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Metropolitan Books**

International Rights Guide

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Henry Holt Nonfiction



HOLT

Darrin Bell
THE TALK

Publication: June 2023

Editor: Retha Powers

Manuscript available



Acquired in a two book deal, this graphic memoir by a Pulitzer Prize winner for Editorial Cartooning offers a deeply personal meditation on the “the talk” parents must have with Black children about racism and the brutality that often accompanies it, a ritual attempt to keep kids safe and prepare them for a world that—to paraphrase Toni Morrison—does not love them.

Darrin Bell was 6 years old when his mother told him he couldn’t play with a white friend’s realistic water gun. “She told me I’m a lot more likely to be shot by police than my friend was if they saw me with it, because police tend to think little Black boys—even light-skinned ones—are older than they really are, and less innocent than they really are.”

Bell examines how “the talk” has shaped nearly every moment of his life into adulthood and fatherhood. Through evocative original illustrations, **THE TALK** is a meditation on this coming of age—as Bell becomes painfully aware of being regarded as dangerous by white teachers, neighbors, and strangers, and thus of his mortality. Drawing attention to the brutal murders of African Americans like Trayvon Martin and Eric Garner, and showcasing his award-winning cartoons along the way, Bell takes us up to the very moment of reckoning when people took to the streets protesting the murders of George Floyd and Breonna Taylor, and he must have “the talk” with a 6-year-old son of his own.

Darrin Bell, recipient of the 2016 Berryman Award for Editorial Cartooning, the 2015 RFK Jr. award for editorial cartooning, and UC Berkeley's 2015 Daily Californian Alumni of the Year Award, began his career in 1995 at the age of 20. While serving as the Daily Cal's staff cartoonist, he began freelancing to the Opinion pages of the Los Angeles Times, San Francisco Chronicle, and the Oakland Tribune. In 1997, he co-created the comic strip "Rudy Park" and self-syndicated it to technology magazines. United Media launched it into newspapers in 2001. In 2003, Darrin launched his other comic strip "Candorville" into newspapers via the Washington Post Writers Group, which also began syndicating his editorial cartoons in 2013. While WPWG still syndicates Candorville and Rudy Park, Darrin moved his editorial cartoons to King Features Syndicate in late 2018. He's also a contributing cartoonist for the New Yorker. Darrin lives with his wife and two children in California.

British: Jonathan Cape

Henry Holt Nonfiction

Andy Cohen
THE DADDY DIARIES
A Year of Growing Up

Publication: May 2023

Editor: James Melia

Manuscript available January 2023

***New York Times* bestselling author Andy Cohen, everyone's favorite busiest man in show business, goes from bottle service to baby bottles in a hilarious, heartwarming, and name-dropping account of the most important year of his life.**

Andy Cohen, the executive producer of *The Real Housewives*, host of *Watch What Happens Live*, and everyone's favorite New Year's Eve drinking partner, has taken on the most important job of his life—father—and boy (and girl!) does he have a lot to say about it!

THE DADDY DIARIES picks up almost five years after *Superficial* left off, with a hangover the morning after an epic New Year's Eve broadcast, and a newfound feud with New York's mayor worthy of a *Housewives* reunion. But Andy Cohen doesn't have time to dwell on the drama, as his role as media mogul is now matched with the responsibilities, joys, and growing pains of parenthood.

This fast-paced, mile-a-minute look behind the scenes of living the so-called glamorous life in Manhattan now takes firm aim at life at home. With a three-year old son and a baby girl born in May, stories of late-night parties are replaced by early mornings with Ben, drama at the playground, and musings of a single dad trying to navigate having it all. All this is against the backdrop of constant *Housewives* drama, hijinks behind the scenes at *Watch What Happens Live*, an incredible volume of name dropping, and a nagging mother in St. Louis.

Buckle up, bottle up, and get ready for a laugh out loud, and surprisingly poignant, look at the ways in which family changes everything, and the superficial gets very real. Watch what happens!

Andy Cohen is the author of four *New York Times* bestselling books. He is the host and executive producer of *Watch What Happens Live*, Bravo's late night, interactive talk show. He also serves as executive producer of *The Real Housewives* franchise and hosts the network's highly rated reunion specials. He's won an Emmy and two Peabody Awards for his work, and he lives in New York City.

Praise for *Most Talkative*:

“[Cohen] is funny as Augusten Burroughs used to be...[*Most Talkative*] requires zero interest in *Top Chef*, *Real Housewives* or anything else on Bravo to find him highly entertaining company through this joke-filled joy ride.” —*The New York Times*

“Andy Cohen's new book, *Most Talkative*, is laugh-out-loud funny. Anyone who likes pop culture will really like this book. It's a perfect read for this summer.” —Anderson Cooper

Henry Holt Nonfiction

Chelsea Conaboy

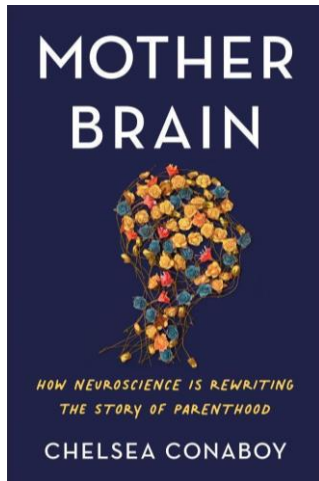
MOTHER BRAIN

How Neuroscience Is Rewriting the Story of Parenthood

Publication: September 2022

Finished books available

Editor: Serena Jones



In this groundbreaking exploration of the postpartum brain, Chelsea Conaboy, a veteran journalist, explodes the concept of “maternal instinct,” and tells a new story about what it means to become a parent.

In recent years, scientists have discovered that the surge of hormones experienced by all new parents—birthing or otherwise—sets off both structural and functional changes in a parent’s brain designed to meet their baby’s basic needs in those tenuous first days, and to learn how to parent. These changes are so dramatic that researchers can easily sort those who have had a pregnancy from those who haven’t, and the emerging science is providing key insights into the wide-ranging experience of parenthood—from the intensity of emotions to the unexpected upsides to its larger role in species survival.

The reality is far more meaningful than the romanticized idea that mothers spring into being by instinct, yet neuroscience has remained almost entirely absent from the public conversation about what it means to be a mother. Chelsea Conaboy weaves together her own and others’ personal stories, cutting edge neuroscience and social psychology, and the writings of feminist scholars to produce a powerful new narrative of parenthood.

Chelsea Conaboy is a veteran journalist, specializing in personal and public health. She was part of the *Boston Globe’s* Pulitzer prize-winning team for coverage of the Boston Marathon Bombing and more recently, has worked as a freelance magazine writer with bylines at *Mother Jones*, *Politico*, *The Week*, *The Boston Globe Magazine*, and others. She lives in Maine with her husband, their two young sons, and her own changing maternal brain.

“Digging into neurological and cognitive research on becoming a parent, Conaboy contends that caregiving isn’t as instinctual as often assumed...Conaboy’s detailed research and eye-opening myth-busting add up to a cogent argument...Surprising and enlightening, this should be required reading for all caregivers.”

—*Publishers Weekly*, ***starred review***

“Conaboy’s book isn’t a parenting manual but rather a work of pop science jam-packed with neurobiological research; it’s both fascinating and surprisingly readable...Highly recommended.” —*Library Journal*, ***starred review***

“[A]n engaging book debut...The author deftly translates scientific studies—by neurobiologists, anthropologists, primatologists, psychologists, and endocrinologists, among others—into accessible prose that speaks to needs and anxieties that many parents share.” —*Kirkus Reviews*

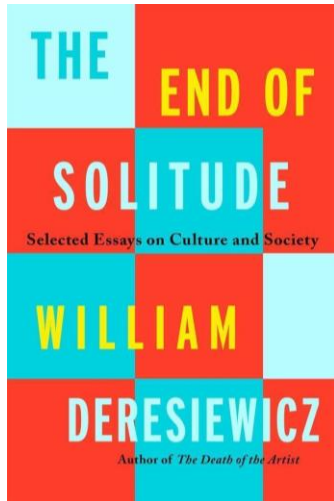
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William Deresiewicz
THE END OF SOLITUDE
Selected Essays on Culture and Society

Publication: August 2022
Editor: Caroline Zancan

Finished books available



THE END OF SOLITUDE is a passionate, probing gathering of over 25 years of groundbreaking thought on culture and technology and its effect on the human spirit, by one of our most respected critics and essayists.

We've never been more connected as a society, and we've never been more afraid to be alone. In **THE END OF SOLITUDE**, William Deresiewicz examines the relationship between the self and society and culture, brilliantly calling on some of the great thinkers of the past on the subject, all to ask the crucial question: what do we lose when we lose solitude? He shows us our unprecedented levels of online connectivity have affected everything from our leadership skills, to the caliber of our friendships, to the ability to multitask. He examines the loneliness that true leadership often entails, but also the value of true, deep friendship, as opposed to the fleeting friendship of our hundreds or thousands of Facebook friends.

Deresiewicz calls our attention to popular works and figures and trends from our culture, from *Mad Men* to Merce Cunningham, to our obsession with food, with thoughtful, often deeply personal meditations about what these phenomena and our love or respect for them say about us. Throughout, he holds a mirror up to the behaviors and attitudes we increasingly take for granted, and, some would say, at increasing cost, and provides the tools to create a deeper, more thoughtful, and perhaps even more meaningful way of thinking, being, and interacting.

William Deresiewicz is an award-winning essayist and critic, frequent speaker at colleges and other venues, and former professor of English at Yale. His writing has appeared in *The Atlantic*, *Harper's*, *The New York Times*, *The American Scholar*, and many other publications. He is the recipient of a National Book Critics Circle award for excellence in reviewing and is the *New York Times* bestselling author of *Excellent Sheep*, *The Death of the Artist*, and *A Jane Austen Education*.

"These 42 thematically wide-ranging and bottomlessly rewarding essays demonstrate the author's amiable skepticism and not-quite contrarianism." —***Shelf Awareness***

"When Deresiewicz, the winner of a National Book Critics Circle award for excellence in reviewing, has a juicy target, it can be surprisingly good fun... ebtable in the right way: a provocation with enough facts behind it to be worth discussing." —***Kirkus***

"Deresiewicz eviscerates 'groupthink' in this razor-sharp collection...[he] anatomizes modern life with skill and fierce conviction. Readers will relish grappling with these erudite provocations." —***Publishers Weekly***

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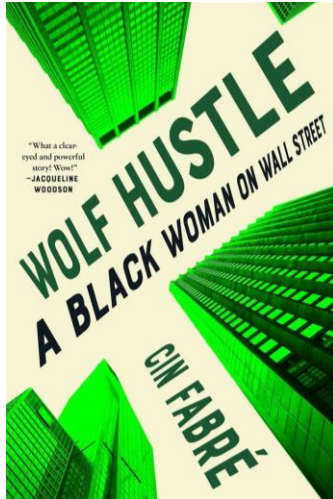
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Henry Holt Nonfiction

Cin Fabré
WOLF HUSTLE
A Black Woman On Wall Street

Publication: September 2022
Editor: Retha Powers

Finished books available



From the South Bronx projects to the boardroom—at only nineteen years old, Cin Fabré ran with the wolves of Wall Street.

Growing up, Cin Fabré didn't know anything about the stock market. But she learned how to hustle from her immigrant parents, saving money so that one day she could escape her abusive father and poverty in the Bronx.

Through a tip from a friend, Cin pushed her way into brokerage firm VTR Capital—an offshoot of Stratton Oakmont, the company where the Wolf of Wall Street, Jordan Belfort, had reigned. She was shocked to find an army of young workers, mostly Black and Brown, with no real prospects for promotion sitting at phones doing the drudge work of finding investment leads for white male brokers. But she felt the pull of profit and knew she would do whatever she had to do to be successful.

Pulling back the curtain on the inequities she and so many others faced, **WOLF HUSTLE** reveals how Cin worked grueling hours, ascending from cold caller to stockbroker, becoming the only Black woman to do so at her firm. She also discloses the excesses she took part in on 1990s Wall Street—the strip clubs, the Hamptons parties, the Gucci shopping sprees—while reveling in the thrill of making money.

From landing clients worth hundreds of millions to gaining, losing, then gaining back fortunes in seconds, Cin examines her years spent trading frantically and hustling successfully, grappling with what it takes to build a rich life, and, ultimately, beating Wall Street at its own game.

Cin Fabré is a New Yorker born and raised in the South Bronx and Queens. At the age of nineteen, she joined a brokerage house on Wall Street, eventually becoming a high-earning broker at a top firm, before leaving in search of a more meaningful life. Today, she divides her time between New York City and Europe and enjoys spending time with her wife and four children. *Wolf Hustle* is her first book.

“Fabré recounts the highs and lows in vivid detail—as with descriptions of the unrelenting sexual harassment she faced—and the author’s exuberance is contagious...The result is as memorable as it is inspiring.” —
Publishers Weekly

“In her zesty debut memoir, the author recounts her surprising journey from roach-filled public housing to becoming one of the 'youngest Black female stockbrokers'...A stark exposé of Wall Street’s corrupt underside and an inspiring story of overcoming adversity.” —*Kirkus*

“What an amazing voice! What a clear-eyed and powerful story! Wow! She takes us back into her Haitian roots, through her life as a young person, and into the bowels of Wall Street to shine a deep and thoughtful light on everything from the Black immigrant experience in America to capitalism. Everyone needs to read this.” —**Jacqueline Woodson**, bestselling author of *Red at the Bone*

J.C. Hallman
SAY ANARCHA

A Young Woman, a Devious Surgeon, and the Harrowing Birth of Modern Women's Health

Publication: June 2023

Manuscript available

Editor: Retha Powers

In 1846, a young surgeon, J. Marion Sims (“The Father of Gynecology”), began several years of experimental surgeries on a young enslaved woman known as Anarcha (“The Mother of Gynecology”). This series of procedures—performed without anesthesia and resulting in Anarcha’s so-called “cure”—forever altered the path of women’s health. Despite brutal practices and failed techniques, Sims proclaimed himself the curer of obstetric fistula, a horrific condition that had stymied the medical world for centuries. Parlaying supposed success to the founding of a new hospital in New York City—where he conducted additional dangerous experiments on Irish women—Sims went on to a profitable career treating gentry and royalty in Europe, becoming one of the world’s first celebrity surgeons. Medical text after medical text hailed Anarcha as a pivotal figure in the history of medicine, but little was recorded about the woman herself.

Through extensive research, author J.C. Hallman has unearthed the first evidence ever found of Anarcha’s life that did not come from Sims’s suspect reports. With incredible tenacity, Hallman traced Anarcha’s path from her beginnings on a Southern plantation, to the backyard clinic where she was subjected to scores of painful surgical experiments, to her years after in Richmond and New York City, and to her final resting place in a lonely Virginia forest.

When Hallman first set out to find Anarcha, the world was just beginning to grapple with the history of white supremacy and its connection to racial health disparities exposed by Covid-19 and the disproportionate number of Black women who die while giving birth. In telling the stories of the “Mother” and “Father” of gynecology, **SAY ANARCHA** excavates the history of a heroic enslaved woman and deconstructs the biographical smokescreen of a surgeon that history has falsely enshrined as a heroic pioneer. Kin in spirit to *The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks*, Hallman’s dual biographical narratives tell a single story that corrects errors calcified in history and illuminates the sacrifice of a young woman who changed the world only to be forgotten by it—until now.

J.C. Hallman grew up in Southern California. He studied creative writing at the University of Pittsburgh, the Writing Seminars at Johns Hopkins, and the Iowa Writers’ Workshop. His work has been widely published in *Harper’s*, *GQ*, *The Baffler*, *Tin House Magazine*, *The New Republic*, and elsewhere. Hallman was a recipient of a 2010 McKnight Artist Fellowship in fiction and a Fellowship from the John Simon Guggenheim Foundation in the general non-fiction category.

