In the tradition of *Bringing Up Bébé* and *Battle Hymn of the Tiger Mother*, a clarion call and practical guide for a return to rational parenting, following the Germans’ common sense approach

When Sara Zaske moved from Oregon to Berlin with her husband and toddler, she knew the transition would be multi-layered, adding parenting and then the birth of another child into the mix. She was surprised to discover that German parents give their children a great deal of freedom—much more than Americans. In Berlin, kids walk to school by themselves, ride the subway alone, cut food with sharp knives, and even play with fire. German parents did not share her fears and their children were thriving. Was she doing the opposite of what she intended, which was to raise capable children? Why was parenting culture so different in the States?

Through her own family’s often funny experiences as well as interviews with other parents, teachers, and experts, Zaske shares the many unexpected parenting lessons she learned from living in Germany. *Achtung Baby* reveals that today’s Germans know something that American parents don’t (or have perhaps forgotten) about raising kids with “selbstandigkeit” (self-reliance), and provides many new and practical ideas American parents can use to give their own children the freedom they need to grow into responsible, independent adults. Our American anxiety is a culturally specific modern stumbling block—which readers can overcome using Zaske’s crucial insights into the German perspective on parenting.

SARA ZASKE is an American writer who lived in Berlin for six and half years. Her articles on her family’s experiences in Germany have appeared on Time.com, The Times newspaper in the UK, and Germany’s largest Sunday paper, Bild am Sontag. She now lives in the San Francisco Bay Area with her husband and two children.
Grist Mill Road

A Novel

Christopher J. Yates

Grist Mill Road is a dark and twisty Rashomon-style narrative which is expertly plotted. The year is 1982, the setting an Edenic hamlet some 90 miles north of New York City. There, among the craggy rock cliffs and glacial ponds of timeworn mountains, three friends—Patrick, Matthew and Hannah— are bound together by a single, terrible, and seemingly senseless crime. Twenty six years later, in New York City, living lives their younger selves could never have predicted, the three meet again--with even more devastating results.

Here is a triple helix of a story structure, a sharp-edged love triangle complete with an Atonement style revelation. Character-driven, gorgeously written and wrenching, it exposes the poisonous resentments, sexual longings, and reservoirs of violence that roil just below the orderly surface of small town life. Like Yates’ critically acclaimed Black Chalk, this too is an “engrossing literary guessing game” one that will keep readers in suspense until the final page.

- For readers of Tana French, Ruth Ware, and Stephen King
- Black Chalk was an NPR "Best of the Year", EW "Must Read Pick" and has been optioned for film by Ron Howard

PRAISE

"A terrific thriller...Alfred Hitchcock would have optioned the plot in the blink of his gimlet eye. A gripping read."—Jason Matthews, Author of Red Sparrow

“One of the greatest surprise reveals I've witnessed. A twist that's like screwing your head on backwards.” —NPR.org on Black Chalk

“Yates is a master of college-student psychology...[He] has achieved something new and impressive. Pick up Black Chalk.” —The Washington Post on Black Chalk

CHRISTOPHER J. YATES was born and raised in Kent and studied law at Oxford University before working as a puzzle editor in London. He now lives in New York City with his wife and dog. His first book, Black Chalk, was an NPR "Best of the Year" selection.
The Third Bank of the River

Power and Survival in the Twenty-First Century Amazon

Chris Feliciano Arnold

A veteran journalist traces the war over the Amazon as activists, locals, and indigenous tribes struggle to save the jungle from the threat of loggers, drug lords, and corrupt politicians.

During the 2014 World Cup, an isolated Amazonian tribe emerged from the jungle on the misty border of Peru and Brazil, escaping massacre at the hands of illegal loggers. A year later, in the jungle capital of Manaus, a bloody weekend of reprisal killings inflames a drug war that blurs the line between cops and kingpins. Both events reveal the dual struggles of those living in and around the vast, endangered Amazon jungle. As indigenous tribes lose their ancestral territory every day to loggers and drug runners, local communities in cities such as Manaus, are plagued by intense violence due to the ongoing drug wars and entrenched corruption within the police and government. The chaos and violence echo the atrocities that have haunted the rain forest since Europeans first arrived in the New World.

Following doctors and soldiers, environmental activists and indigenous Olympic archers, among others, The Third Bank of the River traces development in the Amazon from the arrival of the first Spanish flotilla. Veteran journalist Chris Arnold grounds his story in rigorous first-hand reporting and in-depth research, revealing a portrait of Brazil and the Amazon that is complex, bloody, and often tragic.

• For readers of Gomorrah and The Lost City of Z

CHRIS FELICIANO ARNOLD has written for Harper's, The Atlantic, Outside, Sports Illustrated, and the Los Angeles Times, among other outlets, including Brazil’s most respected newspaper. His pieces have been anthologized in The Best American Sportswriting, receiving two notable selections, and his short stories have received two special mentions in the Pushcart Prize anthology. Born in Brazil and raised in the U.S., he now resides in northern California.
The Château

A Novel

Paul Goldberg

The acclaimed author of The Yid takes us behind the scenes of a Florida condo board election, delivering a wild spin on Miami Beach, petty crime, Jewish identity, and life in Trump's America.

It is January 2017 and Bill has hit rock bottom. Yesterday, he was a successful science reporter at The Washington Post. Today, fired from his job, with exactly $1,219.37 in his checking account, he learns that his college roommate, a plastic surgeon known far and wide as the “Butt God of Miami Beach,” has fallen to his death under salacious circumstances. With nothing to lose, Bill heads for Florida, ready to begin his own investigation—a last ditch attempt to revive his career. There’s just one catch: Bill’s father, Melsor.

Melsor Yakovlevich Katzenelenbogen (so-named in tribute to Marx, Engels, Lenin, Stalin and the October Revolution)—poet, literary scholar, political dissident, small-time-crook—is angling for control of the condo board at the Chateau Sedan Neuve, a crumbling high-rise populated mostly by Russian Jewish immigrants. The current board is filled with fraudsters, and Melsor will use any means necessary to win the election. And who better to help him—through legal and illegal means—than his estranged son?

Featuring a colorful cast of characters, The Château injects the crime novel genre with surprising idiosyncrasy, subverting it with dark comic farce in a setting that becomes a microcosm of Trump’s America.

• From the author of The Yid, a finalist for the Sami Rohr Prize for Jewish Literature and the National Jewish Book Award's Goldberg Prize for Debut Fiction

PRAISE

“A dazzling tragicomic debut.” —Jane Ciabattari, NPR.ORG on The Yid

PAUL GOLDBERG is the author of The Yid and two books on the Soviet human rights movement, and has co-authored (with Otis Brawley) the book How We Do Harm. He is the editor and publisher of The Cancer Letter, a publication focused on the business and politics of cancer.
Raw

My Journey into the Wu-Tang

Lamont "U-God" Hawkins

The explosive, never-before-told story behind the historic rise of the Wu-Tang Clan, as told by one of its founding members, Lamont "U-God" Hawkins.

The Wu-Tang Clan is American hip-hop royalty. Rolling Stone called them the “best rap group ever” and their debut album, Enter the Wu-Tang (36 Chambers), is considered one of the greatest hip hop albums of all time. Since 1992, the group has released seven gold and platinum studio albums and sports global sales of more than 40 million copies. In addition, nearly all the original members have gone on to have their own solo careers. How did nine kids from the Brownsville projects go from nothing to global icons?

Remarkably, no one has told their story—until now.

Raw is the incredible first-person account of one boy’s journey from the tough terrain of 1970s Brownsville, New York to international success and acclaim as a member of the Wu-Tang Clan. Part social history, part confessional, U-God’s intimate portrait of his early life and those of his Wu-Tang brothers paints an unfiltered and unforgettable account of how nine kids got out of the projects and went on to pioneer and transform the New York hip-hop scene forever.

-Wu-Tang Clan will embark on a 200-city tour in 2018

U-GOD, born Lamont Jody Hawkins, is an American rapper and hip-hop artist and one of the founding members of the legendary Wu-Tang Clan. A native New Yorker, Raw is his first book.
Darwin Comes to Town

*How the Urban Jungle Drives Evolution*

Menno Schilthuizen

From evolutionary biologist Menno Schilthuizen, a book that will make you see yourself and the world around you in an entirely new way.

For a long time, biologists thought evolution was a necessarily slow process, too incremental to be observed in a lifetime. But recently, we have come to understand that evolution can happen very quickly, and in the strangest of places: the heart of the city.

