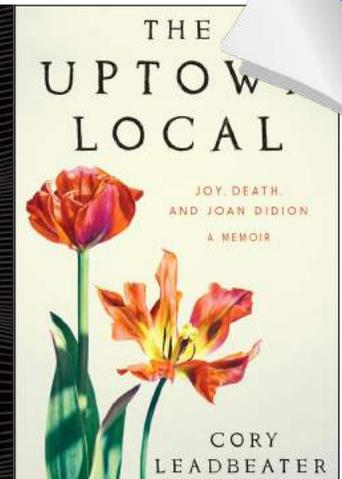
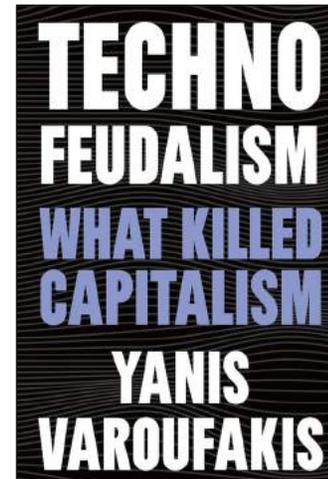
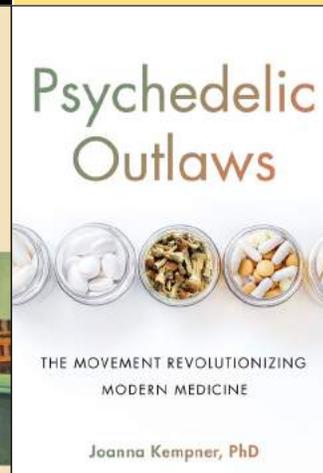
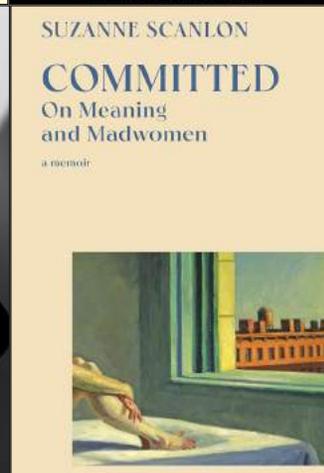
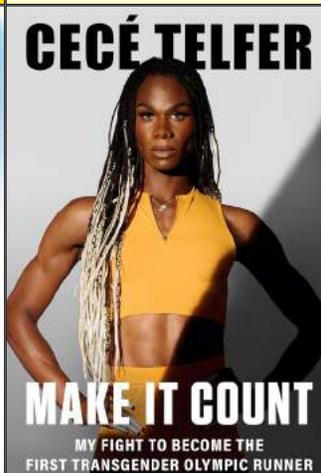
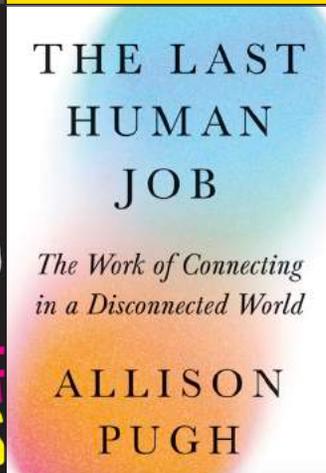
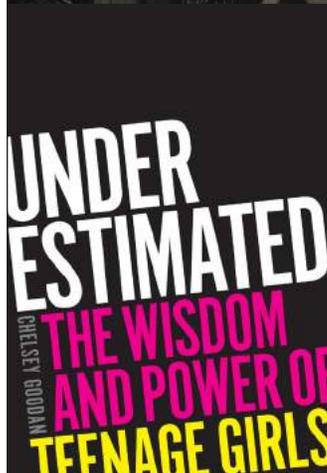
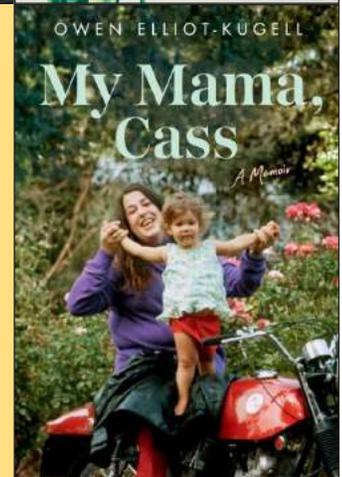
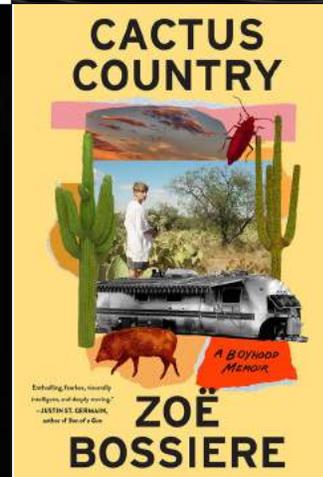
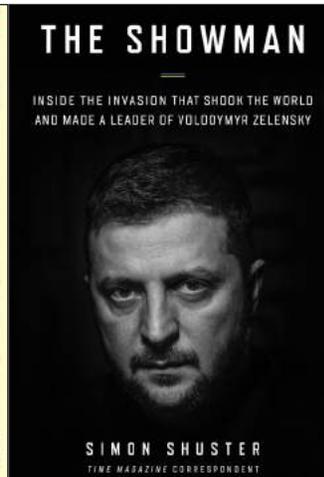
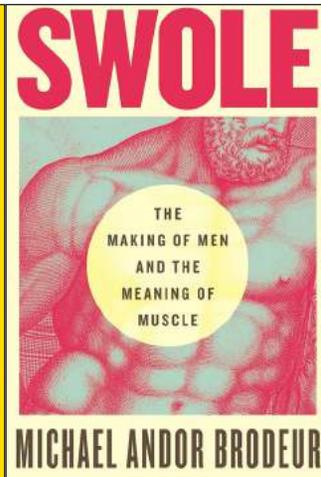
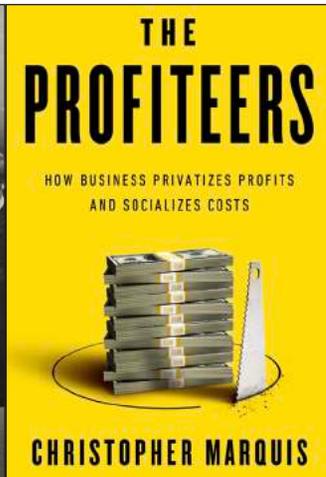
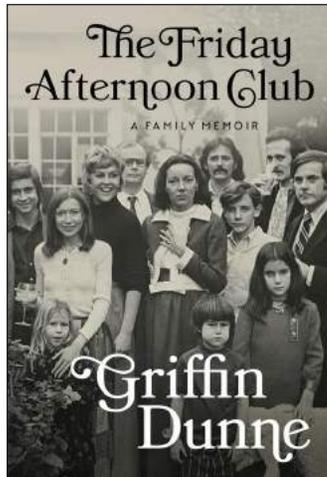


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# **UPCOMING CULTURE, CURRENT AFFAIRS & SCIENCE**



# THE SHOWMAN

Inside the Invasion That Shook the World and Made a Leader of Volodymyr Zelensky

By Simon Shuster

NA

January 2024 / William Morrow (HarperCollins) / US Editor: Mauro DiPreta

Final PDF Available

## Rights Sold:

Brazilian Portuguese (Record)	Mongolian (Monsudar)
Danish (People's Press)	Norwegian (Cappelen Damm)
Dutch (Overamstel)	Polish (Marginesv)
Finnish (Tammi Publishers)	Romanian (Bookzone)
French (HarperCollins FR)	Slovak (N Press)
German (Goldmann)	Swedish (Norstedts)
Lithuanian (UAB Leidykla Vaga)	UK/Comm (William Collins)

Acclaimed journalist Simon Shuster gives us the first inside account of the Russian invasion of Ukraine from the perspective of President Volodymyr Zelensky and his team, who granted him unprecedented access to their compound in Kyiv for several months, where he wrote *The Showman*.

*Time* correspondent Simon Shuster chronicles the life and wartime leadership of Volodymyr Zelensky from the dressing rooms of his variety show in Ukraine to the muddy trenches. Based on four years of reporting; extensive travels with President Zelensky to the front; and dozens of interviews with him, his wife, his friends and enemies, his advisers, ministers and military commanders, *The Showman* tells an intimate and eye-opening story of the President's evolution from a slapstick actor to a symbol of resilience. The book's early chapters offer the first detailed account of Zelensky's life in a nuclear bunker in the opening weeks of the invasion and the circumstances of his wife's escape to safety with their children. Later, as the Russians retreat from Kyiv, we see Zelensky and his team emerge from the bunker and lead Ukraine in a series of crucial victories. The result is a riveting, up-close picture of the invasion as experienced by its number one target and improbable hero.

Clear-eyed about the President's early failures as a peacemaker and his willingness to silence political dissent, the book offers a complex picture of a man struggling to break what he sees as a historical cycle of oppression that began generations before he was born. Even as the war drags on, Zelensky lays out his vision for its future course and, through his actions, demonstrates his strategy for countering the Russians and keeping the West on his side. *The Showman*, as a work of eyewitness journalism, provides an essential perspective on the war defining our age. As a study in leadership and human resolve, its appeal is timeless and universal.

**Simon Shuster** has reported from Russia and Ukraine for 17 years.

**ACM Agent:** Todd Shuster

"An intimate biography . . . A brilliant piece of extended reportage." — *London Times*

"Surpasses all similar efforts [...] the standard by which all other works on Mr. Zelensky and Ukraine's wartime politics will be judged." — *Wall Street Journal*

"Vividly details [how] Zelensky transforms from a clean-cut funnyman into a war hero out of central casting... [Shuster] spent more time with Zelensky during the fighting than perhaps any other reporter." — *New York Times*

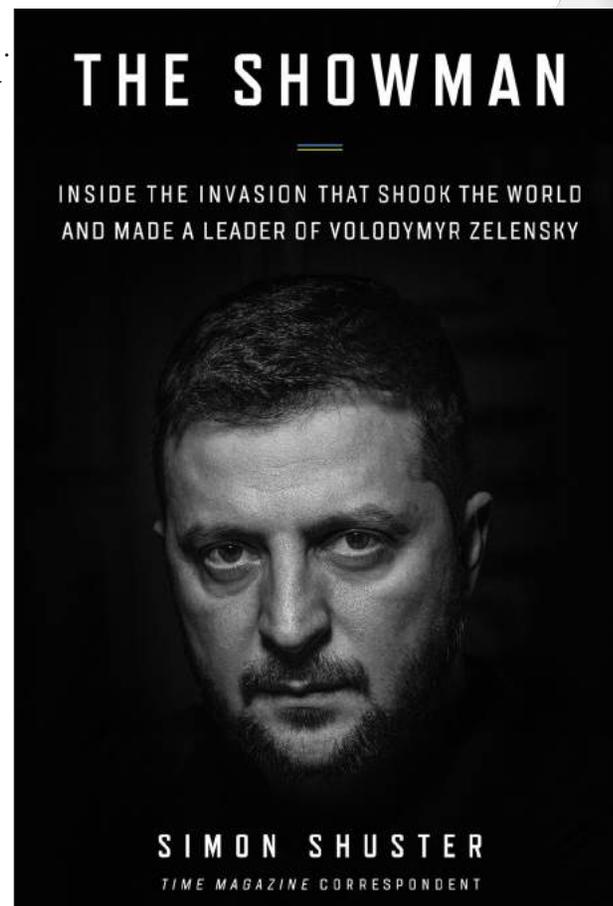
"An elegant account of the invasion's first year as seen by those in the very eye of the storm" — *Daily Telegraph*

"Authoritative and engaging... [Shuster] writes with clarity and immediacy about matters that could easily descend into centuries of history and reams of military strategy... Shuster does readers the ultimate service. He makes them feel smart... *The Showman* is first-rate long-form journalism." — *San Francisco Chronicle*

"A definitive, thoroughly researched and deeply insightful biography . . . *The Showman* is a far more intimate and much better informed biography than most politicians get from journalists. Shuster is an honest and frank biographer, thoroughly equipped for the job." — *The Guardian*

★ **STARRED REVIEW, LIBRARY JOURNAL** ★

"Fascinating. Powerful. Important. This book is an illuminating profile of Zelensky's courage and an expert study of the fraught relationship between Russia and Ukraine."



# IMAGINATION

## A Manifesto

By Ruha Benjamin

WE

February 2024 / Norton Shorts / US Editor: Amy Cherry

Final PDF Available

One of *The Millions* Most-Anticipated titles for Winter 2024.

In this revelatory work, Ruha Benjamin calls on us to take imagination seriously as a site of struggle and a place of possibility for reshaping the future.

A world without prisons? *Ridiculous*. Schools that foster the genius of every child? *Impossible*. A society where everyone has food, shelter, love? *In your dreams*. Exactly.

Princeton professor Ruha Benjamin believes in the liberating power of the imagination. Deadly systems shaped by mass incarceration, ableism, digital surveillance, and eugenics emerged from the human imagination, but they have real-world impacts. To fight these systems and create a world that works for all of us, we will have to imagine things differently. As Benjamin shows, educators, artists, technologists, and more are experimenting with new ways of thinking and tackling seemingly intractable problems.

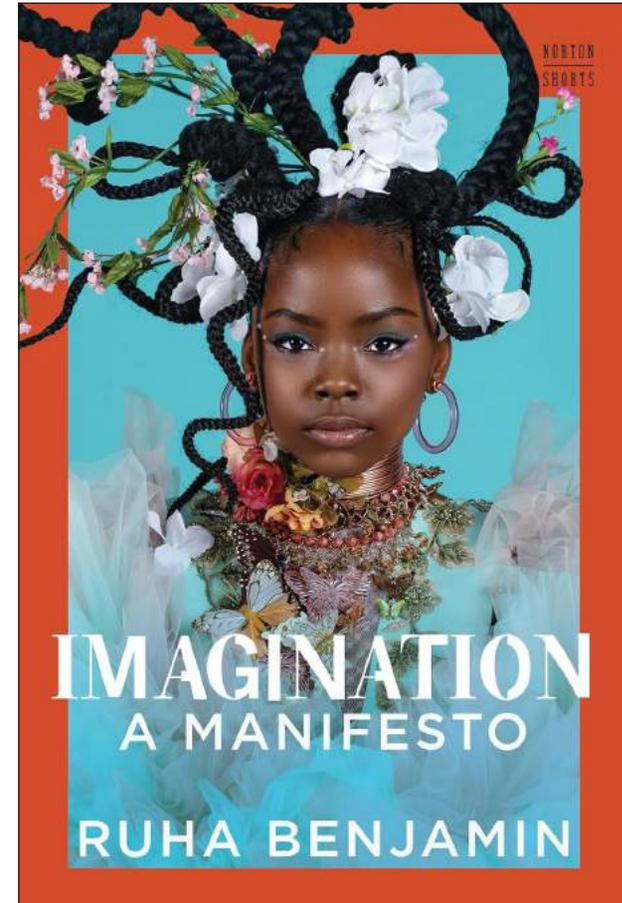
Drawing from the work of these visionaries—including Black feminists, climate activists, Afrofuturists, and troublemakers of all sorts—*Imagination: A Manifesto* explores the possibility and practices required to imagine and create more just and habitable worlds.

**Ruha Benjamin** is a professor of African American studies and the founder of the Ida B. Wells Just Data Lab at Princeton University. The author of *Viral Justice*, *Race After Technology*, and *Peoples Science*, she lives in Princeton, New Jersey.

“Benjamin’s roving narrative moves nimbly between topics to make her case (at one exemplary point she pauses her analysis of a documentary on creative writing programs for prisoners to note how it reminds her of a line from Kazuo Ishiguro’s *Never Let Me Go*: ‘Could a creature without a human spirit create such heart-wrenching paintings?’). It’s a potent exhortation for society to point its dreams toward the collective good.” —*Publishers Weekly*

“Benjamin invites readers to consider a different world, one that the imagination of others tells us is the best of all possible worlds...A provocative manifesto indeed, and one that deserves a wide audience.” —*Kirkus Reviews*

ACM Agent: Sarah Levitt



“Ruha Benjamin reminds us that in our collective imaginations we already have everything we need to make the world we want to live in. Imagination is a lovely volume with a meditation on the power of being human: we can dream, if we only believe that we can.” —**Tressie McMillan Cottom, author of *Thick: And Other Essays***

“Only Ruha Benjamin could have written this gift of a book. Science and technology’s most astute social critic, she knows the power of imagination—the incubator of breathtaking beauty and the atomic bomb. Bold, brilliant, and visionary, Benjamin’s manifesto asks us to wage love, to imagine an abolitionist, compassionate, just world against the venal dreams of warmongers and billionaires. An essential weapon in our struggle to save life.” —**Robin D. G. Kelley, author of *Freedom Dreams: The Black Radical Imagination***

# PSYCHEDELIC OUTLAWS

## The Movement Revolutionizing Modern Medicine

By Dr. Joanna Kempner

NA

June 2024 / Hachette Books / US Editor: Lauren Marino

Edited MS Available

### Rights Sold:

Brazilian Portuguese (Manole)

An award-winning sociologist unearths how a group of ordinary people debilitated by excruciating pain developed their own medicine from home-grown psilocybin mushrooms—crafting near-clinical grade dosing protocols—and fought for recognition in a broken medical system.

Cluster headache, a diagnosis sometimes referred to as a ‘suicide headache,’ is widely considered the most severe pain disorder that humans experience. There is no cure, and little funding available for research into developing treatments.

When Joanna Kempner met Bob Wold in 2012, she was introduced to a world beyond most people’s comprehension—a clandestine network determined to find relief using magic mushrooms. These ‘Clusterbusters,’ a group united only by the internet and a desire to survive, decided to do the research that medicine left unfinished. They produced their own psychedelic treatment protocols and managed to get academics at Harvard and Yale to test their results. Along the way, Kempner explores not only the fascinating history and exploding popularity of psychedelic science, but also a regulatory system so repressive that the sick are forced to find their own homegrown remedies, and corporate America and university professors stand to profit from their transgressions.

From the windswept shores of the North Sea through the verdant jungle of Peruvian Amazon to a kitschy underground palace built in a missile silo in Kansas, *Psychedelic Outlaws* chronicles the rise of psychedelic medicine amid a healthcare system in turmoil. Kempner’s gripping tale of community and resilience brings readers on an eye-opening journey through the politics of pain, through the stories of people desperate enough to defy the law for a moment of relief.

ACM Agent: Bridget Wagner Matzie

# Psychedelic Outlaws



THE MOVEMENT REVOLUTIONIZING  
MODERN MEDICINE

Joanna Kempner, PhD

**Dr. Joanna Kempner**, Associate Professor of Sociology at Rutgers, writes, researches, and teaches at the intersections of science, medicine, and inequality. Kempner is internationally known for her research on overlooked problems in health and illness, giving voice to those without power and challenging how medicine talks about, understands, and makes policies for those it serves. As the premier expert on the social impact of headache diseases, she is a sought-after speaker and is often featured in policy debates and media discussions about pain. Her research has been extensively covered by major national media outlets, such as NPR, the *Washington Post*, *Associated Press*, *Science*, the *Guardian*, and the *Philadelphia Inquirer*. She was featured alongside Joan Didion and Siri Hustvedt in the award-winning 2017 documentary *Out of My Head*.

# THE SECRET HISTORY OF SHARKS

## The Rise of the Ocean's Most Fearsome Predator

By John Long

NA

July 2024 / Ballantine (PRH) / US Editor: Mary Reynolds

Edited MS Available

**Rights Sold:** Simplified Chinese (Cheers)  
Korean (Puriwa Ipari) UK/Comm (Quercus)

From ancient megalodons to fearsome Great Whites, this is the complete, untold story of how sharks emerged as Earth's ultimate survivors, by a world-leading paleontologist.

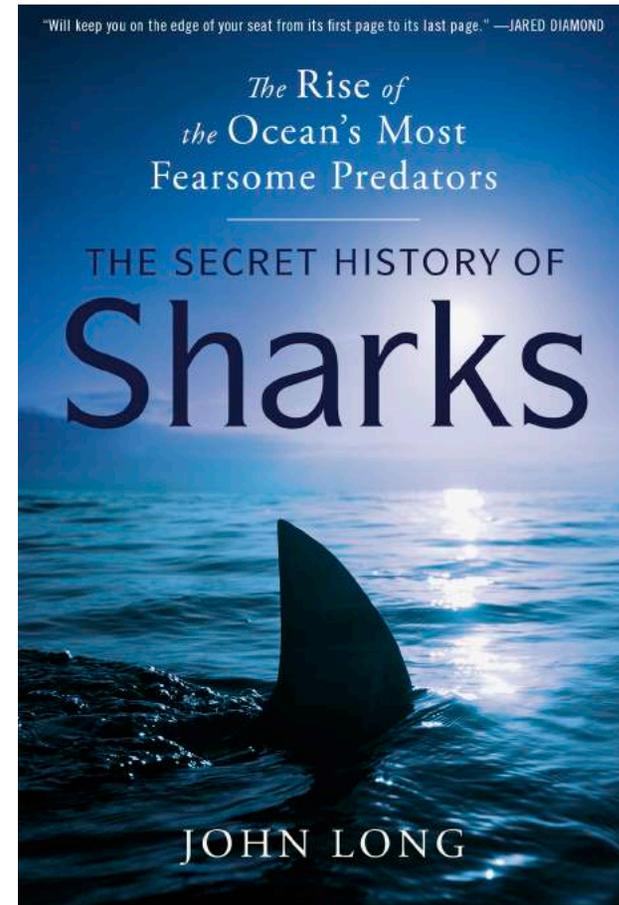
Sharks have been fighting for their lives for 500 million years and are under dire threat today. They are the longest surviving vertebrate on Earth, outlasting multiple mass extinction events that decimated life on the planet. How did they thrive so long? By developing superpower-like abilities that allowed them to ascend to the top of the oceanic food chain. Yet they often found themselves in the shadows of larger, more formidable killers—and they not only survived, but also took their crown as the king of the sea. *The Secret History of Sharks* is the thrilling story of sharks' unparalleled reign.

Because of recent technological breakthroughs scientists' understanding of sharks has taken a quantum leap forward in the last decade. John Long has been on the cutting edge of this research and in this masterwork weaves a fully updated and unexpected tale of shark's extraordinary evolutionary adventure. Along the way, *The Secret History of Sharks* introduces an enormous range of incredible organisms: a thirty-foot-long shark with a deadly saw blade of jagged teeth protruding from its lower jaws, a monster giant clams crusher, and bizarre sharks fossilized while in their mating ritual, and also includes startling new facts about the mighty megalodon, with its sixty-six-foot-long body, massive jaws, and six-inch serrated teeth.

The book showcases the global search to discover sharks' secret history, led by Long and dozens of other extraordinary scientists. They embark on digs to all seven continents, investigating layers of earth to reveal never-before-found fossils and the clues to sharks' singular story. *The Secret History of Sharks* is a thrilling story of scientific discovery with ramifications far beyond the ocean.

**John Long** is the Strategic Professor of Paleontology at Flinders University in Adelaide. His work has appeared in *Nature*, *Science* and *Scientific American*.

**ACM Agent:** Jane von Mehren



“Sharks scare and fascinate us.... This book, by shark expert and great writer John Long, will keep you on the edge of your seat from its first page to its last page.”—**Jared Diamond, Pulitzer-Prize-winning author of *Guns, Germs, and Steel* and other international bestsellers**

“Dive in to this effervescent, engaging biography of the world's most misunderstood creatures. Evolved in obscurity more than half a billion years ago, sharks have endured, survived and thrived the worst that the Earth could throw at it.”—**Dr Henry Gee, Senior Editor *Nature*, author *A (Very) Short History of Life on Earth***

“Rich with scientific detail and enlivened with stories from Long's decades of fossil discoveries and cutting-edge research, this book is the work of a master scientist and storyteller.”—**Steve Brusatte, University of Edinburgh, *New York Times* bestselling author of *The Rise and Fall of the Dinosaurs***

# MASTERING AI

## A Survival Guide to our Superpowered Future

By Jeremy Kahn

NA

July 2024 / Simon & Schuster / US Editor: Eamon Dolan

Edited MS Available

Rights Sold:

UK/Comm (Bedford Square)

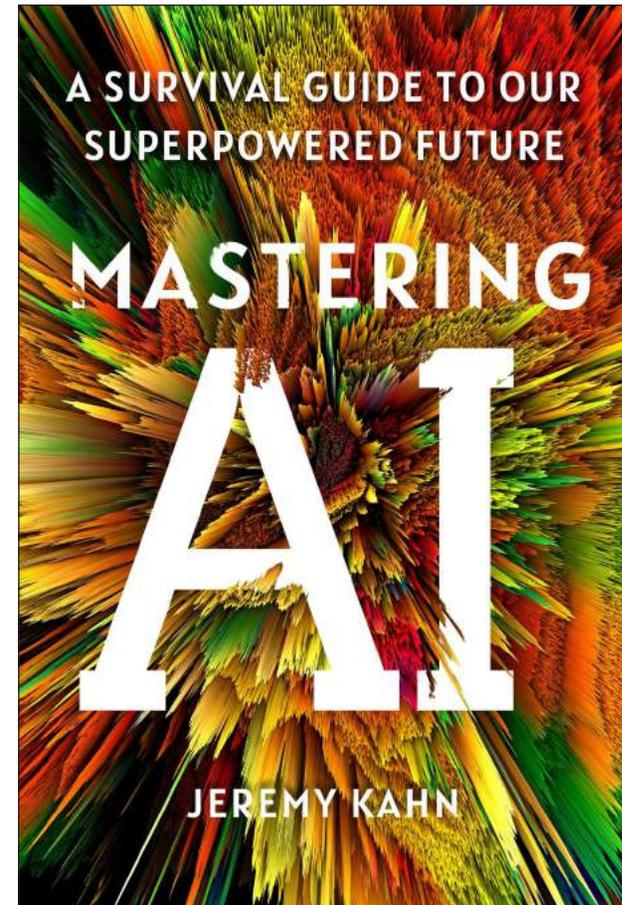
A *Fortune* magazine journalist draws on his expertise and extensive contacts among the companies and scientists at the forefront of artificial intelligence to offer dramatic predictions of AI's impact over the next decade, from reshaping our economy and the way we work, learn, and create to unknitting our social fabric, jeopardizing our democracy, and fundamentally altering the way we think.

Within the next five years, Jeremy Kahn predicts, AI will disrupt almost every industry and enterprise, with vastly increased efficiency and productivity. It will restructure the workforce, making AI copilots a must for every knowledge worker. It will revamp education, meaning children around the world can have personal, portable tutors. It will revolutionize health care, making individualized, targeted pharmaceuticals more affordable. It will compel us to reimagine how we make art, compose music, and write and publish books. The potential of generative AI to extend our skills, talents, and creativity as humans is undeniably exciting and promising.

But while this new technology has a bright future, it also casts a dark and fearful shadow. AI will provoke pervasive, disruptive, potentially devastating knock-on effects. Leveraging his unrivaled access to the leaders, scientists, futurists, and others who are making AI a reality, Kahn will argue that if not carefully designed and vigilantly regulated AI will deepen income inequality, depressing wages while imposing winner-take-all markets across much of the economy. AI risks undermining democracy, as truth is overtaken by misinformation, racial bias, and harmful stereotypes. Continuing a process begun by the internet, AI will rewire our brains, likely inhibiting our ability to think critically, to remember, and even to get along with one another—unless we all take decisive action to prevent this from happening.

Much as Michael Lewis's classic *The New New Thing* offered a prescient, insightful, and eminently readable account of life inside the dot-com bubble, *Mastering AI* delivers much-needed guidance for anyone eager to understand the AI boom—and what comes next.

ACM Agent: Todd Shuster



**Jeremy Kahn** is an award-winning senior writer for *Fortune* magazine, where he covers artificial intelligence and other emerging technologies. In addition to cover stories and features, he writes *Fortune's* weekly Eye on AI newsletter and cochairs its Brainstorm AI technology conferences. Previously, he wrote about technology, including AI, for *Bloomberg*. His writing on a range of subjects has also appeared in *The New York Times*, *Newsweek*, *The Atlantic*, *Smithsonian*, *The Boston Globe*, *The New Republic*, and *Slate*. He has reported from India and much of South Asia, the Ivory Coast, Iraq, Venezuela, and most countries in Western Europe. He is a former managing editor of *The New Republic*. He lives with his family in Oxford, England.

# THE LAST HUMAN JOB

Work, Intimacy, and the Power of Connecting

By Allison Pugh

WE

June 2024 / Princeton University Press / US Editor: Meagan Levinson

Edited MS Available

A timely and urgent argument for preserving the work that connects us in the age of automation.

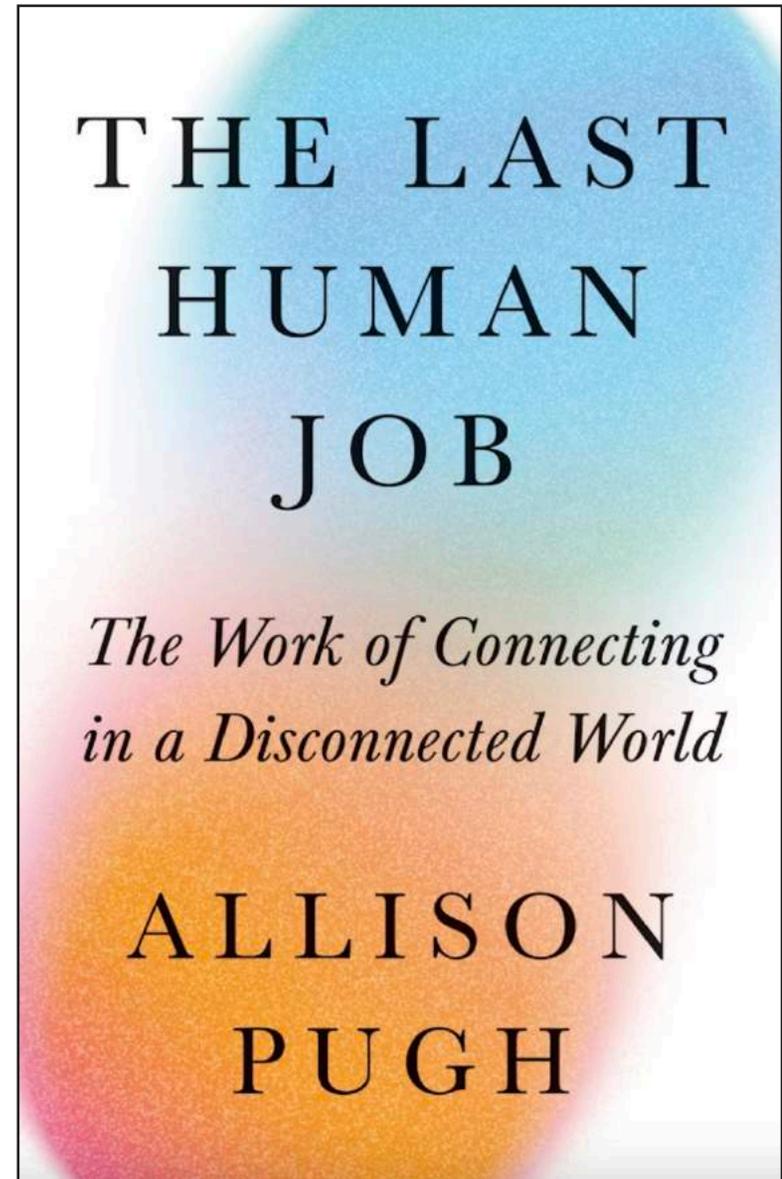
With the rapid development of artificial intelligence and labor-saving technologies like self-checkouts and automated factories, the future of work has never been more uncertain, and even jobs requiring high levels of human interaction are no longer safe. *The Last Human Job* explores the human connections that underlie our work, arguing that what people do for each other in these settings is valuable and worth preserving.

Drawing on in-depth interviews and observations with people in a broad range of professions—from physicians, teachers, and coaches to chaplains, therapists, caregivers, and hairdressers—Allison Pugh develops the concept of “connective labor,” a kind of work that relies on empathy, the spontaneity of human contact, and a mutual recognition of each other’s humanity. The threats to connective labor are not only those posed by advances in AI or apps; Pugh demonstrates how profit-driven campaigns imposing industrial logic shrink the time for workers to connect, enforce new priorities of data and metrics, and introduce standardized practices that hinder our ability to truly see each other. She concludes with profiles of organizations where connective labor thrives, offering practical steps for building a social architecture that works.

