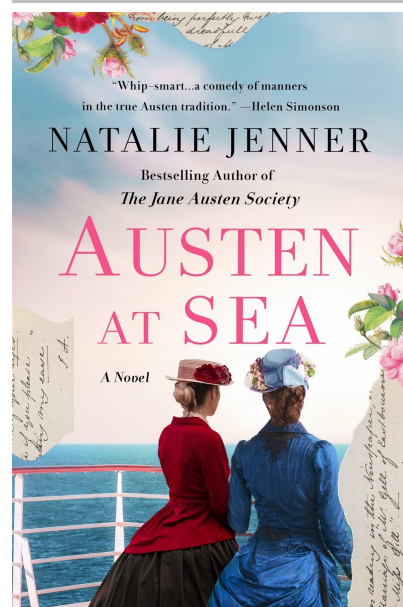




ST. MARTIN'S
PRESS



St. Martin's Press
9781250349590
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Hardcover with dust jacket

320 Pages
Includes 1-color endpapers
Fiction / Women
FIC044000

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

Austen at Sea

A Novel

Natalie Jenner

Two pairs of siblings, devotees of Jane Austen, find their lives transformed by a visit to England and Sir Francis Austen, her brother and keeper of her memories and surviving artifacts.

Summary

In Boston, 1865, Charlotte and Henrietta Stevenson, daughters of a Massachusetts Supreme Court Justice, have accomplished as much as women are allowed in those days. Chafing against those restrictions and devoted to the works of Jane Austen, they start a secret correspondence with Sir Francis Austen, her last surviving brother, now in his nineties. He sends them an original letter from his sister and invites them to come visit him in England.

In Philadelphia, Nicholas & Haslett Nelson—brothers, veterans of the recent Civil War, and rare book dealers, are also in correspondence with Sir Francis Austen. Bachelors both, they two are invited to visit Sir Francis in England, with the promise of a never-before-seen, rare Austen artifact to be evaluated.

The Stevenson sisters sneak away without a chaperone to sail to England. On their ship are Nelson brothers, writer Louisa May Alcott, Sara-Beth Gleason—wealthy daughter of state senator with her eye on the Nelson brothers, and a would-be last-minute chaperone to the Stevenson sisters, Justice Thomas Nash.

It's a voyage and trip that transforms each of their lives in ways that are unforeseen, with the transformative spirit of the love of literature and that of Jane Austen herself.

Contributor Bio

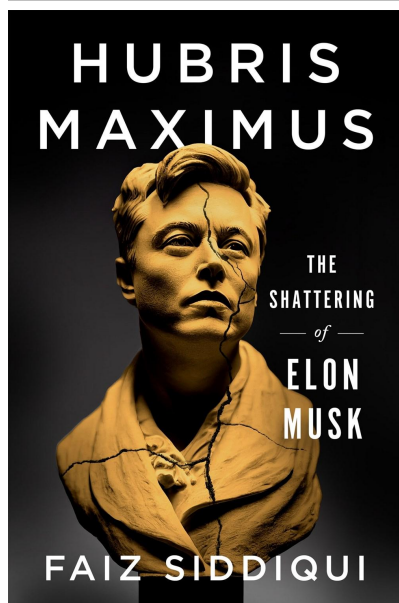
NATALIE JENNER is the author of the international bestseller *The Jane Austen Society*, which has been translated into over twenty languages abroad. A former lawyer, career coach, and independent bookstore owner, she lives in Oakville, Ontario, with her family and two rescue dogs.

Quotes

"Jenner has assembled an eccentric, endearing cast of shipmates who become fast friends—thanks to the legacy of Jane Austen—in this heartwarming story that's sure to delight book lovers. An absolute winner." —Fiona Davis

"If you've ever found sustenance in a Jane Austen novel—or sought meaning in your own life through the power of books—this is the novel you've been waiting for. Full of heart, hope, and history." —Kristin Harmel

"Vivid historical detail and a wild and wonderful cast of characters... Natalie Jenner does it again." —Patti Callahan Henry



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320 Pages
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Business & Economics / Corporate
& Business History
BUS077000

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Wt

Hubris Maximus

The Shattering of Elon Musk

Faiz Siddiqui

An examination of Elon Musk during the most consequential period of his life, from the height of his power as the richest man on Earth to the potential beginnings of his downfall.

Summary

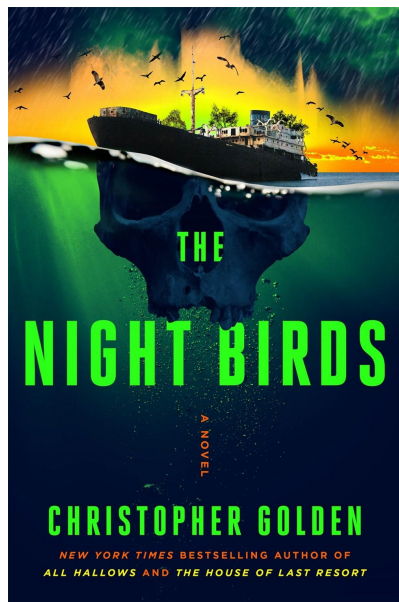
What happened to Elon Musk? In six years, he turned Tesla into the world's most valuable automaker and cast himself as a savior of humanity, an altruist whose fortune would stop climate change and colonize Mars. How did this modern-day Edison devolve into a polarizing and perpetually distracted CEO and the biggest bag-fumbler in human history? He didn't suddenly lose his mind, or morph into a tool of foreign agents. Elon Musk torched his reputation and put his entire empire at risk simply by being himself.

Hubris Maximus provides a gripping, detailed portrait of the billionaire's rapid ascent and his spectacular public implosion. *Washington Post* reporter Faiz Siddiqui methodically deconstructs the making of the self-anointed Technoking, arguing that the warning signs were always visible to anyone willing to look. Musk's audacity and erratic behavior drove his success from the start, and at every turn, he spurned regulators and whistleblowers, and replaced those who dared question him with loyalists. Now he is in a unique position to sabotage it all, and there is no one left to save him from himself.

This remarkable case study in the pitfalls of unyielding loyalty to one man and the fecklessness of a gridlocked government is ultimately a cautionary tale: in a world that can't turn away from its screens, competence is no match for the power of influence and sustained attention.

Contributor Bio

Faiz Siddiqui is a technology journalist with the *Washington Post*, covering companies such as Tesla and Twitter for the Business Desk. His reporting has focused on ride-hailing, autonomous cars, transportation safety and reliability, and labor and workplace issues within the automotive industry. His work has earned multiple Society of Professional Journalists Mark of Excellence and Hearst Journalism awards, and his writing has appeared in the *Boston Globe*, *NPR*, and *The Guardian*, among others.



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 Wt

The Night Birds

A Novel

Christopher Golden

The next gripping, atmospheric horror novel from *NYT* bestselling author Christopher Golden, set in a deteriorated, half-sunken freighter ship off the coast of Galveston, TX.

Summary

Charlie Book and Ruby Cahill have history. After their love ended in heartbreak years ago, they never expected to see each other again.

Now, as part of his work for the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department, Book lives aboard the *Christabel*, a 19th century freighter half-sunken off the shore of Galveston. Over many years, a massive forest of mangrove trees has grown up through the deck of the ship, creating a startlingly beautiful enigma Book calls the Floating Forest. As a powerful storm churns through the Gulf, he intends to sleep on board as usual.

But when he arrives at the dock, he's stunned to find Ruby there waiting for him. And she's not alone. With her are a mysterious woman and her infant child, asking Book to hide them safely aboard the *Christabel* while they're on the run. Only it isn't the police who are after them, it's a coven of witches the woman, Mae, has fled, stealing away the helpless infant for whom they had hideous plans...or so Mae claims.

It's lunacy and Book wants nothing to do with it. But after the way he and Ruby ended things, and the unspoken pain between them, he can't refuse. Yet even as he brings them out to the ruined ship and its floating forest, there are shadowed figures looming back in Galveston, waiting out the storm. And despite the worsening wind and rain, the night birds are flying, scouring the coastline for their prey.

Contributor Bio

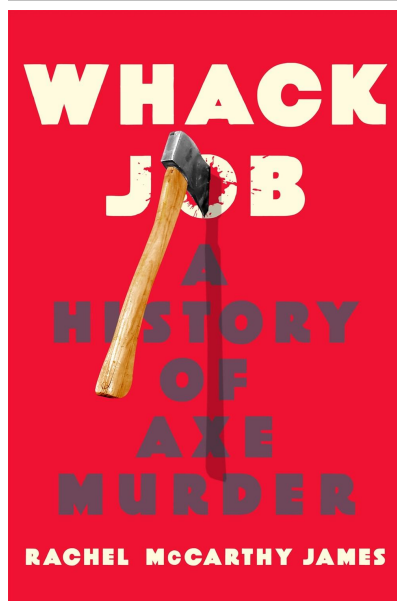
CHRISTOPHER GOLDEN is the *New York Times* bestselling and Bram Stoker award-winning author of *Ararat*, *Snowblind*, *Dead Ringers*, and *Of Saints and Shadows*, among many other novels. He is the co-creator of two cult favorite comic book series, *Baltimore* and *Joe Golem: Occult Detective*. He is also the editor of such anthologies as *Seize the Night*, *The New Dead*, and *Dark Cities*, and the co-host of the popular podcast "Three Guys with Beards." He lives in Massachusetts.

Quotes

"Golden's frenzied tale of demons and exorcisms is fast-paced, his portrayal of the insidiousness of possession is unsettling and it all comes together in a thrilling closing act." - *New York Times* on *The House of Last Resort*

"An essential read for horror and supernatural thriller fans." — *Library Journal* (Starred) on *Road of Bones*

"Golden is writing at the top of his game." — *Publishers Weekly* (starred) on *Road of Bones*



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 black-and-white photographs
 throughout
 True Crime / Murder
 TRU002000

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Whack Job

A History of Axe Murder

Rachel McCarthy James

A brilliant and bloody examination of the axe's foundational role in human history, from prehistoric violence, to war and executions, to newspaper headlines and popular culture.

Summary

For as long as the axe has been in our hands, we have used it to kill.

Much like the wheel, the boat, and the telephone, the axe is a transformative piece of technology—one that has been with us since prehistory. And just as early humans used the axe to chop down trees, hunt for food, and whittle tools, they also used it to murder. Over time, this particular use has endured: as the axe evolved over centuries to fit the needs of new agricultural, architectural, and social development, so have our lethal uses for it.

Whack Job is the story of the axe, first as a convenient danger and then an anachronism, as told through the murders it has been employed in throughout history: from the first axe murder nearly half a million years ago, to the brutal harnessing of the axe in warfare, to its use in King Henry VIII's favorite method of execution, to Lizzie Borden and the birth of modern pop culture. *Whack Job* sheds brilliant light on this familiar implement, this most human of weapons. This is a critical examination of violence, an exploration of how technology shapes human conflict, the cruel and sacred rituals of execution and battle, and the ways humanity fits even the most savage impulses into narratives of the past and present.

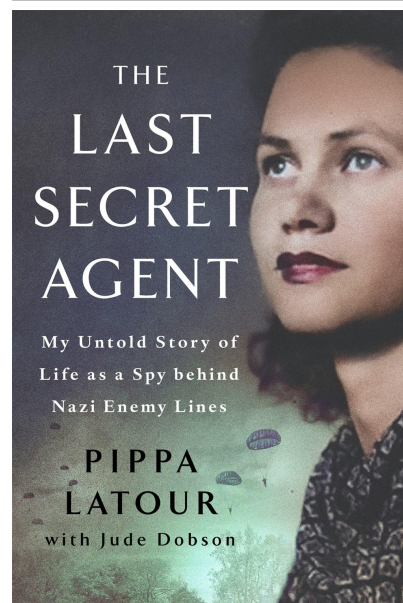
Contributor Bio

RACHEL MCCARTHY JAMES was born and raised in Kansas, the daughter of baseball's Bill James and artist Susan McCarthy. She graduated from Hollins University in Roanoke, VA, where she studied writing and politics. Her first nonfiction book, *The Man from the Train*, was written in collaboration with her father and published in 2017. She lives with her husband Jason and pets in Lawrence, KS.

Quotes

"*Whack Job* is an entirely fresh perspective on one of civilization's earliest-known weapons...an entertaining delight." —Elon Green, author of *Last Call*.

"In Rachel McCarthy James's *Whack Job*, the story of axe murder is the story of so much more. While first and foremost this is a book about the axe and its most nefarious uses, it's also a book about gender, class, and the machinations of power in human society." —Danny Caine, author of *How to Resist Amazon and Why*



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304 Pages
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insert (B&W), map, and table
Biography & Autobiography
/ Women
BIO022000
9.3 in H | 6.1 in W | 1 in T | 1 lb
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The Last Secret Agent

My Life as a Spy Behind Nazi Lines

Pippa Latour, Jude Dobson

After decades of silence, the last surviving World War II British spy reveals the real, untold story of her time as a secret agent in the deadly world of Nazi France.

Summary

From a unique and singular voice comes the incredible true story of the last surviving undercover British female operative in WW2. Pippa Latour parachuted into occupied France in 1944 to conduct sabotage and subversion behind enemy lines. Selling soap to German soldiers and hiding codes on a piece of ribbon, she sent back crucial information about troop positions in the lead up to D-Day, and continued her work until Paris was liberated. From her childhood as an orphan in South Africa to her years as an undercover agent, Pippa's story is that of a woman determined to honor her principles and risk her life to fight against the greatest evil of the 20th century.

The Last Secret Agent is a posthumously published memoir, co-written with journalist Jude Dobson. Pippa was decorated highly for her actions, including being made a Member of the Order of the British Empire and receiving the Légion d'Honneur in France. For years, Pippa kept her involvement in the war effort secret from everyone, including her family, but for the first time, her story can now be told in full.

Contributor Bio

PIPPA LATOUR was the last surviving SEO agent, serving in France until its liberation. She was finally given her due in 2014 when she was awarded France's highest military decoration, the Knight of the National Order of the Legion of Honor. She died in 2023 at age 102.

JUDE DOBSON has been creating WWI and WWII content for the past six years. She won the New York Radio Awards Bronze Award for an audio documentary about WWII aviators.

Quotes

"A gripping narrative that will keep you turning the pages until late into the night, *The Last Secret Agent* delivers a real-life heroine with an unshakable moral code and preternatural poise." -Heath Hardage Lee, author of *The League of Wives* and *The Mysterious Mrs. Nixon*

"The most remarkable story of a most courageous woman." —Hon. Judith Collins, New Zealand Minister of Defense

"This is an astonishing, real-life story of unbelievable bravery. *The Last Secret Agent* is truly remarkable." —*NZ Booklovers*



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Wt

The Love Haters

A Novel

Katherine Center
Being in love means being brave in The Love Haters, the newest laugh out loud, all the feels rom-com by New York Times bestselling author Katherine Center.

Summary

Producer Janie Vaughn’s co-worker helps her get a career-making gig profiling a Coast Guard rescue swimmer (who just happens to be his brother)—by claiming, falsely, that Janie is his girlfriend. As Janie spends time in Key West with the swimmer, Tom “Hutch” Hutcheson (along with his colorful Aunt Rue and his rescue Great Dane), she gets trapped by that lie—falling madly for Hutch, even as he thinks she’s the one woman on earth he can’t date. Swim lessons, helicopter flights, conga lines, drinking contests, hurricanes, and stolen kisses ensue—along with chances to tell the truth, to face old fears, and to be truly brave at last.

Contributor Bio

KATHERINE CENTER is the New York Times bestselling author of several novels, including The Bodyguard and The Rom-Commers. Katherine writes laugh-and-cry books about how life knocks us down—and how we get back up. The movie adaptation of Katherine’s novel The Lost Husband hit #1 on Netflix, and Happiness for Beginners is a Netflix original movie starring Ellie Kemper. Katherine lives in her hometown of Houston, Texas, with her husband, two kids, and their fluffy-but-fierce dog.

Quotes

Praise for THE ROM-COMMERS:
"Winsome and charming, Center's latest is that perfect blend of romance and overcoming life challenges that her readers treasure." --Booklist (starred review)

"For a good cry, many laughs and a big hit of dopamine, read The Rom-Commers, a story about an aspiring screenwriter looking for real-life love. I’m a massive Katherine Center stan, and this book is her best yet."—Emily Giffin

Project Mind Control

Sidney Gottlieb, the CIA, and the Tragedy of MKULTRA



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endpapers
History / Military
HIS027290

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

Project Mind Control

Sidney Gottlieb, the CIA, and the Tragedy of MKULTRA

John Lisle

The inside story of the CIA's secret mind control project, MKULTRA, using never-before-seen testimony from the perpetrators themselves.

Summary

Sidney Gottlieb was the CIA's most cunning chemist. As head of the infamous MKULTRA project, he oversaw an assortment of dangerous—even deadly—experiments. Among them: dosing unwitting strangers with mind-bending drugs, torturing mental patients through sensory deprivation, and steering the movements of animals via electrodes implanted into their brains. His goal was to develop methods of mind control that could turn someone into a real-life "Manchurian candidate."

In conjunction with MKULTRA, Gottlieb also plotted the assassination of foreign leaders and created spy gear for undercover agents. The details of his career, however, have long been shrouded in mystery. Upon retiring from the CIA in 1973, he tossed his files into an incinerator. As a result, much of what happened under MKULTRA was thought to be lost—until now.

Historian John Lisle has uncovered dozens of depositions containing new information about MKULTRA, straight from the mouths of its perpetrators. For the first time, Gottlieb and his underlings divulge what they did, why they did it, how they got away with it, and much more. Additionally, Lisle highlights the dramatic story of MKULTRA's victims, from their terrible treatment to their dogged pursuit of justice.

The consequences of MKULTRA still reverberate throughout American society. *Project Mind Control* is the definitive account of this most disturbing of chapters in CIA history.

Contributor Bio

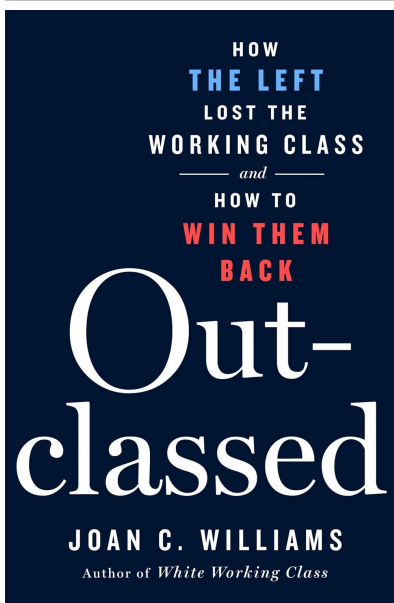
JOHN LISLE has a Ph.D. in history from the University of Texas, where he is now a professor of the history of science. He has received research and writing awards from the National Academy of Sciences, the American Institute of Physics, and the National Endowment for the Humanities. His work has been published in *Skeptic*, *Scientific American*, *Smithsonian Magazine*, and elsewhere.

Quotes

Praise for *The Dirty Tricks Department*:

"This enjoyable, picaresque and sometimes alarming book offers another good reason for maintaining careful oversight over the intelligence services: Spy-scientists tend to go rogue when left to invent their own devices." —Ben Macintyre, *New York Times*

"[A] knowledgeable and entertaining study ... Lisle stuffs the account with bizarre inventions, humorous anecdotes, and vivid sketches of researchers and agents. Espionage buffs will be enthralled." —*Publishers Weekly*



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368 Pages
Social Science / Social Classes &
Economic Disparity
SOC050000

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

Outclassed

How the Left Lost the Working Class and How to Win Them Back

Joan C. Williams

An eye-opening, urgent call to mend the broken relationship between college and non-college grads of all races that is driving politics to the far right in the US.

Summary

Is there a single change that could simultaneously protect democracy, spur progress on climate change, enact sane gun policies, and improve our response to the next pandemic? Yes: changing the class dynamics driving American politics.

The far right manipulates class anger to undercut progressive goals and liberals often inadvertently play into their hands. In *Outclassed*, Joan C. Williams explains how to reverse that process by bridging the “diploma divide”, while maintaining core progressive values. She offers college-educated Americans insights into how their values reflect their lives and their lives reflect their privilege. With illuminating stories—from the Portuguese admiral who led that country’s COVID response to the lawyer who led the ACLU’s gay marriage response (and more)—Williams demonstrates how working-class values reflect working-class lives. Then she explains how the far right connects culturally with the working-class, deftly manipulating racism and masculine anxieties to deflect attention from the ways far-right policies produce the economic conditions disadvantaging the working-class. Whether you are a concerned citizen committed to saving democracy or a politician or social justice warrior in need of messaging advice, *Outclassed* offers concrete guidance on how liberals can forge a multi-racial cross-class coalition capable of delivering on progressive goals.

Contributor Bio

Described as having “something approaching rock star status” in her field by *The New York Times Magazine*, **Joan C. Williams** is an award-winning scholar of social inequality. She is the author of *White Working Class*, and has published on class dynamics in *The New York Times*, *Washington Post*, *The Atlantic*, *The New Republic* and more. She is Distinguished Professor of Law and Hastings Foundation Chair (emerita) at University of California College of the Law San Francisco.

Quotes

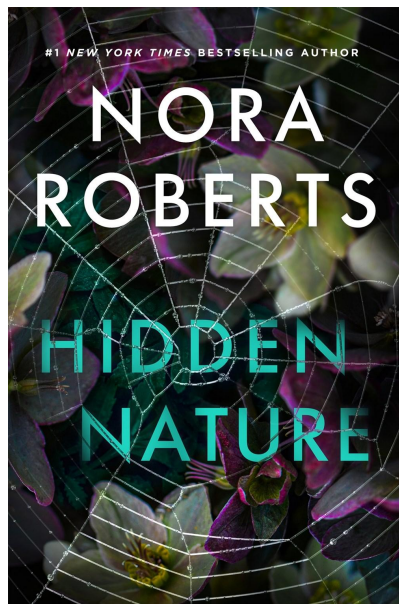
“For anyone who finds it hard to understand what on earth is happening in American politics.” —**Jonathan Haidt, author of the NYT bestseller *The Anxious Generation***

“Williams’ voice is needed now more than ever.” —**Rep. Ro Khanna, 17th district of California**

“Eye-opening.” —**Arlie Russell Hochschild, author of *Stolen Pride***

“A book we need.”—**Anne-Marie Slaughter, CEO, New America**

“A rousing roadmap.” —**Katrina vanden Heuvel, *The Nation***



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448 Pages
Includes 4-color endpapers
Fiction / Women
FIC044000

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Wt

Hidden Nature

Nora Roberts

The #1 *New York Times*-bestselling author presents a new novel about an injured cop who must fight to bring down a pair of twisted killers...

Summary

Natural Resources police officer, Sloan Cooper, and her partner had just taken down three men preying on hikers in the Western Maryland mountains. Driving back, she pulled in at a convenience store—and walked right into a robbery in progress. One gunshot from a jittery thief was about to change her world.

After being shocked back to life on the operating table, she has a long recovery ahead, so she moves back to her parents' peaceful house in Heron's Rest. As for the boyfriend who dumped her via text while she was in the hospital, good riddance.

She may be down, but she's not out. So when a woman vanishes, leaving her car behind in a supermarket parking lot, Sloan searches online for similar cases. She finds them, spread across three states. Men and women, old and young—the missing seem to have nothing in common. And the abductions keep happening.

Luckily, the new man in her life shares her passion for solving this mystery. But it will take every ounce of endurance to get to the dark heart of this bizarre case—and she's willing to risk her life again if that's what it takes to stop the horror.

Contributor Bio

NORA ROBERTS is the #1 *New York Times* bestselling author of more than 240 novels, including *The Mirror*, *Mind Games*, *Inheritance*, *Identity*, and many more. She is also the author of the bestselling In Death series written under the pen name J. D. Robb. There are more than 500 million copies of her books in print.

