



**Henry Holt and Company
Metropolitan Books**

International Rights Guide

LONDON BOOK FAIR 2023

Devon Mazzone
Vice President, Subsidiary Rights
Devon.Mazzone@fsgbooks.com

Flora Esterly
Manager, Subsidiary Rights
Flora.Esterly@fsgbooks.com

Pauline Post
Senior Manager, Subsidiary Rights
Pauline.Post@fsgbooks.com

CONTENTS

Henry Holt Nonfiction	4
Darrin Bell THE TALK	5
Karen Chee DESPITE MY BEST EFFORTS	6
Andy Cohen THE DADDY DIARIES	7
Chelsea Conaboy MOTHER BRAIN	8
Cin Fabré WOLF HUSTLE	9
J.C. Hallman SAY ANARCHA	10
Anne Hull THROUGH THE GROVES	11
Joél Leon WHAT KIND OF BLACK ARE YOU?	12
Dan Lyons STFU	13
Tracie McMillan THE WHITE BONUS	14
Rina Raphael THE GOSPEL OF WELLNESS	15
Laurent Richard and Sandrine Rigaud PEGASUS	16
Lauren Sherman and Chantal Fernandez SELLING SEXY	17
Denver Riggelman with Hunter Walker THE BREACH	18
Ronnie Spector with Vince Waldron BE MY BABY	19
John Stamos IF YOU WOULD HAVE TOLD ME	20
John Wood Sweet THE SEWING GIRL'S TALE	21
Rachel Jamison Webster BENJAMIN BANNEKER AND US	22
Shoshana Zuboff OUR ACCIDENTAL DYSTOPIA	23
Henry Holt Fiction	24
Bob the Drag Queen HARRIET TUBMAN: LIVE IN CONCERT	25
Ali Bryan THE CROW VALLEY KARAOKE CHAMPIONSHIPS	26
Yangsze Choo THE FOX WIFE	27
Jenny Fran Davis DYKETTE	28
Alison Espach NOTES ON YOUR SUDDEN DISAPPEARANCE	29
Laurie Frankel FAMILY FAMILY	30
Anita Gail Jones THE PEACH SEED	31
Stephen McCauley YOU ONLY CALL WHEN YOU'RE IN TROUBLE	32
Rae Meadows WINTERLAND	33
Kirsten Menger-Anderson THE EXPERT OF SUBTLE REVISIONS	34
Crystal Smith Paul DID YOU HEAR ABOUT KITTY KARR?	35
Hanna Pylväinen THE END OF DRUM-TIME	36
Josh Riedel PLEASE REPORT YOUR BUG HERE	37
Cathleen Schine KÜNSTLERS IN PARADISE	38
Justine Sullivan HE SAID HE WOULD BE LATE	39
Metropolitan Books Nonfiction	40
Andrew Bacevich PATHS OF DISSENT	41
Mara Kardas-Nelson THE POVERTY TRAP	42
Becca Rothfeld ALL THINGS ARE TOO SMALL	43

Giovanni Russonello THE FIRST MINUTE OF A NEW DAY	44
Tim Schwab THE BILL GATES PROBLEM	45
Nathan Thrall A DAY IN THE LIFE OF ABED SALAMA	46
Backlist Highlights	47
Erich Fromm ESCAPE FROM FREEDOM	48
Paul Koudounaris A CAT'S TALE	49
Bill McKibben THE FLAG, THE CROSS, AND THE STATION WAGON	50
Howard Zinn A PEOPLE'S HISTORY OF AMERICAN EMPIRE	553
FOREIGN AGENTS REPRESENTING HENRY HOLT AND COMPANY	53

Henry Holt Nonfiction



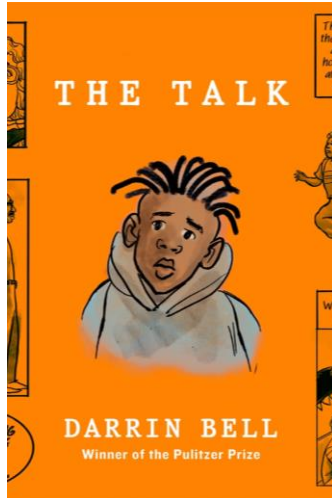
HOLT

Darrin Bell
THE TALK

Publication: June 2023

Editor: Retha Powers

Manuscript available



Darrin Bell was six years old when his mother told him he couldn't have a realistic water gun. She said she feared for his safety, that police tend to think of little Black boys as older and less innocent than they really are.

Through evocative illustrations and sharp humor, Bell examines how *The Talk* shaped intimate and public moments from childhood to adulthood. While coming of age in Los Angeles—and finding a voice through cartooning—Bell becomes painfully aware of being regarded as dangerous by white teachers, neighbors, and police officers and thus of his mortality. Drawing attention to the brutal murders of African Americans and showcasing revealing insights and cartoons along the way, he brings us up to the moment of reckoning when people took to the streets protesting the murders of George Floyd and Breonna Taylor. And now Bell must decide whether he and his own six-year-old son are ready to have *The Talk*.

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*, *The 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.

"A moving portrait...funny and touching, intellectually and emotionally stimulating. There's pride and prejudice, family drama, and a love story. I loved this book. You will too." —**Victor LaValle**, author of *The Changeling*

"Propulsive reading, drawn with urgency and verve. Once you pick up *The Talk*, you won't be able to put it down." —**Alison Bechdel**, author of *Fun Home* and *The Secret to Superhuman Strength*

"Darrin Bell's first foray into graphic novels is a triumph. A cinematically comic, coming-of-age blend of race, culture, and gratuitous nerdity. Wonderful." —**Keith Knight**, creator of *The K Chronicles* and *Woke*

"It's nearly impossible to appreciate another person's truth, but if a brilliant storyteller offers to light the way, take him up on it. Bell is the Ta-Nehisi Coates of comics, an indispensable explainer of how it feels to grow up in a world that repeatedly treats you as other. The talk with my white sons boiled down to 'Be kind.' It's hard to overstate the distance between that admonition and 'Stay alive.'" —**Garry Trudeau**, creator of *Doonesbury*

British: Jonathan Cape
Rights sold: French/Editions Julliard

Henry Holt Nonfiction

Karen Chee
DESPITE MY BEST EFFORTS
A Series of Unfortunate Attempts

Publication: February 2024
Editor: Sarah Crichton

Manuscript available May 2023

From Karen Chee, star of “What Does Karen Know?” on *Late Night with Seth Meyers*, and frequent *Wait Wait...Don't Tell Me!* panelist comes a riotous collection of stories (true and imagined) that looks at the horrible nature of the world right in its ugly face, and reminds us that the best way to resist is sometimes just to laugh—perfect for fans of Jia Tolentino and Phoebe Robinson.

Karen Chee doesn't look it, but she's angry. And how could she not be? She's a woman of color living within a system that's built on self-reinforcing structures of patriarchy and white supremacy, in all its micro and macroaggressions. She knows what it's like be mansplained the brilliance of *O Brother, Where Art Thou?*, and she's made a ranking list of which white people are *actually* cool (hint: Emma Thompson is counted twice).

In her debut, Chee follows in the bestselling tradition of Jenny Slate's *Little Weirds* and Phoebe Robinson's publishing empire to uncover the humor in moments that have made her the most furious. From a tongue-in-cheek checklist to remind Asian Americans how to “fit in,” (becoming a piano prodigy is ideal), to an hour by hour breakdown of her daily schedule as a “mildly successful person,” **DESPITE MY BEST EFFORTS** is a necessary, cathartic read for our remarkable times. A book that not only makes you feel less alone, but makes you laugh in a world that seems intent on bringing you down. Whoever said you can't be both outraged AND outrageous?

Karen Chee is a Brooklyn-based writer and comedian. Currently a writer for *Late Night with Seth Meyers*, she has also written for The 2019 Golden Globes and *Yearly Departed*, Amazon's annual show that debuted in 2020 and has featured Tiffany Haddish, Sarah Silverman, and Ziwe. She is a regular contributor to *Shouts & Murmurs*, has appeared in *The New York Times*, *The Washington Post* and *McSweeney's*.

Praise for Karen Chee:

***Vulture*: Comedians You Should & Will Know in 2020**

***Variety*: Variety's 2020 Power of Young Hollywood List**

***Entertainment Weekly*: 11 Asian American Comics to Watch in 2020**

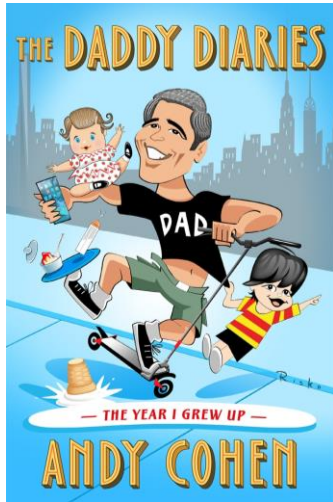
***Paste*: 15 of the Best Humorists Writing Today**

Andy Cohen
THE DADDY DIARIES
The Year I Grew Up

Publication: May 2023

Editor: Serena Jones

Finished books available



New York Times bestselling author Andy Cohen 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 has taken on the most important job of his life—father—and boy (and girl!) does he have a lot to say about it!

One of Andy Cohen's most momentous years starts off with a hangover the morning after an *epic* New Year's Eve broadcast. But Andy 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, Ben, and a daughter, Lucy, born in May, stories of late-night parties are replaced by early mornings with Ben, drama at the play-ground, and

the musings of a single dad trying to navigate having it all. All this is set against the backdrop of constant *Housewives* drama, hijinks behind the scenes at *Watch What Happens Live*, a revolving door of famous faces, and a worried mother (and newly minted grandmother) 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 with his two children.