Vividly illustrating how connective labor enriches the lives of individuals and binds our communities together, *The Last Human Job* is a compelling argument for us to recognize, value, and protect humane work in an increasingly automated and disconnected world.

**Allison Pugh** is a professor of sociology and chair of the Department of Women, Gender and Sexuality, University of Virginia. She is the author of *Long and Beoning* (University of California Press), which won the 2010 William J. Goode award for the best book in the Sociology of the Family, and was a finalist for the 2010 C. Wright Mills award; and of *The Tumbleweed Society* (Oxford), and she is the editor of *Beyond the Cubicle: Job Insecurity, Intimacy and the Flexible Self* (Oxford).

ACM Agent: Lauren Sharp



## DISNEY HIGH

### The Untold Story of the Rise and Fall of Disney Channel's Tween Empire

By Ashley Spencer

NA

September 2024 / St. Martin's Press (Macmillan) / US Editor: Sarah Grill  
Edited MS Available

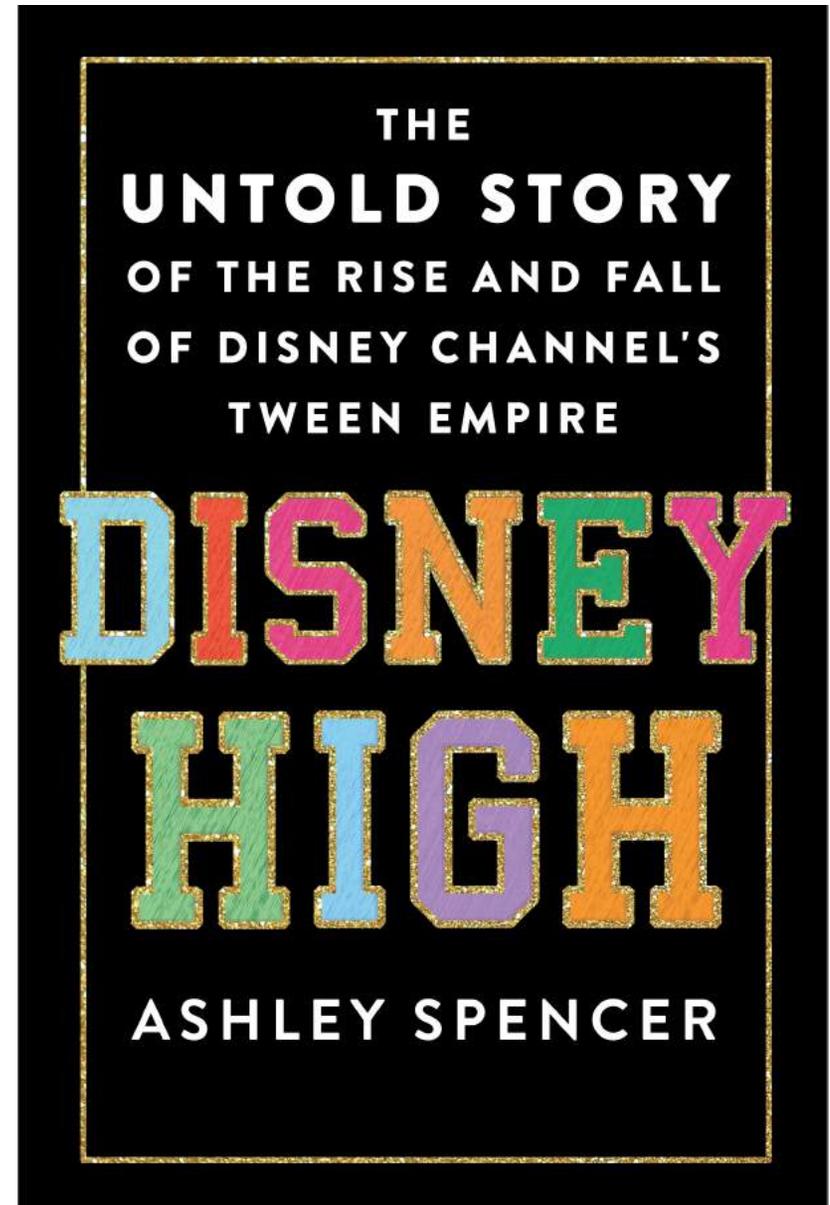
The first and only book to tell the story of Disney Channel and its magical, miraculous heyday.

It wasn't always destined for greatness: by the early '90s the lineup was a scattered selection of nature programming and live broadcasts like the American Teacher Awards. But then, Disney hit gold, launching a random reboot of the '50s stalwart The Mickey Mouse Club. In a nationwide talent hunt, they cast a roster of then-unknowns which included Britney Spears, Christina Aguilera, Justin Timberlake, Ryan Gosling, JC Chasez, and Keri Russell. The show — and the channel — exploded with tweens. And a new target demo was born.

Under the guidance of their new network president, Anne Sweeney, Disney leaned into their new direction hard, becoming the first network to create programming for kids aged 9-14 that their parents could still stomach watching—all produced at once, with no more than sixty-five episodes per show. Even Stevens and Lizzie McGuire were part of that first mold; That's So Raven would be the first to break it when the network ordered seventy-eight episodes in order to avoid the uproar that met the “cancellation” of the first two. It was clear that fans wanted more, and Disney wanted to give it to them. But they'd made the mistake of letting Britney, Christina, and Justin go on to lucrative careers which didn't give them a cut of the money, a mistake they'd quickly rectify by locking their talent into restrictive, all-encompassing contracts. Disney was a star maker, churning out endless content to ravenous fans. But, as recent years have shed light on the intense struggles that come with burdening your young stars with purity rings, morality clauses, paparazzi, weight loss, sexuality, drug use, and no support network, the question remains: did Disney create stars, or just use them before abandoning them when things got hairy?

**Ashley Spencer** is a culture writer and reporter whose work has appeared in *The New York Times*, *The Washington Post*, *Vanity Fair*, *The Guardian*, *The Hollywood Reporter*, *Vice*, *Vulture*, and elsewhere.

ACM Agent: Jon Michael Darga



# THE SNARLING GIRL

## & Other Essays

By Elisa Albert

NA

August 2024 / Clash Books / US Editor: Christoph Paul

Edited MS Available

In sixteen essays, published over the past decade, acclaimed novelist Elisa Albert considers everything from the creative process to reproductive justice, ambition to Ani DiFranco, Judaism to the ethos of punk, all in the midst of making a home in the strange city of Albany, New York.

With wit and wariness, skepticism and surrender, this collection offers a first-of-its-kind window into the life and mind of an author Shalom Auslander once called “Bukowski with a vagina and a motherf\*cker of a hangover.” Whether writing about doula training, struggling to embroider local community, art vs commerce, antisemitism, or growing up in the shadow of Hollywood, Albert is heartfelt, rigorous, and delightfully self-aware.

**Elisa Albert** is the author of the novels *Human Blues*, *After Birth*, *The Book of Dahlia*, and the story collection *How this Night is Different*. She has worked as a bookseller, barista, executive assistant, full-spectrum doula, housewife, Hebrew School teacher, and professor of creative writing.

“This snarling girl has got it: The voice. The voice has a backbeat and a deep supply of rueful wit” —**Jonathan Lethem, author of *Brooklyn Crime Novel***

“In the range and the intensity of this prose is a raw honesty I find riveting, comic (always) and ultimately moving.” —**Peter Orner, author of *Am I Alone Here and Love and Shame and Love***

“I’m a hater but I like Elisa Albert, an actual genius.” —**Samantha Irby, author of *Quietly Hostile***

“The queen of No Bullshit. The barometer of how a person can be emotionally bare and honest without being treachery or a con man.” —**Heidi Julavits, author of *Directions to Myself***

“Albert reclaims the personal as intellectual, political, and essential.” —**Merritt Tierce, author of *Love Me Back***

ACM Agent: Sarah Bowlin

# CRYPTOMANIA

## Hype, Hope and the Fall of the Billion-Dollar Fintech Empire FTX

By Andrew R. Chow

NA

August 2024 / Atria (S&S) / US Editor: Stephanie Hitchcock

Edited MS Available

For fans of *Billion Dollar Whale* and *Going Infinite* and from the *Time* correspondent who covered this remarkable story, a perceptive, eye-opening chronicle of the human side of the fallout from the cryptocurrency bubble.

As cryptocurrency rose in popularity during the pandemic, new converts bought into the idea that crypto would not only make them rich, but usher in imminent revolutions across art, finance, politics, and gaming. This male-dominated, overhyped industry caught the zeitgeist through people like FTX CEO Sam Bankman-Fried, now convicted of one of the most calamitous acts of financial fraud of the last century.

During his meteoric rise, Bankman-Fried outflanked idealists in the movement like Vitalik Buterin, who sought to use his creation Ethereum to build fairer systems. But Bankman-Fried’s growth-obsessed, by-any-means approach to crypto proved far more intriguing to people who just wanted to get rich—which led to the creation of a slew of insanely risky financial instruments that mirrored those of the 2008 financial crisis.

Now, based on in-depth reporting and research within an extensive network in the global crypto community, the full, shocking story of the battle for crypto’s soul is revealed as never before. Engaging and accessible, *Cryptomania* reveals the wrenching human cost of this economic and cultural meltdown—from the common and eccentrics driving the bubble to the victims caught up in their current.

**Andrew R. Chow** is a correspondent for *Time* who covers technology, culture, and business. He has written four *Time* cover stories, including about the impacts of the AI corporate arms race and a prescient profile of Vitalik Buterin months before the 2022 crypto crash. He has previously written for *The New York Times*, *Pitchfork*, and NBC News. *Cryptomania* is his first book.

ACM Agent: Todd Shuster

## PUNISHING PUTIN

Inside the Economic War to Turn Back Russia, Rebuild Ukraine and Save the World

By Stephanie Baker

NA

September 2024 / Scribner (S&S) / US Editor: Colin Harrison

Proposal Available — Edited MS Spring 2024

### Rights Sold:

UK/Comm (Mudlark / HC UK)

In tick-tock narrative prose, *Punishing Putin* will take readers into the high-stakes race to freeze Russia out of Western financial systems, an effort that began within mere hours of Vladimir Putin's stunning invasion of Ukraine.

Fearful of provoking a "hot war" with Russia, owner of the world's largest nuclear arsenal, the US and its allies in Western Europe decided to weaponize the global economy. By freezing Russian central bank reserves, confiscating mansions and superyachts from sanctioned billionaires, and forming a cartel to reset the price of Russian energy, officials have disrupted markets and reordered political alliances—but they have also discovered a lifeline for Ukraine and a possible means to deter future violent conflict around the world. In addition to following the economic brain trust that came together across the White House, the European Commission, and 10 Downing Street, *Punishing Putin* will introduce the international coalition of crack investigators who are pursuing Russia's oligarchs to the furthest corners of the globe, including the United States' now-fabled "KleptoCapture" unit. Relying on the author's exceptional level of access to Russia's economic elites and deep reporting experience in Moscow, *Punishing Putin* will show how the oligarchs have had to respond to aggressive sanctions in real-time, caught between a murderous Russian state and a Western financial system bent on expelling them at all costs.

*Punishing Putin* promises to engage a wide array of readers interested in business, history, and current affairs, those who, for example, made *Washington Post* reporter Craig Whitlock's *The Afghanistan Papers* a #1 *New York Times* bestseller. Another apt comp: Timothy Snyder's *The Road to Unfreedom*. Much as Snyder's work captured the historical trends underlying the rise of Putin, *Punishing Putin* will chronicle the economic warfare being used to bring him down and show that we are entering a new and dangerous era in world politics. Lastly, Baker will be returning to the narrative grounds that made Bill Browder's *Red Notice* an influential and sobering account of life in Putin's Russia.

ACM Agent: Todd Shuster

## STENCH

The Making of the Thomas Court—And the Unmaking of America

By David Brock

NA

September 2024 / Knopf (PRH) / US Editor: Andrew Miller

Proposal Available — Edited MS Spring 2024

ProPublica recently revealed that Texas billionaire and Federalist Society donor Harlon Crow has been funding the lifestyle of Supreme Court Justice Clarence Thomas and his wife, conservative activist Ginni Thomas, detailing hundreds of thousands of dollars in undisclosed gifts, flights on Crow's private jet, and payments to cover boarding school tuition for Thomas's grand-nephew. Richard Painter, an ethics lawyer who served in George W. Bush's White House, decried the corruption: "This is way outside the norm, this is way in excess of anything I've seen. This amount of undisclosed gifts? You'd want to get them out of government."

In *Stench*, *New York Times* bestselling author David Brock will pull together, in powerful narrative detail, the untold deeper story of how this plot against America unfolded, a story in which the author himself played a key role, a grim saga of a stealth campaign to accomplish a right-wing revolution in the law and American society as a whole through cynical manipulation of the judicial conformation process. At the center of the campaign to pack the court and use it as a weapon in a radical, hard-right ideological and cultural war are the corrupt duo, Clarence and Ginni Thomas, whose machinations have helped drag down approval ratings for the high court. The Thomas Court, with a majority of five, is poised to transform America as we know it, as individual rights and liberties are purposely stripped away from millions of Americans, and millions of Americans organize to fight back. We cannot comprehend this riveting political moment, or the country's future course as a representative democracy, until the truth behind these breathtaking plots by secretive groups, like the Federalist Society and the Opus Dei movement inside the Catholic Church, is fully revealed and tied together in *Stench*, a hidden history of the hijacking of U.S. democracy.

**David Brock** is an experienced Democratic Party organizer. He is the founder of both Media Matters, the most influential broad-based Democratic organization in the country, and American Bridge, the innovative research Super PAC that has proven decisive in Democratic victories across the country.

ACM Agent: Will Lippincott

# APOCALYPSE

## Rediscovering Our Past and Surviving Our Future

By Lizzie Wade

WE

Fall 2024 / HarperCollins / US Editor: Sarah Haugen

Proposal Available — Edited MS Spring 2024

### Rights Sold:

Finnish (Bazar)	Russian (AST)
Korean (Gimm-Young)	Simplified Chinese (Dook)
Polish (Marginesy)	Spanish (Planeta)
Romanian (Grup Media)	Swedish (Verbal Forlag)

Apocalypse is in the air. The climate is changing, and it's too late to stop it. Crops will fail, freshwater will become scarce, while storms and fires grow ever more powerful, and cities sink under rising waters. Millions will be driven from their homes, sparking violent conflicts and war.

Against that backdrop, *Apocalypse* offers surprisingly good news: We've been here before. History is long, and people in the past have confronted just about every apocalypse we're facing today, from plagues to the extinctions, and they made it out to the other side. We will, too. Appealing to fans of Jared Diamond's *Collapse* and Yuval Noah Harari's *Sapiens*, *Apocalypse* seeks to change how readers think about human history, reframing it as a series of crises and cataclysms, from the rise of Homo sapiens in our deep past to the Syrian civil war in our present. It will tell the real stories of past apocalypses, using cutting-edge science to illuminate them in all their complexity. Even in the worst of times, people had choices. They moved, they adapted, they changed. They survived.

*Apocalypse* will also serve as an introduction to archaeology in the field's most exciting time. This book will stretch beyond the story of a single culture to grab readers interested in the science of archaeology as a whole. It seeks to impart a sense of wonder about past civilizations based on new and revolutionary science. All of these past apocalypses have set us on the road to where we are now; modernity has been built, brick by brick, out of endless end times. Our current world is just one, imperfect, already post-apocalyptic option among many ways of being. To understand who we are and where we came from, we need to understand those past disasters and how they shaped everything that came after, for better and for worse.

**Lizzie Wade** is an award-winning journalist and correspondent for Science, covering archaeology, anthropology, and Latin America.

**ACM Agent:** Sarah Levitt

# A BILLION BUTTERFLIES

## A Scientist's Life in Climate and Chaos

By Jagadish Shukla

NA

Winter 2025 / St. Martin's Press (Macmillan) / US Editor: Pete Wolverton

Proposal Available — Edited MS Fall 2024

A wondrous insider's account of climate science over the past half-century and a scientist's quest to overcome the chaos that for so long seemed to dictate his life, finding that some forces are so powerful—in science and in us—that even a billion butterflies cannot compete.

Jagadish Shukla is a renowned climate scientist responsible for our ability to predict weather more than 10 days in advance. In the 1970s, Shukla created dynamical seasonal prediction—a new way of calculating climate trends that upended everything we knew about weather prediction. He then went on to teach scientists and governments the world over how to improve their prediction techniques, which in turn saved lives, made agricultural practices more effective, fed more people, and overall gave us better weather forecasts. Shukla also won a Nobel Peace Prize with Al Gore and sounded one of the earliest alarms about global warming. And all of this is even more remarkable when you consider that he grew up in a poor, rural village in India with no electricity, no plumbing, and no shoes. He's just a wonder, as is this proposal, which is an inspiring and hopeful memoir of his life and work.

It's thanks to Shukla's discovery that we understand hurricane season as extensively as we do, or that we can see an extreme heatwave coming far enough in advance to warn the communities it will hit hardest. Throughout the subsequent years he founded a first-of-its-kind meteorological institute. *A Billion Butterflies* will illuminate, inform, and inspire. Understanding dynamical seasonal prediction will change the way you experience a thunderstorm or interpret an entire city's monthly forecast; understanding its origins and the remarkable story of the man who discovered it will change the way you see our world.

**Jagadish Shukla** is a Distinguished University Professor and the Founding Chairman of the Department of Atmospheric, Oceanic and Earth Sciences at George Mason University. He has made fundamental contributions to the study of climate dynamics and was one of the lead authors of the 2007 report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), which shared the Nobel Peace Prize with Vice President Gore.

**ACM Agent:** Lauren Sharp

# THE REVOLUTION IS HERE

## A Memoir

By Chris Smalls

NA

Spring 2025 / Pantheon Books / US Editor: Denise Oswald

Proposal Available — Edited MS Fall 2024

### Rights Sold:

UK/Comm (Penguin UK)

A powerful memoir by one of the most electric and consequential people to emerge on the social and labor justice scene in decades: the founder and President of the Amazon Labor Union, Chris Smalls.

It would be hard to miss the incredible, wall-to-wall international media coverage of Chris's and the ALU's astonishing victory on April 1 of this year when they won a landmark election to form the first union at an Amazon warehouse in America and made history. *The Revolution is Here*, will tell the riveting inside story—an epic David-and-Goliath tale that's also a best-friends-against-the-world heart warmer—of how a small, scrappy band of warehouse workers in New York led by a young, unemployed Black man with almost no resources improbably took on Amazon, one of the world's top 5 largest private employers, and won. Smalls, now widely recognized as a visionary and leader of his generation, will also speak to the future of the massive new labor movement unfolding in this era of political and social unrest, especially among the young working class.

In addition to telling the behind-the-scenes story of how Chris founded the ALU (which has not yet been fully told, despite all the media—you'll read many new details in this proposal), *The Revolution is Here* will be deeply personal, vividly introducing readers to the private man behind the public persona. The narrative traces his dramatic story from a young Black student hoping to make it as a rap artist to a down-trodden and increasingly frustrated warehouse worker with few if any obvious paths to either justice or economic stability to the leader of a new generation's labor movement. Set in working-class neighborhoods in New Jersey and New York, with road trips to Jeff Bezos's mansions (well, the sidewalks outside of them anyway) and Bessemer, Alabama, *The Revolution is Here* will let readers into Chris Small's life and extraordinary mission.

**Chris Smalls** is the founder and president of the Amazon Labor Union, an independent, democratic, worker-led labor union at Amazon in Staten Island.

**ACM Agent:** Jen Marshall

# MAKE IT OURS

## A Cultural History

By Robin Givhan

NA

Spring 2025 / Crown (PRH) / US Editor: Kevin Doughten

Proposal Available — Edited MS Fall 2024

### Rights Sold:

UK/Comm (Hutchinson Heinemann / PRH UK)

Prize-winner and Washington Post senior critic-at-large Robin Givhan's newest book *Make it Ours* is a sweeping story of race, culture, and fashion in which Givhan uses the remarkable life and career of Virgil Abloh, the rare Black man to ascend to the top of one of Europe's legendary fashion houses (Louis Vuitton), to tell the broader story of how Black American culture, driven by hip-hop, street style, and sports, collided with the grand old bastions of high luxury to democratize fashion, create a new global vernacular for taste, and transform the way each of us constructs our identity through what we wear.

Virgil Abloh's story is lens through which to view a much bigger story about fashion's evolution and setbacks over the past decade-plus—it will explore the fashion industry's relationship with race; the intersection of consumerism and identity; streetwear, menswear, and what gets defined as luxury for a new generation of buyers; and inclusion, representation, and how change is made.



### Previous Publishers:

Brazilian Portuguese (Jorge Zahar)  
French (Editions Séguier)

**Robin Givhan** is a style and culture critic based in Washington, D.C. She is the former fashion editor of *The Washington Post*, where she covered the news, trends, and business of the international fashion industry, and she is the former style editor for *Time*, and *The Daily Beast*. In 2006 she won the Pulitzer Prize in criticism for her fashion coverage. *The Battle of Versailles* is her first book.

**ACM Agent:** David Kuhn & Nate Muscato

# CITIZEN KIM

## The Life and Times of Kim Kardashian West

By Jonathan Van Meter

NA

Spring 2025 / Viking (PRH) / US Editor: Rick Kot

Proposal Available — Edited MS Available Summer 2024

### Rights Sold:

Danish (Politikens)	Italian (Vallardi / GeMS)
Dutch (Spectrum)	Norwegian (Gyldendal)
Finnish (Otava)	Russian (Eksmo)
French (Calmann-Lévy)	Swedish (Bokfabriken)
German (Goldmann)	UK/Comm (Ebury / PRH UK)

Drawn from Jonathan's extensive research and written with his inimitable writerly flair, *Citizen Kim* will offer a fully authorized, crystal clear window into the life of global mega celebrity, civil rights advocate, and fashion and beauty mogul Kim Kardashian.

As it captures the Kardashian-Jenner family's world of Hollywood glitz, glamour, and fame, *Citizen Kim* will also chronicle the shifting landscapes, from the 1990s to the present, of celebrity culture, racial and sexual politics, and social justice movements from Black Lives Matter to gay marriage, from prison reform to transgender freedom. Most notably, though, it will share the origin story of a modern-day superwoman, a slice-of-life portrait of one of the most influential, most affluent, most talked about public figures of our time. It will recount her early experiences with media attention and notoriety as the daughter of O.J. Simpson's defense attorney, as well as her entrepreneurial passions and pursuit of fame and fortune in her own right. It will follow her family as they get their first real dose of fame after the launch of Kim and Kris' brainchild, *Keeping Up with the Kardashians*. It will also track Kim's friendship-turned-romance with Kanye West, her dramatic ascent to the top of the fashion industry, and her life as the mother of four children. Then too, *Citizen Kim* will capture Kim's lifelong interest in law and racial justice, as well as her steadfast determination to do good in the world. A perfect read for pop culture aficionados, political junkies, and Kim fanatics and skeptics alike.

**Jonathan Van Meter** has reported on culture for over thirty years and has interviewed nearly every woman who is anyone: including Jane Fonda, Tina Fey, Jill Biden, Jennifer Aniston, Beyoncé, Joan Didion, Joan Rivers and Michelle Obama.

ACM Agent: Todd Shuster

# TINDERBOX

## India's Slide Towards Turmoil

By Sadanand Dhume

NA

Spring 2025 / Yale University Press / US Editor: Jaya Chatterjee

Edited MS Available Fall 2024

### Rights Sold:

Complex Chinese (Asif)	UK/Comm (HarperCollins UK)
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A brilliant, 60,000 word book on India that will become the next big book on the world's largest democracy, and promises to address India's response (and failures) during the pandemic.

Like Ed Luce's *In Spite of the Gods* and Suketu Mehta's *Maximum City*, and books like Evan Osnos's *Age of Ambition*, *Tinderbox* profiles a country at a moment of monumental change as it faces the potential for either great leaps forward or catastrophic mistakes. Dhume uses masterful writing, unforgettable characters and original reported stories – like the dynamic and dangerous Yogi-politician in Uttar Pradesh featured in the proposal's sample chapter – to challenge the conventional view of India by arguing that strident Hindu nationalism, sluggish economic growth and fraying democratic institutions threaten the future of the world's largest democracy, and as result, the rest of the world. We hope that *Tinderbox* will be published in 2022, to coincide with 75 years of Indian independence.

**Sadanand Dhume** is the South Asia columnist for the *Wall Street Journal* and a resident fellow at the American Enterprise Institute. He writes about India regularly for leading U.S. publications including *the Wall Street Journal*, *the Atlantic* and *Foreign Policy*, and appears regularly on U.S. and international TV and radio as an expert on India and South Asia.



ACM Agent: Bridget Wagner Matzie

# THE CREATURES' GUIDE TO CARING

How Animal Parents Teach Us That Humans Were Born to Care

By Elizabeth Preston

NA

Spring 2025 / Viking (PRH) / US Editor: Emily Wunderlich

Proposal Available — Edited MS Fall 2024

Rights Sold:

UK/Comm (Scribe)

*The Creatures' Guide To Caring* explores the evolution of parenting through the lived experiences of familiar and exotic animals, and at its heart asserts that caring—the tools of which have been woven into our DNA over millions of years—is what makes us human.

In *The Creatures' Guide To Caring*, readers will meet an extended clan of caretakers of the natural world, from birds and bees to hyenas and frogs. In the field and in the lab, readers will also meet scientists who are tracking these animals, sketching their family trees, sequencing their DNA, and spying on them by drone. We'll see that their discoveries follow a common theme: no matter the gender (females, males, animals that switch their sex when the time is right) and no matter how closely or distantly related, we animals all use shared genes, hormones, and brain circuitry to care for our young.

Diving into the lived experiences of animals, readers will feel a sense of kinship with other species as they explore the evolution of parenting, even if that kinship is sometimes missing from their fellow *Homo sapiens*. New research reveals that anyone who spends time caring for an infant can activate the parts of their caretaking brain, which is an ancient brain architecture that we share with parents across the animal kingdom. At its heart, the book asserts that the separations we draw between ourselves and the other animals, or between different types of humans, deny us our humanity. We're all connected; humans evolved to care for children as villages and communities, and all of us carry this legacy in our brains and bodies.

To be clear: this isn't a book for parents only, though there's a lot here that will entice. Whether you're a parent or non-parent, or someone's uncle, daughter, or brother, *The Creatures' Guide To Caring* is for you. We are all born to care.

**Elizabeth Preston** is a freelance science journalist who contributes regularly to the *New York Times* and the *Boston Globe*.

ACM Agent: Sarah Levitt

# A MORE PERFECT UNION

Essays on Organizing

By Vanessa Veselka

NA

Spring 2025 / W.W. Norton / US Editor: Tom Mayer

Proposal Available — Edited MS Fall 2024

From an award-winning novelist and labor organizer with over twenty years in the field, *A More Perfect Union* is both a tool that interested workers can use and also a larger meditation on, and dissection of, the principles and practices that build power.

In recent months and years, it feels like we see stories of workers organizing everywhere—in the auto industry, in academia, in publishing, in Hollywood, in the rail industry, in health care, and the list goes on. But as Veselka notes, this wave of effort is certainly historic and yet it's not as pervasive as it seems. So many people still need the skills, understanding, and confidence that could come from a deeper engagement with the principles of organizing. Essay by essay, *A More Perfect Union* will bring nuance to some of the biggest questions about how power builds and what an individual can do to foster it.

Veselka is an award-winning and critically acclaimed novelist but her non-fiction is also in a category of its own, whether it's a dive into her organizing efforts with care workers deep in the pandemic for *The New York Times*, or her early reporting on conditions in warehouses at Amazon for the *Atlantic*. With her rare combination of skills as a storyteller and thinker as well as her deep knowledge and experience as an organizer, this book is both completely unique to her abilities and urgently needed, especially as we see a wave of labor struggles taking hold across the US and around the world. In the style and vein of Timothy Snyder's *On Tyranny*, *A More Perfect Union* is a book about and for the cornerstone of any democracy, the people.

**Vanessa Veselka** is a novelist who has been, at various times, a teenage runaway, a sex-worker, a union organizer, a student of paleontology, a musician, a cab driver, and a mother. She is the author of *The Great Offshore Grounds*, which was long-listed for the 2020 National Book Award in Fiction, and which won the Oregon Book Award, and the cult classic, *Zazen*, which was awarded the 2012 PEN/Robert W. Bingham Prize.

ACM Agent: Sarah Bowlin

# UNTITLED ON AI

## How to Be Human in the Age of AI

By Ayanna Howard

NA

Spring 2025 / W.W. Norton / US Editor: Jessica Yao

Proposal Available — Edited MS Fall 2024

### Rights Sold:

Complex Chinese (Heliopolis)  
Korean (Kachi)

Simplified Chinese (China Translation)  
UK/Comm (Hodder / Hachette UK)

Drawing on cutting-edge research, and her own experience as one of the few Black women in the field of robotics, Ayanna shares how she navigated bias in her own coming-of-age as a roboticist. She also reveals how the world of computer programmers, which largely lacks women and Black people, is producing thinking machines that too often think like their flawed creators.

This book explores how the tech world's racial and gender biases are infecting the next generation of AI, for fans of Cathy O'Neil's *Weapons of Math Destruction* and Martin Ford's *Rise of the Robots*.

Governments are using supercomputers to track COVID-19 patients. AI is being employed to monitor Black Lives Matter protests. Voice recognition systems have been rolled out that can't hear female voices. Ayanna delivers a stirring warning about the risks of AI and robots - but also offers an uplifting message about empowerment and where we need to go next.

Ayanna's *Sex, Race & Robots: How to Be Human in the Age of AI* was released as an Audible Original—topping the Audible charts—which formed the inspiration for this full-length trade book, at a time when the dangers of bias in our AI-powered machines has never been greater.

**Dr. Ayanna Howard** is an innovator, entrepreneur, leader, and international expert in robotics and AI. Currently, Ayanna is the dean of College of Engineering at The Ohio State University. She also serves on the Board of Directors for the Partnership on AI and Autodesk. Ayanna is a frequent speaker and media expert source for venues such as CNN and NPR. She has also been featured in various interviews, profiles, and podcasts hosted by places like *Vanity Fair*, *PBS*, *Discovery Channel*, *BBC*, *Fox News*, *Huffington Post*, and *VIBE*.

ACM Agent: Sarah Levitt

# THE BATTLE FOR KYIV

## A Nonfiction Proposal from the NYT Ukraine Bureau Chief

By Andrew Kramer

NA

Fall 2025 / Celadon (Macmillan) / US Editor: Ryan Doherty and Bill Hamilton

Proposal Available — Edited MS Spring 2025

When Russia began its feared attack on Kyiv in February 2022, *New York Times* journalist Andrew Kramer was all alone in a hotel in the center of the city.

The *New York Times* had quickly evacuated every other reporter, but Andrew, a student of Russian and Ukrainian history, adept in both Russian and Ukrainian, refused to leave. He knew that the outcome in Kyiv would become a pivotal moment, not just in the Ukraine war, but for the future of European safety and global order. In the days and weeks to come, his coverage of the battle for Kyiv produced extraordinary and unmatched journalism.

In his proposal, Andrew Kramer lays out a book project, tentatively titled *The Battle for Kyiv*, that has become his passion. He will write the definitive book about the conflict this city survived through battle-scene reporting and the stories of unforgettable Ukrainians who became unlikely warriors and whose solidarity and resolve saved their city. The book will be told with singular immediacy, following half a dozen Ukrainians caught up in this important conflict. Andrew's voice and story will make him an unforgettable narrator. His own harrowing journey ensures that this work is one that only he could write—from abandoning his apartment in Moscow, to covering the battle for Kyiv on the ground as almost no other reporter did, to opening the *Times*' new Kyiv bureau in the midst of unrelenting deprivation and danger. Documenting these experiences means the world to him. *The Battle for Kyiv* will be a journalistically rigorous but also uniquely personal work—one that recently assigned reporters simply cannot, and will not, be able to replicate or compete with.

**Andrew Kramer** is *The New York Times*' Ukraine Bureau Chief and a Pulitzer Prize-winning journalist.

ACM Agents: Todd Shuster & Bridget Wagner Matzie

AEVITAS 19

# SUPER BLOOM

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

By Dr. Scott D. Sampson

WE

Fall 2025 / Beacon Press / US Editor: Amy Caldwell

Proposal Available — Edited MS Spring 2025

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

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

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

## Previous publishers of Scott Sampson:

French (Les Arenes)

Lithuanian (Vaga)

Simplified Chinese (Huazhang)

Spanish (Traviesa Editorial)

Turkish (Alfa)

ACM Agent: Esmond Harmsworth

# EMPIRE OF THE ELITE

Condé Nast and the End of an American Era

By Michael M. Grynbaum

NA

Fall 2025 / Simon & Schuster / US Editor: Eamon Dolan

Proposal Available — Edited MS Winter 2025

## Rights Sold:

UK/Comm (Hodder Studio)

Every civilization has its mythmakers, the creators and cultural arbiters who tell us what ideas, images, and people are worthy of our attention. For sheer scale, few entities in history have matched the mythmaking operation that was Condé Nast Publications during its heyday.

