The Emoji Code

The Linguistics Behind Smiley Faces and Scaredy Cats

Vyvyan Evans

Drawing from disciplines as diverse as linguistics, cognitive science, psychology, and neuroscience, The Emoji Code explores how emojis are expanding communication and not ending it.

For all the handwringing about the imminent death of written language, emoji—those happy faces and hearts—is not taking us backwards to the dark ages of illiteracy. Every day 41.5 billion texts are sent by one quarter of the world, using 6 million emoji. Evans argues that these symbols enrich our ability to communicate and allow us to express our emotions and induce empathy—ultimately making us all better communicators.

The Emoji Code charts the evolutionary origins of language, the social and cultural factors that govern its use, change, and development; as well as what it reveals about the human mind. In most communication, nonverbal cues are our emotional expression, signal our personality, and our attitude towards our addressee. They provide the essential means of nuance and are essential to getting our ideas across. But in digital communication, these cues are missing, which can lead to miscommunication. The explosion of emoji, in less than four years, has arisen precisely because it fulfills exactly these functions which are essential for communication but are otherwise absent in texts and emails. Evans persuasively argues that emoji add tone and an emotional voice and nuance, making us more effective communicators in the digital age.

PRAISE

"Is the way we think about language on the cusp of a revolution? After reading The Language Myth, it certainly looks as if a major shift is in progress, one that will open people’s minds to liberating new ways of thinking about language.”—The New Scientist on The Language Myth

"A much-needed, comprehensive critique of universal grammar. Vyvyan Evans builds a compelling case that will be difficult to refute.”—David Crystal on The Language Myth

VYVYAN EVANS is an internationally renowned expert on language and communication. He is Professor of Linguistics at Bangor University, and received his PhD in Linguistics from Georgetown University; he is the author of several books, including The Language Myth: Why Language Is Not an Instinct, and his writing has appeared in many publications, including The Guardian, The New Republic, Newsweek, and The New Scientist.
Renowned journalist Deborah Campbell’s riveting true story of her search for Ahlam, her kidnapped guide and friend, in the midst of the unfolding crisis in Syria

The story begins in 2007 when Deborah Campbell travels undercover to Damascus to report on the exodus of Iraqis into Syria following the overthrow of Saddam Hussein. There she meets and hires Ahlam, a refugee working as a “fixer”—providing Western media with trustworthy information and contacts. Ahlam has fled her home in Iraq after being kidnapped while running a humanitarian center. Strong and charismatic, she has become an unofficial leader of the refugee community in Damascus, supporting her husband and two children through her work with foreign journalists, and working to set up a makeshift school for displaced girls.

Campbell is inspired by Ahlam’s determination to create something good amid so much suffering, and the two women become close friends. But one morning Ahlam is seized from her home in front of Campbell’s eyes. Haunted by the prospect that their work together has led to her friend’s arrest, Campbell spends the months that follow trying to find her—all the while fearing she could be next.

The compelling story of two women caught up in the shadowy politics behind today’s most searing conflict, A Disappearance in Damascus reminds us of the courage of those who risk their lives to bring us the world’s news.

PRAISE

“Gripping, inspiring, and at times intensely sorrowful, A Disappearance in Damascus provides a portrait of tremendous courage and resourcefulness within the community of Iraqi war survivors in Syria, the devastation war wreaks upon civilians, and a remarkable friendship between two women.”—Phil Klay, National Book Award-winning author of Redeployment

DEBORAH CAMPBELL is an award-winning writer who has reported from many countries around the world. Her work has appeared in Harper’s, The Economist, The Guardian, New Scientist, and Foreign Policy, and she is the recipient of three National Magazine Awards. A Disappearance in Damascus won the Hilary Weston Writers’ Trust Prize for Non-Fiction. Campbell teaches at the University of British Columbia.
Nasty Women

Feminism, Resistance, and Revolution in Trump's America

Samhita Mukhopadhyay and Kate Harding

A trade paperback anthology of original essays from leading feminist writers on protest and solidarity in the Trump era

The 2016 election of Donald Trump to the U.S. presidency was a devastating blow to marginalized people around the country—immigrants, Muslims, the LGBTQ community, and black Americans. Intersecting with every one of those groups were women, who despaired over the halt in progress of their rights as equal citizens. Adding insult to injury, women had to watch one of the most qualified candidates in history, Hillary Clinton, lose to an inexperienced reality TV star who bragged about sexually assaulting women.

Has the country become more misogynist, or simply shown its true face? When 53 percent of white women voted for Trump and 94 percent of black women voted for Hillary, can we even speak about “women” as a cohesive group? In the face of these challenges, how can we work together to persist, resist, and enact lasting change?

• Contributors include Cheryl Strayed, Rebecca Solnit, Jessica Valenti, Katha Pollitt, Samantha Irby, and Nicole Chung, among others

SAMHITA MUKHOPADHYAY is a writer, editor, speaker, and technologist. Currently the Senior Editorial Director at Mic, she is also the former Executive Editor of Feministing.com and author of Outdated: Why Dating is Ruining Your Love Life. KATE HARDING is the author of Asking for It: The Alarming Rise of Rape Culture—and What We Can Do About It. She is also a co-author of The Book of Jezebel and Lessons from the Fat-o-Sphere.
Joni

The Anthology

Edited by Barney Hoskyns

Joni Mitchell is considered one of the greatest songwriters of her generation. This singular collection charts every major period of her iconic career, as they happened, with interviews, album re...

Joni Mitchell has only visited the U.S. Top 40 singles chart four times in her long recording career—and the Top 20 just once. So much for "stoking the star-maker machinery / behind the popular song", as she sang in her 1974 song "Free Man in Paris."

What Joni has done, on the other hand, is record a handful of masterful albums - Blue, Court And Spark, The Hissing Of Summer Lawns for starters - that prove she is right up there with the big boys: with Bob Dylan, Brian Wilson and Stevie Wonder. Few women can hold a candle to her oeuvre: maybe Aretha Franklin, maybe Kate Bush, Bjork, Joanna Newsom. Some of Mitchell's songs are great art. Almost all are emotionally complex and musically gripping.

Joni collects the most incisive commentary on Joni's music - and some of the most candid conversations she has had with journalists during her long career. From a review of her first performance at L.A.'s legendary Troubadour in 1968 to a career-sweeping 1998 interview by MOJO's Dave DiMartino, this anthology of almost 60 articles charts every stage of Joni's extraordinary journey as a singer, songwriter and artist.

BARNEY HOSKYNS is the cofounder and editorial director of online rock-journalism library Rock's Backpages (www.rocksbackpages.com), and author of several books including Hotel California: Singer-Songwriters & Cocaine Cowboys in the LA Canyons (2005) and Lowside of the Road: A Life of Tom Waits (2009). A former US correspondent for MOJO, Hoskyns writes for Uncut and other UK publications, and has contributed to Vogue, Rolling Stone, and GQ.
The Un-Discovered Islands

An Archipelago of Myths and Mysteries, Phantoms and Fakes

Malachy Tallack; Illustrated by Katie Scott

Scottish author and new voice Malachy Tallack takes us on an adventure into the beautiful, mysterious, and mythical landscapes of the world with *Un-Discovered Islands.*

Explored in this book are over twenty islands that have decidedly human origins, whether they are the products of imagination, deception, or simply human error. They are phantoms, fakes, and legends: an archipelago of ex-islands and forgotten lands. From the well-known myths of Atlantis to the more obscure legends of Thule and Antilla, from the islands of pure fiction to others whose existence is still in question, Malachy has created an atlas of fairytale and wonder.

In the book, he tells the stories and myths of islands we have known, while also excavating the truth and the fact about the history and reality of these sometimes phantom lands.

Of broad appeal to both history, arm chair travel, and geography readers alike, the book has the added bonus of beautiful, fantastical illustrations created by award-winning artist Katie Scott.

