practice it without anxiety and encourages us to see the benefits of spending time by ourselves. By indulging in the experience of being alone, we can be inspired to find our own rewards and ultimately lead more enriched, fuller lives.

• The School of Life is dedicated to exploring life’s big questions: How can we fulfill our potential? Can work be inspiring? Why does community matter? Can relationships last a lifetime? We don’t have all the answers, but we will direct you toward a variety of useful ideas—from philosophy to literature, from psychology to the visual arts—that are guaranteed to stimulate, provoke, nourish, and console.
The Boy Who Drew Monsters

A Novel

Keith Donohue

FROM THE NATIONAL BESTSELLING AUTHOR OF THE STOLEN CHILD, A BEGUILING LITERARY HORROR NOVEL ABOUT A YOUNG BOY WHOSE DRAWINGS OF MONSTERS CROSS THE LINE BETWEEN FANTASY AND REALITY.

Ever since he almost drowned in the ocean four years earlier, eleven-year-old Jip has become an “inside boy,” confined to his home in a small coastal town in Maine, deathly afraid to venture outdoors. Jip is quiet and introverted, content to spend most of his day drawing pictures of monsters. His only visitor is his friend Nick, who finds Jip's monsters just a little too creepy. When Jip’s drawings start to mimic strange sightings in the outside world, no one is safe. His mother Holly finds herself driven slowly mad with anxiety and terror as his father wanders the beach, searching for the strange man he saw lurking nearby. Because someone or something is trying to get inside the house as the line between fantasy and reality becomes increasingly blurred.

A deliciously creepy, hypnotic tale of imagination run wild, The Inside Boy is the perfect read for a dark winter’s night.

• For readers of Neil Gaiman and Audrey Niffenegger

PRAISE

Praise for The Stolen Child

“A captivating tale...poignant and beautifully told.”—USA Today

“The book’s emotional impact is as fierce as the imagination behind it. The result is magical.”—People

“An ingenious, spirited allegory for adolescent angst, aging, the purpose of art.”—Entertainment Weekly

KEITH DONOHUE is the national bestselling author of the novels The Stolen Child, The Angels of Destruction, and Centuries of June. His work has been translated into two dozen languages, and his articles have appeared in The New York Times and The Washington Post, among other publications. A graduate of Duquesne University in Pittsburgh, Donohue also holds a Ph.D. in English from The Catholic University of America. He lives in Maryland.
The Gigantic Beard That Was Evil

Stephen Collins

A BOOK FOR ANYONE WHO HAS EVER HAD A BEARD (OR SEEN ONE).

The job of the skin is to keep it all in...And never let anything show.

On the island of Here, livin’s easy. Conduct is orderly. Lawns are neat. Citizens are clean shaven—and Dave is the most fastidious of them all.

Dave is bald, but for a single hair. He loves drawing, his desk job—and The Bangles. But on one fateful day, his life is upended...by an unstoppable (yet pretty impressive) beard.

An off-beat fable worthy of Roald Dahl and Tim Burton, *The Gigantic Beard That Was Evil* is a darkly funny meditation on life, death, and what it means to be different—and a timeless ode to the art of beard maintenance.

• Winner of the Inaugural 9th Art Award
• A Finalist for the Waterstones Book of the Year
• Written in the tradition of Roald Dahl, a “fairy tale for adults” (*The Observer*) that will resonate with fans of Tim Burton

PRAISE


“It’s part satire, part parable, part nursery rhyme, and part disaster movie, and it’s an utter joy to read.”—*The Times* (London)

STEPHEN COLLINS was born in 1980 and grew up in south London. He began cartooning in 2003, and has since won several awards, including the Jonathan Cape/Observer Graphic Short Story Prize and the inaugural 9th Art Award. His work has appeared in many publications worldwide, including *Wired, GQ,* and the BBC, and he contributes regular comics to the *Guardian Weekend* and *Prospect* magazine. He lives near Hertford with his wife and a well-charged beard trimmer.
Pro: Reclaiming Abortion Rights

Katha Pollitt

A CONCISE, ARDENT ARGUMENT FOR ABORTION AS A RIGHT AND FORCE FOR SOCIAL GOOD

Forty years after the landmark Roe v. Wade ruling, “abortion” is still a word that is said with either outright hostility or vague discomfort by many, this despite the fact that one in three American women will have terminated at least one pregnancy by the time they reach menopause. Even those who support a woman’s right to terminate her pregnancy often qualify their support by saying abortion is a “bad thing,” an “agonizing decision,” thereby placing the medical procedure on a pedestal so remote and radioactive that it takes it out of the world of the everyday, turning an act that is often necessary, and often welcomed, into something shameful and secretive.

In this groundbreaking book, Katha Pollitt reframes abortion as a common part of a woman’s reproductive life, one that should be accepted as a moral right with positive social implications. In clear, concise arguments, Pollitt takes on the “personhood” argument, reaffirms the priority of a woman’s life and health, and discusses why terminating a pregnancy can be a force for social good. This is a book for those who support abortion rights but may not be exactly sure why and those in the “muddled middle,” who can’t quite bring themself to advocate wholeheartedly for its legality.

• Pollitt is well known for her sharp, provocative, and entertaining criticism of culture and society

PRAISE

Praise for Virginity or Death!

“Over the years, I’ve been outsourcing my thinking on a host of subjects to Katha Pollitt.”—Barbara Ehrenreich

“Katha Pollitt has long and rightly been hailed for her brilliance, wit, and great insight into politics, social issues, and women’s rights. As with all of her work, I am enormously grateful for Virginity or Death!, and also deeply jealous.”—Anne Lamott, author of Traveling Mercies

KATHA POLLITT, the author of Virginity or Death!, is a poet, essayist, and columnist for The Nation. She has won many prizes and awards for her work, including the National Book Critics Circle Award for her first collection of poems, Antarctic Traveller, and two National Magazine awards for essays and criticism. She lives in New York City.
Sabine is the most mercurial woman Peter Thorpe has ever known. Such is his desire for her that he overturns his whole life—his disillusioned merchant-banker's life—and leaves everything behind, not caring that his lover is of no fixed address, nor that his search for her will take him to the beating heart of New Ageism in northern California.

Each of his fellow seekers is in hot pursuit of that elusive something (happiness?), and in their eccentric company Peter stumbles across vistas he had never before dared to imagine...

- Edward St. Aubyn is widely considered one of our finest living novelists, with enthusiastic fans including Zadie Smith, Alan Hollinghurst, Alice Sebold, Maria Semple, Bret Easton Ellis, Ann Patchett and many more...
- Highly praised in the U.K., On the Edge will be publishing for the first time in America

**PRAISE**

Praise for Edward St. Aubyn

"Some of the most perceptively written and hilarious novels of our era."—Francine Prose, The New York Times Book Review

One of the great comic writers of our time."—The New York Review of Books

One of the pre-eminent writers of his generation."—Will Self

One of the great prose stylists in England.”—Alice Sebold, author of The Lovely Bones

St. Aubyn is utterly fearless.”—Lev Grossman, Time

EDWARD ST. AUBYN was born in London in 1960. He is the author of the A Clue to the Exit and The Patrick Melrose Novels: Never Mind, Bad News, Some Hope, and Mother’s Milk. His final Patrick Melrose novel is the standalone At Last. Mother’s Milk was shortlisted for the Booker Prize.
DISCOVER THE INCREDIBLE STORY OF AMERICA THROUGH ITS BEAUTIFUL AND DIVERSE POSTAGE STAMPS, IN THIS EXUBERANT AND ALWAYS CHARMING HISTORY.

In *A History of America in Thirty-six Postage Stamps*, Chris West (author of *A History of Britain in Thirty-six Postage Stamps*) makes the leap across the Atlantic to take on America’s own rich philatelic history. From George Washington’s dour gaze to the charging buffalo of the western frontier, to Lindbergh’s soaring biplane, American stamps are a vivid window into our country’s extraordinary and distinctive past. With the always accessible and spirited West as your guide, discover the remarkable breadth of America’s short history through a fresh lens.

On their own, stamps can be curiosities, even artistic marvels; in this book, stamps become a window into the larger sweep of history.