Quotes

Praise for *Mind Games*

"Fans of Roberts's enticing brand of storytelling will find everything they crave in her latest polished thriller, including compelling characters, an evocative, richly realized setting, and a captivating plot enlivened a generous dash of romance and just the right measure of nerve-jangling, nail-biting suspense. You don't have to be a mind reader to predict Roberts's latest will soon be on reserve and best-seller lists all around the country." —*Booklist*

"Roberts's latest may move you to tears, or joy, or dread, or all three....A touching story of love and grief ends in an epic battle of good versus evil." —*Kirkus Reviews* (starred)

"Die-hard Roberts fans will get what they came for: there's no shortage of romance, [or] cliffhangers..." —*Publishers Weekly*



Peace is a Shy Thing

The Life and Art of

Tim O'Brien

Alex Vernon

St. Martin's Press

9781250358493

Pub Date: 5/27/2025

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Hardcover with dust jacket

560 Pages

Includes 2 maps plus two 8-page

color photograph inserts

Biography & Autobiography

/ Literary Figures

BIO007000

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

Peace Is a Shy Thing

The Life and Art of Tim O'Brien

Alex Vernon

The first literary biography of Tim O'Brien, the preeminent American writer of the Vietnam War and one of the best writers of his generation, with never-before-seen materials and interviews.

Summary

"Vietnam made me a writer." —Tim O'Brien

Featuring over one hundred interviews with family, friends, peers, and others—not to mention Tim O'Brien himself—*Peace is a Shy Thing* provides a nearly day-by-day, gripping account of O'Brien's thirteen months as an infantryman in Vietnam and gives equal diligence to reconstructing O'Brien's writing process.

Alex Vernon's comprehensive research uncovered countless gems about O'Brien's life and the journey that made him into a literary icon, including an unpublished short story about O'Brien from a college girlfriend, documentation of his comical involvement with the *Washington Post's* coverage of Watergate, and a 1989 attic exchange between American and Vietnamese writers on the eve of the publication of O'Brien's most beloved book, *The Things They Carried*, years before the two countries normalized relations.

Peace is a Shy Thing is as much a history of the era as it is a story of O'Brien's life, from his small-town midwestern midcentury childhood, to winning the National Book Award and his status as literary elder statesman. A story which Vernon, a combat veteran of the Persian Gulf War and a literary scholar trained by officers and professors of the Vietnam era, is uniquely suited to cover.

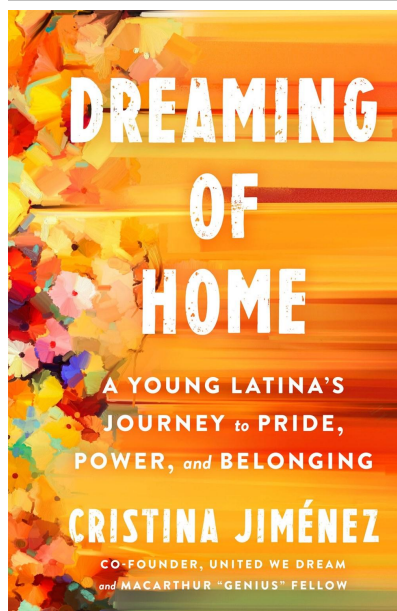
Contributor Bio

ALEX VERNON graduated from the U.S. Military Academy at West Point (the only literature major in his class of over a thousand), served in combat as a tank platoon leader in the Persian Gulf War, and earned a Ph.D. from the University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill. The recipient of an Army Historical Foundation Distinguished Book Award and a National Endowment of the Humanities Fellowship, he is the M.E. & Ima Graves Peace Distinguished Professor of English at Hendrix College in Conway, Arkansas.

Quotes

"Alex Vernon has written a revelatory, insightful, and deeply moving biography of one of the most important authors of our time... In these pages, O'Brien—a fascinating, complicated human being and artist—comes vividly to life." —Lynn Novick and Ken Burns, filmmakers of *The Vietnam War*

"In this magnificent new biography, Alex Vernon tells O'Brien's story with sympathy and an understanding of the nuances—historical, cultural, political, and personal—that made O'Brien the writer he became." —Tracy Daugherty, author of Pulitzer finalist *Larry McMurtry*



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/ Hispanic & Latino
BIO002030

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Wt

Dreaming of Home

A Young Latina's Journey to Pride, Power, and Belonging

Cristina Jiménez

A MacArthur "Genius" shares her inspiring story, from undocumented newcomer to leader in a powerful immigrant youth movement

Summary

Dreaming of Home is a coming-of-age story both for a young woman finding her true self and for a social movement of immigrant youth trailblazers who inspired the world and changed the lives of millions.

Cristina Jiménez's family fights to stay afloat as Ecuador falls into a political and economic crisis. When she is thirteen, her parents courageously decide to seek a better life in the U.S., landing in a one-bedroom apartment in Queens, New York. There are many challenges, but eventually, Cristina discovers she is not alone; she finds her calling within a community of social justice organizers. With deep candor and humor, Cristina opens the door to what it's like to grow up undocumented and the reality that being a "good" immigrant doesn't shield you from systematic racism, danger, or even the confusion of falling in love.

Through personal stories and historical truth telling, Cristina invites us to acknowledge the America that never was and to imagine the America that could be when everyday people build power and fight for change. And she reminds us that home is more than a physical place on the map, offering each of us a roadmap for finding the home within even when the world around us seems to be crumbling.

Contributor Bio

CRISTINA JIMÉNEZ is an award-winning community organizer and a leading voice in movements for social justice. She is Co-Founder and former Executive Director of United We Dream, the largest immigrant youth-led organization in the country. A Distinguished Lecturer at the City University of New York, Jimenez received a 2017 MacArthur Fellowship and a spot on the 2018 TIME 100 Most Influential People List. She came to the U.S from Ecuador in 1998 and grew up undocumented in Queens, N.Y.

Quotes

"We all need to hear Cristina's story." —**Heather Charisse McGhee, *New York Times* bestselling author**

"Cristina's voice is not only essential, it is heroic, a tongue of fire blazing in the night."
—**Sandra Cisneros**

"Full of wisdom." —**Ai-jen Poo, author and organizer, President, The National Domestic Workers Alliance**

"Jimenez is a force, in the best possible way. For years I've waited for her book...."
—**Jose Antonio Vargas, Pulitzer Prize-winning journalist, author of *Dear America***



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1 16-page color insert, 2 8-page
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Biography & Autobiography
/ Entertainment & Performing Arts
BIO005000

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

So Gay for You

Friendship, Found Family, and the Show That Started It All

Kate Moennig, Leisha Hailey

A intimate, hilarious memoir of art, friendship, queerness, and found family by Kate Moennig and Leisha Hailey, stars of *The L Word*—including never-before-shared stories and photos from behind the scenes of the show and their personal lives.

Summary

"The point is we're all connected, see? Through love, through loneliness, through one tiny, lamentable lapse in judgment. All of us, in our isolation, we reach out from the darkness, from the alienation of modern life, to form these connections." — Alice Pieszecki, Season 1, Episode 2, *The L Word*

In the early aughts, Kate Moennig and Leisha Hailey—both young artists trying to figure it all out—met at auditions for what they thought was just an unknown little TV show. Given that it was a show about lesbians living in LA, with the first ever ensemble cast of openly queer female characters, Kate and Leisha knew the project was going to be unlike anything else out there.

What they didn't foresee was just how huge *The L Word* would become. One million people watched the premiere, and the show quickly turned into a groundbreaking phenomenon. Its influence on pop culture, in the political arena, and in the lives of queer—and straight—viewers has been lasting, impactful, even life-saving. But in addition to changing the course of television history, *The L Word* also changed Kate and Leisha's lives forever.

From their first day on set, Kate and Leisha have always had each other's backs, inseparable to the degree that the joke among the cast was that they were like a pair of pants—you couldn't have one leg without the other. Hence the name for their podcast, PANTS, born during the pandemic and now downloaded over 20 million times.

So Gay for You is a love letter to a life-defining friendship over the decades, and following Kate and Leisha's unlikely and extremely entertaining journey stumbling from closeted queer kids to LGBTQ+ activists to successful actresses, podcasters, and business owners. Full of never-before-shared glimpses into the making of *The L Word*, Kate and Leisha's real-life loves and losses, and their status as queer icons, *So Gay for You* is, at its heart, a book about a deep meaningful connection with your ride or die and the gift of finding your chosen family.

Contributor Bio

KATE MOENNIG is a critically acclaimed actress and executive producer whose work spans film, television, and theater. She most recently reprised her iconic role as "Shane McCutcheon" in the *The L Word: Generation Q* on Showtime. Moennig has also starred in Showtime's *Ray Donovan* and in Freeform's *Grown-ish*.

LEISHA HAILEY is an actor, director, executive producer, musician, and podcaster. Hailey is best known for her beloved breakout character, "Alice Pieszecki," in the groundbreaking Showtime series *The L Word* and the reboot, *The L Word: Generation Q*. Leisha also co-founded the band THE MURMURS in the 1990's and the indie pop band UH HUH HER in 2007.

Together, they co-host the podcast "PANTS with Kate and Leisha."

Quotes

"*So Gay for You* is more than a memoir; it's a comprehensive almanac of Kate Moennig and Leisha Hailey. Take it from a die-hard fan, and friend, this intimate exploration of their lives blends candid anecdotes with reflections on their youth, queer identity, the

impact of *The L Word*, and perhaps most importantly, their two decades of friendship. Must-read queer lit and a testament to the enduring legacy of *The L Word* and the culture-changing stars at its heart." — Tegan Quin, bestselling author of *High School*

"Such a fun read. It's like hanging out with your two best friends who also happen to be hilarious, insightful, full on lesbian icons." —Liz Feldman



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Wt

The Other Side of Now

A Novel

Paige Harbison

A hilarious and heartfelt novel about how loves and lives are never truly lost, for fans of Rebecca Serle and Taylor Jenkins Reid.

Summary

With a leading role on a hit TV show and a relationship with Hollywood's latest heartthrob, Meg Bryan appears to have everything she ever wanted. But underneath the layers of makeup and hairspray, her happiness is as fake as her stage name, Lana Lord. Following a breakdown at her birthday party, she books an impromptu trip to Ireland. Specifically, the village where she and her best friend Aimee always dreamt of moving—a dream that fell apart when an accident claimed Aimee's life a decade ago.

When Meg arrives, the people in town treat her not as a stranger, but a friend (except for the hot bartender). Meg writes it all off as jetlag until she looks in the mirror. Her hair is no longer bleached, her skin has a few natural fine lines, and her nose looks like... well, her old nose. Her real nose.

Eventually, she comes to accept that she somehow made a quantum slide into an alternate version of her life. But the most shocking realization of all? In this life, her best friend Aimee is alive—but wants nothing to do with Meg.

Despite her bewilderment, Meg is clear-eyed about one thing: this is a once-in-a-lifetime chance to reconnect with her friend and repair what she broke. She finagles an opportunity to act in the play Aimee is writing and directing and as the project unfolds, Meg realizes that events as she remembers them may not be the only truth, and that an impossible choice looms before her.

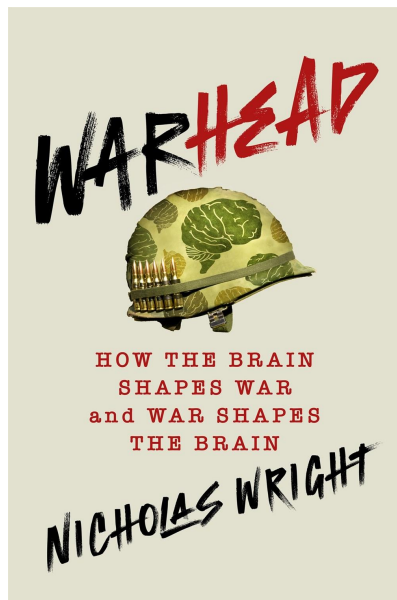
Contributor Bio

PAIGE HARBISON is the author of three YA novels, the first of which was published in 2011 when she was just nineteen years old. More recently, she's worked on several celebrity projects as ghostwriter. *The Other Side of Now* is her adult debut. A woman of many talents, she's also a beautiful artist (check out the pet portraits on her website) and has a very funny, clever social media presence (a few of her TikToks have gone viral). She lives in L.A. with her boyfriend and their dog Tarot.

Quotes

"The Other Side of Now is a sometimes heartbreaking, always heartwarming fantasy about what happens when you get not just the life of your dreams but the lives of your dreams. Paige Harbison's very knowing, very cool novel is moving, clever, funny, compelling, and warm as an Irish sweater." –Laurie Frankel, bestselling author of *Family Family*

"An engaging, winsome debut. An unexpected and bittersweet book about the choices we make and the paths we take, Paige Harbison writes with the perfect balance of sweetness and sarcasm." – Elissa Sussman, bestselling author of *Funny You Should Ask*



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Warhead

How the Brain Shapes War and War Shapes the Brain

Nicholas Wright

A researched narrative of how wars are a consequence of brain systems that deal with conflict, competition, and social cooperation.

Summary

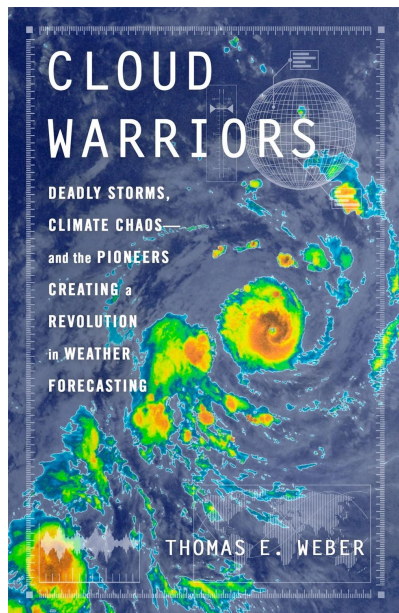
Nicholas Wright's *WARHEAD* is a groundbreaking new book that shows readers how wars are a consequence of common brain systems that deal with conflict, competition, and social cooperation. Journeying through ten brain regions, Wright begins his explanation at the base of the brain, the brainstem, climbing step-by-step until he reaches the frontal pole looking at how each region influences the human propensity towards war. While brain anatomy provides the framework, each chapter is brought to life through battle stories from history.

Wright considers what it was like for, say, a foot soldier at the Battle of Waterloo in 1815 or one in China's Red Army during the Long March in 1934-5 to fight. He thinks about commanders like Heinz Guderian or Shaka Zulu and asks how they could see through the fog of war, make better decisions and communicate with those who must carry them out. In telling these stories Wright connects the biological with the historical through medical records of soldiers who fought in both World Wars, in Vietnam and in the Gulf Wars. Using similar methods, he looks at drone pilots deep in a Nevada air base, the children of the Islamic State's "Cubs" and others while also considering the records of leaders who had to make the hardest choice.

Focusing finally on what to come, he asks how the internet or GPS can provide a window into war's technological futures. We will never be without war. Nicholas Wright's *Warhead* explains this unfortunately recurring biological imperative and shows us how no human, given our common neuroanatomy, is immune to its prosecution and resolution.

Contributor Bio

DR. NICHOLAS WRIGHT, MRCP, PhD is a neuroscientist who researches the brain, technology and security at University College London, Georgetown University, and the New America think tank in Washington DC, where he also advises the Pentagon Joint Staff. On emerging technologies he has worked with the White House, UK Cabinet Office, Australian Prime Minister's office. He has published over 20 peer-reviewed research papers, many of which have been covered by the *BBC* and *New York Times*. He has appeared on CNN and the BBC, and regularly contributes to high profile outlets like *Foreign Affairs*, *Foreign Policy*, *the Atlantic*, and *Slate*.



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Cloud Warriors

Deadly Storms, Climate Chaos—and the Pioneers Creating a Revolution in Weather Forecasting

Thomas E. Weber

A deeply-reported and wide-ranging look at the people and technology providing vital weather forecasts, in a world where preparation and prevention is a life-and-death issue.

Summary

For millennia, humans have tried to understand and predict the weather. The Space Age helped usher in satellites and radar, while computers made it possible to plug all that data into complex equations that anticipated the atmosphere's future behavior. Now a new age of forecasting advances is unfolding, driven by artificial intelligence, drones, and satellites. The Internet of Things has turned everything from cellphones to cars into ubiquitous weather sensors. Equally significant are new efforts to understand how people respond to forecasts and warnings. Scientists and government officials are realizing that how people get their weather information, and how they use it, are crucial factors in the outcome of a catastrophic weather event.

Featuring in-depth reporting on cutting edge science and technology, veteran journalist Thomas E. Weber takes us on a fascinating tour of how meteorologists, scientists, and officials track and prepare for major weather events, such as hurricanes, tornados, floods, forest fires, extreme heat, and winter storms. As climate change is altering our planet and making weather events more extreme, Weber introduces us to those on the front lines of weather preparation and prediction. We travel from coast-to-coast, to space and back, meeting TV meteorologists and storm chasers, city planners, backyard weatherman, and many others. *Cloud Warriors* will change the way you think about the weather—and the power of being able to see it coming.

Contributor Bio

Thomas E. Weber is a veteran writer, editor, and newsroom executive with a lifelong interest in how science and technology shape society. He was *The Wall Street Journal's* first internet columnist and later became a bureau chief for the paper. As executive editor of *TIME*, he supervised the magazine's feature journalism. He has taught journalism and publishing at Columbia University and New York University, as well as at his alma mater, Princeton University.



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Finding Grace

A Novel

Loretta Rothschild

A twisty, gripping novel that wraps around a deeply moving love story, from an electric new voice.

Summary

Honor seems to have everything: she adores her bright and beautiful daughter, Chloe, and her charming, handsome husband, Tom, even if he works one hundred hours a week. Her bestselling children's books mean that she's made a name for herself doing what she loves. Yet Honor's longing for another baby threatens to eclipse all of it—until a shocking tragedy changes their lives forever, and Tom is left to pick up the pieces.

Grace has made her London wine shop a second home for people like her—those running from their own pasts. Passionate, studious, and self-assured, she finds herself curious about Tom, who becomes a fixture at the shop.

As Grace falls for Tom, she shares things about herself that she's never told anyone—while Tom is keeping a secret that could destroy their burgeoning romance. Through it all, the lasting impact of Honor's obsessive want looms over them, as does the possibility that their meeting was no accident.

Can Tom and Grace wade through the secrets to find each other on the other side? Do we all have ghosts that refuse to stay buried? And how do old love and new love align? Blending a page-turning moral dilemma with satisfying emotional poignancy, *Finding Grace* is a sweeping love story that explores what happens when a shared past collides with an unexpected future.

Contributor Bio

LORETTA ROTHSCILD is originally from London and currently splits her time between the UK and Italy. She lives with her husband, Nat, their young son, and their beloved dogs. *Finding Grace* is her debut novel.

Quotes

"It's inventive, tender, heartbreaking, redemptive—and it's one of the best books I've read this year." —**Jodi Picoult, #1 New York Times bestselling author**

"Shocking, stylish, elegant and twisting. *Finding Grace* is a truly stunning debut." —**Chris Whitaker, New York Times bestselling author of All the Colors of the Dark**

"An enviable balance of blockbuster plot and literary elegance. An absolutely powerhouse debut." —**Julia Whelan, bestselling author of My Oxford Year**

"I raced through this emotional story of love, grief, second chances, and moral ambiguity." —**Carola Lovering, bestselling author of Tell Me Lies**

"Loretta Rothschild's debut novel, seemingly effortlessly written, is the darkest beach read imaginable, with a protagonist that no reader could predict." —**Plum Sykes, bestselling author of Wives Like Us**

"What an incredible debut! *Finding Grace* is a rare joy. Gripping and compelling, with characters you love and care about. Clever, smart and compassionate. A veritable power house of a novel!" —**Imogen Edwards-Jones, Sunday Times bestselling author**

"*Finding Grace* is elegant and propulsive, emotionally rich and psychologically astute. With an arresting narrative voice and layered, intimate storytelling, Loretta Rothschild's

debut is a life-affirming exploration of the aftermath of tragedy, and love in all its forms." —**Roma Downey, actress, producer, and author**

THE INTELLIGENCE EXPLOSION

WHEN AI BEATS HUMANS
AT EVERYTHING

JAMES BARRAT
Author of *Our Final Invention*



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The Intelligence Explosion

When AI Beats Humans at Everything

James Barrat

An easy-to-read and fast-paced exploration of the myriad issues raised by generative AI by the author of *The Final Invention*.

Summary

It is hard to overstate the existential fear and wild cheerleading that the rapid release of generative artificial intelligence software has inspired at this point in time. At such a moment in time it is important that the public understand the dimensions of the release of these tools into the wilds, the positive and the negative, and how we might guard against what the leaders of the industry declare may well lead to our annihilation, but could also lead to our salvation if handled with the necessary forethought.

The Intelligence Explosion is a fast-paced exploration of the myriad issues raised by generative AI, revealing: how major technology companies have cemented themselves and us to impossible-to-interpret and impossible-to-predict unstable computer systems; how we are on the edge of a cliff in the development of Artificial General Intelligence that carries the potential for immeasurable benefit and ultimate harm; and hope, which will require maximum effort and international buy-in to reestablish the science of Artificial Intelligence on comprehensible and safe grounds. As one of the premiere technology writers and researchers, James Barratt's *The Intelligence Explosion* will be one of the foreground exploration of AI.

Contributor Bio

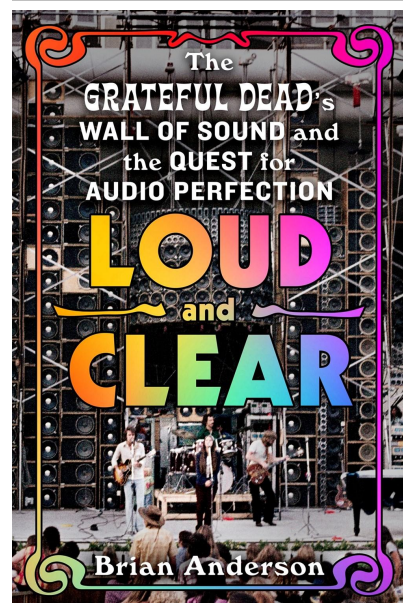
James Barrat is a documentary filmmaker who's written and produced films for National Geographic, Discovery, PBS, and many other broadcasters in the United States and Europe. He lives near Washington, D.C., with his wife and two children.

Quotes

Praise for *Our Final Invention*:

"If you read just one book that makes you confront scary high-tech realities that we'll soon have no choice but to address, make it this one." ?*The Washington Post*

"A hard-hitting book about the most important topic of this century and possibly beyond -- the issue of whether our species can survive. I wish it was science fiction but I know it's not." ?Jaan Tallinn, co-founder of Skype



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Loud and Clear

The Grateful Dead's Wall of Sound and the Quest for Audio Perfection

Brian Anderson

The first book to tell the full story of the Grateful Dead's "Wall of Sound," an unprecedented and since unparalleled speaker system.

Summary

Loud and Clear is the first book to tell the full story of the Grateful Dead's "Wall of Sound," an unprecedented and since unparalleled speaker system that was as tall as a school bus is long and more than a hundred feet wide. The band's quest for roaring yet crystal clear sound began after their formation in 1965, colliding with the '60s progressive social climate.

Over the next few years, the Dead's growing crew of sound-obsessed techies and eccentric roadies took their speaker system to new technological heights. But as the Dead's relentless, drug-fueled touring schedule met this increasingly burdensome yet sonically perfect machine, in 1974, the Wall brought the band to its knees. The two years of "Wall shows" are legend among Deadheads, and this character-driven tale about human ambition, achievement, and the limits of both on a larger-than-life scale has the potential to reach a wide range of music fans and readers of cultural history.

Author Brian Anderson interviewed hundreds of people associated with the band and the construction of the Wall itself, including band members, roadies, tech wizards, fans and many more. This fascinating inside story of one of the most legendary rock bands of all time will appeal to Deadheads, music fans, audiophiles and many more.