This will be the first book-length history of a company that defined the tastes and culture of the late 20th and early 21st centuries. What made Condé Nast successful was simple: the brilliant and mercurial and ambitious people who made the magazines; they were the gatekeepers who decided what mattered and offered those opinions to more than 100 million readers every month.

Though at first blush a book about Condé Nast might sound like New York media inside baseball, the dramatic story of the company's rise—and its diminution over the past decade—touches on virtually all aspects of life and culture, just as its magazines did at their peaks. The complicated, class-anxious characters behind *Vogue*, *Vanity Fair*, *The New Yorker*, *GQ*, *Bon Appétit*, and many others manufactured a vision of luxury and sophistication that shaped consumer habits, cultural trends, intellectual attitudes, and political beliefs the world over. EMPIRE OF THE ELITE will explore how even today, as the company convulses amidst financial losses and tense debates about its own culture, we are indebted to the Condé aesthetic and ethos. The book will offer readers a new way of thinking about class, influence, and the things we value—accompanied by no small serving of delicious gossip, behind-the-curtain stories, and newsworthy tidbits about the celebrities and personalities featured in the glossy pages of Condé Nast's magazines. And it is a story of outsiders becoming insiders, as the cultural, Hollywood, and media elite replaced the Ivy League East Coast WASPs that had defined American notions of status and prestige from the 1800s through the 1960s, and the story of the ultimate influencers before the term was coined.

**Michael M. Grynbaum** is a media correspondent for *The New York Times*, covering the intersection of business, culture and politics.

ACM Agent: David Kuhn & Nate Muscato

AEVITAS 20

# HOLDING LIGHTNING

## The Life, Loves, and Art of Whitney Houston

By Emily Lordi

NA

Fall 2025 / Mariner Books (HarperCollins) / US Editor: Rakia Clark  
Proposal Available — Edited MS Spring 2025

### Rights Sold:

UK/Commonwealth (White Rabbit / Orion)

Emily Lordi, a professor of English at Vanderbilt and a writer-at-large for the *New York Times's T Magazine*, offers the first, comprehensive biography of Whitney, rescuing her from the incomplete and tiresome narrative that has begun to solidify in our collective consciousness. Emily recasts Whitney as the complex, luminous, sui generis woman and artist that she was.

She is considered by many to be the greatest vocalist of the 20th century. She has sold over 200 million records worldwide, won six Grammys, had 11 number ones, and her rendition of “I Will Always Love You” is the longest-running number-one single by a female artist—*ever*. She released her first album, *Whitney Houston*, in 1985—an instant classic and the very first record by a solo female artist to produce three number-one singles—and her last in 2009. After reaching stratospheric heights of fame and success, she tragically died in 2012 when she drowned in a hotel bathtub, with drugs in her body. And yet, for as scrutinized and as public as Whitney Houston was for nearly the entirety of her life, we don't really know her. This book will change that. Emily presents a Whitney who was supremely talented, yes, but who worked doggedly; a Whitney whomade her own shrewd decisions about what to sing and whom to collaborate with and every other choice often been attributed to others. The result is “a Great American Story, one of striving, of hoping, of hustling and persisting,” through the lens of one of our most fascinating and misunderstood cultural figures. Emily interprets Whitney not merely as a tragic celebrity of the '80s and '90s or a pure and unparalleled pop icon but rather as a momentous, pivotal entry in a long history of Black art, performance, music, and celebrity.

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

**ACM Agent:** Lauren Sharp and Will Lippincott



# PROJECT TOTAL RECALL

By Steve Ramirez

NA

Fall 2025 / Princeton University Press / US Editor: Hallie Stebbins  
Proposal Available — Edited MS Spring 2025

### Rights Sold:

Complex Chinese (Commonwealth)  
German (DTV)  
Korean (Gimm-young)  
Italian (Cortina)

Japanese (Bungeishunju)  
Romanian (SC Publica)  
Russian (AST)  
Simplified Chinese (Cheers)  
UK/Comm (Robinson)

*Project Total Recall* is a gripping exploration of the new frontier of brain science: optogenetics.

Memories are the windows to our lived-in realities and are what makes us who we are. During Steve Ramirez's first year of graduate school at MIT in 2012, he and his colleague Xu Liu turned on a light (a literal light—that's the “opto” in optogenetics) that would birth a new field of neuroscience: memory manipulation. Now, the stuff of sci-fi is becoming scientific fact every other week: we can shoot light into the brain to modulate neural activity and alleviate Parkinson's symptoms; we can turn depression-related symptoms on and off; and, we can view how thoughts are formed in the brain and how they manifest in pathological conditions.

*Project Total Recall* is an ultimate insider's account of cutting-edge neuroscience, which has launched a full-scale revolution in the way we treat and classify broken brains.

**Steve Ramirez** is a Junior Fellow at Harvard University and an Assistant Professor of Neuroscience at Boston University, where he is also the principal investigator of the Ramirez Group. His work in artificially manipulating memories has appeared in *Science* and *Nature*, and has been covered by *The New York Times*, *The Boston Globe*, and *TIME Magazine*. Steve has won numerous teaching and science awards, including the Smithsonian Magazine's “American Ingenuity” award, a Forbes “30 Under 30” award, and National Geographic Society's Emerging Explorer award, and he has also delivered TED talks.

**ACM Agent:** Sarah Levitt

# ONE NERVE TO SAVE THE WORLD

It's the Vagus

By Jacqueline Detwiler-George

NA

Fall 2025 / Avid Reader (S&S) / US Editor: Ben Loehnen

Proposal Available — Edited MS Spring 2025

**Rights Sold:**

Simplified Chinese (CITIC) UK/Comm (Scribe)

It would be foolish to believe that the whole story of the mind-body connection will be told through one nerve. But it would be equally foolish not to see the transformation taking place right before our eyes, and the nerve at the center of it.

“I can't wait for you to read Jacqueline Detwiler-George's proposal. I've been eager represent her on a book project ever since I had the pleasure of working with her several years ago on a sprawling, masterful, award-winning magazine story about the state of cancer research. She's a unique author in that she trained for and then gave up a career in neuroscience to follow her dream of being a writer. There's a scientific rigor to her thinking that mixes with unparalleled reporting skills and narrative elasticity that results in an irresistible style. She's also funny.

This proposal is about the vagus nerve, specifically, but it expands out to be about the quest for human health and happiness. As you'll read, neuroscience has been in a fallow period for decades, even longer. None of the ten seminal advances in the history of medicine have involved the brain. But a plenitude of studies into the vagus—both broad and specific—have the potential to move the needle. Understanding the vagus may well lead to the eleventh advance. That understanding is the subject of *One Nerve to Change the World*.”

**Jacqueline Detwiler-George** is a neuroscientist-turned-science-writer.

ACM Agent: David Granger

# CURVED AIR

A Biography of Sickle Cell Anemia and the Excruciating Quest to Cure the First Molecular Disease

By Kevin Davies

WE

Fall 2025 / Harvard University Press / US Editor: Rachel Field

Proposal Available — Edited MS Spring 2025

In the vein of *The Emperor of All Maladies* and *The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks*, *Curved Air* will spin a gripping tale of incredible scientific possibility and devastating neglect and will appeal to the enormous audiences who bought these bestselling titles. This rich, nuanced, untold story, weaving science, history, medicine, politics, economics and ethics in a breezy, accessible style, is long overdue.

*Curved Air* is the groundbreaking story of sickle-cell disease, the classic hereditary blood disorder colloquially known as the “invisible malady.” For more than a century, sickle-cell disease has symbolized the best of modern biomedical science. In the 1950s, it was the first genetic mutation to be described; in the 1970s, it was the first disease to be diagnosed prenatally using DNA testing; and in 2020, it was the first disease to be essentially cured using a revolutionary new gene editing tool. Yet, there is another, darker side to sickle-cell disease. Sickle-cell disease patients—whom are predominately African American—are frequently denied desperately needed pain medications by hospital staff who question the validity of their symptoms. Meanwhile, many patients lack basic information about and/or access to effective generic drugs and screening tools. *Curved Air* will bring “the invisible malady” into the spotlight and is set to be the definitive biography of one of the most notorious genetic diseases affecting humankind.

Placing science and modern medicine at the center of a vital and far-reaching historical and societal story, *Curved Air* will weave together the heartbreaking, inspirational stories of sickle-cell patients and their families with the story of sickle-cell itself, from that first officially described case in Chicago, through the pivotal discoveries over the past century that first revealed SCD to be a molecular disease, spurring a revolution in prenatal DNA diagnosis. It is a story set against the backdrop of medical racism that has hindered SCD research, funding, and medical care for decades.

**Kevin Davies** is the executive editor of The CRISPR Journal and the founding editor of Nature Genetics. He holds an MA in biochemistry from the University of Oxford and a PhD in molecular genetics from the University of London.

ACM Agent: Jen Gates

AEVITAS 22

# APMLIFY

By Adam Met with Heather Landy

NA

Spring 2026 / Harmony (PRH) / US Editor: Matthew Benjamin  
Proposal Available — Edited MS Fall 2025

Adam Met is the bassist for the hugely popular band AJR and the cofounder of Planet Reimagined, a nonprofit that addresses climate change through media. In *Amplify*, Adam harnesses his interdisciplinary thinking and experience as a musician, activist, and thought leader to explore how the music industry sparks passion, builds awareness, and engages supporters—plus how and why these tactics can and should be adopted for social change.

Combining storytelling about music and activism in the vein of Bono's *Surrender*, the scientific research into behavior of Jonah Berger's *Invisible Influence*, and the hands-on tactics and strategies of *Made to Stick*, this is an essential book for activists and anyone who designs campaigns and works to develop fan bases, audiences, or customers. There is a long history of music impacting social movements—slave-era spirituals, Vietnam War protests songs, even AJR's own "Burn the House Down," a song which the March for Our Lives movement adopted. And there are plenty of musicians who have made enormous contributions to activist causes—Bob Geldof was a driving force behind Live Aid to raise money and awareness for the famine crisis in Ethiopia, Bono founded (RED) to fight global health crises, and Coldplay has partnered with various organizations to mitigate the climate impact of touring, while also raising awareness about climate change among fans.

While their celebrity certainly helps get the word out, musicians and the music business in general, have also developed concrete ways of connecting and activating large groups of people. And through his work with causes and activists, Adam has seen that successful music and winning social movement campaigns share important elements: popular and diverse participation; concrete and realistic goals; and effective strategies, effectively implemented. And *Amplify* will teach activists new strategies for succeeding in each of these areas.

**Adam Met** is a musician and activist. He has a PhD in International Human Rights Law from the University of Birmingham. **Heather Landy** is the Executive Editor of *Quartz* and previously covered business news for *The Washington Post*, *Fort Worth Star-Telegram*, and *Bloomberg News*.

ACM Agent: Jane von Mehren

# THE STORY OF YOUR LIFE

By Kathryn Jezer-Morton

NA

Spring 2026 / Viking (PRH) / US Editor: Amy Sun  
Proposal Available — Edited MS Fall 2025

Rights Sold:

Canada (Random House Canada)

An exploration of how social media has transformed the way we make sense of our own experiences, and an incitement to embrace the ways our lives resist capture, from a sociologist and columnist for *New York Magazine*.

Both relatable and revealing, *The Story of Your Life* will break down the social media tropes we know so well in order to uncover the deeper truths about how what we see and share on Instagram, Tiktok, and the rest shapes our understanding of some of our most human experiences. Why are "bump hands" a crucial part of pregnancy announcements and what do they show us about acceptable forms of femininity and family-making? What do we consciously and subconsciously project when we share "some personal news" about our big promotion or latest trip to Paris? How do our families, our homes, and our politics show up online—and how does what we see online impact the way we parent, decorate, and think about our values?

A trained sociologist and the journalist behind *New York Magazine's Brooding* newsletter, Kathryn will draw on original research, interviews, and theory to show how, when social media's stories live rent-free in our heads, they shut out more authentic narratives, impoverishing our ability to feel, cope with difficulty, and embrace complexity. What's the alternative? While Kathryn is skeptical of self-improvement narratives that echo the priorities of the algorithms, she'll devote the final two chapters of the book to thinking through how we cultivate and preserve "what resists capture"—the precious sense of belonging, creativity, and attention that have made us human all along. Blending scholarly rigor with a journalist's eye and Kathryn's down-to-earth sensibility and dry humor, *The Story of Your Life* will delight fans of Anne Helen Petersen and Jia Tolentino, devotees of Angela Garbes and Jenny Odell, viewers of *The Social Dilemma*, and any human with a brain and an Instagram account.

**Kathryn Jezer-Morton** writes for *New York Magazine* and *The Cut*, where she also publishes the biweekly newsletter *Brooding*. She holds a PhD in sociology.

ACM Agent: Maggie Cooper

AEVITAS 23

## START WITH A BEAR

How Sharing Our World with One of Its Biggest, Baddest Animals Could Save Us All

By Pete Alagona

NA

Spring 2026 / HarperOne / US Editor: Maya Alpert

Proposal Available — Edited MS Fall 2025

In the vein of *The Soul of an Octopus* and *Braiding Sweetgrass*, *Start with a Bear* is an inspired response to one of humankind's most pressing questions: How can we coexist with other species on a warming, increasingly crowded planet? The key is to focus on our largest and arguably most complicated animals, known as megafauna, and this book argues that, of them, the animal from which we can learn the most is perhaps the most polarizing of them all: the grizzly.

*Ursus arctos* or grizzly bears, also known as brown bears, occupy a pivotal place in the global extinction crisis. They are uniquely beloved, uniquely threatened, and uniquely poised for a comeback. Few people want a grizzly as a neighbor, and yet there are benefits to learning to live tolerantly, even peacefully, with big, formidable animals. Learning, or relearning, to do so can repair damaged ecosystems, make rural communities more resilient, help heal past injustices, and inspire a diverse new generation of conservationists. Thus, the prospect of recovering grizzly populations has become a test for larger conservation efforts, and nowhere is this test more fraught than in California. Grizzlies have been extinct in California for a century, but in the past few years efforts to bring them back have finally, and unexpectedly, gained momentum and are now being watched closely by everyone. If we can bring grizzlies back to California, the possibilities—for other species, other places, for the entire earth—are endless.

At the fore of these crucial efforts is the author of this book, Pete Alagona, who founded the California Grizzly Alliance in 2016. The group's ultimate goal is to reintroduce brown bears to the Golden State and to use this process as a template for improving human-wildlife coexistence around the world. And now it seems possible that California could see the return of its storied mascot within a decade, which would follow on the heels of this book's publication and make it a must-read for anyone interested in how make big ideas happen for the planet and its most iconic creatures.

**Pete Alagona** is a professor of environmental studies and history at UC Santa Barbara and the author of two books from the University of California Press.

ACM Agent: Lauren Sharp

## BYTES AND BULLETS

The Global Fight for Dominance

By Steven Feldstein

NA

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

Proposal Available — Edited MS Fall 2025

In this new age of global conflict and competition playing out alongside the rise of AI, there has never been a greater need for a grounded understanding of how technology will change the way countries compete for their place in the world.

In *Bytes and Bullets*, Steven Feldstein, Senior Fellow at the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace, shows how technology is already upending how actors wage war. He explains that the winners will be the countries that can adopt disruptive technologies quickly—from AI systems and autonomous drones to satellite internet and advanced semiconductors—and the losers will be those that cannot. The fallout from this shift will very likely reshape our world in dramatic fashion.

The fascinating and frightening new piece of this equation lies in the uncertainty of who those winners and losers might be. More than at any other time in recent history, a single company, organization, or individual can alter the geopolitical playing field with swift and extreme consequences. For readers of Chris Miller's *Chip War*, David Sanger's *The Perfect Weapon*, Rush Doshi's *The Long Game*, and Levitsky and Ziblatt's *How Democracies Die*, *Bytes and Bullets* will take readers to Türkiye, where a single inventor created the cheapest, most reliable drone on the market, and is now responsible \$6 billion a year in weapons export earnings. It will take readers to the Ukraine battlefield where one unstable American CEO could decide the fate of the conflict through his control of Starlink. And it will take readers to the war in Israel and Gaza, where a simple tech breakthrough, likely discovered by a small group of individuals, allowed Hamas militants to evade Israel's Iron Wall.

Illuminating, timely, and engrossing, *Bytes and Bullets* shows that, to make sense of the coming world, we must understand how the new tools of conflict will rewrite all the rules.

**Steven Feldstein** is Senior Fellow at the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace, where his expertise centers on how technology impacts democracy, geopolitics, and national security. Feldstein's first book, *The Rise of Digital Repression* was the recipient of the 2023 Grawemeyer Award for Ideas Improving World Order.

ACM Agent: Bridget Wagner Matzie

AEVITAS 24

# TINY GARDENS EVERYWHERE

## A Kaleidoscopic History of the Food Sovereignty Frontier

By Kate Brown

NA

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

Proposal Available — Edited MS Fall 2025

Did you know the most fertile agriculture in human history occurred not in farm fields (the product of gigantic exertions of energy, science and tech) but with little effort in small garden beds? *Tiny Gardens Everywhere* is a kaleidoscopic, untold history of urban provisioning from environmental historian Kate Brown.

In a radical revisitation of urban, working-class history, *Tiny Gardens Everywhere* shows how, in the very bellies of market capitalism, some people managed to balance between wage labor and an alternative, market-shy world by making alliances with the microbial, vegetal, and animal kingdoms to create garden communities and grow their own food. The book's narrative rotates between these urban, food sovereignty projects of the past and similar trajectories in the present. The chapters in each section spin from eighteenth-century England to fin-de-siècle Berlin, Jim Crow Washington, DC, WWII in Germany and the US, postwar lawn enclosures in Memphis and Chicago, self-provisioning in Tallinn, Estonia, and alternative food movements in Mansfield, Ohio and Amsterdam in the 2020s.

It's a globe spanning tale—a future-facing book that addresses what people can do in these days of climate crisis. Contemporary passages in *Tiny Gardens Everywhere* will alter the imagination of what we think is possible as we face planetary environmental problems that loom so large that we often feel too paralyzed to take action, and are intended to serve as a primer for people interested in urban renewal and growing their own tiny gardens.

**Kate Brown** is an award-winning historian of environmental and nuclear history at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. Her previous books include *Manual for Survival* and *Plutopia*, which won seven academic prizes.

### Previous Publishers of Kate Brown:

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

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

ACM Agent: Sarah Lazin

# STARRY NIGHTS AT THE END OF THE WORLD

## How We Loved and Lost the Stars

By Josh Sokol

NA

Spring 2026 / Random House (PRH) / US Editor: Molly Turpin

Proposal Available — Edited MS Fall 2025

### Rights Sold:

Dutch (Murrow/Overamstel)

A splendor-filled journey through humanity's relationship with the night sky, as guided by the author's own personal quest for awe and reconnection. *Starry Nights* is a mix of science meets humanities, narrative, and existential inquiry about one of the biggest environmental crises of our century.

The night sky has been a source of inspiration for religion and storytelling for as long as we've lived under the stars; some Aboriginal Australian oral star-stories seem to date back tens of thousands of years. But these are the last few years we'll be able to find an uninterrupted view of the stars, as international regulators have greenlit hundreds of thousands of new satellites proposed by Musk and competitors to launch over the next decade.

The book not only brings attention to the urgent environmental crisis spreading above us, but also offers a bittersweet celebration of the stars' significance in our collective consciousness. Legally, the night sky isn't considered an environment at all. Or a global commons. Or an integral part of ecosystems down below, which means the industrial development of the night sky isn't subject to environmental review. Ferrying the reader from ancient ruins to the cutting edge labs dissecting the harms of light pollution on animal – and human – subjects, *Starry Night* asks vital questions about our relationship with nature, the pursuit of meaning and connection, and the need to safeguard our precious ecosystems and a human future that doesn't involve subordinating even the health of once-unreachable ecosystems to the whims of venture capitalists. For readers of globe-trotting environmental adventure narratives a la David Quammen & Elizabeth Kolbert's *The Sixth Extinction*, and hidden universes a la Neil deGrasse Tyson and Ed Yong's *An Immense World*.

**Joshua Sokol** is a freelance writer who covers natural history through on-scene narratives, reported features, news, and commentary. His work has appeared in *The New York Times*, *Science*, *The Atlantic*, *Scientific American*, *Quanta* and beyond.

ACM Agent: Sarah Levitt

AEVITAS 25

# BOB DYLAN AND THE BEATLES

## Minds in Dialogue

By Jim Windolf

NA

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

Proposal Available — Edited MS Spring 2026

A biography that offers a new interpretation of the relationship between Dylan and the Beatles—a connection deeper, more eventful, and more consequential than even their most ardent fans know.

With fascinating details plucked from his deep research and reporting, this comparative biography will offer a new and compelling interpretation of how the Beatles and Dylan changed one another and the culture at large. It will go well beyond the boilerplate line that the Beatles inspired Dylan to rock, and Dylan encouraged the Beatles to go deeper as lyricists, by taking readers through the nuances of a highly unusual back-and-forth influence that spanned decades. Along the way it will do something rare in providing a fresh and highly original depiction of this group of much-chronicled artists.

From the postwar era, when our five main players were listening to the same music and adopting similar attitudes, to their first meeting at the Hotel Delmonico in New York in 1964, and onto Dylan's visiting the childhood homes of Lennon and McCartney in 2009, *Bob Dylan and the Beatles* will immerse readers in a step-by-step narrative steeped in the pungent atmosphere of the analog world.

John, Paul, George, Ringo, and Bob got drunk and high together after concerts and shared meals at one another's homes. They played advance pressings of their albums for one another, and on those occasions the sense of rivalry bubbling beneath the surface of their relationship became apparent to others in the room. Beneath the competitiveness and cutting remarks, however, there was a bedrock of mutual admiration and respect. *Bob Dylan and the Beatles* will be a major new consideration of these beloved artists.

Jim Windolf is Features Editor, Styles, at *The New York Times*. Previously, he worked as a reporter and editor at *The New York Observer* and *Vanity Fair*. In addition to his cover stories for *Vanity Fair*, *Rolling Stone*, and *The New York Times Book Review*, Jim has also written several humor pieces for *The New Yorker* and more than twenty short stories that have appeared in literary journals.

ACM Agent: Michael Signorelli

# **UPCOMING BUSINESS & ECONOMICS**



# TECHNOFEUDALISM

## What Killed Capitalism

By Yanis Varoufakis

NA

February 2024 / Mellville House

Final PDF Available

### Rights Sold:

Albanian (Botart)	Italian (La Nave di Teseo)
Arabic (Dar Al Saqi)	Japanese (Shueisha)
Brazilian Portuguese (Critica/Planeta)	Korean (Book 21)
Bulgarian (Iztok-Zapad)	Romanian (Vellant)
Complex Chinese (Acropolis)	Russian (Ad Marginem)
Croatian (Iris Illyrica)	Serbian (Publik Praktikum)
Czech (Nakladatelství Neklid)	Slovene (Mladinska Knjiga Založba)
French (Editions Les Liens qui Libèrent)	Spanish (Deusto/Planeta)
German (Kunstmann)	Turkish (Epsilon)
Greek (Patakis)	UK (Bodley Head)

A *GUARDIAN* BEST FORTHCOMING BOOK OF 2023 \* *THE TIMES* BIGGEST BOOKS OF AUTUMN 2023 \* *BLOOMBERG* BEST NEW BOOK OF 2024

In a revelatory and pathbreaking work, the #1 international bestselling economist opens our eyes to the new power that is reshaping our lives and the world...

In his boldest and most far-reaching book yet, world-famous economist Yanis Varoufakis argues that capitalism is dead and a new economic era has begun. Insane sums of money that were supposed to re-float our economies in the wake of the financial crisis and the pandemic have ended up supercharging big tech's hold over every aspect of the economy. Capitalism's twin pillars - markets and profit - have been replaced with big tech's platforms and rents. Meanwhile, with every click and scroll, we labour like serfs to increase its power. Welcome to technofeudalism.

Drawing on stories from Greek Myth and pop culture, from Homer to *Mad Men*, Varoufakis explains this revolutionary transformation: how it enslaves our minds, rewrites the rules of global power and ultimately what it will take overthrow it.

**Yanis Varoufakis** is an economist, political leader and the author of numerous best-selling books: *Talking to My Daughter*; *Adults in the Room*, a memoir of his time as finance minister of Greece; *And The Weak Suffer What They Must?*; and *Another Now*.

ACM Agent: Wendy Strothman

# TECHNO-FEUDALISM

## What Killed Capitalism

# YANIS VAROUFAKIS

"Few finance ministers have such a talent for economics as Yanis Varoufakis"

—Joseph Stiglitz

# TECHNO FEUDALISM

## WHAT KILLED CAPITALISM

# YANIS VAROUFAKIS

"Ground-breaking, thought-provoking and highly accessible. Everyone should read it. This is where we're going. The dark, scary, exciting song of our age. 100 out of 100." —Irvine Welsh

"A book for anybody who wants to understand the mess we're in - and since we're all in this mess, that makes it a book for everybody." —Slavoj Zizek, Birkbeck Institute for the Humanities at the University of London

"With superb storytelling, Varoufakis shows how capitalism has eaten itself alive, mutating into an entirely different and more dangerous beast, and calls on us to free ourselves from digital serfdom." —Brett Scott, author of *Cloudmoney*

"Provocative and accessible, this is sure to be a key touchstone in debates about the future of the global economy" —Nick Srnicek, Kings College London

"Compulsive and necessary reading for all who want to see a better world." —Ken Loach, director and screenwriter

# FLIP YOUR LIFE

## How to Find Opportunity in Distress—in Real Estate, Business, and Life

By Tarek El Moussa

NA

February 2024 / Hachette Go / US Editor: Dan Ambrosio

Edited MS Available

### Rights Sold:

UK/Comm (John Murray / Hachette UK)

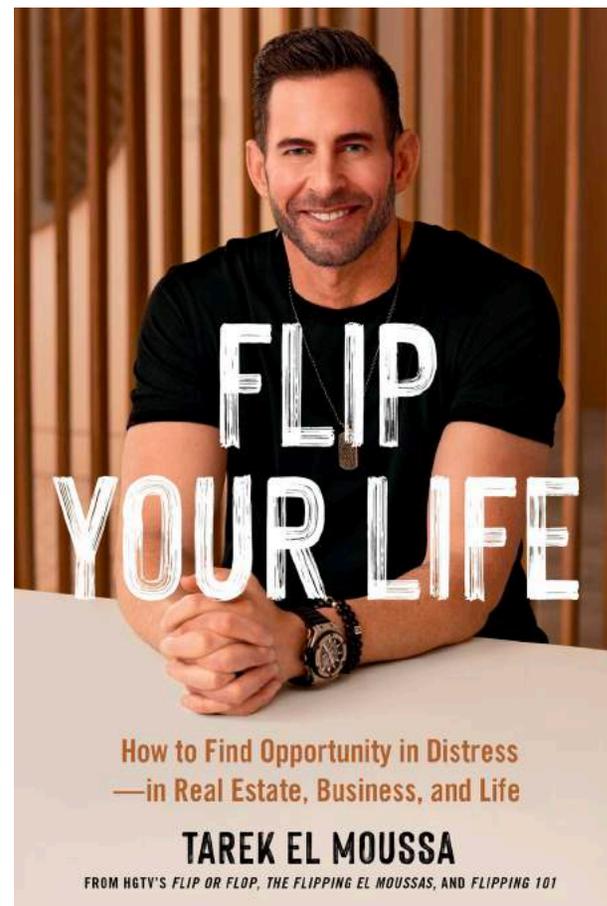
HGTV star real estate investor Tarek El Moussa reveals how the grounding principles that make him such a successful house flipper are also applicable to improving our personal lives.

With over a decade of experience, flipping close to 1,000 properties and selling over 1,000 houses, Tarek El Moussa is a successful entrepreneur, real estate expert and investor. He has a personal rental portfolio of over 200 properties, a wholesale real estate company, a fix and flip real estate company called Tarek Buys Houses, a private equity investment firm called TEM Capital, a production company called Homemade Productions, a real estate education company called Homeschooled by Tarek, and a solar company called Solar Vision.

So, it will surprise Tarek's fans to learn that it wasn't an easy road to the top. After seeing a promising baseball career end before it even began with a devastating shoulder injury, a young and aimless Tarek had no clue what he wanted to do with his life. So, he drank. Finally, one night, Tarek decided not to drink, and instead stepped outside to look at the night sky for the first time since he could remember. That was when he decided his life needed to change—a lot. And fast.

In *Flip Your Life*, Tarek uses his story—that of a lost young man trying to find his way in the world—to take us through the steps of how we can achieve our own goals. In chapters such as “Enlist Your Crew” and “Renovate Relentlessly,” Tarek walks us through how to identify our goals, find the people to help us accomplish them, and then make those first steps with confidence. Along the way, he immerses us in personal and intimate moments that reveal the man behind the beloved HGTV persona, and sheds light for the first time on pivotal moments in his life. A natural coach and teacher, Tarek offers us a candid look behind the camera, making *Flip Your Life* a practical, easy-to-use guide to help readers everywhere learn how to turn their lives from desultory, unhappy “flops” into focused, meaningful, hugely fulfilling success stories.

ACM Agents: Todd Shuster & Jon Michael Darga



When he is not filming his hit HGTV shows, **Tarek El Moussa** travels the country as an in-demand speaker sharing his experiences as a successful businessman, house flipper and a two-time cancer survivor. El Moussa's No. 1 priority is being a hands-on dad and spending time with his children, Taylor, Brayden and Tristan, and his wife, Heather Rae, who co-stars with him on *The Flipping El Moussas*.

# THE PROFITEERS

## How Business Privatizes Profits and Socializes Costs

By Christopher Marquis

NA

May 2024 / Public Affairs (Hachette) / US Editor: John Mahaney

Final PDF Available

An exposé of how society pays for corporations' "free lunch" and the cost of environmental damage, low wages, systemic discrimination, and cheap goods.

In an age when business leaders solemnly profess dedication to principles of environmental and social justice, Christopher Marquis's provocative investigation into the real costs of doing business reveals the way that leaders of the corporate world gaslight to evade responsibilities by privatizing profits and socializing costs. "Who pays?" for the resulting climate and environmental damage, racism, low wages, and cheap goods: the average citizen and the taxpayer.

By bringing to light ideas that today are on the fringe but rapidly making their way into the mainstream, Marquis outlines a new regenerative paradigm for business in society. He tells of a group of pioneers trying to not just reform but transform the way business is conducted all over the world. By taking novel actions to reimagine business operations in responsible ways, minimize their negative impacts, and create new ways for business to properly absorb their hidden costs, these leaders provide blueprints to move the needle on vexing social and environmental issues.

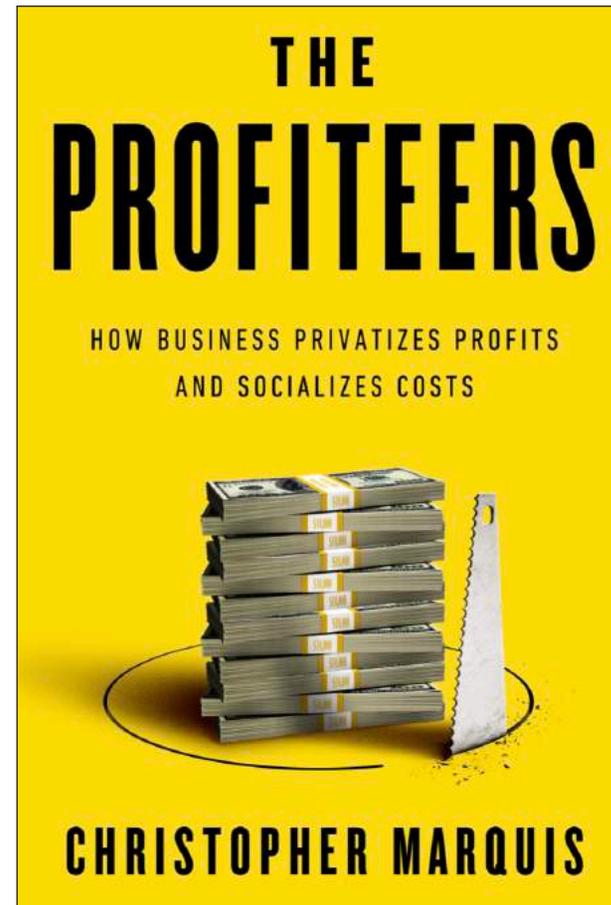
What's in it for leaders of the corporate world? The model of reform presented provides clear guidance on how to get ahead of the curve as an emerging economic order is formed. No business can lead from the front if it is morally-backward looking. History has shown time and again that those who get out in front of emerging changes in our social and environmental landscape protect themselves from inevitable eclipse.