**PRAISE**

"Intrepid intellectual fun, and Katie Scott's bold illustrations give an exotic color to the pages."—*Sunday Herald*

"It's a joy to island-hop through the book. After wowing the world with *Sixty Degrees North* last year, Tallack's second book is shaped by the same, clear, sharp prose and keen curiosity. Packed full of intelligent musings on everything from religion to astronomy, alchemy to the occult."—*National Geographic Traveler*

"One of the best new travel books."—*The Guardian*

MALACHY TALLACK has written for the *New Statesman,* the *Guardian,* and *Caught by the River,* among others. He won a New Writers' Award from Scottish Book Trust in 2014, and the Robert Louis Stevenson Fellowship in 2015. He lives in Glasgow. KATIE SCOTT is the illustrator of *Botanicum,* and of the bestselling *Animalium,* which was chosen as the *Sunday Times* Children's Book of the Year. She studied illustration at the University of Brighton.
Slouching Towards Bethlehem

*Essays*

Joan Didion

The essential portrait of America in the sixties, by the acclaimed author of *The Year of Magical Thinking*

The first nonfiction work by one of the most distinctive prose stylists of our era, *Slouching Towards Bethlehem* remains, forty years after its first publication, the essential portrait of America—particularly California—in the sixties. It focuses on such subjects as John Wayne and Howard Hughes, growing up a girl in California, ruminating on the nature of good and evil in a Death Valley motel room, and, especially, the essence of San Francisco's Haight-Ashbury, the heart of the counterculture.

- For more than twenty years, Picador has been producing beautifully packaged literary fiction and nonfiction books from Manhattan's Flatiron Building. Our Modern Classics line pairs iconic books with a design that's both small enough to fit in your pocket and unique enough to stand out on your bookshelf.

**PRAISE**

"Joan Didion is one of the very few writers of our time who approaches her terrible subject with absolute seriousness, with fear and humility and awe. Her powerful irony is often sorrowful rather than clever...She has been an articulate witness to the most stubborn and intractable truths of our time, a memorable voice, partly eulogistic, partly despairing; always in control."—Joyce Carol Oates

JOAN DIDION's many books include *The Year of Magical Thinking*, for which she received the National Book Award. She lives in New York City.
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Nickel and Dimed: On (Not) Getting By in America
Barbara Ehrenreich

Our sharpest and most original social critic goes "undercover" as an unskilled worker to reveal the dark side of American prosperity

Millions of Americans work full-time, year-round, for poverty-level wages. In 1998, Barbara Ehrenreich decided to join them. She was inspired by a simple question: How does anyone survive, let alone prosper, on $6 an hour?

Moving from Florida to Maine to Minnesota, she worked as a waitress, a hotel maid, a cleaning woman, a nursing home aide, and a Wal-Mart sales clerk. She lived in trailer parks and crumbling residential motels. Very quickly, she discovered that no job is truly "unskilled," that even the lowliest occupations require exhausting mental and muscular effort. She also learned that one job is not enough; you need at least two if you intend to live indoors.

Nickel and Dimed reveals low-rent America in all its tenacity, anxiety, and surprising generosity—a land of Big Boxes, fast food, and a thousand desperate stratagems for survival.

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PRAISE
"One of today's most original writers."—The New York Times

"Barbara Ehrenreich is smart, provocative, funny, and sane in a world that needs more of all four."—Diane Sawyer

"It would be hard to find a Wittier, more insightful guide to the last three decades than Ehrenreich. Arguing with her is part of the pleasure of reading her."—Laura Shapiro, Newsweek

BARBARA EHRENREICH is the bestselling author of sixteen previous books, including Bait and Switch, Bright-sided, This Land Is Their Land, Dancing in the Streets and Blood Rites. A frequent contributor to Harper's and The Nation, she has also been a columnist at The New York Times and Time magazine.
Regarding the Pain of Others
Susan Sontag

One of the greatest critics of her generation delivers an extended study of human violence, reflecting on a question first posed by Virginia Woolf: How in your opinion are we to prevent war?

How does the spectacle of the sufferings of others (via television or newsprint) affect us? Are viewers inured—or incited—to violence by the depiction of cruelty? In Regarding the Pain of Others, Susan Sontag takes a fresh look at the representation of atrocity—from Goya's The Disasters of War to photographs of the American Civil War, lynchings of blacks in the South, and the Nazi death camps, to contemporary horrific images of Bosnia, Sierra Leone, Rwanda, Israel and Palestine, and New York City on September 11, 2001.

In Regarding the Pain of Others Susan Sontag yet again changes the way we think about the uses and meanings of images in our world.

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PRAISE

"Wise and somber...Sontag's closing words acknowledge that there are realities which no picture can convey."—Los Angeles Times Book Review

"Bristles with a sense of commitment—to seeing the world as it is, to worrying about the ways it is represented, even to making some gesture in the direction of changing it...the performance is thrilling to witness."—The New York Times Magazine

"A fiercely challenging book...immensely thought-provoking."—The Christian Science Monitor

SUSAN SONTAG (1933–2004) was the author of numerous works of nonfiction, including the groundbreaking collection of essays Against Interpretation, and of four novels, including In America, which won the National Book Award.
Giving Up the Ghost

A Memoir

Hilary Mantel

"Dazzlingly written...A highly unorthodox account of what is essentially unsayable about the inward uncharted life" (Joyce Carol Oates, The New York Review of Books).

In postwar rural England, Hilary Mantel grew up convinced that the most improbable of accomplishments, including "chivalry, horsemanship, and swordplay," were within her grasp. Once married, however, she acquired a persistent pain that led to destructive drugs and patronizing psychiatry, ending in an ineffective but irrevocable surgery. There would be no children; in herself she found instead one novel, and then another.

Dazzling, wry, and visceral, Giving Up the Ghost is a deeply compelling book that will bring new converts to Mantel's dark genius.

• For more than twenty years, Picador has been producing beautifully packaged literary fiction and nonfiction books from Manhattan's Flatiron Building. Our Modern Classics line pairs iconic books with a design that's both small enough to fit in your pocket and unique enough to stand out on your bookshelf.

PRAISE

"Blazing insights [and] poetic discourses that rattle the soul...Mantel doesn’t simply hit close to home, she knocks at our closets and opens our doors."—The Boston Globe

"Mantel's talents are stronger than her misfortunes...[this book comes] from the mind of a fine author, whose body has imposed its own terrible penances."—The Washington Post

HILARY MANTEL is the author of fourteen books, including the bestselling novels Wolf Hall and Bring Up the Bodies, each of which won the Man Booker Prize. She counts the David Cohen Prize, the Costa Book of the Year, the Costa Novel Award, the Walter Scott Prize, and the National Book Critics Circle Award, among her honors. She lives on the coast of East Devon, England, with her husband and is at work on the third and final installment of the Thomas Cromwell trilogy.
Call Me by Your Name
A Novel

André Aciman

Now a major motion picture from director Luca Guadagnino, starring Armie Hammer and Timothée Chalamet, and produced by the Academy Award winning producer of A Room with a View

Call Me by Your Name is the story of a sudden and powerful romance that blossoms between an adolescent boy and a summer guest at his parents' cliffside mansion on the Italian Riviera. During the restless summer weeks, unrelenting but buried currents of obsession, fascination, and desire intensify their passion as they test the charged ground between them and verge toward the one thing both already fear they may never truly find again: total intimacy. André Aciman's critically acclaimed debut novel is a frank, unsentimental, heartrending elegy to human passion.


PRAISE

"Superb . . . The beauty of Aciman's writing and the purity of his passions should place this extraordinary first novel within the canon of great romantic love stories for everyone."—The Washington Post Book World

"An extraordinary examination of longing and the complicated ways in which we negotiate the experience of attraction."—Mark Doty, O, The Oprah Magazine

André Aciman is the author of The Enigma Variations, Eight White Nights, False Papers, Alibis, and Harvard Square, and the editor of The Proust Project. He teaches comparative literature at the Graduate Center of the City University of New York and lives with his wife in Manhattan.
Thank You for Your Service

David Finkel

“A stunning, moving, subdued masterpiece of a book” (The Christian Science Monitor), now a major motion picture starring Amy Schumer and Miles Teller

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 tour that changed their lives forever.

Thank You for Your Service is the story of what happened afterward, following many of those same men as they return home and struggle to reintegrate—both into their family lives and into American society at large. Now a major motion picture, it is both a necessary work of journalism and a deeply humane act of understanding: a journey inside the heads of those who must live the rest of their lives with the chilling realities of war.