Contributor Bio

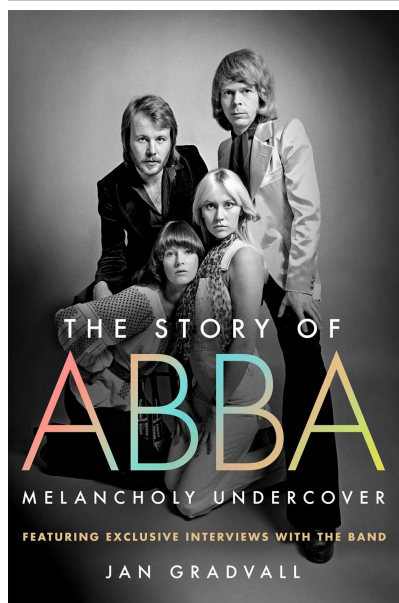
BRIAN ANDERSON has been a Webby Award-winning senior features editor, writer, and producer at *VICE* in New York City (2011-2019). More recently, Anderson did a stint running the Science desk at *The Atlantic* (2020), where he was part of the Pulitzer Prize-winning team for early pandemic coverage, and was later a senior editor at *Vox* (2021-2022).

His 2015 *VICE* feature on "The Wall of Sound" served as the jumping off point for his first book *Loud and Clear*.

He currently lives and works in Chicago, where a piece of the Wall of Sound sits in his living room.

Quotes

"An industrious reporter and passionate writer with deep ties to the communities he writes about, Brian embodies the sheer joy of being present when 'something new is waiting to be born' creatively, as the Grateful Dead put it. He's a trustworthy guide to experiences that are hard to put into words." —*New York Times* bestselling author Steve Silberman, co-creator of *Skeleton Key: A Dictionary for Deadheads*



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The Story of ABBA

Melancholy Undercover

Jan Gradvall

Jan Gradvall's coveted biography on the most well-known but secretive band of all time: ABBA

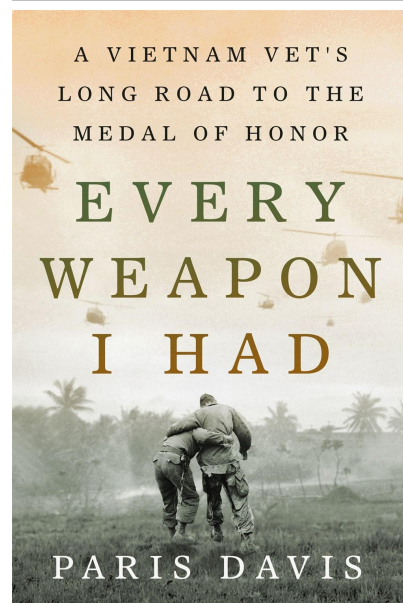
Summary

Agnetha Fältskog, Björn Ulvaeus, Benny Andersson, and Anni-Frid Lyngstad: ABBA. Formed in Stockholm in 1972 and disbanded in 1982, ABBA's music has never been off the airwaves. International music journalist Jan Gradvall became the first person to interview all four members of the band since their breakup. In *The Story of ABBA: Melancholy Undercover*, we get the up close and personal story of ABBA as the band's members talk openly about their upbringing, their early careers, how they all met and what happened during and after their famous breakup.

In *The Story of ABBA*, Gradvall shares a deeper understanding of the emotions underpinning their songs as he seriously considers their music, their lives and the times in which they worked together as a way truly to understand the phenomenon of their fans' unwavering commitment. In this page-turning slice of pop music history, Gradvall places ABBA at the center of the musical universe, showing through his deep knowledge of music history what affected and shaped the band, as well as their immeasurable impact on music history. Mama, Mia! *The Story of ABBA* is a book that all ABBA fans will love.

Contributor Bio

JAN GRADVALL is an award-winning writer and has written several books on popular culture. He is the recipient of the Swedish Publicists' Association's Grand Prize in 2013 and won Journalist of the Year in 2001. Gradvall was instrumental in the founding of the Swedish Music Hall of Fame and served as chairman for its first three years. He has a uniquely close journalistic relationship with ABBA, and has appeared in two BBC documentaries about the band, *The Joy of ABBA* and *Flatpack Pop*.



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Every Weapon I Had

A Vietnam Vet's Long Road to the Medal of Honor

Paris Davis

The story of a Green Beret commander's heroism during the Vietnam War, and the long fight to recognize his bravery.

Summary

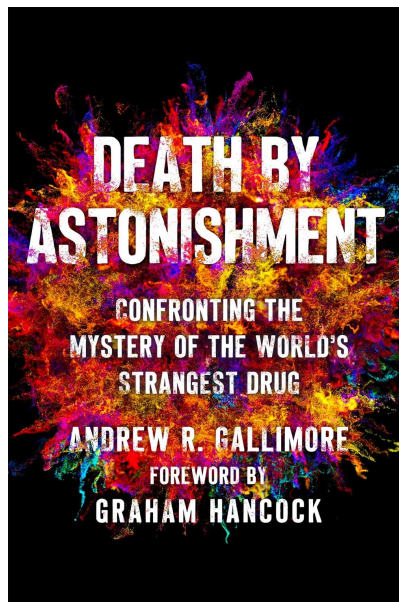
When Col. Paris Davis was selected to lead one of the Green Beret A-teams organizing resistance to Communist incursions into South Vietnam, his commanding officer warned him that some of his soldiers would resent his authority. This was no surprise; there were only a handful of Black officers in the Special Forces. Davis quickly won the respect of his soldiers, and would soon fight beside him as bullets snapped past and mortars exploded overhead.

On June 18th, Davis led a group of inexperienced locals and Special Forces soldiers in an attack on a Viet Cong base in Bong Son. They were met by a superior enemy force, and Davis led the charge in a grueling firefight. He was seriously wounded, but he disobeyed a direct order to retreat until he dragged three injured Green Berets off the battlefield to safety.

Every Weapon I Had is an inspiring tale of valor and sacrifice, set against the backdrop of major escalations in both the Vietnam War and the Civil Rights movement. It is also a story of deferred honor and delayed recognition; Davis earned the Silver Star and Purple Heart for his actions, but his nomination for the Congressional Medal of Honor was repeatedly "lost." No official reason has ever been given for this oversight, but those who fought to correct it believe that it was motivated by racial prejudice. Davis was finally awarded the Medal in 2023, 58 years after the battle.

Contributor Bio

Paris Davis is a former Green Beret and veteran of U.S. Special Forces. After graduating from Airborne and Ranger Schools, he was selected for the 7th Special Forces Group (Airborne), 1st Special Forces, serving in Korea and Vietnam. In 1965, he was promoted to captain as a detachment commander with the 5th Special Forces Group (Airborne), 1st Special Forces, becoming one of the first Black officers in Special Forces history. He was awarded the Congressional Medal of Honor on March 3, 2023.



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 Body, Mind & Spirit / Entheogens
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Death by Astonishment

Confronting the Mystery of the World's Strangest Drug

Andrew Gallimore, Graham Hancock

Comparable to the style of bestselling authors Graham Hancock and Brian Muraresku, the first detailed account of the history and science of the world's strangest and most mysterious drug - DMT.

Summary

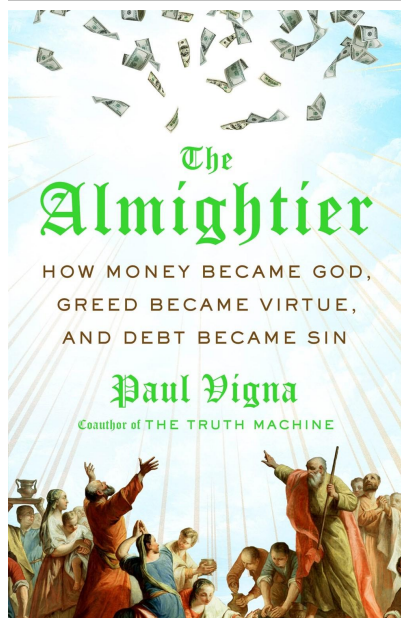
DMT is the world's strangest and most mysterious drug, inducing one of the most remarkable and yet least understood of all states of consciousness. This common plant molecule has, from ancient times to the modern day, been used as a tool to gain access to a bizarre alien reality of inordinate complexity and unimaginable strangeness, populated by a panoply of highly advanced, intelligent, and communicative beings entirely not of this world.

A story that begins in the Amazonian rainforests and ends beyond the stars, Andrew Gallimore presents the first detailed account of the discovery of DMT and science's continuing struggle to explain how such a simple and common plant molecule can have such astonishing effects on the human mind. The history of the drug involves many fascinating characters from the scientific and literary worlds — including legendary ethnobotanist Dr. Richard Schultes; renegade beat writer and drug aficionado William S. Burroughs; philosopher and raconteur Terence McKenna; and the high priest of the 1960s psychedelic revolution, Dr. Timothy Leary. In the end, the story of DMT forces us to reconsider our most basic assumptions about the nature of reality and our place within it.

Comparable to Hancock's *Supernatural*, Strassman's *Spirit Molecule*, and *The Immortality Key*, Gallimore takes readers on a journey through the history and science of this remarkable psychedelic.

Contributor Bio

ANDREW GALLIMORE is a chemical pharmacologist, neurobiologist, and writer, and one of the world's leading experts on psychedelics. He is the author of two books on the science of psychedelics, 'Alien Information Theory: Psychedelic Drug Technologies and the Cosmic Game' and 'Reality Switch Technologies: Psychedelics as Tools for the Discovery and Exploration of New Worlds'. He lives and works in Tokyo.



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The Almighty

How Money Became God, Greed Became Virtue, and Debt Became Sin

Paul Vigna

The complete story of how we came to worship money, and how we can stop greed from destroying everything.

Summary

The pursuit of wealth is considered an essential function of human nature, and greed is an unspoken civic virtue. Many of us revere billionaires and Wall Street rain-makers, then complain about "the system" being rigged, and wonder why the country doesn't seem to work for the little guy anymore. Some blame the Deep State for income inequality and corruption, and others blame capitalism, but the truth is that these issues have much deeper roots: our devotion to money is a manmade invention that has transformed over thousands of years to replace religion as the foundation of our society, and it is tearing civilization apart.

In *The Almighty*, journalist Paul Vigna uncovers the forgotten history of money, tracing the uneasy and often accidental alliance between wealth and religion as it developed from ancient city-states to today's secular world, where religious devotion has receded and greed has stepped in to fill the void. Through engaging anecdotes, original research, and fresh perspectives on the causes of the many challenges we face today, Vigna makes a compelling argument that money has no power apart from the power we give it.

We can build a better future, where don't need to choose between helping others and getting ahead. But we can't repair the damage that greed has done until we understand how it took over our world in the first place.

Contributor Bio

PAUL VIGNA is an author, journalist, editor and speaker, with a particular focus on capital markets and cryptocurrencies. He is the author of *Guts: The Anatomy of The Walking Dead* and coauthor of *The Age of Cryptocurrency* and *The Truth Machine*. For 25 years, he was a reporter and editor for *Dow Jones Newswires* and the *Wall Street Journal*, pioneering coverage of the cryptocurrency sector. He has appeared on *CNN*, *CNBC*, *MSNBC*, *Fox*, and *PBS*.

Quotes

Praise for *The Truth Machine*:

"A brilliant, beautifully written guide to the blockchain revolution that is redefining 'trust' for our increasingly globalized world." —**Hernando de Soto author of *The Mystery of Capital***

"Casey and Vigna are shaping a new understanding of how we can gain greater personal control over our data, assets, identities and creations to forge a more inclusive, collaborative and innovative society." —**Imogen Heap, Grammy award-winning singer-songwriter and founder of Mycelia**



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The Sandersons Fail Manhattan

Scott Johnston

Heavily plotted contemporary satire, skewering everything from the arcane rules of social register types, casually hypocritical financial heavyweights, and eager educators, in the vein of the author's previous novel, *CAMPUSLAND*.

Summary

William Sanderson is very rich, but you can always be richer. He's up for a huge promotion at investment giant Bedrock Capital, but there's one crucial hurdle he must clear first—assuming he can keep the HR department at bay. Meanwhile, he looks for any string to pull to get his maddeningly indifferent daughter Ginny into Yale. Ellie, his wife, is a Kentucky-raised newcomer to New York who only wants to fit in, and daughter #2, the shy Zoey, is happy just to make a new friend, even in the form of the unusual new girl who calls herself a goblin.

Things turn upside down when the girls' exclusive school gets its first trans student and she mysteriously disappears, a frenzied search begins and the entire city frets about her fate. Somehow caught in the crosshairs are the Sandersons, a family desperately trying to navigate all the new cultural rules—and failing miserably.

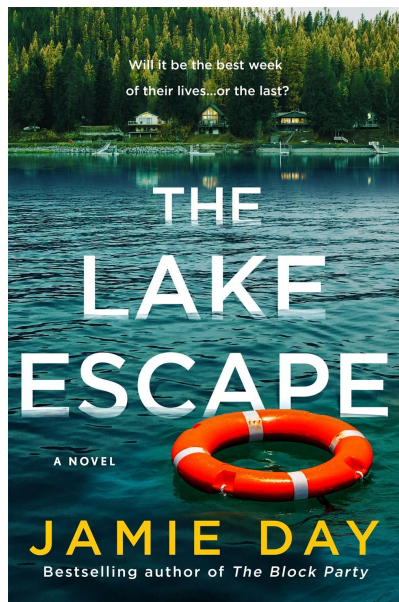
Scott Johnston has spoken to a variety of private clubs (Racquet, Colony, Southampton), institutions (eg, the Courdert Institute) and university groups (Jefferson Council of UVA). He's appeared on a number of podcasts, including "The Eric Metaxas Show" and "The Tucker Carlson Podcast", and is an adjunct professor at Yale University in the Economics Department.

Contributor Bio

Previously the author of the best-seller *Campusland* (currently in development for television), SCOTT JOHNSTON grew up in Manhattan and graduated from Yale, where he later taught as an adjunct. He later worked on Wall Street, including a stint in Hong Kong, and ran a quantitative hedge fund. More recently, Johnston shifted gears and co-founded and subsequently sold two tech startups. He lives in Charlottesville, Virginia and blogs frequently about educational issues at the Naked Dollar.

Quotes

"Scott Johnson is the sharpest ? and most fun to read ? satirical novelist writing today. Following on his brilliant debut novel *Campusland*, he turns his attention to Manhattan's ever-so-upper East Side, in a laugh-out loud mash-up of *Bonfire of the Vanities* and *Mean Girls*. This is D.E.I. at its best: Delicious, Entertaining, Intelligent. Did I mention fun? Great fun." ? Christopher Buckley, author of *Thank You for Smoking*



The Lake Escape

Jamie Day

The next riveting summer suspense by the author of *THE BLOCK PARTY* and *ONE BIG HAPPY FAMILY*, Jamie Day.

Summary

They've been coming to Lake Timmeny in Vermont since they were babies. Now, Julia Crawford, David Dunne, and Erika Miller are returning for their annual summer getaway, a family tradition they've continued into adulthood. But for all its beauty, Lake Timmeny harbors a dark past. Two young women with no known connection to each other, aside from their shared vacation spot, vanished without a trace exactly thirty years apart.

Lacking evidence, the vanishings gave rise to a foreboding lore that the lakes take them, a legend that continues to this day. But it's not only the lake that's hiding something. All three friends harbor secrets and deceptions that lurk just beneath the surface.

But, when David's new girlfriend mysteriously vanishes after a night of drinking and tension, the lore of the lake resurfaces. As the group searches for the missing woman, long-buried secrets emerge, and an intricate web of lies, deceit, and betrayals stemming back generations is gradually revealed, putting all of them in grave danger. Can the friends keep their heads above water, or will they, too, succumb to the lake's dark history?

Contributor Bio

JAMIE DAY lives in one of those picture-perfect, coastal New England towns you see in the movies. And just like the movies, Jamie has two children and an adorable dog to fawn over. When not writing or reading, Jamie enjoys yoga, the ocean, cooking, and long walks on the beach with the dog, or the kids, or sometimes both.

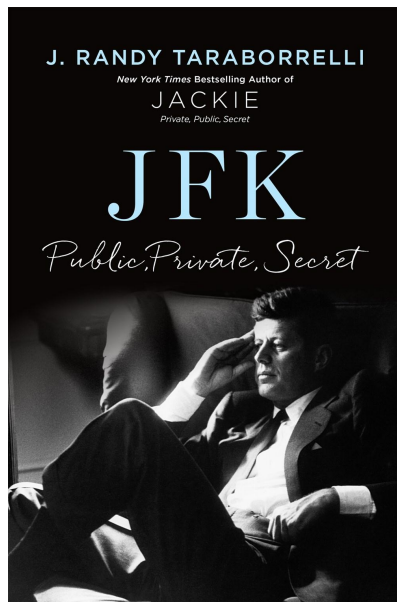
Quotes

"An unputdownable and gripping thriller with nonstop twists and turns!" —Freida McFadden, *New York Times* bestselling author of *The Housemaid*

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Includes two 8-page black-and-white and one 8-page color photograph inserts
Biography & Autobiography
/ Presidents & Heads Of State
BIO011000
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JFK: Public, Private, Secret

J. Randy Taraborrelli

From the *New York Times* bestselling Kennedy historian and author of *Jackie: Public, Private, Secret* comes the other side of the story—her husband's: *JFK: Public, Private, Secret*.

Summary

In this deeply researched presidential biography, J. Randy Taraborrelli tells John F. Kennedy's story in a provocative new way by revealing how *public* moments in his life were influenced by *private* relationships with not only his family, but also Jackie's. But it's the *secret* life that surprises. As Congressman, Senator and President, JFK was a magnet for women. *JFK* reveals the man's many affairs and the strength and resolve his wife showed in coping with them. JFK's women include:

- *Jackie, and her rules for Jack's infidelity: "Show me some respect and don't rub it in my face"
- *Inga Arvad. JFK's first love and how it ended over fears she was a Nazi spy
- *Marilyn Monroe. Why Jackie insisted JFK end it with her: "This one's different, Jack. This one's trouble!"
- *Finally—the truth of JFK's relationship with Marilyn exclusively from her closest friend—it wasn't what people believed
- *Joan Hitchcock. The mysterious brunette who comforted Jack after Jackie threatened to file for divorce

Other stories:

- *How JFK's grief over his infant son caused him to make rash decisions that pulled the US into Vietnam
- *The real truth about the Mafia's involvement in JFK's election
- *The startling drug abuse that clouded the President's decisions during the Bay of Pigs and how Jackie managed to wean him from those drugs in time for the Cuban Missile Crisis
- *The Kennedys' secret plans to renew their wedding vows, made just before JFK's assassination

The JFK presented in Taraborrelli's definitive biography is a complex and endlessly fascinating historical figure, despite—and maybe even because of—his many flaws.

Contributor Bio

J. Randy Taraborrelli is the author of over 20 biographies, most of which have become *New York Times* bestsellers, including: *Jackie*, *Ethel*, *Joan*; *After Camelot*; and *Jackie, Janet & Lee*, presently being adapted for television. His most recent book, *Jackie: Public, Private, Secret*, debuted at number three on the *New York Times* bestseller list.

Quotes

"A bombshell new book." —***People* magazine on *Jackie***

"Readable and deeply researched, [Jackie] is a refreshingly complex portrait of a woman too often defined by her relationships with men." —***Publishers Weekly* on *Jackie***



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 Fiction / Coming Of Age
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Greenwich

A Novel

Kate Broad

A riveting debut novel, *Greenwich* explores the nature of desire and complicity against the backdrop of immense wealth and privilege, and the ways that whiteness and power protect their own.

Summary

Summer, 1999. Rachel Fiske is almost eighteen when she arrives at her aunt and uncle's mansion in Greenwich, Connecticut. Her glamorous aunt is struggling to heal from an injury, and Rachel wants to help—and escape her own troubles back home. But her aunt is oddly spacey and her uncle is consumed with business, and Rachel feels lonely and adrift, excluded from the world of adults and their secrets. The only bright spot is Claudia, a recent college graduate, aspiring artist, and the live-in babysitter for Rachel's cousin. As summer deepens, Rachel eagerly hopes their friendship might grow into more.

But when a tragic accident occurs, the family turns on Claudia in a desperate bid to salvage their reputation. Caught between her upbringing and her feelings for Claudia, her desire to do the right thing and to protect her future, Rachel must make a pivotal choice. She's the only one who knows what really happened—and her decision has consequences far beyond what she could have predicted.

Contributor Bio

KATE BROAD holds a BA from Wellesley College and a PhD in English from the CUNY Graduate Center. She is a Bronx Council on the Arts award winner for fiction, and her writing appears in *The Rumpus*, *No Tokens*, *The Brooklyn Review*, and elsewhere. *Greenwich* is her first novel.

Quotes

"A stunning debut...Fast-paced, beautifully written, vividly peopled, *Greenwich* is impossible to put down." — Adrienne Brodeur, bestselling author of *Little Monsters*

"Timely, smart, and immensely enjoyable." — Laurie Frankel, bestselling author of *Family Family*

"A riveting read and not-to-be-missed debut." — Vibhuti Jain, author of *Our Best Intentions*

"A dark, lush, complex tale...I simply could not put this urgent, gorgeous book down." — Lindsay Hunter, author of *Hot Springs Drive*



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 Wt

Sharing in the Groove

The Untold Story of the '90s Jam Band Explosion and the Scene That Followed

Mike Ayers

The wild, untold oral history of the unlikely rise of Phish, Dave Matthews Band, Widespread Panic, Blues Traveler, and numerous other bands that helped define the 1990s jamband scene

Summary

Sharing in the Groove is the untold oral history behind the unlikely rise of Phish, Dave Matthews Band, Widespread Panic, Blues Traveler, and numerous other bands that helped define the 1990s jam band scene — a scene that paved the way for modern-day cultural institutions such as the Bonnaroo Music Festival, as well as kept the Grateful Dead ethos alive. It was also a scene with its own values and its own unique interactions with fame, record labels, MTV, drugs, and success.

As a veteran music journalist, Mike Ayers has been to more than 130 Phish shows, 20 Grateful Dead shows, and countless others by the bands profiled in this book. In the mid-90s, he stumbled upon a job working backstage for Phish as a prep cook in exchange for all-access passes for the night's show, and ended up doing this for years. Later in the decade, he dabbled in the taping scene and recorded numerous shows that are still circulated online today.

Filled with anecdotes and stories directly from the musicians, promoters, managers, roadies, producers, label executives, and fans that lived this scene, *Sharing in the Groove* is a fun, fast-paced oral history that will appeal to music lovers everywhere.

Contributor Bio

MIKE AYERS is a veteran music and culture journalist. His work has appeared in numerous national publications such as *Rolling Stone*, *The Wall Street Journal*, *Time*, *Billboard*, *Reuters*, *New York's Vulture*, *The Village Voice*, *SPIN*, *Uproxx*, *Relix*, and many more. He's the author of *One Last Song: Conversations on Life, Death, and Music* and currently is the executive editor of Money.com (formerly *Money* magazine). For the last five years, he's been a regular contributor to *Relix Magazine*, and he lives with his family in northern NJ.

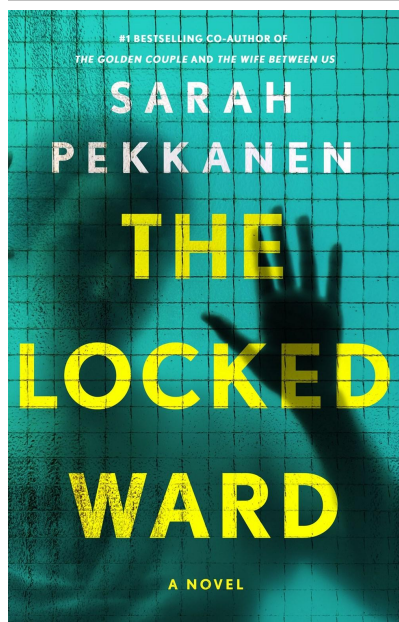
Quotes

Praise for *One Last Song*:

"An unexpectedly uplifting read" — *Variety's* Best Music Books of 2020

"Slightly morbid yet endlessly entertaining" — *Time Magazine's* Most Anticipated Books of Fall 2020

"An intriguing, but rarely considered question from the endless realm of pop music hypotheticals" — *Rolling Stone*



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Fiction / Thrillers
FIC031100

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Wt

The Locked Ward

Sarah Pekkanen

The Locked Ward is the latest twisty thriller from #1 *New York Times* bestselling author of *Gone Tonight* and *House of Glass*, Sarah Pekkanen.

