

AEVITAS

Creative Management

Spring 2026 Nonfiction Rights Guide



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UPCOMING BUSINESS & ECONOMICS



MISSION READY

How to Build Teams That Perform Under Pressure

By Lindy Elkins-Tanton

NA

April 2026 / Basic Venture (Hachette) / US Editor: Emily Taber

Final PDF Available

The leader of a major NASA mission provides a practical guide to developing teams that excel in high-stakes situations

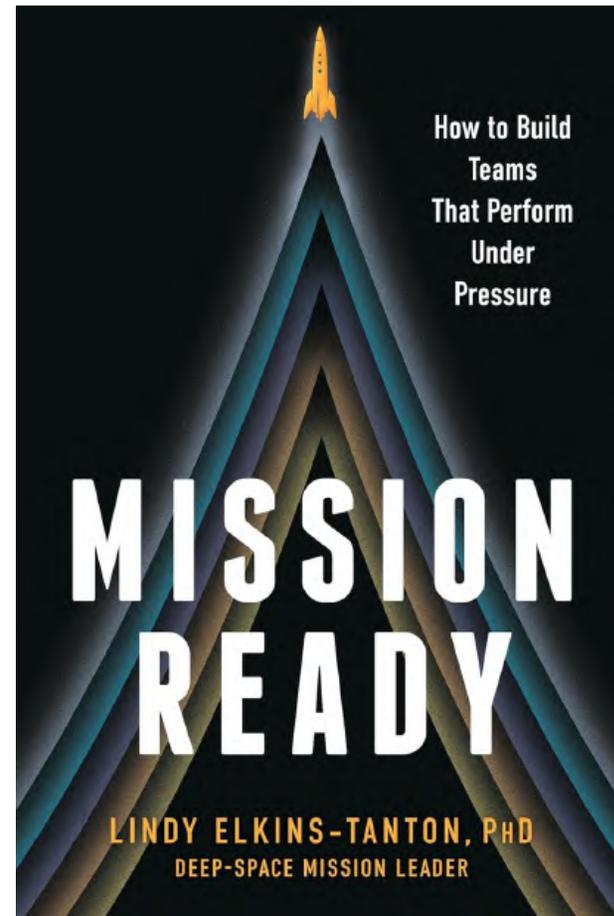
Lindy Elkins-Tanton leads NASA's Psyche mission, a \$1.2 billion megaproject that sent a spacecraft on an eight-year journey to investigate an asteroid between Mars and Jupiter. Along the way, she has managed challenges ranging from potentially catastrophic technological malfunctions and overbudget subcontractors to fraught email chains about who clogged the toilet. And she did it all while building an extraordinary team culture. In *Mission Ready*, Elkins-Tanton shows other leaders how to do the same.

Mission Ready provides a blueprint for building strong teams capable of delivering exceptional results in high-pressure situations. Leaders set the tone, but every team member determines both their own success and the success of the team. Drawing on social science, cognitive science, and organizational science research, Elkins-Tanton gives practical advice on how both individual contributors and leaders can excel. Even for projects that don't involve launching a rocket into space, the lessons in this book will help readers guide their teams to new heights.

Lindy Elkins-Tanton is a professor at UC Berkeley, director of the Berkeley Space Sciences Laboratory, and lead of the NASA Psyche mission. She has spoken about teams and leadership to numerous organizations and business and professional conferences around the globe such as Aerospace Corporation, Mayo Clinic, Space X, and at Jeff Bezos' invitation-only MARS (Machine-learning, Automation, Robotics, and Space) conference, AAPG Energy Transitions Forum in Amsterdam, Carnegie Institute, Congreso Futuro in Chile, DesTechAZ with Steve Wozniak, the Dubai World Government Summit, the Explorers Club, the Global Explorer's Conference in Lisbon, the Royal Society in London, and many others.

Previous Publishers:

Korean (Next Wave)



"Space missions fail for human reasons—and succeed because of them. Elkins-Tanton delivers a model for leadership that shows how clarity, kindness, and courage lead to mission success for any team."

—**Bob Smith, former CEO, Blue Origin**

"Read it, then send a copy to all your team members."

—**Bob Metcalfe, Ethernet inventor and Turing Laureate**

"A practical guide—with checklists, surveys, and actionable advice—but the real experiences and examples chronicled by Elkins-Tanton are what bring these valuable lessons to life." —**Deepak Kamra, general partner, Canaan Partners**

Praise for Lindy Elkins-Tanton's *A PORTRAIT OF A SCIENTIST AS A YOUNG WOMAN*:

"Fierce, absorbing, and ultimately inspiring." —**Elizabeth Kolbert**

"[A] riveting book, beautifully written." —*Washington Post*

"A deeply personal and enlightening book of one amazing woman's leadership and teachings in science and self-discovery." — **Col. Chris Hadfield, former Commander of the International Space Station and #1 Bestselling Author of *An Astronaut's Guide to Life on Earth*** "

"[A] beautiful and inspiring memoir." — *Christian Science Monitor*

"Engaging. ... This memoir chronicles the journey of one woman in science but is also a rallying cry to make academia a more supportive and diverse workplace so that the research community can better address the societal and scientific challenges of the 21st century." — *Science*

TECH MONEY

A Guide to the New Game of Technology Investing

By Igor Pejic

WE

May 2026 / Diversion Books / US Editor: Dan Ambrosio

Final PDF Available

Rights Sold:

Korean (Woongjin Think Big) Simplified Chinese (CITIC)

A chart-driven, practical guide from award-winning tech-finance expert Igor Pejic that shows investors how to beat the market by mastering the cycles of technology.

Technology has redefined the global economy and created trillion-dollar companies at breakneck speed. From AI and blockchain to crypto and Big Tech, fortunes are being made—and lost—every day. But for most investors, figuring out how to ride the next wave remains a mystery.

In *Tech Money*, Igor Pejic—internationally recognized expert on the intersection of technology and finance—provides a clear, evidence-based roadmap. Through 100 carefully curated charts, Pejic explains how to recognize and realize “technology alpha”: the outsized returns generated by tech-driven investments. He demonstrates how to distinguish winners from hype, identify the sweet spot in the technology life cycle, and manage the risks of volatile sectors.

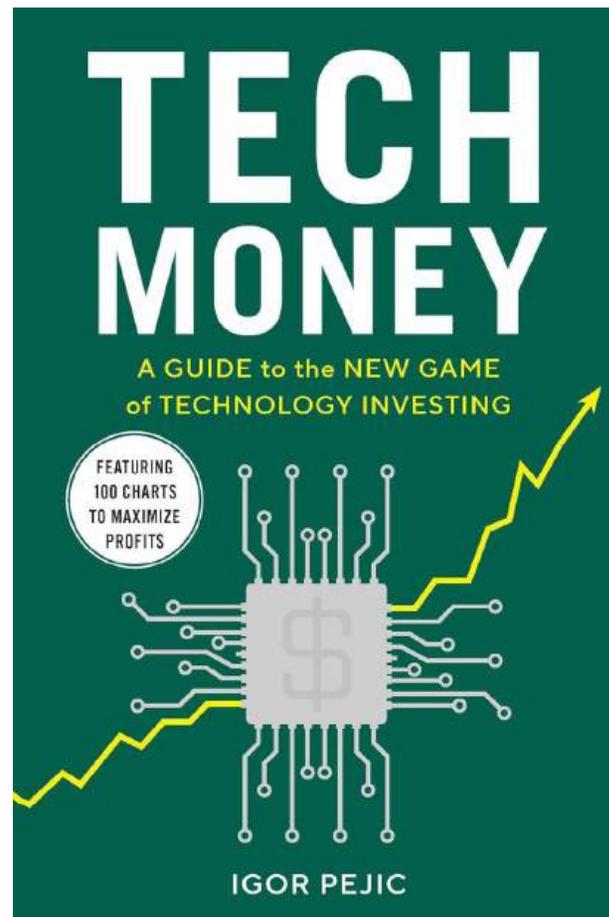
Pejic combines rigorous research with insights from top investors, entrepreneurs, and technologists to reveal the rules of the new investment game. From spotting asymmetric opportunities in crypto to timing entries into frontier tech, readers will learn to harness the very cycles that confound even Wall Street veterans. Whether you’re a retail investor, financial advisor, or executive deciding where to place tech dollars, *Tech Money* offers the systematic framework to grow wealth in the innovation economy.

Previous Publishers of Igor Pejic:

Portuguese (ubook)

Vietnamese (Năm xuất bản)

Spanish (ubook)



Igor Pejic is a leading expert on tech-driven shifts and money, as well as an award-winning author, keynote speaker, and banker. He reaches thousands of devoted followers through his Substack newsletter, *The New Frontier*. He speaks globally at conferences, corporations, banks, and universities. His articles and interviews regularly appear in *Bloomberg*, *Forbes*, *The New York Times*, *American Banker*, and more.

ALL THE DIFFERENCE

Six Leadership Actions to Bridge Perspectives, Strengthen Teams, and Create Value

By Susan Brady, Stuart Kliman, and Leslie C. Smith

WE

July 2026 / Harvard Business Review Press / US Editor: Jeff Kehoe

Edited MS Available

Rights Sold:

German (Vahlen Verlag / Beck)

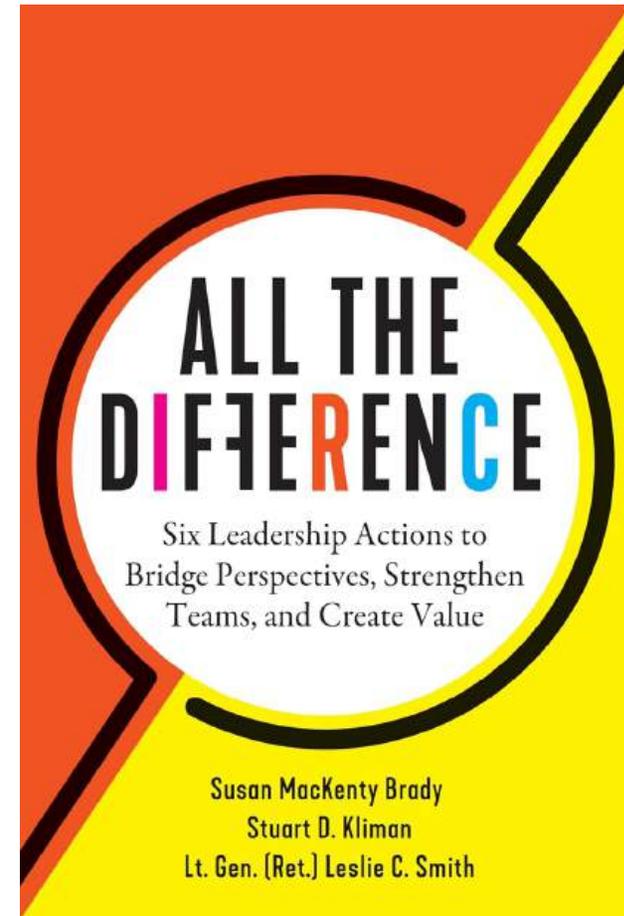
A leadership playbook for leveraging team differences to boost connection, performance, and results.

Look around your team. You see people with different communication styles, perspectives, cultural norms, and capabilities. These differences are expressed in all kinds of ways—a casual gesture in a meeting; a colleague's opinion on a current event; an intense work style—and can often lead to friction, even conflict. You try to manage around them, but what if these differences are the key to your team's success?

In *All the Difference*, bestselling author and head of the Simmons University Institute for Inclusive Leadership Susan MacKenty Brady, business negotiation expert Stuart D. Kliman, and retired US Army lieutenant general Leslie C. Smith reveal that leaders must shift their view: Difference is not just noise to tolerate—it's the raw material for creating value. It's true, they argue, that when difference isn't understood or acknowledged, it breeds disconnection, draining performance and potential. What's needed is a leadership strategy for turning human difference into your organization's greatest strength.

With examples from frontline leaders, current research, and insights from their own experiences, the authors provide a framework of six "target actions" that will help you uncover and leverage the productive power of difference on your team: from "Know You—Leverage Your Best Self & Help Others Do the Same" to "See the Full Story and Honor Multiple Perspectives" to "Commit to Action—Demonstrate and Create Accountability."

Our teams have never been more complex, and the challenge of leading them has never been more urgent. *All the Difference* is your playbook for transforming your team and creating a thriving organization in a world full of difference.



Susan MacKenty Brady is a global leadership expert, speaker, and CEO of the Simmons University Institute for Inclusive Leadership. She advises organizations worldwide on cultivating high-performing, human-centered cultures and is the coauthor of the *USA Today* and *Wall Street Journal* bestseller *Arrive and Thrive*.

Stuart D. Kliman is a founder and senior adviser at Vantage Partners, a midsize consulting and training organization in Boston. He is an expert in behavioral change management and collaboration and an alumnus of the Harvard Negotiation Project.

Leslie C. Smith is a retired United States Army lieutenant general; the Vice President for Leadership, Education, and Programs at the Association of the United States Army; a visiting leadership professor at Georgia Southern University; a corporate board member; and the LV Smith Corporate Group CEO.

CLOSING THE FULFILLMENT GAP

How to Design the Work Life You Want

By Helen Krug von Nidda

WE

September 2026 / Post Hill Press / US Editor: Debby Englander
Edited MS Available

The list of pressures working women face feels endless. There are glass ceilings and broken rungs. Women are passed over for promotions at a higher rate than men. In addition to their already overfull work schedules, they are asked to be responsible for the lion's share of their homelives. Is it any wonder that studies show that women are exiting the workplace at a record rate, citing burn out, lack of balance, and limited pathways to success as the reasons for their mass exodus?

On top of that, we are all told we need to find purpose—but for many women, that feels impossible. Dr. Helen Krug von Nidda, a sought-after executive coach working at the intersection of career empowerment and leadership, offers a radical new idea: Women should stop obsessing about discovering an elusive and ever-unreachable purpose, and instead prioritize fulfillment.

Enter *Closing the Fulfillment Gap*. Helen's book and MOVE framework will appeal to women who've read Angela Duckworth's *Grit* and Sheryl Sandberg's *Lean In* and felt these authors only solved part of the puzzle—and who want to be able to combine their own definitions of success in their work and home lives. In the pages of *Closing the Fulfillment Gap*, Helen will explain the four pillars of her framework, combining clear guidelines for each with proven strategies and activities that allow women to fully explore who they want to be and how to develop their own unique path to get there. Woven throughout are empowering examples of women who refused to be defined by traditional definitions of success and instead used Helen's MOVE Framework to reimagine their lives.

The Founder and CEO of With Helen, a coaching practice focused on elevating women in the workplace, **Dr. Helen Krug von Nidda** holds a Doctorate in Education from Columbia University, a Master's in Human Resources Management, and is a certified Coach and licensed Career Counselor. In addition to one-on-one coaching, she speaks regularly at conferences and organizations that include L'Oreal, Novo Nordisk, Nestle, LinkedIn, Dell, and more. Helen is an instructor at Stanford, a career coach at IMD Switzerland, has taught at Columbia University, and served as a Learning Coach at INSEAD for the Gender Diversity Programme.

ACM Agent: Jane von Mehren and Donya Dickerson

THE ORIGIN OF A LEADER

Turning Family Patterns into Leadership Power

By Pam Manfredo Curtis

WE

September 2026 / Simon Acumen(S&S) / US Editor: Stephanie Hitchcock
Proposal Available — Edited MS Fall 2025

For too long our culture and corporations themselves have rewarded leaders for their critical and analytic thinking, strategic problem solving, and intellect. Pam Manfredo Curtis knows that isn't enough—doing the work to understand and transform their past, unpack their emotions, and build their feeling muscles are the key elements of truly extraordinary leaders.

In the exclusive world of global leaders, Pam Manfredo Curtis is regarded as an elite executive coach and a corporate game changer, one who CEOs enthusiastically recommend to one another. Her blue-chip clients report that her unique approach is the most effective they have ever seen.

Pam believes that our childhood environment is the true predictive mirror of how we show up as leaders—in fact, she says, 80 percent of the time it is the main prognosticator. And her proprietary approach involves mining the childhoods, hearts, and souls of her clients so they can reach their full potential. When she starts working with a new client, she asks them how they grew up, what were their childhood important relationships, and what are the seminal events in their lives? The answers to these questions and more, form the foundation from which she helps transform managers into great leaders.

After more than thirty years working with thousands of top leaders, Pam wants to share her secrets and approach with a broad readership. Combining psychology, like such bestsellers as Brené Brown's *Dare to Lead* and Daniel Goleman's *Emotional Intelligence*, with a leadership development framework, like James Kouzes and Barry Posner's *Learning Leadership* and John Maxwell's *Developing the Leader Within You, Rewire For Success* is destined to become a bestselling leadership classic that generations of leaders and would-be leaders will turn to again and again throughout their careers.

Dr. Manfredo Curtis is an elite executive coach. Drawing upon her natural emotional intelligence and degrees in business and industrial and organizational psychology, Dr. Manfredo Curtis empowers leaders around the globe to transform organizations and achieve benchmark results.

ACM Agent: Jane von Mehren

THE POWER TO DESTROY

How Bad Economics Drives American Decline

By James K. Galbraith

WE

Septemer 2026 / Unversity of Chicago Press / US Editor: Chad Zimmerman
Proposal Available — Edited MS Summer 2026

American economic decline has begun. Does anyone know it?

The twenty-first century has been a reckoning for the US economy. From the last days of neoliberalism to the creeping isolationism of Donald Trump, the country's economic policies have demonstrated a belief in the everlasting power of the United States. The question is whether they're right.

In this startling work, the renowned economist James K. Galbraith offers a sobering vision of the United States in transition, a country at once diminished in its power and emboldened by its crude economic tools. *The Power to Destory* argues that conventional economic policies are increasingly ill-equipped to counter the daunting challenges of our moment—external threats like climate and war, domestic threats like inflation and financial breakdown—and how the unacknowledged limits of economic policies are accelerating the end of the US economy as we know it.

Galbraith makes clear that policy holdovers from the twentieth century, especially those focused economic indicators like employment and prices, offer little hope in the face of today's more existential threats. While the US economy remains centered on markets, the country must also account for the fact that governments make the conditions that make markets possible. Expanding economic conventions, including unprecedented interventions on supply and production, will determine the survival of the US economy.

James K. Galbraith is professor at the Lyndon B. Johnson School of Public Affairs at the University of Texas at Austin. His previous books include *Entropy Economics* and *The End of Normal*.

Recent Publishers of James K. Galbraith

Brazilian Portuguese (Alta)

Japanese (Hayakawa)

French (Editions du Seuil)

Simplified Chinese (CITIC)

ACM Agent: Wendy Strothman & Lauren MacLeod

EMPIRE OF INFLUENCE

The Life and Business of This Century's Media Master

By Claire Atkinson

NA

Spring 2027 / Grand Central / US Editor: Karyn Marcus
Proposal Available — Edited MS Summer 2026

Rights Sold:

Dutch (Maven)

Polish (Marginesy / Bonnier Poland)

German (Langen Müller)

Turkish (Pegasus)

Italian (Piemme)

UK/Comm (Transworld)

Veteran journalist Claire Atkinson offers the portrait of Rupert Murdoch that no one has yet revealed, nuanced and balanced: grappling with him as a tenacious yet perennially unsatisfied man, a formidable business leader, and a once-in-a-century business legend.

Covering the full arc of his life and career, Murdoch will explore what drives this relentless workaholic - an Oxford University graduate with a disdain for the elite and an uncanny ability to connect with the man on the street. Atkinson excavates the legacy Rupert leaves to the world of politics and communications—and to his grown son Lachlan Murdoch, now solely in charge of Fox and News Corp.—and offers insight into the complicated relationships that inspired *Succession*, leaving millions desperate for the real story and insight into how the final chapters of the Murdoch drama will play out. A major biography that will explore the incredible, full story of Rupert Murdoch, the businessman who fought his way to the center of global power.

Claire Atkinson is founder of the media, tech and marketing focused podcast and newsletter The Media Mix. She is currently a contributing editor at Hollywood publication The Ankler and most recently, the New York-based Chief Media Correspondent at Insider. She has written about the media business for three decades from both the US and Europe with credits including *The New York Times*, *The Independent* and *The Observer*, among many others. Atkinson worked at Murdoch's News Corp. for seven years as a media reporter on the *New York Post* business desk covering mergers and acquisitions and writing a weekly Sunday business column.



ACM Agent: Bridget Wagner Matzie

AEVITAS 10

THE POWER OF UNCERTAINTY

Unlocking the Hidden Strength of the Unknown

By Arabella S. Begin

UK

Spring 2027 / Mudlark (HarperCollins UK) / UK Editor: Joel Simons
Proposal Available — Edited MS Fall 2026

Rights Sold: Romanian (Publica)
Korean (Prunsoop) USA (Pegasus)

What if we could learn to harness our relationship with uncertainty and use it to our advantage? What if our greatest weakness, could become a source of strength?

From climate crisis to a fluctuating economy; outbreaks of civil unrest and global conflict to pandemics, few aspects of the human condition have proven as intractable, or as destabilising, as our struggle with uncertainty. In our personal lives, too, the unknown intrudes relentlessly: a sudden job loss, an unexpected diagnosis, worries about finances, retirement, or a child's future. For over two decades, Dr. Begin has been investigating how humans respond to uncertainty—and why those responses so often lead us astray. Drawing on her experience as an Oxford-trained physician, educator, and researcher, her groundbreaking work explores the evolutionary, psychological, and cultural forces that shape our craving for certainty, revealing how discomfort with not knowing drives anxiety, premature closure, and error across medicine, leadership, and everyday life.

Dr. Begin not only shares her fascinating insights—combining cutting-edge research with vivid stories from hospitals, cockpits, boardrooms, athletic fields, and creative industries—but also offers a powerful reframe. She shows that uncertainty, when engaged with skilfully, can sharpen judgment, improve performance, deepen trust, and enhance wellbeing. Blending science with practical wisdom, Dr Begin provides the evidence-based strategies and tools to embrace and leverage uncertainty—not merely to endure it, but to use it as a catalyst for better judgment, stronger performance, and greater wellbeing. At a time when the world feels more volatile than ever, *The Power of Uncertainty* offers an authoritative, and deeply human guide to navigating the unknown—and discovering the hidden strength it contains.

Dr. Arabella S. Begin is an Oxford-trained medical doctor, academic, and educator, with a PhD in Pharmacology from the University of Oxford and a Master's in Medical Education from Harvard Medical School. A former frontline clinician in adult, paediatric, and neonatal medicine, she is now a tenured Fellow and Director of Medicine at Lincoln College, Oxford.

ACM Agent: Jen Gates

MENTORS AND MENTEES

Unlocking the Hidden Strength of the Unknown

By Tyler Cowen

NA

Fall 2027 / St. Martin's Press (Macmillan) / US Editor: Tim Bartlett
Proposal Available — Edited MS Spring 2027

Rights Sold: Complex Chinese (Commonwealth)

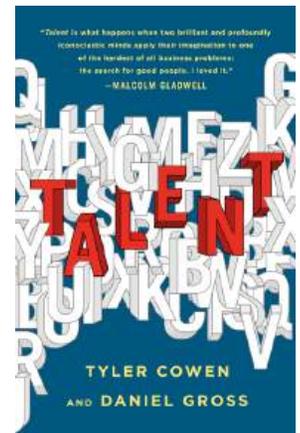
In today's chaotic times, Tyler Cowen believes that being a good mentor and a good mentee is essential knowledge. Not only does it help individuals navigate their own lives and careers, but it also has the potential to create substantial social benefits.

Mentors and Mentees will teach readers everything about what good mentors do, how to find the right mentors, and how to be both a good mentor and mentee—and what not to do. As Tyler points out in the attached pages, we are never too old for mentors, and even as young people, we have knowledge and insight to share that will be of value for mentees who are much older than we are. Filled with stories about mentor/mentee relationships from history as well as Tyler's own life, this book will be an empowering and positive resource for readers across generations and industries. And as someone who spends a lot of time among tech and finance (especially venture capitalist) leaders, Tyler will address mentorship in the age of AI—how it might change, but also why is it more essential than ever.

Tyler Cowen (Ph.D.) holds the Holbert C. Harris chair in economics at George Mason University. He is the author of a number of books and writes the most read economics blog worldwide, marginalrevolution.com.

Previous Publishers of Tyler Cowen's TALENT:
Brazilian Portuguese—Alta Books
Complex Chinese—Commonwealth
Italian—EGEA
Japanese—CrossMedia Publishing
Russian—Mann, Ivanov and Ferber
Simplified Chinese—Cheers
UK/Commonwealth—Nicholas Brealey / Hodder

ACM Agent: Jane von Mehren



AEVITAS 11

**UPCOMING
ILLUSTRATED, GIFT &
COOKBOOK**



COMPOST AFTER READING

A Practical Manifesto for Purposeful Decomposition

By Cassandra Marketos



WE

March 2026 / Timber (Hachette) / US Editor: Makenna Goodman
Final PDF Available

Get started on your composting journey with this practical, accessible, and fun guide to reducing your waste—including this book when you finish reading!

Composting is so much more than just transforming food into soil; it is deeply existential, radical, and soul-opening. And no, it's not just for gardeners. You can compost in a bowl on your kitchen counter, or a bag under your sink, and you can compost things you're told you can't (although there are some things you probably shouldn't). Everyone can compost. And even if you're not going to compost at all, knowing about compost is engaging with a dialogue about zero waste.

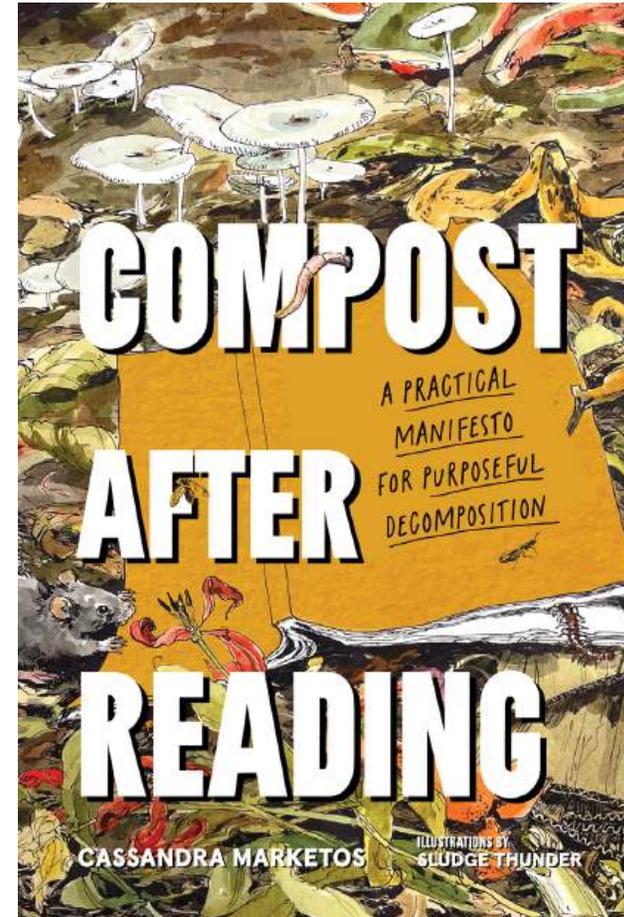
With wry and brilliant writing, Cassandra Marketos brings the culture, beauty, community, and philosophy of compost to life in this one-of-a-kind, inventive work of narrative nonfiction that brings compost out of the dark ages and into the contemporary moment. Delightfully philosophical and inviting, it is an accessible guide to everything you need to know about compost, with actionable advice for beginners and experienced composters. You will learn why compost works, where to put your compost, how to pick your compost set up, the basics of decomposition, what to put in a compost pile, where to source your compost materials, and how to build a pile. With insights on what tools to consider, how to deal with odors, insects, and other critters, and transitioning your compost pile for colder weather, find easy-to-follow compost pile designs, tips on composting in small spaces, composting with worms, and how to compost things you're always told you can't (you just need to know how).

This book has something for everyone, at any stage in their compost journey, and includes edgy, delightful illustrations by the artist Sludge Thunder throughout. And ... it's literally compostable. Read it, follow the advice, and toss it into your compost pile.

Cassandra Marketos is a certified Naturalist and UC Master Gardener. She has extensive experience as a community composter and compost consultant in Los Angeles, CA and has a wide network of artists and professionals.

ACM Agent: Bridget Wagner Matzie

Page Count: 256



"Marketos dispels all the myths about compost in this book, addressing the practical concerns that can intimidate people in the most charming, approachable, fun, and even philosophical ways. Rather than promoting any specific method, *Compost after Reading* lays out a range of options and encourages a spirit of experimentation and discovery."—**Sandor Ellix Katz**, bestselling author of *The Art of Fermentation*

"I am a compost freak and evangelist and so is Marketos. She is also a great writer; this book has lots of soul searching and philosophical thoughts about one of the most important things we all should be doing."—**Jeff Lowenfels**, author of *Teaming with Microbes*

"In a world where everything everywhere is expected to happen instantly, *Compost After Reading* encourages slowness, observation, and sensuousness. I can hardly think of a more urgent message in today's climate."—**Fanny Singer**, author of *Always Home* and founder of Permanent Collection

SINCE YOU'RE MORTAL...

Life Lessons from Long Lost Greek Plays

By James Romm

NA

May 2026 / W.W. Norton / US Editor: Dan Gerstle

Final PDF Available

Rights Sold:

Greek (Pedio)

*Since you're mortal, expect to endure mortal things;
or do you, mere human, think you should have a god's life?*

—Euripides

Acclaimed classicist James Romm translates surviving pieces of timeless wisdom from the lost plays of ancient Athens.

"The truly happy man ought to stay at home." "Hunger, and lack of coin, put a stop to love." "Hades, alone of the gods, does not enjoy bribes." These quotes—and hundreds of others from the great Greek dramatists, including Sophocles, Aeschylus, and Menander—were preserved in the fifth century AD, when a man named Stobaeus compiled an anthology to inspire and instruct his son. The quotes were pithy packets of wisdom expressed in eloquent verse and selected with a father's discerning eye: some prompt "aha" moments, others offer wit or dark humor, still others give moral insight. In *Since You're Mortal . . .*, James Romm is the first to translate fragments saved by Stobaeus as poetry for modern English-language readers. Vividly rendered and beautifully presented, this volume serves as an ages-old but timeless guide to living a thoughtful, virtuous life.

James Romm is a Bard College classicist and author of *The Sacred Band*, *Ghost on the Throne* and *Plato and the Tyrant*.



Praise for James Romm:

"Excellent...a deft and engaging work of history, philosophy and biography"

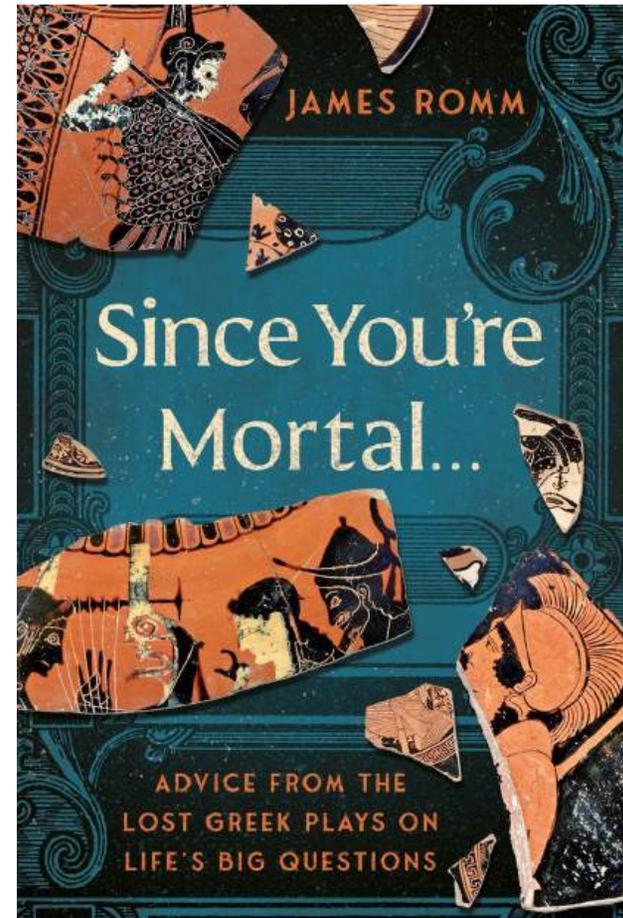
—*The Washington Post* (PLATO AND THE TYRANT)

"[W]ide-ranging and ambitious... scholarly rigour and literary flair"

—*Times Literary Supplement* (PLATO AND THE TYRANT)

ACM Agent: Nate Muscato

Page Count: 208



"Romm charts all the reversals and alliances with the skill of a great detective."

—*Los Angeles Times* (GHOST ON THE THRONE)

"Thrilling... a careful work of fine scholarship."

—*The New Criterion* (GHOST ON THE THRONE)

"Romm, a Bard College professor, has an unusual knack for writing about ancient history for general readers"

—*The New York Times* (THE SACRED BAND)

"[Romm] deftly pieces the story together ... Mr. Romm negotiates artfully in fluent, accessible prose.

—*Wall Street Journal* (THE SACRED BAND)

UPCOMING MEMOIR



ON FIRE FOR GOD

Fear, Shame, Poverty, and the Making of the Christian Right - a Personal History

By Josiah Hesse

WE

January 2026 / Pantheon (PRH) / US Editor: Denise Oswald

Final PDF Available

One part *Educated*, one part rebuttal to *Hillbilly Elegy*, *On Fire for God* explores the ways evangelical Christianity has preyed upon its followers while galvanizing them into the political force known today as the Christian right.

“Of all the books I’ve read about young people devastated by the fundamentalist religion they’ve grown up with, this one stands out.”— Frances FitzGerald, Pulitzer Prize-winning author of *The Evangelicals*

Exvangelical journalist Josiah Hesse grew up in the stifling working-class town of Mason City, Iowa, raised in the institutions of fundamentalist Christianity: a toxic mixture of schools, ministries, and religious camps that taught creationism, instilled sexual shame, and foretold horrific tales of the rapture. In the churches where he worshipped, pastors siphoned their flocks’ wealth while preaching a doctrine of prosperity. Meanwhile, as economic struggles grew in the community, Hesse’s fellow believers lambasted organized labor and shunned the social safety net, becoming an army for God against the evils of progressivism. Only upon escaping Iowa in search of something more would he consider the possibility that the world wasn’t about to end and that he was woefully unprepared for a future he’d never believed would arrive.

Written in vivid prose, *On Fire for God* is both an unflinching memoir of religious trauma and survival and a stirring examination of the emotional, political, and sociological effects of the Christian right. Returning to his hometown in search of answers about his upbringing and the political forces at work in the region, Hesse calls into question prevailing theories about the disappearing working class that point to opioids, automation, or globalism as the culprits. His story of awakening and escape exposes how conservative Christian con men have, over generations, trapped working-class believers in an isolated bubble of racism, xenophobia, and self-imposed martyrdom, while stripping communities like his of their wealth and self-esteem. In *On Fire for God*, Hesse plumbs the depths of his own experience to illuminate, with deep feeling and piercing immediacy, what he describes as the socioeconomic tragedy of the American working class.

ACM Agent: Laura Nolan

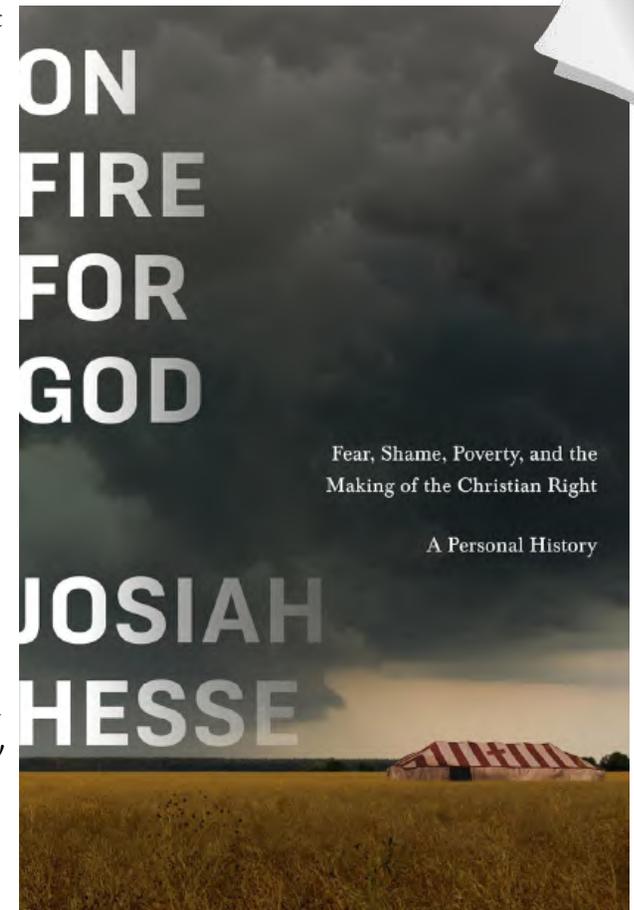
Page Count: 320

“There is no book in print that I know of with the exception of Atwood’s *The Handmaid’s Tale* that so completely captures the utter depravity of the Charismatic and Pentecostal movements’ impact on ordinary Americans. But the Republic of Gilead that Atwood invented is nothing compared to the brutal reality Hesse exposes.”— **Frank Schaeffer, author of *Crazy for God***

“Eye-opening. Evocative. Readers who’ve wrestled with their faith or finding home will find this inspiring.”—***Publishers Weekly***

“Recommended for readers interested in the impact of the religious right.”—***Library Journal***

Josiah Hesse is a freelance journalist in Denver, Colorado. He writes about politics, marijuana and evangelical culture and theology, and is a regular contributor to the *Guardian*, *Esquire*, and *Vice*. He’s also had bylines in *Politico*, *High Times*, and *The Denver Post*, and is the senior editor of the Denver arts and literature magazine *Suspect Press*.



“BOTH A SURVIVAL STORY AND A CULTURAL HISTORY.”
—STEPHANIE WARREN,
The Strong-Willed Child
and host of *Focus on Your Own Family*

“MIGHT BE THOUGHT OF AS THE ANTIDOTE TO J.D. VANCE’S HILLBILLY ELEGY.”
—KIRKUS

“A sharp cultural eye and serious journalistic chops to the telling of his HEART-BREAKING PERSONAL STORY.”
—LINDA KAY KLEIN,
author of *Pure*

AEVITAS 16

THIS THUG'S LIFE

An Unapologetically Black Story

By Mopreme Shakur

WE

February 2026 / Kensington / US Editor: Denise Silvestro

Final PDF Available

Rights Sold:

Russian (AST)

The first-ever insider account of the Shakur family, the iconic hip hop group T.H.U.G. L.I.F.E., and the life and death Tupac Shakur – written by Mopreme Shakur, the legendary rapper's big brother and eldest son of Black liberation activist Mutulu Shakur.

Maurice. Little Mutulu. Mogie. Mokedes. 'Preme. Wycked. Mopreme Shakur has been known by many names. Fitting for a multi-hyphenate like Mo: hip hop artist and sole surviving member of T.H.U.G. L.I.F.E. and Outlaw Immortalz, soldier, writer, husband and father, filmmaker, record producer, and the big brother of, and co-collaborator with, the legendary Tupac Shakur, the greatest rapper of all time. The one thing Mo hasn't done—until now—is to tell his story, one of complex family relationships, fame, tragedy, politics, musical innovation, and brotherly love.

Born in Flushing, New York, in 1967 and raised in South Jamaica, Queens, Mo got an early education in what it meant to be a man of righteous New Afrikan values imparted by his activist and healer father, Mutulu. The son of revolutionry, Mo's childhood was rife with upheavals, inspiration, dramatic highs and lows, and unbreakable bonds of love. None stronger than when he met his new baby brother, Tupac. Mutulu said, "This is your brother. Hold his hand." Over the more than two decades that followed, Mopreme never let go. As Tupac rose to transcendent heights in the industry, Mo was on Pac's team as writer and collaborator, producer, stage-hand, and sibling confidante. Everything Pac did, Mo was there—right up until the day Pac's life was cut short in a drive-by shooting in Las Vegas.

In his memoir, Mo shares not just an intimately personal story of family, but also one of resilience, a quest for racial justice informed by decades of struggle for Black liberation long before the Black Lives Matter movement, and of two brothers who rose from the streets to become icons. It's insightful, inspirational, powerful, and authentically and unapologetically Black. As Mo himself would say: dig that!

ACM Agent: Jon Michael Darga

Page Count: 320

"If you wanna know Tupac's story, the best way would be to listen to Tupac tell it. The second best way is through his brother Mo." —**Boots Riley, filmmaker and rapper**

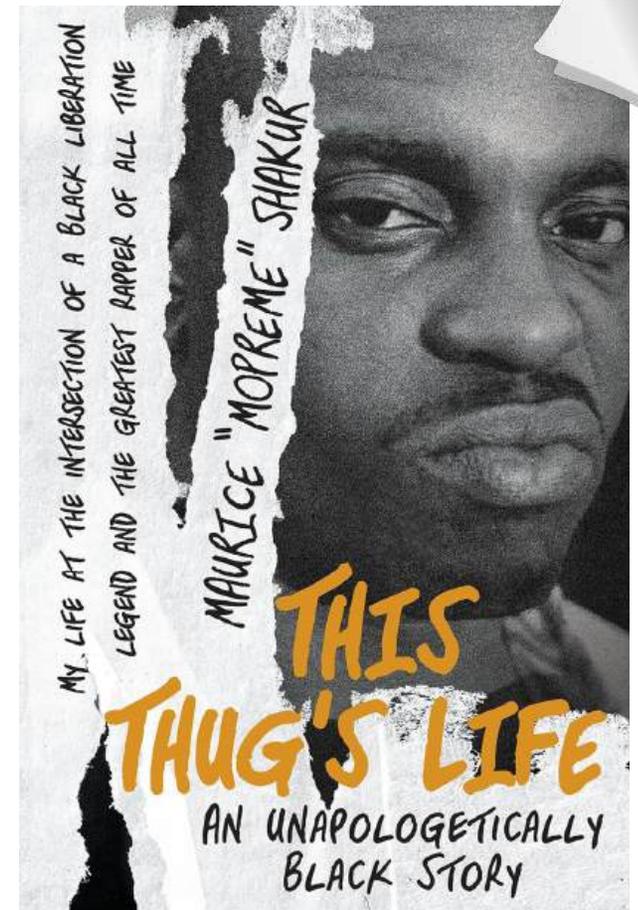
"Smooth, sincere, and above all substantive." —**Peter DiStefano, guitarist, Porno for Pyros, The Psychedelic Furs, Lance Herbstrong**

"His voice is authentic, honest and uniquely his." —**Jada Pinkett Smith, Emmy Award-winning actress**

"A beautiful story of legacy and liberation, brotherhood and artistry, *resilience* and survival." —**Ray Luv, rapper, producer, and songwriter**

"Both testimony and tribute. A son's remembrance, a brother's reflection, and a man's reckoning with legacy. Mopreme Shakur shares a deeply personal look at love and survival from inside the Shakur family." —**Regina King, Academy, Golden Globe, and Emmy Award-winning actress**

Mopreme Shakur is a solo rapper and member of T.H.U.G. L.I.F.E. and Outlaw Immortalz, a writer, producer, and performer who played a crucial role in the production, recording, and release of all of Tupac Shakur's albums, both during his life and posthumously. A crucial keeper of his brother's legacy, he has appeared in and produced/consulted on "Tupac Assassination," "American Gangster," "Who Killed Tupac?", "Hip Hop Evolution," "Unsolved: The Murders of Tupac and the Notorious B.I.G." and "Dope is Death," which premiered at the prestigious Brooklyn Academy of Music. Mopreme is currently producing a feature documentary about the influence of T.H.U.G. L.I.F.E. in music, popular culture, politics, and beyond.



