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FICTION

Farrar, Straus and Giroux
FSG Originals
MCD/FSG
Sarah Crichton Books

Baldwin, Rosecrans
THE LAST KID LEFT
A Novel
Fiction, June 2017 (manuscript available)
MCD/FSG

Nineteen-year-old Nick Toussaint Jr. is driving drunk through New Jersey on his way to Mexico. The dead bodies of Toussaint's doctor and his wife lie in the backseat. When Nick crashes the car, police chief Martin Krug becomes involved in the case. Despite an easy murder confession from Nick, something doesn't quite add up for the soon-to-be retired Krug. An itch he can't help but scratch.

Nick is extradited to his hometown of Claymore, New Hampshire—a New England beach town full of colorful characters, bed-and-breakfasts, and outlet malls—where the local scandal rocks the residents. Meanwhile his girlfriend, sixteen-year-old Emily Portis, rallies behind her boyfriend, her protector. **THE LAST KID LEFT** charts the evolution of their relationship and of Emily's own coming of age, in the face of tragedy and justice.

Rosecrans Baldwin is the author of *Paris, I Love You but You're Bringing Me Down* and *You Lost Me There*. He has written for *GQ*, *The New York Times*, *the Los Angeles Times*, and *The Guardian*. He continues to edit the online magazine *TMN*, which he co-founded in 1999 with the publisher Andrew Womack. Baldwin and his wife, Rachel Knowles, live in Los Angeles, California. He has nothing to do with his Wikipedia page.

Praise for *Paris, I Love You But You're Bringing Me Down*:

"A Judd Apatow film in the waiting...Very, very funny."

—John Freeman, *The Boston Globe*

"Deftly written, with a wry style and liberally deployed irony...Very funny."

—Dominic Tierney, *The Atlantic*

"A picture of what it's like to live and work--like, work work--in a city understood by most Americans only through tourist goggles...So necessary and welcome."

—Daniel Riley, *GQ*

"Funny and idiosyncratic . . . A love story about the city and its people."

—Eloisa James, NPR

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Darnielle, John
UNIVERSAL HARVESTER
A Novel
Fiction, February 2017 (galleys available)

Jeremy works the counter of a Video Hut in late 1990s Iowa. It's a job; it's quiet and regular; he gets to watch movies; he likes the owner, Sarah Jane; it gets him out of the house, where he and his dad try to avoid missing Mom, who died six years ago in a car wreck.

But when Stephanie Parsons, a local schoolteacher, comes in to return her copy of *Targets*, starring Boris Karloff—an old movie, one Jeremy himself had ordered for the store—she has an odd complaint: “There’s something on it,” she says, but doesn’t elaborate. Two days later, Lindsey Redinius brings back *She’s All That*, a new release, and complains that there’s something wrong with it: “There’s another movie on this tape.”

So Jeremy takes a look. And indeed, in the middle of the movie the screen blink dark for a moment and *She’s All That* is replaced by a black-and-white scene, shot in a barn, with only the faint sounds of someone breathing. Four minutes later, *She’s All That* is back. But there is something profoundly disturbing about that scene; Jeremy’s compelled to watch it three or four times. The scenes recorded onto *Targets* are similar, undoubtedly created by the same hand. Creepy. And the barn looks a lot like a barn just outside of town.

Jeremy doesn’t want to be curious. In truth, it freaks him out, deeply. This has gone far enough, maybe too far already. But Stephanie is pushing, and once Sarah Jane takes a look and becomes obsessed, there’s no more ignoring the disturbing scenes on the videos. And all of a sudden, what had once been the placid, regular old Iowa fields and farmhouses now feels haunted and threatening, imbued with loss and instability and profound foreboding. For Jeremy, and all those around him, life will never be the same.

John Darnielle is a writer, composer, guitarist, and vocalist for the band the Mountain Goats; he is widely considered one of the best lyricists of his generation. He lives in Durham, North Carolina, with his wife and sons.

Praise for WOLF IN WHITE VAN
(Longlisted for the National Book Award for Fiction, *New York Times* bestseller):

“A stunning meditation on the power of escape, and on the cat-and-mouse contest the self plays to deflect its own guilt.” —*The New York Times Book Review* (Editors’ Choice)

“Richly imagined . . . What drives *Wolf in White Van* is Mr. Darnielle’s uncanny sense of what it’s like to feel marginalized, an outsider, a freak.” —Dwight Garner, *The New York Times*

“A powerful work about the dangers of the unloosed imagination, Mr. Darnielle’s novel straddles the ordinary world and an unspeakable, unnameable darkness.”
—Sam Sacks, *The Wall Street Journal*

British/ANZ rights: Scribe Publications
Canadian rights: HarperCollins Canada
Translation rights: FSG
Translation rights sold: Germany/Eichborn

Rights sold, *Wolf in White Van*: British/Granta, Canadian/HarperCollins Canada, Dutch/Nieuw Amsterdam, French/Calmann-Levy, German/Eichborn, Italian/Rizzoli, Portuguese (in Brazil)/Editora Record, Spanish/Contra Ediciones

Duchovny, David
BUCKY F*CKING DENT
A Novel
Fiction, April 2016 (finished copies available)

Ted Fullilove, aka Mr. Peanut, is not like other Ivy League grads. He shares an apartment with Goldberg, his beloved battery-operated fish, sleeps on a bed littered with yellow legal pads penned with what he hopes will be the next great American novel, and spends the waning malaise-filled days of the Carter administration at Yankee Stadium, waxing poetic while slinging peanuts to pay the rent.

When Ted hears the news that his estranged father, Marty, is dying of lung cancer, he immediately moves back into his childhood home, where a whirlwind of revelations ensues. The browbeating absentee father of his youth is living to make up for lost time, but his health dips drastically whenever his beloved Red Sox lose. And so, with help from a crew of neighborhood old-timers and the lovely Mariana--Marty's Nuyorican grief counselor--Ted orchestrates the illusion of a Sox winning streak, enabling Marty and the Red Sox to reverse the Curse of the Bambino and cruise their way to World Series victory. Well, sort of.

David Duchovny's richly drawn **BUCKY F*CKING DENT** is a story of the bond between fathers and sons, Yankee fans and the Fenway faithful, and grapples with the urgent need to find our story in an age of irony and artifice. Culminating in that fateful moment in October of '78 when the meek Bucky Dent hit his way into baseball history with the unlikeliest of home runs, this tragicomic novel demonstrates that life truly belongs to the losers--that the long shots are the ones worth betting on.

BUCKY F*CKING DENT is a singular tale that brims with the hilarity, poignance, and profound solitude of modern life.

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

Praise for **BUCKY F*CKING DENT**:

"Duchovny's hilarious new novel hits a home run . . . As fast as it is entertaining . . . Duchovny has a place in the lineup, kind of like a light-hitting shortstop who shines in key moments." —Micah Pollack, *The Washington Post*

"Hilarious and deeply touching . . . Not a baseball book any more than *Field of Dreams* is a baseball book, this moving, beautiful novel resonates with laughter and tears throughout." —Don Oldenburg, *USA Today*

"Even people who hate the Red Sox will love this book. David Duchovny knows his baseball, but more important, he loves his fathers and sons. A touching delight." —Gary Shteyngart

"Duchovny has hit this one out of the park . . . he does a terrific job of blending quirky and emotional writing." —*The Associated Press*

British: FSG

Translation rights: FSG

Translation rights sold: Czech/Euromedia, Dutch/De Standaard, German/Heyne Verlag, Japanese/Shogakukan, Portuguese (in Brazil)/Editora Record, Romanian/Editura Polirom, Russian/Phantom Press, Slovak/Ikar

Rights sold, HOLY COW: British/Headline, Bulgarian/Bard, Catalan/Empuries, Czech/Euromedia, Dutch/Standaard, Finnish/Like, French/Grasset, German/Heyne Verlag, Hungarian/Kiskapu Kiado, Italian/Bompiani, Japanese/Shogakukan, Norwegian/Tigerforlaget (Aschehoug), Portuguese (in Brazil)/Editora Record, Portuguese (in Portugal)/ Saida de Emergencia, Romanian/Polirom, Slovak/Ikar, Spanish/Stella Maris, Turkish/April Publishing

Ellis, Warren
NORMAL
A Novel
Fiction, November 2016 (galleys available)
FSG Originals

NORMAL is a smart, tight, provocative techno-thriller straight out of the very near future—by the iconic, visionary multimedia writer, Warren Ellis.

Adam Dearborn, a brilliant futurist who suffered a nervous breakdown, is brought to Normal Head Research Station, a recovery facility for those who've suffered similar breakdowns. Nestled in the wilds of an experimental forest in Oregon, Normal Head is a place to decompress, rid oneself of technology and the outside world, and recover from the overload. There are different types of futurists staying at Normal Head, a divided bunch: on one side, foresight strategists who work for charities, nonprofits, and universities (glass half full.) On the other, strategic forecasters, the spooks who think all the water has dried up and the glass is shattered.

Adam welcomes the opportunity to unwind, but all may not be what it seems at Normal Head—this is a Warren Ellis novel, after all. Soon, one of his fellow patients disappears under a mass of writhing black insects, and the patients are warned that government investigators are coming to solve the case. Adam must form a ragtag alliance with his fellow prisoners, who include an urbanist with a little cannibalism challenge, a mad economist, and other allies. Surveillance becomes total. Adam must figure out who can be trusted. As the mystery of the disappeared man unravels, Adam uncovers a conspiracy that calls into question the core principles of how and why we think about the future—and the past, and the now.

NORMAL draws on Ellis' fascination with the future and threats imposed by technology that takes us on a frightening horror story about where the world is headed in ways only Warren Ellis can imagine.

Warren Ellis is the author of FSG's first digital original, *Dead Pig Collector*, the *New York Times* bestselling novel *Gun Machine*, and the underground classic *Crooked Little Vein*. He is also the award-winning creator of a number of iconic, bestselling original graphic novels, including *Red*, *Ministry of Space*, *Planetary*, and *Transmetropolitan*, and has been behind some of the most successful reimaginings of mainstream comic superheroes, including the *Fantastic Four* and *Iron Man*. He has written extensively for *Vice*, *Wired*, and *Reuters* on technological and cultural matters, and is working on a nonfiction book about the future of cities for FSG Originals. He lives on the southeast coast of England.

Praise for **NORMAL**:

"This book may be the perfect way to sample Ellis, drawing on his fascination with futurists and the threats imposed by ever faster technology and offering a story that employs his profane poetry to a degree that may inspire cackles from fans . . . Ellis even manages to bring his damaged hero to an epiphany, although it's one that will scare the living hell out of anybody who truly ponders what the world is becoming. A crackling, funny, and frightening horror story from a unique voice in genre lit."

—*Kirkus Reviews*

"Adam Dearden, the hero of this fascinating near-future thriller from Ellis (*Gun Machine*), is one of the people monitoring an intricate worldwide surveillance system as part of an effort to save the world from a looming cataclysm that could bring financial ruin . . . Readers will root for Adam as he struggles to discover what is actually going on in Normal, who is to be trusted, and what happened to Mansfield."

—*Publishers Weekly*

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Harrison, Colin
YOU BELONG TO ME
A Novel
Fiction, June 2017 (manuscript available)
Sarah Crichton Books

Paul Reeves is a successful immigration lawyer, but his passion is collecting old maps of New York, tangible records of the city's rich history in an increasingly digital world. One afternoon he attends an auction with his neighbor Jennifer Mehrnaz, the beautiful young wife of an Iranian financier-lawyer, but halfway through the auction a handsome man in soldier fatigues appears in the aisle and whisks Jennifer away. A long-lost lover from Jennifer's rural Pennsylvania past, the man sets off a series of alarming events as those close to Jennifer try to figure out who he is and how the two are connected, including her high-powered and possessive husband, whose ultimate goal is to make this embarrassing intrusion into his marriage disappear.

At the same time, one of the world's rarest and most inaccessible maps suddenly goes on sale, but before Paul can finalize a deal, another buyer snatches it out from under Paul's nose, sending him on a quest to find out who the mysterious buyer is and how to get the map for himself.

Eight years after his last critically acclaimed thriller, *The Finder*, Colin Harrison returns with his best work yet. Filled with compelling characters and a loving but biting satire of New York City, **YOU BELONG TO ME** is an exceptional novel, and Colin Harrison is at the top of his game.

Colin Harrison is the author of the novels *Break and Enter*, *Bodies Electric*, *Manhattan Nocturne*, *Afterburn*, *The Havana Room*, *The Finder*, and *Risk*. He lives in Brooklyn, New York.

Praise for Colin Harrison:

"Harrison is a master of mood and atmosphere."—Michiko Kakutani, *The New York Times*

"You don't read Harrison; you devour him."—*The Philadelphia Inquirer*

"[Harrison is] the class act of the urban thriller."—*Entertainment Weekly*

"Recalls ... *Bonfire of the Vanities*, but this is a far darker story and a far more interesting one. Harrison's Big Apple is rotten to the core."—*The Washington Post* (on *The Finder*)

"Harrison writes shrewd thrillers that probe the far reaches of New York society. . . . An uncommonly astute writer."
—*The Seattle Times* (on *The Finder*)

"A white-knuckle ride . . . With the narrative drive of a hurtling subway express, Harrison plunges readers into a scary subterranean world in which the only comfort comes from the neon flashes of his prose."—*People*

British rights: Bloomsbury
Translation rights: FSG

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Hunter, Lindsay
EAT ONLY WHEN YOU'RE HUNGRY
A Novel
Fiction, August 2017 (manuscript available November 2016)

In Lindsay Hunter's achingly funny, fiercely honest second novel, **EAT ONLY WHEN YOU'RE HUNGRY**, we meet Greg—an overweight fifty-eight-year-old and the father of Greg Junior, GJ, who has been missing for three weeks. GJ's been an addict his whole adult life, disappearing for days at a time, but for some reason this absence feels different, and Greg has convinced himself that he's the only one who can find his son. So he rents an RV and drives from his home in West Virginia to the outskirts of Orlando, Florida, the last place GJ was seen. As we travel down the streets of the bizarroland that is Florida, the urgency to find GJ slowly recedes into the background, and the truths about Greg's mistakes—as a father, a husband, a man—are uncovered.

In **EAT ONLY WHEN YOU'RE HUNGRY**, Hunter elicits complex sympathy for her characters, asking the reader to take a closer look at the way we think about addiction—why we demonize the junkie but turn a blind eye to drinking a little too much or eating too much—and the fallout of failing ourselves.

Lindsay Hunter is the author of the story collections *Don't Kiss Me* and *Daddy's* and the novel *Ugly Girls*. Originally from Florida, she now lives in Chicago with her husband, sons, and dogs.

Praise for *Ugly Girls*:

"[*Ugly Girls* was] the best book I read in 2014 . . . Gorgeous and necessary."
—Roxane Gay, *Salon*

"Mesmerizing . . . Visceral . . . Exquisite. Hunter's portraits are heartbreaking. She cares about characters we don't want to think about, issues we would rather not face . . . And reading these stories? They kind of make you feel like your heart could kick the windows out."
—Hope Reese, *Chicago Tribune*

"Hunter is such a talented writer that she makes the unimaginably unpleasant seem natural, and terrifyingly so."
—*The Boston Globe*

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Jacobs, Liska

CATALINA

A Novel

Fiction, September 2017 (manuscript available November 2016)

MCD/FSG

CATALINA follows the downward spiral of Elsa Fisher, a young woman adrift after she loses her job as an assistant at MoMA and in the process loses the married man she's having an affair with--her boss. When it seems her only choice is to return home to California, Elsa decides to take her severance and head to Los Angeles to visit her old friends. She dives full-on into a bender, fueled by pills and alcohol. Rather than admit her failures, Elsa tells her friends she's just on holiday. Outwardly she puts on a party visage, while internally she struggles with the darkest moments in her life. As the group of friends head off to Catalina Island for a getaway, Elsa's recklessness puts everyone closest to her in jeopardy.

Everyone in her life has different expectations of Elsa: her best friend who's trying to get pregnant, her ex-husband who hasn't ever really gotten over their breakup (and whose new girlfriend notices), the predatory older man whose boat takes them to the island. Elsa navigates these identities (friend, ex, siren), trying to find one that fits, knowing that she's headed toward destruction, and trying to find a way to save herself. With lyric intensity and frank sexuality, Jacobs fearlessly brings you inside Elsa's mind. Elsa is a mess, but a survivor, and CATALINA is a compulsive and deliciously dark debut that feels like a female *Lost Weekend* this generation's *Less than Zero*.

Liska Jacobs is a graduate of the University of California, Riverside MFA program in Palm Desert and the event manager at The Last Bookstore in Los Angeles. Her essays and short fiction have appeared in *The Rumpus*, *Los Angeles Review of Books*, *Literary Hub*, *The Millions*, *Hairpin*, *The Nervous Breakdown* and elsewhere.

All rights: FSG

Lombardo, A.G.
GRAFFITI PALACE
A Novel
Fiction, May 2018 (manuscript available)
MCD/FSG

GRAFFITI PALACE is Homer's *Odyssey* set during the Watts riots. Our Odysseus is Americo Monk, an African-Americans semiologist studying graffiti symbols in South Central Los Angeles. The novel opens with his Penelope waiting for him to arrive to a party, but Monk gets caught up in the riots and getting home isn't easy. Since Monk understands the gang symbols and tags, he becomes the person who everyone - LAPD and gangsters alike - wants. And each monster he encounters and has to outwit (Scylla and Charybdis, The Sirens) follows an episode of the *Odyssey*, mutated to black Los Angeles in 1965.