- With deckle edge and full-color reproductions throughout
- For fans of *A History of the World in 100 Objects* and *Lady Almina and the Real Downton Abbey*
- A perfect gift for patriots, philatelists, and armchair historians

**PRAISE**

Praise for *A History of Britain in Thirty-six Postage Stamps*

“Clever, quirky...This is a lovely book. And not just for philatelists.”—*The Plain Dealer*

“There's brilliant social history on every page and a dramatic mini-series in every chapter.”—Rebecca Eaton, Executive Producer of Masterpiece and author of *Making Masterpiece*

“West treats each entry more like a riffing conversation than a lecture...And since each chapter is just a handful of pages long, it's easy to jump around and explore, making for diverting and educating reading.”—*Milwaukee Journal-Sentinel*

**CHRIS WEST**'s previous titles include a bestselling business guide and a quartet of crime novels. He inherited a love of history from his father and an Edwardian “Lincoln” stamp album from his great-uncle as a child. His love for stamps was revived when he found that same dust-covered album in his attic as an adult, and resulted in *A History of Britain in Thirty-six Postage Stamps*, published in 2013. He lives in Cambridgeshire.
The Heart Does Not Grow Back

A Novel

Fred Venturini

A BLISTERING NEW VOICE IN LITERARY SCI-FI, FRED VENTURINI’S DEBUT OF A SMALL-TOWN NOBODY WHO DEVELOPS A CURIOUS SUPERPOWER IN THE WAKE OF A TRAGEDY

Dale Sampson is used to being a nonperson at his small-town Midwestern high school, picking up the scraps of his charismatic lothario of a best friend, Mack. He comforts himself with the certainty that his stellar academic record and brains will bring him the adulation that evaded him in high school. But when an unthinkable catastrophe tears away the one girl he ever had a chance with, his life takes a bizarre turn as he discovers an inexplicable power: he can regenerate his organs and limbs.

When a chance encounter brings him face to face with a girl from his past, he decides that he must use his gift to save her from a violent husband and dismal future. His quest takes him to the glitz and greed of Hollywood, and into the crosshairs of shadowy forces bent on using and abusing his gift. Can Dale use his power to redeem himself and those he loves, or will the one thing that finally makes him special be his demise? The Heart Does Not Grow Back is a darkly comic, starkly original take on the superhero tale, introducing an exceptional new literary voice in Fred Venturini.

For readers who love the novels of Joe Hill, Chuck Palahniuk, Drew Magary, and Frank Bill

Emerging debut author, whose short story Gasoline was selected by Chuck Palahniuk to be featured in his Fall 2014 Burnt Tongues collection

PRAISE

“Fred Venturini is an awesomely talented writer....This first novel about a shy, emotionally damaged loser with a bizarre but coveted ability to regenerate his vital parts is one of the most engaging and ultimately satisfying that I’ve had the pleasure to read in a long time.”—Donald Ray Pollock, author of Knockemstiff

FRED VENTURINI was born in Patoka, Illinois. His short fiction has been published in the Booked Anthology, Noir at the Bar 2, and Surreal South ’13. In 2014, his story “Gasoline” will be featured in Chuck Palahniuk’s Burnt Tongues collection. He lives in Southern Illinois with his wife and daughter.
Rogerson's Book of Numbers

The Culture of Numbers---from 1,001 Nights to the Seven Wonders of the World

Barnaby Rogerson

A MISCELLANY OF SACRED, MYSTERIOUS, SPIRITUAL, AND PROFANE NUMBERS

Rogerson’s Book of Numbers is based on a numerical array of virtues, spiritual attributes, gods, devils, sacred cities, powers, calendars, heroes, saints, icons, and cultural symbols. It provides a dazzling mass of information for those intrigued by the many roles numbers play in folklore and popular culture, in music and poetry, and in the many religions, cultures, and belief systems of our world.

The stories unfold from millions to zero: from the number of the beast (666) to the seven deadly sins, the twelve signs of the zodiac to the four suits of a pack of cards. Along the way you will discover why Genghis Khan built a city of 108 towers, how Dante forged his Divine Comedy on the number eleven, and why thirteen is so unlucky in the west while fourteen is the number to avoid in China.

• Perfect gift for fans of Guinness World Records and those who love Schott’s Miscellany
• Contains 87 fascinating black-and-white photos

PRAISE

“Now, thanks to Rogerson’s Book of Numbers we have a delicious collection of the world’s holiest, most significant and wackiest integers....This little volume is a tightly-packed hamper of intellectual treats.”—The Spectator (London)

“Eclectic...He brings abstraction to vibrant life. Full of interest and learning...this is an admirable and entertaining book.”—Country Life

BARNABY ROGERSON is an author and publisher. Together with his partner Rose Baring, he runs Eland Books, which specializes in keeping the classics of travel literature in print. He is the author of acclaimed biographies of the Prophet Mohammed, and the Prophet’s heirs, a history of The Last Crusades and travel guides to such places as Morocco, Cyprus and Istanbul. He writes frequently for Vanity Fair, Condé Nast Traveller (UK), Harper’s Bazaar and the Times Literary Supplement.
# Black Skies

*An Inspector Erlendur Novel*

Arnaldur Indridason; Translated by Victoria Cribb

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## THE MOST GRIPPING ENTRY YET IN ARNALDUR INDRIDASON’S CELEBRATED INSPECTOR ERLENDUR SERIES

Arnaldur Indriðason, whom *The Sunday Times* calls “one of the most brilliant crime writers of his generation,” has thrilled readers around the world with his series set in Reykjavík. In *Black Skies*, Indridason further cements his position as one of today’s top international crime writers.

A man is making a crude leather mask with an iron spike fixed in the middle of the forehead. It is a “death mask,” once used by Icelandic farmers to slaughter calves, and he has revenge in mind. Meanwhile, a school reunion has left Inspector Erlendur’s colleague Sigurdur Óli unhappy with life in the police force. While Iceland is enjoying an economic boom, Óli’s relationship is on the rocks and soon even his position in the department is compromised. When a favor to a friend goes wrong and a woman dies before his eyes, Oli has a murder investigation on his hands.

From the villas of Reykjavík’s banking elite to a sordid basement flat, *Black Skies* is a superb story of greed, pride, and murder from one of Europe’s most successful crime writers.

### PRAISE

“A sophisticated and complex thriller.”—Kirkus Reviews

“A strong series entry infused with [Indriðason's] trademark emotional turmoil and psychological insight.”—Booklist

Praise for Arnaldur Indriðason

“What’s Icelandic for ‘we have ourselves a winner?’”—Newsday

“A commanding new voice...Puts Iceland on the map as a major destination for enthusiasts of Nordic crime fiction.”—Marilyn Stasio, *The New York Times Book Review*

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**ARNALDUR INDRIDASON** won the CWA Gold Dagger Award for *Silence of the Grave* and is the only author to win the Glass Key Award for Best Nordic Crime Novel two years in a row. The film of *Jar City* was Iceland’s entry for the Academy Award for Best Foreign Film, and the film *Silence of the Grave* is in production. The film *Contraband*, starring Mark Wahlberg, was based on an Icelandic film written by Indriðason. He lives in Reykjavik, Iceland.

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**MARKETING**

- National Print and Online Coverage
- Digital Marketing
  - Online Advertising and Social Media Campaign
  - Targeted Outreach to Literary, Mystery, and Genre Sites
  - Criminal Element Promotion and Picador Crime eCard
- [www.facebook.com/ArnaldurIndridason](http://www.facebook.com/ArnaldurIndridason)
- Backlist Promotion

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**ALSO AVAILABLE**

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Myra is a Manhattan psychotherapist. An astute woman and an excellent judge of character, she thinks she knows what she’s getting when she hires a nanny. Her phobia-addled son has just moved home with his wife and child, and Eva, a Peruvian immigrant, seems like the perfect addition. But as Eva reveals more of herself, their felicitous arrangement turns ominous. Slowly and inexorably, the relationship becomes too close, too dependent—and, ultimately, terrifyingly destructive.

With *Tinderbox*, the psychoanalyst and novelist Lisa Gornick gives us a gripping story of the tragedy of good intentions—a haunting mystery of hidden traumas and a searingly perceptive exploration of power and love.