• Directed by American Sniper screenwriter Jason Hall
• To be distributed by Universal Pictures
• A critically acclaimed story, winner of the first-ever Carla Furstenberg Cohen Literary Prize in Nonfiction and a finalist for a Los Angeles Times Book Prize and a National Book Critics Circle Award

PRAISE

“Eloquently reported...This is not—or 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.
HHhH: “Himmlers Hirn heisst Heydrich,” or “Himmler's brain is called Heydrich.” The most lethal man in Hitler's cabinet, Reinhard Heydrich seemed indestructible—until two exiled operatives, a Slovak and a Czech, killed him and changed the course of History.

In Laurent Binet's mesmerizing debut, we follow Jozef Gabcik and Jan Kubiš from their dramatic escape from Nazi-occupied Czechoslovakia, to their fatal attack on Heydrich and their own brutal deaths. A seamless blend of truth, memory, and Binet’s own remarkable imagination, HHhH is at once thrilling and intellectually engrossing—a fast-paced novel of the Second World War that is also a profound meditation on the debt we owe to history.

• “One of Europe’s hottest film projects” (Variety)
• Produced by leading French producer Alain Goldman (La Vie en Rose, The Connection) and Daniel Crown for Red Crown (Beasts of No Nation)
• A Finalist for National Book Critics Circle Award and a NYTBR Notable Book

PRAISE

“A literary tour de force...A gripping novel that brings us closer to history as it actually happened.”—Alan Riding, The New York Times Book Review

“Binet has threaded his novel with a contemporary story, which is the drama of the book's own making....The tone is clever, witty, casually postmodern....Captivating.”—James Wood, The New Yorker

“One of the best and most original novels I've read in years....HHhH is paced like a thriller, in which the endgame is the fate of the world.”—Milwaukee Journal-Sentinel

LAURENT BINET is a professor at the University of Paris III, where he lectures on French literature. The winner of the prestigious Prix Goncourt du Premier Roman in 2010, HHhH is his first novel. He lives in Paris, France.
Crash

A Novel

J. G. Ballard

"A work of very powerful originality. Ballard is among our finest writers of fiction." —Anthony Burgess

An underground classic, Crash explores the disturbing potentialities of contemporary society's increasing dependence on technology as intermediary in human relations.

In this hallucinatory novel, the car provides the hellish tableau in which Vaughan, a "TV scientist" turned "nightmare angel of the highways," experiments with erotic atrocities among auto crash victims, each more sinister than the last. James Ballard, his friend and fellow obsessive, tells the story of this twisted visionary as he careens rapidly toward his own demise in an internationally orchestrated car crash with Elizabeth Taylor.

PRAISE

"The real shock of Crash is that technology has entered into even our most intimate human relations....There is always this mix of futuristic dread and excitement, a sweet spot where dystopia and utopia converge." —Zadie Smith, The New York Review of Books

"Crash sensationally and scintillatingly succeeds." —Martin Amis

Born in Shanghai in 1930, J. G. BALLARD is the author of sixteen novels, including Empire of the Sun, The Drowned World, and Crash. He lived in London until his death in April 2009.
Super-Cannes

A Novel

J. G. Ballard

"Super-Cannes...confirms J.G. Ballard's substantial place in contemporary fiction." — The Washington Times

Eden-Olympia is more than just a multinational business park, it is a virtual city-state in itself, with the latest in services and facilities for the most elite high-tech industries. Isolated and secure, overlooking the luxurious French Riviera, the residents lack nothing. Yet one day Dr. Greenwood from Eden-Olympia's clinic goes on a suicidal shooting spree. Dr. Jane Sinclair is hired as his replacement, and she and her husband, Paul, are given Dr. Greenwood's house as a residence.

Unable to work while recovering from an accident, Paul spends his days taking a close look at the house where Dr. Greenwood shot himself and three hostages. He discovers clues in the house lead him to question Eden-Olympia's official account of the killings. Drawn into investigating the activities of the park's leading citizens, while Jane is lured deeper into Eden-Olympia's inner workings, Paul uncovers the dangerous psychological vents that maintain Eden-Olympia's smoothly running surface. An experiment is underway at Eden-Olympia, an experiment in power and brutality. Soon Paul finds himself in race to save himself and his wife before they are crushed by forces that may be beyond anyone's control.

PRAISE

"Ballard's prose is seductive and pellucid and his stories compelling.... Spiked with...gnomic dialogue and black, black humor, this book is also a captivating Chandlerian mystery." — The Washington Post Book World

"Ballard's fictional world [is] like no one else's." — Atlantic Monthly

"Ballard is our poet laureate of Modernism's dead zones...(Super-Cannes) achieves a brilliant, thorny ambiguity—the kind that lodges splinterlike in your imagination, and refuses to come loose." — LA Weekly

"One of his finest." — San Francisco Chronicle

Born in Shanghai in 1930, J. G. BALLARD is the author of sixteen novels, including Empire of the Sun, The Drowned World, and Crash. He lived in London until his death in April 2009.
Super Sushi Ramen Express

A Culinary Adventure Through Japan

Michael Booth

"Establishes Michael Booth as the next Bill Bryson" (Liesl Schillinger, The New York Times Book Review).

Japan is arguably the preeminent food nation on earth, a Mecca for the world’s greatest chefs, with more Michelin stars than any other country. The Japanese go to extraordinary lengths and expense to eat food that is marked both by its exquisite preparation and exotic content. Their creativity, dedication, and courage in the face of dishes such as cod sperm and octopus ice cream is only now beginning to be fully appreciated in the sushi- and ramen-saturated West, as are the remarkable health benefits of the traditional Japanese diet.

Food and travel writer Michael Booth takes the culinary pulse of contemporary Japan, learning fascinating tips and recipes that few westerners have been privy to before. Accompanied by two fussy eaters under the age of six, he and his wife travel the length of the country, from bear-infested, beer-loving Hokkaido to snake-infested, seaweed-loving Okinawa. Along the way, they dine with—and score a surprising victory over—sumo wrestlers; pamper the world’s most expensive cows with massage and beer; share a seaside lunch with free-diving, female abalone hunters; and meet the greatest chefs working in Japan today. Less happily, they witness a mass fugu slaughter, are traumatized by an encounter with giant crabs, and attempt a calamitous cooking demonstration for the lunching ladies of Kyoto.

• For readers of Bill Bryson and J. Maarten Troost

PRAISE

"Funny [and] anecdotal...[Booth] sinks his teeth into the sort of unvarnished cultural-culinary reporting that made Calvin Trillin a star three decades ago....From a discussion of what makes one soy sauce better than another to a visit to a wasabi farm (that’s right...it doesn’t start out as a tube of green paste!), Booth whistle-stops his way through Japan making toothsome observations all the way."—Passport magazine

MICHAEL BOOTH writes regularly for The Guardian, The Independent, The Times, The Telegraph, and Condé Nast Traveller magazine, among many other publications globally. He is the Copenhagen correspondent for Monocle magazine and Monocle 24 radio and lives in Denmark with his wife and two sons.
"American medicine, Being Mortal reminds us, has prepared itself for life but not for death. This is Atul Gawande's most powerful— and moving— book" (Malcolm Gladwell).

Medicine has triumphed in modern times, transforming the dangers of childbirth, injury, and disease from harrowing to manageable. But when it comes to the inescapable realities of aging and death, what medicine can do often runs counter to what it should.

Through eye-opening research and gripping stories of his own patients and family, Gawande reveals the suffering this dynamic has produced. Nursing homes, devoted above all to safety, battle with residents over the food they are allowed to eat and the choices they are allowed to make. Doctors, uncomfortable discussing patients' anxieties about death, fall back on false hopes and treatments that are actually shortening lives instead of improving them. And families go along with all of it.

In his bestselling books, Atul Gawande, a practicing surgeon, has fearlessly revealed the struggles of his profession. Now he examines its ultimate limitations and failures— in his own practices as well as others'— as life draws to a close. Riveting, honest, and humane, Being Mortal shows how the ultimate goal is not a good death but a good life— all the way to the very end.

