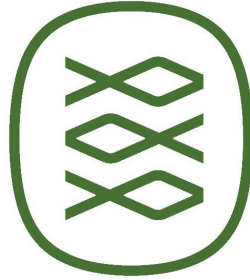


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LONDON BOOK FAIR 2022

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FICTION

Farrar, Straus and Giroux

FSG Originals

MCD

MCD x FSG Originals



Frank Bill
BACK TO THE DIRT
A Novel

FSG Originals, Fiction, November 2022 (manuscript available May 2022)

A timeless—and timely—work: a gritty, wrenching novel from deep inside the traumas of the broken American male psyche.

Miles is a Vietnam vet who's worried he's going to lose his job and his tenuous grasp on a stable life because of a fight he had with a coworker over some steroids. His PTSD and struggles to control his steroid-fueled violent tendencies complicate his life with his girlfriend Shelby, a stripper who only occasionally seems to have the proverbial heart of gold. She certainly seems to possess more kindness and generosity than her brother, Wylie, who's currently on the run after being implicated in the deaths of two local Oxy dealers and has their family on his tail. When Wylie kidnaps his sister and holes up in Miles's country lair, it is, frankly, threatening to become a bit too much for steroid-addled Miles to keep together.

This is clearly Frank Bill's territory. But in **BACK TO THE DIRT**, he goes deeper and purer. As Bill peels back the layers of Miles's history, accompanying him into his Vietnam War memories, the novel gets to the root of the traumas that have caused Miles—and his community—so much trouble. And this, truly, is the soul of the Frank Bill project: to speak of and for the forgotten struggles of the American heartland. He reaches deep for the core values—living close to the land, working with your hands—that have been obscured by generations of neglect, trauma, drug abuse, and desperation. This is a profound and important story that is only beginning to get its due attention, and Bill is its most visceral, essential chronicler.

Frank Bill is the author of the novels *The Savage* and *Donnybrook*, which was turned into a film in 2018, and the story collection *Crimes in Southern Indiana*, one of *GQ*'s favorite books of 2011 and a *Daily Beast* best debut of 2011. He lives and writes in southern Indiana.

Praise for *Donnybrook*:
Now a Major Motion Picture

"Yes, the mayhem quotient is off the charts in Bill's debut novel, but there is much more to *Donnybrook* than characters maimed and murdered in nightmarish ways. The cast is memorable, the dialogue crackles, the tension is unrelenting—and it all happens for a reason... You'll be riveted by the depravity while marveling at Bill's skill at telling this testosterone-fueled tale." —**Dave Astor, *The Washington Post***

"In the world of faces punched, crank snorted, guts shot, and whiskey pounded, Frank Bill is king, and *Donnybrook* sets him up as the poet laureate of the apocalypse. Steeped in nonstop action, dark human need, and the coming end of civility in America, this novel is a stunning debut." —**Christopher Krovatin, *Revolver***

"Bill is one hell of a storyteller." —**Kirkus**

Rights sold, *Donnybrook*: **British**/Heinemann, **Dutch**/Karakter, **French**/Gallimard/La Série Noire, **German**/Suhrkamp, **Norwegian**/Aschehoug



Imogen Binnie

NEVADA

A Novel

MCD x FSG Originals, Fiction, June 2022 (manuscript available)

One of the most beloved cult novels of our time and a landmark of trans literature, Imogen Binnie's **NEVADA** is a blistering, heartfelt, and evergreen coming-of-age story, and a punk-smeared excavation of marginalized life under capitalism. Guided by an instantly memorable, terminally self-aware protagonist—and back in print for the novel's tenth anniversary, featuring a new afterword by the author—**NEVADA** is the great American road novel flipped on its head for a new generation.

Maria Griffiths is almost 30 and works at a used bookstore in New York City while trying to stay true to her punk values. She's in love with her bike but not with her girlfriend, Steph. She takes random pills and drinks more than is good for her, but doesn't inject anything except, when she remembers, estrogen, because she's trans. Everything is mostly fine until Maria and Steph break up, sending Maria into a tailspin, and then onto a cross-country trek in the car she steals from Steph. She ends up in the backwater town of Star City, Nevada, where she meets James, who is probably but not certainly trans, and who reminds Maria of her younger self. As Maria finds herself in the awkward position of trans role model, she realizes that she could become James's savior—or his downfall.

Imogen Binnie is the author of the novel *Nevada*, which won the Betty Berzon Emerging Writer Award and was a finalist for the 2014 Lambda Literary Award for Transgender Fiction. A writer for several television shows and a former columnist for *Maximum Rocknroll*, she lives in Vermont with her family.

Praise for **NEVADA**:

"A funny, free-wheeling...cult novel, brimming with ideas and arguments...What's it like to be a trans woman? This heady novel offers one indelible perspective." —**Kirkus**

"*Nevada* is a book that changed my life: it shaped both my worldview and personhood, making me the writer I am. And it did so by the oldest of methods, by telling a wise, hilarious, and gripping story."—**Torrey Peters, author of *Detransition, Baby***

"[*Nevada*] is everything—personal, political, funny, raw, hyper-brainy, and down to earth. I want to stay in Maria's brain forever as she rides her bike through the streets of Brooklyn, doggedly hashing out her existence with humor and befuddled honesty. A really powerful new literary voice." —**Michelle Tea, author of *Valencia***

"I was privileged to witness *Nevada*'s birth ten years ago by the revolutionary and gutsy Topside Press, and I'm here to testify that this reissue proves *Nevada* changed the world. Imogen Binnie's wise, honest, funny and brazenly intellectual work inspired the future and is still provocative, deep and fun to read." —**Sarah Schulman, author of *Let the Record Show***

"Imogen Binnie's gimlet-eyed prose is raw, funny, and then devastating. I can't get Maria Griffiths out of my head: she's an edgy heroine, a new archetype—the quintessential late 20s punk rock trans girl blowing up her life and making friends on the road (or in the parking lot)." —**Andrea Lawlor, author of *Paul Takes the Form of the Mortal Girl***

British/Picador UK



John Darnielle
DEVIL HOUSE
A Novel

MCD, Fiction, January 2022 (finished books available)
An instant New York Times Bestseller

From the *New York Times* bestselling author and the singer-songwriter of the Mountain Goats comes an epic, gripping novel about murder, truth, and the dangers of storytelling.

Gage Chandler is descended from kings. That's what his mother always told him. Years later, he is a true crime writer, with one grisly success—and movie adaptation—to his name, along with a series of subsequent lesser efforts. But now he is being offered the chance for the big break: to move into the house—what the locals call “The Devil House”—in which a briefly notorious pair of murders occurred, apparently the work of disaffected 1980s teens. He begins his research with diligence and enthusiasm, but soon the story leads him into a puzzle he never expected—back into his own work and what it means, back to the very core of what he does and who he is.

John Darnielle has long been known to millions of fans as a storyteller of uncanny sensitivity and mythic power. In *Universal Harvester* and *Wolf in White Van* before it, he has proven himself a novelist of the highest order. With **DEVIL HOUSE**, Darnielle rises above with a novel that blurs the line between fact and fiction, that combines daring formal experimentation with a spellbinding tale of crime, writing, memory, and artistic obsession.

John Darnielle's first novel, *Wolf in White Van*, was a *New York Times* bestseller, National Book Award nominee, and a finalist for the *Los Angeles Times* Book Prize for first fiction. His second book, *Universal Harvester*, was also a *New York Times* bestseller, and a finalist for the Locus Award. He is the writer, composer, guitarist, and vocalist for the band the Mountain Goats. He lives in Durham, North Carolina, with his wife and sons.

Praise for DEVIL HOUSE:

“*Devil House* is terrific: confident, creepy, a powerful and soulful page-turner. I had no idea where it was going, in the best possible sense...It's never quite the book you think it is. It's better.” —**Dwight Garner, *The New York Times***

"Suspenseful, brilliant and chaotically addicting, *Devil House* triumphs as a page-turning metafictional treatise on the power of narratives cloaked in the trappings of a certifiable true crime classic." —**Zack Ruskin, *San Francisco Chronicle***

“*Devil House* has all the gross-out hallmarks of horror and true crime while also questioning the moral implications of the genres.”—***Los Angeles Times***

Rights sold: **ANZ/Scribe, Japanese/Hayakawa, Turkish/Ithaki**

Rights sold, *Universal Harvester*: **British/Scribe UK, German/Eichborn**

Rights sold, *Wolf in White Van*: **ANZ/Scribe, British/Granta UK, Dutch/Nieuw Amsterdam, French/Calmann-Levy, German/Eichborn, Italian/Rizzoli, Portuguese (in Brazil)/Record, Spanish/Contra, Turkish/Ithaki**

Forthcoming in 2023: THE COMPLETE LYRICKS, 2000-2021



Andy Davidson
THE HOLLOW KIND
A Novel

MCD x FSG Originals, Fiction, October 2022 (manuscript available)

Nellie Gardner, nee Redfern, is headed back home to Empire to claim her grandfather's decrepit land in the hopes of building a new life for her and her eleven-year-old son, Max—a life far away from her sociopathic husband. But what she finds in the wreckage of Redfern Hill plantation is a legacy of bloodshed and unholy secrets.

Townsfolk in Empire, Georgia, know the stories about Orin Redfern—how the old man went crazy with grief after his wife killed herself in the winter of 1938, how he burned down his own turpentine mill and half the pine forest that made him rich, and how he claimed, until his dying day, that something evil had taken root in those woods.

And indeed, mysterious things start happening as Nellie tries to settle into her grandfather's home: old ghosts awake within the pine-board walls of her new home and Nellie will have to decide how far she's willing to go to keep her son safe from the evil that has long hungered for the hearts of Redfern men—even if it means surrendering her own soul in the fight.

Andy Davidson is the Bram Stoker Award-nominated author of *In the Valley of the Sun*, his debut novel, which also brought him such accolades as runner-up for the 2017 *This is Horror's* Novel of the Year Award, finalist for the 2018 Silver Falchion Award and nominee for the 2018 Edinburgh International Book Festival First Book Award. His second novel, *The Boatman's Daughter*, was awarded a Horror Writers Association's 2020 Bram Stoker Award Preliminary Ballot, Superior Achievement in a Novel, and was included in Best Books of 2020 lists from Library Journal, NPR, Washington Independent Review, and the New York Public Library. He holds an MFA in fiction from the University of Mississippi. Born and raised in Arkansas, he makes his home in Georgia, where he teaches college English.

Praise for THE HOLLOW KIND:

"Andy Davidson is quickly establishing himself as the newest master of southern gothic horror. *The Hollow Kind* seeps into your subconscious and waits for you in your nightmares." —**S. A. Cosby, bestselling author of *Razorblade Tears* and *Blacktop Wasteland***

"Whether you call it historical horror, folk horror, or southern gothic, Andy Davidson's *The Hollow Kind* is as beautifully written as it is chilling. The combination of dual timelines with a little-explored piece of America's past truly sets this book apart. Every page reverberates with inescapable dread." —**Alma Katsu, author of *The Fervor***

"*The Hollow Kind* is a gloriously wild, twisted family saga with buckets of body horror and is going to mess you up good." —**Paul Tremblay, author of *The Pallbearers Club*, via Twitter**

British/Titan Books

Rights sold, *The Boatman's Daughter*: **British/Titan Books, French/Gallmeister, Russian/EXMO, Turkish/Epsilon**



Katherine Dunn; Foreword by Molly Crabapple

TOAD

A Novel

MCD, Fiction, November 2022 (manuscript available)

Katherine Dunn, author of *Attic* (1970), *Truck* (1971), and the cult classic *Geek Love* (1989), passed away in 2016 at the age of 70, leaving behind various works in different states. Amongst these hidden treasures, the previously unpublished, yet completed, **TOAD** was discovered, bringing to the fore the “newest” novel by the late Dunn to be published in over 30 years.

Sally Gunnar has been in love, has been mad, has been an agent of destruction, has been spurned; and now she has retreated from the world. She lives in isolation in her small house, where her only companions are a vase of goldfish, a garden toad, and the door-to-door salesman who sells her cleaning supplies once a month. From her comfortable perch, she broods over her deepest regrets: her wayward, weed-hazy college days; her blighted romance with a scornful poet; a tragically comic accident involving a paper cutter; a suicide attempt; and her decision to ultimately relinquish a conventional life.

Colorful, crass, and profound, **TOAD** is Katherine Dunn’s ode to her time as a student at Reed College, filled with the same keen observations, taboo-shirking verve, and singular characters that made *Geek Love* a cult classic. Through the perceptive Sally, a fish out of water among a cadre of eccentric, privileged young people, we meet Sam, an unwashed collector of other people’s stories; Carlotta, a free spirit who nevertheless fails to escape the deception of marriage; and Rennel, a shallow, self-obsessed philosophy student. With sly self-deprecation and mordant wit, Sally recounts their misadventures, up to the tragedy that tore them apart.

Through it all, **TOAD** demonstrates Dunn’s genius for black humor and irony, her ecstatic celebration of the grotesque. Daring and bizarre, **TOAD** is a brilliant precursor to the book that would make Dunn a misfit hero—even fifty-some years after it was written, it’s a refreshing take on the lives of young outsiders treading the delicate lines between isolation and freedom, love and insanity, hatred and friendship.

Katherine Dunn is the author of *Geek Love*, which was a finalist for the National Book Award and the Bram Stoker Prize, as well as the novels *Attic*, *Truck*, *One-Ring Circus*, and *On Cussing*. She was an award-winning boxing journalist whose work appeared in *Esquire*, *KO Magazine*, *The New York Times Magazine*, *Playboy*, *The Ring*, *Sports Illustrated*, and *Vogue*. In 2004, Dunn and the photographer Jim Lommasson won the Lange-Taylor Documentary Prize for their work on the book *Shadow Boxers*. She died in 2016.

Forthcoming in 2024: an untitled collection featuring previously unpublished short stories



Fernando A. Flores

VALLEYESQUE

Stories

MCD x FSG Originals, Fiction, May 2022 (finished books available)

VALLEYESQUE is a collection of psychedelic, dazzling stories set in the cracks of the Texas-Mexico borderland, from an iconoclastic storyteller and the author of *Tears of the Trufflepig*. In Fernando A. Flores's immersive, uncanny stories, things are never what they seem: a world exists where the sun is both rising and setting, and where conniving possums efficiently take over an entire town and rewrite its history.

VALLEYESQUE dances between the fantastical and hyperreal with dexterous, often hilarious flair. A dying Fryderyk Chopin stumbles through Mexico City in the aftermath of his mother's death, attempting to recover his beloved piano that was seized at the border, while a muralist is taken on a psychedelic journey by an airbrushed Emiliano Zapata t-shirt. A woman is engulfed by a used clothing warehouse with a life of its own, and a grieving mother breathlessly chronicles the demise of a town decimated by violence. And in two separate stories, queso dip and musical rhythms are bottled up and sold for mass consumption. Swinging between satire and surrealism, grief and joy, **VALLEYESQUE** is a boundary- and border- pushing collection from a one-of-a-kind stylist and voice.

Fernando A. Flores was born in Reynosa, Tamaulipas, Mexico, and grew up in South Texas. He is the author of the collection *Death to the Bullshit Artists of South Texas* and the novel *Tears of the Trufflepig*, which was shortlisted for the Neukom Institute Literary Arts Awards, longlisted for the Center for Fiction First Novel Prize, and named a Best Book of 2019 by *tor.com*. His fiction has appeared in the *Los Angeles Review of Books Quarterly*, *Ploughshares*, *frieze*, *Porter House Review*, and elsewhere. He lives in Austin.

Praise for VALLEYESQUE:

Most Anticipated Books of 2022, *The Millions*

"[Flores is] a cult favorite...[*Valleyesque*] is an accomplished book from an author determined to keep literature weird." —**Kirkus (starred review)**

"Inventive...A work with explosive substance." —**Publishers Weekly**

"These are marvelously unpredictable stories, anchored by Fernando A. Flores's deadpan prose and his surefooted navigation of those overlapping territories, the real and the fantastic, where so much of the best contemporary fiction now lives." —**Kelly Link, author of *Get in Trouble***

"Flores is a masterful stylist...He's one of the rare truly singular fiction writers of our time, and his stories are endlessly innovative, surprising, and fun. *Valleyesque* is not to be missed." —**Matt Bell, author of *Appleseed***

"Fernando A. Flores' voice is unmistakable, authentic and true, and these stories—singular, psychedelic, sad and nimble—capture a writer at the height of his powers." —**Mark Haber, author of *Reinhardt's Garden***

Rights sold, *Tears of the Trufflepig*: **French**/Gallimard, **Spanish**/Bunker Books



Nicola Griffith
MENEWOOD
A Novel

MCD, Fiction, April 2023 (manuscript available May 2022)

In the much anticipated sequel to *Hild*, Nicola Griffith's **MENEWOOD** transports readers back to seventh-century Britain, a land dangerously full of rival kings and rival religions and poised for revolutions like the world has never seen. Hild—now eighteen and married to her forbidden childhood love, battle-scarred and triumphant—is no longer a bright child who charms and dazzles the court with seemingly supernatural insight. But she remains one of the king's most trusted advisors, both seer and warrior, which makes her formidable in a volatile court, and also subject to his majesty's most dangerous whims. She has never been stronger but now, with something to lose, never more vulnerable.

And war is brewing: Old alliances are fraying, the priests are impatient to displace the old religions, vengeful rivals are getting antsy, the king is fat and dangerously confident. Change is in the air, even if Hild is the only one who can clearly sense it. She wants to protect her own—her family, her friends, her land—but is that enough? For them? For her? As she fights to survive the turbulent times, Hild's life will be rocked by unimaginable loss and grief, and anew strength will be forged, as Hild's vision for a new kind of future emerges, and Menewood takes root.

In the last decade, *Hild* has become a beloved classic of epic storytelling. **MENEWOOD** picks up where that heroine's journey left off, and exceeds it in every way.

Nicola Griffith (she/her) is a dual UK/US citizen living in Seattle. She is the author of award-winning novels including *Hild* and *Ammonite*, and her shorter work has appeared in *Nature*, *New Scientist*, *New York Times*, etc. She is the founder and co-host of #CripLit, holds a PhD from Anglia Ruskin University, and enjoys a ferocious bout of wheelchair boxing. She is married to novelist and screenwriter Kelley Eskridge.

Praise for *Hild*:

Winner of the Washington State Book Award for Fiction

"*Hild* is a book as loving as it is fierce, brilliant, and accomplished. To read it felt like a privilege and a gift." —**NPR**

"Terrific...Griffith has taken what little is known of the life of St. Hilda and imagined a vibrant, if brutal, world...*Hild* [is] a pleasure to sink into." —***The Washington Post***

"Sharp as steel, clear as garnet, essential and sensual and right, Griffith's telling of Hild's adventures offers us something far better than mere comfort: the lure of the sublime." —***The Seattle Times***

"Splendid...I can hardly wait for the next." —***Los Angeles Review of Books***

Rights sold, *Hild*: **British/Black Friars**, **Polish/Zysk**, **Spanish/Machado Libros**



Christine Grillo
UNION
A Novel

Fiction, April 2023 (manuscript available May 2022)

Several years into a seemingly inevitable, then status quo U.S. civil war, **UNION** is a darkly funny, achingly accurate novel of a woman seeking love, friendship, and a meaningful life even as the world collapses.

Unionists against Confederates, children against parents, friends against friends: the year is 2022 and the United States has collapsed into a (another) bloody civil war. Meanwhile, Hestia Harris is forty, newly single by virtue of abandonment for the Union Cause, and her parents are absconding to the confederacy. She is adrift, save for her coworkers at the retirement village and her best friend, Mildred, an 84-year-old resident, who gleefully supports Hestia's somewhat half-hearted but nonetheless hopeful attempts to find love in a time of chaos and disunion. *Let's Not Date a Confederate!* Hestia avers, as her parents put up a sign proclaiming *Make Liberals Feel Sad*, and Mildred reminds her *It'll pass... it always does*.

For fans of Maria Semple, Andrew Sean Greer, Ling Ma, and Gail Honeyman, **UNION** is an irreverent, incisive, and laugh-out-loud interrogation of modern love of all kinds, in all its messy beauty. With a heart filled to fend off despair, it asks the seemingly ever-relevant question: how do you embrace a whole life when the whole world is breaking into bits and madness?

Christine Grillo is a writer and editor covering food systems, agriculture, and climate change, whose nonfiction has been published in outlets such as *The New York Times*, *The Atlantic: CityLab*, *Audubon*, *NextTribe*, and *Real Simple*. Her short fiction has appeared in *Story Quarterly*, *The Southern Review* and *LIT*.



Andrew Holleran
THE KINGDOM OF SAND
A Novel

Fiction, June 2022 (manuscript available)

Andrew Holleran's unique literary voice is on full display in this poignant novel of lust, dread, and desire. **THE KINGDOM OF SAND** features a nameless narrator who has survived the death of his friends to AIDS and the loss of his parents to old-age and tragedy; he now must witness the slow demise of friends just a shade older than he is.

Semi-anonymous sexual encounters, gallows humor, and classic films are his tools for staving off the dying of the light. In prose that's in turn mordantly funny and hauntingly elegiac, Holleran takes the reader from a video porn shop off Route 301 to the memory of parties in Washington, D.C. filled with handsome young men to the lonely facades of suburban Gainesville, Florida.

Andrew Holleran's ground-breaking first novel *Dancer from the Dance* is widely regarded as a classic work of gay literature. His following works have established him as one of the great writers of our time. **THE KINGDOM OF SAND** is a book that will burnish Holleran's considerable reputation: a reverie to sex but also a stunningly honest exploration of loneliness and our endless need for human connection, especially as we count down our days.