Evolutionary biologist Menno Schilthuizen is one of a growing number of “urban ecologists” studying how manmade environments are accelerating the evolution of animals and plants. In *Darwin Comes to Town*, he shows just how flexible and swift natural selection can be.

The urban environment is extreme and, in a world of adapt or die, city wildlife is forced to adopt new ways of living in these hostile environments:

- Moths in some cities are developing a resistance to the lure of light bulbs
- Puerto Rican lizards are evolving feet that better grip surfaces like concrete
- Europe’s urban blackbirds sing at a higher pitch to be heard over the din of traffic
- Many pigeons have eschewed traveling “as the crow flies” in favor of following streets

*Darwin Comes to Town* draws on these and other eye-popping examples to share a stunning vision of urban ecology, revealing that evolution can happen far more rapidly than Darwin dreamed.

MENNO SCHILTHUIZEN is a senior research scientist at Naturalis Biodiversity Center in the Netherlands and professor of evolutionary biology at Leiden University. The author of more than 100 high-impact scientific papers, he has also written more than 250 articles for publications including *New Scientist, Time,* and *Science*. A frequent guest on radio and television, he is the author of three previous books: *Frogs, Flies and Dandelions, The Loom of Life,* and *Nature’s Nether Regions.*
Voices from the Rust Belt

Edited by Anne Trubek

A timely anthology of distinct voices exploring life in the Rust Belt today, from the Flint water crisis to white flight in Detroit to growing up female in a heavily male, steel mill town.

Where is America's Rust Belt? It's not quite a geographic region but a linguistic one, first introduced as a concept in 1984 by Walter Mondale. In the modern vernacular, it's closely associated with the "Post-Industrial Midwest," and includes Michigan, Ohio, and Pennsylvania, as well as parts of Illinois, Wisconsin, and New York. The region reflects the country's manufacturing center, which, over the past forty years, has been in decline. In the 2016 election, the Rust Belt's economic woes became a political talking point, and helped pave the way for a Donald Trump victory.

But the region is neither monolithic nor easily understood. The truth is much more nuanced. Voices From the Rust Belt pulls together a distinct variety of voices from people who call the region home. Voices that emerge from familiar Rust Belt cities—Detroit, Cleveland, Flint, and Buffalo, among others—and observe, with grace and sensitivity, the changing economic and cultural realities for generations of Americans.

The anthology is a collection of the best non-fiction essays published in Belt Magazine, a critically-acclaimed regional magazine, and has been artfully put together by publisher and founder Anne Trubek.

Film Stars Don't Die in Liverpool

A True Love Story

Peter Turner

Now a Major Motion Picture Starring Annette Bening, Jamie Bell, Julie Walters, and Vanessa Redgrave

On 29 September 1981, Peter Turner received a phone call that would change his life. His former lover, Hollywood actress Gloria Grahame, had collapsed in a Lancaster hotel and was refusing medical attention. He had no choice but to take her into his chaotic and often eccentric family's home in Liverpool.

Liverpool born and bred, Turner had first set eyes on Grahame when he was a young actor, living in London. Best known for her portrayal of irresistible femme fatales in films such as The Big Heat, Oklahoma and The Bad and the Beautiful, for which she won an Oscar, Grahame electrified audiences with her steely expressions and heavy lidded eyes and the heroines she brought to life were often dark and dangerous.

Turner and Grahame became firm friends and remained so even after their love affair had ended. And it was to him she turned in her final hour of need.

Film Stars Don't Die in Liverpool is an affectionate, moving and wryly humorous memoir of friendship, love and stardom.

•For readers of Alan Bennett, Nina Stibbe, and Martin Sixsmith's The Lost Child of Philomena Lee

PRAISE

"A well-paced gathering of eccentrics that...stirs the heartstrings." -- Kirkus Review

“An extraordinary book” -- Roger Ebert

"Amusing and poignant...[An] affecting chronicle, a flashback-filled text that evokes by turns the feel of a documentary film, a subtle poem, a melancholy novella and a farcical play." -- The Wall Street Journal

PETER TURNER was born in Liverpool in 1952 the youngest of nine children. He was educated at a local comprehensive school and started acting at the age of sixteen with The National Youth Theatre of Great Britain. He worked extensively in British theatre both in London and the regions. He played Terry Adams in three seasons of the hit television drama series Spearhead and his film parts included playing Trinculo in Derek Jarman’s version of Shakespeare’s The Tempest. He met the Academy Awar...
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 then 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 sensationaly 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.
Letters to a Young Muslim

Omar Saif Ghobash

From the Ambassador of the UAE to Russia comes a bold and intimate exploration of what it means to be a Muslim in the twenty-first century.

In a series of personal letters to his sons, Omar Saif Ghobash offers a short and highly readable manifesto that tackles our current global crisis with the training of an experienced diplomat and the personal responsibility of a father. Today’s young Muslims will be tomorrow’s leaders, and yet too many are vulnerable to extremist propaganda that seems omnipresent in our technological age. The burning question, Ghobash argues, is how moderate Muslims can unite to find a voice that is true to Islam while actively and productively engaging in the modern world. What does it mean to be a good Muslim?

What is the concept of a good life? And is it acceptable to stand up and openly condemn those who take the Islamic faith and twist it to suit their own misguided political agendas? In taking a hard look at these seemingly simple questions, Ghobash encourages his sons to face issues others insist are not relevant, not applicable, or may even be Islamophobic. These letters serve as a clear-eyed inspiration for the next generation of Muslims to understand how to be faithful to their religion and still navigate through the complexities of today’s world. They also reveal an intimate glimpse into a world many are unfamiliar with and offer to provide an understanding of the everyday struggles Muslims face around the globe.

PRAISE

"Ghobash encourages the reader to accept a modern, enlightened path that embraces diversity, not just within Islam but among all religions." —Kareem Abdul-Jabbar, The New York Times Book Review

"A powerful celebration of common humanity and compassion over religious particularity and hatred and deserves to be read widely by people of all faiths and none." —The Sunday Times Book Review

"A gentle, cautious work, which addresses thorny questions with a parent's compassion and a diplomat's delicate tread." —Harper's

OMAR SAIF GHOBASH is the Ambassador of the United Arab Emirates to Russia. In addition to his post in Moscow, Ambassador Ghobash sponsors the Saif Ghobash–Banipal Prize for Arabic Literary Translation and founded the International Prize for Arabic Fiction in collaboration with the Booker Prize in London. Ambassador Ghobash studied law at Oxford and math at the University of London.
Transit
A Novel

Rachel Cusk

Now a National Bestseller, the stunning second novel of the trilogy that began with Outline

In the wake of her family’s collapse, a writer and her two young sons move to London. The process of this upheaval is the catalyst for a number of transitions—personal, moral, artistic, and practical—as she endeavors to construct a new reality for herself and her children. In the city, she is made to confront aspects of living that she has, until now, avoided, and to consider questions of vulnerability and power, death and renewal, in what becomes her struggle to reattach herself to, and believe in, life.

Filtered through the impersonal gaze of its keenly intelligent protagonist, Transit sees Rachel Cusk delve deeper into the themes first raised in her critically acclaimed novel Outline and offers up a penetrating examination of childhood and fate, of the value of suffering, and the wrenching desire to both inhabit and flee one's world.

• For readers of Elena Ferrante's Neapolitan Quartet

PRAISE

“A work of stunning beauty, deep insight, and great originality... Transit is a slender novel that contains multitudes. It is a work of great ambition, beautifully executed, a worthy successor of the brilliant Outline.”—Monica Ali, The New York Times Book Review (Editors' Choice)

“The experience of reading Transit re-creates, with delicious adult sophistication, that wonderful sensation of being a child, staving off bedtime by requesting tale after tale . . . Cusk [is] at her most brilliant, feminist best.”—Miranda Purves, Elle

RACHEL CUSK is the author of three memoirs—A Life's Work, The Last Supper, and Aftermath—and eight previous novels: Saving Agnes, winner of the Whitbread First Novel Award; The Temporary; The Country Life, which won a Somerset Maugham Award; The Lucky Ones; In the Fold; Arlington Park; The Bradshaw Variations; and Outline. She was chosen as one of Granta’s 2003 Best of Young British Novelists. She lives in London.
Glass House

The 1% Economy and the Shattering of the All-American Town

Brian Alexander

"A devastating read...For anyone wondering why swing-state America voted against the establishment in 2016, Mr. Alexander supplies plenty of answers." —The Wall Street Journal

In 1947, Forbes magazine declared Lancaster, Ohio the epitome of the all-American town. Today it is damaged, discouraged, and fighting for its future. In Glass House, journalist Brian Alexander uses the story of one town to show how seeds sown thirty-five years ago have sprouted to give us Trumpism, inequality, and an eroding national cohesion.

