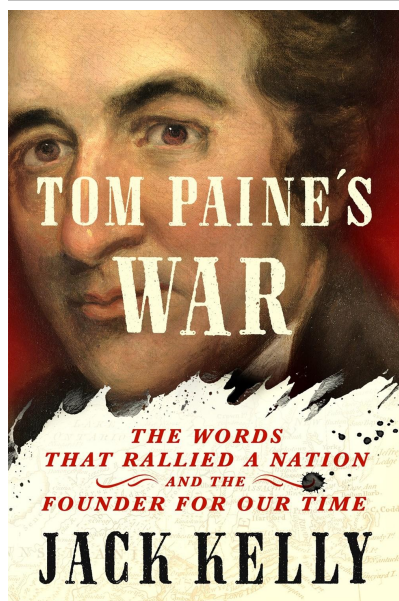




ST. MARTIN'S
PRESS



St. Martin's Press
 9781250331939
 Pub Date: 1/6/2026
 \$31.00/\$43.00 Can.
 Hardcover with dust jacket

352 Pages
 3 maps, 1 illustration
 History / United States
 HIS036030

9.3 in H | 6.1 in W | 1 in T | 1 lb
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Tom Paine's War

The Words That Rallied a Nation and the Founder for Our Time

Jack Kelly

In 1776, one man's words—and the determination of American patriots—allowed our nation to survive its first crisis.

Summary

Two hundred and fifty years ago, the Declaration of Independence marked the birth of the United States. But two essays of that era appealed even more directly to Americans' feelings. In January 1776, Thomas Paine—a recent immigrant to America—published *Common Sense*. His straightforward argument upended the fraud of monarchy and dismantled the idea of aristocratic privilege that had dominated the world for centuries. His words convinced Americans that the king had no divine right to rule them—they could rule themselves. He turned a rebellion over taxes and representation into a true Revolution.

Having inspired patriots to declare their independence, Paine enlisted as a militia private. He saw Washington's army suffer grievous defeats. He slogged through the mud with retreating troops to Pennsylvania. There, he wrote *The American Crisis*, the most stirring rallying cry in our history. It began: "These are the times that try men's souls . . ." With Paine's words ringing in their ears, Washington and his men crossed the Delaware River and defeated the enemy at Trenton. The battle reversed the fortunes of the campaign and of the Revolution itself. A tribute to the Revolution's 250th anniversary, *Tom Paine's War* is a riveting exploration of our nation's birth. This is a story of the power of words—and the power of belief—and how both speak as well to America's current crisis.

Contributor Bio

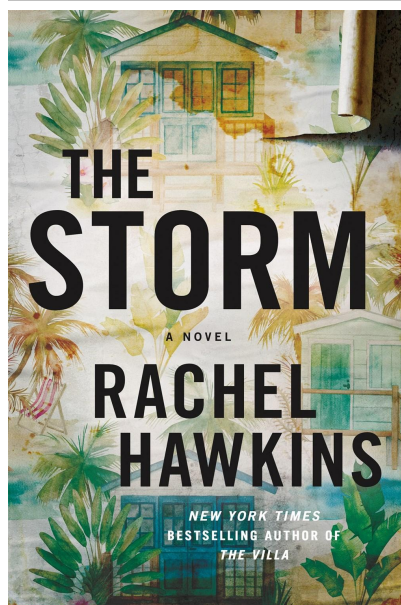
JACK KELLY is an award-winning author and historian. His books include *Band of Giants*, which received the DAR History Medal, and *God Save Benedict Arnold*, a Finalist for the New England Book Awards. He has published five novels, and is a New York Foundation for the Arts fellow in Nonfiction Literature. Kelly has appeared on The History Channel, National Public Radio, and C-Span. He lives in New York's Hudson Valley.

Quotes

"A compelling page-turner" —**Patrick K. O'Donnell, bestselling author of *The Unvanquished***

"Accessible and entertaining." —**Katherine Stewart, author of *Money, Lies, and God***

"Jack Kelly has taken on the task of reviving Paine's reputation for a new generation. In *Tom Paine's War*, a lively and scrupulous examination of the pamphlet "*Common Sense*," which played a major role in starting the American revolution, Kelly refutes the idea that America was founded on Christianity or any other religion. There could scarcely be a more timely book." —**Susan Jacoby, author of *Freethinkers***



St. Martin's Press
9781250341884
Pub Date: 1/6/2026
\$29.00/\$41.00 Can.
Hardcover with dust jacket

304 Pages
Fiction / Thrillers
FIC031080

9.3 in H | 6.1 in W | 1 in T | 1 lb
Wt

The Storm

A Novel

Rachel Hawkins

The New York Times bestselling author returns with a thrilling new gothic suspense about a Gulf Coast beach motel where hurricane season can be murder.

Summary

St. Medard's Bay, Alabama is famous for three things: the deadly hurricanes that regularly sweep into town, the Rosalie Inn, a century-old hotel that's survived every one of those storms, and Lo Bailey, the local girl infamously accused of the murder of her lover, political scion Landon Fitzroy, during Hurricane Marie in 1984.

When Geneva Corliss, the current owner of the Rosalie Inn, hears a writer is coming to town to research the crime that put St. Medard's Bay on the map, she's less interested in solving a whodunnit than in how a successful true crime book might help the struggling inn's bottom line. But to her surprise, August Fletcher doesn't come to St. Medard's Bay alone. With him is none other than Lo Bailey herself. Lo says she's returned to her hometown to clear her name once and for all, but the closer Geneva gets to both Lo and August, the more she wonders if Lo is actually back to settle old scores.

As the summer heats up and another monster storm begins twisting its way towards St. Medard's Bay, Geneva learns that some people can be just as destructive—and as deadly—as any hurricane, and that the truth of what happened to Landon Fitzroy may not be the only secret Lo is keeping...

Contributor Bio

RACHEL HAWKINS is the *New York Times* bestselling author of *The Wife Upstairs*, *Reckless Girls*, *The Villa*, and *The Heiress*, as well as multiple books for young readers. Her work has been translated into over a dozen languages. She studied gender and sexuality in Victorian literature at Auburn University and currently lives in Alabama.

Quotes

Praise for *The Heiress*:

"The reigning queen of the Gothic thriller." —**Entertainment Weekly**

"Murder, secrets, Gothic vibes, and one of the most deliciously twisted families ever put to page. I loved it!" —**Riley Sager, New York Times bestselling author of *The Only One Left***

"Featuring unreliable narrators and twists throughout, Hawkins' latest continues her reign as the queen of slow-burn domestic thrillers. This is a page-turner that readers will find hard to put down and is perfect for fans of stories with ambiguous morals and dysfunctional families." —**Booklist**

99 Ways to Die



and How to
Avoid Them

Ashely Alker, M.D.

St. Martin's Press
9781250359643
Pub Date: 1/13/2026
\$28.00/\$39.00 Can.
Hardcover with dust jacket

320 Pages
Includes 4-color endpapers
Health & Fitness / Longevity
HEA049000

9.3 in H | 6.1 in W | 1 in T | 1 lb
Wt

99 Ways to Die

And How to Avoid Them

A.M. Alker, M.D., Ashely Alker

An illuminating, hilarious, and practical guide to 99 of the most terrifying ways to die and how to avoid them from an emergency medicine doctor.

Summary

Dr. Ashely Alker is a self-described death-escapologist--or, in more familiar terms, an emergency medicine doctor. She has seen it all, from flesh-eating bacteria to the work of a serial killer to the more mundane but no less deadly, and her work keeping people from dying (or being unable to) has uniquely prepared her to write this book.

99 Ways to Die: And How to Avoid Them is an illuminating, darkly funny, and practical guide to 99 of the most terrifying ways to die and how to avoid them. Dr. Alker manages to scare readers while making them laugh, preparing them for a wide range of deadly situations and conditions. Each chapter includes stories of her patients pertaining to the chapter's subject, as well as her related experiences in life and medicine. Sections include categories on sex, poison, drugs, biological warfare, disease, animals, crime, the elements and much more.

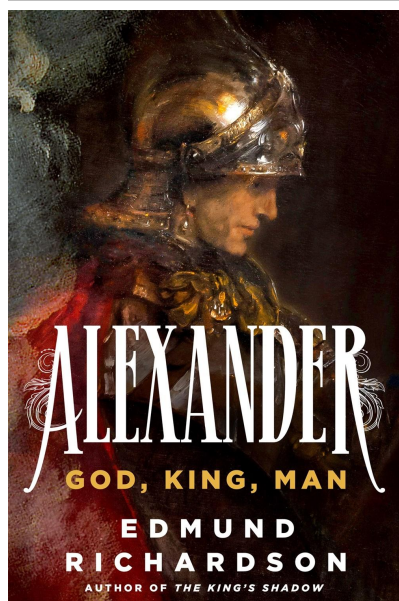
An Anthony Bourdain-style greatest hits tour of death, *99 Ways* is entertaining while it informs. Quirky yet commercial, it will appeal to readers of everything from *The Vagina Bible* to *Stiff* to *What If?*, as well as the large audience of readers of bestselling medical books like *How Not to Die*.

Contributor Bio

ASHLEY ALKER M.D., M.Sc., is a nationally published speaker and writer, with a focus on patient education and healthcare policy. Dr. Alker studied at Harvard School of Public Health's International Institute in Cyprus, where she lived near the United Nations' Green Zone and worked at the Unit for the Rehabilitation of Victims of Torture. After attending George Washington University School of Medicine, Ashely worked as a healthcare advisor for a U.S. Congressman. She completed her medical residency at The University of California, San Diego, where she gave a TEDx talk on end-of-life care. She is currently the Chief Medical Media Officer of Doctorpedia, a patient education organization, and produced and co-hosted the "COVID Frontlines" public health education webcast. Ashely also works as a medical technical consultant for network television and major motion pictures. She currently is under contract for a new HBO series. Dr. Alker is a nationally published writer on topics including gun violence prevention, equity in medicine, and narrative medicine. She has been a featured writer in USA Today, TEDMED, KevinMD, the San Diego Union-Tribune, and has published a children's book on understanding death.

Quotes

"In *99 Ways to Die*, Dr. Alker gives the world a glimpse of the landmines actively avoided every day in Emergency Medicine. As a mom and fellow emergency medicine doctor, I want my friends (and kids) to read this book. Maybe now they will understand why my babies never got honey, but always got their vaccines! A fun and interesting read, everyone will learn (and laugh) by reading this book." -Dara Kass, M.D., Former HHS Regional Director, Mom, & Crisis Averter.



St. Martin's Press
 9781250285614
 Pub Date: 1/13/2026
 \$31.00/\$43.00 Can.
 Hardcover with dust jacket

352 Pages
 1 8-page B&W insert
 Biography & Autobiography
 / Royalty
 BIO014000

9.3 in H | 6.1 in W | 1 in T | 1 lb
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Alexander

God, King, Man

Edmund Richardson

An enthralling new biography of Alexander the Great, written as an intimate, present portrait of the way his world saw him and the price he paid to become history's greatest military mind.

Summary

Alexander the Great: a wide-eyed boy from the hills of Macedon who ruled most of the known world by his mid-twenties. For centuries, historians, refugees, poets, and explorers have told his story, and yet Alexander himself has remained a mystery.

But over the last few years, a series of remarkable discoveries has changed everything. From the bottom of the Mediterranean Sea and the dust of Central Asian hillsides, the remains of Alexander's cities have emerged. The diaries of Babylonian astronomers who knew him have been deciphered. The tombs of his ancestors have been unearthed. Now, for the first time since antiquity, it is possible to tell a different story. The story of a young man whom almost no-one noticed, until the day he became king. A king who became a hero, a hero who became a living god, and a god who died broken-hearted in Babylon.

Using cutting-edge research and a unique narrative approach, *Alexander* thrusts readers into Alexander the Great's world in ways which have never before been possible: to see the same stars wheeling overhead, feel the desert wind, and experience the full horror of battle. *Alexander* is a cinematic work of non-fiction, a revelatory retelling of one of the most famous and elusive stories in history.

Contributor Bio

EDMUND RICHARDSON is Associate Professor of Classics at Durham University, UK. He is the author of *The King's Shadow* (2022) and *Classical Victorians: Scholars, Scoundrels and Generals in Pursuit of Antiquity* (2013), and was named one of the BBC/AHRC New Generation Thinkers in 2016.

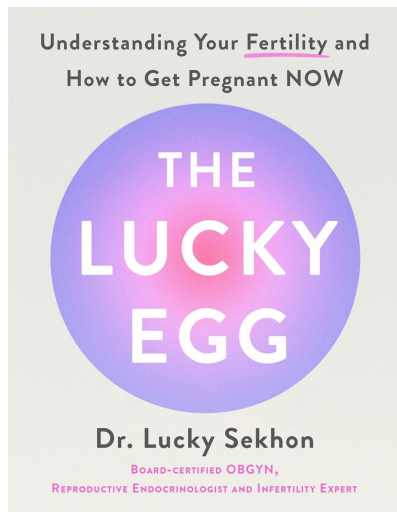
Quotes

Praise for *The King's Shadow*:

"An enthralling addition to the genre...Richardson's colorful and compelling account gives this forgotten figure [explorer Charles Masson] his due." —*The New York Times*

"Quite a story.... Richardson skillfully weaves the tale of Alexander's empire with Masson's adventures, using a novelistic approach rather than dry academic one that focuses on the action without sacrificing key details about the history." —*Associated Press*

"Captivating biography of an archaeological pioneer sure to please history fans and students of the spy game." —*Kirkus Reviews*, starred



St. Martin's Press
9781250408716
Pub Date: 1/13/2026
\$35.00/\$49.00 Can.
Hardcover with dust jacket

352 Pages
Includes charts and graphs
Health & Fitness / Fertility &
Infertility
HEA045000
9.1 in H | 7.4 in W | 1 in T | 1 lb
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The Lucky Egg

Understanding Your Fertility and How to Get Pregnant NOW

Dr. Lucky Sekhon

Comprehensive, compassionate, and refreshingly clear, *The Lucky Egg* is the fertility guide we've all been waiting for!

Summary

Imagine if your best friend also happened to be a top reproductive endocrinologist—the kind who could break down the complexities of conception with warmth, humor, and real-world insight. In *The Lucky Egg*, Dr. Lucky Sekhon is that brilliant friend, ready to guide you through every stage of the fertility journey, whether it's straightforward or deeply complex.

From understanding what your AMH level really means to navigating egg freezing, IVF, or embryo genetic testing, Dr. Lucky blends expert medical knowledge with relatable patient stories to demystify the process. Her guidance meets you exactly where you are—whether you're just starting to track ovulation, facing a diagnosis of diminished ovarian reserve, exploring the use of donor eggs or sperm, or have been through multiple rounds of treatment with no clear path forward.