Andrew Holleran's first novel, *Dancer from the Dance*, was originally published in 1978 to great critical acclaim and is now regarded as a classic. He is also the author of *Nights in Aruba*, *Ground Zero* (reissued as *Chronicles of a Plague*), *The Beauty of Men*, *In September*, *the Light Changes*, and, most recently, *Grief*.

Praise for **THE KINGDOM OF SAND**:

"Holleran writes about desire so beautifully it's often been forgotten that he's one of the best living novelists on friendship. This tender, often very funny novel is a book about that final field of play between friends, when all the masks are removed. I wish it never ended." —**John Freeman, author of *How to Read a Novelist***

"So many of us are wondering, how do we live after losing everything and everyone we loved? Some of us have lived through that, from the most recent pandemic before this one. Holleran's report from the other side is a novel with, if not answers to guide us, questions to guide us. An unexpectedly timely novel—wise, shrewd, and in its way, kind, if honesty is ever kind. And written with the sure hand of a master." —**Alexander Chee**

"Holleran is terrific at description...Thanks to [his] brilliant gift for characterization, the narrator and Earl come alive on the page, commanding readers' attention to what is a splendid, remarkably good book." —**Booklist (starred)**

Praise for *Dancer from the Dance*:

"An astonishingly beautiful book. The best gay novel written by anyone of our generation." —**Harper's**

"Beautifully written, evocative, and hilarious..." —**New Republic**

"Superb...erotic heat percolates through these pages." —**The New York Times Book Review**

British/Jonathan Cape



Liska Jacobs
THE PINK HOTEL
A Novel

Fiction, July 2022 (manuscript available)

Newlyweds Keith and Kit Collins can hardly believe their luck when the general manager of the iconic, opulent Pink Hotel invites them to come for a luxurious stay as a bid to hire Keith. Kit loves their small town life, but Keith has always wanted more, and the glittering, lily-scented lobby makes him feel right at home.

Soon after their arrival, wildfires sweep through the surrounding mountains and Los Angeles becomes a pressure-cooker, with riots breaking out across the city amidst rolling blackouts. The Pink Hotel closes its doors to "outsiders," and Keith and Kit find themselves confined with an anxious, disgruntled staff and a growing roster of eccentric, ultra-wealthy, dangerously idle guests who flock to the hotel for sanctuary, company, and entertainment.

A blistering, dark social satire, **THE PINK HOTEL** exposes a tenuous class system within its walls, full of insurmountable expectations and unspoken resentments, which deteriorate as the city burns. In her barbed, provocative new novel, Liska Jacobs explores the corrosive nature of greed and interrogates the notion of true love, while hurtling readers towards certain disaster.

Liska Jacobs is the author of *Catalina* and *The Worst Kind of Want*. Her essays and short fiction have appeared in *The Rumpus*, the *Los Angeles Review of Books*, *Literary Hub*, *The Millions*, and *The Hairpin*, among other publications. She holds an MFA from the University of California, Riverside.

Praise for THE PINK HOTEL:

"The perfect book. I tore through this one like a California wildfire—an appropriate comparison, given the novel's setting in a high-end hotel beset by fires all around." —**Molly Odintz, CrimeReads**

"A sexy, terrifying, and tremendously fun novel. Liska Jacobs has an extraordinary mind—her writing leaps from darkly claustrophobic to wildly expansive. *The Pink Hotel* is impossible to put down; you will carry it everywhere you go." —**Sanaë Lemoine, author of *The Margot Affair***

"Part social satire and part disaster novel, *The Pink Hotel* is riotous in every sense of the word...This scathing and surreal novel is Liska Jacob's best yet, and it kept me hooked all the way to the brutal, unforgettable end. I loved this book!" —**Sara Sligar, author of *Take Me Apart***

"Jacobs's unerringly precise eye, her deadpan wit, and above all her ferocity—the unflagging energy and vitality of her writing itself—make this book a marvel from start to finish." —**Matthew Specktor, author of *American Dream Machine***

"Heady and dark and dangerous, *The Pink Hotel* is an intoxicating binge of a book. Liska Jacobs's stunning indictment of a society teetering toward apocalypse is one you won't easily forget." —**Janelle Brown, author of *Pretty Things***

Rights sold, *The Worst Kind of Want*: **British/Hodder**

Rights sold, *Catalina*: **Croatian/Leo Commerce, Slovenian/Desk**



Meagan Jennett
YOU KNOW HER
A Novel

Fiction, April 2023 (manuscript available)

Two hours before he vanished, Mark Dixon stole a glass of wine. This is what Sophie Braam tells the police when questioned about her regular customer who was just found, tongueless, in a trash dump. What she doesn't tell them is that she is the one who killed him. Or that his missing tongue is pickling in a jar in her bar fridge.

Standing across the counter is Officer Nora Martin, Bellair Police Department's newest hire, and their only woman in uniform. She's trying very hard to learn the ropes from Detective Richard Murphy while ignoring her new coworkers snapping about a diversity hire.

Bodies pile up, ghosts climb out of their graves, and the two women begin to circle one another, building a friendship over the shared experience of working in male-dominated industries. As winter bursts open into spring, Sophie slides deeper into her unique brand of curdled feminism, and Nora begins to feel that something's not quite right about the bartender who seems to be crawling even when she's standing still. But will Murphy listen to her, or will he laugh off the idea that it might be a female serial killer haunting their little town?

Set against the backdrop of small-town Virginia, **YOU KNOW HER** is an intimate exploration of the terrifying power of feminine rage and grief. When does retribution mean revenge? And when is it forgiveness?

Meagan Jennett is an escaped bartender who traded in crafting cocktails for crafting her own tales. She's a graduate of The University of Glasgow's MLitt program, where she will be returning in the fall to begin her Doctorate of Fine Arts. She has published work in *From Glasgow to Saturn*, *Honey & Lime Lit*, and *Skirting Around Magazine*. *You Know Her* is her debut novel. Meagan currently lives in her hometown of Charlottesville, Virginia.



Andrew Lipstein
LAST RESORT
A Novel

Fiction, January 2022 (finished books available)

In his blazing debut novel, Andrew Lipstein blurs the lines of fact and fiction with a thrilling story of fame, fortune, and impossible choices.

Caleb Horowitz is twenty-seven, and all his dreams are coming true. His manuscript has caught the attention of a literary agent, who offers him money, acclaim, and a taste of the literary life. He can't wait for his book to be shopped around to every editor in New York, except one: Avi Dietsch, a college rival and the novel's "inspiration." When Avi gets his hands on it, he sees nothing but theft—and opportunity. Caleb is forced to make a Faustian bargain, one that tests his theories of success, ambition, and the limits of art.

LAST RESORT is the razor-edged account of a young man's reckless journey into authenticity. As Caleb fights to right his mistakes and reclaim his name, he must burn every bridge, confront his deepest desires, and finally see his work from the perspectives of characters he'd imagined were his own.

Andrew Lipstein lives in Brooklyn, New York, with his wife, Mette, and son, August. His writing has appeared in the *Los Angeles Review of Books*, *The Millions*, *VICE*, *McSweeney's*, and more.

Praise for **LAST RESORT**:

"[An] anti-Künstlerroman...not about the formation of genuine artists but about the self-destruction of phony ones...[*Last Resort*] could mark the advent of a whole genre that allegorizes the professional writer's suspicion that he might be a scammer." —**Molly Young**, *The New York Times*

"Lipstein skewers the pretensions and delusions of literary ambition...[A] deliciously absurd comedy about literary fame." —**Ron Charles**, *The Washington Post*

"*Last Resort*, Andrew Lipstein's almost perfectly plotted debut novel on a topic—creative envy and artistic theft—that tastes like catnip to many readers of literary fiction...has one of the best endings in recent memory...You'll think about [*Last Resort*] for weeks after you read the last pages." —**Nathan Deuel**, *The Los Angeles Times*

"So horribly delicious that the reader (especially the reader who is also a writer) won't even dream of looking away."
—**Emily Temple**, *Literary Hub (Most Anticipated Books of 2022)*

"A blissfully wicked work of art...a lightning-streak of a novel." —**Christopher Bollen**, *Interview*

British/Weidenfeld & Nicolson



Gus Moreno
THIS THING BETWEEN US
A Novel

MCD x FSG Originals, Fiction, October 2021 (finished books available)

THIS THING BETWEEN US by Gus Moreno is a literary horror novel about mourning, love, and the oppressive intimacy of technology.

Even after they pour the dirt over her grave, Thiago Alvarez can't come to terms with his wife's murder. Neither can the media. Thiago just wants to hole up with his guilt, grief, and memories of his wife. But the world won't let him. Neither will Itza, the smart speaker in his condo. She chimes in when no one's speaking. At night Thiago wakes up to see her light stretching across the hallway outside his bedroom. When his wife was alive, they received packages through Itza neither of them ordered—weapons, industrial lye. They heard scratching in the walls. It sounded like Itza was talking to someone in the living room while they slept. To admit what they thought was causing all this, what was inside their home, would be crazy. But one "glitch" on Itza's part, and now his wife is gone forever.

To outrun the news coverage and social media chatter, Thiago moves hundreds of miles away, but not far enough from Itza. Or more exactly, the entity that puppets Itza. And secluded in a small mountain town, giving a face to this presence may not be enough to stop what it ultimately wants, when a towering slab of stone and mud appears outside his cabin, and he begins to receive messages from his wife saying: *Pull me out of the wall*.

Gus Moreno's work has appeared in *Aurealis Magazine*, *Pseudopod*, and the anthology *Burnt Tongues*. This is his first novel.

Praise for THIS THING BETWEEN US:
Named a **Best Book of 2021** by the **New York Public Library and NPR**
A **Most Anticipated Book of Fall** at **Buzzfeed, Gizmodo, Tor.com, This is Horror, and CrimeReads**

"A surreal excursion into heartache and horror narrated by a man undone by grief..." —**Sarah Lyall, *The New York Times Book Review***

"*This Thing Between Us* is more than a horror novel about loss and grief. This is a political book about culture, migration, and identity...It's a fresh take on the genre that celebrates and pays tribute to its elements, from the gore to the cerebral stuff...While the scary parts are fun to read, the emotional grittiness of this novel is what makes a lasting impact...A superb debut." —**Gabino Iglesias, NPR**

"In graceful prose peppered with terrifyingly vivid descriptions, Moreno gives a nod to *2001: A Space Odyssey* to explore the perils of technology while probing the all-too-human complexities of grief. The devastating result marks Moreno as a horror writer to watch." —***Publishers Weekly* (starred)**

"Mordant, moving, and creepy." —**Jeff VanderMeer, on Twitter**

Rights sold: **Turkish/Ithaki**



Rachel Moulton
THE INSATIABLE VOLT SISTERS
A Novel

MCD x FSG Originals, Fiction, April 2023 (manuscript available)

It's the summer of 1989 on Fowler Island. While their parents bicker and pull their marriage apart piece by piece, Beatrice and Henrietta ("B.B." and "Henrie"), thicker than thieves, roam the island, pursuing an exciting new project. They are investigating the mystery of their ancestors, the famous sisters Eileen and Elizabeth Fowler, who died mysteriously years ago. But their adventure is cut short when they are separated by their parents' divorce, Henrie moving to the mainland with her mother, Carrie, and B.B. staying behind in their ancestral home with their father. The girls don't know about the conversations the adults are having behind closed doors: that Henrie isn't safe on the island, that it has a grip on her that must be broken.

Ten years pass before the sisters are reunited on the island. Their father has died suddenly, and Henrie returns for the funeral, only to find that the island is even stranger than she remembers. As the island prepares for its macabre yearly festival, the Masquerade, the sisters find themselves on a precipice: Will they inherit the horrors of their past or surpass them?

Told from the perspectives of four forceful, complex women, **THE INSATIABLE VOLT SISTERS** is an eerie fable about the pain that passes through families, and the bonds of sisterhood that both ache and heal. Author of *Tinfoil Butterfly* Rachel Eve Moulton returns with another absorbing and thought-provoking horror novel that will stay with you long after the final page.

Rachel Eve Moulton earned her BA at Antioch College and her MFA in fiction from Emerson College. Her first novel, *Tinfoil Butterfly*, was shortlisted for the 2019 Shirley Jackson Awards. Her work has appeared in *The Beacon Street Review*, *Bellowing Ark*, *Chicago Quarterly Review*, *The Bryant Literary Review*, among other publications. Moulton is a recipient of an Individual Artist Grant from the Ohio Arts Council and was a Summer Writing Fellow at the Fine Arts Work Center.

Praise for *Tinfoil Butterfly*:

Longlisted for the 2019 Center for Fiction First Novel Prize
Shortlisted for the 2019 Shirley Jackson Awards
Nominated for the 2019 Bram Stoker Awards, Superior Achievement in a First Novel
Best Horror Books 2019, Library Journal

"This novel is a hybrid monster that's part Lovecraftian nightmare and part literary exploration of evil...Moulton writes with the strength and confidence of a seasoned writer." —**Gabino Iglesias, NPR Books**

"Unrelenting and artfully crafted, this haunting debut and its tortured protagonist easily cement Moulton as a must-read writer in the horror genre...The narrative, both disturbing and irresistible, is propelled by these two well-imagined characters and their need for each other. This is a gripping tale of terribly human horrors."

—**Publishers Weekly (starred)**



Sara Flannery Murphy
GIRL ONE
A Novel

MCD, Fiction, June 2021 (finished books available)

TV rights optioned by Amazon & actor John Krasinski's Sunday Night Productions

GIRL ONE is an electrifying, high-concept feminist thriller with a dash of the supernatural about a young woman, one of nine girls born via parthenogenesis, whose search for her missing mother reveals the secrets of her past. Josephine Morrow is Girl One, the first of nine "Miracle Babies" conceived without male DNA, raised on an experimental commune known as the Homestead. When a suspicious fire destroys the commune and claims the lives of two of the Homesteaders, the remaining Girls and their Mothers scatter and lose touch.

Years later, Margaret Morrow goes missing, and Josie sets off on a desperate road trip, tracking down her estranged sisters who seem to hold the keys to her mother's disappearance. Tracing the clues Margaret left behind, Josie joins forces with the other Girls, facing down those who seek to eradicate their very existence, while uncovering secrets about their origins, and unlocking devastating abilities they never knew they had.

GIRL ONE combines the provocative imagination of Naomi Alderman's *The Power* with the propulsive, cinematic storytelling of a Marvel movie. In her electrifying, wildly entertaining new novel, Sara Flannery Murphy delivers a rousing tale of love, ambition, power, and the extraordinary bonds of sisterhood.

Sara Flannery Murphy is the author of *The Possessions*. She grew up in Arkansas, studied library science in British Columbia, and received her MFA in creative writing at Washington University in St. Louis. She now lives in Oklahoma with her husband and son.

Praise for GIRL ONE:

Amazon Editors' Picks, Best Science Fiction & Fantasy

A Best Book of Summer, *Los Angeles Times*, *Harper's Bazaar*, *Wired*, *Refinery29*, *PopSugar*, *Alma*, and *CrimeReads*

"If *The Handmaid's Tale* and the Marvel Cinematic Universe had a baby, the result would probably look something like this feminist sci-fi thriller." —**Keely Weiss, *Harper's Bazaar***

"*Girl One* all but dares you to imagine what the world would look like if humanity had made massive changes to reproduction in the 1970s...This trippy, detective-style sci-fi thriller...will leave you thinking about the power of choice and the importance of family." —**Saira Mueller, *Wired***

British/Bloomsbury

Rights sold: **Italian/Edizioni BD**

Forthcoming in 2023: THE WONDER STATE:

A novel about the friends of a missing girl who come back to their small town to honor her memory, reliving the dark secrets of their pasts



Dominic Smith
RETURN TO VALETTO
A Novel

Fiction, June 2023 (manuscript available)

From the author of the bestselling *The Last Painting of Sara de Vos*, Dominic Smith's **RETURN TO VALETTO** tracks an American heir to an abandoned town in Italy, the secrets of the family who stayed, and the long shadow of fascism and collaboration in World War II.

Atop a hill in picturesque Umbria sits the neglected village of Valetto. Once a thriving town, it was a hub of resistance and a refuge for children during the Second World War. Now the only inhabitants are the remaining members of a single family: the eccentric Serafino sisters and their steely near-centenarian mother. Then their nephew and grandson, Hugh Fisher, returns, grieving both his wife and his mother, and quietly celebrating his successful history of these Italian ghost villages. But someone else has arrived before him, laying claim to the cottage where Hugh spent his childhood summers. The unwelcome guest: captivating and no-nonsense Elisa Tomassi, who asserts the family patriarch, Aldo Serafino, a resistance fighter whom her own family harbored, gave the cottage to them in gratitude. But like so many remnants of history, this legacy turns up something more meaningful and more sinister, a long-buried wartime event—a betrayal, a disappearance, and an unspeakable act of violence—that has impacted lives across generations. Is it possible that no one will answer for these crimes?

Dominic Smith's **RETURN TO VALETTO** is a fascinating journey into a family's history, a page-turning excavation of the ruins of history and our commitment to justice in an imperfect world. For fans of Amor Towles, Anthony Doerr, and Jess Walter, it is a deeply human and transporting testament to the possibility of love and understanding across gaps of all kinds—even time.

Dominic Smith grew up in Australia and now lives in Seattle, WA. He's the author of the novels *The Electric Hotel*, *The Last Painting of Sara de Vos*, *Bright and Distant Shores*, *The Beautiful Miscellaneous*, and *The Mercury Visions of Louis Daguerra*. His short fiction has been nominated for a Pushcart Prize and has appeared widely, including in *The Atlantic*, *Texas Monthly*, and the *Chicago Tribune's Printers Row Journal*. He has been a recipient of a Literature Grant from the Australia Council for the Arts, a Dobie Paisano Fellowship, and a Michener Fellowship.

Praise for *The Last Painting of Sara de Vos*:

"An elegant page-turner...Apart from the story's firm historical grounding, the narrative has a supple omniscience that glides, Möbius-like, among the centuries without a snag." —**Kathryn Harrison, *The New York Times Book Review***

"Riveting...His descriptions are beautifully precise...The genius of Smith's book is not just the caper plot but also the interweaving of three alternating timelines and locations to tell a wider, suspenseful story." —***The Washington Post***

ANZ/Allen & Unwin

Rights sold, *The Last Painting of Sara De Vos*: **ANZ/Allen & Unwin**, **British/Allen & Unwin**, **Chinese (Complex)/Donmay Publishing Co.**, **Chinese (Simplified)/Ginkgo Beijing Book Co.**, **Dutch/Queridos Uitgeverij**, **French/ Editions Belfond**, **German/Ullstein**, **Hebrew/Armchair**, **Italian/Giunti Editore**, **Japanese/Tokyo Sogensha**, **Korean/Cheongmirae**, **Polish/Rebis**, **Romanian/RAO**, **Russian/Colibri**, **Spanish/ Ediciones Maeva**



Rivers Solomon
SORROWLAND
A Novel

MCD, Fiction, May 2021 (finished books available)

Vern—seven months pregnant and desperate to escape the strict religious compound where she was raised—flees for the shelter of the woods. There, she gives birth to twins, and plans to raise them far from the influence of the outside world. But even in the forest, Vern is a hunted woman. Forced to fight back against the community that refuses to let her go, she unleashes incredible brutality far beyond what a person should be capable of, her body wracked by inexplicable and uncanny changes.

To understand her metamorphosis and to protect her small family, Vern has to face the past, and more troublingly, the future—outside the woods. Finding the truth will mean uncovering the secrets of the compound she fled but also the violent history in America that produced it.

Rivers Solomon's **SORROWLAND** is a genre-bending work of Gothic fiction, a triumphant breakout novel that wrestles with our tangled history of racism and the marginalization of society's undesirables. Here, monsters aren't just individuals, but entire nations. It is a searing, seminal book that marks the arrival of a bold, unignorable voice in American fiction.

Rivers Solomon writes about life in the margins, where they are much at home. In addition to appearing on the Stonewall Honor List and winning a Firecracker Award, Solomon's debut novel *An Unkindness of Ghosts* was a finalist for a Lambda, a Hurston/Wright, an Otherwise (formerly Tiptree) and a Locus Award. Solomon's second book, *The Deep*, based on the Hugo-nominated song by the Daveed Diggs-fronted hip-hop group clipping., was the winner of the 2020 Lambda Award and shortlisted for a Nebula, Locus, Hugo, Ignyte, Brooklyn Library Literary, British Fantasy, and World Fantasy Award. A refugee of the Trans Atlantic Slave Trade, Solomon was born on Turtle Island but currently resides on an isle in an archipelago off the western coast of the Eurasian continent.

Praise for SORROWLAND:

**Finalist for the Ray Bradbury Prize for Science Fiction, Fantasy & Speculative Fiction, *Los Angeles Times*
A Most Anticipated Book of 2021, *The Millions*, *LitHub*, *Bookriot*, *BookPage*, *Library Journal*, *Feminist Press*,
Paperback Paris, *Book Riot***

"*Sorrowland* is a tremendous, riveting work, sinking long, deep roots into the nightmare soil of American history in order to grow and feed something new." —**Amal El-Mohtar, *The New York Times Book Review***

"A story you simply won't see coming...to read this powerful, moving and terrifying novel is to enter into a constant state of change. The story envelops you slowly, like a cocoon, wrapping you in its ever-increasing depth and heart until you emerge, at the end, transformed." —**Matthew Jackson, *BookPage***

"Solomon's outstanding third novel...revisits the themes of memory and responsibility through two new lenses: horror and contemporary thriller...This is a tour de force." —***Publishers Weekly* (starred)**

British/#Merky Books

Rights sold: **French/Aux Forges de Vulcain, Italian/Mondadori**



Jeff VanderMeer
HUMMINGBIRD SALAMANDER
A Novel

MCD, Fiction, April 2021 (finished books available)

Film rights optioned by Netflix

HUMMINGBIRD SALAMANDER is a brilliant speculative thriller of dark conspiracy, endangered species, and the end of all things.