The Watts riots lasted a week in August of 1965, and are so named for the Watts neighborhood of L.A. where they took place. Much like the Rodney King riots in the 1992, the specific boiling point was police brutality, but the seeds were set earlier with racial segregation and through how L.A. was developed. Much of this racism and segregation can still be found in the political discourse today.

GRAFFITI PALACE is full of historical references so over the top that they can only be true: Tokyo Rose was living in Los Angeles during the riots, Gene Roddenberry was Chief Parker's right hand man at the LAPD before he created *Star Trek*, the hate speech of talk radio began that summer of the Watts riots, the films *The Sound of Music* and Godard's *Alphaville* were playing simultaneously that August of 1965 in theaters, and the fortune cookie wars happened in San Francisco in the early part of the 20th century. Lombardo mixes the history of LA gangs from the zoot suit riots of the 1940's to the actual events that started the Watts riot with wild moments of filming a *Godzilla* movie downtown in the midst of the violence, and the invention of Slurpies at 7-11. All of which to say, this is a wild, wild ride full of twist, turns and humor.

But it is not simply the journey. The incredibly racist directives from Chief Parker to his "thin blue line" of the LAPD in the novel are verbatim from the time as are the "on the street" reports of the tv newscasters terrifying white Angelenos in the valley with their predictions of guns and imminent violence from the ghetto. It deals with a historical event that has startling, and indeed worrying, relevance today. **GRAFFITI PALACE** is written in a stunning, vivid, language and a real sense of place and atmosphere. While politically charged, it never feels burdened by its message. Monk, unlike everyone around him, sees the literal writing on the wall, the screams of fury sprayed across billboards and alleyways and how that erupted into violence and destruction. Monk vows to tell the "real" story of the Watts riots and perhaps this novel with all its fantastical elements finally does it justice.

This is A.G. Lombardo's first novel. He is a school teacher in a public school in Los Angeles.

British rights: Serpent's Tail
Translation rights: FSG
Translation rights sold: French/Editions du Seuil

Luce, Kelly
PULL ME UNDER
A Novel

Fiction, November 2016 (finished copies available)

Rio Silvestri was born Chizuru Akitani, the Japanese-American daughter of a revered Japanese violinist, Hiro Akitani, a Living National Treasure in Japan, and a man Rio hasn't spoken to since her release from a detention center and her subsequent move to the United States. She has changed her name, and her identity, and is happily married with a child of her own. One day, a mysterious package arrives on her doorstep, along with news of her father's death, and Rio returns to Japan, alone, for the first time in twenty years, pushing her relationship with her husband and daughter, and her own sense of self, to the brink.

Rio's return to Japan offers illuminating and atmospheric descriptions of Japan and its culture. **PULL ME UNDER** is a well-crafted debut, gripping and psychologically complex, and at its heart is a powerful exploration of home, self-acceptance and the limits of forgiveness.

Kelly Luce is the author of *Three Scenarios in Which Hana Sasaki Grows a Tail* (A Strange Object, 2013) which won Foreword Reviews' Editors Choice Prize in Fiction and was a finalist for book prizes from the Texas Institute of Letters and the Writer's League of Texas. Her work has been honored by fellowships from the MacDowell Colony, Ragdale, Jentel Arts, *Tin House*, and the Sewanee Writer's Conference, and has recently appeared in *O, the Oprah Magazine*, *The Chicago Tribune*, *Electric Literature*, *NER*, *American Short Fiction*, and other publications. She was a fellow at the Michener Center for Writers at UT Austin, where she graduated with her MFA this May.

Advance praise for **PULL ME UNDER**:

"The writing of Kelly Luce is beautifully stark and simple, and at the same time playful, earthy, and violent. She's unique, a natural born writer, and *Pull Me Under* is a strange and very appealing novel, a journey to Japan and the primal scene of the main character's self—which, like a volcano, may have already blown its top."

—Rachel Kushner

"As Rio moves deeper into the painful secrets of the past, secrets that nearly destroyed her in childhood and are threatening to undo her once again, I could not stop turning the pages of Kelly Luce's hypnotic debut . . . a fierce and suspenseful exploration of the profoundly mysterious nature of identity, written with precise and spectacular beauty. Kelly Luce is one of our most thrilling new talents." —Laura van den Berg

"Kelly Luce's debut novel is an urgent and wise story about the many disparate identities a life can hold, but it is also an astonishing example of all that a novel can encompass. By turns a finely crafted mystery, a portrait of a fractured family, an evocative travelogue, an aching coming-of-age tale, and an insightful contemplation of our inescapable histories in an increasingly globalized and digitized culture . . . Luce offers many poignant, page-turning pleasures, but her greatest gift to the reader is her revelation of how a single life, a single mind, a single, artful book can contain multitudes." —Stefan Merrill Block

British rights: FSG
Translation rights: FSG
Translation rights sold: Polish/Foksal

Luce, Kelly
THREE SCENARIOS IN WHICH HANA SASAKI GROWS A TAIL
Stories

Fiction, October 2013 (finished copies available)

Originally published by A Strange Object Press, this is the debut collection of stories from Kelly Luce. Hana Sasaki will introduce you to many things—among them, an oracular toaster, a woman who grows a tail, and an extraordinary sex-change operation. Set in Japan and reminiscent of Haruki Murakami and Aimee Bender, these stories tip into the fantastical, plumb the power of memory, and measure the human capacity to love.

All rights: FSG

Meijer, Maryse
HEARTBREAKER
Stories
Fiction, July 2016 (finished copies available)
FSG Originals

In her debut story collection, **HEARTBREAKER**, Maryse Meijer, flashlight in hand, goes deep into the darkest rooms of the psyche. With gorgeously restrained and exacting prose that packs a cumulatively devastating punch, she unapologetically unmask the violence we are willing to perform upon one another in the name of love and loneliness and the unrelenting desire to survive. In doing so, she lights societal convention and reader expectation on fire, exploring the darker emotional truths surrounding love and sex, femininity and masculinity, family and girlhood.

Maryse Meijer has been published in *Meridian*, *The Saint Ann's Review*, *The Dallas Review*, *Portland Review*, and *actual paper*. She is the 2008 recipient of the Meridian Editors' Prize for Fiction. A graduate of the Warren Wilson College MFA program, she lives in Chicago, where she is currently at work on her first novel.

Praise for **HEARTBREAKER**:

"The edgy stories in Meijer's debut collection cut like so many wild teeth: sharp, deep, and unforgiving . . . Meijer breaks open taboos about sex, disability, melancholy, and violence with the careful precision of a teenager egging the house of her mortal enemy. Here is all the raw anger, fear, malice, lust, and confusion of women used to threats, stalking, and ceaseless observation, who live with their lives hanging every day in the balance. In fiction, Meijer seems to say, they have a shot at making their own rules—and the results are strange, unsettling, and addictive . . . In deft, clear prose, Meijer takes everyday moments of loss and loneliness and threads them through with elements of the gothic, fantasy, and fairy tale . . . Taut and ruthless, Meijer's tales somehow manage to be both believable in their strangeness and recognizable in their pointed cruelties. Here are the misfits, the overweight, and the lonely. The obsessives and the broken. Here are the monsters—and they look an awful lot like you. A dark and surprising new voice in short fiction." —*Kirkus Reviews* (starred review)

"The characters in Meijer's debut collection of short stories are defined by their obsessions and are brought to life in quick, deft strokes. To enter their lives, however briefly, is to enter a warped world in which convention is upended and consequences only implied. Meijer's writing is arresting and disturbing, burning with clarity at even the most complex moments . . . The sharpness with which these people are drawn, largely without context beyond the immediate situation, only reinforces the strangeness of the tales they inhabit, and leaves the reader with burning questions unanswered." —Bridget Thoreson, *Booklist*

"The thirteen stories in Maryse Meijer's *Heartbreaker* are defiant to their type and bold within their bounds. They thrust themselves onto your lap and stay on your mind for days . . . Meijer writes with the controlled restraint of an explosives expert wiring a building for collapse. Reading her work is like taking a seat in that abandoned place and listening to the eerie shifting sounds. Soon enough, the whole thing will come down around you." —Amelia Grey, author of *Gutshot*, for *Electric Literature*

"Maryse Meijer has written a scowl of a book, a gleaming hungry mouth, a chomp. You feel lucky to get out alive, and then you just feel lucky. There you are, missing the danger, longing again for its toothed beauty. *Heartbreaker* is a bright and dark joy." —Lindsay Hunter, author of *Ugly Girls*

All rights: FSG

Penkov, Miroslav
STORK MOUNTAIN

A Novel

Fiction, March 2016 (finished copies available)

STORK MOUNTAIN tells the story of a young Bulgarian immigrant who, in an attempt to escape his mediocre life in America, returns to the country of his birth. Retracing the steps of his estranged grandfather, a man who suddenly and inexplicably cut all contact with the family three years prior, the boy finds himself on the border of Bulgaria and Turkey, a stone's throw away from Greece, high up in the Strandja Mountains. It is a place of pagan mysteries and black storks nesting in giant oaks; a place where every spring, possessed by Christian saints, men and women dance barefoot across live coals in search of rebirth. Here in the mountains, the boy reunites with his grandfather. Here in the mountain, he falls in love with an unobtainable Muslim girl. Old ghosts come back to life and forgotten conflicts, in the name of faith and doctrine, blaze anew.

STORK MOUNTAIN is an enormously charming, slyly brilliant debut novel from an internationally celebrated writer. It is a novel that will undoubtedly find a home in many readers' hearts.

Miroslav Penkov was born in 1982 in Gabrovo, Bulgaria. He moved to America in 2001 and completed a Bachelor's degree followed by an MFA in Creative Writing at the University of Arkansas. His stories have won the BBC International Short Story Award 2012 and The *Southern Review's* Eudora Welty Prize and have appeared in *Granta*, *One Story*, The *Best American Short Stories 2008*, The *PEN/O. Henry Prize Stories 2012*, and *The Best American Nonrequired Reading 2013*. *East of the West* was a finalist for the 2012 William Saroyan International Prize for Writing and the Steven Turner Award for First Fiction by the Texas Institute of Letters. He teaches creative writing at the University of North Texas.

Praise for STORK MOUNTAIN:

"[A] sprawling, wildly ambitious novel... thoughtful and thought-provoking, with a passionate faith in the redemptive powers of art." — Wendy Smith, *The Boston Globe*

"[A] searing, heartfelt novel. This book is rich, enmeshing the personal with the political and historical, told in strange and vertiginous language that seems fitting for a tale of such passion."
—*Publishers Weekly* [starred review]

"Stork Mountain is a beautiful and haunting novel, one that delves into a painful past and begs the questions: To what extent are we doomed to relive the past and carry it with us? At what point must we relent and set it free?" — Hilary Rice, *Chicago Review of Books*.

"I can't speak to Miroslav Penkov's standing among Bulgarian novelists, but now that I've read *Stork Mountain* it is easy to say that Penkov is my favorite novelist publishing in America."
—Kyle Minor, author of *Praying Drunk*

British rights: Sceptre

Translation rights: FSG

Translation rights sold: Bulgarian/Ciela Soft, Dutch/De Bezige Bij, Greek/Antipodes Editions, Spanish/Seix Barral

Rights sold, EAST OF THE WEST: British/Sceptre, Bulgarian/Ciela Soft, Canadian/Doubleday, Chinese (Simplified)/Yilin Press Dutch/De Bezige Bij, French/Editions Heloise d'Ormesson, German/Blessing, Hebrew/Am Oved, Italian/Neri Pozza, Norwegian/Gyldendal, Spanish/Seix Barral, Swedish/2244 (Bonnier)

Roberts, Mike
CANNIBALS IN LOVE
A Novel
Fiction, September 2016 (finished copies available)
FSG Originals

Soulful, gritty, and hilarious, **CANNIBALS IN LOVE** is the debut novel from a bold new voice in fiction, and a manifesto for the generation that came of age at the dawn of the twenty-first century.

Mike is about to graduate from college and inherit a world much different from the one he was promised. The World Trade Center towers have just fallen, the Beltway Sniper terrorizes the nation's capital, and a polarizing president pushes forward a dubious war. Told in eighteen vignettes, Mike's misadventures begin in Washington, D.C., and span Brooklyn, Portland, and Austin as he takes up arms with the overeducated, underemployed millennials who surround him. Nursing writerly ambitions, he works a series of humiliating jobs—counting lampposts, writing spam e-mails, babysitting a teenage boy—while composing a thousand-page novel about cows as an allegory for the invasion of Iraq. And at the center of the book resides a tumultuous, passionate love story that could arise only between two people with nothing to lose.

Like a carefully assembled mixtape, **CANNIBALS IN LOVE** weaves tender moments and summer idylls with violent late nights and the frustrations of a generation. From delirious off-track betting to a fateful walk across Kansas, Mike Roberts takes us into the guts of masculinity and identity in the age of the Internet, and joins an emerging group of young writers who are redefining the contemporary novel.

Mike Roberts is a writer from Buffalo, New York. His first produced screenplay, *King Kelly*, premiered at the 2012 South by Southwest film festival, was nominated for the Golden Eye at the Zurich Film Festival, and won the Jury's Choice Award at the Puchon Film Festival. His screenplay adaptation of Brad Land's memoir *Goat* is currently being produced by James Franco. His stage play, *The Kill Chain*, was featured in the 2013 Tongues Reading Series at the Cherry Lane Theatre in New York. He lives and works in Los Angeles. *Cannibals in Love* is his first novel.

Praise for **CANNIBALS IN LOVE**:

"Roberts' debut captures the anger and tumult of early adulthood in the George W. Bush years . . . impression by impression, fragment by fragment, Roberts chronicles the low-grade agony of growing up with insight and accuracy. A study of young masculinity: atmospheric, quietly aggressive, and unexpectedly hopeful."

—*Kirkus Reviews*

"Unapologetically political and full of youthful whimsy, Roberts' debut captures one man's reluctant search for stability." —*Booklist*

"*Cannibals in Love* is hard to forget. Midway through, you start calling up earlier episodes, forming connections, and remembering the book the same way a life is remembered while it's being lived. The vignettes in Roberts' novel of millennial America hit with a sense of relief, like when a friend fills in a blank spot from the past and you think, 'Thank God someone remembered something!' This novel belongs on a shelf of Americana with Frederick Exley's *A Fan's Notes* and early DeLillo."

—Will Chancellor, author of *A Brave Man Seven Storeys Tall*

"*Cannibals in Love* is a portrait of American life in its twilight years—bristling with humor and absurdity, rotten with longing. With tenderness and wit, Mike Roberts brings us a tragicomic ode to our millennium, crisper and more penetrating in retrospect."

—Alexandra Kleeman, author of *You Too Can Have a Body Like Mine*

All rights: FSG

Schine, Cathleen
THEY MAY NOT MEAN TO, BUT THEY DO
A Novel
Fiction, June 2016 (finished copies available)
Sarah Crichton Books

Joy Bergman is not slipping into old age with the quiet grace her children, Molly and Daniel, would prefer. She won't take their advice, and she won't take an anti-depressant. Her marriage to their father, Aaron, has lasted through health and dementia, as well as some phenomenally lousy business decisions. The Bergman clan has always stuck together, growing as it incorporated in-laws, ex-in-laws and same-sex spouses. But families don't just grow, they grow old. Cathleen Schine's **THEY MAY NOT MEAN TO, BUT THEY DO** is a tender, sometimes hilarious intergenerational story about searching for where you belong as your family changes with age.

When Aaron dies, Molly and Daniel have no shortage of solutions for their mother's loneliness and despair, but there is one challenge they did not count on: the reappearance of an ardent suitor from Joy's college days. They didn't count on Joy, herself, either, a mother suddenly as willful and rebellious as their own kids.

With sympathy, humor and truth, Schine explores the intrusion of old age into a large and loving family. **THEY MAY NOT MEAN TO, BUT THEY DO** is a radiantly compassionate look at three generations, all coming of age together.

Cathleen Schine is the author of *Fin & Lady*, *The Three Weissmanns of Westport*, *The New Yorkers*, and *The Love Letter*, among other novels. She has contributed to *The New Yorker*, *The New York Review of Books*, *The New York Times Magazine*, and *The New York Times Book Review*. She lives in Los Angeles, California.

Praise for **THEY MAY NOT MEAN TO, BUT THEY DO**:

"Schine [is] one of our most realistically imaginative, dependably readable novelists. . . [S]hapely and precisely structured. . . ruefully satiric. . . buoyant. . . sharply observant. . . Her tenth and newest novel . . . cuts deeper, feels fuller and more ambitious, and seems to me her best."

—Phillip Lopate, *New York Review of Books*

"Schine's painfully beautiful depiction of a woman's heroism in the face of that abyss offers, like the best literature, a reminder of the tender, frightening vulnerability we all share." —*Los Angeles Review of Books*

"Oh, but you do need Schine's novel. At least, you do if you're a reader who relishes acute psychological perceptions and lots of laughs to leaven the existential grimness, like those other literary domestic goddesses to whom she's sometimes compared, Jane Austen and Nora Ephron."

—Maureen Corrigan, *NPR*

"A very funny novel. . . This is a situation plenty of readers will recognize. . . Schine reminds us that a family is as united by its trials as by its triumphs. . . Schine writes with economy and style . . . [D]eftly handled storytelling."