Henry Holt Nonfiction

Anne Hull
THROUGH THE GROVES
A Memoir

Publication: June 2023
Editor: Caroline Zancan

Manuscript available

A richly evocative coming-of-age memoir set in the Florida orange groves of the 1960s by a Pulitzer Prize-winning journalist.

Anne Hull grew up in the fragrant isolation of rural central Florida, barefoot half the time and running through the groves her father's family had worked for generations. The ground trembled from the vibrations of bulldozers and jackhammers clearing land for Walt Disney World. "Look now," her father told her as they rode through the mossy landscape together. "It will all be gone." But the real threat was at home, where Hull was pulled between her idealistic but self-destructive father and her mother, a glamorous misfit from Brooklyn struggling with her own aspirations. In their bedroom closet, they kept a typewriter, a liquor bottle and a gun. All the while, Hull felt the pressures of girlhood closing in. A misfit herself, she dreamed of becoming a traveling salesman who ate in motel coffee shops, accompanied by her baton-twirling babysitter in white boots. As her sexual identity took shape, Hull knew the place she loved would never love her back, and began plotting her escape.

Here, Hull captures it all—the smells and sounds of a disappearing way of life, the secret rituals and rhythms of a doomed family, the casual racism of the rural south in the 1960s, and the suffocating expectations placed on girls and women. Vividly atmospheric and haunting, **THROUGH THE GROVES** will speak to anyone who's ever left home to cut a path of their own.

Anne Hull is a journalist and Pulitzer Prize winning reporter who spent nearly two decades at the Washington Post. She's a recipient of the Robert F. Kennedy Journalism Award, the Investigative Reporters and Editors Medal and has been a Pulitzer Prize finalist several times. She has written for The New Yorker magazine and taught journalism as a visiting professor at Princeton University. Born in Plant City, Florida, Hull attended Florida State University and worked as a reporter for the Tampa Bay Times. She lives in Washington, D.C.

Praise for Anne Hull:

"For her clear, sensitive, tirelessly reported stories on what it means to be young and gay in modern America."

—**Pulitzer Prize Finalist citation, Feature Writing, 2005**

"For 'Rim of the New World,' her masterful accounts of young immigrants coming of age in the American South." —**Pulitzer Prize Finalist citation, National Reporting, 2003**

"For her quietly powerful stories of Mexican women who come to work in North Carolina crab shacks, in pursuit of a better life." —**Pulitzer Prize Finalist citation, National Reporting and Featuring Writing, 2000**

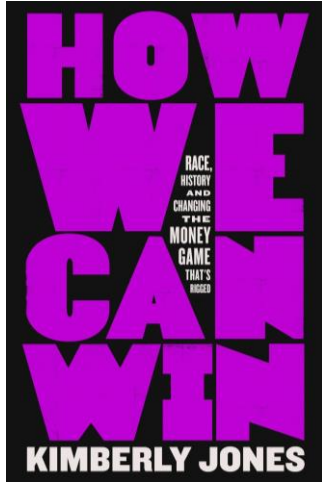
Kimberly Jones
HOW WE CAN WIN

Race, History and Changing the Money Game That's Rigged

Publication: January 2022

Finished books available

Editor: Retha Powers



HOW WE CAN WIN is a galvanizing breakdown of the unfairness of economics and issues of our social class structure facing Black people and other marginalized citizens, growing out of political activist Kimberly Jones' viral video, "[How Can We Win?](#)". Viewed by more than 2 million people worldwide, the impassioned speech has captured the attention of such luminaries as Ava DuVernay, John Oliver, LeBron James, Trevor Noah, Gail King, and more.

"So if I played 400 rounds of Monopoly with you and I had to play and give you every dime that I made, and then for 50 years, every time that I played, if you didn't like what I did, you got to burn it like they did in Tulsa and like they did in Rosewood, how can you win? How can you win?"

In her award-winning book **HOW WE CAN WIN**, Jones delves into the impacts of systemic racism and reveals how her formative years in Chicago gave birth to a lifelong devotion to justice. Here, in a vital expansion of her declaration, she calls for Reconstruction 2.0, a multilayered plan to reclaim economic and social restitutions—those restitutions promised with emancipation but blocked, again and again, for more than 150 years. And, most of all, Jones delivers strategies for how we can effect change as citizens and allies while nurturing ourselves—the most valuable asset we have—in the fight against a system that is still rigged.

Kimberly Jones is a former bookseller, and now hosts the Atlanta Chapter of the popular Well-Read Black Girl (WRBG) Book Club founded by Glory Edim. She has worked in film and television with trailblazing figures such as Tyler Perry, Whitney Houston, and 8Ball & MJG. Currently, in addition to writing YA novels, she is a director of feature films and cutting-edge diverse web series. She also regularly lectures on working and succeeding in the Atlanta film market. Her first book, the YA novel *I'm Not Dying with You Tonight*, co-written with Gilly Segal, was published in 2019.

"An impassioned and actionable call for leveling the playing field." —***Publishers Weekly***

"Complete with guidelines for building financial and educational skill sets, Jones's book is a call-to-action that stresses the limitations that Black Americans have historically faced and offers a road map to equality."—

Booklist

"In a voice that is equal parts clear, unflinching, and hopeful, Kimberly Jones fills in the missing pieces to the puzzle of Black American economic disparity. So much of the truth has been (purposely) hidden in the dark, but Kimberly brings the light. A must-read for everyone ready to fight for true equity." —**Layla F. Saad,**

New York Times & Sunday Times*-bestselling author of *White Supremacy and Me

British: Text Publishing

James Kirchick
SECRET CITY

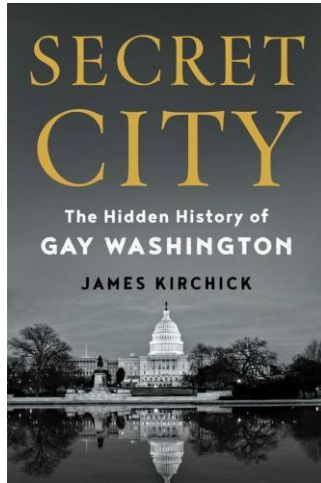
The Hidden History of Gay Washington

****A NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLER****

Publication: May 2022

Editor: James Melia

Finished books available



Washington, D.C. has always been a city of secrets. Few have been more dramatic than the ones revealed in James Kirchick's **SECRET CITY**.

For decades, the specter of homosexuality haunted Washington. The mere suggestion that a person might be gay destroyed reputations, ended careers, and ruined lives. At the height of the Cold War, fear of homosexuality became intertwined with the growing threat of international communism, leading to a purge of gay men and lesbians from the federal government. In the fevered atmosphere of political Washington, the secret “too loathsome to mention” paradoxically held enormous, terrifying power.

Utilizing thousands of pages of declassified documents, interviews with over one hundred people, and material unearthed from presidential libraries and archives around the country, **SECRET CITY** is a chronicle of American politics like no other. Celebrating the men and women who courageously decided that the source of their private shame could instead be galvanized for public pride,

Kirchick offers a reinterpretation of American history told from the perspective of the citizens who lived in its shadows. Sweeping in scope and intimate in detail, **SECRET CITY** will forever transform our understanding of American history.

James Kirchick is an award-winning writer and author of *The End of Europe: Dictators, Demagogues and the Coming Dark Age*. A visiting fellow at the Brookings Institution and columnist for *Tablet*, he has reported from over forty countries and his work has appeared in the *New York Times*, the *Washington Post*, the *Wall Street Journal*, the *Atlantic*, the *New York Review of Books*, and the *Times Literary Supplement*. Previously, Kirchick was writer-at-large for Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty in Prague, a fellow of the Robert Bosch Foundation in Berlin, and an editor at the *New Republic*. A graduate of Yale with degrees in history and political science, Kirchick resides in Washington, D.C.

“*Secret City* by James Kirchick is a sprawling and enthralling history of how the gay subculture in Washington, D.C., long in shadow, emerged into the klieg lights...A luxurious, slow-rolling Cadillac of a book, not to be mastered in one sitting. As an epic of a dark age, complex and shaded, *Secret City* is rewarding in the extreme.” —*The New York Times*

“A robust and meaningful history...Smartly written with a flexible aperture for capturing the big picture of a moment and narrowing in on the tiniest of details.” —*TIME*

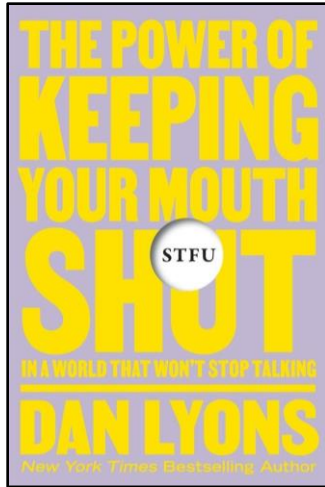
“Throughout *Secret City*, Kirchick does a masterful job of conveying the flavor of homophobia in each historical era, while using impeccable research to vividly characterize the dozens of various individuals at play in these stories.” —*The Guardian*

Dan Lyons
STFU

The Power of Keeping Your Mouth Shut

Publication: March 2023
Editor: James Melia

Manuscript available



We live in a world that doesn't just encourage overtalking, but practically demands it: success is often measured by how much attention we can attract. However, overtalking—in person and on social media; with friends and family, colleagues and strangers alike—can be a profound personal and professional liability. In **STFU**, Dan Lyons, a journalist, author, and avowed overtalker, brings us on a deep dive into our incessant noise making. **STFU** will examine the history, culture, science, and psychology of overtalking to search for answers to a simple question: why do we find it so difficult to shut up and how can we learn to do it?

Lyons will take a hard (but also hilarious) look at himself and his fellow motormouths. He will interview experts in the field, from the communication researchers who have devised the Talkaholic Scale test to the banker-turned-Buddhist executive coach teaching Silicon Valley business leaders how to pipe down. He'll illuminate the “quiet power” of top business leaders and political figures such as Barack Obama and Tim Cook. He'll examine the behavioral and brain science behind overtalking and silence, and will pepper the narrative with colorful examples throughout history (Socrates did not know how to STFU).

For fans of Susan Cain and Mark Manson alike, **STFU** will illuminate how all of us can unlock incredible power and transform our lives by learning how to talk less, listen more, and embrace the power of silence.

Dan Lyons is a veteran journalist, author, and screenwriter. He is the author of *The New York Times*-bestselling memoir *Disrupted: My Adventures in the Startup Bubble*, which has been translated into a dozen languages and optioned for film/TV, as well as *Lab Rats: How Silicon Valley Made Work Miserable for the Rest of Us*, and *Options*, a satirical novel. He was, for years, co-producer and writer for the HBO series *Silicon Valley*. Dan is a frequent speaker who plans to scorn his own good advice in promoting this book just as vocally.

“Read this book—your boss will thank you. Your spouse will thank you. And you'll thank yourself!” —**Kim Scott, *New York Times* bestselling author of *Radical Candor***

“Lyons cuts through the noise even as he critiques it. Timely, clever, and important. Need I say more? (Probably not).” —**David Litt, former speechwriter for President Barack Obama and *New York Times* bestselling author of *Thanks, Obama***

British: Fletcher & Company

Rights sold: Chinese (complex)/China Times, Chinese (simplified)/China Translation and Publishing House, Korean/Hanbit Bitz, Polish/Znak, Portuguese (in Brazil)/Alta Books, Romanian/Grup Media Litera

Bill McKibben

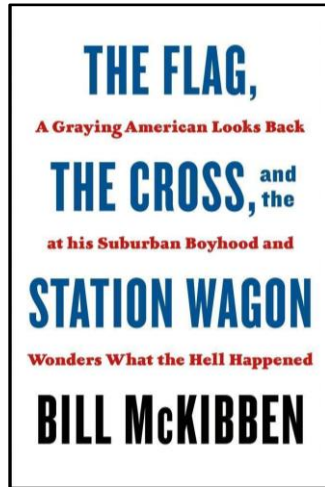
THE FLAG, THE CROSS, AND THE STATION WAGON

A Graying American Looks Back at His Suburban Boyhood and Wonders What the Hell Happened

Publication: May 2022

Finished books available

Editor: Sarah Crichton



New York Times bestselling author Bill McKibben grew up believing that America was the greatest country on earth; that for all its obvious flaws, it was history's most dynamic machine, pushing steadily towards a better future. Postwar suburban prosperity; the emerging movements for human equality—the escalator seemed to be heading steadily up. But new understandings of history have cast shadows on that picture—and over the past half century, overconsumption and hyper-individualism have wrought havoc on three of America's most distinctive features: our intertwined sense of history and patriotism, our kindness, generosity, and the promise of prosperity for all.

While there's an emerging understanding that our heritage was less stained by racism than shaped by it, a sense that Christianity shifted with chilling speed from a source of relatively benign civic unity into a wellspring of snarling division, and a growing scientific understanding that our postwar prosperity set the stage for the planets' climatic upheaval, we badly need to pinpoint where we

went astray initially if we wish to fix this country.

THE FLAG, THE CROSS, AND THE STATION WAGON weaves together McKibben's reflections on growing up in Lexington, Massachusetts—at the time a middle-class suburb where his high school job was wearing a tricorne hat to give tours of the Green where the American revolution commenced—with the latest scholarship on race and inequality in America, on the rise of the religious right, and on our environmental crisis. Our chances of navigating an increasingly perilous future depend on a unity that we currently lack. If we begin to act, then we can not only start to repay very real debts; we can also begin to reclaim the very real good parts of our shared legacy. And perhaps something of that old world—of the flag, the cross, the station wagon—can be summoned up again to help us face a difficult future. But if so we'll need to deal honestly with some serious questions. We can, and we will, be able to tell an American story—a truer one this time.

Bill McKibben is a founder of the environmental organization 350.org and was among the first to have warned of the dangers of global warming. He is the author of more than a dozen books, including the bestsellers *Falter*, *The End of Nature*, *Eaarth*, and *Deep Economy*. He is the Schumann Distinguished Scholar in Environmental Studies at Middlebury College and the winner of the Gandhi Prize, the Thomas Merton Prize, and the Right Livelihood Prize. He lives in Vermont with his wife, the writer Sue Halpern.

“Adept at factual storytelling and connecting the dots, earnest, caring, and funny, McKibben dovetails personal reckonings with an astute elucidation of our social justice and environmental crises, arguing wisely that facing the truth about our past is the only way forward to a more just and sustainable future.” —

Booklist*, *starred review

“McKibben capably picks apart long-ago history to find present themes.” —***Kirkus***

Rights sold, *Falter*: ANZ/Black, Inc., British/Headline UK, Danish/Information, French/Massot, German/Karl Blessing, Korean/Saenggakieum, Portuguese (in Brazil)/Alta, Russian/Portal

Henry Holt Nonfiction

Tracie McMillan

THE WHITE BONUS

Six Families and the Cash Value of Racism in America

Publication: May 2024

Editor: Serena Jones

Manuscript available August 2023

When we talk about racism, we usually talk about what's been denied to people of color—but Tracie McMillan takes an incisive look at what white people get, starting with herself. In **THE WHITE BONUS**, McMillan combines compelling memoir, top-notch original reporting, and rigorous policy research to measure the cash value of being white in America.

THE WHITE BONUS follows three generations of Tracie's family, tracking the sources of their wealth and measuring their cumulative material effect on her own life. This personal narrative tethers a broader investigation to the laws and norms that give white people more opportunity than minorities. Expanding beyond her own family, Tracie alternates her story with single-chapter profiles tracking the “white bonus” of five other subjects of various classes and places, which showcase an ecosystem of institutions and practices that are supposed to treat all people the same but usually only benefit whites.

To date, there has not been a book that addresses the white working-class experience while engaging directly with race, nor one that takes the amorphous problem of racial privilege and quantifies it. **THE WHITE BONUS** combines these approaches, and prompts an urgent question: What can we do about it?