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

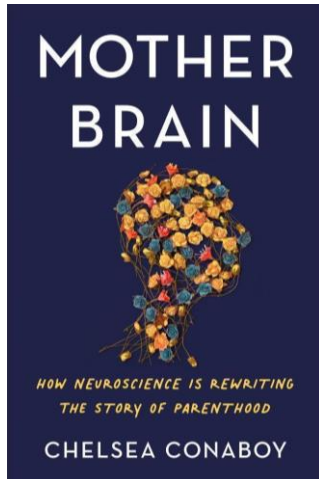
MOTHER BRAIN

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*

British: Weidenfeld & Nicolson

Rights sold: Bulgarian/EMAS, **Chinese (complex)**/Hsin Yi, **Chinese (simplified)**/Ginkgo, **Croatian**/Leo Commerce, **Dutch**/Ambo/Anthos, **Estonian**/Tanapaev, **German**/HarperCollins, **Hebrew**/Matar, **Hungarian**/HVG Könyvek, **Italian**/Bompiani, **Japanese**/Shinchosha, **Korean**/Cocoon Books, **Polish**/Marginesy, **Portuguese (in Brazil)**/Companhia das Letras, **Romanian**/Omnium, **Russian**/Mann, Ivanov & Ferber, **Serbian**/Publik Praktikum, **Slovenian**/UMco, **Spanish**/Ediciones Urano, **Turkish**/Kronik

Henry Holt Nonfiction

Cin Fabré

WOLF HUSTLE

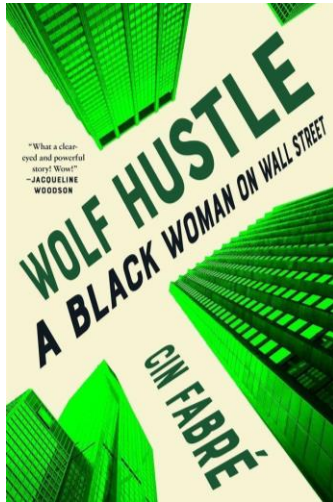
A Black Woman On Wall Street

A major motion picture forthcoming

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***

“Her prose and attitude toward her career—and why she eventually left it—are no-nonsense and unblinkered, keeping her account engaging, whether she’s relating her childhood trick of reselling lunch tickets to fellow students or the over-the-top excesses of parties in the Hamptons...An absorbing, instructive look at the victories and pitfalls of a life driven by the hustle.” —***Library Journal***

British: Dialogue Books

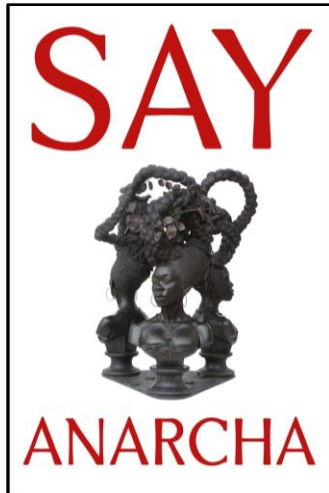
J.C. Hallman
SAY ANARCHA

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

Publication: June 2023

Manuscript available

Editor: Retha Powers



A compelling reckoning with the birth of women's health that illuminates the sacrifices of a young woman who changed the world only to be forgotten by it—until now.

For more than a century, Dr. J. Marion Sims was hailed as the “father of modern gynecology.” He founded a hospital in New York City and had a profitable career treating gentry and royalty in Europe, becoming one of the world's first celebrity surgeons. Statues were built in his honor, but he wasn't the hero he had made himself appear to be.

Sims's greatest medical claim was the result of several years of experimental surgeries—without anesthesia—on a young enslaved woman known as Anarcha; his so-called cure for obstetric fistula forever altered the path of women's health. One medical text after another hailed Anarcha as the embodiment of the pivotal role that Sims played in the history of surgery.

Decades later, a groundswell of women objecting to Sims's legacy celebrated

Anarcha as the “mother of gynecology.” Little was known about the woman herself. The written record would have us believe Anarcha disappeared; she did not.

Through tenacious research, J. C. Hallman has unearthed the first evidence of Anarcha's life that did not come from Sims's suspect reports. Hallman reveals that after helping to spark a patient-centered model of care that continues to improve women's lives today, Anarcha lived on as a midwife, nurse, and “doctor woman.” **SAY ANARCHA** excavates history, deconstructing the biographical smoke screen of a surgeon who has falsely been enshrined as a medical pioneer and bringing forth a heroic Black woman to her rightful place at the center of the creation story of modern women's health care.

J.C. Hallman is the author of five previous works of nonfiction and a book of short stories. His previous work on Anarcha has appeared in *Harper's Magazine*, the *Forum* (of the African American Policy Forum), the *Baffler*, *Montgomery Advertiser*, and *Urology*. He has been the recipient of fellowships from the McKnight Foundation and the John Simon Guggenheim Memorial Foundation, in the general nonfiction category.

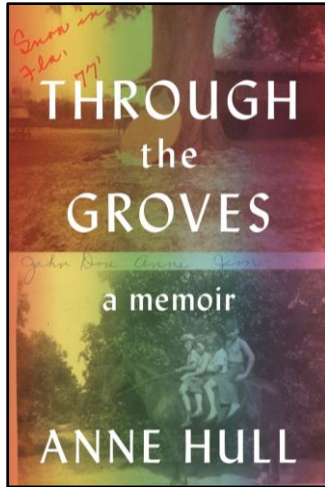
"The Story of America is one built on the backs of Black women, who, despite brutal bondage, abuse, cruelty, and dehumanization, managed to save this country from itself. It is the story of women like Anarcha who were forced to sacrifice everything, even her life, so that millions of women would continue to live theirs. *Say Anarcha* is more than a glorious corrective to an unjust erasure of history. It restores an extraordinary life to a time that denied it and refines the very notion of the great American Hero." —**Marlon James, winner of the 2015 Booker Prize**

"This compelling, extremely well-researched account of the life of an enslaved Black woman changes the historical narrative surrounding J. Marion Sims and engages us in a sober reckoning over the legacy of slavery, medical experimentation and gynecology. This extraordinary book forces us to recognize that "Anarcha" is a name we should say, remember and reflect upon as we still contend with a history of racial injustice that has left us vulnerable to continuing racial disparities in health care, injustice and unnecessary suffering." —**Bryan Stevenson, bestselling author of *Just Mercy* and founder and Executive Director of the Equal Justice Initiative**

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* 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.

"Honest, tender, wistful, *Through The Groves* is a clear-eyed evocation of a very particular time and place and people. It's also a gut-punch of a story about a childhood filled with uncertainty, questions, longing...I've long admired Hull as a journalist, but I turned the last page feeling she was a friend." —**J. R. Moehringer**, author of *The Tender Bar*

"Stunningly beautiful. A spellbinding trek into a long-lost Florida and a girlhood whose heroine you will never forget." —**Andrea Elliott**, Pulitzer Prize-winning author of *Invisible Child*

"Anne Hull stole my heart in chapter one with her childhood stories of driving long miles through dusty orchards while building the quiet confidence born of helping dad at his job. By the end of *Through the Groves*, she had given it back to me, fuller and wiser, and with a new gratitude for the 'orange people' who provide the sweetness to our mornings." —**Hope Jahren**, author of *Lab Girl* and *The Story of More*

"Anne Hull has written some of the most important stories of our time, beautifully, unflinchingly. We should not be surprised that in her memoir, as she turns her pen toward her own heart, own ghosts, it would be

beautiful, too.” —**Rick Bragg**, Pulitzer Prize-winning journalist and author of *All Over But the Shoutin'*

Joél Leon
WHAT KIND OF BLACK ARE YOU?
A Reimagined Soundtrack for the Future

Publication: May 2024

Manuscript available May 2023

Editor: Retha Powers

For readers of Kiese Laymon's *Heavy*, and works like *Punch Me Up to The Gods* and *A Little Devil in America*, a beautiful, painful, and soaring tribute to everything that Black men are and can be.

Growing up in the Bronx in the '80s and '90s, Joél Leon wasn't taught how to feel. Shaped by a singular view of Black masculinity espoused by the media, by family and friends, and by society, he learned instead to care about the gold around his neck and the number of bills in his wallet. He absorbed the "facts" that white was always right and Black men were great for comic relief, but never worthy of the opening credits. It wasn't until years later that Joél understood he didn't have to be defined by these things.

Now, in this collection of wide-ranging essays, he takes readers from his upbringing in the Bronx to his life raising two little girls of his own, unraveling those narratives to arrive at a deeper understanding of who he is as a son, friend, partner, and father. Traversing both the serious and lighthearted, from his childhood fascination with Suzanne Somers to his decision to seek therapy to the difficulties of making friends as an adult Black man, Joél cracks open his heart to reveal the multitudes that he encompasses.

"I learned that being Black is an all-encompassing everything... To be Black, to be a Black man in the era I grew up in, was easily everything and nothing at once." Crafted like an album, each essay is a single that stands alone yet reverberates throughout the entire collection. Pieces like "1-800-Coparent" and "How to Make a Black Friend" consider challenging and absurd moments in relationships, while others consider the collective harms of society's lens. With incisive, searing prose, **WHAT KIND OF BLACK ARE YOU?** deconstructs what it means to be a Black man in America, stitching back together a beautiful, painful, and soaring tribute to everything that Black men are and can be.

Joél L. Daniels, better known as **Joél Leon**, is a Bronx born and raised performer and storyteller. He is currently Creative Director at the *New York Times*' T Brand Studios. Joél specializes in moderating and leading conversations surrounding race, masculinity, mental health, creativity, and the performing arts. His TEDTalk on healthy co-parenting has been viewed over 1.5 million times. He's worked with The Gates Foundation, HBO, Nike, Twitter, and the TODAY Show. His essays have been featured in the *New York Times*, *EBONY*, the *Independent*, *Newsweek*, Medium, the *Huffington Post*, *Blavity*, and more.

Praise for Joél Leon:

"Joél's words are where I go when I need some inspiration. And he never lets me down."
—**Lin-Manuel Miranda**, Grammy Award-winning director, author, playwright

"Joél speaks his truth boldly and bravely and I have no doubt that *What Kind of Black Are You?* will inspire others to stand up and do the same for many years to come." —**Billy Eichner**, Emmy-Award nominated actor, writer, and producer

"In each generation, there are only a few authors who are gifted with the ability to fully capture the best parts of the human condition. Joél is one of those authors. His words pour into the well that is a reader's soul, and take us on a journey of hope in a way so few ever have." —**Frederick T. Joseph**, NYT bestselling author of *The Black Friend* and *Patriarchy Blues*

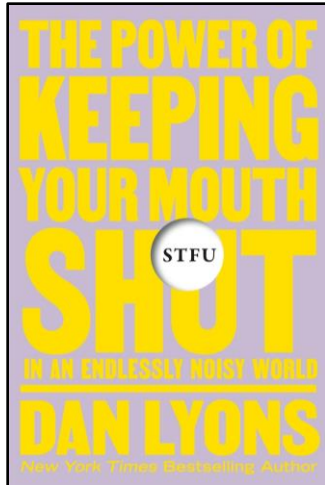
Dan Lyons
STFU

The Power of Keeping Your Mouth Shut in an Endlessly Noisy World

Publication: March 2023

Finished books available

Editor: Serena Jones



New York Times bestselling author Dan Lyons is here to tell you - and don't take this the wrong way - that you really need to shut the f*ck up!

Our noisy world has trained us to think that those who get in the last word win, when in fact it's those who know how to stay silent who really hold the power. **STFU** is a book that unlocks this power and will change your life, freeing you to focus on what matters. Lyons combines leading behavioral science with actionable advice on how to communicate with intent, think critically, and open your mind and ears to the world around you.

Talk less, get more. That's what **STFU** is all about. Prescriptive, informative, and addictively readable, **STFU** gives you the tools to become your better self, whether that's in the office, at home, online, or in your most treasured relationships. Because, after all, what you say is who you are. So take a deep breath, turn the page, and quietly change your life.

Dan Lyons is a veteran journalist, author, and screenwriter. His *New York Times*-bestselling memoir *Disrupted: My Adventures in the Startup Bubble* has been translated into a dozen languages and optioned for film/TV. He also wrote *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*. As a journalist, he spent a decade covering Silicon Valley for *Forbes*, ran tech coverage at *Newsweek*, and contributed to *Fortune*, the *New York Times*, *Wired*, *Vanity Fair*, and the *New Yorker*.