The Anchor Hocking Glass Company, once the world’s largest maker of glass tableware, was the base on which Lancaster’s society was built. As Glass House unfolds, bankruptcy looms. With access to the company and its leaders, and Lancaster’s citizens, Alexander shows how financial engineering took hold in the 1980s, accelerated in the 21st Century, and wrecked the company. We follow CEO Sam Solomon, an African-American leading the nearly all-white town’s biggest private employer, as he tries to rescue the company from the New York private equity firm that hired him. Meanwhile, Alexander goes behind the scenes, entwined with the lives of residents as they wrestle with heroin, politics, high-interest lenders, low wage jobs, technology, and the new demands of American life: people like Brian Gossett, the fourth generation to work at Anchor Hocking; and Eric Brown, a local football hero-turned-cop who comes to realize that he can never arrest Lancaster’s real problems.

PRAISE

"Gripping." —Bloomberg Businessweek

"Alexander goes deep into the heart of what ails us and takes no prisoners." —Newsweek

"Well-reported...Shades of JD Vance’s Hillbilly Elegy." —The New York Post

BRIAN ALEXANDER is an award-winning journalist and author who has written about American culture for decades. He grew up in Lancaster, with a family history in the glass business.
Enigma Variations
A Novel
André Aciman

From the author of Call Me By Your Name (now a major motion picture) comes a passionate portrait of love’s contradictory power, in five illuminating stories

Enigma Variations charts the life of a man named Paul, whose loves remain as consuming and as covetous throughout his adulthood as they were in his adolescence. Whether against the backdrop of southern Italy, where he develops a crush on his parents’ cabinetmaker, or a snowbound campus in New England, where his enduring passion for a girl he’ll meet again and again over the years is punctuated by anonymous encounters with men; whether he’s on a tennis court in Central Park, or on a New York sidewalk in early spring, his attachments are ungraspable, transient, and forever underwritten by raw desire—not for just one person’s body but, inevitably, for someone else’s as well.

Ahead of every step Paul takes, his hopes, denials, fears, and regrets are always ready to lay their traps. Yet the dream of love lingers. We may not always know what we want. We may remain enigmas to ourselves and to others. But sooner or later we discover who we’ve always known we were.

• National Indie Bestseller

PRAISE

"Exquisitely composed."—The New Yorker

"Aciman writes arousal so beautifully you miss it when it's gone...He writes with the ferocity of a writer who's finally getting his vision down, and he has to say it, has to get it out. He's made a magnificent, living thing."—Paul Lisicky, New York Times Book Review

"An enormously intelligent and captivating novel, filled with surprising twists and emotional acuity."—Toby Lichtig, The Wall Street Journal

ANDRÉ ACIMAN is the author of Out of Egypt and False Papers, and the editor of The Proust Project. He teaches comparative literature at the Graduate Center of the City University of New York. He lives with his family in Manhattan.
Oneida
From Free Love Utopia to the Well-Set Table

Ellen Wayland-Smith

"Fans of Joseph Ellis and David McCullough will appreciate this engrossing entry" (Library Journal, starred review) into a radical religious community, now a symbol of middle-class respectability

Amidst the religious fervor of the Second Great Awakening, John Humphrey Noyes, a spirited but socially awkward young man, attracted a group of devoted followers with his fiery sermons about creating Jesus’ millennial kingdom here on earth. Noyes and his followers built a large communal house in rural New York where they engaged in what Noyes called “complex marriage,” an elaborate system of free love where sexual relations with multiple partners was encouraged. Noyes was eventually inspired to institute a program of eugenics, known as "stirpiculture," to breed a new generation of Oneidans from the best members of the Community—many fathered by him. When Noyes died in 1886, the Community disavowed Noyes’ disreputable sexual theories and embraced their thriving business of flatware. Oneida Community, Limited would go on to become one of the nation’s leading manufacturers of silverware, and their brand a coveted mark of middle-class respectability in pre- and post-WWII America.

Told by a descendant of one of the Community’s original families, Oneida is a captivating story that straddles two centuries to reveal how a radical, free-love sect, turning its back on its own ideals, transformed into a purveyor of the white picket fence American dream.

• For readers of Jill Lepore, Joseph J. Ellis, and Greg Grandin

PRAISE

"A lively and often entertaining account....In Wayland-Smith’s extended chronicle, we see utopia as it sails through the world, assaulted on all sides by the forces of assimilation and greed."—The New Yorker

"Wayland-Smith is a gifted writer. Her lively account of how Oneida eventually succumbed to 'the gods of Science and Doubt' is a welcome change from most 'as told by' family histories."—The New York Times Book Review

ELLEN WAYLAND-SMITH teaches in the Writing Program at the University of Southern California, and received her PhD. in Comparative Literature from Princeton University. A descendant of John Humphrey Noyes, the founder of the Oneida community, she lives in Los Angeles with her family.
Desert Boys
Fiction

Chris McCormick

The winner of the Stonewall Book Award/Barbara Gittings Literature Award, vivid fiction following the life of a young man growing up in the Mojave Desert and the fates of the people he loves

In the tradition of startling debuts such as We, the Animals by Justin Torres, Desert Boys follows the life of Daley Kushner, growing up, coming out, and grappling with the remnants of his childhood in California’s Mojave Desert. This series of powerful, linked stories illuminates Daley’s world—the family, friends, and community that have both formed and constrained him, and his new life in San Francisco. Back home, the desert preys on those who cannot conform: an alfalfa farmer on the outskirts of town; two young girls whose curiosity leads to danger; a black politician who once served as his school’s Confederate mascot; Daley’s mother, an immigrant from Armenia; and Daley himself, introspective and queer. Meanwhile, in another desert on the other side of the world, war threatens to fracture Daley’s most meaningful—and most fraught—connection to home, his friendship with Robert Karinger.

Both a bildungsroman and a portrait of a changing place, Desert Boys traces the development of towns into cities, of boys into men, and the terrain between the desire to escape and the hunger to belong.

• For readers of Justin Torres

PRAISE

"Desert Boys takes some familiar coming-of-age tropes—sensitive kid grows up a square peg in a round-hole town, breaks away for college and leaves his childhood pals behind—and refreshes them with precise observation and love of storytelling....'Mother, Godfather, Baby, Priest' is a head-spinning, technically adept piece of writing."—San Francisco Chronicle

CHRIS MCCORMICK was raised in the Antelope Valley. He earned his B.A. at the University of California, Berkeley, and his M.F.A. at the University of Michigan, where he was the recipient of two Hopwood Awards. He lives in Ann Arbor, Michigan.
It Takes a School
The Extraordinary Story That Is Changing a Nation

Jonathan Starr

A story of David and Goliath proportions, how an American hedge fund manager created a unique school in Somaliland whose students have come to achieve success beyond anyone’s wildest dreams.

Jonathan Starr, once a cutthroat hedge fund manager, is not your traditional do-gooder, and in 2009, when he decided to found Abaarso, a secondary school in Somaliland, the choice seemed crazy to even his closest friends. “Why,” they wondered, “would he turn down a life of relative luxury to relocate to an armed compound in a breakaway region of the world’s #1 failed state?” To achieve his mission, Starr would have to overcome profound cultural differences, broken promises, and threats to his safety and that of his staff.

It Takes a School is the story of how an abstract vision became a transformative reality, as Starr set out to build a school in a place forgotten by the world. It is the story of a skeptical and clan-based society learning to give way to trust. And it’s the story of the students themselves, including a boy from a family of nomads who took off on his own in search of an education and a girl who waged a hunger strike in order to convince her strict parents to send her to Abaarso.

Abaarso has placed forty graduates and counting in American universities, from Harvard to MIT, and sends Somaliland a clear message: its children can compete with anyone in the world. Now the initial question Starr was asked demands another: “If such a success can happen in an unrecognized breakaway region of Somalia, can it not happen anywhere?”