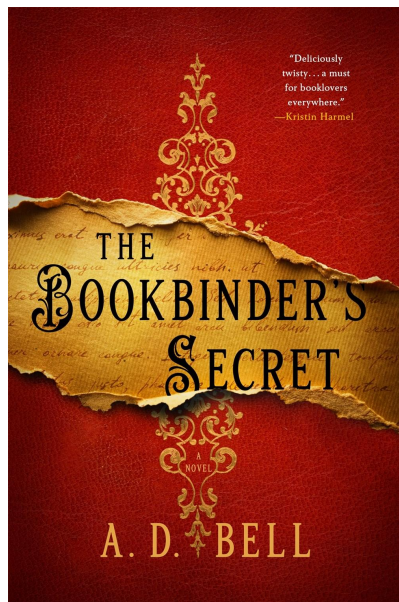
One in six people struggle with infertility, yet open, informed conversations are still rare. For many, the journey to parenthood is isolating, overwhelming, and full of medical jargon. For LGBTQ+ individuals, the barriers can be even greater—layered with legal and political hurdles that make an already emotional process feel even more fraught.

The Lucky Egg is here to change that. With evidence-based, accessible explanations and a voice that feels like a trusted ally, Dr. Lucky empowers readers with the knowledge they need to make confident decisions. Her goal is simple but profound: to replace confusion and fear with clarity, comfort, and hope.

With unwavering optimism and the bedside manner you've been longing for, *The Lucky Egg* is your compassionate guide to planning for and building the family of your dreams.

Contributor Bio

LUCKY SEKHON was born and raised in Toronto, Canada, and earned her undergraduate degree at McGill University in Montreal. She completed her MD at the Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland, and fulfilled her OB/GYN residency and REI fellowship training at Mt. Sinai Hospital in New York City. Now a double board certified reproductive endocrinologist practicing at RMA of New York, she lives in Brooklyn with her husband and two daughters.



St. Martin's Press
 9781250412645
 Pub Date: 1/13/2026
 \$29.00/\$41.00 Can.
 Hardcover with dust jacket

400 Pages
 Includes 4-color endpapers
 Fiction / Historical
 FIC014000

9.3 in H | 6.1 in W | 1 in T | 1 lb
 Wt

The Bookbinder's Secret

A. D. Bell

A written confession hidden beneath the binding of a burned book leads a young bookbinder on a hunt for the truth of the story, one of forbidden love, a lost fortune, and murder.

Summary

Lilian ("Lily") Delaney, apprentice to a master bookbinder in Oxford in 1901, chafes at the confines of her life. She is trapped between the oppressiveness of her father's failing bookshop and still being an apprentice in a man's profession. But when she's given a burned book during a visit to a collector, she finds, hidden beneath the binding, a fifty-year-old letter speaking of love, fortune, and murder.

Lily is pulled into the mystery of the young lovers, a story of forbidden love, and discovers there are more books and more hidden pages telling their story. Lilian becomes obsessed with the story but she is not the only one looking for the remaining books and what began as a diverting intrigue quickly becomes a very dangerous pursuit.

Lily's search leads her from the eccentric booksellers of London to the private libraries of unscrupulous collectors and the dusty archives of society papers, deep into the heart of the mystery. But with sinister forces closing in, willing to do anything for the books, Lilian's world begins to fall apart and she must decide if uncovering the truth is worth the risk to her own life.

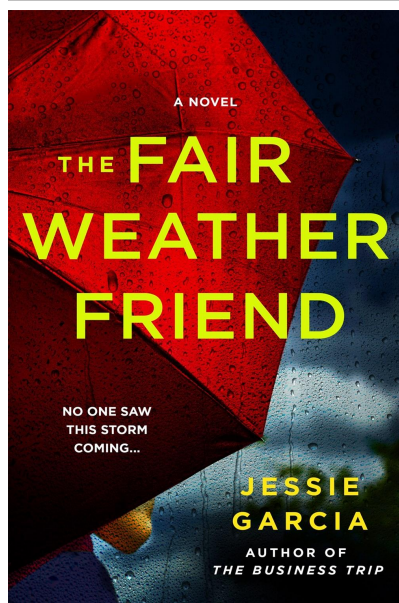
Contributor Bio

A.D. BELL grew up in Cornwell and following a variety of careers now works in publishing. She lives in Oxford with her wife and daughter.

Quotes

"A deliciously twisty and vibrantly plotted historical mystery set in the world of rare books in turn-of-the-century England, *The Bookbinder's Secret* is a must for booklovers everywhere." —Kristin Harmel, *New York Times* bestselling author of *The Book of Lost Names* and *The Stolen Life of Colette Marceau*

"For all who cherish the magic of books, reading *The Bookbinder's Secret* is like falling into another world, one made of vintage books and secret libraries, of cobblestone streets and richly told tales in secret rooms. The novel is as immersive as the scent of old paper and bound leather in an antique bookstore. Sewn together with the threads of mystery, romance, and a fiercely determined woman, *The Bookbinder's Secret* is impossible to put down." —Patti Callahan Henry, *New York Times* Bestselling author of *The Secret Book of Flora Lea*



St. Martin's Press
 9781250364456
 Pub Date: 1/20/2026
 \$29.00/\$41.00 Can.
 Hardcover with dust jacket

320 Pages
 Fiction / Thrillers
 FIC031100

9.3 in H | 6.1 in W | 1 in T | 1 lb
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The Fair-Weather Friend

Jessie Garcia

In this riveting thriller from the author of *THE BUSINESS TRIP*, Jessie Garcia's signature multi-POV, rapid-fire style will propel you into the heart of a mystery no one could have forecasted.

Summary

It's always sunny in Detroit for Faith Richards. The popular TV meteorologist, endearingly referred to as "The Fair Weather Friend" by her viewers, has the world by the tail. But one night, Faith leaves work on a dinner break and never returns. Her body is found the next morning.

The town is reeling, suspects emerge, and long-buried secrets are uncovered. While her allies rally, her list of adversaries also grows. Little does anyone know that only the deepest secrets will expose the truth.

Contributor Bio

JESSIE GARCIA is an award-winning sports journalist who has risen the ranks in television news, first as an anchor/reporter, then to newsroom management. She is the News Director at the CBS affiliate in Milwaukee. She is the author of award winning non-fiction books, and her documentary *Leaps and Bounds: The Men Who Changed Track and Field* was featured in over a dozen film festivals. A native of Madison, WI, Jessie has two adult sons and resides in Milwaukee with her husband, dog and cat.

Quotes

Praise for Jessie Garcia:

"Nonstop twists and turns... I couldn't wait to see how it ended!" -- **FRIEDA MCFADDEN**

"Tightly paced with pages that practically turn themselves, you will race to find answers...and I promise you, they're not what you think they are." -- **Julie Clark**

"A hold your breath thriller that ramped up the tension at every turn...First-class thriller writing"—**Sarah Pearse**

ONCE THERE WAS A TOWN

The **MEMORY BOOKS** of
a **LOST JEWISH WORLD**

JANE ZIEGELMAN



St. Martin's Press
9781250284334
Pub Date: 1/20/2026
\$28.00/\$39.00 Can.
Hardcover with dust jacket

240 Pages
Includes 12 black-and-white
images throughout
History / Jewish
HIS022000

8.3 in H | 5.4 in W | 1 in T | 1 lb
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Once There Was a Town

The Memory Books of a Lost Jewish World

Jane Ziegelman

A powerful exploration of the books created by Jewish Holocaust survivors to honor their lost world

Summary

By the close of World War II, six million Jews had been erased from the face of the earth. Those who eluded death had lost their homes, families, and entire way of life. Their response was quintessentially Jewish. From a people with a long-history of self-narration, survivors gathered in groups and wrote books, yizkor books, remembering all that had been destroyed. Jane Ziegelman's *Once There Was a Town* takes readers on a journey through this largely uncharted body of writing and the vanished world it depicts.

Once There Was a Town resounds with the voices of rich and poor, shopkeepers and tradespeople, scholars and peddlers, Zionists and Communists, men and women telling stories of the towns that were their homes. Stops are made in the bustling market squares where Jewish merchants catered to local farmers; study houses where men recited Torah; kitchens where homemakers baked 20-pound loaves of bread; cemeteries where mourners conversed with departed loved ones and wooded groves where young couples met for the occasional moonlit tryst. Of the many towns on Ziegelman's itinerary, she always circles back to Luboml, her family's ancestral shtetl and the point of departure for her own journey of discovery.

In conversation with classics by IB Singer and Roman Vishniac, *Once There Was a Town* is a landmark of rediscovery, and a love song to a vanished world.

Contributor Bio

Jane Ziegelman is the author of the classic *97 Orchard*, and coauthor of the James Beard Award winning *A Square Meal*. She lives with her husband in Brooklyn, New York.

Quotes

"With grace and sensitivity, Ziegelman takes us from the pages of one such [yizkor] book to the shape of a world."—**Timothy Snyder, author of *Bloodlands***

"Deeply moving." —**Gwen Strauss, author of *Milena and Margarete***

"Offer[s] a window into a world lost but not forgotten." —**Ilana Kurshan, author of *Children of the Book***

"This book could not arrive at a more critical moment." —**Rebecca Frankel, author of *Into the Forest***

"Courageous." —**Michael W. Twitty, author of *Koshersoul***

"Luminous." —**Benjamin Cohen, author of *The Einstein Effect***

Ain't Nobody's Fool

THE LIFE AND TIMES OF
DOLLY PARTON

MARTHA ACKMANN



St. Martin's Press

9781250286857

Pub Date: 1/20/2026

\$30.00/\$42.00 Can.

Hardcover with dust jacket

304 Pages

8-page 4C insert

Biography & Autobiography

/ Women

BIO022000

9.3 in H | 6.1 in W | 1 in T | 1 lb

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Ain't Nobody's Fool

The Life and Times of Dolly Parton

Martha Ackmann

A larger-than-life new biography of country music legend and philanthropist Dolly Parton.

Summary

In *Ain't Nobody's Fool: The Life and Times of Dolly Parton*, Martha Ackmann chronicles the life of an American Original. From her impoverished childhood in the Smoky Mountains to international stardom as a singer, songwriter, actress, businesswoman, and philanthropist, Dolly Parton has exceeded everyone's expectations except her own. During a time when the Beatles set the standard for contemporary music, Dolly appeared on a local country music television show that her high school classmates thought was pure cornpone. The day after her high school graduation, she boarded a bus for Nashville, but record executives turned her down. One said her voice sounded like a screech owl.

When Dolly finally got her foot in the door, her talent and focus catapulted her to the top of country charts, the pop world, and movie stardom. Yet her success came at a price. Shunned by many in Nashville who saw her ambition as a betrayal of her country music roots, Dolly became the target of death threats, lawsuits, and a judge who threatened to throw her in jail. She nearly collapsed on-stage and later succumbed to depression that pushed her to the brink, but she refused to be counted out and came back stronger than ever developing Dollywood, the amusement park that became the economic engine of East Tennessee, and founding the Imagination Library that provides free books to children around the world. Her philanthropy to health organizations led to creation of the Moderna COVID vaccine. And, finally, she returned to her roots, recording bluegrass albums that became the most celebrated of her unparalleled 60-year career.

Ain't Nobody's Fool is a deep dive into the social, historical, and personal forces that made Dolly Parton one of the most beloved and unifying figures in public life and includes interviews with friends, family members, school mates, Nashville neighbors, members of her band, studio musicians, producers, and many others. It also features never before seen photographs and unearthed documents shedding light on her family's hardscrabble life. More than anything, Martha Ackmann's fresh and animated new book proves Dolly Parton knows just who she is and she ain't nobody's fool.

Contributor Bio

Martha Ackmann is a journalist and author who writes about women who have changed America. Her essays have appeared in *The Atlantic*, the *Paris Review*, *The New York Times*, and *The Washington Post*. She also is a frequent commentator for New England Public Radio, and has been featured on CNN, National Public Radio, and the BBC. Martha is the recipient of fellowships from the John Simon Guggenheim Foundation and the Radcliffe Institute for Advanced Study at Harvard University. Her books include: *The Mercury 13: The True Story of Thirteen Women and the Dream of Space Flight*; *Curveball: The Remarkable Story of Toni Stone, the First Woman to Play Professional Baseball in the Negro League*; and *These Fevered Days: Ten Pivotal Moments in the Making of Emily Dickinson*.

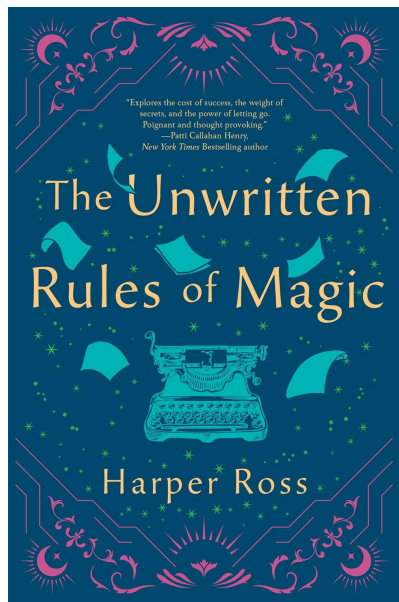
Quotes

Praise for *These Fevered Days*:

"A vivid, affectionate chronicle of Emily Dickinson that sheds new light on her groundbreaking poetry." —*The New Yorker*

"Radiant prose, palpable descriptions, and deep empathy for the poet's sensibility make this biography extraordinary." —*Kirkus Reviews*, Starred Review

"I quickly came to treasure Ackmann's ample descriptions, her deep knowledge of the poet's milieu. . . . [*These Fevered Days* is] thoroughly researched, and yet, with Ackmann's energetic storytelling, alive." —Megan Marshall, *New York Times Book Review*



St. Martin's Press
 9781250394552
 Pub Date: 1/27/2026
 \$28.00/\$39.00 Can.
 Hardcover with dust jacket

320 Pages
 Fiction / Women
 FIC044000

9.3 in H | 6.1 in W | 1 in T | 1 lb
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The Unwritten Rules of Magic

Harper Ross

***The Unwritten Rules of Magic* is a spellbinding novel that blends magic and memory in an unforgettable journey through love, grief, and the cost of perfection across three generations of women.**

Summary

Emerson Clarke can't remember a time when she felt in control of her life. Her father—a celebrated author—blew in and out of her childhood like a hurricane until he got Alzheimer's. Her mother numbed loneliness with gin. And recently, her teen daughter has shut her out without explanation. The only place Emerson has ever been in charge is in front of the keyboard where, as a ghostwriter, she dictates everything that happens on the page. If only she could arrange reality the same way, life could be perfect. An impossible fantasy—or so she believes until she makes a startling discovery.