"Dan Lyons' ridiculously funny gem taught me how to shut up, pay fierce attention to others, stifle my 'manalogues' and so many more antidotes for my talkaholic tendencies. My only problem is that, after reading *STFU*, I can't stop talking about how much I love this book!" —**Robert I. Sutton**, organizational psychologist, Stanford Professor, and *New York Times* bestselling author of seven books including *The No Asshole Rule*

"*STFU* teaches us what we all need to learn: how to listen, pause and speak. How to communicate with intention, and power. The book opens your mind by closing your mouth..." —**Aaron James**, *New York Times* bestselling author of *Assholes: A Theory*

"Entertaining, illuminating, and inspiring! More than a book, it's a public service announcement that we'd all do well to—well, STFU and listen to!" —**Sarah Knight**, *New York Times* bestselling author of *Calm the F*ck Down*

British: Fletcher & Company

Rights sold: Chinese (complex)/China Times, Chinese (simplified)/China Translation, Croatian/Znanje, Hebrew/Or Am, Italian/Garzanti, Korean/Hanbit Bitz, Polish/Znak, Portuguese (in Brazil)/Alta Books, Romanian/Grup Media Litera, Serbian/Vulkan Izdavastvo, Slovenian/Založba Primus, Spanish/Capitan Swing

Henry Holt Nonfiction

Tracie McMillan

THE WHITE BONUS

Six Families and the Cash Value of Racism in America

Publication: April 2024

Editor: Serena Jones

Manuscript available April 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

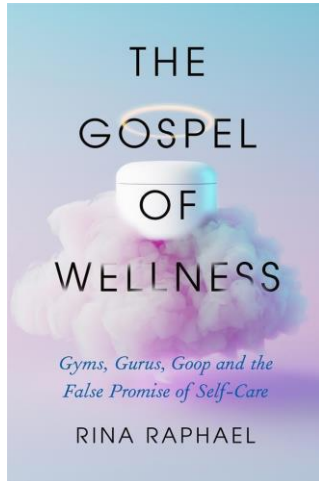
THE GOSPEL OF WELLNESS

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 bubbly and engagingly thorough dissection of the modern wellness industry” —*The Atlantic*

"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, Polish/Czarne, Slovak/Citadella

Laurent Richard and Sandrine Rigaud

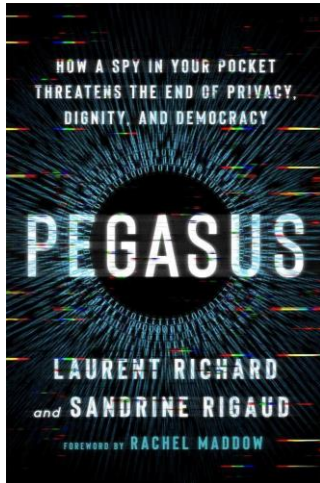
PEGASUS

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

Publication: January 2023

Finished books 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.

“Paced like a thriller, this is an exposé of invasive malware, and a cautionary tale.” —*The Economist*

“The story of how investigative journalists exposed the frightening abuse of software that can infect your phone...It makes for absorbing reading...A celebration of journalism and hacking being used to unmask the bad guys.” —*The Guardian*

British: Macmillan UK

Rights sold: Armenian/Newmag, French/Laffont, German/Droemer, Polish/Insignis, Turkish/Orenda

Lauren Sherman and Chantal Fernandez

SELLING SEXY

Inside the Unstoppable Rise, Inevitable Fall, and Complicated Future of Victoria's Secret

Publication: March 2024

Manuscript available June 2023

Editor: Sarah Crichton

Spanning across decades of Americana, **SELLING SEXY** tells the story of how Victoria's Secret under the leadership of controversial business mogul Les Wexner disrupted the intimates' market to define female beauty and sex standards for generations before its gradual collapse as the brand failed to keep with the ever more rapidly evolving fashion and cultural landscape.

Victoria's Secret is one of the most influential, and polarizing, brands to ever infiltrate the psyche of the American consumer. The company's catalog made national headlines in the '70s for its glamorization of lingerie, which was, in the post-bra burning era, sold either by puritanical department stores or tawdry, red-light district shops. By 1984, the owners were forced to sell to Columbus retail magnate Les Wexner, who was swiftly building an empire that would shape retail as we knew it for the next 40 years.

Just a decade later, Victoria's Secret was a billion-dollar brand, selling the majority of bras bought in the US. However, its ubiquity in underwear drawers couldn't compare to the influence it had on the greater culture, helping to define what it meant to look like a happy, successful—and most importantly, sexy—modern woman to a whole generation of consumers across the globe through its airbrushed advertisements, pink velvet-lined stores, and annual televised fashion show, which drew in millions of viewers each year.

But as culture changed, Victoria's Secret did not change with it. Not only did the company miss out on big expansion opportunities it also refused to change its marketing as the world became less obsessed with thinness and perfection, and more keenly focused on body acceptance. Meanwhile, Wexner, the mastermind, became increasingly known for his complicated relationship with sex trafficker Jeffrey Epstein, whose lifestyle he funded for many years. In March 2021, with his legacy in peril, Wexner and his wife Abigail stepped down from the Victoria's Secret board as he faced investigation by the FBI.

Today, Victoria's Secret is trying to rebuild its reputation—and maintain the still-significant grip it has on the consumer. **SELLING SEXY** expertly draws from sources within the company and across the fashion industry to examine: What happens now to a brand with such a heavy history?

Lauren Sherman has spent the last 15 years reporting on the inner workings of the fashion industry. She is currently the chief correspondent for *The Business of Fashion* and began her career as a staff reporter at *Forbes*. Along the way, she has contributed to a wide range of publications, from the *Wall Street Journal* to the *New York Times*, *Fast Company*, *Women's Health*, *InStyle*, and *The Gentlewoman*. She lives in Los Angeles.

Chantal Fernandez is a senior correspondent at *The Business of Fashion*, where she covers media, luxury, and retail from New York. She began her career at *Vanity Fair* and *Lucky Magazine* before joining Fashionista as a staff writer.

Henry Holt Nonfiction

Denver Riggleman with Hunter Walker

THE BREACH

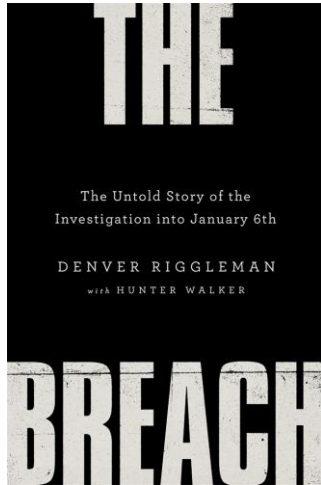
The Untold Story of the Investigation into January 6th

*An Instant *New York Times* Bestseller*

Publication: September 2022

Editor: Sarah Crichton

Finished books available



Make no mistake: modern information warfare is here and January 6th was just the first battle. That day, an unhinged mindset led to an attack on the Capitol, the most serious assault on American democracy since the end of the Civil War. And that thinking portends even darker days ahead.

In **THE BREACH**, a former House Republican and the first member of Congress to sound the alarm about QAnon, Denver Riggleman, provides readers with an unprecedented behind-the-scenes look at the January 6th select committee's investigation. Riggleman, who joined the committee as senior technical advisor after he was asked to help, lays out the full intent and scope of the plot to overturn the election. The book includes previously unpublished texts from key political leaders and contains shocking details about the Trump White House's links to militant extremist groups. The man responsible for unearthing Mark Meadows's infamous texts shows how data analysis shapes the contours of our new war, telling how the committee uncovered many of its explosive findings and sharing revealing stories from his time in the Trump-era GOP.

With unique insights from within the far-right movement and from the front lines of the courageous team investigating it, Riggleman shows how our democracy is balanced on a knife's edge between disinformation and truth. Here is a revelatory peek at the inner workings of the January 6th committee and a clear-eyed look at the existential threats facing our republic—and a blueprint for how America can fight to survive the darkest night before the dawn.

Denver Riggleman supported advanced intelligence analysis and technical development programs during his over two decades as an intelligence officer, NSA adviser, federal contractor, research and development technology lead, and successful CEO of support companies for the Department of Defense. A veteran of the Global War on Terror and multiple worldwide operations, he served with honor in the US Air Force for nine active-duty years. Riggleman is a former member of the House of Representatives from Virginia's Fifth Congressional District, which he represented as a Republican from 2019–2021, and the former senior technical advisor for the House Select Committee to Investigate the January 6th Attack on the United States Capitol. He is the CEO of Riggleman Information and Intelligence Group and co-owner of the award-winning Silverback Distillery. Riggleman currently lives in Virginia with his wife and family.

Hunter Walker is an investigative reporter and author who reported live from the Capitol on January 6th. He has written for *Rolling Stone*, the *New Yorker*, the *Atlantic*, NBC News, *Vanity Fair's* Hive website, and *New York* magazine, among others.

"A newsworthy book that centers on revelations gained by way of the higher-tech end of the Jan. 6 committee...An essential work of detection, uncovering crimes at the highest level of the Trump White House." —*Kirkus*

British: Macmillan UK

Henry Holt Nonfiction

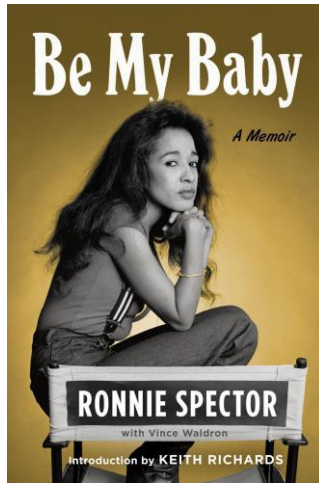
Ronnie Spector with Vince Waldron
BE MY BABY
A Memoir

****Film starring Zendaya forthcoming****

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 prison-like 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 offers a whirlwind account of the ever-shifting path of an iconic artist. And, more than anything else, she gives 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

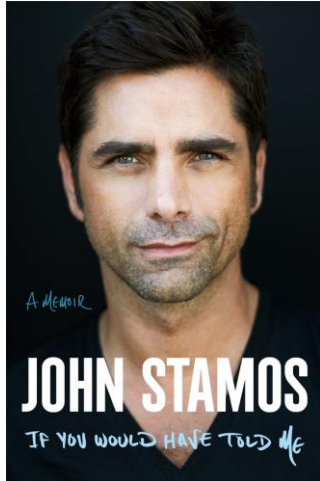
Rights sold: German/Hannibal, Japanese/Shinko, Spanish/Liburuak

John Stamos
IF YOU WOULD HAVE TOLD ME
A Memoir

Publication: October 2023
available

Editor: Amy Einhorn

Manuscript



We think we know John Stamos. The beloved actor of television (*Full House*, *ER*, *General Hospital*), film, and Broadway grew up in front of the cameras and drummed his way into our hearts as an honorary Beach Boy. In this candid memoir, readers can peek into the heart of this familiar face. It's a rollicking insider look at Hollywood, fame, fortune, and failure. It's a tender treaty on love, friendship, and fatherhood. Throughout it all, Stamos maintains a sense of wonderment captured in the title **IF YOU WOULD HAVE TOLD ME**.