—*New York Times Book Review*

"[F]unny and heartbreaking at the same time; Schine has a gift for transforming the pathos and comedy of everyday life into luminous fiction." —*Entertainment Weekly*

British rights: FSG
Translation rights: FSG
Translation Rights sold: Italian/Mondadori

Rights sold, **FIN & LADY**: British/Constable & Robinson, Italian/Mondadori
Rights sold, **THE THREE WEISSMANNS OF WESTPORT**: British/Constable & Robinson, Chinese (Complex)/Taitien Electric Co., Danish/ArtPeople's Press, French/Phebus, German/Random House GmbH, Italian/Mondadori, Polish/Proszynski, Spanish/Grup 62, Turkish/Artemis Yayinlari

Smith, Dominic

THE LAST PAINTING OF SARA DE VOS

A Novel

Fiction, April 2016 (finished copies available)

Sarah Crichton Books

A *New York Times* bestseller

This is what we long for: the profound pleasure of being swept into vivid new worlds, worlds peopled by characters so intriguing and real that we can't shake them, even long after the reading's done. In his earlier, award-winning novels, Dominic Smith demonstrated a gift for coaxing the past to life. Now, in **THE LAST PAINTING OF SARA DE VOS**, he deftly bridges the historical and the contemporary, tracking a collision course between a rare landscape by a female Dutch painter of the golden age, an inheritor of the work in 1950s Manhattan, and a celebrated art historian who painted a forgery of it in her youth.

In 1631, Sara de Vos is admitted as a master painter to the Guild of St. Luke's in Holland, the first woman to be so recognized. Three hundred years later, only one work attributed to de Vos is known to remain--a haunting winter scene, *At the Edge of a Wood*, which hangs over the bed of a wealthy descendant of the original owner. An Australian grad student, Ellie Shipley, struggling to stay afloat in New York, agrees to paint a forgery of the landscape, a decision that will haunt her. Because now, half a century later, she's curating an exhibit of female Dutch painters, and both versions threaten to arrive. As the three threads intersect, **THE LAST PAINTING OF SARA DE VOS** mesmerizes while it grapples with the demands of the artistic life, showing how the deceptions of the past can forge the present.

Dominic Smith is the author of three previously published novels from Atria. His awards include a Dobie Paisano Fellowship, the Sherwood Anderson Fiction Prize, the Gulf Coast Fiction Prize, and a new works grant from the Literature Board of the Australia Council for the Arts. His debut novel, *The Mercury Visions of Louis Daguerre*, was a Barnes & Noble Discover New Writers Book. His second novel, *The Beautiful Miscellaneous*, was a Booklist Editors' Choice and optioned for film by Southpaw Entertainment. His most recent novel, *Bright and Distant Shores*, was named by Kirkus as one of the "Best Books of 2011" and chosen by the ALA for its annual reading list.

Praise for *New York Times* bestseller **THE LAST PAINTING OF SARA DE VOS**:

"An elegant page-turner that carries its erudition effortlessly on an energetic plot . . . His narratives may be complex, but that quality only enhances their suspense . . . Apart from the story's firm historical grounding, the narrative has a supple omniscience that glides, Möbius-like, among the centuries without a snag . . . Smith's 1637 is as convincing a realization as his 1957 or 2000, Amsterdam in its Golden Age no less vivid than millennial Manhattan . . . *The Last Painting of Sara de Vos* may begin as a mystery about a crime, but by the end the reader sees far beneath that surface: All along it was a mystery of the heart."

—Kathryn Harrison, *The New York Times Book Review*

"Riveting . . . His descriptions are beautifully precise . . . The genius of Smith's book is not just the caper plot but also the interweaving of three alternating timelines and locations to tell a wider, suspenseful story of one painting's rippling impact on three people over multiple centuries and locations . . . Smith's book absorbs you from the start."

—*The Washington Post*

"Rapturous . . . Smith's writing is incandescent from the first sentence . . . In this extraordinary narrative, lives, like paintings, can be great works of art, dependent on the minutest of decisions and happenstance. So, too, can novels, and in this sublime work about longing, creativity, love and loss, Smith explores what is authentic and what is hidden, on both the canvas and in the human heart." —*San Francisco Chronicle*

British/ANZ: Atlantic Books/Allen & Unwin

Translation rights: FSG

Translation right sold: Dutch/ Uitgeverij Q, French/ Editions Belfond, German/ Ullstein, Hebrew/ Armchair Books, Italian/ Giunti Editore, Korean/ Cheongmirae, Japanese/ Tokyo Sogensha Ltd./, Spanish/ Ediciones Maeva

Terrell, Whitney
THE GOOD LIEUTENANT
A Novel

Fiction, June 2016 (finished copies available)

THE GOOD LIEUTENANT literally starts with a bang as an operation led by Lieutenant Emma Fowler of the Twenty-seventh Infantry Battalion goes spectacularly wrong. Men are dead—one, a young Iraqi, by her hand. Others were soldiers in her platoon. And the signals officer, Dixon Pulowski. Pulowski is another story entirely—Fowler and Pulowski have been lovers since they met at Fort Riley in Kansas.

From this conflagration, THE GOOD LIEUTENANT unspools backward in time as Fowler and her platoon are guided into disaster by suspicious informants and questionable intelligence, their very mission the result of a previous snafu in which a soldier had been kidnapped by insurgents. And then even further back, before things began to go so wrong, we see the backstory unfold from points of view that usually are not shown in war coverage—a female frontline officer, for one, but also jaded career soldiers and Iraqis both innocent and not so innocent. Ultimately, as all these stories unravel, what is revealed is what happens when good intentions destroy, experience distorts, and survival becomes everything.

Brilliantly told and expertly captured by a terrific writer at the top of his form, THE GOOD LIEUTENANT is a gripping, insightful, necessary novel about a war that is proving to be the defining tragedy of our time.

Whitney Terrell is the New Letters Writer-in-Residence at the University of Missouri-Kansas City. He is a graduate of Princeton University and has an MFA from the Iowa Writers' Workshop. His first novel, *The Huntsman*, was a *New York Times* notable book. His nonfiction has appeared in *The New York Times*, *Details*, *Harper's Magazine*, *The New York Observer*, *The Kansas City Star*, and *The Atlanta Journal-Constitution*. He was an embedded reporter in Iraq during 2006 and 2010 and covered the war for *The Washington Post Magazine*, *Slate*, and NPR. He was born and raised in Kansas City.

Praise for THE GOOD LIEUTENANT:

"The best work of fiction the Bush wars have produced so far . . . Terrell's] work is superb: his dialogue, his prose, the humane sorrow that suffuses his observations... [S]tartlingly original."—*The Guardian*

"An addicting epic about disaster and, more important, what leads to disaster."—*The Washington Post*

"Terrell shows us how soldiers think and address one another with a stinging combination of military argot and pop culture references. The book's last line echoes the title of one of the first novels about modern warfare, Thomas Boyd's *Through the Wheat* (1923), to which this novel is an entirely worthy successor."
—*Publishers Weekly* (starred)

"A terrific exploration of courage, leadership, and loss, as experienced by American soldiers in Iraq. Terrell captures the humanity and the absurdity of the conflict in a way that feels both specific to the Iraq conflict and also unnervingly timeless. A stunning and heartbreaking testament to Terrell's genius and the nature of modern war." —Gillian Flynn, author of *Gone Girl*

"*The Good Lieutenant* is a stirring performance grounded in the hard realities of combat. The human beauty here is of the brutal variety—complex, dark, and impossible to forget. Lieutenant Emma Fowler is our guide into a contemporary heart of darkness. This novel should be read by all."
—Anthony Swofford, author of *Jarhead*

"With *The Good Lieutenant*, Whitney Terrell has unwound the myths of one of our most encrusted literary forms—the war novel—and remade it to be humane and honest, glowingly new and true . . . this is emphatically, triumphantly, a work of imagination and literary ingenuity." —Adam Johnson

British rights: Picador UK
Translation rights: FSG

VanderMeer, Jeff
BORNE
A Novel
Fiction, May 2017 (manuscript available)
MCD/FSG

In a ruined, nameless city of the future, Rachel makes her living as a scavenger. She finds a creature she names "Borne" entangled in the fur of Mord, a gigantic despotic bear that once prowled the corridors of a biotech firm, the Company, until he was experimented on, grew large, learned to fly, and broke free. Made insane by his torture by the Company, Mord terrorizes the city even as he provides sustenance for scavengers.

At first, Borne looks like nothing at all—just a green lump that might be a discard from the Company, which, although severely damaged, is rumored to still make creatures and send them to far-distant places that have not yet suffered collapse. To Rachel, Borne reminds her of the island nation of her birth, now long lost to rising seas. She feels an attachment that she resents: attachments are traps, and in this world any weakness can kill you. Yet when she takes Borne to her subterranean sanctuary, Rachel convinces her lover Wick—a special kind of dealer—not to render down Borne as raw genetic material for the drugs he sells.

But nothing is quite the way it seems: not the past, the present, or the future. If Wick is hiding secrets, so is Rachel—and Borne most of all. What Rachel finds hidden deep within the Company will change everything and everyone. There, lost and forgotten things have lingered and grown. What they have grown into is mighty indeed.

Jeff VanderMeer is a two-time winner, 12-time finalist for the World Fantasy Award. His work has also been a finalist for the Hugo Award, the Philip K. Dick Award, the Locus Award, Nebula Award, the International Horror Guild Award, the British Fantasy Award, the Bram Stoker Award, and the Theodore Sturgeon Memorial Award. His fiction has been translated into over 20 languages and has appeared in *Conjunctions*, *Library of America's American Fantastic Tales*, and several year's best anthologies. He writes for *The Washington Post*, *The New York Times Book Review*, *The LA Times*, *The Guardian*, *Omnivoracious*, *The B&N Review*, and many others.

Praise for THE SOUTHERN REACH TRILOGY:

"A great triumph... The apparent tragedy and freakish ecology of Area X's blight are quite fascinating, and the solitary voice of its post-humanist narrator is both deeply flawed and deeply trustworthy — a difficult and excellent balance in a novel whose world is built seamlessly and whose symbols are rich and dark."

—Lydia Millet, the *Los Angeles Times*

"Successfully creepy, an old-style gothic horror novel set in a not-too-distant future. The best bits turn your mind inside out."

—*The Washington Post*

"VanderMeer ups the book's eeriness quotient with the smoothest of skill, the subtlest of grace. His prose makes the horrific beautiful."

—*The Seattle Times*

British rights: Fourth Estate
Canadian rights: HarperCollins Canada
Translation rights: FSG
Translation rights sold: Chinese (Simplified)/Beijing Huaxia Winshare Books Co. German/Kunstmann,
Russian/EXMO

Rights sold, SOUTHERN REACH TRILOGY: British/Fouth Estate, Bulgarian/ExLibris, Canadian/HarperCollins Canada, Chinese (Complex)/Global Group Holdings, Ltd., Chinese (Simplified)/Beijing Huaxia Winshare, Czech/Argo, Dutch/Bezige Bij, Estonian/VERRAK, Finnish/Like, French/Au Diable Vauvert, German/Kunstmann, Greek/Kastaniotis, Hebrew/Moby Dick, Hungarian/Agave Konyvek, Indonesian/PT Gramedia, Italian/Einaudi, Japanese/Hayakawa, Korean/Minumin, Polish/Otwarte, Portuguese (in Brazil)/Intrinseca, Portuguese (in Portugal)/Saida de Emergencia, Romanian/EdituraTre, Russian/EXMO, Spanish/Seix Barral, Swedish/Fria Ligan, Thai/Earnest Publishing, Turkish/Alfa Kitap, Ukranian/Krajina Mriy

NONFICTION

Farrar, Straus and Giroux
FSG Originals
Hill and Wang
North Point Press
MCD/FSG
Sarah Crichton Books
Scientific American

Alexander, Amir

THE SCIENCE OF CERTAINTY

Nonfiction, March 2018 (manuscript available May 2017)

Scientific American

Why are the gardens of Versailles arranged in elegant triangles? Why is the American West divided into perfect squares? Why are the paths of parks windy, and the streets of suburbs curved?

In *THE SCIENCE OF CERTAINTY*, Amir Alexander reveals the history, purpose, and meaning of the geometrical expanses that surround us. Taking us from the brilliant courts of French kings to the hallways of Congress on the eve of revolution, from the elegant parterres of royal gardens to the dusty expanses of the western prairies, and on to the modern geography of cities, Alexander shows how different mathematical perspectives over the centuries have influenced design and shaped our nations. Along the way, he introduces us to the humble gardeners and illustrious kings, intrepid surveyors and shady speculators, philosophers and mathematicians who transformed landscapes with geometrical perspectives in mind.

Alexander ultimately shows how the hidden geometries of our lives shape our societies, our politics, and most crucially -- our minds. You will never see the world in the same way again.

Amir Alexander is the author of *Infinitesimal*, *Geometrical Landscapes* and the widely praised *Duel at Dawn*. His work has been featured in *Nature*, the *Guardian*, and other publications. He has served as lecturer in history, philosophy, and the history of science at Stanford and UCLA. He lives in Los Angeles.

Praise for *Infinitesimal*.

"With a sure hand, Mr. Alexander links mathematical principles to seminal events in Western cultural history, and has produced a vibrant account of a disputatious era of human thought, propelled in no small part by the smallest part there is."—*The Wall Street Journal*

"A fascinating narrative... vivifies the era and the fault lines that the mathematical dispute revealed."

—*The New York Times*

"Packed with vivid detail and founded on solid scholarship, [*Infinitesimal*] is both a rich history and a gripping page turner."

—*The New York Times Book Review*

"*Infinitesimal* is a gripping and thorough history of the ultimate triumph of [a] mathematical tool . . . If you are fascinated by numbers, *Infinitesimal* will inspire you to dig deeper into the implications of the philosophy of mathematics and of knowledge."

- *New Scientist*

"[*Infinitesimal*] gives readers insight into a real-world *Da Vinci Code*-like intrigue with this look at the history of a simple, yet pivotal, mathematical concept . . . Alexander explores [a] war of ideas in the context of a world seething with political and social unrest. This in-depth history offers a unique view into the mathematical idea that became the foundation of our open, modern world.

- *Publishers Weekly*

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Rights sold, INFINITESIMAL: British/Oneworld, Chinese (Complex)/Business Weekly Taiwan, Chinese (Simplified)/Chemical Industry Press, Italian/Codice, Japanese/Iwanami Shoten, Portuguese (in Brazil)/Zahar, Romanian/Humanitas

Balcombe, Jonathan
WHAT A FISH KNOWS
The Inner Lives of Our Underwater Cousins
Nonfiction, June 2016 (finished copies available)
Scientific American
A *New York Times* bestseller

In **WHAT A FISH KNOWS**, Balcombe weaves science with stories, presenting a tapestry of fishes in all their astonishing, colorful richness. **WHAT A FISH KNOWS** reveals what science shows but few know: that fishes are sensitive, smart, and socially complex, even Machiavellian. Careful studies have debunked the widespread belief that fishes don't feel pain, and dismantled Dory's notorious 3-second memory. Observations on reefs have uncovered nuanced social dynamics that show fishes as solicitous and pleasure-seeking, defying their reputation as dim-witted pea brains and slaves to instinct. Fishes plan, use tools, keep accounts, babysit, recruit, trust, deceive, and engage in some kinky sex habits.

We'll discover how an expert diver's gentle touch sends sharks into a state of blissful surrender, allowing her to remove embedded hooks from their mouths; we'll witness an ichthyologist's epiphany, leading to an invention that has spared millions of fishes; and we'll meet a lonely smallmouth bass, isolated in a college hallway tank, who can spot the woman who feeds him from a crowd and swims to greet her like an eager puppy. Despite their sophistication, fishes are in trouble. Their habitats are dwindling and their populations declining. **WHAT A FISH KNOWS** is the first book to champion fishes as individuals, and it marks the dawn of a new era in how we relate to these misunderstood animals.

Jonathan Balcombe holds three biology degrees, including a PhD in ethology, the study of animal behavior. He has published over fifty journal articles and book chapters ranging from turtle nesting behavior to the ethics of animal dissection. His 2006 book *Pleasurable Kingdom* was the first in-depth examination of animals' capacity to enjoy life. Balcombe is the Director of Animal Sentience for the Humane Society Institute for Science and Policy, and Department Chair for Animal Studies with Humane Society University, in Washington, DC.

Praise for **WHAT A FISH KNOWS**:

"Balcombe builds a persuasive argument. Writing in a straightforward, somewhat breezy style, he makes his case partly through a compendium of fascinating anecdotes and scientific findings that illustrate the complexity and creativity of fish behavior . . . Dozens of startling revelations emerge."

—*The Wall Street Journal*

"An extended exploration of the world from a piscine perspective . . . Balcombe makes a persuasive case that what fish know is quite a lot."

—Elizabeth Kolbert, *The New York Review of Books*

"Balcombe covers the waterfront, so to speak, from fish cognition and perception to their social structures and breeding practices, all the while drawing on a dizzying array of experiments and studies. In the hands of a lesser writer, the sheer weight of material could have overburdened the reader. But Balcombe's prose is lively and clear, showcasing his gift for pithy sentences."

—*The American Scholar*

"Our fishy ancestors emerged from the watery depths around 400 million years ago, and this beautiful book connects us back to that time."

—TED.com

British rights: Oneworld

Translation rights: FSG

Translation rights sold: Chinese (Simplified)/United Sky New Media Co., Korean/Eidos, Japanese/Hakuyo-sha

Bryant, Edwin F.
BHAKTI YOGA
Tales and Teachings from the Bhagavata Purana
Nonfiction, July 2017 (manuscript available)
North Point Press

BHAKTI YOGA is one of the eight “limbs” of yoga. In the simplest terms, it’s the practice of devotion, which is the essential heart of yoga and of Hinduism in general. In recent times, the term has come to be used in a rather simplistic way to refer to the increasingly popular practice of kirtan, or chanting in a group or at large gatherings. But bhakti yoga is far more complex and ancient than today’s growing kirtan audiences are aware, and embraces many strands and practices. Edwin F. Bryant focuses on one famous and important school of bhakti and explores it in depth to show what bhakti is and how it is expressed. And he supplies his own renderings of central texts from that tradition in the form of “tales and teachings” from an important work called the Bhagavata Purana, or “The Beautiful Legend of God.” This clarifying work establishes a baseline for understanding, and will be welcomed by all serious students of the spiritual heritage of India.