After her father's wake, Emerson steals her father's vintage typewriter—the very one he'd forbidden anyone to touch—and tests its keys by typing out a frivolous wish. After it comes true the very next day, she tries another. When those words also spring to life, she becomes obsessed with using the typewriter to engineer happiness for herself and her daughter. Easier said than done.

As Emerson shapes her real-life circumstances, she uncovers disturbing truths about her family's history and the unexpected cost for each story-come-true. She should destroy the typewriter, but when her daughter's secret finally emerges, Emerson is torn between paying the price for bending fate and embracing the uncertainty of an unscripted life.

Contributor Bio

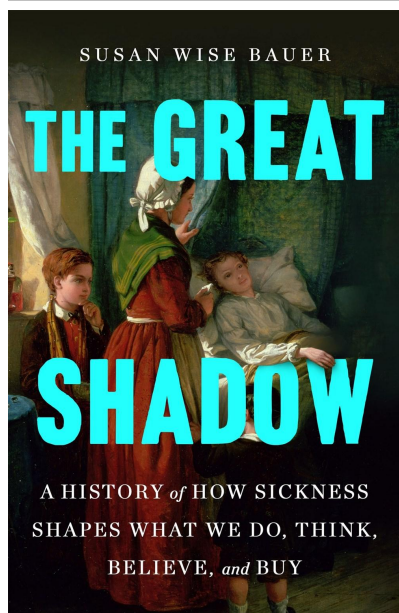
HARPER has enjoyed a lifelong love affair with the dramatic story worlds in books and movies. After leaving her legal practice to raise her kids, she discovered her own creative side and began writing novels that explore friendship, family, and forgiveness. When she's not at the keyboard, she's likely to be singing badly in her car, dancing in her kitchen, or walking her adorable dog, Mo. She's also a lucky wife and mother to a very patient and supportive family.

Quotes

"A heartfelt, magical, memorable novel sure to captivate." —Heather Webber, USA Today bestselling author of *Midnight at the Blackbird Café*

"A riveting page-turner that combines a whiff of Alice Hoffman with a brilliant twist on the importance of being present and embracing life's messiness... will stay with you long after the final page." —Robyn Carr, #1 NYT bestselling author

"A master class in family dynamics and my favorite kind of novel—one that's both deeply nuanced and a delightful read." —Barbara Davis, bestselling author of *The Echo of Old Books*



St. Martin's Press
9781250272911
Pub Date: 1/27/2026
\$30.00/\$42.00 Can.
Hardcover with dust jacket

352 Pages
Social Science / Disease & Health
Issues
SOC057000
8.3 in H | 5.4 in W | 1 in T | 1 lb
Wt

The Great Shadow

A History of How Sickness Shapes What We Do, Think, Believe, and Buy

Susan Wise Bauer

From alchemy to wellness culture, from antisemitism to disposable plastic, a gripping account of how getting sick has shaped humanity.

Summary

Anti-science, anti-vaccine, anti-reason beliefs seem to be triumphing over common sense today. How did we get here? *The Great Shadow* brings a huge missing piece to this puzzle—the experience of actually being ill. What did it *feel* like to be a woman or man struggling with illness in ancient times, in the Middle Ages, in the seventeenth century, or in 1920? And how did that shape our thoughts and convictions?

The Great Shadow uses extensive historical research and first-person accounts to tell a vivid story about sickness and our responses to it, from very ancient times until the last decade. In the process of writing, historian Susan Wise Bauer reveals just how many of our current fads and causes are rooted in the moment-by-moment experience of sickness—from the search for a balanced lifestyle to plug-in air fresheners and bare hardwood floors. We can't simply shout facts at people who refuse vaccinations, believe that immigrants carry diseases, or insist that God will look out for them during a pandemic. We have to enter with imagination, historical perspective, and empathy into their world. *The Great Shadow* does just that with page-turning flair.

Contributor Bio

Susan Wise Bauer is a historian and educator. Her sweeping works of narrative history include, among many others, *The History of the Ancient World*, *The Story of Western Science*, and the *Story of the World* series for young readers. She is the co-author of *The Well-Trained Mind*, author of *The Well-Educated Mind*, and owner of the Well-Trained Mind Press. She taught at the College of William and Mary for eighteen years and now writes on the family farm, Peace Hill, in Charles City, Virginia.

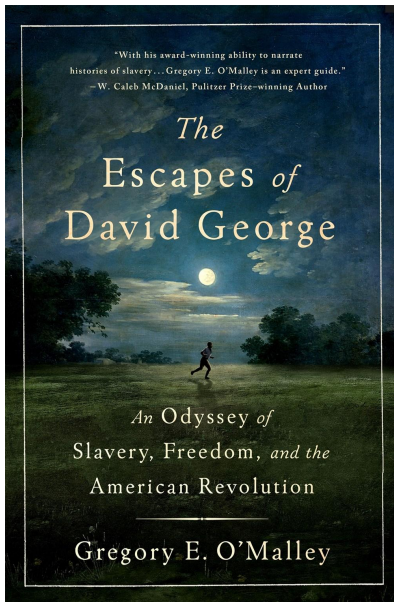
Quotes

"Engrossing. A timely reminder of the resilience, ingenuity, and persistent hope that have allowed us to endure and sometimes overcome the threat of disease." —**Rana Awdish, MD, author of *In Shock***

"Eye opening, timely, and unexpectedly entertaining." —**Dr. Leana Wen, author of *Lifelines***

"Fantastic...Bauer guides the reader on an empathetic yet chilling journey into what it means to be human in a world affected by contagion." —**Lydia Reeder, author of *The Cure for Women***

"Riveting and thought-provoking." —**Paulina Bren, author of *She-Wolves***



St. Martin's Press
 9781250364234
 Pub Date: 2/3/2026
 \$30.00/\$42.00 Can.
 Hardcover with dust jacket

304 Pages
 Includes 2 maps and 2 black-and-white photographs
 History / United States
 HIS036030

9.3 in H | 6.1 in W | 1 in T | 1 lb Wt

The Escapes of David George

An Odyssey of Slavery, Freedom, and the American Revolution

Gregory E. O'Malley

By a prize-winning historian: The dramatic story of a Black man's relentless search for freedom in Revolutionary-era America

Summary

When most Americans think of slavery, they do not picture the colonial or revolutionary eras. Yet, in fact, one of six inhabitants of the thirteen original colonies was enslaved. *The Escapes of David George: an Odyssey of Slavery, Freedom, and the American Revolution* reveals a remarkable, untold experience of the American revolutionary period—a Black man's quest for the freedom espoused by our Founders, but denied him and other enslaved people.

In 1762, at the age of 19, David George escaped from a plantation in Virginia. Running southwest by night, fording rivers and crossing borders, he embarked on a decades-long journey in and out of captivity that spanned multiple colonies and thousands of miles. George lived among White, Black, Creek, and Natchez settlements, fled to the British Army for the promise of liberty, founded what might have been the first Black Baptist church, helped to hack a settlement for refugees out of the Nova Scotia wilderness, and died as a leader of an experimental anti-slavery community in Sierra Leone.

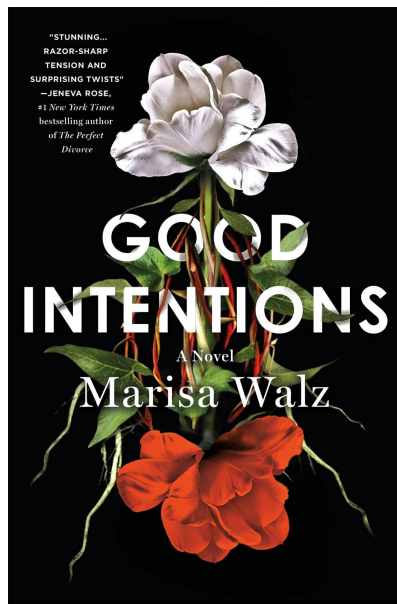
Piecing together archival records and David George's own brief account of his life—the earliest written testimony by a fugitive enslaved person in North America--Gregory O'Malley presents a thrilling narrative and a unique perspective on our nation's origins, principles, and contradictions.

Contributor Bio

Gregory E O'Malley is professor of history at UC Santa Cruz. His first book, *Final Passages: The Intercolonial Slave Trade of British America, 1619-1807*, won the Forkosch, Rawley, Owsley, and Elsa Goveia awards. He is a key contributor to the SlaveVoyages.org, consulted on The 1619 Project, and lectures widely on the slave trade and related subjects.

Quotes

"Where, on earth, could a Black man in eighteenth-century British America go to be free? As the multiple flights of David George show, the answer was not always clear. With his award-winning ability to narrate histories of slavery that move between the local and the global, the individual and the community, the material and the spiritual, Gregory O'Malley is an expert guide through David George's Atlantic world and its reverberations today." -- W. Caleb McDaniel, author of *Sweet Taste of Liberty: A True Story of Slavery and Restitution in America*, winner of the 2020 Pulitzer Prize for History



St. Martin's Press
9781250397409
Pub Date: 2/3/2026
\$29.00/\$41.00 Can.
Hardcover with dust jacket

336 Pages
Fiction / Thrillers
FIC030000

9.3 in H | 6.1 in W | 1 in T | 1 lb
Wt

Good Intentions

A Novel

Marisa Walz

A deft and immersive psychological suspense debut about a luxury party planner who becomes obsessed with a woman she encounters in a hospital waiting room.

Summary

Cady has worked hard to have a good life. She has a thriving luxury event-planning business, the man she's loved since she was seventeen, and a social calendar she can barely keep up with. She also has Dana, her identical twin, her beyond best friend, her most trusted confidante. When Cady gets a call that Dana has been in a serious accident and arrives moments too late to say goodbye, her world falls apart.

But to Cady's family's growing concern and confusion, it's not Dana's death that consumes her. It's Morgan, a grieving mother Cady encountered in the hospital waiting room, the day her sister died. It can't be a coincidence, that they both experienced tragedy at the same moment, in the same place—Cady doesn't believe in coincidences. Instead, she is convinced that she must help this stranger overcome her tragedy, in order to come to terms with her own.

Or...is there more to it? Is it possible that Cady wants something else from Morgan? Something she can't even admit to herself?

Slyly twisted and deeply provocative, *Good Intentions* captures the moral ambiguity that can arise in the face of impossible choices. Like the aftermath of a car accident—and against your better judgment—you won't be able to look away.

Contributor Bio

MARISA WALZ is a Federal Reserve executive who also writes novels about people behaving badly. She lives in the Chicago suburbs with her husband and two young children.

Quotes

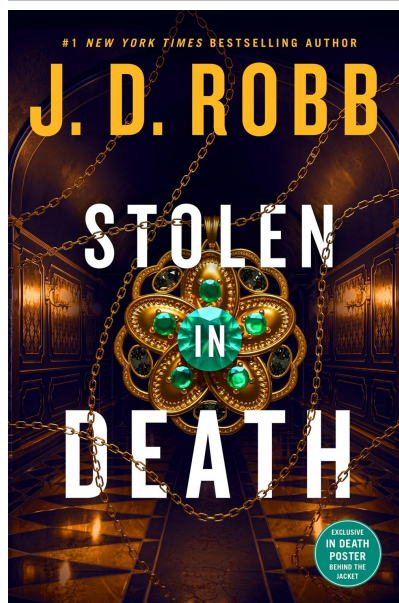
"FANS OF PSYCHOLOGICAL SUSPENSE WILL BE OBSESSED...a fast pace, a constant sense of foreboding and unease, and an ending that will leave readers stunned."

—Mary Kubica, bestselling author of *Local Woman Missing*

"An absolute feat of a debut. HONEST AND UNFLINCHING...Walz has managed to create one of the most complex and morally grey characters." **—Stacy Willingham, bestselling author of *Forget Me Not***

"EERIE AND PROVOCATIVE...a unique take on the stalker narrative." **—Lauren Ling Brown, bestselling author of *Society of Lies***

"A MASTERFULLY TWISTY DEBUT...I couldn't stop until the mind-blowing end." **—Carola Lovering, bestselling author of *Tell Me Lies***



St. Martin's Press
 9781250414526
 Pub Date: 2/3/2026
 \$30.00/\$42.00 Can.
 Hardcover with dust jacket

400 Pages
 Fiction / Mystery & Detective
 FIC022020

9.3 in H | 6.1 in W | 1 in T | 1 lb
 Wt

Stolen in Death

J. D. Robb

A violent death and a vault of stolen treasures has Eve Dallas struggling to solve crimes old and new in the latest thriller in the #1 *New York Times*-bestselling series.

Summary

A blow to the head with a block of amethyst has left multibillionaire Nathan Barrister dead—while nearby, a vault, its door ajar, sits filled with priceless paintings, jewelry, and other treasures. Lieutenant Eve Dallas's husband, Roarke—who misspent his youth in Ireland as a scrappy thief—recognizes at least two stolen pieces among the hoard. The crime scene suggests a burglar caught in the act. But only one item seems to be missing.

Then it's revealed that the vault had actually belonged to the victim's late father—and no one in the household knew it was there until a recent remodeling project exposed it. To protect the family name and business, they explain to Eve, they'd been looking for a way to return the ill-gotten gains anonymously and avoid the police. But now the police are all over their elegant house, and have a bigger, bloodier mystery to solve.

By all accounts, Nathan Barrister was a good man, a generous employer, a devoted husband and father. As for his father—he clearly had secrets. Now it's up to Eve and her team to find out if those secrets got Nathan killed—and if it was a crime of passion or revenge.

Contributor Bio

J.D. ROBB is the pseudonym for #1 *New York Times* bestselling author Nora Roberts. She is the author of over 250 novels, including the futuristic suspense *In Death* series. There are more than 500 million copies of her books in print.

Quotes

"Fast paced and layered, it is no wonder that this is one of the most enduring and exciting franchises in crime fiction." -Karin Slaughter

Praise for *Bonded in Death*

"The thrills keep on coming, and the final interrogation...is as satisfying as ever."
 —*Kirkus Reviews*

"Robb returns in resplendent fashion with the sixtieth stellar entry in her Eve Dallas series, a tale that features a cleverly constructed and completely compelling story line that delivers all the requisite thrills her readers crave while also offering some fascinating and keenly relevant insights into the past of Eve and her tycoon husband's majordomo, the heroic Summerset." —*Booklist*



book design
forthcoming

St. Martin's Press
9781250289674
Pub Date: 2/10/2026
\$35.00/\$49.00 Can.
Hardcover with dust jacket

384 Pages
Includes 4-color endpapers plus
one 8-page color photograph insert
and one 8-page black-and-white
photograph insert
History / Wars & Conflicts
HIS027100

8.3 in H | 5.4 in W | 1 in T | 1 lb
Wt

Emilio Pucci

The Astonishing Odyssey of a Fashion Icon

Terence Ward, Idanna Pucci

The Drama of War and Postwar Italy Through the Life of One of Its Most Celebrated Icons

Summary

When people think of Emilio Pucci, it is of his bright, swirling colors and easy, freeing fabrics, and everyone from Sophia Loren to Jackie Kennedy donning the eye-catching dresses that personify *La Dolce Vita*. What few know about Pucci, however, is that before creating his world-famous fashions, he played a critical role in the war against the Nazis, risking his life to smuggle out to the Allies one of the most important documents of World War II.