AEVITAS 17

EVEN THE GOOD GIRLS WILL CRY

A '90s Rock Memoir

By Melissa Auf der Maur

NA

March 2026 / Da Capo (Hachette) / US Editor: Ben Schafer

Final PDF Available

Rights Sold:

Spanish (Liburuak)

UK/Comm (Atlantic UK)

A remarkably open-hearted, clear-eyed memoir of the '90s Alternative era by the bassist of Hole and The Smashing Pumpkins

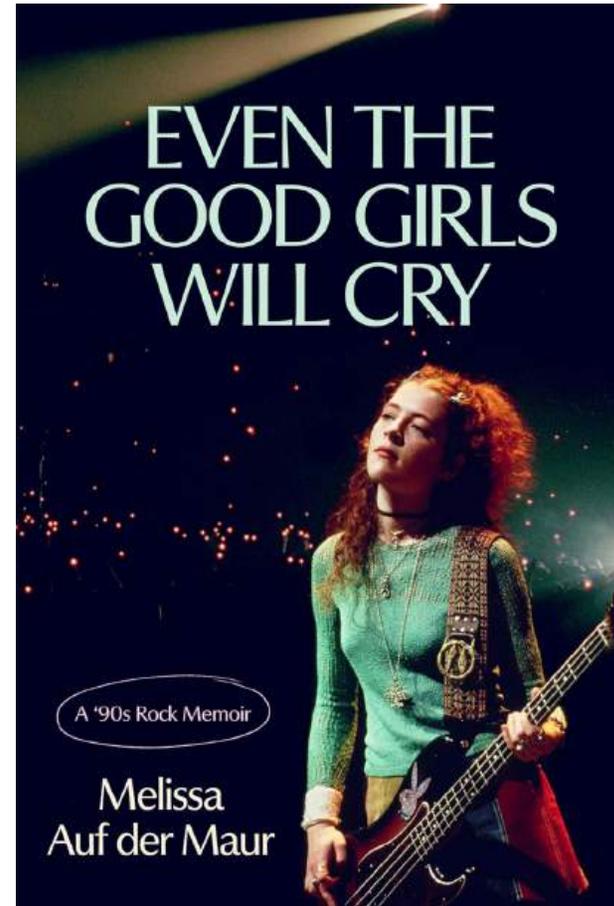
Even the Good Girls Will Cry begins with Melissa Auf der Maur's bohemian upbringing in Montreal, where her early, deep connection to art and music gave her entry to the colorful and thriving local creative scene. Working as a cassette DJ and ticket girl, she would see (and sometimes meet) the luminaries who'd pass through town—Nirvana, Jane's Addiction, Pavement, Sonic Youth. Thanks to a long-shot fan letter to a P.O. BOX, her band Tinker scored a life-changing opening slot for The Smashing Pumpkins and, sensing her natural talent on bass, Billy Corgan recommended her to Courtney Love. Melissa joined Hole for the band's 1994 world tour, just one of the many uncanny threads that weave destiny throughout this riveting memoir.

Whisked from her local scene and thrust into the eye of a hard-living hurricane of grief on a global stage, Melissa joined Hole just after the deaths of Kurt Cobain and Hole's prior bassist, Kristen Pfaff, with the just-widowed Courtney Love at the center of it all. It was a tour of passionate intensity, as a chaotic yet stunningly powerful band constantly threatened to spin out of control. Melissa brings the reader with raging intimacy right into the action, offering a heroic portrait and a long overdue, full-throated defense of the unforgettable, iconic intensity and brilliance of Courtney Love, as she howled into the darkness as if to keep grief at bay. We're also treated to unforgettable portraits of other icons and luminaries of the era, like Michael Stipe, Marilyn Manson, Dave Grohl, Rufus Wainwright, Drew Barrymore and more. An accomplished photographer, Melissa catalogued this era, and more than 50 of her stunning, never-before-seen photos complement the narrative.

Part rock memoir, part travel diary, part psychedelic scrapbook, *Even the Good Girls Will Cry* is a behind-the-scenes rock 'n' roll memoir with a soulful intimacy and mystic undertone that sets it apart. It is a vivid dispatch from the last analog decade, artistically capturing that bygone era in all its messy, angsty glory.

ACM Agent: David Kuhn & Nate Muscato

Page Count: 432



"Our '90s fever dreams were beautiful but they were also brutal and only the good girls, like Melissa, have the guts to tell you that."—**Shirley Manson, lead vocalist of Garbage**

"Fearless, loyal, and radiantly alive, Auf der Maur brings the same fire to her writing that she does to her life."—**Natasha Lyonne**

"As if through the lens of her camera, Melissa shows us a female experience of rock and roll where we as women rarely get to sit at the table and share in the spoils."—**Martha Wainwright, musician and author**

"Illuminating... refreshingly pure of heart... a rollicking look at a bygone era."
—**Publishers Weekly**

"Both a portrait of an artist and a crucial generational document of what it meant to be a woman in a band (and not just a band: the band). All the things we want from a rock memoir are here in spades... but Auf der Maur's phenomenal powers of observation, and of self-observation, elevate things to a whole other level."—**Matthew Specktor, author of *The Golden Hour, Always Crashing in the Same Car, and American Dream Machine***

"Auf der Maur is a superb writer, and also a tender one. . . . will appeal to alt-rock fans, yes, but also to anyone who has dealt with loss and redemption. A compassionate memoir that offers much more than '90s nostalgia."—**Kirkus Reviews**

Melissa Auf der Maur is a critically acclaimed singer-songwriter, best known as the former bassist of rock bands Hole and The Smashing Pumpkins. In 2007, VH1 included her as #68 on the list of "100 Greatest Women of Rock & Roll."

AEVITAS 18

WHO NEEDS FRIENDS

An Unscientific Examination of Male Friendship Across America

By Andrew McCarthy

NA

March 2026 / Grand Central (Hachette) / US Editor: Suzanne O'Neill
Final PDF Available

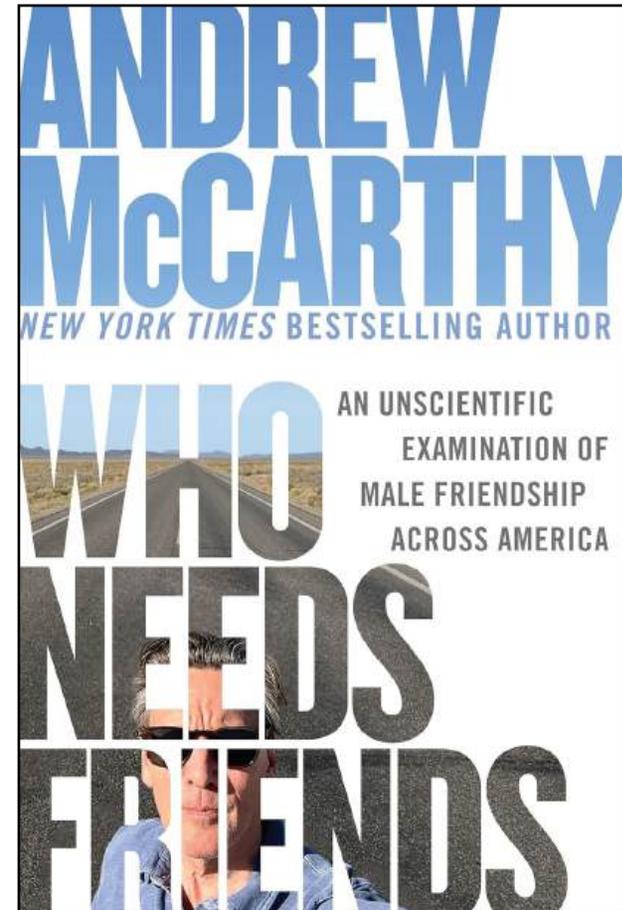
A moving and provocative exploration of male friendship and loneliness, from *New York Times* bestselling author, filmmaker, and actor Andrew McCarthy as he crisscrosses the country to reconnect with his friends.

"You don't really have any friends, do you, Dad?"

A seemingly innocuous, if direct, question from Andrew McCarthy's son left him reeling. McCarthy did have friends, but like so many other men, the necessities of modern adult life had forced his friendships to the background. At one point his friends had been instrumental in broadening his horizons, bolstering his courage, providing safe harbor. Now, McCarthy found himself questioning what had happened to those friendships, whether he needed them, what he valued, and what he had to offer. A simple question had become a moment that demanded a reckoning.

Who Needs Friends charts McCarthy's journey over nearly ten thousand miles behind the wheel, following him on often-unexpected travels through Appalachia, the Mississippi Delta, the Chihuahuan Desert, the Rocky Mountains with one driving purpose: to reconnect. Along the way he talks to countless men about their male friendships, from cowboys and blues musicians to preachers and rootless teens. What began as a simple desire to catch up with a few friends turned into a deep exploration of the challenges and rewards that men experience in forming bonds with each other. In McCarthy's own words, "It turns out that guys have a difficult time with friendship." But that's not the way it needs to be.

Andrew McCarthy is the author of four books, *Walking With Sam*, *Brat: An '80s Story*, *Just Fly Away*, and *The Longest Way Home* — all *New York Times* best sellers. He is an award winning travel writer and served for a dozen years as an editor-at-large at *National Geographic Traveler* magazine. Andrew has directed scores of television shows, his recent documentary, BRATS, debuted at #1 on Hulu. He is perhaps best known as an actor for the past four decades, appearing in such iconic films as *Pretty in Pink* and *Less Than Zero*. He lives in New York.



"*Who Needs Friends* is a wonderful story, beautifully told. An important book about friendship, and loyalty, and men telling each other the truth most of all. When you finish it, you will want to reconnect with an old friend of your own, I know I did." —Mike Lupica, #1 *New York Times* Bestselling Author

"Thoughtful and well written—and a good prompt to call an old friend."
—*Kirkus Reviews*

Previous Publishers of Andrew McCarthy:
Spanish (Larousse / Hachette)
Australia/New Zealand (S&S Australia)

THIS IS NOT ABOUT RUNNING

A Memoir

By Mary Cain

NA

April 2026 / Mariner (HarperCollins) / US Editor: Rakia Clark

Final PDF Available

By one of the fastest runners of her generation, an affecting, brutally honest memoir of elite sports gone wrong—and a clear-eyed call for how parents, coaches, and young athletes themselves can build a healthier youth sports culture.

Few women have ever run 800 meters in under two minutes. Even fewer people have taken on running's abusive training culture and won. Mary Cain has done both.

She emerged as a running phenom at age 12, a straight-A student obsessed with Greco-Roman mythology and the freedom she felt when she ran fast. Like any middle-schooler, she just wanted to fit in, so she learned to run through the discomfort of hard training sessions, and the confusion of her coaches' and teammates' bullying. And she was overjoyed when, at 16, Alberto Salazar called to invite her to train with the famed Nike Oregon Project.

Cain was poised to transform the sport, Salazar told her. She resolved to hold on to his favor, even as he insisted she lose weight and push through the pain of emerging injury. For years, she excelled, setting records against elite runners twice her age. The Olympics were in her sights.

But off the track, Cain was crumbling. She snuck granola bars in the middle of the night and sank into a deep depression as injury after injury set in. Finally, she left the Oregon Project, telling herself she just needed a break. A chorus rang out across the running community: What happened to Mary Cain?

Now, with her suit against Nike behind her, Cain is ready to share her side of the story—and to flip the script on abuse in youth sports. She draws on her diaries from this wrenching period of abuse to show, with clarity we rarely see, how young minds respond to the win-at-all-costs culture that pervades youth sports today. By turns raw, wry, and impassioned, *This Is Not About Running* is a fierce memoir of the damage wrought when we prioritize competition over mental health.

ACM Agent: Lauren Sharp

Page Count: 288

"A wake-up call for the entire sports world... not just a moving, courageous memoir about the dark side of elite sports. It's a demand for a better, safer future for all performers." —**Steve Magness, bestselling author of *Do Hard Things***

"Mary's book is entirely in her voice, uninhibited and, finally, after years feeling silenced and afraid, she is fearless." —**Alexi Pappas, Olympian and author of *Bravey***

"The best books change how we think, and Mary Cain has done just that." —**Michelle Wolf, writer and comedian**

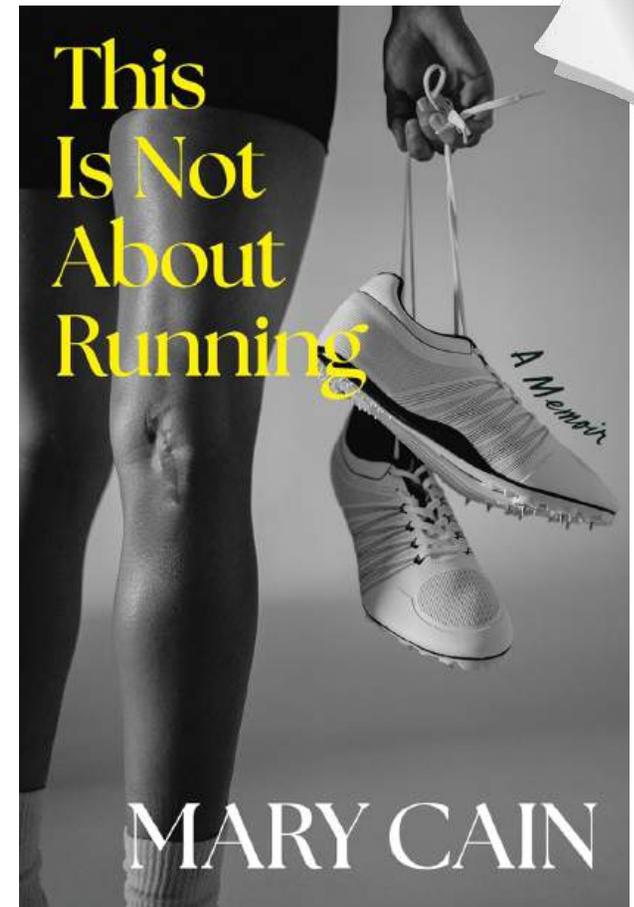
★ **STARRED REVIEW, PUBLISHERS WEEKLY** ★

"A raw account.... Cain's memoir grippingly charts her path from glory to disillusionment to despair and back. It's a powerful and haunting testimonial."

"Forthright.... Cain's courageous and candid memoir may help older teens and student athletes recognize red flags of abuse in sports culture." —**Booklist**

"A brave and deeply important contribution to the conversation around how we treat women in sports. Cain's voice forces an honest reckoning, reminding us that real progress requires confronting silence and holding both systems and people accountable." —**Allyson Felix, seven-time gold medal Olympian**

Mary Cain is a professional runner and advocate for mental health in sports. At age seventeen, she became the youngest American athlete to represent the US at the track and field World Championships. She currently attends Stanford Medical School.



AEVITAS 20

SALT SWEAT & STEAM

The Fiery Education of an Accidental Chef

By Brigid Washington

NA

April 2026 / St. Martin's Press (Macmillan) / US Editor: Elizabeth Beier

Final PDF Available



Rich with detail, *Salt, Sweat & Steam* takes readers inside America's top culinary school and shows what's really required to become a chef: from brutal unpaid internships and gruelling practical exams to late-night vending machine dorm-room dinners while trudging through the rarefied world of fine wine. As editor of the school's newspaper, "La Papillote" Washington, a Trinidadian, meets and interviews food-world luminaries such as Jerome Bouse, Daniel Boulud and Thomas Keller and savors the joys of a life devoted to food. She puts us all in her kitchen clogs as she finally achieves the perfect mise-en-place both in and out of the dignified kitchen of The Culinary Institute of America.

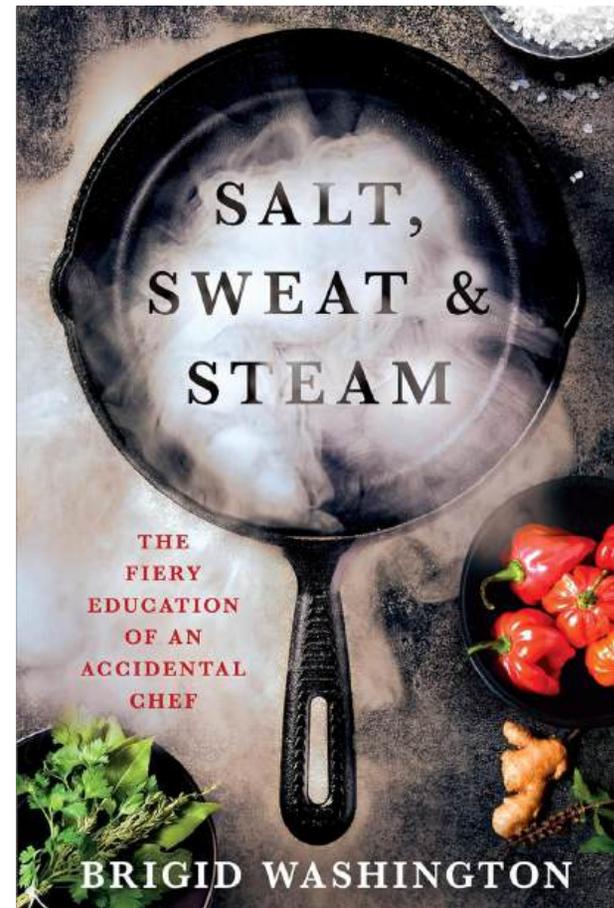
Unwilling to accept a future that was anything but delicious, readers follow along Washington's high-octane journey through the rigors and rewards of the country's most elite cooking school.

Brigid Washington is a Trinidadian food writer who has covered a variety of topics, including Caribbean food and culture as it intersects with life in the United States. A graduate of the Culinary Institute of America, Washington is the author of *Coco-nuts. Ginger. Shrimp. Rum and Caribbean Flavors for Every Season*. Her writing has appeared in *Bon Appetit*, *Food & Wine*, *Garden & Gun*, *Harper's Bazaar*, *Southern Living*, *The New York Times*, and a number of other publications. She serves as the vice chair of the journalism committee for the James Beard Foundation. She lives with her husband and two children in Raleigh, North Carolina.

"Brigid's a passionate, eloquent, talented food writer who easily stumbled into the elegant storytelling of real life. Her writing situates us in the drama, scholarship, and intimacy of food. What a joy and a gift she and her talent are." —**Kelsey Barnard Clark, Top Chef winner**

ACM Agent: Karen Murgolo

Page Count: 304



"Brigid Washington knows food's power to tell more evocative stories and deepen connections between people. Brigid reminds us to think about what foods best define who, and where, we come from." —**Julia Turshen, New York Times bestselling author**

"Homesick and heartbroken, Brigid Washington enrolls in an elite cooking school and brings us along for the delicious ride. *Salt, Sweat & Steam* is a breathtaking culinary roller coaster, and there's plenty of mouthwatering meals and zippy, yes-chef drama. But this is an immigrant love story above all, and Washington—funny, tender, and hungry—must find her way back to the flavors of home."

—**Catherine Newman, author of *Sandwich* and *Wreck***

"What truly makes *Salt, Sweat & Steam* exceptional is that it is told from the point of view of a young, female, Trinidadian student. It is a fascinating narrative that is a welcome addition to the list of coming-of-age tales."

—**Jessica B. Harris, Ph.D. Professor emeritus Queens College/CUNY, Lecturer, culinary historian, and author of *High on the Hog***

THINGS UNSEEN

The Legacy of My Grandfather, Jimmy Carter

By Jason Carter

WE

May 2027 / Little, Brown (Hachette) / US Editor: Alex Littlefield

Edited MS Available Fall 2026

In a time when we could all use a reminder of unwavering values and principles, former Georgia State Senator Jason Carter offers a candid, often humorous, and deeply personal portrait of his grandfather. Drawing on his many experiences with the president, both as a child and through adulthood, Jason offers readers an intimate glimpse into the president's everyday family life and, most importantly, the life lessons he learned at the knee of one of the greatest men of a generation.

Things Unseen will build on the astounding eulogy of Jimmy Carter delivered by Jason at the Washington National Cathedral in January 2025 before all five living presidents and many of the world's most prominent leaders. This widely viewed eulogy showcased Jason's quietly commanding voice and wry humor – a presence readers will recognize on the page.

Jason Carter will, through vivid storytelling, reveal the profound importance the president placed on the use of time, his intense curiosity about the lives of others (no matter their station in life), his general disregard for material things, his love of nature, the role of faith in his life - all examined in light of the president's policies and legacy. But the book will also discuss, among other topics, a prickly side of the president, who was at times imperial and demanding even with his own family, as well as the simple but powerful political advice offered to Jason during his gubernatorial run in 2014. Jason Carter provides a perspective on our thirty-ninth president that has never been offered before, by a man entrusted by Jimmy Carter and the Carter family to carry on his grandfather's legacy.

Jason Carter is an American lawyer, politician, and the grandson of former U.S. President Jimmy Carter. He serves as the Chairman of The Carter Center Board of Trustees.

ACM Agent: Rick Richter



BENEATH THE SAME STARS

A Memoir

By Shazna Nessa

NA

July 2027 / Blackstone / US Editor: Vikki Warner

Full MS Available — Edited MS Spring 2027

When Shazna Nessa was sixteen years old she vanished from her life in London. Without warning or the chance to tell friends and teachers, her family put her on a flight to Bangladesh, where they kept her against her will for months, under constant surveillance, until they could force her to marry a man of their choosing. Shazna had been a diligent student with dreams of attending Oxford, but she found herself torn from life as she knew it before she could even take her A' Level exams. One morning, just hours before her family planned to leave Dhaka for their home town of Sylhet, a full day's drive away, she made a daring escape.

Shazna's harrowing story made headlines across the UK. She was featured in a BBC2 documentary about forced marriage and her story ultimately helped create a set of laws that now forbid child marriage in the UK and in many places across the world. Since then, she has written briefly about her escape, but by and large she chose to set her past aside, not wanting to stir up any drama with her family. But after many years and the loss of both of her parents, Shazna is now ready to share her full story for the first time.

Beneath the Same Stars, which will not only recount her kidnapping and escape in vivid detail, but will also trace how the specter of forced marriage cast a shadow over Shazna's life since she was a young girl. *Beneath the Same Stars* tackles her story and the topic of child marriage head-on, in an unforgettable way, but at its core is a story of survival, which Shazna weaves with nuance, compassion, and searing honesty. It's also an exploration of the ambiguity within our society and community's distinctions of right and wrong, prompting us to consider how the lines between love and deceit can blur.

Formerly a masthead editor at *The Wall Street Journal*, **Shazna Nessa** began her career at the *Associated Press* and later worked with *Condé Nast's Portfolio* magazine. Born in London, she's taught at the journalism schools of the City University of New York and Columbia University, and has presided on advisory boards including the Tow Center for Digital Journalism at Columbia University, The New School, and the International Women's Media Foundation. From 2020 to 2022, she served as president of the Online News Association.

ACM Agent: Bridget Wagner Matzie & David Kuhn

THIS UNKNOWN TERRITORY

A Memoir

By Lidia Schapira, MD

NA

Fall 2027 / Pegasus / US Editor: Jessica Case

Proposal Available — Edited MS Spring 2027

An urgent new memoir, *This Unknown Territory* will tell the story of medical oncologist Lidia Schapira's collaboration with her patient Julie Goldman, a young Harvard-educated anthropologist. Together, they rigorously analyzed the assumptions, expectations, and failures of the US healthcare system across the final years of Julie's life. Along the way, Lidia will share her own perspective on what's broken in medicine and how it can be fixed. Intimate and moving, this memoir will appeal to readers of Suleika Jaouad's *Between Two Kingdoms*, Dr. Michele Harper's *The Beauty in Breaking*, and Paul Kalanathi's *When Breath Becomes Air*.

Julie walked into Lidia's office for her first consultation in late 1994. She had just been diagnosed with Stage I breast cancer and was deciding who would be on her care team. Among her questions that day, she wanted advice on how to fire a surgeon: was there an etiquette she should follow? It was an unexpected turn in the conversation and hinted at Julie's unique ability to create intimacy even in a clinical interaction. *This Unknown Territory* will tell the story of how Lidia treated Julie with chemotherapy in the months that followed and how they came to trust and understand one another.

Julie went into remission in 1995, but fourteen months later, Lidia got a call from Julie's primary care doctor in Boston. Her cancer had returned and spread to her liver—it was now Stage IV, meaning it was treatable but not curable. *This Unknown Territory* will show how Julie's perspective changed and how she changed Lidia's perspective on doctor-patient communication, end-of-life care, and what it means to be a doctor.

Through every stage of her celebrated career, Lidia has been seeking answers to the same fundamental questions about her calling as a healer. Today, it is more important than ever to ask what patients and doctors owe each other, how we think about hope and healing when confronted with a life-altering diagnosis, and how we communicate in every clinical interaction.

Lidia Schapira, MD, is a medical oncologist and the director of Stanford University's Cancer Survivorship Program.

ACM Agent: Jack Haug

HARD TO KILL

A Memoir

By Karen Mills

NA

Spring 2028 / Pegasus / US Editor: Jessica Case

Proposal Available — Edited MS Fall 2027

A collection of death-defying essays that prove what doesn't kill you only gives you great material, by Tennessean Karen Mills, a beloved stand-up comedian with a 750K+ social media following, scores of viral clips shared by millions, and hundreds of tour dates and speaking gigs per year.

The stories in *Hard to Kill* take on relatable "deadly" experiences, like growing up different (Karen was "the Tom-ist of boys" in Southern belle country), the mortification of adolescence, shattering break-ups and the Wizard of Oz-like "I'm melting!" of menopause. Karen has also survived ovarian cancer and a near fatal car accident—not to mention many slow painful deaths on stage. She has bounced back every time, thanks to her grit, pets, friends, Friends, and finding the humor in any circumstance. Her values of determination and staying true to yourself really shine in *Hard to Kill*. Many times, other people and her own doubts nearly killed her dream to become a collegiate basketball star at 5'2", and later, to make a living as a polite woman in comedy. But she went on to become a Hall of Fame baller, nearly making the Olympic team. In her career, she started out as a road comic, crisscrossing the country in her Honda Del Sol, going club to club for \$50 a gig. But with her never-say-die spirit, she persisted, and now Karen performs at the Grand Ole Opry, tours arenas for sold-out shows as the headliner or the opening act for A-listers Leanne Morgan and Nate Bargatze.

Despite Karen's long history of using tragi-comic tales in her act, she has been guarded about important aspects of herself, like being gay. In *Hard to Kill*, she will reveal all, serving healing laughter, some tears, and inspiration for readers to be cheerful bouncers when life knocks them on their butts. In *Hard to Kill*, Karen shows readers that we all have a choice: We can live in fear or learn to laugh at it.

Karen Mills, a self-proclaimed crazy dog lady, has performed on the iconic stage of the Grand Ole Opry and toured alongside comedy sensation Leanne Morgan. In the last three years, she's delighted sold-out arena crowds in over 150 cities, with another nationwide tour lined up. Her Dry Bar Comedy special "Baby Got Bad Back" has amassed over 30M views.

ACM Agent: Valerie Frankel

HOLDING MY HEART OUTSIDE MY BODY

Scenes from a Life in Art

By John Cameron Mitchell

NA

Spring 2028 / Da Capo (Hachette) / US Editor: Ben Schafer

Edited MS Available Fall 2027

The first book from provocateur John Cameron Mitchell, who has spent the last three decades standing center stage in musical theater, television, and film.

John's projects, from indie darlings to mainstream hits, have defined and redefined cutting-edge culture—perhaps best-known among them the rock musical and film *Hedwig and the Angry Inch*, which earned six Tony awards, two Sundance Awards, and a Golden Globe nomination. Whether playing Hedwig, an aspiring rock star coming to terms with her forced sex reassignment surgery; directing the iconic *Shortbus* (2006), an erotic comedy devoted to John's conviction that sex is "too interesting to be left to porn"; or embodying cult sensation Joe Exotic in Hulu's limited series *Joe vs. Carole* (2022), John's body of work sets the standard for performance that breaks boundaries, whether those of genre or gender.

John will chart his remarkable life in gorgeous prose, from crafting queer creative spaces on the dance floors of New York's club scene to caring for his complicated Catholic mother during her battle with Alzheimer's to sitting down for coffee with Samuel Beckett. *Holding My Heart Outside My Body* will offer readers an intimate look into John's iconic works but even more so into his heart and mind, as only literature can. Woven through John's narratives of coming-of-age and making art and community in a nearly disappeared version of New York's downtown avant-garde are profound questions and insights about the nature of creativity and what it means to stand up for what you believe, no matter what's in fashion. What a gift to see the world as John sees it; his keen and empathetic eye for human difference, for all the hilarious, outlandish, and valuable deviances that make us who we are, is instructive and inspiring.

John Cameron Mitchell is an actor, director, and writer.

ACM Agent: David Kuhn



GROWING UP MANSON

One Son's Search for Identity Beyond His Father's Shadow

By Mike Brunner

NA

Spring 2028 / Grand Central (Hachette) / US Editor: Colin Dickerman

Proposal Available — Edited MS Fall 2027

Growing up in a small Midwestern town with his grandparents, Mike Brunner had no idea of his ties to one of the most infamous and politically charged criminals of the 20th century. The Tate-LaBianca murders may have riveted the nation and served as a backdrop to countless documentaries, films, and bestselling books, but to Brunner, *Manson* - unknown to him by name - was just an absent father he knew nothing about. That is, until the third grade, when, after the airing of *Helter Skelter*, a classmate passed Mike an ominous note: *Your father is a murderer.*

We all deal with the legacy of our parents in some form, but what does it mean to carry the legacy of a man like Charles Manson? On that day, Mike Brunner began a lifelong journey to reconcile his father's heinous crimes with his own identity. At first, he tried to ignore the connection - after all, his grandparents had told him his mother, "family member" Mary Brunner, had merely fallen in with a bad crowd. Over time, though, he visited his mother in jail, forming a fragile bond, and more and more of his friends discovered his lineage. Then Manson himself chillingly reached out. Brunner felt he had no choice but to confront his father's past if only to form his own understanding of his mother, Charlie, and the depth of their crimes, unjauniced by sensationalized media.

Growing Up Manson will be a revelatory experience for the millions around the world who remain captivated by Charles Manson. Brunner will include exclusive new materials (postcards, letters, etc., from Manson) and all new interviews with Manson's "family members", including his mother, who has not spoken publicly. He'll talk with those involved in his birth and rescue from the Spahn ranch, musicians who associated with Manson during his short-lived musical career, and many others as he works to discover who his father really was and how, if at all, he can come to terms with his father's legacy.

Mike Brunner was born into one of the most infamous legacies in American criminal history as the biological son of Charles Manson and Mary Brunner.

Lisa Pulitzer is a *New York Times* bestselling author and veteran ghostwriter.

ACM Agent: Rick Richter

AEVITAS 24

UPCOMING NARRATIVE NONFICTION



THE PEOPLE CAN FLY

American Promise, Black Prodigies, and the Greatest Miracle of All Time

By Joshua Bennett

WE

February 2026 / Little, Brown (Hachette) / US Editor: Bryn Clark

Final PDF Available

What does it mean to be deemed promising in an unjust world? The award-winning poet and MIT Distinguished Chair of the Humanities interrogates this question—and offers a more expansive vision of giftedness—in this striking, original work.

What does promise cost in America? Especially when that promise is seen as grounds to separate us from the communities we cherish, and framed as the key to success, salvation, survival? In *The People Can Fly*, Dr. Joshua Bennett explores the complex position of black prodigies in a society that has, all too often, defined blackness as absence, as lack of intellect or inner life.

Through this hybrid work of memoir and cultural history, Dr. Bennett shares how his own academic journey reflected the ebb and flow of being seen as both promising and as a problem. He turns to the childhood archives of Malcolm X, Stevie Wonder, Gwendolyn Brooks, James Baldwin, Nikki Giovanni, and others to further explore this theme: highlighting the role of cultural institutions, and loving communities, in shaping the lives of leading lights within African American culture. What's more, Dr. Bennett clarifies how these spaces—these mentors, teachers, friends, and kin—helped defend young people from a world that sought to exclude them from its vision of promise and possibility.

With stunning prose and grace, *The People Can Fly* is an urgent reflection on what it means to be gifted, and to give one's gifts away, in the present day. It is a praise song for generations of black dreamers who dared to imagine another world—where miracles abound, and ascension is only the beginning.

Dr. Joshua Bennett is the author of *The Sobbing School*, which was a National Poetry Series selection and a finalist for an NAACP Image Award. He is also the author of *Being Property Once Myself*, *Owed*, *The Study of Human Life*, and *Spoken Word*. He has received fellowships and awards from the Guggenheim Foundation, the Whiting Foundation, the National Endowment for the Arts, and the Society of Fellows at Harvard University. He is a Distinguished Chair of the Humanities at MIT.

ACM Agent: David Kuhn & Nate Muscato

Page Count: 272

The People Can Fly



American Promise, Black Prodigies,
and the Greatest Miracle of All Time

Joshua Bennett

"A celebration of Black brilliance and the truth that we rise highest when we rise together... Bennett cements his legacy as a brilliant writer and a guiding light for our world."—**Anna Malaika Tubbs**, *New York Times* bestselling author of *The Three Mothers* and *Erased*

"With a singularly expansive and compassionate view of history, Bennett sweeps across generations of joy, suffering, and connection."—*Lit Hub*

"A tender celebration of vulnerability and the strength that blooms quietly in its presence."—*The Atlantic*

"Joshua Bennett's astounding, dolorous, rejoicing voice is indispensable."
—**Tracy K. Smith**, Pulitzer Prize-winning author of *To Free the Captives*

"Bennett renders this lush history in lively, captivating prose, smoothly transporting us back to the city blocks, bars, cafes and stages these artists traversed and inhabited." —*New York Times*

"The People Can Fly will levitate your mind and enrich your soul...Not only is it a joy to read, but it's an honor to be taught by one of the most prolific professors on the planet. This book is a masterclass in literature and a necessary reminder to cherish the child in all of us."

—**Lena Waithe**, Emmy Award-winning actor, producer, and screenwriter

SALT LAKES

An Unnatural History

By Caroline Tracey

NA

March 2026 / W.W. Norton / US Editor: Matt Weiland

Final PDF Available

Rights Sold:

Korean (Eleven Books)

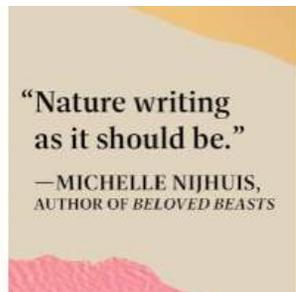
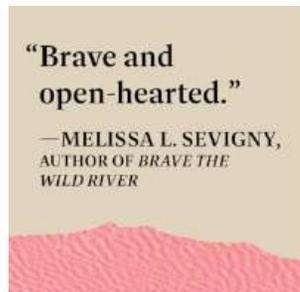
An acclaimed young nature writer's intimate exploration into the history and imperiled future of these neglected—but—crucial ecosystems.

Salt lakes are some of the world's most extraordinary ecosystems, but nearly all of them—from the Great Salt Lake to the Aral Sea—are drying up, a harbinger of dust storms, rising sea levels, and worsening human health. In this dazzling love letter to strange and delicate waters and a moving odyssey into her own identity, Caroline Tracey takes readers across the American West and to Mexico, Argentina, and Kazakhstan to document salt lakes, their loss, and the efforts underway to save them. She explores how the lakes have reflected the fast-changing natural world through Mormon diaries, Soviet realist novels, and Australian Aboriginal paintings. And she unravels the lakes' lessons for her own life as she finds queer love and a sense of home in an imperfect world.

An unforgettable coming-of-age story and an exquisite work of nature writing, *Salt Lakes* is a moving call to fight for all that is fragile in our lives.

"*Salt Lakes* is a perceptive, poetic ode to one of our planet's most vital, and most overlooked, ecosystems. Caroline Tracey plumbs law, science, and literature in a debut as gorgeous and vibrant as the lakes she loves."

—Ben Goldfarb, author of *Crossings*



ACM Agent: Bridget Wagner Matzie

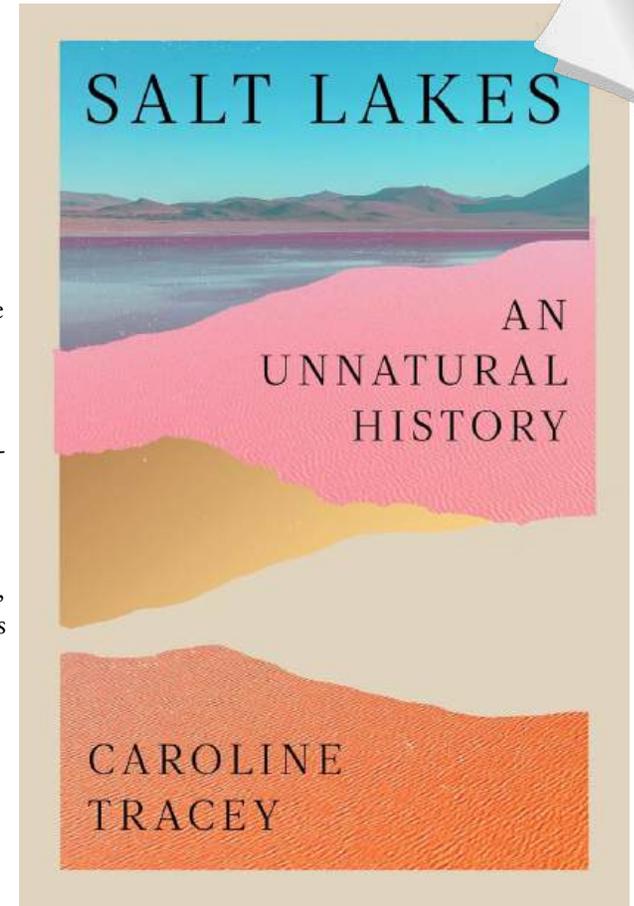
Page Count: 288

"*Salt Lakes* is not just a book of nature writing, not just a memoir, but like the salt lakes themselves, something much more wondrous and precious. Caroline Tracey leads readers through her growing understanding of herself and the strange beauty of the ecosystems around her, and along the way reminds us of the abundance and possibilities inherent in queer lives and landscapes."

—Alejandra Oliva, author of *Rivermouth: A Chronicle of Language, Faith, and Migration*

"Precise, lyrical, and at once deeply personal and epic, *Salt Lakes* brims with brine shrimp and birds and charismatic bacteria—and an unexpected sense of life pushing through against the odds. I was gripped from the first page to the last." —Bathsheba Demuth, author of *Floating Coast: An Environmental History of the Bering Strait*

Caroline Tracey's work in English and Spanish has appeared in the *New Yorker*, *New York Review of Books*, and elsewhere. She holds a PhD in geography from University of California, Berkeley, and lives in Tucson, Arizona.



YOU'VE CHANGED

The Promise and Price of Self-Transformation

By Benoit Denizet-Lewis

NA

April 2026 / William Morrow (HarperCollins) / US Editor: Mauro DiPreta

Final PDF Available

Rights Sold:

Korean (Woongjin Think Big) UK/Commonwealth (Allen Lane)

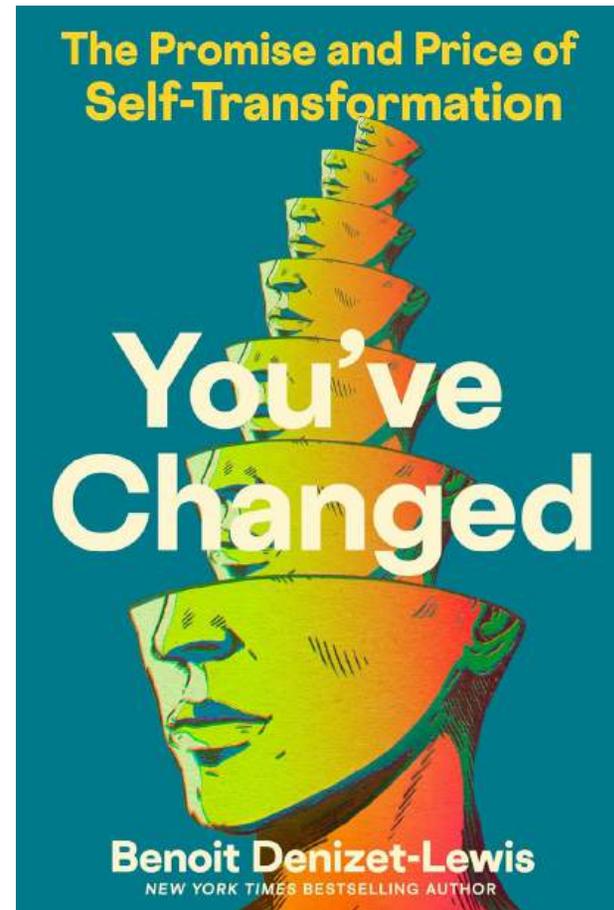
Journalist and bestselling author Benoit Denizet-Lewis explores how we remake ourselves—our behaviors and identities, our political and spiritual outlooks, and even our personalities. What does it take to change in an era of profound upheaval and roiling uncertainty?

As much as we love a good makeover story, we're also often wildly suspicious of those who claim to have pulled it off. With his trademark curiosity, empathy, humor, and intimate, character-rich reporting, Denizet-Lewis confronts our ambivalent relationship with change by telling the stories of people who've transformed themselves—or say they have.

From psychedelic reality benders to political converters to gender transitioners, from a seemingly transformed murderer to a bully-turned-Buddhist and an octogenarian grandmother trying to change her temperament ("Better late than never!" she says), Denizet-Lewis investigates the many ways we try to reimagine ourselves—and what's at stake when we do.

We tend to picture change as linear and self-determined, but Denizet-Lewis shows that much of what we think we know is wrong. Profound change is often less self-reinvention than self-discovery, and personal change isn't always a solo activity—it's better understood as a hazardous team sport. Our attempts to change are frequently politically fraught, shaped by incoherent cultural beliefs about who is allowed to change, and who we think is even capable of it.

Drawing on insights from psychologists, neuroscientists, spiritual teachers—even the author's own father, who once edited a newsletter devoted to "the art and science of transformation"—*You've Changed* challenges us to think more deeply about what real change looks like. How *does* it happen? When can we trust it, in ourselves and in each other? And what shifts, or stays the same, when we shed an old skin?



"Combining shrewd analysis and evocative reportage, offers an entertaining and insightful take on humanity's unappeasable drive to be different. Readers will be riveted."—*PW* "

"Immediately fascinating. Denizet-Lewis takes us on a deeply considered yet hilarious ride that explores the promises, challenges, validity, and possibility of transformation" —**Ellen Hendriksen, clinical psychologist, and bestselling author**

"This fascinating and revelatory book should be read by anyone tempted by promises of painless transformation." —**Larissa MacFarquhar, New Yorker staff writer**

Benoit Denizet-Lewis is an associate professor at Emerson College and a longtime contributing writer for *The New York Times Magazine*. He has written three previous books, including *America Anonymous* and the *New York Times* bestseller *Travels With Casey*. A New America Fellow and NEH Public Scholar, he divides his time between Boston and Prague.

"Endlessly thought provoking and inspiring. Read this book!"

DAVID SHEFF, #1 *New York Times* bestselling author of *Beautiful Boy*

"A blazingly smart, funny, thoughtful, and moving book about the endless hope—and the occasional limits—of human transformation."

ELIZABETH GILBERT, author of *Eat, Pray, Love* and *All the Way to the River*

"Digs into why and how people change, reminding us that it's never too late to be the versions of ourselves we long to become."

SHARON SALZBERG, author of *Love, Happiness and Real Life*

DANGEROUS, DIRTY, VIOLENT AND YOUNG

A Fugitive Family in the Revolutionary Underground

By Zayd Ayers Dohrn

NA

May 2026 / W.W. Norton / US Editor: Tom Mayer

Final PDF Available

Rights Sold:

UK/Comm (Chatto & Windus / PRH UK)

The son of Weather Underground radicals tells the story of a childhood on the run and a half-century of revolutionary struggle in America.

Zayd Ayers Dohrn was born underground. His parents were fugitives after a decade fighting the US government; his mother was on the FBI's Ten Most Wanted list. All his life, Dohrn's parents said his birth marked a clean break with violent revolutionary struggle, but in this explosive memoir, he discovers that story wasn't entirely true.

This masterpiece of personal and social history brings us inside an infamous family and their lives underground. Drawing on exclusive interviews, declassified FBI files, and long-hidden letters, photos, and diaries, Dohrn tells a new story of radical resistance, including revelations about the Weathermen's bombing campaign, their secret alliance with the Black Liberation Army, and the dramatic prison break of Assata Shakur.

Reckoning with the emotional damage the Weathermen inflicted on their victims, their children, and themselves, Dohrn's unflinching memoir explores the roots of radicalism and asks how a young person survives when the place they feel safest—with their family—also puts them in danger.

An acclaimed playwright and screenwriter, **Zayd Ayers Dohrn** is a professor and director of the MFA in Writing for Screen and Stage at Northwestern University. He is creator of the hit narrative podcast *Mother Country Radicals* and the rock protest musical *Revolution(s)*.

"Riveting as a thriller, this wise and searching memoir . . . tells a story about America we've never quite heard before. . . . Fearless, big-hearted, and profound. I simply couldn't put it down."—**Cheryl Strayed**



"What a book! Exhilarating, mad-dening, contemplative, and mournful."—**Keeanga-Yamahatta Taylor**

"Conjured into the present by a genuine literary master, recollecting what he saw as a sensitive child, the oft-told tale of the Weathermen catches fire here."—**Rick Perlstein**

"A fascinating journey that illuminates, in often thought-provoking ways, the politics of violence in radical movements."—**Angela Davis**

"Poignant, fueled with love for justice, with faith in other people, with terrific, often heartbreaking stories."—**Aleksandar Hemon**

"Swept me away. A mix of memoir, history and journalism, it's like nothing I've ever read. Dohrn isn't afraid to wrestle with the moral ambiguities of the time and of those at the center of his life. It's an astonishing story written with such an open heart."—**Alex Kotlowitz**

"A rare and profound gift—one that breaks your heart even as it quietly fills it with hope.... everything we need right now: deeply moving and urgent."—**Heather Ann Thompson**

"Zayd Ayers Dohrn is a master storyteller. . . . The rare memoir that reads like a fast-paced thriller and leaves you wrestling with some of the most profound political questions of our time."—**Jon Favreau**

THIS WILL DESTROY YOU

How Literature Teaches Us to Flourish in the Face of Existential Despair

By Justin McDaniel

NA

Fall 2026 / Crown (PRH) / US Editor: Madhulika Sikka

Proposal Available — Edited MS available Spring 2026

Rights Sold:

Italian (Marsilio)

Korean (RH Korea)

UK/Comm (Penguin Press/PRH UK)

The best way to describe this book is George Saunders' *A Swim in the Pond in the Rain* meets Jay Shetty's *Think Like a Monk*. It allows the reader to "take" one of the most popular and celebrated classes at the University of Pennsylvania, Religion 256: Existential Despair. But this class is not about religion, at least not overtly. It's about, [as the Times says](#), "...[discovering] your own answer to the question of what a human being is for." It's also about the power of books—a carefully chosen 15 in this case—from James Baldwin to Carmen Maria Machado to Christopher Isherwood, read one by one in a specific order.