PRAISE

"One man’s amazing accomplishment in founding a school amid a series of daunting challenges. It’s hard to argue with Starr’s impressive results: ‘as of May 2016, Abaarso students have earned approximately $15 million in scholarships and financial aid, and the 2016-2017 school year will see almost ninety students studying around the world’...Starr is proud of his accomplishments, and he deserves to be. —Kirkus Reviews"

JONATHAN STARR founded and led the private investment firm Flagg Street Capital, worked as an Analyst at SAB Capital and Blavin and Company, and as a Research Associate within the Taxable Bond Division at Fidelity Investments. Using a half million dollars from his personal finances, Starr created the Abaarso School in 2009. His work in Somaliland has been featured in The New York Times, Wall Street Journal, and Bloomberg BusinessWeek.
100 Million Years of Food
What Our Ancestors Ate and Why It Matters Today

Stephen Le

An exploration of what we eat and how we live, and the health consequences of denying our complicated evolutionary history with food.

There are few areas of modern life that offer as much information and advice, often contradictory, as diet and health: eat a lot of meat, don't eat meat; whole-grains are healthy, whole-grains are a disaster; and on it goes. Biological anthropologist Stephen Le cuts through the confusing mass of information to present the long view of our diet. Like his mentor Jared Diamond, he uses history and science to present a fascinating and wide-ranging tour of human history as viewed through what and how we eat. Travelling the world to places as far-flung as Vietnam, Kenya, Nova Scotia, and Iowa, Le visits people producing food using traditional methods as well as modern techniques, and looks at how our relationship to food has strayed from centuries of tradition, to mass-produced assembly lines dependent on chemicals that bring with them a host of problems.

100 Million Years of Food argues that our ancestral diets and lifestyles are the best first line of defense in protecting our health; the optimal diet is to eat what your ancestors ate. In this clear-cut and compelling book, we learn not only what to eat, but how our diets are the product of millions of years of evolution.

• For readers of Michael Moss

PRAISE

"This deliciously entertaining book will help you to enjoy eating your food, to enjoy thinking about your food, and to stay healthy." —Jared Diamond, winner of the Pulitzer Prize and the New York Times bestselling author of Guns, Germs, and Steel and Collapse

"The vastness, breadth, and ambitiousness of Stephen Le's 100 Million Years of Food makes it compelling and engaging." —Mark Kurlansky, author of Salt and Cod

STEPHEN LE earned his doctorate in biological anthropology from UCLA, where he held a prestigious Chancellor's Fellowship. He also holds a master's degree in international relations from Johns Hopkins University and an undergraduate degree in mathematics. He has held grants from the National Science Foundation and the Japan Society for the promotion of science, and his research has appeared in the Journal of Theoretical Biology and Cross-Cultural Research.
The Meaning of Michelle

16 Writers on the Iconic First Lady and How Her Journey Inspires Our Own

Veronica Chambers

"Sixteen writers...share what it’s been like to witness Michelle Obama in the White House...Most writers admit that they’ve been unable to take their eyes off her." —The New York Times

Michelle Obama is unlike any other First Lady in American History. From her first moments on the public stage, she has challenged traditional American notions about what it means to be beautiful, to be strong, to be fashion-conscious, to be healthy, to be First Mom, to be a caretaker and hostess, and to be partner to the most powerful man in the world.

While many books have looked at Michelle Obama from a fashion perspective, no book has fully explored what Michelle Obama means to our culture. The Meaning of Michelle does just that, while offering a parting gift to a landmark moment in American history. This collection presents a chorus of diverse voices with smart, engaging perspectives on Michelle Obama. Contributors include Ava DuVernay, Benilde Little, Damon Young, Alicia Hall Moran and Jason Moran, Brittney Cooper, Ylonda Gault Caviness, Chirlane McCray, Cathi Hanauer, Tiffany Dufu, Tanisha Forde, Marcus Samuelsson, Sarah Lewis, Phillipa Soo, Rebecca Carroll, and Roxane Gay.

PRAISE

"Missing Mrs. O already? A new book reminds us why she remains a woman for our times." —Essence

"Reflections on a woman who feels like a good girlfriend to a large portion of the American public, though they only know her from afar." —NPR Code Switch

"A series of thoughtful meditations on the complexities of the woman who is both partner to the leader of the free world and a powerful American figure in her own right." —The Washington Post

"Praises the groundbreaking First Lady from arms to alms." —Vanity Fair

VERONICA CHAMBERS is a prolific writer and the author of the critically acclaimed memoir Mama’s Girl. A contributor to several anthologies, including the bestselling Bitch in the House, she’s been a senior editor at the New York Times Magazine, Glamour, and Newsweek. She is currently a JSK Knight Fellow at Stanford.
A sweeping story of birthright and possibility, of love and the fullness of life itself.

On March 3, 1947, in the maternity ward of Beth Israel Hospital in Newark, New Jersey, Archibald Isaac Ferguson, the one and only child of Rose and Stanley Ferguson, is born. From that single beginning, Ferguson's life will take four simultaneous and independent fictional paths. Four Fergusons made of the same genetic material, four boys who are the same boy, will go on to lead four different and parallel lives. Family fortunes diverge. Loves and friendships and intellectual passions contrast. Chapter by chapter, the rotating narratives evolve into an elaborate dance of inner worlds enfolded within the outer forces of history as, one by one, the intimate plot of each Ferguson's story rushes on across the tumultuous and fractured terrain of mid-twentieth-century America. A boy grows up—again and again and again.

As inventive and dexterously constructed as anything Paul Auster has ever written, 4 3 2 1 is an unforgettable tour de force, the crowning work of this masterful writer's extraordinary career.

• New York Times Bestseller
• National Bestseller

PRAISE


“Ambitious and sprawling . . . . Immersive . . . . Auster has a startling ability to report the world in novel ways.” — USA Today

“A stunningly ambitious novel, and a pleasure to read.” — NPR

PAUL AUSTER is the bestselling author of Sunset Park, Invisible, The Book of Illusions, and The New York Trilogy, among many other works. He has been award the Prince of Asturias Prize for Literature, the Prix Médicis étranger, the Independent Spirit Award, and the Premio Napoli. He is a member of the American Academy of Arts and Letters and a Commandeur de l’Ordre des Arts et des Lettres. His work has been translated into more than forty languages. He lives in Brooklyn.
Universal Harvester

A Novel

John Darnielle

Another instant New York Times bestseller from the lead musician of The Mountain Goats, and "a stellar encore after the success of [Wolf in White Van]" (The Washington Post)

It's the late '90s, and you can find Jeremy at the Video Hut in Nevada, Iowa, a small town in the center of the state. The job's nice enough, quiet and predictable, until a local schoolteacher comes in to return her copy of Targets—an old movie, starring Boris Karloff—and registers an odd complaint: “There’s something on it,” she says, but doesn’t elaborate. Two days later, another customer returns another tape—a new release this time—and says the same: “There’s another movie on this tape.”

In Universal Harvester, the once-placid Iowa fields and farmhouses become sinister, imbued with loss and instability and foreboding. As Jeremy and those around him are absorbed into tapes, they become part of another story—one that unfolds years into the past and years into the future, part of an impossible search for something someone once lost that they would do anything to regain.

• National Bestseller

PRAISE

"Like a gentle, Midwestern riff on David Cronenberg's Videodrome (maybe with a pinch of Fargo thrown in for good measure)...Darnielle spins an uneasy scenario that grows in menace as the pages stack up .”—Joe Hill, The New York Times Book Review (Editors’ Choice)

"Brilliant...Darnielle is a master at building suspense, and his writing is propulsive and urgent; it's nearly impossible to stop reading...[Universal Harvester is] beyond worthwhile; it's a major work by an author who is quickly becoming one of the brightest stars in American fiction."—Michael Schaub, Los Angeles Times

JOHN DARNIELLE is the author of Wolf in White Van, which was a New York Times bestseller, National Book Award nominee, and a finalist for the Los Angeles Times Book Prize for first fiction, and widely hailed as one of the best novels of the year. He is the writer, composer, guitarist, and vocalist for the band the Mountain Goats. He lives in Durham, North Carolina, with his wife and sons.
The nightmare no parent could endure. The case no detective could solve. The twist no reader could predict.

For five days in January 1989, the parents of a seven-year-old Tokyo schoolgirl sat and listened to the demands of their daughter’s kidnapper. They would never learn his identity. They would never see their daughter again.

For the fourteen years that followed, the Japanese public listened to the police’s apologies. They would never forget the botched investigation that became known as Six Four. They would never forgive the authorities for their failure.

For one week in late 2002, the press officer attached to the police department in question confronted an anomaly in the case. He could never imagine what he would uncover. He would never have looked if he’d known what he would find.

• International Bestseller
• Named the the Best Japanese Crime Fiction Book of the Year (Kono Mystery ga Sugoi!)