The authors bring to life Italy's darkest and brightest days, with the extraordinary Emilio Pucci at its center. Italy at the end of the war was broken, and Florence, which the Pucci family had called home for seven centuries, lay in ruins. Pucci returned home having endured trials that would have broken many, but, like Italy itself, rose from the ashes, and went on to design some of the most exuberant fashion of all time. He helped usher in a new era of creativity in Italy, which again became a mecca of fashion, art, design, film, and more.

A host of supporting characters—including Mussolini's daughter and Allen Dulles, and, most importantly, the timeless city of Florence and the mythic island of Capri—enrich this compelling narrative that will draw readers of all kinds, from war and history buffs, to fashionistas and fans of espionage thrillers along with the millions of readers who devour books about Italy and her many charms.

Contributor Bio

Terence Ward is the author of *Searching for Hassan: A Journey to the Heart of Iran* and *The Guardian of Mercy: How an Extraordinary Painting by Caravaggio Changed an Ordinary Life*. **Idanna Pucci** is the author of *The Lady of Sing Sing* and *The World Odyssey of a Balinese Prince*. Idanna grew up in the Pucci palace, eyewitness to her uncle's extraordinary work. She and Terence have had far flung lives, from Iran to Indonesia. They live in Florence.

Quotes

Praise for *Emilio Pucci*

"A fascinating book...unveiling Emilio's unknown past. In the end, the arc of his story moves from black and white into brilliant color." —**Suzi Menkes, from the Foreword**

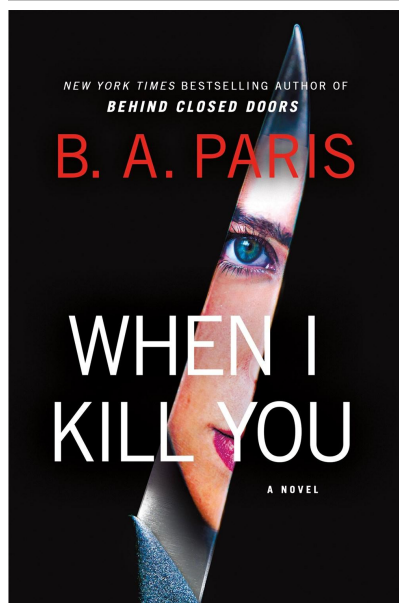
Searching for Hassan

"Astonishing and deeply poignant." —**The Washington Post**

The Lady of Sing Sing

"Idanna Pucci pulls out all the stops." —**The New York Times**

"Combining her own family history, Pucci investigates the sensational crime."
—**Washington Post**



St. Martin's Press
9781250289445
Pub Date: 2/17/2026
\$29.00/\$41.00 Can.
Hardcover with dust jacket

304 Pages
Fiction / Thrillers
FIC031100

9.3 in H | 6.1 in W | 1 in T | 1 lb
Wt

When I Kill You

A Novel

B.A. Paris

The multimillion-copy and *New York Times* bestseller B. A. Paris returns with a triumphant, unsettling new domestic suspense novel.

Summary

Who is watching Nell Masters?

Nell Masters is certain someone is following her. The hairs on the back of her neck rise as she feels someone's eyes on her as travels to work, random phone calls to her office come in with no one speaking on the other end of the line, and then a giant bouquet of flowers arrives with no card. And Nell has a reason to be looking over her shoulder, because she has a secret that that nobody in her life knows.

Fourteen years earlier, she went by her real name, Elle Nugent. She witnessed a student, Bryony Sanders, getting into a stranger's car, and then heard on the news that Bryony was killed later that day and her body found in a park. Elle, the only witness, had become obsessed with finding the truth about the murder, and her fixation on one man who she believes was responsible led her down a dangerous path. But had she pointed the finger at the wrong person?

Now, having tried to put her past behind her, Nell tries to convince herself that this new, unnerving feeling of being watched is just her mind playing tricks on her. She relies on her new boyfriend Alexey for support, but Alexey has his own past and secrets too.

Has the stalker become the stalked . . . or is there something even more deadly at play?

Contributor Bio

B.A. PARIS (she/her) is the *New York Times* bestselling author of *Behind Closed Doors*, *The Breakdown*, *Bring Me Back*, *The Dilemma*, *The Therapist*, *The Prisoner*, and *The Guest*. She grew up in England but has spent most of her adult life in France. She has worked both in finance and as a teacher and has five daughters.

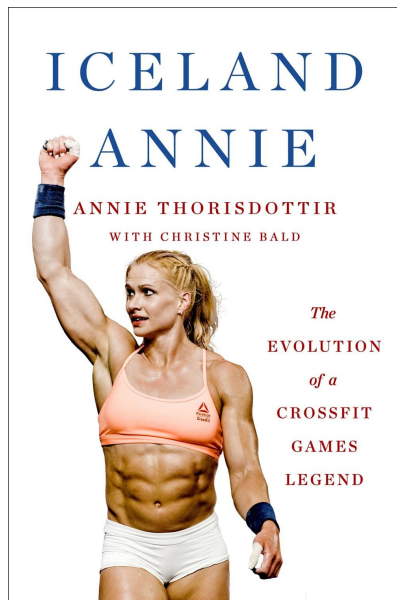
Quotes

Praise for *The Guest*:

"Bestseller Paris orchestrates a symphony of subplots in this creepy domestic thriller. Paris deftly juggles the many characters and plot strands on the way toward a wild climax. The results are electrifying."—*Publishers Weekly*

"Well-crafted secrets and betrayals abound."—*Booklist*

"A tightly woven, character-driven thriller, *The Guest* shows how secrets can build up into toxic time bombs."—Apple Books



St. Martin's Press
9781250284143
Pub Date: 2/17/2026
\$30.00/\$42.00 Can.
Hardcover with dust jacket

304 Pages
Includes 1 black-and-white images
and 4-color endpapers plus one
8-page color photograph insert
Sports & Recreation
SPO000000

9.3 in H | 6.1 in W | 1 in T | 1 lb
Wt

Iceland Annie

The Evolution of a CrossFit Games Legend

Annie Thorisdottir, Christine Bald

An inspiring memoir by CrossFit legend Annie Thorisdottir, the first woman to win the CrossFit Games twice.

Summary

In 2011, Annie Thorisdottir earned the title "Fittest Woman on Earth" after winning the CrossFit Games in only her second year as a competitor. In 2012, she did it again, becoming the first woman to ever hold the title twice and solidifying herself amongst the CrossFit greats.

Iceland Annie is the story of how she got there, but also everything that happened after. From first entering the CrossFit scene at the 2009 Games when she famously performed her first ever muscle-up mid-competition, to becoming a two-time winner and mentor to athletes like Katrin Davidsdottir, to surviving the difficult birth of her daughter and battling postpartum depression while fighting to return to the sport—which she successfully did in 2021, placing third at the Games less than a year after giving birth.

Now, for the first time ever, Annie shares the intimate details of her career, delving into her mental resilience, determination, and the struggles and triumphs she's faced as top level competitor over three separate decades.

Contributor Bio

ANNIE THORISDOTTIR—or Iceland Annie, as she's sometimes called—is a two-time CrossFit Games champion (2011-2012) and ten times CrossFit Games veteran. Of those appearances, she's stood on the podium six times—she took second in 2010 and 2014, third in 2017 and 2021 less than a year after giving birth, in addition to her title-winning finishes. A former gymnast, Thorisdottir owns CrossFit Reykjavik in Iceland.

Quotes

"[Thorisdottir] never gave up on herself, and she made the adjustments needed to succeed in the face of extreme adversity... One of the greatest comebacks in the history of our sport." —Justin Bergh, vice president of sports and partnerships for CrossFit



St. Martin's Press
 9781250375650
 Pub Date: 2/24/2026
 \$29.00/\$41.00 Can.
 Hardcover with dust jacket

288 Pages
 Fiction / Science Fiction
 FIC028010
 9.3 in H | 6.1 in W | 1 in T | 1 lb
 Wt

After The Fall

Edward Ashton

Part alien invasion story, part buddy comedy, and part workplace satire, *After The Fall* by Edward Ashton, author of *Mickey7*, asks an important question: would humans *really* make great pets?

Summary

Humans must be silent. Humans must be obedient. Humans must be good.

All his life, John has tried to live by those rules. Most days, it's not too difficult. A hundred and twenty years after The Fall, and a hundred years after the grays swept in to pick the last dregs of humanity out of the wreckage, John has found himself bonded to Martok Barden nee Black Hand, one of the "good" grays. Sure, Martok is broke, homeless, and borderline manic, but he's always treated John like an actual person, and sometimes like a friend. It's a better deal than most humans get.

But when Martok puts John's bond up as collateral for an abandoned house in the woods that he hopes to turn into a wilderness retreat for wealthy grays, John learns that there are limits to Martok's friendship. Soon, he finds himself caught between an underworld boss who thinks Martok is something that he very much is not, a girl raised by feral humans who has nothing but contempt for *pets* like John, and Martok himself, whose delusions of grandeur seem to be finally catching up with him.

With sixty days before Martok's loan comes due, John must unravel the mystery of how humans wound up at the wrong end of domestication and find a way to turn Martok's half-baked plans into enough profit to buy back his life, all while avoiding getting butchered by feral humans or having his head crushed by an angry gray. Easy peasy, right?

Contributor Bio

EDWARD ASHTON is the author of the novels *Three Days in April*, *The End of Ordinary*, *Mickey7*, *Antimatter Blues*, *Mal Goes to War*, and *The Fourth Consort*, as well as of short stories which have appeared in venues ranging from the newsletter of an Italian sausage company to *Escape Pod*, *Analog*, and *Fireside Fiction*. He lives in a cabin on the shore of an inland sea, where he enjoys cancer research, teaching quantum physics to sullen graduate students, and whittling.

Quotes

Praise for *The Fourth Consort*:

"Ashton strikes an impressive balance of humor, action, and thought-provoking sci-fi concepts." —*Publishers Weekly*

"This is a deep surprise of a story as it contemplates the perils and pitfalls of communication." —*Library Journal* (starred)

"Ashton excels at creating compelling characters... A delightful examination of what it means to be human." —*Booklist*

COVER TO BE REVEALED



St. Martin's Press
9781250383563
Pub Date: 2/24/2026
\$29.00/\$41.00 Can.
Hardcover with dust jacket

288 Pages
Fiction / Coming Of Age
FIC043000

8.3 in H | 5.4 in W | 1 in T | 1 lb
Wt

A Good Animal

A Novel

Sara Maurer

A heart-wrenching coming-of-age debut novel by a stunning new voice in fiction, for readers of Barbara Kingsolver and Ann Patchett.

Summary

In the farm fields surrounding Sault Ste. Marie, a border town in Michigan's Upper Peninsula, time seems to stand still. Summer, the sun scalds the local boys' necks as they bale hay for cash. Winter, the girls bundle up against the cold and jostle through the high school halls like trailered sheep.

Most kids dream of leaving, but Everett Lindt plans to stay on his family's sheep farm, develop his own herd, and eventually rebuild the crumbling homestead that looks over the land he loves. When he meets Mary, a Coast Guard brat determined to set out on her own, he soon feels he can't live without her. After she discovers she's pregnant, he's convinced she'll stay by his side forever. Mary, however, is desperate to find a way out. With limited access to reproductive care, Everett and Mary discover a solution with potentially disastrous consequences.

Intimate and haunting, Sara Maurer's *A Good Animal* is a breathtaking story of the complexities of love, the beauty and brutality of rural life, and how one decision can echo through generations and shape who we become.

Contributor Bio

SARA MAURER lives with her family in Michigan's Upper Peninsula. She earned her bachelor's degree from Albion College and master's from Eastern Michigan University. She honed her creative writing craft while completing Stanford's Continuing Studies Novel Writing Certificate program. Her short fiction can be found in *Dunes Review*, *Hominum Journal*, and *The Twin Bill*. *A Good Animal* is her first novel.

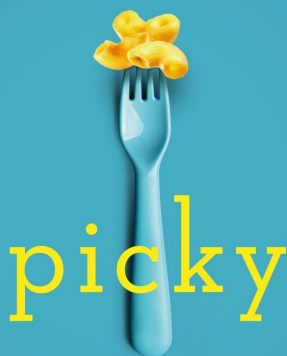
Quotes

"A slow, gorgeous waltz of a novel" - Jung Yun, author of *O Beautiful* and *Shelter*

A Good Animal is a stunning, unforgettable, and deeply American novel." - Julia Phillips, author of *Bear* and National Book Award finalist *Disappearing Earth*

"This soul-stirring, elegiac novel reads like a classic and will leave the reader breathless." - Christina Clancy, author of *The Snowbirds*

How American Children
Became the Fussiest
Eaters in History



helen zoe veit

St. Martin's Press
9781250402509
Pub Date: 2/24/2026
\$29.00/\$41.00 Can.
Hardcover with dust jacket

304 Pages
Includes 9 black-and-white
illustrations and 4-color endpapers
Health & Fitness / Diet & Nutrition
HEA048000

8.3 in H | 5.4 in W | 1 in T | 1 lb
Wt

Picky

How American Children Became the Fussiest Eaters in History

Helen Veit

An eye-opening investigation into why American kids no longer eat broadly and with gusto

Summary

Are children naturally picky? It sure seems that way. Yet, amazingly, pickiness used to be almost nonexistent. Well into the 20th century, Americans saw children as joyful omnivores who were naturally curious and eager to eat. Of course, this doesn't make sense today. Don't kids have special taste buds? Aren't they highly sensitive to food's texture and color? Aren't children incapable of liking "adult foods," and don't parents risk harming kids psychologically by urging them to eat?

But Americans in the past didn't think any of those things. They assumed that children could enjoy the same foods as adults, and *children almost always did*. They loved spicy relishes, vinegary pickles, and bitter greens. They spent their allowances on raw oysters and looked forward to their daily coffee. So how did modern kids become such incredibly narrow eaters? The story is fascinating – and about much more than rising abundance. *Picky* shows how fussy eating came to define "children's food" and reshape American diets at large. Maybe most importantly, it explains how we can still use the tools that parents used in the past to raise happy, healthy, wildly un-picky kids today.

