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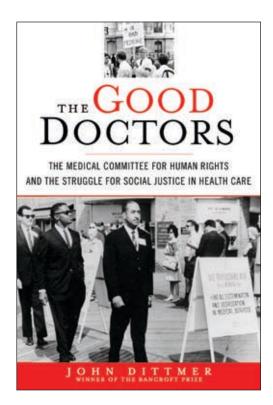
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Praise for Local People:

"A gripping portrait of largely forgotten civil rights workers who forged racial change in the face of violence and murder... Redefines the roles of national leaders who were forced to act by the unswerving determination of local people." -New York Times **Book Review**

"Superbly realized history of the civil rights struggle in Mississippi in the 1960s."-Booklist



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THE GOOD DOCTORS

THE MEDICAL COMMITTEE FOR HUMAN RIGHTS AND THE STRUGGLE FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE IN HEALTH CARE

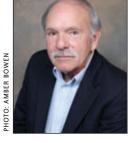
John Dittmer

The untold story of the courageous doctors and nurses who fought the battle for racial justice in hospitals, in clinics, and on the streets in the 1960s.

The Medical Committee for Human Rights was organized in the summer of 1964 by medical professionals, mostly northern whites, to provide support and care for activists organizing black voters in Mississippi. These doctors and nurses left their lives and private practices behind to march alongside and tend the wounds of demonstrators from the Freedom Summer, the March on Selma, the 1968 Democratic National Convention in Chicago, and other landmark episodes in the history of the movement.

MCHR doctors soon realized that fighting segregation would mean not just caring for white activists but exposing and correcting shocking inequality in segregated medicine. These good doctors and nurses pioneered community health plans and brought medical care to the underserved and disenfranchised. Galvanized, and sometimes radicalized, by the glaring inequality they saw, the MCHR eventually expanded to tackling issues ranging from poverty to the war in Vietnam.

In The Good Doctors, award-winning historian John Dittmer gives an insightful and inspiring account of a group of idealists who put careers on the line for their belief that "health care is a human right."



John Dittmer received the Bancroft Prize and several other awards for his Local People: The Struggle for Civil Rights in Mississippi. He is a professor of history at DePauw University and resides in Fillmore, Indiana.

Praise for Local People:

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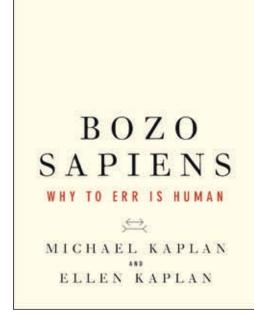
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Praise for Chances Are...:

"[The Kaplans] have hit on a great subject, and they explore it, down through the centuries and across the globe, with an enthusiasm that borders on glee...it's a dizzying, exhilarating ride."

—New York Times



HOTO: BOB KAPLAN

Michael and Ellen Kaplan are mother and

son, and coauthors of the bestselling Chances

Are...: Adventures in

Probability. Michael is an award-winning writer and documentary filmmaker who resides in Edinburgh, Scotland. Ellen is an archaeologist and cofounder of the Math Circle, a program for the exploration and enjoyment of mathematics. She is coauthor of The Art of the Infinite: The Pleasures of Mathematics and Out of the Labyrinth:

Setting Mathematics

Massachusetts.

Free. She lives in central

BOZO SAPIENS

WHY TO ERR IS HUMAN

Michael Kaplan and Ellen Kaplan

A dazzling new work of popular science and psychology for readers who enjoyed Blink, Stumbling on Happiness, or The Black Swan.

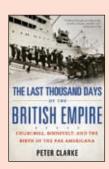
The New York Times called the Kaplans' look at probability in everyday life, Chances Are, "a dizzying, exhilarating ride." Now they take readers on a new fun-house tour—exploring the burgeoning science of why humans make mistakes.

Our species, it appears, is hardwired to get things wrong in myriad different ways. Why did recipients of a loan offer accept a higher rate of interest when a pretty woman's face was printed on the flyer? Why did one poll on immigration find the most despised aliens were ones from a group that did not exist? What made four of the air force's best pilots fly their planes, in formation, straight into the ground? Why does giving someone power make him more likely to chew with his mouth open and pick his nose? And why is your sister going out with that biker dude?

In fact, our cognitive, logical, and romantic failures may be a fair price for our extraordinary success as a species—they are the necessary cost of our adaptability. Michael and Ellen Kaplan swoop effortlessly across neurochemistry, behavioral economics, and evolutionary biology, among other disciplines, to answer, with both clarity and wit, the questions above—and larger ones about what it means to be human.

Praise for Chances Are...: Adventures in Probability:

"A fascinating layman's trek through probability theory, from its roots in dice games in the seventeenth century to its role in modern-day thermodynamics, tackles humanity's innate need to seek order in even the most chaotic phenomena...Both [authors] have backgrounds in the humanities, and their sense of whimsy...allows them to draw stimulating conclusions."—New Yorker



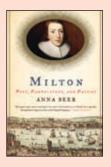
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CHURCHILL, ROOSEVELT, AND THE BIRTH OF THE PAX AMERICANA Peter Clarke

A sweeping, vivid history capturing the sudden end of Britain's empire and the moment when America became a world superpower.

Britain fought and sacrificed on a worldwide scale to defeat Hitler and his allies—and won. Yet less than three years after victory, the British Empire effectively ended, and the age of America as world superpower dawned. Peter Clarke's book is the first to analyze the abrupt transition from Rule Britannia to Pax Americana. His swiftly paced narrative offers vivid portraits of pivotal figures like Churchill, Gandhi, Truman, and Stalin. *The Last Thousand Days of the British Empire* shows how events that followed the war reshaped the world as much as the conflict itself.

Peter Clarke was a professor of modern British history and master of Trinity Hall at Cambridge. His many books include the acclaimed final volume of the Penguin History of Britain, *Hope and Glory, Britain 1900–2000*, and *A Question of Leadership: Gladstone to Blair*. He lives in Suffolk, England, and Pender Island, British Columbia.

Praise for The Last Thousand Days of the British Empire:

"[A] sharp new history...His description of Churchill's correspondence with Roosevelt is almost moving in its pathos."—New York Times Book Review

"Peter Clarke's learned and elegant new character-driven history [reminds] us how sudden Britain's fall from empire truly was."—**New York Sun**

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MILTON

POET, PAMPHLETEER, AND PATRIOT

Anna Beer

"There is no more richly and scrupulously researched examination of Milton's life than Anna Beer's authoritative account."—A. C. Grayling, author of Descartes: The Life and Times of a Genius

John Milton was one of the world's greatest poets, the renowned author of *Paradise Lost*. But he was also deeply involved in political and religious controversies of his time, and authored a series of radical pamphlets on free speech, divorce, and civil rights that proposed a rethinking of the nature and practice of government.

In countless biographies, Milton has been crudely sketched either as a blind, saintly artist or as a domestic tyrant. Yet as Anna Beer shows, he was neither ogre nor paragon. By closely examining all aspects of Milton's life and its social historical context, Beer succeeds in bringing an enigmatic pillar of English literature to life, four centuries after his birth.

Anna Beer is a lecturer in literature and a fellow of Kellogg College at the University of Oxford. She is the author of the acclaimed *Bess: The Life of Lady Ralegh*, *Wife to Sir Walter*.

Praise for Milton:

"Anna Beer offers the most readable biography yet of the author of the most important poem in the English language. No one in the last four hundred years has produced such a comprehensive portrait."

- Jack Lynch, author of Becoming Shakespeare

"It's the best narrative I've read of the life of our greatest public poet."

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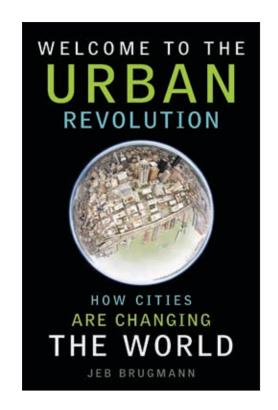
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WELCOME TO THE URBAN REVOLUTION

HOW CITIES ARE CHANGING THE WORLD

Jeb Brugmann

A powerful reappraisal of the role of cities and their inhabitants in solving global problems, from a leading expert in urban development.

In the second half of the twentieth century, revolutions reshaped our world—the civil rights movement in America, the fall of the shah in Iran, the collapse of the Soviet bloc, and the end of apartheid in South Africa. All of these revolutions were fundamentally urban. They were the revolutions of Detroit, Gdansk, Berlin, Tehran, and Johannesburg, uprisings of city dwellers intent on ending their marginalization and securing their place in the world economy.

In Welcome to the Urban Revolution, internationally recognized urbanist Jeb Brugmann draws on two decades of fieldwork and research to show how the city is now a medium for revolutionary change. Not just political upheaval but technological, economic, and social innovations are forged in our cities. We may think of cities as hotbeds of crime or engines of globalization, but Brugmann shows how cities are becoming laboratories for solving major challenges of the twenty-first century: poverty, inequality, and environmental sustainability.

Bridging urban studies, economics, and sociology, Brugmann gives us a new way of looking at cities, giving shape to the emerging practice of urbanism. His positive, unconventional analysis turns traditional ideas about the city on their head.



Jeb Brugmann has been instrumental in urban development in fortynine cities in twenty-one countries, and his work has been recognized by the UN General Assembly, three UN summits, and the UN Climate Secretariat. He is on the faculty of the Cambridge University Business and Environment Program. He lives in Toronto with his wife and children.

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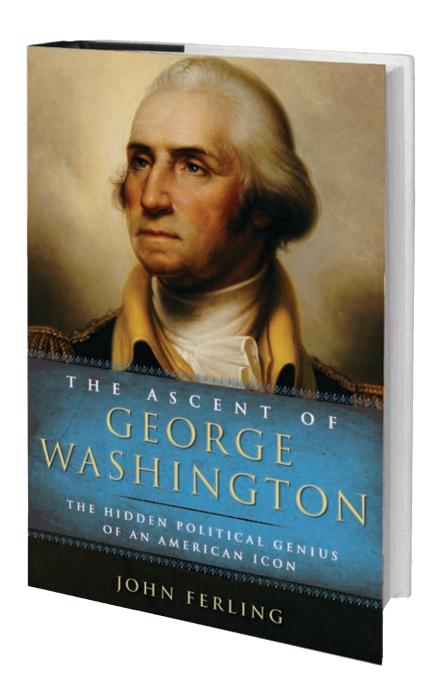
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THE ASCENT OF GEORGE WASHINGTON

THE HIDDEN POLITICAL GENIUS OF AN AMERICAN ICON

John Ferling

Bestselling historian John Ferling draws on his unsurpassed knowledge of the Founding Fathers to provide a fresh and provocative new portrait of the greatest of them all, George Washington.

Even compared to his fellow founders, George Washington stands tall. Our first president has long been considered a stoic hero, holding himself above the rough-and-tumble politics of his day, Now John Ferling peers behind that image, carefully burnished by Washington himself, to show us a leader who was not only not above politics, but a canny infighter—a master of persuasion, manipulation, and deniability.

In the War of Independence, Washington used his skills to steer the Continental Army through crises that would have broken less determined men; he squeezed out rival generals and defused dissent from those below him. Ending the war as a national hero, Washington "allowed" himself to be pressed into the presidency, guiding the nation with the same brilliantly maintained pose of selfless public interest. In short, Washington deftly screened a burning ambition behind his image of republican virtue—but that image, maintained not without cost, made him just the leader the overmatched army, and then the shaky young nation, desperately needed.

Ferling argues that not only was Washington one of America's most adroit politicians—the proof of his genius is that he is no longer thought of as a politician at all.

Praise for Almost a Miracle: The American Victory in the War of Independence:

"John Ferling is a national resource, and Almost a Miracle is a splendid combination of subject with a superb historian writing at the peak of his powers."—Michael Beschloss, author of Presidential Courage: Brave Leaders and How They Changed America, 1789-1989

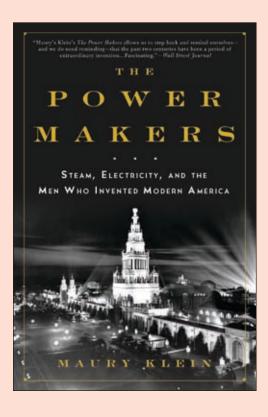
"The vignette and brushstroke fit together flawlessly. General readers and specialists alike will applaud this work. Highly recommended."—Choice

"Arguably the best, and certainly one of the most stimulating, single-volume histories of the American Revolution. Exhaustively researched and clearly written."—Publishers Weekly (starred review)

"Comprehensive and engaging...Grand stuff and sweeping themes." — Washington Post Book World



John Ferling is a professor emeritus of history at the State University of West Georgia. A leading authority on American Revolutionary history, he is the author of seven books, including Adams vs. Jefferson: The Tumultuous Election of 1800, The First of Men: A Life of George Washington, and the award-winning A Leap in the Dark: The Struggle to Create the American Republic. His most recent work, Almost a Miracle, was a history bestseller.



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In The Power Makers, one of America's most acclaimed historians of business and society offers an epic narrative of his greatest subject yet—the "power revolution" that transformed American life in the course of the nineteenth century.

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of many books, including The Life and Legend of Jay Gould; Days of Defiance: Sumter, Secession, and

the Coming of the Civil War; and Rainbow's End: The Crash of 1929. He is a professor emeritus of history at the University of Rhode Island.

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-New Yorker

"Maury Klein's stories of heroic inventors creating the industrial revolution make the history of technology come alive." — Daniel Walker Howe, Pulitzer Prize-winning author of What Hath God Wrought: The Transformation of America, 1815-1848

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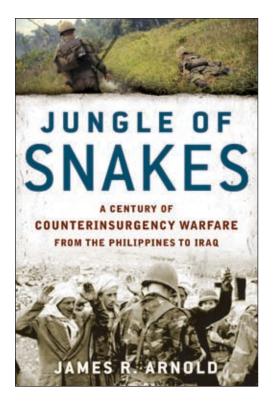
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JUNGLE OF SNAKES

A CENTURY OF COUNTERINSURGENCY WARFARE FROM THE PHILIPPINES TO IRAQ

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James R. Arnold

A gripping history of a new kind of warfare, with sobering lessons for America's future.