Software manager Jane Smith receives an envelope containing a list of animals along with a key to a storage unit that holds a taxidermied hummingbird and salamander. The list is signed "Love, Silvina." The hummingbird and the salamander are, it turns out, two of the most endangered species in the world. Silvina Vilcapampa, the woman who left the note, is a reputed ecoterrorist and the daughter of a recently deceased Argentine industrialist. By removing the hummingbird and the salamander from the storage unit, Jane has set in motion a series of events over which she has no control.

Jane finds herself alone and on the run from both Silvina's family and her ecoterrorist accomplices—along with the wildlife traffickers responsible for the strange taxidermy. She seems fated to follow in Silvina's footsteps as she desperately seeks answers about why Silvina contacted her, why she is now at the center of this global conspiracy, and what exactly Silvina was planning. Time is running out—for her and possibly for the world.

HUMMINGBIRD SALAMANDER is Jeff VanderMeer at his brilliant, cinematic best, wrapping profound questions about climate change, identity, and the world we live in into a tightly plotted thriller full of unexpected twists and elaborate conspiracy.

Jeff VanderMeer's *New York Times*-bestselling *Southern Reach* trilogy has been translated into over 35 languages. The first novel, *Annihilation*, won the Nebula Award and Shirley Jackson Award, and was adapted to film by Paramount in 2018. Recent works include *Dead Astronauts*, a finalist for the Locus Award for Fantasy Novel, *Borne*, a finalist for the Arthur C. Clarke Award, and *The Strange Bird*. These novels, set in the *Borne* universe, are being developed by AMC. He lives in Tallahassee, Florida, with his wife Ann, cat Neo, and a yard full of native plants.

Praise for HUMMINGBIRD SALAMANDER:

A Most Anticipated Book of 2021, *Goodreads, The Guardian, Fortune, The Millions, Bookpage, Buzzfeed, The Nerd Daily, GeekTyrant, Transfer Orbit*

"This is climate fiction at its most urgent and gripping."—**Helen Phillips, *The New York Times***

"This inventive and surprising page-turner may be the purest demonstration yet of VanderMeer's knack for dressing up fascinating philosophical conundrums in the clothing of a taut, breakneck thriller."—**A.V. Club**

"You won't look up even once while you're reading."—***The Washington Post***

British/4th Estate

Rights sold: **Chinese (Simplified)/China Translation & Publishing House** **French/Diable Vauvert**, **Greek/Kastaniotis**, **Hungarian/Agave Konyvek**, **Italian/Einaudi**, **Romanian/Nemira**, **Russian/EXMO**, **Turkish/Alfa Kitap**



NONFICTION

Farrar, Straus and Giroux

FSG Originals

MCD

MCD x FSG Originals



Julia Cooke

RESTLESS WOMEN

The Writers Who Made a Place for Women in the World

Nonfiction, June 2025 (Proposal available; manuscript available June 2024)

Emily “Mickey” Hahn, Rebecca West, Martha Gellhorn. You might recognize a few of these names, maybe even all of them, and even yet not know the extent to which these three writers were responsible for reshaping journalism and helping to establish the broad definition of narrative nonfiction as we know it.

As writers and reporters, these three women made their careers, made a good living, and made a permanent impact at a time when women had only begun to press their way into journalism. Their work, published in the best magazines of the day, acted as an exuberant rebuke to the tedious story of women on the edges of the field and certainly helped to shape the publications themselves—places like *The New Yorker* would become known for their stylish prose and infusion of the personal into the story. They were world travelers with tireless curiosity, women who made restlessness an attribute and a mandate. They reported from the front lines of wars and from around the globe—from China to Cuba to Yugoslavia to the Congo to Mexico and beyond. They interviewed heads of state and traveled alone in an era when women weren’t often allowed out of the house without a chaperone. They were mothers, too, and motherhood changed them, just as it changes women today, though these three continued to seek movement and adventure, their normal, to quote Hahn, to be “alert and worried and a little bit unhappy but not too much so.” They were also friends, admiring and critiquing one another’s writing in private letters and in public reviews, who took joy in each other’s successes and in the awareness that they were not alone.

In **RESTLESS WOMEN**, award-winning author and reporter Julia Cooke brings these three women to full, cinematic life through extensive research into their archives, published work, and unpublished letters. She makes a rousing case that they were responsible for the shift in reporting we would come to call New Journalism, more so than many of the men who have been credited for that revolution. Like *Ninth Street Women*, *Red Comet*, and *The Barbizon*, the book takes seriously not only the idea that women and their spaces were often the likeliest center for innovation, but also that the relationships among women have been essential to making these strides. And like its subjects, **RESTLESS WOMEN** unwinds its story with undeniable intelligence and flair.

Julia Cooke’s essays and reporting have appeared in publications including *Salon*, *Condé Nast Traveler*, *The New York Times*, *Saveur*, *Smithsonian*, *Tin House*, and *Virginia Quarterly Review*, where she is a contributing editor. A finalist for a 2014 Livingston Award in International Reporting, she received a 2016 New York Press Club Award and her work has been anthologized in *Best American Travel Writing* and elsewhere. Julia is the recipient of fellowships from The Norman Mailer Center, The Constance Saltonstall Foundation, and Columbia University. She holds an undergraduate degree from Georgetown University and an MFA from Columbia University. She is the author of *Come Fly the World: The Jet-Age Story of the Women of Pan Am* and *The Other Side of Paradise: Life in the New Cuba*.

Praise for *Come Fly The World*:

Film rights optioned by MGM’s Orion Pictures

“A unique and compassionate portrait of barrier-breaking women in the 1960s and ’70s” —***Publisher’s Weekly***

“A fascinating history of a bygone era” —***People***



Dan Charnas and Jeff Peretz

DILLA TIME

The Life and Afterlife of J Dilla, the Hip-Hop Producer Who Reinvented Rhythm

MCD, Nonfiction, February 2022 (finished books available)

Instant *New York Times* Bestseller

Equal parts musicology, biography, and cultural history, **DILLA TIME** chronicles the life and legacy of J Dilla, a musical genius who transformed the sound of popular music for the twenty-first century.

Revered by rappers and producers from Kanye to Kendrick Lamar, and a collaborator of the likes of Michael and Janet Jackson, J. Dilla was the most influential music producer of the last 25 years you may have never heard of. Despite revolutionizing the way music sounds before his untimely death at the age of 32, Dilla himself never rose to mainstream fame. But now **DILLA TIME** tells the story of his invention of a new kind of musical time that forever changed the way “traditional” musicians play.

In **DILLA TIME**, Dan Charnas chronicles the life of James DeWitt Yancey, from his gifted childhood in Detroit, to his rise as a Grammy-nominated hip-hop producer, to the rare blood disease that caused his premature death; and follows the people who kept him and his ideas alive. Charnas also records the histories of American rhythms: from the birth of funk and soul in Dilla’s own “Motown,” to techno and disco. Here, music is a story of Black culture in America and of what happens when human and machine times are synthesized into something totally new. **DILLA TIME** is a different kind of book about music, a visual experience with graphics that build those concepts step by step for fans and novices alike, teaching us to “see” and feel rhythm in a unique and enjoyable way. Culled from more than 150 interviews about one of the most important and influential musical figures of the past hundred years, **DILLA TIME** is a book as delightfully detail-oriented and as vibrantly original as J Dilla’s music itself.

Dan Charnas is the author of the definitive history of the hip-hop business, *The Big Payback* (NAL/Penguin). He’s also the author of *Work Clean* (Rodale/Harmony), a book detailing applying chefs’ techniques to almost any life situation. He was also the co-creator and executive producer of the VH1 movie and TV series, *The Breaks*. He lives in Manhattan, and is an associate professor at NYU/Tisch’s Clive Davis Institute of Recorded Music.

Jeff Peretz is head of the musicianship and performance department at NYU/Tisch’s Clive Davis Institute. He’s also a music director, producer, session musician, and is the author of several books.

Praise for DILLA TIME:

"[*Dilla Time*] do[es] what good music books should: send you back to the source material...*Dilla Time* is an important piece of music writing, affording its African-American subject the respect that the rock establishment has long accorded its white heroes." —***The Economist***

"*Dilla Time* is a portrait of a complex genius taken too young, as well as a glorious study of the music and culture he created."—***Spin***

British/Swift Press

Rights sold: **Japanese/Disk Union Co. Ltd.**



Kristi Coulter
EXIT INTERVIEW

MCD x FSG Originals, Nonfiction, July 2023 (manuscript available August 2022)

In **EXIT INTERVIEW**, Kristi Coulter examines her twelve-year experience as an executive in the male-dominated crucible that is Amazon.com. With her unique blend of sharp intelligence and wry humor, Coulter illuminates and skewers the corporate culture created by Jeff Bezos. Beyond the specifics of Amazon, this is a book about being an ambitious woman in a company—and a world—that loves the idea of female ambition but balks at the reality.

Kristi Coulter is the author of the essay collection *Nothing Good Can Come from This* (MCDxFSG Originals, 2018). She holds an MFA in creative writing from the University of Michigan. She is a former Ragdale Foundation resident and the recipient of a grant from the National Foundation for Advancement in the Arts. Her work has appeared in *The Awl*, *Marie Claire*, *Vox*, *Quartz*, and elsewhere. She lives in Seattle, Washington.

Praise for *Nothing Good Can Come from This*:
Finalist for the 2019 Washington State Book Awards

"Kristi Coulter charts the raw, unvarnished, and quietly riveting terrain of new sobriety with wit and warmth. *Nothing Good Can Come from This* is a book about generative discomfort, surprising sources of beauty, and the odd, often hilarious, business of being human." —**Leslie Jamison, author of *The Empathy Exams* and *The Recovering***

"Coulter's essays are short, smart, and with the heart that the (mostly male) addiction stories seem to miss...The pieces in *Nothing Good Can Come from This* are pleasantly messy incantations on loss, and what happens in its wake. Coulter shows her stumbles. She interrogates her usefulness, her language usage, her privilege, her ragged happiness...Coulter proves that our stories can be as complicated and powerful as we are." —**Sonya Lea, Los Angeles Review of Books**

"Deeply human. Taken together, the collection is about more than sobriety. It's a celebration of the quotidian, a love letter to the breathtaking beauty of the mundane." —**Rachel Sugar, Minneapolis Star Tribune**

Rights sold, *Nothing Good Can Come from This*: **German/Goldmann**



Renee Dudley and Daniel Golden
THE RANSOMWARE HUNTING TEAM
A Band of Misfits' Improbable Crusade to Save the World from Cybercrime
Nonfiction, October 2022 (manuscript available April 2022)

A real-life technological thriller about a band of eccentric misfits taking on the biggest cybersecurity threats of our time.

Scattered across the world, an elite team of computer experts are working tirelessly on your behalf. If you've been lucky (or careful), you've probably never heard of them. But if you've downloaded a fraudulent email attachment or worked for a hospital or municipal government, chances are you're familiar with the team's sworn enemy: ransomware, and the shadowy networks of hackers and criminal gangs who use it to extort money from those whose computers they infect.

THE RANSOMWARE HUNTING TEAM is the incredible true story of a ragtag band of “white hat”—or good-guy—hackers who use their extraordinary skills to help victims of this fast-proliferating form of cybercrime. Working in their free time from bedrooms and back offices, they offer their services pro bono to people whom the FBI and other law enforcement agencies are unwilling, or more often powerless, to help. Foremost among them is twenty-nine-year-old Michael Gillespie. Long before he gained recognition as a world authority on cybersecurity, he survived a bout with cancer and endured long stretches of poverty that nearly cost him his house and car. Thanks to their unique combination of talents and a single-minded commitment to helping others, Gillespie and the other members of the team—among them Sarah White, a malware analyst from the London suburbs, and Fabian Wosar, the alias of a brilliant but reclusive hacker who was forced to flee his native Germany after Russian mobsters put a hit out on him—have established themselves as the go-to experts on a threat that has only recently entered the public eye.

Day after day, malware is becoming more difficult to combat, and criminals—some with ties to foreign governments—are picking bigger targets than ever before. Renee Dudley and Daniel Golden follow the team as they respond to dire calls for help—and track the ups and downs of their work as they race to rescue precious files and communicate directly with their adversaries. Urgent, uplifting, and entertaining, **THE RANSOMWARE HUNTING TEAM** is a real-life technological thriller set in a dangerous new era of cybercrime.

Renee Dudley is a technology reporter at ProPublica and a former reporter at Reuters, where she was a 2017 Pulitzer Prize finalist for her work in uncovering a major college admissions scandal.

Daniel Golden is a senior editor at ProPublica who has won a Pulitzer Prize and three George Polk Awards. He is the bestselling author of *The Price of Admission* and *Spy Schools*.



Benjamin Ehrlich
THE BRAIN IN SEARCH OF ITSELF
Santiago Ramón y Cajal and the Story of the Neuron
Nonfiction, March 2022 (finished books available)

Unless you're a neuroscientist, Santiago Ramón y Cajal is likely the most important figure in the history of medicine you've never heard of. He ranks among Darwin and Pasteur as one of the most brilliant and original biologists of the nineteenth century, and his discoveries have done for our understanding of the human brain what the work of Galileo and Newton did for our conception of the physical universe. He was awarded the Nobel Prize in 1906 for his lifelong investigation of the structure of neurons. And he produced a dazzling oeuvre of anatomical drawings, whose alien beauty continues to grace the pages of medical textbooks and the walls of museums to this day.

Benjamin Ehrlich's **THE BRAIN IN SEARCH OF ITSELF** is the first major biography in English of this singular figure. A portrait of a nation as well a biography, the book follows Cajal from the hinterlands to Barcelona and Madrid, where he would become an illustrious figure—resisting and ultimately transforming the rigid hierarchies and underdeveloped science that surrounded him. To momentous effect, Cajal devised a theory that was as controversial in his own time as it is universal in ours: that the nervous system is composed of individual cells with distinctive roles, just like any other organ in the body. In Germany, Italy, and elsewhere, he argued his case against his rivals and prevailed.

In our age of rampant neuro-imaging and investigations into the neural basis of the mind, Cajal is the artistic and scientific forefather we must get to know. Illustrated with his extraordinary anatomical drawings, **THE BRAIN IN SEARCH OF ITSELF** is at once the story of how the brain as we know it came into being and a finely wrought portrait of an individual as fantastical and complex as the subject to which he devoted his life.

Benjamin Ehrlich is the author of *The Dreams of Santiago Ramón y Cajal*, the first translation of Cajal's dream journals into English. His work has appeared in *The Gettysburg Review*, *The Paris Review Daily*, *Nautilus*, and *New England Review*, where he serves as a senior reader.

Praise for **THE BRAIN IN SEARCH OF ITSELF**:

"Deeply researched and intimate...Vivid...Through colorful anecdotes about Cajal's upbringing, education, career, marriage, and fatherhood, [Ehrlich] reveals his character in more detail than ever before, bringing him to life in clear and elegant prose...A beautiful composition that shows Cajal's indelible contribution to science and art." —**Kirkus**

"Ehrlich's biography is as focused and thorough as was Cajal's meticulous work with brain cells. A worthy and needed contribution." —**Library Journal**

"Benjamin Ehrlich has pulled off a surprise epic of scientific biography. Boldly and vividly written...a marvellously accessible, fresh and thought-provoking book." —**Richard Holmes, author of *The Age of Wonder***

"[G]racious and engrossing life...With painstaking attention to detail, Ehrlich worries out the dazzlingly confounding intersections of chance and destiny, provenance and character, fate and freedom, that converge to shape an exemplary life. One life in probing search of another, the result being a sparkling gift for the rest of us." —**Lawrence Weschler, author of *And How are You, Dr Sacks? A Biographical Memoir of Oliver Sacks***

Rights sold: **Dutch/Het Spectrum**



Francesca Fiorani
THE SHADOW DRAWING
How Science Taught Leonardo How to Paint
Nonfiction, November 2020 (finished books available)

Leonardo da Vinci has long been celebrated for his consummate genius. He was the painter who gave us the *Mona Lisa* and *The Last Supper*, and the inventor who anticipated the advent of airplanes, hot air balloons, and other technological marvels. But what was the connection between Leonardo the painter and Leonardo the scientist? Historians of Renaissance art have long supposed that Leonardo became increasingly interested in science as he grew older and turned his insatiable curiosity in new directions. They have argued that there are, in effect, two Leonardos—an artist and an inventor.

In this path-breaking new interpretation, the art historian Francesca Fiorani offers a different view: that Leonardo became familiar with advanced thinking about human vision when he was still an apprentice in a Florence studio—and used his understanding of optical science to develop and perfect his painting techniques. For Leonardo, the task of the painter was to capture the interior life of a human subject, to paint the soul. And even at the outset of his career, he believed mastering the scientific study of light, shadow, and the atmosphere was essential to doing so.

Ranging from the teeming streets of Florence to the most delicate brush strokes on the surface of the *Mona Lisa*, **THE SHADOW DRAWING** vividly reconstructs Leonardo's life while teaching us to look anew at his greatest paintings. The result is both stirring biography and a bold reconsideration of how the Renaissance understood science and art—and of what was lost when that understanding was forgotten.

Francesca Fiorani is a professor of art history at the University of Virginia, where she has served as associate dean for arts and humanities and chair of the art department. A leading authority on Renaissance art and the application of computer technology to the humanities, she is the creator of *Leonardo da Vinci and His Treatise on Painting*, a digital platform, and the author of *The Marvel of Maps: Art, Cartography, and Politics in Renaissance Italy*.

Praise for THE SHADOW DRAWING:

"[Fiorani] makes [her argument] with fresh force...when she loses herself in looking, the book achieves fluency and power." —**Parul Sehgal, *The New York Times***

"Through a series of close studies of paintings, Ms. Fiorani demonstrates how Leonardo explored light and shadow in a range of challenging subjects. She builds up the reader's knowledge of what can be an abstruse and highly mathematical field through detailed and lively considerations of individual art works." —**Cammy Brothers, *The Wall Street Journal***

"[Francesca Fiorani] provides new insight into the work of Renaissance master Leonardo da Vinci in this fresh assessment...This beautifully written work is underpinned by immense scholarship; art lovers and historians will not be able to put it down." —***Publishers Weekly***

Rights sold: **Turkish**/Libronet



Lindsey Fitzharris
THE FACEMAKER

A Visionary Surgeon's Battle to Mend the Disfigured Soldiers of World War I

Nonfiction, June 2022 (manuscript available)

Now host and star of *The Curious Life and Death of...* on the Smithsonian Channel

In **THE FACEMAKER**, Lindsey Fitzharris presents the compelling, true story of a visionary surgeon who rebuilt the faces of the First World War's injured heroes, and in the process ushered in the modern era of plastic surgery. From the moment that the first machine gun rang out over the Western Front, one thing was clear: mankind's military technology had wildly surpassed its medical capabilities. Bodies were battered, gouged, hacked, and gassed. The war claimed millions of lives and left millions more wounded and disfigured. In the midst of this brutality, however, there were also those who strove to alleviate human suffering, among them the pioneering plastic surgeon Harold Gillies, who dedicated himself to restoring the burned and broken faces of the injured soldiers under his care.

Gillies, a Cambridge-educated New Zealander, became interested in the nascent field of plastic surgery after encountering the human wreckage on the front. Returning to Britain, he established one of the world's first hospitals dedicated entirely to facial reconstruction, assembling a unique group of practitioners whose task was to restore what had been torn apart, to recreate what had been destroyed. At a time when losing a limb made a soldier a hero, but losing a face made him a monster to a society that was largely intolerant of facial differences, Gillies restored not just the faces of the wounded but also their spirits.

THE FACEMAKER places Gillies's ingenious surgical innovations alongside the dramatic stories of soldiers whose lives were wrecked and repaired, and those of the many doctors, nurses, artists, and orderlies who staffed Gillies's hospital. The result is a vividly absorbing account of how medicine can be an art, and of what courage and imagination can accomplish in the presence of relentless horror.

Praise for **THE FACEMAKER**:

"Wow, what a book. Enthralling. Harrowing. Heartbreaking. And utterly redemptive. Lindsey Fitzharris hit this one out of the park." —**Erik Larson, author of *The Splendid and the Vile***

"Beautifully written, illuminating, and bursting with fascinating detail, *The Facemaker* is a groundbreaking work that deserves its own genre: medical noir. You won't be able to put it down."

—**Karen Abbott, author of *The Ghosts of Eden Park***

"Inspiring and downright miraculous. I cannot imagine the sweat and sleuthing and doggedness that went into gathering the details and building the narratives of these men's struggles. This book is riveting. As Fitzharris shows us, the scalpel is mightier than the grenade, and the pen is mightiest of all. What a triumph this book is." —**Mary Roach, author of *Fuzz and Stiff***

"Like Harold Gillies himself, Lindsey Fitzharris has taken something we might think of as grim and transformed it into something beautiful. Gillies will be an unsung hero no more." —**Sam Kean, author of *The Icepick Surgeon***

British/Allen Lane

Rights sold: **Dutch/Het Spectrum, German/Suhrkamp, Korean/Open Books, Polish/Znak, Portuguese (in Brazil)/Editora Intrinseca, Romanian/SC Publica, Russian/EXMO**



SLEUTH-HOUND

The Victorian Medical Detective Who Inspired Sherlock Holmes

Nonfiction, October 2024 (proposal available)

SLEUTH-HOUND follows the life and work of Joseph Bell, a 19th century Scottish surgeon and one of history's first medical detectives, who was known for his powers of perception. The police used him on cases (even Jack the Ripper), but more importantly, a student named Arthur Conan Doyle sat in and observed his work.