- “Gornick creates a world of characters every bit as flawed as Franzen’s subjects” (Jewish Book Council).
- For readers of Allegra Goodman and Lionel Shriver

**PRAISE**

“This vivid portrait of a family unraveling is perfect for book clubs.”—Sue Corbett, *People* (four out of four stars)

“I clung to every page of *Tinderbox*; the writing is intelligent and sharp, and with each turn of the story, my investment surged. Gornick has translated the very real and tender chaos of family into a novel that’s expertly constructed and engaging.”—*Bustle*

**LISA GORNICK** is the author of the novel *A Private Sorcery* and an award-winning short story writer and essayist. She holds a B.A. from Princeton, a Ph.D. in clinical psychology from Yale, and is a graduate of the writing program at N.Y.U. and the psychoanalytic training program at Columbia. Her collection of linked stories, *Louisa Meets Bear*, is forthcoming from Sarah Crichton Books, an imprint of Farrar, Straus and Giroux.
Wonder of Wonders

A Cultural History of Fiddler on the Roof

Alisa Solomon

A SPARKLING AND EYE-OPENING HISTORY OF THE BROADWAY MUSICAL THAT CHANGED THE WORLD

In the half-century since its premiere, Fiddler on the Roof has had an astonishing global impact. Beloved by audiences the world over, performed from rural high schools to grand state theaters, Fiddler is a supremely potent cultural landmark. Now, in a history as captivating as its subject, award-winning drama critic Alisa Solomon traces how and why the story of Tevye the milkman, the creation of the great Yiddish writer Sholem-Aleichem, was reborn as blockbuster entertainment and a cultural touchstone, not only for Jews and not only in America.

It is first a story of the theater, as Solomon follows Tevye from his humble appearance on the New York Yiddish stage, through his adoption by leftist dramatists as a symbol of oppression, to his Broadway debut in one of the last big book musicals, and to his ultimate destination—a major Hollywood picture. And it is a cultural story, of a show that spoke to the deepest conflicts and desires the world over: the fraying of tradition, generational tension, the loss of roots. Audiences everywhere found in Fiddler immediate resonance and a usable past—whether in Warsaw, where the musical unlocked the taboo subject of Jewish history, or in Tokyo, where the producer asked how Americans could understand a play that is "so Japanese."

Rich, entertaining, and original, Wonder of Wonders reveals the surprising and enduring legacy of a show about tradition that itself became a tradition.

PRAISE

“As rich and dense as a chocolate babka—so crammed with tasty layers that you have to pace yourself...As brilliant a piece of reporting as I’ve read this year.”—The New York Times Book Review

“The aptly-titled Wonder of Wonders is the richest, deepest, most far-ranging, continuously and delightfully surprising book about a single work of theatrical art I’ve ever encountered. An intellectually serious, playful, and insightful account of popular art’s power to shape memory and transmute history into universal myth, it is a soul-stirring joy to read, and only Alisa Solomon could have written it.”—Tony Kushner, author of Angels in America

ALISA SOLOMON teaches at Columbia University’s Graduate School of Journalism, where she directs the Arts & Culture concentration in the MA program. A theater critic and general reporter for The Village Voice from 1983 to 2004, she has also contributed to The New York Times, The Nation, Tablet, The Forward, and other publications. Her first book, Re-Dressing the Canon: Essays on Theater and Gender, won the George Jean Nathan Award for Dramatic Criticism. She lives in New York City.
Breach of Trust

How Americans Failed Their Soldiers and Their Country

Andrew Bacevich

A BLISTERING CRITIQUE OF THE GULF BETWEEN AMERICA’S SOLDIERS AND THE SOCIETY THAT SENDS THEM OFF TO WAR, FROM THE BESTSELLING AUTHOR OF THE LIMITS OF POWER AND WASHINGTON RULES

The United States has been “at war” for more than a decade. Yet as war has become normalized, a yawning gap has opened between America’s soldiers and the society in whose name they fight. For ordinary citizens, as former secretary of defense Robert Gates has acknowledged, armed conflict has become an “abstraction” and military service “something for other people to do.”

In Breach of Trust, bestselling author Andrew Bacevich takes stock of the separation between Americans and their military, tracing its origins to the Vietnam era and exploring its pernicious implications: a nation with an abiding appetite for war waged at enormous expense by a standing army demonstrably unable to achieve victory. Among the collateral casualties are values once considered central to democratic practice, including the principle that responsibility for defending the country should rest with its citizens.

Citing figures as diverse as the martyr-theologian Dietrich Bonhoeffer and the marine-turned-anti-warrior Smedley Butler, Breach of Trust summons Americans to restore that principle. Rather than something for “other people” to do, national defense should become the business of “we the people.” Should Americans refuse to shoulder this responsibility, Bacevich warns, the prospect of endless war, waged by a “foreign legion” of professionals and contractor-mercenaries, beckons. So too does bankruptcy—moral as well as fiscal.

PRAISE

“Scorching...heartbreaking...Bacevich dismantles the warrior myth we civilians and politicians so enjoy worshiping from afar, and replaces that idol with flesh and blood, vulnerable humans, who deserve better than the profligate, wasteful way in which we treat them.”—Rachel Maddow, The New York Times Book Review

“Bacevich offers a brilliant critique of an American military system sharply at variance with our democratic republican ideals. Most disturbing is his compelling argument that the fault lies with We the People.”—Karl W. Eikenberry, Lieutenant General, U. S. Army (retired) and former U.S. Ambassador to Afghanistan

Ninety Percent of Everything

Inside Shipping, the Invisible Industry That Puts Clothes on Your Back, Gas in Your Car, and Food on Your Plate

Rose George

“CONSISTENTLY ABSORBING...TIMELY AS WELL AS DEFT...GEORGE’S SPIRITED BOOK CRACKS OPEN A VAST, TREACHEROUS AND LARGELY IGNORED WORLD.”—THE NEW YORK TIMES

On ship-tracking Web sites, the waters are black with dots. Each dot is a ship; each ship is laden with boxes; each box is laden with goods. In postindustrial economies, we no longer produce but buy. We buy, so we must ship. Without shipping there would be no clothes, food, paper, or fuel. Without all those dots, the world would not work.

Freight shipping has been no less revolutionary than the printing press or the Internet, yet it is all but invisible. Away from public scrutiny, shipping revels in suspect practices, dubious operators, and a shady system of “flags of convenience.” Infesting our waters, poisoning our air, and a prime culprit of acoustic pollution, shipping is environmentally indefensible. And then there are the pirates.

Rose George, acclaimed chronicler of what we would rather ignore, sails from Rotterdam to Suez to Singapore on ships the length of football fields and the height of Niagara Falls; she patrols the Indian Ocean with an anti-piracy task force; she joins seafaring chaplains, and investigates the harm that ships inflict on endangered whales.

Sharply informative and entertaining, Ninety Percent of Everything reveals the workings and perils of an unseen world that holds the key to our economy, our environment, and our very civilization.

PRAISE

“Engrossing and revelatory...George not only explores a little-known world of commerce but also introduces readers to the many people who make shipping possible. George’s book is packed with telling anecdotes and detailed accounts, some funny, some shocking. If there’s a downside to her seafaring, it’s that it comes to an end too soon.”—San Francisco Chronicle

“Mind-blowing...With its wide scope, voice of intellectual curiosity, and inter-ocean adventure, the book is reminiscent of Donovan Hohn’s popular Moby-Duck.”—The Atlantic

The Big Necessity
The Unmentionable World of Human Waste and Why It Matters
Rose George

“ONE SMART BOOK...DELVING DEEP INTO THE HISTORY AND IMPLICATIONS OF A DAILY ACT THAT DARE NOT SPEAK ITS NAME.”—NEWSWEEK

Acclaimed as “extraordinary” (The New York Times) and “a classic” (Los Angeles Times), The Big Necessity is on its way to removing the taboo on bodily waste—something common to all and as natural as breathing. We prefer not to talk about it, but we should—even those of us who take care of our business in pristine, sanitary conditions. Disease spread by waste kills more people worldwide every year than any other single cause of death. Even in America, nearly two million people have no access to an indoor toilet. Yet the subject remains unmentionable.

Moving from the underground sewers of Paris, London, and New York (an infrastructure disaster waiting to happen) to an Indian slum where ten toilets are shared by 60,000 people, The Big Necessity breaks the silence, revealing everything that matters about how people do—and don’t—deal with their own waste. With razor-sharp wit and crusading urgency, mixing levity with gravity, Rose George has turned the subject we like to avoid into a cause with the most serious of consequences.

• With a New Afterword

PRAISE

“Rose George writes smart books about subjects we mostly prefer not to think about....The Big Necessity is among the best nonfiction books of the new millennium.”—Dwight Garner, The New York Times

“Always articulate and persuasive...You will be hard-pressed to put this extraordinary book down.”—Abigail Zuger, The New York Times

“Fascinating and eloquent.”—The Economist

“[Written] with wit and style...Valuable and often entertaining...Should become a classic.”—Los Angeles Times

Swastika Nation

Fritz Kuhn and the Rise and Fall of the German-American Bund

Arnie Bernstein

AN INVESTIGATION INTO FRITZ KUHN AND THE HISTORY OF THE GERMAN-AMERICAN BUND, ITS MEMBERS AND FOLLOWERS, AND ITS ENEMIES

In the late 1930s, the German-American Bund, led by its popinjay dictator Fritz Kuhn, was a small but powerful national movement, determined to conquer the United States government with a fascist dictatorship. They met in private social halls and beer garden backrooms, gathered at private resorts and public rallies, developed their own version of the SS and Hitler Youth, published a national newspaper and—for a brief moment of their own imagined glory—seemed poised to make an impact on American politics.