Over fifteen transformative weeks, Professor McDaniel guides readers through three major themes: 1) Self and the Body; 2) Love and Desire; 3) Time and Death. He developed these themes from his work in the field of Religious Studies over time across different traditions, (Buddhism, Christianity, Hinduism, Islam, Judaism, Taoism, etc.) because these are often the way an acolyte is guided through the study of what it means to be alive. Religion 256: Existential Despair is essentially about how and why to live. But you could also say it's "about love and the choices we make, or love and survival," as one of Professor McDaniel's students said when asked. *This Will Destroy You* will be written for the solo reader and will include instructions for groups such as book clubs. As you will read, Justin McDaniel created his Existential Despair class as a response to the devastating student mental health crises he witnessed unfolding on his campus and at countless other colleges across the nation. The first Religion 256 class, launched in the fall of 2017, was an experiment, one just barely green-lit by his then department head. It was so successful that it's gone on to become one of UPenn's most in-demand classes, with over 400 students on the waitlist each semester.

Justin McDaniel is the Chair of the Department of Religious Studies at the University of Pennsylvania. His work on pedagogical methods in the courses Existential Despair and Living Deliberately have been featured on NPR, *Huffington Post*, *Washington Post*, the *New York Times* and many other venues.

ACM Agent: Jen Marshall

GOLD'S FOOLS

An Investigation of an Investigation

By Menachem Kaiser

NA

Spring 2027 / Harper (HarperCollins) / US Editor: Millicent Bennett

Proposal Available — Edited MS Fall 2026

For readers of David Grann, Janet Malcolm, and Jon Ronson — a riveting tale of obsession, conspiracy, and the seductive power of a good story, following a Montreal lawyer's quixotic hunt for Nazi gold, the filmmaker who tried to capture his unraveling, and the journalist who investigated them all.

In 2019, Glenn Feldman, a flamboyant Montreal lawyer, became convinced that his business partner of fifty years was hiding a fortune in Nazi gold from a relative, a Hungarian officer who had been responsible for the deportation of half a million Jews, who vanished after the war. Feldman threw himself into a sprawling, years-long investigation, amassing thousands of documents, hiring forensic analysts and private investigators, contacting the FBI, Yad Vashem, and the President of Israel. What he found was a tangle. Feldman's fifty-year friendship detonated. His career, finances, and family relationships buckled under the weight of his conviction.

A flamboyant documentary filmmaker saw the material of a lifetime, secured nearly a million dollars in funding, and recruited Feldman's own daughter as the film's protagonist. Reporting on the story, Kaiser found himself drawn into the orbit of a man whose charisma and certainty were matched only by the flimsiness of his core claim. As each layer of investigation piled onto the last, the question shifted: not whether the gold was real, but why so many people needed it to be. *Gold's Fools* follows this story through courtrooms, hundreds of hours of documentary footage, and a heartbreaking relationship between father and daughter. And then, in a final, astonishing turn, Kaiser cracks a decades-old mystery that governments, historians, and war crimes investigators had failed to solve. He locates the missing officer, traces his descendants, and uncovers a family that has been quietly reckoning with a monstrous inheritance. At once a mystery, a character study, and a deeply unsettling inquiry into how stories are built and whom they serve, *Gold's Fools* asks what happens when the machinery of narrative — journalism, film, investigation, even memory itself — is trained on a question it cannot answer.

Menachem Kaiser is the author of *Plunder*, winner of the Sami Rohr Prize and a *New York Times* Editors' Choice. His writing has appeared in the *New York Times*, *the Atlantic*, *the Wall Street Journal*, and elsewhere.

ACM Agent: Janet Silver

THE BIG TRACE

An Epic Story of Fraud and Revenge in the Crypto Underworld

By Cezary Podkul

NA

Summer 2027 / Little, Brown (Hachette) / US Editor: Alex Littlefield

Proposal Available — Edited MS Spring 2027

Rights Sold:

UK/Commonwealth (Heligo/Bonnier)

A major new work of narrative nonfiction that pulls back the curtain on a multi-billion-dollar criminal operation that targeted the public during the pandemic: “pig-butcher” scams” fueled by human trafficking and forced labor.

The scam often begins with an innocuous “wrong number” text sent via WhatsApp or a friendly hello on Facebook or LinkedIn. As soon as the victim replies, the scammers start turning the psychological screws with promises of easy money. Many of these crimes are unreported, and almost all go unsolved. But from among the millions who have fallen victim to this fraud, a small cohort have fought back. *The Big Trace* will follow Brian Bruce—a Mississippi family man—who became an expert at cryptocurrency tracing in a bid to find his scammers and bring them to justice. Working alongside law enforcement, he has achieved unprecedented victories for himself and other scam victims. As Bruce quickly realized, though, everyday Americans were far from the only ones to suffer under this criminal regime.

Hundreds of thousands of people have been trafficked into dystopian scam compounds scattered across Southeast Asia. Lured in with lucrative offers for non-existent jobs, recruits are threatened with beatings and forced to send the seemingly innocuous texts we all receive on our phones. They are the victims of a nefarious modern slavery that’s become so industrialized that forced scam laborers are often bought and sold on platforms like Telegram. With its extraordinary characters and life-or-death consequences, *The Big Trace* will reshape conversations about cyber-crime and human trafficking and is poised to join the ranks of investigative classics such as John Carreyrou’s *Bad Blood*. As a story of hubris and ill-gotten gains, it echoes the portrait of Jho Low in *Billion Dollar Whale*. Nick Bilton’s *American Kingpin* also offers an apt comparable title about how criminals innovate and about the hard-working people who try to stop them.

Veteran investigative reporter **Cezary Podkul** has written for *Reuters*, the *WSJ*, and most recently, *ProPublica*.

ACM Agent: Todd Shuster & Jack Haug

THE BROTHERS

The Serial Sex Crimes of the Alexander Brothers and the Culture that Empowered Them

By Willem Marx

NA

Fall 2027 / St Martin's Press (Macmillan) / US Editor: Charlie Spice

Proposal Available — Edited MS Spring 2027

In this propulsive and hard-hitting new book, renowned magazine journalist and on-air reporter Willem Marx will expand on his much-discussed [feature story for *Vanity Fair*](#) to take readers inside a landmark legal battle. Two of the world’s highest grossing real estate brokers, Tal and Oren Alexander, stand accused—alongside Oren’s identical twin Alon—of leading a decade-long criminal conspiracy to sexually abuse and traffic young women.

The Brothers will take readers inside the ultra-privileged South Florida town of Bal Harbour where the Alexander brothers were raised. Their father, an Israeli immigrant named Shlomy, ran a private security business and was a dominating presence in the house—but in all other respects, the boys lived in a world without rules. There were accusations against them even in early high school, and in hindsight, their modus operandi appear fully formed. In the years that followed, as they brokered major deals for the likes of Kanye West and Jared Kushner, they left countless women with lifelong trauma and an intense fear of retribution. Based on the long history of accusations investigated and reported by Marx, *THE BROTHERS* will show that the brothers, though sometimes acting alone, more often assaulted their victims together and used drugs or outright force to subdue them.

In June 2024, the brothers’ house of cards—of penthouses, luxury yachts, and private jets—was brought down after two women filed a lawsuit against Oren and Alon in civil court. In the weeks and months that followed, 60 more accusers would come forward, leading to criminal charges in both New York and Florida. Today, all three brothers are in prison awaiting trial. In addition to the brothers themselves, *The Brothers* will follow the attorney, Evan Torgan, who helped the two women file their civil suit. It will follow Jane Doe, who alleges that she was attacked on New Year’s Eve 2016 by Oren and Alon, and whose story will help readers understand the search for justice and healing undertaken by her and the brothers’ other victims.

Willem Marx is a London-based magazine and broadcast journalist.

ACM Agent: Todd Shuster

DEEP END

The Story of OceanGate and the Race to the Bottom of the Sea

By Mark Harris

NA

Fall 2027 / W.W. Norton / US Editor: Matt Weiland

Proposal Available — Edited MS Spring 2027

Rights Sold:

UK/Comm (Bonnier)

On June 18, 2023, the world held its breath as news broke of the Titan submersible's implosion, killing all five individuals on board as they descended to view the Titanic shipwreck. What at first seemed like a grim accident quickly opened a floodgate of inquiries: How could a tragedy of this magnitude occur? What does this mean for the future of deep-sea exploration—and why does that matter?

These are the questions that drive this page-turning work of investigative non-fiction titled *Deep End* by award-winning science and technology reporter Mark Harris, whose feature on the Titan was *Wired*'s most-read article of the past year. The narrative opens in 2012, with OceanGate's CEO and co-founder Stockton Rush, a man with unchecked ambition and dreams of becoming the next Elon Musk. We follow him as he tries to shoulder his way into an industry dominated by starry names like James Cameron, Richard Branson, and Ray Dalio. Propelled by big dreams and small pockets, we'll see how he prioritizes economics over safety, press over process, and, ultimately, glory over survival. In doing so, he sacrifices five lives, including his own, as well as the future of a nascent industry.

From university laboratories to the Mariana Trench, *Deep End* will weave together heart-stopping storytelling, rigorous research, and exclusive interviews with engineers, consultants, and company insiders to illuminate the world of deep-sea exploration, the fierce competition between submersible companies, and the broader implications for controlling the ocean's depths, a realm more mysterious, less explored, and significantly more important than the surface of Mars. This book will be the first to explore the motivations—economic, scientific, and personal—of the people scrambling to control the future of submersibles and the sea.

Since breaking his story on OceanGate in June 2024, **Mark Harris** has become the leading expert on the subject. An investigative science and technology reporter based in Seattle, he has written for *Wired*, *The Guardian*, *The Economist*, *MIT Technology Review*, *The Sunday Times*, *Tech Crunch*, *Scientific American*, and others.

ACM Agent: Becky Sweren

GIRL/GODDESS

The Ancient Tradition and Untold Future of the Kumaris of Nepal

By Emily Schmall

NA

Fall 2027 / Counterpoint Press / US Editor: Dan Smetanka

Proposal Available — Edited MS Spring 2027

Each year at the Indra Jatra festival that takes place in the streets of Nepal's capital, the country's president sits at the feet of a young girl who bestows a tika mark on his forehead. In so doing, she grants a blessing to continue his term. She is the kumari of Kathmandu: one of a dozen living goddesses who embody the Hindu deity Taleju across Nepal, and a role in which she receives devotees, offers omens of the future, and sanctifies the national political system. She is also just a girl.

When kumaris reach adolescence, they are stripped of their divinity and returned to ordinary life without an education, career, or marriage prospects. Since the 11th century, a small group of girls venerated as goddesses have held a unique position at the center of Nepalese political and cultural life—and yet their agency to determine their own lives has been curtailed, and their stories have gone untold. *Girl/Goddess* will chart the twists and turns of Nepal's recent history from the perspectives of the child goddesses who have presided over it. Through the stories of kumaris and former kumaris, *Girl/Goddess* will bring an outside audience into the complexities of an oft overlooked and poorly understood region, one that is both a dramatic case study in the determining geopolitical forces of our time and an extreme yet familiar example of how modern society treats girlhood—with equal parts fear, injustice, and veneration.

Deeply researched like no previous study or sensationalist account of the kumari tradition and grounded in Emily's relationships with kumaris themselves, *Girl/Goddess* will draw on Emily's clear-sighted investigative instincts as a seasoned reporter. In Emily's telling, Nepal's utterly unique kumari tradition becomes an illuminating window onto girlhood's all-too-familiar contradictions. How can a girl be both a child and a goddess? How can she find lasting agency when her perceived value is tied to her purity and youth? How can she hold onto history, tradition, and faith while fighting for change?

Emily Schmall spent years as a foreign correspondent in South Asia for *The New York Times* and *The Associated Press*, for which she wrote stories that explored how South Asian women chart their own paths through constraining societal norms. She is currently bureau chief of Reuters in Chicago.

ACM Agent: David Kuhn

AEVITAS 32

ONLY THE BIRDS KNOW

A Love Story Between a People, a Place, and a Remarkable Duck

By Devon Fredericksen

NA

Fall 2027 / Pegasus / US Editor: Jessica Case

Proposal Available — Edited MS Spring 2027

Nature writer Devon Fredericksen weaves together natural history and cultural lore into a lyrical exploration of mutualism between eider ducks, the people who care for them, and the wider ecosystem.

The narrative opens in the windswept archipelago of Vega, just south of the Arctic Circle, off the west coast of Norway. There, two eider ducks alight on the sea, amidst the flotsam. They've flown north for the spring, as they've done for millennia, ready to lay their eggs. They'll gain their strength and rest in order to fend off otters, mink, sea eagles, and other forces of nature. Their survival depends on their vigilance, as well as an unlikely protector: Vibeke Steinsholm, a 60-year-old woman with wild, copper hair, who has left her home on the mainland to spend a season guarding the birds.

Structured in six parts, the narrative follows the birds as they Partner, Shelter, Nest, Protect, Survive, and Gather. Each of these phases is introduced through a vignette of the birds, and then, in alternating chapters, explored and complicated through Vibeke and her fellow bird keepers, as they navigate the larger implications of companionship, industrialization, scientific intervention, conservation, integration, and reciprocity. While the eider ducks become the gravitational force of the book, their relationship with Vibeke pulls the reader through the long, sun-filled days to the summer solstice and the birds' departure.

Devon Fredericksen has written for publications such as *The Atlantic*, *Guernica*, and *The New York Times*, and [her article "The Eider Keepers," published in bioGraphic](#), was listed as one of Longreads Top 5 stories in 2024. She has authored multiple guidebooks to the outdoors, such as *How to Camp in the Woods* (Black Dog & Leventhal, 2019).

ACM Agent: Becky Sweren



BAD GUYS

How the FBI Became America's Secret Police

By Trevor Aaronson

NA

Fall 2027 / Grand Central Publishing (Hachette) / US Editor: Amar Deol

Proposal Available — Edited MS Spring 2027

Rights Sold:

UK/Comm (Monoray / Octopus)

We were told that FBI protects democracy. We were told that it goes after the bad guys – terrorists, spies, criminal masterminds, corrupt public officials. We were told that when the FBI made mistakes, they are rare, well-intentioned, and ultimately corrected. But that story was never true.

Award-winning investigative journalist Trevor Aaronson has spent two decades covering the FBI and what he's uncovered is deeply disturbing: The FBI has quietly built one of the most powerful and least accountable domestic intelligence operations in world history and before our eyes is being turned into a political weapon. *Bad Guys* will trace how the post 9/11 era of entrapment and surveillance made the FBI vulnerable to the authoritarian forces now reshaping it.

Through exclusive sources built up over years of coverage, previously undisclosed internal documents, and on-the-ground reporting from FBI field offices around the country, Aaronson will tell the sweeping, and at times absurd, story of how Trump and his allies are systematically dismantling the Bureau's leadership, purging those they deem insufficiently loyal, and repurposing the agency for political retribution. At the same time, Aaronson will investigate how the FBI abuses have not disappeared but metastasized – expanding beyond terrorism and domestic extremism cases into direct crackdowns on journalists, critics, and whistleblowers—a turn-key authoritarianism. Blending investigative journalism and personal narrative of experiences reporting on the Bureau, *Bad Guys* will uncover the FBI's ongoing transformation under Trump's second term – and explain how two decades of failures, abuses, and missed opportunities led us here – and what we can do about it.

Trevor Aaronson is a Peabody Award-winning journalist who has reported on the FBI and national security for two decades. A contributing writer for *The Intercept* since 2015, his reporting has also appeared in *Mother Jones*, *Foreign Policy*, *The Miami Herald* and other major publications. His first book, *The Terror Factory*, documented how the FBI manufactured terrorism cases in the post 9/11-era, receiving national attention including coverage on *CBS This Morning*, *This American Life*, *the WSJ*, *On the Media*, and *MSNBC*.

ACM Agent: Laura Nolan

BLOOD SUN RISING

Crime, Calamity, and the Epic Story of One Man's Battle to Save Los Angeles

By Paul Pringle

NA

Spring 2028 / Celadon (Macmillan) / US Editor: Ryan Doherty

Proposal Available — Edited MS Fall 2027

In this propulsive follow up to *Bad City: Peril and Power in the City of Angels* Pulitzer Prize-winning journalist Paul Pringle tells the thrilling true story of four corrupt, violent decades in LA as seen through the eyes of its legendary and consequential LAPD Chief Bernard C. Parks. *Blood Sun Rising* further cements Pringle's place among the greatest chroniclers of LA alongside Connelly and Ellroy,

Bernard C. Parks, the retired LAPD Chief, is a righteous man and cop who is unapologetic about doing things the right way, always, in service of a more just and safer city. At the heart of the book is Parks' extraordinary longevity and proximity to history. He served on the LAPD through four of the most violent and destabilizing decades Los Angeles ever experienced, beginning with the Watts rebellion in 1965 and extending through the era of serial killers, political assassinations, gang wars, civil unrest, and celebrity trials. As a young Black officer in a hostile, overwhelmingly white department, Parks learned early how power operated behind closed doors. As he rose through the ranks, he found himself repeatedly positioned at the center of defining crises—from Rodney King to O.J. Simpson to the infamous Rampart scandal—bearing witness to how race, violence, policing, politics, and public trust collided again and again.

Paul Pringle is a Pulitzer Prize-winning *Los Angeles Times* reporter who specializes in investigating corruption. He is the author of *Bad City: Peril and Power in the City of Angels* (Celadon 2022). In 2019, he and two colleagues won the Pulitzer Prize in Investigative Reporting for their work uncovering the widespread sexual abuse by Dr. George Tyndall at the University of Southern California, an inquiry that grew out of their reporting the year before on Dr. Carmen Puliafito, dean of USC's medical school. Pringle was a Pulitzer Prize finalist in 2009 and a member of reporting teams that won Pulitzer Prizes in 2004 and 2011. Pringle won the George Polk Award in 2008, the same year the Society of Professional Journalists of Greater Los Angeles honored him as a distinguished journalist.

ACM Agent: Will Lippincott & Jen Marshall

TALKING WITH OTIS

How to Learn a Dying Language

By John Reid

NA

Spring 2028 / Dutton (PRH) / US Editor: Nick Amphlett

Proposal Available — Edited MS Fall 2027

Talking with Otis begins when John Reid, author, conservationist, and long-time linguaphile, sets out to learn Kashaya, an endangered Indigenous language spoken fluently by only a handful of people in California, including his friend Otis. His goal is simple: to learn enough that he and Otis might one day hold a full conversation in Kashaya. But what begins as a linguistic experiment quickly becomes something else entirely: an exploration, over a year's worth of breakfast-table lessons, of memory, grief, obligation, kinship, and an act of witnessing, all in the shape of a single, faltering exchange. In the beginning John's question is, "What does this word mean?" But eventually it becomes, "What does it mean to try to understand another person across boundaries of age, culture, experience, and time?"

Talking with Otis is part of a wave of interest in linguistic preservation and revitalization. It's also a response to the broader call for narratives of cross-cultural connection that are neither overly romantic nor despairing. John navigates this terrain with his characteristic restraint and emotional intelligence. He's not the hero of the story but rather a witness, a student, a companion—and thanks to this, *Talking with Otis* becomes not only a love letter to a disappearing language, but a kind of ethical map for how to approach what's not ours with humility and hope.

Part memoir, part linguistic inquiry, part cultural reckoning, *Talking with Otis* invites readers into the feel of language learning—its disorientation, its intimacy, its comedy—and illuminates the stakes of preservation at a human scale. And although the Kashaya language and community are beautifully particular, the questions the book raises are universal: How do we remember what we haven't lived? What do we owe the people who came before us? And can language be an act of love?

John Reid is the co-author, with the late Thomas Lovejoy, of *Ever Green: Saving Big Forests to Save the Planet* (Norton, 2022).

Previous Publishers:

Brazilian Portuguese (Editora Voo)

Italian (Einaudi)

Simplified Chinese (Cheers)

ACM Agent: Lauren Sharp

AEVITAS 34

THE INNOCENTS

Murder, Mafia, and the True Tale of an American Lynching

By Chris Hayes

WE

Spring 2029 / Penguin Press (PRH) / US Editor: Scott Moyers

Proposal Available — Edited MS Fall 2028

The first narrative history from the *New York Times* Bestselling author Chris Hayes, *The Innocents* is an extraordinary story of one of the largest mass lynchings in American history, one with far-reaching implications for the way we live now.

The Innocents is a gripping narrative of the largest mass lynching in US history, of a group of Italian men in late 19th century New Orleans. It's a story of murder and mayhem, intrigue and backstabbing, of fortunes won and lost. It's a tale of New Orleans and Sicily, two iconic places situated oceans and worlds apart, that collide through the punishing force of economic necessity, and of good and evil, of bigotry and hatred, of the law as both protector and predator. *The Innocents* deepens and challenges some of our most fundamental frameworks for making sense of issues of justice, race, anti-immigration panic, the birth of organized crime in America, and the inner life of one of the world's most fascinating cities.

Chris Hayes is the Emmy Award–winning host of All In with Chris Hayes on MSNBC and the *New York Times* bestselling author of *The Sirens' Call*, *A Colony in a Nation* and *Twilight of the Elites*.

Previous Publishers:

| | |
|-------------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Arabic (Sefsafa) | Korean (Sahoipyounnon) |
| Brazilian Portuguese (Globo Livros) | Polish (Zysk) |
| Bulgarian (Obsidian) | Portuguese (Lua de Papel / Leya) |
| Complex Chinese (Happy Read) | Romanian (Publica) |
| Croatian (Planetopija) | Russian (Popuri Publishers) |
| Czech (Respekt Media) | Simplified Chinese (Ginkgo) |
| French (Alisio / Leduc) | Slovak (Vydavatelstvo Tatran) |
| German (Riva / Bonnier) | Slovene (UMco) |
| Greek (Pedio) | Spanish (Debate / PRH Spain) |
| Hebrew (Matar) | Turkish (Kairos / Olimpos) |
| Hungarian (Booksi könyvek) | UK/Commonwealth (Scribe) |
| Italian (Solferino / RCS) | Ukrainian (Bookchef Publishing) |
| Japanese (Soshisha) | Vietnamese (Rubik) |

ACM Agent: Will Lippincott

UPCOMING HISTORY



THE TYPEWRITER & THE GUILLOTINE

An American Journalist, A German Serial Killer and Paris on the Eve of WWII

By Mark Braude

NA

January 2026 / Grand Central (Hachette) / US Editor: Maddie Caldwell

Final PDF Available

The thrilling untold story of the trailblazing writer Janet Flanner, Paris correspondent for *The New Yorker*, who sounded the alarm about the rise of fascism in Europe while becoming enmeshed in the sensational case of a German serial killer stalking the streets of the French capital on the eve of WWII.

In 1925, the Indianapolis-born Janet Flanner took an assignment to write a regular 'Letter from Paris' for a lighthearted humor magazine called *The New Yorker*, started by some friends in New York. She'd come to Paris to with dreams of writing about "Beauty with a Capital B." Her employer, self-consciously apolitical, sought only breezy reports on French art and culture. But as she woke to the frightening signs of rising extremism, economic turmoil, and widespread discontent in Europe, Flanner ignored her editor's directives, reinventing herself, her assignment, and *The New Yorker* in the process.

While working tirelessly to alert American readers to the dangers of the Third Reich, including producing one of the first detailed profiles of Hitler in an American publication, Flanner became gripped by the disturbing crimes of a man who embodied all of the darkness she was being forced to confront. Eugen Weidmann, a German con-man who killed six people in and around Paris in the late 1930s, and who was last man to be publicly executed in France—mere weeks before the outbreak of WWII. Flanner covered his crimes, capture, and highly politicized trial, seeing the case as a guiding metaphor through which to understand the tumultuous years through which she'd just passed and to prepare herself for the dangers to come.

The Typewriter and The Guillotine offers the personal and professional coming-of-age story of an indomitable journalist set against a glamorous, high-stakes backdrop – a tightly-coiled drama full of romance and intrigue.

Mark Braude is the author of *Kiki Man Ray*, a *New York Times* Notable Book of 2022 and a *New Yorker* Best Book of the Year. He has been a Postdoctoral Fellow at Stanford, a Visiting Fellow at the American Library in Paris, and an NEH Public Scholar. He has written for *The New York Times*, *The Los Angeles Times*, and others.

ACM Agent: Becky Sweren

Page Count: 432

"Impeccably researched and elegantly written... illuminates the glamour and grit of interwar Paris... Both intimate and sweeping, this remarkable narrative captures Paris at its most dazzling and dangerous, and Flanner in a moment of creative alchemy—turning history's darkness into enduring art." —**Paula McLain**, author of *Skylark* and *The Paris Wife*

"Thrilling, strange, and altogether wonderful...as dramatic, unpredictable, and compelling as any fiction. It's irresistible." —**Susan Orlean**, bestselling author of *The Library Book*

★ STARRED REVIEW, BOOK PAGE ★

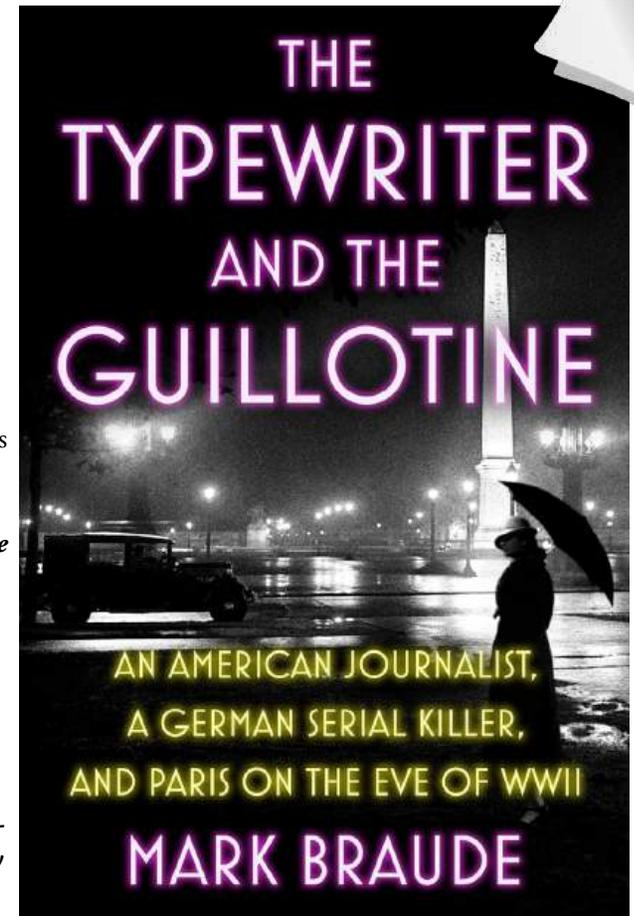
"Successful on many levels...The Typewriter and the Guillotine does an excellent job of using compelling individual stories to explain seminal historical events."

"Endlessly compelling... a long overdue and highly enjoyable biography... Braude has delivered the prescient Flanner to us, nearly five decades after her death, at exactly the right moment." —*New York Times Book Review*

"An absorbing, expertly paced work of narrative nonfiction." —*Wall Street Journal*

"Part biography, part true crime narrative, this book presents something rare: a novel story about interwar Paris. A significant work of nonfiction." —*Kirkus*

An Indiebound Bestseller *Amazon's Best Books of January* *Kirkus' Best Books of January* *BookPage Top Books of the Month*



I'LL MAKE ME A WORLD

The 100-Year Journey of Black History Month

By Jarvis Givens

NA

February 2026 / HarperCollins / US Editor: Adenike Olanrewaju

Final PDF Available

A Next Big Idea Club "Must-Read Book"

A *Shelf Awareness* Black History Month Book Pick

On its one-hundredth anniversary, a powerful and essential meditation on the origins, evolution, and future of Black History Month from one of America's leading historians of Black education and the author of *American Grammar*.

In *I'll Make Me a World*, acclaimed Harvard scholar Jarvis R. Givens takes us on a personal and political journey through the 100-year history of Black History Month—from its radical beginnings in 1926 as “Negro History Week” to its role today as a celebration and flashpoint in America's cultural battles. Drawing on archival research, intimate family stories, and the wisdom of Black teachers, Givens recovers the legacy of Carter G. Woodson and many others who envisioned Black history as a liberatory force—knowledge that shapes who we are, how we resist, and what we dream.

With striking clarity, Givens challenges today's myopic commemorations of iconic figures and urges us to expand our understanding of Black history to include the everyday lives of ordinary people—the “workadays” whose stories have long gone untold but who are no less revolutionary.

I'll Make Me A World is a call to remember, reimagine, and reclaim a tradition built by communities and the individuals who made them. At a time when Black history is under attack, this book offers an inspiring vision for how it can still be a source of power, truth, and possibility.

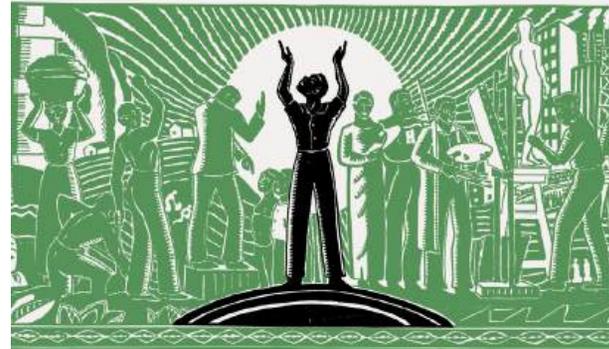
Jarvis R. Givens is a Professor of Education and African and African American Studies and the co-founding faculty director of the Black Teacher Archive at Harvard University. He is also the current Leverhulme Visiting Professor at University College London's Institute of the Americas. Givens is the author of three books, *Fugitive Pedagogy: Carter G. Woodson and the Art of Black Teaching*; *School Clothes: A Collective Memoir of Black Student Witness*; and *American Grammar: Race, Education, and the Building of a Nation*.

ACM Agent: Nate Muscato

Page Count: 208

I'LL MAKE ME A WORLD

The 100-Year Journey of
Black History Month



JARVIS R. GIVENS

Author of *American Grammar: Race, Education and The Building Of A Nation*

★ STARRED REVIEW, *LIBRARY JOURNAL* ★

“Givens offers a timely, needed, and excellent book that will appeal to educators and general audiences.”

★ STARRED REVIEW, *BOOK PAGE* ★

“Probing, illuminatin... Givens' deeply informed examination of the dense weave of people engaged in Black memory work is both eye-opening and often quite moving.”

“By excavating how Black educators, archivists, and activists organized and sustained this tradition over a century, Givens shows how to breathe life into Black History Month so that it can summon us for the struggle we are in now.”

—Henry Louis Gates, Jr.,

Alphonse Fletcher University Professor, Harvard University

“This is masterful intellectual history from below—an account of how ordinary people have fought to define what counts as history and who counts as human.”
—Elizabeth Hinton, author of *America on Fire*

“A necessary and urgent account for this current moment.” —*Kirkus*

“A powerful meditation on Black history's role in American life today.”
—*Publishers Weekly*

“Through phenomenal storytelling, both personal and historical, Givens recounts transformative moments, preserved by the labor of memory workers.”—Ula Yvette Taylor, author of *The Promise of Patriarchy*

A REBEL AND A TRAITOR

A Fugitive, the Manhunt and the Birth of the IRA

By Rory Carroll

UK

March 2026 / Mudlark (HarperCollins UK) / UK Editor: Joel Simmons

Final PDF Available



From the master storyteller behind 2023's critically acclaimed *Killing Thatcher*

A Rebel and a Traitor is the story of a rogue imperial consul who sought to forge a new nation in the middle of a war – and the mercurial spy chief who sought to destroy him by any means.

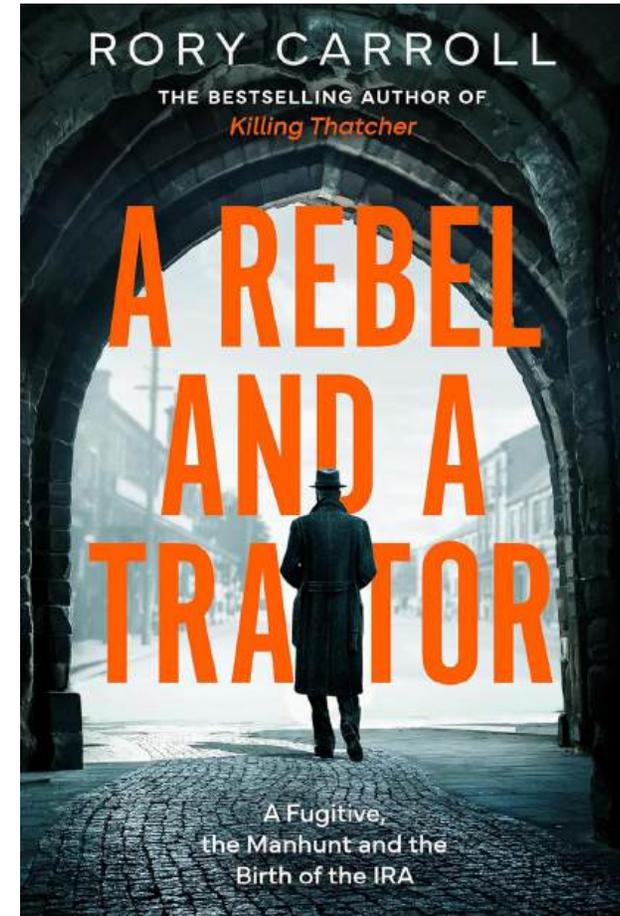
The rogue consul was Sir Roger Casement, a decorated diplomat who turned his back on the British empire and instead joined the rising Irish cause at the turn of the 20th century. At the book's centre is the manhunt for Casement led by intelligence officer Reginald 'Blinker' Hall, the legendary British spy chief who pioneered codebreaking, early mass surveillance and media manipulation.

As he did for the critically acclaimed *Killing Thatcher*, master storyteller Rory Carroll has combed diaries, letters, police reports, memoirs, court transcripts, secret service archives and declassified government files in the US, Britain, Ireland and Germany to create a page-turning history, and a story that still echoes through Anglo-Irish relations. *A Rebel and a Traitor* raises profound questions about honour, courage and the price of patriotism.

Rory Carroll, currently the Guardian's Ireland correspondent, has spent most of his career as a foreign correspondent based in Rome, Johannesburg, Baghdad, Caracas and Los Angeles. His first book, *Comandante: Hugo Chavez's Venezuela*, was published in 2013. Since returning to his native Dublin in 2018 he has covered Ireland's tangled relationship with Britain and the legacy of Northern Ireland's Troubles.

ACM Agent: Will Lippincott

Page Count: 400



Previous Publishers of Rory Carroll:

Finnish (Bazar Finland)

Italian (NR Edizioni)

Spanish (Ariel / Planeta)

A KINGDOM AND A VILLAGE

A One-Thousand-Year History of Moscow

By Simon Morrison

WE

March 2026 / Knopf (PRH) / US Editor: Andrew Miller

Final PDF Available

Rights Sold:

Dutch (Meulenhoff)

UK/Comm (Bodley Head)

Simplified Chinese (ThinKingdom)

An erudite and entertaining history of Moscow, a city defined by its survival and reinvention, and whose rich history offers crucial insight into contemporary global politics

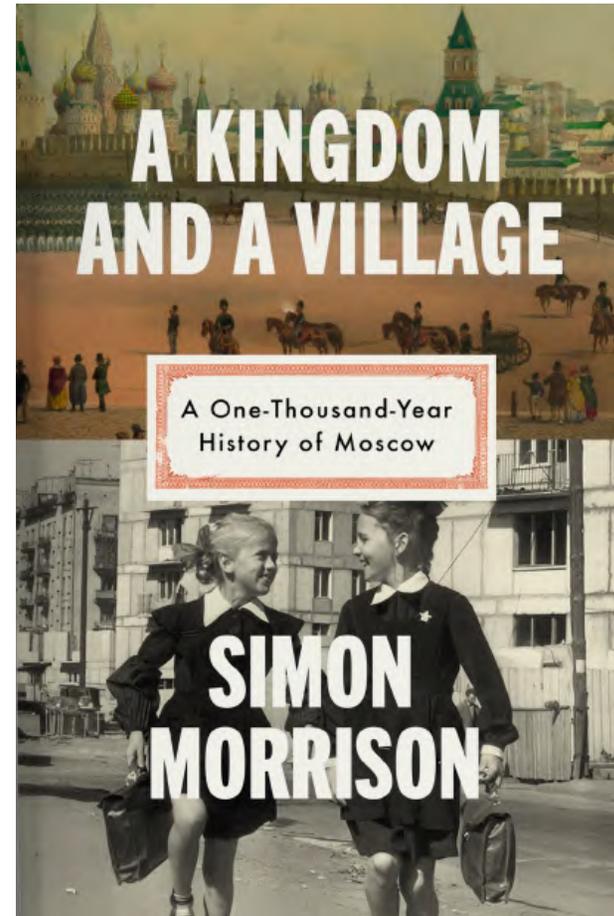
The city of Moscow stands at the center of a nation comprising eleven percent of the globe's landmass, 11 time zones and nearly 150 million people, some 13 million of whom live in the capital. In *A Kingdom and a Village*, acclaimed historian Simon Morrison offers a vividly rendered history of Russia's heart and soul, tracing its transformation from a "big village"—the demeaning nickname the St. Petersburg nobility gave to its provincial neighbor—into a spectacular metropolis of vast geopolitical import.

That arc is the stuff of dramatic, violent, stranger-than-fiction historical narrative: the last century alone has featured invasions and costly battles, the destruction (and reconstruction) of sacred cultural and religious landmarks, and the collapse of the Soviet republic—not to mention the rise of an authoritarian leader who is a keen student of Russian history. Morrison reaches back further still, to the founding of the place we now know as Moscow as a fortress on a river nearly a millennium ago. In the centuries that followed, any number of external forces—from Tatar Mongols and Swedes to Napoleon and Hitler—set their sights on Moscow, reinforcing its self-conception as both a glittering prize and a site of perpetual defense and resurrection.

Drawing on a rich array of archival materials, from the birchbark scrawls that record the oldest layer of Russian civilization to the articles in European newspapers heralding the opening of the magnificent Bolshoi theater, Morrison brings to life the bloody power struggles, cultural marvels, excruciating famines, droughts, storms, and fires that have shaped and re-shaped the city and reinforced its essential character. Having first visited Moscow in 1990 and made some thirty trips since,

ACM Agent: Will Lippincott

Page Count: 528



"A magisterial account of Moscow that reveals the city's history and something of its soul through countless interwoven stories and colorful characters."—**Ben Rhodes**, *New York Times* bestselling author of *After the Fall*

"Breathtaking in its span, covering architecture, music, Russian leaders' decisions and the ordinary people's response, society, institutions, and much more."—**Nina Khrushcheva**, co-author of *In Putin's Footsteps*

"A revealing portrait of a city that has made and been made by an always difficult history....A winning account."—**Kirkus**

he excavates the city's truths from its fictions—while celebrating both—in a style that's at once deeply learned and deeply personal.

With *A Kingdom and a Village*, Morrison makes a persuasive, even impassioned case that to understand Moscow is not only to unlock the spellbinding mysteries of Russia's past but also, critically, to grasp the grim logic of its present. It is a magisterial biography of a place—and an essential guide to a people and a nation.

Simon Morrison is a professor of music and Slavic languages and literatures at Princeton University. He is a regular contributor to the *Times Literary Supplement* and *London Review of Books* and has written for *Time Magazine*, the *New York Review of Books*, and *New York Times*. He has received a Guggenheim Fellowship and holds a PhD from Princeton University.

STEALING AMERICA

The Hidden Story of Indigenous Slavery in U.S. History

By Linford D. Fisher

NA

April 2026 / Liveright (W.W. Norton) / US Editor: Bob Weil

Final PDF Available

Epic and groundbreaking, *Stealing America* boldly rewrites American history by putting Native enslavement and rampant land theft at the epicenter of our nation's past.

Indigenous enslavement was a colossal phenomenon of almost unimaginable consequences that ensnared nearly 600,000 Native Americans in North America. In a saga that predates 1619, this double-stealing of Indigenous people and their lands upends virtually every known narrative of American history. Captured Natives, often deliberately misidentified as Black slaves, were used not only on southern plantations, but on small northern farms, and were routinely shipped overseas.

While the American Revolution pealed the bells of freedom for colonists, it paved a larcenous trail of westward expansion that decimated tribes and plundered Indigenous lands. Even after Congress outlawed Native slavery in 1867, Americans forced Indigenous children into boarding schools and white homes, where they labored under forced assimilation. This practice was not outlawed until the latter twentieth century, when Indian nations finally secured increasing rights and self-determination. The most comprehensive work of its kind, *Stealing America* presents a five-century genocidal history, more commonly known as the "American dream." Featuring 90 illustrations and 19 maps.

Linford D. Fisher is an associate professor of history at Brown University. The author of *The Indian Great Awakening* and principal investigator of the Stolen Relations project, he lives in Providence, Rhode Island.

"Many years in the making, *Stealing America* synthesizes the scholarship on Indigenous slavery and presents a wealth of original research not only about this terrible practice but also about the courageous antislavery campaigns and acts of resistance. Fisher has written a major work." — **Andrés Reséndez**, author of **Bancroft Prize-winning *The Other Slavery***

"An important addition to the body of scholarship on Native peoples and enslavement." — **Booklist**

ACM Agent: Wendy Strothman and Lauren Sharp

Page Count: 544

"An impressive achievement. This work powerfully amplifies the growing chorus of scholars calling for more complex and nuanced histories of slavery in the Americas. A necessary and remarkable reorientation of traditional narratives of U.S. history, the work is deepened also by its partnership with descendent tribal communities."

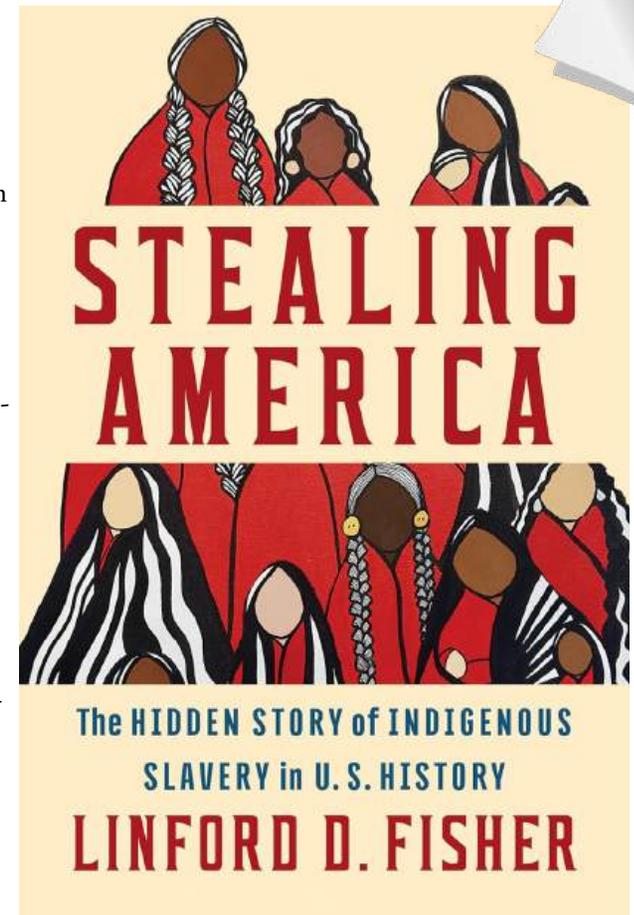
—**Ned Blackhawk**, Yale University, author of National Book Award-winning *The Rediscovery of America*

"A much-needed history, honestly and empathetically told... as intellectually provocative as it is emotionally wrenching."

—**Greg Grandin**, author of Pulitzer Prize-winning *The End of the Myth*

"From the earliest coastal kidnappings on Cape Cod's shores to Boarding School matrons who trafficked Indian children, the history of Indigenous America is one of stolen people and stolen land. Linford Fisher's passionate prose and grim detail trace five centuries of interlocking African and Indigenous "Slaveries," in which we feel the weight of the past in our present." —**James Brooks**, author of *Mesa of Sorrows*

"To create American colonies and, later, the United States, settlers stole thousands of people as well as millions of acres from Native Americans. In this vivid, insightful, and provocative book, Linford Fisher reveals the shocking extent and deep tragedy of the enslavement of Native peoples. But Fisher also recognizes their extraordinary resilience in resisting and enduring to the present." —**Alan Taylor**, author of *American Republics: A Continental History, 1783-1850*



THE HARDEST, LONGEST RACE

Henry Ford and the Cross-Country Contest That Changed America

By Eric Moskowitz

WE

June 2026 / St. Martin's Press (Macmillan) / US Editor: Charles Spicer
Edited MS Available

From Pulitzer prize-winning journalist Eric Moskowitz comes the riveting story of the first true coast-to-coast automobile race in U.S. history, a fast-paced tale of the gritty and determined drivers who braved hostile terrain, mechanical failure, and, shockingly, sabotage, to take home the gold.