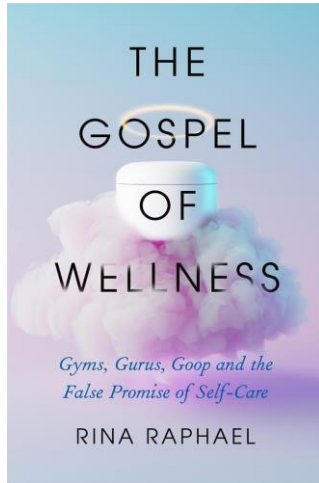
Tracie McMillan's first book, *The American Way of Eating* (Scribner, 2012), was widely celebrated for the depth of its reporting and investigative work. In addition, McMillan is an established journalist, publishing in *The New York Times*, *The Washington Post*, *The Los Angeles Times*, *National Geographic*, *Mother Jones* and *Food & Wine*.

Rina Raphael
THE GOSPEL OF WELLNESS
Gyms, Gurus, Goop, and the False Promise of Self-Care

Publication: September 2022

Finished books available

Editor: Amy Einhorn



The desire to be healthy is nothing new. But over the last decade, the level of focus on women's physical, spiritual, and mental self-improvement has grown exponentially. The multi-trillion dollar wellness industry ranges from luxe yoga retreats and self-realization seminars to plant medicine and female-run marijuana conferences. Rina Raphael, a health and wellness reporter who has covered this space extensively, examines exactly how and why women have become targeted and then hooked on self-care.

Meditation apps, “detoxes”, manifestation gurus—things that only a few years ago might have been considered fringe that are now mainstream. But deep within the underbelly of self-care—hidden beneath layers of clever marketing—the wellness industry beckons women with a far stronger, more seductive message. It promises women the one thing they desperately desire: control. They are told they can manage the chaos ruling their life by following a laid-out plan: Eat right, exercise, meditate, then buy all this stuff. Wellness isn't just a lifestyle; it's become

something much more. It's something to believe in. Which is why wellness is increasingly adopting patterns similar to religion.

Blending traditional reporting, first-person narrative, and social critique, Rina Raphael will guide readers through a journey of the modern woman and why she's so dissatisfied with the status quo. Wellness did not sprout in a vacuum: it's a reaction to trends building over decades. Women are searching for meaning, purpose, community, and certainty—and trying to find it through health practices. But what happens when the cure becomes as bad as the disease?

Rina Raphael is a features contributor for Fast Company magazine, specializing in health, wellness, and women's issues. Her reporting on the subject has been published by *The New York Times*, *The Los Angeles Times*, CBS, NBC News, *Medium's Elemental*, among others. She is also the author of the newsletter *Well To Do*, which covers the latest wellness trends, news, and market analysis (14,000 subscribers and growing). She was a senior producer and lifestyle editor at The TODAY show, the No. 1 morning show in America, for nearly a decade.

"A journalist who specializes in health and women's issues, Raphael is perfectly situated to investigate the massive wellness industry. . . Writing with authority and empathy, Raphael tells a disturbing story of taking a good thing and then overdoing it."—*Kirkus*, ***starred review***

"Raphael delivers an eye-opening, cautionary study of the contemporary, amorphous meaning of 'wellness.'"—*Booklist*

British: Souvenir Press

Rights sold: **Chinese (complex)**/CommonLife

Laurent Richard and Sandrine Rigaud

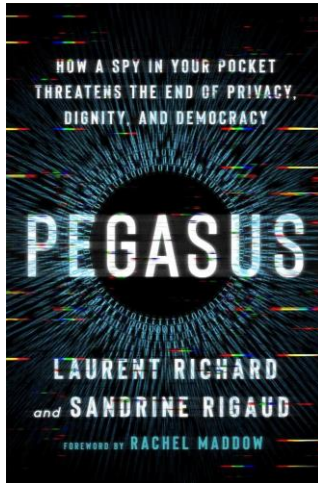
PEGASUS

How a Spy in Your Pocket Threatens the End of Privacy, Dignity, and Democracy

Publication: January 2023

Manuscript available

Editor: Tim Duggan



PEGASUS tells the full, never-before-told story of the most sophisticated and invasive surveillance weapon ever created that is upending democracy around the world. French investigative journalists Laurent Richard and Sandrine Rigaud are the leaders of the organization [Forbidden Stories](#), a nonprofit journalism network devoted to protecting and publishing the work of journalists who are threatened, jailed, or killed across the world. Their global investigation into Pegasus has revealed how this technology, marketed by its creators as a life-saving protective measure against terrorism, is actually the most sophisticated and invasive surveillance weapon ever created, used by governments around the world to spy on their citizens and to target them with blackmail and intimidation.

Pegasus is capable of infecting a private cell phone without alerting the owner—then tracking their daily movement in real time, gaining control of the device’s microphones and cameras at will, and capturing all videos, photos, emails, texts, and passwords, whether encrypted or not. It could be on your phone as you read this, and you’d have no way of knowing it.

This book, like Glenn Greenwald's *No Place To Hide* and Edward Snowden's *Permanent Record*, stems from the leak of a trove of documents revealing worldwide spying, and sometimes attacks, on journalists, activists, and diplomats via phone malware. Meticulously reported and masterfully written, Pegasus tells the story of the global investigation, triggered by a single spectacular leak of data, that has exposed the astounding scale and chilling new ways in which authoritarian regimes are eroding key pillars of democracy: privacy, freedom of the press, and freedom of speech.

Laurent Richard is an award-winning documentary filmmaker and the founder of Forbidden Stories, a Paris-based journalism nonprofit organization devoted to continuing the work of assassinated reporters. Richard is also the author of numerous investigations into the lies of the tobacco industry, the excesses of the financial sector, and the clandestine actions of Mossad and the CIA. Richard was named the 2018 European Journalist of the Year at the PRIX EUROPA in Berlin.

Sandrine Rigaud is a French investigative journalist and has served as editor of Forbidden Stories since 2019 where she coordinated the Pegasus Project as well as the Cartel Project, a cross-border collaboration to finish the investigations of assassinated Mexican journalists. Before joining Forbidden Stories, she directed feature-length documentaries and has reported from Tanzania, Uzbekistan, Lebanon, Qatar, and Bangladesh, among other countries.

British: Macmillan UK

Rights sold: French/Laffont, German/Droemer, Polish/Insignis

Henry Holt Nonfiction

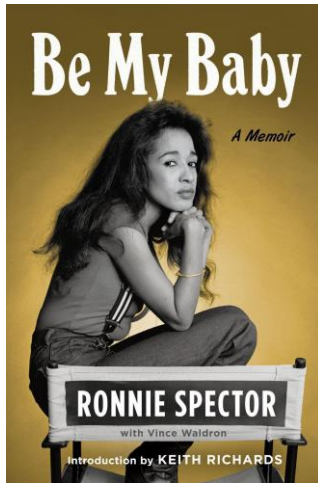
Ronnie Spector with Vince Waldron
BE MY BABY
A Memoir

****Film starring Zendaya forthcoming in 2023****

Publication: May 2022

Editor: Sarah Crichton

Finished books available



BE MY BABY is the behind-the-scenes story—newly updated including a foreword by Keith Richards, and with an especially timely message—of how the original bad girl of rock and roll, Ronnie Spector, survived marriage to a monster and carved out a space for herself amid the chaos of the 1960s music scene and beyond.

Ronnie’s first collaboration with producer Phil Spector, “Be My Baby,” shot Ronnie and the Ronettes to stardom. No one sounded like Ronnie, with her alluring blend of innocence and knowing, but her voice would soon be silenced as Spector sequestered her behind electric gates, guard dogs, and barbed wire.

It took everything Ronnie had to escape her prisonlike marriage and wrest back control of her life, her music, and her legacy. And as shown in this edition, which includes a 2021 postscript from Ronnie, her life became proof that our challenges do not define us and there is always the potential to forge a fuller life.

In **BE MY BABY**, the incomparable Ronnie Spector offered a whirlwind account of the ever-shifting path of an iconic artist. And, more than anything else, she gave us an inspiring tale of triumph.

Ronnie Spector (1943-2022) became an icon when she rose to fame as lead singer of the Ronettes, the influential girl group responsible for a string of hits that included “Walking in the Rain,” “Baby I Love You,” and “Be My Baby,” which Brian Wilson has called “the greatest record ever made.” The embodiment of the heart, soul, and passion of rock and roll, Ronnie Spector was inducted into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame in March 2008.

Rolling Stone: 50 Greatest Rock Memoirs of All Time (#14)

“Do I have to tell you that Ronnie’s got one of the greatest female rock-and-roll voices of all time? She stands alone.” —**Keith Richards**

“Funny and observant, consistently engaging...sprinkled with deadpan humor.” —**Mike Boehm, *Los Angeles Times***

“A lively, illuminating read...Spector’s portrait of the energy of the early Sixties music scene is fascinating.”
—***Kirkus Reviews***

British: Macmillan UK

Rights sold: German/Hannibal, Japanese/Shinko

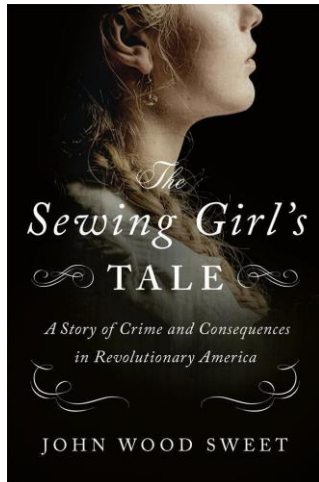
John Wood Sweet
THE SEWING GIRL'S TALE

A Story of Crime and Consequences in Revolutionary America

Publication: July 2022

Finished books available

Editor: Tim Duggan



THE SEWING GIRL'S TALE is a riveting historical drama that tells the story of the first published rape trial in American history, as well as the fault lines of class privilege and gender bias that it exposed—showing how much has changed over two centuries and how much has not.

In September 1793, a crime was committed in the back room of a New York brothel on a moonless night—the kind of crime that even victims usually kept secret. Instead, seventeen-year-old seamstress Lanah Sawyer did what virtually no one else had done: she charged a gentleman with rape.

When Lanah raised her voice, she was dismissed as a mere “sewing-girl,” led astray by romantic delusions. But she refused to stay silent. Her accusation sparked a sensational courtroom drama and a relentless struggle for vindication that divided both Lanah’s and her assailant’s families and threatened both of their lives. The ongoing conflict attracted the nation’s top lawyers, including Alexander Hamilton, and shaped the development of American law. The crime and its consequences became a kind of parable about the power of seduction and the limits of justice. Eventually, Lanah Sawyer did succeed in holding her assailant accountable—but at a terrible cost to herself.

Based on rigorous historical detective work, this book takes us from a chance encounter in the street into the sanctuaries of the city’s elite, the shadows of its brothels, and the despair of its debtors’ prison. **THE SEWING GIRL'S TALE** shows that if our laws and our culture were changed by a persistent young woman and the power of words two hundred years ago, they can be changed again.

John Wood Sweet is a professor of history at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and former director of the Program in Sexuality Studies. He has received fellowships from the National Endowment for the Humanities, the Mellon Foundation, the National Humanities Center, the Institute for Arts and Humanities at UNC, and the Gilder Lehrman Center at Yale, among others. His first book, *Bodies Politic: Colonial, Race, and the Emergence of the American North*, was a finalist for the Frederick Douglass Prize. He was named a Top Young Historian by the History News Network and has served as a Distinguished Lecturer for the Organization of American Historians. He lives in Chapel Hill with his husband, son, and daughter.

****New York Times Editors' Choice & front page review****

“Fascinating...An excellent and absorbing work of social and cultural history.” —*The New York Times Book Review*

“A vividly intimate portrait of American life as the nation was coming into being. Mr. Sweet has given us a masterpiece of splendidly readable social history.” —*The Wall Street Journal*

Henry Holt Nonfiction

Rachel Jamison Webster
BENJAMIN BANNEKER AND US
Eleven Generations of an American Family

Publication: March 2023

Manuscript available

Editor: Shannon Criss

BENJAMIN BANNEKER AND US weaves together past and present to explore the insidious forces of racism that shape our understanding of ancestry, lineage, and family today. Webster lends a hand in putting the past into urgent conversation with the present.

In 1791, Thomas Jefferson hired a Black man to help survey Washington, DC. That man was Benjamin Banneker, an African American mathematician, a writer of almanacs, and the greatest astronomer of his generation. Banneker then wrote what would become a famous letter to Jefferson, imploring the new president to examine his hypocrisy, as someone who claimed to love liberty yet was an enslaver. More than two centuries later, Rachel Jamison Webster, an ostensibly white woman, learns that this groundbreaking Black forefather is also her distant relative.

Acting as a storyteller, Webster draws on oral history and conversations with her “DNA cousins” to imagine the lives of their shared ancestors across eleven generations, among them Banneker’s grandparents, an interracial couple who broke the law to marry when America was still a conglomerate of colonies under British rule. These stories shed light on the legal construction of whiteness and display the genius and resistance of early African Americans in the face of increasingly unjust laws, some of which are still in effect in the present day.

Rachel Jamison Webster is a professor of creative writing at Northwestern University and the author of four books of poetry and cross-genre writing. She has taught writing workshops through the Urban League, Chicago Public Schools, Gallery 37, and the Pacific Northwest College of Art, working to bring diversity and antiracist awareness into the creative writing curriculum. Rachel’s essays, poems and stories are published in outlets including *Poetry*, *Tin House* and *The Yale Review*. **BENJAMIN BANNEKER AND US** is her first nonfiction book. She lives in Evanston, Illinois, with her husband and daughter.

"Rachel Jamison Webster has collaborated with her relatives to weave an impressive investigation of race and our shared American history—the convergences and divergences across time and space. Webster tells a compelling story as she examines ancestry, DNA, passing, and cultural appropriation, resulting in a resonant addition to our current national reckoning around racial justice." —**Natasha Trethewey, Pulitzer Prize Winner, Former U.S. Poet Laureate, and author of *Memorial Drive: A Daughter’s Memoir***

"*Benjamin Banneker and Us* not only tells the story of Banneker but gives the reader a portrait of the women who shaped him - his mother, grandmother, and sisters. These women stood up in court to argue for their children’s freedom, served as midwives and herbalists, and found ways to survive and thrive in a country that continually tried to silence them. I am inspired by this family’s resilience, and by the way their lives illuminate the past and our present." —**Anna Malaika Tubbs, New York Times bestselling author of *The Three Mothers: How the Mothers of Martin Luther King, Jr., Malcolm X, and James Baldwin Shaped a Nation***

Henry Holt Fiction



HOLT

Ali Bryan

THE CROW VALLEY KARAOKE CHAMPIONSHIPS

Publication: July 2023

Editor: Sarah Crichton

Manuscript available

A prison escape, a bear on the loose, botched lyrics. What more could go wrong with Crow Valley's most anticipated night of the year?

A year after forest fires sweep through the town of Crow Valley and claim the life of Dale Jepson, karaoke legend, local prison guard, and "all around good guy," the community holds a karaoke competition. But when a convicted arsonist escapes from nearby Crow Valley Correctional, the residents learn there's more on the line than a trip to the National Karaoke Championships. Marriages are at stake, jobs are jeopardized, sobrieties threatened, and second chances start to slip away as the community is forced, once again through misfortune, to rally together to save themselves and each other.

Told from alternating POVs, each with an intimate connection to the deceased Dale, **THE CROW VALLEY KARAOKE CHAMPIONSHIPS** is a story about the fires we all fight in life—from the smoldering embers to the blazing infernos—and ultimately, that there is dignity in the struggle to keep singing, to keep fighting, to keep going, to keep living—no matter how high the flames get.

THE CROW VALLEY KARAOKE CHAMPIONSHIPS combines the quirks of small-town culture with the warmth and understated humor of Schitt's Creek, the wit and grit of Kristen Arnett's *Mostly Dead Things* and the humanity and heart of Kevin Wilson's *Nothing to See Here* and Cathleen Schine's *They May Not Mean To, But They Do*.