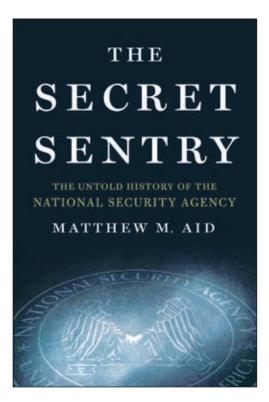
The end of the cold war promised a new era of international peace. But instead, violence has proliferated across the globe, not in the form of a superpower arms race or a clash of armies, but in bitter local conflicts marked by terrorism, insurgency, and guerrilla warfare. Former Central Intelligence Agency director James Woolsey likened the post-cold-war world to "a jungle full of snakes." The emergence of this new, potentially never-ending struggle has forced our military to reevaluate strategies or risk losing hearts, minds, and soldiers the world over.

James Arnold delivers a gripping narrative of a century of counterinsurgent warfare, from the Philippine War to present-day Iraq, analyzing wars won and lost: the British in Malaya, the French in Algeria, and the United States in Vietnam. Arnold explains the tug-of-war for civilian support and illustrates the high stakes of any counterinsurgency effort. The epilogue examines the occupation of Iraq, where America, to its cost, ignored the lessons of previous conflicts.

A veteran military historian, Arnold combines storytelling ability with strategic insight. *Jungle of Snakes* will be essential reading for those who want to understand the ongoing series of struggles that the Pentagon calls "the Long War."



James R. Arnold is the author of Tet Offensive 1968: Turning Point in Vietnam, The First Domino, Presidents Under Fire, and several other books. He resides in Lexington, Virginia.



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Matthew M. Aid is a leading intelligence historian, expert on the National Security Agency, and regular commentator on intelligence matters for the New York Times, the Financial Times, the National Journal, the Associated Press, CBS News, NPR, and many other media outlets. He lives in Washington, D.C.

THE SECRET SENTRY

THE UNTOLD HISTORY OF THE NATIONAL SECURITY AGENCY

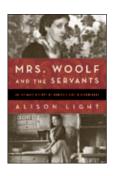
Matthew M. Aid

In the first complete history of the National Security Agency, America's most powerful and secretive intelligence organization.

In February 2006, while researching this book, Matthew Aid uncovered a massive and secret document reclassification program—a revelation that made the front page of the *New York Times*. This was only one of the discoveries Aid has made during two decades of research in formerly top-secret documents. In *The Secret Sentry*, Aid provides the first-ever full history of America's largest security apparatus, the National Security Agency.

This comprehensive account traces the growth of the agency from 1945 to the present through critical moments in its history, from the cold war up to its ongoing involvement in Afghanistan and Iraq. Aid explores the agency's involvement in the Iraqi weapons intelligence disaster, where evidence that NSA officials called "ambiguous" was used as proof of Iraqi WMD capacity, and details the intense debate within the NSA over its unprecedented role, pressed by the Bush-Cheney administration, in spying on U.S. citizens.

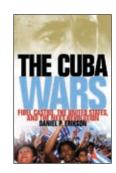
Today, the NSA has become the most important source of intelligence for the U.S. government, providing 60 percent of the president's daily intelligence briefing. While James Bumford's New York Times bestseller The Shadow Factory covered the NSA since 9/11, The Secret Sentry contains new information about every period since World War II. It provides a shadow history of global affairs, from the creation of Israel to the War on Terror.



MRS. WOOLF AND THE SERVANTS

Alison Light

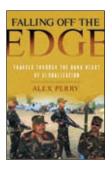
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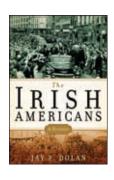
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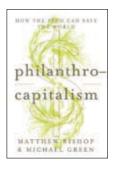
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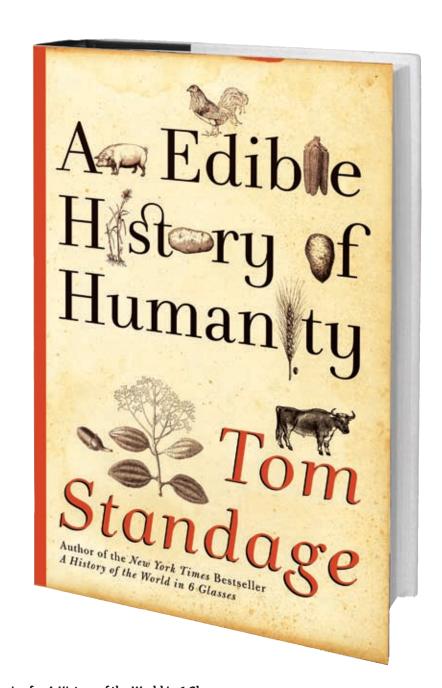
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The first civilizations were built on barley and wheat in the Near East, millet and rice in Asia, corn and potatoes in the Americas. Why farming created a strictly ordered social hierarchy in contrast to the loose egalitarianism of hunter-gatherers is, as Tom Standage reveals, as interesting as the details of the complex cultures that emerged, eventually interconnected by commerce. Trade in exotic spices in particular spawned the age of exploration and the colonization of the New World.

Food's influence over the course of history has been just as prevalent in modern times. In the late eighteenth century, Britain's solution to food shortages was to industrialize and import food rather than grow it. Food helped to determine the outcome of wars: Napoleon's rise and fall was intimately connected with his ability to feed his vast armies. In the twentieth century, Communist leaders employed food as an ideological weapon, resulting in the death by starvation of millions in the Soviet Union and China. And today the foods we choose in the supermarket connect us to global debates about trade, development, the environment, and the adoption of new technologies.

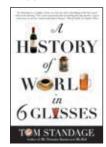
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Food's power as a weapon has been acknowledged since ancient times. "Starvation destroys an army more often than does battle, and hunger is more savage than the sword," noted Vegetius, a Roman military writer who lived in the fourth century A.D. He quoted a military maxim that "whoever does not provide for food and other necessities, is conquered without fighting."

For most of human history, food was literally the fuel of war. In the era before firearms, when armies consisted of soldiers carrying swords, spears, and shields, food sustained them on the march and gave them the energy to wield their weapons in battle. Food, including fodder for animals, was in effect both ammunition and fuel. Maintaining the supply of food was therefore critical to military success. Before the advent of mechanized transport, keeping an army supplied with food and fodder often imposed significant constraints on where and when it could fight and how fast it could move. Although other aspects of warfare changed dramatically from ancient times to the Napoleonic era, the constraints imposed by food persisted.

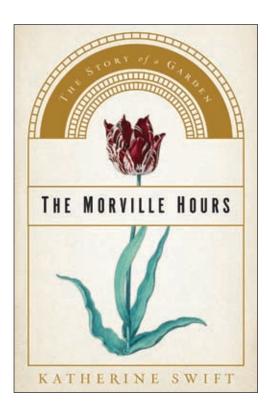
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Tom Standage is the business editor at the Economist and the author of A History of the World in 6 Glasses, The Victorian Internet, The Turk, and The Neptune File. He has written for Wired, the New York Times, and numerous magazines and newspapers. He lives in London, England. Visit his Web site at www.tomstandage.com.



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THE STORY OF A GARDEN Katherine Swift

An exquisitely written book about one particular English garden—and about the arc of life.

Nobody writes about gardens like the English. And few English writers have ever been as eloquent or astute as Katherine Swift. Some twenty years ago, she and her husband leased a house in the town of Shropshire with a garden that became her passion. Driven to uncover its history, she takes readers on a journey back through time, linking the stories of those who lived in the house and tended the same red soil with her family's own saga. Spanning hundreds of years, *The Morville Hours* is also deeply personal—a journey through the seasons and also one of self-exploration, of finding one's place in the world and putting down roots.

With each chapter bringing to life an hour of the day or night—from the crunch of grass underfoot at midnight on a frosty New Year's Eve to the bloom of blue-black damsons picked on a golden September afternoon—Swift pulls us into her world and, at the same time, expands and illuminates our own. For anyone with a passion for gardens and gardening, *The Morville Hours* will be unforget-table.



"What makes Swift a good gardener is what makes her a wonderful writer...[She] ranges far and wide through autobiography, history, botany, folklore, geology, and cosmology...Breathtaking in its richness and antiquity and in the geographical spread of its references, but also grounded in the here and now, the everyday...A truly remarkable book that is both intimate and universal."—*Telegraph* (UK)



Katherine Swift lives at the Dower House, Morville Hall, Shropshire, England. She worked as a rare-book librarian in Oxford and Dublin before becoming a full-time gardener and writer in 1988. She was for four years the gardening columnist of the *Times*.

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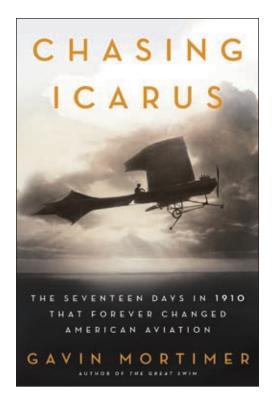
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CHASING ICARUS

THE SEVENTEEN DAYS IN 1910 THAT FOREVER CHANGED AMERICAN AVIATION

Gavin Mortimer

A dramatic chronicle of a pivotal moment in the history of aviation.

By 1910—seven years after the Wright brothers first lifted a plane off the ground at Kitty Hawk—America and the world were transfixed by the danger and challenge of mastering the air. Yet which form of flight would predominate was far from clear—dirigibles, balloons, and airplanes all had their passionate advocates. Emblematic of this uncertainty, the precursor of the U.S. Air Force owned one plane and two dirigibles.

During the seventeen days in October 1910 that Gavin Mortimer vividly recounts in *Chasing Icarus*, the question of primacy in the air was on full display, after which the future of aviation was never in doubt. The great dirigible *America*, captained by Walter Wellman, lifted off from New Jersey and for several turbulent days attempted to be the first flying machine to cross the Atlantic. From St. Louis, ballooning teams from around the world took off in pursuit of the Gordon Bennett International Balloon Cup, given to the team that traveled the farthest distance, with a denouement featuring Americans Alan Hawley and Augustus Post that would stun the country. And at the famed racetrack at Belmont Park, New York, huge crowds gathered to watch airplane pilots race above the oval and attempt to set speed, altitude, and distance records. Newspapers everywhere, even in the smallest of towns, made headlines of the results, and the public treated all aviators as matinee idols.

Interweaving the dramatic narratives of these three astonishing events, bringing to life powerful personalities (the ruthlessly competitive Wright brothers, the debonair Englishman Claude Grahame-White, the ultra-confident John Moisant), Gavin Mortimer reveals the pioneers of flight as fitting descendants of the legendary Icarus, risking all in pursuit of glory. *Chasing Icarus* captures both a pivotal moment in the history of aviation and the end of the gilded era that would soon descend into the devastation of World War I; indeed, within four years dogfights over France had replaced air shows.



Gavin Mortimer is the author of *The Great*Swim (page 16). He has written for a wide range of publications, from Esquire to the Daily Telegraph, from BBC History to the Observer. He lives in the south of France.



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THE CARBON AGE

HOW LIFE'S CORE ELEMENT HAS BECOME CIVILIZATION'S GREATEST THREAT **Eric Roston**

The story of carbon—the building block of life that, ironically, is humanity's great threat.

Carbon has always been the ubiquitous architect of life: Indeed, all living things need it to stay alive, and carbon cycles through organisms, ground, water, and atmosphere in a kind of global respiration system that helps keep Earth in balance. Yet, since the start of the industrial era, carbon dioxide emissions have sped up the carbon cycle, and chlorofluorocarbons are destroying the ozone layer and warming the planet. In *The Carbon Age*, science writer Eric Roston evokes this essential element, illuminating history from the Big Bang to modern civilization, and chronicles the often surprising ways mankind has used carbon over centuries. Blending the latest science with original reporting, Roston charts how we reached the brink of catastrophe, making us aware, as never before, of the seminal impact carbon has on our lives.

Eric Roston covered technology, international trade, and energy issues at *Time* magazine for six years. This is his first book. He lives in Washington, D.C.

Praise for The Carbon Age:

- "This elegant volume takes readers on a grand tour of carbon's role in the universe, from the element's starcrossed birth billions of years ago to its role in the fossil-fuel industry and global warming."—**Newsweek**
- "Follow carbon's journey from how it is born in stars to how it became the molecular backbone of DNA, plastic, sugar, and fat. There's a bigger story to this man-made time bomb than makes the headlines."—*Discover*
- "A high-level entry in the single-element history genre...Lucid and occasionally disturbing." Kirkus Reviews

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THE GREAT SWIM

Gavin Mortimer

The dramatic story of the four courageous female swimmers who captivated the world in the summer of 1926.

During the summer of 1926, the story that enthralled the public revolved around four young swimmers, Gertrude Ederle, Mille Gade, Lillian Cannon, and Clarabelle Barrette, who battled the weather, each other, and considerable odds to become the first woman to conquer the English Channel—and to become the latest darling of the American tabloid press. Gavin Mortimer paints an unforgettable portrait of a competition that changed the way the world looked at women, in both sport and society.

Gavin Mortimer is the author of *Chasing Icarus* (page 15). He has written for a wide range of publications, from *Esquire* to the *Daily Telegraph*, from *BBC History* to the *Observer*. He lives in the south of France.

Praise for The Great Swim:

- "What might be the most amazing athletic achievement of the century...Mortimer tells this story with a verve that pulls the reader in like a high tide."—**Washington Post**
- "Can be read as the story of a sporting competition or as an exploration of our timeless fascination with celebrity.

 Either way, it's an absorbing and inspirational saga in the Seabiscuit mold."—Booklist (starred review)

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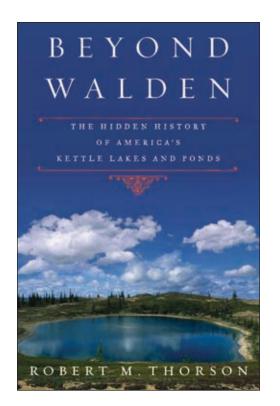
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BEYOND WALDEN

THE HIDDEN HISTORY OF AMERICA'S KETTLE LAKES AND PONDS Robert M. Thorson

The geology, ecology, and cultural history of kettle lakes from Maine to Montana.