Summary

It was the Crime of the Decade. Pathological sibling rivalry. Bitter, all-consuming envy. Whatever the cause - and everyone has an opinion - it led Georgia Cartwright who was adopted as a newborn, to kill the younger, biological daughter of her wealthy, socially prominent family.

Georgia is being kept at an institution where the most violent offenders are held while she waits to see if she is ruled not guilty by reason of insanity. When her estranged twin sister, Amanda, visits her, Georgia's first words are, "You've got to get me out of here. I didn't do it." Her sister can't walk away. There has always been a part of her that feels missing a strange hollowness that she has hidden from everyone.

Does it exist because of the absence of her twin sister? Can Amanda really trust Georgia? Or is she being led down a path of madness and into the web of a master manipulator. Nothing is as it seems in Sarah Pekkanen's new psychological thriller, *The Locked Ward*.

Contributor Bio

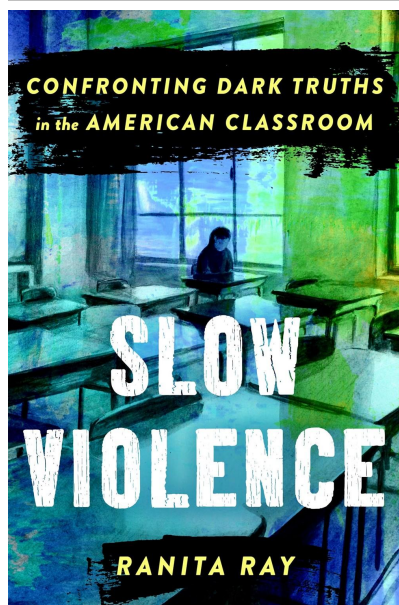
SARAH PEKKANEN is the #1 *New York Times* bestselling coauthor of four novels of suspense including *The Golden Couple* and the solo author of the thriller *Gone Tonight*. She is also the solo author of eight internationally bestselling women's fiction books, and an award-winning former journalist. She serves as U.S. Ambassador for RRSA India and works hands-on in India to rescue street dogs. She lives just outside of Washington, D.C., with her family.

Quotes

Praise for Sarah Pekkanen:

"Filled with buried secrets and jaw-dropping deception, Sarah Pekkanen's *GONE TONIGHT* is a page-turning thriller. Read *Gone Tonight*. It's a wild ride." -- Harlan Coben, #1 *New York Times* Bestselling Author

"Captivating from beginning to end." – Samantha Downing, internationally bestselling author of *My Lovely Wife*



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Wt

Slow Violence

Confronting Dark Truths in the American Classroom

Ranita Ray

A powerful exposé of the American public education system's indifference toward marginalized children and the "slow violence" that fashions schools into hostile work and learning environments.

Summary

In 2017, sociologist Ranita Ray stepped inside a fourth-grade classroom, in one of the nation's largest majority-minority districts in Las Vegas, to conduct research on the lack of resources and budget cuts that regularly face public schools. However, a few months into her immersion, Ray recognized that the greatest impediment to students was "slow violence"—the routine indifference, racism, and verbal and emotional abuse and harassment that teachers and administrators perpetrate against the most vulnerable children in our schools.

Bolstered by an empathetic voice as well as the latest breaking research in the social sciences, Ray goes beyond timeworn discussions about the school-to-prison pipeline, funding, and achievement gaps to directly address what happens behind the closed doors of classrooms, introducing a compelling—and crucial—new perspective into the conversation about our education system. We meet Nazli, a bright, funny Black girl who loses her baby sister and is told that with "grit" she can rise above her grief. And there's Miguel, a sharp, distracted Latino boy who can't overcome his teachers' urge to incorrectly diagnose him with autism, as well as several other susceptible students.

In the warm, luminous spirit of character-driven books like *Invisible Child*, *Slow Violence* allows us to see that the way we've tried to reform education is wrong. Unflinchingly, Ray's book tells us how—and shows us where to begin.

Contributor Bio

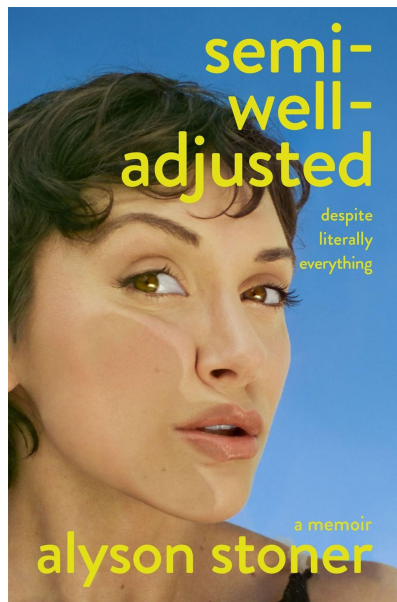
RANITA RAY is an Associate Professor at the University of New Mexico, where she holds an endowed chair. She is a 2019 National Academy of Education/Spencer fellow, as well as a 2018 Racial Democracy and Criminal Justice Network fellow, and has been featured in *Slate*, *The Atlantic*, and *The New York Times*. Ray's first book, *The Making of a Teenage Service Class*, won four prizes and *Slow Violence* was shortlisted for the 2024 Lukas Work-in-Progress Prize. Her TedX Talk is widely used by educators.

Quotes

Praise for Ranita Ray and *The Making of a Teenage Service Class*

"A rich, vivid ethnographic account of the barriers young people from a low-income community face. Highly recommended."—Annette Lareau, author of *Unequal Childhoods*

"This powerful book is a must read."—Randol Contreras, author of *The Stickup Kids*



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BIO005000
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Wt

Semi-Well-Adjusted Despite Literally Everything

A Memoir

Alyson Stoner

Alyson Stoner's memoir—from family and eating issues to religious trauma—begins in Hollywood, but its chilling relatability will impact anyone navigating identity, purpose, and mental health

Summary

Raised on soundstages and studio lots from the time they were six, shuffling between auditions for Disney Channel, *Cheaper by the Dozen*, or a Missy Elliott music video, Alyson experienced their defining moments of childhood inside the bizarre fishbowl of Hollywood. From being eight with an 80-hour work week, differentiating fan inquiries from kidnapping plots, and TV execs telling them they're "not anorexic enough" to stop working and get help, they struggled to find stability in a chaotic world.

In *Semi-Well-Adjusted Despite Literally Everything*, Alyson shares their powerful story for the first time, detailing a turbulent home life with addict parents, harrowing accounts from rehab, the messy process of discovering their sexuality in church, and rebuilding a life after an early professional peak. With striking introspection, Alyson connects the dots across the entertainment industry ecosystem, child development, and media culture, exposing the "toddler to trainwreck pipeline" of child stars and sparking timely conversations about success and society's enchantment with fame.

Bold, entertaining, and galvanizing all at once, *Semi-Well-Adjusted Despite Literally Everything* is more than a personal memoir: it's a beacon for industry reform, a roadmap for breaking the bonds of trauma, and a testament to the freedom and strength that come from finally trusting your own voice and power.

Contributor Bio

ALYSON STONER is a multi-disciplinary entertainer, author, the founder and CEO of the mental health company Movement Genius, and the host of the award-winning *Dear Hollywood* podcast. Alyson holds certifications in the mind-body space and has created and participated in programming for worldwide organizations. They performed in Disney Channel's *Camp Rock*, *Phineas & Ferb*, *Step Up*, *Cheaper by the Dozen*, and 200+ other projects. They're currently working on concrete solutions that support artists.

Quotes

Praise for Alyson Stoner:

"Stoner's voice is louder than ever." –Lindsay Weinberg, *E! News*



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Wt

High Season

A Novel

Katie Bishop

After the death of a troubled young socialite, the victim's twin brother is determined to hold the family together, at any cost—for fans of *Listen for the Lie* and *None of This is True*.

Summary

Never speak of that summer.

On a beautiful summer's night twenty years ago, troubled seventeen-year-old Tamara Drayton was found floating face-down in the pool of her family's idyllic mansion in the south of France, leaving her twin brother, golden-boy Blake, to pick up the pieces of their shattered family.

Also left behind was their sister Nina who, at six years old, became the youngest person ever to testify in a French murder trial. Because she's the only one who saw what happened—who watched as her babysitter, Josie Jackson, pushed Tamara under the water, and held her there until she stopped breathing.

Didn't she? Twenty years later, Nina's memories have faded, leaving her with no idea of what really transpired that night. When a new true crime documentary about her sister's murder is announced, Nina thinks this might be her chance to finally find out.

But the truth always comes at a cost. Who will pay the price?

Set over two unforgettable summers two decades apart, *High Season* is a dark, tense exploration of the nature of memory, the enduring power of truth, and all the gray areas in between.

Contributor Bio

KATIE BISHOP is the author of *The Girls of Summer*. Her writing has been published in *The New York Times*, *The Guardian*, *Vogue*, *The Independent*, and other publications. She lives in Birmingham, U.K. with her partner.

Quotes

"True crime meets the Côte d'Azur in this layered, insightful novel that transcends its absorbing premise. Mystery and secrets abound at the Pink House, but it's Katie Bishop's vividly drawn characters and their web of entanglements that will keep you turning pages. *HIGH SEASON* handles its themes deftly—about trauma and memory, class and girlhood, family and forgiveness—while also offering a nuanced critique of true crime voyeurism. Propulsive, escapist, and sharp." —**Emily Layden, author of *Once More from the Top***

"*High Season* ripped me out of a reading slump as I found myself devouring this tale of privilege, loss, and the slippery nature of memory. The setting is so perfectly rendered that you can almost taste the saltwater, and the characters are so sensitively drawn I often had a knot in my stomach as I read late into the night. Bishop writes unbelievably beautifully about the complex relationships forged in youth, and the fragility of memory in the aftermath of tragedy". —**Ella Berman, author of *Before We Were Innocent***

"With its vivid setting, complex characters, and tapestry of timelines and perspectives, *High Season* is a gripping murder mystery and a profound meditation on grief, elitism, amateur sleuthing, and the nature of memory, reality, and storytelling. Bishop's follow up to *The Girls of Summer* is top-notch literary suspense and the perfect summer read." —**Alyssa Raymond, Copper Dog Books**

PRAISE FOR *THE GIRLS OF SUMMER*

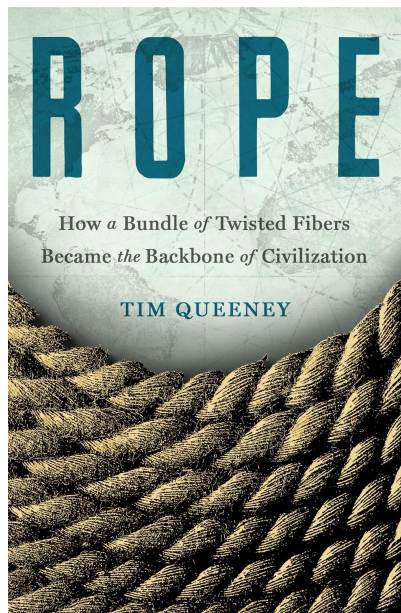
"A lyrical, emotional novel...Reminiscent of HBO's hit *The White Lotus* [and] *My Dark Vanessa*, and the plot-driven tension will appeal to fans of psychological suspense."

—**Booklist (starred review)**

"It packs an incredible punch...with stark, affecting honesty and evocative prose."

—**The Times (UK)**

"Unputdownable, with mystery, relatable marriage woes, identity issues, a sense of urgency, and a bold new voice. This is *the* book of the summer." —**KatieCouric.com**



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History / Civilization
HIS039000

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Wt

Rope

How a Bundle of Twisted Fibers Became the Backbone of Civilization

Tim Queeney

A unique and compelling adventure through the history of rope and its impact on civilization, in the vein of single subject bestsellers like *Salt* and *Cod*

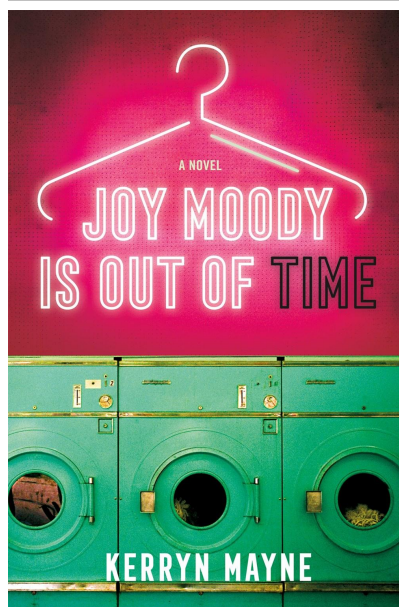
Summary

Tim Queeney is a sailor who knows more about rope and its importance to humankind than most. In *Rope*, Queeney takes readers on a ride through the history of rope and the way it weaves itself through the story of civilization. Considering Magellan's world-circling ships, the 15th century fleet of Admiral Zheng He, or a Polynesian multihull with crab claw sails, he shows how without rope, none of their adventurous voyages and their discoveries would have been possible. Time traveling, he describes the building of the pyramids, the Roman Coliseum, Hagia Sofia, Notre Dame, the Sultan Hasan Mosque, the Brooklyn Bridge and countless other constructions that would not have been possible without rope.

Not content to just look at rope's past, Queeney looks at its future and how the re-invention of rope using steel strands to make wire rope and later synthetic fibers will likely provide the strength for cables to support elevators into space. Making the story or rope real for readers, Queeney tells remarkable nautical stories of his own reliance on rope to survive - "While approaching Buzzard's Bay in the dark of night, we were hit by a fierce squall...The wrong line was eased, and the 200-pound hunk of wood that holds the top of the sail, went flying out of control, swaying wildly and threatening to knock us into the inky ocean. Finally, the proper ropes were located in the dark, firm hands hauled them taught and the gaff was brought under control. It was a sobering display of rope's often unacknowledged role and uncredited importance." *Rope* is history, adventure and the story of one of the world's most common tools that has made it possible for humans to advance throughout the century.

Contributor Bio

TIM QUEENEY is the editor of *Ocean Navigator*, a magazine for offshore voyager. Tim's work has appeared in *Professional Mariner*, *American History*, and *Aviation History*. He has had short stories published in the crime anthology *Landfall*, *Best New England Crime Stories* 2018 and in the speculative anthology *A Land Without Mirrors*. Tim live in Cape Elizabeth, Maine, with his wife and a rescue dog, Frankie. A life long sailor, he teaches celestial navigation, radar navigation and coastal piloting ashore — where he tied plenty of knots and handled many a rope.



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FIC044000

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Wt

Joy Moody Is Out of Time

Kerry Mayne

From the author of the beloved novel *Lenny Marks Gets Away With Murder* comes another quirky and irresistible new crime novel

Summary

On her twin daughters' twenty-first birthday, Joy Moody – proprietor of Bonbeach's premier laundromat – is found dead. Yet that is not the strangest thing happening behind the bright pink facade of Joyful Suds.

For much of their lives, Joy has been telling Cassie and Andie one big, fat lie: that they are from the future, and that when they turn twenty-one they will travel back to the year 2050.

What started as a colorful tale to explain how the girls came to live with her has now become a decade-long deception. Worse still, Joy has started to believe it herself.

The lie is certainly preferable to the truth she can't face – about what happened to the girls' real mother, and how far Joy's gone to keep them "safe"...

With the twins' twenty-first birthday fast approaching, and with Andie starting to have doubts, time is fast running out for Joy Moody. In more ways than one.

Contributor Bio

KERRY MAYNE is an author, former wedding photographer, and current police officer. When not at work attempting to solve crime, she is writing about it or preparing an endless stream of snacks for her four children. Kerry lives in the bayside suburbs of Melbourne with her husband, children and a highly suspect lovebird. She is the author of *Lenny Marks Gets Away With Murder*.

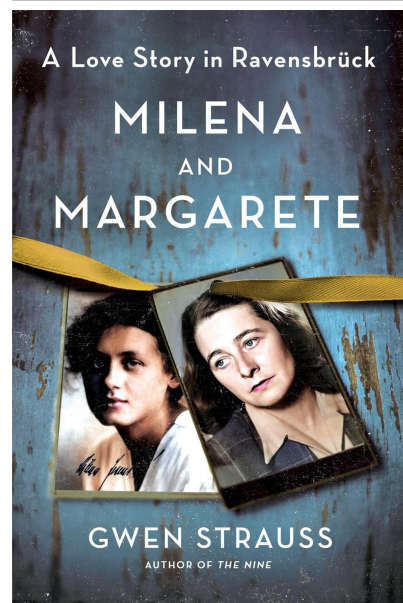
Quotes

"As uplifting as it is dark, *Joy Moody Is Out Of Time* will knock your socks off."
–Sally Hepworth, *New York Times* bestselling author of *Darling Girls*

Praise for *Lenny Marks Gets Away with Murder*:

"Prepare to fall hard for Lenny Marks...[a] touching, absorbing debut." –firstCLUE

"With humor, heart and characters you come to love, this is a book you will devour now, and keep thinking about later!" –Sally Hepworth, *New York Times* bestselling author of *Darling Girls*



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HIS027100

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Wt

Milena and Margarete

A Love Story in Ravensbrück

Gwen Strauss

A profoundly moving celebration of love under the darkest of circumstances

Summary

From the moment they met in 1940 in Ravensbrück concentration camp, Milena Jesenska and Margarete Buber-Neumann were inseparable. Czech Milena was Kafka's first translator and epistolary lover, and a journalist opposed to fascism. A non-conformist, bi-sexual feminist, she was way ahead of her time. With the German occupation of Czechoslovakia, her home became a central meeting place for Jewish refugees. German Margarete, born to a middle-class family, married the son of the Jewish philosopher Martin Buber. But soon swept up in the fervor of the Bolshevik Revolution, she met her second partner, the Communist Heinz Neumann. Called to Moscow for his "political deviations," he fell victim to Stalin's purges while Margarete was exiled to the hell of the Soviet gulag. Two years later, traded by Stalin to Hitler, she ended up outside Berlin in Ravensbrück, the only concentration camp built for women.

Milena and Margarete loved each other at the risk of their lives. But in the post-war survivors' accounts, lesbians were stigmatized, and survivors kept silent. This book explores those silences, and finally celebrates two strong women who never gave up and continue to inspire. As Margaret wrote: "I was thankful for having been sent to Ravensbrück, because it was there I met Milena."

Contributor Bio

Gwen Strauss is the author of *The Nine* and a collection of poetry, *Trail of Stones*. Her poems, short stories and essays have appeared in numerous journals including *The New Republic*, *London Sunday Times*, *New England Review*, and *Kenyon Review*. She was born and spent her early years in Haiti. Strauss lives in Southern France, where she is the Executive Director of the Dora Maar Cultural Center.

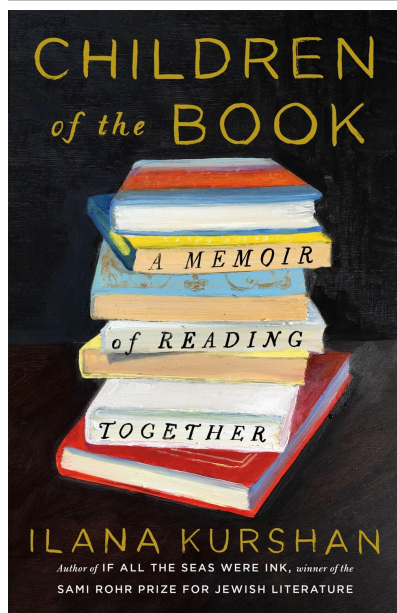
Quotes

"Strauss reminds us that...the passionate friendship of women can be its own act of powerful resistance." —**Tilar Mazzeo, bestselling author of *Irene's Children***

"Riveting. Opens new doors of understanding." —**Sarah Schulman, author of *Let the Record Show***

"Strauss writes about Ravensbrück as a place of a great romantic story. [She] forces us to rethink our understanding of the concentration camps." —**Anna Hájková, University of Warwick, pioneer of queer Holocaust history**

"Reads like a novel." —**Golda Goldbloom, author of *On Division***



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Children of the Book

A Memoir of Reading Together

Ilana Kurshan

A celebration of the power and wonder of lifelong reading—both secular and sacred

Summary

In *Children of the Book*, Ilana Kurshan explores the closeness forged when family life unfolds against a backdrop of reading together. Kurshan, a mother of five living in Jerusalem, at first struggles to balance her passion for literature with her responsibilities as a parent. Gradually she learns how to relate to reading not as a solitary pursuit and an escape from the messiness of life, but rather as a way of teaching independence and forging connection. Introducing her children to sacred and secular literature—including the beloved classics of her childhood—helps her become both a better mother and a better reader.

Chief among the books Kurshan reads with her children is the Five Books of Moses, known as the Torah, which Jews the world over read in synchrony as part of the liturgical cycle. In the five parts of this memoir, Kurshan explores the surprising resonances between the biblical text and her experiences as a mother and a reader – from the first picture books that create the world through language for little babies, to the moment our children begin reading on their own leaving us behind, atop the mountain, as they enter new lands without us. A testament to the enduring power of shared texts, *Children of the Book* celebrates the deep pleasures of books.

Contributor Bio

Ilana Kurshan is a graduate of Harvard University and Cambridge. She has worked in literary publishing both in New York and in Jerusalem, as a translator and foreign rights agent, and as the book editor of *Lilith* magazine. Kurshan is the author of *If All the Seas Were Ink*, winner of the Sami Rohr Prize for Jewish literature.

Quotes

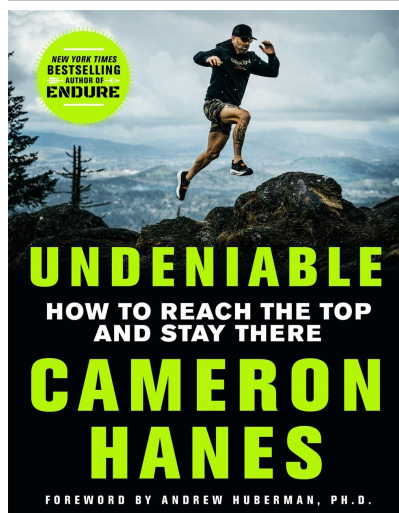
"Utterly delightful." —**Zibby Owens, podcast host of *Moms Don't Have Time to Read Books*, bestselling author of *Blank***

"Laugh-out-loud funny and startlingly poignant."—**Ruth Franklin, book critic, author of *Shirley Jackson, A Rather Haunted Life***

"Teems with the greatest care, consideration, and insight."—**Elisa Albert, author of *Human Blues***

"A magnificent book." — **Dara Horn, author of *People Love Dead Jews***

"Will charm audiences of all backgrounds." —**Rabbi Rachel Isaacs**



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Undeniable

How to Reach the Top and Stay There

Cameron Hanes

You become the best you can be by learning from others. That is how bowhunter and ultramarathoner Cameron Hanes approaches his pursuit of greatness in this essential guide to finding success.

Summary

Endure, Cameron Hanes' *New York Times* bestselling book, demonstrated how to push beyond your physical limits to improve yourself. In *Undeniable*, Hanes brings together outliers of today—men and women who are experts in their field—to share their unique and motivating perspectives on reaching the pinnacle of success and remaining there. From popular neuroscientist Andrew Huberman to ultramarathon runner Courtney Dauwalter, you will hear how undeniable individuals have obtained their winning mindset.

Many books show how to pursue a dream and successfully make it happen, but few spotlight what to do when you've reached the pinnacle. After fighting so hard and reaching your goals, how do you stay on top? In his pursuit for greatness, Cam has trained with and interviewed track athletes, MMA fighters, NFL Super Bowl champions and experts in other disciplines. All of them legends who have earned their names. What makes them tick? How do they remain undeniable?

In *Undeniable*, Cam reveals the lessons he has learned from truly exceptional people. By examining their unique traits and abilities, you will earn an edge from these greats and add tools on your own journey toward greatness.