### Previous Publishers:

Italian (Giunti Psychometrics)    Korean (Bona Lieber Publishing)  
Japanese (Newton Press)        Simplified Chinese (CITIC)

**Christopher Marquis**, now at Cambridge University's Judge School of Business, is also senior research fellow at Jesus College's Intellectual Forum. Prior to Cambridge he spent seventeen years at Cornell, Harvard Business School, and the Kennedy School at Harvard. He writes a regular column for *Forbes* and his work has appeared in the *Boston Globe*, *Washington Post*, *Fortune*, *The Hill* and *Harvard Business Review* as well as many academic journals.

ACM Agent: Jane von Mehren



"Impassioned exposé... The result is a galvanizing call to rein in corporate malfeasance."—*Publishers Weekly*

"Everyone must pull their weight... *The Profiteers* makes the case that making a living while doing the right thing is as good for business in the long run as it is for the larger society and the natural world." —**Vincent Stanley, Director, Philosophy at Patagonia, and co-author of *The Responsible Company***

"Powerful, passionate, and persuasive. Christopher Marquis argues that business is both a principal cause of our current troubles and perhaps the most important cure." —**Rebecca Henderson, McArthur University Professor, Harvard University**

"A profound call to action for businesses to take responsibility for their environmental and social footprints. Christopher Marquis shows us that a better business model isn't just possible, it's imperative." —**Paul Hawken, author of *Regeneration***

"A brilliant critique of today's dangerous corporate practice that dumps social and environmental costs on to society in search for ever greater profits... a wake-up call." —**Jeffrey Hollender, co-founder of *Seventh Generation***

"*The Profiteers* identifies practical ways we — individually and collectively — can forge a more sustainable and responsible capitalism." —**Leo E. Strine, Jr., former chief justice and chancellor of Delaware**

# CROSSING THE DESERT

## The Power of Embracing Life's Difficult Journeys

By Payam Zamani

WE

June 2024 / BenBella Books / US Editor: Glenn Yeffeth and Leah Wilson  
Edited MS Available

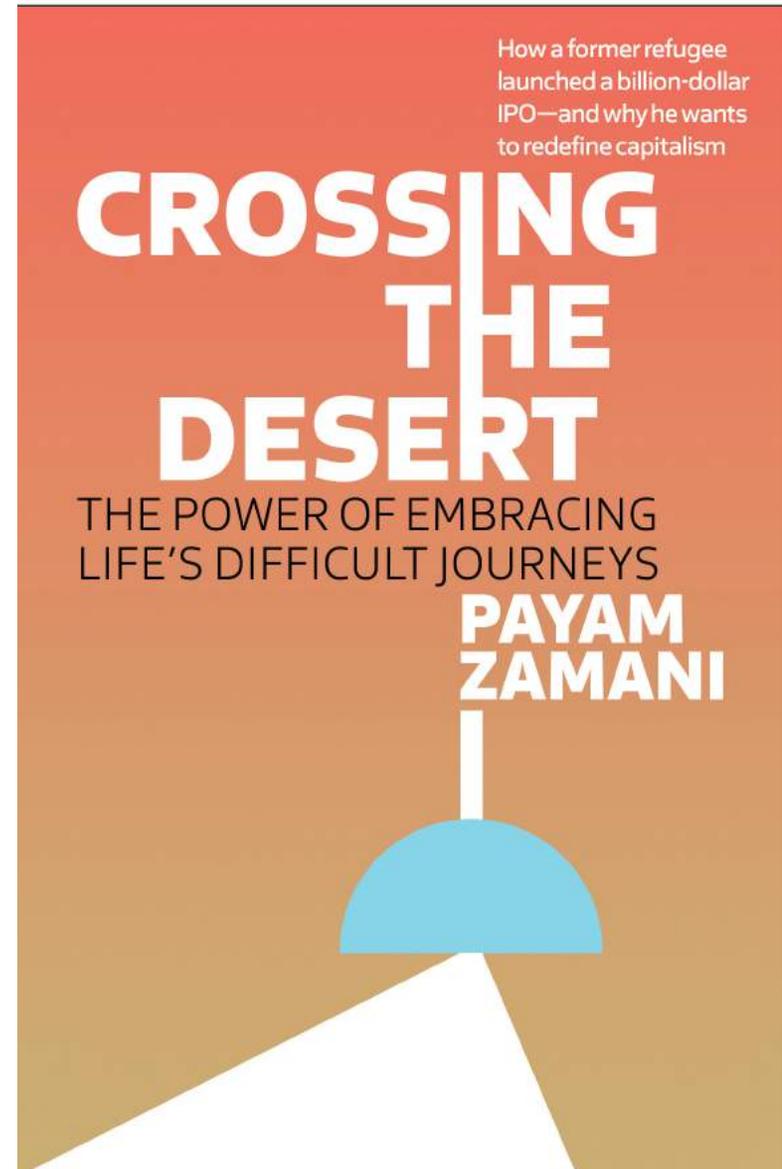
At the age of 16, he escaped persecution and made his way to America as a refugee. At age 28, he secured a billion-dollar IPO. Today, he's redefining what it means to be successful, by building a new model of capitalism. His name is Payam Zamani. And his story is a timely reminder that enduring and embracing life's most difficult journeys can lead us to a brighter future—not only for ourselves, but for the people around us, and even the world.

In the summer of 1987, Payam Zamani fled Iran. Raised by his parents under the peaceful teachings of the Baha'i Faith, he had already survived years of religious persecution at the hands of a fundamentalist regime. Taking the only path available to him, he escaped to Pakistan through the Emptiness Desert: a harrowing five-day trek through one of the hottest, driest, and most hostile regions on the planet. Twelve years later, he and his brother set records when the company they founded hit a \$1.2 billion valuation on Wall Street. He was rich—on paper. But bubbles don't last, and in the wake of yet another Wall Street disaster, he learned the hard way that modern capitalism can be harmful to the human soul.

In 2015, Payam set the example he wanted to see by merging his business acumen with his spiritual beliefs and founding a new company—One Planet Group—this time without letting Wall Street or the venture capital world dictate the terms. Today, One Planet Group is proving that it's not only possible but necessary to build strong businesses while taking care of our employees, customers, communities, and the planet alike. By blending the personal with the historical and the technical with the motivational, *Crossing the Desert* gives readers an intimate look at how the paths we choose, the values we embrace, and the systems we decide to participate in—or not—can make or break us, not only financially, but spiritually.

**Payam Zamani** is the founder, chairman, and CEO of One Planet, a socially responsible hybrid tech firm that owns and operates a suite of online technology and media businesses and is an early stage investor. He is also the Founder and the Editor-in-Chief of BahaiTeachings.org.

ACM Agent: Becky Sweren



# PLAYING FROM THE ROUGH

## A Personal Journey through America's 100 Greatest Golf Courses

By Jimmie James

NA

June 2024 / Simon & Schuster / US Editor: LaSarah Bunting

Edited MS Available

The story of one man's quest to become the first person to play each of America's 100 greatest golf courses in a single year, an odyssey that brings him face to face with the gulf between his impoverished childhood in the Jim Crow South and the successful executive he became.

When he set out to play each of *Golf Digest's* America's 100 greatest golf courses in one year, Jimmie James knew he was attempting the impossible. But then again, he'd spent his entire life defying the odds.

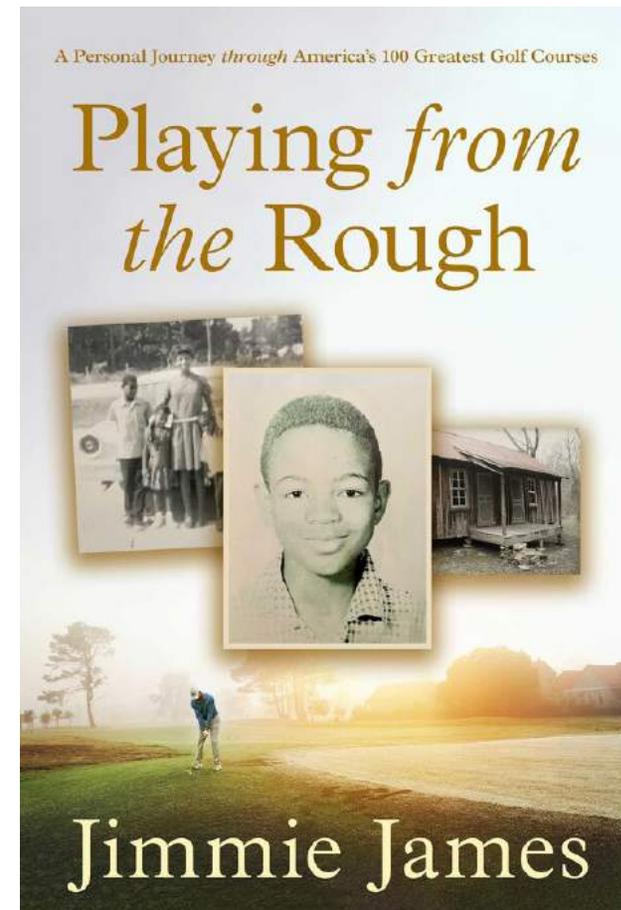
James was born invisible. His birth certificate, long since filed away in some clerk's office in East Texas, recorded facts about him that were deemed most relevant in the late 1950s: "colored" and "illegitimate." His great-great-grandmother was enslaved, and his early life was confined by the privation and segregation of the late Jim Crow-era South.

Four decades later—having put himself through an HBCU and determinedly risen through the executive ranks at ExxonMobil—he embarked on his journey to play the 100 greatest golf courses in the United States. *In a single year.* From the first tee at Augusta National, the distance between the world he grew up in and the world of extreme privilege to which he'd now managed to gain access was impossible to ignore.

*Playing from the Rough* is a remarkable memoir of race, class, family, and the power of perseverance, as James braids his love of golf with reflections on the path that took him from childhood poverty to the most exclusive and opulent golf courses in America.

Born in 1959 in Jim Crow-era Texas, **Jimmie James** was the first in his family not only to graduate from high school but also to pursue and earn a college degree. In his thirty-three-year career with Exxon, James rose from an entry-level engineer to a globe-trotting executive, overseeing businesses across the world. travel, photography, and chess.

ACM Agent: David Granger



"A moving, beautifully written account of growing up Black and poor in East Texas, of learning how to succeed in the business world, and of staying true."—**Mark Whitaker, author of *Smoketown* and *Saying It Loud***

"Not just about the game of golf, but about playing from the rough obstacles of life... a testament to the power of perseverance."—**Renee Powell, Former LPGA Tour Player and PGA of America Hall of Fame Inductee**

"This tale is not some country-clubber's account of la-di-da golf... *Playing from the Rough* is about making it."—**Michael Bamberger, author of *The Ball in the Air***

"[Jimmie] not only pulled off my dream golf adventure, but he wrote a book so good I haven't spoken to my laptop in a week."—**Rick Reilly, *New York Times*-bestselling author of *Commander in Cheat* and *Who's Your Caddy***

AEVITAS 32

# SAY IT WELL

Find Your Voice, Speak Your Mind, Inspire Any Audience

By Terry Szuplat

NA

September 2024 / Harper Business / US Editor: Hollis Heimbouch

Edited MS Available

**Rights Sold:** Complex Chinese (BWP)  
Arabic (Arab Scientific Publishers) UK/Comm (Ebury / PRH UK)

From one of President Barack Obama's longest-serving speechwriters comes a comprehensive guide to writing and delivering your next great speech.

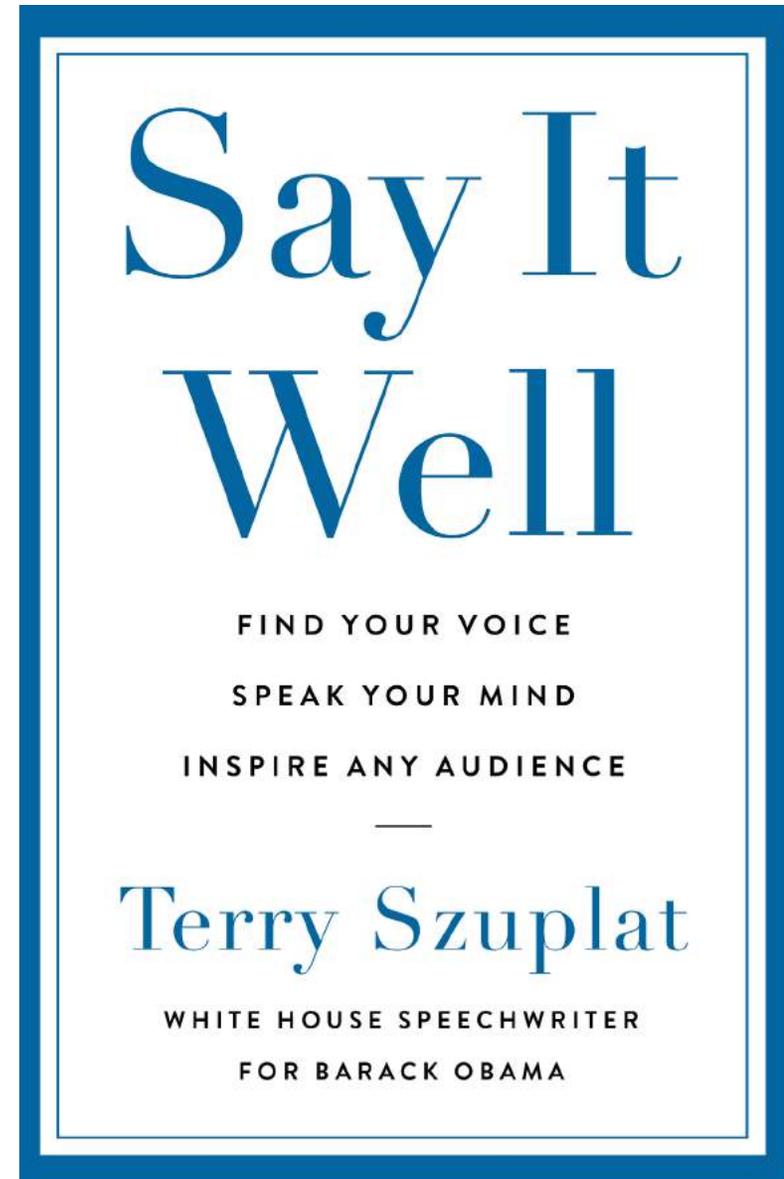
Few world leaders in the modern era are as revered for their communication skills as Barack Obama. But how does an ordinary person develop those skills, and find their voice? In *Say It Well*, former Obama speechwriter Terry Szuplat reveals the tips and tricks he's learned from not only the 44th president, but also ordinary citizens standing up for their convictions and making a difference in their communities. Filled with inspirational stories and unparalleled expertise, *Say It Well* will equip you with:

- Inspiration for overcoming fear of public speaking
- Best practices for using Artificial Intelligence in speech preparation
- Effective ways to open a speech
- Framing techniques to make your arguments more persuasive
- A deeper understanding of how to motivate your audience to take action
- Tricks for polishing your speech for maximum memorableness
- The only way to end a speech

With wit and kindness, Szuplat reveals the public speaking secrets of the world's best speechwriters and includes never-before-heard insights from President Obama on public speaking. Whether you've never spoken in public before, or given a thousand speeches, this book will become your go-to resource for every speaking occasion.

**Terry Szuplat** is a former Senior White House speechwriter. He has written essays for *The Washington Post*, *The New Yorker*, *POLITICO*, and numerous other publications; he has appeared live on CTV, CBC, and Fox and in documentaries by HBO and CNN; he has been interviewed by radio shows and podcasts in the US and abroad, including "Peacock Politics" and "Braver Angels."

ACM Agent: Bridget Wagner Matzie



# THE PERMISSION SWITCH

The Hidden Mechanism that Lets Doers Do—and How to Turn it On

By Clifton Leaf

NA

Spring 2025 / Avid Reader / US Editor: Ben Loehnen

Proposal Available — Edited MS Fall 2024

## Rights Sold:

Complex Chinese (Commonwealth)    Simplified Chinese (Cheers)  
Japanese (Kanki Publishing Inc)    UK/Comm (Profile Books)

Cliff seeks to answer the question that has fascinated him for years: why do some of us see challenges as invitations to act, rather than burdens to deal with or threats to fear? Why do some people think up bold ideas and find a way to make their goals a reality no matter the odds, while many others tell themselves to “be realistic,” take the safe route, and let those dreams go? What is it about the mindset of “doers” that enables them to act when the rest of us would deem it impossible?

The answer, Cliff argues, is a combination of audacity, self-confidence, and—above all—a sense of permission that comes from within. We can all flip our Permission Switches, but doers’ Permission Switches are permanently set to ON. Cliff’s book will delve into the cognitive processes behind their self-motivation, based on groundbreaking research in psychology and neuroscience. He’ll also explore what he calls the “asshole problem”: why some people take their audacity too far, giving themselves permission to harm others. Along the way, he’ll offer windows into the lives of numerous successful figures, from entrepreneurs like Sean Parker and Elon Musk, to entertainers like David Letterman and Michael J. Fox, to activists like Raj Panjabi and Teresa Beech. (In many cases, he’ll draw from his own interviews.) These exceptional people naturally have the fearlessness, optimism, and perseverance to never take “no” for an answer, but Cliff will explain how the rest of us can learn to keep our Permission Switches on more often, too.

**Clifton Leaf** is a Global Fellow at the Ellison Institute for Transformative Medicine and an Adjunct Professor of Journalism at Columbia University. He won a Lifetime Achievement Award for cancer reporting from the European School of Oncology for his critically acclaimed first book *The Truth in Small Doses*. Previously, he served as Editor-in-Chief of FORTUNE, and before that was a guest editor for the *New York Times* op-ed page and *Sunday Review* and Executive Editor of the *Wall Street Journal’s SmartMoney* magazine.

ACM Agent: Esmond Harmsworth

# MURDOCH

The Life and Business of This Century’s Media Master

By Claire Atkinson

NA

Fall 2025 / Grand Central / US Editor: Karyn Marcus

Proposal Available — Edited MS Fall 2024

## Rights Sold:

Dutch (Maven)    Polish (Marginesy / Bonnier Poland)  
German (Langen Müller)    Turkish (Pegasus)  
Italian (Piemme)    UK/Comm (Transworld)

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

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

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

ACM Agent: Bridget Wagner Matzke

# YOU MIGHT WANT THIS

How Companies Hold Us Captive and How to Break Free

By Luc Wathieu

NA

Fall 2025 / W.W. Norton / US Editor: Jessica Yao

Proposal Available — Edited MS Spring 2025

A brilliant analysis of contemporary life that explores how tech companies, vying to make us lifelong customers through the allure of seamless, ultra-convenient shopping experiences, are trapping us in a prison of unthinking, unsatisfying convenience.

The problems Luc identifies are subtle innovations that make life, at first, more pleasant and easy. They seem to like it when companies target their products and services. It's not as if we don't know that we are being manipulated by algorithms – we all do – but we take advantage of these things, anyway, and it does feel a tiny bit flattering on a personal level, as if Google or Amazon appears to have made an effort. Customer data reveals that people also appear to care more about how a service or product is delivered than about the service or product itself. How easy is it to make the reservation, and how quickly can we check in, has become more important than where we are going and what we want to do when we get there. But what if, when we arrive at the hotel or receive our latest package, we realize, this isn't what we want at all? Luc Wathieu is one of the subtlest and most interesting critics of consumer culture, and what he identifies, and explores in this book, is a sort of passivity, a lack of human connection, a lack of real satisfaction and a depression that accompanies contemporary life.

This passive, unthinking state of mind is the conscious goal of the companies we interact with today, who only see our value if we become lifelong customers (as opposed to one-off, occasional buyers of their products). **YOU MIGHT WANT THIS** is the child of *Why We Buy* and *How to Do Nothing*. I promise it will make you think differently about everything from Netflix to Starbucks and What's App – and to make you wonder if the current incarnation of the consumer society isn't more insidious and life-draining than it appears.

**Luc Wathieu** is a behavioral economist, professor of marketing at Georgetown University, and renowned expert on consumer behavior, analytics, and marketing innovations. He enjoys a global academic career that brought him from Brussels to Paris, Hong Kong, Boston, Berlin, and now Washington, D.C.

ACM Agent: Esmond Harmsworth

# THE LEADERSHIP PIVOT

Transforming Your Past to Lead Three Dimensionally

By Pam Manfredo Curtis

WE

Spring 2026 / Atria (S&S) / US Editor: Stephanie Hitchcock

Proposal Available — Edited MS Fall 2025

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

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

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

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

**Pamela Manfredo Curtis, Ph.D.**, is an elite executive coach. Her clients include General Motors, Cummins, Inc., and The Walt Disney Company, among many others. Pam is also the host of SiriusXM's "Corner Office Confidential".

ACM Agent: Jane von Mehren

AEVITAS 35

# UPCOMING ILLUSTRATED & GIFT



# THE WORK OF ART

## How Something Comes from Nothing

By Adam Moss

NA

April 2024 / Penguin Press (PRH) / US Editor: Ann Godoff

Final PDF Available

Rights Sold:

Italian (Il Saggiatore)

Simplified Chinese (Ginkgo)

Japanese (Hayakawa)

Spanish (Península / Planeta)

Korean (Across Publishing)

From former editor-in-chief of New York magazine Adam Moss, a collection of illuminating conversations examining the very personal, rigorous, complex, and elusive work of making art.

What is the work of art? In this guided tour inside the artist's head, Adam Moss traces the evolution of transcendent novels, paintings, jokes, movies, songs, and more. Weaving conversations with some of the most accomplished artists of our time together with the journal entries, napkin doodles, and sketches that were their tools, Moss breaks down the work—the tortuous paths and artistic decisions—that led to great art. From first glimmers to second thoughts, roads not taken, crises, breakthroughs, on to one triumphant finish after another.

**Adam Moss** was the editor in chief of *New York* magazine, *The New York Times Magazine*, and *7 Days*. As editor of *New York*, he also oversaw the creation of five digital magazines: *Vulture*, *The Cut*, *Daily Intelligencer*, *Grub Street*, and *The Strategist*. During his tenure, *New York* won forty-one National Magazine Awards, including Magazine of the Year. He was elected to the Magazine Editors' Hall of Fame in 2019,

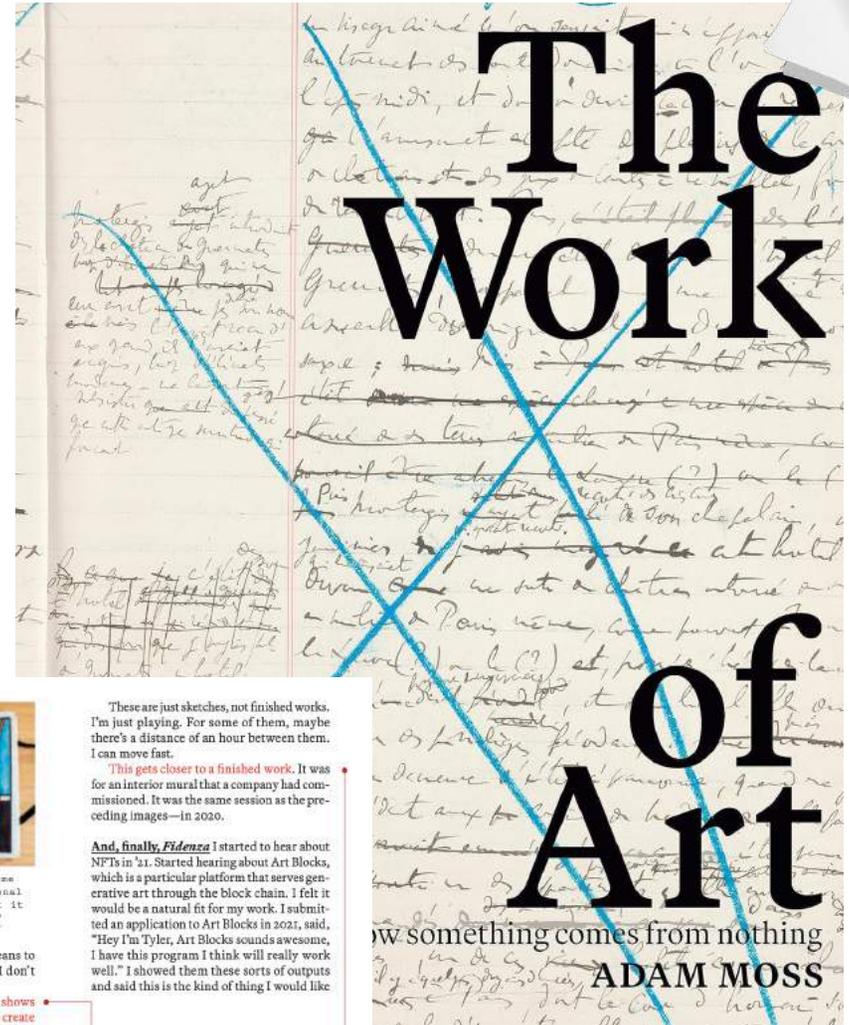
★ **STARRED REVIEW, PUBLISHERS WEEKLY** ★

“A panoply of artists offer a rare peek into the mysteries and mundanities of the creative process in this captivating compendium... a must-read for creatives of all stripes.”

“An inspiring work, especially for anyone struggling to create art and wondering whether the slogs and endless false starts are worth the effort.”

—*Kirkus Reviews*

ACM Agent: David Kuhn & Nate Muscato



Occasionally he draws: “For some work I start with a compositional idea, which is hand drawn. But it is an outlier for my process.”

task. Before this, I didn't have the means to achieve that programmatically, and I don't think many other people did either.

And then this is two days later. It shows how I was able to take the flow fields to create more complex constructions and add color to it. That delivered the early hints of what was to come later with *Fidenza*.

And I had really started to pay attention to the spacing. This one reminded me of corals and sea anemones. It had an organic quality to it while being very simple. The shapes are not overworked, not pretentious, and I loved that.

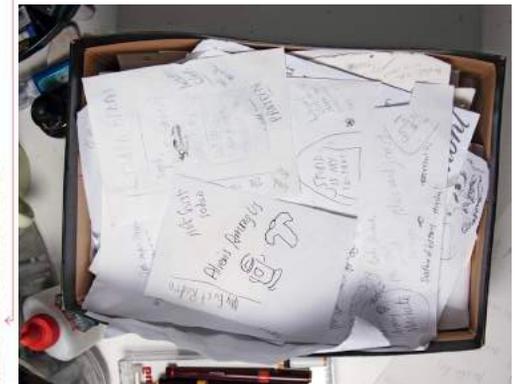
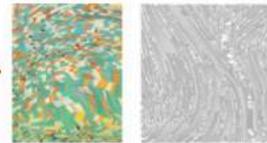
I started to introduce more variety and more variations of scale, more dynamic compositions. The positions of the segments, the thickness, these are all randomized. But they're randomized within a window. Which gives me a sense of control, but still gives the computer room to surprise me with something unexpected. In this I was liking the rhythmic quality particularly.

So now I started to move into color. There are a million ways colors can go wrong that just become obnoxious or overbearing. The way it works is I define a color palette by hand. I hand select the color and assign a probability to each color—so, a 70 percent chance of a shape being white, 20 percent chance of it being blue, and so on. Lots of surprises occur, some good, some really bad.

These are just sketches, not finished works. I'm just playing. For some of them, maybe there's a distance of an hour between them. I can move fast.

This gets closer to a finished work. It was for an interior mural that a company had commissioned. It was the same session as the preceding images—in 2020.

And, finally, *Fidenza* I started to hear about NFTs in '21. Started hearing about Art Blocks, which is a particular platform that serves generative art through the block chain. I felt it would be a natural fit for my work. I submitted an application to Art Blocks in 2021, said, “Hey I'm Tyler, Art Blocks sounds awesome, I have this program I think will really work well.” I showed them these sorts of outputs and said this is the kind of thing I would like



# A TALE OF TWO TITTIES

## A Writer's Guide to Conquering the Most Sexist Tropes in Literary History

By Meg Vondriska

WE

July 2024 / Sourcebooks / US Editor: Kate Roddy

Edited MS Available

From the brilliantly funny (and rightfully furious) creator of the viral Men Write Women Twitter account.

Let's face it, women's representation in literature really sucks. And that's mostly because of the male authors who write female characters like they're nothing more than playthings in their stories. Whether they have breasts like ripe peaches or curves like a racetrack, the literary ladies gracing the pages of bestselling books rarely serve a purpose beyond supporting a male character (or giving him something to fantasize about).

But what are you supposed to do about it if you can't even get a foot (or, I guess, a boob) in the door?

You beat them at their own game.

In this hilarious yet incisive guide, you'll learn how to write women just like a best-selling male author—stereotypes, tropes, objectification, and all—so you can start dismantling the system from the inside. With thoughtful literary analysis, interactive exercises, and commentary that perfectly straddles the line between satirical hilarity and righteous indignation, *A Tale of Two Titties* is both an illuminating study of women's representation in literature and an absurd (yet accurate) guide to writing through the male gaze.

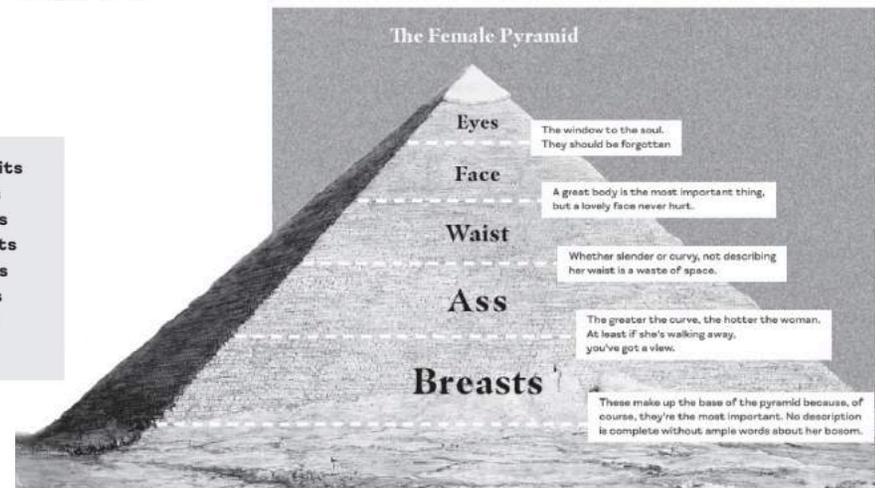
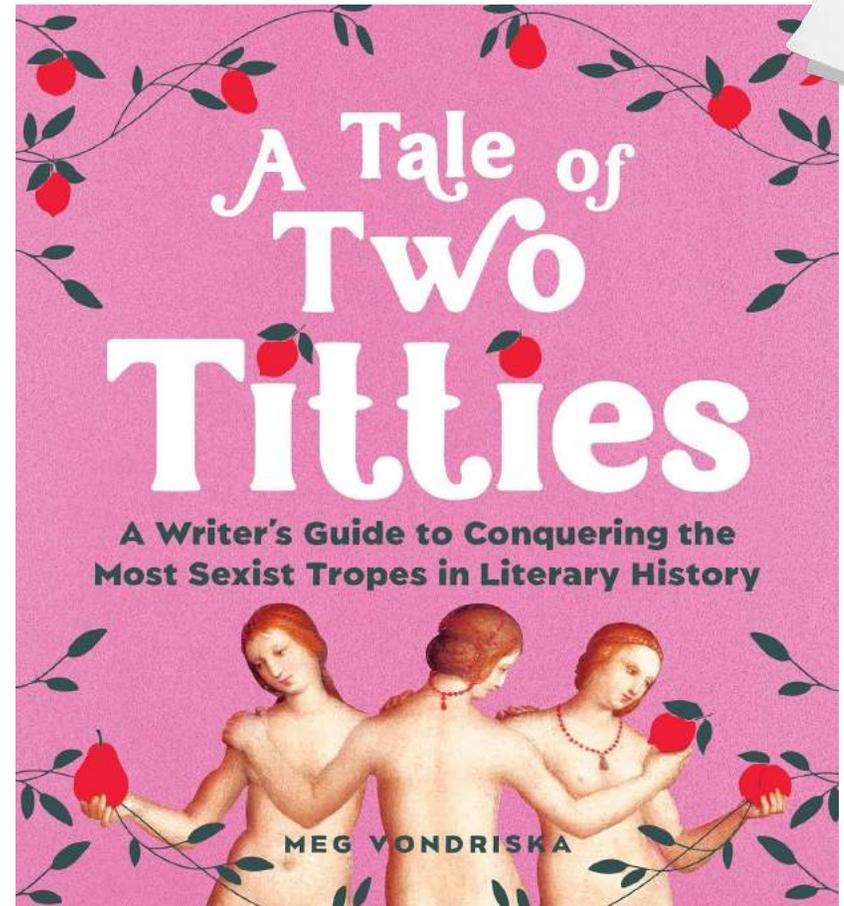
### About the Author

Meg Vondriska is a writer and social media manager best known for the creation of the gone-viral Twitter account @MenWriteWomen.