• #1 New York Times Bestseller

PRAISE

"Beautifully crafted... Being Mortal is a clear-eyed, informative exploration of what growing old means in the twenty-first century.... A book I cannot recommend highly enough. This should be mandatory reading for every American.... It provides a useful roadmap of what we can and should be doing to make the last years of life meaningful."—Time.com

ATUL GAWANDE is author of three bestselling books: Complications, a finalist for the National Book Award; Better, selected by Amazon as one of the ten best books of 2007; and The Checklist Manifesto. He is also a surgeon at Brigham and Women's Hospital in Boston, a staff writer for The New Yorker, and a professor at Harvard Medical School and the Harvard School of Public Health. He has won the Lewis Thomas Prize for Writing about Science, a MacArthur Fellowship, and two National Magazine Awards.
Oh, Florida!
How America's Weirdest State Influences the Rest of the Country

Craig Pittman

A fun- and fact-filled New York Times bestselling investigation into why the Sunshine State is the weirdest but also the most influential state in the Union.

To some people, Florida is a paradise; to others, a punch line. As Oh, Florida! shows, it’s both of these and, more important, it’s a Petri dish, producing trends that end up influencing the rest of the country. Without Florida there would be no NASCAR, no Bettie Page pinups, no Glenn Beck radio rants, no USA Today, no “Stand Your Ground,”...you get the idea.

To outsiders, Florida seems baffling. It’s a state where the voters went for Barack Obama twice, yet elected a Tea Party candidate as governor. Florida is touted as a carefree paradise, yet it’s also known for its perils—alligators, sinkholes, pythons, hurricanes, and sharks, to name a few. It attracts 90 million visitors a year, some drawn by its impressive natural beauty, others bewitched by its manmade fantasies.

Oh, Florida! explores those contradictions and shows how they fit together to make this the most interesting state. It is the first book to explore the reasons why Florida is so wild and weird—and why that’s okay. But there is far more to Florida than its sideshow freakiness. Oh, Florida! explains how Florida secretly, subtly influences all the other states in the Union, both for good and for ill.

• New York Times Bestseller
• With a new afterword

PRAISE

"An extraordinary catalog of 'weird Florida'...the definitive guide."—Los Angeles Times

"Hilarious."—Financial Times

CRAIG PITTMAN is an award-winning journalist and the author of three other books. A native Floridian, he lives in St. Petersburg with his wife and two children.
American Treasures
The Secret Efforts to Save the Declaration of Independence, the Constitution, and the Gettysburg Address

Stephen Puleo

The narrative history of America's secret efforts to hide its founding documents from Axis powers, and its national tradition of uniting to defend the definition of democracy.

On December 26, 1941, Secret Service Agent Harry E. Neal stood on a platform at Washington's Union Station, watching a train chug off into the dark and feeling at once relieved and inexorably anxious. These were dire times; as Hitler's armies plowed across Europe, seizing or destroying the Continent's historic artifacts at will, Japan bristled to the East, the Axis was rapidly closing in.

So, FDR set about hiding the country's valuables. On the train speeding away from Neal sat four plain-wrapped cases containing the documentary history of American democracy: the Declaration of Independence, the Constitution, the Gettysburg Address, and more, guarded by a battery of agents and bound for safekeeping in the nation's most impenetrable hiding place.

American Treasures charts the little-known journeys of these American crown jewels. From the risky and audacious adoption of the Declaration of Independence in 1776 to our modern Fourth of July celebrations, American Treasures shows how the ideas captured in these documents underscore the nation's strengths and hopes, and embody its fundamental values of liberty and equality. Stephen Puleo weaves exciting stories of freedom under fire—from the Declaration and Constitution smuggling out of Washington days before the British burned the capital in 1814, to their covert relocation during WWII—crafting a sweeping history of a nation united to preserve its definition of democracy.

PRAISE
"Captivating...American Treasures holds a wealth of knowledge about the founding documents and a celebration of American life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness."—Parade

STEPHEN PULEO is a historian, college teacher, public speaker, and the author of six books. He and his wife reside in the Boston area.
Black Water

A Novel

Louise Doughty

From the author of Apple Tree Yard comes "powerful, probing fiction in the tradition of Graham Greene and John le Carré" *(Kirkus Reviews, starred)*

John Harper is in hiding in a remote hut on a tropical island. As he lies awake at night, listening to the rain on the roof, he believes his life may be in danger. But he is less afraid of what is going to happen than of what he’s already done.

In a local town, he meets Rita, a woman with her own tragic history. They begin an affair, but can they offer each other redemption? Or do the ghosts of the past always catch up with us in the end?

Moving between Europe during the Cold War, Civil Rights–era California, and Indonesia during the massacres of 1965 and the subsequent military dictatorship, Louise Doughty’s *Black Water* explores some of the darkest events of recent history through the story of one troubled man.

• For readers of Olen Steinhauer

**PRAISE**

“Doughty’s excellent new novel is a character study, a glimpse at mid-century American civil rights, a thriller, a meditation on the effects of foreign policy on individuals, a modern love story and a portrait of Indonesian unrest in the 20th century....If it sounds like a handful, it is. But Doughty has found an ideal vehicle for her wide-ranging interests.”—Olen Steinhauer, *The New York Times Book Review* (Editors’ Choice)

“Doughty has created a novel comparable to Graham Greene's masterpiece *The Quiet American*....Black Water is gripping.”—Shelf Awareness

LOUISE DOUGHTY is the author of seven novels, including *Apple Tree Yard*, which was a top-ten bestseller in the U.K. and Ireland and has been published or is being translated into twenty-two languages. It was long-listed for *The Guardian*'s Not the Booker Prize and short-listed for the CWA Steel Dagger Award and the National Book Awards Crime/Thriller of the Year.
A spirited and revealing memoir by the most celebrated editor of his time

After editing The Columbia Review, staging plays at Cambridge, and a stint in the greeting-card department of Macy's, Robert Gottlieb stumbled into a job at Simon and Schuster. By the time he left to run Alfred A. Knopf a dozen years later, he was the editor in chief, having discovered and edited Catch-22 and The American Way of Death, among other bestsellers. At Knopf, Gottlieb edited an astonishing list of authors, including Toni Morrison, John Cheever, Doris Lessing, John le Carré, Michael Crichton, Lauren Bacall, Katharine Graham, Robert Caro, Nora Ephron, and Bill Clinton—not to mention Bruno Bettelheim and Miss Piggy. In Avid Reader, Gottlieb writes with wit and candor about succeeding William Shawn as the editor of The New Yorker, and the challenges and satisfactions of running America's preeminent magazine. Sixty years after joining Simon and Schuster, Gottlieb is still at it—editing, anthologizing, and, to his surprise, writing.

But this account of a life founded upon reading is about more than the arc of a singular career—one that also includes a lifelong involvement with the world of dance. It's about transcendent friendships and collaborations, "elective affinities" and family, psychoanalysis and Bakelite purses, the alchemical relationship between writer and editor, the glory days of publishing, and—always—the sheer exhilaration of work.

PRAISE

"Robert Gottlieb’s buoyant memoir of his indefatigable editorial career proves Noel Coward’s observation that work is more fun than fun....He does a fine, fast job of evoking his 1930s and '40s New York boyhood....Avid Reader gallops through the glamour of Lauren Bacall, who wrote her memoirs on the company premises; the popular histories of Barbara Tuchman...and the evolution of Salman Rushdie....Some of this memoir’s keenest pleasures come from a series of portraits that demonstrate how the author’s most profound associations and friendships have been with women."—Thomas Mallon, The New York Times Book Review

ROBERT GOTTLIEB has been the editor in chief of Simon and Schuster; the president, publisher, and editor in chief of Alfred A. Knopf; and the editor of The New Yorker. As a writer, he contributes frequently to The New York Review of Books and is the author of books about George Balanchine, Sarah Bernhardt, and Charles Dickens. In 2015, Gottlieb was presented the award for Distinguished Service to the Arts by the American Academy of Arts and Letters.
Words on the Move

Why English Won't - and Can't - Sit Still (Like, Literally)

John McWhorter

A bestselling linguist takes us on a lively tour of how the English language is evolving before our eyes—and why we should embrace this transformation and not fight it

Language is always changing—but we tend not to like it. We understand that new words must be created for new things, but the way English is spoken today rubs many of us the wrong way. Whether it’s the use of literally to mean “figuratively” rather than “by the letter,” or the way young people use LOL and like, or business jargon like What’s the ask?—it often seems as if the language is deteriorating before our eyes.