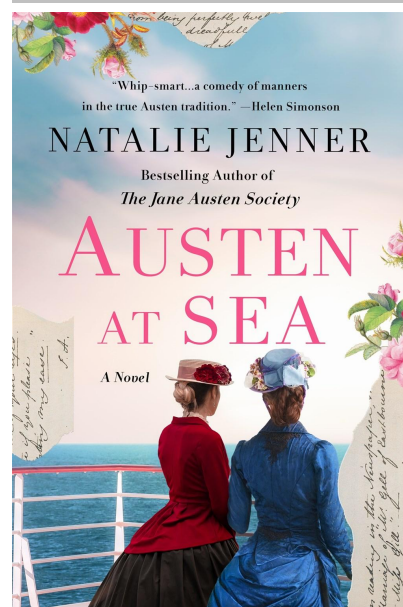
Contributor Bio

CAMERON HANES' greatest love is bowhunting the remote wildernesses of the West and Alaska. To get ready for bow season, he shoots his bow every single day of the year, trains in the weight room 7-days a week and runs 200+ mile ultra marathons in the mountains during the off-season in an effort to toughen up for the mental and physical tests that he'll face in the backcountry. He has inspired and motivated millions of people through his writings, television appearances and social media postings. In 2022, his book *Endure* made the *New York Times* bestsellers list. His Keep Hammering Collective podcast sheds light on outliers who have accomplished extraordinary things and helps listeners find motivation in their everyday lives.

Quotes

"I have trained with many of the toughest and hardest men on the planet, and only one stands out. That one is Cameron Hanes." ?David Goggins, *New York Times* bestselling author of *Can't Hurt Me*

"Cameron Hanes is a master at one of the art forms that gets the least amount of attention: the art of the maximized life." ?Joe Rogan



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Austen at Sea

A Novel

Natalie Jenner

Two pairs of siblings, devotees of Jane Austen, find their lives transformed by a visit to England and Sir Francis Austen, her brother and keeper of her memories and surviving artifacts.

Summary

In Boston, 1865, Charlotte and Henrietta Stevenson, daughters of a Massachusetts Supreme Court Justice, have accomplished as much as women are allowed in those days. Chafing against those restrictions and devoted to the works of Jane Austen, they start a secret correspondence with Sir Francis Austen, her last surviving brother, now in his nineties. He sends them an original letter from his sister and invites them to come visit him in England.

In Philadelphia, Nicholas & Haslett Nelson—brothers, veterans of the recent Civil War, and rare book dealers, are also in correspondence with Sir Francis Austen. Bachelors both, they two are invited to visit Sir Francis in England, with the promise of a never-before-seen, rare Austen artifact to be evaluated.

The Stevenson sisters sneak away without a chaperone to sail to England. On their ship are Nelson brothers, writer Louisa May Alcott, Sara-Beth Gleason—wealthy daughter of state senator with her eye on the Nelson brothers, and a would-be last-minute chaperone to the Stevenson sisters, Justice Thomas Nash.

It's a voyage and trip that transforms each of their lives in ways that are unforeseen, with the transformative spirit of the love of literature and that of Jane Austen herself.

Contributor Bio

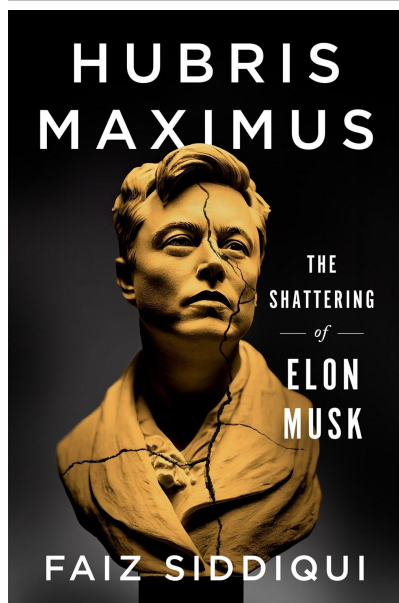
NATALIE JENNER is the author of the international bestseller *The Jane Austen Society*, which has been translated into over twenty languages abroad. A former lawyer, career coach, and independent bookstore owner, she lives in Oakville, Ontario, with her family and two rescue dogs.

Quotes

"Jenner has assembled an eccentric, endearing cast of shipmates who become fast friends—thanks to the legacy of Jane Austen—in this heartwarming story that's sure to delight book lovers. An absolute winner." —Fiona Davis

"If you've ever found sustenance in a Jane Austen novel—or sought meaning in your own life through the power of books—this is the novel you've been waiting for. Full of heart, hope, and history." —Kristin Harmel

"Vivid historical detail and a wild and wonderful cast of characters... Natalie Jenner does it again." —Patti Callahan Henry



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Hubris Maximus

The Shattering of Elon Musk

Faiz Siddiqui

An examination of Elon Musk during the most consequential period of his life, from the height of his power as the richest man on Earth to the potential beginnings of his downfall.

Summary

What happened to Elon Musk? In six years, he turned Tesla into the world's most valuable automaker and cast himself as a savior of humanity, an altruist whose fortune would stop climate change and colonize Mars. How did this modern-day Edison devolve into a polarizing and perpetually distracted CEO and the biggest bag-fumbler in human history? He didn't suddenly lose his mind, or morph into a tool of foreign agents. Elon Musk torched his reputation and put his entire empire at risk simply by being himself.

Hubris Maximus provides a gripping, detailed portrait of the billionaire's rapid ascent and his spectacular public implosion. *Washington Post* reporter Faiz Siddiqui methodically deconstructs the making of the self-anointed Technoking, arguing that the warning signs were always visible to anyone willing to look. Musk's audacity and erratic behavior drove his success from the start, and at every turn, he spurned regulators and whistleblowers, and replaced those who dared question him with loyalists. Now he is in a unique position to sabotage it all, and there is no one left to save him from himself.

This remarkable case study in the pitfalls of unyielding loyalty to one man and the fecklessness of a gridlocked government is ultimately a cautionary tale: in a world that can't turn away from its screens, competence is no match for the power of influence and sustained attention.

Contributor Bio

Faiz Siddiqui is a technology journalist with the *Washington Post*, covering companies such as Tesla and Twitter for the Business Desk. His reporting has focused on ride-hailing, autonomous cars, transportation safety and reliability, and labor and workplace issues within the automotive industry. His work has earned multiple Society of Professional Journalists Mark of Excellence and Hearst Journalism awards, and his writing has appeared in the *Boston Globe*, *NPR*, and *The Guardian*, among others.



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The Night Birds

A Novel

Christopher Golden

The next gripping, atmospheric horror novel from *NYT* bestselling author Christopher Golden, set in a deteriorated, half-sunken freighter ship off the coast of Galveston, TX.

Summary

Charlie Book and Ruby Cahill have history. After their love ended in heartbreak years ago, they never expected to see each other again.

Now, as part of his work for the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department, Book lives aboard the *Christabel*, a 19th century freighter half-sunken off the shore of Galveston. Over many years, a massive forest of mangrove trees has grown up through the deck of the ship, creating a startlingly beautiful enigma Book calls the Floating Forest. As a powerful storm churns through the Gulf, he intends to sleep on board as usual.

But when he arrives at the dock, he's stunned to find Ruby there waiting for him. And she's not alone. With her are a mysterious woman and her infant child, asking Book to hide them safely aboard the *Christabel* while they're on the run. Only it isn't the police who are after them, it's a coven of witches the woman, Mae, has fled, stealing away the helpless infant for whom they had hideous plans...or so Mae claims.

It's lunacy and Book wants nothing to do with it. But after the way he and Ruby ended things, and the unspoken pain between them, he can't refuse. Yet even as he brings them out to the ruined ship and its floating forest, there are shadowed figures looming back in Galveston, waiting out the storm. And despite the worsening wind and rain, the night birds are flying, scouring the coastline for their prey.

Contributor Bio

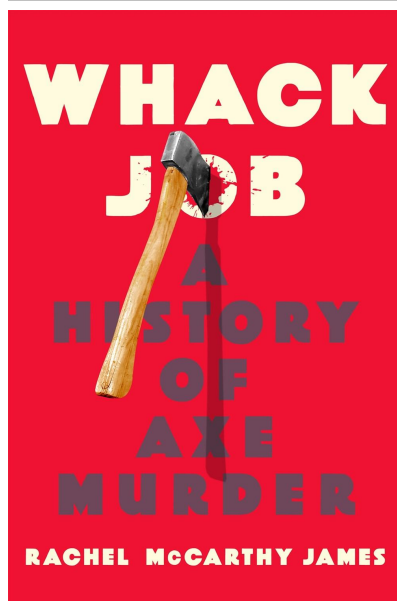
CHRISTOPHER GOLDEN is the *New York Times* bestselling and Bram Stoker award-winning author of *Ararat*, *Snowblind*, *Dead Ringers*, and *Of Saints and Shadows*, among many other novels. He is the co-creator of two cult favorite comic book series, *Baltimore* and *Joe Golem: Occult Detective*. He is also the editor of such anthologies as *Seize the Night*, *The New Dead*, and *Dark Cities*, and the co-host of the popular podcast "Three Guys with Beards." He lives in Massachusetts.

Quotes

"Golden's frenzied tale of demons and exorcisms is fast-paced, his portrayal of the insidiousness of possession is unsettling and it all comes together in a thrilling closing act." - *New York Times* on *The House of Last Resort*

"An essential read for horror and supernatural thriller fans." — *Library Journal* (Starred) on *Road of Bones*

"Golden is writing at the top of his game." — *Publishers Weekly* (starred) on *Road of Bones*



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Whack Job

A History of Axe Murder

Rachel McCarthy James

A brilliant and bloody examination of the axe's foundational role in human history, from prehistoric violence, to war and executions, to newspaper headlines and popular culture.

Summary

For as long as the axe has been in our hands, we have used it to kill.

Much like the wheel, the boat, and the telephone, the axe is a transformative piece of technology—one that has been with us since prehistory. And just as early humans used the axe to chop down trees, hunt for food, and whittle tools, they also used it to murder. Over time, this particular use has endured: as the axe evolved over centuries to fit the needs of new agricultural, architectural, and social development, so have our lethal uses for it.

Whack Job is the story of the axe, first as a convenient danger and then an anachronism, as told through the murders it has been employed in throughout history: from the first axe murder nearly half a million years ago, to the brutal harnessing of the axe in warfare, to its use in King Henry VIII's favorite method of execution, to Lizzie Borden and the birth of modern pop culture. *Whack Job* sheds brilliant light on this familiar implement, this most human of weapons. This is a critical examination of violence, an exploration of how technology shapes human conflict, the cruel and sacred rituals of execution and battle, and the ways humanity fits even the most savage impulses into narratives of the past and present.

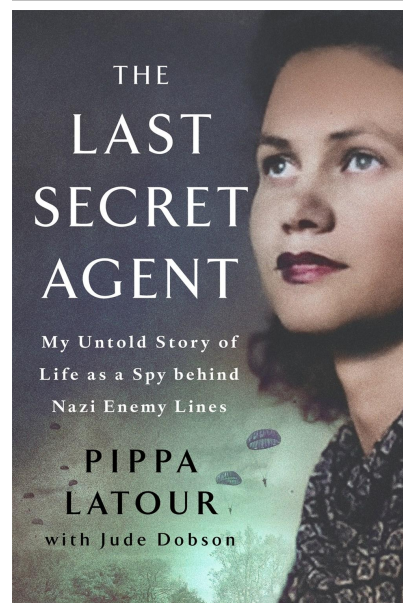
Contributor Bio

RACHEL MCCARTHY JAMES was born and raised in Kansas, the daughter of baseball's Bill James and artist Susan McCarthy. She graduated from Hollins University in Roanoke, VA, where she studied writing and politics. Her first nonfiction book, *The Man from the Train*, was written in collaboration with her father and published in 2017. She lives with her husband Jason and pets in Lawrence, KS.

Quotes

"*Whack Job* is an entirely fresh perspective on one of civilization's earliest-known weapons...an entertaining delight." —Elon Green, author of *Last Call*.

"In Rachel McCarthy James's *Whack Job*, the story of axe murder is the story of so much more. While first and foremost this is a book about the axe and its most nefarious uses, it's also a book about gender, class, and the machinations of power in human society." —Danny Caine, author of *How to Resist Amazon and Why*



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Biography & Autobiography
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The Last Secret Agent

My Life as a Spy Behind Nazi Lines

Pippa Latour, Jude Dobson

After decades of silence, the last surviving World War II British spy reveals the real, untold story of her time as a secret agent in the deadly world of Nazi France.

Summary

From a unique and singular voice comes the incredible true story of the last surviving undercover British female operative in WW2. Pippa Latour parachuted into occupied France in 1944 to conduct sabotage and subversion behind enemy lines. Selling soap to German soldiers and hiding codes on a piece of ribbon, she sent back crucial information about troop positions in the lead up to D-Day, and continued her work until Paris was liberated. From her childhood as an orphan in South Africa to her years as an undercover agent, Pippa's story is that of a woman determined to honor her principles and risk her life to fight against the greatest evil of the 20th century.

The Last Secret Agent is a posthumously published memoir, co-written with journalist Jude Dobson. Pippa was decorated highly for her actions, including being made a Member of the Order of the British Empire and receiving the Légion d'Honneur in France. For years, Pippa kept her involvement in the war effort secret from everyone, including her family, but for the first time, her story can now be told in full.

Contributor Bio

PIPPA LATOUR was the last surviving SEO agent, serving in France until its liberation. She was finally given her due in 2014 when she was awarded France's highest military decoration, the Knight of the National Order of the Legion of Honor. She died in 2023 at age 102.

JUDE DOBSON has been creating WWI and WWII content for the past six years. She won the New York Radio Awards Bronze Award for an audio documentary about WWII aviators.

Quotes

"A gripping narrative that will keep you turning the pages until late into the night, *The Last Secret Agent* delivers a real-life heroine with an unshakable moral code and preternatural poise." -Heath Hardage Lee, author of *The League of Wives* and *The Mysterious Mrs. Nixon*

"The most remarkable story of a most courageous woman." —Hon. Judith Collins, New Zealand Minister of Defense

"This is an astonishing, real-life story of unbelievable bravery. *The Last Secret Agent* is truly remarkable." —*NZ Booklovers*



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The Love Haters

A Novel

Katherine Center
Being in love means being brave in The Love Haters, the newest laugh out loud, all the feels rom-com by New York Times bestselling author Katherine Center.

Summary

Producer Janie Vaughn’s co-worker helps her get a career-making gig profiling a Coast Guard rescue swimmer (who just happens to be his brother)—by claiming, falsely, that Janie is his girlfriend. As Janie spends time in Key West with the swimmer, Tom “Hutch” Hutcheson (along with his colorful Aunt Rue and his rescue Great Dane), she gets trapped by that lie—falling madly for Hutch, even as he thinks she’s the one woman on earth he can’t date. Swim lessons, helicopter flights, conga lines, drinking contests, hurricanes, and stolen kisses ensue—along with chances to tell the truth, to face old fears, and to be truly brave at last.

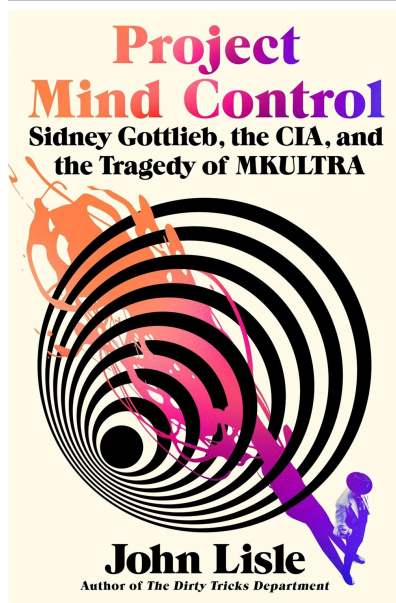
Contributor Bio

KATHERINE CENTER is the New York Times bestselling author of several novels, including The Bodyguard and The Rom-Commers. Katherine writes laugh-and-cry books about how life knocks us down—and how we get back up. The movie adaptation of Katherine’s novel The Lost Husband hit #1 on Netflix, and Happiness for Beginners is a Netflix original movie starring Ellie Kemper. Katherine lives in her hometown of Houston, Texas, with her husband, two kids, and their fluffy-but-fierce dog.

Quotes

Praise for THE ROM-COMMERS:
"Winsome and charming, Center's latest is that perfect blend of romance and overcoming life challenges that her readers treasure." --Booklist (starred review)

“For a good cry, many laughs and a big hit of dopamine, read The Rom-Commers, a story about an aspiring screenwriter looking for real-life love. I’m a massive Katherine Center stan, and this book is her best yet.”—Emily Giffin



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Project Mind Control

Sidney Gottlieb, the CIA, and the Tragedy of MKULTRA

John Lisle

The inside story of the CIA's secret mind control project, MKULTRA, using never-before-seen testimony from the perpetrators themselves.

Summary

Sidney Gottlieb was the CIA's most cunning chemist. As head of the infamous MKULTRA project, he oversaw an assortment of dangerous—even deadly—experiments. Among them: dosing unwitting strangers with mind-bending drugs, torturing mental patients through sensory deprivation, and steering the movements of animals via electrodes implanted into their brains. His goal was to develop methods of mind control that could turn someone into a real-life "Manchurian candidate."

In conjunction with MKULTRA, Gottlieb also plotted the assassination of foreign leaders and created spy gear for undercover agents. The details of his career, however, have long been shrouded in mystery. Upon retiring from the CIA in 1973, he tossed his files into an incinerator. As a result, much of what happened under MKULTRA was thought to be lost—until now.

Historian John Lisle has uncovered dozens of depositions containing new information about MKULTRA, straight from the mouths of its perpetrators. For the first time, Gottlieb and his underlings divulge what they did, why they did it, how they got away with it, and much more. Additionally, Lisle highlights the dramatic story of MKULTRA's victims, from their terrible treatment to their dogged pursuit of justice.

The consequences of MKULTRA still reverberate throughout American society. *Project Mind Control* is the definitive account of this most disturbing of chapters in CIA history.

Contributor Bio

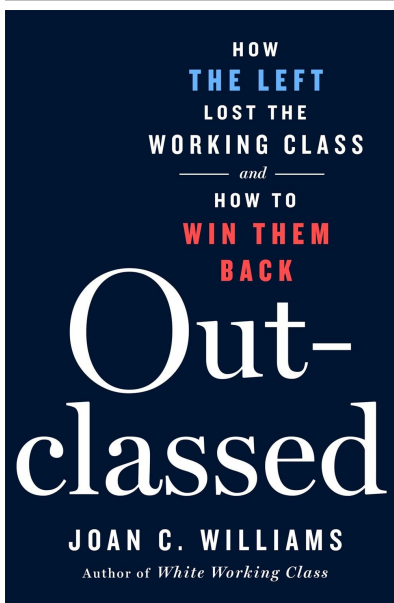
JOHN LISLE has a Ph.D. in history from the University of Texas, where he is now a professor of the history of science. He has received research and writing awards from the National Academy of Sciences, the American Institute of Physics, and the National Endowment for the Humanities. His work has been published in *Skeptic*, *Scientific American*, *Smithsonian Magazine*, and elsewhere.

Quotes

Praise for *The Dirty Tricks Department*:

"This enjoyable, picaresque and sometimes alarming book offers another good reason for maintaining careful oversight over the intelligence services: Spy-scientists tend to go rogue when left to invent their own devices." —Ben Macintyre, *New York Times*

"[A] knowledgeable and entertaining study ... Lisle stuffs the account with bizarre inventions, humorous anecdotes, and vivid sketches of researchers and agents. Espionage buffs will be enthralled." —*Publishers Weekly*



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SOC050000

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Outclassed

How the Left Lost the Working Class and How to Win Them Back

Joan C. Williams

An eye-opening, urgent call to mend the broken relationship between college and non-college grads of all races that is driving politics to the far right in the US.

Summary

Is there a single change that could simultaneously protect democracy, spur progress on climate change, enact sane gun policies, and improve our response to the next pandemic? Yes: changing the class dynamics driving American politics.

The far right manipulates class anger to undercut progressive goals and liberals often inadvertently play into their hands. In *Outclassed*, Joan C. Williams explains how to reverse that process by bridging the “diploma divide”, while maintaining core progressive values. She offers college-educated Americans insights into how their values reflect their lives and their lives reflect their privilege. With illuminating stories—from the Portuguese admiral who led that country’s COVID response to the lawyer who led the ACLU’s gay marriage response (and more)—Williams demonstrates how working-class values reflect working-class lives. Then she explains how the far right connects culturally with the working-class, deftly manipulating racism and masculine anxieties to deflect attention from the ways far-right policies produce the economic conditions disadvantaging the working-class. Whether you are a concerned citizen committed to saving democracy or a politician or social justice warrior in need of messaging advice, *Outclassed* offers concrete guidance on how liberals can forge a multi-racial cross-class coalition capable of delivering on progressive goals.

Contributor Bio

Described as having “something approaching rock star status” in her field by *The New York Times Magazine*, **Joan C. Williams** is an award-winning scholar of social inequality. She is the author of *White Working Class*, and has published on class dynamics in *The New York Times*, *Washington Post*, *The Atlantic*, *The New Republic* and more. She is Distinguished Professor of Law and Hastings Foundation Chair (emerita) at University of California College of the Law San Francisco.

Quotes

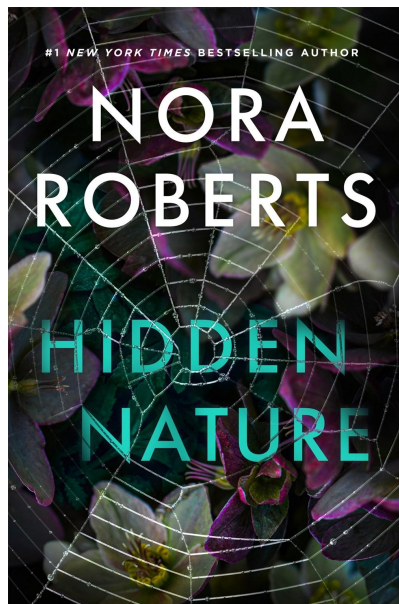
“For anyone who finds it hard to understand what on earth is happening in American politics.” —**Jonathan Haidt, author of the NYT bestseller *The Anxious Generation***

“Williams’ voice is needed now more than ever.” —**Rep. Ro Khanna, 17th district of California**

“Eye-opening.” —**Arlie Russell Hochschild, author of *Stolen Pride***

“A book we need.”—**Anne-Marie Slaughter, CEO, New America**

“A rousing roadmap.” —**Katrina vanden Heuvel, *The Nation***



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Wt

Hidden Nature

Nora Roberts

The #1 *New York Times*-bestselling author presents a new novel about an injured cop who must fight to bring down a pair of twisted killers...

Summary

Natural Resources police officer, Sloan Cooper, and her partner had just taken down three men preying on hikers in the Western Maryland mountains. Driving back, she pulled in at a convenience store—and walked right into a robbery in progress. One gunshot from a jittery thief was about to change her world.

After being shocked back to life on the operating table, she has a long recovery ahead, so she moves back to her parents' peaceful house in Heron's Rest. As for the boyfriend who dumped her via text while she was in the hospital, good riddance.

She may be down, but she's not out. So when a woman vanishes, leaving her car behind in a supermarket parking lot, Sloan searches online for similar cases. She finds them, spread across three states. Men and women, old and young—the missing seem to have nothing in common. And the abductions keep happening.

Luckily, the new man in her life shares her passion for solving this mystery. But it will take every ounce of endurance to get to the dark heart of this bizarre case—and she's willing to risk her life again if that's what it takes to stop the horror.

Contributor Bio

NORA ROBERTS is the #1 *New York Times* bestselling author of more than 240 novels, including *The Mirror*, *Mind Games*, *Inheritance*, *Identity*, and many more. She is also the author of the bestselling In Death series written under the pen name J. D. Robb. There are more than 500 million copies of her books in print.