Edwin F. Bryant studied at Manchester University and University of London and received his PhD from Columbia University. He has taught in the religion departments at Harvard University and Columbia University, and since 2001 has been an assistant professor of religion at Rutgers University. Bryant has written numerous scholarly articles and reviews and written, edited, or translated six books, including a translation of the 4,000 verses of the tenth book of the Bhagavata Purana called *Krishna: the Beautiful Legend of God*, and published by Penguin Classics.

All rights: FSG

Byars, Clay
WILL & I
A Memoir
Nonfiction, June 2016 (finished copies available)
FSG Originals

What would you have left if you awoke and were told you would be paralyzed from the eyes down for the rest of your life? After an almost fatal car crash and a botched surgery to repair nerve damage, that was Clay Byars's reality at eighteen years old. Determination became the only constant in his life from that point on and, miraculously, he quickly began to defy the odds.

Clay discovered a far different life from his identical twin brother, Will. As Clay's life changed in an unimaginable way, Will's continued as a typical college freshmen with the world at his feet, providing not only a foil to Clay's inability to live a normal life but a sense of familiarity and connection to himself.

As Will went on to graduate, marry, and start a family, Clay carved out a unique existence, doing the seemingly impossible by living on his own on a remote farm in Alabama. With haunting clarity in an eloquent yet unsentimental retelling, Clay shares the unlikely story of his life and coping mechanisms, including his weekly singing lessons that do more than teach him to use his voice again, they remind him of his will to exist.

In **WILL & I**, the most striking parts of the story are not the details of a tragedy but the piercing insights that decorate Clay's sparse, honest way of seeing the world and bravely challenging himself and his abilities at every turn.

Clay Byars attended the Sewanee School of Letters in Tennessee and is an assistant editor for *Narrative Magazine*. He lives with his two dogs on a farm outside Birmingham, Alabama.

Praise for **WILL & I**:

"A visceral, electric memoir."—*The Charlotte Observer*

"In this memoir of suffering and recovery, *Narrative* editor Byars recounts his struggle to master a body shattered by tragedy . . . A fascinating, if chilling, meditation on the aftermath of trauma . . . A remarkable conclusion to his long calvary."—*Publishers Weekly*

"A tragic accident gives birth to a writer . . . This memoir of recovery against considerable odds traces the relationship between the brothers, their innate closeness, and what changed after the accident and what didn't. . . His memoir is remarkably free of sentimentality or self-pity. He found both an outlet and a vocation in his writing, and he had to come to terms with the loss of those who had been prepared to lose him. A stark, honest book that reads like a writer's apprenticeship amid harrowing circumstances."—*Kirkus*

"An elegant, spare, and at times wry memoir . . . One thing is clear: Byars can write, and readers of this slim narrative—it can almost be read in one sitting—are sure to follow Byars wherever he may lead us next."—*Booklist*

"An unusual and strikingly beautiful piece of memory work."
—John Jeremiah Sullivan, author of *Pulphed*

All rights: FSG

Chamowitz, Daniel
WHAT A PLANT KNOWS
A Field Guide to the Senses: Revised Edition
Nonfiction, August 2017 (manuscript available December 2016)
Scientific American

Thoroughly updated from root to leaf, this revised edition of the groundbreaking **WHAT A PLANT KNOWS** includes new revelations for lovers of all that is vegetal and verdant. The renowned biologist Daniel Chamowitz builds on the original edition to present an intriguing look at how plants themselves experience the world—from the colors they see to the schedules they keep, and now, what they do in fact hear and how they are able to taste. A rare inside look at what life is really like for the grass we walk on, the flowers we sniff, and the trees we climb, **WHAT A PLANT KNOWS** offers a greater understanding of our place in nature.

Daniel Chamowitz, PhD, is the director of the Manna Center for Plant Biosciences at Tel Aviv University. He has served as a visiting scientist at Yale University and at the Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center, and has lectured at universities around the world. His work has been covered by The New Yorker, The New York Review of Books, CBS, BBC, NPR, and other major media outlets. Chamowitz lives with his wife and three children in Hod HaSharon, Israel.

Praise for the first edition of **WHAT A PLANT KNOWS**:

“The reader . . . will find enough absorbing science to concede that plants continue to inspire and amaze us. It’s time, as Joni Mitchell sang at Woodstock, ‘to get ourselves back to the garden’ and take a closer look at plants.”
—*The Wall Street Journal*

“This elegantly written account of plant biology will change the way you see your garden...Chamowitz lets us see plants in a new light, one which reveals their true wonder.”
—*The Guardian*

“Thick with eccentric plant experiments and astonishing plant science.”
—*Sunday Times* (UK)

“Plants may be brainless, eyeless and devoid of senses as we know them, but they have a rudimentary ‘awareness’, says biologist Daniel Chamowitz. In this beautiful reframing of the botanical, he reveals the extent and kind of that awareness through a bumper crop of research.”
—*Nature*

British rights: Oneworld

ANZ: Scribe

Translation rights: FSG

Translation rights sold: Chinese (Complex)/Rye Field Publishing, Chinese (Simplified)/Beijing Mediatime Books Co., Croatian/Planetopija, Czech/Academia, Estonian/Aripaev, French/Buchet-Chastel, German/Hanser, Hebrew/Matar, Italian/Cortina, Japanese/Kawade Shobo, Korean/Darun, Polish/Wydawnictwo W.A.B., Portuguese (in Brazil)/Zahar, Russian/Centrepolygraph, Serbian/Center for the Promotion of Science, Slovenian/ARA Založba

Chew-Bose, Durga
TOO MUCH AND NOT THE MOOD
Essays
Nonfiction, April 2017 (manuscript available)
FSG Originals

On April 11, 1931, Virginia Woolf ended her entry in *A Writer's Diary* with the words "too much and not the mood." She was describing how tired she was of correcting her own writing, of the "cramming in and the cutting out" to please other readers, wondering if she had anything at all that was truly worth saying.

The character of that sentiment, the attitude of it, inspired Durga Chew-Bose to write and collect her own work. The result is a lyrical and piercingly insightful collection of essays, letters (to her grandmother, to the basketball star Michael Jordan, to Death), and her own brand of essay-meets-prose poetry about identity and culture. Inspired by Maggie Nelson's *Bluets*, Lydia Davis's short prose, and Vivian Gornick's exploration of interior life, Chew-Bose captures the inner restlessness that keeps her always on the brink of creative expression.

TOO MUCH AND NOT THE MOOD is a beautiful and surprising exploration of what it means to be a first-generation, creative young woman working today.

Durga Chew-Bose is a Montreal-born writer who has contributed long-form essays to Random House's *Hazlitt* publication and BuzzFeed Ideas. She has also contributed to *The Guardian*, *The Globe and Mail*, *n+1*, *Grantland*, *The New Inquiry*, Lena Dunham's *Lenny Letter*, and *Filmmaker*, among other publications.

Advance praise for TOO MUCH AND NOT THE MOOD:

"*Too Much and Not the Mood* is a tremendous comfort and a transporting experience. Durga Chew-Bose's stunning prose elevates the subtleties of existence to a sphere that is both otherworldly and painfully recognizable, offering a panoramic view of her whole heart and mind. She is sure to leave her readers stunned."
—Tavi Gevinson

Canadian rights: HarperCollins Canada
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Translation rights: FSG

Console, Cyrus
ROMANIAN NOTEBOOK
Nonfiction, March 2017 (manuscript available)
FSG Originals

The day before Cyrus Console and his pregnant wife leave for a monthlong visit to Romania, they receive troubling news—the fetus she’s carrying is at elevated risk for Down syndrome. As the trip unfolds, his worry spirals into broader meditations on parenthood, language, addiction, love, marriage, and the passage and management of time. In and among the cities of Roman, Iasi, and Bucharest, Console chronicles his loving but comically awkward interactions with friends and family, taking place as they do in a language and culture unfamiliar to him.

The resulting travel diary moves beyond daily life to delve into the enigmas of art, suffering, creativity, and family. Mixing memory with acute observations on everything from chess and stray dogs to heartbreak and dreamscape, **ROMANIAN NOTEBOOK** turns the anxiety and rumination of the expectant parent into a deeper way of thinking about the human condition.

Cyrus Console is from Topeka, Kansas. He is the author of two acclaimed books of poetry, *Brief Under Water* and *The Odicy*. He teaches at the Kansas City Art Institute.

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Dombek, Kristin
THE SELFISHNESS OF OTHERS
An Essay on the Fear of Narcissism
FSG Originals
Nonfiction, August 2016 (finished copies available)

They're among us, but they are not like us. They manipulate, lie, cheat, and steal. They are irresistibly charming and accomplished, appearing to live in a radiance beyond what we are capable of. But narcissists are empty. No one knows exactly what everyone else is full of—some kind of a soul, or personhood—but whatever it is, experts agree that narcissists do not have it. And so they try to take it from us.

So goes the popular understanding of narcissism, or NPD (narcissistic personality disorder). And it's more prevalent than ever, according to recent articles in *The New York Times*, *The Atlantic*, and *Time*. In bestsellers like *The Narcissism Epidemic*, *Narcissists Exposed*, and *The Narcissist Next Door*, pop psychologists have armed the normal with tools to identify and combat the vampiric influence of this rising population, while on websites like narcissismsurvivor.com and hedoesntloveyou.wordpress.com, thousands of people congregate to swap advice and horror stories about relationships with "narcs."

In **THE SELFISHNESS OF OTHERS**, the essayist Kristin Dombek provides a clear-sighted account of how a rare clinical diagnosis became a fluid cultural phenomenon, a repository for our deepest fears about love, friendship, and family. She cuts through hysteria and hyperbole in search of the razor-thin line between pathology and common selfishness, writing with robust skepticism toward the prophets of NPD and genuine empathy for those who see themselves as its victims. And finally, she shares her own story in a candid effort to find a path away from the cycle of fear and blame and toward a more forgiving and rewarding life.

Kristin Dombek is an essayist and a cultural journalist. She has published essays in *The New York Times Magazine*, *London Review of Books*, *n+1*, and *The Paris Review*. She received a Rona Jaffe Foundation Writers' Award for Nonfiction in 2013.

Praise for **THE SELFISHNESS OF OTHERS**:

"Sharply argued, knottily intelligent, darkly funny"
—*The New York Times*

"'Personal essays' . . . is a category of writing sagging with the baggage of bad associations... But Dombek dignifies the genre. Her essays are personal in the way of Montaigne or Virginia Woolf: bold, humane and more imaginative than navel-gazing. . . [*The Selfishness of Others*] is dense with information, but light on its feet."
—*New York Times Book Review*

"Is excessive self-love a scourge of the 21st century? Dombek, a wonderfully nuanced essayist, takes on our collective egotism in this piercing and surprisingly funny book."—*O, The Oprah Magazine*

"Clear-eyed and empathic.... [W]ill engage and surprise you." —*Elle*

British rights: FSG
Translation rights: FSG
Translation right sold: German/Suhrkamp Verlag, Korean/Saiplanet, Slovak / Inaque, Turkish/Dafne Kitap

Finkel, David
THANK YOU FOR YOUR SERVICE
Nonfiction, October 2013 (finished copies available)
Sarah Crichton Books

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SERVICE is soon to be a major motion picture from DreamWorks Pictures, starring Miles Teller, Amy Schumer, and Haley Bennett, set for release in early 2017

No journalist has reckoned with the psychology of war as intimately as David Finkel. In *The Good Soldiers*, his bestselling account from the front lines of Baghdad, Finkel shadowed the men of the 2-16 Infantry Battalion as they carried out the infamous surge, a grueling fifteen-month tour that changed all of them forever. Now Finkel has followed many of those same men as they've returned home and struggled to reintegrate—both into their family lives and into American society at large.

In the ironically named *THANK YOU FOR YOUR SERVICE*, Finkel writes with tremendous compassion not just about the soldiers but about their wives and children. Where do soldiers belong after their homecoming? Is it possible, or even reasonable, to expect them to rejoin their communities as if nothing has happened? And in moments of hardship, who are soldiers expected to turn to if they feel alienated by the world they once lived in? These are the questions Finkel faces as he revisits the brave but shaken men of the 2-16.

More than a work of journalism, *THANK YOU FOR YOUR SERVICE* is an act of understanding—shocking but always riveting, unflinching but deeply humane, it takes us inside the heads of those who must live the rest of their lives with the chilling realities of war.

David Finkel is the author of *The Good Soldiers*, the bestselling, critically acclaimed account of the U.S. "surge" during the Iraq war and a New York Times Best Book of the Year. An editor and writer for *The Washington Post*, Finkel has reported from Africa, Asia, Central America, Europe, and across the United States, and has covered wars in Kosovo, Afghanistan, and Iraq. Among Finkel's honors are a Pulitzer Prize in 2006 and a MacArthur Foundation "genius" grant in 2012. He lives in the Washington, D.C., area.

Praise for *THANK YOU FOR YOUR SERVICE*:

"The stories of the soldiers and their families portrayed in *Thank You for Your Service* possess a visceral and deeply affecting power on their own that will haunt readers long after they have finished this book."
—Michiko Kakutani, *The New York Times*

"This is not--nor should it be--an easy book. But it is an essential one."
—Elizabeth D. Samet, *The New York Times Book Review*

"Together with its masterful prequel *The Good Soldiers*, [*Thank You for Your Service*] measures the wages of the war in Iraq--the wages of war, period--as well as anything I've read...[Finkel] atones for our scant attention by paying meticulous heed."
—Frank Bruni, *The New York Times*

British rights: Scribe Publications
Canadian rights: Doubleday Canada
Translation rights: FSG
Translation rights sold: Chinese (Complex)/Rive Gauche, Chinese (Simplified)/Chongqing Green Culture Co., Ltd., Japanese/Aki Shobo Ltd., Spanish/Critica, Thai/Legend Books

Fishbone, Alan
ORGAN GRINDER
A Classical Education Gone Astray
Nonfiction, April 2017 (manuscript available)
FSG Originals

“After my accident, I thought I was done with bikes. Until a few years ago—I was lying in bed having trouble sleeping when I heard a voice say to me, ‘Alan, get a Harley and ride to Death Valley.’ I didn’t even like Harleys. And I didn’t believe that God had called down and told me to get one. It seemed unlikely that the monotheistic God we’re stuck with would endorse a brand of motorcycle—maybe the pagan gods of antiquity. Zeus might have ridden a Harley, or Apollo a BMW; you can imagine Aphrodite on the back of Ares’s Ninja, zooming around the planets with a golden thong sticking up over the back of her toga. Even that twerp Hermes on a Vespa. Those gods liked to drink, and screw, and run around like bikers, but not Yawheh—strictly black limousines and heavy security for that guy. Thou shalt not ride. Thou shalt not be free. Thou shalt pay off the debt of thy sins to eternity.”

So begins one of the salty, sharp-eyed anecdotes that fill the pages of **ORGAN GRINDER**, a book-length essay written by Alan Fishbone, a motorcycle-riding scholar of Ancient Greek and Latin. In a series of short pieces inspired by Horatian satire, Fishbone bounces from gonzo fever-dream to philosophical treatise, investigating the conflicts between idealism and cynicism, love and sex, body and soul. One part Plato, one part Aristophanes, two parts *Easy Rider*, **ORGAN GRINDER** is a heady cocktail of lewd wisdom—*Zen and the Art of Motorcycle Maintenance* for our own, irreverent age.

Alan Fishbone lives and works in New York City.

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Fitzharris, Lindsey

THE BUTCHERING ART

Nonfiction, September 2017 (partial manuscript available; manuscript available November 2016)

Scientific American

A colorful, gory, charmingly morbid, and utterly readable narrative history of surgery in the 19th century.

From celebrated medical historian and blogger Dr. Lindsey Fitzharris – whose work Stephen Fry calls “delightfully morbid and well-researched” – comes a page-turner of a book chock-full of gruesome details of life in the operating theater during the 19th century. This is the story of how the profession of medicine as we know it today began to emerge from a millennium of savagery, sawing, and gangrene, thanks to the pioneering discoveries of Joseph Lister. At a time when many of his colleagues still thought that contagion spread through miasmas or bad odors, Lister realized that a different culprit was killing close to half of the patients who underwent amputations in his care: germs. He went on a mission to convince his colleagues that antiseptics saved lives, crisscrossing the Atlantic, bumping shoulders with some of the most prominent men and women of his era, and eventually succeeding in transforming the world. **THE BUTCHERING ART** paints a vivid portrait of not just Lister but an important turning point in history, and the narrative, filled with twists and turns, grants readers a sense of the other important trailblazers who set the transition to modern medicine in motion. For fans of the well-crafted narrative histories of Erik Larson (himself a fan) and Simon Winchester, with the droll humor and readable style of Mary Roach.

Dr. Lindsey Fitzharris is a prolific writer, public speaker, media personality, and medical historian. She is best known as the creator and author of the award-winning blog *The Surgeon's Apprentice*, which is all about the horrors of pre-anesthetic surgery. With 1.5 million audience hits, the site has 70,000 subscribers on social media (including Facebook, Twitter, and WordPress) and is the recipient of the American Historical Association's Best Individual Blog award. Together with Chris Skaife, Ravenmaster of the Tower of London—yes, that's an actual job title—Dr. Fitzharris is also the creator of the illustrated blog *Grave Matters*, focusing on historical crime and punishment and the role surgeons have historically played in executions. (Since its debut in 2014, that blog has received 250,000 views and currently has 15,000 social media subscribers.) She is also the host of the YouTube series *Under The Knife*, which takes a humorous look back into our medical past by combining traditional storytelling techniques with CG animation and artwork. Since its launch a few months ago, the channel has had 110,000 views and already has 12,000 subscribers, and it has been mentioned by Stephen Fry on the popular British television show, *QI*.