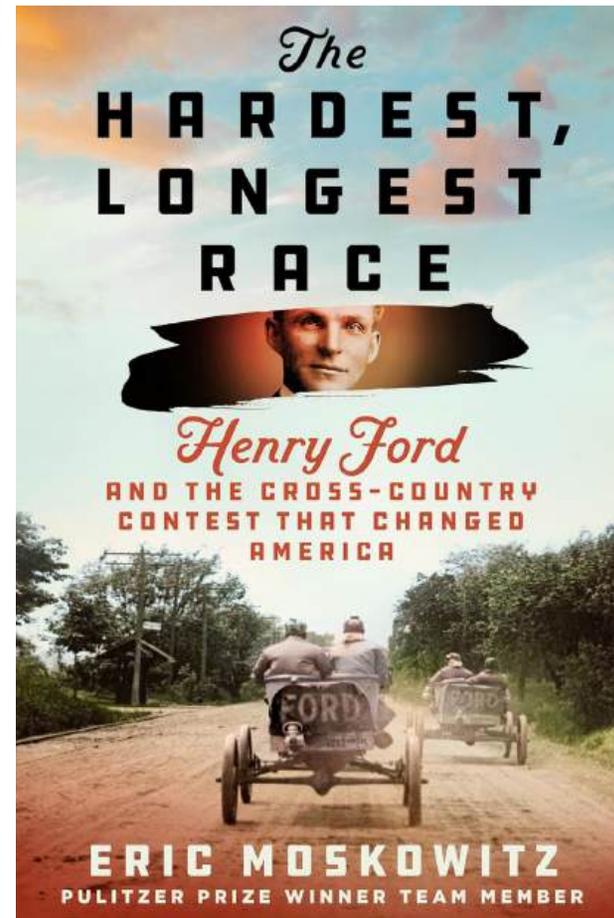
In 1909, America was home to 253 automakers, a landscape of visionaries, schemers, and would-be barons of the new century. But when playboy millionaire M. Robert Guggenheim announced an audacious "Ocean to Ocean" contest from New York City to the Seattle World's Fair, only three companies were brassy enough to show up at the starting line: Acme, Ford, and Shawmut.

Odds makers favored the Acme and Itala, a pricy import also joining the race, while dismissing the pint-sized Ford—a homely little number called the Model T—and the long-shot Shawmut, struggling to survive after a factory fire. In fact, many didn't believe *any* of the cars would reach Seattle at all, as they would need to forge a 4,106-mile course of mountain ranges, mud bogs, washed-out wagon bridges, and harrowing canyon trails, long before the era of asphalt highways, seatbelts, and service stations. But Henry Ford was intent on proving that the Model T could go the distance and beat out the muscular luxury cars—and he didn't plan to leave it to chance. Indeed, a little over three weeks after the race began, a Ford crossed the line hours ahead of the Shawmut.

Except that victory was a fraud. *The Hardest, Longest Race* is a colorful tale of ambition and subterfuge, but it is also a love letter to America at the turn of the Twentieth Century. As a seeming people's champion—a car for the masses—traverses the vast nation, Moskowitz brings to vivid life the diverse populace and landscape that it would soon transform.

Eric Moskowitz spent 12 years at *The Boston Globe*, where he covered transportation. He has written for *The Atlantic* and *The New York Times*, and his work has appeared in *The Best American Sports Writing* and *The Best American Newspaper Narratives* anthologies.

ACM Agent: Wendy Strothman and Lauren MacLeod Page Count: 320



"Informative and wildly entertaining... a worthy homage to a contest that changed the way we travel." —**Dan Shaughnessy**, *New York Times* bestselling author of *Francona*

"A rollicking tale of adventure and ambition, filled with heroic characters—and a few villains. Moskowitz is a masterful reporter." —**Mitchell Zuckoff**, *New York Times* bestselling author of *Lost in Shangri-La*

"A compelling story of American ingenuity, ambition, deception, and grit at the dawn of the age of the automobile." —**Keith O'Brien**, *New York Times* bestselling author of *Charlie Hustle* and *Fly Girls*

"Moskowitz has given us a new way to glimpse America in the first years of the Twentieth Century. In 'you-are-there' fashion, he brings Henry Ford—to name just one of the players in his 4,100-mile canvas—wickedly to life." —**Paul Hendrickson**, winner of the National Book Critics Circle Award, and author of *Hemingway's Boat: Everything He Loved in Life, and Lost*

"With razor-sharp prose and a narrative that leaps forward from the start, Moskowitz takes readers to the summer of 1909, when the newly minted Ford Model T takes on all comers in America's first coast-to-coast contest. It's pedal-to-the-metal to the chequered finish." —**Neal Bascomb**, *New York Times* bestselling author of *Faster* and *The Winter Fortress*

"A story of wholesale cheating, brilliant engineering, and the foundations of our car-centric modern world." —**Bookbub**

THE LOST FOUNDER

James Wilson and the Forgotten Fight for a People's Constitution

By Jesse Wegman

NA

June 2026 / Celadon (Macmillan) / US Editor: Bill Hamilton

Edited MS Available

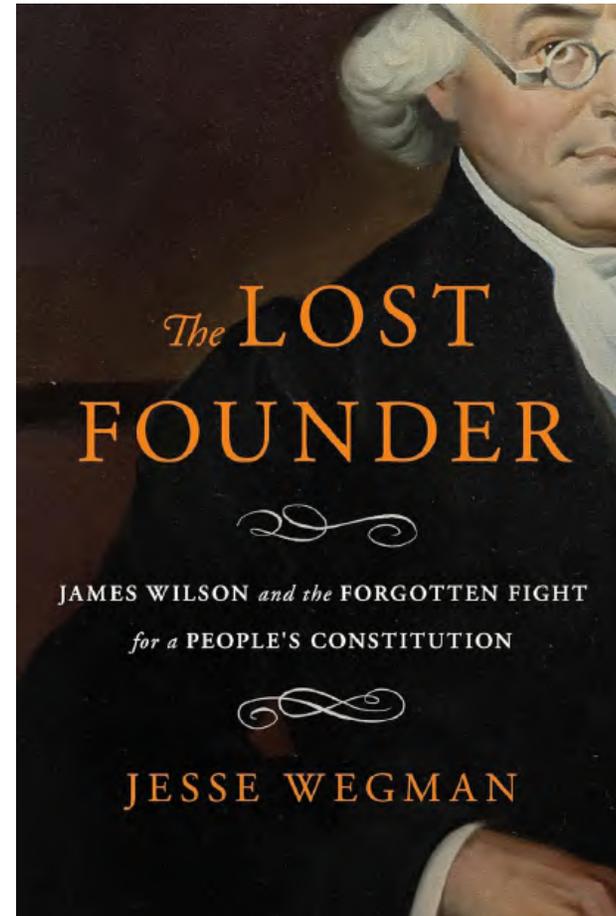
New York Times journalist Jesse Wegman tells the story of James Wilson, a Founding Father whose bold vision shaped American democracy but whose legacy was lost to scandal.

As a young lawyer, James Wilson made a celebrated case for American independence in an essay that inspired the famous words “We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal.” He wrote the first draft of the Constitution and, along with the more famous James Madison, played perhaps the essential role in its ultimate creation.

Wilson believed that the people are the ultimate source of all power. He argued successfully for a strong central government and a powerful presidency, and fought unsuccessfully for a direct vote for the president and the Senate. Appointed as a justice to the first Supreme Court, he was later brought down by reckless land speculation and died of malaria in the back room of a North Carolina tavern while hiding from his creditors.

Instead of being remembered as one of the nation’s great political thinkers, Wilson was virtually written out of history. But in *The Lost Founder*, Wegman brings to life the most prescient of the earliest patriots and makes a convincing argument that scandal should not diminish the life and impact of a brilliant, complicated man whose vision for his country could not be more relevant today.

Jesse Wegman was a member of the *New York Times* editorial board from 2013 to 2025, writing about law and politics, democracy, electoral reform, and the rule of law. He is a Senior Fellow at the Brennan Center for Justice. His first book, *Let the People Pick the President: The Case for Abolishing the Electoral College*, was published in 2020.



“With insight and eloquence, Jesse Wegman has done heroic work in bringing a vital but obscure architect of America back into the popular conversation. As Wegman amply proves, James Wilson merits our reconsideration—and our gratitude.”
—**Jon Meacham, Pulitzer Prize-winning biographer**

“I like to think James Madison would be miffed that James Wilson has finally gotten his due as a major framer of the U.S. Constitution. Jesse Wegman’s spellbinding and erudite biography, revealing Wilson’s crucial and often cantankerous role as America’s most democratic founder, could not arrive at a better time.”
—**Jill Lepore, author of *We the People and These Truths***

CITY ON THE EDGE

Technology, Politics, and the Fight for the Soul of San Francisco

By Jonathan Weber

NA

June 2026 / Atria / S&S / US Editor: Yaniv Soha

Edited MS Available

By one of San Francisco's foremost chroniclers, the story of the city's meteoric transformation into a global capital of technology, and how the same creative and political forces that gave rise to its boom nearly engineered its collapse.

At the dawn of the 1990s, San Francisco was a beautiful if troubled mid-sized metropolis. The mythic, fog-shrouded city at the edge of the continent was still reeling from the AIDS epidemic and the Loma Prieta earthquake, its economy stuck in a slump. San Francisco faced an uncertain future.

But in that very moment, a band of free-thinking technology enthusiasts was meeting the unique creative zeitgeist of the city, and inventing the contemporary internet. The companies they spawned would change the way we work, play, socialize and engage in politics. San Francisco would undergo a transformation unlike any in modern American history, becoming an economic and cultural juggernaut that could fairly claim the title of tech capital of the world. Local politicians like Gavin Newsom and Kamala Harris advanced to the national stage, even as a union of underground culture and technological optimism gave rise to the annual reverie known as Burning Man. This should have been a happy story for San Francisco. But while the city's tech economy roared, a host of urban ills lurked in the shadows: homelessness, drug addiction, mental illness, and a crippling lack of new housing. The city's famously liberal political establishment struggled with problems in the streets, becoming a punching bag for President Trump and the new right. When the pandemic arrived in 2020, it didn't just create new crises but laid old ones bare, and shattered a "City Family" that had ruled for thirty years.

Reporter and newsroom leader Jonathan Weber was an eyewitness to these events. He offers a sweeping history of a city that rose to dizzying heights, only to be all but undone by the greed of a tech industry it did so much to spawn, and politicians who had lost the plot. Drawing on nearly two hundred interviews with mayors, CEOs, activists, investors, artists, and beyond, *City on the Edge* is more than a simple chronicle of a city. It's the story of a war waged for the heart of San Francisco—one that both anticipated and reflected the culture wars raging around the world. Its outcome would have an impact far beyond the famed Golden Gates.

ACM Agent: Esmond Harmsworth & Jen Marshall

Page Count: 432

"So much that happens in the nation happens in San Francisco first. Jonathan Weber tells the city's story—with, along the way, a cast of vivid and Machiavellian behind-the-scenes players. He has turned San Francisco into an unforgettable character."

—Michael Wolff, #1 *New York Times* bestselling author of *Fire and Fury*

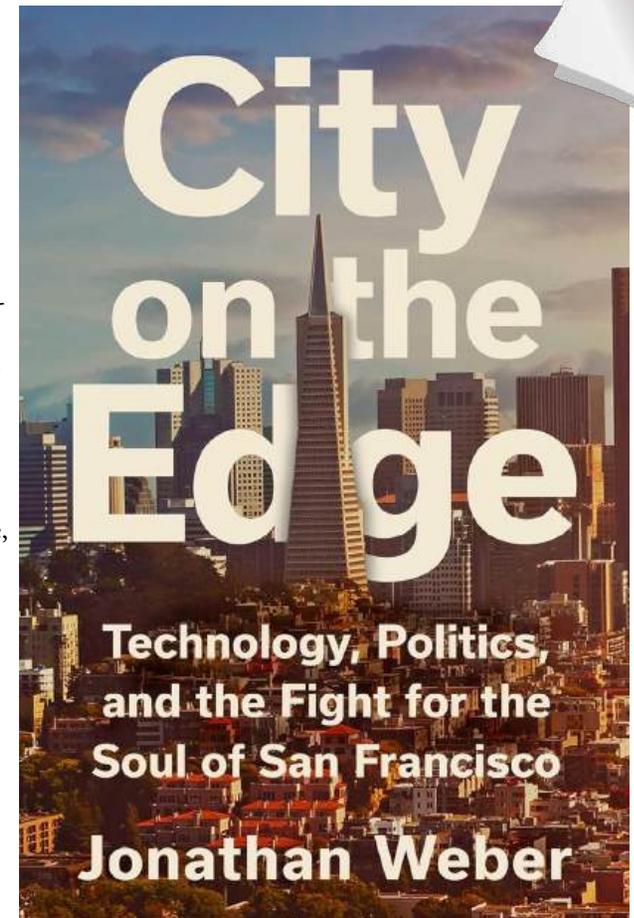
"Imbued with insider access, outsider perspective, and Weber's prodigious story-telling gifts, *City on the Edge* is the definitive account of a monumental era in a mythical city and a world-changing industry that both lost their way."

—John Heilemann, #1 *New York Times* bestselling author of *Game Change*

"Weber digs deep into tech, culture, and politics, revealing much that was never well known and much which has been forgotten. *City on the Edge* offers a story that affects the world and human history."—Craig Newmark, founder of **Craigslist**

"Jonathan Weber interweaves technology and politics and shows how they've played off each other, both in positive and negative ways, in a city whose history is both fantastical and entertaining."—Brad Feld, co-founder of **Foundry Group**

Jonathan Weber was named the *Los Angeles Times*'s first-ever Silicon Valley reporter in 1990. He was later editor in chief of *The Industry Standard*, a chronicle of and bellwether for the first dot-com boom, and oversaw West Coast news and global technology coverage for Reuters. He was most recently the editor in chief of *The San Francisco Standard*.



A MOMENT IN THE SUN

Black Manhattan Before the Civil War

By Shane White

NA

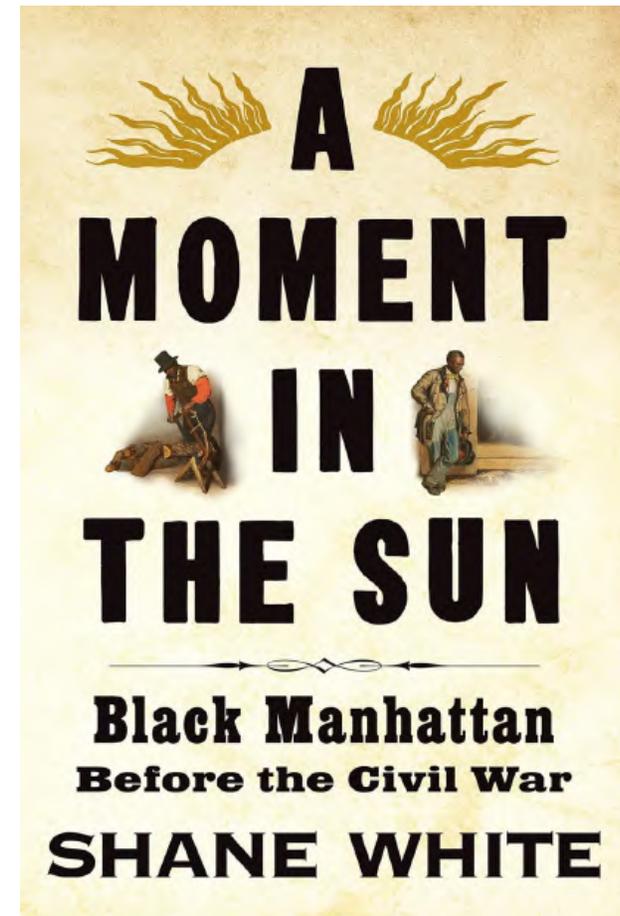
August 2026 / Liveright (Norton) / US Editor: Robert Weil
Edited MS Available

A Moment in the Sun dispels the pernicious narrative that in New York City, slavery was followed by a hundred years of poverty and destitution.

More than a century before the Harlem Renaissance, a wave of Black artistic and intellectual activity swept through Manhattan. Ordinary Black men and women, now free, “stood a brief moment in the sun” (W. E. B. Du Bois)—before the city, and the nation, succumbed to civil war. Culling from thousands of fragmentary sources, celebrated historian Shane White conjures the forgotten world of these nineteenth-century Black New Yorkers, from the streets where dandies flaunted their signature style to the cellars where fortunetellers and confidence men turned their tricks.

Along the way, White introduces us to the people who helped transform Gotham into a booming urban metropolis, among them Thomas Downing, the “Oyster King of New York,” and Cato Alexander, whose eponymous tavern dispensed cocktails and carriage races to a diverse clientele. As people and cultures mixed in the “amalgamated city,” racial tensions heightened and often exploded. Yet to a startling degree, White shows, this first attempt at integration worked.

Shane White is the Emeritus Challis Professor of History at the University of Sydney, specializing in African American history. White has authored or coauthored six books, including *Prince of Darkness: The Untold Story of Jeremiah Hamilton*, *Wall Street's First Black Millionaire*. He lives in Sydney and Brunswick Heads, Australia.



EXHUMED

Unearthing the History of the American Vampire

By Aaron Mahnke

NA

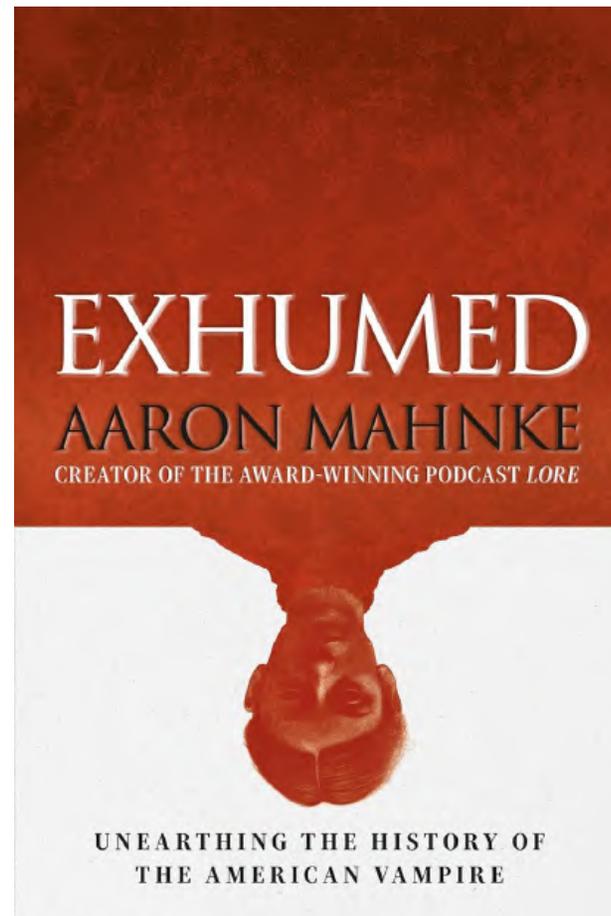
August 2026 / Running Press (Hachette) / US Editor: Randall Lotowycz
Edited MS Available

From critically acclaimed podcaster and bestselling author Aaron Mahnke comes this engrossing and macabre exploration of the folklore and early medical practices that led to the New England Vampire Panic in the 1890s.

What would drive a man to exhume the body of his daughter and remove her heart? That question has haunted Aaron Mahnke, creator and host of the award-winning podcast *Lore*. Fueled by a decade of research, Mahnke excavates the past to understand the hysteria that fueled the ghastly exhumation of Mercy Brown in 1892, who like her mother and sister before her, succumbed to “consumption” at the age of 19.

With *Exhumed*, Mahnke presents a unique history of the intersection of folklore and science, and how pop culture and both genuine medical advancements and pseudoscience of the time shaped the perspectives of people in 19th century America. From the death of George Washington to Mary Shelley writing *Frankenstein*, Mahnke leads reads on a fascinating journey through history, touching on methods of mummification, the multifaceted role of executioners, medicine made from corpses, European folklore that traveled across the Atlantic, and so much more. He reveals that as shocking as Brown’s exhumation might seem, it also reflected surprisingly common attitudes and beliefs about the relationship between the dead and the living, the nature of science and magic, and the fate of a human soul. It all builds to a revelatory understanding of human behavior that continues to this very day.

Possessing an irreverent view of science, history, and the human condition, *Exhumed* is perfect for fans of Mary Roach’s *Stiff*, as well as readers of forgotten American histories like Brad Meltzer’s *New York Times*-bestselling *The First Conspiracy: The Secret Plot to Kill George Washington*.



Aaron Mahnke is the writer, host, and producer of the award-winning podcast *Lore*, which has been downloaded over half a billion times. His love of the mysterious and frightening has also led to a number of other chart-topping documentary podcasts. He lives in the historic Boston area—the heart of Lovecraft Country and the epicenter of the Salem Witch Trials.

Previous Publishers of Aaron Mahnke:

Brazilian Portuguese (DarkSide)
French (H'LAB / Hachette France)
Polish (Zysk)

Romanian (Lifestyle)
Russian (AST)
UK/Common (Hachette/Wildfire)

THE GIRL IN BLUE

A True Story of Defiance, Murder & Beautiful Obsessions

By Doreen Carvajal

NA

November 2026 / Grand Central (Hachette) / US Editor: Colin Dickerman
Proposal Available — Edited MS Summer 2026

Rights Sold:

Polish (Znak Koncept)

A spellbinding nonfiction historical thriller, *The Girl In Blue* unravels the tragic history behind *La Petite Irène*, an iconic Renoir portrait of a little girl with a blue ribbon, who, with her prominent Jewish family, fought to survive the German occupation of Paris during World War II and to recover the precious looted painting after it vanished in the murky international art market.

In 1941, as Nazi rule permeated ever more deeply into the fabric of French society, a specialized unit of German troops stormed the castle of Chambord in the Loire Valley to loot one of Pierre-Auguste Renoir's most gorgeous and evocative masterworks: *La Petite Irène*. The painting is of a young girl, who poses with her hands folded in her lap. As *The Girl in Blue* will chronicle in Doreen's signature writerly prose, the painting's theft, representative of one of world history's darkest chapters, tore apart a prominent Jewish family and triggered a tragic cascade of deadly violence.

Irène Cahen d'Anvers, the little girl with the blue ribbon who sat for Renoir in 1880, belonged to one of Paris's wealthiest Jewish families. Her childhood was privileged and full of opportunity, but she was a restless soul. Just five years after marrying and conceiving two children, Irène unexpectedly eloped with the family's handsome Italian stable master and converted to his Catholic faith. When the Nazi party took power in Germany and occupied France, Irène's attempts to mask her Jewish identity may have spared her life, but they failed to protect the rest of her family. The book will show how Irène's life decisions—especially her sudden conversion to Catholicism and masterful evasion of arrest during the occupation—divided her family. *The Girl in Blue* will restore Irène's painful yet critical place in the history of Germany's occupation of France, the incarceration and torture of Jews at Drancy, and their ruthless extermination in Nazi concentration camps.

Doreen Carvajal is a former *New York Times* and *International Herald Tribune* Paris correspondent.

ACM Agent: Todd Shuster

THE KILLING SEA

The Untold Story of the Epic Naval Battle of Guadalcanal

By Seth Paridon and Bill Toti

NA

March 2027 / St. Martin's (Macmillan) / US Editor: Marc Resnick
Proposal Available — Edited MS Fall 2026

Rights Sold:

UK/Comm (Helion & Co)

Historians Seth Paridon and Captain William Toti, USN (RET), hosts of the hit podcast [The Unauthorized History of the Pacific War](#) present a captivating new look at a forgotten chapter of World War II.

The Battle of Guadalcanal is often remembered for the U.S. Marines who stormed the island's shores. Less well known—but arguably more impactful—was the epic naval battle that unfolded just offshore. In what's been called a “barroom brawl with the lights out,” American and Japanese ships engaged in one of the most harrowing sea battles in history, often exchanging fire at point-blank range. While the Marines fought bravely, the Navy bore the heavier toll—losing nearly four times as many lives, including two admirals, as the Marines lost on land. Among the dead -- the five Sullivan brothers, whose tragic deaths reshaped U.S. deployment policy.

The Killing Sea brings this forgotten chapter vividly to life and dispels the long-held belief that the Navy abandoned the Marines during the battle. Paridon and Toti make a compelling case that the naval battle of Guadalcanal—not Midway—was the true turning point in the Pacific War. This gripping, untold story of colossal warships, audacious admirals, Blue Jacket sailors, and astounding bravery is told in four parts—the initial battle, a period of agonizing silence, the climactic re-engagement, and a haunting denouement which features exclusive photos of the sunken ships from the Paul Allen-funded Petrel expedition.

Seth Paridon is a professional historian with over twenty years of experience in World War II history. He began his career in 2004, interviewing veterans of the 1st Marine Division for the HBO miniseries *The Pacific*, and went on to serve fifteen years as chief historian at The National World War II Museum in New Orleans. **Captain William Toti, USN (Ret.)**, served more than 26 years on active duty, culminating as commodore of Submarine Squadron 3. Since launching *The Unauthorized History of the Pacific War* in 2022, the show has surpassed 10 million views on YouTube.

ACM Agent: Rick Richter

AEVITAS 47

AMERICAN SÉANCE

Three Sisters and the Haunting of America

By Elyse Graham

NA

Spring 2028 / Ecco (HarperCollins) / US Editor: Sarah Murph

Proposal Available — Edited MS Fall 2027

American Séance blends history, true crime, magic, and gothic romance. The story begins with a knock in the dark and ends with the invention of modern celebrity and the American ghost story as we know it today. Think *Bridgerton* meets *Beetlejuice*, with a love story at its heart.

The narrative starts in 1848, in a modest home in upstate New York, where two inseparable sisters, Maggie and Kate Fox, claimed to hear ghostly knocks from an “injured spirit” buried in their cellar. Within weeks, that ghost—Mister Split-foot—had an audience. Within months, the girls, joined by their older sister Leah, were the most famous mediums in the country.

For over thirty years, the Fox sisters turned a parlor trick into a global sensation. They created the séance. They advised presidents and czars. They made (and lost) fortunes. They democratized death, dragged it out of the church and into the Victorian drawing room—and invented a new vernacular for mourning, and fraud.

This was an extraordinary fate for three sisters. That said, *American Séance* isn't just a ghost story. It's a story about bodies: buried, dismembered, disrespected, desired. And how these three sisters captured power in a system rigged against them, and how they used their supernatural authority to make violence against women—and other crimes the authorities ignored—haunt the American public.

Elyse Graham is a historian and professor at Stony Brook University. She holds degrees from Princeton, Yale, and MIT, and has learned, as every archive digger does, how to commune with the dead. She is the author of the NYT bestseller *Book and Dagger*, *You Talkin' To Me?*, *A Unified Theory of Cats on the Internet*, and *The Republic of Games*.



ACM Agent: Sarah Levitt

GODDESS

A History

By Lauren Coyle Rosen

NA

Fall 2028 / Holt (Macmillan) / US Editor: Anna Montague

Proposal Available — Edited Spring 2028

Rights Sold:

Dutch (AW Bruna)

UK Comm (Mudlark / HC UK)

Throughout human history and across almost every culture, divine feminine figures were at the center of civilization—from creation myths, political rule, law, and justice to philosophy, war, and the flourishing of human life itself—in all realms, goddesses played pivotal roles. Yet when bestselling books like *God: A Human History* or *A History of God* chronicle the evolution of religious thought, goddesses barely receive a mention—their erasure so complete that even scholars documenting divine history overlook half the equation. *Goddess: A History* corrects this glaring omission by revealing what was lost when patriarchal religions systematically erased goddess worship around the world and by illuminating why recovering these forgotten histories matters today.

This highly engaging narrative takes readers on a sweeping journey through the stories of history's most significant goddesses—from Isis, who wielded greater magical power than all other Egyptian deities and whose worship spread throughout the Roman Empire, to Athena, Greek goddess of wisdom and strategic warfare, to the irrepressible Hindu goddesses Durga and Kali who continue to command reverence today. In so doing, *Goddess* shows how goddesses were not merely symbols of love, fertility, and compassion—the limited roles to which modern memory has confined them—but rather key forces who presided over government, commerce, and philosophy. When Christianity became the official religion of the Roman Empire, when Buddhism transformed Chinese spiritual life, and when Islam spread across continents, these changes didn't simply alter religious doctrines—they systematically stripped women of powerful role models and contributed to the subordination of women's rights across cultures. By excavating these marginalized histories, *Goddess* offers readers—particularly women seeking meaningful archetypes beyond patriarchal constraints—a pathway to reclaim the full complexity and power of feminine divinity.

Lauren Coyle Rosen is an award-winning cultural anthropologist, artist, and author who holds a JD with honors from Harvard Law School and a PhD in cultural anthropology from The University of Chicago.

ACM Agent: Jen Gates



SUSHI, 1987

A Cultural History

By Luke Barr

NA

Fall 2028 / HarperCollins / US Editor: Karen Rinaldi

Proposal Available — Edited Spring 2028

A new cultural history by *New York Times* bestselling author Luke Barr, *Sushi, 1987* will tell the untold cultural history of how sushi conquered America and the western world through the intertwined stories of two groundbreaking chefs, Nobu and Masa, who opened signature sushi restaurants in LA in the same year: 1987.

In 1987, two young Japanese sushi chefs opened their signature restaurants in Los Angeles, and changed everything. Nobuyuki Matsuhisa launched Matsuhisa on La Cienega Boulevard in Beverly Hills, and a few miles away, Masayoshi Takayama opened Ginza Sushi-ko in an anonymous strip mall on Wilshire Boulevard. Both men were recent immigrants in their 30s, talented, ambitious, and bent on re-envisioning sushi as a new kind of haute cuisine.

Before Nobu and Masa, sushi was largely unknown to the average westerner. After, Nobu and Masa's restaurants were go-to haunts for celebrities and executives, charging prices to match; their names were synonymous with a new kind of haute cuisine and a new image of chic, luxurious, cosmopolitan living; sushi was an emblem of the Reagan 80's, and it was here to stay.

Both friends and rivals, Nobu the improviser and Masa the purist each shot to precipitous underdog success—yet as sushi's triumphs tapped into Japan's growing economic and cultural power, they had to contend with xenophobic anti-Japanese backlash (from figures including real estate developer Donald Trump). *Sushi, 1987* is an eye-opening cultural history and a page-turning, novelistic tale, with potential international appeal given the human element of Nobu and Masa's stories and the book's emphasis on charting the history of globalization in the world of food.

Luke Barr is the former features editor at *Travel + Leisure* and author of *Ritz & Escoffier* and the *New York Times* bestseller *Provence, 1970*. His latest book, *The Secret History of French Cooking* is forthcoming from Dutton (PRH) in March 2026.

ACM Agent: David Kuhn & Rachel Anne Cantor

FREEDOM SEEKERS

How Ordinary Americans from Florida to Alaska Invoked the Thirteenth Amendment to End Slavery in the USA

By Alice Baumgartner

WE

Fall 2028 / Basic (Hachette) / US Editor: Brian Distelber

Proposal Available — Edited Spring 2028

Building on the remarkable success of her previous book, *South to Freedom*, historian Alice Baumgartner now turns her eye to the contested aftermath of the Civil War, uncovering the little-known but critical ways in which everyday people shaped the meaning and enforcement of emancipation.

Most scholarship assumes that although coercive labor practices continued after emancipation, chattel slavery ended cleanly in 1865, but *Freedom Seekers* reveals that the struggle to end slavery persisted for decades, and across the entire continent. Alice reframes the Thirteenth Amendment not as a guarantee straightforwardly enforced by the courts, but as a living claim advanced by African Americans, Indigenous people, child apprentices, and debt laborers who appeared at army posts, consulates, Indian Superintendencies, and Freedmen's Bureau offices demanding their release from coerced labor. These "freedom seekers" argued that true liberty meant not merely equal treatment under the law but the absence of coercion, a definition of slavery that challenged debt peonage, sharecropping, apprenticeship, and other labor systems that had blurred the line between free and unfree.

Freedom Seekers revises the geography and the chronology of emancipation while also reinterpreting its meaning. Rather than treating slavery's end as a story that concludes in 1865, Alice extends the timeline into the late nineteenth and even twentieth centuries, and expands the map outward, showing how freedom claims played out from Florida to Alaska and across borders into Mexico and the Caribbean. And she advances a markedly original argument: that freedom seekers themselves understood the Thirteenth Amendment not simply as the abolition of chattel slavery but as a guarantee against all forms of coerced labor, an expansive vision that was later narrowed by the Fourteenth Amendment's emphasis on equality. The result is a book that both revises our understanding of abolition and contributes to contemporary conversations about race, labor, and constitutional interpretation.

A Yale Ph.D., **Alice Baumgartner** is an associate professor of history at USC and the award-winning author of *South to Freedom* (Hachette, 2020).

ACM Agent: Wendy Strothman & Lauren Sharp

AEVITAS 49

UPCOMING HEALTH, MINDFULNESS & SELF-HELP



OWN YOUR FERTILITY

From Egg Freezing to Surrogacy, How to Take Charge of Your Body and Your Future

By Jamie Knopman, MD with Rebecca Raphael

WE

January 2026 / W.W. Norton / US Editor: Ann Treistman

Final PDF Available

Rights Sold:

Brazilian Portuguese (Alaúde / Alta)

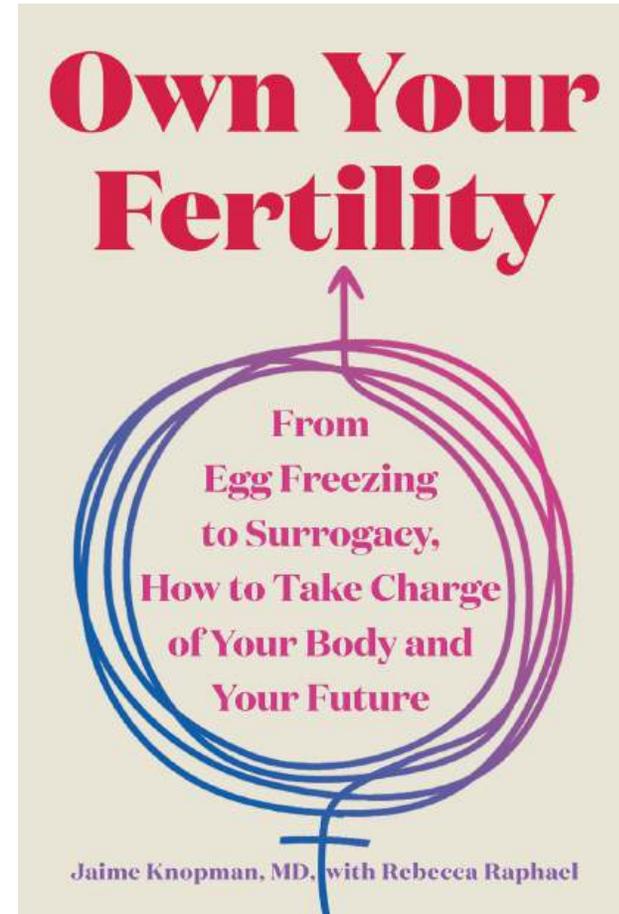
Dr. Jaime Knopman, a board-certified reproductive endocrinologist and pioneer in fertility science, helps empower a new generation to make educated, informed decisions about their reproductive health.

Dr. Jaime Knopman doesn't pull any punches when it comes to fertility. It's a fact: Women are born with all the eggs they'll ever have. Those eggs will die off or become less viable as they age, making it more difficult to conceive. That's the reality, but Knopman also reassures her patients—and now her readers—that advances in science have changed the reproductive landscape for both younger women with healthy eggs and older women who may be struggling with infertility. She has helped countless women explore the options available to them and make a fertility plan that gives them the power and freedom to structure their lives accordingly. Here is a much-needed source of detailed information on egg freezing, embryo freezing, IVF, and more.

Informed by the author's more than 20 years of experience with patients from all walks of life, *Own Your Fertility* brings together the science and the data readers need to help them make intentional, proactive decisions about their bodies and their futures.

Jaime M. Knopman, MD, is a board-certified reproductive endocrinologist who serves as the Director of Oocyte Cryopreservation for CCRM Fertility, a global pioneer in fertility science. A mother of two, she resides in New York City with her family.

Rebecca Raphael is a writer and editor whose collaborations include Eve Rodsky's *Fair Play* and Dr. Charles Sophy's *Family Values*. She worked as an editor at *Marie Claire* and a producer for ABCNews.com.



GOOD DAUGHTERING

The Work You've Always Done, the Credit You've Never Gotten, and How to Finally Feel Like Enough

By Allison M. Alford, Ph.D

NA

February 2026 / Dey Street (HarperCollins) / US Editor: Libby Burton

Final PDF Available

Rights Sold:

German (Kailash / PRH)

Korean (RH Korea)

It's time to talk about the emotional labor of being a

GOOD DAUGHTER

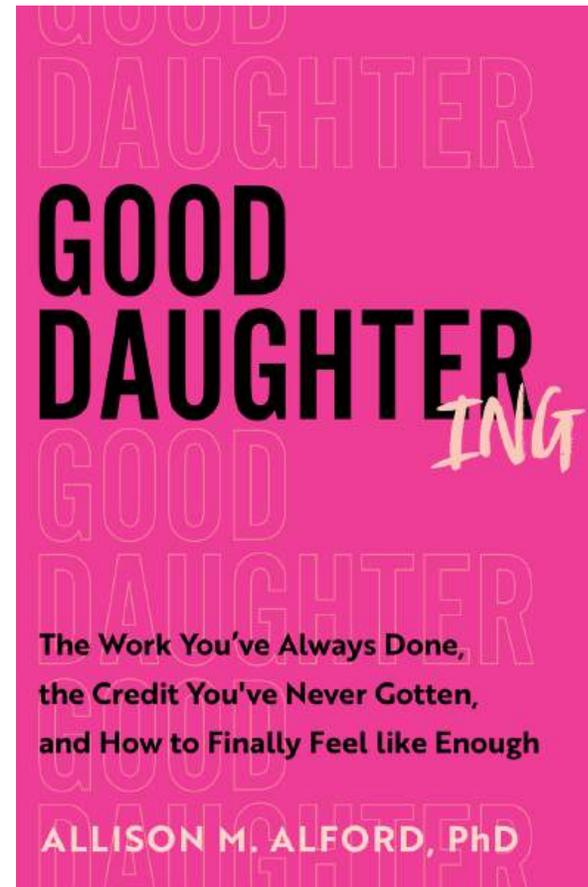
A transformative look at the hidden work of adult daughters, offering a fresh perspective on caregiving, emotional resilience, and the power daughters have to shape healthier, more fulfilling family connections—for readers of both Susan Cain's *Quiet* and Eve Rodsky's *Fair Play*.

So, what is “daughtering”? If you're a woman, it's the unpaid, invisible work of holding a family together. In *Good Daughtering*, Dr. Allison M. Alford—a leading researcher in family communication—unpacks the untold story of adult daughters and the quiet, essential work they do. Drawing on years of groundbreaking research and personal interviews, she explores how societal expectations, gender roles, and generational dynamics shape the experiences of daughters in ways that are often misunderstood or overlooked. From the subtle ways women navigate generational expectations to the emotional weight of balancing their own lives with the needs of their parents, *Good Daughtering* reveals the complexities of a role too often taken for granted. Full of sharp insights, relatable stories, and actionable tools, Dr. Alford's approach invites women to reflect on their relationships, recalibrate their roles, and reclaim joy in their lives.

Daughters are most responsible for planning and saving for their futures and those of their families, and for supporting parents emotionally and practically as they age. More than a prescriptive guide, *Good Daughtering* is the long-overdue recognition of daughters who carry the weight in a family. It's a roadmap for creating relationships that are not just functional but flourishing. This is the book every daughter deserves: an invitation to be seen, valued, and empowered in her role while honoring her own needs and desires.

ACM Agent: Karen Murgolo

Page Count: 240



"*Good Daughtering* wakes women up from the automatic habits that have historically depleted them. I love how it teaches women to create space for their needs"
—Chelsey Goodan, author of *Underestimated*

"Anyone facing these challenges will be encouraged by this thoughtful book"—*Booklist*

Leading researcher **Dr. Allison M. Alford** is the communication expert behind Good Talk Communication Consulting, where she leads coaching, workshops, and consulting to help teams improve their communication strategies. With a MA and PhD in Communication Studies from The University of Texas and a BA in International Studies from Texas A&M University, Dr. Alford applies her deep expertise in communication, relationships, and personal development to transform workplace experiences. In addition to her consulting work, Dr. Alford is a Clinical Associate Professor at Baylor University.

TOUGH ENOUGH

Hone Your Habits, Cultivate Purpose, and Forge Genuine Strength

By Trey Tucker

NA

February 2026 / Zondervan (HarperCollins) / US Editor: Webb Younce
Final PDF Available

Do you feel like you've reached manhood, but you're not sure what it means to actually *be* a man? Trey Tucker is the guide you need to become who you were meant to be—thriving, strong, and successful despite everything life throws at you.

In today's world, young men are up against a lot: constant distraction, jabs at self-confidence and self-worth, and pressure to put on a fake appearance and pretend everything is fine. But if you pretend, you will lose yourself—who you are and who you want to be, what you want from life and work, and how you can help yourself and others.

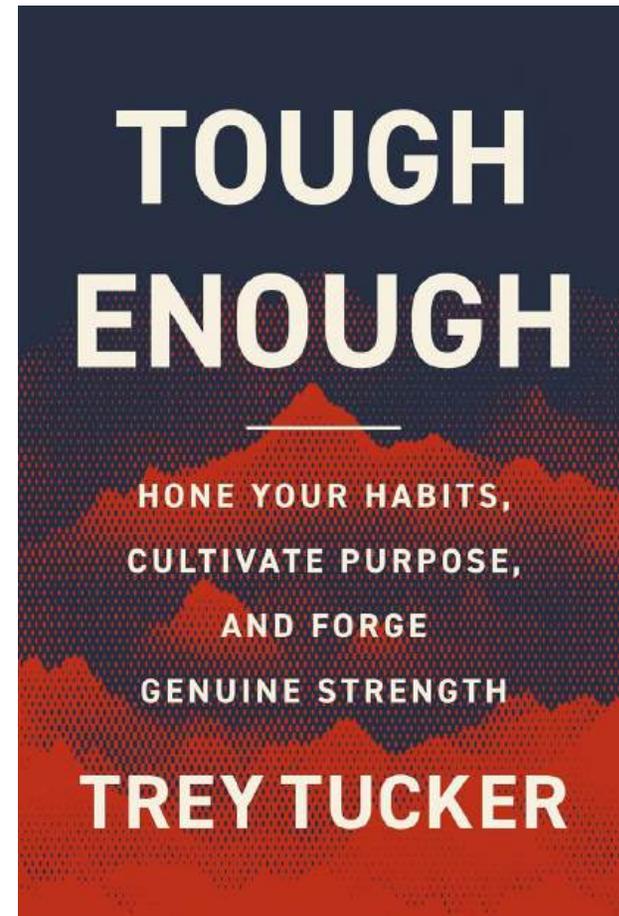
There is a better way.

In his signature no-nonsense approach, Trey Tucker—a counselor and experienced mental health expert—draws on powerful principles from his own life and from client success stories to guide you in creating habits that lead to happiness, to discovering your purpose, to understanding the true meaning of strength, and to stepping into the best version of yourself. With straightforward tips and takeaways to put into practice starting today, *Tough Enough* will help you:

- Pursue and sustain the mindset and habits required for success
- Gain the emotional strength necessary for self-reflection
- Identify the injuries that are holding you back
- Develop the resilience to navigate life's challenges
- Improve your relationships with peers and partners
- Tackle fears head-on, without running away

You can change the trajectory of your life. Examining who you are and what you want is the key to charting a path toward a successful, flourishing life.

Trey Tucker is a mental health expert and social media standout with more than one million followers on TikTok and 300,000 on Instagram. He is the founder and



owner of Rugged Counseling, known for providing “therapy without the fluff.” As a counselor with more than a decade of experience, Trey holds specialized training in areas such as anxiety, trauma, relationship communication, sports psychology, identity, and purpose. He is also certified in Eye Movement Desensitization and Reprocessing (EMDR) and neurofeedback.

STOP DRIFTING, START BUILDING

Are you crushing it on the outside but feel like you're just going through the motions? This is your blueprint for developing rock-solid habits and becoming the man you want to be.