Quotes

Praise for *Mind Games*

"Fans of Roberts's enticing brand of storytelling will find everything they crave in her latest polished thriller, including compelling characters, an evocative, richly realized setting, and a captivating plot enlivened a generous dash of romance and just the right measure of nerve-jangling, nail-biting suspense. You don't have to be a mind reader to predict Roberts's latest will soon be on reserve and best-seller lists all around the country." —*Booklist*

"Roberts's latest may move you to tears, or joy, or dread, or all three....A touching story of love and grief ends in an epic battle of good versus evil." —*Kirkus Reviews* (starred)

"Die-hard Roberts fans will get what they came for: there's no shortage of romance, [or] cliffhangers..." —*Publishers Weekly*



Peace is a Shy Thing

The Life and Art of

Tim O'Brien

Alex Vernon

St. Martin's Press
9781250358493
Pub Date: 5/27/2025
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560 Pages
Includes 2 maps plus two 8-page
color photograph inserts
Biography & Autobiography
/ Literary Figures
BIO007000

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

Peace Is a Shy Thing

The Life and Art of Tim O'Brien

Alex Vernon

The first literary biography of Tim O'Brien, the preeminent American writer of the Vietnam War and one of the best writers of his generation, with never-before-seen materials and interviews.

Summary

"Vietnam made me a writer." —Tim O'Brien

Featuring over one hundred interviews with family, friends, peers, and others—not to mention Tim O'Brien himself—*Peace is a Shy Thing* provides a nearly day-by-day, gripping account of O'Brien's thirteen months as an infantryman in Vietnam and gives equal diligence to reconstructing O'Brien's writing process.

Alex Vernon's comprehensive research uncovered countless gems about O'Brien's life and the journey that made him into a literary icon, including an unpublished short story about O'Brien from a college girlfriend, documentation of his comical involvement with the *Washington Post's* coverage of Watergate, and a 1989 attic exchange between American and Vietnamese writers on the eve of the publication of O'Brien's most beloved book, *The Things They Carried*, years before the two countries normalized relations.

Peace is a Shy Thing is as much a history of the era as it is a story of O'Brien's life, from his small-town midwestern midcentury childhood, to winning the National Book Award and his status as literary elder statesman. A story which Vernon, a combat veteran of the Persian Gulf War and a literary scholar trained by officers and professors of the Vietnam era, is uniquely suited to cover.

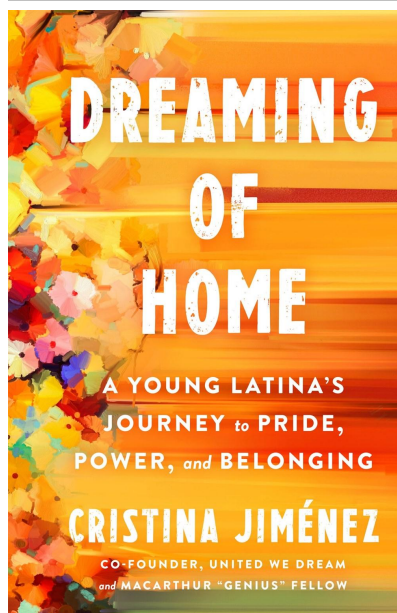
Contributor Bio

ALEX VERNON graduated from the U.S. Military Academy at West Point (the only literature major in his class of over a thousand), served in combat as a tank platoon leader in the Persian Gulf War, and earned a Ph.D. from the University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill. The recipient of an Army Historical Foundation Distinguished Book Award and a National Endowment of the Humanities Fellowship, he is the M.E. & Ima Graves Peace Distinguished Professor of English at Hendrix College in Conway, Arkansas.

Quotes

"Alex Vernon has written a revelatory, insightful, and deeply moving biography of one of the most important authors of our time... In these pages, O'Brien—a fascinating, complicated human being and artist—comes vividly to life." —Lynn Novick and Ken Burns, filmmakers of *The Vietnam War*

"In this magnificent new biography, Alex Vernon tells O'Brien's story with sympathy and an understanding of the nuances—historical, cultural, political, and personal—that made O'Brien the writer he became." —Tracy Daugherty, author of Pulitzer finalist *Larry McMurtry*



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throughout
Biography & Autobiography
/ Hispanic & Latino
BIO002030

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Wt

Dreaming of Home

A Young Latina's Journey to Pride, Power, and Belonging

Cristina Jiménez

A MacArthur "Genius" shares her inspiring story, from undocumented newcomer to leader in a powerful immigrant youth movement

Summary

Dreaming of Home is a coming-of-age story both for a young woman finding her true self and for a social movement of immigrant youth trailblazers who inspired the world and changed the lives of millions.

Cristina Jiménez's family fights to stay afloat as Ecuador falls into a political and economic crisis. When she is thirteen, her parents courageously decide to seek a better life in the U.S., landing in a one-bedroom apartment in Queens, New York. There are many challenges, but eventually, Cristina discovers she is not alone; she finds her calling within a community of social justice organizers. With deep candor and humor, Cristina opens the door to what it's like to grow up undocumented and the reality that being a "good" immigrant doesn't shield you from systematic racism, danger, or even the confusion of falling in love.

Through personal stories and historical truth telling, Cristina invites us to acknowledge the America that never was and to imagine the America that could be when everyday people build power and fight for change. And she reminds us that home is more than a physical place on the map, offering each of us a roadmap for finding the home within even when the world around us seems to be crumbling.

Contributor Bio

CRISTINA JIMÉNEZ is an award-winning community organizer and a leading voice in movements for social justice. She is Co-Founder and former Executive Director of United We Dream, the largest immigrant youth-led organization in the country. A Distinguished Lecturer at the City University of New York, Jimenez received a 2017 MacArthur Fellowship and a spot on the 2018 TIME 100 Most Influential People List. She came to the U.S from Ecuador in 1998 and grew up undocumented in Queens, N.Y.

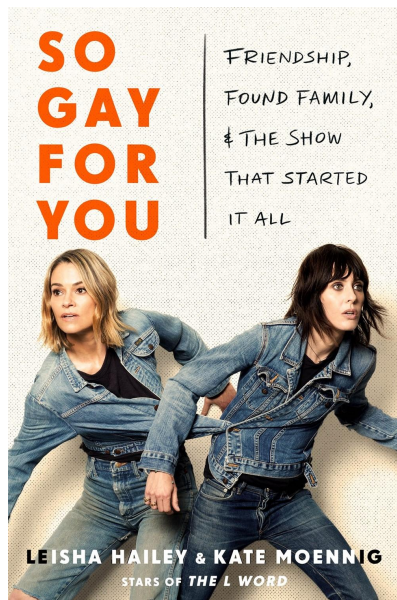
Quotes

"We all need to hear Cristina's story." —**Heather Charisse McGhee, *New York Times* bestselling author**

"Cristina's voice is not only essential, it is heroic, a tongue of fire blazing in the night."
—**Sandra Cisneros**

"Full of wisdom." —**Ai-jen Poo, author and organizer, President, The National Domestic Workers Alliance**

"Jimenez is a force, in the best possible way. For years I've waited for her book...."
—**Jose Antonio Vargas, Pulitzer Prize-winning journalist, author of *Dear America***



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color inserts, printed 1C endpapers
Biography & Autobiography
/ Entertainment & Performing Arts
BIO005000

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Wt

So Gay for You

Friendship, Found Family, and the Show That Started It All

Kate Moennig, Leisha Hailey

A intimate, hilarious memoir of art, friendship, queerness, and found family by Kate Moennig and Leisha Hailey, stars of *The L Word*—including never-before-shared stories and photos from behind the scenes of the show and their personal lives.

Summary

"The point is we're all connected, see? Through love, through loneliness, through one tiny, lamentable lapse in judgment. All of us, in our isolation, we reach out from the darkness, from the alienation of modern life, to form these connections." — Alice Pieszecki, Season 1, Episode 2, *The L Word*

In the early aughts, Kate Moennig and Leisha Hailey—both young artists trying to figure it all out—met at auditions for what they thought was just an unknown little TV show. Given that it was a show about lesbians living in LA, with the first ever ensemble cast of openly queer female characters, Kate and Leisha knew the project was going to be unlike anything else out there.

What they didn't foresee was just how huge *The L Word* would become. One million people watched the premiere, and the show quickly turned into a groundbreaking phenomenon. Its influence on pop culture, in the political arena, and in the lives of queer—and straight—viewers has been lasting, impactful, even life-saving. But in addition to changing the course of television history, *The L Word* also changed Kate and Leisha's lives forever.

From their first day on set, Kate and Leisha have always had each other's backs, inseparable to the degree that the joke among the cast was that they were like a pair of pants—you couldn't have one leg without the other. Hence the name for their podcast, PANTS, born during the pandemic and now downloaded over 20 million times.

So Gay for You is a love letter to a life-defining friendship over the decades, and following Kate and Leisha's unlikely and extremely entertaining journey stumbling from closeted queer kids to LGBTQ+ activists to successful actresses, podcasters, and business owners. Full of never-before-shared glimpses into the making of *The L Word*, Kate and Leisha's real-life loves and losses, and their status as queer icons, *So Gay for You* is, at its heart, a book about a deep meaningful connection with your ride or die and the gift of finding your chosen family.

Contributor Bio

KATE MOENNIG is a critically acclaimed actress and executive producer whose work spans film, television, and theater. She most recently reprised her iconic role as "Shane McCutcheon" in the *The L Word: Generation Q* on Showtime. Moennig has also starred in Showtime's *Ray Donovan* and in Freeform's *Grown-ish*.

LEISHA HAILEY is an actor, director, executive producer, musician, and podcaster. Hailey is best known for her beloved breakout character, "Alice Pieszecki," in the groundbreaking Showtime series *The L Word* and the reboot, *The L Word: Generation Q*. Leisha also co-founded the band THE MURMURS in the 1990's and the indie pop band UH HUH HER in 2007.

Together, they co-host the podcast "PANTS with Kate and Leisha."

Quotes

"*So Gay for You* is more than a memoir; it's a comprehensive almanac of Kate Moennig and Leisha Hailey. Take it from a die-hard fan, and friend, this intimate exploration of their lives blends candid anecdotes with reflections on their youth, queer identity, the

impact of *The L Word*, and perhaps most importantly, their two decades of friendship. Must-read queer lit and a testament to the enduring legacy of *The L Word* and the culture-changing stars at its heart." — Tegan Quin, bestselling author of *High School*

"Such a fun read. It's like hanging out with your two best friends who also happen to be hilarious, insightful, full on lesbian icons." —Liz Feldman



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Wt

The Other Side of Now

A Novel

Paige Harbison

A hilarious and heartfelt novel about how loves and lives are never truly lost, for fans of Rebecca Serle and Taylor Jenkins Reid.

Summary

With a leading role on a hit TV show and a relationship with Hollywood's latest heartthrob, Meg Bryan appears to have everything she ever wanted. But underneath the layers of makeup and hairspray, her happiness is as fake as her stage name, Lana Lord. Following a breakdown at her birthday party, she books an impromptu trip to Ireland. Specifically, the village where she and her best friend Aimee always dreamt of moving—a dream that fell apart when an accident claimed Aimee's life a decade ago.

When Meg arrives, the people in town treat her not as a stranger, but a friend (except for the hot bartender). Meg writes it all off as jetlag until she looks in the mirror. Her hair is no longer bleached, her skin has a few natural fine lines, and her nose looks like... well, her old nose. Her real nose.

Eventually, she comes to accept that she somehow made a quantum slide into an alternate version of her life. But the most shocking realization of all? In this life, her best friend Aimee is alive—but wants nothing to do with Meg.

Despite her bewilderment, Meg is clear-eyed about one thing: this is a once-in-a-lifetime chance to reconnect with her friend and repair what she broke. She finagles an opportunity to act in the play Aimee is writing and directing and as the project unfolds, Meg realizes that events as she remembers them may not be the only truth, and that an impossible choice looms before her.

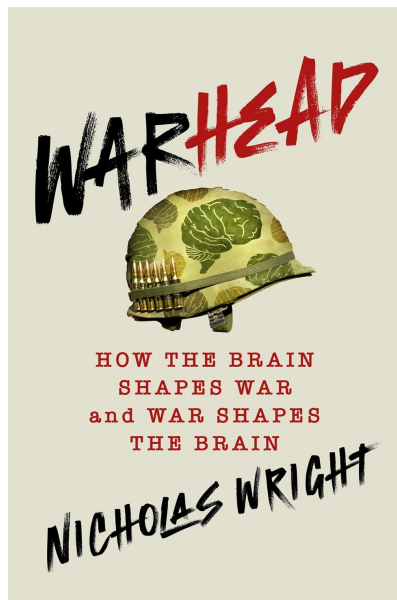
Contributor Bio

PAIGE HARBISON is the author of three YA novels, the first of which was published in 2011 when she was just nineteen years old. More recently, she's worked on several celebrity projects as ghostwriter. *The Other Side of Now* is her adult debut. A woman of many talents, she's also a beautiful artist (check out the pet portraits on her website) and has a very funny, clever social media presence (a few of her TikToks have gone viral). She lives in L.A. with her boyfriend and their dog Tarot.

Quotes

"The Other Side of Now is a sometimes heartbreaking, always heartwarming fantasy about what happens when you get not just the life of your dreams but the lives of your dreams. Paige Harbison's very knowing, very cool novel is moving, clever, funny, compelling, and warm as an Irish sweater." –Laurie Frankel, bestselling author of *Family Family*

"An engaging, winsome debut. An unexpected and bittersweet book about the choices we make and the paths we take, Paige Harbison writes with the perfect balance of sweetness and sarcasm." – Elissa Sussman, bestselling author of *Funny You Should Ask*



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336 Pages
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illustrations throughout
Social Science / Violence In
Society
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Wt

Warhead

How the Brain Shapes War and War Shapes the Brain

Nicholas Wright

A researched narrative of how wars are a consequence of brain systems that deal with conflict, competition, and social cooperation.

Summary

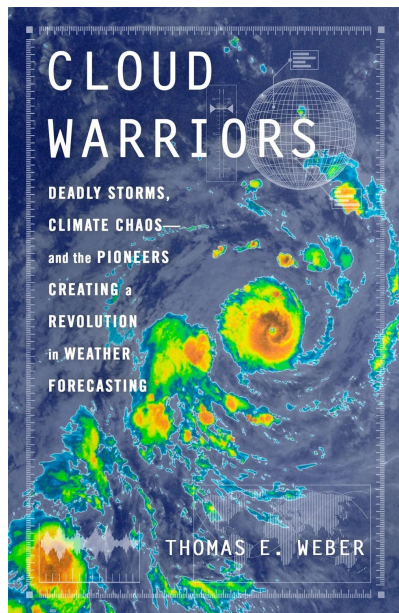
Nicholas Wright's *WARHEAD* is a groundbreaking new book that shows readers how wars are a consequence of common brain systems that deal with conflict, competition, and social cooperation. Journeying through ten brain regions, Wright begins his explanation at the base of the brain, the brainstem, climbing step-by-step until he reaches the frontal pole looking at how each region influences the human propensity towards war. While brain anatomy provides the framework, each chapter is brought to life through battle stories from history.

Wright considers what it was like for, say, a foot soldier at the Battle of Waterloo in 1815 or one in China's Red Army during the Long March in 1934-5 to fight. He thinks about commanders like Heinz Guderian or Shaka Zulu and asks how they could see through the fog of war, make better decisions and communicate with those who must carry them out. In telling these stories Wright connects the biological with the historical through medical records of soldiers who fought in both World Wars, in Vietnam and in the Gulf Wars. Using similar methods, he looks at drone pilots deep in a Nevada air base, the children of the Islamic State's "Cubs" and others while also considering the records of leaders who had to make the hardest choice.

Focusing finally on what to come, he asks how the internet or GPS can provide a window into war's technological futures. We will never be without war. Nicholas Wright's *Warhead* explains this unfortunately recurring biological imperative and shows us how no human, given our common neuroanatomy, is immune to its prosecution and resolution.

Contributor Bio

DR. NICHOLAS WRIGHT, MRCP, PhD is a neuroscientist who researches the brain, technology and security at University College London, Georgetown University, and the New America think tank in Washington DC, where he also advises the Pentagon Joint Staff. On emerging technologies he has worked with the White House, UK Cabinet Office, Australian Prime Minister's office. He has published over 20 peer-reviewed research papers, many of which have been covered by the *BBC* and *New York Times*. He has appeared on CNN and the BBC, and regularly contributes to high profile outlets like *Foreign Affairs*, *Foreign Policy*, *the Atlantic*, and *Slate*.



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Cloud Warriors

Deadly Storms, Climate Chaos—and the Pioneers Creating a Revolution in Weather Forecasting

Thomas E. Weber

A deeply-reported and wide-ranging look at the people and technology providing vital weather forecasts, in a world where preparation and prevention is a life-and-death issue.

Summary

For millennia, humans have tried to understand and predict the weather. The Space Age helped usher in satellites and radar, while computers made it possible to plug all that data into complex equations that anticipated the atmosphere's future behavior. Now a new age of forecasting advances is unfolding, driven by artificial intelligence, drones, and satellites. The Internet of Things has turned everything from cellphones to cars into ubiquitous weather sensors. Equally significant are new efforts to understand how people respond to forecasts and warnings. Scientists and government officials are realizing that how people get their weather information, and how they use it, are crucial factors in the outcome of a catastrophic weather event.

Featuring in-depth reporting on cutting edge science and technology, veteran journalist Thomas E. Weber takes us on a fascinating tour of how meteorologists, scientists, and officials track and prepare for major weather events, such as hurricanes, tornados, floods, forest fires, extreme heat, and winter storms. As climate change is altering our planet and making weather events more extreme, Weber introduces us to those on the front lines of weather preparation and prediction. We travel from coast-to-coast, to space and back, meeting TV meteorologists and storm chasers, city planners, backyard weatherman, and many others. *Cloud Warriors* will change the way you think about the weather—and the power of being able to see it coming.

Contributor Bio

Thomas E. Weber is a veteran writer, editor, and newsroom executive with a lifelong interest in how science and technology shape society. He was *The Wall Street Journal's* first internet columnist and later became a bureau chief for the paper. As executive editor of *TIME*, he supervised the magazine's feature journalism. He has taught journalism and publishing at Columbia University and New York University, as well as at his alma mater, Princeton University.



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Wt

Finding Grace

A Novel

Loretta Rothschild

A twisty, gripping novel that wraps around a deeply moving love story, from an electric new voice.

Summary

Honor seems to have everything: she adores her bright and beautiful daughter, Chloe, and her charming, handsome husband, Tom, even if he works one hundred hours a week. Her bestselling children's books mean that she's made a name for herself doing what she loves. Yet Honor's longing for another baby threatens to eclipse all of it—until a shocking tragedy changes their lives forever, and Tom is left to pick up the pieces.

Grace has made her London wine shop a second home for people like her—those running from their own pasts. Passionate, studious, and self-assured, she finds herself curious about Tom, who becomes a fixture at the shop.

As Grace falls for Tom, she shares things about herself that she's never told anyone—while Tom is keeping a secret that could destroy their burgeoning romance. Through it all, the lasting impact of Honor's obsessive want looms over them, as does the possibility that their meeting was no accident.

Can Tom and Grace wade through the secrets to find each other on the other side? Do we all have ghosts that refuse to stay buried? And how do old love and new love align? Blending a page-turning moral dilemma with satisfying emotional poignancy, *Finding Grace* is a sweeping love story that explores what happens when a shared past collides with an unexpected future.

Contributor Bio

LORETTA ROTHSCILD is originally from London and currently splits her time between the UK and Italy. She lives with her husband, Nat, their young son, and their beloved dogs. *Finding Grace* is her debut novel.

Quotes

"It's inventive, tender, heartbreaking, redemptive—and it's one of the best books I've read this year." —**Jodi Picoult, #1 New York Times bestselling author**

"Shocking, stylish, elegant and twisting. *Finding Grace* is a truly stunning debut." —**Chris Whitaker, New York Times bestselling author of All the Colors of the Dark**

"An enviable balance of blockbuster plot and literary elegance. An absolutely powerhouse debut." —**Julia Whelan, bestselling author of My Oxford Year**

"I raced through this emotional story of love, grief, second chances, and moral ambiguity." —**Carola Lovering, bestselling author of Tell Me Lies**

"Loretta Rothschild's debut novel, seemingly effortlessly written, is the darkest beach read imaginable, with a protagonist that no reader could predict." —**Plum Sykes, bestselling author of Wives Like Us**

"What an incredible debut! *Finding Grace* is a rare joy. Gripping and compelling, with characters you love and care about. Clever, smart and compassionate. A veritable power house of a novel!" —**Imogen Edwards-Jones, Sunday Times bestselling author**

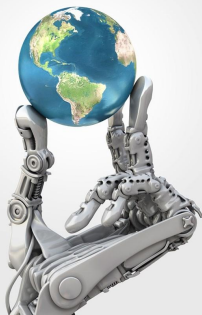
"*Finding Grace* is elegant and propulsive, emotionally rich and psychologically astute. With an arresting narrative voice and layered, intimate storytelling, Loretta Rothschild's

debut is a life-affirming exploration of the aftermath of tragedy, and love in all its forms." —**Roma Downey, actress, producer, and author**

THE INTELLIGENCE EXPLOSION

WHEN AI BEATS HUMANS
AT EVERYTHING

JAMES BARRAT
Author of *Our Final Invention*



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The Intelligence Explosion

When AI Beats Humans at Everything

James Barrat

An easy-to-read and fast-paced exploration of the myriad issues raised by generative AI by the author of *The Final Invention*.

Summary

It is hard to overstate the existential fear and wild cheerleading that the rapid release of generative artificial intelligence software has inspired at this point in time. At such a moment in time it is important that the public understand the dimensions of the release of these tools into the wilds, the positive and the negative, and how we might guard against what the leaders of the industry declare may well lead to our annihilation, but could also lead to our salvation if handled with the necessary forethought.

The Intelligence Explosion is a fast-paced exploration of the myriad issues raised by generative AI, revealing: how major technology companies have cemented themselves and us to impossible-to-interpret and impossible-to-predict unstable computer systems; how we are on the edge of a cliff in the development of Artificial General Intelligence that carries the potential for immeasurable benefit and ultimate harm; and hope, which will require maximum effort and international buy-in to reestablish the science of Artificial Intelligence on comprehensible and safe grounds. As one of the premiere technology writers and researchers, James Barratt's *The Intelligence Explosion* will be one of the foreground exploration of AI.

Contributor Bio

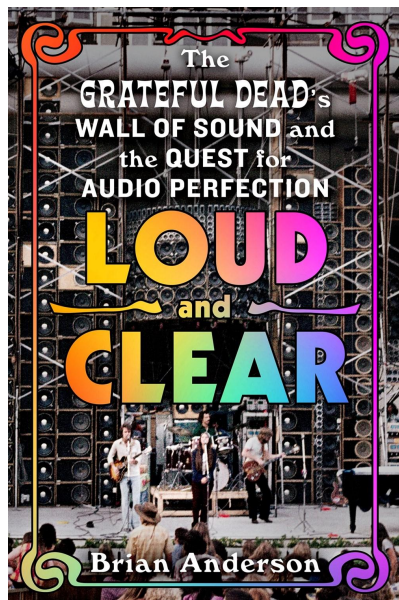
James Barrat is a documentary filmmaker who's written and produced films for National Geographic, Discovery, PBS, and many other broadcasters in the United States and Europe. He lives near Washington, D.C., with his wife and two children.

Quotes

Praise for *Our Final Invention*:

"If you read just one book that makes you confront scary high-tech realities that we'll soon have no choice but to address, make it this one." ?*The Washington Post*

"A hard-hitting book about the most important topic of this century and possibly beyond -- the issue of whether our species can survive. I wish it was science fiction but I know it's not." ?Jaan Tallinn, co-founder of Skype



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 Music / Genres & Styles
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Loud and Clear

The Grateful Dead's Wall of Sound and the Quest for Audio Perfection

Brian Anderson

The first book to tell the full story of the Grateful Dead's "Wall of Sound," an unprecedented and since unparalleled speaker system.