Dr. Lindsey Fitzharris holds a PhD in the History of Science and Medicine from the University of Oxford and has received some of the world's most prestigious scholarships and awards to conduct research in the field. She regularly contributes articles to international newspapers and magazines, including *Penthouse*, *The Lancet*, *The Guardian*, *New Scientist*, *The Huffington Post*, *Medium*, *Business Insider*, and *History Today*, and she frequently appears as a guest expert on the BBC, the History Channel, National Geographic, PBS, and the UK's Channel 4 and ITV. A native of Mt. Prospect, Illinois, Dr. Fitzharris currently lives in London.

British rights: Penguin Press

Translation rights sold: Chinese (Complex)/Locus Publishing Company, Danish/Lindhardt & Ringhof, Dutch/Het Spectrum, German/Suhrkamp Verlag, Italian/Bompiani, Polish/Znak, Portuguese (in Brazil)/Editora Intrínseca, Spanish/Editorial Debate

Frank, Michael
THE MIGHTY FRANKS
A Memoir
Nonfiction, May 2017 (manuscript available)

*Brother and sister married sister and brother.
The older couple have no children, so the younger couple share theirs.
The two families live within three blocks of each other up in Laurel Canyon...
And the grandmothers live in an apartment together at the foot of the hill.*

A bookish firstborn at home and a bullied outsider at school, the young narrator of Michael Frank's riveting memoir, **THE MIGHTY FRANKS**, finds refuge in the company of childless Auntie Hankie and Uncle Irving, Hollywood screenwriters who are also his aunt and uncle—brother and sister married sister and brother. The two families live near each other in Laurel Canyon, and the two grandmothers share an apartment minutes away: This is family life at its most claustrophobic, a story that is at once extremely strange and entirely universal.

With her artistic passions and lavish affection, Auntie Hankie bestows intoxicating love and encourages Michael's precocious creativity as a means of dividing him from his immediate family and peers. Yet as the gravity with which she holds not just Michael but the entire family in her orbit begins to shift in unpredictable ways, it becomes apparent that her magical exterior conceals a dangerous rage. As Michael grows up and tries, inevitably, to break free from the complex filial bond his aunt has cultivated, she stages a series of tumultuous scenes that cause him to reconstruct both himself and his family narrative, ultimately reconciling the woman he once cherished with the troubled figure he discovers her to be.

THE MIGHTY FRANKS is a psychologically acute memoir about the power of love to ensnare, and of art to set free.

Michael Frank's short fiction and essays have appeared in *The New York Times Magazine*, *The Yale Review*, *Salmagundi*, *Glimmer Train*, and *Tablet*, among other places. His fiction has been presented at Symphony Space's Selected Shorts: A Celebration of the Short Story, and his travel writing has been collected in *Italy: The Best Travel Writing from The New York Times*. He served as a *Los Angeles Times* book critic for nearly ten years. He lives in New York City and Liguria, Italy.

British rights: 4th Estate
Canadian rights: HarperCollins Canada
Translation rights: FSG
Translation rights sold: Danish/Lindhardt & Ringhof, Italian/Einaudi

Garrels, Anne
PUTIN COUNTRY
A Journey into the Real Russia
Nonfiction, March 2016 (finished copies available)

On a crisp, clear morning in early 2013, a massive asteroid burst into a fireball in the skies over the Russian city of Chelyabinsk, an aging industrial center 1000 miles east of Moscow. Dashcam videos of the blinding light streaking across the sky brought the city to the world's attention.

Long before the meteor strike, the longtime NPR correspondent Anne Garrels had Chelyabinsk in her sights. More than ten years ago, she began visiting the city in order to understand what life was really like in post-Soviet Russia, beyond the confines of the glitzy Moscow metropolis. In Chelyabinsk she discovered a populace for whom the new democratic freedoms were as traumatic as they were delightful. A closed nuclear city throughout the Cold War, Chelyabinsk was thrown into disarray in the early 90s as its formerly state-controlled factories were exposed to the free market. And the next twenty years would only bring more turmoil. The city became richer and more cosmopolitan, even as the forces of corruption and intolerance became more entrenched.

In **PUTIN COUNTRY**, Garrels crafts an intimate portrait of the nation's heartland. We meet ostentatious mafiosos, upwardly mobile professionals, impassioned activists, scheming taxi drivers with dark secrets, and beleaguered steel workers. We discover surprising subcultures, like the LGBT residents of Chelyabinsk who bravely endure an upsurge in homophobia fueled by Putin's rhetoric of Russian 'moral superiority,' yet still nurture a vibrant if clandestine community of their own. And we watch doctors and teachers try to do their best in a corrupt system. Through these encounters, Garrels reveals why Putin commands the support and loyalty of so many Russians, even those who decry the abuses of power they encounter from day to day. Her portrait of Russia's silent majority is essential reading at a time when cold-war tensions are resurgent.

Anne Garrels is a former foreign correspondent for NPR and the author of *Naked in Baghdad*. She was awarded the Courage in Journalism Award by the International Women's Media Foundation in 2003 and the George Polk Award for Radio Reporting in 2004.

Praise for **PUTIN COUNTRY**:

"Quiet but excellent . . . [Garrels's] clear, patient, sympathetic portraits of teachers, children, prostitutes, doctors—the whole raft of Russian humanity—provide a pointillist landscape and an understanding of the country, and its mentalities, that eludes many more overtly political books." —*The New Yorker*

"A critical and crucial study of a country with which America has always had a volatile connection, Garrels' essays cover vital ground and are essential reading for anyone who wishes to understand the myriad issues that inform U.S.-Russian relations." —*Booklist* (starred review)

"Former NPR foreign correspondent Garrels offers finely delineated, meticulously researched dispatches from a region in Russia that seemed to her both typical of a certain Russian provincialism and arbitrarily chosen: Chelyabinsk, on the southern edge of the Ural Mountains . . . In essence, Garrels shows how the gloomy sense of 'Russian fatalism' poisons all aspects of society. A collection of scrupulous, timely journalistic portraits." —*Kirkus Reviews*

"If you want to understand Putin's Russia, read this book. Anne Garrels burrows deep into the heartland and enlists a diverse cast of authentic Russians to show why Putin happened, how he remains popular, and what might threaten his hold on power." —Bill Keller, former executive editor, *New York Times*

All rights: FSG
Translation rights sold: Bulgarian/SLUNTSE, Chinese (Complex)/ Marco Polo Press, Polish/Uniwersytetu Jagiellonskiego, Romanian/RAO, Turkish/Dogan Kitap

Gidla, Sujatha

ANTS AMONG ELEPHANTS

An Untouchable Family and the Making of Modern India

Nonfiction, July 2017 (manuscript available)

Like one in six people in India, Sujatha Gidla was born an untouchable. While most untouchables are illiterate, her family was educated by Canadian missionaries in the 1930s, making it possible for Gidla to attend elite schools and move to America at the age of twenty-six. It was only then that she saw how extraordinary—and yet how typical—her family history truly was.

Her mother, Manjula, and uncles Satyam and Carey were born in the last days of British colonial rule. They grew up in a world marked by poverty and injustice, but also full of possibility. In the slums where they lived, everyone had a political side, and rallies, agitations, and arrests were commonplace. The Independence movement promised freedom, yet for untouchables and other poor and working people, little changed. Satyam, the eldest, switched allegiance to the Communist Party. Gidla recounts his incredible life—how he became a famous poet, student, labor organizer, and founder of a left-wing guerrilla movement—and also charts her mother's battles with caste and women's oppression. Page by page, Gidla takes us into a complicated, close-knit family as they desperately strive for a decent life and a more just society.

A moving portrait of love, hardship, and struggle, **ANTS AMONG ELEPHANTS** is also that rare thing: a personal history of modern India told from the bottom up.

Sujatha Gidla was born an untouchable in Andhra Pradesh, India. She studied physics at the Regional Engineering College, Warangal. Her writing has appeared in *The Oxford India Anthology of Telugu Dalit Writing*. She lives in New York and works as a conductor on the subway.

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Godfrey-Smith, Peter

OTHER MINDS

The Octopus, the Sea, and the Deep Origins of Consciousness

Nonfiction, December 2016 (galleys available)

Peter Godfrey-Smith is a leading philosopher of science. He is also an accomplished scuba diver whose underwater videos of warring octopuses have attracted wide notice. In this book, he brings his parallel careers together to tell a bold new story of how nature became aware of itself. Mammals and birds are widely seen as the smartest creatures on earth. But one other branch of the tree of life has also sprouted higher intelligence: the cephalopods, consisting of the squid, the cuttlefish, and above all the octopus. New research shows that these marvelous creatures display remarkable gifts, with each of their tentacles even capable of thinking for itself. What does it mean that higher intelligence on earth has evolved not once, but twice? And that the mind of the octopus is nonetheless so different from our own?

Combining science and philosophy with firsthand accounts of his cephalopod encounters, Godfrey-Smith shows how primitive organisms bobbing in the ocean began sending signals to each other and how these early forms of communication gave rise to the advanced nervous systems that permit cephalopods to change colors and human beings to speak. By tracing the problem of consciousness back to its roots and comparing the human brain to its most alien and perhaps most remarkable animal relative, Godfrey-Smith's *OTHER MINDS* sheds new light on one of our most abiding mysteries.

Peter Godfrey-Smith is a Distinguished Professor of Philosophy at the Graduate Center, City University of New York, and Professor of History and Philosophy of Science at the University of Sydney. He is the author of four books, including *Theory and Reality: An Introduction to the Philosophy of Science and Darwinian Populations and Natural Selection*, which won the 2010 Lakatos Award for an outstanding work on the philosophy of science. His underwater videos have been featured in National Geographic and the New Scientist discussed on National Public Radio.

Advance praise for OTHER MINDS:

"By tracing the problem of consciousness back to its roots and comparing the human brain to that of the octopus, Godfrey-Smith sheds new light on one of life's most enduring mysteries." —*Publishers Weekly*

"Exciting, dramatic, vivid, revelatory, this book is full of jaw-dropping ideas and thrilling possibilities. In beautiful, clear, evocative writing, diver-philosopher Peter Godfrey-Smith will transform your understanding of the nature of life, the course of evolution, and the development of the mind—ours and others"

—Sy Montgomery, author of *The Soul of an Octopus*, a National Book Award finalist

"To investigate these astonishing animals with such empathy and rigor is achievement enough. To do so while casting light on the birth and nature of consciousness, as Godfrey-Smith does here, is captivating."

—China Miéville, author of *The Last Days of New Paris* and *Kraken*

"One of the greatest puzzles of organic life is how and why certain animals became aware of themselves. Peter Godfrey-Smith uses the octopus as a portal to enter nonhuman consciousness, doing so with great sensitivity and first-hand knowledge." —Frans de Waal, author of *Are We Smart Enough to Know How Smart Animals Are?*

"One of our species's worst qualities is our insistence on an exclusive pathway to consciousness. Fortunately Peter Godfrey-Smith has given us a roadmap to a whole new territory of thinking. *Other Minds* is a gracious and generous exploration of this different land, one that will make you rethink the entire notion of sentience."

—Paul Greenberg, *New York Times* bestselling author of *Four Fish*

British rights: William Collins (Harper UK)

Translation rights: FSG

Translation rights sold: Chinese (Simplified)/Ginko Beijing Book Co., Ltd., Japanese/Misuzu, Romanian/Publica

Gottlieb, Robert
AVID READER
A Life

Nonfiction, September 2016 (finished copies available)

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.

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.

Praise for AVID READER:

"Mr. Gottlieb emerges as a kind of Zelig of American publishing. The most acclaimed editor of the second half of the 20th century, he seemed to have a hand in everything that mattered . . . An indispensable work of American publishing history, thick with instruction and soul and gossip of the higher sort."

—Dwight Garner, *The New York Times*

"[Gottlieb's] much-anticipated memoir . . . is remarkable for its intimate and revealing portraits of the most important writers of our time."—Graydon Carter, *Vanity Fair*

"Delightful . . . The best editors' memoirs revive the magic without devolving into nostalgia . . . *Avid Reader* succeeds on both counts."—Sarah Weinman, *The New Republic*

"An exceptionally accomplished and influential editor and the author of numerous profiles and biographies, Gottlieb now tells his many-faceted life story with zest and precision, candor and humor, tracing his path to Simon & Schuster in 1955, and chronicling choice editorial adventures there and during his time at the helm of Knopf and *The New Yorker*. Gottlieb shares his heady experiences working with such literary standouts as Joseph Heller, Robert Caro, Toni Morrison, Doris Lessing and John le Carré, and tells incisive tales of helping the famous craft their memoirs, including Bill Clinton and National Book Award-winner Lauren Bacall . . . While book lovers will revel in Gottlieb's intimate publishing revelations, his memoir is also a vital, generous, and captivating story of a life lived to the fullest." —*Booklist* (starred review)

"[Robert] Gottlieb's portraits of the literati are vivid, usually generous, and always clear-eyed . . . [his] depictions of editing sessions really shine as he describes helping each author sculpt a book into its ideal form, and he conveys the enormous energy and creativity of American publishing." —*Publishers Weekly*

British rights: FSG

Translation rights: FSG

Translation rights sold: Chinese (Simplified)/China CITIC Press

Hajdu, David
LOVE FOR SALE
Pop Music in America
Nonfiction, October 2016 (finished copies available)

David Hajdu begins *LOVE FOR SALE*, his personal history of recorded 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.

From there, Hajdu takes us on more unexpected routes through the history of pop music—back to Alexander Graham Bell and the invention of records . . . and to his grandmother's collection of Italian crooners on shellac records that young Hajdu liberated from her New Jersey basement. And neither Italians nor New Jersey are incidental to his story—not just because of Frank Sinatra, but because Hajdu's mom, a waitress in a chrome-clad diner on Route 22, helped shape the fate of a budding young music critic by introducing him to one of the diner's most prominent patrons, the writer of the timeless song "I'm from New Jersey."

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 earned 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.

David Hajdu is the music critic for *The New Republic* and a professor at the Columbia University Graduate School of Journalism. He is the author of three books of narrative nonfiction and one collection of essays: *Lush Life: A Biography of Billy Strayhorn* (1996), *Positively 4th Street: The Lives and Times of Joan Baez, Bob Dylan, Mimi Fariña, and Richard Fariña* (2001), *The Ten-Cent Plague: The Great Comic Book Scare and How It Changed America* (2008), and *Heroes and Villains: Essays on Music, Movies, Comics, and Culture* (2009). He lives in Manhattan.

Praise for *LOVE FOR SALE*:

"[An] illuminating, idiosyncratic history of pop music . . . Writing in graceful prose, Hajdu nicely balances brisk historical narrative, shrewd cultural analysis, and opinionated personal reflection in an absorbing account of shifting musical landscapes."

—*Publishers Weekly* (starred review)

"Hajdu's informative account of the evolution of popular music will be an essential purchase for all pop-culture collections."

—*Booklist*

"Hajdu approaches the vast stretch of pop history as a particularly tasteful exercise in picking tunes from an impossibly well-stocked jukebox, very much personally curated and with each choice well defended . . . A highly learned pleasure for music and pop culture buffs."

—*Kirkus Reviews*

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Hongci, Xu (translated from the Chinese and edited by Erling Hoh)
NO WALL TOO HIGH
One Man's Daring Escape from Mao's Darkest Prison
Nonfiction, January 2017 (manuscript available)
Sarah Crichton Books

Mao Zedong's labor reform camps were notoriously brutal places; modeled after the Soviet gulag, their inmates were subject to backbreaking labor, terrible living conditions, extreme malnutrition, and vindictive prison wardens. They were thought to be impossible to break out of—but one man did.

Xu Hongci, a young Chinese medical student, was a loyal member of the Communist Party until 1957, when he fell victim to Mao's Anti-Rightist campaign. A year prior Mao had called for public criticisms of the party in China, to stave off a revolution, but once the criticisms started flooding in Mao changed his mind and began imprisoning those who'd spoken out as his request. Hongci was one of those people. He spent the next fourteen years in one labor camp after another, his sentence constantly evolving and lengthening. Despite the horrifying conditions and the terrible odds, Hongci was determined to escape, trying and failing three times before his successful prison break in 1972. After weeks of careful planning, Hongci broke out of a prison near the Burmese border, covertly traveled the length of China to see his mother in Shanghai one last time, and then finally crossed over the Mongolian border. There he eventually married and settled into a new life, until he was finally able to return to China in 1984, after Mao Zedong's death.

Originally written and published in China, Hongci's remarkable memoir, which follows him from childhood through his escape from prison, was recently rediscovered by the journalist Erling Hoh, who came across it in a Hong Kong library. Using the original version of the text given to him by Hongci's surviving family, Hoh put together this abridged translation of Hongci's memoir, which includes interstitial background information on this turbulent period in Chinese political history and an epilogue following Hongci from his crossing into Mongolia to his death in 2008, as well as photos and maps and drawings from Hongci himself. Almost nobody was able to escape from Mao Zedong's labor camps, but this unique memoir tells the true story of one of the few who did.

Erling Hoh is a journalist and translator of Swedish and Chinese descent. He lives in Sweden.

British rights: Rider/Random House
Translation rights (excluding Chinese): FSG

Jackson, Joe
BLACK ELK
The Life of an American Visionary
Nonfiction, October 2016 (finished copies available)

BLACK ELK, the Native American holy man, is known to millions of readers around the world from his 1932 testimonial, *Black Elk Speaks*. Adapted by the poet John Neihardt from a series of interviews, it is one of the most widely read and admired works of American Indian literature. 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 the history of the American West. 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. Upon his return, he was swept up in the traditionalist Ghost Dance movement and shaken by the massacre at Wounded Knee. But Black Elk was not a warrior and instead choose 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.