But while the American Nazi leadership dreamed of their Swastika Nation, an amalgamation of politicians, a rising legal star, an ego-charged newspaper columnist, and denizens of the criminal underworld utilized their respective means and muscle to bring down the movement and its dreams of a United Reich States.

Swastika Nation is a story of bad guys, good guys, and a few guys who fell somewhere in between. The rise and fall of Fritz Kuhn and his German-American Bund at the hands of these disparate fighters is a sometimes funny, sometimes harrowing, and always compelling story from start to finish.

PRAISE


“Impeccably researched and forcefully written.” — Chicago Tribune

“Told with relish and undisguised disdain.” — Kirkus Reviews

“Fast-paced...A fresh account of a well-documented era.” — Publishers Weekly

“This is a breathtaking story of a lost piece of American history—a powerfully written, expertly researched tale packed with fascinating characters and riveting action.” — Jonathan Eig, The New York Times bestselling author of Luckiest Man

ARNIE BERNSTEIN learned firsthand about American Nazis as a high school student, when a group of neo-fascists threatened to march in his neighborhood, known for its large Jewish population. Bernstein has been interviewed by The New York Times, BBC Radio, NPR, PBS, and for numerous documentaries. He’s lectured at DePaul University, the Chicago History Museum, and other respected venues, and has received numerous grants and awards. Bernstein is the author of Bath Massacre, and he lives in Chicago.
No right seems more fundamental to American public life than freedom of speech. Yet well into the twentieth century, that freedom was still an unfulfilled promise, with Americans regularly imprisoned merely for speaking out against government policies. Indeed, free speech as we know it comes less from the First Amendment than from a most unexpected source: Supreme Court justice Oliver Wendell Holmes. A lifelong skeptic, he disdained all individual rights, including the right to express one’s political views. But in 1919, it was Holmes who wrote a dissenting opinion that would become the canonical affirmation of free speech in the United States.

Why did Holmes change his mind? That question has puzzled historians for almost a century. Now, with the aid of newly discovered letters and confidential memos, law professor Thomas Healy reconstructs in vivid detail Holmes’s journey from free-speech opponent to First Amendment hero. It is the story of a remarkable behind-the-scenes campaign by a group of progressives to bring a legal icon around to their way of thinking—and a deeply touching human narrative of an old man saved from loneliness and despair by a few unlikely young friends.

Beautifully written and exhaustively researched, *The Great Dissent* is intellectual history at its best, revealing how free debate can alter the life of a man and the legal landscape of an entire nation.

**PRAISE**

“Riveting...Healy’s informative and readable account deserves an honored place in the intellectual history of the Supreme Court.” —*The New York Times Book Review*

“Fascinating...A magnificent book about a magnificent moment in American legal history.” —*The Atlantic*

**THOMAS HEALY** is a professor of law at Seton Hall Law School. A graduate of Columbia Law School, he clerked on the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit and was a Supreme Court correspondent for *The Baltimore Sun*. He has written extensively about free speech, the Constitution, and the federal courts. This is his first book.
Thank You for Your Service

David Finkel

FROM THE AUTHOR OF THE GOOD SOLDIERS COMES A PROFOUND LOOK AT LIFE AFTER WAR—“A STUNNING, MOVING, SUBLIMELY WELTERTING A BOOK” (THE CHRISTIAN SCIENCE MONITOR).

No journalist has reckoned with the psychology of war as intimately as David Finkel. In The Good Soldiers, his bestselling account from the front lines of Baghdad, Finkel shadowed the men of the 2-16 Infantry Battalion as they carried out the infamous surge, a grueling fifteen-month tour that changed all of them forever.

Now, in Thank You for Your Service, Finkel follows many of those same men as they return home and struggle to reintegrate—both into their family lives and into American society at large. Where do soldiers belong after their homecoming? Is it possible, or even reasonable, to expect them to rejoin their communities as if nothing has happened? And, in moments of hardship, who are soldiers expected to turn to if they feel alienated by the world they once lived in? More than a work of journalism, Thank You for Your Service is an act of understanding—shocking but always riveting, unflinching but deeply humane, it takes us inside the heads of those who must live the rest of their lives with the chilling realities of war.

- A finalist for a Los Angeles Times Book Prize and a National Book Critics Circle Award
- Optioned for film by DreamWorks

PRAISE

“Elocutely reported...This is not—nor should it be—an easy book. But it is an essential one.”—The New York Times Book Review (Editors’ Choice)

“A book that every American should read.”—Los Angeles Times

“Elegantly written...expertly reported [and] deftly assembled...An essential book for understanding all that came after for the soldiers who occupied Iraq.”—Nick Turse, San Francisco Chronicle

DAVID FINKEL is the award-winning author of The Good Soldiers. A staff writer for The Washington Post, he is also the leader of the Post's national reporting team. He received the Pulitzer Prize for Explanatory Reporting in 2006, and the MacArthur “Genius” Grant in 2012. Finkel lives in Maryland, with his wife and two daughters.
The Kraus Project

Essays by Karl Kraus

Jonathan Franzen / Karl Kraus

A GREAT AMERICAN WRITER’S CONfrontation with A GREAT EUROPEAN CRITIC—A PERSONAL AND INTELLECTUAL AWAKENING

A hundred years ago, the Viennese satirist Karl Kraus was among the most penetrating and prophetic writers in Europe: a relentless critic of the popular media’s manipulation of reality, the dehumanizing machinery of technology and consumerism, and the jingoistic rhetoric of a fading empire. But even though his followers included Franz Kafka and Walter Benjamin, he remained something of a lonely prophet, and few people today are familiar with his work. Thankfully, Jonathan Franzen is one of them.

In *The Kraus Project*, Franzen not only presents his definitive new translations of Kraus but annotates them spectacularly, with supplementary notes from the Kraus scholar Paul Reitter and the Austrian writer Daniel Kehlmann. Kraus was a notoriously cantankerous and difficult author, and in Franzen he has found his match: a novelist unafraid to voice unpopular opinions strongly, a critic capable of untangling Kraus’s often dense arguments to reveal their relevance to contemporary America. Interwoven with Franzen’s survey of today’s cultural and technological landscape, this book is an intensely personal recollection of the author’s first year out of college, when he fell in love with Kraus.

Painstakingly wrought, strikingly original in form, *The Kraus Project* is a feast of thought, passion, and literature.

PRAISE

“Engrossing, highly original...As a declared enemy of the easy response in an instant-access culture, Franzen finds in the unduly neglected Kraus a model of how to provoke readers while at the same time getting them to do some work.”—*The New York Times Book Review*

“It is the achievement of *The Kraus Project* to provide a solid picture of what make Kraus incomparable and, paradoxically enough, relevant.”—*Bookforum*

“Kraus is one of the most uproarious and relevant writers who ever lived.”—*Slate*

JONATHAN FRANZEN is the author of four novels (*Freedom*, *The Corrections*, *Strong Motion*, and *The Twenty-Seventh City*), two collections of essays (*Farther Away* and *How to Be Alone*), a personal history (*The Discomfort Zone*), and a translation of Frank Wedekind’s *Spring Awakening*, all published by FSG. **KARL KRAUS** (1874–1936) was an Austrian satirist, playwright, poet, aphorist, and journalist. From 1899 until his death, he published the literary and political review *Die Fackel.*
How To Be a Good Wife

Emma Chapman

IN THE TRADITION OF S. J. WATSON’S BEFORE I GO TO SLEEP, A HAUNTING LITERARY DEBUT ABOUT A WOMAN WHO BEGINS HAVING VISIONS THAT MAKE HER QUESTION EVERYTHING SHE KNOWS

Marta and Hector have been married for a long time. Through the good and bad; through raising a son and sending him off to life after university. So long, in fact, that Marta finds it difficult to remember her life before Hector. He has always taken care of her, and she has always done everything she can to be a good wife—as advised by a dog-eared manual given to her by Hector’s aloof mother on their wedding day.