Summary

Loud and Clear is the first book to tell the full story of the Grateful Dead's "Wall of Sound," an unprecedented and since unparalleled speaker system that was as tall as a school bus is long and more than a hundred feet wide. The band's quest for roaring yet crystal clear sound began after their formation in 1965, colliding with the '60s progressive social climate.

Over the next few years, the Dead's growing crew of sound-obsessed techies and eccentric roadies took their speaker system to new technological heights. But as the Dead's relentless, drug-fueled touring schedule met this increasingly burdensome yet sonically perfect machine, in 1974, the Wall brought the band to its knees. The two years of "Wall shows" are legend among Deadheads, and this character-driven tale about human ambition, achievement, and the limits of both on a larger-than-life scale has the potential to reach a wide range of music fans and readers of cultural history.

Author Brian Anderson interviewed hundreds of people associated with the band and the construction of the Wall itself, including band members, roadies, tech wizards, fans and many more. This fascinating inside story of one of the most legendary rock bands of all time will appeal to Deadheads, music fans, audiophiles and many more.

Contributor Bio

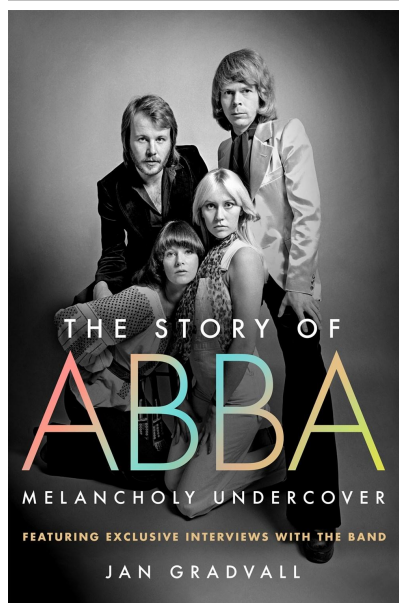
BRIAN ANDERSON has been a Webby Award-winning senior features editor, writer, and producer at *VICE* in New York City (2011-2019). More recently, Anderson did a stint running the Science desk at *The Atlantic* (2020), where he was part of the Pulitzer Prize-winning team for early pandemic coverage, and was later a senior editor at *Vox* (2021-2022).

His 2015 *VICE* feature on "The Wall of Sound" served as the jumping off point for his first book *Loud and Clear*.

He currently lives and works in Chicago, where a piece of the Wall of Sound sits in his living room.

Quotes

"An industrious reporter and passionate writer with deep ties to the communities he writes about, Brian embodies the sheer joy of being present when 'something new is waiting to be born' creatively, as the Grateful Dead put it. He's a trustworthy guide to experiences that are hard to put into words." —*New York Times* bestselling author Steve Silberman, co-creator of *Skeleton Key: A Dictionary for Deadheads*



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The Story of ABBA

Melancholy Undercover

Jan Gradvall

Jan Gradvall's coveted biography on the most well-known but secretive band of all time: ABBA

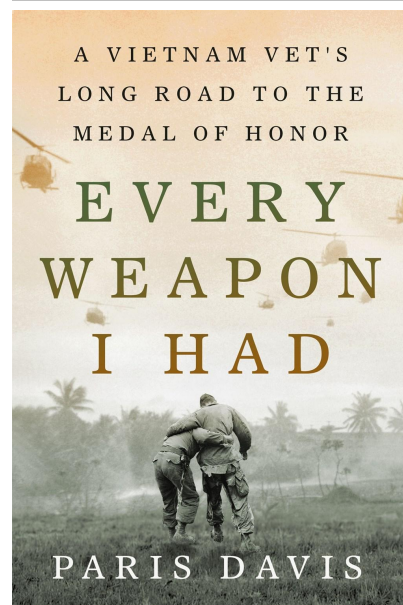
Summary

Agnetha Fältskog, Björn Ulvaeus, Benny Andersson, and Anni-Frid Lyngstad: ABBA. Formed in Stockholm in 1972 and disbanded in 1982, ABBA's music has never been off the airwaves. International music journalist Jan Gradvall became the first person to interview all four members of the band since their breakup. In *The Story of ABBA: Melancholy Undercover*, we get the up close and personal story of ABBA as the band's members talk openly about their upbringing, their early careers, how they all met and what happened during and after their famous breakup.

In *The Story of ABBA*, Gradvall shares a deeper understanding of the emotions underpinning their songs as he seriously considers their music, their lives and the times in which they worked together as a way truly to understand the phenomenon of their fans' unwavering commitment. In this page-turning slice of pop music history, Gradvall places ABBA at the center of the musical universe, showing through his deep knowledge of music history what affected and shaped the band, as well as their immeasurable impact on music history. Mama, Mia! *The Story of ABBA* is a book that all ABBA fans will love.

Contributor Bio

JAN GRADVALL is an award-winning writer and has written several books on popular culture. He is the recipient of the Swedish Publicists' Association's Grand Prize in 2013 and won Journalist of the Year in 2001. Gradvall was instrumental in the founding of the Swedish Music Hall of Fame and served as chairman for its first three years. He has a uniquely close journalistic relationship with ABBA, and has appeared in two BBC documentaries about the band, *The Joy of ABBA* and *Flatpack Pop*.



St. Martin's Press
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272 Pages
Includes colored endpapers plus
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History / Wars & Conflicts
HIS027070

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

Every Weapon I Had

A Vietnam Vet's Long Road to the Medal of Honor

Paris Davis

The story of a Green Beret commander's heroism during the Vietnam War, and the long fight to recognize his bravery.

Summary

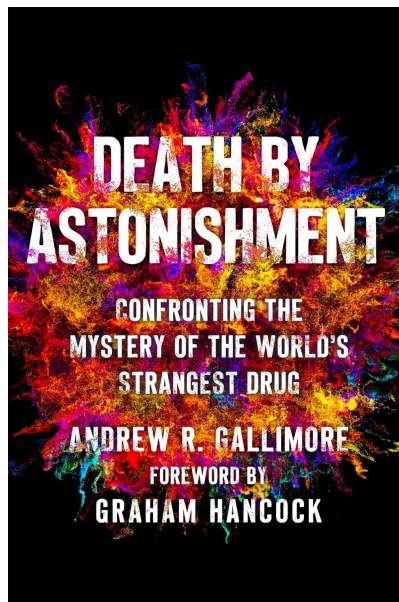
When Col. Paris Davis was selected to lead one of the Green Beret A-teams organizing resistance to Communist incursions into South Vietnam, his commanding officer warned him that some of his soldiers would resent his authority. This was no surprise; there were only a handful of Black officers in the Special Forces. Davis quickly won the respect of his soldiers, and would soon fight beside him as bullets snapped past and mortars exploded overhead.

On June 18th, Davis led a group of inexperienced locals and Special Forces soldiers in an attack on a Viet Cong base in Bong Son. They were met by a superior enemy force, and Davis led the charge in a grueling firefight. He was seriously wounded, but he disobeyed a direct order to retreat until he dragged three injured Green Berets off the battlefield to safety.

Every Weapon I Had is an inspiring tale of valor and sacrifice, set against the backdrop of major escalations in both the Vietnam War and the Civil Rights movement. It is also a story of deferred honor and delayed recognition; Davis earned the Silver Star and Purple Heart for his actions, but his nomination for the Congressional Medal of Honor was repeatedly "lost." No official reason has ever been given for this oversight, but those who fought to correct it believe that it was motivated by racial prejudice. Davis was finally awarded the Medal in 2023, 58 years after the battle.

Contributor Bio

Paris Davis is a former Green Beret and veteran of U.S. Special Forces. After graduating from Airborne and Ranger Schools, he was selected for the 7th Special Forces Group (Airborne), 1st Special Forces, serving in Korea and Vietnam. In 1965, he was promoted to captain as a detachment commander with the 5th Special Forces Group (Airborne), 1st Special Forces, becoming one of the first Black officers in Special Forces history. He was awarded the Congressional Medal of Honor on March 3, 2023.



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320 Pages
 Includes printed 4-color endpapers
 and black-and-white illustrations
 throughout plus one 16-page color
 photograph insert
 Body, Mind & Spirit / Entheogens
 & Visionary Substances
 OCC039000

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

Death by Astonishment

Confronting the Mystery of the World's Strangest Drug

Andrew Gallimore, Graham Hancock

Comparable to the style of bestselling authors Graham Hancock and Brian Muraresku, the first detailed account of the history and science of the world's strangest and most mysterious drug - DMT.

Summary

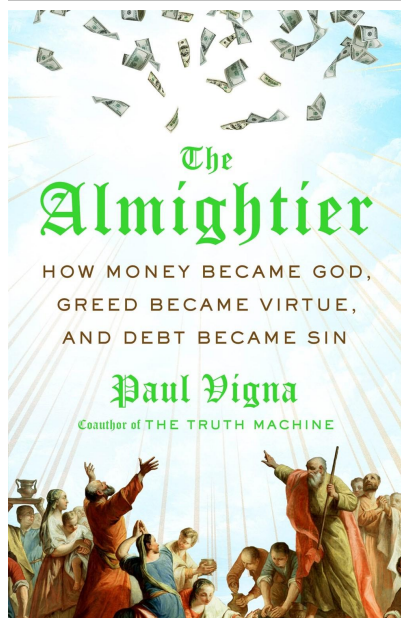
DMT is the world's strangest and most mysterious drug, inducing one of the most remarkable and yet least understood of all states of consciousness. This common plant molecule has, from ancient times to the modern day, been used as a tool to gain access to a bizarre alien reality of inordinate complexity and unimaginable strangeness, populated by a panoply of highly advanced, intelligent, and communicative beings entirely not of this world.

A story that begins in the Amazonian rainforests and ends beyond the stars, Andrew Gallimore presents the first detailed account of the discovery of DMT and science's continuing struggle to explain how such a simple and common plant molecule can have such astonishing effects on the human mind. The history of the drug involves many fascinating characters from the scientific and literary worlds — including legendary ethnobotanist Dr. Richard Schultes; renegade beat writer and drug aficionado William S. Burroughs; philosopher and raconteur Terence McKenna; and the high priest of the 1960s psychedelic revolution, Dr. Timothy Leary. In the end, the story of DMT forces us to reconsider our most basic assumptions about the nature of reality and our place within it.

Comparable to Hancock's *Supernatural*, Strassman's *Spirit Molecule*, and *The Immortality Key*, Gallimore takes readers on a journey through the history and science of this remarkable psychedelic.

Contributor Bio

ANDREW GALLIMORE is a chemical pharmacologist, neurobiologist, and writer, and one of the world's leading experts on psychedelics. He is the author of two books on the science of psychedelics, 'Alien Information Theory: Psychedelic Drug Technologies and the Cosmic Game' and 'Reality Switch Technologies: Psychedelics as Tools for the Discovery and Exploration of New Worlds'. He lives and works in Tokyo.



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304 Pages
Business & Economics / Money &
Monetary Policy
BUS045000
8.3 in H | 5.4 in W | 1 in T | 1 lb
Wt

The Almighty

How Money Became God, Greed Became Virtue, and Debt Became Sin

Paul Vigna

The complete story of how we came to worship money, and how we can stop greed from destroying everything.

Summary

The pursuit of wealth is considered an essential function of human nature, and greed is an unspoken civic virtue. Many of us revere billionaires and Wall Street rain-makers, then complain about "the system" being rigged, and wonder why the country doesn't seem to work for the little guy anymore. Some blame the Deep State for income inequality and corruption, and others blame capitalism, but the truth is that these issues have much deeper roots: our devotion to money is a manmade invention that has transformed over thousands of years to replace religion as the foundation of our society, and it is tearing civilization apart.

In *The Almighty*, journalist Paul Vigna uncovers the forgotten history of money, tracing the uneasy and often accidental alliance between wealth and religion as it developed from ancient city-states to today's secular world, where religious devotion has receded and greed has stepped in to fill the void. Through engaging anecdotes, original research, and fresh perspectives on the causes of the many challenges we face today, Vigna makes a compelling argument that money has no power apart from the power we give it.

We can build a better future, where don't need to choose between helping others and getting ahead. But we can't repair the damage that greed has done until we understand how it took over our world in the first place.

Contributor Bio

PAUL VIGNA is an author, journalist, editor and speaker, with a particular focus on capital markets and cryptocurrencies. He is the author of *Guts: The Anatomy of The Walking Dead* and coauthor of *The Age of Cryptocurrency* and *The Truth Machine*. For 25 years, he was a reporter and editor for *Dow Jones Newswires* and the *Wall Street Journal*, pioneering coverage of the cryptocurrency sector. He has appeared on *CNN*, *CNBC*, *MSNBC*, *Fox*, and *PBS*.

Quotes

Praise for *The Truth Machine*:

"A brilliant, beautifully written guide to the blockchain revolution that is redefining 'trust' for our increasingly globalized world." —**Hernando de Soto author of *The Mystery of Capital***

"Casey and Vigna are shaping a new understanding of how we can gain greater personal control over our data, assets, identities and creations to forge a more inclusive, collaborative and innovative society." —**Imogen Heap, Grammy award-winning singer-songwriter and founder of Mycelia**



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352 Pages
 Fiction / Family Life
 FIC045000

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 Wt

The Sandersons Fail Manhattan

Scott Johnston

Heavily plotted contemporary satire, skewering everything from the arcane rules of social register types, casually hypocritical financial heavyweights, and eager educators, in the vein of the author's previous novel, *CAMPUSLAND*.

Summary

William Sanderson is very rich, but you can always be richer. He's up for a huge promotion at investment giant Bedrock Capital, but there's one crucial hurdle he must clear first—assuming he can keep the HR department at bay. Meanwhile, he looks for any string to pull to get his maddeningly indifferent daughter Ginny into Yale. Ellie, his wife, is a Kentucky-raised newcomer to New York who only wants to fit in, and daughter #2, the shy Zoey, is happy just to make a new friend, even in the form of the unusual new girl who calls herself a goblin.

Things turn upside down when the girls' exclusive school gets its first trans student and she mysteriously disappears, a frenzied search begins and the entire city frets about her fate. Somehow caught in the crosshairs are the Sandersons, a family desperately trying to navigate all the new cultural rules—and failing miserably.

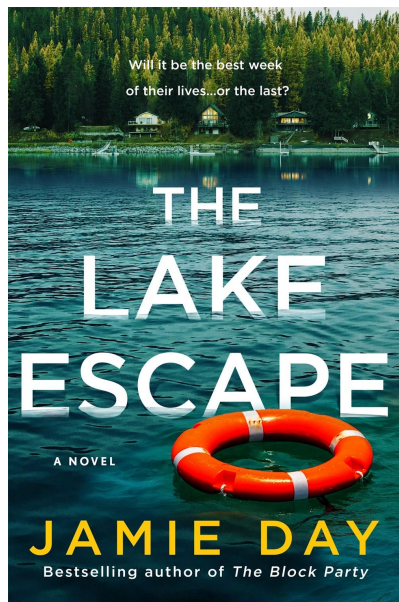
Scott Johnston has spoken to a variety of private clubs (Racquet, Colony, Southampton), institutions (eg, the Courdert Institute) and university groups (Jefferson Council of UVA). He's appeared on a number of podcasts, including "The Eric Metaxas Show" and "The Tucker Carlson Podcast", and is an adjunct professor at Yale University in the Economics Department.

Contributor Bio

Previously the author of the best-seller *Campusland* (currently in development for television), SCOTT JOHNSTON grew up in Manhattan and graduated from Yale, where he later taught as an adjunct. He later worked on Wall Street, including a stint in Hong Kong, and ran a quantitative hedge fund. More recently, Johnston shifted gears and co-founded and subsequently sold two tech startups. He lives in Charlottesville, Virginia and blogs frequently about educational issues at the Naked Dollar.

Quotes

"Scott Johnson is the sharpest ? and most fun to read ? satirical novelist writing today. Following on his brilliant debut novel *Campusland*, he turns his attention to Manhattan's ever-so-upper East Side, in a laugh-out loud mash-up of *Bonfire of the Vanities* and *Mean Girls*. This is D.E.I. at its best: Delicious, Entertaining, Intelligent. Did I mention fun? Great fun." ? Christopher Buckley, author of *Thank You for Smoking*



The Lake Escape

Jamie Day

The next riveting summer suspense by the author of *THE BLOCK PARTY* and *ONE BIG HAPPY FAMILY*, Jamie Day.

Summary

They've been coming to Lake Timmeny in Vermont since they were babies. Now, Julia Crawford, David Dunne, and Erika Miller are returning for their annual summer getaway, a family tradition they've continued into adulthood. But for all its beauty, Lake Timmeny harbors a dark past. Two young women with no known connection to each other, aside from their shared vacation spot, vanished without a trace exactly thirty years apart.

Lacking evidence, the vanishings gave rise to a foreboding lore that the lakes take them, a legend that continues to this day. But it's not only the lake that's hiding something. All three friends harbor secrets and deceptions that lurk just beneath the surface.

But, when David's new girlfriend mysteriously vanishes after a night of drinking and tension, the lore of the lake resurfaces. As the group searches for the missing woman, long-buried secrets emerge, and an intricate web of lies, deceit, and betrayals stemming back generations is gradually revealed, putting all of them in grave danger. Can the friends keep their heads above water, or will they, too, succumb to the lake's dark history?

Contributor Bio

JAMIE DAY lives in one of those picture-perfect, coastal New England towns you see in the movies. And just like the movies, Jamie has two children and an adorable dog to fawn over. When not writing or reading, Jamie enjoys yoga, the ocean, cooking, and long walks on the beach with the dog, or the kids, or sometimes both.

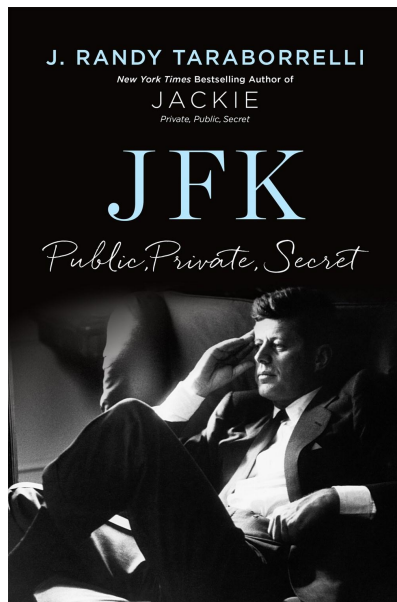
Quotes

"An unputdownable and gripping thriller with nonstop twists and turns!" —Freida McFadden, *New York Times* bestselling author of *The Housemaid*

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Fiction / Thrillers
FIC030000

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528 Pages
Includes two 8-page black-and-white and one 8-page color photograph inserts
Biography & Autobiography
/ Presidents & Heads Of State
BIO011000
9.3 in H | 6.1 in W | 1 in T | 1 lb Wt

JFK: Public, Private, Secret

J. Randy Taraborrelli

From the *New York Times* bestselling Kennedy historian and author of *Jackie: Public, Private, Secret* comes the other side of the story—her husband's: *JFK: Public, Private, Secret*.

Summary

In this deeply researched presidential biography, J. Randy Taraborrelli tells John F. Kennedy's story in a provocative new way by revealing how *public* moments in his life were influenced by *private* relationships with not only his family, but also Jackie's. But it's the *secret* life that surprises. As Congressman, Senator and President, JFK was a magnet for women. *JFK* reveals the man's many affairs and the strength and resolve his wife showed in coping with them. JFK's women include:

- *Jackie, and her rules for Jack's infidelity: "Show me some respect and don't rub it in my face"
- *Inga Arvad. JFK's first love and how it ended over fears she was a Nazi spy
- *Marilyn Monroe. Why Jackie insisted JFK end it with her: "This one's different, Jack. This one's trouble!"
- *Finally—the truth of JFK's relationship with Marilyn exclusively from her closest friend—it wasn't what people believed
- *Joan Hitchcock. The mysterious brunette who comforted Jack after Jackie threatened to file for divorce

Other stories:

- *How JFK's grief over his infant son caused him to make rash decisions that pulled the US into Vietnam
- *The real truth about the Mafia's involvement in JFK's election
- *The startling drug abuse that clouded the President's decisions during the Bay of Pigs and how Jackie managed to wean him from those drugs in time for the Cuban Missile Crisis
- *The Kennedys' secret plans to renew their wedding vows, made just before JFK's assassination

The JFK presented in Taraborrelli's definitive biography is a complex and endlessly fascinating historical figure, despite—and maybe even because of—his many flaws.

Contributor Bio

J. Randy Taraborrelli is the author of over 20 biographies, most of which have become *New York Times* bestsellers, including: *Jackie*, *Ethel*, *Joan*; *After Camelot*; and *Jackie, Janet & Lee*, presently being adapted for television. His most recent book, *Jackie: Public, Private, Secret*, debuted at number three on the *New York Times* bestseller list.

Quotes

"A bombshell new book." —***People* magazine on *Jackie***

"Readable and deeply researched, [Jackie] is a refreshingly complex portrait of a woman too often defined by her relationships with men." —***Publishers Weekly* on *Jackie***



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304 Pages
 Fiction / Coming Of Age
 FIC043000

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 Wt

Greenwich

A Novel

Kate Broad

A riveting debut novel, *Greenwich* explores the nature of desire and complicity against the backdrop of immense wealth and privilege, and the ways that whiteness and power protect their own.

Summary

Summer, 1999. Rachel Fiske is almost eighteen when she arrives at her aunt and uncle's mansion in Greenwich, Connecticut. Her glamorous aunt is struggling to heal from an injury, and Rachel wants to help—and escape her own troubles back home. But her aunt is oddly spacey and her uncle is consumed with business, and Rachel feels lonely and adrift, excluded from the world of adults and their secrets. The only bright spot is Claudia, a recent college graduate, aspiring artist, and the live-in babysitter for Rachel's cousin. As summer deepens, Rachel eagerly hopes their friendship might grow into more.

But when a tragic accident occurs, the family turns on Claudia in a desperate bid to salvage their reputation. Caught between her upbringing and her feelings for Claudia, her desire to do the right thing and to protect her future, Rachel must make a pivotal choice. She's the only one who knows what really happened—and her decision has consequences far beyond what she could have predicted.

Contributor Bio

KATE BROAD holds a BA from Wellesley College and a PhD in English from the CUNY Graduate Center. She is a Bronx Council on the Arts award winner for fiction, and her writing appears in *The Rumpus*, *No Tokens*, *The Brooklyn Review*, and elsewhere. *Greenwich* is her first novel.

Quotes

"A stunning debut...Fast-paced, beautifully written, vividly peopled, *Greenwich* is impossible to put down." — Adrienne Brodeur, bestselling author of *Little Monsters*

"Timely, smart, and immensely enjoyable." — Laurie Frankel, bestselling author of *Family Family*

"A riveting read and not-to-be-missed debut." — Vibhuti Jain, author of *Our Best Intentions*

"A dark, lush, complex tale...I simply could not put this urgent, gorgeous book down." — Lindsay Hunter, author of *Hot Springs Drive*



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 Biography & Autobiography
 / Music
 BIO004000

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 Wt

Sharing in the Groove

The Untold Story of the '90s Jam Band Explosion and the Scene That Followed

Mike Ayers

The wild, untold oral history of the unlikely rise of Phish, Dave Matthews Band, Widespread Panic, Blues Traveler, and numerous other bands that helped define the 1990s jamband scene

Summary

Sharing in the Groove is the untold oral history behind the unlikely rise of Phish, Dave Matthews Band, Widespread Panic, Blues Traveler, and numerous other bands that helped define the 1990s jam band scene — a scene that paved the way for modern-day cultural institutions such as the Bonnaroo Music Festival, as well as kept the Grateful Dead ethos alive. It was also a scene with its own values and its own unique interactions with fame, record labels, MTV, drugs, and success.

As a veteran music journalist, Mike Ayers has been to more than 130 Phish shows, 20 Grateful Dead shows, and countless others by the bands profiled in this book. In the mid-90s, he stumbled upon a job working backstage for Phish as a prep cook in exchange for all-access passes for the night's show, and ended up doing this for years. Later in the decade, he dabbled in the taping scene and recorded numerous shows that are still circulated online today.