John Stamos is a two-time Emmy® Award nominated television, film and theater actor and producer with a career spanning many decades. In 1982, Stamos was catapulted to stardom with his role as “Blackie Parrish” on the ABC daytime drama *General Hospital* for which he received a Daytime Emmy Nomination. He continues to captivate audiences with an array of multi-faceted performances.

Stamos most recently starred in Disney+ original series *Big Shot* written and executive produced by David E. Kelley and Dean Lorey for two seasons. Other recent television credits include Greg Berlanti's hit drama *You* on Netflix and ABC's *The Little Mermaid Live*. Stamos won the 2016 People's Choice Award for “Favorite Actor in a New TV Series” for his role on FOX'S *Grandfathered*, and was awarded TV Land's Timeless Icon Award, presented to him by long-time friend and mentor, Garry Marshall.

Among his more than 70 film and television credits, he has had a four-year run on the Emmy and Peabody Award-winning drama *ER* and has appeared on *Necessary Roughness*, *Galavant*, *The New Normal*, *Entourage*, *Two and a Half Men* and *Law & Order: Special Victims Unit*. In 2016, Stamos joined the cast of the hit show *Scream Queens* on FOX as a series regular.

Stamos executive produced and appeared on the 2016 hit reboot *Fuller House* for Netflix, an overnight sensation that became one of the top five most watched shows on Netflix in its first season. A multi-camera comedy spin-off, the series received a 2018 Emmy nomination for Outstanding Children's Program and recently aired its fifth season.

Stamos also has established a strong stage presence, beginning with his Broadway debut in *How To Succeed In Business Without Really Trying*. Other Broadway credits include: Gore Vidal's Tony® Award-nominated political play, “*The Best Man* (with James Earl Jones), Roundabout Theatre Company's *Bye Bye Birdie* and the Tony® Award-winning musicals *Nine* and *Cabaret*. Additional theater credits include: *Hairspray*, *The Little Mermaid* and *Willy Wonka and the Chocolate Factory* at the Hollywood Bowl. A gifted drummer, singer and musician, Stamos has toured, recorded and collaborated with the legendary band, The Beach Boys, for over 30 years.

As an advocate for the support and advancement of children, Stamos is also a Celebrity Ambassador for ChildHelp, an organization that helps the victims of child abuse through education treatment and prevention programs. In 2018, he partnered with My Saint My Hero to create the St. Amos Wearable Blessings Collection, donating 100% of the net proceeds to ChildHelp.

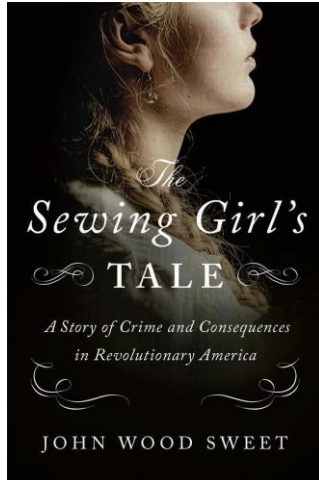
John Wood Sweet
THE SEWING GIRL'S TALE

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.

Winner of the Bancroft Prize

New York Times Editors' Choice & front page review

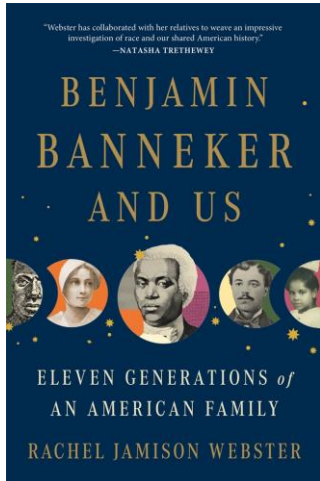
“Fascinating...An excellent and absorbing work of social and cultural history.” —*The New York Times Book Review*

“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*

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

Publication: March 2023
Editor: Shannon Criss

Finished books available



A family reunion gives way to an unforgettable genealogical quest as relatives reconnect across lines of color, culture, and time, 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.

"The conversations [Webster] had and the things she learned shone a light onto not just a neglected piece of personal and national history but also the hypocrisy inherent in so many discussions around race."

—*Los Angeles Times*

"[Webster's] expansive imagination and fluid prose bring these historical figures to life. It's an enthralling and clear-eyed celebration of America's multiracial past and present." —*Publishers Weekly*, ***starred review***

"Drawing on her acute sensitivity to language and bias, sharing long discussions with her cousins, and meshing their family history with the brutal realities of Banneker's time, Webster has created an engrossing, multifaceted, profoundly thoughtful, and beautifully rendered inquiry that forms a clarifying lens on America's ongoing struggles against racism and endemic injustice." —*Booklist*, ***starred review***

"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***

Shoshana Zuboff
OUR ACCIDENTAL DYSTOPIA

Publication: March 2025

Proposal available; manuscript available March 2024

Editor: Tim Duggan

In **OUR ACCIDENTAL DYSTOPIA**, Shoshana Zuboff will build on her internationally bestselling masterwork *The Age of Surveillance Capitalism* to tell a vital story about power: the tale of two global orders, surveillance capitalism and democracy, locked in a zero-sum death match over who will rule the digital century. **OUR ACCIDENTAL DYSTOPIA** will be compact, punchy, hard hitting, accessible, and aimed at the widest readership.

The abdication of our digital information and communications spaces to surveillance capitalism began as an American story but has become the meta-crisis of every republic. Surveillance capitalism intensifies existing vulnerabilities and then relentlessly exploits the societal meltdown that follows. The mission of **OUR ACCIDENTAL DYSTOPIA** is to defy the future that has been made for us and to be an accelerant of democratic resurgence, resistance, and mobilization. It aims to instill a sharp grasp of our existential, economic, and political condition while orienting readers toward action. The narrative proceeds with the tone, cadence, and structure of an inquest: an inquiry into *crimes against information* that enable *crimes against democracy*. The inquest focuses on the systematic destruction of key societal elements required for a viable democracy: privacy, truth, common sense, self-determination, behavioral integrity, the genuine freedoms of the public square, and social solidarity.

OUR ACCIDENTAL DYSTOPIA will deliver the bad news, but it also carries a positive, empowering, uplifting, and concrete action-oriented message. Change is upon us. There is evidence of democratic resurgence that can take back the void.

Scholar, writer, activist **Shoshana Zuboff** is the author of three major books, each signaling a new epoch in technological society. Her most recent book, *The Age of Surveillance Capitalism*, translated in 27 languages, has been hailed as the tech industry's *Silent Spring*, and the *Das Kapital* and *Wealth of Nations* of the twenty-first century. Zuboff's work has been recognized with the Axel Springer Award (2019), the inaugural Global Privacy Assembly Giovanni Buttarelli Award (2021), and the EPIC Lifetime Achievement Award (2021). Professor Zuboff has received honorary degrees from the University of Amsterdam, the Copenhagen Business School, and the University of London. She is the Charles Edward Wilson Professor Emeritus Harvard Business School, a Faculty associate at the Harvard Kennedy School's Carr Center for Human Rights, and Co-chair of the Steering Committee of the International Observatory on Information and Democracy.

British and German: WSK Management

Rights sold: Danish/Information, Dutch/De Geus, French/Flammarion, Greek/Kastaniotis,
Italian/Rizzoli, Polish/Zysk i S-ka, Portuguese (in Portugal)/Religio D'Agua, Romanian/Publica,
Spanish/Paidos, Swedish/Ordfront

Henry Holt Fiction



HOLT

Henry Holt Fiction

Bob the Drag Queen
HARRIET TUBMAN: LIVE IN CONCERT
A Novel

Publication: May 2024

Editor: Lori Kusatzky

Manuscript available July 2023

From *RuPaul's Drag Race All Stars* and host of HBO's *We're Here* comes an inventive, wondrous novel about American hero Harriet Tubman that remixes history into a fresh, dynamic novel about love, freedom, salvation and music.

In an “age of miracles” where our greatest heroes from history have magically, unexplainably returned to shake us out of our confusion and hate, Harriet Tubman is back, and she has a lot to say.

Harriet Tubman, and four of the enslaved persons she led to freedom want to tell their story in a unique way—by following in Lin Manuel Miranda's *Hamilton*. Harriet wants to put on a show about her life, and she needs a songwriter to help her.

She calls upon Darnell Williams, a once successful hip-hop producer who was topping the charts before being outed by a rival at the BET Awards. Darnell has no idea what to expect when he steps into the studio with Harriet, only that they have one week to write a Broadway caliber musical she can take on the road. Over the course of their week they not only mount a show that will take the country by storm, but confront the horrors of both their pasts, and learn to find a way to a better future.

Original, evocative, and historic, **HARRIET TUBMAN: LIVE IN CONCERT** is a novel unlike any other, and a story that will burrow deep into our hearts (and ears). A landmark achievement.

The alter ego of non-binary comic/actor Caldwell Tidicue, **Bob the Drag Queen** describes herself as “hilarious, beautiful, talented and...humble.” Bob's unabashed confidence won her the title of “America's Next Drag Superstar” on season 8 of *RuPaul's Drag Race*, and multiple acting roles for HBO, Netflix, Sony Tristar, MTV, and VH1. Along with HBO's first unscripted show *We're Here*, Bob has recently released her second comedy special, *Bob The Drag Queen Live at Caroline's* available on iTunes, as well as season 4 of “Sibling Rivalry,” the podcast she co-hosts with her drag sister Monét X Change.

Ali Bryan

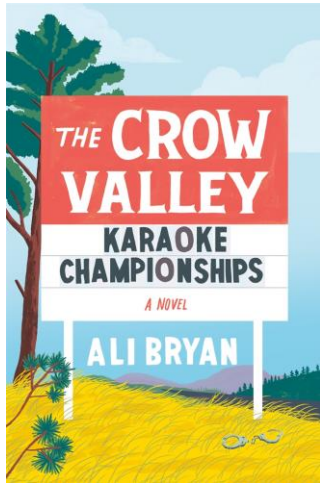
THE CROW VALLEY KARAOKE CHAMPIONSHIPS

A Novel

Publication: July 2023

Manuscript available

Editor: Sarah Crichton and Natalia Ruiz



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

Yangsze Choo
THE FOX WIFE
A Novel

Publication: February 2024
available

Manuscript

Editor: Amy Einhorn

From *New York Times* bestselling author Yangsze Choo comes a gorgeously immersive novel featuring a mother seeking revenge, a nameless dead body looking for a final resting place, and an old folklore tale that might very well be true.

Some people think foxes go around collecting qi, or life force, but nothing could be further than the truth. We are living creatures, just like you, only usually better looking...

Manchuria in 1908. A body is found in the snow in front of a restaurant: a young woman, scantily dressed, frozen, a smile on her face. Enter Bao, blessed and cursed since childhood by the ability to hear all lies. Hired by the restaurant's owner, Bao is to find out who the young woman was and inform her family so they may bring her spirit to rest. Bao himself has spent his life longing to find the fox god, whom his beloved childhood friend--forever lost to him, or so he thinks--swore she saw with her very own eyes. A god who might very well know what happened to that nameless dead woman. For in these last years of Imperial China, it is believed that foxes have the ability to change into beautiful women and men who can beguile humans.