But now, something is changing. Small things seem off. A flash of movement in the corner of her eye, elapsed moments that she can’t recall. Visions of a blonde girl in the darkness that only Marta can see. Perhaps she is starting to remember—or perhaps her mind is playing tricks on her. As Marta’s visions persist and her reality grows more disjointed, it’s unclear if the danger lies in the world around her, or in Marta herself. The girl is growing more real every day, and she wants something.

PRAISE

“The power of this extraordinary book resides in large part in its unwavering focus on [Marta’s] deepening dislocation from the world around her...Chapman has written a brilliant twist.”—The New York Times Book Review

“Beneath [the surface of this book], like a silent, bolted...room, there’s a much bigger story about the nature of feminine experience. An accomplished debut.”—Hilary Mantel, NYT bestselling author of Wolf Hall

“At once claustrophobic, startling, and hauntingly beautiful. It’s that amazing, awful kind of book that will stay with you long after you wish it would let you go.”—Liza Klaussmann, author of Tigers in Red Weather

EMMA J. CHAPMAN was born in 1985 and grew up in Manchester, England. She studied English literature at the University of Edinburgh, followed by a masters in creative writing at Royal Holloway, University of London. After university, she traveled solo in Scandinavia, where she learned to camp, bathe in fjords, and carry everything she needed. She lives in Perth, Western Australia. How To Be a Good Wife is her first novel.
Someone

A Novel

Alice McDermott

A NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLER—A PORTRAIT OF ONE WOMAN’S LIFE IN ALL ITS COMPLEXITY FROM THE NATIONAL BOOK AWARD–WINNING AUTHOR OF CHARMING BILLY

An ordinary life—its sharp pains and unexpected joys, its bursts of clarity and moments of confusion—lived by an ordinary woman: this is the subject of Someone, Alice McDermott’s extraordinary seventh novel.

We first glimpse Marie as a child: a girl in thick glasses waiting on a stoop in 1930s Brooklyn. Through her first heartbreak and eventual marriage; her brother’s brief stint as a Catholic priest, and his emotional breakdown; her career as a neighborhood “consoling angel”; her parents’ deaths; the births and lives of her children—we follow Marie through the changing world of the twentieth century and her Irish-American enclave. Rendered with great empathy and insight, Someone is a novel that speaks of life as it is lived daily, with passion and heartbreak and a good deal of foolishness—the crowning achievement of one of the finest American writers at work today.

• A Finalist for the National Book Critics Circle Award
• Longlisted for the National Book Award
• Named a Best Book of the Year by NPR, The Seattle Times; A Washington Post Notable Fiction Book of the Year

PRAISE

“A remarkable portrait of an unremarkable life.”—The New Yorker

“McDermott’s sentences know themselves so beautifully: what each has to deliver and how best to do it, within a modicum of space, with minimal fuss...Her excellence is on ample display here.”—The New York Times Book Review

“This kind of knowledge expands our understanding, it enlarges our souls.”—Roxana Robinson, The Washington Post

ALICE McDERMOTT is the author of six previous novels, including After This; Child of My Heart; Charming Billy, winner of the National Book Award; and At Weddings and Wakes. That Night, At Weddings and Wakes, and After This were all finalists for the Pulitzer Prize. She lives with her family outside Washington, D.C.
Charming Billy

A Novel

Alice McDermott

NOW REISSUED AS A PICADOR MODERN CLASSIC, ALICE McDERMOTT’S “MASTERPIECE” (NPR) AND NATIONAL BOOK AWARD–WINNING NOVEL

New York Times Bestseller, winner of the National Book Award, and a finalist for the International IMPAC Dublin Literary Award

Billy Lynch’s family and friends have gathered to comfort his widow, and to pay their respects to one of the last great romantics. As they trade tales of his famous humor, immense charm, and consuming sorrow, a complex portrait emerges of an enigmatic man, a loyal friend, a beloved husband, an incurable alcoholic. Alice McDermott’s striking novel is a study of the lies that bind and the weight of familial love, of the way good intentions can be as destructive as the truth they were meant to hide.

• The Picador Modern Classics edition comes with a distinct wrap-around cover illustration by Bill Mudron (www.billmudron.com).

PRAISE


“McDermott writes lovely novels about life among the Irish Americans....Like all its predecessors, it is wise, multilayered and considerably more complex than it may at first seem.”—The Washington Post

“McDermott demonstrates anew that she is a writer in a league all her own.”—People

“A remarkable and beautifully told novel, with overlays of prose and insight that are simply luminescent.”—The Boston Globe

“An exquisitely rendered portrait.”—Entertainment Weekly

ALICE McDERMOTT is the author of seven novels, including Someone, That Night, After This, Child of My Heart, and At Weddings and Wakes. That Night, At Weddings and Wakes, and After This were all finalists for the Pulitzer Prize. She lives with her family outside Washington, D.C.
Wonder Women
Sex, Power, and the Quest for Perfection
Debora L. Spar

A NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLER, “WONDER WOMEN IS A TERRIFIC READ” (SHERYL SANDBERG, AUTHOR OF LEAN IN)

Debora L. Spar spent most of her life avoiding feminism. Raised after the tumult of the ’60s, she presumed that the gender war was over. “We thought we could glide into the new era with babies, board seats, and husbands in tow,” she writes. “We were wrong.”

Spar should know. One of the first women professors at Harvard Business School, she went on to have three children and became the chair of her department. Now, she’s the president of Barnard College, arguably the most important women’s college school in the country, and an institution firmly committed to feminism.

Wonder Women is Spar’s story and the culture’s. Armed with reams of new research, she examines how women’s lives have—and have not—changed over the past forty years. The challenges confronting women are more complex than ever. Yet they’re falling on generations of women who grew up believing that none of these things are supposed to matter now. Wise, often funny, and always human, Wonder Women asks: How far have women really come? And what will it take to get true equality for good?

- New York Times Bestseller

PRAISE

“Part memoir, part feminist history, and part cultural analysis, [Wonder Women] includes ample data and anecdotes about modern women and the workplace....[A] powerful observation on the evolution of feminism.”—The Washington Post

“A must-read for every woman on the move in life.” —Tina Brown

“Spar’s overall message is a universal one... her struggles are a reminder that now more than ever, women's issues are often more relatable than we think.”—Jezebel

DEBORAH L. SPAR is the president of Barnard College, a women’s liberal arts college affiliated with Columbia University. She received her doctorate in government from Harvard University and was the Spangler Family Professor of Business Administration at Harvard Business School.
Man Alive!

A Novel

Mary Kay Zuravleff

WARM HUMOR CLASHES WITH DISASTER AND FAMILY DRAMA — “THERE’S NOTHING LIKE A LIGHTNING STRIKE TO MAKE YOU REASSESS YOUR LIFE” (PARADE).

All it takes is a quarter to change pediatric psychiatrist Dr. Owen Lerner’s life. When the coin he’s feeding into a parking meter is struck by lightning, Lerner survives—and now all he wants to do is barbecue. What will happen to his patients, who rely on him to make sense of their world? What will happen to his family?

The bolt of lightning that lifts Owen Lerner into the air sends his clan into free fall. Man Alive! is a vivid portrait of family-on-family pain rendered with wisdom, generosity, and devastating humor: In the Lerner household, you will recognize your own.

• A Washington Post Notable Fiction Book of the Year
• For readers of Tom Perrotta

PRAISE

“Zuravleff mines the Lerner family’s subsequent unraveling with impressive intelligence and sly humor.”—People

“A family novel for smart people...Terrific.”—The Washington Post

“A lightning bolt to a parking meter certainly packs a punch, but so does every sentence and scene of this exuberant novel...Man Alive! is vividly alive and breathing. A sparkling book.”—Alice McDermott, National Book Award–winning author of Someone and Charming Billy

MARY KAY ZURAVLEFF is also the author of The Frequency of Souls and The Bowl Is Already Broken. Honors for her work include the American Academy’s Rosenthal Award and the James Jones First Novel Award, and she has been nominated for the Orange Prize, now known as the Women’s Prize for Fiction. She lives in Washington, D.C., where she serves on the board of the PEN/Faulkner Foundation and is a cofounder of the D.C. Women Writers Group.
The Tattooed Soldier

A Novel

Héctor Tobar

THE RIVETING DEBUT NOVEL FROM THE AUTHOR OF THE BARBARIAN NURSERIES, AN EXPLORATION OF DESTINY AND VIOLENCE ON THE EVE OF THE LOS ANGELES RiOTS

Antonio Bernal is a Guatemalan refugee in Los Angeles haunted by memories of his wife and child, who were murdered at the hands of a man marked with yellow ink. In a park near Antonio’s apartment, Guillermo Longoria extends his arm and reveals a sinister tattoo—yellow pelt, black spots, red mouth. It is the mark of the death squad, the Jaguar Battalion of the Guatemalan army.