Lakes are a beloved part of the American landscape, and kettles are the most common type, spanning the northern part of the country from New England to the High Plains. Kettle lakes are depressions formed by meltdown of glacial ice and filled with freshwater. Unlike other kinds of lakes that have significant inlet or outlet streams, kettle lakes are natural wells tapping the groundwater table.

A source of joyful relaxation and recreation for generations, kettle lakes also have historical and cultural significance. Within a few years of the 1836 publication of Ralph Waldo Emerson's *Nature*, a pivotal book combining nature with spirituality and religion, Henry David Thoreau had permanently linked Walden Pond—America's most famous kettle lake—to the Transcendentalist movement.

Each kettle lake tells a story, and in Robert Thorson's hands their collective saga—and the threats to their health—give us crucial insight into the dangers facing our vulnerable freshwater ecosystem.

Praise for Stone by Stone:

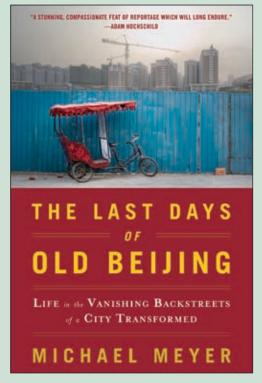
"Most geological writing doesn't venture very far or boldly into the realm of human culture, an area to which Thorson's scientific expertise makes the most startling contribution."—*Orion*

"If the preservation effort needs a manifesto, Thorson has one." — Washington Post



Robert M. Thorson is a professor of geology at the University of Connecticut and an environmental columnist for the Hartford Courant. The author of Stone by Stone and Exploring Stone Walls, he lives in Storrs, Connecticut.





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to China in 1995 with the Peace Corps. A longtime teacher and a Lowell Thomas Award winner for travel writing, Meyer has published stories in Time, Smithsonian, the New York Times Book Review, the Financial Times, Reader's Digest, the Los Angeles Times, and the Chicago Tribune. In China, he has represented the National Geographic Society's Center for Sustainable Destinations, training China's UNESCO World Heritage Site managers in preservation practices.

The Last Days of Old

Beijing is his first book.

THE LAST DAYS OF OLD BEIJING

LIFE IN THE VANISHING BACKSTREETS OF A CITY TRANSFORMED Michael Meyer

A fascinating, intimate portrait of Beijing through the lens of its oldest neighborhood, facing destruction as the city, and China, relentlessly modernizes.

Soon we will be able to say about old Beijing that what emperors, warlords, Japanese invaders, and Communist planners couldn't eradicate, the market economy has. Weaving historical vignettes of Beijing and China over a thousand years Michael Meyer captures the city's deep past as he illuminates its present, and especially the destruction of its ancient neighborhoods and the eradication of a way of life that has epitomized China's capital. With an insider's insight, *The Last Days of Old Beijing* is an invaluable witness to history, bringing into shining focus the ebb and flow of life in old Beijing at this pivotal moment.

Praise for The Last Days of Old Beijing:

"His record of the dying ways of a city is an impressive feat. And while the phenomenon may be most extreme there, it's not just Beijing's problem. In a way, we're all living on New Ancient Culture Street."

-New York Times Book Review

"A charming memoir and a compelling work of narrative nonfiction about the city itself." — Wall Street Journal

"A stunning, compassionate feat of reportage which will long endure."

-Adam Hochschild, author of King Leopold's Ghost and Bury the Chains

"It's rare that a writer truly lives a book, commits himself to the rhythms of a place, and turns research into something deeper. For the past two years, Michael Meyer has lived and taught in the hutong neighborhoods of Beijing, nobody writing in English knows this world as well as he does."

-Peter Hessler, author of Oracle Bones and River Town

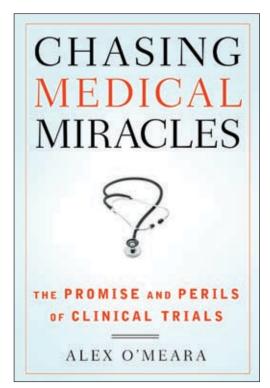
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CHASING MEDICAL MIRACLES

THE PROMISE AND PERILS OF CLINICAL TRIALS Alex O'Meara

Clinical trials affect everyone's health, whether you enroll in one or not.

Journalist Alex O'Meara is one of the more than twenty million Americans enrolled in a clinical trial—three times as many people as a decade ago. Indeed, clinical trials have become a \$24 billion industry that is reshaping every aspect of health-care development and delivery in the United States and around the world.

As O'Meara chronicles, twentieth-century medical trials have led to epic advances in health care, from asthma inhalers and insulin pumps to heart valves and pacemakers. And yet, although regulations safeguard against grossly unethical tests, significant problems are still associated with how clinical trials are carried out and reported. For example, despite eight clinical trials for Vioxx before the FDA approved it in 1998 for use as a painkiller, Merck took it off the market in 2004, too late for the eighty-eight thousand Americans who suffered heart attacks while taking Vioxx and the thirty-eight thousand who died.

Chasing Medical Miracles is the first book to give readers a behind-the-scenes look at the complicated world of clinical trials, revealing how a multibillion-dollar industry of private companies conducting them with little oversight has taken root and quietly become a major part of the American medical establishment. Whether you are participating in a clinical trial, considering that option, or interested in our medical system, Alex O'Meara's ground-breaking book is essential reading.



Alex O'Meara is a freelance journalist who has worked for the City News Bureau of Chicago, Newsday, the Baltimore Sun, and many other media organizations. In an effort to cure his type-1 diabetes, he participated in a risky and groundbreaking clinical trial to receive a transplant of islet cells from several cadaver pancreases. This is his first book. He lives in Bisbee, Arizona.

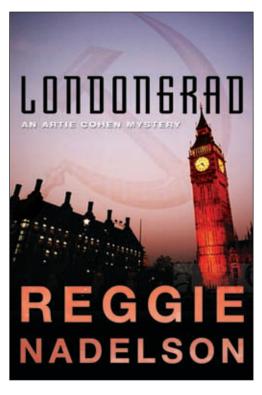
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Reggie Nadelson

"If I had to choose between betraying my country and betraying my friend, I hope I should have the guts to betray my country."—E. M. Forster

Through seven previous novels, Reggie Nadelson has created one of the more memorable characters in detective fiction: Artie Cohen, New York police detective and first-generation American with complex ties to his Russian past, especially his close friendship with the enigmatic and flamboyant New York/London club owner Tolya Sverdloff. Now, in *Londongrad*—by far Nadelson's most ambitious novel to date—Artie is faced with a murder that strikes at him personally and will ultimately place his best friend's life in his hands as it challenges his own loyalty.

In a playground in Brooklyn, Artie is led to a dead girl tied up in duct tape on a children's swing. He soon realizes the killer murdered the wrong girl—the intended victim was Valentina Sverdloff, Tolya's daughter, long adored by Artie. Artie flies to London to tell Tolya and finds himself enmeshed on his friend's behalf in a maelstrom of Russian money and crime. Like Berlin at the end of World War II, somebody tells Artie, Londongrad, as it's known, has become an offshore island for the new Russian underworld. Over his head, Artie is drawn further in, to Moscow, where, balancing between the old KGB and the new FSB, between the dazzle and grimness of Russia today, he uncovers a painful truth about his past that puts Tolya's life in the balance.



Reggie Nadelson is the author of Fresh Kills, Red Hook, Disturbed Earth, and four other Artie Cohen novels. Comrade Rockstar, her biography of Dean Reed, the American émigré who became the biggest rock star in the Soviet Union, was bought by Tom Hanks for a feature film. A journalist and documentary filmmaker, she lives in New York City.

Praise for Reggie Nadelson:

"The amazing Nadelson...can't write a character who doesn't charge off the page."

-Washington Post on Disturbed Earth

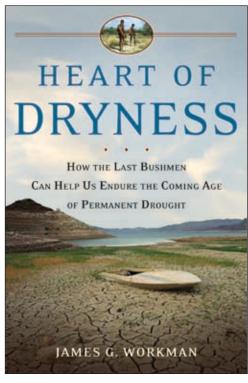
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James G. Workman

began his career as a journalist in Washington, D.C., for the New Republic, Washington Monthly, Utne Reader, Orion, and other publications. He was a speechwriter in the Clinton administration, working closely with Interior Secretary Bruce Babbitt, and steering the "dambuster" campaign to tear down river-killing dams. He helped edit and launch the report of the World Commission on Dams, and spent two years filing monthly dispatches on water scarcity in Africa, work which formed the basis of a National Public Radio show and documentary. He is now a water consultant to politicians, businesses, aid agencies, development institutions, and conservation organizations on four continents. He lives with his wife and children in San Francisco.

HEART OF DRYNESS

HOW THE LAST BUSHMEN CAN HELP US ENDURE THE COMING AGE OF PERMANENT DROUGHT

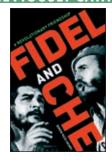
James G. Workman

The dramatic story of the Bushmen of the Kalahari is a cautionary tale about water in the twenty-first century—and offers unexpected solutions for our time.

"We don't govern water. Water governs us," writes James G. Workman. In Heart of Dryness, he chronicles the memorable saga of the famed Bushmen of the Kalahari—remnants of one of the world's most successful civilizations, today at the exact epicenter of Africa's drought—in their widely publicized recent battle with the government of Botswana, in the process of exploring the larger story of what many feel has become the primary resource battleground of the twenty-first century: the supply of water.

The Bushmen's story could well prefigure our own. In the United States, even the most upbeat optimists concede we now face an unprecedented water crisis. Reservoirs behind large dams on the Colorado River, which serve thirty million in many states, will be dry in thirteen years. Southeastern drought recently cut Tennessee Valley Authority hydropower in half, exposed Lake Okeechobee's floor, dried up thousands of acres of Georgia's crops, and left Atlanta with sixty days of water. Cities east and west are drying up. As reservoirs and aquifers fail, officials ration water, neighbors snitch on one another, corporations move in, and states fight states to control shared rivers.

Each year, around the world, inadequate water kills more humans than AIDS, malaria, and all wars combined. Global leaders pray for rain. Bushmen tap more pragmatic solutions. James G. Workman illuminates the present and coming tensions we will all face over water and shows how, from the remoteness of the Kalahari, an ancient and resilient people is showing the world a viable path through the encroaching Dry Age.



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Simon Reid-Henry is a lecturer at Queen Mary College, University of London. He has traveled often to Cuba, living there for a year while interviewing many senior figures on the island. He is regularly invited to speak on Cuba at international forums, and has written features for the *Economist* and the *Times* of London. This is his first book. He lives in London.

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Susan Quinn is the author of two award-winning biographies, of Marie Curie and Karen Horney, as well as *Human Trials*, which recounts the emotion-laden process of developing a drug for a difficult disease. She lives in Brookline, Massachusetts.

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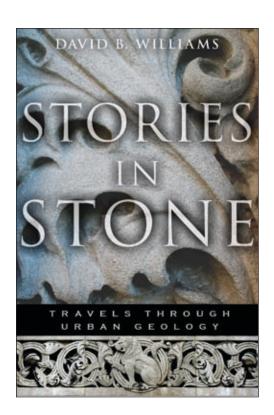
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David B. Williams

Within the fabric of every stone building is a wondrous story of geological origins, architectural aesthetics, and cultural history.

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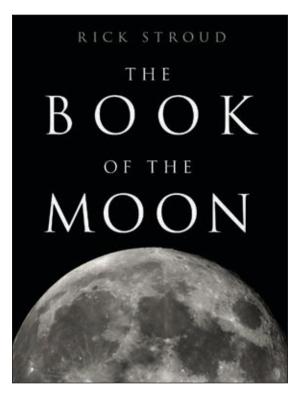
Williams shows us why a white, fossil-rich limestone from Indiana became the only building stone to be used in all fifty states; how the construction of the granite Bunker Hill Monument in 1825 led to America's first commercial railroad; and why Carrara marble—the favorite sculpting material of Michelangelo—warped so much after only nineteen years on a Chicago skyscraper that all forty-four thousand panels of the stone had to be replaced. From Brooklyn to Philadephia, from limestone to travertine, *Stories in Stone* will inspire readers to realize that, even in the most modern metropolis, evidence of our planet's natural wonders can be found all around us in building stones that are far less ordinary than we might think at first glance.



David B. Williams is the author of The Seattle Street-Smart Naturalist and A Naturalist's Guide to Canyon Country. He has written for Smithsonian,

National Wildlife, and is a regular contributor to Earth. He lives in Seattle.

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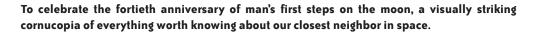
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THE BOOK OF THE MOON Rick Stroud



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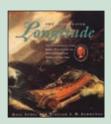
Rick Stroud has been obsessed with the moon since childhood, and here provides the culmination of that passion—an utterly original and absorbing account of all things lunar, a book that celebrates the physics that created the moon and the technology that took us there as much as its magic and mystery.

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Filled with original lists, intriguing statistics, and compelling images, *The Book of the Moon* draws us closer to the rocky orb that may hold the secrets of our own Earth's beginnings.



Rick Stroud is an acclaimed television director. An associate producer of Brideshead Revisited early in his career, he has since been nominated for an Emmy, and his work has been extensively shown on American television, including the miniseries Nancy Astor and the TV film The Last Day. He lives in London.