Beyond his roles as doctor and educator, Bell worked closely with Edinburgh's police surgeon Henry Duncan Littlejohn—a pioneer of fingerprinting and crime-scene photography. Like the fictional Sherlock Holmes, Bell was critical of the “tunnel vision” of the average policeman and brought his own unique brand of logic to his criminal investigations. By 1893, when he was unmasked by Conan Doyle as the inspiration for Holmes, he had been working with Littlejohn for over twenty years to solve some of the highest profile murder cases of the century. And yet very little has been written about Bell's investigative work and its impact on the burgeoning field of forensic science.

In **SLEUTH-HOUND**, the worlds of crime fiction and crime fact collide as readers discover the real-life blueprints for some of literature's most famous (and infamous) characters, such as Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde, Dr. John H. Watson, and, of course, Sherlock Holmes. It offers a whirlwind tour of Victorian forensics—postmortems, ballistics, toxicology, fingerprinting, criminal psychology and crime-scene photography—from the perspective of the man who loaned a voice and razor-sharp logic to Baker Street's most famous resident. The book will also give insights into Bell's less public life, before he was outed as “the real-life Sherlock Holmes.” It will shed light on the effects of the revelation on Conan Doyle's relationship with his erstwhile professor as a friend and confidant. Just as the author came to loathe his own creation, conversations and correspondence show that Bell too felt no small measure of resentment towards the fictional detective: “The fiends of your profession won't let me alone, and I am haunted by my double whom you so hate, namely, Sherlock Holmes.” **SLEUTH-HOUND** will be the first book to draw from Bell's newly uncovered diaries and papers.

Dr. Lindsey Fitzharris is the author of *The Butchering Art: Joseph Lister's Quest to Transform the Grisly World of Victorian Medicine*, which won the PEN/E. O. Wilson Award for Literary Science Writing and has been translated into twenty languages. Her TV series *The Curious Life and Death of . . .* appeared on the Smithsonian Channel. She contributes regularly to *The Wall Street Journal*, *Scientific American*, and other publications, and holds a PhD in medical history from Oxford University. She lives in London.

British/Allen Lane

Rights sold, *The Butchering Art*: **British/Allen Lane**, **Chinese (complex)/Locus**, **Chinese (simplified)/Ginkgo** (Beijing), **Czech/Paseka**, **Danish/Lindhardt & Ringhof**, **Dutch/Het Spectrum**, **Estonian/Gallus**, **German/Suhrkamp**, **Italian/Bompiani**, **Japanese/Hara Shobo**, **Korean/Open Books**, **Lithuanian/Liutai Ne Avys**, **Polish/Znak**, **Portuguese (in Brazil)/Intrinseca**, **Romanian/SC Publica Com**, **Romanian/SC Publica**, **Russian/EXMO**, **Spanish/Editorial Debate**, **Swedish/Atlantis**



Milton Gendel; edited by Cullen Murphy
JUST PASSING THROUGH
A Seven-Decade Roman Holiday: The Diaries and Photographs of Milton Gendel
Nonfiction, November 2022 (manuscript available)

A never-before-seen treasure trove of photos and diary entries from celebrated photographer Milton Gendel that bring Rome's Dolce Vita generation to life.

"I'm just passing through," Milton Gendel liked to say whenever anybody asked him what he was doing in Rome. Even after seven decades in the Eternal City, from his arrival as a Fulbright Scholar in 1949 until his death in 2018 at the age of ninety-nine, he refused to be pigeonholed. He was always an American—never an "expat," never an émigré—but he also couldn't leave, so deep were his ties, and this dual bond left an indelible imprint on his life and art.

Born in New York City to Russian immigrant parents, Gendel first made his way to Meyer Schapiro's classroom at Columbia University, and from there to Greenwich Village, where he and his friend Robert Motherwell joined the circle of surrealists around Peggy Guggenheim and André Breton. But it was Rome that earned his enduring fascination—the city supplied him with endless outlets for his curiosity, a series of dazzling apartments in palazzi, the great loves of his life, and the scores of friendships that made his story inextricably part of the city's own, from its postwar impoverishment through the years of its boom, and well into the twenty-first century.

Gendel did much more than just pass through, instead becoming one of Rome's foremost documentarians. He spoke Italian fluently, worked for the industrialist Adriano Olivetti, and sampled the latest currents of Italian art as a correspondent for ARTnews. And he was an artist in his own right, capturing the lives of Sicilian peasants and British royals alike on film and showing his photographs at the Roman outpost of the Marlborough Gallery. Then there were his diaries, a casement window thrown open onto a who's who of artists, writers, and socialites sojourning in the city that remained, for Gendel, the Caput Mundi: Mark Rothko, Princess Margaret, Alexander Calder, Anaïs Nin, Gore Vidal, Martha Gellhorn, Muriel Spark. His longtime home on the Isola Tiberina was the nerve center of the dolce vita generation, whose comings and goings and doings he immortalized in both words and images.

Here, for the first time in print, are the diaries and photographs of Gendel, selected and edited by Cullen Murphy. **JUST PASSING THROUGH** brings together the most striking artifacts of one of the past century's richest and most expansive lives, salted with wit and insight into the figures who defined an era.

Milton Gendel (1918–2018) was an American photographer and art critic who lived and worked in Rome. He studied at Columbia University and served in the US Army in China before moving to Italy on a Fulbright Scholarship, where he worked as a correspondent for ARTnews. His photographs have been shown in numerous galleries in Italy and abroad.

Cullen Murphy is an editor at large at The Atlantic, where he was the longtime managing editor, and has also been the editor at large at Vanity Fair. He is the author of *Cartoon County: My Father and His Friends in the Golden Age of Make Believe* (FSG, 2017) and is at work on a book on the fountains of Rome.



Mark Gevisser
THE PINK LINE
Journeys Across the World's Queer Frontiers
Nonfiction, July 2020 (finished books available)

Over five years in the making, Mark Gevisser's **THE PINK LINE** is a globetrotting exploration of how the human rights frontier around sexual orientation and gender identity has come to divide—and describe—the world in an entirely new way over the first two decades of the 21st century. While same-sex marriage and gender transition is celebrated in some parts of the world, laws are being strengthened to criminalize homosexuality and gender nonconformity in others. A new Pink Line, Gevisser argues, has been drawn across the world, and his book takes readers to its frontiers.

In between sharp analytical chapters about culture wars, folklore, gender ideology, and geopolitics, Gevisser provides sensitive and sometimes startling profiles of the queer folk he's encountered on the Pink Line's frontlines across nine countries. Eye-opening, moving, and crafted with expert research, compelling narrative, and unprecedented scope, **THE PINK LINE** is a monumental—and vital—journey through the borderposts of the world's new LGBTQ+ frontiers.

Mark Gevisser is the author of the prizewinning *A Legacy of Liberation: Thabo Mbeki and the Future of the South African Dream* and *Portraits of Power: Profiles in a Changing South Africa*. He is the coeditor of *Defiant Desire: Gay and Lesbian Lives in South Africa*. His journalism has appeared in *The Guardian*, *The New York Times*, *Granta*, and other publications. He is the writer of the documentary film *The Man Who Drove with Mandela*, which won the Teddy Documentary Prize at the Berlin Film Festival. Born in Johannesburg in 1964, he now lives in France.

Praise for **THE PINK LINE**:
Longlisted for the 2021 Rathbones Folio Prize
100 Must-Read Books of 2020, *TIME*

"Extraordinary...a hugely ambitious and exceptional work of long-form journalism...[*The Pink Line*] is a work of clear-eyed analysis and exceptional reporting, and it deserves a wide and non-LGBT readership that wishes to understand these frontiers." —**Bilal Qureshi, *The Washington Post***

"Ambitious, beautifully narrated." —**Stephanie Burt, *The Times Literary Supplement***

"This is a valuable book not only for the quality of Gevisser's analysis and the scope of his research, but because he spends a good deal of time with the people on whose lives he focuses...he renders them in all their complexity. Gevisser is also alert to the connection between gay freedom and other forms of liberty." —**Colm Tóibín, *The Guardian***

"[A] meticulously researched book. The compassion for the people Gevisser encounters sings through the pages and the reader is richer for being introduced to every single one of them." —**Andrew McMillan, *The Observer***

British/Profile Books

Rights sold: **German/Suhrkamp, Italian/Rizzoli, Polish/Poznańskie, Spanish/Ediciones Urano**



Lewis R. Gordon

FEAR OF BLACK CONSCIOUSNESS

Nonfiction, January 2022 (finished books available)

In the vein of W.E.B. DuBois's writing about double consciousness and Frantz Fanon's classic *Black Skin, White Masks*, Lewis Ricardo Gordon, the leading scholar of Black Existentialism and anti-Blackness, draws on philosophy, sociology, history, and art of all disciplines to create a strikingly original exploration of the nature of Black consciousness.

Gordon takes the reader on a journey through the historical development of racialized Blackness, the problems this kind of consciousness produces, and the many creative responses from Black and non-Black communities in contemporary struggles for dignity and freedom. He takes his cues not just from Fanon and DuBois, but from personal stories growing up in Jamaica and the Bronx. He examines everything from the opening musical montage of the film *Get Out* to *Black Panther* to the blues and hip hop (the book's title takes its cue from the rap album, *Fear of a Black Planet* from Public Enemy.)

Gordon cuts through the mist of white narcissism and the versions of consciousness it perpetuates. He exposes the bad faith at the heart of many discussions about race and racism, including among those who think of themselves as "color blind". As Gordon reveals, these lies offer many white people an inherited sense of being extraordinary, a license to do as they please. But for many if not most Black people, to live an ordinary life, in a white-dominated society, is an extraordinary achievement.

FEAR OF BLACK CONSCIOUSNESS is a groundbreaking work that positions Black consciousness as a political commitment and creative practice, richly layered through art, love, and revolutionary action.

Lewis R. Gordon has taught at Yale, Brown, and Temple University. He is currently Professor of Philosophy at UCONN-Storrs; Honorary President and Core Professor for the Global Center for Advanced Studies; Honorary Professor of the Unit for the Humanities at Rhodes University, South Africa; European Union Visiting Chair in Philosophy at Université Toulouse Jean Jaurès, France. He is the author of several seminal books on philosophy and race, including *What Fanon Said* and *Existencia Africana*, and he is the editor of the anthology *Existence in Black*.

Praise for FEAR OF BLACK CONSCIOUSNESS:

"Gordon's expansive philosophical engagement with the current moment...reminds us that the ultimate aim of Black freedom quests is, indeed, universal liberation."—**Angela Y. Davis, Distinguished Professor Emerita, History of Consciousness and Feminist Studies at University of California, Santa Cruz**

"Lewis R. Gordon is a thinker whose reflections on race have produced singular illuminations on our times. In *Fear of Black Consciousness*...he shows the critical powers of creativity in dismantling racism and the making of a world where breath and love and existence become possible."—**Judith Butler, author of *The Force of Nonviolence***

British/Allen Lane

Rights sold: **German/Ullstein, Portuguese (in Brazil)/Todavia, Portuguese (in Portugal)/Santillana**



Robert Gottlieb
GARBO

Nonfiction, December 2021 (finished books available)

Award-winning master critic Robert Gottlieb takes a singular and multifaceted look at the life of silver screen legend Greta Garbo, and the culture that worshiped her.

"Wherever you look in the period between 1925 and 1941," Robert Gottlieb writes, "Greta Garbo is in people's minds, hearts, and dreams." Garbo appeared in only twenty-four movies, yet her impact on the world—and that indescribable, transcendent presence she possessed—was rivaled only by Marilyn Monroe. She was a phenomenon, a Sphinx, a myth, but also a Swedish peasant girl, uneducated, naïve, and always on her guard.

In **GARBO**, Gottlieb attempts to capture the ever-elusive essence of Garbo through the eyes of others in addition to providing a vivid and thorough retelling of her life. Discovering her within Ernest Hemingway's *For Whom the Bell Tolls* and in the letters of Marianne Moore, and following her from her early movies with MGM to her career-defining, Academy Award-nominated role in *Camille* to her world-stopping decision to leave the limelight, Gottlieb crafts a biography of unprecedented intimacy and scope in the hopes of capturing the woman that only the camera knew.

Robert Gottlieb has been the editor in chief of Simon and Schuster; the president, publisher, and editor in chief of Alfred A. Knopf; and the editor of *The New Yorker*. As a writer, he contributes frequently to *The New York Times Book Review* and *The New York Review of Books* and is the author of *Great Expectations: The Sons and Daughters of Charles Dickens*; *George Balanchine: The Ballet Maker*; *Sarah: The Life of Sarah Bernhardt*; and *Avid Reader: A Life*; and *Near Death Experiences . . . and Others*. In 2015, he was presented the Award for Distinguished Service to the Arts by the American Academy of Arts and Letters.

Praise for GARBO:

"[An] ardent and wise investigative portrait... This is what we want film books to do—to send us to the work with sharper eyes and more open minds." —**Mark Harris, *The New York Times Book Review***

"[A] particularly charming, companionable, and clear-eyed guide to her life and work... By the end of the biography, I felt I understood Garbo better as a person, without the aura of mystery around her having been entirely dispelled—and, at this point, who would want it to be?" —**Margaret Talbot, *The New Yorker***

"Engaging and intelligent... [Gottlieb] perceptively depicts the paradox of Garbo's sociality and reserve." —**Mary Desjardins, *The Washington Post***

Rights sold: **Italian**/Editrice Il Castoro, **Polish**/Znak

Rights sold, *Avid Reader*: **Chinese (complex)**/Donmay, **Chinese (simplified)**/CITIC, **Spanish**/Navona



Alexis Pauline Gumbs
THE ETERNAL LIFE OF AUDRE LORDE
Nonfiction, May 2023 (manuscript available July 2022)

A critical and biographical exploration of the life and work of Audre Lorde, one of the most significant poets, essayists, and activists in the second half of the twentieth century.

Alexis Pauline Gumbs, a rising star in academia and an acclaimed poet, was the first scholar to research Lorde's papers at Spelman College. Here, in the first biography written following Lorde's death, Gumbs provides a poetic interpretation of Lorde's personal narrative and legacy as a poet, a Black woman, and a feminist. She traces the chronological (and sometimes overlapping) events and rituals that shaped Lorde's life and her cultural afterlife.

Alexis Pauline Gumbs is a poet, scholar, and activist who is currently the visiting Winton Chair at University of Minnesota. Her books include *Undrowned: Black Feminist Lessons from Marine Mammals*, *Dub: Finding Ceremony*, *M Archive*, and *Spill*. Her poetry and fiction appears in many creative journals and has been honored with inclusion in *Best American Experimental Writing*, a Pushcart Prize nomination, and honors from the Lucille Clifton Poetry Prize and the Firefly Ridge Women of Color Award. She has been poet-in-residence at *Make/shift* magazine and is currently Creative Writing Editor at *Feminist Studies*.

Praise for *Undrowned*:

"On every page, Alexis Pauline Gumbs offers us a new definition of philosophy, a new definition of evolution. If we truly want a more just way of living, of being interspecies. This is a smart, black feminist, queer poetic; a love evangelist trouble making abolitionist offering. Take it. And be the change." —**Alexis DeVeaux, author of *Warrior Poet: A Biography of Audre Lorde***

"This book is a devotional. An invitation to live more intentionally, more in harmony/Aligned. In this book, the Divine Mermaid, Alexis Pauline Gumbs, dives inside the wails of the Ancestors as she gives testament and testimony to the brilliance of Knowing Spirit beyond the veils of time, place and embodiment. Here, Alexis serves as guide and translator of vibrational realities of dreaming into how to survive, thrive and shape shift this world." —**Sharon Bridgforth, Doris Duke Performing Artist**

British/Allen Lane



Jennifer Michael Hecht
THE WONDER PARADOX

FSG, Nonfiction, March 2023 (manuscript available April 2022)

In the old world that many of us lived in not so long ago, religion formed the rhythms and structures of society, marking time with mandated calendars, carving out space for contemplation, creating moments of connection to each other and the supernatural, reinforcing legacy, morality, and continuity. But now, for many, religion no longer runs the show. For some, its absence leaves a mark.

So in a pluralistic, post-religious, secular-driven era, where do we find our magic? How do we celebrate the milestones of life? Which texts offer us the necessary focus and abstraction for grace, insight, communion, and the chance to dwell for a dazzling instant in what can't be said? The answer, historian, poet, and bestselling author of *Doubt* Jennifer Michael Hecht tell us, lies in poetry.

It's as if we have lamps but won't plug them in because our ancestors believed electricity was fairy-made. Having lost belief in fairies, we sit in the dark. But there's no need. We have holidays and rituals for joy and comfort, crafted over centuries for glowing. We have poems that buzz with electric charge. Let's plug them in.

In this uncommon book of the sacred and poetic, Hecht answers questions she has fielded over many years of lecturing and talking with the many interfaithless who are looking for ways to live an authentic, meaningful, and connected life. With chapters organized around these questions, Hecht offers ways excavating the useful aspects of religious tradition and bringing in new texts and ideas to replace what no longer feels true. Through a range of traditions and the wisdom of poets from around the world—Tagore, Frost, Petrarch, Issa, Yeats, Shakespeare, Rumi, Szymborska, and more—**THE WONDER PARADOX** blends of literary criticism and spiritual guidance that is rooted in the everyday to link moments in our lives to particular poems that can help us better understand the moments, ourselves, and the poetry itself.

Our capacity for wonder is one of the greatest joys of being human, **THE WONDER PARADOX** celebrates that instinct and that yearning, and like Julia Cameron's *The Artist's Way* and Ann Lamott's *Bird by Bird*, promises to inspire generations of readers.

Jennifer Michael Hecht is a philosopher, historian, and award-winning poet. She is the author of *Doubt: A History* and *The End of the Soul*; the latter won the Phi Beta Kappa Society's 2004 Ralph Waldo Emerson Award. Hecht's books of poetry include *The Next Ancient World* and *Funny*. She earned her Ph.D. in history from Columbia University and teaches at The New School in New York City.

Praise for *Doubt*:

"Doubt: A History is especially supple and valuable... 'Wildly doubting texts can still be religious treatises,' she persuasively argues, 'and the brilliant ones even shed light on belief.' Her own text certainly does." —**Samuel G. Freedman, *The New York Times Book Review***

"A marvelous book... Highly informative and potentially transformative, Hecht's meditations on misgivings might cause you never to read your own doubts in quite the same naive way again." —**Gordon Marino, *The Los Angeles Times***

"Light-hearted but serious... Hecht brings to life an awesome array of figures in philosophy, science, and literature, in a way that is wonderfully engaging." —**Howard Zinn, author of *A People's History of the United States***



Talib Kweli
VIBRATE HIGHER
A Rap Story

MCD, Nonfiction, February 2021 (finished books available)

From one of the most lyrically gifted, socially conscious rappers of the past twenty years, **VIBRATE HIGHER** is a firsthand account of hip-hop as a political force. Before Talib Kweli became a world-renowned hip-hop artist, he was a Brooklyn kid who liked to cut class, spit rhymes, and wander the streets of Greenwich Village with a motley crew of artists, rappers, and DJs who found hip-hop more inspiring than their textbooks—much to the chagrin of his educator parents who had given their son an Afrocentric name in hope of securing for him a more traditional sense of pride and purpose. Kweli's was the first generation to grow up with hip-hop as an established culture—a genre of music that has expanded to include its own pantheon of heroes, rich history and politics, and distinct worldview.

Eventually, childhood friendships turned into collaborations and Kweli gained notoriety as a rapper in his own right. From collaborating with some of hip-hop's greatest—including Mos Def, Common, Kanye West, Pharrell Williams, and Kendrick Lamar—to selling books out of the oldest African-American bookstore in Brooklyn, and ultimately leaving his record label and taking control of his own recording career, Kweli tells the winding, always compelling story of the people and events that shaped his own life as well as the culture of hip-hop which informs American culture at large.

VIBRATE HIGHER illuminates the trailblazing (and very bookish) hip-hop star's upbringing and artistic success, but also gives life to hip-hop as a political force—one that galvanized the Movement for Black Lives, and serves a continual channel for resistance against the rising tide of white nationalism.

Talib Kweli is one of the world's most talented and accomplished hip-hop artists. Whether working with Mos Def as one half of Black Star, partnering with the producer Hi-Tek for Reflection Eternal, releasing landmark solo material, or collaborating with Kanye West, Pharrell Williams, Just Blaze, J Dilla, or Madlib, Kweli commands attention by delivering top-tier lyricism, crafting captivating stories, and showing the ability to rhyme over virtually any type of instrumental. In 2011, Kweli founded Javotti Media, "a platform for independent thinkers and doers." Kweli hopes to make Javotti Media into a media powerhouse that releases music, films, and books.

Praise for **VIBRATE HIGHER**:
Longlisted for the Brooklyn Public Library Literary Prize, Nonfiction

"A plain-spoken striver's tale that affectingly charts Kweli's rise." —**Allison Stewart, *The Washington Post***

"This memoir confirms what [Kweli's] work has communicated for years, demonstrating the sharp, nimble mind of an insatiable cultural omnivore...Kweli turns back the pages of hip-hop history for music fans and has something to offer readers unfamiliar with his work." —**Kirkus**

"[An] outspoken and enthusiastic memoir...Kweli's fans are in for a treat." —**Publishers Weekly**



James Lapine
PUTTING IT TOGETHER
How Stephen Sondheim and I Created "Sunday in the Park with George"
Nonfiction, August 2021 (finished books available)

PUTTING IT TOGETHER is a behind-the-scenes look chronicling the two-year odyssey of creating the iconic musical *Sunday in the Park with George*—most recently revived on Broadway in 2017 starring Jake Gyllenhaal, with its next opening scheduled in London, post-pandemic. In 1984, James Lapine, then a fledgling playwright and director, met Stephen Sondheim, already a legendary Broadway composer, and the two decided to turn Georges Seurat's masterwork *A Sunday Afternoon on the Island of La Grande Jatte* into a musical.