Contributor Bio

Helen Zoe Veit is an award-winning historian and writer. An associate professor of history at Michigan State University, she is the director of the *What America Ate* and *America in the Kitchen* projects, was an advisor for HBO's *The Gilded Age*, and is a former editor of *Gastronomica*. She is often cited in NYT, WashPo, WSJ, and more. Her book *Modern Food, Moral Food* was a James Beard Award finalist, and her edited volume *Food in the Civil War Era: The North* won a Gourmand International award.

Quotes

"A profound historical investigation and a call to action." —**Paul Freedman, Chester D. Tripp professor of history at Yale University**

"Explains how a wrongheaded notion became conventional wisdom, with disastrous consequences for kids and parents alike." —**Laura Shapiro, author of *What She Ate***

"Shows us how picky eaters aren't born but made." —**Andrew Coe, author of *A Square Meal***

"Veit reveals not only how American kids learned to be such picky eaters but exposes the food attitudes of the grown-ups in the kitchen." —**Michael Krondl, author of *Sweet Invention***

COVER TO BE REVEALED



St. Martin's Press
9781250357632
Pub Date: 3/3/2026
\$29.00/\$41.00 Can.
Hardcover with dust jacket

320 Pages
Humor / Form
HUM003000

8.3 in H | 5.4 in W | 1 in T | 1 lb
Wt

Delusions

Of Grandeur, of Romance, and of Progress

Cazzie David

With her 30th birthday fast approaching, Cazzie David explores the existential crises of contemporary womanhood in this sharp and darkly funny essay collection from the *NYT* bestselling author.

Summary

In *Delusions*, Cazzie David offers a candid and hilarious exploration of everything from neuroses and romantic agonies to the relentless grip of social media, all through her signature voice—blunt, self-deprecating, and deeply relatable.

Beginning with her 29th birthday and ending with her 30th birthday, Cazzie reflects on the delusions that wasted her twenties and reckons with their consequences now that the specter of her thirties looms large. Touching on everything from the pressure to find the "right" partner to enduring unrequited love to navigating body dysmorphic spirals, Cazzie cuts through the noise, offering personal anecdotes, sharp cultural criticism, and witty, honest contemplations on the chaos of becoming an adult in the modern world.

Contributor Bio

CAZZIE DAVID is a 30-year-old girl (NOT woman) who has been told by up to two psychics that she has lived many lifetimes, and that only this current lifetime is that of a nepo baby. She is the author of the *New York Times* bestseller *No One Asked For This*, a regular contributor to *Air Mail*, and has written for *Vanity Fair*, *Vogue*, *Elle Magazine*, and more. Her debut feature, *I Love You Forever*, which she co-wrote and directed, premiered at SXSW and is available for streaming.

Quotes

Praise for Cazzie David:

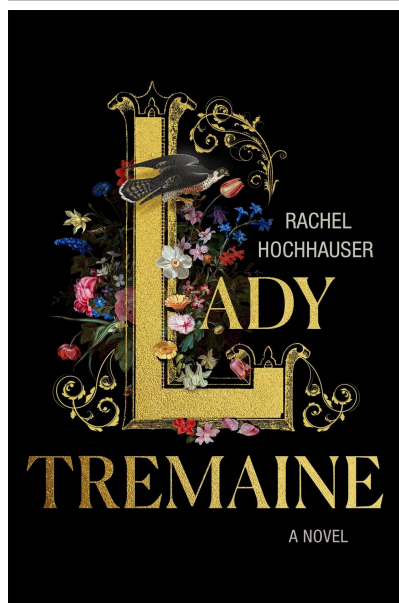
"Cazzie David is the delicious antidote to the poison of basic influencer culture."

—**Diablo Cody**

"One of the funniest, most original writers of this up-and-coming generation." —**Amy Schumer**

"Blisteringly honest...kind of like if a David Sedaris book was written by an anxiety-ridden millennial who grew up in Hollywood." —**Entertainment Weekly on No One Asked For This**

"[David] will make you bark with laughter in these essays about family, relationships and the perils of social media." —**People Magazine on No One Asked For This**



St. Martin's Press
9781250396341
Pub Date: 3/3/2026
\$29.00/\$41.00 Can.
Hardcover with dust jacket

352 Pages
Includes 2-color endpapers
Fiction / Women
FIC044000

9.3 in H | 6.1 in W | 1 in T | 1 lb
Wt

Lady Tremain

Rachel Hochhauser

A breathtaking reimagining of *Cinderella*, as told through the eyes of its iconic "evil" stepmother, revealing a propulsive love story about the lengths a mother will go to for her children.

Summary

A widow twice-over, Etheldreda is now saddled with the care of her two children, a priggish stepdaughter, and a razor-taloned peregrine falcon. Her entire life has become a ruse, just like the manor hall they live in: grand and ornate on the exterior, but crumbling, brick by brick, inside. Fierce in the face of her misfortune, Ethel clings to her family's respectability, the lifeboat that will float her daughters straight into the secure banks of marriage.

When a royal ball offers the chance to secure the future she desperately desires, Etheldreda must risk her secrets, pride, and limited resources in pursuit of an invitation for her daughters—only to see her hopes fulfilled by the wrong one. As an engagement to the heir of the kingdom unfolds with unnerving speed, she discovers a sordid secret hidden in the depths of the royal family, forcing her to choose between the security she's sought for years and the wellbeing of the feckless stepdaughter who has rebuffed her at every turn.

As if *Bridgerton* met *Circe*, and exhilarating to its core, *Lady Tremain* reimagines the myth of the evil stepmother at the heart of the world's most famous fairytale. It is a battle cry for a mother's love for her daughters, and a celebration of women everywhere who make their own fortunes.

Contributor Bio

RACHEL HOCHHAUSER grew up in Santa Barbara, California. She attended New York University and earned a master's in professional writing from the University of Southern California. Currently, she lives in Portland, Oregon with her husband and two daughters. *Lady Tremain* is her first novel.

Quotes

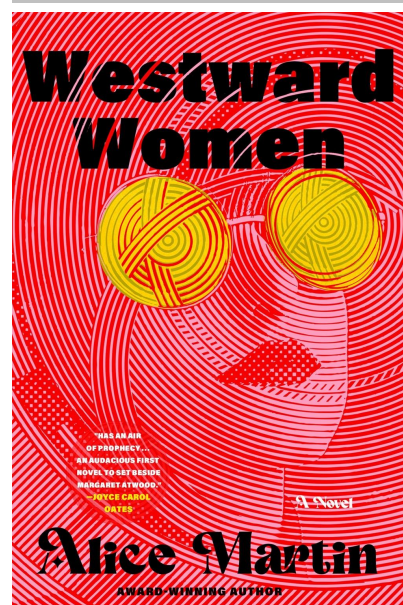
"Feminist, fierce, and wildly fresh: *Lady Tremain* is my kind of fairy tale...and it's destined to be one of the biggest books of the year." —**Glennon Doyle, #1 bestselling author of *Untamed***

"*Lady Tremain* left me in awe...Hochhauser's storytelling is a poignant reminder that even fairy tale villains have a story worth telling." —**Sarah Penner, *New York Times* bestselling author of *The Lost Apothecary***

"Hochhauser's prose is a gift. *Lady Tremain* is one of the best novels I've read in a long time—for its sentences, for its grace, and for its originality. I haven't stopped thinking about it. I am envious of any reader picking up this book for the first time." —**Olivia Clare Friedman, author of *Here Lies***

"Wit, wisdom, poetry on every page. Hochhauser brilliantly takes a classic from a shelf and reads from it in a voice that's both hauntingly familiar and crisp in contemporary understanding. Her reappraisal of the cages we build for ourselves—in marriage and in love—reveals the freedom we possess, if only we'd look up and wait patiently for the hunting hawk's heart to return to our outstretched arm. Amazing work." —**Mark Richard, author of *The Ice at the Bottom of the World***

"With spellbinding prose and haunting moral complexity, Hochhauser excavates the heart of a timeless story...a stunning debut." —**Kimberly King Parsons, National Book Award finalist and author of *We Were the Universe***



St. Martin's Press
9781250375308
Pub Date: 3/10/2026
\$29.00/\$41.00 Can.
Hardcover with dust jacket

304 Pages
Fiction / Alternative History
FIC040000

9.3 in H | 6.1 in W | 1 in T | 1 lb
Wt

Westward Women

Alice Martin

For fans of Emma Cline and Emily St. John Mandel, *Westward Women* is a hypnotic and hopeful debut—part fever dream, part dystopian road trip.

Summary

It starts with an itch.

In homes across the country, women ages eighteen to thirty-five begin to slow down.

Tired. Blank. Restless.

Drawn to the Pacific Ocean like it's calling them home. They abandon their lives—jobs, families, their very selves. And once they reach the West, they vanish forever.

At the center of the story are three young women caught in the pull of something unstoppable.

Aimee follows the trail of her missing best friend to a man called the Piper—known for leading infected women West.

Teenie, afflicted and unraveling, clings to a single memory as she looks out the window of the Piper's van.

And Eve, a former journalist, is chasing the story that might just consume her.

Each on the edge of transformation. Drawn toward the unknown. In search of a way forward.

Contributor Bio

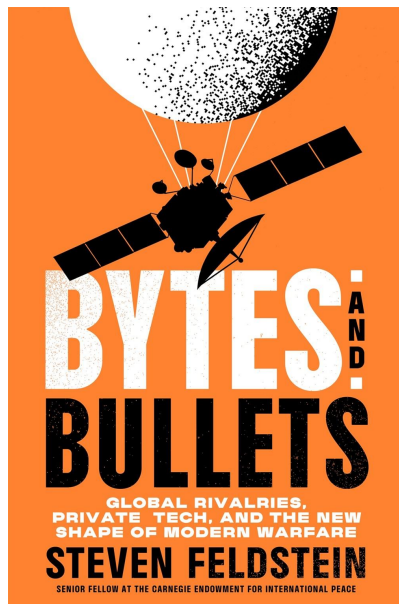
ALICE MARTIN holds a PhD in Literature from Rutgers University. She is an Assistant Professor of English Studies at Western Carolina University, where she teaches fiction writing and American literature. She lives outside of Asheville, North Carolina with her husband, her son, and too many typewriters. *Westward Women* is her debut novel.

Quotes

"An audacious first novel to set beside Margaret Atwood's provocative first novel *The Edible Woman*." - Joyce Carol Oates, award-winning author

"A chilling, unforgettable, and ultimately hopeful story that will get under your skin and stay there." - Gina Chung, author of *Sea Change* and *Green Frog*

"A wholly original look at what it means to be female, itching with fear and promise and the desire to find your true self in the face of constant interference." - Rachel Moulton, author of *The Insatiable Volt Sisters* and *Tinfoil Butterfly*



St. Martin's Press
 9781250394088
 Pub Date: 3/10/2026
 \$30.00/\$42.00 Can.
 Hardcover with dust jacket

304 Pages
 Includes black-and-white photos
 throughout
 Political Science / Public Policy
 POL069000

9.3 in H | 6.1 in W | 1 in T | 1 lb
 Wt

Bytes and Bullets

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

Steven Feldstein

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

Summary

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.

Contributor Bio

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.

Quotes

"The placid reveries of these last few decades are about to be shattered by a new era of global conflict—one defined by a profusion of technologies even their creators don't fully understand. Steven Feldstein is among the guides I trust most in this uncertain landscape. He's the rare analyst with the breadth of knowledge, variety of experience, and clarity of vision to help the rest of us navigate the furious change that awaits."

—**Josh Chin, Senior *Wall Street Journal* Correspondent and coauthor of *Surveillance State***



St. Martin's Press
 9781250369994
 Pub Date: 3/17/2026
 \$29.00/\$41.00 Can.
 Hardcover with dust jacket

304 Pages
 Fiction / Thrillers
 FIC031080
 9.3 in H | 6.1 in W | 1 in T | 1 lb
 Wt

You Did Nothing Wrong

CG Drews

A relentless, horror-inducing psychological suspense for fans of *The Push* and *Baby Teeth* by *New York Times* bestselling author CG Drews.

Summary

Single mother Elodie's life has become a fairy tale. She's met Bren, equal parts golden-retriever devoted and sinfully handsome. He's whisked her and her autistic son, Jude, to the crumbling family house he's renovating. She has a new husband, a new house, and a new baby on the way. Everything is perfect.

Then Jude claims he can hear voices in the walls. He says their renovations are "hurting" the house. Even Elodie can't ignore it—something strange is going on. The question is, is it with the house, or with her son?

Then the one secret Elodie has been hiding is revealed, and no one is safe anymore.

A pulse-pounding, clever take on the haunted house novel, *You Did Nothing Wrong* examines the complexities of motherhood and the twisted bonds of family as it races to its shocking ending.

Contributor Bio

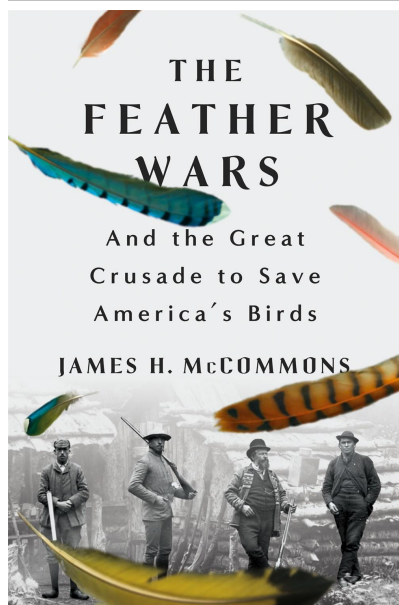
CG Drews is the *New York Times* bestselling author of *The Boy Who Steals Houses* and *Don't Let The Forest In*, which is also a Junior Library Guild Gold Standard Selection, Indie Next Pick, Barnes & Noble YA Book Club Pick, and one of School Library Journal's Best Books of 2024. CG lives in Australia, never sleeps, and is forever buried under a pile of unread books.

Quotes

"Visceral, haunting, and blisteringly raw... a masterpiece of a gothic thriller with a keen smile and jagged teeth." - Ava Reid, #1 *New York Times* bestselling author of *A Study in Drowning*

"Balances unflinchingly disturbing horror with deeply empathetic characterizations." - Jennifer Thorne, Bestselling Author of *Diavola*

"[A] terrifyingly exquisite story of what lengths a parent will go to in order to protect their child from being crushed to death as the walls of their loving home close in." - T. Marie Vandelly, author of *Theme Music*



St. Martin's Press
 9781250286895
 Pub Date: 3/17/2026
 \$33.00/\$46.00 Can.
 Hardcover with dust jacket

400 Pages
 Two 8-page 4c inserts, ~40
 illustrations throughout, 4c printed
 endpapers
 History / United States
 HIS036000

9.3 in H | 6.1 in W | 1 in T | 1 lb
 Wt

The Feather Wars

and the Great Crusade to Save America's Birds

James H. McCommons

An epic, rollicking history of the fight to save America's birds featuring heroes, martyrs, villains, and conflicted do-gooders.