But the truth is different and a lot less scary, as John McWhorter shows in this delightful and eye-opening exploration of how English has always been in motion and continues to evolve today. Drawing examples from everyday life and employing a generous helping of humor, he shows that these shifts are a natural process common to all languages, and that we should embrace and appreciate these changes, not condemn them.

Words on the Move opens our eyes to the surprising backstories to the words and expressions we use every day. Did you know that silly once meant “blessed”? Or that ought was the original past tense of owe? Or that the suffix-ly in adverbs is actually a remnant of the word like? And have you ever wondered why some people from New Orleans sound as if they come from Brooklyn?

McWhorter encourages us to marvel at the dynamism of the English language. His book offers a lively journey through which we discover that words are ever on the move and our lives are all the richer for it.

The Motion of Puppets
A Novel

Keith Donohue

From the bestselling author of The Boy Who Drew Monsters and The Stolen Child comes a modern take on the Orpheus and Eurydice myth—a suspenseful tale of romance and enchantment.

In the Old City of Québec, Kay Harper falls in love with a puppet in the window of the Quatre Mains, a toy shop that is never open. She is spending her summer working as an acrobat with the cirque while her husband, Theo, is translating a biography of the pioneering photographer Eadweard Muybridge. Late one night, Kay fears someone is following her home. Surprised to see that the lights of the toy shop are on and the door is open, she takes shelter inside.

The next morning Theo wakes up to discover his wife is missing. Under police suspicion and frantic at her disappearance, he obsessively searches the streets of the Old City. Meanwhile, Kay has been transformed into a puppet, and is now a prisoner of the back room of the Quatre Mains, trapped with an odd assemblage of puppets from all over the world who can only come alive between the hours of midnight and dawn. The only way she can return to the human world is if Theo can find her and recognize her in her new form. So begins a dual odyssey: of a husband determined to findhis wife, and of a woman trapped in a magical world where her life is not her own.

• For readers of Joe Hill and Neil Gaiman
• The Boy Who Drew Monsters has been optioned by New Line Cinema and director James Wan (The Conjuring)

PRAISE

“At once old and new, borrowed and original, The Motion of Puppets disdains both genre and mainstream expectations to turn readers’ attention to the permeable boundary between life and its mimicry.”—The Washington Post

“Reminiscent of Neil Gaiman’s Coraline…Underneath all the changes, [Donohue's] story has the emotional depth, the love and grief of the old myth, only transposed to the sad, leaves-falling October Country of the mind.”—The Wall Street Journal

KEITH DONOHUE is the national bestselling author of the novels The Stolen Child, The Angels of Destruction, Centuries of June, and, most recently, The Boy Who Drew Monsters. He lives in Maryland.
Gomorrah

A Personal Journey into the Violent International Empire of Naples' Organized Crime System

Roberto Saviano; Translated from the Italian by Virginia Jewiss

The global bestseller that exposed the Neapolitan camorra and its widespread worldwide economic influence.

An unprecedented bestseller in Italy, this insider account traces the grim decline of the city of Naples under the rule of the Camorra, a globalized crime network far more powerful and violent than the Mafia. Since seeing his first murder victim, at thirteen, Roberto Saviano has watched the changes in his home city. For Gomorrah, he disappeared into the Camorra, and witnessed at close range its audacious, sophisticated, and far-reaching corruption.

• 10th anniversary edition, with a new afterword
• New York Times Book Review Notable Book of the Year
• The basis for the internationally acclaimed TV series, now in its second season on SundanceTV

PRAISE

"A literary tour-de-force...Gomorrah is an eyepopping, hair-raising, stomach-turning book. The mob has never looked so bad—or read so well."—The Christian Science Monitor

"Astonishing...gripping...[Saviano] exhibits the passion and heroism of a young man."—The Washington Post

ROBERTO SAVIANO was born in Naples and studied philosophy at university. Gomorrah: A Personal Journey into the Violent International Empire of Naples' Organized Crime System is his first book. In 2011, he was awarded the PEN Pinter International Writer of Courage Award.
A literary tour de force of a detective’s ceaseless hunt for an elusive criminal

William Pinkerton is already famous, the son of the most notorious detective of all time, when he descends into the underworld of Victorian London in pursuit of a new lead on the fabled con Edward Shade. William’s father died without ever finding Shade, but William is determined to drag the thief out of the shadows.

Adam Foole is a gentleman without a past, haunted by a love affair ten years gone. When he receives a letter from his lost beloved, he returns to London to find her. What he learns of her fate, and its connection to the man known as Shade, will force him to confront a grief he thought long-buried.

Steven Price’s dazzling, riveting By Gaslight moves from the diamond mines of South Africa to the battlefields of the Civil War, on a journey into a cityscape of grief, trust, and its breaking, where what we share can bind us even against our darker selves.

**PRAISE**

"By Gaslight can be seen as Arthur Conan Doyle by way of Dickens by way of Faulkner....Intense, London-centric, threaded through with a melancholy brilliance, it is an extravagant novel that takes inspiration from the classics and yet remains wholly itself." —Jean Zimmerman, NPR.org

"The immersive grandeur and gravity of Price’s (Into That Darkness) sophomore novel might answer the literary cognoscenti question: 'Where are today’s Dickenses, Radcliffes, and Twains?'...Price’s naturalism is unsentimental, adding verisimilitude to a book already thrumming with emotional and psychological realism."—Library Journal

STEVEN PRICE’s first collection of poems, Anatomy of Keys (2006), won Canada’s 2007 Gerald Lampert Award for Best First Collection, was short-listed for the BC Poetry Prize, and was named a Globe and Mail Book of the Year. His first novel, Into That Darkness (2011), was short-listed for the 2012 BC Fiction Prize. His second collection of poems, Omens in the Year of the Ox (2012), won the 2013 ReLit Award. He lives in Victoria, British Columbia, with his family.
A personal, idiosyncratic history of pop music that also may well be definitive, from the revered music critic

David Hajdu begins Love for Sale, his personal history of pop music, in an unexpected place—not with nostalgic reminiscences of the 45s of his youth but with the sheet-music era at the end of the nineteenth century. It was not so much the beginning of popular music—many songs were already popular—as it was the beginning of the popular music industry. And if he's going to understand what his 45s meant to him, this is the place to start: the rise of Tin Pan Alley, of minstrelsy, of million-copy sellers and one-hit wonders and cultural arbiters decrying the baseness, simplicity, and signs of the end of times in popular music.

Love for Sale does ultimately spin through more familiar territory—the Cotton Club, the rise of radio, the battle of disco versus punk for the soul of New York as Hajdu made his chops as a critic, the rise of hip-hop, and the current atomization of the music landscape—but it is always with a unique, insightful, and eloquently presented point of view, as one would expect from one of our most celebrated music critics.

PRAISE

"Love for Sale: Pop Music in America is easy to devour for anyone who still feels a pang of nostalgia or despair when walking past a bank branch where a record store used to be."—The New York Times Book Review

"One of our sharpest music critics."—The Wall Street Journal

DAVID HAJDU is the music critic for The Nation and a professor at the Columbia University Graduate School of Journalism. He is the author of three previous books of narrative nonfiction and one collection of essays. He lives in Manhattan.
The Six

The Lives of the Mitford Sisters

Laura Thompson

The New York Times bestselling biography of the Mitford sisters, daughters of the British aristocracy at the onset of WWII, whose lives were rife with scandal, controversy, and tragedy.

The eldest was a razor-sharp novelist of upper-class manners; the second was loved by John Betjeman; the third was a fascist who married Oswald Mosley; the fourth idolized Hitler and shot herself in the head when Britain declared war on Germany; the fifth was a member of the American Communist Party; the sixth became Duchess of Devonshire.

They were the Mitford sisters: Nancy, Pamela, Diana, Unity, Jessica, and Deborah. Born into country-house privilege in the early years of the 20th century, they became prominent as “bright young things” in the high society of interwar London. Then, as the shadows crept over 1930s Europe, the stark—and very public—differences in their outlooks came to symbolize the political polarities of a dangerous decade.

The intertwined stories of their stylish and scandalous lives—recounted in masterly fashion by Laura Thompson—hold up a revelatory mirror to upper-class English life before and after WWII.