THE ADHD FIELD GUIDE FOR ADULTS

A Survival Guide

By Cate Osborn and Erik Gude

NA

March 2026 / Gallery (S&S) / US Editor: Lauren Spiegel

Final PDF Available

Rights Sold:

Polish (Poznanski)

Spanish (Urano)

UK/Comm (Monoray/Octopus)

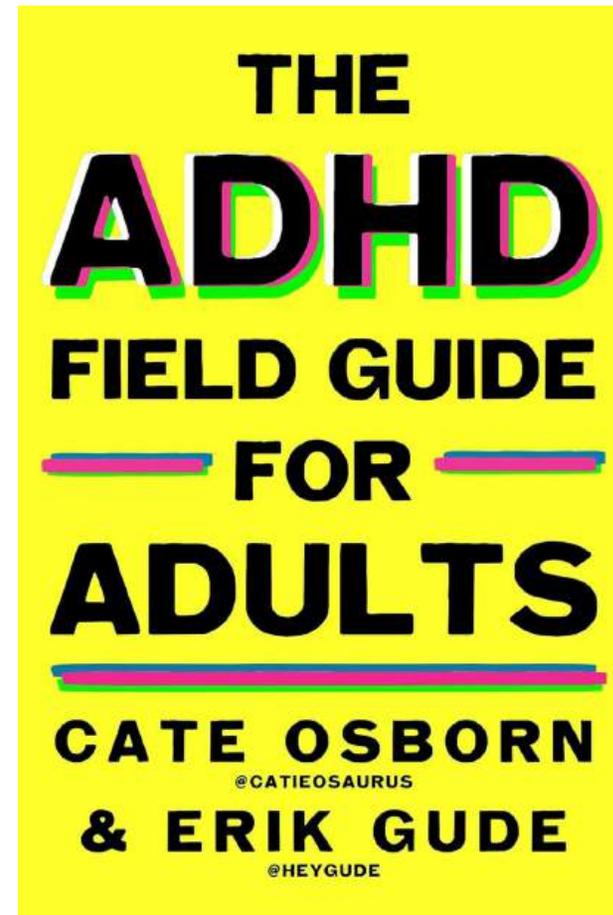
From social media sensations Cate Osborn and Erik Gude, with Rennie Dyball, comes a fresh and practical guide to managing ADHD for adults.

Just shy of her thirtieth birthday, Cate Osborn, a teaching artist with two master's degrees, started to have difficulty remembering her lines. Suddenly, things that had seemed routine before were falling through the cracks. An evaluation finally led to a diagnosis: ADHD.

Erik Gude, who was diagnosed in his teens, had a slightly different path. While an ADHD diagnosis might explain the cause of some of his academic challenges, it would take years before he understood the other ways it affected other aspects of his life. When they connected as adults, it didn't take long before they realized other people might feel just as lost as they had.

With roughly eight million adults living with ADHD and more people seeking and receiving diagnoses each year, *The ADHD Field Guide for Adults* is a witty, thoughtful, and practical guide to living with ADHD in adulthood, from two people who know what it's like. Featuring the most important foundational information about ADHD, it also explores issues that are rarely discussed, such as navigating sex and intimacy, the healthcare system, and home care. And unlike existing titles on the topic, it is intentionally structured to incorporate ADHD accessibility features by offering bite-sized pieces of knowledge in a format that caters to the unique needs of ADHD readers.

From testing, evaluations, and diagnoses, to hacks for work and productivity, organization, and time management, *The ADHD Field Guide for Adults* is the perfect book for those who want to understand why and how their brain works the way it does from people who have been there.



"Digestible, clear and compassionate. Osborn and Gude created a much-needed, modern guide for navigating ADHD in today's world." —Meg Josephson, *New York Times* bestselling author of *ARE YOU MAD AT ME?*

"This book has everything. At once gentle and no-nonsense, this is a truly comprehensive look at ADHD—what it means (and doesn't mean) to have it, and how to build systems to navigate a world designed for neurotypical brains." —Dr. Mark Shrimme, surgeon, career coach, and author of *Solving for Why*

Cate Osborn and **Erik Gude** are educators and advocates for people with ADHD. Together, they cohost *Catie and Erik's Infinite Quest: An ADHD Adventure*. **Cate** is the host of Sorry I Missed This on Understood.org, which focuses on ADHD's impact on relationships, communication, and intimacy. A certified sex educator, she is the advisor to Playboy for her expertise in the intersection of intimacy and neurodiversity. Her work has also appeared in *Cosmopolitan*, *The New York Times*, *GQ*, *HuffPost*, and other outlets. **Erik** frequently hosts panels about the intersection of ADHD and gaming at conventions, including DragonCon, Emerald City Comic Con, GenCon, MomoCon, and San Diego Comic-Con. Erik's ADHD Crafting Challenge was a huge success on TikTok with over 20 million views. A former cook, he is now a prop maker and fabricator at the legendary Fonco Studios.

THE PARENT'S GUIDE TO DIVORCE

How to Protect Your Child's Mental and Emotional Health through a Breakup or Separation

By Erica Komisar

NA

March 2026 / Countryman Press (W.W. Norton) / US Editor: Emma Peters
Final PDF Available

Rights Sold:

Brazilian Portuguese (Edipro)

Turkish (Koridor / Beyaz Balina)

UK/Commonwealth (Cornerstone)

Prioritize your child's well-being with the strategies in this practical guide from an award-winning parent guidance expert.

For children, a good divorce is better than a bad marriage, but that doesn't make the split any easier. Legal decisions have emotional consequences for kids and parents alike. Synthesizing more than 30 years of clinical experience, numerous case studies, and extensive research, acclaimed psychoanalyst and award-winning author Erica Komisar shows you how to make an effective plan that centers your children's needs, including what to know about kids of different ages, how to talk about what's happening, and how to maintain normal routines.

With numerous practical strategies, this handbook helps you build a positive support system, reassure kids without invalidating their feelings, and think through age-appropriate custody arrangements. It also provides helpful guidance about effective coparenting, new partners, blended families, and other special situations. Most importantly, it offers hope for establishing the emotional security that children need for success in life.

Erica Komisar, LCSW, is the author of *Being There*, which won a Family Choice Award for best parenting book, and *Chicken Little the Sky Isn't Falling*. Erica speaks to groups of all sizes, ranging from the Columbia University School of Social Work and The William F. Buckley Jr. lecture series at Yale to The Aspen Institute, Davos World Economic Forum and the United Nations to Sweden's HARO conference and the Legatum Institute in Great Britain.



Previous Publishers:

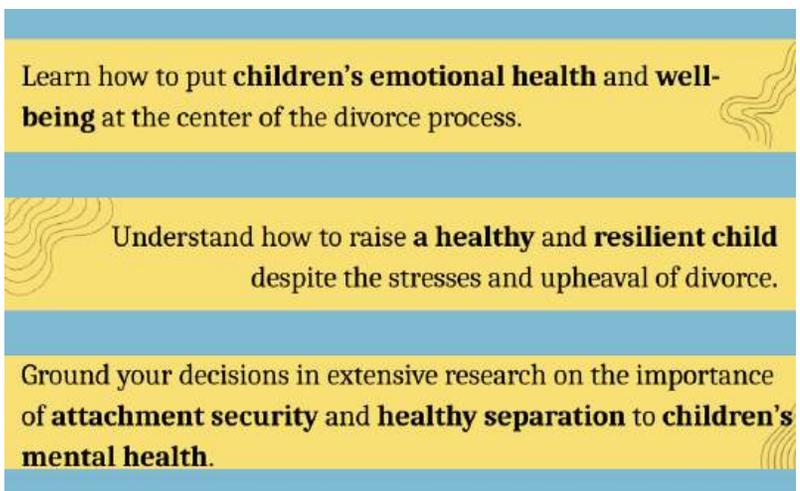
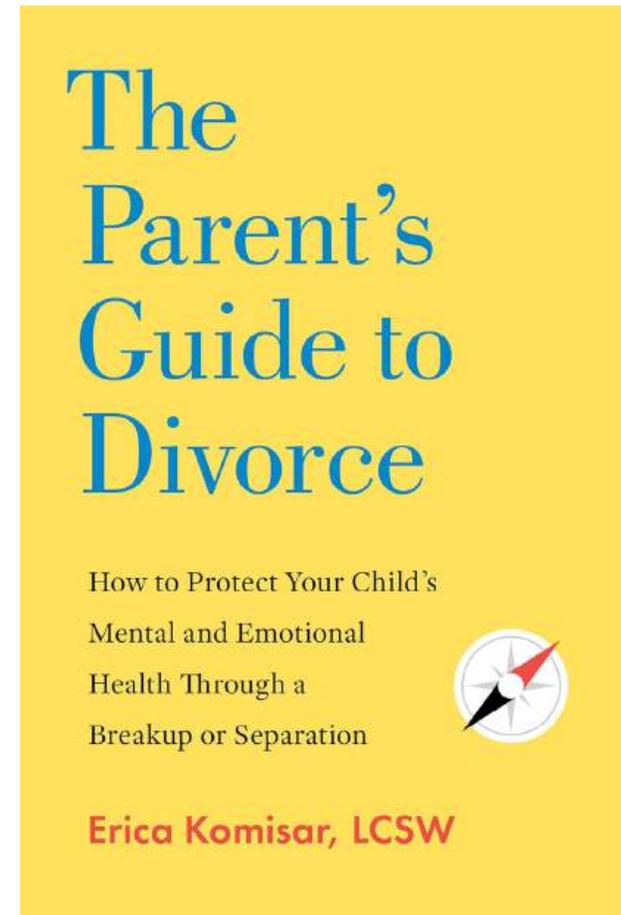
Simplified Chinese (China Machine)

Thai (SandClock Books)

Turkish (Iletisim Yayinevi)

ACM Agent: Jane von Mehren

Page Count: 256



AEVITAS 55

ALL THE FEELS

How to Stay Human in the Digital World

By Pamela Pavliscak

NA

June 2026 / Algonquin / US Editor: Maddie Jones

Edited MS Available

Rights Sold:

UK/Comm (Elliott & Thompson)

A revelatory exploration of how our online lives can enrich human connections rather than destroy them, to help us all stay sane on the internet

While it's great to go outside and touch grass, the reality is that we spend most of life with our screens, whether for school, work, or socializing. Luckily, a growing body of research shows that the variety of ever-more tailored ways that the internet allows us to connect with people has actually improved our ability to name and communicate our feelings. That, in turn, expands our emotional range and benefits our mental health.

In *All the Feels*, tech and emotional design researcher Pamela Pavliscak reveals for the first time how being so plugged in shapes our emotions. Surprisingly, studies shows that digital detoxes have little effect on happiness. Instead, how we engage with the internet (rather than how much) profoundly shapes our lives. Even simple habits like sending emojis to our friends to signal nuance, or making a few positive digital connections every day, can meaningfully support emotional well-being. Pavliscak shows readers how we can open our phones and rather than anxiety-spiral, foster all the good feels.



Pamela Pavliscak studies the future of feelings. With a background in psychology, design, and human-computer interaction, her work combines research with creative inquiry to help people better understand their emotional lives in a digital world. Her insights have appeared in the *Los Angeles Times*, *Fast Company*, NPR, and *Quartz* and she has spoken at SXSW, TEDx, TNW, and Web Summit. Pavliscak has collaborated with organizations including Google, IKEA, Twitch, and the New York Public Library, and is currently on faculty at Pratt Institute, where she teaches the next generation of tech designers.

THE CURE AT WALDEN POND

A Guide to Recovering Our Humanity

By Thomas Moore

NA

July 2026 / Pegasus Books / US Editor: Jessica Case

Edited MS Available

From the #1 *New York Times* bestselling author of *Care of the Soul* comes a revelatory approach to healing and renewal.

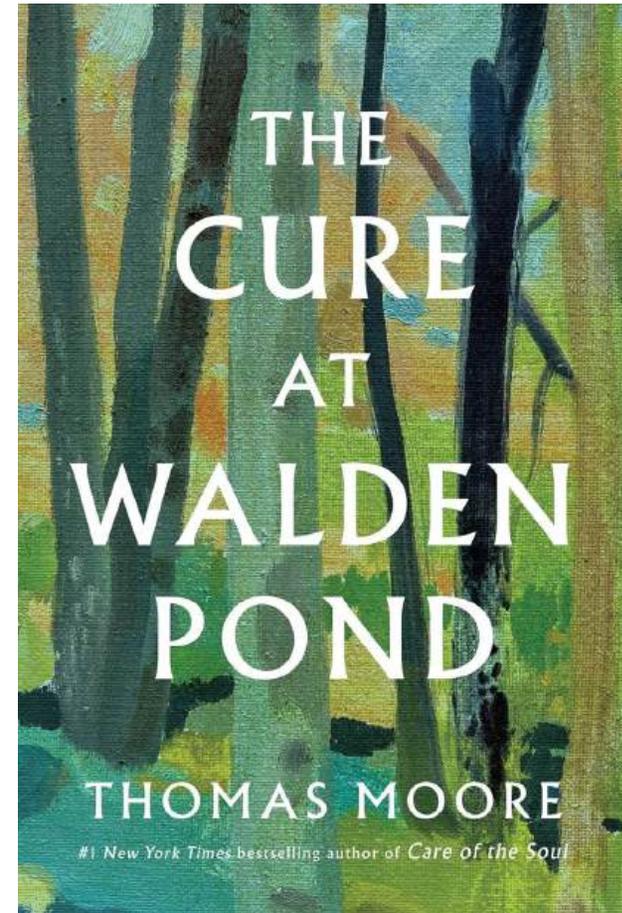
Among the pages of Henry David Thoreau's journals and his legendary *Walden*, Thomas Moore, beloved bestselling author, psychotherapist, and public thinker, has found transformative ideas and approaches that promise to help us live better. As Moore writes, "We need to make the journey to our own 'Walden Pond' and find a cure for our cultural lostness."

Like Moore's own million-copy-bestselling *Care of the Soul*, *The Cure at Walden Pond* will be widely heralded among readers for its beautiful prose, accessible voice, and profound insights into the human condition.

Thoreau was disillusioned in his day by the same kind of frantic consumerism, round-the-clock work, and narrow imagination that trouble us today. Moore will help readers slow down, be more present and mindful in their relationships with their loved ones, and appreciate the beautiful world we share. For Moore, as for Thoreau, there is immense spiritual power all around us.

New Hampshire's Mount Monadnock is a "natural temple" for all New Englanders, a place of reverence and renewal, and Moore encourages us to find our own places of rejuvenation. There is neglected spirituality—and humanity—in the everyday objects that sustain us too. Moore explores his own memories of an old farmhouse, a grinding stone, and an out-of-tune piano that bring him back to his childhood and his family history.

The journey to Walden Pond is an essential American pilgrimage, and *The Cure at Walden Pond* embodies Thoreau's essence, guiding us through Thoreau's precepts so we can find more harmony in our communities and in ourselves. Immersing ourselves in the music of the natural world *The Cure at Walden Pond* is a resonate read that will move and inspire any one in search of a new way of being.



Thomas Moore is the author of the bestselling *Care of the Soul* and twenty other books on spirituality and depth psychology that have been translated into thirty languages. He has been practicing depth psychotherapy for thirty-five years. He lectures and gives workshops in several countries on depth spirituality, soulful medicine, and psychotherapy. He has been a monk and a university professor, and is a consultant for organizations and spiritual leaders.

Praise for Thomas Moore:

"Thoughtful, eloquent, inspiring." —*The San Francisco Chronicle*

"Sincerity, intelligence and style" —**James Hillman**, author of *Re-Visioning Psychology*

"I soulfully recommend it without reservation." —**John Bradshaw**, author of *Homecoming*

IMAGINE THAT

Transform How You Think, Feel and Live with the Science of Imagination

By Cassandra Vieten

NA

August 2026 / Simon Element (S&S) / US Editor: Lauren Marino

Edited MS Available

Rights Sold:

Dutch (Ten Have)

Spanish (Planeta)

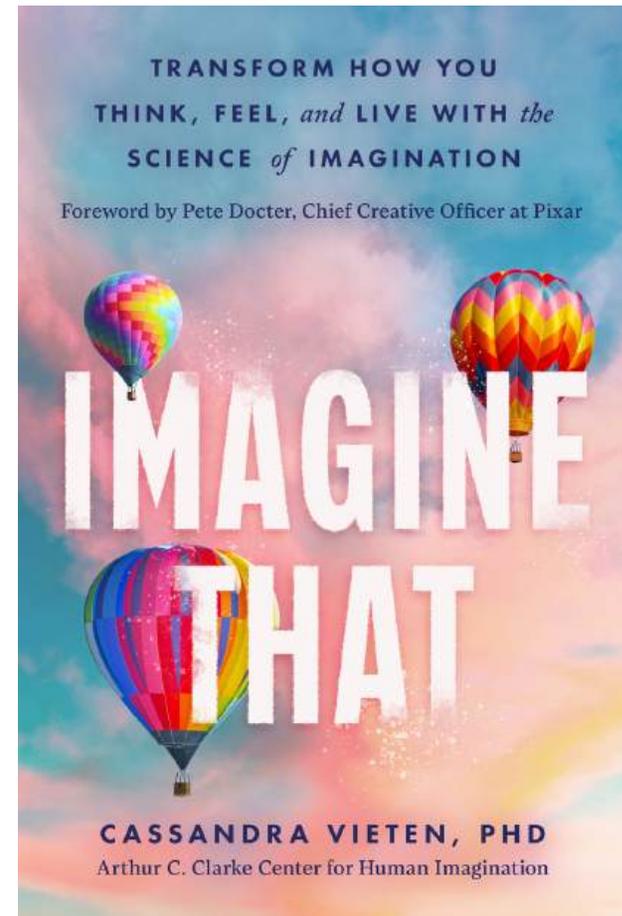
UK/Comm (Bonnier)

Imagine That will be the first book to offer a roadmap of imagination and an imagination profile tool to help each of us determine our imagination strengths and how we can use them to improve our lives.

Imagination is key to human flourishing and human progress. What we can imagine determines our sense of what is possible—and therefore what we can invent, create, and innovate. Imagination is an essential mental faculty that can be cultivated, it is the seed of every invention and every social movement. It has led to nearly every scientific discovery, every building that has been built, every piece of art, film, story, every ship that has ever sailed, and every mission to outer space. Almost every human advancement has been sparked by the question “what if...?”

Readers of this book will gain the ability to:

- * Use imagination to help relieve pain: emotional and physical;
- * Go beyond the black and white thinking that so often accompanies depression, anxiety and addiction, and open your mind to new possibilities you hadn't seen before;
- * Delve into their imagination to gain new insights into vexing situations;
- * Boost their workouts, sports, and physical training by adding the secret sauce of imagination;
- * Enrich relationships by becoming more imaginative in connection with others;
- * Be more creative and original in work, school, hobbies, art and music;
- * Deepen spirituality or existential explorations of values and meaning;
- * Enchant their world and engender more joy and creative energy through a richer, more colorful way of seeing and being.



Cassandra Vieten, PhD is a university professor, licensed clinical psychologist, mind-body medicine researcher, and internationally recognized workshop leader and public speaker. She is Director of Research at the Arthur C. Clarke Center for Human Imagination at UCSD, and works at the Centers for Integrative Health at the University of California, San Diego

OUTSMART EVERYONE

How the Secrets of Spycraft Can Give You An Edge in Work and Life

By Andrew Bustamante

NA

September 2026 / Little Brown Spark (Hachette) / US Editor: Alex Littlefield
Edited MS Available

Rights Sold:

UK/Comm (Headline)

For readers of *Never Split the Difference* and *What Every Body Is Saying*, learn how to adopt top-secret spy skills to gain an unfair advantage in business and life.

Information is the lifeblood of spycraft, and the key to unlocking opportunity, influence, and freedom in everyday life. But in a world of infinite newsfeeds and data sources and AI-generated search results, the most powerful person in the room isn't the person with the most information, or even the best information. It's the person who knows how to turn that information into knowledge.

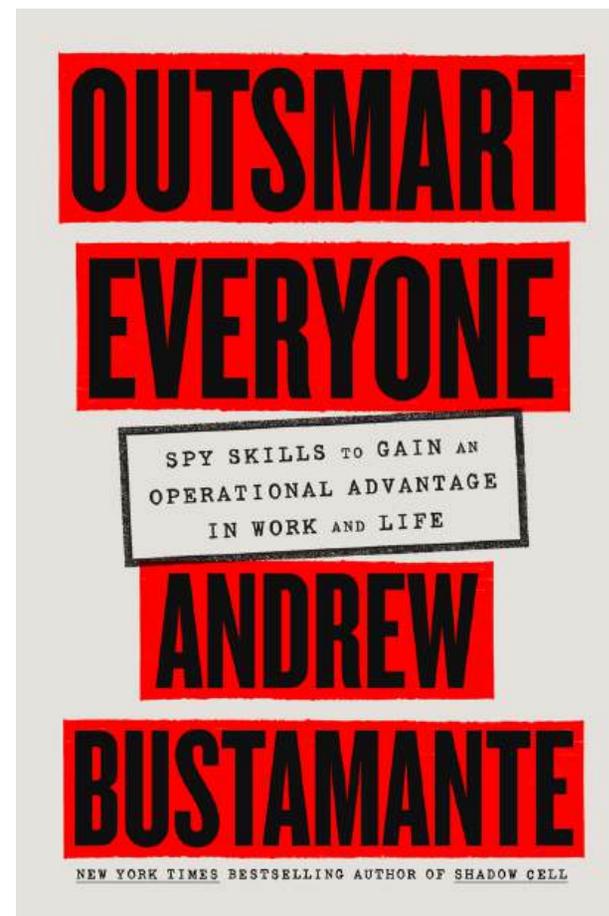
This is what intelligence operatives do better than anyone on earth—and ex-CIA officer Andrew Bustamante is here to tell you how. Packed with high octane stories from his seven years undercover and practical strategies the CIA doesn't want you to know about, *Outsmart Everyone* reveals how to:

- Cut through information overload and transform raw data into actionable insight
- Detect lies and hidden agendas by reading people like a professional interrogator
- Build powerful networks using the same methods CIA uses to recruit foreign assets
- Navigate complex human dynamics to get an edge in negotiations, networking, and teamwork
- Separate signal from noise to notice what others miss and remember details others forget
- Master the art of asking questions to unlock human intelligence
- And much more
-

These are the same elite skills that CIA operatives use to hunt terrorists, learn enemy secrets, cultivate sources, and stay alive. In this one-of-a-kind field guide, you'll learn how to deploy to them win untold success, power, and influence in your everyday life.

ACM Agent: Rick Richter

Page Count: 304



Andrew Bustamante is a former clandestine CIA intelligence officer and co-founder of EverydaySpy, a one-of-a-kind training platform for adapting the skills of intelligence operatives for business and life. He hosts the *EverydaySpy* Podcast, an iTunes top 100 podcast rated in the top .5% of all podcasts worldwide; serves as a go-to expert for international news and security issues; and is a highly sought-after public speaker and respected corporate consultant who has been featured by award-winning news outlets *The Tampa Bay Times* and *Business Insider*, as well as international TV outlets including FOX, ABC, and the History Channel. A graduate of the United States Air Force Academy and decorated US Air Force combat veteran, he spent the bulk of his military career specializing in nuclear ICBM operations. He was recruited into CIA's National Clandestine Service (NCS), where he served for seven years handling sensitive operations still classified Top Secret. Proud parents, Andrew and his wife Jihi left CIA to pursue a new mission: building their family and their company.

AEVITAS 59

YOUR GOOD DEATH

Why End of Life Healthcare is so Difficult and How to Make it Work for You

By Dr. Karen Lutfey Spencer

WE

September 2026 / Regalo Press / US Editor: Adriana Senior

Proposal Available — Edited MS Spring 2026

End-of-life options are presented as if the individual has a myriad of choices. These supposed choices span from aggressive curative care, to palliative care, hospice and, in some places, medical aid in dying. But these choices are an illusion. Not only are we not as in control of our options as we are led to believe, but death and dying has become highly medicalized, our choices are now subject to a broken healthcare process that no longer works for us. How can we navigate this important final chapter of our lives?

Your Good Death pulls back the curtain on how the medicalization of death and dying, social inequality, and healthcare systems synergistically shape people's end-of-life experiences. Spencer not only exposes this complex reality, but more important, provides important guidance for readers so they can make the best choices earlier and more effectively, and get the care they and their family need.

Your Good Death will educate readers about different types of end-of-life care they thought they understood, especially palliative care and hospice, which are too often obscured or subject to damaging myths from past decades. They will gain new insights as to why delays happen and understand the key questions they can ask at inflection points in their healthcare process that can help them change the course of their treatment. They will learn about the value of non-medical lay perspectives on health, and how their own experience of their health and illness can operate alongside of, not subjugated to, medical expertise. And they will gain information about caregiving that will help them lay groundwork in advance of an emergency, capitalizing on what is available and understanding where the gaps are in our systems.

Karen Lutfey Spencer is an internationally recognized Ph.D. medical sociologist with twenty-five years of research experience in the areas of medical decision making, doctor-patient relationships, and health disparities. She is Professor in the Department of Health and Behavioral Sciences at the University of Colorado Denver, and Senior Co-Editor of the international journal *Social Science and Medicine*.

ACM Agent: Laura Nolan

PHONE RULES

Five Simple Steps to Save Yourself, Your Kids, and the Planet

By Luc Rinaldi

CAN

December 2026 / Penguin Canada / Editor: Nick Garrison

Proposal Available — Edited MS Summer 2026

Rights Sold:

UK/Comm (Bloomsbury UK)

Phone Rules will show readers how they can wean themselves off their phones, deepen their engagement with the people and things that matter most, and utterly reclaim their lives. It will give readers a playbook consisting of five essential and insightful rules (and lots of strategies for fulfilling them.) It will invite them to join the resistance—and thereby discover untold new mind space, productivity, and hope.

Worldwide, we are using our phones far more than is healthy. Research confirms this: our phones are making us nearsighted, causing painful and persistent back and neck problems, and robbing us of the sleep and physical activity necessary for robust physical and mental health. Worse still, they are driving a widespread rise in depression, self-harm, and suicide, especially among young people. Yet, even if we know that there's an urgent collective need to get off our phones to be with each other and experience life as fully as possible, we are stymied by the scale of the problem and by the many highly addictive ways in which our phones distract and delight us and pull us back in.

Enter *Phone Rules*, which will offer the insights, inspiration, and practical, hands-on advice readers everywhere desperately need to set new and effective boundaries in their digital interactions, raise healthier and happier kids, and experience renewed energy, focus, and optimism. Four "comps" that may offer relevant guidance: as the runaway success of Jonathan Haidt's *The Anxious Generation* has evidenced, there is an avid readership for content of this kind. With its empathetic storytelling and astute cultural diagnoses, *Phone Rules* stands to echo the success of Dr. Anna Lembke's bestselling *Dopamine Nation*. As a rallying cry for a new tech paradigm, it will sit on the shelf beside Cal Newport's *Digital Minimalism*. And finally, *Phone Rules* will be in conversation with such era-defining titles about life in the digital age as Nicholas Carr's Pulitzer Prize-nominated *The Shallows*.

Luc Rinaldi is an award-winning journalist and magazine editor.

ACM Agent: Todd Shuster

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THE INWARD TRIP

An Enlightening Journey Through Everything Meditation Was, Is, and Can Be

By Jennie Rothenberg Gritz

NA

January 2027 / W.W. Norton / US Editor: Gina Iaquinta

Proposal Available — Edited MS Spring 2026

Rights Sold:

UK/Commonwealth (Allen & Unwin)

Blending history, science, and memoir, *The Inward Trip* is a vivid and comprehensive book on meditation.

Jennie grew up what looked like an ordinary small town...save for twice a day, thousands of her neighbors piled into their cars and drove to meditate in golden domes. Her town was home to the meditation-based college Maharishi International University where hundreds migrated to join its community. At 4, Jennie's dad gave her a mantra, a meaningless sound, to use silently in her head while playing. At 10, he taught her the official "sit down" technique of Transcendental Meditation (TM).

The Inward Trip will be the first book to present the entire toolbox of meditation practices, providing readers with the knowledge and inspiration to explore the vast array of transformative techniques available today. A practical guide at the back of the book, detailing how each technique works and how to learn it, will make *The Inward Trip* a lifelong resource. It will tell the story of how meditation came to the West in all its most influential forms: yoga, Zen, Transcendental Meditation, Tibetan meditation, Vipassana, and loving-kindness. Every country has its own history with these traditions. In Europe, scholars who called themselves "Orientalists" started translating Eastern scriptures as early as 1785. Later on, each country formed its own relationships with Indian gurus and Buddhist teachers as they traveled the world. Thich Nhat Hanh, a Zen monk born in French-occupied Vietnam, made his home in France, while teachers from India, Myanmar, and Tibet settled in the UK. The many ancient techniques from the East can help us deal with the exact problems we face in our modern world—from climate change to our ever-increasing sense of isolation. *The Inward Trip* offers readers these tools: reality amid illusion, clarity amid chaos, and deeper connections. Meditation can also enrich our creativity and inner joy, infusing everything with more meaning.

Jennie Rothenberg Gritz has been a writer and senior editor for the past two decades, at *The Atlantic* and *Smithsonian*.

ACM Agent: Sarah Levitt

DADS ON DUTY

How to Raise a Newborn, Keep Your Sanity, and Level Up Your Fatherhood Game

By Dr. Alok Patel

NA

February 2027 / Plume (PRH) / US Editor: David Howe

Proposal Available — Edited MS Spring 2026

A joy-filled, humorous, science-based parenting handbook by Stanford Children's Hospital/UCSF pediatrician, on-air ABC News expert, and all-around multimedia star, Alok Patel, MD.

In his years caring for tiny babies and anxious moms and dads, Dr. Patel has seen and heard it all, from the weird but normal to the truly terrifying emergencies every parent fears most. As the father of a toddler, Dr. Patel also knows how hard it is to be a parent. Too many dads, unfortunately, give up after sorting through a mess of half-true information about what's healthy and what's not—feeling overwhelmed, underinformed, and let off the hook by cultural double standards. Enter *Dads On Duty*, which will equip dads the world over with everything they need to be present as equal partners and clued-in, high-performance, awesome parents.

Written with accessible dad-to-dad candor, each chapter of *Dads On Duty* will guide parents through a key developmental stage from prenatal to 12 months. *Dads On Duty* will also give readers STOP signs for common parenting mistakes, pop-out graphics, handy checklists, fun facts about motor skills, cognition, and reflexes, and quick answers for every gnarly question a parent is likely to have about rashes, baby poop, bottle-feeding and more. Dr. Patel's voice is lively, personable and wildly entertaining. Throughout the book, readers will be reassured by Dr. Patel's authority as a nationally recognized on-air medical expert and trust his advice implicitly as they do such doctor-backed classics as *The Happiest Baby on the Block* by Harvey Karp, MD and *The Whole Brain Child* by Daniel J. Siegel, MD and Tina Payne Bryson, PhD.

Dads On Duty stands to become the absolutely essential must-have modern guide to the first year of life that will have dads everywhere not only showing up, but doing what it takes to level up their parenting game and completely crush it as fully prepared, undeniably knowledgeable, with-it, and effective new fathers.

Alok Patel, MD is a Stanford Children's Hospital/UCSF pediatrician and a nationally recognized medical on-air medical expert at ABC News.

ACM Agent: Todd Shuster

THE AGE STRONG RESET

The Modern Health Approach for Women Age 35 and Beyond

By Dr. Elizabeth Poynor

WE

Spring 2027 / Simon Element (S&S) / US Editor: Doris Cooper

Proposal Available — Edited MS Spring 2026

Rights Sold:

Dutch (Fontaine)

Spanish (Imago Mundi / Planeta)

Korean (Prunsoop)

Simplified Chinese (Cheers)

Age Strong will be the first comprehensive, scientifically-driven guide for women entering into midlife (between ages 35-65) to understand and successfully navigate their health. It is a book that is crafted with a woman's entire body, mind, and spirit in the spotlight, not just her ovaries. The book will allow women to truly understand and proactively manage their health as they age.

Dr. Poynor aims to reframe the conversation around women's health by examining the impact that changing hormones have on all systems of their bodies (including heart, brain, gut, hair/skin), rather than solely focusing on the reproductive organs. As an acclaimed integrative women's health expert, gynecologic oncologist, and advanced pelvic surgeon. Dr. Poynor is an expert in midlife women's health and also the founder of Poynor Health in New York City. The problem, according to Poynor, is that no one is explaining to these women that, even a decade before menopause, alarming symptoms such as spotty memory, elevated cholesterol levels, waning sex drive, and unexplained weight gain are the result of the tree-like effects of their hormones (estrogen, progesterone, testosterone, and other critical hormones) which have an impact -- even as early as age 35 -- on every single area of their being, not just their reproductive organs. As Poynor explains, for decades women have been subjected to the "bikini medicine" model of health care -- a reference to the premise that women's health only diverges from men in those parts covered by a bikini -- which is how most medicine continues to be practiced. As a result, no one is connecting the dots for them with their fluctuating hormones and offering "big picture" solutions for these women, as Poynor does in her practice. With three decades' experience treating patients, Dr. Poynor is adamant that women are ignored after a certain age and are desperate to understand how their hormonal shifts are having a strong, sweeping impact across all areas of their health.

Elizabeth A. Poynor, M.D., Ph.D., is the founder of Poynor Health in New York and an acclaimed gynecologic oncologist and integrative women's health expert.

ACM Agent: Laura Nolan

HOW TO DECIDE IN AN HOUR

The Handbook for Making Better Decisions Faster

By Nell McShane Wulfhart

NA

Spring 2027 / Ballantine / PRH / US Editor: Sara Weiss

Proposal Available — Edited MS Summer 2026

Rights Sold:

Brazilian Portuguese (Sextante)

Korean (RH Korea)

Complex Chinese (CommonWealth)

Polish (Zysk)

Dutch (Bruna)

Portuguese (Presença)

Finnish (Docendo)

Romanian (Publica)

French-Canada (L'Homme)

Slovak (Eastone)

French (Leduc)

Spanish (Océano and Audible)

Greek (Metaichmio)

Swedish (Akademius)

Hungarian (Central Kiadoi Csoport)

Turkish (Diyojen)

Italian (Giunti)

UK/Comm (Monoray/Octopus)

Ukrainian (Vivat)

We are drowning in choices—from major life decisions like whether to move, marry, or change careers, to relentless daily dilemmas about what to wear, eat, say, or do—we've wound up overthinking to the point of exhaustion. *How to Decide in an Hour* is a radically practical, and deeply compassionate new work by acclaimed decision coach Nell McShane Wulfhart. Nell offers readers the tools to make better choices without feeling guilty, spiraling, or second-guessing.

Unlike most decision-making books that over-index on psychology jargon, *How to Decide in an Hour* is refreshingly untheoretical. It's a no-fluff handbook full of actionable advice, time-saving strategies, and immediately useful scripts, road-tested over more than a decade of coaching everyone from Olympic athletes to overworked professionals to new parents facing life-changing forks in the road. Her message is simple but transformative: the longer you delay a decision, the harder it becomes—and the more time, mental energy, and joy you lose. The book is structured in four key sections that mirror Nell's highly sought-after one-hour coaching sessions. First, she helps readers elucidate the decision they're actually making. Next, she teaches how to eliminate noise and make the call—fast. Then, she shows readers how to follow through with confidence, even when others disagree. Finally, she offers a decision-making field guide with specific, strategic advice for the most common big life decisions: career, relationships, kids, and where to live.

Nell McShane Wulfhart is a former *New York Times* contributor and the creator of the *Decision Coach* podcast. She is the author of *The Great Stewardess Rebellion*.

ACM Agent: Lauren Sharp

AEVITAS 62

THE HIGH-AGENCY MINDSET

Stop Overthinking, Get Unstuck, and Start Living Your Life

By Nick Wignall

NA

Spring 2027 / W.W. Norton / US Editor: Merry Sun

Proposal Available — Edited MS Fall 2026

Rights Sold:

| | |
|-------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Brazilian Portuguese (Harper) | Hebrew (Matar) |
| Complex Chinese (Delight) | Hungarian (Central) |
| German (Penguin) | Polish (Galaktyka) |
| Greek (Psychogios) | Simplified Chinese (Golden Rose) |
| | Spanish (Paidós / Planeta) |

Psychologist Nick Wignall defines agency as the belief in your ability to positively influence your own life and the world around you. Many of us are anxious, overwhelmed, or depressed but can't pinpoint the cause. We feel like supporting characters in someone else's story. But some people feel energized, bold, and optimistic; they are the protagonists of their lives. The difference is agency, and the beauty of it is that everyone can put it to use. *The High-Agency Mindset* combines real-life client stories and illuminating, actionable strategies to show that agency is not some abstract personality trait you're either born with or not. It's a muscle you can build, a strength you can tap into—right now.

Mirroring Nick's strategies as a therapist and consultant, *The High-Agency Mindset* is structured around three pillars of unlocking agency: values visioning, assertive communication, and emotional resilience. The book brings each of these pillars to life through one main memorable character—a high-achieving tech worker who feels stuck despite her accomplishments and can't figure out why, a burned-out therapist who reclaims purpose through emotional courage, and a stay-at-home mom whose quiet self-sacrifice becomes a catalyst for transformation once she starts communicating her needs clearly. Through these stories and many others, Nick reveals that agency isn't about "powering through" or pretending we don't feel fear or self-doubt—it's about acting with clarity and courage despite them. Even more than inspirational, Nick's work is immediately usable, and with the rise of AI, economic volatility, and our current political turbulence, his message—that you don't need to feel in control of everything to take control of something—feels not merely comforting but crucial.

Nick Wignall is board-certified clinical psychologist, a former therapist, and now a leadership consultant. His [wellness newsletter](#) reaches 50,000 subscribers a week.

ACM Agent: Lauren Sharp

RAISED TO BE FREE

A Queer Perspective on Parenting

By Jane Ward

NA

Spring 2027 / Penguin Life / PRH / US Editor: Amy Sun

Proposal Available — Edited MS Fall 2026

In *Raised to be Free*, Jane Ward draws from her decades of influential scholarship in queer, gender, and feminist studies and her own education as a queer parent to offer up a new way of not only raising children but of relating to them in nearly any context. She calls it "queer parenting," and it's the urgently needed antidote to the hyper-gendered world in which we're currently raising our kids. At its heart, queer parenting is meant to free children from the rigid gender norms that dictate and constrain contemporary life. Jane advocates for a parenting style that puts kids' self-determination first.

Jane argues that anyone—parent or no—can apply the philosophy of queer parenting to their interactions with kids by adhering to four core principles: 1) embracing young children's natural queerness in the literal, quirkiest sense of the word; 2) resisting the impulse to label a child's gender at a young age and instead giving them space to decide on their identity when and how they want; 3) refraining from imposing adult ideas about sexuality on children's behavior and interests; and 4) modeling strong feminist relationships with our fellow adults, to demonstrate to kids how to take care of each other and our environment. These methods help readers to push back against a rising tide of parental isolationism, and to relate not just to our own children, but to all children. In short, *Raised to be Free* gives readers a hopeful and practical way to raise kids to be open-minded and accepting humans.

Yet, crucially, *Raised to be Free* is not a prescriptive parenting guide. It will surely change readers' worldview and subsequently the way they think about and treat children, but ultimately this book is a cultural critique and a call to action, the kind of book that gets people talking and offers loads of examples of how its arguments are already taking effect in the world.

Jane Ward is a feminist studies professor at UC Santa Barbara. Her previous books, *The Tragedy of Heterosexuality* (NYU Press, 2020) and *Not Gay: Sex Between Straight White Men* (NYU Press, 2015), sparked conversations, attracted acclaim from mainstream media, and are being translated into multiple languages.

ACM Agent: Lauren Sharp

ALIGNED, NOT CHOSEN

A New Way to Date Intentionally and Find Lasting Love!

By Amy Nobile-Messing

NA

Fall 2027 / St. Martin's Essentials (Macmillan) / US Editor: Brigitte Dale
Proposal Available — Edited MS Summer 2027

We are in the middle of a modern love crisis. Birth rates are falling, marriage rates are plummeting, and more people than ever report feeling lonely, disconnected, and burnt out on dating. The dominant cultural message is that finding real love has become harder than ever. Apps offer endless options but few real connections; dating advice swings wildly between cynical detachment and unrealistic fairy tales. We're confused, exhausted, and quietly wondering if lasting love is even possible.

But fear not: this book can help! *Aligned, Not Chosen* is a relatable, energizing, and deeply empowering guide from holistic dating coach Amy Nobile-Messing—someone who's helped hundreds of clients, from their 20s to their 80s, finally find the kind of relationship that once felt out of reach. Her approach is anchored in a radical reframe: the goal isn't to be chosen but to choose yourself first—by finding alignment in core values, emotional maturity, readiness, and true chemistry.

Unlike most dating books that repackage common sense or lean on gimmicks, *Aligned, Not Chosen* gives readers a clear, proven, and profoundly human roadmap. The book is structured around Amy's four pillars of alignment, the foundation for any healthy, lasting relationship:

Core Values: identifying what truly matters most in life and love.

Emotional Maturity: cultivating the ability to communicate, resolve conflict, and show up authentically.

Readiness: ensuring both partners are in the right stage and mindset for lasting commitment.

True Chemistry: embracing physical and emotional attraction that's sustainable over time.

Amy Nobile-Messing is a holistic dating coach whose intensely sought-after four-month program has helped hundreds of people.

ACM Agent: Lauren Sharp



A BETTER WAY TO DO BETTER

How to Man Up, Take on the Mental Load, and be the Partner You Want to Be

By Zach Watson

NA

Fall 2027 / Portfolio (PRH) / US Editor: Megan McCormack
Proposal Available — Edited MS Spring 2027

Eve Rodsky's *Fair Play* ignited a revolution for women who feel like they were drowning under the weight of the mental load of daily life. From her book as well as others came dozens of new terms—decision fatigue, domestic labor, kin keeping, and weaponized incompetence—all to describe the lion's share of cognitive work that women do in relationships. Overwhelmed and exhausted, women have told their partners (most often men) that they need to do better. And their well-intentioned partners want to do better . . . they just don't know how.

That's where Zach Watson found himself 7 years ago. He and his wife were separated—his marriage was clearly on the rocks. She was constantly frustrated with him, and he didn't understand why. He helped out at home and was always trying to do better. But that was the problem. Zach was stuck in what he calls a "do better loop"—he'd promise to do better, taking out the trash and doing the dishes without any reminders . . . but eventually he'd slip back into old patterns. Dishes would sit overnight, and the do better loop would start over. He realized he needed to show up differently, spending the past several years learning how to own his share of the mental labor. The result? Zach is happily married because he figured out a better way to do better.

Zach meets men where they are, walking them step by step through his W.O.R.K. methodology—which stands for **Willingness, Ownership, Repair, and Knowing** and evolves as readers progress through the book. He shares practical tools, like his B.O.R.I.N.G meeting, which allows readers a way to share responsibility around communication and planning. Or his Emotional Dashboard, which provides a shared language readers can use to recognize and express their own feelings around the seemingly endless tasks required to run a home. And throughout Zach makes it clear—he's been where the reader is now, and he knows they can *do better*.

Zach Watson has built a dedicated fan base of over 1.2 million followers across multiple platforms and established his reputation as the leading male voice on invisible labor. Through his unique message and approach, Zach has built an incredibly engaged audience and highly successful business as a "mental load coach".

ACM Agent: Karen Murgolo & Donya Dickerson

AEVITAS 64

WOMEN AND ADDICTION

A Guide

By Hilary Phelps and Dr. Lipi Roy

NA

Fall 2027 / Hay House / US Editor: Marisa Vigilante

Proposal Available — Edited MS Summer 2027

In *Women and Addiction*, two powerhouse voices—18-year sober coach and wellness advocate Hilary Phelps and nationally renowned addiction medicine physician Dr. Lipi Roy—join forces to redefine how we understand, treat, and talk about addiction in women. Drawing from lived experience and the newest medical science, they deliver a deeply researched portrait of recovery that centers women’s lives from puberty through menopause, and addresses the things mainstream resources often miss: trauma, stigma, motherhood, systemic barriers, hormones, and the necessity of belonging.

Women and Addiction is as much an operating manual for recovery as it is a rallying cry for change. Readers will find:

- The latest science behind why women are more vulnerable to addiction and why tailored, gender-specific treatment leads to better outcomes.
- Practical advice for navigating sobriety, including trauma-informed strategies, nutrition, exercise, and support systems rooted in connection rather than shame.
- An inspiring, honest portrayal of recovery as an ongoing journey—one that reclaims autonomy, identity, and hope through resilience and community.
- Insights on emerging treatments (from psychedelics to telehealth), and real tools for advocating systemic change.

Women and Addiction is not a traditional memoir or advice book—it’s a sweeping, culture-shifting critique of how we think about addiction, and a roadmap to lasting change. Written for women in every stage of life, for their loved ones, for clinicians and advocates, and for a general readership invested in health and empowerment, it has the potential to reach the same wide audiences as *What Happened to You?*, *Good Morning, Monster*, and *Quite Like a Woman*.

Hilary Phelps is a writer, national speaker and founder of The Right Room, a community for women in transition. **Dr. Lipi Roy**, board-certified in addiction medicine, is a leading physician, educator, and media contributor who has appeared on MSNBC, CNN, *The New York Times*, *Forbes*, Oprah.com, among many others.