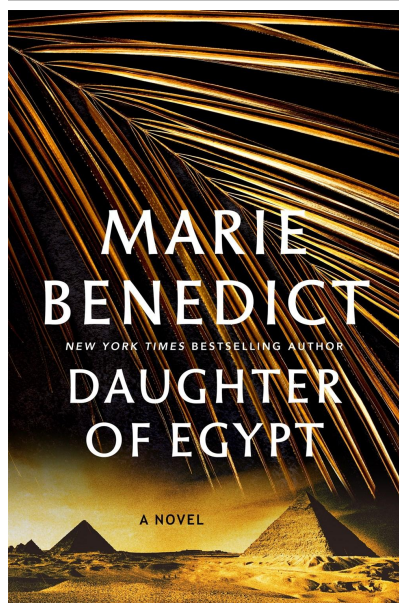
Summary

From the time the country was founded, early Americans assumed that the land's natural resources were infinite, including its birds, which were zealously hunted for food, game, and fashion. With the rapid extinction of the Passenger Pigeon—a bird once so numerous that flocks darkened the sky in flight—many realized actions needed to be taken if other birds were to be saved. What followed was both a spiritual awakening and a great crusade to save birds and their habitat. The campaign took place on many battlefields: society teas in Boston, hunt clubs on the East Coast, the mangroves in the Everglades, and in the editorial pages of newspapers and periodicals. From many corners of the country the bird protection movement was born and brought together a remarkable coalition of people and organizations to save America's birds.

THE FEATHER WARS is an entertaining and expansive work of American history, an incredible story about how disparate characters—from progressive politicians, free-thinking society belles, nature writers and artists, bird-loving U.S. presidents, gunmakers, business titans, and brave game wardens—came together to save hundreds of species of birds. Heroes, martyrs, villains, and conflicted do-gooders—the early bird conservation movement had them all. Together they transformed how Americans thought and cared about birds, forever altering the American landscape.

Contributor Bio

James H. McCommons is a professor emeritus at Northern Michigan University and a veteran journalist, specializing in ecology, environmental and travel topics. His writing has appeared in the *New York Times*, the *Los Angeles Times*, the *Minneapolis Star Tribune*, *Audubon*, *Discover* among other publications. He is the author of *Waiting on a Train: The Embattled Future of Passenger Rail Service*, and *Camera Hunter: George Shiras III and the Birth of Wildlife Photography*.



St. Martin's Press
 9781250280732
 Pub Date: 3/24/2026
 \$29.00/\$41.00 Can.
 Hardcover with dust jacket

352 Pages
 4C Printed Endpapers
 Fiction / Women
 FIC044000

9.3 in H | 6.1 in W | 1 in T | 1 lb
 Wt

Daughter of Egypt

A Novel

Marie Benedict

***New York Times* bestselling author Marie Benedict, returns with a sweeping tale of a young woman who unearths the truth about a forgotten Pharaoh—rewriting both of their legacies forever.**

Summary

In the 1920s, archeologist Howard Carter and Lord Carnarvon of Highclere Castle made headlines around the world with the discovery of the treasure-filled tomb of the boy Pharaoh Tutankhamun. But behind it all stood Lady Evelyn Herbert—daughter of Lord Carnarvon—whose daring spirit and relentless curiosity made the momentous find possible.

Nearly 3,000 years earlier, another woman defied the expectations of her time: Hatshepsut, Egypt's lost pharaoh. Her reign was bold, visionary—and nearly erased from history.

When Evelyn becomes obsessed with finding Hatshepsut's secret tomb, she risks everything to uncover the truth about her reign and keep valued artifacts in Egypt, their rightful home. But as danger closes in and political tensions rise, she must make an impossible choice: protect her father's legacy—or forge her own.

Propelled by high adventure and deadly intrigue, *Daughter of Egypt* is the story of two ambitious women who lived centuries apart. Both were forced to hide who they were during their lifetimes, yet ultimately changed history forever.

Contributor Bio

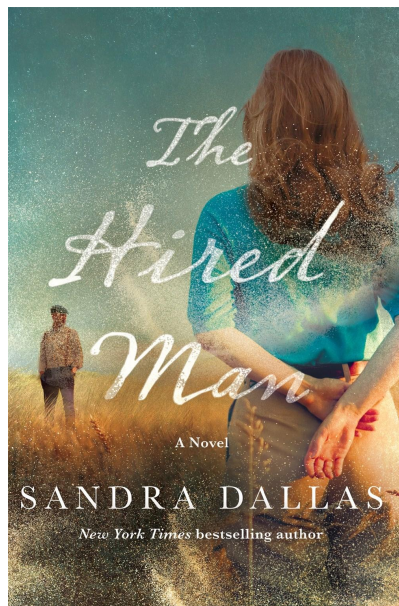
MARIE BENEDICT is the *New York Times* and *USA Today* bestselling author of *The Queens of Crime*, *The Mitford Affair*, *Her Hidden Genius*, *The Mystery of Mrs. Christie*, *The Only Woman in the Room*, *Lady Clementine*, *Carnegie's Maid*, *The Other Einstein*, and w/ Victoria Christopher Murray, the *GMA Book Club* pick *The Personal Librarian* and *The First Ladies*. All have been translated into multiple languages, & many have been selected for national book clubs. She lives in Pittsburgh with her family.

Quotes

Praise for *The Queens of Crime*:

"Smart, biting, and a tribute to female friendship and loyalty. An absolute delight!"
—Fiona Davis, *New York Times* bestselling author of *The Stolen Queen*

"This is one to savor. " **—Allison Pataki, *New York Times* bestselling author of *Finding Margaret Fuller***



St. Martin's Press
9781250352392
Pub Date: 3/31/2026
\$28.00/\$39.00 Can.
Hardcover with dust jacket

304 Pages
Fiction / Historical
FIC014000

8.3 in H | 5.4 in W | 1 in T | 1 lb
Wt

The Hired Man

A Novel

Sandra Dallas

The Dust Bowl sweeps a handsome stranger into a small Colorado town to dangerous effect

Summary

1937. It's been seven years since the dust storms started in Colorado. Folks can barely remember a time when the clouds were filled with rain instead of dirt, and when the fields were green instead of brown. High school student Martha Helen Kessler and her family are luckier than most; they still eke out a living from the land. Even so, evidence of the Dust Bowl's grim impact on families, especially on the women who bear the brunt of their husbands' frustration and their children's hunger, is everywhere.

When Martha Helen's compassionate mother insists they take in Otis Hobbs, a handsome drifter who saves a local boy from a vicious storm, she quickly discovers a darker side to their rural community. Suspicion, jealousy, and prejudice grip their neighbors – and emotions reach a frenzy after Martha Helen's best friend, Frankie, disappears and is then found murdered. Ultimately, Martha Helen is forced to make sense of her conflicting feelings and loyalties in order to help find retribution and to reconcile the difference between the law and justice.

Full of period detail and Sandra Dallas's trademark focus on the lives of women, *The Hired Man* entertains and ultimately surprises.

Contributor Bio

Sandra Dallas is a *New York Times* bestselling author of nearly twenty adult novels, several children's novels, and numerous works of non-fiction about Western subjects. Her work has won numerous awards and prizes including the Colorado Book Award and, in 2021, she was inducted into the Colorado Authors' Hall of Fame. A former bureau chief for *Business Week* magazine, Sandra lives in Denver and Georgetown, Colorado with her husband.

Quotes

Praise for *Tough Luck*

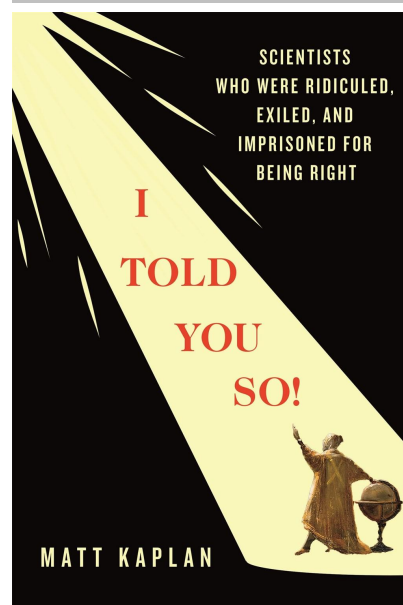
"A rollicking western with an unforgettable heroine." —**Booklist**

"Full of humor, heart, and hope, this novel is a delight." —**Library Journal, Starred review**

"A lighthearted story filled with adventure." —**Kathleen Grissom, New York Times bestselling author of *The Kitchen House***

"Keeps its reader tight to the stirrups." —**John Larison, author of *Whiskey When We're Dry***

"Fans of Charles Portis and Elmore Leonard will love *Tough Luck*" —**Olivia Hawker, Washington Post bestselling author**



St. Martin's Press
 9781250372277
 Pub Date: 4/7/2026
 \$30.00/\$42.00 Can.
 Hardcover with dust jacket

288 Pages
 Science / History
 SCI034000

8.3 in H | 6.4 in W | 1 in T | 1 lb
 Wt

I Told You So!

Scientists Who Were Ridiculed, Exiled, and Imprisoned for Being Right

Matt Kaplan

An energetic and impassioned work of popular science about scientists who have had to fight for their revolutionary ideas to be accepted—from Darwin to Pasteur to modern day Nobel Prize winners.

Summary

For two decades, Matt Kaplan has covered science for the *Economist*. He's seen breakthroughs often occur in spite of, rather than because of, the behavior of the research community, and how support can be withheld for those who don't conform or have the right connections. In this passionately argued and entertaining book, Kaplan narrates the history of the 19th century Hungarian physician Ignaz Semmelweis, who realized that Childbed fever—a devastating infection that only struck women who had recently given birth—was spread by doctors not washing their hands. Semmelweis was met with overwhelming hostility by those offended at the notion that doctors were at fault, and is a prime example of how the scientific community often fights new ideas, even when the facts are staring them in the face.

In entertaining prose, Kaplan reveals scientific cases past and present to make his case. Some are familiar, like Galileo threatened with torture and Nobel laureate Katalin Karikó being fired when on the brink of discovering how to wield mRNA—a finding that proved pivotal for the creation of the Covid-19 vaccine. Others less so, like cancer researchers silenced by big pharma for raising safety concerns about new drugs, and biologists ridiculed for revealing major flaws in the way rodent research is conducted. Kaplan shows how the scientific community can work faster and better by making reasonably small changes to the forces that shape it.

In snappy, entertaining prose, Kaplan presents scientific cases past and present to make his case: of Galileo being threatened with torture, Charles Darwin facing social ostracism, and more recently, Katalin Karikó losing her job and her funding on the brink of discovering the uses of mRNA—a discovery that would directly lead to the fast creation of a vaccine for Covid-19, and a Nobel Prize for Karikó. Kaplan argues that that the scientific community can work faster and better, if only it is more open to younger scientists and new ideas.

Contributor Bio

MATT KAPLAN is a science correspondent at the *Economist* and has been responsible for the newspaper's coverage of biology for two decades. His writing has also appeared in *National Geographic*, *New Scientist*, *Nature*, and the *New York Times*. He is the author of *The Science of Monsters* and *Science of the Magical*, and co-author of *David Attenborough's First Life: A Journey Through Time*.



St. Martin's Press
 9781250282545
 Pub Date: 4/7/2026
 \$29.00/\$41.00 Can.
 Hardcover with dust jacket

320 Pages
 Fiction / Women
 FIC044000

9.3 in H | 6.1 in W | 1 in T | 1 lb
 Wt

Love by the Book

A Novel

Jessica George

The *New York Times* bestselling author of *Maame* is back with a funny, moving story about the friendship between two women at a crossroads in their thirties.

Summary

Friendship is the love story you can count on.

Remy is lucky. Her debut novel, based on her three best friends, became an instant bestseller when it was released, and her agent and publisher are clamoring for a follow-up. But just as Remy's creative inspiration seems to leave her, so too do her friends: one moves to New York, one gets pregnant, and one gets back together with her (awful) boyfriend. After an ill-advised one-night stand complicates matters further, Remy is left deeply alone—and unable to find her next book idea.

Simone is successful. A Kindergarten teacher with a passion for kids, and a well-paying side hustle that affords her all the material comforts she desires, Simone doesn't have time for a robust social life. All she needs is her close-knit family—but after the true nature of her work is revealed, they cut her off, and she realizes for the first time just how isolated she is.

When Simone and Remy bump into each other (literally) in a bookstore, it isn't exactly soulmates at first sight. Simone is guarded and prickly, Remy is insecure and heartbroken, and each woman is harboring a secret. And yet they might just be the missing piece the other has been searching for—if only they can let each other in. In Jessica George's heartwarming, funny, and soulful second novel, she explores the restorative nature of female friendship and the life-changing power of platonic love.

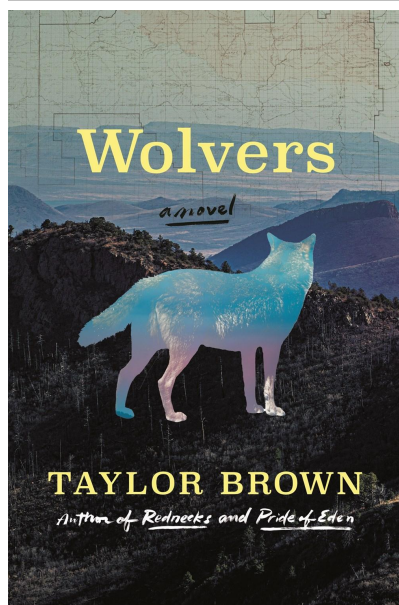
Contributor Bio

JESSICA GEORGE is the *New York Times* bestselling author of *Maame*. She was born and raised in London to Ghanaian parents and studied English Literature at the University of Sheffield.