In **BLACK ELK**, Jackson has crafted a true American epic, restoring to Black Elk the richness of his times and gorgeously portraying a life of heroism and tragedy, adaptation and endurance, in an era of permanent crisis on the Great Plains.

Joe Jackson is the author of six works of nonfiction and one novel, including *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 named one of *Time* magazine's top ten nonfiction books of 2008.

Praise for BLACK ELK:

"Stirring, wide-ranging biography of the Sioux elder whose testimonials underlay 'one of the twentieth century's most important documents on Native American culture.' . . . Of much literary and historical merit and a fine addition to the shelves of anyone interested in this part of America's unhappy past."

—*Kirkus Reviews* (starred review)

"Joe Jackson has penned an extraordinary history of Lakota warfare with the United States wrapped around a thorough biography of the legendary Black Elk. Outstanding."

—Robert M. Utley, author of *The Lance and the Shield: The Life and Times of Sitting Bull*

"In *Black Elk*, Joe Jackson paints a vivid portrait of a figure that has often been shrouded in shadows. This extraordinary book will transform the way readers think about the history of the United States and its indigenous peoples."

—Ari Kelman, author of *A Misplaced Massacre: Struggling Over the Memory of Sand Creek*, winner of the Bancroft Prize

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Kaag, John
AMERICAN PHILOSOPHY
A Love Story
Nonfiction, October 2016 (finished copies available)

In **AMERICAN PHILOSOPHY**, John Kaag—a disillusioned philosopher at sea in his marriage and career—stumbles upon a treasure trove of rare books on an old estate in the hinterlands of New Hampshire that once belonged to the Harvard philosopher William Ernest Hocking. The library includes notes from Whitman, inscriptions from Frost, and first editions of Hobbes, Descartes, and Kant. As he begins to catalog and preserve these priceless books, Kaag rediscovers the very tenets of American philosophy—self-reliance, pragmatism, the transcendent—and sees them in a twenty-first-century context.

Hocking was one of the last true giants of American philosophy. After studying under Harvard's Philosophical Four—William James, George Santayana, Josiah Royce, and George Herbert Palmer—he held the most prestigious chair at the university for the first three decades of the twentieth century. And when his teachers eventually died, he collected the great books from their libraries (filled with marginalia) and combined them with his own rare volumes at his family's estate. And there they remained for nearly eighty years, a time capsule of American thought.

Part intellectual history, part memoir, **AMERICAN PHILOSOPHY** is an invigorating investigation of American pragmatism and the wisdom that underlies a meaningful life.

John Kaag is a professor of philosophy at the University of Massachusetts, Lowell. He is the author of *Idealism, Pragmatism, and Feminism* (2011) and *Thinking Through the Imagination: Aesthetics in Human Cognition* (2014). His writing has appeared in *The New York Times*, *Harper's Magazine*, *The Christian Science Monitor*, *The Chronicle of Higher Education*, and many other publications.

John Kaag is currently at work on his next book for FSG, **HIKING WITH NIETZSCHE**, a philosophical pilgrimage in the spirit of Friedrich Nietzsche through the Swiss Alps, in search of the answers to the most fundamental questions about being human.

Advance praise for **AMERICAN PHILOSOPHY**:

"A compelling hybrid combining memoir, a dramatic narrative about saving an endangered rare book collection, and the intellectual history of philosophy . . . Throughout the book, the author deftly intertwines the narrative threads in a story perfect for book lovers and soul searchers alike. Kaag's lively prose, acute self-examination, unfolding romance, and instructive history of philosophy as a discipline make for a surprisingly absorbing book."

—*Kirkus Reviews* (starred review)

"John Kaag is the closest thing we have to William James: a breathtakingly good prose stylist; philosophically and psychologically courageous, inventive and inspiring; ruthlessly honest; unsparing about the difficulties of love, intimacy and experience; and above all, human, in the most valuable and moral sense of the word."—Clancy Martin

"Is life worth living?" This is the age-old but forever timely question at the center of this remarkable and daring memoir. Part history of American philosophy, part personal narrative, *American Philosophy*, takes us deeply into that 'epic love affair with wisdom' that is philosophy, but it does so through the wonderfully intimate lens of the author himself, a young and accomplished philosopher who has summoned the nerve to expose his flaws, his failures, his deepest doubts about it all, a rare act of creative courage and generosity that leads us to where the heart of true philosophy lies: to a deep and abiding sense of wonder. This is an absolutely stellar memoir."

—Andre Dubus III

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Lerner, Ben
THE HATRED OF POETRY
Nonfiction, June 2016 (finished copies available)
FSG Originals
A *New York Times* bestseller

No art has been denounced as often as poetry. It's even bemoaned by poets: "I, too, dislike it," wrote Marianne Moore. "Many more people agree they hate poetry," Ben Lerner writes, "than can agree what poetry is. I, too, dislike it and have largely organized my life around it and do not experience that as a contradiction because poetry and the hatred of poetry are inextricable in ways it is my purpose to explore."

In this inventive and lucid essay, Lerner takes the hatred of poetry as the starting point of his defense of the art. He examines poetry's greatest haters (beginning with Plato's famous claim that an ideal city had no place for poets, who would only corrupt and mislead the young) and both its greatest and worst practitioners, providing inspired close readings of Keats, Dickinson, McGonagall, Whitman, and others. Throughout, he attempts to explain the noble failure at the heart of every truly great and truly horrible poem: the impulse to launch the experience of an individual into a timeless, communal existence. In **THE HATRED OF POETRY**, Lerner has crafted an entertaining, personal, and entirely original examination of a vocation no less essential for being impossible.

Ben Lerner was born in Topeka, Kansas, in 1979. He has been a Fulbright Fellow, a finalist for the National Book Award for Poetry, a Howard Foundation Fellow, and a Guggenheim Fellow. His first novel, *Leaving the Atocha Station*, won the 2012 Believer Book Award. His second novel, *10:04*, an international bestseller, won *The Paris Review's* 2012 Terry Southern Prize, was a finalist for the 2014 New York Public Library's Young Lions Fiction Award and the Folio Prize, and was named one of best books of 2014 by more than a dozen major publications. He has also published three poetry collections: *The Lichtenberg Figures*, *Angle of Yaw*, and *Mean Free Path*. Lerner is a professor of English at Brooklyn College.

Praise for *New York Times* bestseller **THE HATRED OF POETRY**:

"Loathing rains down on poetry, from people who have never read a page of it as well as from people who have devoted their lives to reading and writing it . . . Mr. Lerner skates across this frozen lake of pique with delicate skill . . .

The book achieves its goal in the most circuitous of ways: by its (lovely) last sentence, Mr. Lerner might get you longing for the satisfactions of the thing you're conditioned to loathe." —*New York Times*

"Lerner is a fine critic, with a lucid style and quicksilver mind . . . But perhaps most remarkable is just how entertaining, how witty and passionate and funny, *The Hatred of Poetry* is . . . Reading it is less like overhearing a professor's lecture than like listening to a professor entertain a crowd of students over pints after class."

— *The Christian Science Monitor*

"In lucid and luminous prose, poet and novelist Lerner (*10:04*) explores why many people share his aversion to poetry, which he attributes, paradoxically, to the deeply held belief that poetry ought to have tremendous cultural value. . . Lerner's brief, elegant treatise on what poetry might do and why readers might need it is the perfect length for a commute or a classroom assignment, clearing a space for both private contemplation and lively discussion."

—*Publishers Weekly* (starred review)

"Lerner argues with the tenacity and the wildness of the vital writer and critic that he is. Each sentence of *The Hatred of Poetry* vibrates with uncommon and graceful lucidity; each page brings the deep pleasures of crisp thought, especially the kind that remains devoted to complexity rather than to its diminishment."

—Maggie Nelson, author of *The Argonauts*

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Canadian rights: McClelland & Stewart
Translation rights sold: Dutch/ Atlas, French/Allia, German/Rowohlt Verlag, Italian/Sellerio Editore, Norwegian/Cappelen Damm, Swedish/Natur och Kultur

Lesser, Wendy
YOU SAY TO BRICK
The Life of Louis Kahn
Nonfiction, March 2017 (galley available)

Born to a Jewish family in Estonia in 1901 and brought to America in 1906, the architect Louis Kahn grew up in poverty in Philadelphia; by the time of his death in 1974, he was widely recognized as one of the greatest architects of his era. Yet this enormous reputation was based on only a handful of masterpieces, all built during the last fifteen years of his life.

Perfectly complementing Nathaniel Kahn's award-winning documentary, *My Architect* - released in 2003, it ignited tremendous interest in Louis Kahn - Wendy Lesser's *YOU SAY TO BRICK* is an exploration of the architect's life and work. Kahn, perhaps more than any other twentieth-century American architect, was a "public" architect. Eschewing the usual corporate skyscrapers, hotels, and condominiums, he focused on medical and educational research facilities, government centers, museums, libraries, parks, religious buildings, and other structures that would serve the public good. Yet this warm, captivating person, beloved by students and admired by colleagues, was also a secretive and mysterious character hiding behind a series of masks.

Drawing on extensive original research; lengthy interviews with his children, his colleagues, and his students; and travel to the far-flung sites of his career-defining buildings, Lesser has written a landmark biography of this elusive man, which reveals the mind behind some of the twentieth century's most celebrated architecture.

Wendy Lesser is the founder and editor of *The Threepenny Review* and the author of one novel and nine previous books of nonfiction, including *Why I Read* (FSG, 2014), which garnered rave reviews from coast to coast. She has written for *The New York Times Book Review*, *the London Review of Books*, *The Times Literary Supplement*, and other publications. To complete this biography, she was awarded one of the first National Endowment for the Humanities Public Scholar awards.

Advance praise for *YOU SAY TO BRICK*:

"The American architect Louis Kahn was a luminous man, full of secrets, who made some of the most beautiful buildings of the modern era. He was powerfully drawn to the romance of beginnings (in his love affairs no less than in his art), but he also understood modern concrete. In *You Say To Brick: The Life of Louis Kahn*, Wendy Lesser knows that she has an important but also wonderfully tricky subject on her hands. She brings to life the public art and the private man in ways that do admirable justice to both."

—Mark Stevens and Annalyn Swan, co-authors of *de Kooning: An American Master*, Winner of the Pulitzer Prize and the National Book Critics Circle Award

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Macknik, Stephen L., and Martinez-Conde, Susana
CHAMPIONS OF ILLUSION
The Best Illusions of the 21st Century
Nonfiction, October 2017 (manuscript available December 2016)
Scientific American

For the past ten years, neuroscientists Susana Martinez-Conde and Stephen Macknik have been recognizing groundbreaking achievement in optical illusion design and scientific experimentation with their annual contest: the Best Illusion of the Year. Every year, the contest draws a large pool of international contestants from various areas of expertise (painters and magicians, scientists and graphic designers) and the authors choose the ultimate champion in visual deception. In **CHAMPIONS OF ILLUSION**, Martinez-Conde and Macknik showcase the top ten finalists from the last ten years, and explain how illusions are generated by our own brain mechanisms.

Stephen L. Macknik is Director of the Laboratory of Behavioral Neurophysiology at the Barrow Neurological Institute (BNI). Susana Martinez-Conde is the Director of the Laboratory of Visual Neuroscience at BNI. Both are columnists for ScientificAmerican.com and the authors, with Sandra Blakeslee, of *Sleights of Mind*, and have been featured in the *New York Times*, *Wired*, *USA Today*, and more. They live in Phoenix, Arizona.

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Mann, Mary
YAWN
Adventures in Boredom
Nonfiction, May 2017 (manuscript available)
FSG Originals

It's the feeling your grandma told you was only experienced by boring people. It's what Winston Churchill complained of when there wasn't a war on. It's a key component of depression, creativity, and sex-toy advertisements.

It's boredom, the subject of **YAWN**, a delightful and at times moving take on the oft-derided emotion and how we deal with it. Easily bored, often restless, and frequently ashamed of these feelings, Mary Mann decided to look for the truth about boredom. Deftly wrought from interviews, research, and personal experience, *Yawn* follows her search through history and around the globe, introducing a varied cast of characters. The Desert Fathers—third century Christian hermits who prayed in cells to the slow-setting sun—offer the first recorded accounts of lethargy; Thomas Cook, grandfather of the tourism industry, provided escape from the mundane for England's working class; and contemporarily, couples who are disenchanted by monogamous sex, deployed soldiers who seek entertainment and connection in porn, and prisoners held in solitary confinement, for whom boredom is a punishment for crimes they may or may not have committed.

With the sharp wit of Sloane Crosley and the historical acumen of Sarah Vowell, **YAWN** tells the unexpected story of the hunt for a deeper understanding of boredom, in all its absurd, irritating, and inspiring splendor.

Mary Mann has written for *The New York Times*, *Believer*, *Smithsonian*, *Matter*, *the Los Angeles Review of Books*, and other outlets. Her work has been recommended by Longreads and The Dish, and she's the recipient of a 2015 Catwalk residency. She's the associate editor of the *New York Times* bestselling collection *Women in Clothes*.

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McPhee, John
DRAFT NO. 4
Nonfiction, October 2017 (manuscript available)

In DRAFT NO. 4, the master writer John McPhee gathers together much-loved essays on the craft for which he is so admired. He draws insight from more than half a century of experience, along with his long-running course at Princeton University where he has launched some of the finest writers of many generations. McPhee shares his advice through a series of expertly wrought essays, touching on questions of structure, the revision process, his enduring relationship with *The New Yorker* and Farrar, Straus and Giroux, and much else. Perhaps most fascinating for fans and fellow writers, McPhee also presents extracts from some of his best-known essays and subjects them to close scrutiny, explaining the choices he made and showing us how the accumulation of seemingly minute decisions forms a finished piece. Enriched by personal detail and McPhee's keen sense of writing as a way of thinking about—and being in—the world, DRAFT NO. 4 is an invaluable course of instruction for writers and readers alike.

John McPhee was born in Princeton, New Jersey, and was educated at Princeton University and Cambridge University. His writing career began at *Time* magazine and led to his long association with *The New Yorker*, where he has been a staff writer since 1965. Also in 1965, he published his first book, *A Sense of Where You Are*, with Farrar, Straus and Giroux, and in the years since, he has written nearly 30 books, including *Oranges* (1967), *Coming into the Country* (1977), *The Founding Fish* (2002), *Uncommon Carriers* (2007), and *Silk Parachute* (2011). *Encounters with the Archdruid* (1972) and *The Curve of Binding Energy* (1974) were nominated for National Book Award in the category of science. McPhee received the Award in Literature from the Academy of Arts and Letters in 1977. In 1999, he was awarded the Pulitzer Prize for *Annals of the Former World*. He lives in Princeton, New Jersey.

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Nichtern, Ethan
THE DHARMA OF THE PRINCESS BRIDE
Tales and Teachings from the Bhagavata Purana
Nonfiction, September 2017 (manuscript available November 2016)
North Point Press

After the success of *The Road Home*, **THE DHARMA OF THE PRINCESS BRIDE** builds on Nichtern's reputation as the Buddhist teacher for the younger generation. He is known for his down to earth approach to spirituality, and this new book blends the best of his talents: a very serious approach to friendship and love, with a splash of popular culture. The approach is organic: it comes out of a genuine love for the film which he first saw nearly thirty years ago, and has watched at least once a year since. This is not a gimmick. It is a beautiful and personal work that also has great crossover appeal to a bigger mainstream market, much in the way of *The Tao of Pooh*, for example. Nichtern distills famous scenes and quotes from the movie while telling simple, elegant stories from his own life.

We will publish in September 2017, just after the thirtieth anniversary of the film. Not only does Nichtern has a devoted following, he is finding new readers for Buddhism.

Ethan Nichtern is a senior Buddhist teacher in the Shambhala Buddhist tradition. He is also the founder and former director of The Interdependence Project, an organization dedicated to Buddhist-inspired meditation and psychology, transformational activism, mindful arts, and meaningful media. He teaches and lectures around the world.

Praise for *The Road Home*:

"Ethan is the future of Buddhism." —Sharon Salzberg

"A beautiful guide and invitation to a sane life. Refreshingly straightforward, accessible, skillful and kind."
—Jack Kornfield, author of *The Wise Heart*

"[Ethan is] a supercool, deeply kind brainiac—imagine a very chilled-out blend of Pauls Auster and Rudd—who is also to-the-cushion born." -Sally Singer, *Vogue*

"Nichtern lays out a relatable account of the contemporary "commuter," who struggles to find a sense of home and moves through life with her eyes fixated on an ambiguous "elsewhere." [This] book offers compassionate, practical, and largely secular guidance rooted in his Buddhist practice. In an age of increasing fragmentation and restlessness, Nichtern offers accessible antidotes to everyday feelings of disorientation, distraction, and dissatisfaction."
—*Vice*

"...Makes ancient Buddhist teachings and texts approachable, contemporary, and relevant....Valuable for readers looking for an introduction to Buddhist teachings as they relate to meditation practice or for those searching for ways to live their lives in the here and now."
-*Library Journal* (Starred Review)

"Nichtern offers a wise, humane, and deeply sympathetic introduction to the practice of Buddhism....Not to be confused with Jim Harrison's book of the same name, the product of another bodhisattva, though both are steeped in the same spirit. Thoughtful and helpful alike."
—*Kirkus Reviews*

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Raeburn, Paul and Zollman, Kevin
THE GAME THEORIST'S GUIDE TO PARENTING
How the Science of Strategic Thinking Can Help You Deal with the
Toughest Negotiators You Know--Your Kids
Nonfiction, April 2016 (finished copies available)
Scientific American

As every parent knows, kids are surprisingly clever negotiators. But how can we avoid those all-too-familiar wails, "But that's not fair!" and "You can't make me eat broccoli!" In **THE GAME THEORIST'S GUIDE TO PARENTING**, journalist Paul Raeburn and game theorist Kevin Zollman pair up to highlight tactics from the worlds of economics and business that can help parents break the endless cycle of quarrels with their kids and trendy "solutions" that don't really work. So how about a "game" that does? Raeburn and Zollman show how some of the same models that theorists successfully apply to big business deals, gambling, and politics, such as the Prisoner's Dilemma, the Theory of Incentives, and the Ultimatum Game, can be used to solve parenting problems that feel just as significant in the heat of the moment, like dividing up toys, getting your child to brush his teeth, and sticking to a bedtime.