Heavy  
Drab  
Jolly  
Alert  
Luscious  
Delectable  
Magnificent  
Wandering

Grapefruits  
Apples  
Papayas  
Kumquats  
Cherries  
Melons  
Plums  
Pears



# COMPOST THIS BOOK



By Cassandra Marketos

WE

Summer 2025 / Timber (Hachette) / US Editor: Makenna Goodman  
Proposal Available — Edited MS Fall 2024

In *Compost This Book*, the dynamic LA-based writer, artist, content strategist and composting maven Cassandra Marketos sets out to provide an essential, inspiring and delightfully off-beat introduction to composting for both beginners and current enthusiasts, with a book so gorgeous it should sit on a coffee table.

No matter where you live on the planet, if you care about doing your part to combat global warming, composting is probably the single most effective change you can make to your daily life. Despite the exploding interest in composting, there are very few books that offer guidance or inspiration; and those that do have a design quality similar to a child's school report.

Drawing on her extensive experience as a community composter and compost consultant in Los Angeles, *Compost This Book* focuses on the key components necessary to establish a productive and enjoyable compost pile, but it also includes some unique reflections on compost and the philosophical implications of decomposition similar to her current work found in her popular Substack newsletter *The Rot*: [therot.substack.com](http://therot.substack.com). The book has an inspiring, quirky voice and a brevity that make it both a beautiful piece of writing and an ideal companion for individuals interested in getting started with composting. And as a fun twist, Cassandra includes instructions for composting the book itself to complete its lifecycle.

**Cassandra Marketos** is a certified Naturalist and UC Master Gardener. Marketos works in her neighborhood to divert food waste from landfills, maintain a community compost hub, and provide education on decay. She has provided key compost consulting for many LA restaurants and organizations. She's collaborated with renowned artist David Horvitz to compost pieces of the Berlin Wall for the Wende Museum in 2022.



ACM Agent: Bridget Wagner Matzie

# REX ED

## An Adults-Only Guide to Dinosaurs

By Dustin Growick

NA

Spring 2026 / Running Press (Hachette) / US Editor: Jordana Hawkins  
Proposal Available — Edited MS Fall 2025

### Rights Sold:

German (Knesebeck)

A funny, illustrated, dinosaur book for adults by museum educator and dino expert Dustin Growick aka @dinosaurwhisperer! *Rex Ed* mixes real science with playful narrative to create a dinosaur “field guide” that’s smart, super funny, slightly raunchy...and made just for adults!

Why aren't there more playful dinosaur books for adults and older teens? Did you know there's a dinosaur named Erectopus? Did you know that birds are dinosaurs? Well, there is and they are, and REX ED will tell you why. A science educator by training and a lifelong dinosaur nerd, Growick takes readers on a tour of dozens of his favorite feathered, taloned, and spiky friends as he unpacks the facts and offers up the kind of hilarious asides and insights that you won't find in the more academic dinosaur books marketed to adults. So buckle up and get ready for the Sex Lakes Hypothesis. Yes, you read that correctly.

We'll never see a T. rex walking down the street (storylines from wildly popular dinosaur movies aside) which means we have to use the tools of science to form a sketch of our own. *Rex Ed* takes that idea and runs with it while also following in the footsteps of popular books like *Subpar Park* and *The Field Guide to Dumb Birds of North America*, books that educate and entertain with snark and playful anecdotes alongside lots of real and fascinating information. As Growick says, dinosaurs are “a gateway drug to science”—no matter your age.

**Dustin Growick** is a trained anthropologist with a Masters degree in human biological and cultural evolution, he's written two dinosaur encyclopedias aimed at kids, *Utterly Amazing Dinosaur* and *Dinosaur A to Z*. He's online as The Dinosaur Whisperer, for dino content (and thirst traps).

ACM Agent: Sarah Bowlin



AEVITAS 39

# THE SERVICEBERRY

## A Standalone Essay

By Robin Wall Kimmerer

NA

November 2024 / Scribner (S&S) / US Editor: Chris Richards

Edited MS Available Summer 2024

From the #1 *New York Times* bestselling author of *Braiding Sweetgrass*, a bold and inspiring vision for how to orient our lives around gratitude, reciprocity, and community, based on the lessons of the natural world

As indigenous scientist and author of *Braiding Sweetgrass* Robin Wall Kimmerer harvests serviceberries alongside the birds, she considers the ethic of reciprocity that lies at the heart of the gift economy. How, she asks, can we learn from indigenous wisdom and the plant world to reimagine what we value most? Our economy is rooted in scarcity, competition, and the hoarding of resources, and we have surrendered our values to a system that actively harms what we love. Meanwhile, the serviceberry's relationship with the natural world is an embodiment of reciprocity, interconnectedness, and gratitude. The tree distributes its wealth—its abundance of sweet, crisp berries—to meet the needs of its natural community. And this distribution insures its own survival. As Kimmerer explains, “Serviceberries show us another model, one based upon reciprocity, where wealth comes from the quality of your relationships, not from the illusion of self-sufficiency.”

As Elizabeth Gilbert writes, Robin Wall Kimmerer is “a great teacher, and her words are a hymn of love to the world.” *The Serviceberry* is an antidote to the broken relationships and misguided goals of our times, and a reminder that “hoarding won't save us, all flourishing is mutual.”

**Robin Wall Kimmerer** is a mother, scientist, decorated professor, and enrolled member of the Citizen Potawatomi Nation. She is the author of the #1 *New York Times* bestseller *Braiding Sweetgrass: Indigenous Wisdom, Scientific Knowledge and the Teachings of Plants* as well as *Gathering Moss: A Natural and Cultural History of Mosses*. Kimmerer is a 2022 MacArthur Fellow. She lives in Syracuse, New York, where she is a SUNY Distinguished Teaching Professor of Environmental Biology, and the founder and director of the Center for Native Peoples and the Environment.

Approx. 8,000 words, with line drawings, TK

ACM Agent: Sarah Levitt

### Previous Publishers of Robin Wall Kimmerer's *Braiding Sweetgrass*

Brazilian Portuguese (Intrinseca)	Lithuanian (Kitos Knygos)
Catalan (Cossentania Edicions)	Korean (Eidos)
Complex Chinese (Azoth)	Polish (Znak Literanova)
Czech (Nakladatelství Malvern)	Portuguese (Presenca)
Dutch (Altamira/Gottmer)	Romanian (Herald Group)
Estonian (Postimees)	Russian (Eksmo)
French (Hachette Livre)	Simplified Chinese (Commercial Press)
German (Aufbau Verlag)	Spanish (Capitan Swing)
Hungarian (Pallas Athene Konyvkiado)	Turkish (Can Publishing)
Italy (Mondadori)	UK/Commonwealth (Penguin)
Japanese (Tsukiji Shokan)	Vietnamese (Huy Hoang)

# UPCOMING MEMOIR



# THE WIVES

## A Memoir

By Simone Gorrindo

WE

April 2024 / Simon & Schuster / US Editor: Hannah Braaten

Final PDF Available

A powerful, intimate memoir of marriage and friendship that traces one woman's experience joining a tightknit community of fellow army wives after leaving her New York City job to follow her enlisted husband.

When her new husband joins an elite Army unit, Simone Gorrindo is uprooted from New York City and dropped into Columbus, Georgia—a town so foreign she might as well have landed on the moon. With her husband frequently deployed, Simone is left to find her place in this new world, alone—until she meets the wives.

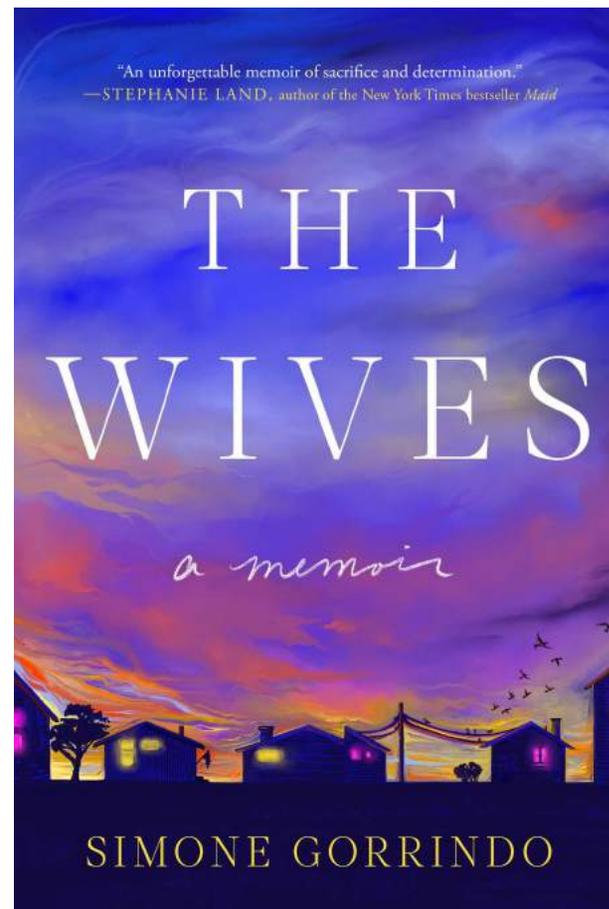
Gorrindo gives us an intimate look into the inner lives of a remarkable group of women and a tender, unflinching portrait of a marriage. A love story, an unforgettable coming-of-age tale, and a bracing tour of the intractable divisions that plague our country today, *The Wives* offers a rare and powerful gift: a hopeful stitch in the fabric of a torn America.

Simone Gorrindo's writing has appeared in *The New York Times*, *New York* magazine, *Longreads*, *Los Angeles Review of Books*, *The Christian Science Monitor*, *The Best Women's Travel Writing*, *Self*, and others. She holds an MS in journalism from Columbia University, and has received fellowships and grants for her writing and reporting from the International Women's Media Foundation, the Georgia Council for the Arts, and the Hambidge Center for Creative Arts and Sciences. She lives in Tacoma, Washington, with her husband and two children. *The Wives* is her first book.

"A memoir of great intimacy and generosity, *The Wives* asks aching questions about loving a person you'll never completely understand, and what it means to build a life around the constancy of war. Simone Gorrindo is a dazzling talent." —**Katie Gutierrez**, bestselling author of *More Than You'll Ever Know*

"A moving account of the power of love, trust, and human frailty." —**Rachel Louise Snyder**, National Book Critics Circle Award finalist and author of *Women We Buried*, *Women We Burned*

ACM Agent: Michelle Brower



★ STARRED REVIEW, *LIBRARY JOURNAL* ★

"A fearless, engaging, and important memoir... Readers will learn the true meaning of military service through the wider lens of its impact on families and communities."

"Lyrical and poignant. An unforgettable memoir of sacrifice and determination."  
—**Stephanie Land**, author of the *New York Times*-bestselling memoir *Maid*

"A book about loving people even when you can't understand them, and needing them even when you don't like them, about being betrayed and unexpectedly saved, and ultimately about the power of human connection despite all our limitations."  
—**Rufi Thorpe**, author of the PEN/Faulkner finalist *The Knockout Queen*

"A gripping story about how to build community with a group of strangers whose hands you must hold for your own sanity and survival."  
—**Christie Tate**, *New York Times*-bestselling author of *Group*

# YOU NEVER KNOW

## A Memoir

By Tom Selleck with Ellis Henican

NA

May 2024 / Dey Street (HarperCollins) / US Editor: Carrie Thornton

Final PDF Available

### Rights Sold:

German (Hannibal)

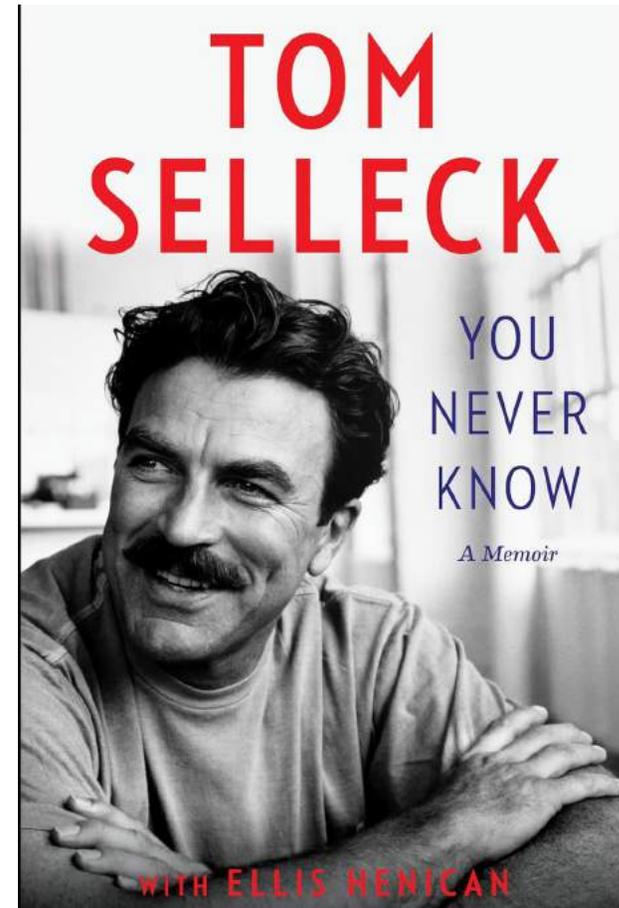
UK/Comm (HarperCollins UK)

There are many miles from the business school and basketball court at the University of Southern California to 50 million viewers for the final episode of a TV show called *Magnum P.I.* Tom Selleck has lived every one of those miles in his own iconoclastic and joyful way.

Frank, funny and open-hearted, *You Never Know* is an intimate memoir from one of the most beloved actors of our time, the highly personal story of a remarkable life and thoroughly accidental career. In his own voice and uniquely unpretentious style, the famed actor brings readers on his uncharted but serendipitous journey. His ram-bunctious California childhood. His clueless arrival as a good-looking college jock in Hollywood (from the *Dating Game* to the Fox New Talent Program to co-starring with Mae West and escorting her to black-tie social functions). What it was like to emerge as a mega-star in his mid-thirties and remain so for decades to come, an actor whose authenticity and ease in front of the camera connected with audiences worldwide while embodying and also redefining the clichés of onscreen manhood.

In *You Never Know*, Selleck recounts his personal friendships with a vivid army of A-listers, everyone from Frank Sinatra to Carol Burnett to Sam Elliott, paying special tribute to his mentor James Garner of *The Rockford Files*, who believed, like Selleck, that TV protagonists are far more interesting when they have rough edges. *Magnum* fans will be fascinated to learn how Selleck put his career on the line to make Thomas Magnum a more imperfect hero and explains why he walked away from a show that could easily have gone on for years longer. Hollywood is never easy, even for stars who make it look that way. Selleck explains how he's struggled to balance his personal and professional lives, frequently adjusting his career to protect his family's privacy and normalcy. His journey offers a truly fresh perspective on a changing industry and a changing world. Beneath all the charm and talent and self-deprecating humor, Selleck's memoir reveals an American icon who has reached remarkable heights by always insisting on being himself.

ACM Agent: Jane von Mehren



**Tom Selleck** is an award-winning actor and producer best known for his iconic role as Thomas Magnum in the original *Magnum P.I.* television series. Among the many unforgettable roles he has played are PI Lance White on the *Rockford Files*, Peter Mitchell in *Three Men and A Baby*, Matthew Quigley in *Quigley Down Under*, and Peter Malloy in *In & Out*. He was beloved as Dr. Richard Burke, Monica's older boyfriend on *Friends*, and is currently starring as NYPD Commissioner Frank Reagan on the hit crime drama *Blue Bloods*, now in its 14th season.

# THE WAY YOU MAKE ME FEEL

## Love in Black and Brown

By Nina Sharma

NA

May 2024 / Penguin Press (PRH) / US Editor: Juli Kiyon

Final PDF Available

A hilarious and moving memoir in essays about love and allyship, told through one Asian and Black interracial relationship.

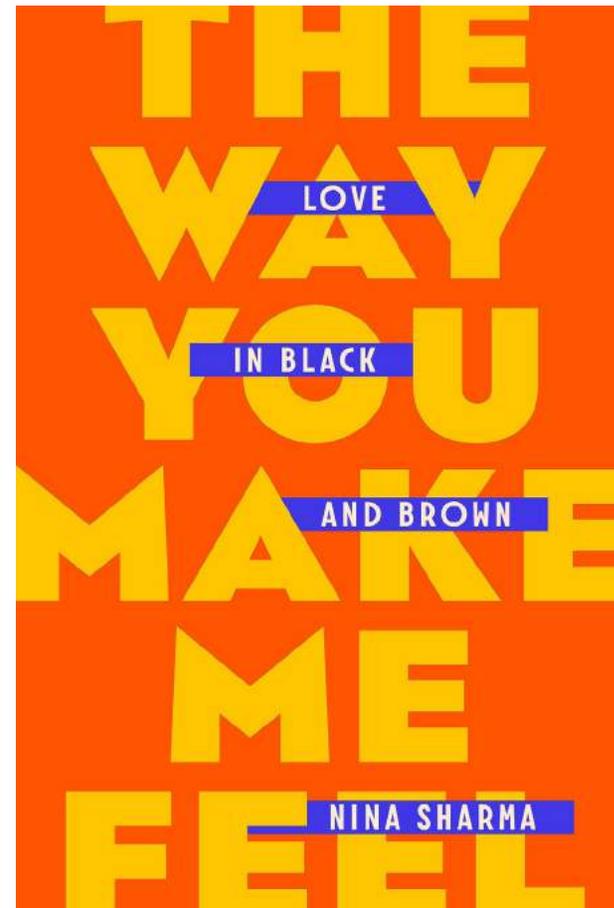
When Nina Sharma meets Quincy while hitching a ride to a friend's barbecue, she spots a favorite book, Maxine Hong Kingston's *The Woman Warrior*, in the back seat of his cramped car, and senses a sadness from him that's all too familiar to her. She is immediately intrigued. In *The Way You Make Me Feel*, Sharma chronicles her and Quincy's love story and examines how their Black and Asian relationship becomes the lens through which she moves through and understands the world.

In a series of sensual and sparkling essays, Sharma reckons with caste, race, colorism, and mental health, moving from her seemingly idyllic suburban childhood through her and Quincy's early sweeping romance in the so-called postracial Obama years and onward to their marriage. Growing up, she hears her parents talk about the racism they experienced at the hands of white America—and as an adult, she confronts the complexities of American racism and the paradox of her family's disappointment when she starts dating a Black man. While watching *The Walking Dead*, Sharma dives into the eerie parallels between the brutal death of Steven Yeun's character and the murder of Vincent Chin. She examines the trailblazing Mira Nair film *Mississippi Masala*, revolutionary in its time for depicting a love story between an Indian woman and a Black man on screen, and considers why interracial relationships are so often assumed to include white people.

Written with a keen critical eye and seamlessly weaving in history, pop culture, and politics, *The Way You Make Me Feel* reaffirms the idea that allyship is an act of love.

Nina Sharma's work has appeared in *The New Yorker*, *Electric Literature*, *Longreads*, and *The Margins*. She served as the programs director at the Asian American Writers' Workshop and currently teaches at Columbia and Barnard College. She is a proud cofounder of the all-South Asian women's improv group Not Your Biwi.

ACM Agent: Maggie Cooper



“A delicate balance of memoir, cultural criticism, and history”  
—Jaquira Díaz, author of *Ordinary Girls*

“Fearless prose that manages to be witty, incisive, and nakedly honest.”  
—Bridgett M. Davis, *The World According To Fannie Davis*

“Crackles with electricity only found in deep hybridity... a must-read”  
—Rajiv Mohabir, *Anti-man and Whale Aria*

“Unprecedented. utterly absorbing, intelligent, disturbing (in the finest way), and musical... moves seamlessly and profoundly between the personal and political.”  
—Emily Bernard, *Black is the Body*

“Nina Sharma's thoughtful debut is equal parts memoir, criticism, and long-ranging conversation with a new friend. A love story for the ruminative reader that is generous with both scrutiny and romance.” —Melissa Febos, author of *Girlhood*, winner of the National Book Critics Circle Award

“Nina Sharma is an ardent, fiercely intelligent explorer of American life in all its hybrid complexity.” —Margo Jefferson, *Constructing a Nervous System*

“Charming and insightful essays show us how love humbles, connects, and inspires us to be better allies. By deftly weaving in pop culture, politics, and history into her personal narrative, she explores the ways in which we are taught to inhabit our identities—and how love so often requires us to unlearn these rigid norms.”  
—Prachi Gupta, author of *They Called Us Exceptional*

# CACTUS COUNTRY

## A Boyhood Memoir

By Zoë Bossiere

NA

May 2024 / Abrams / US Editor: Abby Muller

Final PDF Available

A striking literary memoir of genderfluidity, class, masculinity, and the American Southwest that captures the author's experience coming of age in a Tucson, Arizona trailer park.

Newly arrived in the Sonoran Desert, eleven-year-old Zoë's world is one of giant beetles, thundering javelinas, and gnarled paloverde trees. With the family's move to Cactus Country RV Park, Zoë has been given a fresh start and a new, shorter haircut. Although Zoë doesn't have the words to express it, he experiences life as a trans boy—and in *Cactus Country*, others begin to see him as a boy, too. Here, Zoë spends hot days chasing shade and freight trains with an ever-rotating pack of sunburned desert kids, and nights fending off his own questions about the body underneath his baggy clothes.

As Zoë enters adolescence, he must reckon with the sexism, racism, substance abuse, and violence endemic to the working class Cactus Country men he's grown close to, whose hard masculinity seems as embedded in the desert landscape as the cacti sprouting from parched earth. In response, Zoë adopts an androgynous style and new pronouns, but still cannot escape what it means to live in a gendered body, particularly when a fraught first love destabilizes their sense of self. But beauty flowers in this desert, too. Zoë persists in searching for answers that can't be found in Cactus Country, dreaming of a day they might leave the park behind to embrace whatever awaits beyond.

Equal parts harsh and tender, *Cactus Country* is an invitation for readers to consider how we find our place in a world that insists on stark binaries, and a precisely rendered journey of self-determination that will resonate with anyone who's ever had to fight to be themselves.

**Zoë Bossiere** (she/they) holds a MFA from Oregon State and a PhD in nonfiction writing from Ohio University. Bossiere's writing has been featured in the *Washington Post* and *The Believer*, among other publications.

ACM Agent: Maggie Cooper

"Gripping... With tender precision, Bossiere paints a riveting portrait of an artist as a young man" —**Jennifer Savran Kelly**, author of *Endpapers*

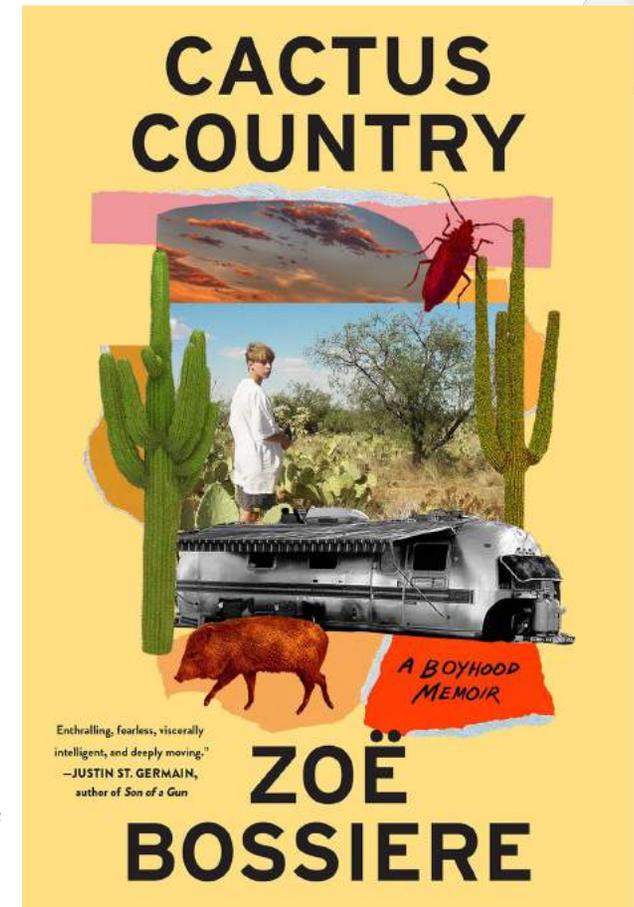
"Shimmers with the complexity of becoming... lush, beautiful, and deeply liberating." —**Alex Marzano-Lesnevich**, author of *The Fact of a Body*

"A captivating tale of trans-kidhood that manages to be both precise and wild, so much like the landscape it describes." —**Melissa Febos**, author of *Girlhood*

"I felt *Cactus Country* in my whole body: the sun on my skin, the slap of bare feet on hard earth [...] but also the rage and violence of childhood—the liberation and the limits of youth. This is a book about queerness and class, masculinity and femininity and the fluid spaces between, and how the places that raise us leave an indelible mark on us, how we carry those places inside us no matter how far we run." —**Melissa Faliveno**, author of *Tomboyland*

"An essential addition to the trans memoir canon [...] Bossiere's voice shines with curiosity and empathy towards the wild, sunburned desert child they were and the incisive adult they grew into." —**Krys Malcolm Belc**, author of *The Natural Mother of the Child*

"An enthralling, deeply moving, and beautifully written memoir." —**Justin St. Germain**, author of *Son of a Gun*



# MY MAMA, CASS

## A Memoir

By Owen Elliot-Kugell

WE

May 2024 / Hachette Books / US Editor: Ben Schafer

Final PDF Available

A long-awaited, myth-busting, and deeply affecting memoir by the daughter of legendary rock star “Mama” Cass Elliot.

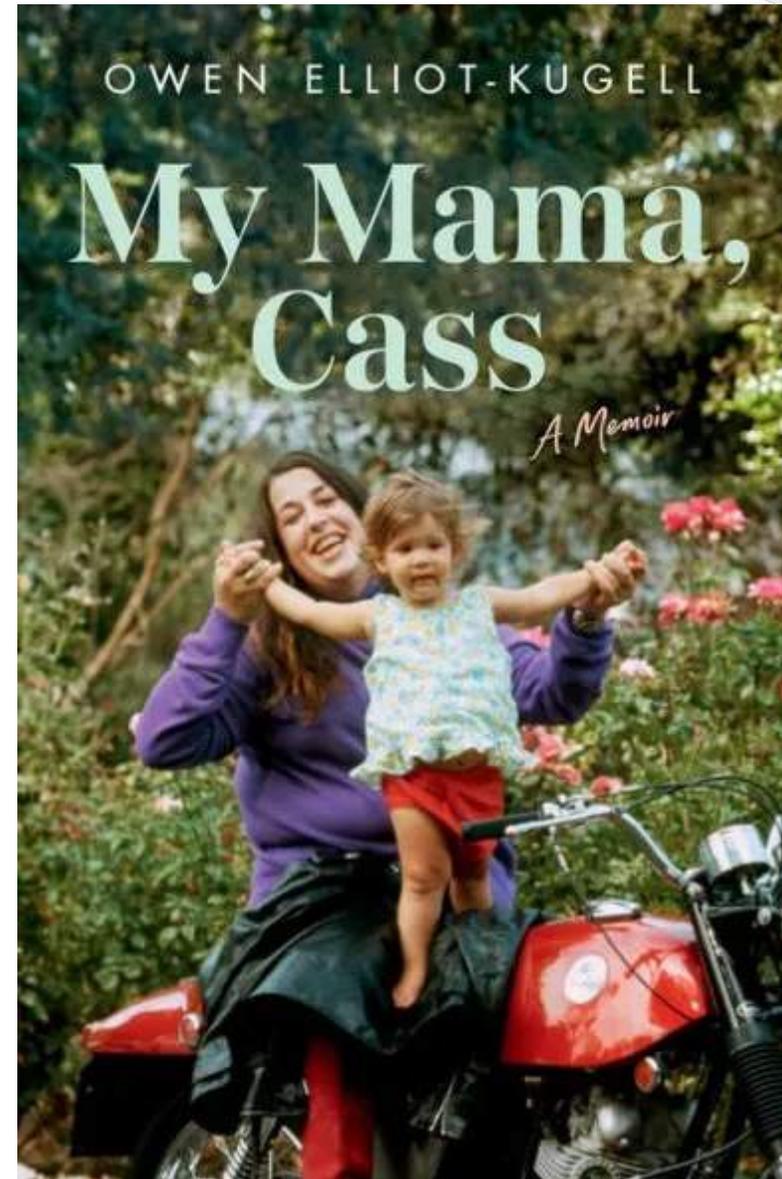
To the rest of the world, Cass Elliot was a rock star; A charismatic, wisecracking singer from Rock & Roll Hall of Fame inducted band, The Mamas & The Papas; A legend of Laurel Canyon, decked out in her custom-made Muumuus, glittering designer jewelry, blessed with a powerful, instantly identifiable singing voice which helped define the sound of the 1960s counterculture movement. But to Owen Elliot-Kugell, she was just Mom.

In the nearly 50 years since Cass Elliot’s untimely death at the age of 32, rumors and myths have swirled about, shading nearly every aspect of her life. In her long-awaited memoir, Owen Elliot-Kugell shares the groundbreaking story of her mom as only a daughter can tell it.

In *My Mama, Cass*, Owen pulls back the curtains of her mother’s life from the sold-out theaters and behind the closed doors of her infamous California abode. Born Ellen Naomi Cohen, the woman who was known to the world as Cass Elliot was decades ahead of her time: an independently minded, outspoken woman who broke through a male-dominated business, a forward-thinking feminist, and a single parent who embraced motherhood from the moment Owen entered the world. From the closely guarded secret of Owen’s paternity to Cass’s lifelong struggles with self-esteem and weight, to rumors surrounding her mother’s death, Owen illuminates the complex truths of her mother’s life, sharing interviews with the high-profile figures who orbited Cass, as well as never-before-heard tales of her mother and this legendary period of American history.

Featuring intimate family and archival photos as well as interviews and memories from friends, fans, and colleagues who loved and respected Cass, this book is both a love story and mystery, a tale of self-discovery and a daughter’s devotion. At its core, *My Mama, Cass* is a beautifully crafted testament befitting of Cass Elliot’s enduring cultural impact and legacy, written by the person who knew and loved her best.

ACM Agent: Jen Gates



Born six weeks before the Monterey Pop Festival in 1967, **Owen Elliot-Kugell** was seven when her mom, iconic singer-songwriter Cass Elliot, died suddenly. Growing up with her aunt and uncle in Los Angeles, she met husband Jack Kugell at 19. They currently reside with their daughter, Zoe, and son, Noah, in the San Fernando Valley area.