Filled with anecdotes and stories directly from the musicians, promoters, managers, roadies, producers, label executives, and fans that lived this scene, *Sharing in the Groove* is a fun, fast-paced oral history that will appeal to music lovers everywhere.

Contributor Bio

MIKE AYERS is a veteran music and culture journalist. His work has appeared in numerous national publications such as *Rolling Stone*, *The Wall Street Journal*, *Time*, *Billboard*, *Reuters*, *New York's Vulture*, *The Village Voice*, *SPIN*, *Uproxx*, *Relix*, and many more. He's the author of *One Last Song: Conversations on Life, Death, and Music* and currently is the executive editor of Money.com (formerly *Money* magazine). For the last five years, he's been a regular contributor to *Relix Magazine*, and he lives with his family in northern NJ.

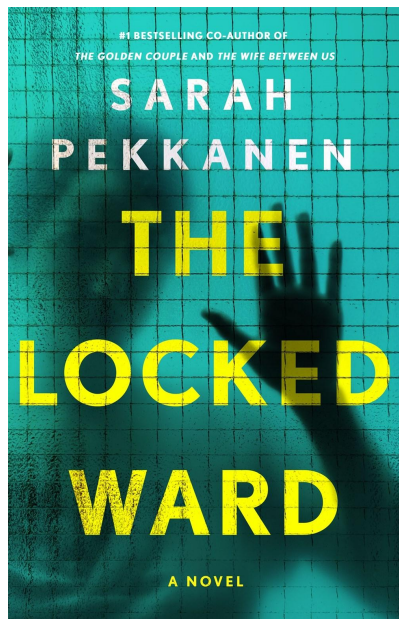
Quotes

Praise for *One Last Song*:

"An unexpectedly uplifting read" — *Variety's* Best Music Books of 2020

"Slightly morbid yet endlessly entertaining" — *Time Magazine's* Most Anticipated Books of Fall 2020

"An intriguing, but rarely considered question from the endless realm of pop music hypotheticals" — *Rolling Stone*



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320 Pages
Fiction / Thrillers
FIC031100

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Wt

The Locked Ward

Sarah Pekkanen

The Locked Ward is the latest twisty thriller from #1 *New York Times* bestselling author of *Gone Tonight* and *House of Glass*, Sarah Pekkanen.

Summary

It was the Crime of the Decade. Pathological sibling rivalry. Bitter, all-consuming envy. Whatever the cause - and everyone has an opinion - it led Georgia Cartwright who was adopted as a newborn, to kill the younger, biological daughter of her wealthy, socially prominent family.

Georgia is being kept at an institution where the most violent offenders are held while she waits to see if she is ruled not guilty by reason of insanity. When her estranged twin sister, Amanda, visits her, Georgia's first words are, "You've got to get me out of here. I didn't do it." Her sister can't walk away. There has always been a part of her that feels missing a strange hollowness that she has hidden from everyone.

Does it exist because of the absence of her twin sister? Can Amanda really trust Georgia? Or is she being led down a path of madness and into the web of a master manipulator. Nothing is as it seems in Sarah Pekkanen's new psychological thriller, *The Locked Ward*.

Contributor Bio

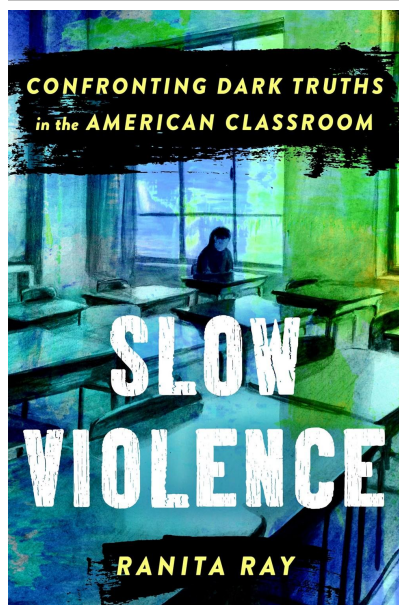
SARAH PEKKANEN is the #1 *New York Times* bestselling coauthor of four novels of suspense including *The Golden Couple* and the solo author of the thriller *Gone Tonight*. She is also the solo author of eight internationally bestselling women's fiction books, and an award-winning former journalist. She serves as U.S. Ambassador for RRSA India and works hands-on in India to rescue street dogs. She lives just outside of Washington, D.C., with her family.

Quotes

Praise for Sarah Pekkanen:

"Filled with buried secrets and jaw-dropping deception, Sarah Pekkanen's *GONE TONIGHT* is a page-turning thriller. Read *Gone Tonight*. It's a wild ride." -- Harlan Coben, #1 *New York Times* Bestselling Author

"Captivating from beginning to end." – Samantha Downing, internationally bestselling author of *My Lovely Wife*



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Social Science / Discrimination
SOC031000

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Wt

Slow Violence

Confronting Dark Truths in the American Classroom

Ranita Ray

A powerful exposé of the American public education system's indifference toward marginalized children and the "slow violence" that fashions schools into hostile work and learning environments.

Summary

In 2017, sociologist Ranita Ray stepped inside a fourth-grade classroom, in one of the nation's largest majority-minority districts in Las Vegas, to conduct research on the lack of resources and budget cuts that regularly face public schools. However, a few months into her immersion, Ray recognized that the greatest impediment to students was "slow violence"—the routine indifference, racism, and verbal and emotional abuse and harassment that teachers and administrators perpetrate against the most vulnerable children in our schools.

Bolstered by an empathetic voice as well as the latest breaking research in the social sciences, Ray goes beyond timeworn discussions about the school-to-prison pipeline, funding, and achievement gaps to directly address what happens behind the closed doors of classrooms, introducing a compelling—and crucial—new perspective into the conversation about our education system. We meet Nazli, a bright, funny Black girl who loses her baby sister and is told that with "grit" she can rise above her grief. And there's Miguel, a sharp, distracted Latino boy who can't overcome his teachers' urge to incorrectly diagnose him with autism, as well as several other susceptible students.

In the warm, luminous spirit of character-driven books like *Invisible Child*, *Slow Violence* allows us to see that the way we've tried to reform education is wrong. Unflinchingly, Ray's book tells us how—and shows us where to begin.

Contributor Bio

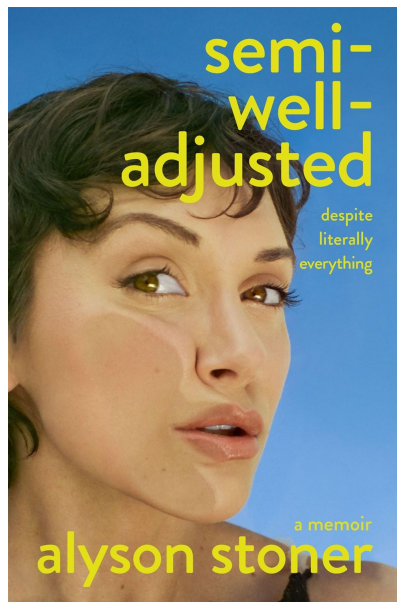
RANITA RAY is an Associate Professor at the University of New Mexico, where she holds an endowed chair. She is a 2019 National Academy of Education/Spencer fellow, as well as a 2018 Racial Democracy and Criminal Justice Network fellow, and has been featured in *Slate*, *The Atlantic*, and *The New York Times*. Ray's first book, *The Making of a Teenage Service Class*, won four prizes and *Slow Violence* was shortlisted for the 2024 Lukas Work-in-Progress Prize. Her TedX Talk is widely used by educators.

Quotes

Praise for Ranita Ray and *The Making of a Teenage Service Class*

"A rich, vivid ethnographic account of the barriers young people from a low-income community face. Highly recommended."—Annette Lareau, author of *Unequal Childhoods*

"This powerful book is a must read."—Randol Contreras, author of *The Stickup Kids*



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 / Entertainment & Performing Arts
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Semi-Well-Adjusted Despite Literally Everything

A Memoir

Alyson Stoner

Alyson Stoner's memoir—from family and eating issues to religious trauma—begins in Hollywood, but its chilling relatability will impact anyone navigating identity, purpose, and mental health

Summary

Raised on soundstages and studio lots from the time they were six, shuffling between auditions for Disney Channel, *Cheaper by the Dozen*, or a Missy Elliott music video, Alyson experienced their defining moments of childhood inside the bizarre fishbowl of Hollywood. From being eight with an 80-hour work week, differentiating fan inquiries from kidnapping plots, and TV execs telling them they're "not anorexic enough" to stop working and get help, they struggled to find stability in a chaotic world.

In *Semi-Well-Adjusted Despite Literally Everything*, Alyson shares their powerful story for the first time, detailing a turbulent home life with addict parents, harrowing accounts from rehab, the messy process of discovering their sexuality in church, and rebuilding a life after an early professional peak. With striking introspection, Alyson connects the dots across the entertainment industry ecosystem, child development, and media culture, exposing the "toddler to trainwreck pipeline" of child stars and sparking timely conversations about success and society's enchantment with fame.

Bold, entertaining, and galvanizing all at once, *Semi-Well-Adjusted Despite Literally Everything* is more than a personal memoir: it's a beacon for industry reform, a roadmap for breaking the bonds of trauma, and a testament to the freedom and strength that come from finally trusting your own voice and power.

Contributor Bio

ALYSON STONER is a multi-disciplinary entertainer, author, the founder and CEO of the mental health company Movement Genius, and the host of the award-winning *Dear Hollywood* podcast. Alyson holds certifications in the mind-body space and has created and participated in programming for worldwide organizations. They performed in Disney Channel's *Camp Rock*, *Phineas & Ferb*, *Step Up*, *Cheaper by the Dozen*, and 200+ other projects. They're currently working on concrete solutions that support artists.

Quotes

Praise for Alyson Stoner:

"Stoner's voice is louder than ever." –Lindsay Weinberg, *E! News*



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Fiction / Thrillers
FIC030000

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Wt

High Season

A Novel

Katie Bishop

After the death of a troubled young socialite, the victim's twin brother is determined to hold the family together, at any cost—for fans of *Listen for the Lie* and *None of This is True*.

Summary

Never speak of that summer.

On a beautiful summer's night twenty years ago, troubled seventeen-year-old Tamara Drayton was found floating face-down in the pool of her family's idyllic mansion in the south of France, leaving her twin brother, golden-boy Blake, to pick up the pieces of their shattered family.

Also left behind was their sister Nina who, at six years old, became the youngest person ever to testify in a French murder trial. Because she's the only one who saw what happened—who watched as her babysitter, Josie Jackson, pushed Tamara under the water, and held her there until she stopped breathing.

Didn't she? Twenty years later, Nina's memories have faded, leaving her with no idea of what really transpired that night. When a new true crime documentary about her sister's murder is announced, Nina thinks this might be her chance to finally find out.

But the truth always comes at a cost. Who will pay the price?

Set over two unforgettable summers two decades apart, *High Season* is a dark, tense exploration of the nature of memory, the enduring power of truth, and all the gray areas in between.

Contributor Bio

KATIE BISHOP is the author of *The Girls of Summer*. Her writing has been published in *The New York Times*, *The Guardian*, *Vogue*, *The Independent*, and other publications. She lives in Birmingham, U.K. with her partner.

Quotes

"True crime meets the Côte d'Azur in this layered, insightful novel that transcends its absorbing premise. Mystery and secrets abound at the Pink House, but it's Katie Bishop's vividly drawn characters and their web of entanglements that will keep you turning pages. *HIGH SEASON* handles its themes deftly—about trauma and memory, class and girlhood, family and forgiveness—while also offering a nuanced critique of true crime voyeurism. Propulsive, escapist, and sharp." —**Emily Layden, author of *Once More from the Top***

"*High Season* ripped me out of a reading slump as I found myself devouring this tale of privilege, loss, and the slippery nature of memory. The setting is so perfectly rendered that you can almost taste the saltwater, and the characters are so sensitively drawn I often had a knot in my stomach as I read late into the night. Bishop writes unbelievably beautifully about the complex relationships forged in youth, and the fragility of memory in the aftermath of tragedy". —**Ella Berman, author of *Before We Were Innocent***

"With its vivid setting, complex characters, and tapestry of timelines and perspectives, *High Season* is a gripping murder mystery and a profound meditation on grief, elitism, amateur sleuthing, and the nature of memory, reality, and storytelling. Bishop's follow up to *The Girls of Summer* is top-notch literary suspense and the perfect summer read." —**Alyssa Raymond, Copper Dog Books**

PRAISE FOR *THE GIRLS OF SUMMER*

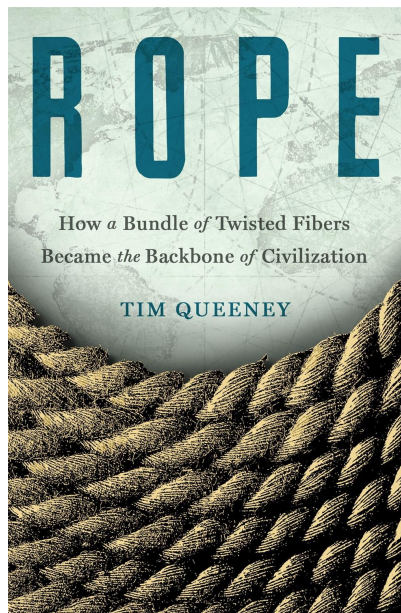
"A lyrical, emotional novel...Reminiscent of HBO's hit *The White Lotus* [and] *My Dark Vanessa*, and the plot-driven tension will appeal to fans of psychological suspense."

—**Booklist (starred review)**

"It packs an incredible punch...with stark, affecting honesty and evocative prose."

—**The Times (UK)**

"Unputdownable, with mystery, relatable marriage woes, identity issues, a sense of urgency, and a bold new voice. This is *the* book of the summer." —**KatieCouric.com**



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Rope

How a Bundle of Twisted Fibers Became the Backbone of Civilization

Tim Queeney

A unique and compelling adventure through the history of rope and its impact on civilization, in the vein of single subject bestsellers like *Salt* and *Cod*

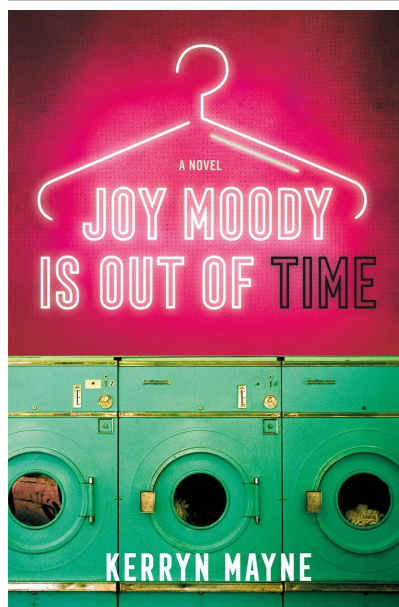
Summary

Tim Queeney is a sailor who knows more about rope and its importance to humankind than most. In *Rope*, Queeney takes readers on a ride through the history of rope and the way it weaves itself through the story of civilization. Considering Magellan's world-circling ships, the 15th century fleet of Admiral Zheng He, or a Polynesian multihull with crab claw sails, he shows how without rope, none of their adventurous voyages and their discoveries would have been possible. Time traveling, he describes the building of the pyramids, the Roman Coliseum, Hagia Sofia, Notre Dame, the Sultan Hasan Mosque, the Brooklyn Bridge and countless other constructions that would not have been possible without rope.

Not content to just look at rope's past, Queeney looks at its future and how the re-invention of rope using steel strands to make wire rope and later synthetic fibers will likely provide the strength for cables to support elevators into space. Making the story or rope real for readers, Queeney tells remarkable nautical stories of his own reliance on rope to survive - "While approaching Buzzard's Bay in the dark of night, we were hit by a fierce squall...The wrong line was eased, and the 200-pound hunk of wood that holds the top of the sail, went flying out of control, swaying wildly and threatening to knock us into the inky ocean. Finally, the proper ropes were located in the dark, firm hands hauled them taught and the gaff was brought under control. It was a sobering display of rope's often unacknowledged role and uncredited importance." *Rope* is history, adventure and the story of one of the world's most common tools that has made it possible for humans to advance throughout the century.

Contributor Bio

TIM QUEENEY is the editor of *Ocean Navigator*, a magazine for offshore voyager. Tim's work has appeared in *Professional Mariner*, *American History*, and *Aviation History*. He has had short stories published in the crime anthology *Landfall*, *Best New England Crime Stories* 2018 and in the speculative anthology *A Land Without Mirrors*. Tim live in Cape Elizabeth, Maine, with his wife and a rescue dog, Frankie. A life long sailor, he teaches celestial navigation, radar navigation and coastal piloting ashore — where he tied plenty of knots and handled many a rope.



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Joy Moody Is Out of Time

Kerry Mayne

From the author of the beloved novel *Lenny Marks Gets Away With Murder* comes another quirky and irresistible new crime novel

Summary

On her twin daughters' twenty-first birthday, Joy Moody – proprietor of Bonbeach's premier laundromat – is found dead. Yet that is not the strangest thing happening behind the bright pink facade of Joyful Suds.

For much of their lives, Joy has been telling Cassie and Andie one big, fat lie: that they are from the future, and that when they turn twenty-one they will travel back to the year 2050.

What started as a colorful tale to explain how the girls came to live with her has now become a decade-long deception. Worse still, Joy has started to believe it herself.

The lie is certainly preferable to the truth she can't face – about what happened to the girls' real mother, and how far Joy's gone to keep them "safe"...

With the twins' twenty-first birthday fast approaching, and with Andie starting to have doubts, time is fast running out for Joy Moody. In more ways than one.

Contributor Bio

KERRY MAYNE is an author, former wedding photographer, and current police officer. When not at work attempting to solve crime, she is writing about it or preparing an endless stream of snacks for her four children. Kerry lives in the bayside suburbs of Melbourne with her husband, children and a highly suspect lovebird. She is the author of *Lenny Marks Gets Away With Murder*.

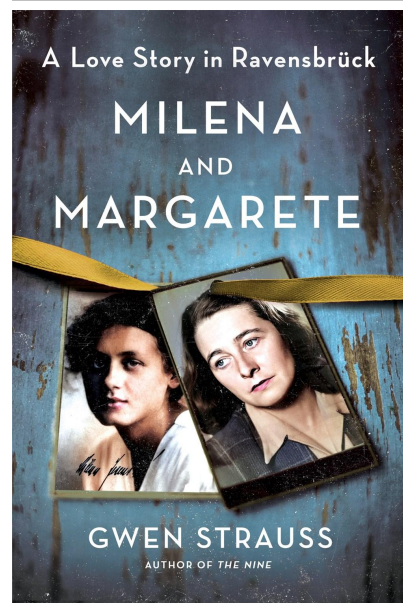
Quotes

"As uplifting as it is dark, *Joy Moody Is Out Of Time* will knock your socks off."
–Sally Hepworth, *New York Times* bestselling author of *Darling Girls*

Praise for *Lenny Marks Gets Away with Murder*:

"Prepare to fall hard for Lenny Marks...[a] touching, absorbing debut." –firstCLUE

"With humor, heart and characters you come to love, this is a book you will devour now, and keep thinking about later!" –Sally Hepworth, *New York Times* bestselling author of *Darling Girls*



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Milena and Margarete

A Love Story in Ravensbrück

Gwen Strauss

A profoundly moving celebration of love under the darkest of circumstances

Summary

From the moment they met in 1940 in Ravensbrück concentration camp, Milena Jesenska and Margarete Buber-Neumann were inseparable. Czech Milena was Kafka's first translator and epistolary lover, and a journalist opposed to fascism. A non-conformist, bi-sexual feminist, she was way ahead of her time. With the German occupation of Czechoslovakia, her home became a central meeting place for Jewish refugees. German Margarete, born to a middle-class family, married the son of the Jewish philosopher Martin Buber. But soon swept up in the fervor of the Bolshevik Revolution, she met her second partner, the Communist Heinz Neumann. Called to Moscow for his "political deviations," he fell victim to Stalin's purges while Margarete was exiled to the hell of the Soviet gulag. Two years later, traded by Stalin to Hitler, she ended up outside Berlin in Ravensbrück, the only concentration camp built for women.

Milena and Margarete loved each other at the risk of their lives. But in the post-war survivors' accounts, lesbians were stigmatized, and survivors kept silent. This book explores those silences, and finally celebrates two strong women who never gave up and continue to inspire. As Margaret wrote: "I was thankful for having been sent to Ravensbrück, because it was there I met Milena."

Contributor Bio

Gwen Strauss is the author of *The Nine* and a collection of poetry, *Trail of Stones*. Her poems, short stories and essays have appeared in numerous journals including *The New Republic*, *London Sunday Times*, *New England Review*, and *Kenyon Review*. She was born and spent her early years in Haiti. Strauss lives in Southern France, where she is the Executive Director of the Dora Maar Cultural Center.

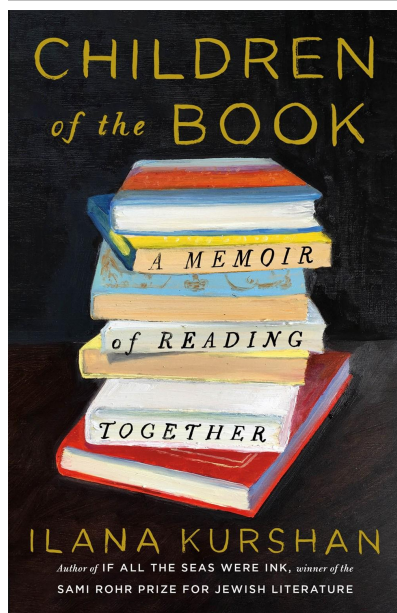
Quotes

"Strauss reminds us that...the passionate friendship of women can be its own act of powerful resistance." —**Tilar Mazzeo, bestselling author of *Irene's Children***

"Riveting. Opens new doors of understanding." —**Sarah Schulman, author of *Let the Record Show***

"Strauss writes about Ravensbrück as a place of a great romantic story. [She] forces us to rethink our understanding of the concentration camps." —**Anna Hájková, University of Warwick, pioneer of queer Holocaust history**

"Reads like a novel." —**Golda Goldbloom, author of *On Division***



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Wt

Children of the Book

A Memoir of Reading Together

Ilana Kurshan

A celebration of the power and wonder of lifelong reading—both secular and sacred

Summary

In *Children of the Book*, Ilana Kurshan explores the closeness forged when family life unfolds against a backdrop of reading together. Kurshan, a mother of five living in Jerusalem, at first struggles to balance her passion for literature with her responsibilities as a parent. Gradually she learns how to relate to reading not as a solitary pursuit and an escape from the messiness of life, but rather as a way of teaching independence and forging connection. Introducing her children to sacred and secular literature—including the beloved classics of her childhood—helps her become both a better mother and a better reader.

Chief among the books Kurshan reads with her children is the Five Books of Moses, known as the Torah, which Jews the world over read in synchrony as part of the liturgical cycle. In the five parts of this memoir, Kurshan explores the surprising resonances between the biblical text and her experiences as a mother and a reader – from the first picture books that create the world through language for little babies, to the moment our children begin reading on their own leaving us behind, atop the mountain, as they enter new lands without us. A testament to the enduring power of shared texts, *Children of the Book* celebrates the deep pleasures of books.

Contributor Bio

Ilana Kurshan is a graduate of Harvard University and Cambridge. She has worked in literary publishing both in New York and in Jerusalem, as a translator and foreign rights agent, and as the book editor of *Lilith* magazine. Kurshan is the author of *If All the Seas Were Ink*, winner of the Sami Rohr Prize for Jewish literature.

Quotes

"Utterly delightful." —**Zibby Owens, podcast host of *Moms Don't Have Time to Read Books*, bestselling author of *Blank***

"Laugh-out-loud funny and startlingly poignant." —**Ruth Franklin, book critic, author of *Shirley Jackson, A Rather Haunted Life***

"Teems with the greatest care, consideration, and insight." —**Elisa Albert, author of *Human Blues***

"A magnificent book." — **Dara Horn, author of *People Love Dead Jews***

"Will charm audiences of all backgrounds." —**Rabbi Rachel Isaacs**