• New York Times bestseller

PRAISE

“Riveting. The Six captures all the wayward magnetism and levity that have enchanted countless writers without neglecting the tragic darkness of many of the sisters’ life choices and the savage sociopolitical currents that fueled them.”—Tina Brown, The New York Times Book Review

“Lively, gossipy, and at times quite moving.”—The Boston Globe

“Thompson’s biography of some of the most infamous sisters of the 20th century explores the answer to the question: how did one family produce such a remarkable range of [women]?”—Time.com

LAURA THOMPSON is a writer and freelance journalist. She won the Somerset Maugham award for her first book, The Dogs, and is also the author of the critically acclaimed biography of Nancy Mitford, Life in a Cold Climate, Agatha Christie: An English Mystery (2007) and A Different Class of Murder: the Story of Lord Lucan (2014).
The Names of the Stars

A Life in the Wilds

Pete Fromm

From the author of Indian Creek Chronicles and winner of 5 PNBA Awards comes a new memoir of his exploration of fatherhood, mortality, and the risks and rewards of a life lived at the wild edges.

At twenty years old, Pete Fromm heard of a job babysitting salmon eggs, seven winter months alone in a tent in the Selway-Bitterroot Wilderness. Leaping at this chance to be a mountain man, with no experience in the wilds, he left the world. Thirteen years later, he published his beloved memoir of that winter, Indian Creek Chronicles—Into the Wild with a twist. Twenty five years later, he was asked to return to the wilderness to babysit more fish eggs. But no longer a footloose twenty year old, at forty-five, he was the father of two young sons. He left again, alone, straight into the heart of Montana’s Bob Marshall wilderness, walking a daily ten-mile loop to his fish eggs through deer and elk and the highest density of grizzly bears in the lower forty-eight states.

The Names of the Stars is not only a story of wilderness and bears but also a trek through a life lived at its edges, showing how an impulsive kid transformed into a father without losing his love for the wilds. From loon calls echoing across Northwood lakes to the grim realities of life guarding in the Nevada desert, through the isolation of Indian Creek and years spent running the Snake and Rio Grande as a river ranger, Fromm seeks out the source of this passion for wildness, as well as explores fatherhood and mortality and all the costs and risks and rewards of life lived on its own terms.

- Winner of the Honor Book for the 2016 Montana Book Award

PRAISE

"This book will be savored by all those who cannot live without wild things."
—Montana Quarterly

"[Fromm's] humor and honesty about the push and pull between solitude and togetherness and the mysterious way that both experiences magnify the other, make Stars a compelling walk through the woods."—The Montana Standard

"Fromm's finely tuned reflections on this small but fully inhabited piece of the backwoods make this an adventure worth savoring."—Kirkus Reviews

PETE FROMM is a five-time winner of the PNBA Award for his novels If Not For This, As Cool as I Am, and How All This Started, his story collection Dry Rain, and the memoir Indian Creek Chronicles. The film of As Cool as I Am was released in 2013. He is also written 4 other
Philip Eade has written a brisk, lively, and wonderfully entertaining account of the life of a strange, tormented, unique creature” (John Banville, The New York Review of Books).

Graham Greene hailed Evelyn Waugh as “the greatest novelist of my generation,” and in recent years Waugh’s reputation has only grown. Now, half a century after Waugh’s death in 1966, Philip Eade has delivered a hugely entertaining biography that is both authoritative and full of new information, some of it sensational.

Drawing on extensive unseen primary sources, Eade’s book sheds new light on many of the key phases and themes of Waugh’s life: his difficult relationship with his embarrassingly sentimental father; his formative homosexual affairs at Oxford; his unrequited love for various Bright Young Things; his disastrous first marriage; his momentous conversion to Roman Catholicism; his unconventional yet successful second marriage; his checkered wartime career; and his shattering nervous breakdown. Along the way, we come to understand not only Waugh’s complex relationship with the aristocracy, but also the astonishing power of his wit, and the love, fear, and loathing that he variously inspired in others. Waugh was famously difficult, and Eade brilliantly captures the myriad facets of his character even as he casts new light on the novels that have dazzled generations of readers.

"Well crafted...Eade focuses on Waugh’s colorful personal life and exploits with the ‘smart set’ of his time.”—Publishers Weekly

"If you like your Waugh fast, furious, and funny, there is much to enjoy in Philip Eade's sparkling Evelyn Waugh: A Life Revisited....Eade's coup is his access to a hitherto unpublished cache of them.”—The Times (London)

"An exemplary piece of work...[Eade] is an assiduous researcher with a considerable narrative gift. He also, crucially, likes his subject."—The Daily Mail (London)

Philip Eade has worked as a criminal barrister, English teacher, and journalist. His first book, Sylvia, Queen of the Headhunters, was runner-up for the Biographers' Club Prize, and a New York Times' Editors' Pick; his second, Prince Philip, became a Sunday Times bestseller. He lives in London.
The Pope of Physics
Enrico Fermi and the Birth of the Atomic Age

Gino Segrè and Bettina Hoerlin

A major biography of the great, Nobel Prize-winning physicist, Enrico Fermi, a leading architect of the atomic age

Enrico Fermi is unquestionably among the greats of the world's physicists, the most famous Italian scientist since Galileo. Called the Pope by his peers, he was regarded as infallible in his instincts and research. His discoveries changed our world; they led to weapons of mass destruction and conversely to life-saving medical interventions.

This unassuming man struggled with issues relevant today, such as the threat of nuclear annihilation and the relationship of science to politics. Fleeing Fascism and anti-Semitism, Fermi became a leading figure in America's most secret project: building the atomic bomb. The last physicist who mastered all branches of the discipline, Fermi was a rare mixture of theorist and experimentalist. His rich legacy encompasses key advances in fields as diverse as cosmic rays, nuclear technology, and early computers.

In their revealing book, Gino Segrè and Bettina Hoerlin bring this scientific visionary to life. An examination of the human dramas that touched Fermi’s life as well as a thrilling history of scientific innovation in the twentieth century, this is the comprehensive biography that Fermi deserves.

PRAISE

“Superbly written. This will set the gold standard for books on Enrico Fermi.”
—Michio Kaku, theoretical physicist and author of Physics of the Future and The Future of the Mind

“In the hands of Segrè and Hoerlin, enriched with fresh material from his inner circle, Fermi’s life becomes a brilliant—and true—historical novel.”—Frank Wilczek, Nobel Prize-winning physicist, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, and author of A Beautiful Question

GINO SERGÈ is a professor at the University of Pennsylvania and the author of three books on the history of science. He has taught at M.I.T. and Oxford University and was the director of theoretical physics at the National Science Foundation. BETTINA HOERLIN taught at the University of Pennsylvania for sixteen years. She was a visiting lecturer at Haverford College and Oxford University. The author of Steps of Courage: My Parents’ Journey from Nazi Germany to America, she grew up in Los Alamos.
Thank You for Being Late
An Optimist's Guide to Thriving in the Age of Accelerations

Thomas L. Friedman

Now a New York Times bestseller, a field guide to the twenty-first century, written by one of its most celebrated observers

Acclaimed New York Times op-ed columnist Thomas L. Friedman what could only be called a giant column about the twenty-first century. His thesis: to understand the twenty-first century, you need to understand that the planet’s three largest forces—Moore’s law (technology), the Market (globalization), and Mother Nature (climate change and biodiversity loss)—are accelerating all at once. These accelerations are transforming five key realms: the workplace, politics, geopolitics, ethics, and community.

Thank You for Being Late is a work of contemporary history that serves as a field manual for how to write and think about this era of accelerations. It’s also an argument for “being late”—for pausing to appreciate this amazing historical epoch we’re passing through and to reflect on its possibilities and dangers. Infused with his trademark vitality, wit, and optimism, Thank You for Being Late is Friedman’s most ambitious book—and an essential guide to the present and the future.