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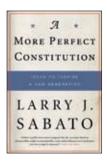
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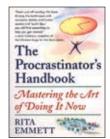
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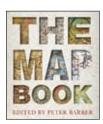
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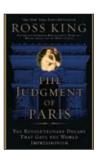
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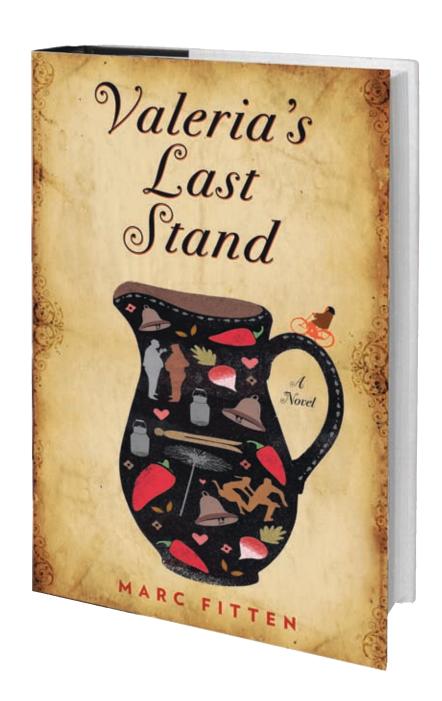
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Excerpt from Valeria's Last Stand:

Valeria never whistled. Nor did she approve of people who did. In sixty-eight years, what Valeria had learned to be a truth about character was that people who whistled were crass. Whistlers were untrustworthy and irresponsible. They were shiftless. They were common. Butchers whistled. Peasants also. When they were supposed to be tending to their fields or completing any number of tasks peasants are meant to complete, Valeria was certain she could find them instead with their chins wet from a half-liter of beer, sitting in the village's tavern, whistling at the slutty proprietress, and telling off-color jokes.

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Marc Fitten

A comic romp celebrating late-flowering love in a Hungarian village that will appeal to readers of The Guernsey Literary and Potato Peel Pie Society and A Short History of Tractors in Ukrainian.

Valeria is a whale in a puddle. She harrumphs her daily way through her backwater Hungarian village. finding equal fault with the new, the old, the foreign, and the familiar. Her decades of universal contempt have turned her into a touchstone of her little community—whatever she scorns the least must be the best, after all. But, on a day like any other, her spinster's heart is struck by an unlikely arrow: The village potter, long known and little noticed, captures her fancy, and Valeria finds herself suddenly cast in a role she never expected to play. This one deviation from character, this one loose thread, is all it takes for the delicately woven fabric of village life to unravel. And, for the first time in a long time. Valeria couldn't care less. With humor and sensitivity, author Marc Fitten delivers an unexpected and entirely inspiring first novel that will leave you begging for more.

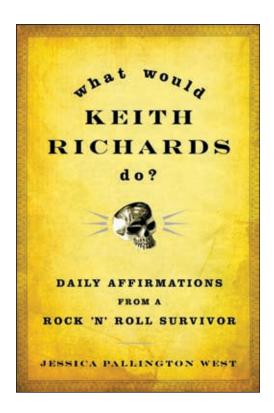
Advance praise for Valeria's Last Stand:

- "Fitten populates his fairy tale of a novel with bitter-coated sugarplums of characters; they will definitely win a place in your heart, even as they'd never stoop to asking for one. In a Hungarian village so small as to be nearly outside of history—the Germans, the Soviets, the capitalists, no one bothers to stop in this hamlet—these sprites still manage to cheat, love, hate, drink, and make pottery for one another with a level of passion we're more accustomed to associating with the very engines of expanding or decaying empires. A beautiful debut."
- Rivka Galchen, author of Atmospheric Disturbances
- "A thoughtful, skillfully drawn portrait of one woman, one village, and one country."
- —Gary Shteyngart, author of Absurdistan and The Russian Debutante's Handbook
- "Marc Fitten's excellent new novel has much to recommend it—wisdom, warmth, humor—but it is his creation of the title character herself that is his and the novel's most remarkable achievement. Valeria is every bit as sensual and irrepressible as Chaucer's Wife of Bath, and she will linger in any reader's mind long after the last page is turned."—Ron Rash, author of Serena



ROLAND WEEKLEY HOTO: I

Marc Fitten was born in Brooklyn in 1974 to Panamanian parents. He spent much of the 1990s living and traveling in Europe, based in Hungary. He's been published in Prairie Schooner, the Louisville Review, and the Hostown Creek Review, and has published a napkin online at Esquire. Marc is a Ph.D. student at Georgia State University and received the Paul Bowles Fellowship for Fiction. He is currently the editor of the Chattahoochee Review.



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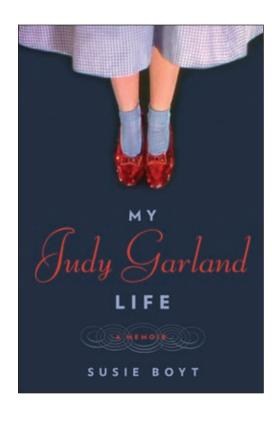
Someone with a strange, unflappable demeanor. Someone who speaks in cryptic koans, words whose meanings take years to unravel. Someone who has confronted death, God, sin, and the immortal soul. Someone unfit for this world, but too brilliant to depart it. Someone, in short, like Keith Richards.

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Jessica Pallington West

is the author of Lipstick.
Her writing has been featured in the Daily Telegraph, BBC-TV and BBC Radio, and About .com. She is a die-hard Stones fan.



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Susie Boyt

An irresistible mixture of memoir, biography, cultural analysis, hero worship, and sequinstudded self-help that will speak to anyone who's ever nursed an obsession.

Judy Garland has been an important figure in Susie Boyt's life since she was three years old: comforting, inspiring, and at times disturbing her. In this unique book, Boyt travels deep into the underworld of hero worship, examining our understanding of rescue, consolation, love, grief, and fame through the prism of Judy. Her journey takes in a duetting breakfast with Mickey Rooney, a munchkin luncheon, a latenight spree at the Minnesota Judy Garland Museum, and a breathless, semi-sacred encounter with Liza Minnelli.

Layering key episodes from Garland's life with defining moments from her own, Boyt explores with insight and humor what it means, exactly, to adore someone you don't know. Does hero worship have to be a pursuit that's low in status or can it be performed with pride and style? Are there similarities that lie at the heart of all fandom? Chronicling her obsession, Boyt illuminates her own life and perfectly distills why Judy Garland is such a legend.

Praise for My Judy Garland Life:

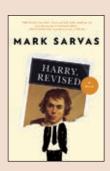
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"I'm blown away...it's truly, madly, deeply brilliant."—Joseph O'Neill, author of Netherland



Susie Boyt was born in London and educated at Oxford University. She is the author of four novels, including The Last Hope of Girls, which was shortlisted for the John Llewellyn Rhys Prize, and Only Human, which was shortlisted for the Mind Award. She writes a weekly column about fashion for the Financial Times. She also works part time as a bereavement counselor.



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Mark Sarvas

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In this critically acclaimed novel, Harry Rent finds himself single and lost after the passing of his wife. Although numbed by his life's unexpected turn, Harry becomes fixated on Molly, an obsidian-haired, twenty-two-year-old waitress. Meanwhile, Harry is forced to fend off Clare, his sister-in-law, who is convinced that Harry is somehow responsible for her sister's untimely death. At once deeply moving and darkly comedic, *Harry, Revised* is an extraordinary novel about the measure of a man's worth, by a wonderful, emerging talent.

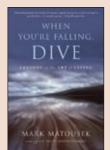
Mark Sarvas is the founder of the popular litblog The Elegant Variation, which *Forbes* and *Entertainment Weekly* have named one of the best blogs on the Web. This is his first novel. He lives in Los Angeles.

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"Deft one-liners, jokes and elegantly-turned insights."—Boston Globe

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Mark Matousek is the author of two memoirs, The Boy He Left Behind and Sex Death Enlightenment. He is a contributing editor for O and Tricycle, and served as senior editor of Interview. His writing has appeared in the New Yorker, the New York Times Magazine, Details, Vogue, AARP magazine, the Utne Reader and other publications. He lives in New York City.

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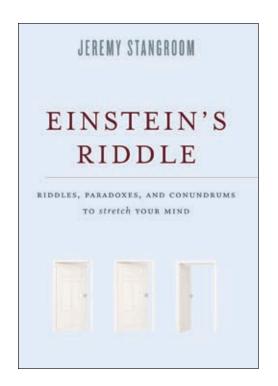
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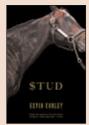
Riddles, paradoxes, and puzzles have been confusing and delighting people for millennia. Zeno of Elea wondered how a hare could ever catch a tortoise in a race: every time the hare catches up, the tortoise has moved very slightly ahead. Schrödinger had his cat, Bertrand his box, and Russell his paradoxes.

These time-honored mind benders have tantalized and mesmerized us for years. Now, in one book, Jeremy Stangroom presents the classics in this field: the Monty Hall Problem; the Liar's Paradox; the Hangman's Paradox; and, of course, Einstein's Riddle. Stylishly designed and lucidly written, this book is a classic of its genre. It's perfect for beginning logicians—Einstein devised the titular riddle when he was a child—and advanced thinkers the world around.

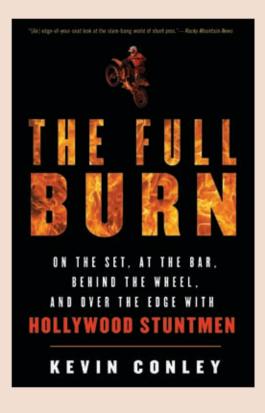
By turns infuriating, fascinating, and gloriously satisfying, these puzzles will keep you thinking and guessing from beginning to end.

Jeremy Stangroom has a Ph.D. from the London School of Economics. He is currently the New Media editor of the Philosopher's Magazine, which he founded with Julian Baggini in 1997. He is the author/editor of numerous books, including The Little Book of Big Ideas: Philosophy and The Little Book of Big Ideas: Religion. He is also the editor, with James Garvey, of Continuum Books' major new series **Contemporary Social** Issues. Stangroom is an elected fellow of the Committee for the Scientific Examination of Religion.

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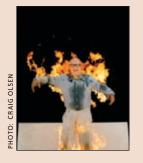


ON THE SET, AT THE BAR, BEHIND THE WHEEL, AND OVER THE EDGE WITH HOLLYWOOD STUNTMEN

Kevin Conley

"[An] edge-of-your-seat look at the slam-bang world of stunt pros...Great supplemental reading for movie fans."—*Rocky Mountain News*

In *The Full Burn*, Kevin Conley goes inside one of the coolest and most dangerous jobs in the world. With bravura storytelling and full access to legends of the field, he gives a behind-the-scenes view of the stuntman's world: the history, the culture, and the tricks of the trade, showing how—and why—stuntmen do the crazy things they do. He even subjects himself to the stuntman's ultimate rite of passage, the book's eponymous stunt, in which he is doused in jellied gasoline and set aflame. Packed with amazing stories and fascinating insights into the movies you love, this is truly immersion journalism at its finest.



Kevin Conley is the author of the national bestseller Stud:

Adventures in Breeding.

He has written for GQ, the New Yorker, Sports Illustrated, and the New York Times Magazine, among other publications.

He lives in Connecticut with his wife, Amy, and their children, Max, Sarah, Jack, and Gloria.

Praise for The Full Burn:

"A fascinating chronicle of the Hollywood stunt world."—Entertainment Weekly

"Brisk and entertaining...From chapter to engaging chapter, Conley blends film history with his subjects' realistic assessments of athleticism, sexism, death and technological innovations of the mechanical and computerized kind...Conley develops an impressive camaraderie, access and feel for the stunt world."—*Publishers Weekly*

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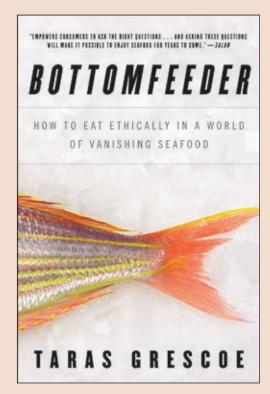
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Taras Grescoe

"If you're a seafood lover, pick up this guide to which fish are the best for our bodies and which are best for the environment."—San Francisco Chronicle

Just when opting for omega-3-rich seafood is being recognized as one of the healthiest dietary choices a person can make, the news seems to be full of stories about mercury-laden tuna, shrimp contaminated with antibiotics, and diminishing fish stocks. Is it still even good for us? *Bottomfeeder* is the story of a seafood lover's round-the-world quest for a truly decent meal. A balanced and practical guide to eating—newly updated for the paperback edition—it explains which fish are best for the environment, the seas, and our bodies.

Praise for Bottomfeeder (shortlisted for the Writers' Trust Award):

"Research that brings muckraking books such as Fast Food Nation to mind."—Seattle Post-Intelligencer

"Grescoe takes us on an international tour of controversial cuisines—shark fin soup in China, whale sashimi in Japan, monkfish tail in New York City—meanwhile offering an overview of the corrupt practices that have put the oceans (and our health) in danger."—**Salon**

"Grescoe's tale hits all the right notes. It's an entrée you'll remember."—Fortune Small Business

"Bottomfeeder is Grescoe's story...a starting point for reflecting on where each of us draws the line about what's acceptable to eat and what's not."—**Gastronomica**



Taras Grescoe is the author of The Devil's Picnic, The End of Elsewhere, and Sacre Blues, which was shortlisted for the Writers' Trust Award and was a national bestseller in Canada. His work appears in major publications all over the United States, the UK, and Canada, including National Geographic, the Independent, the Guardian, Condé Nast Traveller (U.K.), National Geographic Traveler, and the New York Times. He lives in Montreal.



A ROMANCE ON THREE LEGS

GLENN GOULD'S OBSESSIVE QUEST FOR THE PERFECT PIANO

Katie Hafner

"When Gould was paired with the right composer...he could make you wonder if he was altogether human. And reading Hafner on Gould is sometimes as much fun as listening to him play. And that's saying a lot."—Newsweek

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Hugely talented and famously eccentric, pianist Glenn Gould fought a running battle with a long list of less-than-perfect pianos. A Romance on Three Legs is the story of a love that changed Gould's life: his partnership with the Steinway CD 318, a piano whose peculiar action and temperament ushered Gould closer than ever to interpretive perfection. Katie Hafner weaves the compelling tale of Gould, his favorite piano, and the men who worked on it, revealing new details and nuances in the work and mind of one of the twentieth century's greatest artists.