The chance encounter between Antonio and his family’s killer ignites a psychological showdown between these two men. Each will discover that the war in Central America has migrated with them as they are engulfed by the quemazones—“the great burning” of the Los Angeles riots. A tragic tale of loss and destiny in the underbelly of an American city, The Tattooed Soldier is Pulitzer Prize–winning reporter Héctor Tobar’s mesmerizing exploration of violence and the marks it leaves upon us.

• A Finalist for the PEN/USA West Award for Fiction
• A Los Angeles Times Bestseller

PRAISE

“Tobar succeeds in bringing into focus both the civil turmoil that racks Guatemala and the inner turmoil that can consume people anywhere.”—People

“Suspenseful...Tobar has a fine storyteller’s instinct and moves his characters towards the climax with the skill of a chess master.”—Los Angeles Times

“Héctor Tobar’s accomplished first novel affords a perspective that is overdue and urgently needed in North American literature—an insider’s vision of L.A. and a Third World city. Riveting.”—Stuart Dybek

HÉCTOR TOBAR is a Pulitzer Prize–winning journalist and a novelist. He is the author of The Barbarian Nurseries, a New York Times Notable Book, and Translation Nation. The son of Guatemalan immigrants, he is a native of the city of Los Angeles, where he lives with his wife and three children.
The Trip to Echo Spring

On Writers and Drinking

Olivia Laing

OLIVIA LAING'S WIDELY ACCLAIMED ACCOUNT OF WHY HAS SOME OF THE BEST LITERATURE HAS BEEN CREATED BY WRITERS IN THE GRIP OF ALCOHOLISM

In *The Trip to Echo Spring*, Olivia Laing examines the link between creativity and alcohol through the work and lives of six of America’s finest writers: F. Scott Fitzgerald, Ernest Hemingway, Tennessee Williams, John Berryman, John Cheever, and Raymond Carver.

All six of these men were alcoholics, and the subject of drinking surfaces in some of their finest work, from *Cat on a Hot Tin Roof* to *A Moveable Feast*. Often, they did their drinking together: Hemingway and Fitzgerald ricocheting through the cafes of Paris in the 1920s; Carver and Cheever speeding to the liquor store in Iowa in the icy winter of 1973.

Olivia Laing grew up in an alcoholic family herself. One spring, wanting to make sense of this ferocious, entangling disease, she took a journey across America that plunged her into the heart of these overlapping lives. As she travels from Cheever’s New York to Williams’s New Orleans, and from Hemingway’s Key West to Carver’s Port Angeles, she pieces together a topographical map of alcoholism, from the horrors of addiction to the miraculous possibilities of recovery. Beautiful, captivating, and original, *The Trip to Echo Spring* strips away the myth of the alcoholic writer to reveal the terrible price creativity can exert.

• With a cover review *The New York Times Book Review*, and critical acclaim from most of the nation's leading publications, The Trip to Echo Spring was one of the most buzzed about books of 2013.

PRAISE

“Most beguiling and incisive.”—The New York Times

“[A] charming and gusto-driven look at the alcoholic insanity of six famous writers… There is much to learn from Laing’s supple scholarship—and much to enjoy, too.”—Lawrence Osborne, The New York Times Book Review

“Exquisite....Laing, wisely, doesn't reach any one-size-fits-all conclusions about the bond between the pen and the bottle.... A marvelous writer.”—Maureen Corrigan, NPR's Fresh Air

OLIVIA LAING is the author of *To the River*, published by Canongate to critical acclaim, and shortlisted for the Ondaatje Prize. She was deputy books editor of the *Observer*, and writes for *The Guardian, New Statesman*, and *The Times Literary Supplement*, among other publications. She lives in Cambridge.
Monsters: The 1985 Chicago Bears and the Wild Heart of Football

Rich Cohen

RICH COHEN’S SURPRISE HIT TALE OF A ONCE-IN-A-LIFETIME FOOTBALL TEAM AND THEIR LONE CHAMPIONSHIP SEASON

Payton, Hampton, McMahon, and Ditka—even the casual football fan recognizes these names, the pillars of the 1985 Chicago Bears: Walter “Sweetness” Payton, the fleet-footed running back; Dan Hampton, the hard-charging defensive tackle known as the “Danimal”; Jim McMahon, the punky quarterback, changing plays on the fly; and Mike Ditka, the hotheaded, mustachioed head coach.

In Monsters, he breathlessly recounts the thrilling narrative of their 1985 championship season. It’s a story filled with outsized characters and unbelievable-but-true anecdotes gleaned from extensive interviews with the players themselves. It’s a story about fathers and sons, love and loyalty, hope and redemption, and pain and joy. It’s a story about football, in all its beauty and all its brutality—the uniquely American sport.

These are the 1985 Chicago Bears as only Rich Cohen could describe them. You’ll never see the team, or the game, or your own childhood idols the same way ever again.

- A surprise New York Times-bestseller in its fifth printing since its hardcover publication in October.
- Has the makings of a long term sports classic in the vein of Friday Night Lights and The Blindside, which we expect to perform well in paperback and continue to sell consistently as a backlist title.

PRAISE


“[Rich Cohen’s] combination of reporting and remembrance is by turns evocative, revealing, quirky, and funny as hell.”—Bob Costas

“This book—full of soul and searching, and also knock-you-down funny—is not just a great sports book, not just a great Chicago book, but a great book, period.”—Dave Eggers

RICH COHEN is a New York Times bestselling author as well as a contributing editor at Vanity Fair and Rolling Stone. He has written eight books, including The Fish That Ate the Whale, Tough Jews, Israel Is Real, and the widely acclaimed memoir Sweet and Low. His work has appeared in The New Yorker, The Atlantic Monthly, Harper’s Magazine, and Best American Essays. He lives in Connecticut with his wife, three sons, and dog.
Old Man River

The Mississippi River in North American History

Paul Schneider

“PAUL SCHNEIDER RECOUNTS HISTORY AS A NOVELIST MIGHT. ONCE YOU START ONE OF HIS BOOKS, YOU FIND YOURSELF UNABLE TO PUT IT DOWN.”—JAMES LEE BURKE

Paul Schneider’s exploration of America’s great waterway takes the reader from the Mississippi River’s origins to its polluted present. Tracing its prehistory, geology, anthropology, and cultural and literary histories, Old Man River is as vast as its subject.

The fascinating cast of characters includes the French and Spanish explorers, Desoto, Marquette, and Juliet, the incomparable La Salle; George Washington fighting his first battle in an effort to secure the watershed; the birth of jazz and blues; literary greats like Melville, Dickens, Trollope, and, of course, Mark Twain.

Pirates and riverbats, gamblers and slaves, hustlers and landscape painters, loggers and catfishers, tourists and missionaries: It is a river of stories and myth.

Half devastated product of American ingenuity, half magnificent natural wonder, it is impossible to imagine America without the Mississippi.

PRAISE

“He’s a fantastic writer.”—Wes Craven, The Boston Globe

“Stunning...With such an expert hand on the tiller, Old Man River is an astonishing journey.”—Publishers Weekly (starred review)

“The territory Schneider studies is what some dismiss as ‘flyover country,’ but what fascinating stories ‘flyover country’ has to tell!”—Booklist

“Another chockablock, environmentally focused, ambitious volume from Schneider...A wild ride well worth taking.”—Kirkus Reviews

“Reminiscent of a Ken Burns documentary...this historical book becomes surprisingly moving and meditative.”—Cedar Rapids Gazette

PAUL SCHNEIDER is the acclaimed author of Bonnie and Clyde; Brutal Journey; The Enduring Shore; and The Adirondacks, a New York Times Book Review Notable Book. He and his family live in West Tisbury, Massachusetts.
Hild

Book One of the Light of the World Trilogy

Nicola Griffith

“LIKE GAME OF THRONES WITHOUT THE DRAGONS” (MANDA SCOTT), A BRILLIANT, SWEEPING HISOTRICAL NOVEL OF THE MOST POWERFUL WOMAN OF THE EARLY MIDDLE AGES: HILD

In seventh-century Britain, a new religion is coming ashore and small kingdoms are merging, frequently and violently. Hild is the king’s youngest niece, with a glittering mind and a natural authority.