• An instant New York Times bestseller
• With new material for the paperback

PRAISE

“[Friedman’s] most ambitious book, part personal odyssey, part common-sense manifesto...As a guide for perplexed Westerners, this book is very hard to beat.”—John Micklethwait, The New York Times Book Review

"Engaging...[Thank You for Being Late] injects a badly needed dose of optimism into the modern [dislocation] debate."—Financial Times

"A sprawling exploration of the state of the world—awesome."—Fortune

THOMAS L. FRIEDMAN is a three-time recipient of the Pulitzer Prize for his work with The New York Times and the author of six bestselling books, including The World Is Flat.
Black Elk

The Life of an American Visionary

Joe Jackson

The epic life story of the Native American holy man who has inspired millions around the world and "a major contribution to Native American history" (Publishers Weekly)

Black Elk, the Native American holy man, is known to millions of readers around the world from his 1932 testimonial, Black Elk Speaks. Cryptic and deeply personal, it has been read as a spiritual guide, a philosophical manifesto, and a text to be deconstructed—while the historical Black Elk has faded from view.

In this sweeping book, Joe Jackson provides the definitive biographical account of a figure whose dramatic life converged with some of the most momentous events in American history. Born in an era of rising violence, Black Elk killed his first man at Little Big Horn, witnessed the death of his second cousin Crazy Horse, and traveled to Europe with Buffalo Bill’s Wild West show. But Black Elk was not a warrior. He instead chose the path of a healer and holy man, motivated by a powerful prophetic vision that haunted and inspired him, even after he converted to Catholicism in his later years. His story is a true American epic, a life of heroism and tragedy, adaptation and endurance, in an era of permanent crisis on the Great Plains.

• True West's Western Biography of the Year
• A Finalist for the PEN/Jacqueline Bograd Weld Award for Biography and a National Book Critics Circle Award

PRAISE

"A deeply felt and personal story of loss and change on the plains...the long set piece concerning the Battle of the Little Bighorn is among the very best I’ve ever read."—David Treuer, The Washington Post

"Jackson’s deep research shows on every page, and his narrative skill makes this long biography a gripping, even thrilling read...In this book, he helps bring back a crucial American voice."—Kate Tuttle, The Boston Globe

JOE JACKSON is the author of one novel and six works of nonfiction, including, most recently, Atlantic Fever: Lindbergh, His Competitors, and the Race to Cross the Atlantic (FSG, 2012). His book The Thief at the End of the World: Rubber, Power, and the Seeds of Empire was one of Time’s Top 10 Nonfiction Books of 2008. He is the Mina Hohenberg Darden Endowed Professor of Creative Writing in the M.F.A. creative writing program at Old Dominion University in Norfolk, Virginia.
Rasputin

Faith, Power, and the Twilight of the Romanovs

Douglas Smith

On the centenary of the death of Rasputin comes a definitive biography that will dramatically change our understanding of this fascinating figure.

A hundred years after his murder, Rasputin continues to excite the popular imagination as the personification of evil. Numerous biographies, novels, and films recount his mysterious rise to power as Nicholas and Alexandra's confidant and the guardian of the sickly heir to the Russian throne. His debauchery and sinister political influence are the stuff of legend, and the downfall of the Romanov dynasty was laid at his feet.

But as the prizewinning historian Douglas Smith shows, the true story of Rasputin's life and death has remained shrouded in myth. A major new work that combines probing scholarship and powerful storytelling, Rasputin separates fact from fiction to reveal the real life of one of history's most alluring figures.

PRAISE

“From the opening pages of his colossal biography of Grigory Rasputin, the historian Douglas Smith dismantles many of the myths enshrouding the monk who exerted inordinate influence over Nicholas II and Alexandra, emperor and empress of Russia, during the twilight of the Romanov dynasty a century ago.”—The New York Times

“Magisterial . . . This balanced, impeccably researched book is a revelation, as richly detailed and engrossing as any novel.”—Los Angeles Review of Books

“Definitive.”—Anne Applebaum, Harper's magazine

DOUGLAS SMITH is an award-winning historian and translator and the author of Former People, Rasputin, and other books on Russia. Before becoming a historian, he worked for the U. S. State Department in the Soviet Union and as a Russian affairs analyst for Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty in Munich. He lives in Seattle with his wife and two children.
Final Solution

The Fate of the Jews 1933-1949

David Cesarani

A new one-volume history of the Nazi mass murder and persecution of the Jews by a noted historian that incorporates the material from newly opened archives and research on the Nazi era.

David Cesarani’s *Final Solution* is a magisterial new history that chronicles the fate of Europe’s Jews. Based on decades of scholarship, documentation newly available from the opening of Soviet archives, declassification of western intelligence service records, as well as diaries and reports written in the camps, Cesarani provides a sweeping reappraisal that challenges accepted explanations for the anti-Jewish politics of Nazi Germany and the inevitability of the Final Solution. The persecution of the Jews, as Cesarani sees it, was not always the Nazis’ central preoccupation, nor was it inevitable. He shows how, in German-occupied countries, it unfolded erratically, often due to local initiatives. For Cesarani, war was critical to the Jewish fate. Military failure denied the Germans opportunities to expel Jews into a distant territory and created a crisis of resources that led to the starvation of the ghettos and intensified anti-Jewish measures. Looking at the historical record, he disputes the iconic role of railways and deportation trains. From prisoner diaries, he exposes the extent of sexual violence and abuse of Jewish women and follows the journey of some Jewish prisoners to displaced persons camps, the latter sometimes seen as a mere footnote. David Cesarani’s *Final Solution* is a fresh look at the fate of a heroic people caught in the hell that was Hitler’s Germany.

PRAISE

"Magnificent...We are in his debt."—Nicholas Stargardt, *The New York Times* Book Review

"Masterly...Final Solution will take its place among the most authoritative surveys of the persecution and murder of European Jewry in the Second World War."—Financial Times (UK)

"This splendid book will serve as a fitting end to his career, but it is an enormous loss that it should have to do so....Few if any have traced as well as David Cesarani does here the global skeins of influence, ideas and power on which Jewish fates hung."—The Times Literary Supplement (UK)

David Cesarani, OBE, was Research Professor in History at Royal Holloway, Univ. of London and the award-winning author of *Becoming Eichmann* and *Major Farran's Hat*. He was awarded the OBE for services to Holocaust Education and advising the British government on the establishment of Holocaust Memorial Day. He died in October 2015.
The Beautiful Country and the Middle Kingdom

America and China, 1776 to the Present

John Pomfret

A remarkable history of the two-centuries-old relationship between the United States and China, from the Revolutionary War to the present day

From the clipper ships that ventured to Canton hauling cargos of American ginseng to swap Chinese tea, to the U.S. warships facing off against China's growing navy in the South China Sea, from the Yankee missionaries who brought Christianity and education to China, to the Chinese who built the American West, the United States and China have always been dramatically intertwined. For more than two centuries, American and Chinese statesmen, merchants, missionaries, and adventurers, men and women, have profoundly influenced the fate of these nations. While we tend to think of America's ties with China as starting in 1972 with the visit of President Richard Nixon to China, the patterns—rapturous enchantment followed by angry disillusionment—were set in motion hundreds of years earlier.

Drawing on personal letters, diaries, memoirs, government documents, and contemporary news reports, John Pomfret reconstructs the surprising, tragic, and marvelous ways Americans and Chinese have engaged with one another through the centuries. A fascinating and thrilling account, The Beautiful Country and the Middle Kingdom is also an indispensable book for understanding the most important—and often the most perplexing—relationship between any two countries in the world.

PRAISE

"Donald Trump (or his next secretary of state) would be well advised to read this timely and comprehensively informative book...very good and important."
—Simon Winchester for The New York Times Book Review

"[An] absorbing new book...[Pomfret] weaves a lively tale, peppered with a cast of adventurers, spies, preachers, communists and McCarthyites who have boosted and sabotaged the relationship in turn over the years."—The Economist

JOHN POMFRET served as a correspondent for the Washington Post for two decades. He is the author of the acclaimed book Chinese Lessons, and has won awards for his reporting on Asia, including the Osborne Elliot Prize. He was one of the first American students to go to China after relations were normalized. Pomfret was expelled from China after the Tiananmen Square massacre in 1989. Most recently, he was a Fulbright senior scholar in Beijing.
Reskilling America

How Technical Education Can Transform Our Society

Katherine S. Newman and Hella Winston

“Vocational education—if done right, if reconceived—is not a relic of the past but the hope of the future. Newman and Winston get it—and this very important book gets it across” (Thomas Geoghegan...)