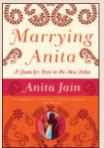
Katie Hafner is a correspondent for the *New York Times* and a dedicated amateur pianist. She is the author or coauthor of four previous books: *Where Wizards Stay Up Late*, *Cyberpunk*, *The Well*, and *The House at the Bridge*. She lives in the San Francisco Bay Area.

Praise for A Romance on Three Legs:

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"More books will be written about the famously eccentric pianist Glenn Gould. Perhaps none will be as intriguing as Hafner's."—**Booklist**

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MARRYING ANITA

A QUEST FOR LOVE IN THE NEW INDIA

Anita Jain

"Sex and the City Delhi-style."—Time Out New York

After years of frustration in the New York singles scene, with constant pressure from her Indian parents to find a mate, Anita Jain begins to wonder if an arranged marriage could possibly be any worse than looking for a man in a bar. So she boards a plane for Delhi and lands smack in the center of the New India, where she finds a very Westernized lifestyle of bar- and bed-hopping, not at all dissimilar from New York, but with the added

complication of traditional attitudes toward women and marriage.

Anita Jain grew up in northern California and graduated from Harvard University. Her writing has appeared in *New York* magazine, the *Wall Street Journal*, the *Financial Times*, and *Travel & Leisure*, and she has worked as a journalist in a number of cities, including Mexico City, London, Singapore, New York, and New Delhi, where she currently lives.

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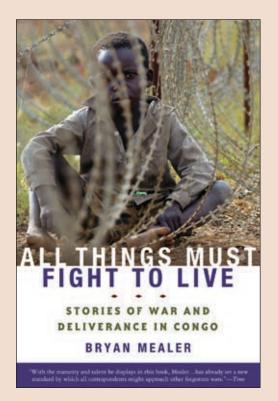
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STORIES OF WAR AND DELIVERANCE IN CONGO **Bryan Mealer**

"With the maturity and talent he displays in this book, Mealer...has already set a new standard by which all correspondents might approach other forgotten wars."—*Time*

In 1996, the fighting in Rwanda spilled over the Congolese border, sparking a conflict that would eventually claim more lives than any other since the Second World War. Based on Mealer's three years in Congo, *All Things Must Fight to Live* is an unforgettable tour through the aftermath of war and colonialism, in a country that is still the site of the greatest humanitarian catastrophe on earth. It is nonfiction at its finest: harrowing, gorgeous, and in the end redemptive.

Praise for All Things Must Fight to Live:

- "Mealer's talent for detail, deftly rendered, lifts his material toward the sublime."—Christian Science Monitor
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- "With vivid prose and compelling emotion...[Mealer] reports his own "creeping emotional atrophy" as he is repulsed and then spellbound by the violence and by the courageous people who struggled to make sense of the fighting."—**Booklist**
- "A perceptive, empathetic, stomach-twisting presentation of the human condition during chaos...A quiet paean to the courage he has witnessed, and its final salute to 'the many proud people of Congo' is as much eulogy as affirmation."—*Publishers Weekly*
- "Bryan Mealer has put his life on the line to bring us a story of terror and courage from the heart of Congo...Both as a journalist and as a reader, my hat's off to Mealer."—**Sebastian Junger, author of** *The Perfect Storm*

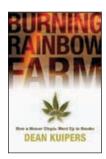


the Associated Press staff correspondent in Kinshasa, Congo, and has reported from places across the African continent, including Nairobi, Somalia, and Togo. His writing has appeared in Harper's and Esquire, among other magazines. He was born in Odessa, Texas, and graduated from the University of Texas

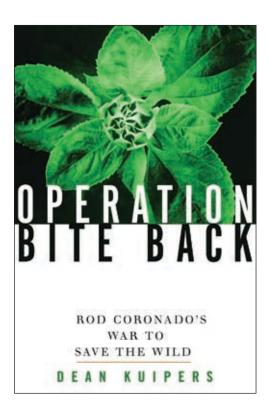
at Austin. He lives in

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OPERATION BITE BACK

ROD CORONADO'S WAR TO SAVE THE WILD

Dean Kuipers

As the environmental movement gains followers and momentum, Dean Kuipers gives us an insider's look at its radical wing and its uneasy relationship with the mainstream.

Dean Kuipers takes us behind the scenes of the Animal Liberation Front and its punk-anarchist sibling the Earth Liberation Front, shadowy networks of notorious criminals who take eco-defense into their own hands and who are among the FBI's top domestic terrorist priorities—even in the wake of 9/11. Kuipers tells the story of ALF and ELF through Rod Coronado, an arsonist and animal rights activist who has served jail time on several convictions in connection with his radical activities. From his teenage association with the Sea Shepherd and Earth First! through the dramatic federal manhunt that transformed him into a folk hero, Coronado's story spearheads a movement that has led to over twelve hundred acts of sabotage, a billion dollars in damages, and a legal showdown that will define America's relationship to environmentalism. As radicalism increases, the country faces tough questions: What is the definition of nonviolence? Should environmentalists be tried for terrorism? Neither a biography nor a polemic about animal rights, Operation Bite Back tells the outlaw tale of a man who acted on well-defined principles to carry out a campaign of political sabotage, putting his life on the line for an environmental movement that ultimately couldn't afford to be identified with his extreme actions.



Dean Kuipers is an editor at the Los Angeles Times. He has been an editor at Los Angeles CityBeat and Spin and is the author of Burning Rainbow Farm, now in development as a film with Participant Media. He lives in Los Angeles.

Praise for Burning Rainbow Farm:

"Kuipers has given us a deftly reported glimpse into America's blue collar stoner subculture."

—Barbara Ehrenreich

"An excellent look at the marijuana subculture, deluded or not, aspiring to the Middle-American mainstream."

-Kirkus Reviews (starred review)

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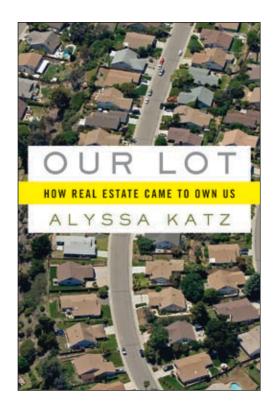
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OUR LOT

HOW REAL ESTATE CAME TO OWN US

Alyssa Katz

How the homes we live in turned into the monsters that ate our economy and how the United States became a nation obsessed with real estate.

Our Lot tells how an entire nation got swept up in real estate mania, and it casts the business story—the collapse of the mortgage markets and its global impact on the economy—as the product of a decades-long project of social engineering by the U.S. government to make homeownership possible for those who had never been able to attain it before. Based on original reporting, Our Lot looks at the boom as experienced by ordinary Americans, and examines how our own economic anxieties and realities, combined with greed and delusion on Wall Street and in Washington, inflated the real estate bubble. In accessible language, the book helps homeowners and would-be homeowners understand what really happened, how it has affected our homes and communities, and how we can move on to a future we'll want to live in.



Alyssa Katz teaches journalism at New York University and works as an editorial consultant with the Pratt Center for Community Development. Formerly the editor of City Limits, a magazine about New York City and its neighborhoods, she currently writes for Mother Jones, New York, The Big Money, and other publications. Alyssa lives in Brooklyn, in a co-op apartment that she owns.

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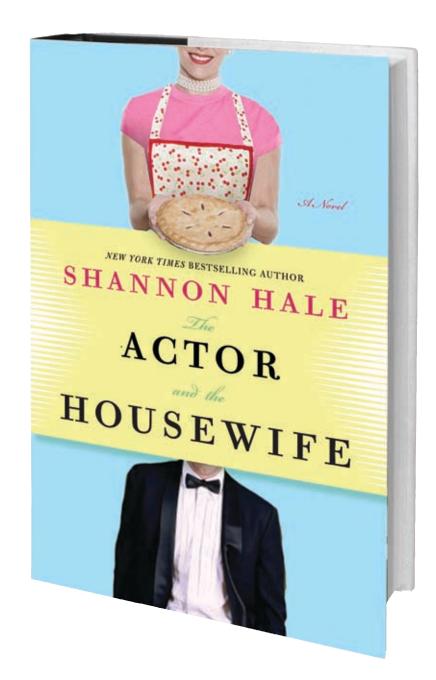
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THE ACTOR AND THE HOUSEWIFE

A NOVEL

Shannon Hale

A very different kind of fantasy from New York Times bestselling author Shannon Hale.

What if you were to meet the number-one person on your laminated list—you know, that list you joke about with your significant other about which five celebrities you'd be allowed to run off with if ever given the chance? And of course since it'll never happen it doesn't matter...

Mormon housewife Becky Jack is seven months pregnant with her fourth child when she meets celebrity hearththrob Felix Callahan. Twelve hours, one elevator ride, and one alcohol-free dinner later, something has happened...though nothing has happened. It isn't sexual. It isn't even quite love. But a month later Felix shows up in Salt Lake City to visit and before they know what's hit them, Felix and Becky are best friends. Really. Becky's husband is pretty cool about it. Her children roll their eyes. Her neighbors gossip endlessly. But Felix and Becky have something special...something unusual, something completely impossible to sustain. Or is it? A magical story, The Actor and the Housewife explores what could happen when your not-so-secret celebrity crush walks right into real life and changes everything.

Excerpt from The Actor and the Housewife:

Felix swished his hand before the door, inviting her in. She didn't move, but she was looking at him, which was risky. For one thing, he was abnormally good-looking. So good-looking he nearly qualified as his own freak show. It was just wrong, looks like that. They could confuse a person. And for another thing, looking at him made it very hard to pretend he was someone else, which is precisely what she would need to do in order to turn him down. You understand that if it had been anyone else, anyone, no matter how impressive their résumé or photogenic their face, she would have said, "Thank you, but I'm married and I don't get into cars with strange men." She really didn't. Ever. She had drawn strict moral lines around herself long ago and never crossed them. Never so much as prodded them with her big toe.

But this was Felix Callahan. The man who had been her chosen heartthrob, her unattainable crush, her occasional just-before-sleep daydream for the past twelve years. She'd spent so much time with his movies (one in particular), he didn't seem like a stranger. And they wouldn't be alone, she reasoned, what with the driver there to chaperone and all. Besides, it was just too surreal. It couldn't really be happening. And if it was, could she in good conscience pass it up?

So, okay, she said yes. It was an incredibly un-Becky-like thing to do, but can you blame her? She had weaknesses, and there he was.

Praise for Austenland:

"Gloriously satisfying." - Glamour

"Adorable! This is the best tribute to obsessed Austen freaks (like me) that I've ever read."

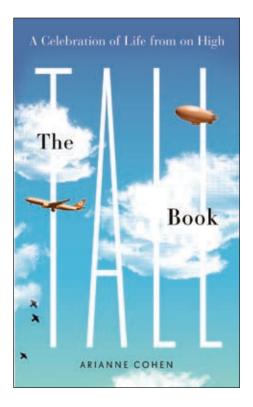
-Stephenie Meyer, author of Twilight and Eclipse



Shannon Hale is the author of Austenland. Rapunzel's Revenge (a graphic novel), and five young adult novels, including the Newbery Honor-winning, New York Times bestselling Princess Academy. She is at work on a sixth young adult novel and her second graphic novel, Calamity Jack. She lives with her husband and two children in Salt Lake City.

[&]quot;Funny, moving and a real surprise." — USA Today

[&]quot;Allow me to direct you to the best Austen tribute since Karen Joy Fowler's The Jane Austen Book Club: Shannon Hale's clever and imaginative Austenland."—Bookpage



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has appeared in the New York Times, O, New York, Marie Claire, Popular Science, Fast Company, Nerve, and the New York Times Magazine, among others. She is the coeditor of the hilarious essay collection Confessions of a High School Word Nerd. She was previously a national-level swimmer and now lives the tall life in New York City. She was, at one point, one half of the country's tallest

couple with her sevenfoot-two-inch partner.

THE TALL BOOK

A CELEBRATION OF LIFE FROM ON HIGH

Arianne Cohen

A fascinating and informative look into the world of tall people—and why it's better up there.

Did you know that tall people earn \$789 more per inch per year? Or that talls are 8 percent smarter than the rest of us? Or five times more likely to become CEOs or senators?

In *The Tall Book*, six-foot-three-inch Arianne Cohen searches high and higher to write the definitive book on the tall life, beginning with the perks: Why do tall people have more money, brains, leadership, and power? Taking us from endocrinologists' offices to the annual European Tall Club Convention to the home of the world's tallest woman, Cohen answers the questions at the heart of the tall world: Why are people tall in the first place? Is it healthier to be tall? And what about dating—are you better off tall? How come talls, the most powerful people in the world, are crunched into airplane seats and can't find clothing?

Filled with humor and lively personal narratives, *The Tall Book* is the must-have book for tall people, their parents, their partners, and anyone who wants to know their place in the pecking order. Come celebrate the life that's a head and shoulders above the rest.

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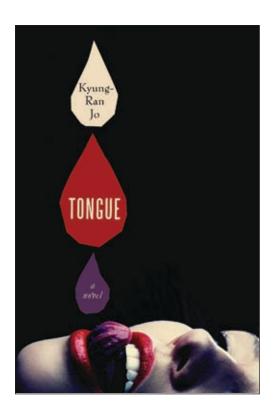
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TONGUE

A NOVEL

Kyung-Ran Jo, translated by Chi-Young Kim

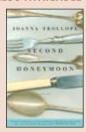
An erotically charged, elegantly written novel that marks the first publication in English of author Kyung-Ran Jo, a literary star in Korea who has earned comparisons to Haruki Murakami.

Emotionally raw and emphatically sensual, *Tongue* is the story of the demise of an obsessive romance and a woman's culinary journey toward self-restoration and revenge. When her boyfriend of seven years leaves her for another woman, the celebrated young chef Jung Ji-won shuts down the cooking school she ran from their home and sinks into deep depression, losing her will to cook, her desire to eat, and even her ability to taste. Returning to the kitchen of the Italian restaurant where her career first began, she slowly rebuilds her life, rediscovering her appreciation of food, both as nourishment and as sensual pleasure. She also starts to devise a plan for a final, vengeful act of culinary seduction.