ACM Agent: Bridget Wagner Matzie

PARASOCIAL

How Strangers Structure Our Online (And Offline) Lives

By Jessica Maddox

NA

Spring 2028 / Sourcebooks / US Editor: Kristen Nelson

Proposal Available — Edited MS Fall 2027

A highly accessible, informative, and entertaining guide to how parasocial relationships came to dominate the internet—and what we can do about it.

The word “parasocial” has become a buzzword used to describe (and often denigrate) the one-sided relationships we form with creators, influencers, and celebrities, supercharged by the levels of visibility, access, and intimacy afforded to us all in the TikTok era. As entertainment and media studies professor Jessica Maddox argues in *Parasocial*, these relationships have come to not only dictate our consumption of media and our behavior online, but our “real” relationships as well, eroding our sense of boundaries with one another. With the power of social media so enmeshed in our daily lives, Maddox argues, we are all celebrities now. But we reap few of the benefits of that celebrity—and live with so many of the drawbacks.

Though humor lurks around every corner of this topic, Maddox will caution readers not to laugh off the phenomenon of parasocial relationships. Readers will learn how “bestie,” “hater,” and “stalker” relationships lead to very real—and very offline—social practices; how they are shaping what labor looks like in the social media era; and how they are at the root of most of the internet’s bad behavior. Each chapter of *Parasocial* will explore the uses and effects of parasocial relationships: How users flock to them for comfort; how they thrive on intimacy and foster conspiracy; how they bring haters together into echo chambers of anti-fandom; how they can function as tools for marginalized communities to look out for one another; and so much more. We don’t have to view these relationships as purely negative, Maddox concludes. But a closer look can help us change our behavior—online and offline—for the better.

Jessica Maddox is Professor of Media Studies at the University of Georgia. She is the author of *The Internet is for Cats: How Animal Images Shape our Digital Lives* (Rutgers University Press, 2023) and *Anatomy of an Internet Scandal: Content Creators and the Politics of Going Viral* (University of California Press, forthcoming).

ACM Agent: Justin Brouckaert

RAISING THINKERS

How Russian Math Builds Resilient Minds in an Uncertain World

By Inessa Rifkin and Masha Gershman

WE

Spring 2028 / Knopf (PRH) / US Editor: Quynh Do

Proposal Available — Edited MS Spring 2027

Rights Sold:

Simplified Chinese (CITIC)

Today's youth are in crisis—not only emotionally, but intellectually. Many young people can't follow complex arguments, analyze ideas, or finish a book. In an age of instant information, we are raising a generation that lacks the ability to think. How do we change the equation? The answer lies with Inessa Rifkin, teacher and co-founder of the internationally acclaimed Russian School of Mathematics (RSM), the go-to mathematics enrichment program for the children of Pulitzer Prize winners, Wall Street CEOs, Harvard professors, tech founders, and more.

With discernment, humor, and decades of hands-on experience, *Raising Thinkers* argues that mathematics is essential to childhood development. It exposes where the Western system of education has gone wrong—leaving children mentally and psychologically unprepared to deal with schoolwork, let alone life—and presents an alternative model for moving forward. Based on the methodology behind the Russian School of Math, Ms. Rifkin makes the case that math is not merely a subject but a powerful tool for developing both a person's mind and character. Not only does it have the potential to deepen comprehension, logical reasoning, abstraction, and mental flexibility, but it also can strengthen drive, persistence, and self-confidence. Math may not be a panacea, but the ability to persevere through challenge is a superpower.

An antidote to *The Anxious Generation*, *Raising Thinkers* is a passionate, practical, and inspiring call to action for people who care deeply about how we raise capable, independent-minded children.

In addition to founding the acclaimed Russian School of Mathematics (RSM), **Inessa Rifkin** is a mechanical engineer and computer scientist. She has overseen more than 250,000 students pass through RSM and its accompanying summer camp, and has raised two children and seven grandchildren, six of whom have participated in the program (one is still a baby). Rifkin will be writing the book with her daughter **Masha Gershman**, a former journalist, RSM alumna, and VP of Outreach at RSM—as well as a parent to three kids ages 2, 6, and 9.

ACM Agent: Becky Sweren

LIVING WELL

Twenty-One Lessons in Practical Wisdom

By Dr. Tamar Gendler

NA

Fall 2028 / Knopf (PRH) / US Editor: Quynh Do

Proposal Available — Edited MS Spring 2028

Rights Sold:

Korean (Woongjin ThinkBig)

Spanish (Paidós / Planeta)

Romanian (Editura Trei)

UK/Comm (Atlantic Books)

We're living in an age of relentless noise—information without insight, opinion without understanding, urgency without reflection. The questions that once grounded human life—what makes a good life? what makes a good person?—are increasingly drowned out by a constant demand to react, perform, adapt, and optimize. Amid this confusion, there is a growing hunger for what philosophy uniquely offers: a way to think with clarity, to act with purpose, and to live with integrity. The advent of AI has made the basic concepts of ancient wisdom relevant and timely. The moment couldn't be better for a book that brings philosophy out of the ivory tower and into the pop culture conversation. In *Living Well*, Yale philosopher and cognitive scientist Dr. Tamar Gendler will do just that. In twenty-one brisk lessons, she'll show how the world's oldest search for understanding can become a modern guide to living well, living wisely, and living justly—the themes of her book's three sections.

Blending ancient insight with contemporary psychology, neuroscience, and behavioral science, *Living Well* will distill millennia of reflection into a set of approachable, transformative, and fun practices. Structured as a three-week journey that readers can take one day at a time, each short chapter pairs a big idea—weakness of the will, habit, freedom, justice—with vivid stories, cognitive science, and reflection. Throughout the book, Tamar will reveal how the questions posed by thinkers from Aristotle to Arendt—what do we owe one another? How do we align thought and action?—can become practical tools for navigating the complexity of our contemporary age. The result is *Sophie's World* for the podcast era: brisk, humane, and habit-forming. In Tamar's hands, philosophy feels timely, practical—and laugh-out-loud funny.

Tamar Gendler is a professor of philosophy, psychology, and cognitive science at Yale University, where she also served as inaugural dean of the Faculty of Arts and Sciences from 2014 to 2024.

ACM Agent: David Kuhn & Rachel Anne Cantor

UPCOMING POPULAR CULTURE, ARTS & MUSIC



A PLACE BOTH WONDERFUL AND STRANGE

The Extraordinary Untold History of Twin Peaks

By Scott Meslow

NA

February 2026 / Running Press (Hachette) / US Editor: Randall Lotowycz

Final PDF Available

Rights Sold:

French (Editions Sonatine)

Russian (AST)

Hungarian (Libri Konyvkiado)

UK/Commonwealth (Faber)

For the first time, the complete history of David Lynch and Mark Frost's *Twin Peaks*—from the landmark, original cult series that changed the course of television to its 25-years-in-the-making sequel—is told through fascinatingly detailed reporting and exclusive interviews with the show's cast and creators.

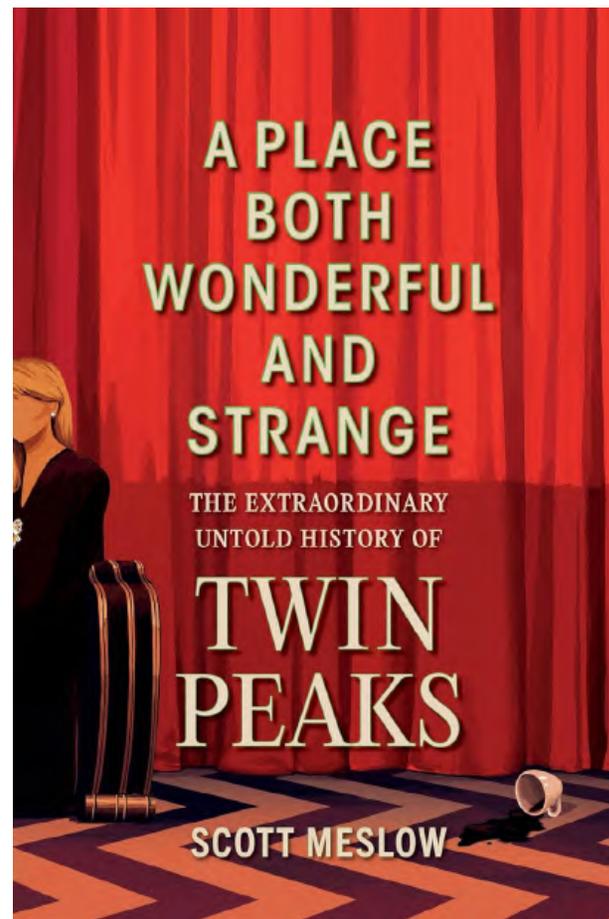
From its start, when studio executives drafted a plan to recoup costs after what they predicted would be the series' inevitable failure, to the 1992 prequel movie that earned scathing reviews at Cannes, to its acclaimed return some twenty-five years later, *Twin Peaks* garnered millions of devoted fans who refused to let it die.

In *A Place Both Wonderful and Strange*, entertainment reporter Scott Meslow takes readers behind the curtain of Lynch's and Frost's dedication to finishing what they started, with both the prequel film and Showtime's *Twin Peaks: The Return*, offering dozens of original and revelatory interviews that cast a whole new light on the extraordinary show. *Twin Peaks* fans will discover how hard the mercurial Lynch and affable Frost fought impatient ABC execs (ultimately losing) to keep Laura Palmer's murder unsolved, as well as the omerta-like secrecy around the filming of the show. For a series that left as many questions unanswered as answered, Meslow's deep reporting will give readers a new perspective, detailing scenes left on the cutting-room floor and how Season Two's finale stunned and infuriated studio execs in what Mark Frost calls "a defiant middle finger to what they [studio executives] thought the show should be."

The influence of *Twin Peaks* is inescapable. It's hard to imagine prestige television like *True Detective*, *Severance*, and so many other shows in this genre could exist without Lynch and Frost's visionary brilliance. With David Lynch's passing in 2025, there may never be another return to the quirky, mysterious, and unforgettable town of Twin Peaks, but *A Place Both Wonderful and Strange* serves as testament to the impact it had on the world.

ACM Agent: Rick Richter

Page Count: 272



"Meslow interweaves his diligent account of the show's cultural legacy with delightful peeks into its idiosyncratic production and the eccentric directorial style of Lynch... Fans will be riveted."—*Publishers Weekly*

"*Twin Peaks* fans will want to pair Meslow's comprehensive book on the seminal series with a fine cup of coffee and a slice of cherry pie." —*Library Journal*

"Chock full of interviews with pretty much everyone involved in *Twin Peaks*, and with tons of behind-the-scenes revelations, this is one of the best books about television production yet published." —*Booklist*

Scott Meslow is a Los Angeles Press Club-nominated film and television critic. He writes for publications including *GQ*, *New York*, and *The Atlantic*. His first book, *From Hollywood with Love: The Rise and Fall (and Rise Again) of the Romantic Comedy*, was published in 2022.

AEVITAS 68

BUMPING INTO GENIUSES

My Life Inside Rock 'n' Roll -- Updated Edition

By Danny Goldberg

WE

March 2026 / Diversion Books / US Editor: Evan Phail

Final PDF Available

Step inside the rock 'n' roll world with this all-access pass from the music biz legend who collaborated with Led Zeppelin, Nirvana, Stevie Nicks, Bruce Springsteen, and more.

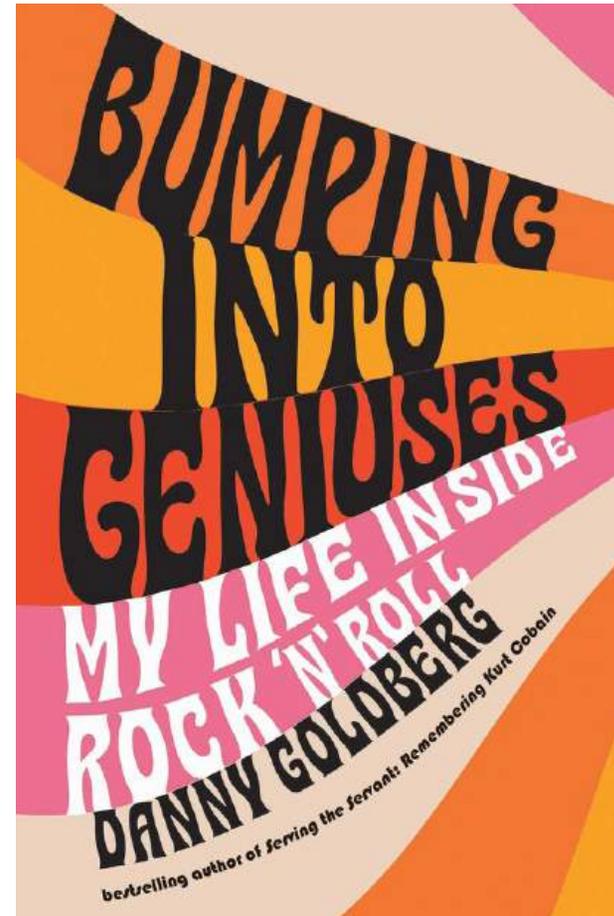
In *Bumping into Geniuses*, Danny Goldberg chronicles his decades in the rock and roll biz—not only launching legendary acts to greater heights, but becoming friends with many of them. He tells mesmerizing stories of superstars like Kurt Cobain, Courtney Love, Bruce Springsteen, Warren Zevon, KISS, Led Zeppelin, and others.

There may be no other music genre that has evolved like rock and roll. One man behind the scenes who has been hugely influential in defining it is Danny Goldberg, who started as a journalist in the '60s but soon pivoted to become the American publicist for Led Zeppelin. He then became the personal manager for artists such as Bonnie Raitt, Stevie Nicks, Sonic Youth, the Allman Brothers Band, and Nirvana.

More than a series of brilliantly painted rock-star portraits, this updated edition unpacks the last half century of the industry itself: an everchanging business that was complex and chaotic, a mixture of art and commerce, idealism and selfishness. And in the telling, Goldberg reveals how rock's most gifted and influential musicians were able to release music which endures decades later.

Originally published in 2008, the 2026 edition includes a new afterword by Goldberg with updated observations on the music business in the digital era, and rock culture in general as well as new anecdotes about several of the "geniuses" he worked with.

Danny Goldberg is a legendary music industry figure who has served as CEO of the Mercury Records Group, Atlantic Records, Warner Bros. Records, and Artemis Records, and currently runs Gold Village Entertainment. His most recent books include *Serving the Servant: Remembering Kurt Cobain* and *Liberals with Attitude: The Rodney King Beating and the Fight for the Soul of Los Angeles*.



"Chronicles the phases of his career with the sort of candor few record-biz execs would attempt... Admirably blunt, but also spiked with tart humor."

—*Entertainment Weekly*

"For anyone interested in the rock and roll industry, or simply the mores and temperaments of the musicians themselves... an incredible insider's tale."

—*Vintage Guitar*

"Danny writes about rock and roll with his characteristic mix of intelligence, reverence, and humor."

—*Patti Smith*

Goldberg demonstrates that there's more to the music business than just business."

—*Kurt Loder, Rolling Stone music critic*

"A behemoth in the rock 'n' roll industry."—*Vanity Fair*

"A laminated backstage pass to the music business, intertwined with a juicy slice of countercultural history."—*Los Angeles Times*

"[A] surprisingly excellent book, an engaging, droll and — incandescent artistes to the contrary — largely demystifying look at the evolution of the rock trade from Woodstock to grunge..."—*New York Times Book Review*

Previous Publishers of Danny Goldberg:

Brazilian Portugues (Alta)

Bulgarian (Kyrg)

Croatian (Profil)

Danish (Memoirs)

French (Editions Kero)

German (Hannibal)

Italian (HarperCollins Italy)

Polish (Znak)

Russian (Eksmo)

Serbian (Vulkan)

Spanish (Alianza)

UK/Comm (Trapeze / Orion)

JUDY BLUME

A Life

By Mark Oppenheimer

NA

March 2026 / Putnam (PRH) / US Editor: Michelle Howry

Final PDF Available

Rights Sold:

UK/Commonwealth (Scribe)

A Washington Post, W Magazine, Book Rio, LitHub Most Anticipated Book of 2026

The definitive biography of one of the world's most beloved literary voices, showcasing a life as triumphant and inspiring as the stories she crafted.

To know the name Judy Blume is to know and love literature. Her influential novels turned classics—including *Are You There God? It's Me, Margaret*; *Tales of a Fourth Grade Nothing*; *Deenie*; and *Summer Sisters*—touched the lives of tens of millions of adults and children. For more than fifty-five years her work has done something revolutionary: it rewired the world's expectation of what literature for young people can be—frank, candid, earthy, and unafraid to show the messier sides of humanity. But little is known about the real woman behind the iconic persona, and the unlikely journey of her literary ascension, until now.

In *Judy Blume*, journalist, historian, and longtime Blume aficionado Mark Oppenheimer pens a beautiful, multidimensional portrait of the acclaimed author through extensive interviews with Blume herself and unrivaled access to her papers and correspondence. Oppenheimer goes deep, exploring Blume's middle-class, 1950s upbringing; complicated childhood; varied relationships and marriages; unabashed sexual experiences; bouts of heartache and loss; and enduring legacy as a champion of free speech and contemporary literature. Oppenheimer peels back the curtain to reveal the woman behind the literary empire in all her complex, multifaceted glory—a true gift for anyone who grew up reading and loving these extraordinary books.

Mark Oppenheimer has been covering American religion for 25 years. He holds a Ph.D. in religious studies from Yale, and has taught at Stanford, Wesleyan, Wellesley, NYU, Boston College, and Yale, where he was the founding director of the Yale Journalism Initiative. He is the author of five books, including *The Newish Jewish Encyclopedia* and, most recently, *Squirrel Hill: The Tree of Life Synagogue Shooting and the Soul of a Neighborhood*.

ACM Agent: David Kuhn

Page Count: 480

“Charming, candid, thoughtful and funny, and perfectly tuned to the zeitgeist of her time, just like her bestselling novels.” —**Debby Applegate**, winner of the Pulitzer Prize for Biography

“Oppenheimer brings an insightful, clear-eyed, generous spirit to his portrait, worthy of its subject.” —**Jonathan Rosen**, author of *The Best Mind*

“There's nothing better than a biography written by someone who not only loves their subject but who has studied it as deeply as possible...”
—**Book Riot**

★ STARRED REVIEW, BOOKLIST ★

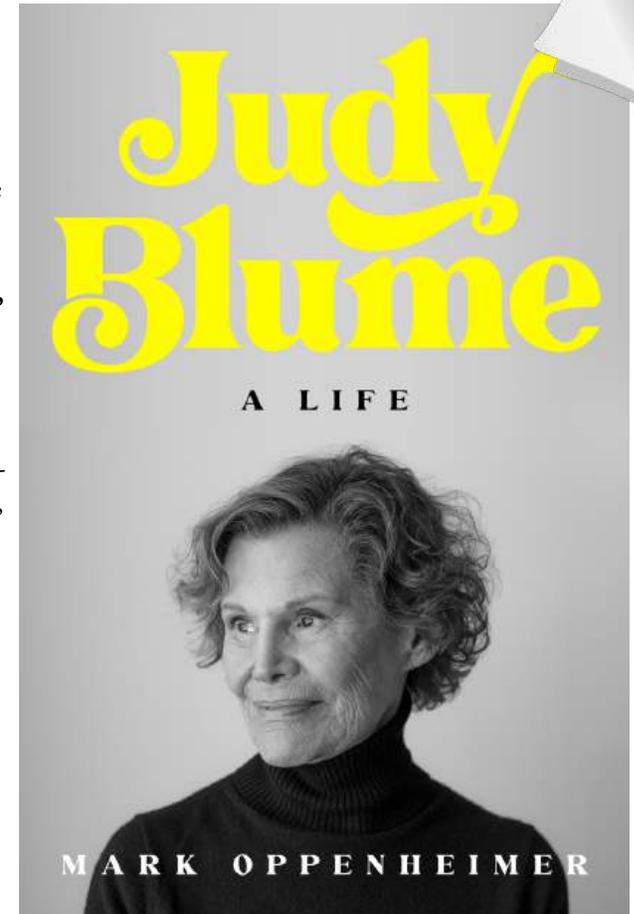
“[A] thoughtful, detailed, and nuanced biography . . . It seems almost inevitable that all evidence points to Blume being the cool, honest, and empathetic ally readers would expect from the creator of characters as memorable as Margaret, Peter, and Fudge. Oppenheimer's first biography is engaging, revealing, satisfying, and a fitting tribute.”

“At last— a biography of Judy Blume that is worthy of its subject. Oppenheimer is a masterful chronicler of Blume's remarkable life and extraordinary impact. Writers and readers alike will leave this work emboldened, inspired, and encouraged.”

—**Tayari Jones**, bestselling author of *An American Marriage*

“[P]aints a picture of a diligent, driven writer seeking a unique voice...A buoyant biography of a writer who redefined young people's literature.” —**Kirkus**

AEVITAS 70



WHERE THE MUSIC HAD TO GO

How Bob Dylan and the Beatles Changes Each Other – and the World

By Jim Windolf

NA

April 2026 / Scribner (S&S) / US Editor: Rick Horgan

Final PDF Available

Rights Sold:

UK/Comm (White Rabbit/Orion)

Persuasive, captivating, and bursting with insight, this dual biography by acclaimed *New York Times* journalist Jim Windolf dives into the surprisingly supportive, occasionally rivalrous, and always fertile relationship between Bob Dylan and The Beatles, uncovering how they inspired and transformed each other as songwriters, recording artists, and cultural icons.

Few artists have shaped pop culture as profoundly as the Beatles and Bob Dylan. In *Where the Music Had to Go*, journalist Jim Windolf unveils the profound and often startling relationship between these era-defining musical acts. This must-read work explores how Dylan and the Beatles not only transformed the music scene but also each other, creating a legacy that continues to resonate. From Dylan's early dismissal of the Beatles as being for "teenyboppers" to his jaw-dropping realization of their talent, the book captures the pivotal moments that pushed Dylan to "go electric" and inspired the Beatles to deepen their lyrics. Packed with vivid anecdotes—imagine the Beatles rehearsing Dylan songs or Dylan spending hours at Lennon's childhood home—the book paints a picture of a relationship full of camaraderie, rivalry, and mutual evolution.

Windolf's meticulous research uncovers hidden gems, peeling back layers of history to reveal the stories fans didn't even know they were missing. From Lennon's and McCartney's lyrical transformations to George Harrison's growth as a songwriter, the book showcases the ripple effects of the Beatles-Dylan connection. More than a music biography, this is a front-row seat to the forces that shaped the sound of a generation. With Windolf's captivating storytelling and unrivaled insight, *Where the Music Had to Go* offers an unmissable experience for music lovers, history buffs, and anyone curious about the magic that happens when legends collide.

Jim Windolf is a features editor at *The New York Times*. He has published articles, reviews, essays and humor pieces in *Vanity Fair*, *The New Yorker*, *New York* magazine, *Rolling Stone*, and many other publications.

ACM Agent: Michael Signorelli

Page Count: 400

WHERE THE MUSIC HAD TO GO

Jim Windolf



How Bob Dylan and the Beatles



Changed Each Other—and the World



"A brilliantly fresh take on Dylan and the Beatles that illuminates connections and crosscurrents between the five immortals that we've never thought of before."
—**James Kaplan**, bestselling author of *Frank*

"Drawing on a wide range of contemporaneous sources, Jim Windolf's scrupulous account sheds new light on the often rivalrous yet consistently rewarding relationship between the paradigmatic singer-songwriter and paradigmatic rock group."
—**Jonathan Gould**, author of *Can't Buy Me Love: The Beatles, Britain, and America*

"Exquisitely researched, thrilling, and moving...this book was revelatory."
—**Rosanne Cash**, four-time Grammy Award-winning singer and songwriter

"The friendship between Bob Dylan and Beatles and how they influenced, competed with, and revered each other is meticulously, lovingly told in this delightful history of a magical world in an historic era."
—**Jann Wenner**, cofounder of *Rolling Stone*

"What struck me most was the vulnerability—even, I daresay, the sweetness—in some of these macho guys' interactions. Readers will find here a host of fascinating cameos and name drops."
—**Sheila Weller**, *NYT* bestselling author of *Girls Like Us*

"A book for serious fans and students of the '60s and '70s that's not to be missed."
—**Toby Thompson**, author of *Positively Main Street: Bob Dylan's Minnesota*

AEVITAS 71

THE FRENCHMEN

Or, My Life in Theory

By Emily Eakin

NA

July 2026 / Penguin Press (PRH) / US Editor: Ann Godoff

Edited MS Available

Rights Sold:

Dutch (Athenaeum)

From leading critic and essayist Emily Eakin, a stylish personal history of French theory and its unlikely domination of American culture

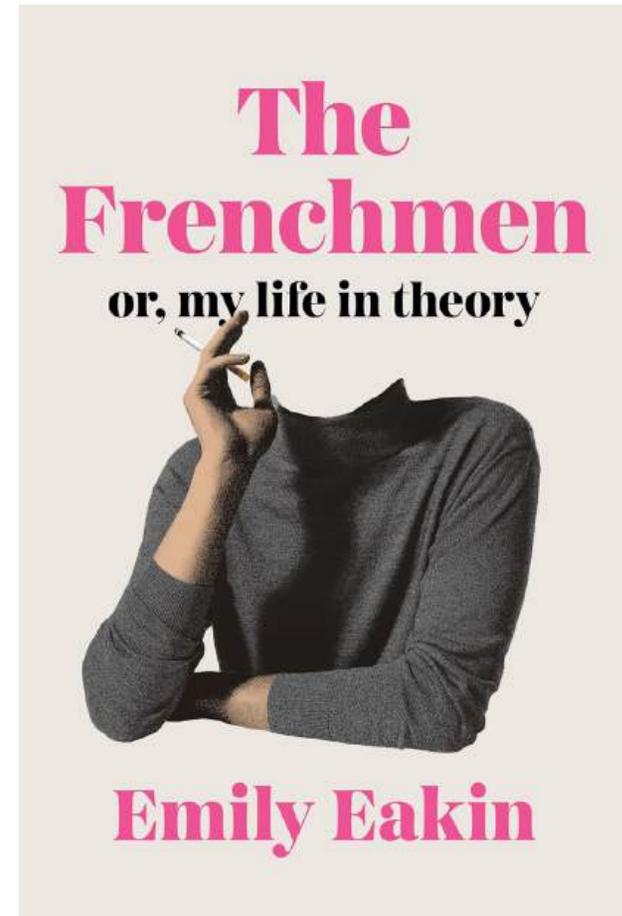
When Emily Eakin arrived at Harvard in the late 1980s, she fell under the spell of an eclectic body of philosophical texts by a handful of French authors. This was French theory, a set of recondite ideas that had taken American campuses by a storm during the preceding decades. In retrospect, the influence of these men and their writings seems both extraordinary and improbable. The Frenchmen argued that language is all-powerful, meaning unstable, and the self is an illusion. Their prose was brilliant, dazzling even, but often mystifyingly elaborate and highly abstract. Yet American students and scholars flocked to their books and lectures, intoxicated by a powerful new means of understanding—and perhaps even changing—the world. For Eakin, an unsophisticated graduate of a small-town Midwestern high school, theory was no mere intellectual exercise but a way of being—a heady shortcut to worldly glamour and wisdom.

The Frenchmen is the story of Eakin's youthful love affair with French theory, alongside a wider examination of its rise and fall. Looking closely at Jacques Derrida, Louis Althusser, Roland Barthes, Gilles Deleuze, Michel Foucault, Félix Guattari, Jacques Lacan, and the French-speaking Belgian Paul de Man, Eakin untangles their famously difficult works with peerless, delightful clarity. What's more, she brings to light the eccentric, scandalous—at times criminal!—lives of thinkers who themselves were often highly averse to biography, in a daringly original weave of storytelling and exegesis.

As she explores the magnetism of their work, Eakin illuminates not just the Frenchmen's enduring legacy but some of today's deepest political, social, and intellectual arguments. She neither rejects nor flatters the Frenchmen's ideas but instead reveals how they indelibly changed our understanding of power, truth, and identity. Eakin shows how, for better or worse, the Frenchmen continue to shape and unsettle our lives today.

ACM Agent: David Kuhn

Page Count: 480



Emily Eakin is a senior editor at *The New York Times Book Review*. Her profiles, essays, and reviews have appeared in *The New Yorker*, *The New York Times Magazine*, *The New Republic*, *The New York Review of Books Daily*, and *The Chronicle of Higher Education*, among other publications. She has a degree in literature from Harvard College and graduate degrees from Columbia University and the École Normale Supérieure, in Paris. She lives with her husband and two children in New York City.

THE STORY OF YOUR LIFE

How Social Media Shapes the Way We Experience Everything

By Kathryn Jezer-Morton

NA

August 2026 / Viking (PRH) / US Editor: Amy Sun

Edited MS Available

Rights Sold:

Canada (Random House Canada) UK/Commonwealth (Icon)

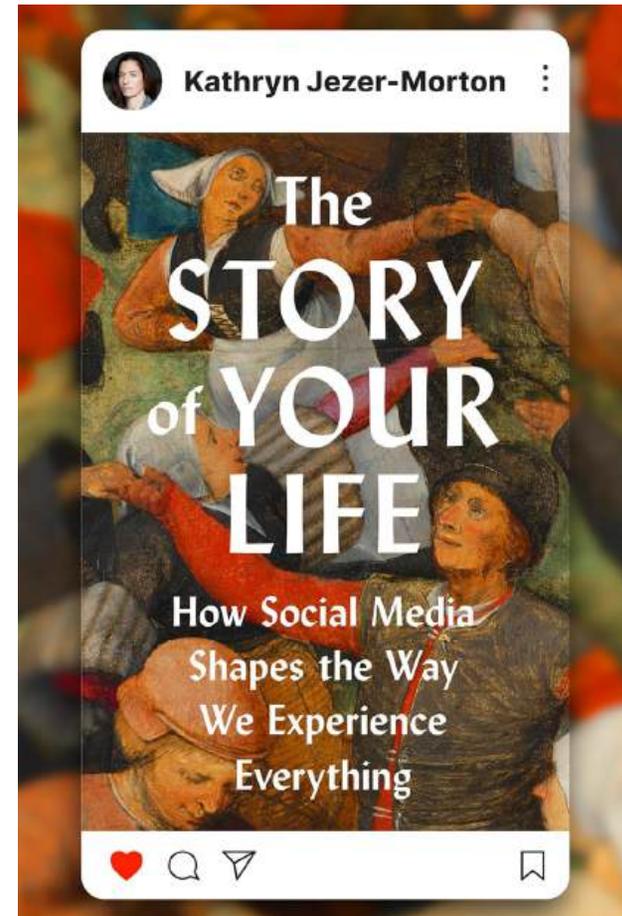
An eye-opening look at how social media shapes the stories we tell and the lives we lead.

Over the past two decades, platforms like Instagram, Facebook, and TikTok have revolutionized how we document and share our lives. We once archived our experiences in photo albums, and now we capture our most significant moments in reels and photo dumps. Whether we prefer to admit it or not, social media is where our history lives now.

In *The Story of Your Life*, journalist and New York magazine columnist Kathryn Jezer-Morton examines how these algorithm-driven platforms not only change the way we share information but also shape the content itself. What stories do we choose to tell, and how do these choices reflect and shape our evolving identities?

Through rigorous research and intimate interviews with everyday people, Jezer-Morton explores how the platforms on which we have told our life stories for the past twenty years have determined what those stories have come to look and sound like. Today our attention spans are short, and our stories reflect that, with spectacle and exaggeration playing ever-larger roles in our accounts of everyday life. By examining how we share, talk, and post about our milestones, vacations, homes, relationships, hardships, politics, and more, Jezer-Morton shows just how pervasive and influential our social media platforms have become in how we view ourselves and what we consider to be a life well lived.

Smart, funny, and sharply observant, *The Story of Your Life* delivers an original and revealing look at our lives online and off and offers us a fresh perspective on the ways social media shapes the very arcs of our lives.



Kathryn Jezer-Morton is the author of the biweekly “Brooding” column at The Cut, in which she explores topics surrounding modern family life. She has written about domestic life and digital culture for *The New York Times*, *The Nation*, *The Guardian*, and *Jezebel*, among many other publications. She holds a PhD in sociology from Concordia University and lives with her family in Montreal.

HOLDING LIGHTNING

The Life, Loves, and Art of Whitney Houston

By Emily Lordi

NA

Sept 2026 / Mariner Books (HarperCollins) / US Editor: Rakia Clark
Edited MS Available

Rights Sold:

UK/Commonwealth (White Rabbit / Orion)

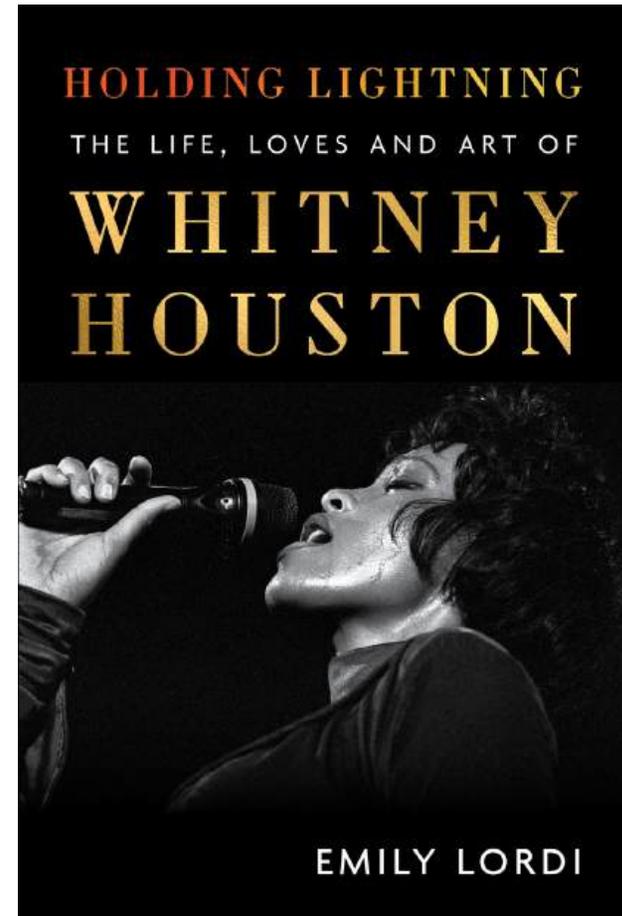
A showstopping portrait of Whitney Houston as we've never seen her before—a woman in her full power, a musician who knew the impact of her gift, and a fulcrum of Black celebrity—by leading culture critic and professor of Black art Emily Lordi.

We remember Whitney Houston for her soaring voice on songs that defined a generation and kicked open the door to Black women in pop music. Her trademark stance was a picture of elegance and power: head thrown back, arms flung straight out. Then there was her sound. One producer recalled Whitney's otherworldly ability to hold notes, comparing it to "holding lightning in your hand, holding lightning in your throat." She tried to hold the lightning as she bathed us all in the glow.

But since her death in 2012, the woman known as "The Voice" has been reduced to just that. Whitney's critics have slotted her memory into a tired genre of famous doomed women whose success owed more to their labels and their producers than to any agency of their own. Yet a closer look reveals a serious artist and woman of conviction striving to be who she was. She said it best: "There's no 'Whitney Houston' without Whitney Houston."

In *Holding Lightning*, leading culture critic and professor Emily Lordi has gained unique access to Houston's innermost circle to show us the Whitney we've been unwilling to see—her fluid sexuality, her unapologetic love for her own talent, her insistence that she be the guide of her own career. And, crucially, Lordi positions Houston's pivotal life in the long history of Black celebrity. Before "rooting for everybody Black" became the norm, Whitney worked as a relentless advocate for Black female talent across the entertainment industry.

Now, finally, in *Holding Lightning*, we have the essential, up-close portrait of the icon we thought we knew.



Emily Lordi is a professor at Vanderbilt University and has published three acclaimed books on Black artistry.

TAYLOR SWIFT

The Debut Years

By Emily Yahr

NA

October 2026 / St Martins (Macmillan) / US Editor: Eileen Rothchild

Edited MS Available

Rights Sold:

Brazilian Portuguese (Buzz Editoria)

Danish (Politiken)

Dutch (De Boekerij)

French (Mazarine / Hachette)

German (Ullstein)

Polish (Znak)

UK/Commonwealth (Transworld)

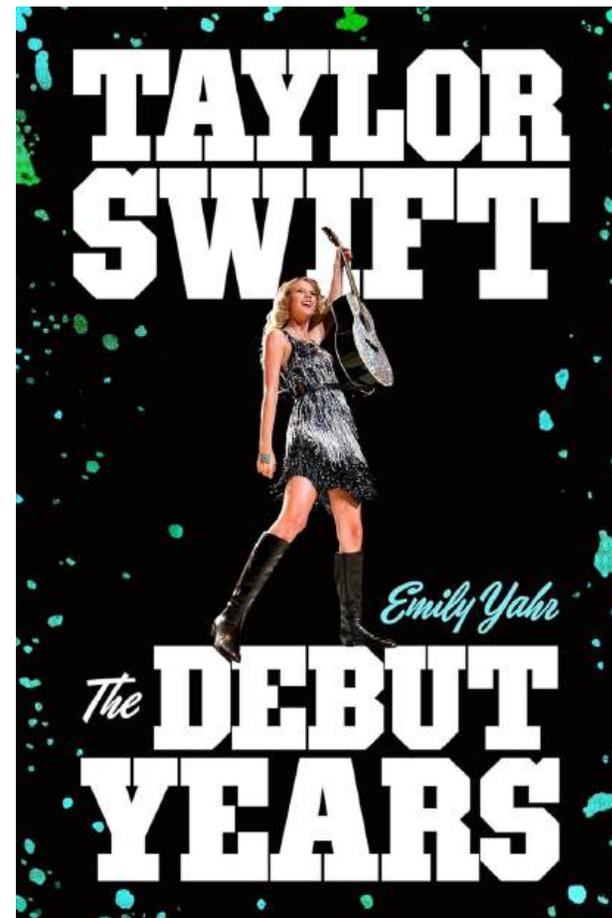
"It was so obvious she had something. You know, she was 13, and she had that sparkle. So much sparkle dust around her," —Renee Bell, head of A&R at RCA Records

Meet Taylor, 2003. She's a teen who came to Nashville with blisters on her fingers from learning to play a 12-string guitar. In every room she enters, she's the youngest person (by decades) and often the only woman. And if anyone asked if she could see herself becoming the biggest superstar on the planet, her answer probably would have been yes.

Writing alongside industry veterans after school, Taylor Swift's songwriting ability set her apart. But her origins are more complex than a teen tapping into a new generation of country music fans. It's a story of taking risks, like walking away from powerhouse label RCA to strike out with an unknown, unfunded new label, and of trusting her instincts when no one else did.

Washington Post reporter Emily Yahr pulls back the curtain on the country music industry—from executives who said yes to Taylor (and those who regret saying no), to collaborators like Scott Borchetta, Nathan Chapman, and Liz Rose, to Nashville itself. Intimate and immersive, Yahr takes us to iconic locations like Music Row and The Bluebird Cafe, as well as to Hendersonville High and the Swifts' own lakefront house.

Taylor Swift: The Debut Years tells the definitive origin story of today's biggest star, with never-before-published interviews. Taylor's decade in Nashville shaped her as a musician, and ultimately changed country music itself long after she left the genre.



Emily Yahr is an award-winning pop culture reporter in the Style section at *The Washington Post*, where she writes about TV, celebrities, music and movies. She is known for her coverage of country music and her coverage of Taylor Swift. Her first book is *Taylor Swift: The Debut Years*, a deep dive into Taylor Swift's first 10 years in Nashville as a country music star. Yahr lives in Washington, DC.

EVERYTHING LITTLE THING

How a Band of Fake Punks Became the Police

By Geoff Edgers

NA

September 2026 / Hachette / US Editor: Brant Rumble

Proposal Available — Edited MS Spring 2026

Rights Sold:

Russian (AST)

Dutch (Alfabet)

Spanish (Cupula / Planeta)

A complete, and objective history of the Police, one of the most iconic bands of a generation, has never been written.

This is a band that sold more than 100 million albums around the world, revolutionized MTV (and then disbanded at the height of their popularity), all without sacrificing a shred of artistic integrity. When they surprised us by reuniting after 22 years later in 2007 - to take their act to even larger venues – somehow it all seemed like a natural progression.

But this isn't a story about album sales and sold-out arenas. It's about the combustible, creative genius between three artists – Sting, Stewart Copeland and Andy Summers - that led to five stellar albums over five years, peaking with 1983's "Synchronicity," a record that's considered the defining work of the second British Invasion. The Police quit when they were the most popular band in the world. The Police were not a fad. When they reunited for their unexpected tour in 2007, they sold out stadiums and arenas around the world. Their catalog, from their earliest hits ("Roxanne," "Message in a Bottle") to their Synchronicity five-pack of singles, remains immensely popular. On Spotify, the Police continue to stream 27 million songs a month. There is a lot to uncover. And as a compulsive, obsessive reporter, Geoff Edgers plans to document every moment.

Geoff Edgers has been the National Arts Reporter at the *Washington Post* since 2014. He's profiled Adam Sandler, Sean Penn, Ava DuVernay, Steve Miller, U2, Chevy Chase, Lionel Richie, Julia Louis Dreyfus, Eddie Murphy, the Eagles, and Norm Macdonald, among others. Before the *Post*, he was an arts reporter at the *Boston Globe*. Edgers has written three children's books, including biographies of Stan Lee, the Beatles and Elvis, and also wrote *Walk This Way: Run-DMC, Aerosmith and the Song that Changed America Forever*. That book was praised by *The Atlantic*, *Boston Globe* and named one of *Pitchfork's* best music books of 2019.

ACM Agent: Rick Richter

THERE AND BACK AGAIN

The Unofficial Oral History of Peter Jackson's The Lord of the Rings Trilogy

By Sam Moore

WE

October 2026 / Atria (S&S) / US Editor: Lara Jones

Proposal Available — Edited MS Fall 2025

Rights Sold:

German (Hannibal)

An oral history of Peter Jackson's Lord of the Rings trilogy timed to the 25th anniversary of *The Fellowship of the Ring* in 2026, taking readers behind the scenes as Jackson campaigned to get the notoriously unadaptable films made, developed new digital technology that changed the film industry, and assembled a cast and crew that became a true fellowship that remains bonded to this day!

It's impossible to overstate the cultural impact of the "Lord of the Rings" films. The movies alone are a multi-billion dollar franchise at the box office, and that figure doesn't include any tie-in merchandise and DVD sales. ("The Return of the King" recently returned to theaters to celebrate its 20th anniversary and sold out in many locations; not to mention that it's become something of a tradition for people to re-watch the trilogy over the holidays and post about them on social media.) They've become such a big attraction for visitors to New Zealand that the country has an appointed Minister of "Lord of the Rings" to account for Middle-earth-related tourism. Cast members continue to sell out photo opportunities at comic conventions, screenings of the films accompanied by live orchestras playing the score sell out nationwide throughout the year, and Amazon has pinned all of its hopes and dream on its new "Rings of Power" series. Fan interest in the Tolkien-verse has not only showed no signs of slowing down in the last two decades, it seems to have increased, bringing in new acolytes each year.

That's why the upcoming 25th anniversary of the trilogy – "The Fellowship of the Ring" arrived in theaters in 2001 – will be the perfect timing to publish *There and Back Again*.

Sam Moore is a culture writer in the UK who has written for the likes of the BBC, *The Guardian*, *Financial Times*, *The Independent*, *GQ*, *NME*, *Radio Times*, and *Evening Standard*. He writes about film, music, and TV from his home in Wolverhampton (just north of Tolkien's Birmingham) which is a part of the Black Country that formed the basis for Mordor.

ACM Agent: Jon Michael Darga

AEVITAS 76

SONGWRITING IS MAGIC

The Rules, Rituals, and Real Work Behind Great Songs

By Rhett Miller

NA

Spring 2028 / St. Martin's Press (Macmillan) / US Editor: Elizabeth Beier
Proposal Available — Edited MS Fall 2027

Celebrated singer-songwriter Rhett Miller shares his definitive guide to songwriting and describes the transformative magic of turning life into song.

Songwriting is Magic is not about chasing hits or following formulas but about catching sparks, silencing your inner critic, and creating songs that matter and move people using a deceptively simple two-question framework: What's Great? / What If? Rhett also draws on the vast wisdom of the esteemed songwriters whom he calls friends. Rhett distills the insights and methodology that has not only produced hundreds of beloved songs over his thirty-year career but has helped countless students push past self-doubt to create work that makes them proud.

In *Songwriting is Magic*, Rhett shares for the first time his proven teaching methods, refined through years of workshops, retreats, and in university classrooms. Structured like an album, Side A walks readers through creating a song in real time—catching the Spark, building a musical pattern, shaping a hook, and finding a chorus. Side B goes deeper: rewriting until good becomes great, collaborating with empathy, listening like a songwriter, and wrestling with why we keep doing this work when doubt and darkness surface. Woven throughout are exclusive insights from many of the best songwriters working today, among them Lucinda Williams, Jeff Tweedy, Rosanne Cash, Dan Wilson, Norah Jones, Billy Strings, to name a few. Importantly, Rhett shows how our most formative experiences and memories can be transformed into lyrics and melodies that have enduring impact on the listener and on ourselves. After all, as Rhett describes, when he was fourteen and in deep despair, music and songwriting saved his life. Songwriting is indeed magic, and as Rhett reveals to readers in these pages, it is magic available to us all.