Raeburn and Zollman open each chapter with a common parenting dilemma, like siblings blaming each other for the broken Nintendo or a backseat squabble during a family vacation. Then, they show how carefully concocted schemes involving bargains, incentives, and fair punishments can save the day. Through smart case studies of game theory in action, Raeburn and Zollman reveal how parents and children devise strategies to get what they want, where those strategies go wrong, and what we can do to help raise happy kids and keep the rest of the family happy, too.

Delightfully witty, refreshingly irreverent, and just a bit Machiavellian, **THE GAME THEORIST'S GUIDE TO PARENTING** looks past the fads to offer advice you can put into action today.

Paul Raeburn is the award-winning author of four books, including *Do Fathers Matter?* His articles have appeared in *Discover*, *The Huffington Post*, *The New York Times Magazine*, *Scientific American*, and *Psychology Today*, among many others. Kevin Zollman is an associate professor of philosophy at Carnegie Mellon University. His work has been covered in the *Wall Street Journal*, *New Yorker*, *Scientific American*, and elsewhere.

Praise for **THE GAME THEORIST'S GUIDE TO PARENTING**:

"Raeburn and Zollman put the math on the back burner and bring the commonsensicality of the theory to the fore . . . There is a fluid, natural feel to the authors' examples . . . Tantalizing perspectives on cultivating sharing, honesty, and cooperation via game theory." —*Kirkus Reviews* (starred review)

"Unlike most parenting books . . . this one is based on actual research into how humans behave . . . in the home it should increase the odds that there will be less whining for all involved."
—Laura Vanderkam, *The Wall Street Journal*

"[Raeburn and Zollman] join a welcome trend of academics pairing up with writers (or comedians!) to create a true crossover offering, one that marries rigorous research and real scholarship with a compelling style and narrative arc that human beings actually want to read on purpose." —Rebecca Schuman, *Slate*

"With a light touch and sure-footed mastery of both child-rearing and economics, Raeburn and Zollman bring humor and verve to a serious subject: How to negotiate with your kids in a way that will leave everyone . . . well, not happy, exactly, but with a sense of being treated fairly and with mutual respect. Read it and count on fewer fights at the dinner table, the TV room, and the back seat of the car!"
—Robin Marantz Henig, Contributing Writer, *The New York Times Magazine*; coauthor, with Samantha Henig, of *Twentysomething*

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Scharf, Caleb (illustrated by Ron Miller)

UNTITLED PROJECT ON SCALE

Nonfiction, November 2017 (manuscript available November 2016)

Scientific American

From the award-winning author and director of the Columbia Astrobiology Center, Caleb Scharf, comes an as-yet untitled book on scale, a new take on the classic *Powers of Ten* concept, and a visual tour of scale from the cosmic to the subatomic, illuminating the connections between the varied pieces of data and knowledge that together comprise a visual map of the odyssey that is existence.

Scharf will work with Hugo Award-winning artist Ron Miller to create a highly illustrated and beautifully designed science book with over one hundred pieces of four-color art and infographics that will comprise a visual odyssey through time and the universe. *Powers of Ten* is an iconic short film made in the 1970s by IBM, which explores the universe at magnitudes based on factors of ten.

Caleb Scharf is the author of two books with FSG/Scientific American, *Gravity's Engines* and *The Copernicus Complex*. He has established himself as a leading science writer of the astronomical and astrobiological fields working today. Caleb is the director of the Columbia Astrobiology Center and writes the Life, Unbounded blog for *Scientific American*, has written for *New Scientist*, *Science*, and *Nature*, among other publications; and has served as a consultant for the Discovery Channel, the Science Channel, *The New York Times*, and more. Scharf has served as a keynote speaker for the American Museum of Natural History and the Rubin Museum of Art, and is the author of *Extrasolar Planets and Astrobiology*, winner of the 2011 Chambliss Astronomical Writing Award from the American Astronomical Society.

Praise for *The Copernicus Complex*:

"An intoxicating collection of questions answered with other questions, and startling discoveries that make creation even more mysterious . . . Books such as these remind us that we are lucky to be here at all, and even luckier to be here now."

—*The Guardian* (UK)

"How reasonable is it to think that we are alone in the vast expanses of space? And how significant is life on Earth on the Universal (or multiversal) scale? These are the questions that astrobiologist Caleb Scharf addresses intelligently and comprehensively in his beautifully written *The Copernicus Complex*. The book offers a grand tour of important findings from astronomy to biology that are relevant to the cosmic and microscopic search for life."

—*Nature*

When it comes to scientific thought-provocation, Scharf is there with Paul Feyerabend and Richard Feynman, Marie Curie and Peter Higgs . . . This book feels alive with spontaneity . . . [It] is near combustible with convivial--maybe even mad--energy."

—*Barnes and Noble Review*

"*The Copernicus Complex* delivers its argument with comparable clarity, insight and humour. There is much to enjoy along the way, including a compelling account of the extraordinary diversity of planetary systems we now know to exist."

—*The Telegraph* (UK)

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Roffman, Karin
THE SONGS WE KNOW BEST
John Ashbery's Early Life
Nonfiction, June 2017 (manuscript available)

THE SONGS WE KNOW BEST, the first comprehensive biography of the early life of John Ashbery--the winner of nearly every major American literary award--reveals the unusual ways Ashbery drew on the details of his youth to populate the poems that made him one of the most original and unpredictable forces of the last century in arts and letters.

Drawing on unpublished correspondence, juvenilia, and childhood diaries as well as more than one hundred hours of conversation with the poet himself, Karin Roffman offers an insightful portrayal of Ashbery in the twenty-eight years that led up to his stunning debut, *Some Trees*, chosen by Auden for the 1955 Yale Younger Poets Prize. Roffman shows how Ashbery's poetry arose from his early lessons both on the family farm and in 1950s New York City--a bohemian existence that teemed with artistic fervor and radical innovations inspired by Dada and surrealism as well as lifelong friendships with painters and writers such as Frank O'Hara, Jane Freilicher, Nell Blaine, Kenneth Koch, James Schuyler, and Willem de Kooning.

Ashbery has a reputation for being enigmatic and playfully elusive, but Roffman's biography reveals his deft mining of his early life for the flint and tinder from which his provocative later poems grew, producing a body of work that he calls "the experience of experience," an intertwining of life and art in extraordinarily intimate ways.

Karin Roffman has taught literature at Yale, West Point, and Bard and currently lives in New Haven, Connecticut.

Praise for *From the Modernist Annex*.

"This book has, at its heart, a smart and illuminating thesis about women modernists' complex engagement with and analyses of various modern cultural and educational institutions."

—Francesca Sawaya, author of *Modern Women, Modern Work*

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Shah, Sonia

PANDEMIC

Tracking Contagions, from Cholera to Ebola and Beyond

Nonfiction, February 2016 (finished copies available)

Sarah Crichton Books

Interweaving history, original reportage, and personal narrative, **PANDEMIC** explores the origins of epidemics, drawing parallels between the story of cholera—one of history's most disruptive and deadly pathogens—and the new pathogens that stalk humankind today, from Ebola and avian influenza to drug-resistant superbugs.

More than three hundred infectious diseases have emerged or reemerged in new territory during the past fifty years, and 90 percent of epidemiologists expect that one of them will cause a disruptive, deadly pandemic sometime in the next two generations.

To reveal how that might happen, Sonia Shah tracks each stage of cholera's dramatic journey from harmless microbe to world-changing pandemic, from its 1817 emergence in the South Asian hinterlands to its rapid dispersal across the nineteenth-century world and its latest beachhead in Haiti. She reports on the pathogens following in cholera's footsteps, from the MRSA bacterium that besieges her own family to the never-before-seen killers emerging from China's wet markets, the surgical wards of New Delhi, the slums of Port-au-Prince, and the suburban backyards of the East Coast.

By delving into the convoluted science, strange politics, and checkered history of one of the world's deadliest diseases, **PANDEMIC** reveals what the next epidemic might look like—and what we can do to prevent it.

Sonia Shah is a science journalist and prizewinning author. Her writing on science, politics, and human rights has appeared in *The New York Times*, *The Wall Street Journal*, *Foreign Affairs*, *Scientific American*, and elsewhere, and she has been featured on Radiolab, Fresh Air, and TED, where her talk "Three Reasons We Still Haven't Gotten Rid of Malaria" has been viewed by more than 900,000 people around the world. Her 2010 book *The Fever*, which was called a "tour-de-force history of malaria" (*The New York Times*), "rollicking" (*Time*), and "brilliant" (*The Wall Street Journal*), was long-listed for the Royal Society's Winton Prize.

Praise for **PANDEMIC**:

"Provocative . . . intriguing . . . [Shah] does not seek shelter in euphemisms or shy away from scary numbers."
—*The New York Times*

"Ms. Shah steers us nimbly along the pandemic path . . . Her journalist's eye for a human-interest angle and feel for the colorful phrase serve her well . . . she has succeeded in producing a lively, rigorously researched and highly informative read."— *The Wall Street Journal*

"Cholera, Ebola, influenza, bubonic plague, SARS, AIDS . . . Shah proves a disquieting Virgil, guiding us through the hells ruled by these killers . . . *Pandemic* is, however, not only a travelogue of horrors. Shah provides an account of how pathogens spread, and why they're spreading faster and farther than ever before . . . the power of Shah's account lies in her ability to track simultaneously the multiple dimensions of the public-health crises we are facing."— *The Chicago Tribune*

"[A] grounded, bracingly intelligent study . . . Shah lucidly layers history into a tour of transmission hotspots, from incubators of 'spillover' animal-borne illnesses such as China's wild-animal markets to globalized transport and hyperdense cities." —*Nature*

"The world's ability to put the lid on pandemics has come a long way since the days when the plague, cholera and smallpox ravaged unchecked. Ms. Shah's book is a superbly written account of how we got here and what might await us." —*The Economist*

British rights: FSG

Translation rights: FSG

Translation rights sold: Japanese/Hara Shobo Ltd., Korean/Press of Sharing House, Russian/Alpina Publishers

Shopsin, Tamara
ARBITRARY STUPID GOAL
Nonfiction, July 2017 (manuscript available)
MCD/FSG

Tamara Shopsin, the acclaimed *New York Times* and *New Yorker* illustrator, takes the reader on a pointillist time-travel trip to the Greenwich Village of her bohemian 1970s childhood, a funky, tight-knit small town in the big city, long before Whole Foods and luxury condos. The center of Tamara's universe is Shopsin's, her family's legendary corner store/restaurant/hangout, run by her inimitable dad, Kenny—a brilliant, loquacious, contrary, huge-hearted man who, aside from dishing up New York's best egg salad on rye, is Village sheriff, philosopher, and fixer all at once. We follow Kenny as he pursues his destiny through early factory jobs, superintendent gigs, and crossword-puzzle mania. His temper flares as often as his humor, keeping Tamara, her mom, and her siblings constantly off-balance, but giddy to be along for the always bracing ride. And the cast of supporting characters is unforgettable—oddballs and misfits, cops and con men, sax players and waitresses, longshoremen and poets, and crafty Willoughby "Willy" Jones, an old-time swindler and lady-killer from the South who improbably becomes Kenny's foil and best friend. All comers find a place at Shopsin's table and feast on Kenny's tall tales and trenchant advice along with the incomparable chili con carne.

At its core, **ARBITRARY STUPID GOAL** is about the secrets of living an unconventional life, which is becoming a forgotten art. It's a place where serendipity trumps logic and over-planning can cause you to miss out on the fun of a midnight walk to the giant bubbling margarita glass perched precariously over the Mexican joint on Seventh Avenue. It's about taking the day as it flows, treasuring experiences over things, and embracing the crazy but essential messiness of relationships.

Filled with clever illustrations and witty, nostalgic photographs and graphics and told in a sly, elliptical narrative that is both hilarious and endearing, **ARBITRARY STUPID GOAL** is an off-beat memory-book mosaic that will encourage readers to rediscover the vital spontaneity that we may have unwisely traded for the shelter of predictability.

Tamara Shopsin is a well-known cook at the distinctly New York City eatery Shopsin's, a *New York Times* and *New Yorker* illustrator, and the author of *5 Year Diary* and *What Is This?*, as well as the coauthor of *This Equals That* and *Mumbai New York Scranton*. She lives in New York City with her husband.

Advance praise for **ARBITRARY STUPID GOAL**:

"*Arbitrary Stupid Goal* is a completely riveting world — when I looked up from its pages regular life seemed boring and safe and modern like one big iPhone. This book captures not just a lost New York but a whole lost way of life."

—Miranda July

"Tamara Shopsin writes with an intimacy of a dear friend, who just happens to be a wonderful storyteller. Her true life tales read more like unexpectedly emotional fiction. You will laugh and cry, because that's what life makes you do — and Tamara brings her stories to vivid and wildly entertaining life."

—JJ Abrams

All rights: FSG

Smith, Douglas

RASPUTIN

Faith, Power, and the Twilight of the Romanovs

Nonfiction, November 2016 (finished copies available)

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. Drawing on a wealth of forgotten documents from archives in seven countries, Smith presents Rasputin in all his complexity--man of God, voice of peace, loyal subject, adulterer, drunkard. **RASPUTIN** is not just a definitive biography of an extraordinary and legendary man, but a fascinating portrait of the twilight of imperial Russia as it lurched toward catastrophe.

Douglas Smith is an award-winning historian and translator and the author of *Former People* 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.

Advance praise for **RASPUTIN**:

"This brilliantly written, meticulously researched account of the life of Rasputin is the best, most complete and accurate I have ever read. Step by step, day by day, week by week in this life, Douglas Smith tells the story from its humble beginnings, through its obscene sexual chapters, to its violent end. He describes how a peasant became "Our Friend" to the last emperor and empress of Russia. He explains why this dependency came at terrible cost for the imperial couple, for their children, for Russia, and for the twentieth-century world. Readers will begin by saying that this is an impossible story to believe. They will read on because, in Douglas Smith's mesmerizing telling, it must be believed. And because it did happen."

—Robert Massie, author of *Catherine the Great*

"Some years back when working on a historical novel I had to read all existing Rasputin biographies, and they do abound—in all literary styles and in many languages. It is a pity this particular one was not published yet, it would have saved me a lot of time. If you are interested in the story of Romanov's pet prophet this is the book to read."

—Boris Akunin

"A prodigious piece of scholarship. Douglas Smith's exhaustive and forensic examination of a wealth of new and previously unseen evidence finally lays to rest the tired old myth of 'the mad monk' and rightly positions Rasputin as a crucial figure in late Imperial Russian history."

—Helen Rappaport, author of *The Romanov Sisters: The Lost Lives of the Daughters of Nicholas and Alexandra*

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Translation rights: FSG

Translation rights sold: Chinese (Simplified)/Social Sciences Academic Press, Polish/Literackie

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Spiegelman, Willard
SENIOR MOMENTS
Looking Back, Looking Ahead
Nonfiction, September 2016 (finished copies available)

Drawing on more than six decades' worth of lessons from his storied career as a writer and professor, Willard Spiegelman reflects with candid humor and sophistication on growing old. **SENIOR MOMENTS** is a series of discrete essays that, when taken together, constitute the life of a man who, despite Western cultural notions of aging as something to be denied, overcome, and resisted, has continued to relish the simplest of pleasures: reading, looking at art, talking, and indulging in occasional fits of nostalgia while also welcoming what inevitably lies ahead.

Spiegelman's expertly crafted book considers, with wisdom and elegance, how to be alert to the joys that brim from unexpected places even as death draws near. **SENIOR MOMENTS** is a foray into the felicity and follies that age brings; a consideration of how and what one reads or rereads in late adulthood; the eagerness for, and disappointment in, long-awaited reunions, at which the past comes alive in the present. A clear-eyed book of memories, written in eight searching and courageously honest essays, **SENIOR MOMENTS** is guaranteed to stimulate, stir, and restore.

Willard Spiegelman is the Hughes Professor of English at Southern Methodist University in Dallas. From 1984 until 2016, he was also the editor in chief of *Southwest Review*. He has written many books and essays about English and American poetry. For more than a quarter century he has been a regular contributor to the Leisure & Arts pages of *The Wall Street Journal*.