Tongue is a voluptuous, intimate story of a gourmet relying on her food-centric worldview to emerge from heartbreak; a mesmerizing, delicately plotted novel at once shocking and profoundly familiar.

Kyung-Ran Jo was born in Seoul, South Korea, in 1969. She earned a degree in creative writing from Seoul Institute of the Arts and has participated in the University of Iowa's renowned International Writing Program. Since her fiction debut at age twenty-eight, she has earned numerous literary awards, including the Today's Young Artist Prize from the South Korean Ministry of Culture and Tourism as well as the Dong-in Literary Award for her newest shortstory collection, I Bought Balloons. Tongue, an immediate bestseller in South Korea, is her first novel to be translated into English.

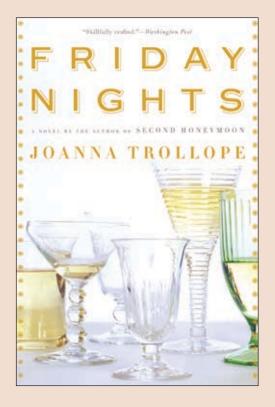
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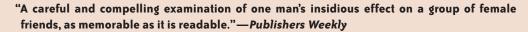
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Joanna Trollope's warm, insightful novel stars Eleanor, who, in a chance encounter, invites two young mothers into her home and slowly begins to connect with them and their friends. So it begins: a Friday night social circle, full of generosity and warmth and heart. But when one of them meets a man, new issues arise: Can female friendships withstand the jealousies and intricacies of love?

Trollope opens a window onto six very different women's lives, their passions and their sorrows, and explores with insight and humanity the shifting currents of friendship.



Joanna Trollope, the nationally bestselling author of seventeen other books, including Second Honeymoon, Brother & Sister, Marrying the Mistress, and The Rector's Wife, lives in Gloucestershire, England.

Praise for Friday Nights:

"Skillfully crafted."—Washington Post

"Insightful and reassuring."—Kirkus Reviews

PHOTO: BARKER EVANS

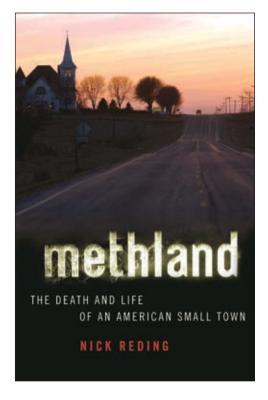
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Praise for The Last Cowboys at the End of the World:

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- "A heroic effort... informative, surprising, amusing."—Washington Post Book World
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METHLAND

THE DEATH AND LIFE OF AN AMERICAN SMALL TOWN Nick Reding

The dramatic story of the methamphetamine epidemic as it sweeps the American heartland a timely, moving, very human account of one community's attempt to battle its way to a brighter future.

Crystal methamphetamine is widely considered to be the most dangerous drug in the world, and nowhere is that more true than in the small towns of the American heartland.

Methland tells the story of Oelwein, Iowa (pop. 6,159), which, like thousands of other small towns across the country, has been left in the dust by the consolidation of the agricultural industry, a depressed local economy, and an out-migration of people. As if this weren't enough to deal with, an incredibly cheap, longlasting, and highly addictive drug has rolled into town.

Over a period of four years, journalist Nick Reding brings us into the heart of Oelwein through a cast of intimately drawn characters, including: Clay Hallburg, the town doctor, who fights meth even as he struggles with his own alcoholism; Nathan Lein, the town prosecutor, whose caseload is filled almost exclusively with meth-related crime; and Jeff Rohrick, a meth addict, still trying to kick the habit after twenty years.

Tracing the connections between the lives touched by the drug and the global forces that set the stage for the epidemic, Methland offers a vital and unique perspective on a pressing contemporary tragedy.



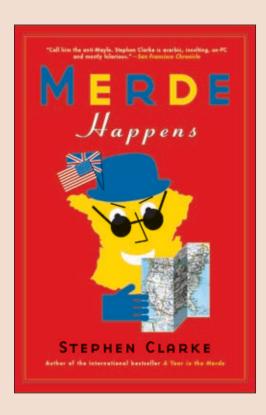
Nick Reding is the author of The Last Cowboys at the End of the World, and his writing has appeared in Outside, Food and Wine, and Harper's. Born in St. Louis, he decided to move back to his hometown in the course of reporting this book.

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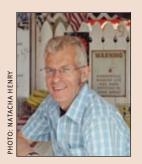
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Stephen Clarke is a

British journalist and the internationally bestselling author of A Year in the Merde and In the Merde for Love, which describe the misadventures of Paul West in France, and Talk to the Snail, a hysterical look at understanding the French. He himself has lived in France for twelve years.

MERDE HAPPENS

Stephen Clarke

"Clarke works his humor in a frantic, colorful choreography of mayhem, like Busby Berkeley conducting Harold Lloyd. Amusing travelogue from an engaging narrator who never lets a little bad news mess with his joie de vivre."—*Kirkus Reviews*

In the acclaimed third book in the popular *Merde* series, Paul West winds up stuck in America, chin-deep in financial trouble. He and his French girlfriend set off on their journey, with hopes of escaping fiscal ruin. But as the not-so-dynamic duo stumble toward Los Angeles, via Boston, Miami, New Orleans, and Las Vegas, Paul's plans for success, of course, turn to merde: the couple takes on carjackers, old flames, and *liaisons dangereuses*. The result is a madcap, hilarious adventure and a sardonically witty tour through America, France, and England.

Praise for Merde Happens:

"Sublime. In this entertaining third installment to his Paul West series, British journalist Clarke sets his acerbic sights on America. What makes the transcontinental romp so much fun is Clarke's sarcastic sendup of each city, embellishing the traditional stereotypes of each with a dry, jaded Brit wit. Peripheral characters add even more color to the madcap story."—*Publishers Weekly*

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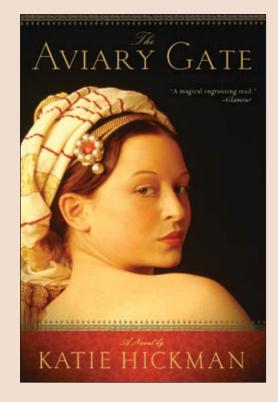
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THE AVIARY GATE

A NOVEL

Katie Hickman

"[This] magical, engrossing...novel of intrigue and forbidden love manages to be both cerebral and entertaining. With all the intricate detail of historical nonfiction and all the pace of romantic drama, this is beautifully written stuff."—Glamour (UK)

In Oxford's Bodleian Library, Elizabeth Staveley has found a fragment of ancient paper that may hold the key to a story hidden for four centuries: a British sea captain's daughter held captive in the sultan's harem.

Constantinople, 1599. In the sultan's palace, the chief eunuch has been poisoned by a beautiful ship made of spun sugar, and a rebellion is rising within the palace's most private quarters. A British merchant, Paul Pindar, brings a precious gift to the sultan and discovers that the woman he once loved, Celia, may be alive, hidden among the ranks of slaves in the sultan's harem. Can this really be his shipwrecked Celia? And if it is, can they be reunited?

Steeped in mystery and sexual intrigue, *The Aviary Gate* transports readers to exotic sixteenth-century Constantinople, offering the rarest glimpse into the forbidden confines of the sultan's harem.



Katie Hickman is the bestselling author of five previous books, including Daughters of Britannia and Courtesans. She lives with her family in London.

Praise for The Aviary Gate:

"Combining elements of *The Tempest* with gothic intrigue and charged, poignant romance, this is a sensuously involving novel. Teasing, erotic, suspenseful and expertly done." — *Daily Mail* (UK)

"Gorgeously vivid."—Marie Claire (UK)

"Forbidden love, sailors and secrets—fasten your seat belts for Hickman's period tome. Think Jane Austen meets Pirates of the Caribbean."—In Style (UK)

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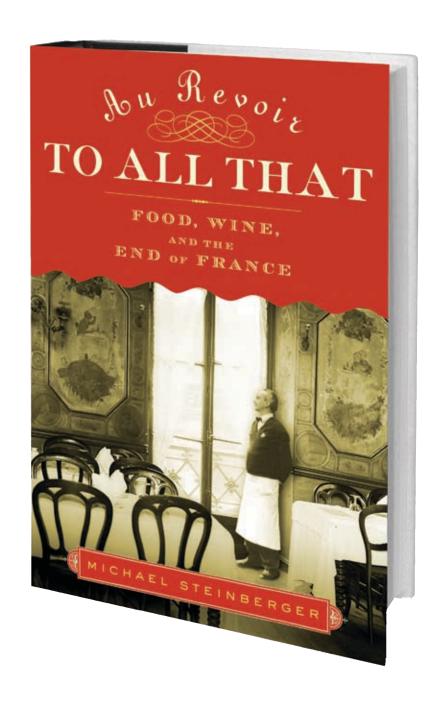
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AU REVOIR TO ALL THAT

FOOD, WINE, AND THE END OF FRANCE

Michael Steinberger

A rich, lively book about the upheaval in French gastronomy, set against the backdrop of France's diminishing fortunes as a nation.

France is in a rut, and so is French cuisine. Twenty-five years ago it was hard to have a bad meal in France; now, in some cities and towns, it is a challenge to find a good one. For the first time in the annals of modern cooking, the most influential chefs and the most talked-about restaurants in the world are not French. Within France, large segments of the wine industry are in crisis, cherished artisanal cheeses are threatened with extinction, and bistros and brasseries are disappearing at an alarming rate. But business is brisk at some establishments: Astonishingly, France has become the second-most-profitable market in the world for McDonald's.

How did this happen? To find out, Michael Steinberger takes an enviable trip through the traditional pleasures of France. He talks to top chefs—Alain Ducasse, Paul Gagnaire, Paul Bocuse—winemakers, farmers, bakers, and other artisans. He visits the Élysée Palace, interviews the head of McDonald's Europe, marches down a Paris boulevard with José Bové, and breaks bread with the editorial director of the powerful and secretive Michelin Guide. He spends hours with some of France's brightest young chefs and winemakers, who are battling to reinvigorate the country's rich culinary heritage. The result is a sharp and funny book that will give Francophiles everywhere an entirely new perspective—political, economic, personal, and cultural—on the crisis in the country and food they love.

Excerpt from Au Revoir to All That:

"In France," Alleosse said, "we have a lot of cheeses, but a lot of them are without quality. If you produce fifteen thousand Camemberts a day, how do you control the quality? Impossible!" I didn't tell him that Lactalis was making eighty thousand a day, but he probably knew that already.

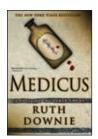
What troubled Alleosse most was the sense that his compatriots were indifferent to the plight of raw-milk cheeses—that they just didn't care anymore. "I have Americans coming into the store saying, 'Philippe, you must protect *lait cru* cheeses, you have the best *métier* in the world.' I never hear that from French people."

Before leaving the farm, I purchased a disk of Camembert, which I brought back to Paris and opened that night. The cheese came in the familiar thin, round wooden box and wrapped in paper, but that's where the similarities with other Camemberts ended. For one thing, it was incredibly creamy and had a richer yellow color than other Camemberts. More notably, it had a striking, almost feral bouquet, with a bracing whiff of fresh grass. It was once said that Camembert smelled like God's feet; I can only hope that God was so lucky.

Michael Steinberger

is Slate's longtime wine columnist and a contributing writer for the Financial Times. He has written extensively about economics, finance, culture, sports, and politics for a variety of leading international publications, including the New Yorker, the New York Times Magazine, the New York Times Book Review, the Economist, Food & Wine, and Saveur. He is married with two children.

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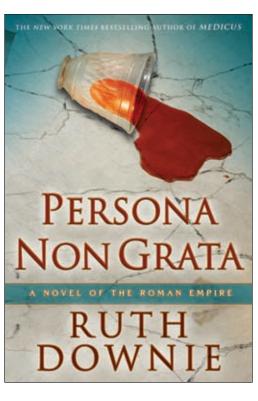
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Ruth Downie is the author of the New York Times bestseller Medicus and Terra Incognita. She is married with two sons and lives in Milton Keynes, England.



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Ruth Downie

The third novel in the acclaimed Gaius Petreius Ruso series by the *New York Times* bestselling Ruth Downie—this time set in ancient Gaul.

At long last, Gaius Petreius Ruso and his companion, Tilla, are headed home—to Gaul. Having received a note consisting only of the words "COME HOME!" Ruso has (reluctantly, of course) pulled up stakes and brought Tilla to meet his family.

But the reception there is not what Ruso has hoped for: no one will admit to sending for him, and his brother Lucius is hoping he'll leave. With Tilla getting icy greetings from his relatives, Lucius's brother-in-law mysteriously drowned at sea, and the whole Ruso family teetering on the edge of bankruptcy, it's hard to imagine an unhappier reunion. That is, until Severus, the family's chief creditor, winds up dead, and the real trouble begins...

Engrossing, intricate, and—as always—wonderfully comic, Ruth Downie's latest is a brilliant new installment in this irresistible series. This is everything we've come to expect from our charming, luckless hero.

Praise for Medicus:

"I loved this book."—Scott Simon, NPR

"Wonderfully entertaining."—Newsweek

Praise for Terra Incognita:

"One hell of a toga party." - Entertainment Weekly

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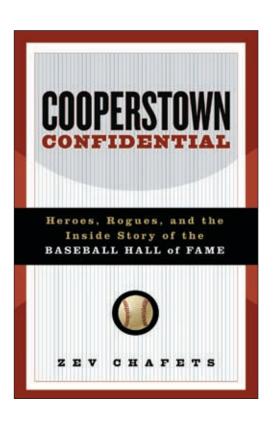
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HEROES, ROGUES, AND THE INSIDE STORY OF THE BASEBALL HALL OF FAME

Zev Chafets

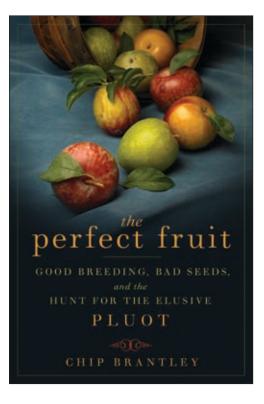
The first book to draw back the veil on the Hall of Fame, combining an insider's history of the Hall and its players with a consideration of baseball's place in culture.