Meanwhile, the proprietors of a famous Chinese medicine shop seem to be able to cure everything but the curse that affects their own family: the eldest sons never live past the age of 24. When a striking woman appears, seemingly out of nowhere, and befriends the family matriarch, some eyebrows are raised. Is it a coincidence that she's arrived as the family's only grandson nervously awaits his 24th birthday? And why is she obsessively looking for a man, a man she claims took her child? Who is she? Or, what is she?

In **THE FOX WIFE**, Yangsze Choo explores a captivating world of mortals and immortals, fallible humans and shapeshifting animals; her enchanting mythmaking is grounded by the human universals of grief and rekindled love. It is unlike anything you have read before; a dazzling achievement.

Yangsze Choo is a Malaysian author of Chinese descent. After graduating from Harvard, she worked at various corporate jobs before writing her *New York Times* bestselling debut novel, *The Ghost Bride*, now a Netflix Original series. Her second novel, *The Night Tiger*, was a Reese Witherspoon Book Club pick and a Big Jubilee Read selection for Queen Elizabeth II's Platinum Jubilee.

"The Fox Wife is a rich tangle of myth, mystery, and history, delivered with Choo's inimitable grace and precision. It's not a book so much as a beguilement; it enchanted me entirely."

—**Alix E. Harrow**, *New York Times* bestselling author of *Starling House*

"Masterfully plotted and superbly surprising, The Fox Wife will entice you into a world of magic and heartbreak, a beautiful tapestry woven from love and revenge and forgiveness. But beware: once you start, you may not be able to put it down!"

—**Chitra Banerjee Divakaruni**, author of *Independence* and *The Last Queen*

British: Bent Agency

Rights sold, *The Night Tiger*: **Arabic**/Dar Al-Rafidain, **Bulgarian**/Riva Publishers, **German**/Goldmann, **Hebrew**/Kinneret, **Italian**/HarperCollins Italia, **Hungarian**/Konyvmolykepzo, **Japanese**/Tokyo Sogensha, **Lithuanian**/Alma Littera, **Polish**/Poradnia K, **Portuguese in Brazil**/Darkside,

Henry Holt Fiction

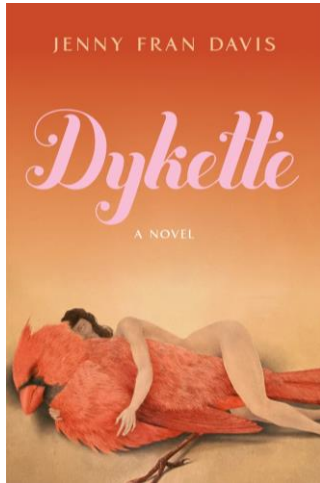
Romanian/Corint, **Russian**/Arkadia, **Serbian**/Carobna Knjiga, **Spanish**/Planeta Mexico,
Taiwanese/Locus, **Turkish**/Yabancı

Henry Holt Fiction

Jenny Fran Davis
DYKETTE
A Novel

Publication: May 2023
Editor: Caroline Zancan

Finished books available



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 debaucherous 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.

Named one of the Best LGBTQ+ Books of 2023 by *Vogue*

Named a Most Anticipated LGBTQ+ Book of 2023 by *Buzzfeed*, *Electric Lit*, and *Them*

Named a Most Anticipated Book of 2023 by Our Culture, *Yahoo!*, *The Millions*, *LitHub* and *SPY.com*

Named a Most Anticipated Debut of 2023 by *Debutiful* and *Goodreads*

"*Dykette* is a riveting and often darkly funny novel that accurately examines New York queer culture with an insider's authenticity." —***BUST Magazine***

"Davis delights in upending concepts of gender and sexuality...It's worth adding to the weekend bag." —***Publishers Weekly***

"Wickedly funny, achingly sensitive, readable as hell—simply put, Jenny Fran Davis is a talent." —**Jean Kyoung Frazier, author of *Pizza Girl***

"*Dykette* 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***

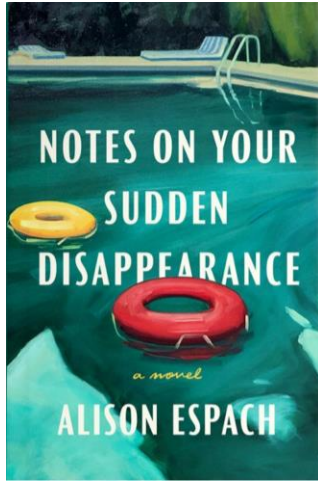
"*Dykette* is so perceptive it hurts and as fun and decadent as wearing Gaultier in a bubble bath." —**Beth Morgan, author of *A Touch of Jen***

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
FAMILY FAMILY
A Novel

Publication: January 2024
Editor: Amy Einhorn

Manuscript available

From *New York Times* bestselling author, Laurie Frankel, comes a propulsive, sharply funny, and strikingly tender novel about how families are often formed in the most unexpected ways.

India Allwood grew up wanting to be an actress. Armed with a stack of index cards (which, when torn into small pieces, also function as make-shift confetti) and a hell of a lot of talent, she goes from awkward 16 year-old to young ingénue who conquers Broadway to TV star.

India lives in LA with her two children—Fig and Jack. While promoting her most recent film she does what you are never supposed to do—she tells a journalist the truth: it’s a bad movie. Too many of the stories about adoption only tell one story, and it’s always the same story, a tragic defining moment. In fact, adoption can be a terrific choice. Soon India finds herself the center of a media storm from those on the right and left. She is accused of being misinformed about the complexities of adoption—despite the fact that Fig and Jack are adopted. Fig always worries, and now that her mother is being attacked, she’s in overdrive. So she decides to come to her defense—and whom better to call for that than family?

It turns out that India does know about the complexities of adoption. Not only has she adopted two children, she also had a biological child that she placed into an adoptive family. Twice.

Because adoption is not always a terrible thing. It’s not always the third or second choice for families. Sometimes it’s the first choice. Sometimes it’s not tragic, sometimes it doesn’t define someone’s life. And sometimes it’s what makes a family a family.

Laurie Frankel is the *New York Times* bestselling, award-winning author of novels such as *One, Two, Three*, *The Atlas of Love*, *Goodbye for Now*, and the Reese’s Book Club x Hello Sunshine Book Pick *This Is How It Always Is*. Frankel lives in Seattle with her husband, daughter, and border collie. She makes good soup.

Praise for *One Two Three*:
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*

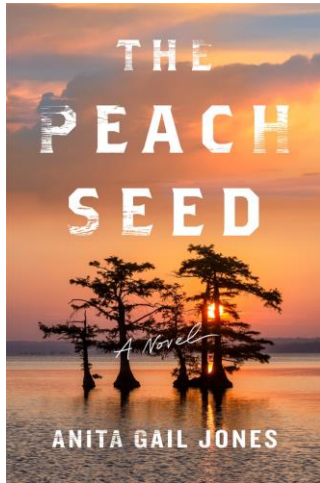
Rights sold, *This Is How It Always Is*: British/Headline, Chinese (simplified)/Beijing Empyrean, Danish/Palatium, Dutch/Ambro/Anthos, French/Fleuve Noir, Hungarian/Gabo, Italian/DeA Planeta, Korean/Alma, Polish/Poradnia K, Portuguese (in Brazil)/HarperCollins, Romanian/RAO, Russian/EKSMO, Swedish/Printz

Henry Holt Fiction

Anita Gail Jones
THE PEACH SEED
A Novel

Publication: August 2023
Editor: Retha Powers

Manuscript available



Fletcher Dukes and Altovise Benson reunite after decades apart—and a mountain of secrets—in this debut exploring the repercussions of a single choice and how an enduring talisman challenges and holds a family together.

On a routine trip to the Piggly Wiggly in Albany, Georgia, widower Fletcher Dukes smells a familiar perfume, then sees a tall woman the color of papershell pecans with a strawberry birthmark on the nape of her neck. He knows immediately that she is his lost love, Altovise Benson. Their bond, built on county fairs, sit-ins, and marches, once seemed a sure and forever thing. But their marriage plans were disrupted when the police turned a peaceful protest violent.

Before Altovise fled the South, Fletcher gave her a peach seed monkey with diamond eyes. As we learn via harrowing flashbacks, an enslaved ancestor on the coast of South Carolina carved the first peach seed, a talisman that, ever since, each father has gifted his son on his thirteenth birthday.

Giving one to Altovise initiated a break in tradition, irrevocably shaping the lives of generations of Dukeses. Recently, Fletcher has made do on his seven acres with his daughter Florida's check-ins, his drop biscuits, and his faithful dog. But as he begins to reckon with long-ago choices, he finds he isn't the only one burdened with unspoken truths.

An indelible portrait of a family, **THE PEACH SEED** explores how kin pass down legacies of sorrow, joy, and strength. And it is a parable of how a glimmer of hope as small as a seed can ripple across generations.

Anita Gail Jones is a visual artist and writer born and raised in Albany, Georgia. She is a Hedgebrook alumna, and a 2018-19 Affiliate Artist at The Headlands Center for the Arts. **THE PEACH SEED**, her debut novel, was a Novella semi-finalist in a William Faulkner-William Wisdom Creative Writing Competition, and was selected as a 2021 Top Ten Finalist in the PEN/Bellwether Prize for Socially Engaged Fiction.

"An epic, enchanting debut." —**Lauren Puckett-Pope, *Elle***

"You will not want to put this engrossing story down, as Anita Gail Jones introduces a whole family of survivors, planted and deeply rooted in Albany, Georgia. *The Peach Seed* presents a family replete with intergenerational struggles, triumphs of compassion, and fine examples of Black male bravery, compassion, resilience, and persistence, as they love their women and children and as they demand as much manhood as they can muster for themselves." —**A.J. Verdelle, author of *The Good Negress* and *Miss Chloe: A Memoir of a Literary Friendship with Toni Morrison***

Henry Holt Fiction

Stephen McCauley
YOU ONLY CALL WHEN YOU'RE IN TROUBLE
A Novel

Publication: January 2024

Manuscript available

Editor: Amy Einhorn

"The good thing about having everything go wrong in your life all at once is that you don't have to pretend to be doing fine."

After a lifetime of kindly taking care of his irresistible but impossible sister and her wonderful daughter, Tom is finally ready to put himself first. An architect, he finally has an opportunity to build his masterpiece with a new client: "his last shot at leaving a footprint on the dying planet." Assuming, that is, his rich, fickle client—the last woman he slept with before coming out—doesn't follow through on her threats to mess it up.

Naturally, that's when his phone rings.

His niece, Cecily (the real love of Tom's life, as his boyfriend reminded him when moving out), is caught up in a Title IX investigation at the college where she teaches, and his sister Dorothy is planning to invest her net worth in a retreat center with a "famous" wellness guru. Oh, and after thirty-four years, Dorothy now wants to reveal the identity of Cecily's father.

Tom does what he always does—answers the call. And therein lies either the beauty or dysfunction (or perhaps both) of the sometimes too tight ties that bind families together.