PRAISE

"Not only is Six Four an addictive read, it is an education about Japan, its police and its society, and simply one of the best crime novels I have ever read." —David Peace, author of GB84 and The Damned Utd

"A classic plot [which] suddenly turns into one of the most remarkable revenge dramas in modern detective fiction…[It] will leave even the most observant reader gasping." —The Sunday Times

"Epic in ambition, [Six Four] unfurls like a flower in the spring sunlight, steadily increasing its grip as it does so." —Daily Mail

Born in 1957, HIDEO YOKOYAMA worked for twelve years as an investigative reporter before becoming one of Japan’s most acclaimed fiction writers. Six Four is his sixth novel, and his first to be published in the English language.
This Close to Happy
A Reckoning with Depression

Daphne Merkin

A writer’s "hybrid of memoir, case study, and confession, which joins such classics as Kay Redfield Jamison’s An Unquiet Mind and Andrew Solomon’s The Noonday Demon" (Adam Kirsch, Tablet)

Daphne Merkin has been hospitalized three times: first, in grade school, for childhood depression; years later, after her daughter was born, for severe postpartum depression; and later still, after her mother died, for obsessive suicidal thinking. Recounting this series of hospitalizations, as well as her visits to myriad therapists and psychopharmacologists, Merkin fearlessly offers what the child psychiatrist Harold Koplewicz calls “the inside view of navigating a chronic psychiatric illness to a realistic outcome.” “The opposite of depression,” she writes with characteristic insight, “is not a state of unimaginable happiness . . . but a state of relative all-right-ness.”

Written with an acute understanding of the ways in which her condition has evolved as well as affected those around her, This Close to Happy is an utterly candid coming-to-terms with an illness that many share but few talk about, one that remains shrouded in stigma.

• For readers of Andrew Solomon and Ariel Levy
• National Indie Bestseller

PRAISE

“[Merkin] narrated what happened to her and how it felt. And she does so with insight, grace, and excruciating clarity, in exquisite and sometimes darkly humorous prose...An important addition to the literature on mental illness.”

“Wry, self-aware...a work of lacerating intelligence about a condition that intellect cannot heal.”—The New Yorker

"Ms. Merkin speaks candidly and beautifully about aspects of the human condition that usually remain pointedly silent.”—The Wall Street Journal

DAPHNE MERKIN is a former staff writer for The New Yorker and a regular contributor to ELLE. Her writing frequently appears in The New York Times, Bookforum, Departures, Travel + Leisure, W, Vogue, and other publications. Her previous books include Enchantment, which won the Edward Lewis Wallant Award for best novel on a Jewish theme, and The Fame Lunches, which was a New York Times Book Review Notable Book. She lives in New York City.
Age of Anger

A History of the Present

Pankaj Mishra

One of our most important public intellectuals reveals the hidden history of our current global crisis: "[his] is the kind of vision the world reads right now" (The Financial Times)

How can we explain the paranoid hatreds that seem inescapable in our close-knit world—from American shooters and ISIS to Donald Trump, from a rise in vengeful nationalism across the world to racism and misogyny on social media?

In Age of Anger, Pankaj Mishra answers our bewilderment by casting his gaze back to the eighteenth century, delivering a history of our present predicament unlike any other. He shows that as the world became modern, those who were unable to enjoy its promises—or who were left, or pushed, behind—reacted in horrifyingly similar ways: with intense hatred of invented enemies, attempts to re-create an imaginary golden age, and self-empowerment through spectacular violence. They became increasingly susceptible to demagogues.

Today, just as then, the wide embrace of mass politics and technology and the pursuit of wealth and individualism have cast billions adrift, uprooted from tradition but still far from modernity—with the same terrible results.

• For readers of Elizabeth Kolbert and Naomi Klein

PRAISE

“Mishra may well be the ideal writer to diagnose our current moment . . . In Age of Anger, Mishra has produced an urgent analysis of a moment in which the forgotten and dispossessed are rising up to challenge everything we thought we knew about the state of the world.”—The Los Angeles Review of Books

“Bracing and illuminating...A decent liberalism would read sharp critics like Mishra and learn.”—Franklin Foer, The New York Times Book Review

**The Clairvoyants**

*A Novel*

Karen Brown

A hypnotic psychological mystery that unmasks the secret desires of a young woman with a mystical gift

As a child growing up by the sea, Martha Mary endured her parents' divorce, survived a tragedy that robbed her and her younger sister of their innocence, and she saw ghosts. Now a young adult, she escapes to a gorgeous inland town to study photography and to distance herself from that painful past and from her secret ability. There she impresses fellow students with her haunting images of abandoned landscapes, falls into a passionate love affair with a manipulative professor, and becomes entangled in the case of a young woman who has disappeared, when one Indian summer afternoon the missing woman appears beneath Martha's apartment window, wearing a down coat, her hair flecked with ice.

Will Martha's gifts leave her terrifyingly alone, or will they lead her to a vital human connection?

With nods to Shirley Jackson and Daphne du Maurier, Karen Brown's *The Clairvoyants* spins an eerie tale, one that thrums with the longings of imperfect people, living and dead, who want to be seen and loved.

**PRAISE**

“Arresting, unsettling, and beautiful . . . Brown enchants and haunts by making the reader question every voice, every truth.” —Kirkus Reviews (starred review)

“Brown takes her time drawing readers into the perspective of Martha Mary . . . the best kind of unreliable narrator . . . the twists aren’t so much shocking as harrowing confirmations of what the story’s been trying to say against our narrator’s will the whole time.” —RT Book Reviews

“Surprising and suspenseful.” —Lily Tuck, National Book Award-winning author of *The News from Paraguay*

KAREN BROWN's *Little Sinners and Other Stories* was a Publishers Weekly Best Book of 2012; her previous collection, *Pins and Needles*, received AWP's Grace Paley Prize for Short Fiction, and her first novel, *The Longings of Wayward Girls*, was published in 2013 by Washington Square Press to rave reviews. Her work has been featured in *The Pen/O. Henry Prize Stories*, *Best American Short Stories*, and *The New York Times*. She teaches creative writing and literature at the University of South Florida.
Churchill's Ministry of Ungentlemanly Warfare

The Mavericks Who Plotted Hitler's Defeat

Giles Milton

Six gentlemen, one goal: the destruction of Hitler’s war machine

In the spring of 1939, a top-secret organization was founded in London: its purpose was to plot the destruction of Hitler's war machine through spectacular acts of sabotage. The guerrilla campaign that followed was every bit as extraordinary as the six men who directed it. One of them, Cecil Clarke, was a maverick engineer who had spent the 1930s inventing futuristic caravans. Now, his talents were put to more devious use: he built the dirty bomb used to assassinate Hitler's favorite, Reinhard Heydrich. Another, William Fairbairn, was a portly pensioner with an unusual passion: he was the world's leading expert in silent killing, hired to train the guerrillas being parachuted behind enemy lines. Led by dapper Scotsman Colin Gubbins, these men—along with three others—formed a secret inner circle that, aided by a group of formidable ladies, single-handedly changed the course of the Second World War: a cohort hand-picked by Winston Churchill, whom he called his Ministry of Ungentlemanly Warfare.

Churchill's Ministry of Ungentlemanly Warfare is a gripping and vivid narrative of adventure and derring-do that is also, perhaps, the last great untold story of the Second World War.

• Listen to Milton’s top-rated podcast series Unknown History

PRAISE

"Churchill's Ministry of Ungentlemanly Warfare, with its ghastly details and dollops of droll British humor, will reward readers who appreciate military history and good writing." —USA Today (3.5 star out of 4)

“A rousing account—and celebration—of World War II’s most insidious and devious heroes.”—The Wall Street Journal

GILES MILTON is a writer and journalist. He has contributed articles to most of the British national newspapers as well as many foreign publications, and specializes in the history of travel and exploration. He has written several books of nonfiction, including the bestselling Nathaniel’s Nutmeg, and has been translated into fifteen languages worldwide.
The Dark Flood Rises

A Novel

Margaret Drabble

A magnificently mordant reckoning with mortality by the great British novelist

Francesca Stubbs has an extremely full life. A highly regarded expert on housing for the elderly who is herself getting on in age, she drives “restlessly round England,” which is “her last love . . . She wants to see it all before she dies.” Amid the professional conferences that dominate her schedule, she fits in visits to old friends, brings home cooked dinners to her ailing ex-husband, texts her son, who is grieving over the shocking death of his girlfriend, and drops in on her daughter, a quirky young woman who lives in a flood plain in the West Country. Fran cannot help but think of her mortality, but she is “not ready to settle yet, with a cat upon her knee.” She still prizes her “frisson of autonomy,” her belief in herself as a dynamic individual doing meaningful work in the world.