The National Baseball Hall of Fame is the holiest institution in American sports. It's not just a place to honor great athletes. It's where America's pastime announces to the world what it is and what it wants to be. It's not just a sports museum; it's a mirror of American culture. As Zev Chafets points out, it's no coincidence that the first black Hall of Famer, Jackie Robinson, was inducted in 1962, at the height of the civil rights movement. Or that the Hall is now planning a wing to honor Latino players. For a hundred years, the story of the Hall of Fame has been deeply tied up with the story of America.

For the first time, this book shows the inner workings of the Hall: the politics, the players, and the people who own and preserve it. From the history of the founding Clark family to a day on the town with the newly inducted Goose Gossage, from the battle over steroids to the economics of induction and secret campaigns by aspiring players, this is a highly irreverent and highly entertaining tour through the life of an American institution. For anyone who cares about baseball, this is essential reading.



Zev Chafets is the author of ten books, including A Match Made in Heaven, Members of the Tribe, and The Devil's Night. He is a frequent contributor to the New York Times Magazine and other periodicals, a former columnist for the New York Daily News, and the founding editor of Jerusalem Report. He lives in Westchester, New York, with his wife and children.



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Chip Brantley is the cofounder of Cookthink, a cooking and recipe Web site. A former food writer for the San Francisco Examiner, he has contributed to Slate, the Boston Globe, the Oxford American, and Gastronomica, among others. Brantley was also the head cheesemaker at Westfield Farm, an awardwinning cheese company. A native of Alabama, he

lives with his wife and son in western Massachusetts.

THE PERFECT FRUIT

GOOD BREEDING, BAD SEEDS, AND THE HUNT FOR THE ELUSIVE PLUOT

Chip Brantley

The creation story of the "perfect fruit," delving into the world of the demanding farmers, brilliant obsessives, and food fanatics who create the fruits we love.

Is it possible to create the perfect piece of fruit—a fruit that cannot be improved upon? Since the dawn of agriculture, people have been obsessively tinkering to develop fruits that are hardier, prettier, and better tasting. Today, consumers have sophisticated palates and unparalleled access to the best fruits from around the world, and many of them believe that in California's San Joaquin Valley, a fruit breeder may have developed the perfect fruit: a sweet, juicy, luscious plum-apricot hybrid known as a pluot.

In *The Perfect Fruit*, Chip Brantley goes in search of what it takes to trick nature into producing gustatory greatness—and to bring it to a market near you. The story begins with Floyd Zaiger, a humble and wily octogenarian who is arguably the greatest fruit breeder in the world. From there, it stretches both back and forward: back through a long line of visionaries, fruit smugglers, and mad geniuses, many of whom have been driven to dazzling extremes in the pursuit of exotic flavors; and forward through the ranks of farmers, scientists, and salesmen who make it their life's work to coax deliciousness out of stubborn and unpredictable plants. The result is part biography, part cultural history, and part horticultural inquest—a meditation on the surprising power of food to change the way we live.

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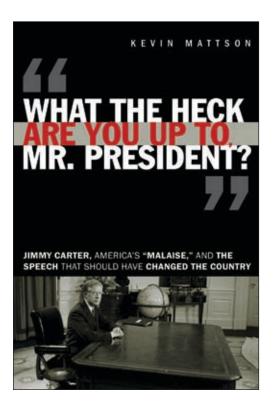
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"WHAT THE HECK ARE YOU UP TO, MR. PRESIDENT?"

JIMMY CARTER, AMERICA'S "MALAISE," AND THE SPEECH THAT SHOULD HAVE CHANGED THE COUNTRY

Kevin Mattson

In 1979, in an effort to right our national malaise, Jimmy Carter delivered a speech that risked his reputation and the future of the Democratic Party, changing the course of American politics for the next twenty-five years.

At a critical moment in Jimmy Carter's presidency, he gave a speech that should have changed the country. Instead it led to his downfall and ushered in the rise of the conservative movement in America. In "What the Heck Are You Up To, Mr. President?" Kevin Mattson gives us a behind-the-scenes look at the weeks leading up to Carter's "malaise" speech, a period of great upheaval in the United States: the energy crisis had resulted in mile-long gas lines, inciting suburban riots and violence; the country's morale was low and Carter's ratings were even lower. The administration, wracked by its own crises, was in constant turmoil and conflict. What came of their great internal struggle, which Mattson conveys with the excitement of a political thriller, was a speech that deserves a place alongside Lincoln's Gettysburg Address or FDR's First Inaugural. Prominent politicians on both sides of the aisle play important roles, including Carter, Vice President Walter Mondale, speechwriter Hendrik Hertzberg, Ronald Reagan, and Ted Kennedy. Like the best of narrative political writing, Mattson provides great insight into the workings of the Carter White House and the moral crisis that ushered in a new, conservative America.



Kevin Mattson is the Connor Study Professor of Contemporary History at Ohio University. He's the author of Rebels All!, When America Was Great, Upton Sinclair and the Other American Century, and Intellectuals in Action. He writes for the American Prospect, Dissent, the Nation, the New York Times Book Review, the Washington Post Book World, and many others.

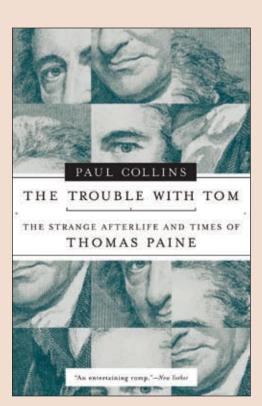
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THE TROUBLE WITH TOM

THE STRANGE AFTERLIFE AND TIMES OF THOMAS PAINE Paul Collins

"[A] quixotic, mischievous and often hilarious work...Part travelogue, part memoir and part historical mystery, this book reads like a wry, witty novel and offers a delicious twist at the end."—Publishers Weekly

Paul Collins takes us on a strange odyssey down the forgotten roads of history as he hunts for the bones of Tom Paine—exhumed and then lost, and now scattered around the globe. Crossing the paths of everyone from Walt Whitman and Charles Darwin to sex reformers and feral monkeys, this colorful search for a founding father's body simultaneously excavates the very soul of democracy.

Praise for *The Trouble with Tom* (Book Sense/History Channel Top Ten Pick):

"The embodiment of revolution comes in for an appropriately anarchic—and wild, and thoroughly enjoyable—appreciation...Literary travel meets history, laced with cartloads of trivia and endless humor."

—Kirkus Reviews

"This is research as the Great Library God intended—one part resourcefulness; one part curiosity; one part instinct; one part slow, keen observation of detail."—*Los Angeles Times*

"The Trouble with Tom, which seems to begin as a quest to find the remains—a metaphor for understanding Paine—becomes a meditation on how elusive both are. The book is full of wry musings and incisive observations about history."—Mother Jones

"What I appreciate so much about Collins is that he chooses to explore the byways of history rather than its highways (especially its superhighways). Rather, it's always the odd and unusual that catches his eye and that he chooses to share with us—and aren't we lucky that he does."—Nancy Pearl, NPR Book Beat

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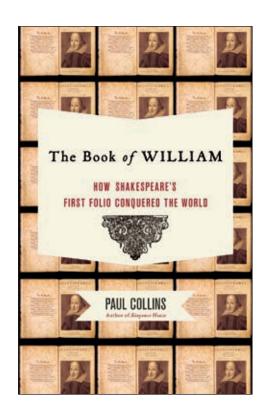
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THE BOOK OF WILLIAM

HOW SHAKESPEARE'S FIRST FOLIO CONQUERED THE WORLD Paul Collins

The first popular narrative history of Shakespeare's First Folio, the world's most obsessively pursued book.

One book above all others has transfixed connoisseurs for four centuries—a book sold for shillings in the streets of London, whisked to Manhattan for millions, and stored deep within the vaults of Tokyo. The book: William Shakespeare's First Folio of 1623. Paul Collins, lover of odd books and author of the national bestseller *Sixpence House*, takes up the strange quest for this white whale of precious books.

Broken down into five acts, each tied to a different location and century, *The Book of William*'s travelogue follows the trail of the Folio's curious rise: a dizzying Sotheby's auction of a pristine copy preserved since the seventeenth century, the Fleet Street machinations of the eighteenth century, the nineteenth century quests for lost Folios, obsessive acquisitions by twentieth century oilmen, and the high-tech hoards of twenty-first century Japan. Finally, Collins speculates on Shakespeare's cross-cultural future as Asian buyers enter their Folios into the electronic ether, and recounts the book's remarkable journey as it is found in attics, gets lost in oceans and fires, is bought and sold, and ultimately becomes immortal.

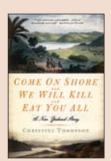
More praise for The Trouble with Tom:

"An entertaining romp."—New Yorker

"Collins moves effortlessly between the present tense and literary sketches of the past."—Newsday



Paul Collins is an assistant professor of English at Portland State University and the author of Sixpence House. The Trouble with Tom, Not Even Wrong, and Banvard's Folly. His work has appeared in Smithsonian, the New York Times, and Slate. He edits the Collins Library imprint of McSweeney's Books and appears regularly on NPR's Weekend Edition as the show's resident literary detective.



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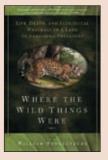
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COME ON SHORE AND WE WILL KILL AND EAT YOU ALL

A NEW ZEALAND STORY

Christina Thompson

"A multilayered, highly informative and insightful book that blends memoir, historical and travel narrative...vivid and meticulously researched."—San Francisco Chronicle

In this involving, compassionate memoir, Christina Thompson tells the story of her romance and eventual marriage to a Maori man, interspersing it with a narrative history of the cultural collision between Westerners and the Maoris of New Zealand.

Christina Thompson is the editor of *Harvard Review*. Her essays and articles have appeared in numerous journals, including *American Scholar*, the *Journal of Pacific History*, and *Australian Literary Studies*, and in the 1999, 2000, and 2006 editions of *Best Australian Essays*. She lives near Boston with her family.

Praise for Come on Shore and We Will Kill and Eat You All:

"Charming, insightful, honest, balanced, the book offers a unique look at the pressures of marriage across cultural, racial, and geographical boundaries. Vivid, fascinating reading."—*Philadelphia Inquirer*

"[A] fine account. Her observations about the enduring effects of colonization [are] penetrating. She puts her vantage point of insider-outsider to good effect, tracing the genealogy of racial stereotypes and cutting through some of New Zealand's most cherished myths about itself."—New York Times Book Review

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WHERE THE WILD THINGS WERE

LIFE, DEATH, AND ECOLOGICAL WRECKAGE IN A LAND OF VANISHING PREDATORS

William Stolzenburg



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WITH A NEW AFTERWORD

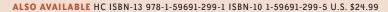
Wildlife journalist William Stolzenburg follows in the wake of nature's topmost carnivores and finds chaos in their absence. His startling tour through the bizarre, impoverished landscapes of pest and plague provides a world of reason to think again about meat-eating beasts so recently missing from the web of life. Includes a new afterword by the author.

William Stolzenburg has studied predator control techniques, monitored endangered species, and written hundreds of magazine features and columns on the science of rarity and extinction for *Nature Conservancy* and *Science News*, among other publications. He lives in Shepherdstown, West Virginia.

"Absorbing and delightful...Not just an enriching story, but a new, clarifying lens through which to understand the world around us."—*Christian Science Monitor*

GALEN "Stolzenburg's infectious enthusiasm should spark even in bug-wary urbanites a renewed appreciation for nature's complexity."—*Time*

"A meticulous and convincing argument that alpha predators are the primary regulators of ecosystems, and that their removal is crippling our planet's biodiversity."—**Bill McKibben**, **Boston Globe**



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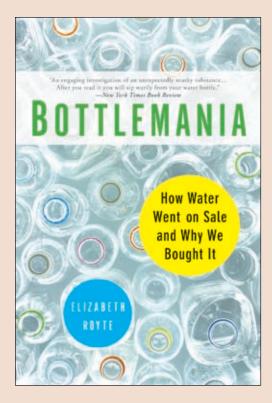
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BOTTLEMANIA

HOW WATER WENT ON SALE AND WHY WE BOUGHT IT

Elizabeth Royte

"An engaging investigation of an unexpectedly murky substance...After you read it you will sip warily from your water bottle."—New York Times Book Review

Bottled water is on the verge of becoming the most popular beverage in the country. But what's the cost of all this water—for us and for the environment? In this eye-opening book, Elizabeth Royte does for water what Michael Pollan did for food: She examines the people, machines, economies, and cultural trends that surround it on its journey from distant aquifers to our supermarkets and homes. She looks at the various sources of drinking water (including the embattled Maine town that Poland Spring exports from), the chemicals we dump into it to make it potable, and the real differences between tap and bottled. Bottlemania is the story of one of the greatest marketing coups of the twentieth century—and one of the most troubling issues facing our environment today. With a new afterword on the developing issues in clean water around the world.

Praise for Bottlemania:

"Ingenious...Amiably, without haranguing or hyperventilating, this veteran environmental writer has produced what could be...one of the year's most influential books."—*Boston Globe*

"Seamlessly blend[s] scientific explanation and social observation."—Los Angeles Times Book Review

"Entertaining and eye-opening."—Publishers Weekly



Elizabeth Royte has written for the New York Times Magazine, Harper's, National Geographic, Outside, Smithsonian, and the New Yorker. She is the author of Garbage Land and The Tapir's Morning Bath.



AMERICA EATS!

ON THE ROAD WITH THE WPA—THE FISH FRIES, BOX SUPPER SOCIALS, AND CHITLIN FEASTS THAT DEFINE REAL AMERICAN FOOD

Pat Willard

"Not unlike going out with good friends or long-lost relatives for a taste of country life."

—Christian Science Monitor

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Pat Willard takes readers on a journey into the regional nooks and crannies of American cuisine, where WPA writers were dispatched in 1935 to document the roots of our diverse culinary culture.