Rhett Miller is a revered singer-songwriter known for his more than three decades fronting the legendary band the Old 97's and as a critically acclaimed solo artist. Beyond songwriting, he has published essays and short stories in *Rolling Stone*, *The Atlantic*, *McSweeney's*, and *Salon*, as well as two successful children's picture books with Little, Brown Books for Young Readers. His podcast *Wheels Off* has surpassed 200 episodes featuring artists from across creative disciplines.

ACM Agent: Jen Gates

ROMANCELANDIA

Between the Covers with the Readers and Writers
Rewriting Love and Publishing

By Elizabeth Held

NA

Fall 2028 / Ecco (HarperCollins) / US Editor: Sarah Murphy
Proposal Available — Edited MS Spring 2028

Whether you're a longtime reader, new adopter, or not-for-me-er, it's impossible to deny that romance is having a moment, and in her book *Romancelandia*, Elizabeth Held will dive into how we got here and why it matters. Bringing both her lifelong love of the genre and reporter's eye for the vibrant subculture around it, Elizabeth will take readers between (and sometimes under!) the covers with the fans and writers rewriting the rules love and publishing. She'll celebrate the joy that so many of us find in meet cutes and HEAs; illuminate the history and significance of trends and the tropes; and dig into the intersection of art and commerce that defines this perennially bestselling genre and its dramatic emergence into the mainstream.

Today's copious press coverage of romance is alternately awed by the numbers and still, all too often, dismissive of the readers and writers behind them. In contrast, Elizabeth will honor the smart, passionate, and hardworking women at the center of romance's story, taking readers on a journey that will delight both longtime fans and anyone curious about the rise and reign of the romance novel—and what might be next for readers' love affair with love.

Romance deserves a serious journalistic treatment that won't fail to capture the fact that it is, at the end of the day, a genre that exists to bring joy, and *Romancelandia* aims to be just that: a romp through romance bookstores and midnight release parties; a peek behind the scenes with librarians, BookTok creators, and authors; and an insightful analysis of publishing as a business, reading as a lifestyle, and romance as a reflection of some of our deepest values, about gender, bodily autonomy, sex, power, and who deserves happy endings.

Elizabeth Held is the journalist and book lover behind What to Read If, a weekly book recommendation newsletter beloved by nearly 10,000 subscribers on Substack. Her writing about books has appeared in *Vulture*, *the Washington Post*, *TIME*, and elsewhere. At East City Books in Washington, DC, Elizabeth is best known as the co-founder and leader of the perennially sold-out book club Really Reading Romance.

ACM Agent: Maggie Cooper

MCCARTNEY IN LONDON

1964-1968

By Ann Powers

NA

Fall 2028 / Holt (Macmillan) / US Editor: Anna Montague

Proposal Available — Edited MS Spring 2028

Renowned music critic Ann Powers's *McCartney in London* is an exploration of the four transformative years during which Paul McCartney first lived in London, and how the city's avant-garde art, film, and music scenes met the volatility of the '60s to establish him as the leading creative force behind the Beatles's most groundbreaking work.

McCartney in London will describe in novelistic detail the four key years, 1964-1968, that Paul McCartney lived in London and fully immersed himself in the city's groundbreaking art and music scenes, while his bandmates raised families in the suburbs. McCartney's pursuit of knowledge and experience in the most iconic corners of Swinging London, and his exposure to such cultural influences as Pop art, Dada theater, the music of John Cage, Jimi Hendrix, and more, inspired him to channel everything he learned into the Beatles' most groundbreaking work.

McCartney in London is the story of self-invention that is, in its mod and swinging way, universal; a portrait of an artist as a young man, crystalizing the story of the counterculture's democratization of "high" art and culture within one man's journey of creative enlightenment. It's during these key four years that McCartney changed his position within the Beatles, becoming the band's defacto leader during its full arrival as not just a massive pop sensation but as a widely respected artistic force.

Ann Powers is NPR Music's critic and correspondent. Throughout a long career in music writing she has worked at *the New York Times*, *the Los Angeles Times*, *the Village Voice* and many other publications. A former curator at Seattle's Museum of Popular Culture, she is the author of *Traveling: On the Path of Joni Mitchell* (2024), *Good Booty: Love and Sex, Black and White, Body and Soul in American Music* (2017), the *New York Times* best-selling *Tori Amos Piece by Piece*, co-authored with the artist (2005), and *Weird Like Us: My Bohemian America* (1999). With Evelyn McDonnell, she edited the classic anthology *Rock She Wrote: Women Write About Rock, Rap, and Pop* (1995).

ACM Agent: Laura Nolan

CALIFORNIA DREAMER

The Life and Work of Robert Towne

By Michael Sragow

NA

Fall 2028 / Ecco (HarperCollins) / US Editor: Michael Flamini

Proposal Available — Edited MS Spring 2028

In *Victor Fleming: An American Movie Master* (Knopf 2008), Michael Sragow fleshed out what a great director does: hold all the elements of a production in the palm of his hand and use them to extract thrills, laughs, epiphanies and sometimes magic. *California Dreamer* will elucidate what a great screenwriter does, revealing how the venerable Robert Towne, in his films, provided the imaginative framework that electrified the entire production – not just creating memorable characters, dialogue and action, but vivid images and atmosphere.

Even casual moviegoers know that directors like Francis Ford Coppola, Steven Spielberg and Martin Scorsese became demigods of the New Hollywood. *California Dreamer* will excite readers with the story of how Robert Towne carved out an honored place for screenwriters in what is known as the "Hollywood Renaissance." He wrote or contributed crucial scenes to five celluloid landmarks that redefined the American cinema: *Bonnie and Clyde* (1967), *The Godfather* (1972), *The Last Detail* (1973), *Chinatown* (1974) and *Shampoo* (1975).

In the culmination of a professional friendship that lasted 50 years, Towne, in the final months of his life, sat down with Sragow multiple times to discuss every aspect of his personal and professional history. In *California Dreamer*, Sragow, an award-winning biographer, will capture the vitality and complexity of Towne.

Michael Sragow was the first regular movie critic for *Rolling Stone*, then chief critic for *the Boston Phoenix*, *Baltimore Sun*, *San Francisco Examiner*, and *Orange County Register*. Sragow's biography *Victor Fleming: An American Movie Master* won the Marfield Prize (aka "The National Award for Arts Writing") in 2008.

ACM Agent: Laura Nolan

IMPOSSIBLE HARMONY

Bringing Peace and Hope to a World on Fire

By Micah Hendler

NA

Fall 2028 / HarperOne (HarperCollins) / US Editor: Rakesh Satyal

Proposal Available — Edited MS Spring 2028

Micah Hendler is the founder of the Jerusalem Youth Chorus, bringing together Israeli and Palestinian youth between 15–25 to work through their differences, form friendships, and make remarkably beautiful music together. In *Impossible Harmony*, Micah will tell the poignant, emotionally riveting true story of the Jerusalem Youth Chorus from its founding in 2012 to its present status as a globally renowned performing arts group.

When it began, the Chorus was just a ragtag group of mutually distrusting Palestinian and Israeli teenagers who came together in a YMCA library to sing songs in Hebrew, Arabic and English. But in the months that followed, their cautious excitement led to a life-changing experience of community that transcended centuries-old divisions based on race and religion. Together, they would overcome seemingly intractable fears and resentments within the group, the persistent prejudice and doubts of Israeli and Palestinian parents, teachers, and community leaders, and violence on the streets of Jerusalem that has too often claimed the lives of friends and loved ones. In the wake of the October 7 attacks on Israel almost exactly two years ago, and the subsequent reprisals, the singers' ability to not just listen to each other but to form lasting friendships has showed the world that love, justice, and peace are possible anywhere.

In moments big and small, the singers in the Chorus have always stood up for each other and what they believe in. When Jerusalem was torn apart by violence in 2014, the singers insisted that they should continue to meet. When the Palestinian singers were denied visas to travel to the UK, the rest of the group stood in solidarity with them and refused to travel. And when Micah was unexpectedly removed as the leader of the Chorus, the singers wrote a letter to the leadership at the YMCA to protest. These stories of courageous resistance and the triumph of the human spirit will form the main narrative for *Impossible Harmony*.

Micah Hendler is tremendously well connected among Jewish and Arab community leaders, among government officials, and in the media. He has spent the last decade championing the Chorus and its message.

ACM Agent: Todd Shuster

UPCOMING CURRENT AFFAIRS & POLITICS



BYTES AND BULLETS

Global Rivalries, Private Tech, and the New Shape of Modern Warfare

By Steven Feldstein

NA

March 2026 / St. Martin's Press (Macmillan) / US Editor: Kevin Reilly

Final PDF Available

Rights Sold:

UK/Comm (Monoray/Octopus)

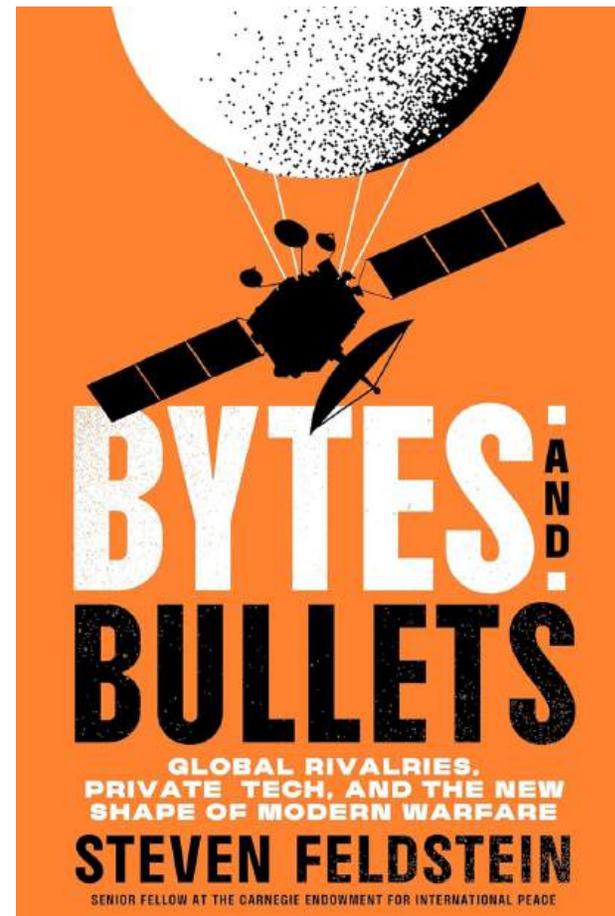
A new tech cold war has already begun, and America is losing its edge.

Technology has always driven geopolitical competition. For decades, the US set the rules on innovation, standards, and export regulations, using soft power and federal funding to both develop cutting edge tech and prevent its rivals from acquiring it. But in the digital era, major breakthroughs in everything from AI systems to autonomous drones now come from private companies, not government labs. It is already too late for superpowers to stop the outward flow of research and expertise. The fallout from this shift could dramatically reshape our world, and America is in danger of falling behind.

Bytes and Bullets is an analytically rich account of how technology is upending global competition. Through engaging stories and original research, Carnegie Endowment for International Peace senior fellow Steven Feldstein shows how the West's dominance is being undercut at every turn by commercialization, China's growing capabilities, and new regional powers building their own spheres of influence. He offers eye-opening insights from modern conflicts and proposes concrete strategies that democracies must adopt in order to maintain control.

The contours of the tech cold war are coming into focus, and global stability is faltering. *Bytes and Bullets* is a captivating account of this pivotal moment, and an urgent call for America to act now, or risk losing its international standing forever.

Steven Feldstein is a senior fellow at the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace. An international expert on technology, democracy, and national security, he previously served as a senior official at the State Department and USAID. His first book, *The Rise of Digital Repression*, won the 2023 Grawemeyer Award for Ideas Improving World Order. He has appeared on CNBC, CSPAN, NPR, and BBC, and his writing has appeared in *The Atlantic*, *Foreign Affairs*, and *Lawfare*, among others.



REVENGE FOR THE SIXTIES

Sam Alito and the Triumph of the Conservative Legal Movement

By Peter S. Canellos

WE

April 2026 / Simon & Shuster / US Editor: Priscilla Painton

Final PDF Available

The first-ever biography of the most pivotal Justice on the Supreme Court whose decisions, like the overturning of *Roe*, will drive the reshaping of America, by prize-winning journalist Peter Canellos.

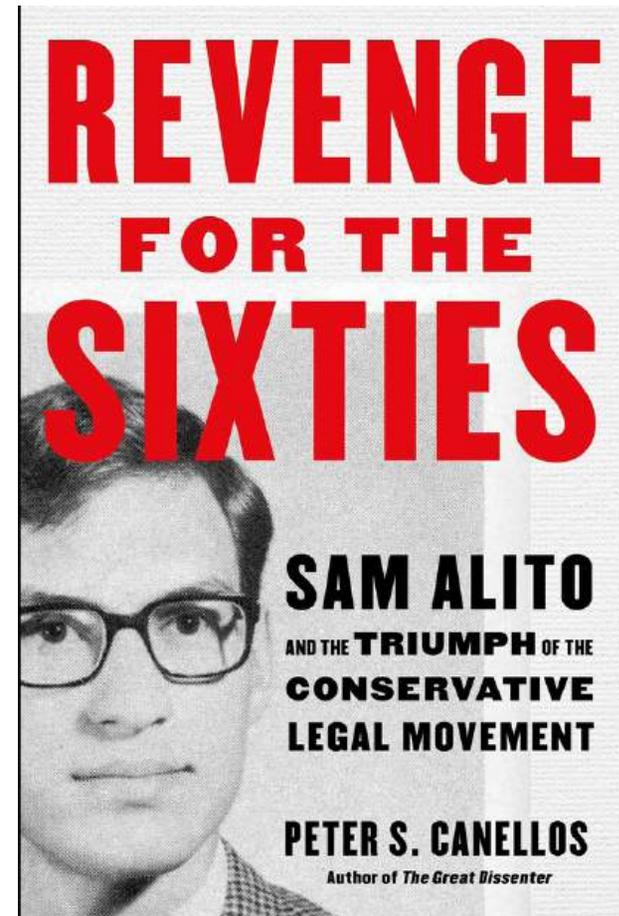
When the Supreme Court handed down its decision in *Dobbs v. Jackson*, the landmark case overturning *Roe v. Wade*, it marked a turning point in the lives of millions of Americans. It was also the culmination of a decades-long movement whose grievances were embodied by the man who wrote the court's opinion: Samuel Anthony Alito Jr.

Steely in his demeanor, with an impassive appearance that defies changing fashions, Alito could be the family lawyer in a 1960s television drama. But when he talks there is an emotional undercurrent, a fast-flowing stream beneath a placid surface. This is a man driven to push boundaries and mold ideas. His aim is to right the wrongs of the past six decades, as he saw them. He was the prized son of an Italian-born father and a mother whose parents emigrated from Italy shortly before her birth, worked their way into the middle class despite anti-Catholic prejudice and humiliating setbacks like evictions, and exacting big achievement demands of their children. But his family's values came under attack during the sixties and later when Alito was at Princeton as the Vietnam war raged, women demanded equality, and their brand of patriotism was devalued.

The Federalist Society provided a safe space for Alito and those like him, and he moved fast up the judicial ladder to eventually land on the Supreme Court. There he has been aggressive in pushing the law in new, conservative directions—from pushing for expanding rights for the religious conservatives, overturning affirmative action, extending the right to bear arms to thwart gun controls, and reducing the power of the Environmental Protection Agency. And finally—most crucial to his legacy—he was the author of *Dobbs v. Jackson*, bringing the conservative legal movement full circle in overruling *Roe v. Wade*. His ethnic and religious background, his intellectual confidence, and his unyielding determination are all illustrative of a group of men and women who, beset by grievance, embarked on a decades-long mission to change the rules that govern society.

ACM Agent: Wendy Strothman & Lauren Sharp

Page Count: 384



Peter S. Canellos is the author of *The Great Dissenter: The Story of John Marshall Harlan, America's Judicial Hero*, and the editor of the bestselling *Last Lion: The Fall and Rise of Ted Kennedy*. He is currently managing editor for enterprise at POLITICO, and also has been POLITICO's executive editor, leading the newsroom during the 2016 presidential coverage; and the editorial page editor of *The Boston Globe*. He has also been a Pulitzer Prize finalist, a recipient of the American Society of Newspaper Editors award in 2011 for excellence in editorial writing along with the 2022 George Polk Award, Robin Toner Award, and News Leaders Association Batten Medal for his writing about the Supreme Court.

GATHER

Black Food, Nourishment, and the Art of Togetherness

By Ashanté M. Reese

WE

April 2026 / Norton Shorts (W.W. Norton) / US Editor: Caroline Adams
Final PDF Available

A vibrant new vision of food justice that celebrates Black food and recognizes the power of gathering to create sustainable, systemic change.

How can we create a world where everyone has enough? We can start by focusing less on lack and more on abundance.

In *Gather*, anthropologist Ashanté M. Reese argues for a new vision of food justice that centers the resilience of Black communities and argues that community nourishment deserves as much consideration as individual health. Highlighting four spaces of gathering—gardens, family reunions, repasts, and protests—Reese offers rich, on-the-ground studies of the places and people who make up the food justice movement. From Black church networks and community farms to student protests, these studies illuminate ways we can challenge structures of power and nourish ourselves, body and soul. In a world of social isolation and unequal food systems, *Gather* offers a compelling argument for the beauty and political power of togetherness.

Ashanté M. Reese is a writer, anthropologist, and associate professor of African and African diaspora studies at the University of Texas at Austin. Born in Cooper Settlement, Texas, she lives in Austin and is involved in food justice movements nationwide.

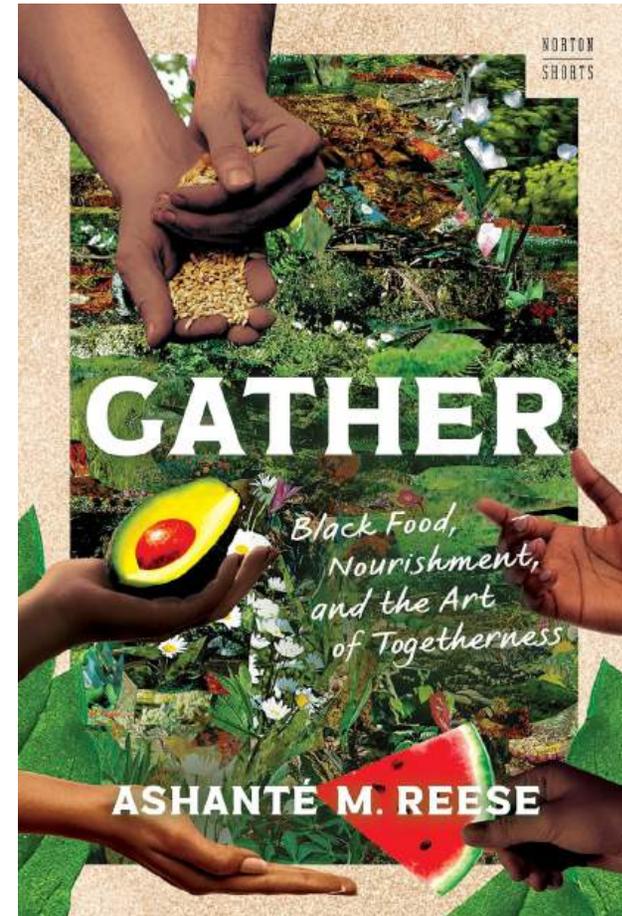
"This is a text not just to consider, but to devour. The love and care are palpable."
—**Stephen Satterfield, host of *High on the Hog***

"How do we survive in a hostile world full of anti-Blackness and still have time for joy? How do we create food systems for us and by us? *Gather* offers us a powerful, digestible, and delicious path forward."
—**Michael W. Twitty, author of *The Cooking Gene* and *Koshersoul***

"A luminous, deeply felt meditation on nourishment, memory, and collective care."
—**Bryant Terry, James Beard and NAACP Image Award-winning author**

ACM Agent: Sarah Levitt

Page Count: 176



"With an anthropologist's keen eye for vivid detail and a knack for noticing ancestral ritual in everyday practices, Ashanté M. Reese expertly reveals the deep meaning of nourishment?togetherness in celebration and suffering."
—**Tiya Miles, National Book Award winner and author of *Night Flyer***

"Dr. Ashanté M. Reese serves us a warm plate of berry pie while reminding us that the food justice we seek is among us already."
—**Leah Penniman, cofounder of Soul Fire Farm, and author of *Farming While Black* and *Black Earth Wisdom***

"A powerful and urgent call to remember, to gather, and to nourish our future."
—**Spring Council, author of *Southern Roots: Recipes and Stories from Mama Dip's Daughter***

THE FUTURE OF TRUTH

How AI Reshapes Reality

By Steve Rosenbaum

WE

May 2026 / BenBella Books / US Editor: Matt Holt

Final PDF Available

Rights Sold:

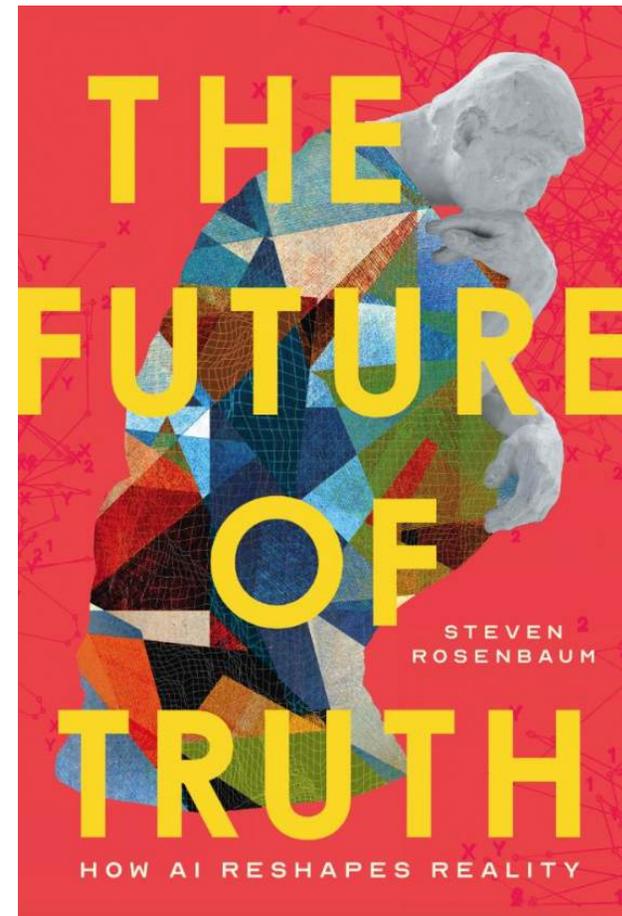
Japanese (Hayakawa)

The Future of Truth is an immensely timely and insightful new work written in the vein of provocative bestselling books about technology and society such as *The Age of Surveillance Capitalism*, *Weapons of Math Destruction*, and *The New New Thing*.

Rosenbaum is a brilliant thinker and has long been on the forefront of debates about technology and media. In the 1990s, he anticipated today's algorithm-driven video feeds with the user-generated television series *MTV News Unfiltered*. But for the past year, Rosenbaum has been concerned above all with the looming significance of artificial intelligence in our lives. As *The Future of Truth* will make clear, AI not only promises to upend how we work, socialize, and entertain ourselves; it is poised to erase the already blurred lines between truth and falsehood.

Super-charged by the rise of Donald Trump, AI is creating a world of individualized media, where our subjective beliefs are confirmed every time we open our phones. This has already led to society-wide problems, including political polarization and extremism. But the problem is more fundamental still. If we are each being bombarded with a wild mix of conspiracy theories, opinions, and verifiable facts, who is to help us tell one from the other? Will the very programs that are destabilizing the concept of truth be, in the end, responsible for saving it? *The Future of Truth* will argue that we are at a hugely important crossroads, and we urgently need to agree: What is the "Truth" today and what will it be tomorrow? The book will report on the most important emerging uses of AI—from doctor's offices to police stations to dating apps. Then, too, it will feature perspectives from well-known experts including cognitive scientist Gary Marcus and entrepreneur Andrew Yang, giving readers everything they need to know about the battle for truth in our AI-powered future.

Steven Rosenbaum is an entrepreneur, thought leader, and founder of the Sustainable Media Center.



WHEN THE REVOLUTION COMES

A Fight for the Future of the Working Class

By Chris Smalls

NA

June 2026 / Pantheon Books / US Editor: Denise Oswald

Edited MS Available

Rights Sold:

UK/Comm (Penguin UK)

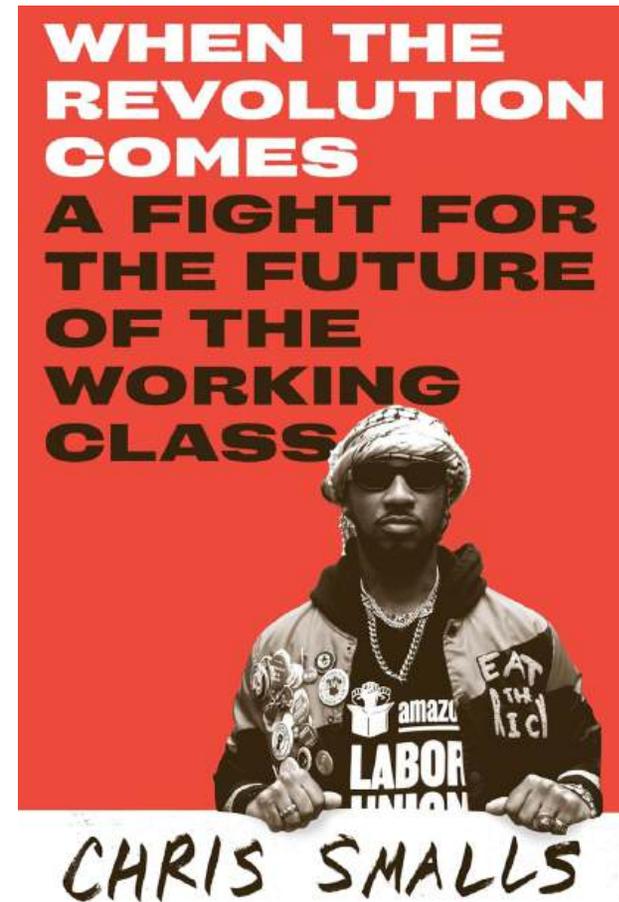
From one of the most electric and consequential figures to emerge from the contemporary American labor movement, the remarkable story of his battle to create the first Amazon union in the U.S. and a powerful call to arms on behalf of the working class

In the early days of the Covid pandemic, warehouse worker Chris Smalls and his colleagues continued showing up as the rest of the world was shutting down. A dedicated and experienced Amazon employee, increasingly frustrated by the inner workings of the retail giant, Smalls had already felt himself reaching a breaking point. So, when coworkers around him began falling ill, and with no transparency or assurances of safety coming from those in charge, he made the only choice left available to him. He staged a walkout with friend Derrick Palmer, eventually finding himself on the picket line without a job. But what began as a demand to keep essential employees safe in a crisis would grow into a movement devoted to achieving dignity and security for the American wage worker, sparking a groundswell of organizers at the most notable companies across the nation—including Starbucks, Trader Joe's, and Apple—and leading to lasting change for labor.

When the Revolution Comes is the riveting inside story of how a young Black man from Hackensack, NJ with little-to-no resources led a scrappy band of Staten Island warehouse workers in an improbable fight against Amazon, the second largest private employer in the U.S., and won. This epic David-and-Goliath tale traces Smalls' dramatic story, from a childhood spent navigating his dad's stints in and out of prison to his early pursuits of a career in music; from his years of sacrifice and economic uncertainty as a father of three, fighting a miasma of warehouse managerial politics in an effort to make ends meet, to his ascension as the leader of a new generation's labor movement. Along the way, he details lessons learned from a life spent working paycheck-to-paycheck, advocating for those around him, and persevering in the face of adversity, and shares how those lessons helped him build the coalition that became the first-ever union of American Amazon workers.

ACM Agent: Jen Marshall

Page Count: 304



A deeply personal and eye-opening account of the creation of the Amazon Labor Union, *When the Revolution Comes* is both a searing exposé of what it's like to be working class in America today as well as the empowering story of what is possible when the overworked, underpaid, and disempowered join together, a movement born in community.

Chris Smalls is the co-founder and former president of the Amazon Labor Union. Under his leadership, the ALU successfully unionized an Amazon warehouse: a historic victory for workers' rights in America. A *Fortune* "40 Under 40" honoree, he was named one of the 100 most influential people of 2022 by *Time* magazine, alongside his fellow union organizer Derrick Palmer. *When the Revolution Comes* is his first book.

"Smalls is a true inspiration."—*Lit Hub*

AEVITAS 85

THE FOURTH BRANCH

How State Government Can Save Our Union

By Daniel Squadron

NA

June 2026 / Zando / US Editor: Sarah Ried

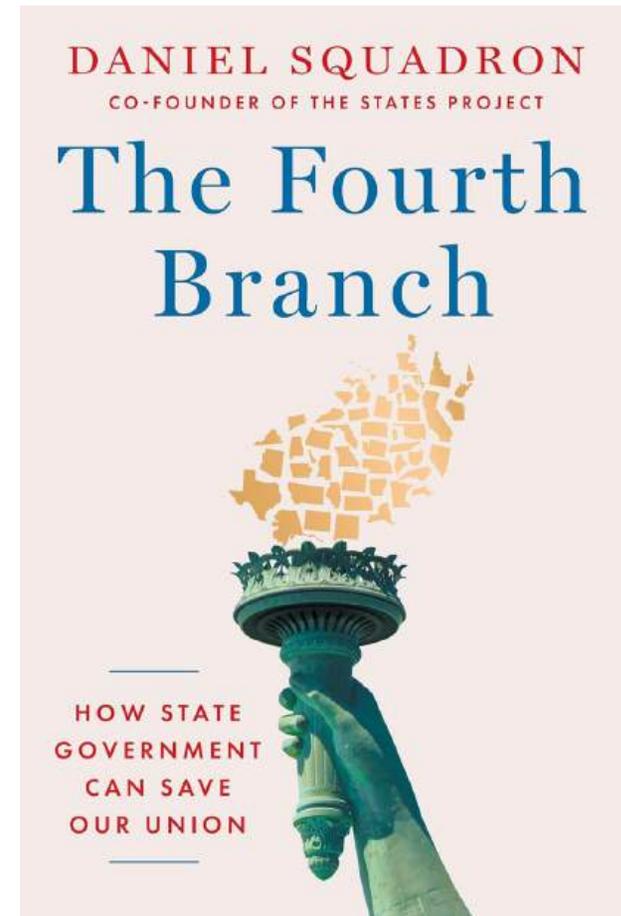
Edited MS Available

This part handbook, part history, and part personal narrative will open readers' eyes to the oft-overlooked arm of government that has done more harm and more good than any other in recent years: state legislatures.

After the 2024 election, many voters were left feeling disillusioned with America's highest governing body. Anxious citizens point to the federal government and national elected officials with growing alarm, but the broken political system they see in Washington is merely a symptom. The site of that break—and the best opportunity to mend it—lies in the states.

In *The Fourth Branch*, co-founder of The States Project Daniel Squadron opens readers' eyes to the oft-overlooked arm of government that has far more power than most people even realize: state legislatures. Nearly every major issue that Americans care about—from climate change to minimum wage, abortion access to criminal justice reform, gun control to paid family leave—can be determined without the involvement of the federal government. Detailing the systems, experiences, and strategic thinking that inform The States Project's approach to making change—one designed to combat decades of conservative investment and manipulation at the state level—this guide is an urgently needed and galvanizing framework for participation in our democracy, made all the more engaging by Daniel's stories of his time as a New York State Senator and his work with inspiring lawmakers around the country.

In examining the power and possibility of the states—both their capacity to influence national politics and the low barriers to involvement at the state level—this book will chart a course to real, grounded hope for the future through actions that any ordinary civilian can take to make concrete and lasting change. A compelling exploration of where power really lies in our government, *The Fourth Branch* will be a book for anyone who cares about our country and wants to do something about where it's headed.



Daniel Squadron is a former aide to Senator Chuck Schumer, former New York State Senator, and co-founder of The States Project.

TINDERBOX

The Unpredictable Rise and Uncertain Future of Modern India

By Sadanand Dhume

NA

UK: July US: October 2026 / Yale University Press / US Editor: Jaya Chatterjee

Edited MS Available

Rights Sold:

Complex Chinese (Asif)

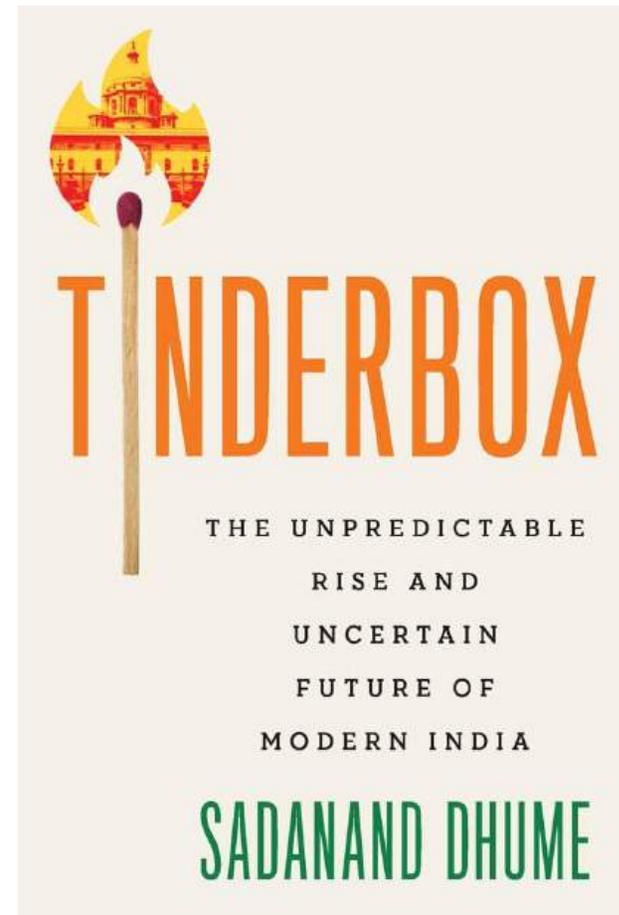
UK/Comm (HarperCollins UK)

An eloquent portrait of contemporary India that reveals how the Hindu nationalist movement threatens the country's political and economic future

This fascinating account of India's remarkable political and economic transformation over the past quarter century braids together background, reportage, and analysis to chronicle how the world's most populous nation, once a pluralistic parliamentary democracy synonymous with poverty, evolved into a Hindu majoritarian polity and an aspiring economic superpower.

While acknowledging the vast gains for the Indian economy in this century, Sadanand Dhume raises concerns about the rise of an extreme brand of Hindu nationalism that now controls governmental power and dominates society in much of the country. Dhume delves into the roots of Hindu nationalism and explains how this once-fringe ideology came to eclipse its rivals. Shedding light on Prime Minister Narendra Modi's disturbing clampdown on the freedoms of association and expression and minority rights, Dhume not only questions the conventional Western view of India as a liberal democracy that will act as a counterweight to autocratic China, but also argues that the decline of democratic ideals imperils India's prospects for enduring peace and continued economic advancement, with vast repercussions for the United States and the rest of the world.

Sadanand Dhume is a columnist for the *Wall Street Journal* and a senior fellow at the American Enterprise Institute. He lives in Washington, DC.



THE EAST WING

Power, Intrigue, and the Untold Story of America's First Ladies

By Azadeh Moaveni

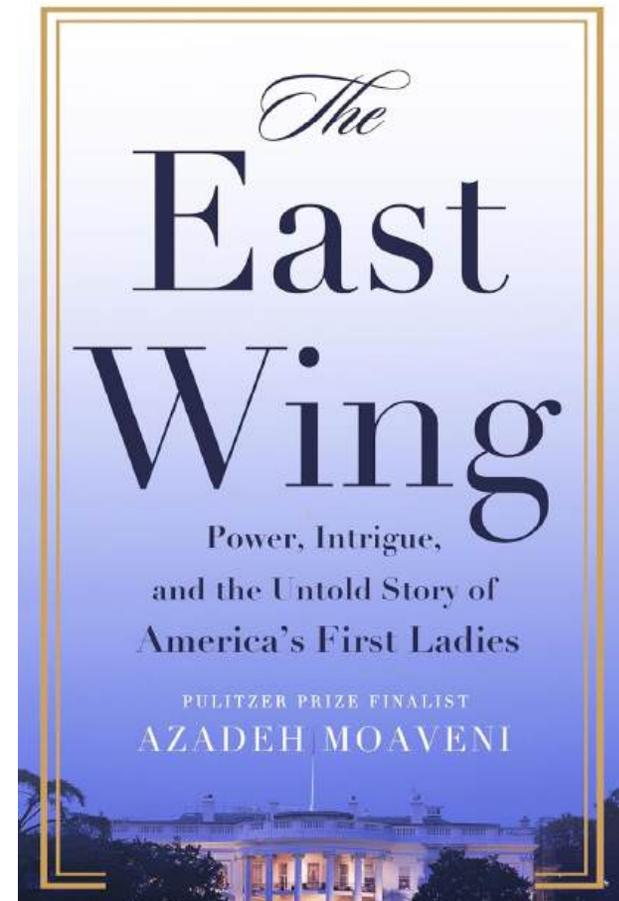
NA

October 2026 / St. Martin's Press (Macmillan) / US Editor: Charlie Spicer
Proposal Available — Edited MS Summer 2026

The Palace Papers meets D.C. in Azadeh Moaveni's *The East Wing*, an account of the often glamorous, always strategic, and mostly unsung women who worked under America's most iconic and infamous First Ladies.

The East Wing will be the true story, previously hidden by opaque social custom and patriarchal structures alike, of how women's power in Washington first accumulated, then grew and still evolves today, in the hands of an indelible but all-too-often self-effacing (by design) cast of both liberal and conservative women. It will be the first-ever reported portrait of the most consequential East Wing aides to First Ladies, from Malvina Thompson and Eleanor Roosevelt, to Letitia Baldrige and Jackie Kennedy, to Muffie Cabot and Nancy Reagan, to Desiree Rogers and Michelle Obama, to the double Stephanies and Melania, to present-day. Plenty of other books have been written about First Ladies (and Moaveni will have fresh observations and reported details about these pivotal figures), but, incredibly, no other book has focused on the women who serve them.

Moaveni will blend original reporting, including in-depth interviews with key players from past East Wings, with expert research and analysis, to construct a cinematic, suspenseful, story-driven account that takes readers deep inside the fascinating and high-stakes world of the First Lady's staff like never before. The stories of the women of the East Wing are closely guarded, in part, because of how much they reveal about cultural shifts and our national predicaments. About the enduring misogyny at the heart of American politics; about national ambivalence around women's advancement; about the clash between patriotism and realities of race; about social class and identity politics; about the collapse of what used to be called high society; and finally, about what money-driven machine politics has done to Washington, to White House entertaining, to us.



[Azadeh Moaveni](#), an American writer of Iranian descent, is a foreign correspondent and contributor writing for major news organizations including *TIME*, the *New York Times* and the *New Yorker*, and author of a bestselling memoir *Lipstick Jihad*. She currently directs the Global Journalism program at NYU.

DEFYING TYRANTS

Following Jesus in a World of Christian Antichrists

By Dr. Matthew Taylor

NA

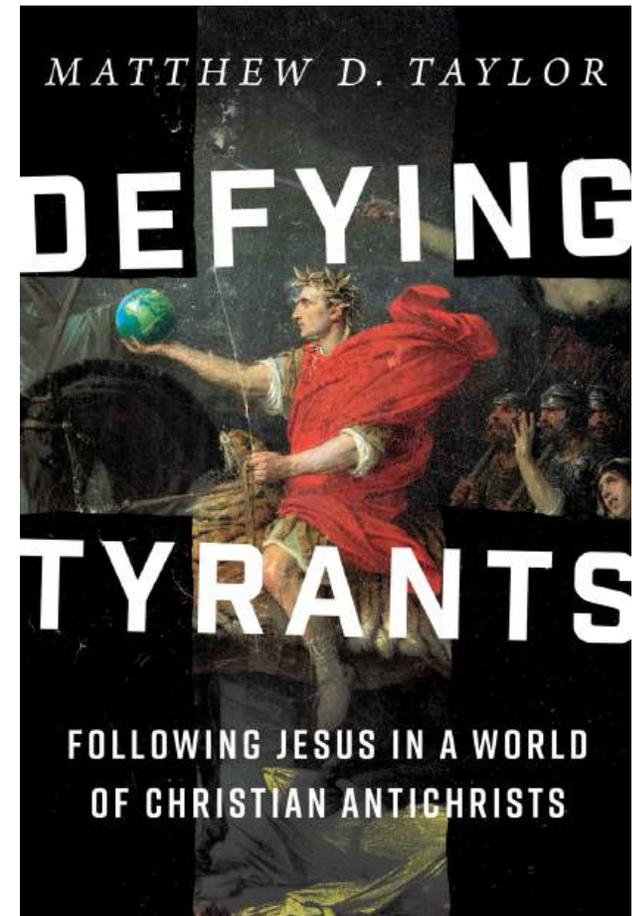
Fall 2026 / Broadleaf / US Editor: Valerie Weaver-Zercher

Edited MS Available

From Matthew D. Taylor, author of the groundbreaking book *The Violent Take It by Force* and creator of the award-winning narrative podcast *Charismatic Revival Fury: The New Apostolic Reformation*, comes a punchy and poetic theological provocation for our times.

In the past two years, Taylor has become one of the foremost public commentators in the U.S. on Christian nationalism, Christian supremacy, nondenominational charismatic movements, and the theologies behind modern Christian extremism. In *Jesus, Bane of Empires*, Taylor steps out of his more neutral, analytical, religious studies-scholar mode and challenges these movements' dangerous and abusive theologies directly. With an approach that is responsive to the times while also being deeply rooted and grounded in a range of Christian traditions, he challenges these contemporary theologies bent upon leveraging worldly power, calling Jesus-followers to recover the subversive, anti-imperial visions of the early church. Taylor bridges between his own evangelical background and a wide array of contemporary resistance theologies, and he uses close readings of the New Testament and appeals to the most fundamental Christian commitments to expose the antichrist nature of modern Christian supremacy.

To counter these ideologies of Christian empowerment, Taylor presents a compellingly alternative theology of Christian disempowerment, servanthood, and sacrificial seeking of the good of others in society. Along the way, the book draws upon insights from a range of theological traditions — post-colonial theology, liberation theology, Black theology, Karl Barth, Jurgen Moltmann, the mysticism of Julian of Norwich, and the radical voices of the early church themselves. Half polemic and half lyrical meditation, this book is written to both inspire and put some steel in the spine of Christian resistance to Donald Trump. But it also aims to speak to the broader evangelical movement around the globe, calling it back to the biblical virtues of self-denial, care for the poor and oppressed, and imitation of the non-violent, non-coercive way of Jesus himself.



Matthew D. Taylor is a scholar at the Institute for Islamic, Christian, and Jewish Studies in Baltimore.

AMERICAN POPE

Leo XIV's Journey from the Southside of Chicago to Vatican City

By Daniel Burke and Scott Detrow

NA

Fall 2026 / Flatiorn (Macmillan) / US Editor: Julianna Haubner
Proposal Available — Edited MS Summer 2026

From the moment Cardinal Dominique Mamberti announced "Habemus Papam!" and revealed that an American had been elected pope, the world has been captivated by Pope Leo XIV. But despite the global fascination with this historic figure, Robert Prevost remains largely a mystery to the millions eager to understand him. In *American Pope*, acclaimed NPR journalists Daniel Burke and Scott Detrow offer an unprecedented, deeply sourced biography that reveals the extraordinary life story behind one of the most surprising papal elections in Catholic history. Drawing on their unparalleled access to Vatican insiders and their decades of religious reporting, Burke and Detrow deliver the definitive account of how a quiet Augustinian from Chicago's South Side became the leader of 1.3 billion Catholics worldwide.

This is far more than a traditional papal biography. *American Pope* captures a pivotal moment for both American Catholicism and the global Church, exploring how Leo's unique background—spanning Chicago's working-class parishes, Peru's civil war-torn communities, and the Vatican's corridors of power—positions him to address the Church's most pressing challenges. From his family's hidden biracial heritage to his two decades as "Padre Roberto" in Peru, from his exile-like years in Cordoba to his rapid rise through Vatican ranks, Leo's story illuminates the shifting identity of global Catholicism as it moves from traditional power centers to the Global South.

Daniel Burke, NPR's Senior Editor of Religion & Spirituality, has covered three papal conclaves and broken major Vatican stories for CNN and NPR. **Scott Detrow**, host of All Things Considered, anchored NPR's live coverage from St. Peter's Square when Leo was elected, delivering the historic news to millions.