Quotes

"A charming and nuanced take on contemporary friendships, putting the spotlight on the value of different kinds of love in people's lives. A celebration of women's friendships and families, in various configurations." —**Charmaine Wilkerson, *New York Times* bestselling author of *Black Cake***

"TRANSPORTING... As enveloping, soul-filling and moreish as an evening with a friend, *Love by the Book* challenges us to take a closer look at adult friendship and platonic love. As is true with the best friend-dates, I couldn't wait for evening to come so I could hang out with Remy and Simone." —**Emma Knight, bestselling author of *The Life Cycle of the Common Octopus***



St. Martin's Press
9781250401373
Pub Date: 4/7/2026
\$29.00/\$41.00 Can.
Hardcover with dust jacket

304 Pages
Includes 1 map
Fiction / Animals
FIC067000

9.3 in H | 6.1 in W | 1 in T | 1 lb
Wt

Wolvers

Taylor Brown

From the Southern Book Prize winning author of *Rednecks*: a thrilling novel of pursuit, survival, and redemption between two species in the American Southwest

Summary

Broke, dispossessed, and angry at the government after losing his family's New Mexico ranch, Trace Temple is looking for revenge. He's living out of his truck when a shadowy militia movement hires him to take down the legendary she-wolf of the Dark Canyon pack, One-Eleven. But One-Eleven is no ordinary wolf. Cunning, fiercely protective of her young, and seasoned in the ways of men, she leads her pack deep into the forbidding desert peaks and canyons, always one step ahead of pursuit.

After a harrowing brush with death in the backcountry, Trace has a change of heart—only to be replaced by a professional hunter and assassin named Murdoch, who ruthlessly pursues his animal quarry while stalking Trace himself.

To survive, Trace must join forces with a pair of unlikely allies: a survivalist animal protector who deploys feral senses and deep wilderness skills to protect the wolves, and Imogen Cruz, a local rancher, childhood friend, and unrequited love of Trace's early years. Together, they must fight to protect not only themselves and the Dark Canyon pack, but ultimately, the Gila Wilderness itself—the world's first designated wilderness area.

In *Wolvers*, award-winning author Taylor Brown presents a suspenseful, thrillingly-written tale set at the burning edge of today's Southwest, where once-extinct wolves have returned, the land is tinder-dry and fragile, and desperate men seek to reclaim what they believe is theirs to rule.

Contributor Bio

Taylor Brown is the recipient of the Southern Book Prize, Montana Prize in Fiction, and the Ron Rash Award. His novels include *FALLEN LAND*, *THE RIVER OF KINGS*, *GODS OF HOWL MOUNTAIN*, *PRIDE OF EDEN*, *WINGWALKERS*, and *REDNECKS*. An Eagle scout and avid motorcyclist, he lives in Savannah, Georgia, and has traveled extensively in the American West.

Quotes

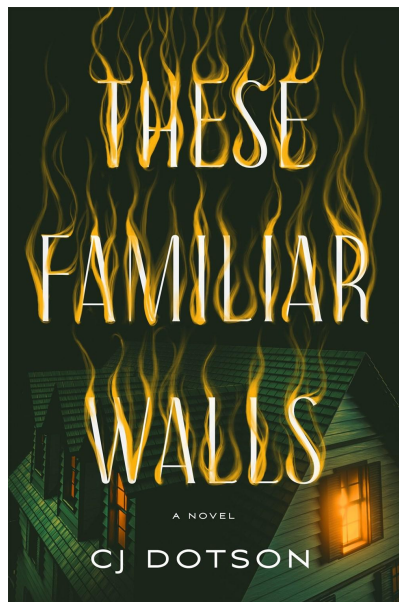
Praise for *Rednecks*

"A superb historical drama. . . [Taylor Brown] delivers impeccable prose. . . [T]his action-packed, character-driven novel feel[s] extremely contemporary." --NPR

"A propulsive work of historical fiction that vividly re-imagines this stormy slice of history." -- *Atlanta Journal-Constitution*

"Meticulously researched and crafted, *Rednecks* is a no-holds-barred creative retelling of the Battle of Blair Mountain." -- *Plateau Magazine*

"Riveting...This story is a wow." -- *Bitter Southerner*



St. Martin's Press
 9781250336583
 Pub Date: 4/14/2026
 \$28.00/\$39.00 Can.
 Hardcover with dust jacket

320 Pages
 Fiction / Horror
 FIC015000

9.3 in H | 6.1 in W | 1 in T | 1 lb
 Wt

These Familiar Walls

C. J. Dotson

A spine-chilling, heart-pounding suburban horror novel at the heart of the genre, perfect for fans of T. Kingfisher, Cassandra Khaw, and Catriona Ward.

Summary

In 1998, desperate loneliness pushes preteen Amber to ignore the misgivings of her family, particularly her younger sister, when she befriends the troubled new kid in the neighborhood—a boy with dead eyes, a fascination with fire, and no remorse. Their turbulent relationship is brief but creates lasting consequences.

Twenty-two years later, in 2020, he resurfaces to kill Amber's parents, and is in turn betrayed by his accomplice and killed in Amber's childhood home.

After the deaths, Amber inherits the house and, in an effort to save money, moves in with her husband and two children, hoping to reclaim some sense of stability in the grief and chaos surrounding her. Instead, she finds that the familiar walls are haunted by more than just bitter memories and lockdown stress. She shifts in and out of dreamlike trances, her reflection won't blink, and a menacing voice whispers to her from the gathering shadows. Although she tried to brush off the strange happenings as stress-fueled hallucinations, Amber is soon forced to admit that something much more real—and more dangerous—haunts her family. But Amber has deadly secrets of her own, and she must resolve these long-buried truths or lose the life she's contrived for herself.

Contributor Bio

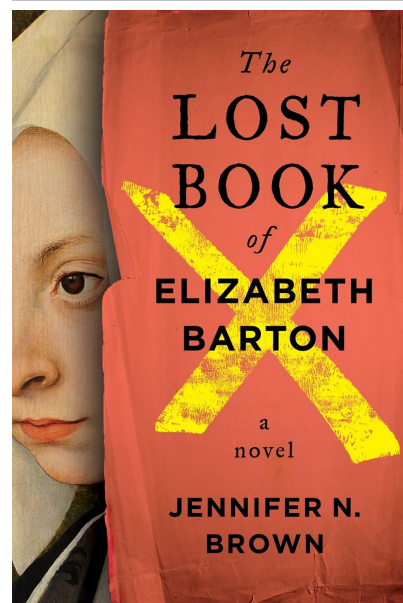
C. J. DOTSON possesses the statistically average number of body parts for a human being to have. She and her husband, stepson, and children (all of whom also appear human) share a cabin in the woods with more bugs than she would ever like to see. In her limited spare time she enjoys reading, video games, painting, baking and decorating cakes (with...questionable success), and petting her dog and two cats. Visit her at cjdotsongauthor.com or cjdotsongsdreadfuldispatch.substack.com

Quotes

Praise for *The Cut*:

"*The Cut* made me squirm in my chair! Utterly creepy and engaging. The blend of real world horror with the supernatural is pitch-perfect and absolutely claustrophobic."
 —S.A. Barnes, author of *Dead Silence* and *Ghost Station*

"*The Cut* combines the throat-clenching tension of a domestic thriller and a soaking wet supernatural spookfest, hybridizing *The Shining* with *Sleeping With the Enemy*. I dare you to dip a toe into this one. Go on, give it five pages. You'll plunge right in and never come back up." —Clay McLeod Chapman, author of *What Kind of Mother* and *Ghost Eaters*



St. Martin's Press
9781250383594
Pub Date: 4/14/2026
\$29.00/\$41.00 Can.
Hardcover with dust jacket

320 Pages
Fiction / Multiple Timelines
FIC080000

9.3 in H | 6.1 in W | 1 in T | 1 lb
Wt

The Lost Book of Elizabeth Barton

A Novel

Jennifer N. Brown

A dual-timeline debut set in an English country manor, when an ambitious professor discovers the long-lost manuscript of a Reformation-era prophetess

Summary

Historian Alison Sage has made a groundbreaking archival discovery—she found a manuscript containing the prophecies of a 16th century nun, Elizabeth Barton. Barton's prophecy condemning Henry VIII and Anne Boleyn led to her execution and the destruction of all copies of her prophecies—or so the world believed.

With Alison's discovery, she is catapulted to academic superstardom and scores an invitation to the exclusive Codex Consortium, a week of research among a select handful of fellow historians at a crumbling manor in England, located next to the ruins of the priory where Elizabeth herself once lived.

What begins as a promising conference turns into a nightmare as the eerie house becomes the site of a murder. Suddenly, everyone is a suspect, and it seems that answers lie at the root of a local legend about centuries-old hidden treasure. Alison's research makes her best-suited to solve the mystery—but when old feelings resurface for a former colleague, and the stakes of the search skyrocket, everyone's motives become murky.

Alison's cutthroat world of academia is almost as dangerous as Elizabeth Barton's sixteenth-century England, where heretics are beheaded, visions can kill, and knowing who to trust is a deadly art. *The Lost Book of Elizabeth Barton* is a thrilling novel, crackling with the voices of the past and propelled by a mystery that will leave readers in suspense until the very last page.

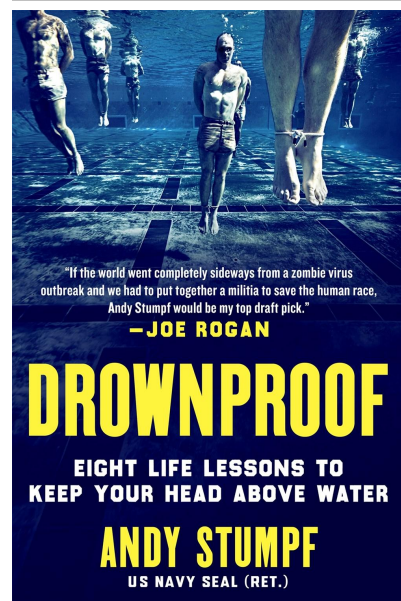
Contributor Bio

JENNIFER N. BROWN is a professor of English literature and a dean of Arts and Sciences who specializes in medieval literature written for and by women. She has published a lot on this topic but *The Lost Book of Elizabeth Barton* is her first novel. She lives in the Boston area with her husband, their two children, and two miniature dachshunds.

Quotes

"Whip-smart yet accessible, and propulsive from start to finish. A masterclass on the power of a dual-timeline story, Brown's fiction debut will tug on your heartstrings with the emotional impact that brave women of the past have on brilliant women of the present." - Karin Tanabe, author of *A Woman of Intelligence*

"Combining a historical thriller with a suspenseful contemporary narrative of archival discovery, [this] is an utterly mesmerizing read, lavish and erudite yet unputdownable. . . A riveting, brilliantly bookish debut." - Bruce Holsinger, nationally bestselling author of *The Gifted School*



St. Martin's Press
9781250379610
Pub Date: 4/14/2026
\$30.00/\$42.00 Can.
Hardcover with dust jacket

256 Pages
Includes 20 black-and-white
photographs
Business & Economics
/ Motivational
BUS046000
8.3 in H | 5.4 in W | 1 in T | 1 lb
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Drownproof

Eight Life Lessons to Keep Your Head Above Water

Andy Stumpf

A motivational guide to success and leadership based on the author's experience as a Navy SEAL.

Summary

Drownproof: Eight Life Lessons to Keep Your Head Above Water is an activating and insightful book that chronicles the remarkable experiences of a renowned Navy SEAL. Drawing from his extensive military career, Stumpf shares his hard-earned wisdom and lessons in leadership. By reflecting on his own journey and offering advice to a younger version of himself, Stumpf aims to empower readers to avoid costly mistakes and navigate the complexities of leadership with confidence and purpose.

Over his career, Stumpf has seen countless people who haven't had the benefit of parents or mentors. Where are the anchors in these people's lives? *Drownproof* is Stumpf's guidebook to staying afloat during life's most difficult circumstances.

This book will provide readers with a vivid and engaging account of Stumpf's military journey. From the grueling training programs to intense combat situations, he recounts the highs and lows, the challenges he faced, and the pivotal moments that shaped his leadership abilities. How can you take the toughest situations in your life and make them the most formative moments you've ever had? How do you take a leap of faith in your life? How can you combat fear when it comes to crush you? How can you build discipline in your life instead of building regrets? In his down-to-earth, sometimes humorous but always honest voice, Stumpf addresses these questions and more in *Drownproof*.

Readers of *Drownproof* will:

- *Understand how they are in control of their destiny
- *Grasp how preparation leads to execution
- *See the value of planning for the worst-case scenario
- *Learn how to approach goals
- *Realize why people actually fail
- *Discover practical insights learned from the military that apply to all spheres of life

Contributor Bio

ANDY STUMPF was born and raised in Northern California. From the age of 11 he knew that he wanted to become a Navy SEAL, and it became the single driving force in his life. He enlisted in the Navy while still a Junior in high school, entering military service in 1996. After completing boot camp he began the most grueling training program in the US Military - Basic Underwater Demolition/SEAL, known as BUD/s. Andy graduated and began his SEAL career attached to SEAL Team Five, in Coronado California.

In 2002 he screened for and joined the most elite counterterrorism unit in the military, SEAL Team Six. This unit is tasked with conducting the nation's most critical missions, many of which have become the focus of Hollywood movies and books. While on a combat deployment an Iraqi insurgent shot Andy at close range with an AK-47. Doctors told him it would be years, if ever, before he recovered the use of his leg and returned to full active duty.

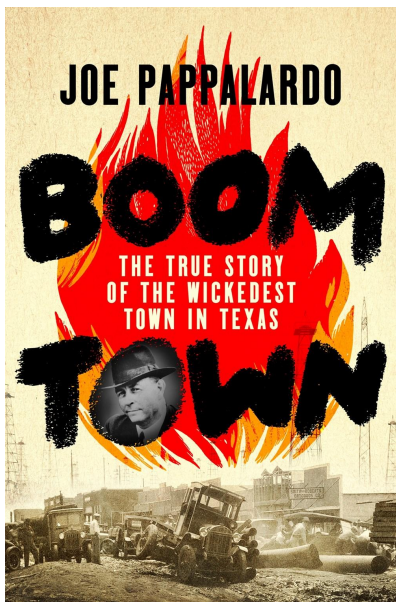
Throughout his 17-year career, Andy executed hundreds of combat operations throughout the world in support of the Global War on Terror. He was medically retired in June of 2013. His awards and decorations include 5 Bronze Star Medals (Four with Valor), the Purple Heart, the Joint Service Commendation Medal, The Navy and Marine

Corp Commendation Medal with Valor, Three Navy and Marine Corp Achievement Medals, Two Combat Action Ribbons, and the presidential Unit Citation.

Quotes

"If the world went completely sideways from a zombie virus outbreak and we had to put together a militia to save the human race, Andy Stumpf would be my top draft pick. Exceptional people that you can call friends are one of the most valuable resources in this life. They provide examples of how to conduct yourself in a way that you admire, and can aspire to. Their accomplishments fuel you with inspiration, and their thought process enhances your perspective.