The Dark Flood Rises moves between Fran’s interconnected group of family and friends in England and a seemingly idyllic expat community in the Canary Islands. In both places, disaster looms.

Though The Dark Flood Rises delivers the pleasures of a traditional novel, it is clearly situated in the precarious present. Margaret Drabble’s latest enthralls, entertains, and asks existential questions in equal measure. Alas, there is undeniable truth in Fran’s insight: “Old age, it’s a fucking disaster!”

PRAISE

“Humane and masterly novel by one of Britain’s most dazzling writers.”

“A beautiful rumination on what it means to grow old . . . It's a truly lovely novel . . . This isn’t a sentimental book, but it's a deeply emotional one.” —Michael Schaub, NPR

“Once again, Dame Margaret . . . has created a story that defies its own parameters. . . [Drabble is] refreshingly frank about the tragicomedy of aging.” —Ron Charles, The Washington Post

Margaret Drabble is the author of The Sea Lady, The Seven Sisters, The Peppered Moth, and The Needle’s Eye, among other novels. She has written biographies of Arnold Bennett and Angus Wilson, and is the editor of the fifth and sixth editions of The Oxford Companion to English Literature. For her contributions to contemporary English literature, she was made a Dame of the British Empire in 2008.
Coretta

My Life, My Love, My Legacy

Coretta Scott King, with the Reverend Dr. Barbara Reynolds

The life story of Coretta Scott King—wife of Martin Luther King Jr., founder of the King Center, and singular human rights activist—as told fully for the first time

Born in 1927 to daringly enterprising parents in the Deep South, Coretta Scott had always felt called to a special purpose. While enrolled as one of the first black scholarship students recruited to Antioch College, she became politically and socially active and committed to the peace movement. And while a graduate student at the New England Conservatory of Music, determined to pursue her own career as a concert singer, she met Martin Luther King Jr., a Baptist minister insistent that his wife stay at home with the children. In love and devoted to shared Christian beliefs as well as shared racial and economic justice goals, she married Dr. King, and events promptly thrust her into a maelstrom of history throughout which she was a strategic partner, a standard bearer, and so much more.

As a widow and single mother of four, she worked tirelessly to found and develop the King Center as a citadel for world peace, lobbied for fifteen years for the US national holiday in honor of her husband, championed women's, workers', and gay rights, and was a powerful international voice for nonviolence, freedom, and human dignity.

Coretta's is a love story, a family saga, and the memoir of an extraordinary black woman in twentieth-century America, a brave leader who in the face of terrorism and violent hatred stood committed, proud, forgiving, nonviolent, and hopeful every day of her life.

PRAISE

"Eloquent . . . inspirational"—USA Today


CORETTA SCOTT KING was an American civil rights activist, international human rights champion, and author, the wife of Martin Luther King Jr. and a mother of four. Born in 1927 in Heiberger, Alabama, she died in 2006 in Rosarito Beach, Mexico.

DR. BARBARA REYNOLDS is an ordained minister, a columnist, and the author of five books, including Out of Hell & Living Well. She was a longtime editorial board member of USA Today and won an SCLC Drum Major for Justice Award in 1987.
The Kingdom

Emmanuel Carrère; Translated from the French by John Lambert

A sweeping fictional account of the early Christians, whose unlikely beliefs conquered the world

Gripped by the tale of a Messiah whose blood we drink and body we eat, the genre-defying author Emmanuel Carrère revisits the story of the early Church in his latest work. With an idiosyncratic and at times iconoclastic take on the charms and foibles of the Church fathers, Carrère ferries readers through his “doors” into the biblical narrative. Once inside, he follows the ragtag group of early Christians through the tumultuous days of the faith’s founding.

Boldly blending scholarship with speculation, memoir with journalistic muckraking, Carrère sets out on a headlong chase through the latter part of the Bible, drawing out protagonists who believed they were caught up in the most important events of their time. An expansive and clever meditation on belief, The Kingdom chronicles the advent of a religion, and the ongoing quest to find a place within it.

• For readers of Karen Armstrong, Elaine Pagels, and Bruce Feiler

PRAISE

"The need to understand the role you have in the larger human story is at the heart of this beautiful, difficult book. Difficult not in form but in feeling, The Kingdom manages to get at the contradictions of what we call intimacy." —Wyatt Mason, The New York Times Magazine

"Personal and rigorous, skeptical and open, casual and profound, and its speculative portrait of Saint Luke, its main character, is as compelling as any fictional life I’ve read lately." —Luc Sante, author of The Other Paris

EMMANUEL CARRÈRE is a writer, scriptwriter, and film producer. He is the award-winning, internationally renowned author of Limonov, The Mustache, Class Trip, The Adversary (a New York Times Notable Book), My Life as a Russian Novel, and Lives Other Than My Own, which was awarded the Globe de Cristal for Best Novel in 2010.
A rich novel about a mother's complicated love for a non-standard-issue child—and the complicated love that child feels for her—and their drive to create family wherever they can find it.

Edgar and Lucy is a page-turning literary masterpiece—a stunning examination of family love and betrayal.

Eight-year-old Edgar Fini remembers nothing of the accident people still whisper about. He only knows that his father is gone, his mother has a limp, and his grandmother believes in ghosts. When Edgar meets a man with his own tragic story, the boy begins a journey into a secret wilderness where nothing is clear—not even the line between the living and the dead. In order to save her son, Lucy has no choice but to confront the demons of her past.

Profound, shocking, and beautiful, Edgar and Lucy is a thrilling adventure and the unlikeliest of love stories.

• National Indie Bestseller

PRAISE

"On every page Lodato's prose sings with a robust, openhearted wit, making Edgar & Lucy a delight to read. Not to mention the supporting cast he's gathered, a group so eclectic and beguiling...A riveting and exuberant ride."—Cynthia D'Aprix-Sweeney, The New York Times Book Review

"Wonder-filled and magisterial...Lodato's skill as a poet manifests itself on every page, delighting with such elegant similes and incisive descriptions...The book pushes the boundaries of beauty."—Chicago Tribune

"This otherworldly tale will haunt you."—People Magazine

"A stunningly rendered novel"—Entertainment Weekly

VICTOR LODATO is a playwright and the author of the novel Mathilda Savitch, winner of the PEN Center USA Award for fiction. His stories and essays have appeared in The New Yorker, The New York Times, Granta, and Best American Short Stories. He is the recipient of fellowships from the Guggenheim Foundation and the National Endowment for the Arts. Victor was born and raised in New Jersey and currently divides his time between Ashland, Oregon, and Tucson, Arizona.
The Complacent Class

The Self-Defeating Quest for the American Dream

Tyler Cowen

A wide-ranging, against-the-grain argument about the state of American culture—the Washington Post and Wall Street Journal bestseller, now in paperback!

America once prided itself on a popular myth of progress; restlessness was accepted as a signature American trait. Our willingness to move, take risks, and adapt to change has produced a dynamic economy and a tradition of innovation from Ben Franklin to Steve Jobs.

The problem, according to legendary blogger, economist and bestselling author Tyler Cowen, is that Americans today have broken from this tradition—we’re working harder than ever to avoid change; we’re seeking more security and more safety. We’re moving residences less, making our children play inside more, and choosing our music and our mates based on algorithms that wall us off from anything that might be too new or too different. While this might feel rational and be good for us individually, it spells trouble for us collectively. According to Cowen, there are significant collateral downsides attending this comfort, among them heightened inequality and segregation and decreased incentives to innovate and create.

The Complacent Class argues that this cannot go on forever. We are postponing change, due to our near-sightedness and extreme desire for comfort, but ultimately this will make change, when it comes, harder. The forces unleashed by the Great Stagnation will eventually lead to a major fiscal and budgetary crisis: impossibly expensive rentals for our most attractive cities, worsening of residential segregation, and a decline in our work ethic. The only way to ...