Stephen McCauley is the author of seven previous novels, including national bestsellers *My Ex-Life*, *The Object of My Affection*, and *Alternatives to Sex*. Three of his books have been made into feature films. *The New York Times Book Review* dubbed McCauley "the secret love child of Edith Wharton and Woody Allen", and he was named a Chevalier in the Order of Arts and Letters by the French Ministry of Culture. His fiction, reviews, and articles have appeared in the *New York Times Book Review*, the *Washington Post*, *Harper's*, *Vogue*, and many other publications. He currently serves as Co-Director of Creative Writing at Brandeis University.

"McCauley's novels are always a cause for celebration, and *You Only Call When You're In Trouble* shows why: funny, poignant, joyous, explosive, but most of all affirming of our connections to one another, it is a book to cherish. A book that loves you back. What more could you want, my gosh? Read it!" —**Andrew Sean Greer, Pulitzer Prize-winning author of *Less Is Lost***

"I can't find the words to say how much I love *You Only Call When You're in Trouble*. This wonderful novel has profoundly moving observations of human nature, emotional acuity, and brilliant insights wrapped up in warmth and wit. What an elegant writer Stephen McCauley is, and what a beautiful, perfect novel. I don't think I will find a book I love more this year." —**Jane Green, *New York Times* bestselling author**

"Stephen McCauley's delicious new novel follows its characters, light on their feet as they search for their best selves. Along the way, they dodge with agility an assortment of contemporary obstacles—flagging relationships, employment insecurities, delusional parents. The author's rare ability is finding the humor lining sadness to create a complex story with emotional depth." —**Carol Anshaw, author of *New York Times* bestseller *Carry the One***

Rights sold, *My Ex-Life*: **French/Laffont**

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.

"[Rae Meadows's] gemlike novel...rests—panting, gasping, breathing—in the span between Anya's tiny but powerful shoulders. [W]e long for Anya's success even as it imperils her." —**Megan Abbott, *The New York Times***

"Rae Meadows' captivating 1970s Soviet-era tale echoes the stark landscape of its Siberian setting...Meadows testifies to the invincible human spirit." —***The Christian Science Monitor***

"Meadows skillfully articulates the risks and rewards of high-level competition, the divine feeling of being chosen to represent one's country and the fragility of the human body..." —***Booklist*, *starred review***

"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***

Rights sold: Croatian/Znanje

Henry Holt Fiction

Kirsten Menger-Anderson
THE EXPERT OF SUBTLE REVISIONS
A Novel

Publication: August 2024

Manuscript available June 2023

Editor: Amy Einhorn

The Girl With the Dragon Tattoo meets *The Time Traveler's Wife* in this dazzling original novel about obsession, forbidden love, and Wikipedia.

"As far as official records go, I do not exist."

So begins Kirsten Menger-Anderson's startlingly original novel.

In Half Moon Bay CA 2016, a young woman awaits her father's sailboat to arrive at port. They have agreed to meet on this day and time. Yet he never shows.

In 1934, a young man arrives in Vienna to begin a new post as a professor at the University. There he finds himself part of the Vienna Circle, a group of intellectuals that have recently been dubbed a target by a growing anti-academic mob.

From the very first pages of Menger-Anderson's novel, the reader knows this is a book unlike most others: the narrator tells us her name is not her name, her father is not her father, her birthday is made up. She spends her day editing Wikipedia entries and picking fights with people online. Who is she? And what does she have to do with a bunch of intellectuals who met in Vienna on the eve of World War II?

THE EXPERT OF SUBTLE REVISIONS is a wholly original novel about what we are willing to sacrifice for love and what stands the tests of time.

Kirsten Menger-Anderson is a writer based in San Francisco, CA. Her first novel, *Doctor Olaf van Schuler's Brain*, was a finalist for the Northern CA book award in fiction and one of *Chicago Time Out's* Top 10 books of 2008. Her short stories and essays have appeared in publications including *Ploughshares*, the *Southwest Review*, *LitHub*, and *Undark*. She earned an MA in English and creative writing from SFSU and a BA in economics from Haverford College

Praise for *Doctor Olaf van Schuler's Brain*:

"If I had a talent for fiction, *Doctor Olaf van Schuler's Brain* is the book I'd dream of writing. Kirsten Menger-Anderson's writing floors me. To read her luminous prose...is an unforgettable literary experience."

—**Mary Roach**, author of *Bonk*, *Stiff*, and *Spooked*

"The strange, wonderful stories of *Doctor Olaf van Schuler's Brain* introduce us to the tremendously gifted Kirsten Menger-Anderson, a writer whose subject is nothing less than the diagnosis and cure of the human malady...a historically rich narrative that Menger-Anderson delivers in striking, elegant prose and with a sure eye for detail. This is a remarkable debut by a writer to watch."

—**Ben Fountain**, author of *Billy Lynn's Long Halftime Walk*

Henry Holt Fiction

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

Publication: May 2023
Editor: Retha Powers

Finished books available



A multigenerational saga that traverses the glamor of old Hollywood and the seductive draw of modern-day showbiz.

When Kitty Karr Tate, a White icon of the silver screen, dies and bequeaths her multimillion-dollar estate to the St. John sisters, three young, wealthy Black women, it prompts questions. Lots of questions.

A celebrity in her own right, Elise St. John would rather focus on sorting out Kitty's affairs than deal with the press. But what she discovers in one of Kitty's journals rocks her world harder than any other brewing scandal could—and between a cheating fiancé and the fallout from a controversial social media post, there are plenty.

The truth behind Kitty's ascent to stardom from her beginnings in the segregated South threatens to expose a web of unexpected family ties, debts owed, and debatable crimes that could, with one pull, unravel the all-American fabric of the St. John sisters and those closest to them.

As Elise digs deeper into Kitty's past, she must also turn the lens upon herself, confronting the gifts and burdens of her own choices and the power that the secrets of the dead hold over the living. **DID YOU HEAR ABOUT KITTY KARR?** is a sprawling page-turner set against the backdrop of the Hollywood machine, an insightful and nuanced look at the inheritances of family, race, and gender—and the choices some women make to break free of them.

Crystal Smith Paul attended Spelman College and UCLA's School of Theater, Film and Television and received her master's in journalism from NYU. Her nonfiction writing has appeared in *Salon*, *Jezebel*, and *HuffPost*. She currently works in digital marketing for wellness and beauty brands. **DID YOU HEAR ABOUT KITTY KARR?** is her first novel.

"Paul's debut is a riveting, often heartbreaking tale that explores race, privilege, and celebrity in America through the eyes of a one-of-a-kind character. Readers of Taylor Jenkins Reid and Piper Huguley will be enthralled." —**Booklist, *starred review***

"Paul's sprawling multigenerational debut hits the ground running with a peek at the complicated family life of an iconic, privacy-seeking clan of Hollywood stars: the St. Johns. . . . With a plot worthy of a miniseries, an extensive cast, and a historical sweep, Paul succeeds in entertaining as well as enlightening." —**Kirkus**

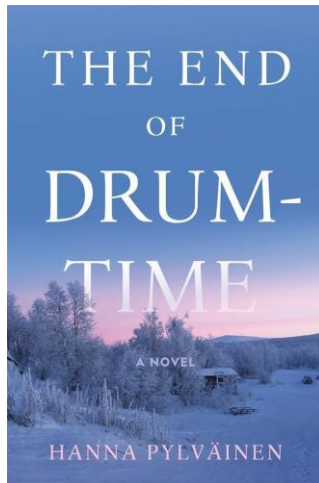
"*Did You Hear About Kitty Karr?* is an intoxicating and seductive debut, drawing you into an underground Hollywood world that is as glamorous as it is dangerous. Crystal Smith Paul is a thrilling new voice in fiction and I cannot wait to see what she does next." —**Taylor Jenkins Reid, bestselling author of *The Seven Husbands of Evelyn Hugo* and *Carrie Soto Is Back***

Henry Holt Fiction

Hanna Pylväinen
THE END OF DRUM-TIME
A Novel

Publication: January 2023
Editor: Caroline Zancan

Finished books available



An epic love story in the vein of *Cold Mountain* and *The Great Circle*, about a young reindeer herder and a minister's daughter in the nineteenth century Arctic Circle.

In 1851, at a remote village in the Scandinavian tundra, a Lutheran minister known as Mad Lasse tries in vain to convert the native Sámi reindeer herders to his faith. But when one of the most respected herders has a dramatic awakening and dedicates his life to the church, his impetuous son, Ivvár, is left to guard their diminishing herd alone. By chance, he meets Mad Lasse's daughter Willa, and their blossoming infatuation grows into something that ultimately crosses borders—of cultures, of beliefs, and of political divides—as Willa follows the herders on their arduous annual migration north to the sea. Gorgeously written and sweeping in scope, Hanna Pylväinen's **THE END OF DRUM-TIME** immerses readers in a world lit by the northern lights, steeped in age-old rituals, and guided by passions that transcend place and time.

Hanna Pylväinen is the author of the novel *We Sinners*, which received a Whiting Award and a Balcones Fiction Prize. Her work has appeared in *Harper's Magazine*, the *New York Times*, the *New York Times Magazine*, *Chicago Tribune*, and the *Wall Street Journal*; she is the recipient of fellowships from the Fine Arts Work Center in Provincetown, Princeton University's Lewis Center for the Arts, the Lower Manhattan Cultural Council, the American-Scandinavian Foundation, and the Dorothy and Lewis B. Cullman Center for Scholars and Writers at the New York Public Library, as well as residencies from MacDowell, Yaddo, and the Lásságámmi Foundation. She has taught at the University of Michigan, Princeton University, Virginia Commonwealth University; currently, she is on the faculty at the Warren Wilson College MFA Program for Writers. She lives in Philadelphia.

An *NPR* Book of the Day
Named a Most Anticipated Book of 2023 by *Elle*

"A monumental feat of melodic prose and astute observation... *The End of Drum-Time* transports readers to the otherworldly tundra of Scandinavia, circa 1851, where minister Lars Levi is 'always after' the 'heart' of the native Sámi reindeer herders, whom he seeks to convert. When one of these Sámi falls for Lars's own daughter, the resulting adventure is one as powerful and profound as the book's awe-inspiring setting." —

Elle

"The writing is so beautiful and so entrancing that you'll embrace both the harsh realities of herding and hunting in sub-zero temperatures, and the doctrines dictated by a culture centered on suffering and submission." —***NPR***

"Ambitious and resonant, a vivid, fascinating, and moving novel... Beautifully written and masterfully researched." —***Kirkus*, *starred review***

"Transcendent." —***Publishers Weekly* *starred review***

Rights sold: **French**/Editions Paulsen, **German**/Hanserblau

Josh Riedel
PLEASE REPORT YOUR BUG HERE
A Novel

Publication: January 2023
Editor: Natalia Ruiz

Finished books 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.

"[A] sharp literary thriller." —*The New York Times*

"*Please Report Your Bug Here* is a gripping literary thriller that forces us to confront our complicity in the technologies reshaping human connections, and it asks how far we will go to maintain those connections.