With themes of perseverance, self-compassion, hope, reconciliation and redemption, this is a perfect post-pandemic story that will have readers cheering for Crow Valley even as they learn that Dale might not have been the all around good guy he was believed to be.

Ali Bryan is a novelist and creative nonfiction writer based in Calgary. Her first novel, *Roost*, won the Georges Bugnet Award for Fiction and was the official selection of One Book Nova Scotia. Her second novel, *The Figgs*, was released in 2018, was a finalist for the Stephen Leacock Memorial Medal for Humour and was optioned for TV by SONY Pictures (to be pitched to studios in 2021). She twice longlisted for the CBC Canada Writes Creative Nonfiction prize, twice shortlisted for the Jon Whyte Memorial Essay Award and won the 2020 Howard O'Hagan Award for Short Story. She is a Lieutenant Governor of Alberta Arts Awards Emerging Artist recipient. Her debut YA novel, *The Hill*, was released in March 2021 from Dottir Press.

Henry Holt Fiction

Jenny Fran Davis
DYKETTE
A Novel

Publication: May 2023
available

Manuscript

Editor: Ruby Rose Lee

For fans of Torrey Peters's *Detransition, Baby* and HBO's *Search Party*—an addictive, absurd, and darkly hilarious debut novel about a woman who embarks on a ten-day getaway with her partner and two other queer couples.

Sasha and Jesse are professionally creative, erotically adventurous, and passionately dysfunctional 20-somethings making a life together in Brooklyn. When a pair of older, richer lesbians—prominent news host Jules Todd and her psychotherapist partner, Miranda—invites Sasha and Jesse to their country home for the holidays, they're quick to accept. Even if the trip includes a third couple—Jesse's best friend, Lou, and their cool-girl flame, Darcy—whose It-queer clout Sasha ridicules yet desperately wants.

As the late December afternoons blur together in a haze of debauchurous home-cooked feasts and sweaty sauna confessionals, so too do the guests' secret and shifting motivations. When Jesse and Darcy collaborate on an ill-fated livestream performance, a complex web of infatuation and jealousy emerges, sending Sasha down a spiral of destructive rage that threatens each couple's future.

Unfolding over ten heady days, **DYKETTE** is an unforgettable love story at the crossroads of queer non-conformity and seductive normativity. With propulsive plotting and sexy, wickedly entertaining prose, Davis captures the vagaries of desire and the many devastating places in which we seek recognition.

Jenny Fran Davis received her MFA from the University of Iowa, where she was an Iowa Arts Fellow. The author of *Everything Must Go*, a novel for teenagers, she lives in Brooklyn.

"A consummate pleasure; I gasped with laughter and delight on nearly every page." —**Melissa Febos**,
author of *Girlhood*

"*Dyquette* turned me on and freaked me out in the best possible way! Imagine if 'Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf' were recast with two generations of very-online queer folks. Tense, smart, and thrilling." —**CJ Hauser**, author of *The Crane Wife*

"*Dyquette* is my favorite kind of trouble—sexy, messy, full of gossip and glitter, and cunning, and thus of course profoundly revealing about our strange times." —**Andrea Lawlor**, author of *Paul Takes the Form of a Mortal Girl*

"*Dyquette* is so perceptive it hurts and as fun and decadent as wearing Gaultier in a bubble bath." —**Beth Morgan**, author of *A Touch of Jen*

"Like a tightly-rolled spliff passed round the room, you will inhale *Dyquette*." —**Samantha Hunt**, author of *The Unwritten Book*

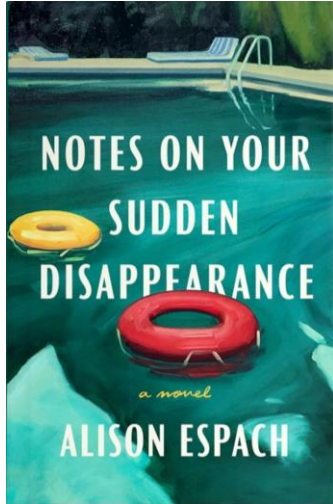
"An invigorating and hilarious examination of queer identity and intimacy...Jenny Fran Davis explores both with an audacious and tender wit." —**Bobby Finger**, author of *The Old Place*

Henry Holt Fiction

Alison Espach
NOTES ON YOUR SUDDEN DISAPPEARANCE
A Novel

Publication: May 2022
Editor: Caroline Zancan

Finished books available



NOTES ON YOUR SUDDEN DISAPPEARANCE is a tender, funny coming of age tale. It's also a wrenching but delicately handled depiction of loss. And, ultimately, it's a moving and unconventional love story.

This altogether mesmerizing novel is narrated by Sally, our young heroine, who addresses the book to Kathy, her beloved and impossibly cool older sister. Beginning just after Sally's thirteenth birthday, the book spans fifteen years—the fault line of which is Kathy's untimely death. We watch as her absence creates a gaping hole that only Billy Barnes, Kathy's beau, understands and might possibly begin to fill. **NOTES ON YOUR SUDDEN DISAPPEARANCE** charts years of Sally and Billy's shared history and missed connections, and is both a breathtaking love story between two broken people who are unexplainably, inconveniently drawn to each other, and a wry, sharply observant coming of age story that looks at the ways the people we love the most continue to shape our lives long after they're gone.

Alison Espach is the author of the novel *The Adults*, a *New York Times* Editor's Choice and a Barnes and Noble Discover pick. Her short story series *In-Depth Market Research Interviews with Dead People* is an Audible Original and her work has appeared in *McSweeney's*, *Vogue*, *Joyland*, *Glamour*, *Salon*, among other places. She teaches creative writing at Providence College in Rhode Island.

An Indie Next pick for June 2022
Named a "Best Book of 2022" by *NPR*
A *USA Today* "Must Read"

"Incongruously funny...Ms. Espach uses irony well." —**Sam Sacks, *The Wall Street Journal***

"Espach once again proves that she's a brilliantly talented author." —**Michael Schaub, *NPR***

"Terrific." —***The Chicago Tribune***

"Riveting." —***People***

"Inventive and powerful...Espach captures the minutiae of love and loss with unflinching clarity and profound compassion, and pulls off the second-person point of view unusually well. Readers will be deeply moved." —***Publishers Weekly*, *starred review***

British: Friedrich Agency

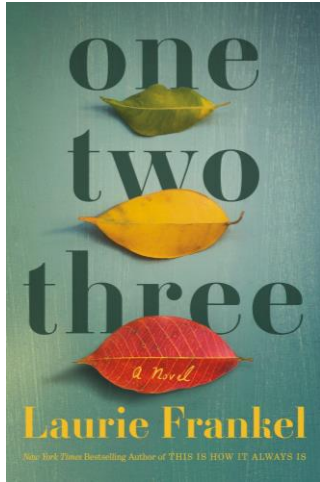
Rights sold: Croatian/Znanje, German/Ullstein, Italian/Bollati Boringhieri

Henry Holt Fiction

Laurie Frankel
ONE TWO THREE
A Novel

Publication: June 2021
Editor: Amy Einhorn

Finished books available



In a town where nothing ever changes, suddenly everything does...

Everyone knows everyone in the tiny town of Bourne, but the Mitchell triplets are especially beloved. Mirabel is the smartest person anyone knows, and no one doubts it just because she can't speak. Monday is the town's purveyor of books now that the library's closed—tell her the book you think you want, and she'll pull the one you actually do from the microwave or her sock drawer. Mab's job is hardest of all: get good grades, get into college, get out of Bourne.

For a few weeks seventeen years ago, Bourne was national news when its water turned green. The girls have come of age watching their mother's endless fight for justice. But just when it seems life might go on the same forever, the first moving truck anyone's seen in years pulls up and unloads new residents and old secrets. Soon, the Mitchell sisters are taking on a system stacked against them and uncovering mysteries buried longer than they've been alive.

As she did in *This Is How It Always Is*, Laurie Frankel has written a laugh-out-loud-on-one-page-grab- a-tissue-the-next novel, as only she can, about how expanding our notions of “normal” makes the world a better place for everyone and how when days are darkest, it's our daughters who will save us all.

Laurie Frankel is the bestselling, award-winning author of three previous novels, *The Atlas of Love*, *Goodbye for Now*, and *This Is How It Always Is*, the latter of which sold over a quarter of a million copies. Her writing has also appeared in *The New York Times*, *The Guardian*, *Publishers Weekly*, *People* magazine, *Lit Hub*, *The Sydney Morning Herald*, and other publications. She lives in Seattle with her family.

A New York Times Editors' Choice
An Indie Next Pick
A Washington State Book Awards Finalist

“Winning and amiable....The full and simple pleasures of Frankel's luscious prose lull the reader into rooting for the good people of Bourne and these plucky heroines.” —*The New York Times*

“Readers will be captivated by this story of adversity and resilience.” —*Publishers Weekly*

Rights sold, *This Is How It Always Is*: British/Headline, Chinese (simplified)/Beijing Emphyrean, Danish/Palatium, Dutch/Aambo/Anthos, French/Fleuve Noir, Hungarian/Gabo, Italian/DeA Planeta, Korean/Alma, Polish/Poradnia K, Portuguese (in Brazil)/HarperCollins, Romanian/RAO, Russian/EKSMO, Swedish/Printz

Henry Holt Fiction

Laurie Gelman
SMELLS LIKE TWEEN SPIRIT
A Novel

Publication: August 2022
Editor: Serena Jones

Finished books available



From the author of *Class Mom* comes a new laugh-out-loud novel about the never-ending torture wheel of parenting. Jen Dixon, a freshly minted mat mom of the Pioneer Middle School (PMS) wrestling team, just cannot catch a break—now navigating the sights and smells of her son’s wrestling matches armed only with a vat of antifungal cream and her acerbic wit.

Between attending wrestling matches and teaching spin classes, Jen finds herself fully immersed in sports mom competitiveness. These parents seem perfectly unassuming, until their kids start to wrestle, and they become momsters. Add to this some truly bizarre encounters with students from her spin class and deeper challenges managing her parents, and Jen has more gum than she can chew...and even her riotously funny one-liners might not get her through it this time.

Laurie Gelman spent twenty-five years as a broadcaster in both Canada and the United States before trying her hand at writing novels. The author of *Class Mom*, *You’ve Been Volunteered*, and *Yoga Pant Nation*, Laurie has appeared on *Live With Ryan and Kelly*, *Watch What Happens Live With Andy Cohen*, and *The Talk*, among others. She lives in New York City with her husband, Michael Gelman, and two teenage daughters.

“Gelman’s new *Class Mom* novel doesn’t disappoint: it will leave readers laughing out loud and desperate for the next installation in this hilarious, beloved series.” —*Library Journal*, ***starred review***

“Readers will speed through this witty, pithy tale that brings back Jen’s lovable snark to delightful effect. This winning sequel lives up to its predecessors.” —*Publishers Weekly*

“Fans of the series will be thrilled to see more of Jen and the family, and newcomers will want to learn more about this quirky family...Gelman’s storytelling is fun and engaging, and she promises she’s only just getting started.” —*Booklist*

Rights sold, *Class Mom*: **Czech**/Jota, **German**/HarperCollins, **Hebrew**/Keter, **Russian**/EKSMO

Henry Holt Fiction

Anita Gail Jones
THE PEACH SEED
A Novel

Publication: June 2023

Manuscript available October 2022

Editor: Retha Powers

Anita Gail Jones's **THE PEACH SEED** is a multigenerational novel told through parallel storylines that stretch across centuries: shifting from the 1800's civil rights movement and slave trade from Senegal to South Carolina, to the family's modern-day sons and daughters.

On a routine day, Fletcher Dukes drives his older sister Olga, who is losing her sight, to do weekly grocery shopping at the Piggly Wiggly. On the liquor aisle they pass a tall woman, head bowed reading a wine label. Fletcher smells her perfume first, then sees a strawberry birthmark on the nape of a woman's neck and knows at once that this is his lost love Altovise Benson. Fletcher and Altovise risked their lives together in sit-ins and marches but their plan to marry was interrupted when the police turned a peaceful protest violent. The two were jailed in different towns leading to a separation that would ultimately span 52 years. Before Altovise's departure, Fletcher carved Altovise a peach seed monkey with diamond eyes.

As we learn via harrowing flashbacks to 1800's Senegal, an undiscovered enslaved Dukes ancestor, a Senegalese woodcarver who was sold into slavery, carved the first monkey. The peach seed monkey forms the talismanic tradition, the rite of passage, that each generation of Dukes man gifts to his son on his 13th birthday— along with the tools and knowledge to carve them himself. By giving one to Altovise Fletcher initiates a physical and spiritual break in a tradition that, like the Civil Rights Movement, irrevocably shapes the lives of future generations including Fletcher's daughters, his grandson, Bo-D, and a constellation of Dukes in the present.

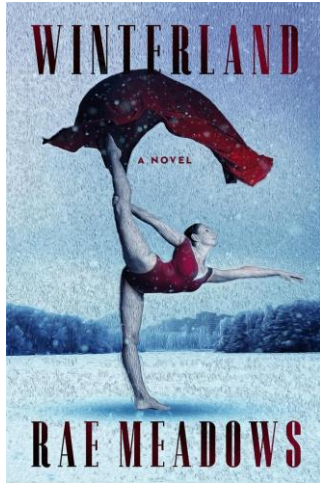
Anita Gail Jones was born and raised in Albany, Georgia. In addition to her work as a storyteller, visual artist, and writer, Anita and her husband are founders of the Gaines-Jones Education Foundation, awarding need-based college scholarships to Black students in southwest Georgia and the San Francisco Bay Area. She contributed to the anthology *Gardening Among Friends: Practical Essays by Master Gardeners*, edited by Barbara J. Euser; published gardening articles for *The Marin Independent Journal*; and articles for *The Women's Eye* online magazine. She is a Hedgebrook Women Writers-in-Residence alumna and a 2018-2019 Affiliate Artist: Headlands Center for the Arts. She was a finalist for the 2021 PEN/Bellwether Prize for Socially Engaged Fiction.

Henry Holt Fiction

Rae Meadows
WINTERLAND
A Novel

Publication: November 2022
Editor: Amy Einhorn

Finished books available



Perfection has a cost...

Reminiscent of Maggie Shipstead's *Astonish Me* and Julia Phillips's *Disappearing Earth*, *Winterland* tells the story of a previous era, shockingly pertinent today, shaped by glory and loss and finding light where none exists.

In the Soviet Union in 1973, there is perhaps no greater honor for a young girl than to be chosen to be part of the famed USSR gymnastics program. So when eight-year-old Anya is tapped, her family is thrilled. What is left of her family, that is. Years ago her mother disappeared. Anya's only confidant is her neighbor, an older woman who survived unspeakable horrors during her ten years in a Gulag camp—and who, unbeknownst to Anya, was also her mother's confidant and might hold the key to her disappearance. As Anya moves up the ranks of competitive gymnastics, and as other girls move down, Anya soon comes to realize that there is very little margin of error for anyone.

Rae Meadows is the author of four previous novels, including *I Will Send Rain*. She is the recipient of the Goldenberg Prize for Fiction, the Hackney Literary Award for the novel, and the Utah Book Award, and her work has been published widely. She grew up admiring the Soviet gymnasts of the 1970s, and in her forties decided to go back to the thing she loved as a child. She now trains regularly in gymnastics. She lives with her family in Brooklyn.