She is destined to become one of the pivotal figures of the Middle Ages: Saint Hilda of Whitby. But now she has only the powerful curiosity of a bright child and a plotting uncle, Edwin of Northumbria, who will stop at nothing to become overking of Angles. Hild establishes a place for herself at his side as the king’s seer, and she is indispensable, so long as she doesn’t lead Edwin astray. The stakes are high—life and death—for Hild, for her family, and, increasingly, for those who seek the protection from this strange girl who can read the world and seems to see the future.

• Nominated for the Nebula Award for Best Novel
• First installment in the Light of the World Trilogy
• For readers of Susanna Clarke, George R. R. Martin, and Hilary Mantel

PRAISE

“Extraordinary...The novel resonates to many of the same chords as Beowulf, the legends of King Arthur, The Lord of the Rings, and Game of Thrones. —Neal Stephenson

“Everything in this book delighted me...Hild is a book as loving as it is fierce, brilliant, and accomplished. To read it felt like a privilege and a gift.”—NPR

“The most valid point of comparison [between Griffith and Martin] is Hild herself.”—New York Magazine

“Terrific...Our male heroes are going to be jealous.”—The Washington Post

NICOLA GRIFFITH is author of five previous novels. She has been a recipient of the Tiptree, Nebula, and World Fantasy awards, the Premio Italia, and the Lambda Literary Award (six times)—most recently for her memoir, And Now We Are Going to Have a Party. She lives with her wife, the writer Kelley Eskridge, in Seattle, Washington.
Report from the Interior

Paul Auster

Paul Auster’s most intimate autobiographical work to date

In the beginning, everything was alive. The smallest objects were endowed with beating hearts...

Having recalled his life through the story of his physical self in Winter Journal, internationally acclaimed novelist Paul Auster now remembers the experience of his development through the encounters of his interior self with the outer world in Report from the Interior.

From his baby’s-eye view of the man in the moon to his dawning awareness of the injustices of American life, Report from the Interior charts Auster’s moral, political, and intellectual journey as he inches his way toward adulthood through the postwar 1950s and into the turbulent 1960s.

Auster evokes the sounds, smells, and tactile sensations that marked his early life—and the many images that came at him, including moving images, until, at its unique climax, the book breaks away from prose into pure imagery: The final section of Report from the Interior recapitulates the first three parts, told in an album of pictures. At once a story of the times—which makes it everyone’s story—and the story of the emerging consciousness of a renowned literary artist, this four-part work answers the challenge of autobiography in ways rarely, if ever, seen before.

• An Indie Next Pick for December 2013, one of The Millions’ Most Anticipated Books of 2013, a Harper’s Bazaar Must-Read for November, and Newyorker.com Page-Turner Books to Watch for in November

PRAISE

“Intimate...This journey into the author’s memory banks reads like a primal scream, an attempt to relive his youth and evolution.”—O, The Oprah Magazine

“On the basis of his five memoirs alone, Auster should be recognized as one of the great American prose stylists of our time...[His] autobiographical works are jewels perfectly cut, luminous little books....It would not be inaccurate to describe the first section, which gives the book its title, as perfect.”—The New York Times Book Review

“Report from the Interior is a fetchingly original.”—Richmond Times-Dispatch

PAUL AUSTER is the bestselling author of Winter Journal, Sunset Park, Invisible, The Book of Illusions, and The New York Trilogy, among many other works. He has been awarded the Prince of Asturias Prize for Literature, the Prix Médicis Étranger, the Independent Spirit Award, and the Premio Napolì. He is a member of the American Academy of Arts and Letters, the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, and a Commandeur de l'Ordre des Arts et des Lettres. He lives in Brooklyn, New York.
Scarcity
The New Science of Having Less and How It Defines Our Lives
Sendhil Mullainathan; Eldar Shafir

“SCARCITY IS A CAPTIVATING BOOK, OVERFLOWING WITH NEW IDEAS, FANTASTIC STORIES, AND SIMPLE SUGGESTIONS THAT JUST MIGHT CHANGE THE WAY YOU LIVE.”—STEVEN D. LEVITT, COAUTHOR OF FREAKONOMICS

Why do successful people get things done at the last minute? Why does poverty persist? Why do the lonely find it hard to make friends? These questions seem unconnected, yet Sendhil Mullainathan and Eldar Shafir show that they are all examples of a mind-set produced by scarcity.

Drawing on cutting-edge research from behavioral science and economics, Mullainathan and Shafir show that scarcity creates a similar psychology for everyone struggling to manage with less than they need. Busy people fail to manage their time efficiently for the same reasons the poor and those maxed out on credit cards fail to manage their money. The dynamics of scarcity reveal why dieters find it hard to resist temptation, why students and busy executives mismanage their time, and why sugarcane farmers are smarter after harvest than before.

Once we start thinking in terms of scarcity and the strategies it imposes, the problems of modern life come into sharper focus. Scarcity provides a new way of understanding why the poor stay poor and the busy stay busy, and it reveals not only how scarcity leads us astray but also how individuals and organizations can better manage scarcity for greater satisfaction and success.

PRAISE

“[Scarcity offers] groundbreaking insights into...the effects of poverty on cognition and our ability to make choices about our lives.”—Samantha Power, The Wall Street Journal

“Compelling, important...A handy guide for those of us looking to better understand our inability to ever climb out of the holes we dig ourselves, whether related to money, relationships, or time.”—The Boston Globe

SENDHIL MULLAINATHAN, a professor of economics at Harvard University, is a recipient of a MacArthur Foundation “genius grant” and conducts research on development economics, behavioral economics, and corporate finance. He lives in Cambridge, Massachusetts. ELDAR SHAFIR is the William Stewart Tod Professor of Psychology and Public Affairs at Princeton University. He conducts research in cognitive science, judgment and decision-making, and behavioral economics. He lives in Princeton, New Jersey.
American Mirror: The Life and Art of Norman Rockwell

Deborah Solomon

THE “DEFINITIVE” BIOGRAPHY (THE NEW YORK OBSERVER) OF THE BELOVED ILLUSTRATOR OF THE TWENTIETH CENTURY BY THE CELEBRATED ART CRITIC

“Welcome to Rockwell Land,” writes Deborah Solomon, in this wise and spirited biography of the artist who provided America with a defining image of itself. As the star illustrator of The Saturday Evening Post for nearly half a century, Norman Rockwell mingled fact and fiction to capture the we-the-people, communitarian ideals of American democracy. Freckled Boy Scouts and their mutts, sprightly grandmothers, a young man standing up to speak at a town hall meeting, a little black girl named Ruby Bridges walking into an all-white school—here was an America whose citizens seemed to believe in equality and gladness for all.

Who was Norman Rockwell? Behind the folksy, pipe-smoking facade lay a surprisingly complex figure—a lonely man all too conscious of his inadequacies. He would eventually be treated by the influential psychotherapist Erik Erikson. In American Mirror, biographer and art critic Deborah Solomon draws on unpublished papers to explore the relationship between Rockwell’s anguished creativity and his genius for reflecting American innocence. Brilliantly observed and vividly described, American Mirror explains why Norman Rockwell deserves to be remembered as a master of the first rank.

• A Finalist for a Los Angeles Times Book Prize

PRAISE

“Solomon offers something new, entertaining, and disturbing...[American Mirror] is a revelation.”—John Wilmerding, The New York Times

“Solomon is blessedly free of art-world blather or snobbery, writing in a style that balances elegance, irony and straightforward storytelling.”—Anna Puente, USA Today

“Solomon's book is deeply researched, vigorously argued, and very well written.”—Christopher Benfey, The New York Review of Books

Red Fortress

History and Illusion in the Kremlin

Catherine Merridale

A MAGISTERIAL, RICHLY DETAILED HISTORY OF THE KREMLIN, AND OF THE CENTURIES OF RUSSIAN ELITES WHO HAVE SHAPED IT—AND BEEN SHAPED BY IT IN TURN

The Kremlin is the heart of the Russian state, a fortress whose blood-red walls have witnessed more than eight hundred years of political drama and extraordinary violence. It has been the seat of a priestly monarchy and a worldly church; it has served as a crossroads for diplomacy, trade, and espionage; it has survived earthquakes, devastating fires, and at least three revolutions. Its very name is a byword for enduring power. From Ivan the Terrible to Vladimir Putin, generations of Russian leaders have sought to use the Kremlin to legitimize their vision of statehood.

Drawing on a dazzling array of sources from hitherto unseen archives and rare collections, renowned historian Catherine Merridale traces the full history of this enigmatic fortress. The Kremlin has inspired innumerable myths, but no invented tales could be more dramatic than the operatic successions and savage betrayals that took place within its vast compound of palaces and cathedrals. Today, its sumptuous golden crosses and huge electric red stars blaze side by side as the Kremlin fulfills its centuries-old role, linking the country’s recent history to its distant past and proclaiming the eternal continuity of the Russian state.