Through Lapine's recollections, conversations between Lapine, Sondheim, and the original cast and crew of the production, and a treasure trove of personal photographs, sketches, script notes, and sheet music from the making of the show, the two Broadway icons pull back the curtain on their beloved musical. **PUTTING IT TOGETHER** delves deep into the making of *Sunday in the Park with George* and the story of how a Broadway icon went off-Broadway with a neophyte nineteen years his junior to create a Pulitzer Prize—and Tony Award—winning smash hit.

James Lapine is a preeminent director, playwright, screenwriter, and librettist. He is the recipient of three Tony Awards for Best Book of a Musical (*Passion, Falsettos, Into the Woods*), as well as nine Tony Award nominations, five Drama Desk Awards, a Pulitzer Prize in Drama, and a Peabody Award, among other honors. He has also been inducted into the Theatre Hall of Fame and is a recipient of the Mr. Abbott Award for lifetime achievement in theater.

Stephen Sondheim (1930-2021) was a composer, lyricist, and Broadway icon. He was the recipient of eight Tony Awards (including a Tony for Lifetime Achievement in the Theatre), a Pulitzer Prize in Drama, an Academy Award for Best Song, eight Grammy Awards, eight Drama Desk Awards, and many other honors. He was awarded the Presidential Medal of Freedom by President Barack Obama in 2015.

Praise for **PUTTING IT TOGETHER**:
A New York Times Bestseller
A Los Angeles Times Bestseller
Named a Best Book of the Year by Air Mail and NPR

"Delicious...A testament...to the power of making art." —**Janice C. Simpson, National Book Review**

"[A] fascinating and rigorous, no-punches-pulled investigation...a story of artistic steadfastness, revealing as much about the ultimate work as the experience the participants endured while making it." —**Alan Cumming, The New York Times Book Review, Editors' Choice**

"*Putting It Together* is the richest backstage memoir I know that concentrates on the work itself...Mr. Lapine and Mr. Sondheim admit you to their workshop, sharing memories that illuminate their creative process like a flash of lightning." —**Terry Teachout, The Wall Street Journal**

"[A] captivating oral history...This is a fascinating 360-degree panorama of showbiz at its most intense and creative."
—**Publishers Weekly (starred)**



Meg Lowman
THE ARBORNAUT
A Life Discovering the Eighth Continent in the Trees Above Us
Nonfiction, August 2021 (finished books available)

A blend of memoir and fieldwork, **THE ARBORNAUT** is for fans of Hope Jahren's *Lab Girl* and the work of E. O. Wilson, Jane Goodall, Robert MacFarlane, and Helen MacDonald. Meg Lowman is one of the world's first tree-top scientists. A pioneer in her field, she is a tireless advocate for the earth and has spent decades educating citizens across the globe. **THE ARBORNAUT** gives us a front seat to Lowman's life as a field scientist and ecologist, from climbing solo hundreds of feet into Australia's rainforests to studying the two-inch-high "canopy" of moss and lichen foliage in Antarctica; from searching the redwoods of the Pacific coast for new life to studying leaf-eaters in Scotland's Highlands; from conservation planning in India to collaborating with Coptic priests to save Ethiopia's last forests. In a voice as infectious in its enthusiasm as in its practical optimism, Lowman provides a wry and insightful look at what it's like to be a female scientist, sounds a refreshing note of hope within a world devastated by climate change, offering specific plans and recommendations for action, and illuminates the secrets of the forest.

Meg Lowman, PhD is a biologist, educator, ecologist, writer, editor, and public speaker. Nicknamed the "Real-Life Lorax" by *National Geographic* and "Einstein of the Treetops" by *The Wall Street Journal*, Lowman pioneered the science of canopy ecology. She has received a myriad of prizes including the Margaret Douglas Medal by the Garden Club of America, and Lowell Thomas Medal by the Explorers Club.

Praise for **THE ARBORNAUT**:

"A book can be a beacon, a roadmap, an education. *The Arbournaut* is all that." —**Barbara Kiser, Los Angeles Review of Books**

"Equal parts memoir, scientific reporting, love letter to the trees and a call to action in the face of the climate crisis...Most charming of all is Lowman's joy and wonder at the natural world...By the time you reach the last page of this book, you'll either want to climb a tree, hug a tree or both." —**Rachel Zarrow, The San Francisco Chronicle**

"Written...not just to instruct, but to reorient and inspire...If a tree was once understood as a mostly static living object, [through *The Arbournaut*] we see it rippling with change." —**Rebecca Giggs, The Atlantic**

"A riveting memoir from 'CanopyMeg,' a pioneer in treetop science...Solid science combined with a pleasing writing style make for a winning book." —**Kirkus (starred)**

"[Lowman] excels at bringing the natural world to life in language...[Her] research is full of life, energy, intelligence and determination. It's impossible to read about it without wanting to examine the natural world more closely." —**Kelly Blewett, BookPage (starred)**

"A passionate look at the 'unexplored wonderland' of trees...Lowman shines in her ability to combine accessible science with exciting personal anecdotes that effectively convey the 'thrill of aerial exploration' and bolster her case that trees—and sustainable ecosystems—are worth studying, protecting, and preserving. Nature lovers will find much to consider." —**Publishers Weekly**

British/Allen & Unwin

Rights sold: **Chinese (complex)/MOOK, German/Karl Blessing, Hungarian/Libri Konyvkiado, Korean/Next Wave**



Alec MacGillis
FULFILLMENT

Winning and Losing in One-Click America
Nonfiction, March 2021 (finished books available)

A work of investigative and narrative journalism, examining how the rise of Amazon epitomizes the forces that have rearranged the American social landscape, sorting the country into winner and loser cities, concentrating economic power, and atomizing communities and families.

With both big-picture scope and granular detail, MacGillis seamlessly moves between the coastal elite's halls of power and the most disenfranchised sections of America to illuminate how Amazon is inexorably building up its political, cultural, and economic sway. MacGillis argues that we must scrutinize Amazon to understand America's unprecedented levels of economic concentration and regional inequality—that is, the widening gaps between the country's "winner" cities and those that have been left behind. How has so much of the US's economy, politics, and culture become woven together with a single entity? And what will the rest of the globe's fate look like as it becomes ever more tightly entwined with the Everything Store? The result is an intimate account of contemporary capitalism: its drive to innovate, its dark, pitiless magic, its remaking of the world with every click.

Alec MacGillis has previously worked for the *New Republic*, *The Washington Post*, and the *Baltimore Sun*, and his writing has been awarded the 2016 Robin Toner Prize for Excellence in Political Reporting, the 2017 Polk Award for National Reporting, the 2017 Elijah Parish Lovejoy Journalism Award, and several other honors.

Praise for FULFILLMENT:

A New York Times Book Review Editors' Choice

"Through interviews, careful investigative reporting and vignettes from across the country, MacGillis deftly unravels the strong grip Amazon has on the United States...Through careful detail and deeply humanizing portraits of communities impacted by Amazon, MacGillis gives us a picture of contemporary America as mere survival under precarity. "—**Xiaowei Wang**, *The New York Times Book Review*

"A grounded and expansive examination of the American economic divide . . . [*Fulfillment*] is neither a hagiography nor a targeted attack. Instead, like the HBO series *The Wire*, it reveals the way economic, political and social systems affect individual stories...It takes a skillful journalist to weave data and anecdotes together so effectively...Reading these people's stories will break your heart. But you should read them." —**Carolyn Kellogg**, *Los Angeles Times*

"[*Fulfillment*'s] value at this moment in history is unmistakable. MacGillis has written an illuminating and richly reported portrait, not of a company, but of the country it has helped to reshape. *Fulfillment* leaves the reader with the sense the pandemic has closed one chapter on this story, and is about to open another." —**Sarah O'Connor**, *Financial Times*

British/Scribe UK

Rights sold: **Catalan**/Edicions del Periscopi, **Chinese(complex)**/Ecus, **Chinese (simplified)**/Thinkingdom, **French**/Sous-Sol, **German**/S. Fischer, **Korean**/April Books, **Spanish**/Península



Janet Malcolm

PICTURES

A Memoir

Nonfiction, January 2023 (manuscript available June 2022)

For decades, Janet Malcolm's books and dispatches for *The New Yorker* and *The New York Review* poked and prodded at reportorial and biographical convention, gesturing towards the artifice that underpins both public and private selves. In **PICTURES**, Malcolm turns her gimlet eye on her own extraordinary life with a singular investigation into the realm of memory.

PICTURES, then, is not the story of a life but an event on its own terms, an encounter with identity and family photographs as poignant and original as anything since Barthes's *Camera Lucida*. Malcolm looks beyond the content of the image and the easy seductions of self-recognition, constructing a memoir from memories that pose questions of their own. She begins with the picture of a morose young girl on a train, leaving Prague at the age of five in 1939. From there we follow her to the Czech enclave of Yorkville in Manhattan, where her parents traded their bohemian, Dada-inflected lives for the ambitions of middle-class America. From her early, fitful loves to evenings at the old Metropolitan Opera House to her fascination with what it might mean to be a "bad girl," Malcolm assembles a composite portrait of a New York childhood, one that never escaped the tug of Europe and the mysteries of fate and family. Later, Malcolm delves into her marriage to Gardner Botsford, the world of William Shawn's *New Yorker*, and the libel trial that led her to become a character in her own drama—a role she reprises in the writing of this book, where she brings her distinctive critical sensibilities to bear on herself.

Displaying the sharp wit and astute commentary that are Malcolman trademarks, this brief volume develops into a memoir like few others in our literature.

Janet Malcolm (1934–2021) was the author of many books, including *In the Freud Archives*, *The Journalist and the Murderer*, *Two Lives: Alice and Gertrude*, which won the 2008 PEN/Jacqueline Bograd Weld Award for Biography, and *Forty-One False Starts*, which was a *New York Times Book Review* Notable Book and a finalist for the 2013 National Book Critics Circle Award for Criticism. She was a frequent contributor to *The New Yorker* and *The New York Review of Books*. In 2017, Malcolm received the Gold Medal for Belles Lettres and Criticism from the American Academy of Arts and Letters.

Praise for *Nobody's Looking At You*:

A *New York Times Book Review* Editors' Choice

Books to Read this February, *The New York Times*, BBC Culture, Lit Hub, O: the Oprah Magazine

"Seeing things differently is the essence of what sets Malcolm apart. Few writers pay attention with the precision, acuity and patience she has exhibited during her career." —**Wyatt Mason, *The New York Times Book Review***

"Malcolm is a master of nonfiction...In their range and verve, [the essays] confirm Malcolm's ability as a literary journalist to connect her work to the cultural moment." —**Joumana Khatib, *The New York Times***

British/Granta

Rights sold: **ANZ/Text Publishing, Portuguese (in Brazil)/Companhia das Letras, Spanish/Debate**

Rights sold, *Nobody's Looking at You*: **British/Text Publishing, Spanish/Monte Hermoso**



Geoff Manaugh and Nicola Twilley

UNTIL PROVEN SAFE

The History and Future of Quarantine

MCD, Nonfiction, July 2021 (finished books available)

UNTIL PROVEN SAFE tracks the history and future of quarantine around the globe, chasing the story of emergency isolation through time and space—from the crumbling lazarettos of the Mediterranean, built to contain the Black Death, to an experimental Ebola unit in London, and from the hallways of the CDC to closed-door simulations where pharmaceutical execs and epidemiologists prepare for the outbreak of a novel coronavirus.

But the story of quarantine ranges far beyond the history of medical isolation. The authors tour a nuclear-waste isolation facility beneath the New Mexican desert, see plants stricken with a disease that threatens the world's wheat supply, and meet NASA's Planetary Protection Officer, tasked with saving Earth from extraterrestrial infections. They also introduce us to the corporate tech giants hoping to revolutionize quarantine through surveillance and algorithmic prediction.

Geoff Manaugh and Nicola Twilley have been researching quarantine since long before the COVID-19 pandemic. With **UNTIL PROVEN SAFE**, they bring us a book as compelling as it is definitive, not only urgent reading for social-distanced times but also an up-to-the-minute investigation of the interplay of forces—biological, political, technological—that shape our modern world. It is a thrillingly reported, thought-provoking exploration of the meaning of freedom, governance, and mutual responsibility.

Geoff Manaugh is the author of *A Burglar's Guide to the City* and founder of the website BLDGBLOG. He writes regularly for *The New York Times Magazine*, *The Atlantic*, *The New Yorker*, *Wired* and other publications.

Nicola Twilley is author of the blog Edible Geography, co-host of the award-winning podcast *Gastropod*, and a contributing writer at the *New Yorker*. Manaugh and Twilley live in Los Angeles.

Praise for UNTIL PROVEN SAFE:

"[Manaugh and Twilley] bring an impressively wide range of interests to bear on a subject that involves not only infectious disease but also—in their ambitious yet seamless narration—politics, agriculture, surveillance and even outer space." —**Jennifer Szalai**, *The New York Times Book Review*

"This is an exceptionally powerful book." —**A. Roger Ekirch**, *The Wall Street Journal*

"[Nicola Twilley and Geoff Manaugh] make a compelling case that we must continue to refine the use of quarantine, balancing the needs of public health with those of human rights." —*The New Yorker*

"Riveting and timely... This thoughtful study couldn't arrive at a better moment." —*Publishers Weekly (starred)*

British/Picador UK

Rights sold: **Chinese (complex)**/Business Weekly Taiwan



Chelsea Manning
UNTITLED MEMOIR
Nonfiction, October 2022

An intimate, revealing memoir from one of the most important activists of our time.

In 2010, Chelsea Manning, working as an intelligence analyst in the U.S. Army in Iraq, disclosed 720,000 classified military documents that she had smuggled out via the memory card of her digital camera. In March 2011, the United States Army sentenced Manning to thirty-five years in military prison, charging her with twenty-two counts relating to the unauthorized possession and distribution of classified military documents. The day after her conviction, Manning declared her gender identity as a woman and began to transition. In 2017, President Barack Obama commuted her sentence and she was released from prison.

In her memoir, Manning recounts how her pleas for increased institutional transparency and government accountability took place alongside a fight to defend her rights as a trans woman. She reveals her challenging childhood, her struggles as an adolescent, what led her to join the military, and the fierce pride she took in her work. We also learn the details of how and why she made the decision to send classified military documents to WikiLeaks. This powerful, observant memoir will stand as one of the definitive testaments of the digital age.

Chelsea Elizabeth Manning is an American activist, whistleblower, politician, and former United States Army soldier.

British/Bodley Head

Rights sold: **Danish/Information**, **Dutch/HarperCollins Netherlands**, **French/Fayard**, **German/HarperCollins Germany**, **Italian/Rizzoli**, **Spanish/Ediciones B**, **Swedish/Arenagruppen/Atlas**



Brian Merchant and Claire L. Evans, editors

TERRAFORM

Watch/Worlds/Burn

MCD x FSG Originals, Nonfiction, August 2022 (manuscript available)

An anthology of near future science fiction from VICE's acclaimed, innovative digital speculative story destination, Terraform—in print for the first time.

Assembling a remarkable roster of writers old and new, *Terraform* has established itself by publishing short fiction seemingly ripped from tomorrow's headlines, speculative fiction about the very near future. Over the last six years, as science fiction itself has achieved a new kind of mainstream credibility and the media landscape has transformed entirely, *Terraform* has blazed an unexpected path that has seen short stories go viral and given fiction an unparalleled urgency and relevance.

Drawing from established luminaries like Bruce Sterling and Cory Doctorow, rising stars like E. Lily Yu, and surprising newcomers, **TERRAFORM's** stories are marked by their convincing engagement with the world that we just might live in, putting our most existential issues into startling dramatic context. Edited by Brian Merchant and Claire L. Evans, and divided here into three categories—WATCH/WORLDS/BURN—these stories take on surveillance, artificial intelligence, and climate collapse.

Brian Merchant is a journalist, author, and the senior editor of *OneZero*, *Medium's* official tech and future publication. He's a founding editor of *Terraform*, the former senior editor and producer for *Motherboard*, and his writing has appeared in *Harper's*, *the New York Times*, *Wired*, *the Atlantic*, *the Guardian*, and elsewhere. He is the author of the books *The One Device* and the forthcoming *Blood in the Machine*, from Little, Brown.

Claire L. Evans is a writer and musician. She is the singer of the GRAMMY-nominated pop group YACHT, a founding editor of *Terraform*, the former futures editor of *Motherboard*, and the author of *Broad Band: The Untold Story of the Women who Made the Internet*. She is an advisor to design students at Art Center College of Design.



Putsata Reang
MA AND ME
A Memoir

Nonfiction, May 2022 (finished books available)

When Putsata Reang was eleven months old, her family fled war-torn Cambodia, spending twenty-three days on a navy vessel before finding sanctuary in the Philippines. Holding what appeared to be a lifeless baby in her arms, Ma resisted the captain's orders to throw her bundle overboard. Instead, on landing, Ma rushed her baby into the arms of American military nurses and doctors, who saved her life. "I had hope, just a little, you were still alive," Ma would tell Put in an oft-repeated story that became family legend.

Over the years, Put lived to please Ma and make her proud, hustling to repay her life debt by becoming the consummate good Cambodian daughter, working steadfastly by Ma's side in the berry fields each summer, and eventually building a successful career as an award-winning journalist. But Put's adoration and efforts are no match for Ma's expectations. When she comes out to Ma in her twenties, it's just a phase. When she fails to bring home a Khmer boyfriend, it's because she's not trying hard enough. When, at the age of 40, Put tells Ma she is finally getting married—to a woman—it breaks their bond in two.

In her startling memoir, Putsata Reang explores the long legacy of inherited trauma and the crushing weight of cultural and filial duty. With rare clarity and lyric wisdom, **MA AND ME** is a stunning, deeply moving memoir about love, debt, and duty.

Putsata Reang is an author and journalist whose writings have appeared in *The New York Times*, *The Guardian*, *Ms*, and *The Seattle Times*, among other publications. Born in Cambodia and raised in rural Oregon, Reang has lived and worked in more than a dozen countries, including Cambodia, Afghanistan and Thailand. She is an alum of Hedgebrook, Mineral School and Kimmel Harding Nelson residencies and has received fellowships from the Alicia Patterson Foundation and Jack Straw.

Praise for MA AND ME:

"[A] luminous debut...Reang offers a nuanced mediation on love, identity, and belonging. This story of survival radiates with resilience and hope." —**Publishers Weekly, starred review**

"[A] piercing memoir...[featuring] well-wrought vignettes of a complicated mother-daughter bond." —**Kirkus**

"*Ma and Me* [shines] a fearless light on the experiences of queer people whose families have survived the trauma of war. It also stands apart as a work of lyrical beauty, exploring culture, duty, guilt and family with heartbreaking clarity." —**BookPage**

"[A] beautiful story of struggling to reconcile love, family, and identity with generational trauma...*Ma and Me* is not heartbreaking but heart-healing." —**Nicola Griffith, author of *So Lucky***

"A book as close to perfect as any I have read in many years. Lyrical, emotional, and profoundly moving, *Ma and Me* is in equal parts a love story between a mother and her daughter, and a family's tale of survival, war, and the inherited traumas...I forced myself to slow down to savor Putsata Reang's sharp, poetic prose." —**Loung Ung, author of *First They Killed My Father***



Nathaniel Rich
SECOND NATURE
Scenes from a World Remade
MCD, Nonfiction, March 2021 (finished books available)

From the author of *Losing Earth*, a deeply reported and beautifully told exploration of how we live in a post-natural world.

We live in a world in which scientists are actively trying to bring back prehistoric beasts, in which our most essential and complex ecosystems demand monumental engineering projects to survive, in which immortal jellyfish threaten to fill and overrun the oceans, in which iconic companies that have long been at the cultural and economic center of their communities are poisoning the very people who make up those communities. We are obsessed with words like "organic" and "sustainable," but the fact is the separation between natural and artificial are obsolete, too intertwined to mean anything. It's not science fiction; it's not the future. It's not dystopia; it's not utopia. It's the world we live in. It's time we reckoned with it.

As Nathaniel Rich takes on a series of adventures and explorations and schemes with the scientists and activists, engineers and naturalists at the forefront of these issues, what comes into focus is a world that has left the traditional notion of ecology behind. There is obvious tragedy in what we've lost, but there is undeniable wonder in what we can do, and Rich captures both with unmatched energy and eloquence.

Nathaniel Rich is the author of *Losing Earth* and the novels *King Zeno*, *Odds Against Tomorrow*, and *The Mayor's Tongue*. He is a writer at large for *The New York Times Magazine* and a regular contributor to *The Atlantic* and *The New York Review of Books*. He lives in New Orleans.

Praise for **SECOND NATURE**:

"[*Second Nature* is] an unwavering look at our increasingly dystopian world...Rich presents humanity's war against nature in vivid detail...Flowing and deeply researched prose paints scene after scene of the ubiquitous entropy that is gaining momentum...Rich manages to fluently and empathetically depict in a digestible way the predicament in which we now find ourselves." —**New York Times Book Review**

"Nathaniel Rich's electric *Second Nature*...is a tour de force examining the influence humans exert on the world...The reading experience is by turns demoralizing and galvanizing, like most worthwhile things." —**Vanity Fair**

"Rich's elegy to a planet he likens to a critical care patient is lyrical, erudite, and devastating...[His] investigation of 'crimes against nature' and the people who are trying to stop them is alarming, enlightening, and necessary."
—**O: The Oprah Magazine**

Rights sold: **French**/Sous-Sol, **German**/Rowohlt

Rights sold, *Losing Earth*: **British**/Picador UK, **Croatian**/Profil International, **Czech**/Host, **Dutch**/Arbeiderspers, **French**/Sous-Sol, **Italian**/Mondadori, **Korean**/Sigongsa, **Polish**/Foksal, **Slovak**/Hadart, **Spanish**/Capitan Swing



Edith Schloss; edited by Mary Venturini
THE LOFT GENERATION
From the de Koonings to Twombly: Portraits and Sketches, 1942-2011
Nonfiction, November 2021 (finished books available)

THE LOFT GENERATION is a firsthand account of a landmark era in American art from an artist at the center of it. In these memoirs, New York School painter Edith Schloss writes about the artists, poets, and musicians that were a part of the postwar art movement in America and about her life as an artist in America and later in Italy, where she worked as a painter and writer until her death in 2011.