PRAISE

“The Complacent Class is refreshingly nonideological, filled with observations that will resonate with conservatives, liberals and libertarians.” —The Wall Street Journal

“One of the most important reads of the new year.” —National Review

“Cowen does a marvelous job of turning his Tocquevillian eye to today’s America.” —The Financial Times

TYLER COWEN (Ph.D.) holds the Holbert L. Harris chair in economics at George Mason University. He has authored explanatory and text books and writes the most read economics blog worldwide, marginalrevolution.com. He has written regularly for The New York Times, writes a regular column for Bloomberg View, and contributes to a wide number of newspapers and periodicals. He lives in Fairfax, Virginia.
“[A] writer who is gifted not just with extraordinary talent but also with a subtle, original, and probing mind.” —Amitav Ghosh

In one of the singularly imaginative stories from Kanishk Tharoor’s Swimmer Among the Stars, despondent diplomats entertain themselves by playing table tennis in zero gravity—for after rising seas destroy Manhattan, the United Nations moves to an orbiting space hotel. In other tales, a team of anthropologists treks to a remote village to record a language’s last surviving speaker intoning her native tongue; an elephant and his driver cross the ocean to meet the whims of a Moroccan princess; and Genghis Khan’s marauding army steadily approaches an unnamed city’s walls.

With exuberant originality and startling vision, Tharoor cuts against the grain of literary convention, drawing equally from ancient history and current events. His world-spanning stories speak to contemporary challenges of environmental collapse and cultural appropriation, but also to the workings of legend and their timeless human truths. Whether refashioning the romances of Alexander the Great or confronting the plight of today’s refugees, Tharoor writes with distinctive insight and remarkable assurance. Swimmer Among the Stars announces the arrival of a vital, enchanting talent.

PRAISE

“The short stories collected in Swimmer Among the Stars are so brilliantly bold and enchanting . . . At each stage, Tharoor impresses with a perfect lightness of touch . . . Swimmer Among the Stars is a Borgesian patchwork of fact and fantasy, a remapping of ancient cultures and civilizations, a playful foray into parallel dimensions. If Tharoor can achieve all this in miniature then roll on his first novel.” —Malcolm Forbes, The National

KANISHK THAROOR is a writer based in New York City. His writing has appeared in The New York Times, Guardian, the VQR, and elsewhere. His short story “Tale of the Teahouse” was nominated for a National Magazine Award. He presented "Museum of Lost Objects," a ten-part BBC radio series on cultural destruction in the Middle East. He studied at Yale, Columbia, and New York University, where he was a “Writer in Public Schools” fellow.
Lillian Boxfish Takes a Walk

A Novel

Kathleen Rooney

On New Year’s Eve 1984, 85-year-old Lillian Boxfish—once the highest paid woman in advertising—crosses Manhattan on foot, finding adventure at every turn and recalling a remarkable life.

Lillian Boxfish took 1930s New York by storm, working her way up writing copy for R.H. Macy’s to become the highest paid advertising woman in the country. It was a job that, she says, “in some ways saved my life, and in other ways ruined it.”

Now it’s the last night of 1984 and Lillian, eighty-five years old but just as sharp and savvy as ever, is on her way to a party. It’s chilly enough out for her mink coat and Manhattan is grittier now—her son keeps warning her about a subway vigilante on the prowl—but the quick-tongued poetess has never been one to scare easily. On a walk that takes her over 10 miles around the city, she meets bartenders, bodega clerks, security guards, criminals, children, parents, and parents-to-be, while reviewing a life of excitement and adversity, passion and heartbreak, illuminating all the ways New York has changed—and has not.

A love letter to city life in all its guts and grandeur, *Lillian Boxfish Takes a Walk* by Kathleen Rooney paints a portrait of a remarkable woman across the canvas of a changing America: from the Jazz Age to the onset of the AIDS epidemic; the Great Depression to the birth of hip-hop.

- National Indie Bestseller
- With deckled edge and French flaps

**PRAISE**

“Transporting...Witty, poignant, and sparkling.”—*People* (Book of the Week)

“Irresistible...This witty and heartfelt ode to a city, to its infinite variety, to its melting pot of citizens not only enchant but offers an important lesson: that human connections and work are what give life meaning.”—*The Boston Globe*

“Prescient and quick...A perfect fusing of subject and writer, idea and ideal.”
—*Chicago Tribune*

KATHLEEN ROONEY is a founding editor of Rose Metal Press and a founding member of Poems While You Wait. Her previous work includes poetry, fiction, and nonfiction, and has appeared in *The New York Times Magazine, Allure, Salon,* and *The Nation.* Kathleen was named “Best Novelist” by the *Chicago Reader* in 2017. She lives in Chicago and is married to novelist Martin Seay.
This Fight Is Our Fight
The Battle to Save America's Middle Class
Elizabeth Warren

The fiery U.S. Senator from Massachusetts and bestselling author offers a passionate, inspiring book about why our middle class is under siege and how we can win the fight to save it

Senator Elizabeth Warren has long been a champion of America’s middle class, and by the time the people of Massachusetts elected her in 2012, she had become one of the country’s leading progressive voices. Now, at a perilous moment for our nation, she has written a book that is at once an illuminating account of how we built the strongest middle class in history, a scathing indictment of those who have spent the past thirty-five years undermining working families, and a rousing call to action.

More than seventy-five years ago, President Franklin Roosevelt and his New Deal ushered in an age of widespread prosperity; in the 1980s, President Ronald Reagan reversed course and sold the country on the disastrous fiction called trickle-down economics. Now, with the election of Donald Trump—a con artist who promised to drain the swamp of special interests and then surrounded himself with billionaires and lobbyists—the middle class is being pushed ever closer to collapse.

Written in the candid, high-spirited voice that is Warren’s trademark, This Fight Is Our Fight tells eye-opening stories about her battles in the Senate and vividly describes the experiences of hard-working Americans who have too often been given the short end of the stick. Elizabeth Warren has had enough of phony promises and a government that no longer serves its people—she won’t sit down, she won’t be silenced, and she will fight back.

PRAISE
“This Fight Is Our Fight is a smart, tough-minded book.... What Democrats need right now is a reason to keep fighting. And that’s something Warren’s muscular, unapologetic book definitely offers. It’s an important contribution.” —Paul Krugman, The New York Times Book Review

ELIZABETH WARREN, one of the nation’s most influential progressives and a longtime champion of working families and the middle class, is the senior senator from Massachusetts. A former Harvard Law School professor, she is the author of ten previous books, including A Fighting Chance, a national bestseller that received widespread critical acclaim. The mother of two and grandmother of three, she lives in Cambridge, Massachusetts, with her husband, Bruce Mann.
Marlena

A Novel

Julie Buntin

An electric debut novel about love, addiction, and loss; the story of two girls and the feral year that will cost one her life, and define the other’s for decades

Everything about fifteen-year-old Cat’s new town in rural Michigan is lonely and off-kilter until she meets her neighbor, the manic, beautiful, pill-popping Marlena. Cat is quickly drawn into Marlena’s orbit and as she catalogues a litany of firsts—first drink, first cigarette, first kiss, first pill—Marlena’s habits harden and calcify. Within a year, Marlena is dead, drowned in six inches of icy water in the woods nearby. Now, decades later, Cat must try again to move on, even as the memory of Marlena calls her back.

Told in a haunting dialogue between past and present, Marlena is the captivating story of an intoxicating, indelible friendship does not flinch from the resonant effects of its loss.

PRAISE

"This stunning debut...tracks the maddening, complicated, beautiful, essential friendship of two high school friends. Buntin beautifully captures that time in our lives, when our reliance on friends feels as profound as our need for water or air. As young women, we breathe in each other, trying to absorb one another's light and darkness, and obsess over each other in order to better understand ourselves."

—NYLON

“The gifted young writer Julie Buntin has written a novel of deep and exquisite intelligence, humor, and riveting sensitivity. A terrific debut.”—Lorrie Moore

JULIE BUNTIN is from northern Michigan. Her work has appeared in The Atlantic, Cosmopolitan, O, The Oprah Magazine, Slate, Electric Literature, and One Teen Story, among other publications. She teaches fiction at Marymount Manhattan College, and is the Director of Writing Programs at Catapult. She lives in Brooklyn, New York.
Lenin on the Train

Catherine Merridale

A gripping, meticulously researched account of Lenin’s fateful 1917 rail journey from Zurich to Petrograd, where he ignited the Russian Revolution and forever changed the world

In April 1917, as the Russian Tsar Nicholas II’s abdication sent shockwaves across war-torn Europe, the future leader of the Bolshevik revolution Vladimir Lenin was far away, exiled in Zurich. When the news reached him, he immediately resolved to return to Petrograd and lead the revolt. But to get there, he would have to cross Germany. With millions of Russians at home suffering as a result of German aggression, to accept German aid—or even safe passage—would be to betray his homeland. Germany, for its part, saw an opportunity to further destabilize Russia by allowing Lenin and his small group of revolutionaries to return.