"Meadows' absorbing fifth novel follows a promising young Soviet gymnast as she enters a ruthless sports system that emphasizes winning at all costs... Writing with a confidence based on excellent research, Meadows vividly depicts the Soviet training system—and its abuses... An enlightening portrait of a now-vanished world." —**Kirkus Reviews**

"Both a searingly immersive tale and an important book for our times, *Winterland* is a must-read, for it will remind you that while we may live in a world divided, we are, as individuals, all similarly fragile, hopeful, and ultimately human at our core. Impeccably researched and beautifully written." —**Kristin Harmel, New York Times bestselling author of *The Book of Lost Names* and *The Forest of Vanishing Stars***

"*Winterland* is a story as gripping as it is a powerful rendering of the true cost of perfection. Combining a page turning plot with fully formed characters, Meadows has written a novel that reflects the current moment. I was left breathless." —**Lara Prescott, New York Times bestselling author of *The Secrets We Kept***

"Heart-breaking and thought-provoking, imbued with the beautiful fragility and terror of athletic excellence, this is a story of unfolding friendship and adversity that will linger with readers for long afterwards." —**Yangsze Choo, New York Times bestselling author of *The Night Tiger***

Rights sold: Croatian/Znanje

Henry Holt Fiction

Crystal Smith Paul
DID YOU HEAR ABOUT KITTY KARR?
A Novel

Publication: May 2023

Manuscript available

Editor: Retha Powers

When White American actress Kitty Karr Tate dies and bequeaths her multi-million-dollar estate to the three Black St. John sisters, it prompts questions. Celebrities in their own right, as far as the St. Johns are concerned, public conspiracy theories are better than truth. But discovery that the Hollywood icon was their grandmother, a Black woman who had been passing for White for over sixty years, threatens to expose a web of unexpected family ties, debts owed and debatable crimes that implicate and could, with one pull, unravel the American fabric.

In a narrative that switches between Jim Crow and modern day, we meet five generations of an American family after an act of racial violence splits the family tree between White, Black and something in between. Racial passing becomes the central theme of **DID YOU HEAR ABOUT KITTY KARR?** and explores the consequences of being Black in America and the power that family secrets have to erode and complicate the lives of future generations.

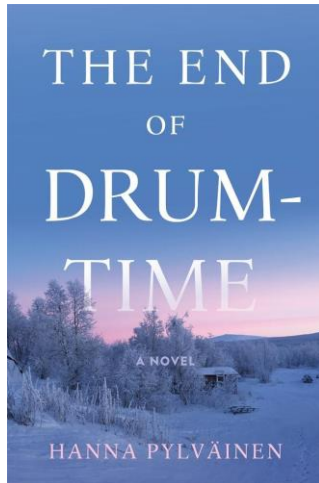
Crystal Smith Paul has led an eclectic career as a writer, editor, and paralegal for the Department of Justice. She attended Spelman College, UCLA's School of Film and Television, and received her Master's in journalism from NYU. Her non-fiction writing has appeared in *Salon*, *Jezebel*, and the *Huffington Post*. She currently works in digital marketing for wellness and beauty brands, while spending her nights and weekends writing creatively and staying on top of pop culture. Her debut novel explores American pop culture, colorism, and the generational trauma of racism in the U.S. The author resides in Los Angeles.

Henry Holt Fiction

Hanna Pylväinen
THE END OF DRUM-TIME
A Novel

Publication: January 2023
Editor: Caroline Zancan

Manuscript available



For readers of Rivka Galchen, Lauren Groff, Maggie Shipstead, and Marilynne Robinson comes a sweeping saga set in the 1850s far north of the Arctic Circle in the land of the Sámi reindeer herders, where the daughter of a renegade Lutheran preacher falls into a scandalous affair with a rebellious young Sámi herder, defying the wishes of her father, whose teachings are upending the Sámis' way of life. Hanna Pylväinen, born into a Lutheran Laestadian family, lived on the tundra within the indigenous Sámi community of reindeer herders while she wrote this novel.

It's 1851 at the edge of the Arctic Circle, and things are changing quickly. The church outpost that Lars Levi, a fervent Lutheran minister, mans, is a rugged, sparsely populated one. The Sámi reindeer herders he's been sent to minister to are skeptical of the Christian values—and strict rules—he preaches, but when Biettar, one of the Sami's most respected herders, has a dramatic awakening on the shortest day of the year, more and more of the Sámi people become ready to let their long-held traditions and beliefs give way to new ones. Meanwhile, Lars Levi's daughter Willa has always been the picture of obedience, until a chance encounter with Biettar's son Ivvár leads to an infatuation that gradually becomes something more.

Gorgeously written and stunning in scope, **THE END OF DRUM-TIME** is both a powerful immersion into a forgotten culture and a celebration of a beautiful, ancient way of life, using characters from all sides of a cultural and religious and political conflict to put a reader who has never heard the words Sámi or Laestadian into its compelling fray. It masterfully weaves together the complex geopolitics and rich tradition of nineteenth century Scandinavia and brings to life a people caught between an old way of life and the new, and asks how what we believe shapes the course of our lives.

Hanna Pylväinen graduated from Mount Holyoke College and received her MFA from the University of Michigan, where she was also a postgraduate Zell Fellow. She is the recipient of the Whiting Award, a MacDowell Colony residency and a fellowship at the Fine Arts Work Center in Provincetown, Massachusetts. She is the author of the book *We Sinners* (2012) and is from suburban Detroit.

"Hanna Pylväinen's novel of cultural collision in the far north is an extraordinary feat of research and imagination by an author who reminds you with every page what fiction can accomplish."

—**Anthony Marra**, *New York Times* bestselling author of *Mercury Pictures Present*

"*The End of Drum-Time* is a novel like no other. It is as much a historical epic as it is an intimate love story—as much a vast cultural record as it is a detailed study of a person's soul. Hanna Pylväinen has written a masterpiece." —**Julia Phillips**, author of the National Book Award finalist *Disappearing Earth*

"One of the most unique voices in American literature, Hanna Pylväinen occupies a space shared by the Scandinavian writers Kerstin Ekman, Tove Jansson, and, beyond that, 19th century masters. A triumph from the first page to the last!" —**Yiyun Li**, author of *Where Reasons End*

Josh Riedel
PLEASE REPORT YOUR BUG HERE
A Novel

Publication: January 2023
Editor: Ruby Rose Lee

Manuscript available



For readers of *Severance* and *Mr. Penumbra's 24-Hour Bookstore*—an adrenaline-packed debut novel about a dating app employee who discovers a glitch that transports him to other worlds.

Once you sign an NDA it's good for life. Meaning legally, I shouldn't tell you this story. But I have to.

A college grad with the six-figure debt to prove it, Ethan Block, views San Francisco as the place to be. Yet his job at the hot new dating app DateDate is a far cry from what he envisioned.

Reeling from a breakup, Ethan decides to find his algorithmically-matched soulmate on DateDate. He overrides the system and clicks on the profile. Then, he disappears. One minute, he's in a windowless office, and the next, he's in a field of grass, gasping for air. When Ethan snaps back to DateDate HQ, he's convinced a coding issue caused the blip. Except for anyone to believe him, he'll need evidence. As Ethan embarks on a wild goose chase, moving from dingy think tanks to Silicon Valley's dominant tech conglomerate, it becomes clear that there's more to DateDate than meets the eye. With the stakes rising, and a new world at risk, Ethan must choose who—and what—he believes in.

Adventurous and hyper timely, **PLEASE REPORT YOUR BUG HERE** is an inventive coming-of-age story, a dark exploration of the corruption now synonymous with Big Tech, and, above all, an unforgettable testament to the power of human connection in our digital era.

Josh Riedel was the first employee at Instagram, where he worked for several years before earning his MFA from the University of Arizona. His short stories have appeared in *One Story*, *Passages North*, and *Sycamore Review*. *Please Report Your Bug Here* is his first novel. He lives in West Marin, California.

"Please Report Your Bug Here is disarming and inspired, unafraid of big questions and deep longings. Josh Riedel writes the topics of early adulthood—the search for meaning chief among them—with humor, heart, and vivid, lived-in precision." —**Rachel Khong, author of *Goodbye, Vitamin***

"A Silicon Valley gumshoe story that's also a meditation on authenticity and connection in a world ever more mediated by technology. In this riveting and surreal debut, Josh Riedel explores the labyrinthine mysteries of Big Tech and of the human heart." —**Helen Phillips, author of *The Need***

*"Like the electric-sheep dream of an Instagram bot, *Please Report Your Bug Here* is a vividly hyperspecific technotopian fantasy, portal-warping the reader to a parallel-universe eerily similar to IRL."* —**Matthew Baker, author of *Why Visit America and Hybrid Creatures***

*"Reading *Please Report Your Bug Here* is an exhilarating and unsettling trip that, upon return, made me more awake to this world around us."* —**Alexandra Chang, author of *Days of Distraction***

Cathleen Schine
KÜNSTLERS IN PARADISE
A Novel

Publication: March 2023
available
Editor: Sarah Crichton

Manuscript



Eleven-year-old Mamie Künstler lived with her family in the fairytale city of Vienna until 1939 when they were forced to flee to a new fairytale, Los Angeles. They joined the large collection of directors, actors, writers and composers who made up Hollywood's exile community. Years later, in 2020, Mamie's grandson, Julian, comes for a visit and is himself exiled in Los Angeles by the Covid 19 lockdown, as Mamie entertains him with stories of her adventures with the émigré elite like Schoenberg, Mann, Brecht and Greta Garbo. **KÜNSTLERS IN PARADISE** is the coming of age story of a pampered, indecisive young man and his eccentric, worldly grandmother both discovering that history does not end. A comedy of generational manners, the novel is an unexpectedly buoyant look at hard times and how we make them our own.

Cathleen Schine is the author of *The Grammarians*, *They May Not Mean To, But They Do*, *The Three Weissmanns of Westport*, 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.

Praise for *The Grammarians*:
Best Books of 2019, *Vanity Fair*, *Kirkus*

"Schine's warmth and wisdom about how families work and don't work are as reliable as her wry humor, and we often get both together...This impossibly endearing and clever novel sets off a depth charge of emotion and meaning." —***Kirkus* (starred review)**

"Schine's sparkling latest [is] both a fizzy exploration of the difficulties of separating from one's closest ally and a quirky meditation on the limits of language for understanding the world." —***Publishers Weekly***

"A delightful new novel...Schine takes her readers on deep philosophical dives but resurfaces with craft and humor; her tone is amused and amusing." —**Susan Dominus, *The New York Times Book Review***

"A singular delight for anyone who has ever marveled at the quirks and beauties and frustrations of English grammar, and a fascinating portrait of the passions and dramas of fierce familial love." —**Sigrid Nunez, National Book Award-winning author of *The Friend***

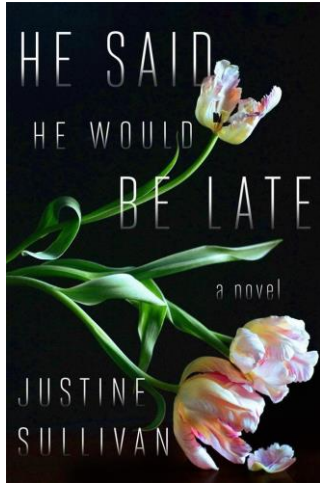
"*The Grammarians*, is a rich study of the factions that attempt to define how language should be used." —**Lauren Leibowitz, *The New Yorker***

Rights sold, *The Grammarians*: Italian/Mondadori

Justine Sullivan
HE SAID HE WOULD BE LATE
A Novel

Publication: March 2023
available
Editor: Shannon Criss

Manuscript



For readers of Greer Hendricks and Sarah Pekkanen, Justine Sullivan's **HE SAID HE WOULD BE LATE** is a twisty psychological debut about marriage, motherhood, and the search for truth at all costs.

Liz Bennet is fortunate with love and she knows it. She's married to a wealthy, handsome, all-around charming man. Arno, a wonderful husband and adoring father to their daughter, Emma, is the outward picture of perfection. But when Liz sees a text on Arno's phone with a couple of kissy faces attached, she starts to worry. And worry. And worry.

As any respectable wife would, Liz must find out exactly what's going on. And so she takes a deep dive down the rabbit hole, peeling back layers of deceit, following every lead on what she increasingly believes is an extramarital affair. Could her husband really be cheating on her? Liz wants the truth, at all costs, but as life teaches us, not everything is as it seems.

Justine Sullivan was born and raised just outside of Baltimore, Maryland. She studied English Literature at the University of Delaware and earned her master's in journalism from Boston University. She has since spent several years working in both newsrooms and the world of branded content. Justine lives outside of Boston with her husband and two terribly behaved dogs. *He Said He Would Be Late* is her debut novel.

“Liz Bennett is frank, funny, struggling to find her feet as a stay-at-home-mom in an idyllic suburb, all while worried that her husband is too good to be true. And we're along with her on a read-in-one-sitting ride that's crazy, heartfelt, and maybe a little heartbreaking as well.” —**Gilly Macmillan, *New York Times***
bestselling author of *The Nanny*

Metropolitan Books Nonfiction



Andrew Bacevich

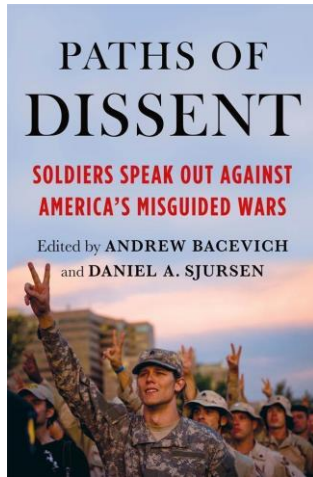
PATHS OF DISSENT

Soldiers Speak Out Against America's Misguided Wars

Publication: August 2022

Finished books available

Editor: Grigory Tovbis



Compiled by *New York Times* bestselling author Andrew Bacevich and retired army officer Daniel A. Sijursen, **PATHS OF DISSENT** collects provocative essays from American military veterans who fought in Iraq and Afghanistan, offering invaluable firsthand perspectives on what made America's post-9/11 wars so costly and disastrous.

Twenty years of America's Global War on Terror produced little tangible success while exacting enormous harm. In Iraq and Afghanistan, the United States sustained tens of thousands of casualties, expended trillions of dollars, and inflicted massive suffering on the very populations that it sought to "liberate." Now the inclination to forget it all and move on is palpable. But there is much to be learned from the immense debacle, and those who served and fought in these wars are best positioned to teach us.

PATHS OF DISSENT showcases fifteen original essays from American veterans of Iraq and Afghanistan, hailing from a wide range of services, ranks, and walks of life—who have come out in opposition to these conflicts. Selected for their candor and eloquence, these soldiers vividly describe both their motivations for serving and their disillusionment.

Andrew Bacevich graduated from West Point and Princeton, served for twenty-three years in the US Army, and is now a professor emeritus of history and international relations at Boston University. He is the president and founder of the Quincy Institute for Responsible Statecraft, a nonpartisan foreign policy think tank. Bacevich is the author or editor of a dozen books, among them *The Limits of Power*, *Washington Rules*, *Age of Illusions*, and most recently, *After the Apocalypse: America's Role in a World Transformed*.

Daniel A. Sijursen is a retired US Army officer, senior fellow at the Center for International Policy, contributing editor at Antiwar.com, and director of the Eisenhower Media Network. His work has appeared in the *New York Times*, *Los Angeles Times*, and *The Nation*, among other publications. He served combat tours in Iraq and Afghanistan and later taught history at West Point. Sijursen is the author of *Ghost Riders of Baghdad* and *Patriotic Dissent: America in the Age of Endless War*.