Schloss was born in Germany and moved to New York City during WWII. There, she became part of a thriving community of artists and intellectuals, from Bertolt Brecht to Willem and Elaine de Kooning and Larry Rivers, and married the Swiss photographer and filmmaker Rudy Burckhardt. She worked both as an artist and an incisive art critic, and was a gimlet-eyed observer of a close-knit community that was redefining American art. In later life she lived in Italy, spending time with artists like Giorgio Morandi and Cy Twombly.

In **THE LOFT GENERATION**, Schloss creates an irreplaceable up-close record of an era of artistic innovation, of the colorful characters who made it happen. There is no other book like it.

Edith Schloss, born in Germany in 1919, was an integral member of the abstract expressionist movement and the New York School. Schloss created paintings, assemblages, collages, watercolors and drawings and worked as an art critic, writer, and editor until her death in 2011.

Mary Venturini was Edith Schloss's editor at *Wanted in Rome*, a magazine for expats in Rome that she co-founded in 1985. Venturini started her work as a journalist on the American desk for *The Economist*, before she moved to Rome and contributed to publications including *The Financial Times* and *The Times*. After co-founding *Wanted in Rome*, Venturini served as the editor until 2012, and she continues to contribute to the magazine. Venturini is also a committee member of the Keats Shelley House Museum in Rome.

Praise for THE LOFT GENERATION:
Critics' Best Book of 2021, *The New York Times*

"A glowing jewel of a book...All five senses are shaken awake...[*The Loft Generation*] is a book that feels manifestly present, clear and alive even while describing the past." —**Alexandra Jacobs, *The New York Times***

"Rarely does a writer describe artists' lives with the exciting voyeurism of celebrities tied together in a web of sex and booze, while also insightfully commenting on their process, output, and legacy—Schloss manages to do both...[Schloss] celebrates the audacity of the young without sentimentality...The reminiscences are not all sweet, but they are bold and stirring, much like the school of art that Schloss knew so intimately." —**Max Holleran, *The New Republic***

"Weaves an intricate micro-history of an unprecedentedly energized and interconnected artistic community...*The Loft Generation* is fast-paced and deeply funny...tossing the reader into the postwar mêlée of a rapidly shapeshifting New York." —**Jamie Hood, *Vulture***



Jonathan C. Slaght
OWLS OF THE EASTERN ICE
A Quest to Find and Save the World's Largest Owl
Nonfiction, August 2020 (finished books available)

Blakiston's Fish Owl, the largest species of owl on earth, found only in the far northern regions of Russia, Japan, and Korea, is also perhaps the most mysterious. Only a handful of scientists have attempted to study them, but a chance sighting changed the course of Jonathan Slaght's life—sending him on a five-year journey to study these enigmatic creatures.

In **OWLS OF THE EASTERN ICE**, American researcher and conservationist Slaght takes us to the Primoriye region of Eastern Russia, where we join a small team for late-night monitoring missions, on mad dashes across thawing rivers, drink vodka with mystics, hermits, and scientists, and listen to fireside tales of Amur tigers. Most captivating of all are the fish owls themselves: vicious hunters, devoted parents, singers of eerie duets, and irrepressible survivors in a harsh and shrinking habitat.

OWLS OF THE EASTERN ICE is an enthralling glimpse of a wild frontier, of scientific fieldwork at its most visceral, and of the crucial efforts to conserve a vulnerable and awe-inducing bird amid the shifting sands of globalization and climate change.

Jonathan Slaght is the Russia and Northeast Asia Coordinator for the Wildlife Conservation Society. His annotated translation of *Across the Ussuri Kray* by Vladimir Arsenyev was published in 2016, and his writings, research, and photographs have been featured in *The New York Times*, *The Guardian*, the BBC World Service, *NPR*, *Smithsonian Magazine*, and *Audubon Magazine*, among others.

Praise for OWLS OF THE EASTERN ICE:
PEN/E.O. Wilson Literary Science Writing Award Recipient
Longlisted for the National Book Award
Minnesota Book Award Finalist
Stanford Dolman Travel Book of the Year Award Finalist
A Best Book of the Year, *The New York Times*, *NPR*, *The Wall Street Journal*, *Smithsonian*, *Minneapolis Star-Tribune*, *The Times* (London), *The Globe and Mail*
***The New York Times Book Review*, "Editors' Choice"**

"I'm happy to report that this book has changed me. I have become an ardent fan of the largest living species of owl...Slaght has a rare gift for startling evocations of the natural world...Primoye is a remarkable place, and Slaght's passion for it is palpable; his fascination with fish owls, too, the reader quickly understands and shares...[*Owls of the Eastern Ice*] is refreshingly old-school, a tautly strung adventure." —**Helen Macdonald, *The Guardian***

British/Allen Lane

Rights sold: **Chinese (simplified)**/Shanghai People's Publishing, **Dutch**/Atlas, **German**/Matthes & Seitz, **Japanese**/Chikuma Shobo, **Korean**/Hannal M&C, **Russian**/Alpina, **Spanish**/Siruela, **Turkish**/Ithaki



Douglas Smith
THE CITY WITHOUT JEWS

Nonfiction, April 2027 (proposal available)

Never before **THE CITY WITHOUT JEWS** has the entire story of the destruction of Jewish Vienna been told in such breadth and detail, combining the intimacy of individual experience and the vast historical sweep of Nazi rule, the Second World War, and the Holocaust. Drawing on hundreds of sources, from published memoirs and videotaped interviews to letters, diaries, and interrogation reports, many of which have lain forgotten in archives for decades, award-winning historian Douglas Smith captures the voices of those who experienced this history. Of all these voices, one stands out.

Her name was Mignon Langnas, perhaps the only Jew who spent the entire seven years in Nazi Vienna and left behind such a detailed written record of their life—and not after the fact, but as it was being lived. Mignon’s letters and diaries open a window onto life in these years unlike any other source. Moreover, Mignon functions as the hub around which the larger, complicated story of Vienna in the Nazi years revolves, the spokes representing the many people connected to Mignon whose own lives constitute significant elements of this history, from her husband Leo and the “Voyage of the Damned” to Josef Löwenherz and the work of the IKG—and through it to the Nazis who ran Vienna. All of this horrifying history can be traced back in some way to Mignon via a network of interconnecting threads.

Her son George has granted Smith complete access to the Langnas family archive—some 1,000 pages of letters and diaries, along with dozens of photographs, documents, and other ephemera—among the Langnas family spanning over two decades and across three continents.

THE CITY WITHOUT JEWS will make an important contribution to the literature on Nazism and the Holocaust, providing a nuanced reassessment of one of the most contentious topics in Holocaust studies, namely the role and responsibility of Jewish organizations like the IKG and their leaders in the fate of the Jewish community during the Nazi years. But more than a work of history, it is also a reminder—and a warning—of the danger of forgetting a past whose legacy refuses to die. Smith will take readers up to the present moment as we bear witness to the growing popularity of xenophobic, nationalist movements across the US and Europe.

Douglas Smith is an award-winning historian and translator and the author of *The Russian Job*, *Rasputin*, and *Former People*, which was a bestseller in the U.K. His books have been translated into a dozen languages. The recipient of a Guggenheim Fellowship, he has written for *The New York Times* and *Wall Street Journal* and has appeared in documentaries with the BBC, National Geographic, and Netflix. Before becoming a historian, he worked for the U.S. State Department in the Soviet Union and as a Russian affairs analyst for Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty. He lives with his family in Seattle.

British: Fletcher & Company

Rights sold: **Dutch**/Het Spectrum, **German**/Piper

Rights sold, *Former People*: **British**/Picador UK, **Chinese (simplified)**/Social Sciences Academic Press, **Dutch**/Uitgeverij Balans, **Estonian**/Tanapaeve, **German**/S. Fischer Verlag, **Hebrew**/Keter, **Hungarian**/Europa Konyvkiado, **Polish**/Wydawnictwo Literackie, **Portuguese (excl. Brazil)**/Temas e Debates, **Romanian**/Corint, **Russian**/New Literary Observer, **Serbian**/Admiral Books, **Spanish**/Tusquets Editores



Shahbaz Taseer
LOST TO THE WORLD
A Memoir of Faith, Family, and Five Years in the Hands of Extremists
MCD, Nonfiction, November 2022 (manuscript available)

Shahbaz Taseer's memoir of his five-year-long captivity at the hands of the Islamic Movement of Uzbekistan.

In late August 2011, Shahbaz Taseer was driving to his office in Lahore when he was dragged from his car at gunpoint and kidnapped by members of the Islamic Movement of Uzbekistan (IMU), a Taliban-affiliated Uzbek terrorist group. Shahbaz's father, the late Pakistani governor, had recently been assassinated. His crime: speaking in support of a Christian woman who had been accused of blasphemy and sentenced to death. Though Taseer himself wasn't much interested in politics, he was somewhat of a public figure, and he represented a more tolerant, internationally connected Pakistan that the IMU despised.

What followed was nearly five years of torture and harrowing danger while Taseer was held captive, his fate determined by the infighting of the IMU, Taliban, and ISIS. **LOST TO THE WORLD** is his memoir of that time—a story of extraordinary sorrow but also of goodness and faith. While deeply dramatic, this tale is also comedic; for Taseer, humor, as much as the Koran, provided a light by which to see his own humanity, even under the most inhumane conditions, and to find a way back to his family.

In a time when Western leaders use fear-mongering rhetoric to paint all followers of Islam as dangerous fundamentalists, **LOST TO THE WORLD** illustrates the chasm between Muslim terrorists and ordinary Muslim citizens, and how terrorist organizations gain strength from the war on terror.

Shahbaz Taseer is a Pakistani businessman, and the son of the former Governor of Punjab (Pakistan) Salman Taseer. Taseer was held in captivity for around four and a half years and was recovered from Kuchlak, Balochistan on 8 March 2016. His kidnapping was referred to as one of the most high-profile kidnappings in Pakistan by The Guardian.

British/Transworld



Jer Thorp
LIVING IN DATA

A Citizen's Guide to a Better Information Future
MCD, Nonfiction, May 2021 (finished books available)

To live in data in the twenty-first century is to be incessantly extracted from, classified and categorized, statistified, sold, and surveilled. Data—our data—is mined and processed for profit, power, and political gain. In **LIVING IN DATA**, data artist Jer Thorp asks a crucial question of our time: How do we stop passively inhabiting data, and instead become active citizens of it?

Threading a data story through hippo attacks, glaciers, and school gymnasiums, around colossal rice piles, and over active minefields, **LIVING IN DATA** reminds us that the future of data is still wide open, that there are ways to transcend facts and figures and to find more visceral ways to engage with data, that there are always new stories to be told about how data can be used. Punctuated with Thorp's original and informative illustrations, **LIVING IN DATA** not only redefines what data is, but reimagines who gets to speak its language and how to use its power to create a more just and democratic future.

Jer Thorp is one of the world's foremost data artists and a leading voice for the ethical use of big data. He was the *New York Times*' first Data Artist in Residence and has served as the Innovator in Residence at the Library of Congress. His data-inspired artwork has been shown around the world and his work has appeared in a wide variety of publications, including *Scientific American*, *The New Yorker*, *Popular Science*, *Fast Company*, *Business Week*, *Discover*, *WIRED*, and *The Harvard Business Review*. Thorp is an adjunct Professor in New York University's renowned Interactive Telecommunications Program (ITP), and is the Co-Founder of The Office for Creative Research. He lives in New York City. **LIVING IN DATA** is his first book.

Praise for **LIVING IN DATA**:

"A nonlinear and stunningly illustrated book, *Living In Data*...is an essential text, one that requires readers to think—and to think specifically and carefully about the consequences of data decisions. It asks readers to consider the stories data tells, how they are told, how they are drawn, and who does the telling." —**Lydia Pyne, *Hyperallergic***

"If Annie Dillard wrote about data, it might sound something like this. In turns insightful, hilarious, techy and humane, *Living in Data* is an essential book for anyone who's wondering how exactly we got into this data mess, and thinking about how we might dig ourselves out." —**Stewart Butterfield, CEO of Slack**

"*Living in Data* offers no easy fix. Rather, it shows that the potential for change lies within us: in our human, fallible, hopeful minds." —**Paola Antonelli, senior curator of Architecture and Design at MoMA**

"Jer Thorp has the technical expertise of a coder but the soul of a storyteller, and the result is a highly accessible, even stirring, view into the often-invisible systems that shape our lives." —**Anil Dash, CEO of Glitch**

Rights sold: **Chinese (complex)/Faces Publications, Chinese (simplified)/Ginkgo**



Kaitlyn Tiffany
EVERYTHING I NEED I GET FROM YOU
How Fangirls Created the Internet as We Know It
MCD x FSG Originals, Fiction, June 2022 (manuscript available)

In 2014, on the side of a Los Angeles freeway, a One Direction fan erected a shrine in the spot where, a few hours earlier, Harry Styles had vomited. "It's interesting for sure," Styles said later, adding, "a little niche, maybe." But what seemed niche to Styles was actually an irreverent signpost to an unfathomably large, interconnected, and influential multiverse: stan culture.

In **EVERYTHING I NEED I GET FROM YOU**, Kaitlyn Tiffany, staff writer at *The Atlantic* and proud superfan herself, guides us through the nebulous online world of fans, stans, and boybands. Along the way we meet girls who damage their lungs from screaming too loud, fans rallying together to manipulate streaming numbers using complex digital subversion, and an underworld of inside jokes and shared memories surrounding band members' allergies, internet typos, and hairstyles. In the process, Tiffany makes a convincing, and often moving, argument that fangirls, in their ingenuity and collaboration, created the social internet we know today, effectively making One Direction the first internet boyband. "Before most people were using the internet for anything," Tiffany writes, "fans were using it for everything."

With humor, empathy, and an insider's eye, **EVERYTHING I NEED I GET FROM YOU** reclaims internet history for young women, establishing fandom not as the territory of hysterical girls, but as an incubator for digital innovation, art, and community. From dangerous, fandom-splitting conspiracy theories about secret love and fake children, to the interplays between high and low culture and capitalism, Tiffany's book is a riotous chronicle of the movement that changed the internet forever.

Kaitlyn Tiffany is a staff writer at *The Atlantic*, where she covers technology and culture. She was previously on the same beat at Vox's consumer vertical *The Goods*, after starting her career writing about pop culture, fandom, and online community at *The Verge*. Formerly the host of the popular podcast *Why'd You Push That Button*, which considered the tiny technology decisions that have an outsized effect on our modern social lives, she lives in Brooklyn.

Praise for **EVERYTHING I NEED I GET FROM YOU**:

"An enthralling study...The text buzzes with broader relevance that should appeal to readers interested in the 'unlimited chaotic energy' of life online. A finely balanced pop-culture investigation." —**Kirkus**

"With her insider-outsider perspective, patience, and wit, Kaitlyn Tiffany does remarkable justice to the complexity of online culture...it makes a rich and heartfelt explainer on the feelings and phenomena that thrive on the internet."
—**Jenny Odell, author of *How to Do Nothing***

"Tiffany's book is a fresh and often funny experiment in finding forms fit to archive the websites where we became ourselves...As cultural history, it casts the most familiar developments in a new light. As criticism meets memoir meets performance art, it won me over like a great fan will—through sheer commitment to the bit." —**Moira Weigel, author of *Labor of Love***

"*Everything I Need I Get From You* is a perfect document of the peculiarly fruitful form of Internet-enabled obsession."
—**Kyle Chayka, author of *The Longing for Less***



Michael Waters
THE OTHER OLYMPIANS

Nonfiction, March 2024 (Proposal available, manuscript available Spring 2023)

In December 1935, a single news story transformed how many Americans thought about gender. That month, a Czech athlete named Zdeněk Koubek, who had set a record in the women's 800-meter race at the 1934 Women's World Games, announced he was now living as a man.

Soon after, news stories about other transitioning international sports stars hit the press. While most observers saw these sex changes as either a novelty or an inspiration, the phenomenon began to alarm certain segments of the International Olympic Committee. The American executive Avery Brundage argued that the transitioning athletes represented an existential threat to Olympic sports. He introduced the first major sex testing regime in Olympic history, solidifying the system that is still in use today.

Journalist Michael Waters brings in-depth research and much-needed historical context to a topic that has once again become a global discussion point. In **THE OTHER OLYMPIANS**, he makes the case that none of today's backlash against trans and intersex athletes was inevitable. By recounting the experiences of Koubek and several other athletes, he shows how the public often reacted to them with compassion or curiosity, while sports executives ignored that positive momentum and instead set the stage for the flurry of laws barring trans people from public sports that we see today. While conservative activists like to portray trans and intersex people competing in sports as a modern phenomenon, Waters demonstrates that the debate around trans athletes dates back nearly a century—and remarkably, the current backlash is quite possibly more harmful and regressive than when it began decades ago.

Michael Waters is a writer and researcher. His writing has appeared in *The New Yorker*, *The Atlantic*, *The New York Times*, *Vox*, *Slate*, and other publications. In 2021, he was named a Martin Duberman Visiting Fellow at the New York Public Library. He lives in Brooklyn, NY.



Alice Wohl
AS IT TURNS OUT
Thinking About Edie and Andy
Nonfiction, August 2022 (manuscript available)

The story of the model, actress, and American icon Edie Sedgwick is told by her sister with empathy, insight, and firsthand observations of her meteoric life.

In **AS IT TURNS OUT**, Alice Wohl tells the story behind the great artists and magnetic personalities of the 1960s: her sister Edie Sedgwick; her friend Andy Warhol; and all those who moved in their orbit, from Bob Dylan and Tennessee Williams to Ondine and Patti Smith. Wohl focuses on her sister, Edie: she writes frankly and with love about Sedgwick's battles with her mental health and her challenging childhood, as well as her one-of-a-kind magnetism that made her a muse and a star wherever she went. She writes about the woman behind the image, whether captured by Warhol on film or countless photographers, all searching for a glimpse of the bewitching star.

AS IT TURNS OUT is a family story. Alice Wohl is writing to her brother Bobby, who died in a motorcycle accident in 1965, just before their sister Edie Sedgwick met Andy Warhol. Wohl, after seeing Edie's image reflected back to her in a clip from Andy's extraordinary film *Outer and Inner Space*, decided to put her continuous dialogue with Bobby on the page and to understand, for Edie's sake and for all of ours, what made her and Andy such iconic, unforgettable figures in American culture and in our collective imagination. What was it about Edie? What was behind those eyes, behind the face that captured Warhol and the attention of a generation?

Wohl tells the story only a sister could, from their childhood on a California ranch and the beginnings of Edie's lifelong troubles, brushed aside by their parents, to her life and relationship with Andy, inside the silver walls of The Factory and projected larger than life in the many major films they made together. More than just a first-hand observer of this phenomenon, Wohl writes with a keen critical eye and careful reflection about the lasting impact of Edie and Andy's artistic, cultural, and personal creative force. **AS IT TURNS OUT** is a letter to a brother about their sister, about the world she helped create and the woman behind the magnetic image. Wohl asks and answers: What was it about Edie?

Alice Wohl is a scholar and translator. Her translations include *The Life of Michelangelo* by Ascanio Condivi and *On Antique Painting* by Francisco de Hollanda.

Praise for **AS IT TURNS OUT**:

"*As It Turns Out* is a revelation. Alice Wohl reveals herself to be a remarkably talented writer who, with finely turned sentences and lyric passages, paints an unforgettable picture of the strange and singular childhood that produced both herself and her sister Edie Sedgwick... Wohl shrewdly analyzes the unlikely but perfect partnership between Edie and Andy. Edie and Alice's vast Santa Barbara ranch, in which appearances were everything, corresponded perfectly with Warhol's vision of an art in which under the surface of everything there was only more surface."

—**Alexander Stille**, author of *The Force of Things*



Wallis Wilde-Menozzi
SILENCE AND SILENCES

Nonfiction, December 2021 (finished books available)

Wallis Wilde-Menozzi's **SILENCE AND SILENCES** is a meditation on the infinite search for meanings in silence.

"We need quiet to feel nothing, to hear silence that brings back proportion and the beauty of not knowing except for the outlines of what we live every day. Something inner settles. The right to silence unmediated by social judgment. Sitting at a table in an empty kitchen, peeling an apple, I wait for its next transformation. For a few seconds, the red, mottled, dangling skin unwinds what happened to it on earth."

Wallis Wilde-Menozzi set out to touch silence for brief experiences of what's real. In images, dreams and actions, the challenge leads to her heart as a writer. The pages of **SILENCE AND SILENCES** form a vast tapestry of meanings—shaped by many forces outside personal circumstance. Moving closer, the reader notices intricacies that shift when touched. As the writer steps aside, there is cosmic joy, biological truth, and historical injustice. Women's voices and women's silences; Agnes Martin's thin, fine lines and D. H. Lawrence's artful letters; an active engagement with personal memories as the self changes over time. COVID-19 thrusts itself into the unbounded narrative, and isolation brings with it a new kind of stillness.

Wilde-Menozzi has created a record of how we tell ourselves stories, how we think and how we know. Above all, she has made silence itself a presence on the page, and she has given the reader space to find that silence in surprising ways.