Dark, funny, and highly inventive, Riedel's debut is as addictive as the apps it criticizes." —*Vulture*

"A smart exposé of the tech boom imbued with a touch of weird fantastical elements..." —*Publishers Weekly*

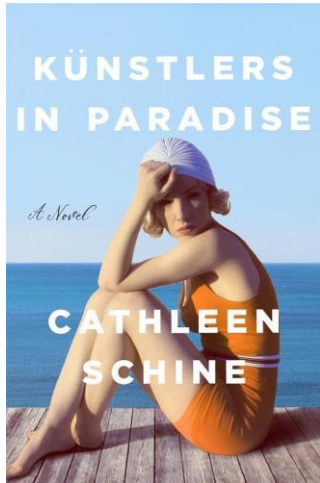
"The book is a great addition to the growing canon of literature examining the role and reach of Silicon Valley." —*Booklist*

Henry Holt Fiction

Cathleen Schine
KÜNSTLERS IN PARADISE
A Novel

Publication: March 2023
Editor: Sarah Crichton

Finished books available



There was a time when the family Künstler lived in the fairy-tale city of Vienna. Circumstances transformed that fairy tale into a nightmare, and in 1939 the Künstlers found their way out of Vienna and into a new fairy tale: Los Angeles, California, United States of America.

For years Mamie Künstler, ninety-three-years-old, as clever and glamorous as ever, has lived happily in her bungalow in Venice, California with her inscrutable housekeeper and her gigantic St. Bernard dog. Their tranquility is upended when Mamie's grandson, Julian, arrives from New York City. Like many twenty-somethings, he has come to seek his fortune in Hollywood. But it is 2020, the global pandemic sweeps in, and Julian's short visit suddenly has no end in sight.

Mamie was only eleven when the Künstlers escaped Vienna in 1939. They made their way, stunned and overwhelmed, to sunny, surreal Los Angeles where they joined a colony of distinguished Jewish musicians, writers and intellectuals also escaping Hitler. Now, faced with months of lockdown and a willing listener, Mamie begins to tell Julian the buried stories of her early years in Los Angeles: her escapades with eminent émigrés like Arnold Schoenberg, Christopher Isherwood, Thomas Mann. Oh, and Greta Garbo. While the pandemic cuts Julian off from the life he knows, Mamie's tales open up a world of lives that came before him. They reveal to him just how much the past holds of the future.

Cathleen Schine is the author of *The Grammarians*, *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.

"Schine's delight in language is contagious—she offers up words like baubles, turning them this way and that to catch the light...A paean to the regenerative power of storytelling and to Los Angeles itself."

—***The New York Times Book Review***

"Dreamy, drifty, and droll, studded with lush botanical description and historical gems. Schine's many fans will enjoy." —***Kirkus***

"Reading like a cross between *Leopoldstadt* and *Down and Out in Beverly Hills*, this does the trick as an emotionally resonant meditation on family, memory, and the need for stories." —***Publishers Weekly***

"Few authors could pull off what Cathleen Schine does in *Künstlers in Paradise*: creating a seamless, multilayered saga about family dynamics and relationships, immigration, the early days of Hollywood and the often disturbingly cyclical nature of history...*Künstlers in Paradise* is truly a trove of unexpected rewards." —

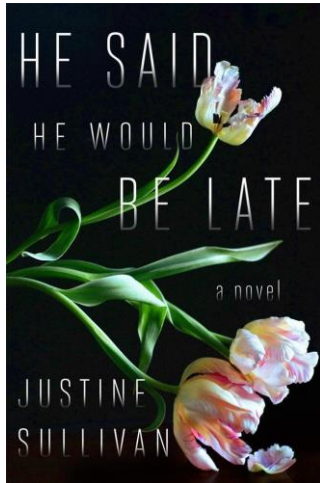
BookPage, *starred review*

Rights sold: Italian/Mondadori

Justine Sullivan
HE SAID HE WOULD BE LATE
A Novel

Publication: March 2023
Editor: Shannon Criss

Finished books available



A fast-paced, twisty psychological debut about the complexities of marriage and new motherhood, told through the frenetic lens of a wife seeking the truth about her husband, at all costs, as the validity of the life she once knew unravels page by page.

Liz Bennett knows that she is one of the lucky ones. Wealthy and charming, Arno is a supportive husband to Liz and a doting father to their daughter, Emma. A rising banker at a top firm in the Boston area, he is the picture of perfection, rounding off their idyllic New England life. But when Liz sees a text on Arno's phone with a kissy-face emoji, her anxiety kicks into overdrive and she begins to worry that her luck has run out.

Plagued by persistent skepticism and countless sleepless nights, Liz decides she must uncover the truth about her husband—as any wife would. So she takes a deep breath and dives down the rabbit hole. As Liz peels back layers of deceit and tracks down every lead, a frenzy begins to take over her life. Could Arno really be unfaithful? Or is Liz's imagination getting the best of her? When everyone around her is convinced she's become unhinged, she must prove, if only to herself, that a woman's intuition expands beyond a single cryptic text.

Justine Sullivan was born and raised just outside of Baltimore, Maryland, where she failed to learn how to shuck a crab and never attended a single Orioles game. She did, however, discover a passion for reading at her local Harford County Library. She went on to study English Literature at the University of Delaware and then earned her master's in journalism from Boston University and has since spent a number of 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***

“A sharp debut examining the often-destabilizing identity of new motherhood, as well as postpartum depression, anxiety, and insecurity. Sullivan deftly conveys the overwhelming frustration of maintaining appearances as she leads readers through an emotional journey to an open-ended but deeply satisfying conclusion.” —**Chris Cander, *USA Today* bestselling author of *A Gracious Neighbor***

“A pacey, compelling tale of obsession that's also an insightful and intimate look at marriage and the many vulnerabilities of new motherhood, this gorgeous debut truly shines!” —**Christina McDonald, *USA Today* bestselling author of *The Night Olivia Fell***

“*He Said He Would Be Late* is mesmerizing and propulsive—at once a humorous and relatable exploration of motherhood and marriage and an entirely successful story of suspense. I absolutely adored this book.” —
Nora Murphy, author of *The Favor*

Metropolitan Books Nonfiction



Metropolitan Books Nonfiction

Andrew Bacevich

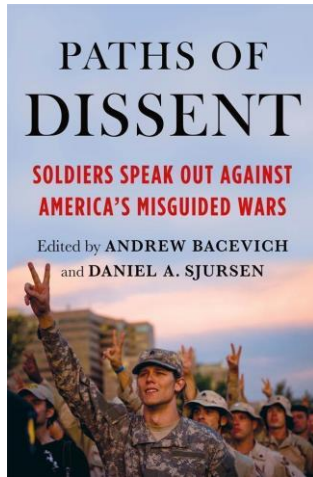
PATHS OF DISSENT

Soldiers Speak Out Against America's Misguided Wars

Publication: August 2022

Finished books available

Editor: Tim Duggan



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*.

"The contributors are excellent writers...An excellent, timely collection offering analysis of two decades of war and a broad swath of ideas and possible solutions to problems the military is largely incapable of fixing without outside attention." —***Booklist***

"Gripping...Full of potent criticism and anguished admissions of guilt, this is a visceral takedown of America's forever wars." —***Publishers Weekly***

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

Metropolitan Books Nonfiction

Mara Kardas-Nelson

THE POVERTY TRAP
The Seductive Promise of Microfinance

Publication: June 2024

Proposal available; manuscript available June 2023

Editor: Serena Jones

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, *New York Times* bestselling author of *This is Your Mind on Plants*

"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, *New York Times* bestselling author of *American Midnight*

Metropolitan Books Nonfiction

Becca Rothfeld

ALL THINGS ARE TOO SMALL

Publication: April 2024

Proposal available; manuscript available April 2023

Editor: Riva Hocherman

ALL THINGS ARE TOO SMALL is brilliant cultural critic Becca Rothfeld's soul cry for derangement: imbalance, obsession, gluttony, ravishment, ugliness, and unbound truth in aesthetics, whether we're talking about literature, criticism, or design. In a healthy culture, Rothfeld argues, economic security allows for wild aesthetic experimentation and excess; alas, in the contemporary Anglophone West, we've got it flipped. The gap between rich and poor, privileged and oppressed, yawns hideously wide, while we stagnate in a cultural equality that imposes restraint.

Rothfeld shows how our culture's misguided embrace of purism has backfired: how "decluttering" has reduced our living spaces to vacant non-places; how the "mindfulness" trend has in fact emptied our minds of the musings, thoughts, and obsessions that make us who we are; how the regularization of sex has drained it of unpredictability and therefore true eroticism; and how our craze for balance has yielded fictions with protagonists who aspire, stylistically and substantively, to excise their most audacious appetites. **ALL THINGS ARE TOO SMALL** also pays positive homage to unsung disproportions, among them power differentials in sadomasochistic sexual relationships, inequalities between those who wait and those who are waited on, and disparities that distinguish online lurkers and the objects of their fascination.

With uncompromising intellect, exuberance, and sly humor, Rothfeld insists that in culture, imbalance functions as a kind of catapult, transforming our stagnant beliefs and identities. For culture to change, she says, it must bulge and binge. Readers of Jia Tolentino and Rebecca Solnit will be enthralled by this provocative and delightfully contrarian debut.

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*, *Booksforum*, *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

Metropolitan Books Nonfiction

Giovanni Russonello

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

Publication: April 2025
2024

Proposal available; manuscript available April

Editor: Riva Hocherman

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). Giovanni Russonello is the only writer 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, he has the rare authority and ability to write what will 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

Metropolitan Books Nonfiction

Tim Schwab

THE BILL GATES PROBLEM

Reckoning with the Myth of the Good Billionaire

Publication: November 2023
available

Manuscript

Editor: Tim Duggan

A powerful investigation of the Gates Foundation, interrogating how Bill Gates uses philanthropy as a political tool with no accountability.

Through philanthropy, Bill Gates has transformed himself from a tech villain to one of the most admired people on the planet. Even as divorce proceedings and allegations of workplace misconduct have recently tarnished his public image, the beneficence of the Gates Foundation, celebrated for spending billions to save lives around the globe, is taken as a given. But as Tim Schwab shows in this fearless investigation, Gates is still exactly who he was at Microsoft: a bully and monopolist who believes he should control the fields in which he works, whether it is vaccine policy or software markets. At the core, he is not a selfless philanthropist but a power broker, a genius engineer who has innovated a method to turn extreme wealth into undemocratic political power. As his charitable foundation benefits from billions of dollars in taxpayer subsidies (and spends only a small fraction of his staggering fortune), it answers to no one, enabling Gates to shape global policy in public health, education, and agriculture in whatever way he decides.

Piercing the blinding halo that has for too long shielded the world's most powerful charitable organization from public scrutiny, **THE BILL GATES PROBLEM** offers groundbreaking reporting into how Gates's billions have purchased influence over public policy, private markets, scientific research, and the news media. Whether he is pushing new educational standards in America, health reforms in India, or industrial agriculture throughout Africa, Gates's heady social experimentation often runs counter to the needs and desires of intended beneficiaries, and often does more harm than good. His assumed leadership over the pandemic proved to be the ultimate referendum, as Gates's dogmatic beliefs in market-based solutions and intellectual property played a crucial role in keeping COVID vaccines from poorer countries.