ACM Agents: Bridget Wagner Matzie

SUPER BLOOM

The Growing Movement to Restory the World and Reimagine the Human Relationship with Nature

By Dr. Scott D. Sampson

WE

Spring 2027 / Beacon Press / US Editor: Amy Caldwell
Proposal Available — Edited MS Fall 2026

Much has been written about how we should tackle the looming climate crisis, from the policies governments should implement to the new technologies scientists should develop. Yet in *Super Bloom*, Scott argues that the first and most essential step in changing the course of our future is to reinvent the narrative we tell ourselves about humanity's relationship with the natural world.

Super Bloom urges us to start telling ourselves the story of Regenesi—that it's possible not just to avoid total ecological destruction, but to create a future in which humans and nature thrive alongside each other. Believing in this story is the single most important step we can take to protect our planet, Scott argues—because we can't bring about a future we can't imagine. Luckily, Scott's book will show us that the huge task of shifting the global narrative can begin in our backyards, our schools, our community centers, and our local parks and forests. He'll explain how we can develop the five senses of Kinship, Place, Awe, Time, and Hope (together known as the K-PATH) to transform the way we interact with nature in our daily lives. He'll also explore how an ecological regeneration movement is already beginning to bloom across the world, and he'll share science-backed strategies for mobilizing our communities for positive change. An antidote to the doom-and-gloom futility of some of today's climate conversations, *Super Bloom* is sure to appeal to the millions of Millennials and Gen Zers worldwide who are worried about the future of our planet. Weaving together research in ecology, geology, philosophy, and psychology, along with indigenous wisdom, this book is a unique and interdisciplinary ode to the power of storytelling and imagination.

Scott Sampson is Executive Director of the California Academy of Sciences, one of the largest science museums in the world. An eminent paleontologist, he has named fifteen unknown dinosaur species.

Previous publishers of Scott Sampson:

French (Les Arenes)

Spanish (Traviesa Editorial)

Lithuanian (Vaga)

Turkish (Alfa)

Simplified Chinese (Huazhang)

ACM Agent: Esmond Harmsworth

AEVITAS 90

COUNTERWEIGHTS

Iran, Israel, and the Battle for the Middle East

By Arash Azizi

NA

Fall 2027 / Public Affairs (Hachette) / US Editor: Eric Schmidt
Proposal Available — Edited MS 2027

Rights Sold:

German (Harper)

UK/Comm (Basic Books/John Murray)

A groundbreaking look at the people, ideas, and forces that set Iran and Israel on a collision course, culminating in the events and aftermath of October 7, by acclaimed journalist and historian Arash Azizi.

The first single-volume to trace the full arc of the Iran-Israel relationship, *Counterweights* will tell the eye-opening story of how history shaped the individuals who, in turn, have shaped the Middle East. Spanning over eight decades, our narrative will begin in the 1940s, charting the evolution of Iran and Israel's early neutrality, their deep Cold War-era collaboration, and their dramatic rupture in 1979, when the Islamic Revolution turned allies into adversaries. Against the crosscurrents of history, we'll meet politicians, generals, and students, such as: Ali Khamenei (future Supreme Leader of Iran), Benjamin Netanyahu (future Israeli Prime Minister), Ahmed Yassin (Hamas's founder), and Yahya Sinwar (future leader of Hamas). We'll see these figures, among others, respond to and affect geopolitical shifts in order to understand how we got to the precipice on which we stand today, and, hopefully, how we move forward.

Iran and Israel's struggle is not just a regional affair—it dictates energy markets, nuclear diplomacy, and Western elections. The evolving confrontation serves as a case study in how alliances form and dissolve, powers rise and fall, and the world order slowly shifts and then quickly takes new shape. It's easy to place blame, but it's exponentially more important to understand how we got here if we ever hope to move on.

A PhD in Middle Eastern and Islamic Studies from New York University, **Arash Azizi** is a Postdoctoral Associate and lecturer at Yale University, as well as a visiting fellow at Boston University. A leading voice on Iran, Israel, and the Middle East—and proficient in Persian, Arabic, Hebrew, English, and several European languages—Azizi has unique fluency and access to unpublished, untranslated, and little-known materials, as well as exclusive relationships with key figures.

ACM Agents: Becky Sweren

THE GREAT TAKING

The Art of the Steal and a New American Oligarchy

By James Bandler and Alan Cullison

NA

Spring 2028 / Grand Central (Hachette) / US Editor: Karyn Marcus
Proposal Available — Edited MS Fall 2027

Rights Sold:

French (Bouchet-Chastel)

UK/Comm (Monoray/Octopus)

Within the first six months of his second term, Trump has already enriched himself and his inner circle by billions, inaugurating an unprecedented era of government corruption—orchestrated from the Oval Office itself.

The Great Taking is a sweeping exposé of the dealmaking being carried out by our president, his family and countless politically connected insiders by means of an immense international network of corrupt officials, heads of sovereign wealth funds, strongmen, dictators, and shady middlemen, with the Oval Office as this network's command hub. Anchored by Trump's involvement in dubious enterprises such as Bitcoin mining and the shadowy firm World Liberty Financial, veteran reporters Alan Cullison and James Bandler will use their decades' worth of sources to narrate the story of how Trump's current administration has transformed the U.S. government into a vehicle for international influence-peddling and policy-for-cash deals. *The Great Taking* will offer a page-turning narrative linking the eclectic cast of characters monetizing their proximity to Trump. With sources including Kremlin insiders, Eastern European autocrats, intelligence officers, and ex-government officials, the authors promise a global journey—from Bitcoin mines in upstate New York to oil fields in Iraq, from Albanian island real estate grabs to clandestine hotel deals in Serbia, from UAE golf courses to pickup artistry seminars. The result is a work of narrative non-fiction that will at times read more like a novel by John Le Carré or Tom Wolfe. Part hard-hitting investigation and part kaleidoscopic tour of the rooms where power is brokered and democracy sold, *The Great Taking* aims to be the definitive chronicle of how public policy became a marketplace.

James Bandler is a Pulitzer Prize-winning reporter who has for three decades covered business and finance—with a focus on corporate investigations, resource extraction industries, and defense procurement—at *Fortune*, *The Wall Street Journal*, *The Boston Globe*, and now *ProPublica*. **Alan Cullison** is a seasoned foreign correspondent and national security reporter for *The Wall Street Journal* and a two-time Pulitzer Prize finalist, previously stationed in Moscow as *the Journal's* Moscow bureau chief starting in 1998.

ACM Agents: David Kuhn & Rachel Cantor

AEVITAS 91

UPCOMING POPULAR SCIENCE



TINY GARDENS EVERYWHERE

The Past, Present and Future of the Self-Provisioning City

By Kate Brown

NA

February 2026 / W.W. Norton / US Editor: Alane Mason

Final PDF Available

Rights Sold:

Polish (Czarne)

UK/Commonwealth (Bodley Head)

From the 18th century to the 21st, the surprising history and inspiring contemporary panorama of urban gardening: nurturing health, hope, and community.

Nurturing health, hope, and community, gardeners in cities and suburbs are reclaiming lost commons, transforming vacant lots into vibrant plots, turning waste into compost, and recreating what was once the most productive agriculture in recorded human history. In a history that has been hidden in plain sight, working-class gardeners have consistently played an outsized role. In London, they devised ways to feed themselves when wage labor fell short. In Paris, a superabundance of horse manure in the streets nourished urban gardens that fed two million residents. In Berlin, gardeners built social safety nets for those marginalized by the state. In post-Soviet Estonia, shared gardens became lifelines for survival amid economic upheaval. And in Amsterdam, activists are reclaiming sustainable farming practices in a sinking landscape oversaturated with fertilizers. Tilled into this rich history of urban agriculture is an inspiring layer of contemporary activism. Each chapter includes contemporary stories of people from all walks of life who, in their gardens, are continuing a great tradition of mutual aid, political resistance, and bold experiments in sustainability. A manifesto for the next food revolution, *Tiny Gardens Everywhere* blends past and present, archive and experience, to offer a truly inspiring vision of the transformative potential of gardening and urban life.

Kate Brown is Distinguished Professor in the History of Science at MIT and author of four previous prize-winning books, including *A Manual for Survival*, an NBCC Award finalist.

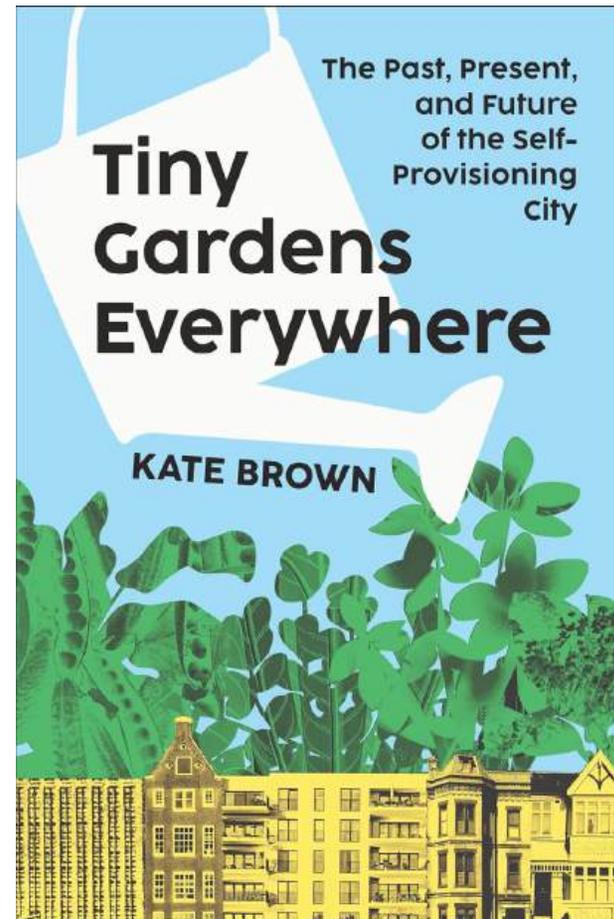
Previous Publishers of Kate Brown:

French (Actes Sud)
Japanese (Kodansha)
Korean (Prunyoaksa)
Lithuanian (Briedis)
Polish (Czarne)

Simplified Chinese (Shaanxi People's)
Slovak (Absynt)
Spanish (Capitan Swing)
UK/Comm (Penguin Press)
Ukrainian (HREC)

ACM Agent: Sarah Lazin

Page Count: 336



The Past, Present,
and Future
of the Self-
Provisioning
City

Tiny Gardens Everywhere

KATE BROWN

"A sparkling new history of urban areas demonstrating that they have long been full of vibrant green shoots. Diving into this visionary blend of history, memoir, and political insight is like eating a salad of fresh spring greens with a sprinkling of wild strawberries—refreshing, delightful, and nourishing for both mind and spirit."—**Tiya Miles, author of *Wild Girls and All That She Carried***

"Tiny Gardens shows us the path between the plot and the planet. It's an amazing, beautiful book; I couldn't put it down."
—**Anna Tsing, author of *The Mushroom at the End of the World***

★ STARRED REVIEW, KIRKUS ★

"Brown, an environmental historian, offers a blueprint for the future in this punchy narrative about all manner of urban gardeners in the U.S. and abroad... Brown's book shows us that inspiration for a new food system doesn't have to be so hard. A riveting social history of the world, as seen through gardens."

"For urban farmers world-wide, this vibrant secret history validates our work and guides future gardeners toward better composting, radical use of common spaces, and plenty of zucchini."—**Novella Carpenter, author of *Farm City* and *The Essential Urban Farmer***

"With enviable skill, craft, and insight, Kate Brown shows that the past of small-scale urban provisioning contains the seeds of a more resilient future for us all."
— **Sunil Amrith, author of *The Burning Earth***

WHY WE TALK FUNNY

The Real Story Behind Our Accents

By Valerie Fridland

NA

April 2026 / Viking (PRH) / US Editor: Terezia Cichel

Final PDF Available

A fun, smart and surprising dive into the past, present and future of accents – and the enduring power of sounding different.

Accents have long held our fascination. As far back as the 7th century BCE, Egyptian pharaohs experimented with babies to test out theories about the “original” accent and the Old Testament relays how a small difference in the pronunciation of “s” became a fatal litmus test of tribal belonging. Still today, from dinner parties to job interviews, you’ll find people kicking up dust about things like where and how to pronounce a ‘t,’ as in, never in “often,” but with proper British poshness, as in “t(y)une.”

In *Why We Talk Funny*, linguist Valerie Fridland unlocks the secrets of what linguistic science, psychology and history can tell us about the evolution of human speech, why accents develop, and how they shape our professional and social lives. With a healthy dose of her signature humor and captivating anecdotes, Fridland explores how the twin forces of physiology and psychology along with the need to fit in changes the trajectory of speech over languages and lifetimes, diving deep into the history and social forces driving the way people talk. Along the way, she emphasizes that accents don’t always set us apart, they can also bring us together. Whether it’s the accent that hints at your hometown, your group, your social status or your ethnicity, the sounds we say reveal a lot about who we are and where we’ve been – even for those who might think they have no accent at all.

The story of language is the story of humanity, and as Fridland reminds us, the funny sounds we make – whether from the mouths of ancient ancestors or the tongues of screenbound teens – all come from the same powerful desire to communicate and belong. *Why We Talk Funny* will change the way you think about your own accent – and transform the way you listen to the sounds of others.

Previous Publisher:

Korean (Gimm-Young)

ACM Agent: Becky Sweren

Page Count: 336

WHY WE
TALK
FUNNY



The Real Story
Behind
Our Accents



VALERIE
FRIDLAND

Author of
LIKE, LITERALLY, DUDE



“Brilliant! For everyone who perks up when they hear an accent.”—**Mignon Fogarty**, *New York Times* bestselling author

“Page after page of illuminating, entertaining answers to questions we all have about why people talk the way they do!”—**Ellen Jovin**, bestselling author of *Rebel with a Clause*

“A fascinating guide to unlocking the power of your accent. By exploring the surprising evolution of how we sound, *Why We Talk Funny* will make you a more empathetic listener and a more effective communicator at home, at work, and out in the world.”—**Scott Kaufman**, author of *Transcend*

“A sprightly and informed study of accents, their evolution, and social purpose... a playful approach to exploring accents without diminishing academic rigor... Smart pop-science writing, inviting and well-researched.” —**Kirkus**

“This is a book for folks who enjoy sharing random trivia at parties and reading books written with a wink... A very fun and playful look at language and speech.” —**Library Journal**

Valerie Fridland is a professor of linguistics in the English Department at the University of Nevada, Reno. She is the author of *LIKE, LITERALLY, DUDE: Arguing for the Good in Bad English*, and writes a popular language blog on *Psychology Today* called “Language in the Wild,” and is also a professor for *The Great Courses* series.

THE CREATURES' GUIDE TO CARING

How Animal Parents Teach Us That Humans Were Born to Care

By Elizabeth Preston

NA

May 2026 / Viking (PRH) / US Editor: Emily Wunderlich

Edited MS Available

Rights Sold:

UK/Comm (Scribe)

A lively and revelatory journey through the evolution of caretaking on Earth, from animal parents to modern-day humans, making the case that caring for children and each other made us who we are

Poison frog fathers carry tadpoles on their backs. Killer whale grandmothers hunt to feed their adult sons. Tropical birds incubate their friends' eggs. Spider moms let their hatchlings eat them alive. Around the world, animals from the exotic to the familiar go to astonishing lengths to keep their young alive. Their biology, brains and behaviors show us what we have in common with other creatures, as well as what's unique about *Homo sapiens*.

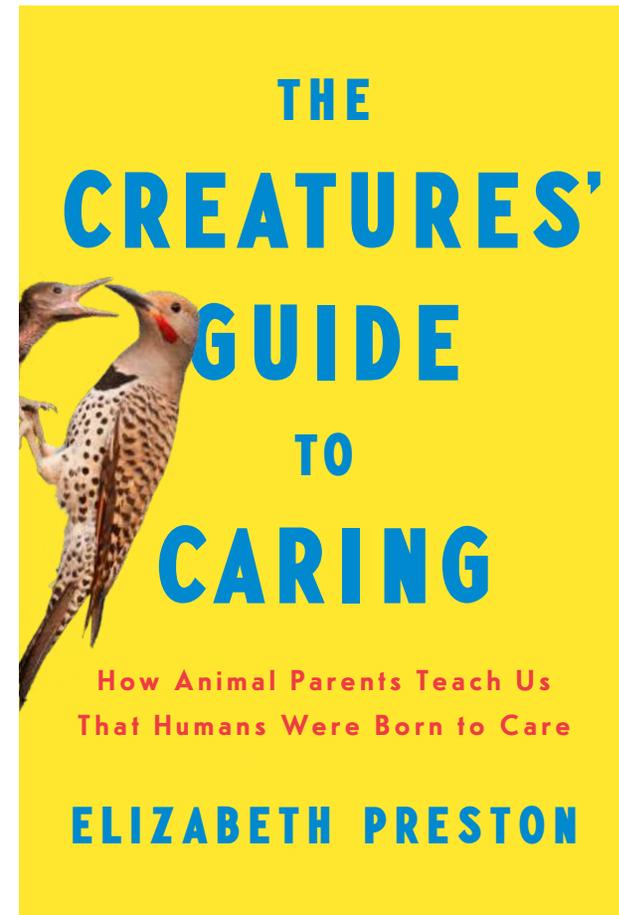
With warmth, humor, and occasional run-ins with bodily fluids, science journalist Elizabeth Preston leads a highly accessible tour of cutting-edge research into how and why we and other animals care for young. She discovers that humans evolved to raise our kids in cooperative groups, and that the tools we've inherited for caretaking aren't only for moms or dads—they're the basis for our human society.

Elizabeth Preston is a science journalist who contributes regularly to *The New York Times*, where her stories have been featured as Great Reads, and *The Boston Globe*, and has written for *Science*, *The Atlantic*, *Orion*, *Slate*, *Audubon*, *Quanta Magazine*, *STAT*, *Discover*, *National Geographic* and others.

"An engaging, brilliant, often hilarious guide to the WTF world of nonhuman parenting . . . **A MUST READ** for mothers (and fathers) and everyone who has one."

—MARY ROACH,

New York Times bestselling author of *Replaceable You*



"Reading this book is like sitting at a dinner table with your smartest, funniest friend. Elizabeth Preston's writing shimmers with wit, charisma, and infectious delight, as she shows how the act of caretaking connects us to the rest of the animal kingdom."—Ed Yong, *New York Times* bestselling author of *An Immense World*

"This fascinating, compelling, and comforting book convincingly argues that whether we choose to become parents or not, we—as well as many other animals—were born pre-programmed to care for others."—Sy Montgomery, bestselling author of *What the Chicken Knows*

"Leave your anthropocentric illusions behind and join science writer Elizabeth Preston in her disarming practice of identifying with other parents, whether fish, fowl, insect or mammal. In return, you will be mightily entertained."—Sarah Blaffer Hrdy, author of *Mother Nature and Father Time*

THE STORY OF BIRDS

A New History, from Their Dinosaur Origins to the Present

By Steve Brusatte

NA

May 2026 / Mariner (HarperCollins) / US Editor: Peter Hubbard

Edited MS Available

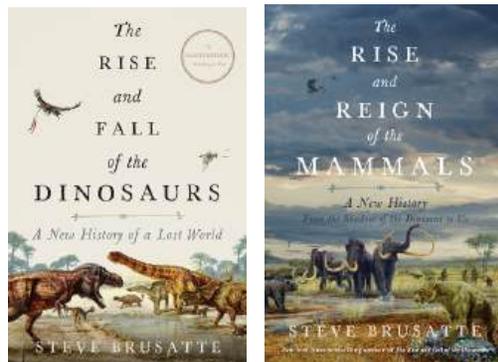
Rights Sold:

| | |
|-------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Brazilian Portuguese (Record) | Japanese (Misuzu Shobo) |
| French (Quanto) | Spanish (Debate / PRH Spain) |
| Hungarian (Park / Libri) | Turkish (Koç University Press) |
| Italian (Utet / De Agostini) | UK/Comm (Picador UK) |

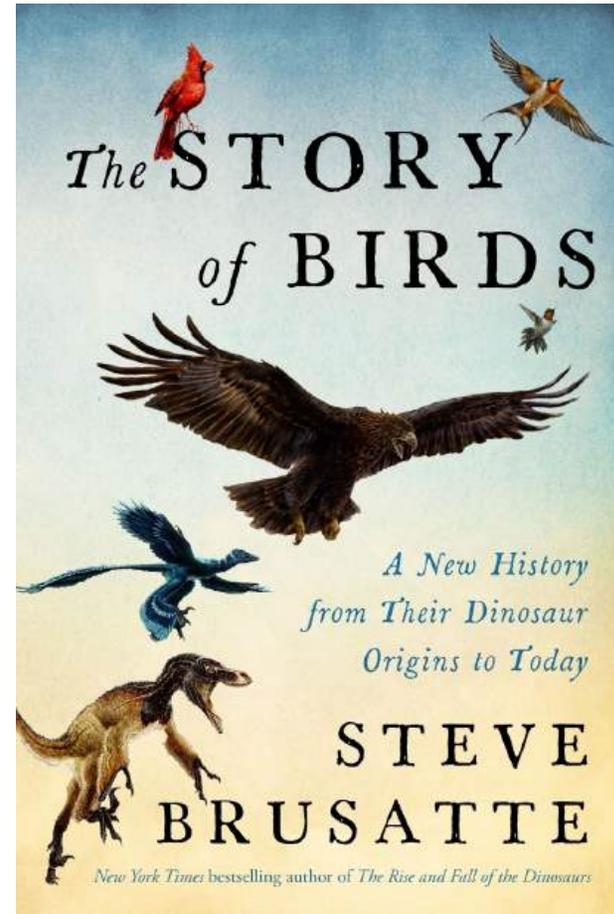
Steve Brusatte's next book, *The Story of Birds*—following the success of his *NYT* and internationally bestselling *The Rise and Fall of the Dinosaurs* (2018), and follow up book *The Rise and Reign of the Mammals* (2022)!

The Story of Birds will be the first popular science book about the evolution of birds, using Steve's energetic, first-person style to tell the story from their dinosaur origins to the over 14,000 species alive today. Beginning in the Triassic Period, 230 million years ago, when the ancestors of birds split off from the reptiles on the great tree of life. Steve will explore how dinosaurs gradually developed the trademark features of birds: feathers, wings, beaks, big brains, keen senses, warm-blooded metabolism, and so on. Then he will describe how these dinosaurs took the great leap from land to air, and how a whole variety of primitive bird species—some with sharp teeth and killer claws—flew over the heads of their dinosaur cousins for tens of millions of years. He will answer the mystery of why birds were the only dinosaurs to survive the hellacious asteroid impact 66 million years ago, and then chronicle how these survivors rapidly proliferated to produce the huge diversity of bird species we know today. As with his previous books, he will showcase a diverse cast of paleontologists from around the world and the book will be richly illustrated with photographs and original artwork.

Steve Brusatte, PhD, is an American vertebrate palaeontologist and evolutionary biologist who has written over 150 scientific papers, published six books, and teaches at the University of Edinburgh, in Scotland.



Page Count: 416



"Brusatte turns to the evolutionary history of the birds, the 'dinosaurs among us.' Penguins the size of gorillas? Ducks weighing more than cows? I'm in." —*New Scientist*

"The palaeontologist and author of the thoroughly enjoyable *The Rise and Fall of the Dinosaurs* turns his attention to our feathery friends and their deep past. Even stranger than you imagined." —*The Times*

"Crisp, gripping, science writing at its very best. If you love birds, you will love this captivating story of how they came to be, how they went from one branch of spry dinosaurs to the astonishing array of winged wonders we have today." —**Jennifer Ackerman, bestselling author**

"Steve Brusatte takes us on a thrilling tour into the amazing world of birds, from their origins as the living descendants of dinosaurs to their remarkable cognitive and navigational skills. A perfect addition to his hugely successful earlier books, *The Rise and Fall of Dinosaurs* and *The Rise and Reign of the Mammals*." —**Venki Ramakrishnan, Nobel Prize winner in Chemistry and Cambridge University biologist**

Other Previous Publishers:

Bulgarian (Ciela)
Complex Chinese (Owl / Cite)
Croatian (Telegram Media Grupa)
Danish (Forlaget Brilleuglen)
Dutch (Ambo Anthos)
Estonian (Aripaev)
Korean (Wisdom House)

Polish (Zysk)
Romanian (Editura Art)
Russian (Alpina)
Simplified Chinese (Cheers)
Thai (Bookscape)
Ukrainian (Komubook)
Vietnamese (Phuong Nam)

ACM Agent: Jane von Mehren

AEVITAS 96

LIVING, TOGETHER

Reimagining Community in the Age of Disconnection

Edited by Samantha Paige Rosen

NA

July 2026 / Beacon Press / US Editor: Haley Lynch

Edited MS Available

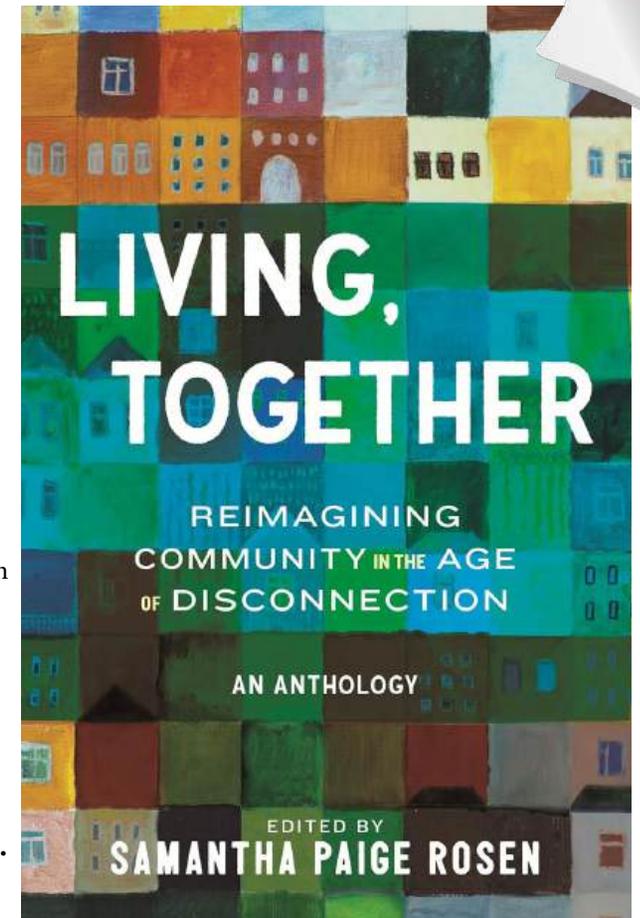
21 writers and organizers on found family, hacking adulthood, and other lessons communal living can teach us about the future of housing in America
Featuring Kristen Arnett, Rhaina Cohen, Kim Stanley Robinson, and more

At age 29, when Samantha Paige Rosen made an unexpected move back home, she was surprised to find how much she loved living with her parents again. Inspired and curious, she began searching for others who had redefined home and community.

The essays and Q&As in *Living, Together* are about carving out spaces of communal connection and joy in our 3-bed, 2-bath starter home culture. Although they recount life at different stages and in different regions, these stories showcase the delights and tradeoffs of more dynamic shapes of “home.” Across sections on family, intentional community, and what lies beyond housing, readers will hear from voices like:

- **Kristen Arnett**, whose found family kept her afloat, from weddings to hurricane season and everything in between
- **Kim Stanley Robinson**, who describes the magic of communities that are led by everyone
- **Sarah Thankam Mathews**, who founded a pandemic mutual aid group and discovered, like so many of us, how essential connection and care are in times of crisis
- **Rodney M. Bordeaux**, who explores how strength and unity are inextricably tied to life on First Nations reservations

Communal living isn't just for cults or millennials with a pipe dream. Amidst the climate crisis, a hostile housing market, and the loneliness epidemic, *Living, Together* opens a window into how people in the US are thriving through collective care. This book invites us to imagine what new opportunities for connection exist when we push through the walls society has built for us.



"If you desire a life that reflects your creativity, desires, and grandest vision of what makes a good life, then you must read this book. You can only truly know the life you want if you know the lives one can want. This book will show you all the ways you can live." —**Dr. Marisa G. Franco**, *NYT* bestselling author of *Platonic*

"This stunning anthology is a powerful, generous reframing of what it means to build a life—a reminder that connection, interdependence, and shared responsibility are not fringe experiments but ancient inherently human qualities that have the power to heal the world."—**Sophie Lucido Johnson**, author of *Kin*

"A lively collection that invites us all to consider how we might live together. No need for a total commune vision; this book lifts up the joys of cohabiting with friends, family, and chosen family even if only for a short while. And, crucially, the stories teach us how to envision living together, navigate the reality, and depart with gratitude and grace."—**Casper ter Kuile**, author of *The Power of Ritual*

Samantha Paige Rosen's writing on identity, the arts, and culture has appeared in the *Washington Post*, *Harper's Bazaar*, *Slate*, *Them*, *BOMB*, *Literary Hub*, and elsewhere.

REBOOTING THE MACHINES

A New Human Vision for Artificial Intelligence

By Ayanna Howard, PhD

NA

November 2026 / Broadleaf / US Editor: Shari MacDonald Strong

Edited MS Available

Rights Sold:

Complex Chinese (Heliopolis)
Korean (Kachi)

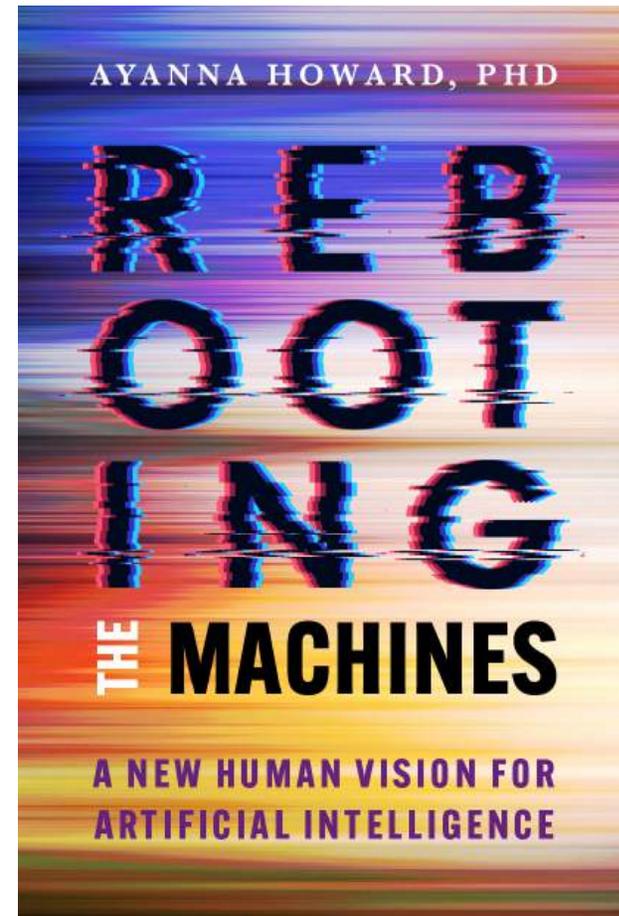
Simplified Chinese (China Translation
& Publishing House)

How do we ensure that AI makes the world better for us all, not just a select few?

As a Black woman working in robotics, Dr. Ayanna Howard understands that systems and networks tend to serve the few at the expense of the many. And today, the rapidly advancing field of artificial intelligence is primed to make problems like bias even worse—or better. In her groundbreaking book, Dr. Howard argues that AI has no moral center. That means that if we want it to serve all humanity, we must provide the compass.

In this call to action around the moral and ethical questions surrounding AI, Howard offers the big ideas and practical suggestions needed to shape AI toward a moral and ethical role in the world. AI developers aren't trained ethicists and don't always think about the consequences of their creations. It's thus up to us all to think deeply about what we value as humans, what we want to accept as good (or good enough) choices in technology's interactions with us, and to educate ourselves to ensure those values—the moral center—are programmed into AI.

Dr. Howard, whose AI and robotics research has been supported over three decades by some of the country's top companies and organizations, has long been an AI optimist. In recent years, however, she's seen a shift in the technology that makes her believe the scales of AI are shifting towards the dystopic. While she still believes in the good of AI, the AI utopia she has long envisioned is no longer possible without you—without all of us. In *Rebooting the Machines*, she reveals how we can all take an active role in shaping artificial intelligence for the good.



Dr. Ayanna Howard, PhD, is an accomplished roboticist, entrepreneur and educator with a career that spans higher education, NASA's Jet Propulsion Laboratory, and the private sector. She is currently dean of The Ohio State University College of Engineering and was previously chair of the Georgia Institute of Technology School of Interactive Computing, as well as founder and director of the Human-Automation Systems Lab (HumAnS). She is also the founder and president of Zyrobotics, a Georgia Tech spin-off company that develops mobile therapy and educational products for children with special needs.

CURVED AIR

A Biography of Sickle Cell Anemia and the Quest to Cure the First Molecular Disease

By Kevin Davies

WE

September 2026 / Harvard University Press / US Editor: Rachel Field
Proposal Available — Edited MS Spring 2026

In the vein of *The Emperor of All Maladies* and *The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks*, *Curved Air* will spin a gripping tale of incredible scientific possibility and devastating neglect and will appeal to the enormous audiences who bought these bestselling titles. This rich, nuanced, untold story, weaving science, history, medicine, politics, economics and ethics in a breezy, accessible style, is long overdue.

Curved Air is the groundbreaking story of sickle-cell disease (SCD), the classic hereditary blood disorder colloquially known as the “invisible malady.” For more than a century, sickle-cell disease has symbolized the best of modern biomedical science. In the 1950s, it was the first genetic mutation to be described; in the 1970s, it was the first disease to be diagnosed prenatally using DNA testing; and in 2020, it was the first disease to be essentially cured using a revolutionary new gene editing tool. Yet, there is another side to sickle-cell disease. Sickle-cell disease patients—whom are predominately African American—are frequently denied desperately needed pain medications by hospital staff who question the validity of their symptoms. Meanwhile, many patients lack basic information about and/or access to effective generic drugs and screening tools. *Curved Air* will bring “the invisible malady” into the spotlight and is set to be the definitive biography of one of the most notorious genetic diseases affecting humankind. Placing science and modern medicine at the center of a vital and far-reaching historical and societal story, *Curved Air* will weave together the heartbreaking, inspirational stories of sickle-cell patients and their families, including that of Victoria Gray (the first patient to undergo CRISPR therapy) with the story of SCD itself, from the first officially described case in Chicago in 1910 through the pivotal discoveries that first revealed SCD to be a molecular disease. It is a story set against the backdrop of medical racism that has hindered SCD research, funding and medical care for decades.

Kevin Davies is the executive editor of The CRISPR Journal and the founding editor of Nature Genetics. He holds an MA in biochemistry from the University of Oxford and a PhD in molecular genetics from the University of London. He is the author of several books including *Editing Humanity* and *Cracking the Genome*.

ACM Agent: Jen Gates

BEGINNINGS

How the Evolution of Pregnancy Made Us Human

By Dr. Tesla A. Monson

NA

March 2027 / Flatiron (Macmillan) / US Editor: Julie Will
Proposal Available — Edited MS Spring 2026

Every person alive on this planet today has experienced pregnancy in some way—whether you have served as a gestational home, caregiver, resource provider, babysitter, genetic donor, or even just as a person growing in utero, you are part of the human evolutionary story. *Beginnings* considers how pregnancy shaped us individually, and as humans.

Beginnings weaves together Tesla’s research as an internationally-recognized paleoanthropologist, focusing on the evolution of reproduction and the growth of the skeletal system in living and fossil primates, with her lived experience as the mother of twins to offer a revolutionary perspective on human evolution and a fresh explanation for modern pregnancy and delivery. It dismantles the myth of ‘man the hunter’ by traveling back in time to examine key transitions in the fossil record. It recognizes pregnancy, for the first time, as a central and guiding force in the human evolutionary story.

Paleoanthropology is actively changing. The evolution of pregnancy has not been written about in large part because there are few women paleoanthropologists in the field, and even fewer who write books. This has played a crucial role in leaving out pregnancy as a major part of the human evolutionary story. But science continues to demonstrate that human pregnancy is a key factor in human evolution. This story needs to be told and Tesla is exactly the scientist-writer who can tell it.

Dr. Tesla Monson is an internationally-acclaimed, award-winning biological anthropologist and Professor of Anthropology at Western Washington University. She is routinely interviewed by top news organizations including the *BBC*, *New Scientist*, and *Inverse*. She recently wrote a popular science piece on the evolution of pregnancy (2023), which was wildly successful, read by more than 34,000 people over a six-month period, and translated into French. And she is routinely invited and paid to give lectures and presentations as a world-expert at top Institutions globally, including Kyoto University and the Universities of Zurich and Tübingen. She travels to fossil vaults all over the world to work with the most notorious skeletons ever discovered.

ACM Agent: Bridget Wagner Matzie

CURIOSITY AND CLIMATE

The Tangled Tale of Our Understanding of Climate Change

By Rob Wesson

WE

Fall 2027 / Springer Nature / US Editor: Simon Shah-Rohlf

Proposal Available — Edited MS Spring 2027

Rights Sold: Complex Chinese (handled by US pub)
German (handled by US pub) Simplified Chinese (handled by US pub)

Curiosity and Climate is a history of the science of climate change and of the men and women who discovered the mechanisms that drive our weather. Starting in the 17th century and ending today, Rob Wesson tracks the key insights that led to our current understanding of climate change and the climate crisis. The result is a captivating work of narrative science in the vein of *The Dawn of Everything* and *Gods of the Upper Air*, which have a similarly kaleidoscopic view of their subjects.

Starting in 17th century and ending today, Rob weaves a three stranded narrative. The first brings the story of the men and women who discovered how the atmosphere—with assistance of the oceans—works to absorb and redistribute the Sun's heat, creating our weather and climate. The second strand shows how the recognition that there had been several Ice Ages in the past led to the investigation of how climate could change, including the impact of subtle alterations in the earth's orbit, and to the explication of the greenhouse effect. And finally, starting in the 20th century, as our understanding of the fluctuations in the earth's orbit, the impact of CO2 levels and the greenhouse effect are joined with the recognition of human-kind's role in our present day climate emergency, we see that we face an existential crisis—once triggered, climate can change quickly, abruptly, and in ways we do not yet know.

A geophysicist who is a Scientist Emeritus at the U.S. Geological Survey, **Rob Wesson** is the author of the well-received *Darwin's First Theory: Exploring Darwin's Quest for a Theory of the Earth*. The recipient of the Meritorious and Distinguished Service Awards of the Department of the Interior, and the Presidential Rank Award of Meritorious Executive, his research focused on earthquakes around the globe as well as those suspected of having been induced by human activity. His papers have been published in numerous scientific publications including *Scientific American*.

ACM Agent: Jane von Mehren

THE BIG BOOK OF HUNTER-GATHERERS

How A Remarkable and Vanishing Way of Life Shaped Our Bodies, Minds, and the Course of Human History

By Dr. Vivek Venkataraman

NA

Fall 2027 / Mariner (HarperCollins) / US Editor: Peter Hubbard

Proposal Available — Edited MS Spring 2027

Rights Sold: Simplified Chinese (CITIC)
Korean (Bookstone) UK/Comm (Bridge Street/LB UK)

Imagine you had the choice to give up everything in the modern world. You would be rocketed back 100,000 years, to a time with only a few thousand humans scattered over the vast earth. Every one of them is a hunter-gatherer, and if you take the deal, you become one of them. Every day you would wake up surrounded by your close friends and family, and together you would do the work necessary to care for your group, and search for your next meal. Would you step into this time machine?

Drawing from groundbreaking research that's rewriting anthropology itself, this extraordinary work reveals a radically different picture of our ancestors' lives—one that overthrows decades of scientific consensus. From sophisticated social structures to surprising dietary patterns to revolutionary hunting strategies, these revelations don't just reframe our understanding of human evolution—they offer transformative insights for solving today's most pressing challenges. By uncovering these forgotten ancestral wisdom codes, we gain unprecedented access to powerful solutions for modern living that have been hiding in plain sight for millennia.

Revolutionary, meticulously researched, and utterly compelling, this book doesn't just change how we see our past—it illuminates a thrilling new path toward our future.

Dr. Vivek Venkataraman, is a leading anthropologist and researcher in hunter-gatherer studies and a successful popular science writer. He runs a large world-class laboratory and has degrees from, and has taught at, some of the most prestigious universities in the world. For over fifteen years, Vivek has conducted long-term fieldwork with people and nonhuman primates, and his work has primarily focused on hunter-gatherer and small-scale farming populations in Uganda, Bolivia, and Malaysia.

ACM Agent: Bridget Wagner Matzie

AEVITAS 100

MADE BY THE WORLD

An Amazonian Perspective on Raising Children

By Dr. Francesca Mezzenzana

NA

Fall 2027 / Penguin Life (PRH) / US Editor: Nina Rodriguez-Marty
Proposal Available — Edited MS Fall 2026

Rights Sold:

Dutch (Uitgeverij Cargo)

French (Les Arènes)

German (Piper)

Italian (Aboca)

Simplified Chinese (CITIC)

Spanish (Paidós / Planeta)

Turkish (Diyojen)

UK/Comm (Allen Lane/Penguin Press)

From gentle parenting to attachment parenting, the anxious generation to free range kids, this moment is awash with advice on how we should raise our children. And there's a big problem: It's not going very well. Dr. Francesca Mezzenzana draws on her own anthropological research and her experience raising children in Amazon communities to offer a totally unique and vivid portrait of childhood that directly challenges almost all of our Western assumptions of childcare.

Despite all the apparent variety, the vast majority of parenting advice we encounter in the West is built upon the same fundamental assumption: If we want our children to grow into happy and well-adjusted adults, we must center their desires and allow them to be “just kids.” Most of us assume that there's a wealth of scientific evidence to back up this approach. After all, many nonprofit organizations are actively working to export this parenting model to the Global South. But in *Made By The World*, Dr. Mezzenzana reveals that this idea is neither effective, nor universal. Like our understandings of race, class, and gender, our ideas of childhood and childcare are social constructs. *Made By The World* will show how the parenting practices of Amazonian Indigenous peoples offer a completely different way of childrearing, human development, and the individual's place in their community. Among the Runa people of the Ecuadorian Amazon, children are rarely the center of attention. They're given serious responsibility from a young age and are encouraged to focus on the world around them, rather than on themselves. Because of this, they develop empathy and independence, and they learn to find joy in taking care of others—exactly the qualities that are increasingly missing in Western kids.

Francesca Mezzenzana, PhD is an internationally acclaimed anthropologist and National Geographic Explorer with expertise in Amazonian Indigenous cultures. She is Senior Researcher and Project Director at the Rachel Carson Centre for Environment and Society at the University of Munich. She has worked at the Musee du quai Branly in Paris, the Collège de France, and the University of Kent.

ACM Agent: Bridget Wagner Matzie

SAY ANYTHING

Acquire Languages, Unlock Cultures, and Transform Your Global Adventures One Word at a Time

By Arieh Smith (aka Xiaomanyc or Xiaoma)

NA

Fall 2027 / Sourcebooks / US Editor: Anna Michels
Proposal Available — Edited MS Spring 2027

Rights Sold:

UK/Comm (Trapeze/Orion)

Many of us dream of speaking a foreign language or two—of travelling the world, experiencing a new culture firsthand and connecting authentically with the people in their native tongue. Yet, too many of us believe we are bad at languages. We do not have the time, or the moment has passed us by because we didn't learn when we were young. *Say Anything* will change all that.

As Xiaomanyc or Xiaoma, Arieh Smith has captivated over 16 million followers across all channels with his hilarious and poignant videos that highlight his crazy, linguistic adventures. Importantly, Smith's experiences such as speaking Navajo on Native American reservations, ordering in fluent Mandarin in Chinatown, or even conversing in Wao Terero in remote Amazon villages, reveal a shared humanity across culture and geography. Smith's videos not only generate billions of views, but they spark joy and connection around the world and across cultural divides, demonstrating the profound power of speaking to people in their native language. In *Say Anything* Smith will share with readers not only his highly unlikely path to becoming an internationally recognized linguist and the thrilling, often hilarious and deeply moving stories from the diverse cultures he's encountered along the way, but the inside tricks he discovered that make learning any language -- no matter how challenging -- possible. At the heart of *Say Anything* is Smith's revolutionary yet accessible approach to learning languages. Unlike traditional methods that rely on grammar rules and memorization, Smith's system highlights how to speak the language from day one, recommends strategic repetition strategies, and offers ways to use language to immediately immerse yourself in the culture. These aren't just theoretical concepts - they're proven techniques that have helped millions of Smith's followers begin speaking new languages with confidence.

Arieh Smith, (aka Xiaomanyc or Xiaoma), is a content creator with over 16 million followers across social media platforms. He is celebrated for his videos where he surprises strangers by speaking over 60 languages including Mandarin Chinese, Yucatec Maya, and Navajo.

ACM Agent: Jen Gates & Laura Nolan

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