Wallis Wilde-Menozzi is the author of *Mother Tongue*, *The Other Side of the Tiber*, and *Toscanelli's Ray*. Her poetry, essays, and translations have appeared in *Granta*, *The Best Spiritual Writing*, *Words Without Borders*, and *Tel Aviv Review*. A collection of her essays was published in Italian as *L'Oceano è dentro di noi*. She lives in Parma, Italy.

Praise for *Mother Tongue*:

"This book is a large, beautiful window into the intelligent, literate, reflective life of Italy—intimately lived and observed by a modern American woman. A wise and delightful work, admirable in its synthesis of understanding, independence, and rare humility." —**Shirley Hazzard, author of *The Great Fire***

"[Wilde-Menozzi] delves deeply into both the negative and the positive aspects of Italy's close-knit families and devotion to tradition...Wilde-Menozzi's writing is original and often poetic and moving." —***Publishers Weekly***

"A poignant and poetic memoir of an American woman's life in Parma, Italy...Wilde-Menozzi is passionate, sensuous, even fierce...Life, death, politics, language, art, books, food, and love commingle on the page...Evocative and moving." —***Kirkus***



FSG Originals x *Logic*

FSG Originals x *Logic* dissects the way technology functions in everyday lives. Our collaboration with *Logic*, a magazine dedicated to deepening the discourse around technology, features four brief but provocative forays into the tech industry's many worlds, and aspires to incite fresh conversations about technology focused on nuanced and accessible explorations of the emerging tools that reorganize and redefine life today.

Adrian Daub

WHAT TECH CALLS THINKING: An Inquiry into the Intellectual Bedrock of Silicon Valley

FSG Originals, Nonfiction, October 2020 (finished books available)

WHAT TECH CALLS THINKING is a spirited dismantling of the ideas that form the intellectual bedrock of Silicon Valley. From the myth of dropping out to the war cry of "disruption," Daub locates the Valley's supposedly original, radical thinking in the ideas of Heidegger and Ayn Rand, the New Age Esalen Foundation in Big Sur, and American traditions from the tent revival to predestination. **WHAT TECH CALLS THINKING** pulls back the curtain on the self-aggrandizing myths the Valley tells about itself.

Adrian Daub is a professor of comparative literature and German studies at Stanford University, and the director of Stanford's Program in Feminist, Gender, and Sexuality Studies. His writing has appeared in *The Guardian*, *The New Republic*, *n+1*, *Longreads*, and the *Los Angeles Review of Books*. He lives in San Francisco.

"There are so many scintillating aperçus in Daub's book that I gave up underlining...Daub brings a Tocqueville-like perspective to what passes for philosophy in the Valley." —**Virginia Heffernan**, *The New York Times Book Review*

"Delightful proof that getting rich does not make you a deep thinker." —**Kirkus (starred)**

Rights sold: **Finnish**/niin & näin, **French**/C&F Editions, **German**/Suhrkamp, **Korean**/Pensee

Tim Hwang

SUBPRIME ATTENTION CRISIS: Advertising and the Time Bomb at the Heart of the Internet

FSG Originals, Nonfiction, October 2020 (finished books available)

In **SUBPRIME ATTENTION CRISIS**, Tim Hwang investigates the way big tech financializes attention. In the process, he shows us how digital advertising—the beating heart of the internet—is at risk of collapsing. Hwang demonstrates that while consumers' attention has never been more prized, the true value of that attention itself—much like subprime mortgages—is wildly misrepresented. **SUBPRIME ATTENTION CRISIS** will change the way you look at the internet, and its precarious future.

Tim Hwang is the former director of the Harvard-MIT Ethics and Governance of AI Initiative, and previously served as the global public policy lead for artificial intelligence and machine learning at Google. His work has appeared in *The New York Times*, *The Washington Post*, *WIRED*, *The Atlantic*, and *The Wall Street Journal*. He lives in LA.

"[A] bracing debut...Using apt analogies and accessible terminology, Hwang makes a persuasive case that the internet bubble is bound to burst. This wake-up call rings loud and clear." —**Publishers Weekly**

"A deep dive into the marketplace that is the internet...Thoughtful citizens of the digital world will want to have a look at Hwang's intriguing exploration." —**Kirkus**

Rights sold: **French**/C&F Editions



Xiaowei Wang

BLOCKCHAIN CHICKEN FARM: And Other Stories of Tech in China's Countryside

FSG Originals, Nonfiction, October 2020 (finished books available)

Technologist, filmmaker, and *Logic* cofounder Xiaowei Wang takes us on a tour through the Chinese tech landscape and the wild experiments with artificial intelligence, blockchain, and cloud computing that are reshaping Chinese agriculture and eating. They frame the journey with their own story as a technologist going home to Tianjin and Shenzhen to see their relatives—and learn how to cook.

Xiaowei Wang's work encompasses community-based and public art projects, data visualization, technology, ecology, and education. Their projects have been finalists for the Index Design Awards and featured by *The New York Times*, the BBC, CNN, VICE, and elsewhere. They are working toward a PhD at UC Berkeley, where they are a part of the National Science Foundation's Environment and Society: Data Science for the 21st Century Research Traineeship.

"Fascinating...Wang has a keen eye for the steampunk-like details of ancient rural areas now shot through with internet opportunity...a nuanced and thought-provoking account." —**Clive Thompson, *The New York Times Book Review***

"Engaging travels through a Chinese countryside in which high technology meets the old ways...smart and well argued...Technology writing with flair looking to a future that's fast upon us." —**Kirkus (starred)**

Ben Tarnoff and Moira Weigel, editors

VOICES FROM THE VALLEY: Tech Workers Talk About What They Do—and How They Do It

FSG Originals, Nonfiction, October 2020 (finished books available)

In **VOICES FROM THE VALLEY**, the celebrated writers and *Logic* cofounders Moira Weigel and Ben Tarnoff take an unprecedented dive into the tech industry, conducting unfiltered, in-depth, anonymous interviews with tech workers at all levels, including a data scientist, a start-up founder, a cook who serves their lunch, and a PR wizard. Deeply illuminating, revealing, and at times lurid, **VOICES FROM THE VALLEY** is a vital and comprehensive view of an industry that governs our lives.

Ben Tarnoff is the author of the books *A Counterfeiter's Paradise* and *The Bohemians* and is a cofounder of *Logic* magazine. His writing has appeared in *The Guardian*, *The New Republic*, *Jacobin*, and *Lapham's Quarterly*, among other publications. He lives in Cambridge, Massachusetts.

Moira Weigel is the author of *Labor of Love: The Invention of Dating*. Her writing has appeared in *The New York Times*, *The Atlantic*, *The New Yorker*, *The Guardian*, *The Nation*, *The New Republic*, and *n+1*, among other publications, and she is a cofounder of *Logic* magazine. She received a fellowship to the Harvard Society of Fellows in 2016 and lives in Cambridge, Massachusetts.

"Tarnoff and Weigel use crisp, knowing interviews to address the labor and class ferment percolating beneath the tech industry's sleek exterior...Relevant augury for technology's future during a tech-dependent, dysfunctional historical moment." —**Kirkus**

"Eye-opening...This insightful account does much to illuminate an industry often shrouded in secrecy."
—**Publishers Weekly**



BACKLIST HIGHLIGHTS

Farrar, Straus and Giroux

North Point Press

Sarah Crichton Books



André Aciman
OUT OF EGYPT
A Memoir
Nonfiction, January 1995

From the author of the *New York Times* bestseller *Call Me by Your Name*, now an Oscar-winning major motion picture.

This richly colored memoir chronicles the exploits of a flamboyant Jewish family, from its bold arrival in cosmopolitan Alexandria to its defeated exodus three generations later. In elegant and witty prose, Aciman introduces us to the marvelous eccentrics who shaped his life: Uncle Vili, the strutting daredevil, soldier, salesman, and spy; the two grandmothers, the Princess and the Saint, who gossip in six languages; Aunt Flora, the German refugee who warns that Jews lose everything "at least twice in their lives." And through it all, we come to know a boy who, even as he longs for a wider world, does not want to be led, forever, out of Egypt.

André Aciman is the author of *Call Me by Your Name*, its sequel *Find Me*, *False Papers*, *Enigma Variations*, *Harvard Square*, and *Eight White Nights*. Born in Alexandria and raised in Egypt, Italy, and France, Aciman teaches comparative literature at the City University of New York Graduate Center and lives in Manhattan with his family.

Praise for OUT OF EGYPT:

"It is Mr. Aciman's great achievement that he has re-created a world gone forever now, and given us an ironical and affectionate portrait of those who were exiled from it." —*The New York Times Book Review*

"Aciman may have gone out of Egypt but, as this evocative and imaginative book makes plain, he has never left it, nor it him." —*The Washington Post*

"With beguiling simplicity, Aciman recalls the life of Alexandria as [his family] knew it, and the seductiveness of that beautiful, polyglot city permeates his book." —*The New Yorker*

"Beautifully remembered and even more beautifully written." —*Los Angeles Times Book Review*

Active licenses: **Arabic**/Al Kotob Khan, **British**/Faber & Faber, **Chinese (simplified)**/Shanghai People's Publishing, **Dutch**/Ambo/Anthos, **French**/Flammarion, **German**/Unionsverlag, **Hungarian**/Athenaeum, **Italian**/Guanda, **Korean**/51Books, **Portuguese (in Brazil)**/Intrinseca, **Romanian**/Pandora, **Russian**/Knizhniki, **Serbian**/STRIK, **Spanish**/Libros del Asteroide, **Turkish**/Livera

Previous licenses: **Catalan**/Edicions 3i4, **Greek**/Metaichimo, **Hebrew**/Xargol, **Polish**/Czarne



Lucia Berlin
A MANUAL FOR CLEANING WOMEN
Selected Stories

Fiction, November 2015

Film forthcoming from Pedro Almodóvar, starring Cate Blanchett

The *New York Times* bestselling, critically acclaimed, posthumous story collection compiles the best work of the legendary short-story writer Lucia Berlin.

Active licenses: **Bosnian**/Buybook, **British**/Picador UK, **Bulgarian**/List, **Catalan**/L'Altra, **Chinese (complex)**/Unitas, **Chinese (simplified)**/Thinkingdom, **Croatian**/Ocean More, **Czech**/Argo, **Danish**/Gyldendal Dansk, **Dutch**/Lebowski, **Estonian**/Toledo, **Finnish**/Kustannusosakeyhtiö Aula, **French**/Bernard Grasset, **German**/Arche, **Greek**/Stereoma, **Hebrew**/Asia, **Hungarian**/Libri/Jelenkor, **Italian**/Bollati Boringhieri, **Japanese**/Kodansha, **Korean**/Woongjin Think Big, **Lithuanian**/Kitos Knygos, **Macedonian**/ArtKonekt, **Norwegian**/Oktober, **Polish**/Wydawnictwo Czarne, **Portuguese (in Brazil)**/Companhia das Letras, **Portuguese (in Portugal)**/Objectiva, **Romanian**/Art, **Russian**/Corpus, **Serbian**/IPC Media, **Slovak**/Inaque, **Slovenian**/Cankarjeva Založba, **Spanish**/Alfaguara, **Swedish**/Natur och Kultur, **Turkish**/Siren

EVENING IN PARADISE
More Stories

Fiction, November 2018

EVENING IN PARADISE is a careful selection from Berlin's remaining stories—twenty-two gems that showcase the gritty glamor that made readers fall in love with her. From Texas to Chile, Mexico to New York City, Berlin finds beauty in the darkest places and darkness in the seemingly pristine.

Active licenses: **Bosnian**/Buybook, **British**/Picador UK, **Catalan**/L'Altra, **Chinese (simplified)**/Thinkingdom, **Croatian**/Ocean More, **Czech**/Argo, **Dutch**/Lebowski, **Finnish**/Aula, **French**/Bernard Grasset, **German**/Kampa, **Greek**/Stereoma, **Hungarian**/Libri/Jelenkor, **Italian**/Bollati Boringhieri, **Korean**/Woongjin Think Big, **Norwegian**/Oktober, **Polish**/Foksal, **Portuguese (in Brazil)**/Companhia das Letras, **Portuguese (in Portugal)**/Objectiva, **Romanian**/Art, **Slovak**/Inaque, **Spanish**/Alfaguara, **Swedish**/Natur och Kultur

WELCOME HOME
A Memoir with Selected Photographs and Letters

Nonfiction, November 2018

In **WELCOME HOME**, a book of previously unpublished autobiographical sketches, Berlin's son, Jeff, fills in the gaps with photos and letters from her eventful, romantic, and tragic life.

Active licenses: **Bosnian**/Buybook, **British**/Picador UK, **Catalan**/L'Altra, **Chinese (simplified)**/Thinkingdom, **Dutch**/Lebowski, **Finnish**/Kustannusosakeyhtiö Aula, **German**/Kampa, **Hungarian**/Libri/Jelenkor, **Italian**/Bollati Boringhieri, **Korean**/Woongjin Think Big, **Polish**/Wydawnictwo Czarne, **Portuguese (in Portugal)**/Objectiva, **Slovak**/Inaque, **Spanish**/Alfaguara, **Swedish**/Natur och Kultur

Lucia Berlin (1936-2004) worked brilliantly but sporadically throughout the 1960s, 1970s, and 1980s. Her stories are inspired by her early childhood in various Western mining towns; her glamorous teenage years in Santiago, Chile; three failed marriages; a lifelong problem with alcoholism; her years spent in Berkeley, New Mexico, and Mexico City; and the various jobs she later held to support her writing and her four sons. Sober and writing steadily by the 1990s, she took a visiting writer's post at the University of Colorado Boulder in 1994 and was soon promoted to associate professor. In 2001, in failing health, she moved to Southern California to be near her sons. She died in 2004.



Peter Godfrey-Smith
OTHER MINDS
The Octopus, the Sea, and the Deep Origins of Consciousness
Nonfiction, December 2016

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

Combining science and philosophy with firsthand accounts of his cephalopod encounters, Godfrey-Smith shows how evolution gave rise to the advanced nervous systems that permit cephalopods to change colors and human beings to speak. By tracing the problem of consciousness back to its roots and comparing the human brain to its most alien and perhaps most remarkable animal relative, Godfrey-Smith's revelatory and bestselling **OTHER MINDS** sheds new light on one of our most abiding mysteries.

Peter Godfrey-Smith is a Distinguished Professor of Philosophy at the Graduate Center, City University of New York, and Professor of History and Philosophy of Science at the University of Sydney. His books include *Darwinian Populations and Natural Selection*, which won the 2010 Lakatos Award for an outstanding work on the philosophy of science, and, most recently, *Metazoa: Animal Life and the Birth of the Mind*. His underwater videos have been featured in *National Geographic* and the *New Scientist* discussed on NPR.

Praise for OTHER MINDS:

"If this is philosophy, it works, because Godfrey-Smith is a rare philosopher who searches the world for clues. Knowledgeable and curious, he examines, he admires. His explorations are good-natured. He is never dogmatic, yet startlingly incisive." —**Carl Safina, *The New York Times Book Review*, "Editors' Choice"**

"Smoothly written and captivating." —**Colin McGinn, *The Wall Street Journal***

"[*Other Minds*'] study subject is so amazing, it's hard not to be drawn along, just as Godfrey-Smith was when he extended a hand to an octopus and it reached out to return his touch, echoing his interest."

—**Irene Wanner, *Seattle Times***

Active licenses: **British**/William Collins, **Chinese (complex)**/Mangrove, **Chinese (simplified)**/Ginkgo Beijing Book Co, **Czech**/Academia, **Dutch**/Het Spectrum, **Estonian**/POSTIMEHE, **French**/Flammarion, **German**/Matthes & Seitz, **Greek**/Hellenic Open University Press, **Hungarian**/Cser, **Italian**/Adelphi, **Japanese**/Misuzu, **Korean**/Leekimpress, **Lithuanian**/Liūtai ne avys, **Polish**/Copernicus Center Press, **Portuguese (in Portugal)**/Temas E Debate, **Portuguese (in Brazil)**/Todavia, **Romanian**/Publica, **Russian**/AST, **Serbian**/Vulkan, **Slovenian**/UMcod.d., **Spanish**/Santillana/Taurus, **Swedish**/Natur och Kultur, **Turkish**/Siyah Kitap



Vivian Gornick
UNFINISHED BUSINESS
Notes of a Chronic Re-reader
Nonfiction, February 2020 (finished books available)
Finalist, National Book Critics Circle Award for Criticism
PEN/Diamonstein-Spielvogel Award Finalist
Best Books 2020, *Library Journal*

Praise for UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

"Wry, incisive, and characteristically captivating." —*The New York Times Book Review*, "Editors' Choice"

"[T]he tension between her grand themes and compact prose recreates in the reader the combustion of original thought...Gornick captures the vital parts of a person's life—the story in each person's situation—with the few, decisive strokes of a drawing master." —Dayna Tortorici, *The New York Review of Books*

"[A] thoughtful and far-ranging collection of essays. Gornick, one the great essayists of our time, writes about one of life's simple pleasures with tenderness and wit." —Jenny Offill, *Parade*

"Vivacious and highly recommended." —Michael Dirda, *The Washington Post*

"It's a testament to how a reader's life is, in a way, lived through books—memories as filtered through fiction. I already can't wait to reread it." —Rhian Sasseen, *The Paris Review*, "Staff Picks"

Rights sold: **ANZ/Black Inc.**, **Catalan/L'Altra**, **Dutch/Nijgh & van Ditmar**, **French/Rivages**, **German/Penguin**, **Italian/Bompiani**, **Korean/Geulhangari**, **Spanish/Sexto Piso**

THE ODD WOMAN AND THE CITY: A Memoir
Nonfiction, May 2015
Finalist, National Book Critics Circle Award for Criticism

Active licenses: **ANZ/Black Inc.**, **Catalan/L'Altra**, **Dutch/Nijgh & van Ditmar**, **Finnish/Gummerus**, **French/Payot & Rivages**, **German/Penguin**, **Italian/Bompiani**, **Korean/Geulhangari**, **Norwegian/Oktober**, **Polish/Filtry**, **Portuguese (in Brazil)/Todavia**, **Spanish/Sexto Piso**, **Swedish/Natur och Kultur**

FIERCE ATTACHMENTS: A Memoir
Nonfiction, April 1987, Reissued 2005 with an introduction by Jonathan Lethem
Shortlisted for Grand Prix Littéraire Américaine in France, 2017
Gremio de Libreros de Madrid Book of the Year, 2017
Premio Euskadi de Plata, 2018

Active licenses: **Catalan/L'Altra**, **Danish/Bobo**, **Dutch/Nijgh & van Ditmar**, **Finnish/Gummerus**, **French/Payot & Rivages**, **Galician/Rinoceronte**, **German/Penguin**, **Hebrew/Nine Lives**, **Italian/Bompiani**, **Korean/Geulhangari**, **Norwegian/Oktober**, **Polish/Filtry**, **Portuguese (in Brazil)/Todavia**, **Slovak/Inaque**, **Spanish/Sexto Piso**, **Swedish/Natur och Kultur**



APPROACHING EYE LEVEL

Nonfiction, Reissued March 2020

Finalist, National Book Critics Circle Award for Criticism

Seminal essays on loneliness, living in New York, friendship, feminism, and writing from the nonfiction master.

Praise for APPROACHING EYE LEVEL:

"There's more to these seven original essays than a hymn to Manhattan. There is also exploration of that most brutal and unconquerable of human sorrows, loneliness." —***Publishers Weekly***

"At heart this is a book not about repose but about escalating struggle—the day-to-day struggle to face down the brutality of growing loneliness, to accept the limitations of friendship and intimacy, to honor the process of becoming oneself." —**Mary Hawthorne, *The New York Times***

Active licenses: **British**/Daunt, **Catalan**/L'Altra, **Dutch**/Nijgh & van Ditmar, **Italian**/Bompiani, **Korean**/BADA, **Spanish**/Sexto Piso

THE END OF THE NOVEL OF LOVE

Nonfiction, Reissued March 2020

Finalist, National Book Critics Circle Award for Criticism

Eleven classic essays that explore the meaning of love and marriage as literary themes in the twentieth century.

Praise for THE END OF THE NOVEL OF LOVE:

"Vivian Gornick's prose is so penetrating that reading it can be almost painful...[*The End of the Novel of Love*] stands out as a model of luminous clarity." —**Susie Linfield, *The Los Angeles Times***

"[Gornick] is fearless...Reading her essays, one is reassured that the conversation between life and literature is mutually sustaining as well as mutually corrective, and that it is likely to continue both in spite of and because of our changes of heart—in love or out of it." —**Elizabeth Frank, *The New York Times Book Review***

Active licenses: **Dutch**/Nijgh & van Ditmar, **Italian**/Bompiani

Vivian Gornick is the author of several books, including the acclaimed memoir *Fierce Attachments*, reissued as an FSG Classic in 2005; the essay collections *The End of the Novel of Love*, *The End of the Novel of Love*; and *The Men in My Life*; *The Odd Woman and the City*; and *Unfinished Business*. She was awarded the 2021 Windham-Campbell Prize. She began her career as a staff writer for *The Village Voice* in 1969, and her work has since appeared in *The New York Times*, *The Nation*, *The New York Review of Books*, *The Atlantic*, and many other publications.



Denis Johnson
TRAIN DREAMS
A Novella

Fiction, September 2011

TRAIN DREAMS, an epic in miniature, is the life story of Robert Grainer, a day laborer in the American West at the start of the twentieth century—an ordinary man in extraordinary times. Buffeted by the loss of his family, Grainer struggles to make sense of this strange new world. As his story unfolds, we witness both his shocking personal defeats and the radical changes that transform America in his lifetime.