# THE FRIDAY AFTERNOON CLUB

A Memoir

By Griffin Dunne

NA

June 2024 / Penguin Press (PRH) / US Editor: John Burnham Schwartz

Final PDF Available

Rights Sold:

UK/Commonwealth (Grove Press UK)

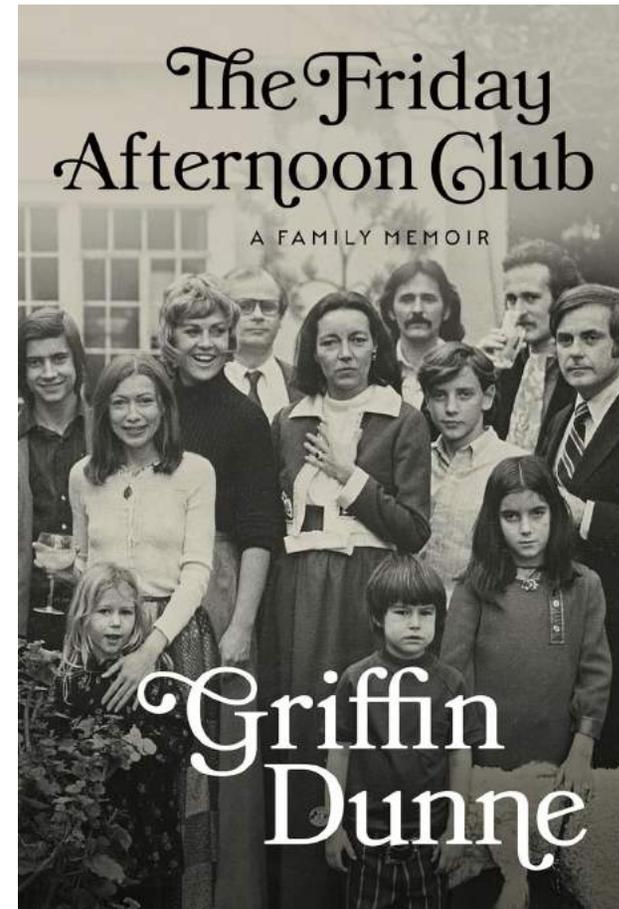
Griffin Dunne's first three decades of growing up among a family of larger-than-life characters and cultural forces in Hollywood and Manhattan were filled with extraordinary incident.

At nine, Sean Connery saved him from drowning. At thirteen, desperate to hook up with Janis Joplin, he attended his aunt Joan Didion and uncle John Gregory Dunne's legendary L.A. party for the publication of Tom Wolfe's *The Electric Kool-Aid Acid Test*. At sixteen, he got kicked out of boarding school, ending his institutional education for good. In his early 20s, he shared an apartment in Manhattan's Hotel Des Artistes with his best friend and soulmate Carrie Fisher, while she was filming some sci-fi movie called *Star Wars* and he was a struggling actor working as a popcorn concessionaire at Radio City Music Hall. A few years later, he produced and starred in the now-iconic film *After Hours*, directed by Martin Scorsese. In the midst of it all, Griffin's 22-year-old sister Dominique, a rising star in Hollywood, was brutally strangled to death by her ex-boyfriend, leading to one of the most infamous public trials of the 1980s, which ended in a travesty of justice that also somehow marked the beginning of their father Dominick Dunne's career as a bestselling author of true crime narratives.

And yet, for all its bold-face cast of characters and jaw-dropping scenes, *The Friday Afternoon Club* is no celebrity memoir. It is, down to its bones, a family story that brilliantly embraces the poignant absurdities and best and worst efforts of its loveable, infuriating, funny, and moving characters—its author most of all—finding wicked, self-deprecating humor and glints of surprising light in even the most harrowing and painful of circumstances.

**Griffin Dunne** is an award-winning actor, director, and producer, best known for starring in the cult classic *American Werewolf in London* (1981), for his performance in *After Hours* (1985), and NBC's series *This Is Us* (2016). His directing credits include the short film *Duke of Groove* (1985), the fantasy rom com *Practical Magic* (1998), and the 2017 Netflix doc *Joan Didion: The Center Will Not Hold*.

ACM Agent: David Kuhn & Nate Muscato



“Both humorous and heartbreaking... infused with the vitality that confidence in one's perceptions can bring and the ambiguity that accompanies the expense and strain of fame. Confessions of this order are works of art.” —**Susanna Moore, author of *Miss Aluminum***

“A riveting and rollicking portrait of Dunne's unconventional family as well as a deeply considered reckoning with the tragedy that exploded within it. He is honest about himself, generous with others, and insightful about every glittering and dark aspect of his richly lived years. He is also—like the best entertainers—ridiculously funny.” —**Alexandra Styron, author of *Reading My Father***

“Joyful, tragic, and resilient with a masterful, roving tone as varied as the actor-director-producer-author's restless career... Griffin takes his rightful place in a family and tradition of real writers.” —**David Duchovny**

# THE UPTOWN LOCAL

## Joy, Death and Joan Didion

By Cory Leadbeater

NA

June 2024 / Ecco (HarperCollins) / US Editor: Sara Birmingham

Edited MS Available

### Rights Sold:

Polish (Relacja / Mamania)

UK/Comm (Fleet/Little, Brown UK)

A brilliant debut memoir about a young writer—struggling with depression, family issues, and addiction—and his life-changing decade working for Joan Didion.

As an aspiring novelist in his early twenties, Cory Leadbeater was presented with an opportunity to work for a well-known writer whose identity was kept confidential. Since the tumultuous days of childhood, Cory had sought refuge from the rougher parts of life in the pages of books. Suddenly, he found himself the personal assistant to a titan of literature: Joan Didion.

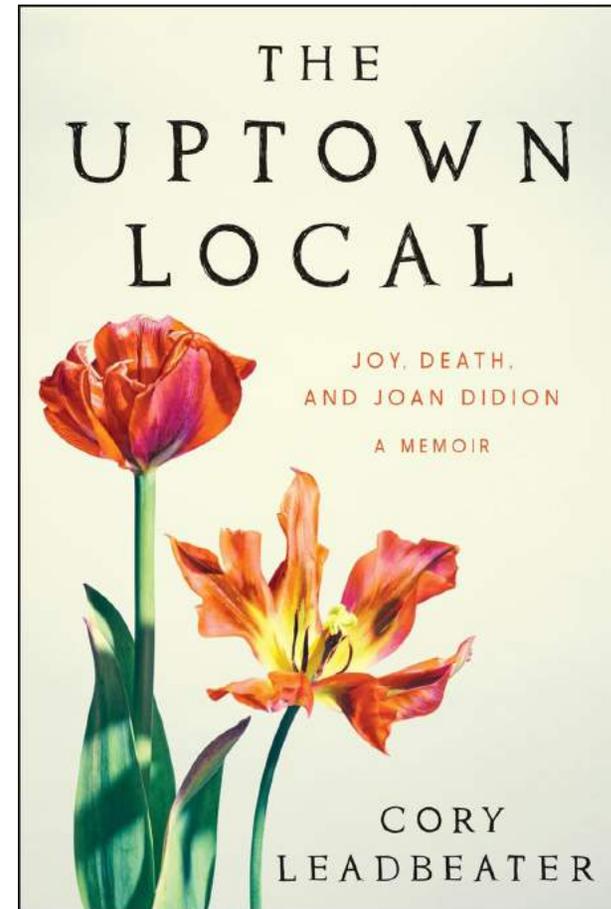
In the nine years that followed, Cory shared Joan's rarefied world, transformed not only by her blazing intellect but by her generous friendship and mentorship. Together they recited poetry in the mornings, dined with Supreme Court justices, attended art openings, smoked a single cigarette before bed.

But secretly, Cory was spiraling. He reeled from the death of a close friend. He spent his weekends at a federal prison, visiting his father as he served time for fraud. He struggled day after day to write the novel that would validate him as a real writer. And meanwhile, the forces of addiction and depression loomed large.

In hypnotic prose that pulses with life and longing, *The Uptown Local* explores the fault lines of class, family, loss, and creativity. It is a love letter to a cultural icon—and a moving testament to the relationships that sustain us in the eternal pursuit of a life worth living.

**Cory Leadbeater** received his MFA in fiction from Columbia in 2014, where he was the recipient of the Jacob P. Waletzky Fellowship. Before that, he attended Trinity College, where he was the recipient of the Fred Pfeil Memorial Prize in Creative Writing, the John Curtis Underwood Memorial Prize in Poetry, and the Ruel Crompton Tuttle Prize in Scholarship. He lives in New Jersey with his family.

ACM Agent: Sarah Bowlin



*“The Uptown Local renders the dizzying, sometimes painful experience of becoming yourself in prose that perfectly mirrors the story at its heart: at once tender and brutal, surreal and direct, cerebral and visceral...A spectacular debut.”* —**Lilly Dancyger, author of *First Love***

*“A memoir like no other. It’s the story of his relationship with a great American writer, but it’s also the saga of his family’s dark struggle with 21st century American realities, not to mention his own terrifying years of grief, addiction, and depression. Leadbeater exposes all of his demons with wit and poetic intensity.”* —**Sam Lipsyte**

# MAKE IT COUNT

## My Fight to Become the First Transgender Olympic Runner

By CeCé Telfer

NA

June 2025 / Grand Central (Hachette) / US Editor: Suzanne O'Neill

Edited MS Available

By turns harrowing and hopeful, *Make It Count* is the inspiring story of the first openly transgender woman to win a NCAA title, following her traditional upbringing in Jamaica, her fight to become a US citizen, and her efforts to achieve her Olympic dreams.

CeCé Telfer is a warrior. The first openly transgender woman to win an NCAA championship, she has contended with transphobia on and off the track since childhood. Now, she stands at the crossroads of a national and international conversation about equity in sports, forced to advocate for her personhood and rights at every turn. After spending years training for the 2024 Olympics, Telfer has been sidelined and silenced more times than she can count. But she's never been good at taking no for an answer.

*Make It Count* is Telfer's raw and inspiring story. From coming of age in Jamaica, where she grew up hearing a constant barrage of slurs, to beginning her new life in Toronto and then New Hampshire, where she realized what running could offer her, to living in the backseat of her car while searching for a coach, to Mexico, where she trained for the US Trials, this book follows the arc of Telfer's Olympic dream.

This is the story of running on what feels like the edge of a knife, of what it means to compete when you're not just an athlete but treated like a walking controversy. But it's also the story of resilience and athleticism, of a runner who found a clarity in her sport that otherwise eluded her—a sense of being simply alive on this earth, a human moving through space. Finally, herself.



**CeCé Telfer** is a Jamaican-American athlete who, in June 2019, became the first openly transgender woman to win a NCAA title. Telfer became a NCAA National Champion in the 400-meter hurdles event which put her on the trajectory of becoming a U.S. Olympic hopeful for the Tokyo Olympics 2021.

In June 2021, Telfer qualified for the 2021 U.S. Olympic Team Trials | Track & Field in the 100M & 400-meter hurdles. Following her victory in the 400-meter hurdles, Telfer appeared on ESPN's Outside the Lines on June 13, 2019. Telfer has appeared on multiple national media outlets and campaigns capturing global attention in Olympic sports, the LGBTQ community, along with world-renowned professional athletes and Olympians.

# A SURVIVOR'S EDUCATION

## Women, Violence, and the American Campus

By Joy Neumeyer

NA

August 2024 / Public Affairs / US Editor: Anu Roy-Chaudhury  
Edited MS Available

A moving, timely and engaging memoir of domestic abuse, the American campus, and the narratives we choose to believe.

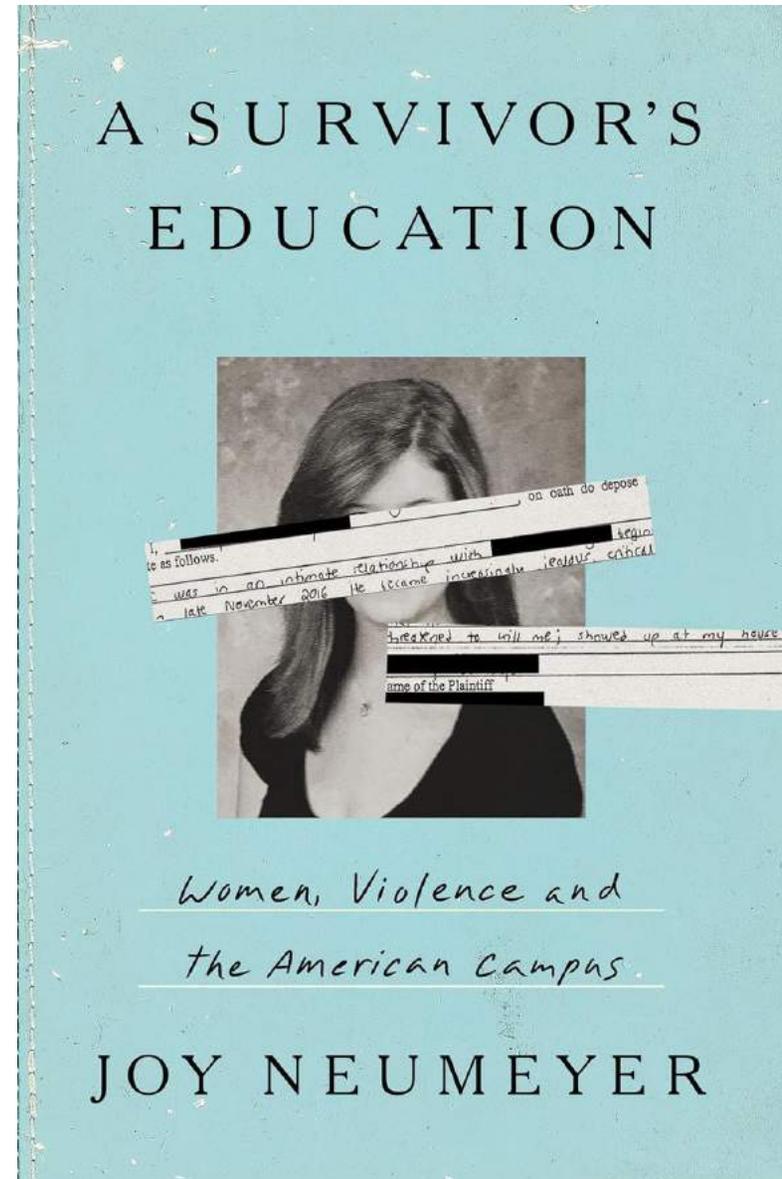
In Berkeley, on a picturesque university campus in the springtime, a young woman is shoved backwards down a concrete stairway by her partner. This follows months of escalating violence, during which he slams her into walls, chokes her, pours beer on her, threatens to kill her, stalks her, promises to split her head open with a hammer. She ends the relationship, cuts off contact, flees to the other side of the country, and initiates a Title IX case against him at the university. She knows what has happened to her, what she has experienced and survived: abuse, manipulation, threats against her life, gaslighting. She knows she has lived through these trials. But others say, simply, that she hasn't—and that her boyfriend is the real victim.

In this investigative memoir, historian and journalist Joy Neumeyer explores how violence against women is portrayed, perceived, defined, and adjudicated today, decades after the inception of Title IX. Interweaving the harrowing account of the abuse she experienced at the hands of her boyfriend when they were graduate students with those of other women who faced violence on campuses throughout history, Neumeyer offers a startling look at how little has changed in the years since Title IX was enacted, and uncovers its inherent flaws. She takes us through her own experience with the process, and reveals how in an effort to listen to survivors on campuses, the quasi-law, in reality, brings their experience into question.

Deeply reported, nuanced and timely, *A Survivor's Education* demystifies Title IX while also examining how entangled storytelling is with abuse and power, and how we can balance narrative and evidence in our attempts to determine what “really happened.”

**Joy Neumeyer** is a freelance writer and historian of Russia and Eastern Europe. From 2010 to 2014, she worked as a reporter in Moscow. She received a PhD in History from the University of California, Berkeley in 2020.

ACM Agent: Lauren Sharp



# A LITTLE CRAZY

## A Memoir of Finding Purpose and Joy Amid the Madness

By David Magee

WE

September 2024 / Matt Holt Books (BenBella) / US Editor: Matt Holt  
Edited MS Available

From battling ADHD, depression, and anxiety, while seeking recovery from addiction and a costly midlife crisis and grief, the father who won over critics and readers with *Dear William* is back with more.

Adopted into a family that never quite fit, David Magee battled aloneness and a lack of self-esteem as a teen, struggling to pay attention in class—feelings and experiences that followed and paralyzed him into adulthood until a trusted voice within revealed an unusual—if not a little bit crazy—path forward. Despite difficulties, he followed that path and the voices that lead him there relentlessly, learning to better manage his mental-health adversities and making them his most vital assets.

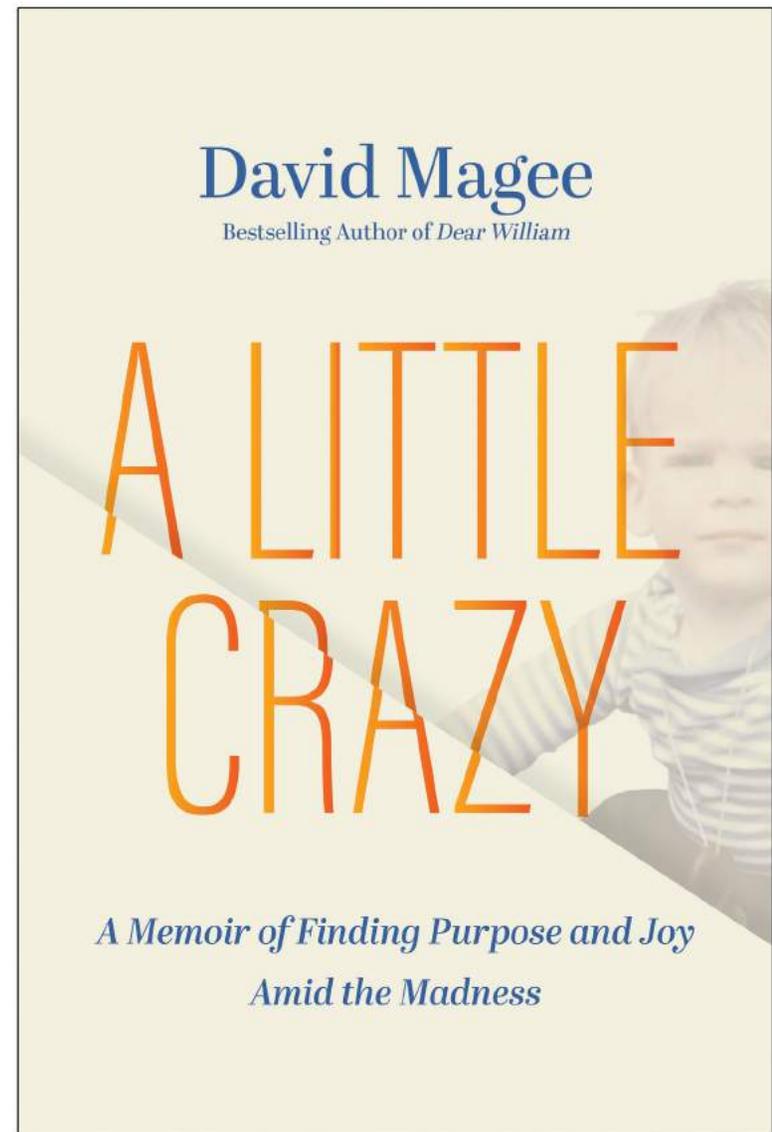
Follow David's story as he turns his life around, saving his marriage and career, and becomes a trusted voice in breaking mental health and substance misuse stigma among students and parents nationally, all while leading the way in creating a university institute focused on finding solutions to student and family well-being.

In sharing his inspiring journey, David teaches readers:

The power of believing in something bigger  
The importance of trusting and following instinct  
The reality that we can't do it alone  
How speaking our truth frees us and helps others

*A Little Crazy* is a powerful call to action to embrace differences and create a life unbound by stigma and stereotypes, leading to redeeming purpose and joy.

**David Magee** is the author of several works, including *How Toyota Became #1: Leadership from the World's Greatest Car Company*, *The John Deere Way: Performance that Endures*, and *The Education of Mr. Mayfield: An Unusual Story of Social Change at Ole Miss*.



## BEST POSSIBLE PLACE, WORST POSSIBLE TIME

True Stories from a Career in Hollywood

By Barry Sonnenfeld

NA

October 2024 / Hachette Books / US Editor: Brant Rumble

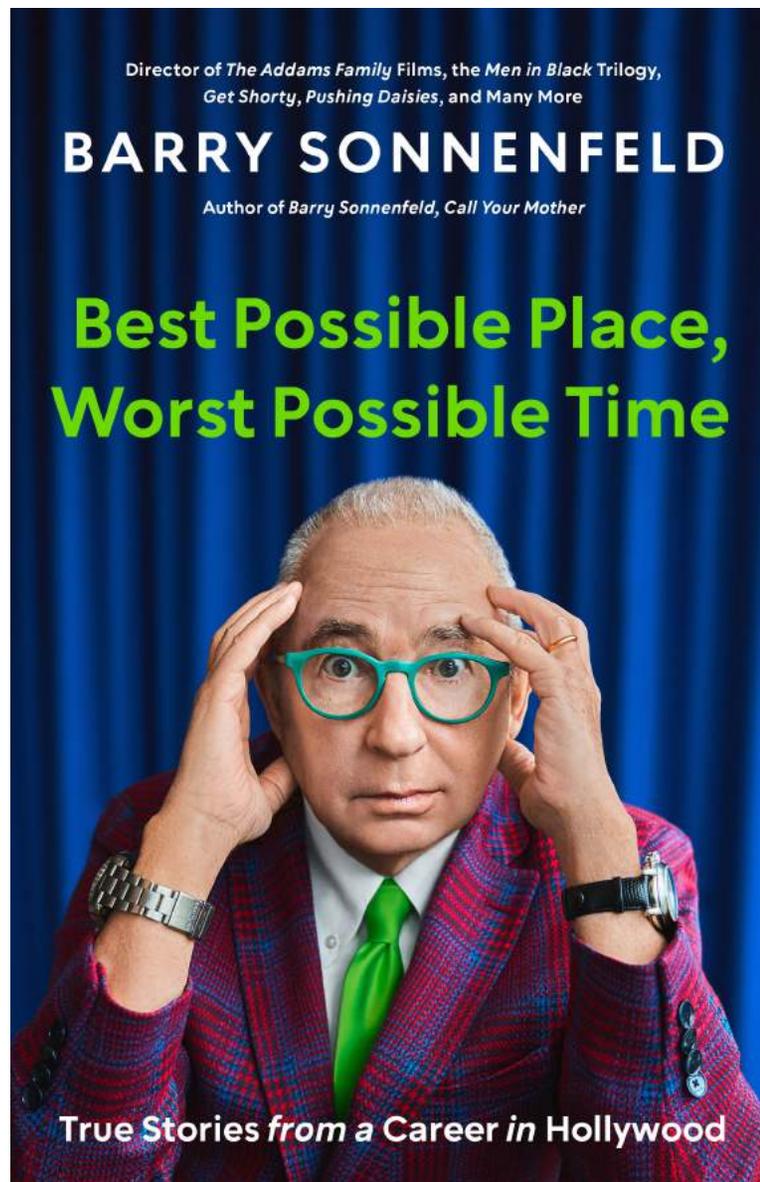
Edited MS Available

**One-of-a-kind filmmaker Barry Sonnenfeld tells stories only he can tell, from his blockbuster career with iconic actors, studio execs, and producers. His humor and insight provide an inside glimpse into how Hollywood really works, or how it doesn't.**

*Best Possible Place, Worst Possible Time* delivers a cavalcade of sometimes baffling, often enlightening, and always funny stories about Sonnenfeld's many films and television shows. From battling with studio executives and producers to bad-script-solving on set to coaxing actors into finding the right light and talking faster, Sonnenfeld provides an entertaining master class in how to make commercial art in the face of constant human foible. Over four decades in Hollywood, the mega-franchises include *The Addams Family* and *Men in Black*; the critical favorites, *Get Shorty* and *Pushing Daisies*; the icons, Will Smith, John Travolta, and Michael Jackson; and the projects that got away, *Forrest Gump*, *Ali*, and anything starring Jim Carrey.

The true stories escalate from surreal to outrageous to unbelievable. And then there's magic hour. But you'll never see Hollywood the same way again.

**Barry Sonnenfeld** is a filmmaker and writer who broke into the film industry as the cinematographer on the Coen Brothers' first three films: *Blood Simple*, *Raising Arizona*, and *Miller's Crossing*. He also was the director of photography on *Throw Mamma from the Train*, *Big*, *When Harry Met Sally*, and *Misery*. Sonnenfeld made his directorial debut with *The Addams Family* in 1991, and has gone on to direct a number of films including *Addams Family Values*, *Get Shorty*, and the first three *Men in Blacks*. His television credits include *Pushing Daisies*, for which he won an Emmy, Netflix's *A Series of Unfortunate Events*, and most recently Apple TV+'s *Schmigadoon!* He is the author of *Barry Sonnenfeld*, *Call Your Mother*. He lives in Canada and New Jersey.



# RAISED BY A SERIAL KILLER

## Discovering the Truth About My Father

By April Balascio

NA

December 2024 / Gallery (S&S) / US Editor: Hannah Braaten

Proposal Available — Edited MS Summer 2024

Rights Sold:

Korean (BY4M)

French (Sonatine)

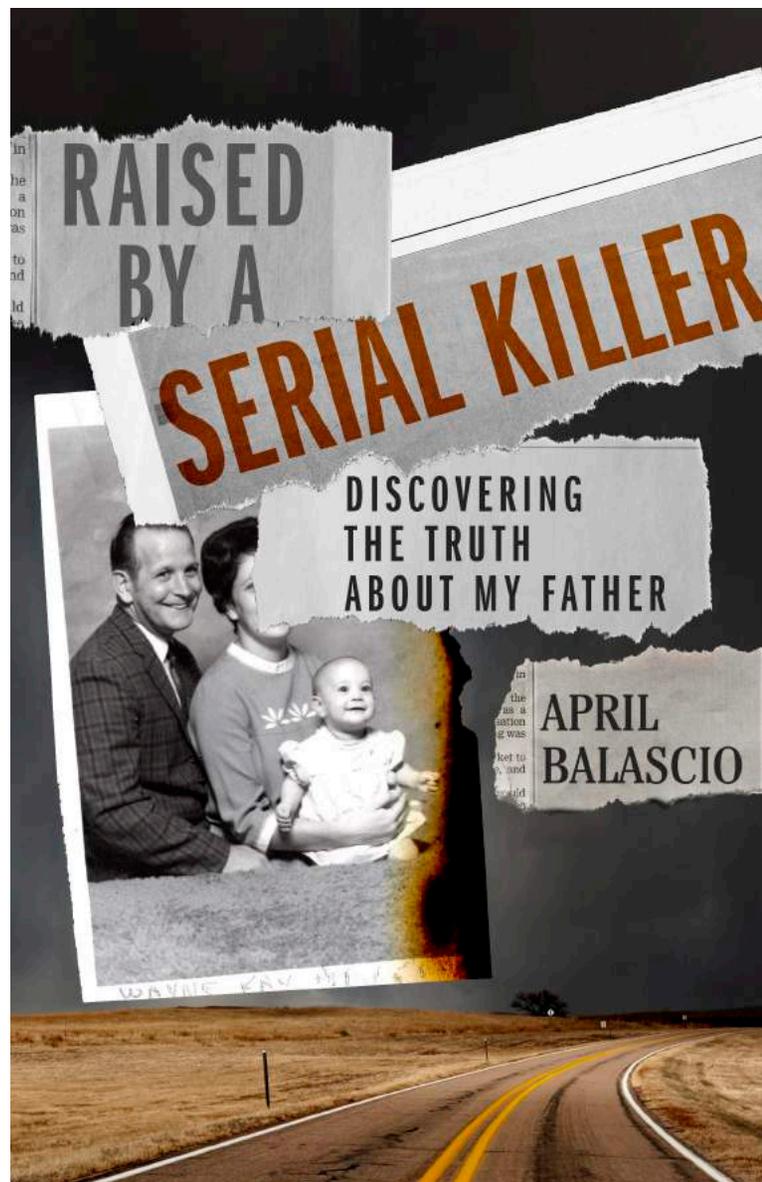
UK/Comm (HarperCollins UK)

The untold story behind the hit true crime podcast *The Clearing*, this unforgettable memoir traces one daughter's moving quest to understand her larger-than-life childhood as she searches for the truth about her father, the serial killer Edward Wayne Edwards.

One evening in 2009, April Balascio was searching online, as she had been every night, for unsolved murders in the towns her family had lived growing up, when she stumbled across the latest investigations into the "Sweetheart Murders" cold case. All at once, the buried memories of her father's dark history were awakened, and she knew she had to take action. She picked up the phone to call a detective and the rest is infamous true crime history.

In her unflinching memoir, Balascio bravely reveals an astonishing tale of a lifetime of manipulation, unexplained upheavals, and silent fear. Some part of her had always known what her father was capable of, but the full truth of how she came to these revelations is as riveting as it is quietly terrifying. Through searing storytelling, dedicated research, and intimate insight, *Raised by a Serial Killer* is a gripping, courageous memoir unlike any other.

April Balascio is the daughter of American serial killer Edward Wayne Edwards and the feature of the acclaimed 2019 true crime podcast *The Clearing*. She lives in the Florida panhandle.



# DIRTBAG QUEEN

A Memoir

By Andy Corren

NA

January 2025 / Grand Central (Hachette) / US Editor: Colin Dickerman  
Proposal Available — Edited MS Available Summer 2024

“Fantastic. Utterly unhinged, hilarious, and unexpectedly heartbreaking.”—  
#1 *New York Times* Bestseller Jenny Lawson

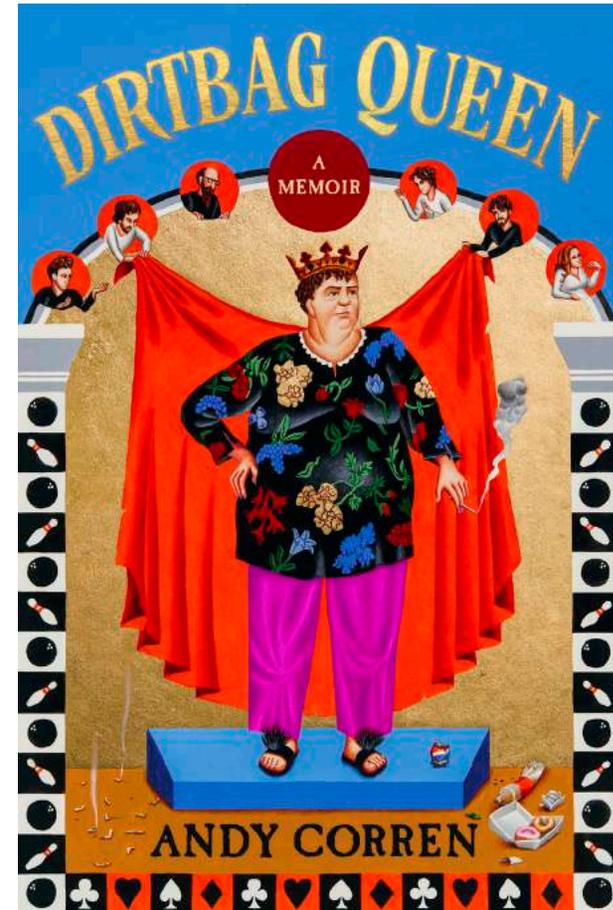
“A plus-sized Jewish lady redneck died in El Paso on Saturday. Of itself hardly news, or good news if you’re the type that subscribes to the notion that anybody not named you dying in El Paso, Texas is good news. In which case have I got news for you: the bawdy, fertile, redheaded matriarch of a sprawling Jewish-Mexican-Redneck American family has kicked it.”

On December 15, 2021, so began Andy Corren’s obituary for his mother, Renay Mandel Corren, which ran in her hometown paper, *The Fayetteville Observer*. Within hours, Corren’s tribute to his beloved late mother had gone viral, receiving over six million shares on Twitter and leading to international coverage and interviews in outlets from CNN to *The Times of London*, *Weekend All Things Considered*, *the New York Post*, *the Jerusalem Post* and beyond. Rarely has a new literary voice announced itself to the world in such an instant, undeniable, not to mention, unusual way.

In his uproariously funny, deeply moving first book, Corren establishes that the thousand-word tribute was but the tip of an iceberg. *Dirtbag Queen* marks the launch of a major literary career and the debut of one-of-a-kind storyteller by exploring territory the author knows and loves best: his mother. The author and the band of Corren brothers spent 96 hours at their mother’s side, during her dying days in a hospital in El Paso, Texas, a time when the stories, the revelations, the lies and the jokes were flowing fast, fierce, and ferociously. *Dirtbag Queen* celebrates the “long, slow life, and sometimes death, of Renay Mandel Corren” in a narrative that traces Andy’s coming of age in Fayetteville, North Carolina with his inimitable mother leaving readers with unforgettable tales from the family’s unique, often tragic but always colorful history.

**Andy Corren** worked in the entertainment industry as a successful talent manager for numerous high profile actors eventually establishing his own firm. He is a published and produced playwright and performer.