"This collection of sharp, thoughtful, painfully honest and intellectually probing essays from a wide range of American veterans offers absolutely critical perspectives on what we have done as a nation over the past two decades, and what we as individuals and as citizens need to do in response." —**Phil Klay, author of *Redeployment***

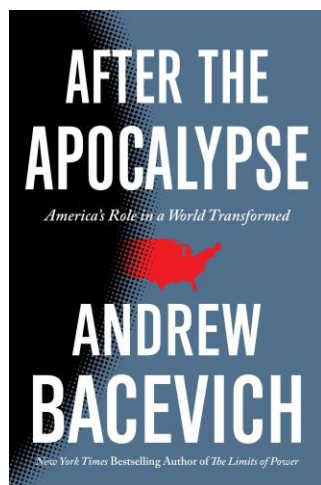
"Andrew Bacevich and Daniel Sijursen have done us all a service by lifting up the voices of those who served—and revealing the principled commitment that drives these veterans to challenge a system urgently in need of reconstruction." —**Katrina vanden Heuvel, publisher of *The Nation***

"Enlightening... Any citizen who wants to better understand our country's current military entrapments will want to read this book." —**BookPage, *starred review***

Andrew Bacevich
AFTER THE APOCALYPSE
America's Role in a World Transformed

Publication: June 2021
Editor: Sara Bershtel

Finished books available



In a bold reconception of America's place in the world, informed by thinking from across the political spectrum, Andrew Bacevich lays down a new approach to U.S. foreign policy—one that is based on moral pragmatism, mutual coexistence, and war as a last resort. Confronting the threats of the future—accelerating climate change, a shift in the international balance of power, and the ascendance of information technology over brute weapons of war—his vision calls for nothing less than a profound overhaul of our understanding of national security.

The nation's foremost critic of American foreign policy, **Andrew Bacevich** is emeritus professor of International Relations at Boston University, and the author of eight books, including three *New York Times* bestsellers: *The Limits of Power*, *Washington Rules*, and *Breach of Trust*. In 2004 Bacevich was a recipient of the Berlin Prize Fellowship at the American Academy and in 2005 he won the prestigious Lannan Prize for *The Limits of Power*, which was also longlisted for the National Book Award.

"Few critics [of the Iraq and Afghanistan Wars] have been more penetrating than Andrew Bacevich...One can only hope that Bacevich is read and understood by a generation young enough to see through and reject those dismal elites." —**The *New York Times Book Review*, *Editors' Choice***

"An excoriating call for change...Bacevich's arguments are well-informed and stoked by a sense of moral outrage. Readers will agree that U.S. foreign policy needs a massive rethink." —***Publishers Weekly***

"With a reputation for knowledgeable, incisive, and provocative readings of history, Bacevich delivers his latest addition to a growing body of thought-provoking work...Broad in its scope yet concise, this is an important nonconformist interpretation of American history." —***Kirkus***

"In a sane country, the estimable Andrew Bacevich would be Secretary of a much-shrunken Defense Department. Deepened by his sense of history, this up-to-the-minute book is his answer to the big question: why is the most powerful nation on earth so ill-prepared to deal with the world it faces?"
—**Adam Hochschild, author of *Spain in Our Hearts***

"A timely, angry, deeply necessary book about the habits of mind that have damaged America, and how to change them." —**Peter Beinart, author of *The Crisis of Zionism***

Rights sold: Chinese (simplified)/China Translation & Publishing

Rights sold, *Age of Illusions*: Romanian/Grup Media Litera

Greg Grandin
AMERICA, AMÉRICA

Publication: April 2024

Manuscript available December 2022

Editor: Sara Bershtel

A sweeping five-century narrative of the New World, **AMERICA, AMÉRICA** for the first time puts the United States and Latin America in dramatic conversation with each other to offer an original history of the western hemisphere and the rise of modernity. Grandin's book is filled with historical actors, some obscure, some well-known, such as Bartolomé de las Casas, Simón Bolívar, Woodrow Wilson, Franklin Delano Roosevelt, and Gabriel García Márquez who confront the dilemmas of their time.

AMERICA, AMÉRICA takes us from the Spanish and English Conquest—the greatest mortality event in human history—through America's eighteenth-centuries' wars for independence, the Monroe Doctrine, to the world wars, coups, and revolutions of the twentieth century. This is a monumental work of scholarship that will fundamentally change the way we think of our world today, of slavery and its opposite, liberation; the birth of racism and its opposite, universal humanism; and fascism and its opposite, social democracy.

Greg Grandin is the author of *The End of the Myth*, which won the Pulitzer Prize, and *Fordlandia*, a finalist for the Pulitzer Prize, the National Book Award, and the National Book Critics Circle Award. His widely acclaimed books also include *The Last Colonial Massacre*, *Kissinger's Shadow*, and *The Empire of Necessity*, which won the Bancroft and Beveridge awards in American history. He is the Peter V. and C. Van Woodward Professor of History at Yale University.

Previous Titles from Greg Grandin:

EMPIRE'S WORKSHOP

Latin America, the United States, and the Making of an Imperial Republic

March 2021 Updated and Expanded Edition; May 2006

Previous licenses: Japanese/Akashi Shoten, Spanish/Editorial Debate

THE END OF THE MYTH

From the Frontier to the Border Wall in the Mind of America

March 2019

2020 PULITZER PRIZE WINNER, GENERAL NONFICTION

LONGLISTED FOR THE 2019 NATIONAL BOOK AWARD, NONFICTION

Rights sold: Chinese (simplified)/Beijing Huaxia Winshare, Korean/Rokmedia

Forthcoming in 2025:

COLUMBUS: The Beginning and the End, A Life

The first biography of Christopher Columbus in 30 years, drawing on its subject's significant body of writing and personal letters, to consider the profound and controversial consequences that his dramatic life affected.

Mara Kardas-Nelson
THE POVERTY TRAP
The Seductive Promise of Microfinance

Publication: October 2024

Proposal available; manuscript available September 2023

Editor: Sara Bershtel

THE POVERTY TRAP is an investigative work that provides a critical look at microfinance, an idea championed by Muhammad Yunus in the 1970s, when Bangladesh was hit by severe floods and famine. Yunus created Grameen Bank, known as the "bank of the poor," in order to give small loans to the local population, mostly to women (the men would just drink the loan away). The idea was that they would use these small loans to start local businesses that would in turn lift them out of poverty.

It became a hugely popular program, one eventually heralded by Obama, Oprah, and Bono. But there was a problem. When journalist Mara Kardas-Nelson decided to research criminalized petty debt in Sierra Leone, she stumbled across women being threatened by the police, and sometimes put in jail, when they couldn't pay off their microfinance debts. This launched her into an investigation of the industry. She learned that big banks had morphed a pro-poor program into a for-profit business over just a few decades. Millions of women across the developing world are now trapped in layers of debt thanks to high interest, quick turnaround loans; some commit suicide, others put their children to work.

Kardas-Nelson interviewed key players, including Muhammad Yunus himself; she also met insiders with growing doubts. How did the world's most famous anti-poverty program come to look more like a predatory payday lending scheme? Why does microfinance continue despite mounds of evidence that it doesn't work? Through a combination of big-picture analysis and close reporting, **THE POVERTY TRAP** will provide a vivid depiction of microfinancing's victims and uncover the truth of the practice.

Mara Kardas-Nelson is an award winning journalist whose work has appeared in *The New York Times*, NPR, *The Nation*, *Al Jazeera*, *The Mail & Guardian*, and many others. She has acted as research assistant for Michael Pollan and Naomi Klein.

Early endorsements:

"I know Mara and her work well and am familiar with the microfinance story. She's a terrific reporter and writer...and has a big story by the tail here. Everyone thinks of microfinance as the work of angels—I certainly did—but when I read her piece about it, I was dumbstruck at what a racket she had exposed." —
Michael Pollan

"I want to strongly endorse Mara Kardas-Nelson's proposal for her book on microfinance. I think this will be a dynamite book. It's all too rare, I find, that a writer has both the ability to bring people and places alive in sparkling prose, and to dig deep into the history and structure of a crucial economic injustice. It's this unusual combination that gives this book such potential."
—Adam Hochschild

Metropolitan Books Nonfiction

Robin D. G. Kelley
BLACK BODIES SWINGING
A Historical Autopsy

Publication: May 2023
Editor: Riva Hocherman

Manuscript available October 2022

By the leading Black historian of the 21st century, **BLACK BODIES SWINGING** is a fierce, distilled history of the pillage and defiance of Black America.

The police killing of George Floyd in May 2020 triggered a wave of protests like no other, first within the U.S. and quickly becoming an international movement, sparking outrage and action across the globe. How did we get here? Conducting a historical autopsy, Robin Kelley approaches the lives and deaths of George Floyd, Ahmaud Arbery, Eric Garner, Breonna Taylor, and so many others as a portal to the racist histories that strangled them and their communities. From the slave patrols and lynch law of the Deep South to segregated housing, the war on drugs, slum clearance, predatory lending, and extraction of wealth, Kelley draws a direct line from the “blood at the root”—the racial terror at the heart of the American social and economic order—to the latest casualties of that terror.

BLACK BODIES SWINGING is also the story of Black resistance, of decades of organizing, political education, and movement building. The millions who came out swinging, who took to the streets in a multiracial, militant, and mobile uprising, were part of a long lineage of combatants. In this riveting and original reckoning, the current demand—not only for justice for Black victims but for vast and visionary social change—is revealed as the newest chapter in the fight to emancipate, democratize, and lay to rest the America we know so that a new world may be born.

Robin D. G. Kelley is the author of the definitive biography *Thelonious Monk*, which received the PEN Open Book Award; *Yo Mama’s Disfunktional: Africa Speaks*; *Freedom Dreams*; and other acclaimed books on African-American history, music, and radical social movements. Kelley’s essays have appeared in *The New York Times*, *The Nation*, *The Boston Review* and many other publications. The recipient of a 2014 Guggenheim Fellowship, Kelley is Distinguished Professor and Gary B. Nash Endowed Chair in U.S. History at the University of California, Los Angeles, where he resides.

Praise for Robin D. G. Kelley:

“Robin Kelley is the preeminent historian of Black popular culture writing today.” —Cornel West

“Robin Kelley produces histories of Black radicalism and visions of the future that defy convention and expectation.” —Angela Davis

“Through this masterful book of Black radical history and philosophy, I can look past the dreariness of our unfree world with the binoculars of the imaginary.” —Ibram X. Kendi, *New York Times* bestselling author of *Stamped From the Beginning*, on *Freedom Dreams*

British: Penguin Press

James Loeffler

THE HATERS AND THE HATED
A History of Modern Antisemitism in Three Riots

Publication: October 2023

Manuscript available December 2022

Editor: Riva Hocherman

When White Supremacists trudged through the University of Virginia in Charlottesville in August 2017, they barked out one phrase again and again: "Jews will not replace us." In reply, the crowd of counter protesters chanted three words that are now familiar to every American: "Black Lives Matter." That mismatched call-and-response reflects a larger puzzle about hatred in contemporary America, about the relationship of race and Jewishness, about whiteness, and about liberalism. Antisemitism is newly resurgent, deeply entwined with racism, yet we somehow lack the words to answer it, let alone understand it.

The topic has generated an endless parade of editorials, scores of new state laws, and even a controversial presidential executive order. Yet most commentators fold anti-Jewish hate into a generic ideology of White Supremacy. Or they revert to clichés about eternal Christian hatred or a foreign ideology imported from elsewhere. In these tellings, the menace always begins somewhere else and antisemitism remains somehow less critical to the American story than racism, less central to the problem of American democracy, less *American*.

Told through the events of three seminal anti-Jewish riots—Chicago in 1946; Skokie, IL in 1977; and Charlottesville in 2017—**THE HATERS AND THE HATED** will supply antisemitism with an *American* history, showing it as a distinct phenomenon, one that looks different from the rest of the world. Without such a history, we remain unable to see how antisemitism fits into the historical struggle for racial justice and religious equality. With it, we might see that the Jewish experience contains lessons about the larger character of American liberalism's majestic, tortured relationship to religious and racial difference, the greatest challenge at the heart of democracy.

James Loeffler is the author of *Rooted Cosmopolitans: Jews and Human Rights in the Twentieth Century*, won the American Historical Association's Rosenberg Prize for Best Book in Jewish History and the Association for Jewish Studies Schnitzer Prize for Best Book in Jewish Studies. His first book, *The Most Musical Nation: Jews and Culture in the Late Russian Empire*, received eight major scholarly awards and literary honors, including from the ASCAP Foundation and the Sami Rohr Prize for Jewish Literature. He has written for *The Atlantic*, *The Washington Post*, *The New York Times*, *Tablet*, *The New Republic*, and *The Wall Street Journal*, and numerous other national and international publications. Loeffler is the Jay Berkowitz Professor of Jewish History and Director of the Jewish Studies Program at the University of Virginia in Charlottesville, where he co-edits the flagship academic journal the *Association for Jewish Studies Review*.

Praise for *Rooted Cosmopolitans*:

"Bracing and nuanced..." —*Wall Street Journal*

"Loeffler marshals remarkable archival research, literary grace, and philosophical insight to recover a forgotten chapter of history (several, actually) and make us think more deeply about political ethics, both Jewish and universal." —*Jewish Review of Books*

Becca Rothfeld
ALL THINGS ARE TOO SMALL

Publication: March 2024
Editor: Riva Hocherman

Proposal available; manuscript available March 2023

The first book by star literary critic Becca Rothfeld, **ALL THINGS ARE TOO SMALL** is a celebration of cultural excess, disproportion, and abandon, as well as a defense of the idea that a healthy society can marry economic and political equality with aesthetic imbalance.

Our current cultural focus on moderation, caution, and ideology masks an unwillingness to enforce equality where it is most needed: in the economic realm. Critic and essayist Becca Rothfeld is unafraid to slay sacred cows—see her wickedly pointed dissection of the cult of Sally Rooney—but her argument is both more subtle and deeper than her hilarious one-liners might imply. Rothfeld argues for a world in which our social and economic security is protected, while our art and lives are free to be operatic, messy, provocative, and willfully unrestrained. **ALL THINGS ARE TOO SMALL** a provocative and delightfully contrarian debut, for readers of Jia Tolentino and Rebecca Solnit.

A finalist for a National Magazine Award, two-time finalist for the National Book Critics Circle Nona Balakian reviewing prize, and winner of the 2021 Robert B. Silvers Prize for Literary Criticism, **Becca Rothfeld** is an essayist, critic, editor, and philosopher. She has written about Paul Celan, Bohumil Hrabal, Sally Rooney, Heinrich von Kleist, Bruno Schulz, Simone Weil, internet stalking, Marie Kondo, serial killers, and more for publications like *The New York Review of Books*, *The TLS*, *The New Yorker*, *The Atlantic*, *The New York Times Book Review*, *Bookforum*, *Art in America*, *The Baffler*, *The Nation*, *The New Republic*, *AGNI*, *Cabinet*, *The Point*, *The Yale Review*, and many others. Her work brings philosophy to bear on both high art and contemporary culture. At Harvard, where she is currently a PhD candidate in philosophy and a fellow at the Edmund J. Safra Center for Ethics, Becca studies the relationship between ethics and aesthetics.

British: Virago

Giovanni Russonello
THE FIRST MINUTE OF A NEW DAY
Gil Scott-Heron's Revolution

Publication: April 2024
Editor: Riva Hocherman

Proposal available; manuscript available April 2023

If you've ever heard the phrase "[The revolution will not be televised](#)" then you've heard the words of Gil Scott-Heron, the legendary jazz musician, poet, activist and author. Sometimes called "The Godfather of Rap" or even the "Black Bob Dylan," neither sobriquet gets at the true legacy of the brilliant, complicated, and infamous artist who touched everything from poetry to music to politics to literature.

THE FIRST MINUTE OF A NEW DAY will be the first definitive biography of Scott-Heron, with a publication in 2024 to coincide with the 75th anniversary of his birth. The book will cover the vast reach of his political, cultural, and musical influence; the turbulent story of Washington, D.C., in the 1970s and its meaning for Black power and society for decades to follow; Scott-Heron's place in Black nationalism; and most of all, the impact of his work, which lives on in just about every cultural medium imaginable.

Gil Scott-Heron is overdue for a restoration to his place in history and recognition for his acute relevance to our times (which is not to discount his existing followers—his work is downloaded by a million monthly listeners on Spotify). The book promises to be both a landmark biography and a formally innovative work of storytelling by one of the very few writers with the expertise to engage with the life of Gil Scott-Heron. With one foot deep in the world of jazz, and the other even deeper in politics, Giovanni Russonello has the rare authority and ability to write what is sure to be a classic, award-winning biography.