Now, drawing on a dazzling array of sources and never-before-seen archival material, renowned historian Catherine Merridale provides a riveting, nuanced account of this journey—the train ride that changed the world—as well as the conspiracy and subterfuge that went into making it happen. Writing with the same insight and formidable intelligence that distinguished her earlier works, she brings to life a world of counter-espionage and intrigue, wartime desperation, illicit finance, and misguided utopianism.

When Lenin arrived in Petrograd, he delivered an explosive address to the impassioned crowds. It was the moment when the Russian revolution became Soviet, the genesis of a system of tyranny and faith that changed the course of history forever and transformed the international political climate.

PRAISE

“Catherine Merridale is one of the foremost foreign historians of Russia, combining wry insights with deep sympathy for the human beings suffering the tragedies she writes about . . . Lenin on the Train combines diplomatic intrigue, spycraft, towering personalities, bureaucratic bungling, military history and ideology.”—The Economist

“Absorbing.”—Washington Post

“Merridale tells the extraordinary story of Lenin’s history-making journey. Drenched in atmosphere, [her] account has all the stuff of a spy thriller.”

—Newsday

CATHERINE MERRIDALE is the author of three critically acclaimed books, Red Fortress, Ivan’s War and Night of Stone. A celebrated scholar of Russian history, 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.
The Adventures of John Carson in Several Quarters of the World

A Novel of Robert Louis Stevenson

Brian Doyle

"An affectionate homage...a loving reconstruction of an era of storytelling now lost." — The New York Times

The young Robert Louis Stevenson, living in a boarding house in San Francisco while waiting for his beloved’s divorce from her feckless husband, dreamed of writing a soaring novel about his landlady’s adventurous and globe-trotting husband—but he never got around to it. And very soon thereafter he was married, headed home to Scotland, and on his way to becoming the most famous novelist in the world, after writing such classics as Treasure Island, The Strange Case of Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde, and Kidnapped.

But now Brian Doyle brings Stevenson’s untold tale to life, braiding the adventures of seaman John Carson with those of a young Stevenson, wandering the streets of San Francisco, gathering material for his fiction, and yearning for his beloved across the bay. An adventure tale, an elegy to one of the greatest writers of our language, a time-traveling plunge into The City by the Bay during its own energetic youth, The Adventures of John Carson in Several Quarters of the World is entertaining, poignant, and sensual.

PRAISE

"[A] triumph...Adventures is a tonic for our bitter times." — Washington Post

"Rich prose and a unique perspective on one of the world’s most beloved authors...A fine homage to the writing of Stevenson that will suck you into the mind of a working writer." — Publisher's Weekly

“[A] tender, affectionate, and terribly fun homage to the joys of storytelling and storytellers.” — Kirkus Reviews

BRIAN DOYLE is the editor of Portland Magazine at the University of Portland, and the author of twenty books of essays, fiction, poems, and nonfiction, among them the novels Mink River, The Plover, Martin Marten, and Chicago. Honors for his work include the American Academy of Arts & Letters Award in Literature. He lives in Portland, Oregon.
 Void Star
A Novel
Zachary Mason

A riveting, beautifully written, fugue-like novel of AIs, memory, violence, and mortality

Not far in the future the seas have risen and the central latitudes are emptying, but it’s still a good time to be rich in San Francisco, where weapons drones patrol the skies to keep out the multitudinous poor. Irina isn’t rich, not quite, but she does have an artificial memory that gives her perfect recall and lets her act as a medium between her various employers and their AIs, which are complex to the point of opacity. It’s a good gig, paying enough for the annual visits to the Mayo Clinic that keep her from aging.

Kern has no such access; he’s one of the many refugees in the sprawling drone-built favelas on the city’s periphery, where he lives like a monk, training relentlessly in martial arts, scraping by as a thief and an enforcer. Thales is from a different world entirely—the mathematically inclined scion of a Brazilian political clan, he’s fled to L.A. after the attack that left him crippled and his father dead.

A ragged stranger accosts Thales and demands to know how much he can remember. Kern flees for his life after robbing the wrong mark. Irina finds a secret in the reflection of a laptop’s screen in her employer’s eyeglasses. None are safe as they’re pushed together by subtle forces that stay just out of sight.

Vivid, tumultuous, and propulsive, Void Star is Zachary Mason’s mind-bending follow-up to his bestselling debut, The Lost Books of the Odyssey.

PRAISE

"[The] complex and spellbinding tale of a future where self-preservation, in every sense of the word, is a victory." —Library Journal (starred review)

"Void Star is an extraordinary novel. The hallucinatory beauty of the prose is matched only by the book’s velocity and mystery, and the story—of mortality, memory, and what it means to be human—holds all the force and power of mythology."—Emily St. John Mandel, author of Station Eleven

Fear City

New York's Fiscal Crisis and the Rise of Austerity Politics

Kim Phillips-Fein

An epic and riveting history of New York City on the edge of disaster—and an anatomy of the politics of austerity that continues to shape the world today

When the news broke in 1975 that New York City was on the brink of fiscal collapse, few believed it was possible: how could the capital of the financial world go bankrupt? And yet the city was billions of dollars—maybe twelve, maybe fourteen, no one even really knew how much—in the red. Bankers and politicians alike seized upon the situation as evidence that social liberalism, which New York famously exemplified, was doomed to failure—and promised apocalyptic scenarios if the city didn't fire thousands of workers, freeze wages, and slash social services.

In this gripping account, historian Kim Phillips-Fein tells the story of the crisis that engulfed the city, forever transforming the largest metropolis in the United States and reshaping ideas about government throughout the country. In doing so, she brings to life the legendarily decrepit city of the 1970s. Drawing on never-before-used archival sources as well as interviews with key players in the crisis, Phillips-Fein guides us through the hairpin turns and sudden reversals that brought New York City to the edge of bankruptcy—and kept it from going over. At once a sweeping history of some of the most tumultuous times in the city's past, a colorful portrait of the unwieldy mechanics of municipal government, and an origin story of the politics of austerity, Fear City is essential reading for anyone seeking to understand the resurgent fiscal conservatism of today.

PRAISE

“In zeroing in on this little-understood chapter of urban history, Fear City helps sheds much-needed light on a range of contemporary crises, from the starvation of public services amidst enormous private wealth to the rise of Donald Trump. Kim Phillips-Fein is a historian of the first order.” —Naomi Klein, author of The Shock Doctrine and This Changes Everything

The Lowells of Massachusetts
An American Family

Nina Sankovitch

A fascinating chronicle of one of the most powerful families in the United States during the country’s early years

The Lowells of Massachusetts were a remarkable family. They were settlers in the New World in the 1600s, revolutionaries creating a new nation in the 1700s, merchants and manufacturers building prosperity in the 1800s, and scientists and artists flourishing in the 1900s. For the first time, Nina Sankovitch tells the story of this fascinating and powerful dynasty in The Lowells of Massachusetts.

Though not without scoundrels and certainly no strangers to controversy, the family boasted some of the most astonishing individuals in America’s history: Percival Lowle, the patriarch who arrived in America in the seventeenth to plant the roots of the family tree; Reverend John Lowell, the preacher; Judge John Lowell, a member of the Continental Congress; Francis Cabot Lowell, manufacturer and, some say, founder of the Industrial Revolution in the US; James Russell Lowell, American Romantic poet; Lawrence Lowell, one of Harvard’s longest-serving and most controversial presidents; and Amy Lowell, the twentieth century poet who lived openly in a Boston Marriage with the actress Ada Dwyer Russell.

The Lowells realized the promise of America as the land of opportunity by uniting Puritan values of hard work, community service, and individual responsibility with a deep-seated optimism that became a well-known family trait. Long before the Kennedys put their stamp on Massachusetts, the Lowells claimed the bedrock.

PRAISE

“[A] stirring saga...Vivid and intimate, Ms. Sankovitch’s account entertains us with Puritans and preachers, Tories and rebels, abolitionists and industrialists, lecturers and poets ... Ms. Sankovitch has made a compelling contribution to Massachusetts and American History.”—Roger Lowenstein, The Wall Street Journal

NINA SANKOVITCH is the author of Tolstoy and the Purple Chair and Signed, Sealed, Delivered: Celebrating the Joys of Letter Writing. She was born in Evanston, Illinois and is a graduate of Evanston Township High School, Tufts University, and Harvard Law School. She lives with her four children, husband, and three cats in Connecticut.
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