More than an absorbing history of Russia’s most famous landmark, Red Fortress uses the Kremlin as a unique lens, bringing into focus the evolution of Russia’s culture and the meaning of its politics.

PRAISE

“Merridale’s extraordinary history of the red fortress mixes politics, history, architecture, and biography to lay bare the secret heart of Russia’s history...It is a delight to read, with pithy pen-portraits, poignant vignettes, and mordant summaries of the twists and turns of fate and fortune....Merridale does a brilliant job of piecing together the clues from the past and evading the constraints of the present.”—The Wall Street Journal

“Catherine Merridale’s Red Fortress is a tour de force, as readable as it is extensively researched.”—Financial Times

CATHERINE MERRIDALE is the author of the critically acclaimed Ivan’s War: Life and Death in the Red Army, 1939–1945, and Night of Stone: Death and Memory in Twentieth-Century Russia. A professor of contemporary history at Queen Mary University of London, she has also written for The Guardian, the Literary Review, and the London Review of Books, and contributes regularly to broadcasts on BBC radio. She lives in Oxfordshire, England.
Havisham

A Novel Inspired by Dickens's Great Expectations

Ronald Frame

IN THE TRADITION OF WIDE SARGASSO SEA, HAVISHAM IS THE ASTONISHING PRELUDE TO CHARLES DICKENS’S CLASSIC GREAT EXPECTATIONS.

Before she became the immortal and haunting Miss Havisham of Great Expectations, she was Catherine, a young woman with all of her dreams ahead of her. Spry, imperious, she is the daughter of a wealthy brewer. But she is never far from the smell of hops and the arresting letters on the brewhouse wall—HAVISHAM—a reminder of all she owes to the family name and the family business.

Sent by her father to stay with the Chadwycks, Catherine discovers elegant pastimes to remove the taint of her family’s new money. But for all her growing sophistication, Catherine is anything but worldly, and when a charismatic stranger pays her attention, everything—her heart, her future, the very Havisham name—is vulnerable.

In Havisham, Ronald Frame unfurls the psychological trauma that made young Catherine into Miss Havisham and cursed her to a life alone, roaming the halls of the mansion in the tatters of the dress she wore for the wedding she was never to have.

PRAISE

“Delicate and closely observed...What a lark. What a plunge.”—Louise Bayard, The Washington Post Book World

“Extraordinary...[Frame is] a master of the historical milieu...The nightmare crone of Great Expectations has been made animate. I don’t know if Dickens would have been a fan, but I am.”—Owen King, Los Angeles Review of Books

“Charles Dickens never revealed Miss Havisham’s backstory in Great Expectations, but Ronald Frame fills in the blanks with his illuminating prequel...Frame has brought a clean, modern sensibility to his rendering of the tale...intensely entrancing.”—Entertainment Weekly

RONALD FRAME was born in Glasgow, Scotland, and educated there and at Oxford University. He is also a dramatist, and winner of the Samuel Beckett Prize. Many of his original radio plays have been broadcast by the BBC. His novel The Lantern Bearers was longlisted for the Man Booker Prize, named the Scottish Book of the Year, and cited by the American Library Association. He lives outside Glasgow.
Lectures on the Will to Know

Lectures at the Collège de France, 1970--1971, and Oedipal Knowledge

Michel Foucault; Edited by Daniel Defert; General Editors: François Ewald and Alessandro Fontana; English Series Editor: Arnold I. Davidson; Translated by Graham Burchell

AVAILABLE IN ENGLISH FOR THE FIRST TIME, THE NINTH VOLUME IN FOUCAULT’S GROUNDBREAKING SERIES OF LECTURES GETS TO THE HEART OF HIS VIEWS ON TRUTH.

*Lectures on the Will to Know* reminds us that Michel Foucault’s work only ever had one object: truth. Here, he builds on his earlier work, *Discipline and Punish*, to explore the relationship between tragedy, conflict, and truth-telling. He also explores the different forms of truth-telling, and their relation to power and the law. The publication of *Lectures on the Will to Know* marks a milestone in Foucault’s reception, and it will no longer be possible to read him in the same way as before.

PRAISE

“[Foucault] must be reckoned with.”—*The New York Times Book Review*

“[Foucault] has an alert and sensitive mind that can ignore the familiar surfaces of established intellectual codes and ask new questions....[He] gives dramatic quality to the movement of culture.”—*The New York Review of Books*

“Foucault is quite central to our sense of where we are.”—*The Nation*

MICHEL FOUCAULT (1926–1984) acknowledged as the preeminent philosopher of France in the 1970s and ‘80s, continues to have enormous impact throughout the world in many disciplines. ARNOLD I. DAVIDSON is a professor at the University of Chicago and the University of Pisa. He is co-editor of the volume *Michel Foucault: Philosophie*. GRAHAM BURCHELL has written essays on Michel Foucault and is an editor of *The Foucault Effect*. 
Spell It Out
The Curious, Enthralling and Extraordinary Story of English Spelling

David Crystal

THE FASCINATING AND SURPRISING HISTORY OF ENGLISH SPELLING FROM DAVID CRYSTAL, EVERYONE’S FAVORITE EXPERT LOGOPHILE

With The Story of English in 100 Words, David Crystal took us on a tour through the history of our language. Now, with Spell It Out, he takes on the task of answering all the questions about how we spell: “Why is English spelling so difficult?” Or “Why are good spellers so proud of their achievement that when they see a misspelling they condemn the writer as sloppy, lazy, or uneducated?”

In thirty-seven short, engaging, and informative chapters, Crystal takes readers on a history of English spelling, starting with the Roman missionaries’ sixth century introduction of the Roman alphabet and ending with where the language might be going. He looks individually at each letter in the alphabet and its origins. He considers the question of vowels and how people developed a way to tell whether or not it was long or short. He looks at influences from other cultures, and explains how English speakers understood that the “o” in “hopping” was a short vowel, rather than the long vowel of “hoping”. If you’ve ever asked yourself questions like “Why do the words ‘their,’ ‘there,’ and ‘they’re’ sound alike, but mean very different things?” or “How can we tell the difference between ‘charge” the verb and ‘charge” the noun?” David Crystal’s Spell It Out will spell it all out for you.

PRAISE

“An authoritative yet accessible history of English spelling, David Crystal takes a jaunty view of a subject often mired in pedantic dullness.” — The Wall Street Journal

“Crystal makes a compelling case that spelling can be an adventure.” — Booklist

DAVID CRYSTAL is the author of The Story of English in 100 Words and Honorary Professor of Linguistics at the University of Wales, Bangor. In 1995, he was awarded the Order of the British Empire for services to the English language. He lives in the United Kingdom.
Sorry!

The English and Their Manners

Henry Hitchings

A HUMOROUS AND CHARMING INVESTIGATION INTO THE HISTORY OF AND REASONS BEHIND ENGLISH MANNERS

Most of us know a bit about what passes for good manners—holding doors open, sending thank-you notes, no elbows on the table—and we certainly know bad manners when we see them. But where has this patchwork of beliefs and behaviors come from? How did manners develop? How do they change? And why do they matter so much? In examining English manners, Henry Hitchings delves into the English character and investigates what it means to be English.

Sorry! presents an amusing, illuminating, and quirky audit of English manners. From basic table manners to appropriate sexual conduct, via hospitality, chivalry, faux pas, and online etiquette, Hitchings traces the history of England’s customs and courtesies. Putting some of the most astute observers of humanity—including Jane Austen and Samuel Pepys—under the microscope, he uses their lives and writings to pry open the often downright peculiar secrets of the English character. Hitchings’s blend of history, anthropology, and personal journey helps us understand the bizarre and contested cultural baggage that goes along with our understanding of what it means to have good manners.

PRAISE

Praise for The Language Wars

“Mr. Hitchings’s trenchant prose is irresistible.”—The Baltimore Sun

“Extraordinary…Chock-full of historical and literary references, The Language Wars is a fascinating, eye-opening look at the evolution of the English language.”—The Huffington Post

“Crisply written, amusing, informative, and thought-provoking. Anyone interested in the English language and its history should read it.”—The Sunday Telegraph (London)

HENRY HITCHINGS was born in 1974. He is the author of The Language Wars, The Secret Life of Words, Who’s Afraid of Jane Austen?, and Defining the World. He has contributed to many newspapers and magazines and is the theater critic for the London Evening Standard. He lives in London.
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