Giovanni Russonello is a writer, organizer and educator who is the only person to serve simultaneously as a music critic and political columnist for *The New York Times*. He currently covers jazz and experimental music for the *Times*, while also reaching more than a million subscribers each day as the lead writer of the On Politics newsletter. For the past 11 years he has been the president and co-founder of CapitalBop, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization that promotes, presents and preserves jazz in Washington, D.C., as a means of building community in a city riven by the impact of gentrification. He spent years as a talk-radio host on the local "jazz and justice" radio station, WPFW 89.3 FM. He teaches writing part-time at New York University's School of Professional Studies, and is a 2021 fellow in the Logan Nonfiction Program.

British: Faber & Faber

Tim Schwab

THE BILL GATES PROBLEM

Reckoning with the Myth of the Good Billionaire

Publication: September 2023

Proposal available; manuscript available October 2022

Editor: Grigory Tovbis

In a remarkable feat, Bill Gates—once a reviled tech villain when he ran Microsoft two decades ago—has managed to transform himself into one of the most admired people on the planet, hailed as a generous philanthropist giving away his money for the public good. And while his divorce from Melinda French Gates has dimmed his luster in the public eye, the beneficence of the Gates Foundation, celebrated for spending billions to save lives around the globe, is still largely taken for granted. But this simplistic portrayal ignores the enormous political influence that Gates has acquired through his charity. The foundation does not simply distribute money. Whether it's pushing for patents on COVID vaccines, spreading industrialized Western agricultural practices throughout Africa, or establishing charter schools against voters' wishes in the United States, it sets a policy agenda for how to fix the world—based on Gates's dogmatic beliefs in the primacy of markets, technology, and the private sector—then imposes this vision on the rest of us.

Putting a long-overdue critical lens on Gates, **THE BILL GATES PROBLEM** shows what happens when power comes without transparency or accountability. Tim Schwab's reporting reveals billions of dollars in dark money at the foundation, a welter of conflicts of interest related to Big Pharma, and a constellation of controversial figures connected with the charity, including convicted sex offender Jeffrey Epstein. Virtually everyone who has worked closely with the Gates Foundation describes it in candid moments the same way that critics used to describe Microsoft: as a bully. But Gates donates so much money to newsrooms, think tanks, and universities that whistleblowers run into a "Bill Chill"—a reluctance to criticize Gates out loud for fear of losing his patronage.

Fearless and illuminating, **THE BILL GATES PROBLEM** reveals Gates as we've never seen him before, a far more complex character than the avuncular do-gooder of countless flattering profiles. And it examines the bigger issue of how billionaire philanthropy has increasingly ingratiated itself into democratic politics, transforming wealth into political might. As Gates normalizes charity as a vehicle of political power, he creates a dangerous precedent for a new generation of billionaires to come.

Tim Schwab has written several feature articles on Bill Gates for *The Nation*, the *Columbia Journalism Review*, and *The British Medical Journal*. Representing some of the only investigative journalism ever published on Gates, his reporting won the Izzy Prize (named for the maverick journalist I. F. Stone) and the Deadline Club Award.

British: Penguin Business

Rights sold: Bulgarian/Knigomania, **Chinese (complex)**/Heliopolis Culture Group, **Chinese (simplified)**/China Translation & Publishing, **Dutch**/Atlas Contact, **German**/Fischer, **Polish**/Insignis, **Russian**/Bombora/Exmo, **Vietnamese**/TUE TRI

Nathan Thrall
A DAY IN THE LIFE OF ABED SALAMA

Publication: September 2023
Editor: Riva Hocherman

Proposal available; manuscript available October 2022

In March 2021, the *New York Review of Books* published Nathan Thrall's 20,000-word essay, "[A Day in the Life of Abed Salama](#)." A devastating, indelible account of a deadly traffic accident outside Jerusalem, the story served to peel back the history and tragedy of one of the most contested places on earth. After the essay ran, this happened:

"I pray that Thrall's article will remind President Joe Biden of the courageous stance he took against apartheid in South Africa as a senator." —Bishop Desmond Tutu

"Beautifully written, even as it shares a devastating truth." —Michelle Alexander

"One of the best pieces I have read on Palestine." —J.M Coetzee

These are just a fraction of the responses. Then, as war erupted in Israel and Palestine, the piece gave readers across the world an essential key to understanding the deeper story behind the headlines. The article was circulated in Congress; Thrall did back-to-back media appearances; and the piece became one of the most downloaded in the NYRB's history.

The story that the book tells—of the collision of a Palestinian school bus with a tractor trailer owned by an Israeli settler, on its way to gather stones in a West Bank quarry—revolves around a singular, heartbreaking event. But it is a story that brings together, over the course of a windy morning, a cast of characters whose interwoven lives make up an intricate tapestry of the modern history of the Holy Land.

Expanding the story of Abed Salama to recount a sweeping family and national history, this will be Nathan Thrall's first original book, an epic account told through a single narrative, and it is sure to become *the* touchstone for the subject, the work that no one will be able to ignore.

Nathan Thrall is a writer and leading analyst of the Arab-Israeli conflict. A former staff member of *The New York Review of Books*, he joined the International Crisis Group in 2010 as senior analyst covering Israel, the West Bank, and Gaza. He is a regular contributor to *The New York Review of Books*, *The London Review of Books*, and *The New York Times*, and his analysis is often featured in print and broadcast media, including *The New York Times*, *The Wall Street Journal*, *The Washington Post*, *The Economist*, *The Financial Times*, *Time*, the BBC, Democracy Now!, NPR, and CNN. He lives in Jerusalem with his wife and daughters.

British: Allen Lane

Rights sold: French/Gallimard

Backlist Highlights



HOLT



Monica Black

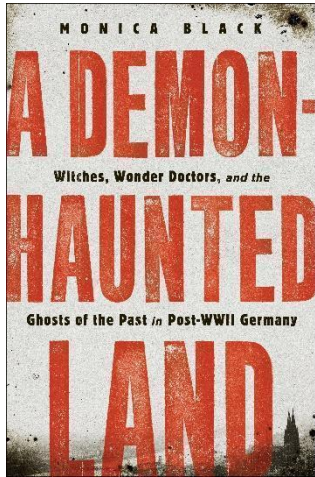
A DEMON-HAUNTED LAND

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

Publication: November 2020

Metropolitan Books Nonfiction

Editor: Sara Bershtel



A DEMON-HAUNTED LAND offers a completely fresh interpretation of Germany in the aftermath of World War II. While most histories of the period emphasize Germany's rapid transition from genocidal dictatorship to liberal democracy, **A DEMON-HAUNTED LAND** shows it as a nation convulsed by apocalyptic visions, witchcraft trials, and supernatural obsessions.

At the book's center is the story of Bruno Gröning, a faith healer who rose to rock-star prominence after his miraculous "curing" of a crippled boy in 1949. Helped by his manager, a former member of Goebbels' Propaganda Ministry, Gröning attracted tens of thousands of devotees, before eventually being brought to trial for homicide. Amidst widespread fears of impending apocalypse, millions of others sought help from holy men, exorcists, witchdoctors, and apparitions of the Virgin Mary.

Acclaimed historian Monica Black argues that this surge of supernatural obsessions stemmed from the unspoken guilt and shame of a nation remarkably silent about what was euphemistically called "the most recent past." This shadow history irrevocably changes our view of postwar Germany, revealing the country's fraught emotional life, deep moral disquiet, and the cost of trying to bury a horrific legacy.

Dr. Monica Black is an associate professor of European History at the University of Tennessee, Knoxville. Her first book, *Death in Berlin: From Weimar to Divided Germany* (Cambridge, 2010), won both the Hans Rosenberg Prize and the Fraenkel Prize in Contemporary History. Grants from the American Council of Learned Societies and the American Academy in Berlin (where Professor Black was a John P. Birkelund Fellow in 2014) supported her research for **A DEMON-HAUNTED LAND** in more than a dozen local and national German archives.

"Evocative...epic...Chock-full of colorful anecdotes and charismatic figures, *A Demon-Haunted Land* not only offers a brilliant rethinking of postwar German history, but also asks us to see the irrational as an integral part of modernity."—*Boston Review*

"Convincing...Black effectively and evocatively contrasts the story that this new democracy was telling about itself, a narrative of rebuilding and recovery, with what lay below its increasingly shiny surface."
—*The New Criterion*

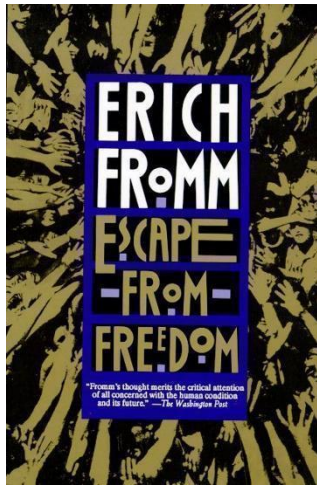
"Timely and urgent...Black draws on a rich base of sources [and] is adept at reading historical silences, precisely what is being elided or glossed over in traditional archives...In beautiful prose, Black crafts a vivid portrait of a ruined Germany grappling for some sort of redemption." —*George L. Mosse Program in History*

Rights sold: Chinese (complex)/Acropolis, Dutch/Hollands Diep, German/Klett-Cotta, Polish/Proszynski, Portuguese/Darkside Books, Russian/Alpina

Erich Fromm
ESCAPE FROM FREEDOM

Publication: 1941

Henry Holt Nonfiction



Masha Gessen wrote in the *New York Review of Books*, “I’ve been surprised, in the last year, that the resurgence of interest in some of the classic books on totalitarianism has not brought back Erich Fromm’s wonderful **ESCAPE FROM FREEDOM**... In the book, Fromm proposes that there are two kinds of freedom: ‘freedom from,’ which we all want—we all want our parents to stop telling us what to do—and ‘freedom to,’ which can be difficult or even unbearable. This is the freedom to invent one’s future, the freedom to choose. Fromm suggests that at certain times in human history the burden of ‘freedom to’ becomes too painful for a critical mass of people to bear, and they take the opportunity to cede their agency—whether it’s to Martin Luther, Adolf Hitler, or Donald Trump.”

If humanity cannot live with the dangers and responsibilities inherent in freedom, it will probably turn to authoritarianism. This is the central idea of **ESCAPE FROM FREEDOM**, a landmark work by one of the most distinguished thinkers of our time, and a book that is as timely now as when first published in 1941. Few books have thrown such light upon the forces that shape modern society or penetrated so deeply into the causes of authoritarian systems. If the rise of democracy set some people free, it simultaneously gave birth to a society in which the individual feels alienated and dehumanized. Using the insights of psychoanalysis as probing agents, Fromm’s work analyzes the illness of contemporary civilization as witnessed by its willingness to submit to totalitarian rule.

Erich Fromm was a German-born U.S. psychoanalyst and social philosopher who explored the interaction between psychology and society. He died in 1980.

“An analysis par excellence of our cultural neurosis.” —*The Nation*

“Fromm’s thought merits the critical attention of all concerned with the human condition and its future.”
—*The Washington Post*

“An important and challenging work.” —*The New York Herald Tribune*

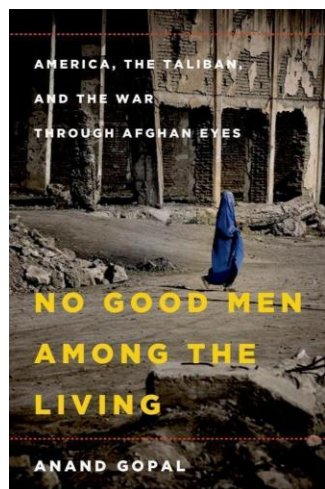
Rights sold: Albanian/Fan Noli, Arabic/Dar al Hiwar, Bulgarian/Ciela, Chinese (complex)/Ecus, Chinese (simplified)/Shanghai 99 Readers Culture Co., Czech/Portal, Dutch/Erven J. Bijleveld, French/Éditions des Belles Lettres, Georgian/Intelekti, German/DTV, Greek/Dioptra, Italian/Mondadori, Japanese/Tokyo Sogen-sha, Korean/Archive, Polish/vis-a-vis/Etiuda, Romanian/Editura Trei, Russian/AST, Serbian/Nova Knjiga, Slovenian/UMco, Swedish/Lindelöws, Turkish/SAY, Ukrainian/Family Leisure Club, Vietnamese/Vietnam Omega

Rights sold, *Anatomy Of Human Destructiveness*: British/Random House, Bulgarian/Zahary Stoyanov, Chinese (complex)/Ecus, Chinese (simplified)/Beijing World, Czech/Portal, Dutch/Erven J. Bijleveld, German/Rowohlt, Japanese/Kinokuniya, Polish/Dom Wydawniczy Rebis, Serbian/Nova Knjiga, Slovak/Citadella, Turkish/ Say

Anand Gopal
NO GOOD MEN AMONG THE LIVING
America, the Taliban, and the War through Afghan Eyes

Publication: April 2014
Editor: Grigory Tovbis

Metropolitan Books Nonfiction



Anand Gopal's **NO GOOD MEN AMONG THE LIVING** stunningly lays bare the workings of America's longest war and the truth behind its prolonged agony.

In a breathtaking chronicle, acclaimed journalist Anand Gopal traces the lives of three Afghans caught in America's war on terror. He follows a Taliban commander, who rises from scrawny teenager to leading insurgent; a U.S.-backed warlord, who uses the American military to gain wealth and power; and a village housewife trapped between the two sides, who discovers the devastating cost of neutrality. Through their dramatic stories emerges a stunning tale of how the United States had triumph in sight in Afghanistan—and then brought the Taliban back from the dead, as underscored by the aftermath of the recent withdrawal of American armed forces from the region. In the midst of the tumult, Gopal continues to be one of the leading voices reporting on the conflict. His September 2021 piece in *The New Yorker*, "[The Other Afghan Women](#)," received an outpouring of praise and was a finalist for the Pulitzer Prize.

Anand Gopal is a freelance journalist covering Afghanistan, Egypt, Syria, and other international hotspots. He has served as an Afghanistan correspondent for *The Wall Street Journal* and *The Christian Science Monitor*, and his writing has appeared in *The New York Times Magazine*, *The Nation*, *The New Republic*, *Harper's*, and *Foreign Policy*, among other publications. He has won a National Magazine Award, a George Polk Award, and three Overseas Press Club awards for his reporting on the Middle East.

PULITZER PRIZE FINALIST
NATIONAL BOOK AWARD FINALIST
WINNER OF THE RIDENHOUR PRIZE

"Essential reading for anyone concerned about how America got Afghanistan so wrong...It is ultimately the most compelling account I've read of how Afghans themselves see the war." —*The New York Times Book Review*

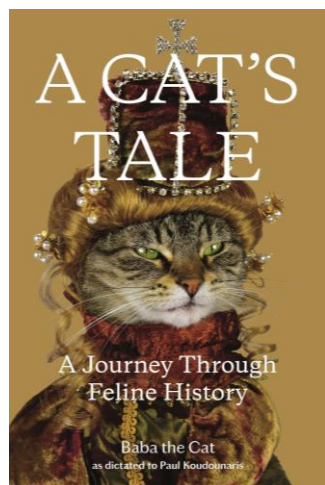
"Astonishing stories...Such investigative reporting is very rare in Afghanistan, where foreign journalists have been targets since 2001...He won the trust of insurgent leaders. But his real genius lies in binding all these sources together and combining them with thousands of hours of interviews...All this allows him to bring life to figures who have hitherto been caricatures." —*The New York Review of Books*

"If you read one book on Afghanistan today, make it this one..." —Jon Lee Anderson, author of *The Fall of Baghdad* and *The Lion's Grave*

Paul Koudounaris
A CAT'S TALE
A Journey Through Feline History

Publication: November 2020
Editor: Ruby Rose Lee

Henry Holt Nonfiction



The first comprehensive history of felines—from the laps of pagan gods to present-day status as meme stars—as revealed by a very learned tabby with a knack for hunting down facts.