Andy is one of my favorite examples of this and knowing him has made me a better man. I'm honored to be his friend." —Joe Rogan, podcaster



St. Martin's Press
9781250287564
Pub Date: 4/21/2026
\$31.00/\$43.00 Can.
Hardcover

320 Pages
Plus one 8-page color photograph
insert
History / United States
HIS036000

9.3 in H | 6.1 in W | 1 in T | 1 lb
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Boomtown

The True Story of the Wickedest Town in Texas

Joe Pappalardo

The true story of the corrupt and violent town of Borger, Texas in 1927--and the legendary Texas Ranger tasked with taming it.

Summary

Texas, 1927.

Just a year after the town of Borger, Texas was founded, the press called it "the wickedest in the state" for good reason. The town, sprung into existence overnight to support the oilfields, had become a lawless haven for bootleggers, pimps and gamblers, run by a crooked city hall.

That environment attracts some of the most unsavory characters in prohibition America, including a gang of murderous bank robbers who head into Borger to spend their money on booze, gambling and prostitutes. In the span of weeks, the gang kills three law enforcement officers, bringing the worst heat imaginable: legendary Texas Ranger Captain Frank Hamer, who led the 1934 posse that tracked down and killed criminals Bonnie Parker and Clyde Barrow. His arrival threatens to break even this hardest boomtown in America--if it doesn't kill him first.

What follows is one of the most thrilling and violent untold stories from the era of gangsters, lawmen and vice. Author Joe Pappalardo brings to life a town previously lost in the haze of history.

Contributor Bio

JOE PAPPALARDO is the author of the critically acclaimed books *Four Against the West: The True Saga of a Frontier Family That Reshaped the Nation?and Created a Legend*; *Red Sky Morning: The Epic True Story of Texas Ranger Company F*; *Inferno: The True Story of a B-17 Gunner's Heroism and the Bloodiest Military Campaign in Aviation History*; *Sunflowers: The Secret History* and *Spaceport Earth: The Reinvention of Spaceflight*. Pappalardo is a freelance journalist and former associate editor of *Air & Space* Smithsonian magazine, a writing contributor to *National Geographic* magazine, a contributor to *Texas Monthly*, and a former senior editor at *Popular Mechanics*. He has appeared on C-Span, CNN, Fox News and television shows on the Science Channel and the History Channel.

Quotes

Praise for Joe Pappalardo:

"A fast-paced journey around the West during the transformative years of the mid-19th century" ?*Wall Street Journal* on *Four Against the West*

"Fast-paced and full of local politics and old-fashioned gunfights?a pleasure for fans of true crime and oaters alike." ?*Kirkus Reviews* on *Red Sky Morning*

"Mr. Pappalardo, a veteran journalist, has a nice way with words. The mission itself, targeting German submarine pens in France, is fairly routine and brilliantly described...a wonderful yarn." ?*Wall Street Journal* on *Inferno*

COVER TO BE REVEALED



St. Martin's Press
 9781250284549
 Pub Date: 4/21/2026
 \$29.00/\$41.00 Can.
 Hardcover with dust jacket

352 Pages
 Fiction / Women
 FIC044000

9.3 in H | 6.1 in W | 1 in T | 1 lb
 Wt

Mad Mabel

Sally Hepworth

There are two kinds of people no one ever expects to be murderers: little girls and old ladies. Meet Mad Mabel.

Summary

Elsie Mabel Fitzpatrick is eighty-one years old. She's lived on her idyllic street, Kenny Lane, for sixty years--longer than anyone else. Aside from being a curmudgeon who minds everyone else's business, few would suspect that Elsie has a past that she has worked exceedingly hard at concealing. Because when it comes to murder, no one ever suspects little girls or old ladies. And Elsie Mabel Fitzpatrick, once a little girl and now an old lady, has a strange history of people in her life coming to a foul end.

When a new little girl (talkative, curious, nosy) moves into the neighborhood and stops at nothing to befriend Elsie, her carefully-constructed life threatens to come crashing down as the secrets in Elsie's past start coming to light. Who was "Mad Mabel" fifty years ago? Who is Elsie Fitzpatrick today? And if the past has a habit of repeating itself, who has the most to lose?

Told with Sally Hepworth's twists, humor, charm, and heart, MAD MABEL is novel that weaves past and present together--through the power of justice and redemption, and all the way to its stunning conclusion.

Contributor Bio

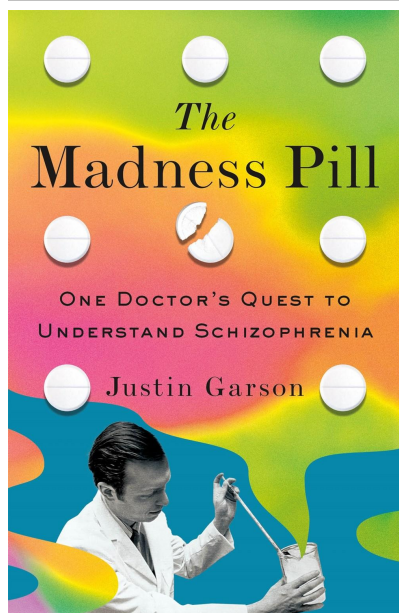
SALLY HEPWORTH has lived around the world, spending extended periods in Singapore, the United Kingdom and Canada. She is the author of *The Secrets of Midwives*, *The Things We Keep*, *The Mother's Promise*, *The Family Next Door*, *The Mother-in-Law*, *The Good Sister*, *The Younger Wife*, and *The Soulmate*.

Quotes

Praise for DARLING GIRLS:

"Sally Hepworth's *Darling Girls* is the kind of story that grabs you hard and doesn't let go. Easily one of the best books I've read all year. An absolute page-turner from first word to last... A superb and haunting mystery." --*New York Times* bestselling author Jane Harper

"As in *The Soulmate*, compelling themes of trust, betrayal, and brittle façades circle the sisters' relationships, raising the stakes of the investigation painfully high. Hepworth's fans will be primed for her newest unnerving thriller." --Booklist



St. Martin's Press
9781250337962
Pub Date: 4/28/2026
\$30.00/\$42.00 Can.
Hardcover with dust jacket

224 Pages
Includes black-and-white
photographs throughout
Biography & Autobiography
/ Medical (incl. Patients)
BIO017000

8.3 in H | 5.4 in W | 1 in T | 1 lb
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The Madness Pill

One Doctor's Quest to Understanding Schizophrenia

Justin Garson

A rollicking history of a brilliant doctor who used mind-altering drugs in the Sixties to induce schizophrenia as a way to find a cure for the disease.

Summary

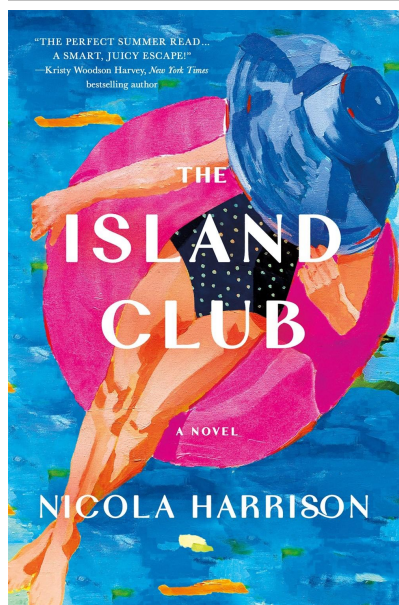
In the 1950s, the field of psychiatry had nothing to show for itself. While polio was being cured, antibiotics were being discovered, and cancer research was developing, the mental health world had no wins. Asylums were full and nobody had figured out how to fix insanity—specifically schizophrenia, the severest mental illness. Scientists became convinced that if they could engineer a pill to create madness, then they could cure it.

Centered around Solomon Snyder, the psychiatrist who ultimately did identify the madness pill, and the community of doctors and researchers he worked with, THE MADNESS PILL recounts the drug-fueled quest to cure schizophrenia. A wunderkind who started medical school at 19, Snyder worked steadily for decades to replicate the illness, ultimately finding in 1970 that amphetamines could trigger a schizophrenia-like state by flooding the brain with dopamine. Five years later, he went on to discover the dopamine receptor and proved that antipsychotic drugs work by disabling dopamine neurons. Snyder's dopamine hypothesis inspired a generation of researchers to part ways with psychoanalysis and look for the biological basis of schizophrenia and other mental disorders.

Using first-hand research and interviews, THE MADNESS PILL is at once a raucous history and insightful portrait of a remarkable scientist who turned psychiatry into a respected science by transforming how mental illness is treated.

Contributor Bio

JUSTIN GARSON, Ph.D., is a philosopher and historian of science at the City University of New York. He's written numerous scholarly books and articles on biology, mind, and madness, including *Madness: A Philosophical Exploration*. He lives in Connecticut with his wife and children.



St. Martin's Press
9781250277404
Pub Date: 4/28/2026
\$29.00/\$41.00 Can.
Hardcover with dust jacket

304 Pages
Fiction / Women
FIC044000

9.3 in H | 6.1 in W | 1 in T | 1 lb Wt

The Island Club

A Novel

Nicola Harrison

An unputdownable novel of loves lost and found, shocking secrets—and the power of female friendship.

Summary

1956: On idyllic Balboa Island, just off the California coast, life seems peaceful and welcoming. But when the lives of three women begin to unravel in shockingly different ways, an unlikely friendship—and the game of tennis—may be the only thing that can save them.

Milly Kinkaid's plan to fix her crumbling marriage seems to be falling apart before it even begins. She believed that moving her young family from Hollywood to Balboa Island might entice her increasingly distant husband to come home earlier after work. Instead, he's barely coming home at all.

Society matriarch Sylvia Johnson and her husband have been pillars of their community for decades, and have just recently begun a new business venture: The Island Club, a place for members to swim, play tennis and dine in style. But when she learns that he has been risking their financial security and putting their family's future in grave danger, she's not only poised to lose the club, but the entire community she holds dear.

Meanwhile, standoffish loner Adele Lambert's entire world is on the brink of being destroyed if the dark secrets of her past and her hidden identity is revealed. Twenty years ago, she ran from a shameful scandal and left behind the only thing she ever loved. Now, terrified that the anonymity she's spent decades guarding will be exposed, but desperate to stay afloat, she risks everything to return to the game that brought her to her knees all those years before.

Set against the sun-drenched beaches of Balboa Island, with its prim and proper 1950s facade, *The Island Club* is a story of love, loneliness and the lies we tell ourselves—and what can be gained when the truth is finally revealed.

Contributor Bio

Born in England, NICOLA HARRISON moved to California where she received a BA in Literature at UCLA before earning an MFA in creative writing at Stony Brook. She is a member of The Writers Room, has short stories published in *The Southampton Review* and *Glimmer Train* and articles in *Los Angeles Magazine* and *Orange Coast Magazine*. She is the author of *Montauk*, *Hotel Laguna*, and *The Show Girl*.

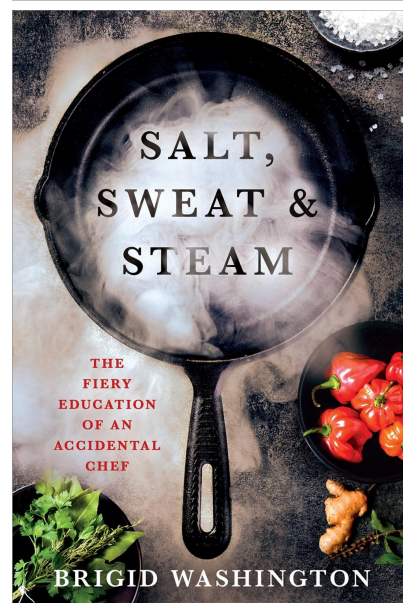
Quotes

"*The Island Club* is a *Carrie Soto is Back* meets *Big Little Lies* delight that will exceed all reader expectations!" —Lynda Loigman

"A story of the power of friendship, the defiance of societal expectations, and the finding of one's true self." — Kristin Harmel, *New York Times* bestselling author

"A beautifully written nuanced story that explores the power of female friendship." —Fiona Davis, *New York Times* bestselling author

"The perfect summer read . . . for anyone who loves a smart, juicy escape!" —Kristy Woodson Harvey, *New York Times* bestselling author



St. Martin's Press
 9781250333377
 Pub Date: 4/28/2026
 \$30.00/\$42.00 Can.
 Hardcover with dust jacket

320 Pages
 Cooking / Essays & Narratives
 CKB030000
 9.3 in H | 6.1 in W | 1 in T | 1 lb
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Salt, Sweat & Steam

The Fiery Education of an Accidental Chef

Brigid Washington

If Sydney, the character played by Ayo Edebiri on "The Bear", wrote a book, it would be Brigid Washington's *Salt, Sweat & Steam*.

Summary

Hours in chef's whites in a classroom that doubles as the best-stocked kitchen you'll ever see: 50-quart KitchenAid mixers, balloon whisks in every diameter, CIA-issued knives, bains marie. Also: grueling hours and a giant tuition tab so that—if you're lucky enough—you can land an entry-level job that features grueling hours, low wages, and a giant uniform-and-equipment tab.

Washington, a Trinidadian who came to the U.S. for college, decided to apply to the Culinary Institute of America after a break-up. As editor of CIA's *La Papillote: The Voice of the Student Chef*, she got to see how the sausage was made (literally). In one day, she would go from studying the five mother sauces in Skills 1 to interviewing Thomas Keller for a front-page feature. Sucked into the brigade system, she believed the gospel that pressure was a privilege. As one of the few students of color, she stayed sane by reminding herself that where she came from had different—and better—values.

Salt, Sweat, & Steam takes readers behind the scenes of the nation's most elite culinary school, through perfectionistic finals and brutal unpaid internships, into days that go from continuously whisking Sauce Bernaise for 300 to being so dead-tired that dinner is a bag of Cheez-Its from the vending machine. It's *The Devil Wears Prada* for the "yes, chef" era.

Contributor Bio

BRIGID WASHINGTON is a food writer whose work delves into the rich complexities of Caribbean food and culture as it intersects with life in the United States. She is a graduate of the Culinary Institute of America and the author of two cookbooks. Her writing has appeared in *Bon Appetit*, *Epicurious*, *Food & Wine*, *Real Simple*, *The New York Times*, and many others. She is Vice Chair of Now Serving, a food insecurity non-profit. She lives in Baltimore, Maryland.

Quotes

"Brigid has a rare combination of gifts; I hope I get to read a whole book of [her] recipes and writings one of these days." - Adina Steinman, *Wall Street Journal* cookbook columnist

"Brigid is talented, and her food is delicious." - Eric Kim, staff writer the *New York Times* Food section

"I love how [Brigid's] pieces come together." - Chandra Ram, Associate Editorial Director, *Food & Wine*