Praise for **SENIOR MOMENTS**:

"[L]ucid and propulsive, opening portals to heightened enjoyment of the time we have."
—*Kirkus Reviews*

"Spiegelman writes with a casual, engaging style and frequently punctuates his paragraphs with references to literature that crystallize his ideas. Readers will find this volume rich with relatable insights."
—*Publishers Weekly*

"Readers of a similar age will savor his delight in language and life as he ponders the past and peers into the future."
—*Booklist*

"[Spiegelman] takes himself lightly and brings fresh energy to an appreciation of many subjects. . . with conversational whimsy and genuine gratitude for the people, places, ideas, and memories they inspire. . . The author draws on an equal blend of critical rigor and love for his themes."
—*Library Journal*

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Tower, Jeremiah (illustrated by Libby VanderPloeg)

TABLE MANNERS

How to Behave in the Modern World and Why Bother

Nonfiction, October 2016 (finished copies available)

TABLE MANNERS is an entertaining and practical guide to manners for everyone and every occasion. Whether you are a guest at a potluck or the host of a dinner party, a patron of your local bar or an invitee at a state dinner, this book tells you exactly how to behave: what to talk about, what to wear, how to eat. Jeremiah Tower has advice on everything: food allergies, RSVPs, iPhones, running late, thank-yous, restaurant etiquette, even what to do when you are served something disgusting. With whimsical line drawings throughout, this is "Strunk and White" for the table.

Jeremiah Tower is the forefather of California cuisine and the author of the James Beard Award-winning cookbook *Jeremiah Tower's New American Classics*. The Beard Foundation has named him Outstanding Chef in America and Regional Best Chef California. He began his culinary career in 1972 as the co-owner and executive chef of Chez Panisse, and has opened numerous highly acclaimed restaurants in San Francisco and around the world. CNN recently made a documentary on his career, to debut in 2016.

Libby VanderPloeg lives in Brooklyn, New York. Her work comes out of her deep affinity for storytelling, music, letterforms, printed ephemera, and wildlife. None of these works could have been made without the world's finest brioche and several good, strong cups of coffee.

Praise for TABLE MANNERS:

"*Table Manners* is the antidote to the tidal wave of vulgarity threatening to drown us all—a last stand of civility. And the elegant Jeremiah Tower is the perfect guide." —Anthony Bourdain

"Jeremiah tower is quite possibly the most perfect gentleman I have ever met. In the 30 plus years i have known him, he has always exuded the calm and supreme excellence of a man completely in his element whether in a packed boite, at a fancy dinner or just slurping a few oysters with champagne. This tasty little handbook is the guide our gen x, y and z'ers need to navigate the practical world in every situation, and I am betting that their parents and many of my peers might benefit from a quick and effective tune up on the best way to present themselves in our increasingly complex and ambiguous world of social interaction as well." —Mario Batali

"This book is as witty, charming, and knowledgeable as the author himself, which is no mean feat. A must-read for every man, woman, and child in our increasingly barbarous country, *Table Manners* is also a reminder that it's never too late to up your game." —Julia Reed, author of *The House on First Street*

"A witty guide for how to behave in every situation. I love everything Jeremiah Tower says in *Table Manners* and the way he says it. You're hungover, you ate a whole cold pizza for breakfast, there's a button missing on your shirt, and now you're drinking warm champagne and olives with pits and whole lobsters at an exclusive party with a fussy host. This book will make sure you get asked back. I'm giving it to my teenager right now."

—Cecily von Ziegesar, author of the *Gossip Girl* novels

British rights: FSG

Translation rights: FSG

Translation rights sold: Estonian/Hea Lugu, Romanian/Baroque Publishing, Russian/ EXMO Publishers

Weigel, Moira
LABOR OF LOVE
The Invention of Dating
Nonfiction, May 2016 (finished copies available)

It seems as though every week there's a new app available on your smartphone promising dates a plenty--just swipe right. A mate, on the other hand, is becoming harder and harder to find. The age-old quest for true love requires more effort than ever before. Let's face it: dating is work.

Which, as it happens, is exactly where it began, in the 19th century--as prostitution. In **LABOR OF LOVE**, Moira Weigel dives into the secret history of dating while holding up a mirror to the contemporary dating landscape, revealing why we date the way we do and explaining why it feels so much like work. This isn't a guide to "getting the guy"; there are no ridiculous "rules" to follow in **LABOR OF LOVE**. This is a brilliant, fresh, and utterly original approach to help us understand how dating was invented and, hopefully, lead us closer to the happy ending that it promises.

Moira Weigel is a PhD student at Yale. This is her first book.

Praise for **LABOR OF LOVE**:

"[A] perceptive and wide-ranging investigation into the history of dating in America."
—*The New Yorker*

"Weigel is best when dismantling pop theories through the ages. She brilliantly eviscerates the self-help industry for stoking 'mutual mystification' between the sexes, and unearths intriguing continuities like the way technological advances (including the invention of the automobile) have always led to hand-wringing over the moral bankruptcy of youth . . . Fascinating." —*The New York Times Book Review*

"An addictive and accessible read." — *The New York Times*

"The lack of serious conversation about dating has left Weigel with rich territory to explore, and she makes excellent use of it . . . [and her] deliciously incisive observations run throughout the book, making it a thoroughly enjoyable read . . . Weigel presents an insightful analysis of a topic that has largely been left to hucksters and scolds. By commodifying our deepest emotions, Weigel shows how the 'experts' turned dating into a job requiring calculation and deception, but not much love. Maybe it's time to give notice." —*The Washington Post*

"[A] sprightly, gently feminist history . . . offer[ing] useful perspectives on dating as both an art and a historical construct." —*The Chicago Tribune*

"[A] riveting chronicle of courtship in modern America." —*Entertainment Weekly*

British rights: FSG
Translation rights: FSG
Translation rights sold: Chinese (Complex)/ China Times Publishing, Chinese (Simplified)/ Lujang Press,
German/bTb Verlag

Wilcox, Christie

VENOMOUS

How Earth's Deadliest Creatures Mastered Biochemistry

Nonfiction, August 2016 (finished copies available)

In **VENOMOUS**, the molecular biologist Christie Wilcox investigates venoms and the animals that use them, revealing how they work, what they do to the human body, and how they can revolutionize biochemistry and medicine today.

Wilcox takes us from the coast of Indonesia to the rainforests of Peru in search of the secrets of these mysterious animals. We encounter jellyfish that release microscopic venom-packed darts known to kill humans in just two minutes, a two-inch caterpillar with toxic bristles that trigger hemorrhaging throughout the body, and a stunning blue-ringed octopus with saliva capable of inducing total paralysis. How could an animal as simple as a jellyfish evolve such an intricate, deadly poison? And how can a snake possess enzymes that tear through tissue yet leave its own body unscathed? Wilcox meets the fearless scientists who often risk their lives studying these lethal beasts to find out, and puts her own life on the line to examine these species up close. Drawing on her own research on venom chemistry and evolution, she also shows how venom is helping us untangle the complex mechanisms of some of our most devastating diseases.

VENOMOUS reveals that the animals we fear the most actually hold the keys to a deeper understanding of evolution, adaptation, and immunity. Thrilling and surprising at every turn, **VENOMOUS** will change the way you think about our natural world.

Christie Wilcox is a postdoctoral researcher at the University of Hawaii. She writes the popular *Science Sushi* blog for Discover. Her writing has also appeared in *The New York Times*, *Scientific American*, *Slate*, *Salon*, and *The Huffington Post*.

Praise for **VENOMOUS**:

"A vibrant tour through [an] exciting field."

—*The Wall Street Journal*

"Superbly entertaining popular science."

—*Booklist* (starred review)

"A lively tour . . . Whether she's discussing snakes and pufferfish or Komodo dragons and spiders—not to mention octopuses, snails, platypuses, and bees—Wilcox relates technical biochemical and physiological information in a manner that is accessible and enjoyable."

—*Publishers Weekly*

"Even at its most sinister, nature can't help but be fascinating, and in *Venomous*, Christie Wilcox has created a fitting tribute to one of nature's most sinister creations of all. She not only provides a tour of the venomous world's most frightening specimens, but she also dives into the astonishing biology underlying their deadly success."

—Carl Zimmer, author of *Parasite Rex*

British rights: FSG

Translation rights: FSG

Translation rights sold: Japanese/Bungeishunju

GRAPHIC NOVELS FROM HILL AND WANG

Hyman, Miles
SHIRLEY JACKSON'S "THE LOTTERY"
A Graphic Adaptation
Fiction, October 2016 (finished copies available)

Shirley Jackson's short story *THE LOTTERY* is a classic of American literature that continues to thrill and unsettle readers nearly seven decades after it was first published. By turns puzzling and harrowing, *THE LOTTERY* raises troubling questions about conformity, tradition, and the specter of ritualized violence that haunts even the most bucolic, peaceful village. This graphic adaptation, published just in time for Jackson's centennial, will allow readers to experience *THE LOTTERY* as never before, or discover it anew. Visual artist—and Jackson's grandson—Miles Hyman has crafted a haunting vision of the nameless hamlet where the tale unfolds, its inhabitants, and the unforgettable ritual they calmly set into motion. Perfectly timed to the current resurgence of interest in Jackson and her work, *THE LOTTERY: A Graphic Adaptation* masterfully reimagines her iconic story in this striking visual narrative.

Miles Hyman is a visual artist who specializes in graphic novels and adaptations of classic literature. His work has been shown in galleries around the world and has appeared in publications such as the *New Yorker*, *The New York Times*, and *GQ*. Based in Paris but born in Bennington, Vermont, he is the grandson of Shirley Jackson.

Praise for SHIRLEY JACKSON'S "THE LOTTERY":

"[Hyman] imbues realistic characters with a blocky stoicism in full-color panels flooded with sun-parched orange light . . . This standout work featuring a violent and inhumane tradition within a mundane setting will get readers thinking about causes and effects of our actions."

—*Library Journal* (starred review)

"A stunning graphic adaptation of a chilling classic . . . Hyman's illustrations are powerful: rich and evocative graphic realism, softly colored, marrying Rockwell-ian and American Gothic style . . . A haunting story of humanity's herd mentality, brilliantly rendered." —*Kirkus Reviews* (starred review)

"Miles Hyman's stunning adaptation of 'The Lottery' has all the understated menace of the original, and may be even more disquieting." —Ruth Franklin, author of *Shirley Jackson: A Rather Haunted Life*

"Miles Hyman's hypnotic retelling of 'The Lottery' provides readers with an unsettling truth: the shocking often feasts on a diet of the mundane. With each panel, the sheer ordinariness gathers in a claustrophobic and terrifying way, and the art accretes a grotesque richness."

—Jeff VanderMeer, bestselling author of the Southern Reach trilogy and winner of the Shirley Jackson Award

British rights: FSG
Translation rights (ex. French): FSG
French rights: Casterman

Jacobson, Sid and Colón, Ernie

THREE-FIFTHS A MAN

A Graphic History of the African American Experience

Fiction, January 2017 (manuscript available)

In **THREE-FIFTHS A MAN**, the award-winning and bestselling team of Sid Jacobson and Ernie Colón highlights the key events in African American history, taking us from the sixteenth-century Atlantic slave trade to the election of Barack Obama and the Black Lives Matter movement. Through richly drawn four-color illustrations and concise, accessible chapters, Jacobson and Colón convey a history of hardship and hope—a painful and necessary process, full of victories and setbacks, from the Amistad mutiny and the Three-Fifths Compromise to Brown v. Board of Education and the Scottsboro Boys. We see the first African slaves arriving in Jamestown in 1619, watch as the "peculiar institution" undermines our founding ideals, witness the triumph of the Union in the Civil War followed by the collapse of Reconstruction in the South, and observe the hard-won progress of the civil rights movement from the early twentieth century to its contemporary iterations.

Jacobson and Colón also explore the pivotal moments in American history with attention to the major contributions of African Americans, reshaping our understanding of the American Revolution, the New Deal, and more. And a series of profiles of prominent African Americans provides key information about these leaders, who exposed injustice, championed freedom, and pushed for change. With vivid illustrations and lucid prose, **THREE-FIFTHS A MAN** brings history to life as only the graphic form can.

Sid Jacobson and Ernie Colón are the creators of the *New York Times* bestseller *The 9/11 Report: A Graphic Adaptation*, *After 9/11*, and *Anne Frank*. Jacobson was the managing editor and editor in chief for Harvey Comics, where he created *Richie Rich*, and executive editor at Marvel Comics. He lives in Los Angeles. Colón oversaw the production of *Spider-Man* at Marvel, and did the same for *Green Lantern*, *Wonder Woman*, *Blackhawk*, and *The Flash* at DC Comics. He lives on Long Island.

Praise for *The 9/11 Report*.

"Never before have I seen a nonfiction book as beautifully and compellingly written and illustrated as *The 9/11 Report*. It will surely set the standard for all future works of contemporary history, graphic or otherwise, and should be required reading in every home, school, and library."

—Stan Lee

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Bauman, Youram and Klein, Grady
THE CARTOON INTRODUCTION TO ECONOMICS
Volume 1: Microeconomics
Nonfiction, January 2010 (finished copies available)

"Hilarity and economics are not often found together, but this book has a lot of both. It also does a great job of explaining important economic concepts simply, accurately, and entertainingly—quite a feat."

—Eric Maskin, Nobel Laureate in Economics

Award-winning illustrator Grady Klein has paired up with the world's first and only stand-up economist, Yoram Bauman, to take the dismal out of the dismal science. From the optimizing individual to game theory to price theory, **THE CARTOON INTRODUCTION TO ECONOMICS** provides an overview of the entire discipline of microeconomics, from decision trees to game trees to taxes and thinking at the margin.

An environmental economist at the University of Washington (and a part-time teacher at Seattle's Lakeside High School), Yoram Bauman is a stand-up economist. A freelance cartoonist, illustrator, and animator, Grady Klein is also the creator of the *Lost Colony* series of graphic novels.

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Bauman, Youram and Klein, Grady
THE CARTOON INTRODUCTION TO ECONOMICS
Volume 2: Macroeconomics
Nonfiction, December 2011 (finished copies available)

Once more bringing together Yoram Bauman, economist and stand up comedian, and award-winning illustrator Grady Klein, **THE CARTOON INTRODUCTION TO ECONOMICS Volume 2: Macroeconomics** explains the factors that affect the economy of an entire country and, indeed, the planet. It explores the two big goals of macroeconomics: explain how economies grow and why economies collapse. It illustrates the basics of the labor market and unemployment, inflation and debt, what the GDP is and measures, and the influence of government, trade, and technology on the economy. Along the way it treats the economics of global poverty, climate change, and reform of the business cycle. And, while walking the reader through an entire introductory macroeconomics course, its cartoon characters—with cameos from Nobel prize-winning economists from John Maynard Keynes to Paul Krugman—take the sting out of the subject.

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Michael Patton with Zander and Kevin Cannon
THE CARTOON INTRODUCTION TO PHILOSOPHY
Nonfiction, April 2015 (finished copies available)

The latest in the celebrated *Cartoon Introduction* series, **THE CARTOON INTRODUCTION TO PHILOSOPHY** is an authoritative and engaging guide to the fundamental questions about our existence. In this indispensable primer, Kevin Cannon—one of the talented illustrators behind *Evolution* and *The Stuff of Life*—and the philosopher Michael F. Patton introduce the wisecracking Greek Heraclitus, who hops in a canoe with us as we navigate the great debates of Western thought. As we make our way down the winding river of philosophy, we meet the pre-Socratics, who first questioned mythology and wondered about the world around them; encounter the disciplines of logic, perception, and epistemology; face the central problem of free will; and witness historic arguments over the existence of God. Along the way, famous thinkers like René Descartes and Immanuel Kant spell out their work in clear, lighthearted conversations that will put readers at ease.

Patton's prose, combined with Cannon's rich artistry, puts the fun back into the quest for fundamental truths, imparting the love of wisdom to anyone willing to grab a paddle and join the ride. A rich combination of education and entertainment, **THE CARTOON INTRODUCTION TO PHILOSOPHY** is a must-have book for students and professors alike.

THE CARTOON INTRODUCTION TO PHILOSOPHY pairs the brilliant illustrations of the award-winning duo Zander Cannon and Kevin Cannon (*The Stuff of Life*, *Evolution*, among others) with the wisdom and humor of philosopher Michael Patton, Ph.D., to provide everyone with the essential guide to the basic tenets of philosophy. Michael Patton has taught college freshman introduction to philosophy for over 20 years and contributed to *Stephen Colbert and Philosophy* and *South Park and Philosophy*, among other books. Zander Cannon and Kevin Cannon, illustrators of numerous graphic novels and comic books, live in Minneapolis.

Praise for **THE CARTOON INTRODUCTION TO PHILOSOPHY**:

"A fun, clear and clever introduction to the rich history of philosophy in the Western world."
- *Kirkus Reviews*

"Like many nonfiction graphic novels written by non-comic writers, philosophy professor Patton's wordy text drives the narrative. But Cannon's art transcends what could have been a second-place relationship to keep this textbook-like explanation of the key thinkers of history visually entertaining . . . The concept-based structure, which incorporates ideas from across eras, is welcoming and understandable to the casual reader."
- *Publishers Weekly*

"In the entertaining, erudite *Cartoon Introduction to Philosophy*, the game Heraclitus travels down the winding river of philosophical thought to lead us through a pocket history of examined living . . . Michael Patton and Kevin Cannon's guide to philosophical thought is a creative addition to the cartoon academy, offering readers well-written, engaging mini-portraits of influential thinkers."
- Dan Kois, *Slate*

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Roger Pauly with Kevin Cannon
THE CARTOON INTRODUCTION TO WORLD CIVILIZATION
Nonfiction, May 2018 (manuscript available March 2017)

Historian Roger Pauly (*Pathways to the Past: A World History Reader to 1500*, 2003) has teamed up with illustrator Kevin Cannon (*The Cartoon Introduction to Philosophy*, H&W 2015) to create an unforgettable introduction to the major figures, events, and ideas of world history, ranging from Ancient Mesopotamia to the present. What makes this ambitious undertaking possible is the author's close focus on select key figures, from Zarathustra to Obama, and the concepts and events associated with them. Throughout, the book pays particular attention to the interplay of history's influence over the individual, and the individual's influence over the direction of history.

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