Since the dawn of civilization, felines have prowled alongside mankind as they expanded their territory and spread the myth of human greatness. And today, cats are peddled on social media as silly creatures here to amuse humans with their antics. But this is an absurd, self-centered fantasy. The true history of felines is one of heroism, love, tragedy, sacrifice, and gravitas. Not entirely convinced? Well, get ready, because Baba the Cat is here to set the record straight.

Spanning almost every continent and thousands—yes, thousands—of years, Baba's complex story of feline survival presents readers with a diverse cast of cats long forgotten: from her prehistoric feline ancestors and the ancient Egyptian cat goddess Bastet to the daring mariners at the height of oceanic discovery, key intellectuals in the Enlightenment period, revered heroes from World Wars I and II, and the infamous American tabbies. Baba, a talented model in addition to a scholar, goes beyond surface-level scratches, pairing her freshly unearthed research with a series of stunning costume portraits to bring history to life.

Dr. Paul Koudounaris is one of the world's most popular historians of the eccentric, ephemeral, and macabre, with a PhD in Art History from UCLA, an international speaking career, and 71,000 followers of his and Baba's joint Instagram account. *Vice*, *LA Weekly*, *Brooklyn Daily*, and *The Las Vegas Review Journal* have all covered Dr. Koudounaris's cat-related scholarship and photography. His work has been featured in *Buzzfeed*, the BBC, *The Guardian*, *Smithsonian Magazine*, and *The New York Times Magazine*. His previous books are *Heavenly Bodies*, *The Empire of Death*, and *Memento Mori*. He is a member of the Order of the Good Death.

"*A Cat's Tale* is an exquisitely crafted love letter to all things feline. And it is precisely the kind of delightful distraction that the world so desperately needs." —**Lindsey Fitzharris**, bestselling author of *The Butchering Art* and PEN/E.O. Wilson Literary Science Writing Award Winner

"Fun, fanciful, and even informative." —**People**

"[A] charming, funny, and informative history of cats...full of fascinating historical anecdotes [and] hilarious color photos...Even cat aficionados will learn something new—and have fun doing it." —**Publishers Weekly**

"Almost certainly the most unique cat history book ever published." —**Smithsonian Magazine**

Rights sold: Chinese (simplified)/Golden Rose Books, German/Benevento, Polish/Znak, Thai/Amarin

Bill McKibben

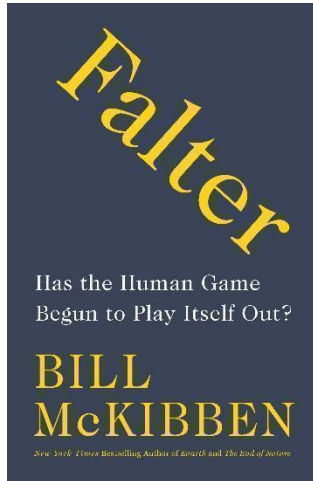
FALTER

Has the Human Game Begun to Play Itself Out?

Publication: April 2019

Henry Holt Nonfiction

Editor: Sarah Crichton



Thirty years ago Bill McKibben offered one of the earliest warnings about climate change with his groundbreaking book *The End of Nature*. Now he broadens the warning: the entire human game, he suggests, has begun to play itself out. Even as climate change shrinks the space where our civilization can exist, new technologies like artificial intelligence and robotics threaten to bleach away the variety of human experience. **FALTER** tells the story of these converging trends and of the ideological fervor that keeps us from bringing them under control. And then, drawing on McKibben's experience in building 350.org, the first truly global citizens movement to combat climate change, it offers some possible ways out of the trap. **FALTER** is a powerful and sobering call to arms, to save not only our planet but also our humanity.

Bill McKibben is the founder of the environmental organization 350.org and was among the first to have warned of the dangers of global warming. *Foreign Policy* named him one of the 100 most important global thinkers. He is the author of fifteen books, including the bestsellers *The End of Nature*, *Eaarth*, and *Deep Economy*. He is the Schumann Distinguished Scholar in Environmental Studies at Middlebury College and the winner of the Gandhi Prize, the Thomas Merton Prize, and the Right Livelihood Prize. He lives in Vermont.

A New York Times Bestseller

"[McKibben] has gathered the most vivid statistics, distilled history to its juiciest turns, and made the case as urgently and clearly as can be: The whole breadth of our existence—the 'human game'—is in jeopardy."

—*The Washington Post*

"McKibben, a veteran environmental writer, is never hectoring or hyperbolic; here, he turns the possibility of human extinction (from climate change, artificial intelligence, etc.) into an absorbing analysis with a glimmer of hope." —*The New York Times Book Review*, ***Editors' Choice***

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Rights sold, *Deep Economy*: **British**/One World, **Chinese (complex)**/Ecus Publishing House, **Chinese (simplified)**/Thinkingdom, **Japanese**/Eiji Press

Alec Ross
THE RAGING 2020s
Companies, Countries, People—and the Fight for Our Future

Publication: September 2021
Editor: Serena Jones

Henry Holt Nonfiction



The world needs a book that explains the current car crash at the intersection of business, government, and everyday people. This is that book.

For 150 years, there has been a contract. Companies hold the power to shape our daily lives. The state holds the power to make them fall in line. And the people hold the power to choose their leaders. But now, this balance has shaken loose. Private companies have started behaving like nations, and with the government bogged down in bureaucratic negotiations and partisan wars, people look to nimble, powerful firms to solve societal problems—and to be our moral standard-bearers.

Through interviews with the world's most influential thinkers and stories of corporate activism and malfeasance, government failure and renewal, and innovative economic and political models, Ross proposes a new social contract—one that resets the equilibrium between corporations, the governing, and the governed.

Alec Ross is one of the world's leading experts on innovation. He is the author of *The Industries of the Future*, a *New York Times* bestseller that was sold for translation into 24 languages. Ross is currently a Distinguished Visiting Professor at The University of Bologna Business School and a Board Partner at Amplo, a global venture capital firm. He was a Distinguished Senior Fellow at Johns Hopkins University and a Senior Fellow at the Columbia University School of International & Public Affairs. During the Obama Administration, he served as Senior Advisor for Innovation to the Secretary of State. He also served as the Convener for the Technology & Media Policy Committee on Obama's 2008 presidential campaign and on the Obama-Biden Presidential Transition Team.

A Bloomberg Businessweek Best Book of 2021
150 Most Anticipated Fall Books, *Kirkus*

"Ross's view...is from above, not the view of the people nor even the politicians...an immensely (and unusually) readable account." —***The New York Times Book Review***

"A must-read for anyone looking to understand the present moment." —***Publishers Weekly***

"Alec Ross' . . . book will challenge you to rethink some of your assumptions about democracy, capitalism, and globalization." —**Adam Grant, author of *Think Again***

British: Transworld

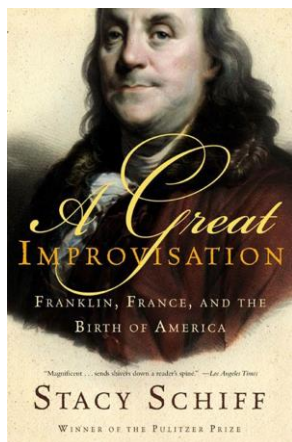
Rights sold: Chinese (complex)/Commonwealth, Greek/Ikaros, Italian/Feltrinelli, Japanese/Hayakawa, Romanian/Corint, Russian/AST

Stacy Schiff
A GREAT IMPROVISATION
Franklin, France, and the Birth of America

****Apple TV+ series starring Michael Douglas as Benjamin Franklin forthcoming in Fall 2023****

Publication: April 2005

Henry Holt Nonfiction



In this dazzling work of history, a Pulitzer Prize-winning author follows Benjamin Franklin to France for the crowning achievement of his career.

“In December of 1776 a small boat delivered an old man to France.” So begins an enthralling narrative account of how Benjamin Franklin—seventy years old, without any diplomatic training, and possessed of the most rudimentary French—convinced France, an absolute monarchy, to underwrite America's experiment in democracy. By virtue of fame, charisma, and ingenuity, Franklin outmaneuvered British spies, French informers, and hostile colleagues; engineered the Franco-American alliance of 1778; and helped to negotiate the peace of 1783. The eight-year French mission stands not only as Franklin's most vital service to his country but as the most revealing of the man.

In **A GREAT IMPROVISATION**, Stacy Schiff draws from new and little-known sources to illuminate the least-explored part of Franklin's life, and an unfamiliar, unforgettable chapter of the Revolution. From these pages emerge a particularly human and yet fiercely determined Founding Father, as well as a profound sense of how fragile, improvisational, and international was the United State's bid for independence.

Stacy Schiff is the author of *Vera* (Mrs. Vladimir Nabokov), which won the Pulitzer Prize for biography in 2000, and *Saint-Exupéry*, which was a finalist for the 1995 Pulitzer Prize. Schiff's work has appeared in *The New Yorker*, *The New York Times Book Review*, *The Washington Post*, and *The Times Literary Supplement*. She has received fellowships from the Guggenheim Foundation, the National Endowment for the Humanities, and the Center for Scholars and Writers at the New York Public Library. She lives in New York City.

“In sparkling prose, burnished to a high gloss, Stacy Schiff tells the tale of Benjamin Franklin in Paris with piquant humor, outrageous anecdotes worthy of the finest French farce, and a wealth of lapidary observations...C'est magnifique!” —**Ron Chernow, author of *Alexander Hamilton***

“This is a book to savor...Schiff...[is] one of the most gifted storytellers writing today.” —**Joseph J. Ellis, author of *Founding Brothers and His Excellency: George Washington***

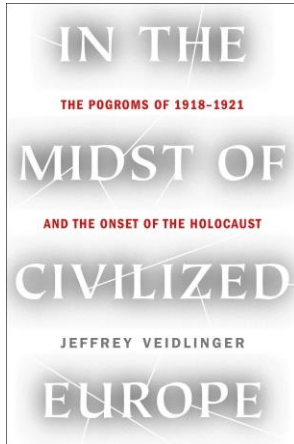
“Schiff's extensive scholarship, her eye for the colorful detail, and her lively wit combine to bring alive...the cast of statesmen, adventurers, spies, courtiers, patriots and con men who have a part in the story of Benjamin Franklin's negotiations for American independence...An extraordinary book.” —**Edmund S. Morgan, author of *Benjamin Franklin***

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Jeffrey Veidlinger
IN THE MIDST OF CIVILIZED EUROPE
The Pogroms of 1918–1921 and the Onset of the Holocaust

Publication: October 2021
Editor: Sara Bershtel

Metropolitan Books Nonfiction



IN THE MIDST OF CIVILIZED EUROPE is the first full depiction of the wave of anti-Jewish pogroms that followed the Russian Revolution and laid the groundwork for the Holocaust. Between 1918 and 1921, more than a hundred thousand Jews were murdered in Ukraine and Poland by peasants, townsmen, and soldiers who blamed the Jews for the turmoil of World War I and the Russian Revolution. Largely forgotten today, these pogroms—ethnic riots—led aid workers to warn that six million Jews were in danger of complete extermination. Twenty years later, these dire predictions would come true.

Jeffrey Veidlinger's groundbreaking work draws on thousands of newly discovered witness testimonies, trial records, and official orders to show for the first time how this wave of genocidal violence created the conditions for the Holocaust. Through stories of survivors, perpetrators, aid workers, and governmental officials, he explains how so many different groups of people came to the same conclusion: that killing Jews was an acceptable response to their various problems. In riveting prose, **IN THE MIDST OF CIVILIZED EUROPE** asks not only why Germans, Poles and Ukrainians killed Jews, but also why one group—any group—would suddenly seek to physically exterminate another.

Jeffrey Veidlinger is the Director of the Frankel Center for Judaic Studies at the University of Michigan, where he also serves as the Joseph Brodsky Collegiate Professor of History and Judaic Studies. His books, which include *The Moscow State Yiddish Theater* and *In the Shadow of the Shtetl*, have won a National Jewish Book Award, the Barnard Hewitt Award for Theater Scholarship, two Canadian Jewish Book Awards, and the J. I. Segal Award. Widely recognized as a leading scholar of the Holocaust, Veidlinger serves as the Vice President of the Association for Jewish Studies and the Associate Chair of the Academic Advisory Committee to the Center for Jewish History and the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum.

2022 LIONEL GELBER PRIZE FINALIST
2021 NATION-AL JEW-ISH BOOK AWARD FINALIST

"Veidlinger's book ranks alongside Timothy Snyder's *Bloodlands* in forcing our eyes eastwards." —**Patrick Bishop, *The Telegraph***

"Revelatory... This is a vital addition to understanding how the Holocaust happened." —***Publishers Weekly***

"Exhaustive, clearly written, deeply researched." —***The Times (UK)***

"No history of that Jewish catastrophe comes close to the virtuosity of research, clarity of prose, and power of analysis of this extraordinary book.." —**Timothy Snyder, author of *Bloodlands***

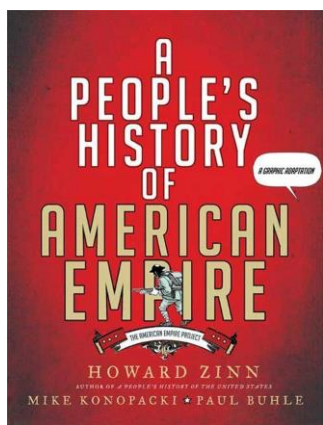
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Howard Zinn; Paul Buhle; Mike Konopacki
A PEOPLE'S HISTORY OF AMERICAN EMPIRE
The American Empire Project, A Graphic Adaptation

Publication: April 2008
Editor: Riva Hocherman

Metropolitan Books Nonfiction



Adapted from the bestselling grassroots history of the United States, the story of America in the world, told in comics form.

Since its landmark publication in 1980, *A People's History of the United States* has had six new editions, sold more than 1.7 million copies, become required classroom reading throughout the country, and been turned into an acclaimed play. More than a successful book, *A People's History* triggered a revolution in the way history is told, displacing the official versions with their emphasis on great men in high places to chronicle events as they were lived, from the bottom up.

Now Howard Zinn, historian Paul Buhle, and cartoonist Mike Konopacki have collaborated to retell, in vibrant comics form, a most immediate and relevant chapter of *A People's History*: the centuries-long story of America's actions in the world. Narrated by Zinn, this version opens with the events of 9/11 and then jumps back to explore the cycles of U.S. expansionism from Wounded Knee to Iraq, stopping along the way at World War I, Central America, Vietnam, and the Iranian revolution. The book also follows the story of Zinn, the son of poor Jewish immigrants, from his childhood in the Brooklyn slums to his role as one of America's leading historians.

Shifting from world-shattering events to one family's small revolutions, **A PEOPLE'S HISTORY OF AMERICAN EMPIRE** presents the classic ground-level history of America in a dazzling new form.

Howard Zinn, author of numerous acclaimed histories, taught history at Spelman College and Boston University, and received the Lannan Literary Award, among many others. *A People's History of the United States* was a finalist for the 1981 National Book Award. Born in 1922, Zinn died in 2010.

Mike Konopacki has collaborated on five collections of cartoons, and his work is regularly syndicated. He lives in Madison, Wisconsin.

Paul Buhle is a senior lecturer in history at Brown University and the editor of the *Encyclopedia of the American Left*, among other books. He lives in Providence, Rhode Island.

"At the heart of this wide-ranging comics indictment of American Empire are the terrific human stories of those who have resisted—including wonderful autobiographical episodes from author Howard Zinn's own courageous and inspiring life." —**Joe Sacco**, author of *Paying the Land*

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