ACM Agent: Jen Gates



“*Dirtbag Queen* is told with the kind of unyielding honesty, devastating humor and above all tender familial pride that makes a seemingly eccentric upbringing feel universal. You will not regret a moment you spend with this family—nor will you ever forget them.”—**Steven Rowley**, *New York Times* Bestselling author of *The Guncle*

“Here’s something I can say with perfect certainty: Andy Corren has written the best scene I know of involving Donny Osmond, a standard poodle named Lico-ric, and a young man’s sexual awakening. And lucky for us, he’s written a whole lot more. *Dirtbag Queen* is an irreverent, laugh-out-loud look back at an outrageous childhood. It’s also an exquisite love letter to a woman who broke every rule of motherhood and taught her children how to live.” —**Grant Ginder**, author of *The People We Hate at the Wedding*

## ON FIRE FOR GOD

### How the Christian Right Uses Fear and Shame to Manipulate Working-Class America

By Josiah Hesse

WE

Spring 2025 / Pantheon (PRH) / US Editor: Denise Oswald  
Proposal Available — Edited MS Fall 2024

A stirring and urgent exposé of the far-reaching emotional, political and socio-logical effects of the Christian right, from the esteemed journalist and author Josiah Hesse.

In 2016, Josiah Hesse wrote a deeply personal piece for *The Guardian* detailing the raw, emotional scars he still carried from his fundamentalist Christian upbringing. The piece immediately went viral, striking a chord with thousands of readers, and for Hesse, an “exvangelical” with only a 10th-grade education this was a moment of triumph. *Child Left Behind: An Exvangelical Memoir* uses Hesse’s inspiring story of awakening and escape to expose how these conservative Christian conmen routinely stripped communities, such as Hesse’s hometown of Mason City, IA, of their wealth, sanity, and self-esteem.

Hesse takes the reader on a very personal journey, from the stifling, working-class town of Mason City, through the institutions of the Christian right: a toxic mixture of schools that taught creationism, Christian camps that taught sexual shame, and greedy preachers that siphoned his community’s wealth while preaching materialism and humiliating the poor. As it was for so many of his peers, such an upbringing was a funnel for Hesse to a career of 45 demeaning low-wage “disposable” jobs, all the way to Denver, CO, and Hesse’s dawning awareness that God didn’t exist, the world wasn’t going to end, and that he was woefully unprepared for a future he never thought would arrive. *Child Left Behind* tells a story that goes far beyond that often-asked question: “why did 81% of evangelical voters—the majority of them poor, working class—support Donald Trump?” In it, Hesse brings deep feeling and piercing immediacy to what he describes as “the socioeconomic tragedy of the American working class.” His journey from terrified zealot to self-educated journalist provides a lens into a much larger tale, one which reveals just how the Republican Party galvanized conservative evangelicals into the political force known today as the Christian right, decades before Trump ever uttered the phrase “Make America Great Again.”

**Josiah Hesse** is the author of *Runner’s High: How a Movement of Cannabis-Fueled Athletes Is Changing the Science of Sports*.

ACM Agent: Laura Nolan

## 93 ‘TIL INFINITY

### A Memoir

By Mark Ronson

NA

Spring 2025 / Grand Central (Hachette) / US Editor: Colin Dickerman  
Proposal Available — Edited MS Fall 2024

Rights Sold:

UK/Commonwealth (Cornerstone)

A memoir-in-stories capturing the music, characters, escapades, and energy of Mark Ronson’s early DJ days in 90s New York.

Before he was one of the world’s go-to hit-makers, he was a teenage DJ in the burgeoning hip-hop scene of New York. For Mark, there was an undeniable magic to the city’s nightlife—when clubs were diverse and glamorous and a little lawless, and brought a heady mix of music, ambition, danger, delight, and possibility. The era remains a touchstone for him; its sound will suffuse the new album he’s crafting, and it serves as the inspiration behind his first book. Organized around the venues and nights that defined Mark’s experience of the downtown scene, the book will evoke the specific rush of those spaces, where fashion folks and rappers on the rise danced alongside club kids and 9-to-5’ers.. Though an essential document of New York’s naughty 90s, at its core 93 ‘TIL INFINITY (the name of a hip-hop classic by Souls of Mischief and also the year Mark started deejaying and going out) will be a heartfelt coming-of-age tale. We see 93 ‘TIL INFINITY as a definitive account of 90s New York nightlife, just as Lizzy Goodman’s *Meet Me in the Bathroom*, Legs McNeil’s and Gillian McCain’s *Please Kill Me*, and Jeff Chang’s *Can’t Stop Won’t Stop* were for their respective music scenes. And as a memoir, we believe 93 ‘TIL INFINITY will emulate the appeal of Patti Smith’s *Just Kids* and Jay-Z’s *Decoded*, both intimate personal stories from household-name musicians.



DJ, songwriter & record producer **Mark Ronson** has won seven Grammy Awards, including two for his eleven-times platinum single “Uptown Funk” featuring Bruno Mars. In 2019, he received an Academy Award and a Golden Globe for the song “Shallow,” which he wrote with Lady Gaga for the film *A Star is Born*.

ACM Agent: David Kuhn & Nate Muscato

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# THE GLASS OF FASHION

## A Memoir

By Hamish Bowles

NA

Spring 2025 / Knopf (PRH) / US Editor: Shelley Wanger

Proposal Available — Edited MS Fall 2024

### Rights Sold:

UK/Commonwealth (Little Brown UK)

With a kaleidoscopic mixture of encyclopedic knowledge and boundless curiosity, Hamish brings us into a world where fashion, style, and history collide.

From creating a makeshift fontange at age four to winning a *British Vogue* talent contest at age fourteen, from becoming the youngest fashion director ever at *Harpers & Queen* at age twenty-two to moving up the ranks at *Vogue* to become the International Editor at Large in 2011, Hamish has collected the equivalent of four PhDs in fashion, interior design, decorative arts, and architecture. He's known and learned from scores of the most significant tastemakers of the last several decades, and he'll bring to life a cast of characters never before assembled on one stage. His book will honor those who influenced him and indirectly chart his influence on others—all in his charming, elegant, and accessible prose.

Hamish will take the reader on an international journey narrated through a pastiche of people, places, personal moments, and professional opinion. Erudite but playful, historical but personal, it's an exploration of the spaces between style and fashion and culture—into the chasms between the art of self-expression, classical traditions, and the circus of self-promotion. This isn't a book aimed at fashion insiders but rather at the culturally curious, creatively ambitious, and style obsessed.

**Hamish Bowles** is *Vogue's* International Editor-at-Large, and a creative consultant for The Metropolitan Museum of Art.



ACM Agent: David Kuhn

# THIS THUG'S LIFE

## A Memoir

By Mopreme Shakur

NA

Spring 2025 / Scribd / US Editor: Mark Bryant

Proposal Available — Edited MS Spring 2024

Maurice, Little Mutulu, Mogie, Mecedes, Mopreme, 'Preme -- Mopreme Shakur has been known by a lot of names from a lot of people. He is the eldest son of Mutulu Shakur: a leader of men, a prominent figure in the movement for the liberation of Black people, a thirty-six-year-long political prisoner in a country that doesn't admit we have them. He is the big brother of Tupac Shakur: the greatest rapper of all time and a legendary, transcendent figure whose music will outlive us all by generations. He is the only surviving member of the venerable hip hop groups T.H.U.G. L.I.F.E. and Outlaw Immortalz, which he co-founded with Pac. Mo's life sits at the intersection between the story of a man you should have read about in your American history books but didn't and a superstar you think you know but don't.

In his memoir, Mo shares not just the incredible and inspiring story of his father and his quest for racial justice decades before the Black Lives Matter movement but also all of the stories about Tupac's meteoric rise and artistic success. Many of the stories here have never been told before, from the "work hard, party hard" behind-the-scenes ethos of recording Pac's hit albums to who the family believes was behind Pac's first shooting in New York to rolling Pac's ashes into a joint as an emotional and important part of saying goodbye. From documentaries to films to other books, Mo has been involved as a crucial figure in managing Pac's posthumous legend but has carefully monitored and withheld stories and involvement to ensure that he could tell his own stories, in his own words, when the time came. There is nobody else who sits at Mo's unique intersection of experiences; nobody else as accomplished a writer, rapper, producer, and who has witnessed so much history so intimately. Mopreme Shakur's story is singular and revelatory, inspirational and powerful. As Mo himself would say: dig that!

**Mopreme Shakur** is a solo rapper and member of T.H.U.G. L.I.F.E. and Outlaw Immortalz, a writer, producer, and performer who played a crucial role in the production, recording, and release of all of Tupac Shakur's albums, both during his life and posthumous.

ACM Agent: Jon Michael Darga

# PLEASE DON'T KILL MY BLACK SON PLEASE

A Memoir of American Motherhood

By Hope Wabuke

NA

Spring 2025 / Pantheon (PRH) / US Editor: Maria Goldverg

Proposal Available — Edited MS Spring 2024

Rights Sold:

UK/Commonwealth (Orion)

Hope Wabuke welcomed her son with open arms, and yet she could not separate her excitement and love from her anxiety. She knew the names of the unarmed black boys and girls lost in recent years: Trayvon Martin, Tamir Rice, Mike Brown, Jordan Davis, Ayana Davis, and now George Floyd, Breonna Taylor, Jacob Blake and on and on and on. She knew what the world was capable of.

This is the reality of being a black mother to a black son: Racism and violence live at the surface. In Wabuke's memoir-in-essays, she wrestles with the violent realities her son will face growing up black in America, set against the realities she herself faces as a Black woman, a single mother, the daughter of refugees, a scholar, an artist, and a domestic abuse and sexual assault survivor. How does she take the lessons of her own life, of the systemic oppression of black bodies, and teach her son to not just survive, but to thrive? Building upon her viral essay "Five Moments in the Life of a Black Mother" from *The Hairpin*, Wabuke explores the cultural, historical, and personal trauma particular to black motherhood. From that wonderful day her son was born, to facing years of domestic violence inside her home and racial violence outside her home, to spending a year in a domestic violence shelter with her one-year-old baby boy, to finding a stable life with her son in a city where she can work and write, Wabuke gives urgent, beautiful life to a story of motherhood and survival. Extending a conversation carved out by Ta-Nehisi Coates's work and engaging with writers like Morgan Jerkins and Tressie McMillan Cottom in their discussions of culture and feminism, Wabuke's searing memoir brings one woman's story front and center.

**Hope Wabuke** is a poet, academic, and essayist. She is an assistant professor of English and Creative Writing at University of Nebraska-Lincoln, a former contributing editor for *The Root*, and a founding board member of the Kimbilio Center for African American fiction. She is the author of the poetry collection *The Body Family*.

ACM Agent: Sarah Bowlin

# THE RIVER'S DAUGHTER

A Memoir

By Bridget Crocker

WE

Spring 2025 / Spiegel & Grau / US Editor: Cindy Spiegel

Full MS Available — Edited MS Available Fall 2024

A gorgeous coming of age memoir from international river explorer Bridget Crocker. *Wild* meets *Educated* in this cinematic memoir that's destined to be a book club favorite.

Whitewater is uniquely well-suited for metaphor. The water races over obstacles, creating chaotic and often unpredictable currents, demanding those who try to navigate through them be adaptable, prepared, and highly tolerant of both thrill and risk. Coming of age in unstable households—subjected to her (suddenly!) eco-terrorist mother's unpredictability or the chaos of her father's rage—Bridget herself was uniquely forged to thrive on the river. In *The River's Daughter*, Bridget masterfully steers readers through the tumultuous waters of the Snake, Kern, and Zambezi Rivers. Tightly focused on her teen and young adult years, we watch Bridget claw her way out of her unhealthy family dynamics and blossom into her full potential. As Bridget confronts the challenges of her upbringing while navigating rapids and the misogyny prevalent in the outdoor industry, the river's raw force molds her, empowering her to champion herself and others. She doesn't just break free from generational poverty and abuse; she sets a new blueprint for resilience, with hope as the cornerstone. Whitewater rafting isn't just about surviving when your boat flips but recovering strong. A riveting exploration of familial bonds and persistent grit, destined to be a book club favorite, it captivates and challenges readers, urging them to dive deep into life's adventures, whether it's a pulse-pounding river trip or the intricate dance of family relations.

**Bridget Crocker** is a trailblazer in women's empowerment within the outdoor industry. She is a contributing author to Lonely Planet Guidebooks and Travel Anthology and The Best Women's Travel Writing series from Travelers' Tales, and her work has been featured in magazines including *Westways*, *Men's Journal*, *National Geographic Adventure*, *Trail Runner*, *Paddler*, *Outside*, *Vela* and Patagonia's blog.

ACM Agent: Lauren MacLeod



# CELLAR RAT

A Memoir of Taste, Trauma, and Tenderness

By Hannah Selinger

WE

Spring 2025 / Little, Brown (Hachette) / US Editor: Vivian Lee  
Proposal Available — Edited MS Fall 2024

*Cellar Rat* will provide an important counterbalance to the male-dominated category of restaurant memoirs and appeal to fans of Erin French's *Finding Freedom*. Like Ruth Reichl's *Save Me the Plums*, Selinger combines brilliant writing with a glimpse into the upper echelons of her industry resulting in irresistible storytelling that is hard to put down.

In her compelling debut memoir, Selinger chronicles her rise and fall in the restaurant business, beginning with the gritty hometown pub where she fell in love with the industry and ending with her final post serving celebrities at the Hampton's classic Nick & Tony's. In between, readers will join Hannah on her emotional journey as she learns the joys of fine dining, the danger of power, and what it takes to walk away from a career you love when it no longer serves you. While Hannah may not be a celebrity chef, she is the person who supported them, and unlike other restaurant memoirs Hannah doesn't skip over the harassment, the blacklisting, or the litany of abusive practices hospitality workers still endure today.

Offering a glimpse into the experience of a restaurant "lifer," *Cellar Rat* is the story of millions of women across America. It's a story about telling yourself the harassment isn't that bad. It's a story about being gaslit into believing it's all your fault. It's a story about healing, about making the wrong choice, and about learning it's possible to piece yourself back together even when you feel broken beyond repair. But most importantly, it's the whole story. Hannah Selinger's showstopping account reminds us that for every anonymous source, every person brave enough to come forward with their story, there are countless more who can't afford that risk. As America experiences one of the greatest shifts in labor rights we've seen in nearly 100 years, and the restaurant industry continues to reckon with #MeToo, Hannah's book is a crucial reminder of what the labor movement is fighting for.

**Hannah Selinger** is a graduate of Columbia University, Emerson College's MFA program, and the French Culinary Institute as well as a Certified Sommelier through the Court of Master Sommeliers.

ACM Agent: Rick Richter and Caroline Marsiglia

# WHY DIDN'T I THINK OF THAT?

Thirty Years At, In, and Around Barneys and New York

By Gene Pressman

NA

Spring 2025 / Viking (PRH) / US Editor: Rick Kot/Patrick Nolan  
Proposal Available — Edited MS Fall 2024

The definitive story of the dizzying, electric rise of Barneys New York, a ticket into the club of subversive cool in New York in the 70s, 80s, and early 90s. Pour a cocktail and bust out your vintage Alaïa.

The book opens with Gene Pressman as a young scion of retail barely into his twenties and in need of a job as he'd just flunked out of Hollywood. His main preoccupations at the time were sex, drugs, and rock and roll, but, as he says, it's not a far leap from that to sex, drugs, and retail. Enter Barney Pressman, his grandfather and founder of Barneys New York, which was at the time a thriving downtown discount retailer of men's clothing that would soon become the largest, most successful merchant of menswear in the world. Each morning, Gene and Barney would head downtown, the elder to the executive suite and the younger to the warehouse floor. Not by command, but by instinct, the younger Pressman wanted to know how every part of the business worked. Gene was something else: an impresario, a visionary, and an artist who created an atmosphere with the people and designs he and his family intentionally invited into his space. And that space was Barneys.

Gene's memoir will tell the story of how he created the coolest department store the world has ever seen. It will also tell the story of the Pressmans: How his grandfather Barney founded the store downtown on 17th Street in 1923. What Barney's son Fred though should—and should not—happen with the store, as he looked to Europe's and Japan's menswear designers. And how Gene arrived on the scene and soon insisted on his own fiefdom within the business: an alcove on the top floor, where he'd bring in a few women's lines from Paris and see how that went. This memoir is about fathers and sons and brothers, about family dreams and drama in a city where all of it and more was and is still possible. It is a quintessentially New York story of the Pressman family, one of the city's most consequential dynasties, and the tale of a young man's indelible coming of age.

**Gene Pressman** was co-CEO, creative director, and head of merchandising and marketing for Barneys New York, and a veteran of the store for more than 25 years. Under his leadership, Barneys New York emerged as the defining force in retailing for upscale men's and women's ready-to-wear, accessories, and home furnishings.

ACM Agent: Jane von Mehren and Jen Marshall

AEVITAS 58

## RAGING WITH OUR HEARTS ON OUR SLEEVES

### A Nineties Rock Odyssey

By Melissa Auf der Maur

NA

Fall 2025 / Hachette Books / US Editor: Ben Schafer

Proposal Available — Edited MS Spring 2025

#### Rights Sold:

UK/Comm (Atlantic UK)

Melissa's evocative, lyrical, and heartfelt memoir of her time at the center of the 1990s alt-rock scene, as the bassist for Hole and The Smashing Pumpkins. Told in stories and photographs (Melissa is an accomplished photographer with an extraordinary archive), the book will plunge readers into the riot and romance of one of the most mythologized decades in music.

Melissa's story includes some of the most recognizable names in rock history. There are her "grunge parents," Hole's Courtney Love—whose band Melissa joined in the wake of her husband Kurt Cobain's suicide—and Billy Corgan, the Grammy-winning impresario whose Smashing Pumpkins have disbanded and reunited for over three decades. Melissa toured with a "who's who" of 90s rock acts (Sonic Youth, Nine Inch Nails, Pavement, Marilyn Manson, Beck) that will appear throughout the book, to say nothing of the romances she enjoyed. One suitor whom she did connect with on a profound, spiritual level was Dave Grohl, who was finding success with his band Foo Fighters just as Melissa left Hole for The Smashing Pumpkins. Melissa's perspective on the 90s rock scene is singular in that she was one of the few involved who resisted the pull of substance abuse. She possesses clear, vivid recollections of episodes otherwise lost amidst addiction, chaos, and tragedy. Beyond capitalizing on nostalgia, this book is Melissa's emergence as a talented memoirist and authoritative voice of her generation. Hers is the story of a young woman's journey through the extremes of fame, creative success, tragedy, frustration, romance, and reinvention, all the while trusting her moral compass and strong sense of self—and the occasional dream-like premonition—to guide her to where she needed to be.



ACM Agent: David Kuhn & Nate Muscato

## MADE TO COOK

### One Woman's Story Inside the Culinary Institute of America

By Brigid Washington

NA

Fall 2025 / St. Martin's Press (Macmillan) / US Editor: Elizabeth Beier

Proposal Available — Edited MS Spring 2025

We have heard from the men about what it's like to train to be a celebrated chef in the form of Michael Ruhlman's *The Making of a Chef* and Anthony Bourdain's *Kitchen Confidential*, but their stories are over 20 years old. What is it like now? And what happens when unpaid excellence, toxic masculinity, and the brutality of the brigade system – championed by the grand ghost of Escoffier – no longer fits into a changing world?

A lot has changed in two decades, and there hasn't been a book written about the experience of attending the Culinary Institute of America by a woman, let alone an immigrant woman of color. At a time when Noma cannot stay open due to expenses and the toll on worker's lives to keep up its standards; and when the realities of the food service world versus work in a Michelin-starred restaurant are revealed in pain and humor in a show like *The Bear*, it is time to look at how chefs are trained in America, and who really wins the *Top Chef* game. Lucky for us, Brigid Washington, an experienced food writer and chef, has decided to tell her story of love, fear, and ultimately discovering what's important, after 22 months at the CIA.

*Made to Cook* is singular in its honest accounting of the definition of success, and how that success is attained and upheld, amongst a boisterous and diverse cast of characters – both chef's and students – that comprise the institute. Because every student arrives at the CIA at various ages and seasons of life, the institute naturally creates a convergence of age-crossing relationships and realities. This book will illuminate the intricacies of these relationships across a sweep of situations, most of which unfurl in the kitchens, restaurants, and banquet halls of the nation's top culinary school.

**Brigid Washington** is a food writer who lived in Trinidad & Tobago for the first seventeen years of her life. Her work delves into the rich complexities of Caribbean food and culture as it intersects with life in the United States. She is a classically trained chef, a graduate of the Culinary Institute of America in Hyde Park, New York, where she was also editor-in-chief of its monthly publication, *La Papillote*.

ACM Agent: Karen Murgolo

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# VAGABOND

## A Memoir

By Tim Curry

Fall 2025 / Hachette / US Editor: Carrie Napolitano

Proposal Available — Edited MS Spring 2025

### Rights Sold:

UK/Comm (Cornerstone / PRH UK)

Frank-N-Furter. Pennywise. Wadsworth. Rooster Hannigan. King Arthur. Long John Silver. Nigel Thornberry. The Lord of Darkness. These are just some of award-winning actor Tim Curry's most iconic roles, sure to spark for all of us memoirs with deep personal meaning.

From the proposal: "Wandering, staggering, drifting, winking. Most definitions and connotations of the word suit me. As I interpret it, a vagabond is a rover. He travels about and picks up work where he goes. Reluctant to be pinned down, he's enticed by risk, restless if he lingers, fueled by curiosity. Vagabonds learn early that, indeed, time is fleeting; as is fame—a fairly worthless pursuit. Armed with that awareness, they are less startled by unpredictability and often accomplish a great deal across varied spheres.

I've found other channels of expression; different creative boxes from which my real self could emerge. My vagabond blues, hopes, and highs have found their way into my songs. They've been delivered upon the stage. While wearing masks. Exhibited on screens. Cultivated in my gardens. Re-envisioned, attached to, and filtered through more voices and personas than I can recall. And now, for your amusement and horror, those strands of my true self shall be revealed within these pages."

Vagabond will publish in Fall 2025, to coincide with the 50th anniversary of "Rocky Horror Picture Show" and the 40th anniversary of "Clue", two of Tim's most iconic, cult-classic films.



ACM Agent: Jon Michael Darga

# FLYWAYS

## My Life with Birds

By Lili Taylor

Fall 2025 / Crown (PRH) / US Editor: Libby Burton

Proposal Available — Edited MS Spring 2025

### Rights Sold:

UK/Commonwealth (One Boat / Macmillan UK)

Birdwatchers are like the creatures they follow; once you start to notice them, you can't help but realize they're all around you. Fifteen years ago, during an "emotional sabbatical" from her work as an actor, Lili Taylor sought silence and instead found the bustling, symphonic world of birds.

Lili's memoir-in-essays will offer a (short) book-length meditation on her journey with birds and what she's learned about the making and meaning of life and art. Her stories braid her personal experiences as an actor and mother with ornithological facts and escapades characterized by her roving curiosity. From chasing a migratory flock up the Empire State Building to voyaging to her first birding festival in Ohio, her stories offer examples of how life is enriched and brightened by looking upwards. Ultimately, FLYWAYS will braid stories of her work as an actor and her love of birding to offer observations about the making of art and the meaning of life,

You may recognize Lili from indie classics such as *Mystic Pizza*, *Say Anything*, *I Shot Andy Warhol*, *High Fidelity*, and *Dogfight*. Her accolades include a Golden Globe win for her performance in Robert Altman's *Short Cuts* as well as three Primetime Emmy nominations for her turns in *American Crime*, *Six Feet Under* and *The X-Files*. Lili's latest project is the Amazon Studios mystery drama series *Outer Range*, in which she stars with Josh Brolin. She also recently wrapped production on the Apple TV+ limited series *Manhunt*.

In the birding world, **Lili Taylor** is a board member of the National Audubon Society, the American Birding Association, and the New York City Audubon. Lili nests in Brooklyn and upstate New York with her husband, the memoirist and poet Nick Flynn, and their daughter.



ACM Agent: David Kuhn & Nate Muscato

NA

AEVITAS 60

# THE MOTHER CODE

## A Memoir

By Ruthie Ackerman

NA

Fall 2025 / Random House (PRH) / US Editor: Jamia Wilson

Proposal Available — Edited MS Spring 2025

Can you inherit a gene for being a good mother? Or a bad one?

*The Mother Code* begins with the story of the women and history of trauma in Ruthie Ackerman's family, the women who, generation after generation, abandoned their children. That history includes Ruthie's own mother, her mental illness and a succession of suicide attempts. As much as Ruthie admires her foremothers for their determination to have lives apart from the prescribed role of wife and mother, she is haunted by the connection between giving birth and the onset of their mental difficulties. She also can't help but recognize that even for her generation, motherhood means sacrificing other parts of herself. What might happen to her, if she gives birth to a child? Will she also find herself choosing an independent life, over caring for her baby? Can she escape the generations of "bad mothers" before her?

Part-memoir, part-reportage, *The Mother Code* tells the story of Ruthie's very complicated journey to becoming a mother, and uses that personal narrative as a backbone to more deeply explore the science and culture surrounding motherhood today. As Ruthie chronicles her story in the beautifully written pages of her memoir, she also weaves in scientific research and original reporting. From groundbreaking new technologies that are changing what it means to be a parent—and who gets to parent—to the science of attachment, she investigates what we inherit from those who raise us. *The Mother Code* is a deep dive into whether there is such a thing as a maternal instinct, what it means to be a mother in this day and age, the ways our family histories and how we were mothered impact how we mother, and whether emerging science and technology can overcome the mixed messages women receive from our culture.

The birth of her daughter Clementine doesn't immediately answer all the questions Ruthie has been asking. But by the end of this moving, profound, and ultimately joyful journey, she understands that mothering is built from its own code, and that she and Clementine have left an imprint on each other that is stronger than DNA—it's called love.

**Ruthie Ackerman** is an award-winning journalist, editor, and writing coach.

**ACM Agent:** Jane von Mehren

# UPCOMING NARRATIVE NONFICTION



# DEATH ROW WELCOMES YOU

Visiting Hours in the Shadow of the Execution Chamber

By Steven Hale

NA

March 2024 / Melville House

Final PDF Available

A bold new look at justice and ethics in America, told through interwoven lives of condemned prisoners and the men and women who come to visit them.

In 2018, after nearly a decade's hiatus, the state of Tennessee began executing death row inmates. In less than two years, the state put seven men to death, more than any other state but Texas in that time period. It was an execution spree unlike any seen in Tennessee since the 1940s, one only brought to a halt by a global pandemic. Award-winning journalist Steven Hale was the leading reporter on these executions, covering it both locally for the *Nashville Scene* and nationally for *The Appeal*.

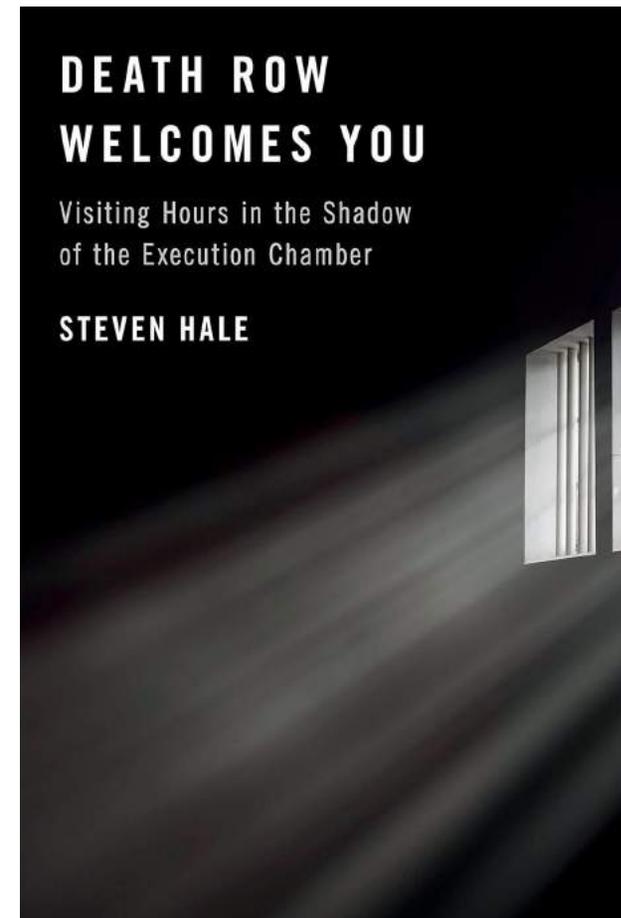
*Death Row Welcomes You* traces the interwoven lives of condemned prisoners and the men and women who come to Riverbend Maximum Security Institution on a near-weekly basis to visit them.

With their Monday night gatherings at the heart of the story, the book traces the paths that brought the characters — visitors and convicted murderers alike — to death row. These visitors are, for the most part, not activists, nor are they killer-obsessed death row groupies. In most cases they are average people whose lives, not to mention their views on the death penalty, were turned upside down by a face-to-face meeting with a death row prisoner. Through his reporting, Hale was introduced to many of the people that make up the community at the center of *Death Row Welcomes You*. It has afforded him a perspective that no other journalist has been granted, largely because Tennessee's Department of Correction has all but shut off official media access.

Hale writes with humanity, empathy, and insight earned by befriending death row prisoners and standing witnessing to their final moments.

**Steven Hale** is an award-winning writer who worked for ten years as a staff reporter covering criminal justice and politics for the *Nashville Scene*. He has written extensively about Tennessee's death row, for which he won an Association of Alternative Newsmedia "Best Reporting" Award in 2020.

ACM Agent: Lauren MacLeod



"A thoughtful, provocative contribution to the literature on the death penalty." —*Kirkus*

"An unflinching witness who dares us to see the full humanity of the condemned and interrogate the very premise of the death penalty." —Sister Helen Prejean

"In a time of true crime and hot takes, Steven Hale is here with riveting portraits of people who use their privilege to care for the least among us." —**Maurice Chamamah, author of *Let the Lord Sort Them***

"Deeply researched, Steven Hale's book weaves together years of immersive reporting into a narrative that stands as a testament to the value of dogged journalists who can document hidden worlds." —**Keri Blakinger, author of *Corrections in Ink***

"A masterpiece of crime, punishment, and redemption." —**Daniel J. Sharfstein, director of the George Barrett Social Justice Program at Vanderbilt Law School**

AEVITAS 63

# COMMITTED

## On Meaning and Madwomen

By Suzanne Scanlon

NA

April 2024 / Vintage (PRH) / US Editor: Ellie Pritchett

Final PDF Available

### Rights Sold:

Bookhouse (Munhakdongne) UK/Comm (John Murray)

A raw and masterful memoir about becoming a woman and going mad—and doing both at once.

When Suzanne Scanlon was a student at Barnard in the 90s, grieving the loss of her mother—feeling untethered and swimming through inarticulable pain—she made a suicide attempt that landed her in the New York State Psychiatric Institute.

After nearly three years and countless experimental treatments, Suzanne left the ward on shaky legs. In the decades it took her to recover from the experience, Suzanne came to understand her suffering as part of something larger: a long tradition of women whose complicated and compromised stories of self-actualization are reduced to “crazy chick” and “madwoman” narratives. It was a thrilling discovery, and she searched for more books, more woman writers, as the journey of her life converged with her journey through the literature that shaped her.

Transporting, honest, and graceful, *Committed* is a story of discovery and recovery, reclaiming the idea of the madwoman as a template for insight and transcendence through the works of Charlotte Perkins Gilman, Virginia Woolf, Sylvia Plath, Janet Frame, Audre Lorde, Shulamith Firestone, and others.

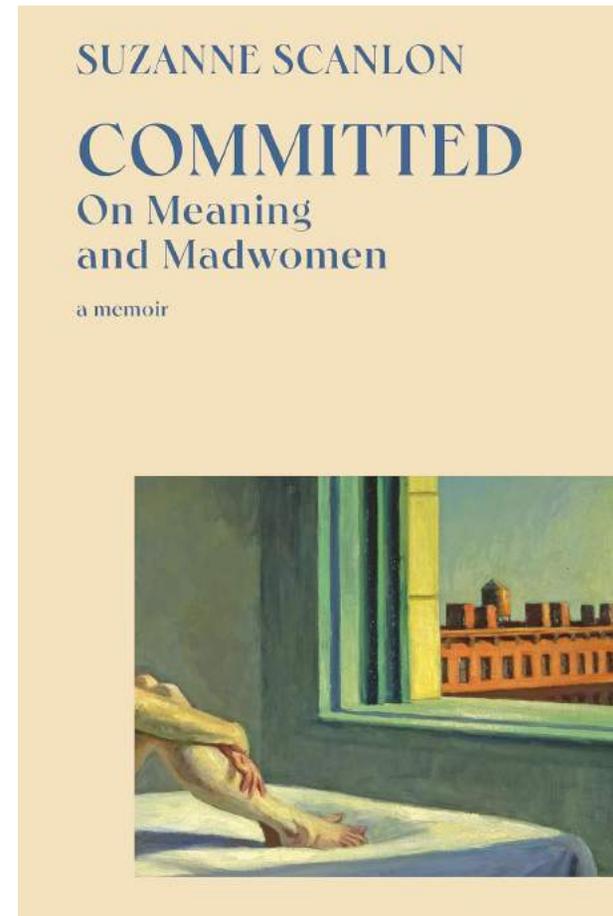
**Suzanne Scanlon** is the author of the novels *Promising Young Women* and *Her 37th Year, An Index*. Her writing has appeared in *Granta*, *BOMB Magazine*, *The Iowa Review*, and *The Los Angeles Review of Books*, among other places.