After decades of off-shoring and downsizing that have left blue-collar workers obsolete and stranded, the United States is now on the verge of an industrial renaissance. But we don’t have a skilled enough labor pool to fill the positions that will be created, which are in many cases technically demanding and require specialized skills. A decades-long series of idealistic educational policies with the expressed goal of getting every student to go to college has left a generation of potential workers out of the system. Touted as a progressive, egalitarian institution providing opportunity even to those with the greatest need, the American secondary school system has in fact deepened existing inequalities. We can do better, argue acclaimed sociologists Katherine Newman and Hella Winston. Taking a page from the successful experience of countries like Germany and Austria, where youth unemployment is a mere 7 percent, they call for a radical reevaluation of the idea of vocational training, long discredited as an instrument of tracking. The United States can prepare a new, high-performance labor force if we revamp our school system to value industry apprenticeship and rigorous technical education. By doing so, we will not only be able to meet the growing demand for skilled employees in dozens of sectors where employers decry the absence of well trained workers—we will make the American Dream accessible to all.

PRAISE

"A top-notch, highly accessible contribution to the business and popular economics literature...Reviewing America's attempts to establish a consistent framework for vocational and technical training, the authors document the negative consequences of warping youth's ambitions against skilled employment."
—Kirkus Reviews (starred review)

"Highly recommended...Newman and Winston do an excellent job of providing examples that show how this system could work better to prepare all high school graduates for a career."—Library Journal (starred review)

KATHERINE S. NEWMAN is the author of twelve books on topics ranging from urban poverty and middle-class economic insecurity to school violence. She is Provost and Professor of sociology at the University of Massachusetts, Amherst. HELLA WINSTON is a sociologist and investigative journalist. She is a Senior Fellow at the Schuster Institute for Investigative Journalism at Brandeis University.
Index

Aciman, André; Call Me by Your Name: A Novel .................. 11
American Treasures: The Secret Efforts to Save the Declaration of Independence, the Constitution, and the Gettysburg Address; Stephen Puleo ......................................... 19
Avid Reader: A Life; Robert Gottlieb .................................. 21
Ballard, J. G.; Crash: A Novel ........................................... 14
Ballard, J. G.; Super-Cannes: A Novel ............................... 15
Beautiful Country and the Middle Kingdom, The; America and China, 1776 to the Present; John Pomfret .................... 35
Being Mortal: Medicine and What Matters in the End; Atul Gawande .......................................................... 17
Binet, Laurent; HHhH: A Novel ......................................... 13
Black Elk: The Life of an American Visionary; Joe Jackson .... 32
Black Water: A Novel; Louise Doughty .............................. 20
Booth, Michael; Super Sushi Ramen Express: A Culinary Adventure Through Japan .............................................. 16
By Gaslight: A Novel; Steven Price .................................. 25
Call Me by Your Name: A Novel; André Aciman .......... 11
Campbell, Deborah; A Disappearance in Damascus: Friendship and Survival in the Shadow of War .............................................. 3
Cesaranı, David; Final Solution: The Fate of the Jews 1933-1949 ................................................................. 34
Crash: A Novel; J. G. Ballard ............................................ 14
Didion, Joan; Slouching Towards Bethlehem: Essays .......... 7
Disappearance in Damascus, A: Friendship and Survival in the Shadow of War; Deborah Campbell .................. 3
Donohue, Keith; The Motion of Puppets: A Novel .......... 23
Doughty, Louise; Black Water: A Novel ......................... 20
Eade, Philip; Evelyn Waugh: A Life Revisited .................. 29
Ehrenreich, Barbara; Nickel and Dimed: On (Not) Getting By in America ......................................................... 8
Emoji Code, The: The Linguistics Behind Smiley Faces and Scaredy Cats; Vyvyan Evans .................. 2
Evans, Vyvyan; The Emoji Code: The Linguistics Behind Smiley Faces and Scaredy Cats ......................... 2
Evelyn Waugh: A Life Revisited; Philip Eade .................. 29
Final Solution: The Fate of the Jews 1933-1949; David Cesaranı ................................................................. 34
Finkel, David; Thank You for Your Service ...................... 12
Friedman, Thomas L.; Thank You for Being Late: An Optimist's Guide to Thriving in the Age of Accelerations .............. 31
Fromm, Pete; The Names of the Stars: A Life in the Wilds .... 28
Gawande, Atul; Being Mortal: Medicine and What Matters in the End ............................................................ 17
Giving Up the Ghost: A Memoir; Hilary Mantel ................ 10
Gomorrah: A Personal Journey into the Violent International Empire of Naples’ Organized Crime System; Roberto Saviano .......................................................... 24
Gottlieb, Robert; Avid Reader: A Life ............................... 21
Hajdu, David; Love for Sale: Pop Music in America .......... 26
HHhH: A Novel; Laurent Binet ........................................ 13
Hoskyns, Barney; Joni: The Anthology ................................ 5
Jackson, Joe; Black Elk: The Life of an American Visionary .............................................................................. 32
Joni: The Anthology; Barney Hoskyns ............................... 5
Love for Sale: Pop Music in America; David Hajdu .......... 26
Mantel, Hilary; Giving Up the Ghost: A Memoir ................ 10
McWhorter, John; Words on the Move: Why English Won’t - and Can’t - Sit Still (Like, Literally) ............................. 22
Motion of Puppets, The: A Novel; Keith Donohue ........... 23
Mukhopadhyay, Samhita; Nasty Women: Feminism, Resistance, and Revolution in Trump’s America .................. 4
Names of the Stars, The: A Life in the Wilds; Pete Fromm .... 28
Nasty Women: Feminism, Resistance, and Revolution in Trump’s America; Samhita Mukhopadhyay ..................... 4
Newman, Katherine S.; Reskilling America: How Technical Education Can Transform Our Society ........................ 36
Nickel and Dimed: On (Not) Getting By in America; Barbara Ehrenreich ............................................................. 8
Oh, Florida!: How America’s Weirdest State Influences the Rest of the Country; Craig Pittman ....... 18
Pittman, Craig; Oh, Florida!: How America’s Weirdest State Influences the Rest of the Country ......................... 18
Pomfret, John; The Beautiful Country and the Middle Kingdom: America and China, 1776 to the Present .................. 35
Pope of Physics, The: Enrico Fermi and the Birth of the Atomic Age; Gino Segré ..................................................... 30
Price, Steven; By Gaslight: A Novel .................................. 25
Puleo, Stephen; American Treasures: The Secret Efforts to Save the Declaration of Independence, the Constitution, and the Gettysburg Address ................................................................. 19
Rasputin: Faith, Power, and the Twilight of the Romanovs; Douglas Smith ...................................................... 33
Regarding the Pain of Others; Susan Sontag ..................... 9
Reskilling America: How Technical Education Can Transform Our Society; Katherine S. Newman .................... 36
Saviano, Roberto; Gomorrah: A Personal Journey into the Violent International Empire of Naples’ Organized Crime System ................................................................. 24
Segrè, Gino; The Pope of Physics: Enrico Fermi and the Birth of the Atomic Age ...................................................... 30
Six, The: The Lives of the Mitford Sisters; Laura Thompson ............................................................................... 27
Slouching Towards Bethlehem: Essays; Joan Didion ........ 7
Smith, Douglas; Rasputin: Faith, Power, and the Twilight of the Romanovs ......................................................... 33
Sontag, Susan; Regarding the Pain of Others .................... 9
Super Sushi Ramen Express: A Culinary Adventure Through Japan; Michael Booth ................................. 16
Super-Cannes: A Novel; J. G. Ballard ................................ 15
Tallack, Malachy; The Un-Discovered Islands: An Archipelago of Myths and Mysteries, Phantoms and Fakes .......... 6
Thank You for Being Late: An Optimist's Guide to Thriving in the Age of Accelerations; Thomas L. Friedman .......... 31
Thank You for Your Service; David Finkel ........................ 12
Thompson, Laura; Six: The Lives of the Mitford Sisters .... 27
Un-Discovered Islands, The: An Archipelago of Myths and Mysteries, Phantoms and Fakes; Malachy Tallack .......... 6
Words on the Move: Why English Won’t - and Can’t - Sit Still (Like, Literally); John McWhorter ......................... 22