Like dark-money campaign contributions or big-business political lobbying, Bill Gates's philanthropic empire should be seen as a problem of money in politics, a cautionary tale about the dangers of extreme wealth, and an illustration of the growing appearance of oligarchy in global governance. It is a model of unconstrained power that threatens democracy and demands our attention.

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

Metropolitan Books Nonfiction

Nathan Thrall

A DAY IN THE LIFE OF ABED SALAMA
Anatomy of a Jerusalem Tragedy

Publication: October 2023

Manuscript available

Editor: Riva Hocherman

From "one of the best-informed and most trenchant observers of the conflict" (*Financial Times*), the intimate story of a deadly accident outside Jerusalem that unravels a tangle of lives, loves, enmities, and histories over the course of one revealing, heartbreaking day.

Five-year-old Milad Salama is excited for the school trip to a theme park on the outskirts of Jerusalem. On the way, his bus collides with a semitrailer in a horrific accident. His father, Abed, gets word of the crash and rushes to the site. The scene is chaos—the children have been taken to different hospitals in Jerusalem and the West Bank; some are missing, others cannot be identified. Abed sets off on an odyssey to learn Milad's fate. It is every parent's worst nightmare, but for Abed it is compounded by the maze of physical, emotional, and bureaucratic obstacles he must navigate because he is Palestinian. He is on the wrong side of the separation wall, holds the wrong ID to pass the military checkpoints, and has the wrong papers to enter the city of Jerusalem.

Abed's quest to find Milad is interwoven with the stories of a cast of Jewish and Palestinian characters whose lives and histories unexpectedly converge: a kindergarten teacher and a mechanic who rescue children from the burning bus; an Israeli army commander and a Palestinian official who confront the aftermath at the scene of the crash; a settler paramedic; ultra-Orthodox emergency service workers; and two mothers who each hope to claim one severely injured boy.

Immersive and gripping, **A DAY IN THE LIFE OF ABED SALAMA** is an indelibly human portrait of the Jewish-Palestinian struggle that offers a new understanding of the tragic history and reality of one of the most contested places on earth.

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

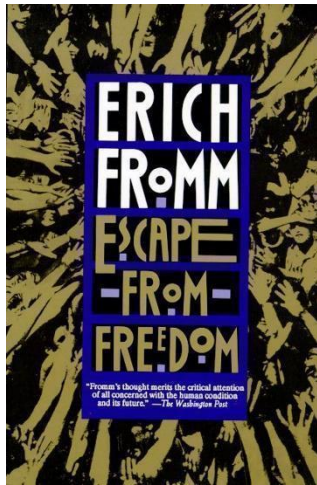


HOLT

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, Norwegian/Sisyfos Forlag, 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

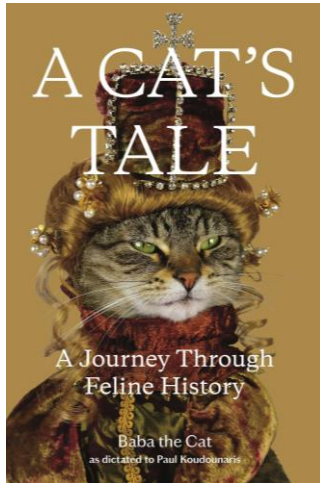
Paul Koudounaris
A CAT'S TALE

A Journey Through Feline History

Publication: November 2020

Henry Holt Nonfiction

Editor: Ruby Rose Lee



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**

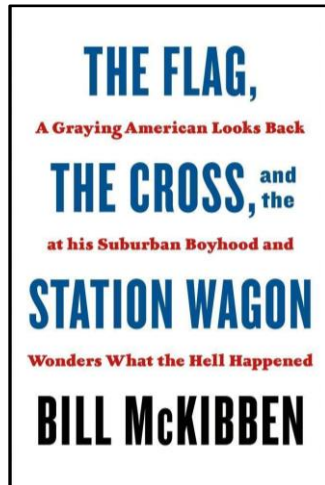
"Almost certainly the most unique cat history book ever published." —**Smithsonian Magazine**

Rights sold: Chinese (complex)/Rye Field, Chinese (simplified)/Golden Rose Books,
German/Benevento, Polish/Znak, Thai/Amarin, Turkish/SAY Kitap

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
Editor: Sarah Crichton

Henry Holt Nonfiction



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. 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.

“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**/Wildfire (Headline UK), **Danish**/Information, **French**/Massot, **German**/Karl Blessing, **Korean**/Saenggakieum, **Portuguese (in Brazil)**/Alta, **Russian**/Portal

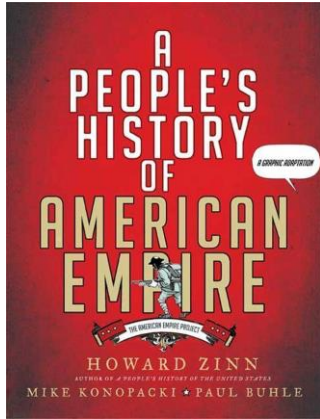
Rights sold, *Eaarth*: ANZ/Black Inc., **Chinese (complex)**/Global Group Holdings, **Chinese (simplified)**/CITIC, **Croatian**/Izvori, **Czech**/Nakladatelství Paseka, **Danish**/Information, **Italy**/Edizioni Ambiente, **Turkish**/TEMA Vakfy

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

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 comic indictment of [the] 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*

Rights sold: British/Constable & Robinson

Previous licenses: Arabic/Nursen, French/Delcourt, Greek/Aiora, Hungarian/Theatre Le Levain, Italian/Hazard, Japanese/East, Korean/Darun Publisher, Spanish/Sins Entido, Swedish/Epix, Turkish/NTV

FOREIGN AGENTS REPRESENTING HENRY HOLT AND COMPANY

BRAZILIAN

Laura & João Paulo Riff
Agencia RIFF
Av Calogeras, 6/1007
20030-070 Centro
Rio de Janeiro, Brasil
tel: 55 21 22876299
laura@agenciariiff.com.br
joaopaulo@agenciariiff.com.br

BULGARIAN

Katalina Sabeva
Anthea Agency
62 G.M. Dimitrov Blvd., Suite 20
Sofia 1172, Bulgaria
tel: (359 2) 986 1866
katalina@antheaights.com

CHINESE (COMPLEX)

David Tsai
Bardon-Chinese Media Agency
3F., No. 150, Sec. 2, Roosevelt Rd.,
Taipei City 100, Taiwan
tel: 886-2-2364 4995 ext. 35
david@bardonchinese.com

CHINESE (SIMPLIFIED)

David Tsai
Bardon-Chinese Media Agency
Room 2-702, Building 2, RongHuaShijia,
No. 29, XiaoYingBeiLu, ChaoYang District,
Beijing 100101, China
tel: (86 10) 8223 5383
david@bardonchinese.com

CROATIAN, SERBIAN, SLOVENIAN

Vuk Perisic
Plima Literary Agency
Branka Copica 20, PO BOX 6
11160 Belgrade, Serbia
tel: (38-1)11 304 6386
vuk@plimaliterary.rs

CZECH & SLOVAK

Kristin Olson
Literarni Agentura s.r.o.
Klimentaska 24
110 00 Praha 1, Czech Republic
tel: (420-2) 22582-2042
kristin.olson@litag.cz

DUTCH & SWEDISH

Flora Esterly
Henry Holt & Company
Subsidiary Rights Manager
tel: (212) 206-5304
flora.esterly@fsgbooks.com

ESTONIAN, LATVIAN, LITHUANIAN

Tatjana Zoldnere
ANA Baltic
Gertrudes iela 34
Riga, LV-1011, Latvia
tel: +371 6 7506 495
zoldnere@anab.apollo.lv

FRENCH

Corinne Marotte
Marotte et Compagnie Agence littéraire
45 rue Marx Dormoy
Paris 75018, France
info@marotteetcompagnie.ag

GERMAN

Marc Koralnik & Leonie Kress
Liepman Agency
Asylstrasse 92, CH-8032
Zürich, Switzerland
tel: (41-43) 268-2380
marc.koralnik@liepmanagency.com
leonie.kress@liepmanagency.com

GREEK

Nike Davarinou
Read n' Right Agency
26, Dimitriou Street,
34132 Chalkida, Greece
Tel: 302221029798
nike@readnright.gr
readnright@ath.forthnet.gr

HUNGARIAN

Peter Bolza
Kátai & Bolza
Szerb u. 17-19
H-1056, Budapest, Hungary
tel: +36 (1) 456 0313
fax: +36(1) 215 4420
peter@kataibolza.hu

HEBREW

Geula Geurts
The Deborah Harris Agency
PO 52195
Jerusalem, 9152101, Israel
tel: (972-2) 563-3237
geula@thedeborahharrisagency.com

ITALIAN

Claire Sabatie Garat
The Italian Literary Agency
Via De Amicis 53
20123 Milan, Italy
tel: +39 02 86 54 45
claire.sabatiegarat@italianliterary.com

INDONESIAN, THAI, VIETNAMESE

Santo Manurung
Maxima Creative Agency
Beryl Timur No.41, Gading Serpong
Tangerang 15810, Indonesia
tel : 62-21-5421 7768
santo.maxima@gmail.com

JAPANESE

Hamish MacAskill
The English Agency
Sakuragi Bldg. 4F, 6-7-3 Minami Aoyama,
Minato-ku, Tokyo, 107-0062 Japan
tel: (81-3) 3406-5385
hamish@ejaj.co.jp

KOREAN

Joeun Lee
KCC
Gyeonghigung Achim Complex 3
Offictel #520
34, Sajik-ro 8-gil, Jongno-gu,
Seoul 03174, Korea
tel: (82-2) 725-3350
fax: (82-2) 725-3612
jelee@kccseoul.com

POLISH

Dominika Bojanowska
Anna Jarota Agency Poland
ul. Wilcza 42/11
00-679 Warsaw, Poland
tel: (48-22) 635 80 61
dominika@ajapl.com

ROMANIAN

Simona Kessler & Andreea Focsaneanu
International Copyright Agency
Str. Banul Antonache 37
70 000 Bucharest 1, Romania
tel: (40 21) 316-4806
fax: (40 21) 316-4794
simona@kessler-agency.ro andreea@kessler-agency.ro

RUSSIAN

Beata Glińska
Anna Jarota Agency Poland
Ul. Wilcza 42/11
00-679 Warsaw, Poland
tel: (48 22) 635 80 61
beata@ajapl.com

SPANISH & PORTUGUESE

Mónica Martín, Txell Torrent
& Aida Tarragona
MB Agencia Literaria
Ronda Sant Pere 62, 1º 2º
08010 Barcelona, Spain
tel: (93) 265 90 61
fax: (93) 232 72 21
monica@mbagencialiteraria.es
aida@mbagencialiteraria.es

TURKISH

Amy Spangler
AnatoliaLit Agency
Caferaga Mah., Gunesli Bahce Sok.
No:48 Or.Ko Apt., B Blok D:4
34710 Kadikoy- Istanbul, Turkey
tel: +90 216 700 1088
fax: +90 216 700 1089
amy@anatolialit.com

UK & ALL OTHER TERRITORIES

Devon Mazzone
Henry Holt & Company
VP, Subsidiary Rights
tel: (212) 206-5301
devon.mazzone@fsgbooks.com