Suffused with the history and landscapes of the American West—its otherworldly flora and fauna, its rugged loggers and bridge builders—**TRAIN DREAMS** captures the disappearance of a distinctly American way of life. It is one of Denis Johnson's most evocative and poignant fictions.

Praise for **TRAIN DREAMS**:

"This novella is simpler and sparer than anything Johnson has written. There are continuities with Johnson's earlier work; the visionary, miraculous element in Johnson's deceptively tough realism makes beautiful appearances in this book. The hard, declarative sentences keep their powder dry for pages at a time, and then suddenly flare into lyricism; the natural world of the American West is examined, logged and frequently transfigured. I started reading *Train Dreams* with hoarded suspicion, and gradually gave it all away, in admiration of the story's unaffected tact and honesty." —**James Wood, *The New Yorker***

"Someone has finally put up a sign: Here Is Something Worth Seeing...*Train Dreams* ought to be read."
—**Anthony Doerr, *The New York Times Book Review***

"Good morning and please listen to me: Denis Johnson is a true American artist...a revelator for this still new century." —**Jim Lewis, *The New York Times***

"*Train Dreams* is a gem of a story, set in rough times, in a tough terrain, and tenderly told."
—**Bob Minzesheimer, *USA Today***

"*Train Dreams* renders the story of America and our westward course of empire in the most beautiful and heartbreaking manner imaginable." —**Andrew Ervin, *The Miami Herald***

French and German rights: Nicole Aragi

Active licenses: **British**/Granta, **Chinese (simplified)**/Shanghai Translation, **Greek**/Antipodes, **Hebrew**/Babel, **Korean**/Munhakdongne, **Norwegian**/Pelikanen, **Polish**/Czarne, **Russian**/Sindbad, **Spanish**/PRH Spain, **Turkish**/Konu

Previous licenses: **Dutch**/Ambo/Anthos, **Italian**/Mondadori, **Norwegian**/Pelikanen, **Portuguese (in Brazil)**/Companhia das Letras, **Portuguese (excluding Brazil)**/Relogio D'Agua



TREE OF SMOKE

A Novel

Fiction, September 2007

2007 National Book Award Winner

This is the story of Skip Sands—spy-in-training, engaged in Psychological Operations against the Vietcong—and the disasters that befall him thanks to his famous uncle, a war hero known in intelligence circles simply as the Colonel. This is also the story of the Houston brothers, Bill and James, young men who drift out of the Arizona desert into a war in which the line between disinformation and delusion has blurred away. In its vision of human folly, and its gritty, sympathetic portraits of men and women desperate for an end to their loneliness, whether in sex or death or by the grace of God, this is a story like nothing in our literature.

"The God I want to believe in has a voice and a sense of humor like Denis Johnson's." —**Jonathan Franzen**

"Prose of amazing power and stylishness." —**Philip Roth**

"[Johnson] is a writer for all time." —**Rachel Kushner, author of *The Flamethrowers* and *The Hard Crowd***

French and German rights: Nicole Aragi

Active licenses: **Dutch**/ De Bezige Bij, **Greek**/Patakis, **Russian**/AST, **Spanish**/Random House Mondadori

Previous licenses: **Arabic**/Kalima, **Chinese (simplified)**/Yilin, **Czech**/Baronet, **Danish**/Aschehoug, **Hebrew**/Babel, **Indonesian**/Maroon, **Italian**/Mondadori, **Japanese**/Hakusui-sha, **Polish**/Sonia Draga, **Portuguese (in Brazil)**/Companhia das Letras, **Portuguese (in Portugal)**/Casa das Letras, **Romanian**/Polirom, **Russian**/Inostranka, **Spanish**/PRH

Other Denis Johnson titles for which rights are available:

THE LAUGHING MONSTERS: A Novel

Fiction, November 2014

French and German rights: Nicole Aragi

Active licenses: **Arabic**/DiWan Arabia, **British**/Harvill Secker, **Chinese (simplified)**/Archipel Press, **Dutch**/De Bezige Bij, **Hebrew**/Korim, **Italian**/Einaudi, **Spanish**/PRH Spain

NOBODY MOVE: A Novel

Fiction, April 2009

French and German rights: Nicole Aragi

Active licenses: **British**/Picador UK

Previous licenses: **Czech**/Baronet, **Dutch**/Ambo/Anthos, **Hebrew**/Babel, **Hungarian**/Magveto, **Italian**/Mondadori, **Korean**/Munhakdongne, **Portuguese (in Brazil)**/Companhia das Letras, **Spanish**/PRH Spain

Denis Johnson (1949–2017) was the author of eight novels, one novella, one book of short stories, three collections of poetry, two collections of plays, and one book of reportage.



Glenn Kurtz
THREE MINUTES IN POLAND
Discovering a Lost World in a 1938 Family Film
Nonfiction, November 2014

Now the basis of a new documentary film, THREE MINUTES: A Lengthening

When Glenn Kurtz stumbles upon an old family film in his parents' closet in Florida, he has no inkling of its historical significance or of the impact it will have on his life. The film, shot long ago by his grandfather on a sightseeing trip to Europe, captured on color 16mm film the only known moving images of the thriving, predominantly Jewish town of Nasielsk, Poland, shortly before the community's destruction. "Blissfully unaware of the catastrophe that lay just ahead," he just happened to visit his birthplace in 1938, a year before the Nazi occupation. Of the town's three thousand Jewish inhabitants, fewer than one hundred would survive.

Glenn Kurtz quickly recognizes the brief footage as a crucial link in a lost history. Soon he is swept up in a remarkable journey to learn everything he can about these people. After restoring the film, which had shrunk and propelled across the United States; to Canada, England, Poland, and Israel; Kurtz explores archives, basements, cemeteries, and even an irrigation ditch at an abandoned Luftwaffe airfield as he looks for shards of Nasielsk's Jewish history.

Thirteen years old in the film Moszek Tuchendler of Nasielsk was now eighty-six-year-old Maurice Chandler of Florida, and when Kurtz locates him, the lost history of Nasielsk comes into view. Chandler's laser-sharp recollections create a bridge between two worlds, and he helps Kurtz eventually locate six more survivors, including a ninety-six-year-old woman who also appears in the film, standing next to the man she would later marry. Painstakingly assembled from interviews, photographs, documents, and artifacts, **THREE MINUTES IN POLAND** tells the rich, harrowing, and surprisingly intertwined stories of these seven survivors and their Polish hometown. From this brief film, Glenn Kurtz creates a poignant yet unsentimental exploration of memory, loss, and improbable survival—a monument to a lost world.

Glenn Kurtz is the author of *Practicing: A Musician's Return to Music*, which has been translated into Italian, Japanese, Chinese, and Korean.

***Three Minutes-A Lengthening*, a documentary film based on *Three Minutes in Poland*, premiered at the Venice Film Festival in September 2021, is an official selection of the 2022 Sundance Film Festival and won the Documentary Jury Prize by the Atlanta Jewish Film Festival. Directed by Bianca Stigter, co-produced by Academy Award-winner Steve McQueen, and narrated by Helena Bonham Carter, it will have its theatrical release in Spring 2022.**

Praise for THREE MINUTES IN POLAND:

Named one of the best books of 2014 by NPR, *The New Yorker*, and *The Boston Globe*

"Three Minutes in Poland begins as the story of an old family film rediscovered and veers into an important tale of Polish shtetls during World War II. It is intensely moving and brilliantly researched, and it reads like a thriller." —**Elie Wiesel, author of *Night***

Rights sold: **Dutch/Ambo/Anthos**



Marion Nestle
WHAT TO EAT

North Point Press, Nonfiction, May 2006, Reissue forthcoming November 2023

WHAT TO EAT is a classic—"the perfect guidebook to help navigate through the confusion of which foods are good for us" (*USA Today*).

Since its publication in 2006, Marion Nestle's **WHAT TO EAT** has become the definitive guide to making healthy and informed choices about food. Praised as "radiant with maxims to live by" in *The New York Times Book Review* and "accessible, reliable and comprehensive" in *The Washington Post*, **WHAT TO EAT** is an indispensable resource.

How we choose which foods to eat is growing more complicated by the day, and the straightforward, practical approach of **WHAT TO EAT** has been praised as welcome relief. As Nestle takes us through each supermarket section—produce, dairy, meat, fish—she explains the issues, cutting through foodie jargon and complicated nutrition labels, and debunking the misleading health claims made by big food companies. With Nestle as our guide, we are shown how to make wise food choices—and are inspired to eat sensibly and nutritiously.

Marion Nestle is the most respected nutritionist in America today. Her book *Food Politics* was given the James Beard Award, the top award for food writing; that book and its follow-up, *Safe Food* are backlist classics for the University of California Press. A longtime nutritionist and former head of NYU's Department of Nutrition, Food Studies, and Public Health, Prof. Nestle lectures worldwide and was featured in the movie *Super Size Me*. A native New Yorker, she raised her family in California and now lives in Greenwich Village.

Praise for **WHAT TO EAT**:

"The industry wants you to believe there are no good foods or bad foods. Well, that's not true. And I can't think of anyone who knows the difference better than Marion Nestle." —**Eric Schlosser, author of *Fast Food Nation***

"Marion Nestle is an absolutely indispensable guide: knowledgeable, eminently sane--and wonderful company, too."
—**Michael Pollan, author of *Omnivore's Dilemma***

"Not only is *What to Eat* the most comprehensive guide to the political and nutritional choices we make shopping for food, but it's also full of up-to-date research on health."—**Susan Salter Reynolds, *Los Angeles Times Book Review***

Previous licenses: **Chinese (Simplified)**/Jilin, **Hebrew**/Kinneret, **Korean**/Dodo



Qais Akbar Omar
A FORT OF NINE TOWERS
An Afghan Family Story
Nonfiction, April 2013

One of the rare memoirs of Afghanistan to have been written by an Afghan, **A FORT OF NINE TOWERS** reveals the richness and suffering of life in a country whose past and present continue to reverberate in today's headlines. Nearly thirty-five years ago—after the Soviets left and before the Taliban came to power—Kabul was a garden where seven-year-old Qais Akbar Omar flew kites from the roof of his grandfather's house. It was a time of telling stories, reciting poetry, selling carpets, and arranging marriages. Then came the hollow sounds of rocket fire as the Mujahedin, self-proclaimed holy warriors, took over Afghanistan, and the country erupted in civil war.

While his father desperately sought smugglers to take them over the border, Omar grew up on the road, and met a deaf-mute carpet weaver who would show him his life's purpose. Later, as the Mujahedin war devolved into Taliban madness, Omar learned about quiet resistance. He survived a brutal and arbitrary imprisonment, and, at eighteen, opened a secret carpet factory to provide work for neighborhood girls, who were forbidden to go to school or even to leave their homes. As they tied knots at their looms, Omar's parents taught them literature and science. In this stunning coming-of-age memoir, Omar recounts terrifyingly narrow escapes and absurdist adventures, as well as moments of intense joy and beauty. Injected with folktales, steeped in poetry, **A FORT OF NINE TOWERS** is a life-affirming triumph.

Qais Akbar Omar (whose first name is pronounced "Kice") was born in 1982 in Kabul, Afghanistan. For the 2012 anthology, *That Mad Game: Growing up in a War Zone*, Omar contributed the lead essay, "A Talib In Love," presently under film option. His work has appeared in *The Atlantic*, *The New York Times*, *The Sunday Times in London*, *The Globe and Mail* in Canada, and the *Cairo Review of Foreign Affairs*, *The Southern Review*, *Agni* among others. He is the co-author, with Stephen Landrigan, of *Shakespeare in Kabul*.

Praise for A FORT OF NINE TOWERS:
A Washington Post Notable Nonfiction Book of 2013
A Kirkus Reviews Best Nonfiction Book of 2013

"Mind-boggling...a riveting story of war as seen through a child's eyes and summoned from an adult's memory."
—*The New York Times Book Review*

"Beautifully written, with the pacing and suspense of a novel...[Omar's] richly detailed account of growing up in Afghanistan under the warlords and then the Taliban is deeply fulfilling, remarkable not least because he lived to tell the tale." —*The Washington Post*

"A poetic, funny and terrifying memoir." —*The Economist*

British/Picador UK
Rights sold: **Finnish/Otava**, **French/Laffont**

Previous licenses: **Catalan**/Editorial Columna, **Chinese (Complex)**/Net and Books, **Chinese (Simplified)**/CITIC, **Croatian**/Znanje, **Czech**/Euromedia, **Dutch**/Bezige Bij, **German**/Bertelsmann, **Italian**/RCS/Rizzoli, **Norwegian**/Aschehoug, **Polish**/Agora, **Portuguese (in Brazil)**/Objetiva, **Portuguese (in Portugal)**/Presenca, **Serbian**/EVRO/GIUNTI, **Slovak**/IKAR-SLOVAKIA, **Slovenian**/Učila, **Spanish**/Temas de Hoy, **Turkish**/KRP



George Packer
THE UNWINDING
An Inner History of the New America
Nonfiction, May 2013

American democracy in our time is beset by a sense of crisis. Seismic shifts during a single generation have created a country of winners and losers, leaving the social contract in pieces, and setting its citizens adrift to find new paths forward. In **THE UNWINDING**, George Packer narrates the story of America over the past three decades, bringing to the subject his characteristically sharp eye for detail and a gift for weaving together complex narratives.

THE UNWINDING moves deftly back and forth through the lives of half a dozen characters as they approach the present, including Dean Price, the son of tobacco farmers who becomes an evangelist for a new economy in the rural South; Tammy Thomas, a factory worker in the industrial Midwest trying to survive the collapse of her city; Jeff Connaughton, a career Washington insider who oscillates between idealism and organized money; and Peter Thiel, a Silicon Valley billionaire with a radical vision of the future.

THE UNWINDING portrays a superpower coming apart at the seams, its elites and institutions no longer working, leaving ordinary people to improvise schemes for success and salvation.

George Packer is an award-winning author and staff writer at *The Atlantic*. His previous books include *The Assassins' Gate: America in Iraq* and *Our Man: Richard Holbrooke and the End of the American Century* (winner of the Hitchens Prize and the *Los Angeles Times* Book Prize for Biography). He is also the author of two novels and a play, and the editor of a two-volume edition of the essays of George Orwell. His most recent book *Last Best Hope: America in Crisis and Renewal*, was published by FSG in June 2021.

Praise for **THE UNWINDING**:
Longlisted for the National Book Award
***New York Times* Bestseller**

"Mr. Packer's gifts are Steinbeckian in the best sense of that term...these pieces, freshly shuffled and assembled, have speed and power to burn...he's written something close to a nonfiction masterpiece."

—***The New York Times***

"They were the best of times, and they were the worst of times, and in Packer's able telling it's as if Dickens himself were taking a first crack at fitting all that history into a book." —***The Los Angeles Times***

Active licenses: **British**/Faber & Faber, **Chinese (complex)**/Walkers Cultural Enterprises, **Chinese (simplified)**/Thinkingdom, **French**/Piranha, **German**/Fischer, **Japanese**/NHK Japan Broadcasting, **Italian**/Mondadori, **Spanish**/Debate

Previous licenses: **Dutch**/Contact, **Korean**/Geulhangari, **Polish**/Świat Książki, **Portuguese (in Brazil)**/Companhia das Letras



Richard Powers
THE ECHO MAKER
A Novel

Fiction, October 2006, Reissue forthcoming April 2022

2006 National Book Award Recipient

Pulitzer Prize Finalist

THE ECHO MAKER is a haunting novel about the mystery of character, memory, and identity by one of our most prodigiously gifted authors.

On a winter night on a remote country road, twenty-seven-year-old Mark Schluter flips his truck in a near fatal accident. His older sister Karin returns reluctantly to their hometown to nurse Mark out of a coma, but when he emerges, Mark declares that the woman who looks, acts, and sounds like his sister is really an impostor. Shattered, Karin contacts neurologist Gerald Weber, who recognizes Mark as a rare case of Capgras syndrome and eagerly investigates. Meanwhile, Mark, armed only with a note left by an anonymous witness, attempts to learn what happened the night of his inexplicable accident. Set against the Platte River's spectacular annual crane migration, **THE ECHO MAKER** is a gripping mystery that explores the improvised human self and the even more precarious brain that splits us from and joins us to the rest of creation.

Praise for **THE ECHO MAKER**:

"A grand novel—grand in its reach, grand in its themes, grand in its patterning...If Powers were an American writer of the nineteenth century...he'd probably be the Herman Melville of *Moby-Dick*. His picture is that big."

—Margaret Atwood, *The New York Review of Books*

"A wise and elegant post-9/11 novel...The mysteries unfold so organically and stealthily that you are unaware of his machinations until they come to stunning fruition...Powers accomplishes something magnificent."

—Colson Whitehead, *The New York Times Book Review*

Active licenses: **British**/Heinemann, **Dutch**/Contact, **German**/Fischer, **Russian**/AST, **Spanish**/Alianza

Previous licenses: **Albanian**/Ombra, **Chinese (simplified)**/Yilin Press, **Czech**/Odeon, **Danish**/Per Kofod, **Finnish**/Gummerus, **French**/Le Cherche Midi, **Greek**/Hestia, **Hebrew**/Am Oved, **Indonesian**/Maroon Books, **Italian**/Mondadori, **Japanese**/Shinchosha, **Norwegian**/Aschehoug, **Polish**/Otwarte, **Portuguese (in Brazil)**/ Record, **Portuguese (in Portugal)**/Noticias, **Romanian**/Polirom, **Spanish**/Grijalbo Mondadori, **Swedish**/Norstedts



THE TIME OF OUR SINGING

A Novel

Fiction, January 2003, Reissue forthcoming April 2022

This magnificent, multi-faceted novel tells the story of a supremely gifted—and divided—family, set against the backdrop of post-War America. On Easter day, 1939, at Marian Anderson's epochal concert on the Washington Mall, David Strom, a German Jewish émigré scientist, meets Delia Daley, a young Black vocal student from Philadelphia. Their mutual love of music draws them together, and—against all odds and better judgment—they marry. They vow to raise their children beyond time, beyond identity, steeped in song. But their three children must survive America's brutal here and now. Jonah, Joseph, and Ruth grow up during the Civil Rights era, come of age in the violent 1960s, and live out adulthood in the racially retrenched late century. Jonah, the eldest, "whose voice could make heads of state repent," follows a life in his parents' beloved classical music. Ruth, the youngest, chooses a militant activism and repudiates the white culture her brother represents. Joseph, the middle child and the narrator of this generational tale, struggles to remain connected to them both. **THE TIME OF OUR SINGING** is a story about self-invention, allegiance, race, cultural ownership, and the compromised power of music.

Richard Powers is the author of eight previous novels that have received numerous honors including a MacArthur Fellowship, a Lannan Literary Award, and the James Fenimore Cooper Prize for Historical Fiction.

Praise for THE TIME OF OUR SINGING:

"I can think of no American novelist of his generation who makes a stronger [case]—that the writing of novels is a heroic enterprise, and perhaps even a matter of life and death." —**A. O. Scott, *The New York Review of Books***

"Powers is a genuine artist, a thinker of rare synthetic gifts, maybe the only writer working...who can render the intricate dazzle of it all and at the same time plumb its philosophical implications." —**Sven Birkerts, *Esquire***

Active licenses: **British**/Heinemann, **Dutch**/Contact, **German**/Fischer, **Spanish**/Alianza

Previous licenses: **Danish**/Per Kofod, **Finnish**/Gummerus, **French**/Le Cherche Midi, **Greek**/Hestia, **Italian**/Mondadori, **Japanese**/Shinchosha, **Norwegian**/Aschehoug, **Spanish**/Grijalbo Mondadori, **Swedish**/Norstedts



Eric G. Wilson

AGAINST HAPPINESS

In Praise of Melancholy

Sarah Crichton Books, Nonfiction, January 2008

We are addicted to happiness. When we're not popping pills, we leaf through scientific studies that take for granted our quest for happiness, or read self-help books by everyone from armchair philosophers and clinical psychologists to the Dalai Lama on how to achieve a trouble-free life.

But who says we're supposed to be happy? In **AGAINST HAPPINESS**, the scholar Eric G. Wilson argues that melancholia is necessary to any thriving culture, that it is the muse of great literature, painting, music, and innovation—and that it is the force underlying original insights. Francisco Goya, Emily Dickinson, Marcel Proust, and Abraham Lincoln were all confirmed melancholics. So enough Prozac-ing of our brains. Let's embrace our depressive sides as the wellspring of creativity. What most people take for contentment, Wilson argues, is living death, and what the majority takes for depression is a vital force. In **AGAINST HAPPINESS**, Wilson suggests it would be better to relish the blues that make humans people.

Eric G. Wilson is the Thomas H. Pritchard Professor of English at Wake Forest University in Winston-Salem, North Carolina. He is the author of *Everyone Loves a Good Train Wreck: Why We Can't Look Away*, *Against Happiness: In Praise of Melancholy*, *The Mercy of Eternity: A Memoir of Depression and Grace*, and five books on the relationship between literature and psychology.

Praise for **AGAINST HAPPINESS**:

"Mr. Wilson's case for the dark night of the soul brings a much needed corrective to today's mania for cheerfulness. One would almost say that, in its eloquent contrarianism and earnest search for meaning, *Against Happiness* lifts the spirits." —**Colin McGinn, *The Wall Street Journal***

"An impassioned, compelling, dare I say poetic, argument on behalf of those who 'labor in the fields of sadness'...a loose and compelling argument for fully embracing one's existence, for it is a miracle itself -- a call to live hard and full, to participate in the great rondure of life and to be aware of the fact that no one perspective on the world is ever finally true." —**Minneapolis Star Tribune**

"[A] lively, reasoned call for the preservation of melancholy in the face of all-too-rampant cheerfulness...pithy and epigrammatic." —**Bookforum**

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