Pat Willard is the author of *Pie Every Day, A Soothing Broth*, and *Secrets of Saffron*, which was nominated for an IACP award for the best literary cookbook. She's written for *Bon Appetit*, *Ladies' Home Journal*, *American Heritage*, and the *Los Angeles Times*. She lives in Brooklyn.

Praise for America Eats! (An IndieBound Selection):

"Wonderful descriptions and vignettes of American group eating written by members of the Federal Writers'
Project...To this, the author has added her own thoughtful accounts as she travels across the land to discover
present incarnations of those earlier feasts."—*Boston Globe*

"The spirit of camaraderie, and the determination to not let penury rob everyday existence of the companionable joys of food, are moving and instructive 70 years on."—**Atlantic Monthly**

"[Willard's] lovingly researched book, a tribute to regional cooking, is startling, funny and lip-smackingly good."

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SHINING CITY

A NOVEL

Seth Greenland

"Sassy and knowing and irreverent...if you have room for only one entertainment this summer, let Shining City be it."—Washington Post Book World

When good guy Marcus Ripps inherits the escort service operated by his derelict brother, he finds himself pulled into a world of fast money, hookers, cops, and fabulously expensive bar mitzvahs. The only question now is, can he keep this business going long enough to change his life? Or will the cops get to him first? A wild, satiric, insightful, and hysterical romp, *Shining City* is an L.A. adventure that will keep you guessing to the very end.

Seth Greenland is the author of *The Bones*. An award-winning playwright, he has also written extensively for film and television.

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Praise for Shining City:

"Recalls the more good-natured novels of Evelyn Waugh. Greenland slows us down sometimes and makes us think about a plot in which the twists keep coming. Readers will be seduced by the combination of narrative skill, speed and sharp-pointed wit."—*Los Angeles Times*

"Rarely do novels that are so ruthlessly satiric have such a warm heart. Greenland achieves a deft balance between the preposterous and the plausible."—*Kirkus Reviews* (starred review)

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"Uproarious...Greenland's novel is entertaining and intelligent, and packed with enough hooks (and hookers) to keep readers sucked in to the last page."—*Publishers Weekly*

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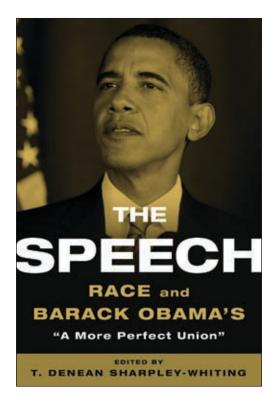
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THE SPEECH

RACE AND BARACK OBAMA'S "A MORE PERFECT UNION"

Edited by T. Denean Sharpley-Whiting

ACADEMIC MARKETING

Leading black thinkers assess the most important speech on race since Martin Luther King Jr.'s "I Have a Dream."

After Senator Barack Obama delivered his celebrated speech "A More Perfect Union," on March 18, 2008, New York Times columnist Maureen Dowd noted that only Barack Obama "could alchemize a nuanced 40minute speech on race into must-see YouTube viewing for 20-year-olds." The candidate addressed one of the biggest issues facing his campaign—and our country—with an eloquence and honesty rarely heard on a national stage.

Award-winning author T. Denean Sharpley-Whiting brings together a distinguished lineup of journalists, scholars, and public intellectuals to create a multifaceted exploration of the history-making address. The contributors' original essays examine every aspect of Obama's speech—literary, political, social, and cultural. Punctuating these essays is a three-part journalistic look at the issue of race within the 2008 campaign. The volume will also include the text of the historic speech itself.

With contributions from Michael Eric Dyson, Orlando Patterson, Glenn Loury, Ta-Nehisi Coates, and others, The Speech memorializes and gives full due to a historic speech by a historic candidate.

Praise for T. Denean Sharpley-Whiting:



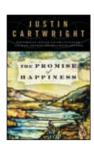
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T. Denean Sharpley-Whiting is the director of Vanderbilt University's Program in African American and Diaspora Studies and of the W. T. **Bandy Center for** Baudelaire and Modern French Studies. She is the author of four books, including the award-winning Pimps Up, Ho's Down, and the coeditor of three others, most recently The Black Feminist Reader.

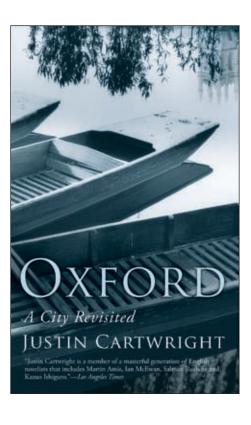
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A CITY REVISITED

Justin Cartwright

A sweeping view of the influential city of Oxford, from one of our most talented, thoughtful writers.

Oxford is a world-renowned stronghold of knowledge, a lush medieval city dotted with beautiful gardens. But it stands for something deep in our minds—excellence, a kind of privilege, a charmed life, deep-veined liberalism, a respect for tradition. In his attempt to capture the spirit of this verdant place, Cartwright has spoken to many leading figures, looked at favorite places in Oxford, and even subjected himself to an English tutorial (he performed very poorly). At the same time he has looked at some of the great debates that made Oxford what it is, and patched together the complex history of the place.

Cartwright depicts the beauty of this historic city and muses on his own experiences there. At the same time, though, this is more than an encomium to an influential place: It is Cartwright's reckoning with both age and memory. No longer a young man, he examines the walls of this old city for the shadows of his former self and, in broad, powerful strokes, delivers a reflection on the meaning of history, both grand and small.

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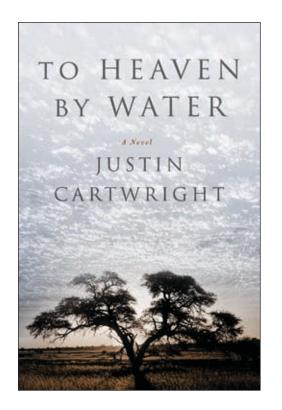
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TO HEAVEN BY WATER

A NOVEL

Justin Cartwright

With the subtlety of Ian McEwan and the pathos of Kazuo Ishiguro, a wise, compassionate novel about age, loss, and moving forward.

As he moves toward old age, David Cross finds himself living an unexpected new life. Having lost his wife, Nancy, to illness, and retired from his job as a prominent television news anchor, David is working out in the gym and becoming very thin. His children, Ed and Lucy, embarking on careers and lives on their own, suspect him of being on the lookout for a new woman. He cannot tell them that he is, in some ways, happier than he was before Nancy died.

As Ed and his dancer wife, Rosalie, struggle to conceive a child and Lucy seeks refuge from a chaotic ex-boyfriend, all of them are now forced to face their lives without the woman who was the center of the family. With their personal lives spinning out of control, they each must find a way to hold firm. And when David goes to see his estranged brother deep in the African desert, he will come to an unexpected, meaningful, and life-affirming epiphany.

Filled with rich characterization, warm humor, and shocking surprises, *To Heaven by Water* is a masterwork of great subtlety, a moving novel from a keen observer of life as we live it now.

Praise for The Song Before It Is Sung:

"A quiet masterpiece. Cartwright has written that rare thing, a novel of ideas intricately and propulsively plotted, deeply humane, elegantly readable." —Los Angeles Times Book Review

"Sensitive and elegiac."—Boston Globe



Justin Cartwright's novels include In Every Face I Meet, which was shortlisted for the Booker Prize: the acclaimed bestseller The Promise of Happiness; White Lightning, which was shortlisted for the Whitbread Novel Award: and the 1999 Whitbread winner Leading the Cheers. His most recent novel, The Song Before It Is Sung, was published by Bloomsbury in 2007 and won the prestigious London Jewish Council Award for Literature. He was born in South Africa and now lives in London.



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SLUMBERLAND

A NOVEL

Paul Beatty

"Slumberland is laugh-out-loud funny and its wit and satire can be burning...There are incredible moments of tenderness...Beatty is a kind of symphonic W. E. B. Du Bois."—Los Angeles Times

Ferocious, bombastic, and hilarious, *Slumberland* is vintage Paul Beatty and belongs on the shelf next to Jonathan Lethem, Colson Whitehead, and Junot Diaz. In this widely praised novel of race, identity, and underground music, DJ Darky has created the perfect beat. Now, he must seek out Charles Stone, a little known avant-garde jazzman, who can help bring his sonic masterpiece to fruition.

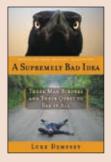
Paul Beatty is the author of two novels, *Tuff* and *The White Boy Shuffle*, and two books of poetry, *Big Bank Take Little Bank* and *Joker, Joker, Deuce*. He was the editor of *Hokum: An Anthology of African-American Humor*. He lives in New York City.

Praise for Slumberland:

"What Gore Vidal did for sex and gender constructs, Beatty does for race and prominent black Americans, with sacred cow-tipping on nearly every page. Waterfalls of wordplay that pool and merge like acid jazz on the page."—Washington Post

"A remarkably strange and funny meditation...revelatory and mind-blowing."—Seattle Times

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A SUPREMELY BAD IDEA

THREE MAD BIRDERS AND THEIR QUEST TO SEE IT ALL Luke Dempsey

"Riotously funny, utterly enthralling...Dempsey's a hoot."—Minneapolis Star Tribune

It began innocently enough, when two eccentric guests at Luke Dempsey's weekend home pointed out a small bird flitting through his garden. Dempsey, entranced, found himself falling head over heels. Before he knew it, he and his friends were off on an epic birding journey down the backroads of America, in search of the country's rarest and most beautiful birds. A Supremely Bad Idea is the hilarious story of their trip—what WildBird magazine calls "as close as we have to Bill Bryson's A Walk in the Woods."

Luke Dempsey is the editor in chief of Hudson Street Press, a division of Penguin USA. He lives in New York City. This is his first book.

Praise for A Supremely Bad Idea:

"A gentle, contemplative memoir punctuated by frequent bursts of hilarity and weirdness. At some points, the book reads like a cross between Bill Bryson and Dave Barry (or perhaps Patrick McManus), and that's a very good thing, indeed."—**Booklist**

"Dempsey succeeds where few authors do. He masterfully shows how a few chance encounters can transform a seemingly normal guy (or gal) into someone obsessed with birds." — *WildBird* magazine

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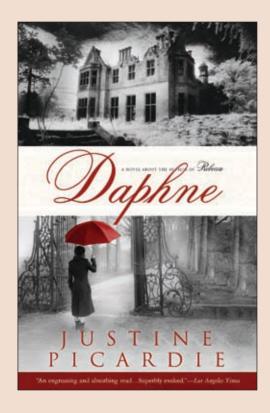
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DAPHNE

A NOVEL

Justine Picardie

"Deftly drawn. An accomplished retelling...The reader need not be a devotée of Branwell Brontë or Daphne du Maurier or even the Gothic genre to take pleasure in this novel; the butterflies are brightly colored and the display well-lit."—Washington Post

Folding biographical details of its real-life heroine, Daphne de Maurier, into a page-turning plot, *Daphne* is a deftly crafted literary mystery: a tale of obsession and possession, of stolen manuscripts and forged signatures, of love lost and love found.

Praise for Daphne:

- "An engrossing and absorbing read...Superbly evoked...Clearly Picardie has lived, breathed, eaten and drunk her heroine, absorbed her, analyzed her, understood her...investing her portrait with an authenticity that is breathtaking."—**Los Angeles Times**
- "Like a du Maurier novel, mystery and gothic plotting make the novel a page-turner...A novel for anyone who loves novels."—*Booklist*
- "This glorious novel...is a divine treat for lovers of literary mysteries."—*Times* (London)
- "An absolute gem of a novel."—Library Journal
- "Merging fact and fiction, all three narratives come together brilliantly in the end."—*More*



Justine Picardie is the author of My Mother's Wedding Dress, If the Spirit Moves You, and Wish I May, a novel. Formerly the features editor of British Vogue and editor of the Observer magazine, she lives in London and writes a column for the Sunday Telegraph.



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THE FATE OF MARIE ANTOINETTE'S DAUGHTER

Susan Nagel

"Gripping...providing new insights into a misunderstood and tragic figure."—Washington Times

After the execution of Louis XVI and Marie Antoinette, their young daughter, Marie-Thérèse, remained imprisoned. Released on her seventeenth birthday, she faced an uncertain future. Rumor spread that the traumatized princess had switched places with an illegitimate half sister, to live out her days as the mysterious "Dark Countess." Now, two hundred years later, Susan Nagel finally solves this mystery, creating a brilliant new biography of a remarkable woman who both defined and shaped an era.

Susan Nagel is the author of *Mistress of the Elgin Marbles* and a critically acclaimed book on the novels of Jean Giraudoux. She has written for the stage, screen, and scholarly journals. She is a professor of humanities at Marymount Manhattan College and lives in New York City.

Praise for Marie-Thérèse:

"Capture[s] the peculiar humanity of her subject as she evolved from princess to prisoner to decorous matron."

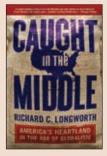
-New York Times Book Review

"This highly detailed, exhaustively researched, often riveting account will appeal especially to all those readers who've immersed themselves in the many recent books about Marie Antoinette."—**Booklist (starred review)**

"A fascinating, readable, and engrossing book that should interest general readers and scholars alike."

—Library Journal (starred review)

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CAUGHT IN THE MIDDLE

AMERICA'S HEARTLAND IN THE AGE OF GLOBALISM

Richard C. Longworth

"A superb analysis of the crisis in the Midwest and sober advice on how to alleviate, if not eliminate, the region's pain...Caught in the Middle provides a brilliant battle plan."—Chicago Tribune

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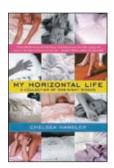




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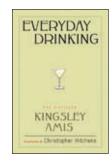
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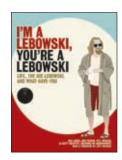
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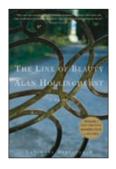
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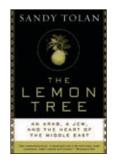
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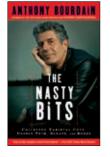
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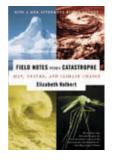
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