### Previous Foreign Publishers:

French (Editions du Portrait)

“Intimate, unsparing.... A chronicle of survival amid mental and familial turmoil... Astute reflections on fragility, healing, and wholeness.” —*Kirkus Reviews*

ACM Agent: Sarah Levitt



“An intimate and deeply intelligent, soulful book that articulates the struggle to connect to the world.”—**Sarah Schulman**, author of *Let the Record Show*

“Insightful, brave, and fiercely compelling... Beautifully written and passionate in exploring lost connections, especially between mothers and daughters”  
—**Christopher Lane**, writer at *Psychology Today* and author of *Shyness*

“A lyrical and illuminating account of a young woman’s struggle with mental illness and institutionalization. Mining the metaphors endemic to the institutional setting... Scanlon questions the cultural conversations around women and mental illness” —**Natasha Trethewey**, Pulitzer Prize-winning author of *Native Guard*

“Not since Marguerite Duras have we had such an intimate and moving voice. Among the very finest and most intelligent memoirs ever written.” —**Clancy Martin**, author of *How Not to Kill Yourself: A Portrait of the Suicidal Mind*

“It’s not often that a book goes beyond literature into a metaphysical realm, or maybe that is what literature is like in its truest, deepest state... This book lives alongside the works of Annie Ernaux, Elena Ferrante, and James Baldwin, and feels every bit as important, for its artistry, for how it doesn’t shy away.”  
—**Amina Cain**, author of *Indelicacy* and *A Horse at Night*

# TRIPPY

## The Peril and Promise of Medicinal Psychedelics

By Ernesto Londoño

NA

May 2024 / Celadon (Macmillan) / US Editor: Ryan Doherty

Final PDF Available

### Rights Sold:

UK/Comm (Orion Books)

A riveting look at the tremendous promise and inherent risks of the use of psychedelics in mental health treatment through the lens of a *New York Times* reporter whose journalistic exploration of this emerging field began with a personal crisis.

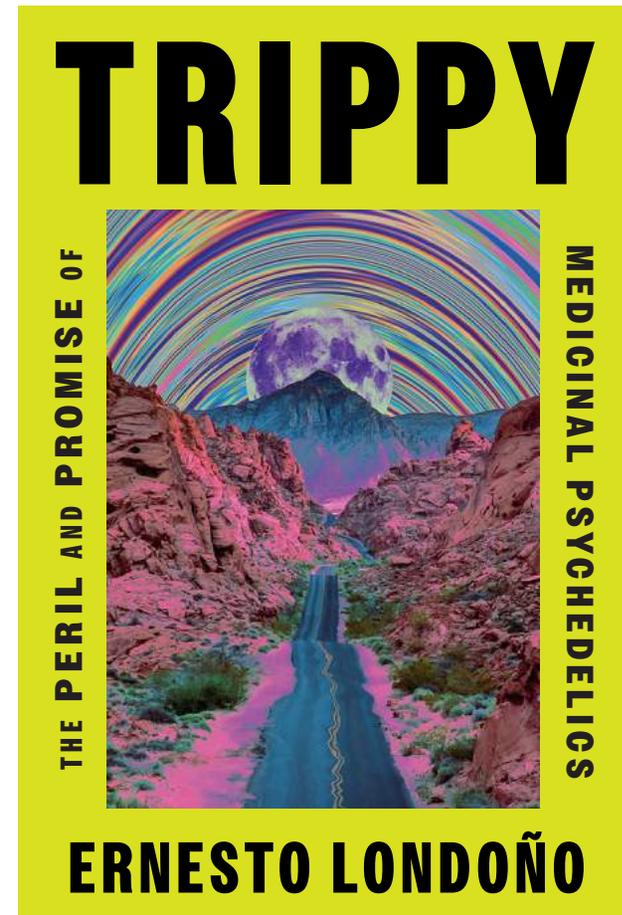
When he signed up for a psychedelic retreat run by a mysterious Argentine woman deep in Brazil's rainforest in early 2018, Ernesto Londoño, a veteran *New York Times* journalist, was so depressed he had come close to jumping off his terrace weeks earlier. His nine-day visit to Spirit Vine Ayahuasca Retreat Center included four nighttime ceremonies during which participants imbibed a vomit-inducing plant-based brew that contained DMT, a powerful mind-altering compound.

The ayahuasca trips provided Londoño an instant reprieve from his depression and became the genesis of a personal transformation that anchors this sweeping journalistic exploration of the booming field of medicinal psychedelics. Londoño introduces readers to a dazzling array of psychedelic enthusiasts who are upending our understanding of trauma and healing. They include Indigenous elders who regard psychedelics as portals to the spirit world; religious leaders who use mind-bending substances as sacraments; war veterans suffering from PTSD who credit psychedelics with changing their lives; and clinicians trying to resurrect a promising field of medicine hastily abandoned in the 1970s as the United States declared a War on Drugs.

Londoño's riveting personal narrative pulls the reader through a deeply researched account of a game-changing industry on the rise. *Trippy* is the definitive book on psychedelics and mental health today, and Londoño's in-depth and nuanced look at this shifting landscape will be pivotal in guiding policymakers and readers as they make sense of the perils and promises of turning to psychedelics in the pursuit of healing.

**Ernesto Londoño** is a national correspondent at *The New York Times*, where he has worked since 2014. He was born and raised in Colombia and has spent two decades covering some of the most important stories of his generation. He covered the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan; the Arab Spring; served on the editorial board of *The New York Times*; and was the newspaper's bureau chief in Brazil.

ACM Agent: Todd Shuster



“A moving, tender and thoughtful exploration of a complicated subject. If you want to understand psychedelics better, this is a great place to start”—**Johann Hari**, *New York Times* bestselling author of *Stolen Focus* and *Lost Connections*

“A compulsively readable romp through a burgeoning scene that has immense potential for both harm and healing.”—**Dan Harris**, *New York Times* bestselling author of *10% Happier* and host of the *Ten Percent Happier* podcast

“In Ernesto Londoño's courageous and revelatory book, a whole new continent sails into view: of the hidden corners of our minds, and of the mysterious substances that light them up. This journey inside the brain and around the world taught me more than any book I've read in a long time. It's an important book, one that will save people's lives.”—**Benjamin Moser**, Pulitzer Prize winning author of *Sontag: Her Life and Work*

# SWOLE

## The Making of Men & The Meaning of Muscle

By Michael Andor Brodeur

NA

May 2024 / Beacon Press / US Editor: Catherine Tung

Edited MS Available

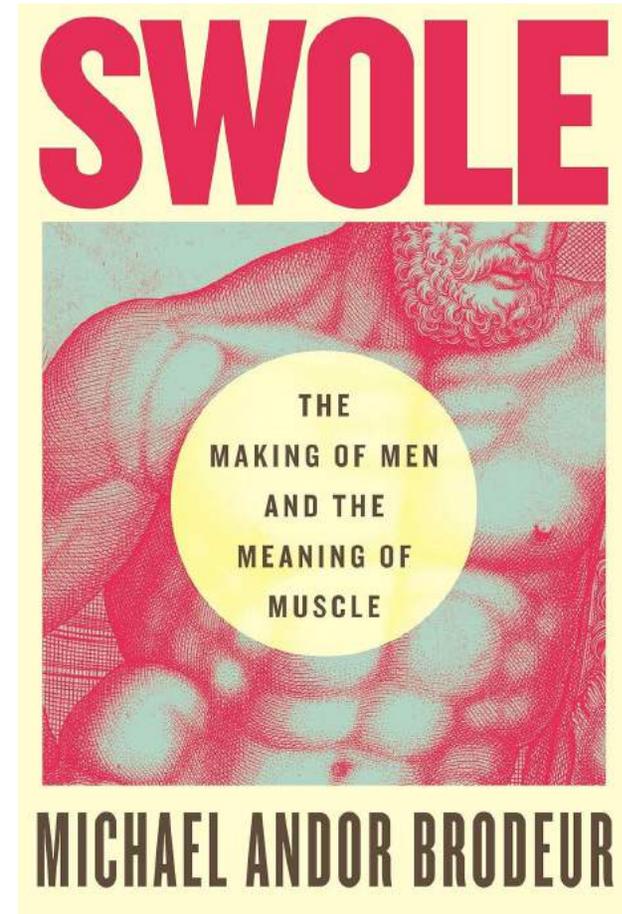
From a *Washington Post* critic and self-described meathead: a witty, incisive, poignant exploration of male body image, from the history of the gym to the politics of superheroes to the world of manfluencers

Michael Brodeur is a Gen-X gay writer with a passion for bodybuilding and an insatiable curiosity about masculinity—a concept in which many men are currently struggling to find their place. In our current moment, where “manfluencers” on TikTok tease their audiences with their latest videos, where right-wing men espouse the importance of being “alpha,” as toxic masculinity and the patriarchy are being rightfully criticized, the nature of masculinity has become murkier than ever.

In excavating this complex topic, Brodeur uses the male body as his guide: its role in cultures from the gymnasia of ancient Greece to Walt Whitman’s essays on manly health, from the rise of Muscular Christianity in 19th-century America to the swollen superheroes and Arnold Schwarzeneggers of Brodeur’s childhood. Interweaving history, cultural criticism, memoir, and reportage, laced with an irrepressible wit, Brodeur takes us into the unique culture centered around men’s bodies, probing its limitations and the promise beyond: how men can love themselves while rejecting the aggression, objectification, and misogyny that have for so long accompanied the quest to become swole.

**Michael Andor Brodeur** has been the classical music critic at *The Washington Post* since 2020. Previously he held editorial and staff-writer positions at *The Boston Globe* and Boston’s *Weekly Dig*. His essays, humor and criticism have also appeared in *Nylon*, *Thrillist*, *Entrepreneur*, *Medium*, *McSweeney’s Internet Tendency* and other publications. He has also released five music albums under different monikers, most recently writing and performing electronic music under the name New Dad.

ACM Agent: Will Lippincott



“If you want your brain to get ripped, jacked, and shredded on the fascinating history of why men obsess over building up their bodies, you need to read *Swole*. Covering everything from He-Man and TikTok primal manfluencers to the jacked Jesus of Muscular Christianity, Brodeur’s glorious, insightful, and cackle-out-loud hilarious book is destined to be a classic. Now, if you’ll excuse me, I need to do some push-ups.”—Kevin Alexander, author of *Burn the Ice: The American Culinary Revolution and Its End*

“A timely, unprecedented survey of an unexpected, often overlooked figure in body politics: the meathead. . . . Necessary . . . Crucial . . . For anyone engaged in the Sisyphean pursuit of muscle and bulk—and to anyone interested in engaging with a critical examination of masculinity—*Swole* is an invitation to broaden our view on what it means to want to get big.” —Colin Self, artist and composer

# THE CROSSING

## El Paso, the Southwest, and America's Forgotten Origin Story

By Richard Parker

WE

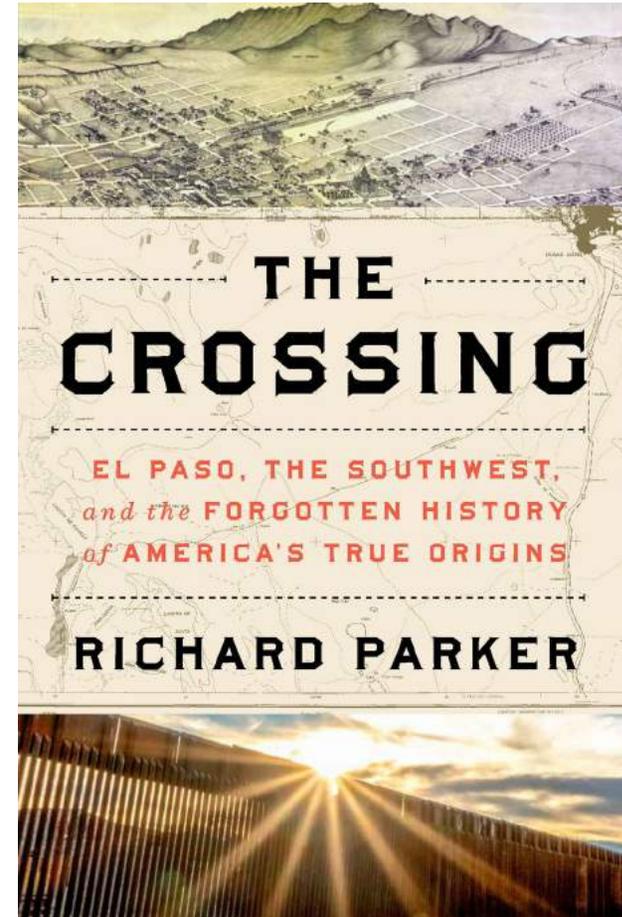
October 2024 / Mariner Books (HarperCollins) / US Editor: Peter Hubbard  
Edited MS Available

A multilayered narrative of the US-Mexico border told through the history of the city of El Paso: an oasis, gateway, and portal between places, people, and times.

In the spirit of critically acclaimed works such as Lawrence Wright's *God Save Texas* and Juan Gonzalez's now-classic history *the Harvest of an Empire*, *The Crossing* will provide readers with critical insights into the role of Latinos in America — and demonstrate the ways in which questions of race, power, and culture in El Paso are inextricably linked with both the past and present of the United States. Counter to prevailing narratives of the Lone Star State as a place of gun-toting Wild West mavericks, El Paso has long defined itself as a center of cooperation, progress, and racial harmony: a society that normalized intermarriage in the 19th century; established one of the nation's first integrated school districts in the 1950s; and, as early as 1965, became the first large Latino-majority city in the United States.

This is not to say that El Paso has been untouched by violence or racial bigotry. As a crucial gateway to both Mexico and the American West, El Paso has played host to its share of armed conflicts over the last six centuries, often grappling with outsiders who brought their own battles to this otherwise peaceful place. Indigenous tribes fought for primacy; conquistadors staked their claim; and both Mexican and American troops shed blood on the banks of the Rio Grande in clashes over land and power. More than simply a chronicle of character and events, Parker offers a deep analysis of El Paso's significance on the border, in the Southwest, and in the history of America's origins.

**Richard Parker** is the son of a Mexican mother and an American father, and grew up in El Paso, TX. His writing has appeared in *The Atlantic*, *Texas Monthly*, *Politico Magazine*, *The New Republic*, *The Los Angeles Times*, *The Philadelphia Inquirer*, *The Miami Herald*, and *The New York Times*, among others.



“In the aftermath of the El Paso shooting — the deadliest attack on Latinos in modern American history — author and journalist Richard Parker has been a passionate, authentic voice for his community. In a media landscape often lacking Latino representation, he has spoken up for his fellow El Pasoans and Mexican-Americans with his pen or in person, bringing his grace and intellect to the coverage of a wrenching tragedy.” — **NBC News, #NBCLatino20 citation**

# YOU MUST STAND UP

## The Fight for Abortion Rights in Post-Dobbs America

By Amanda Becker

NA

September 2024 / Bloomsbury / US Editor: Grace McNamee

Edited MS Available

### Rights Sold:

UK/Comm (The History Press)

The inspiring, on-the-ground story of the rising grassroots leaders in the abortion rights movement in the pivotal first year after Dobbs.

When the Supreme Court decided *Dobbs v. Jackson Women's Health Organization*—overturning the constitutional right to abortion care—the country was thrown into chaos. Abortion providers and their patients faced sudden closures, new restrictions, and rapidly changing rules as nearly half of the state's moved quickly to ban or severely curtail abortion access. Against this backdrop, an army of health care providers, lawyers, activists and everyday people mobilized to protect what a majority of Americans want: legal abortion.

In *You Must Stand Up*, Nieman Fellow Amanda Becker provides a real-time portrait of the creative resistance that unfolded in America's first year without the protections of *Roe v. Wade*. At a moment when healthcare access shifts daily, new legal battles are argued before partisan courts, and state constitutions are re-interpreted or amended, Becker traces the story of the people rising to meet these new challenges—doctors and staffers turning to new financial and medical models to remain open and provide abortions, volunteers campaigning against anti-abortion ballot initiatives, and medical students fighting to learn to provide what can be life-saving care. By depicting the splintered reality of post-Dobbs America, and by capturing how the decision fueled Americans to think in new ways about how to best protect their constitutional rights, Becker ultimately shows how outrage can beget hope, and give rise to a new movement.

**Amanda Becker** is a '23 Nieman fellow and Washington correspondent for *The 19th*. She has covered the U.S. Congress, the White House and elections for more than a decade. Becker previously worked at Reuters and CQ Roll Call. Her work has appeared in *The Washington Post*, *USA Today* and *Glamour* magazine. Her political coverage has also been broadcast on National Public Radio. She lives in Washington, DC.

ACM Agent: Lauren Sharp

# YOU MUST STAND UP



THE FIGHT FOR ABORTION RIGHTS  
IN POST-DOBBS AMERICA

AMANDA BECKER

BLOOMSBURY

# CABINET OF CURIOSITIES

A Historical Tour of the Unbelievable, the Unsettling, and the Bizarre

By Aaron Mahnke with Harry Marks

NA

November 2024 / St. Martin's (Macmillan) / US Editor: Michael Homler  
Edited MS Available

The new book based on the long-running hit podcast by Aaron Mahnke, which has translated into over 120-million downloads to date, and a monthly average of over 2 million listeners.

The podcast, Aaron Mahnke's *Cabinet of Curiosities*, has delighted millions of listeners for years with tales of the wonderful, astounding, and downright bizarre people, places, and things throughout history. Now, in *Cabinet of Curiosities* the book, learn the fascinating story of the invention of the croissant in a country that was not France, and relive the adventures of a dog that stowed away and went to war, only to help capture a German spy. Along the way, readers will pass through the American state of Franklin, watch Abraham Lincoln's son be rescued by his assassin's brother, and learn how too many crash landings inspired one pilot to leave the airline industry and trek for the stars.

For the first time ever, Aaron has gathered scores of his favorites in print, and curated them into a beautiful, topical collection for devoted followers and new fans alike.

One of the most successful podcast producers in the world, **Aaron Mahnke** began his career in 2015 with the launch of *Lore*, which has racked up nearly half a billion downloads so far, been adapted for two seasons of television on Amazon Prime, and published as a three-book set from Penguin Random House. Beyond *Lore*, Aaron has produced a number of wildly popular shows, including his chart-topping hit, *Cabinet of Curiosities*, and his 2021 award-winning supernatural drama, *Bridgewater*. He lives in the historical North Shore area of Massachusetts with his family.

## Previous Publishers for *The World of Lore* series:

Brazilian Portuguese (DarkSide)

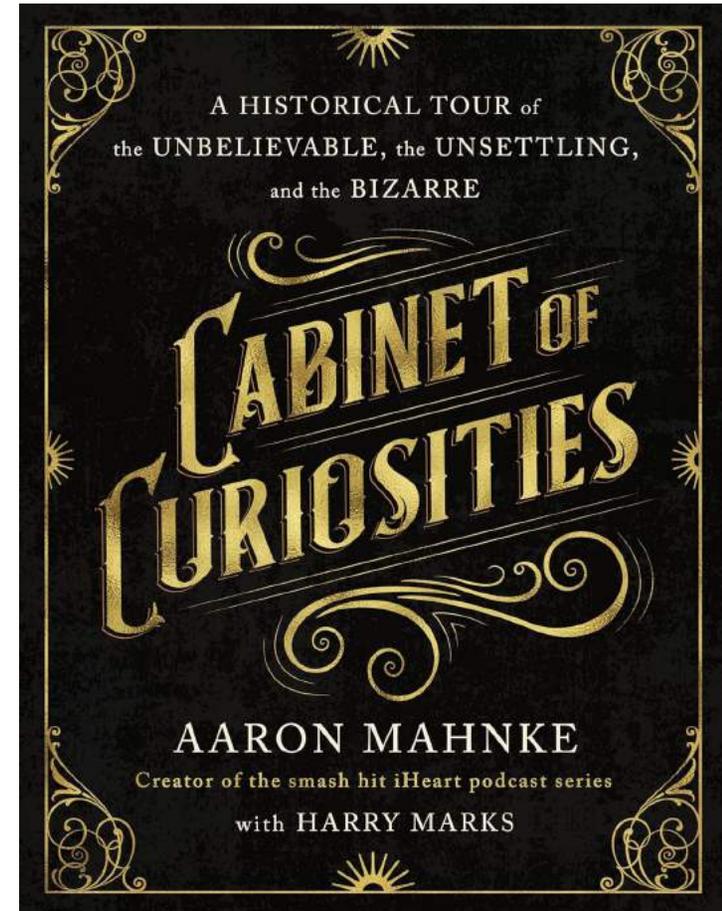
Romanian (Lifestyle)

French (H'LAB / Hachette France)

Russian (AST)

Polish (Zysk)

UK/Comm (Hachette/Wildfire)



“Aaron Mahnke is an exemplary storyteller.” —*Geek Girl Authority*, on the *Cabinet of Curiosities* podcast

“Truth can often be much scarier than fiction—something [Aaron] Mahnke proves as he dives deep into the world of folklore and the darker side of history in a quest to root out the fragment of truth at the bottom of our fears.” —*Entertainment Weekly*, on the *Lore* podcast

“Unlike so much horror that needs over-the-top viscera to scare you, this podcast leans on history—folklore, myth, the stuff people once thought was true—to tell its tales.” —*The Atlantic*, on the *Lore* podcast

# RED CELL

## An Inside Account of America's Most Covert War

By Andrew and Jihi Bustamante

NA

2025 / Little, Brown (Hachette) / US Editor: Alexander Littlefield

Proposal Available — Edited MS Winter 2024

### Rights Sold:

Finnish (Atena/Otava)

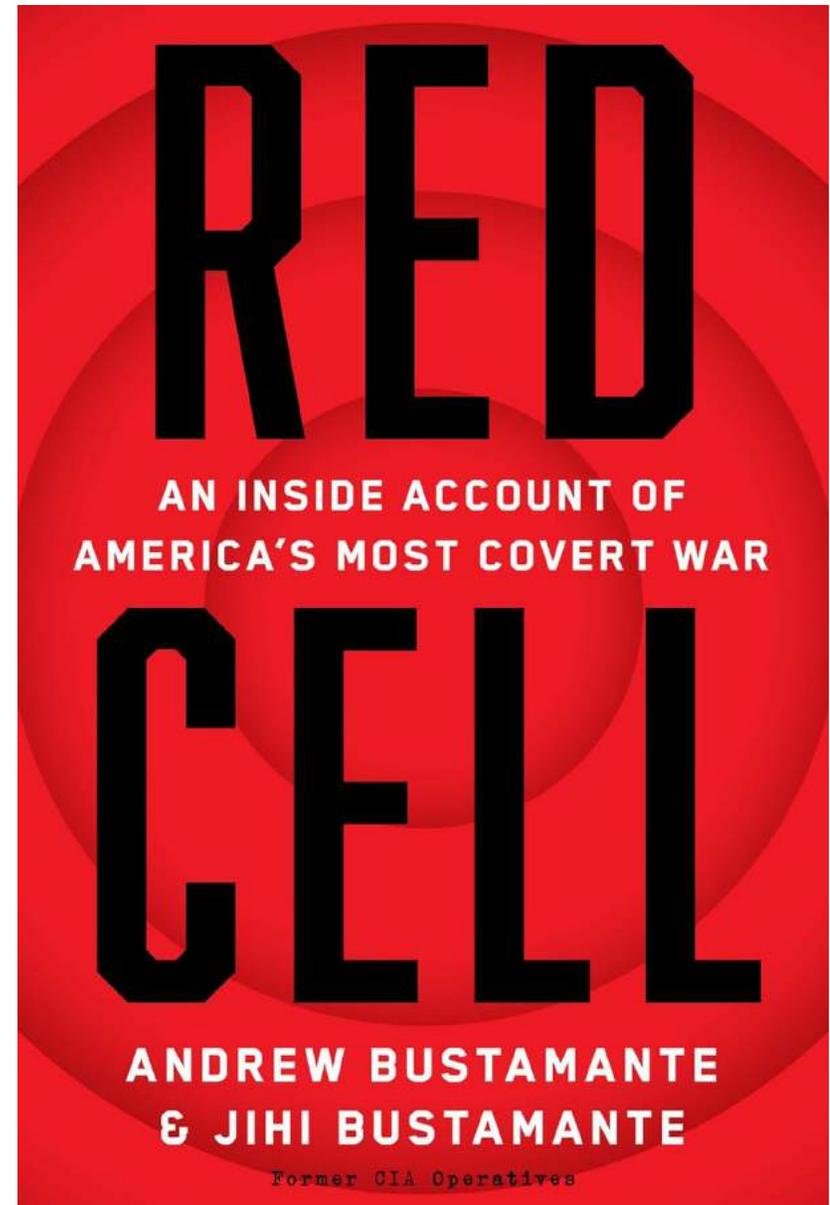
UK/Comm (Headline)

A thrilling firsthand account by husband-and-wife ex-CIA operatives.

**Andrew Bustamante** is a former covert CIA intelligence officer and growing public figure through his digital business EverydaySpy. A decorated U.S. Air Force combat veteran and respected corporate consultant, Andrew has been featured in Pulitzer-prize winning newspapers, national television spots, and multiple viral podcast interviews. A graduate of the United States Air Force Academy, Andrew spent his military career specializing in nuclear ICBM operations. After winning decorations in both Afghanistan and Iraq, Andrew was recruited into CIA's National Clandestine Service (NCS) where he served for 7 years handling sensitive operations still classified Top Secret.

**Jihi Bustamante** is a former covert CIA targeting officer and the Chief Operating Officer of EverydaySpy. After earning a Master of Social Work and Juris Doctor, Jihi was recruited into CIA's National Clandestine Service from a career in social work supporting refugee children and survivors of torture. Unlike her public-facing husband, Jihi remains private in both her personal and professional lives.

**Andrew and Jihi** left CIA together in 2014 to pursue a new mission: building their family and their company. A dedicated husband and proud father, Andrew hosts one of the most popular podcasts in the world (Everyday Espionage), remains a go-to expert for news and media, and is a highly sought-after international corporate trainer.



# THE SIRENS' CALL

Life in the Attention Age

By Chris Hayes

NA

Fall 2024 / Penguin Press (PRH) / US Editor: Scott Moyers

Proposal Available — Edited MS Spring 2024

**Rights Sold:**  
Complex Chinese (Happy Read)    Romanian (Publica)  
Simplified Chinese (Ginkgo)    UK/Commonwealth (Scribe)  
Korean (Sahoipyoungnon)

In the 60s, 7 of the 10 largest U.S. companies by assets were oil companies, and fossil fuels were the single most valuable resource in the post-war global order. But today? As you read this, the largest company in the world is Apple, followed by Microsoft, Alphabet, Facebook, China's Tencent, Amazon, and Tesla.

Chris Hayes argues that these companies now control the commanding heights of international capitalism because, as we've entered an era of widespread, cheap, and renewable energy, *attention* has displaced fossil fuels as the most valuable resource. Attention is finite, it has hard limits. Its very nature compels us to select, to choose what we pay attention to, either consciously or unconsciously. Chris offers the first story and theory of attention as a foundational resource, and how the rabid pursuit of the value in that attention is transforming markets, institutions, society, and our human relations. *The Sirens' Call* is the definitive chronicle of what it means to live in a world where attention rules everything, marking something epoch-shaping, a break in human history. A new era is upon us—the Attention Age. But unlike land, coal, or capital, the chief resource of this age is actually embedded in our psyches. Extracting it requires cracking into minds. Chris suggests that there is no subject more central to our collective experience of life right now, across societies and cultures, than this strangely familiar but precious commodity. Once revealed, you can't help but see it everywhere: From our personal lives—the tense, frequent household battles over putting down phones and listening to each other—to work, where the awkward air of constant distraction looms over every single Zoom meeting, to the wider culture and world where governments and companies are working desperately, and round the clock, to win the battle for attention and control the future. Chris's hallmark weave of storytelling, observation, and philosophical exegesis explores how competition for the resource of attention drives all of modern life.

**Chris Hayes** is the Emmy-winning host of MSNBC's *All in With Chris Hayes* and the author of two *New York Times* bestselling books, *Twilight of the Elites* and, most recently, *A Colony in a Nation*.

**ACM Agent:** Will Lippincott

# ON MY HONOR

The Secret History of the Boy Scouts of America

By Kim Christensen

NA

Fall 2024 / Grand Central (Macmillan) / US Editor: Colin Dickerman

Proposal Available — Edited MS Spring 2024

As *Spotlight* did with the Church, *On My Honor* will use the dramatic rise and fall of the Boy Scouts to upend a quintessential American institution that has reflected and shaped our culture, burnishing its image at the expense of the innocent. It will pull together themes of youth culture, boyhood, systemic abuse, and what it means to “make men” to form a devastating indictment that dismantles the mythology of the Boy Scouts and calls into question its very existence.

There have been more than 100 million Boy Scouts, from the kid next door to the rich and famous. Bill Clinton, Bill Gates, George W. Bush, Harrison Ford, J. John F. Kennedy, John Wayne, Martin Luther King Jr., Michael Jordan, Steven Spielberg, and Walter Cronkite all have worn the uniform. *On My Honor* will speak to the millions who have been impacted by the Boy Scouts: men who joined in the 60s, 70s, or 80s; mothers and fathers who sent, or still send, their children; and anyone who's ever bought popcorn to support a local troop. It's for parents grappling with the question of “how to raise a boy” and for anyone wondering if gender-specific organizations can, or should, still exist. It's for people who cry when they hear the Scouts Law because they're inspired and for those who cry because they're still trying to heal.

Both news-breaking and evergreen, *On My Honor* is for nonfiction readers interested in sweeping narratives, secret histories, hot-button issues, and meticulous reporting. We see it sharing a shelf with bestsellers such as: *Empire of Pain: The Secret History of the Sackler Dynasty* by Patrick Radden Keefe; *The Secret Race: Inside the Hidden World of the Tour de France* by Tyler Hamilton and Daniel Coyle; *The Smartest Guys in the Room: The Amazing Rise and Scandalous Fall of Enron* by Bethany McLean (Ben Glisan Jr., Enron's former treasurer, was nicknamed Enron's “Boy Scout”); and *Going Clear: Scientology, Hollywood, and the Prison of Belief* by Lawrence Wright (L. Ron Hubbard was, in fact, a former Boy Scout).

**Kim Christensen** is an investigative reporter on the *Los Angeles Times*' projects team. He has shared two Pulitzer Prizes for investigations of the U.S. Immigration and Naturalization Service and of fertility fraud at UC Irvine.

**ACM Agent:** Becky Sweren

## THE DOCTOR AND THE INVENTOR

Poison, Profit, and the Woman Who Battled Big Lead and Transformed the World

By Daniel Stone

NA

February 2025 / Dutton (PRH) / US Editor: Emi Ikkanda and Grace Layer  
Proposal Available — Edited MS Fall 2024

This new work of historical narrative nonfiction tells a previously untold story following pioneering physician and public health expert Alice Hamilton, who almost single-handedly created the field of workplace safety and waged a fierce war against the booming American auto industry, whose use of leaded gasoline was poisoning factory workers and the American public.

Hamilton worked in Chicago as a pediatrician, but when she heard about the ailments of her young patients' parents, she turned to investigating their workplaces, which were often factories. What she found was appalling: poor ventilation, widespread use of hazardous chemicals, and a lack of even basic precautions. The most problematic component lead, which was used because it improved the performance of paint, plumbing, and building materials. But workers were becoming gravely sick and sometimes even dying in large numbers.

Hamilton is the titular doctor, but she had a formidable foil in her quest to protect workers and warn the public about lead. Here we meet Thomas Midgley, a driven inventor who applied his brilliant mind to the puzzle of how to make gasoline more effective in automobiles. His work, mostly at General Motors, led to the adoption of harmful leaded gasoline in cars around the world. Leaded gasoline, along with Midgley's other perilous invention led *New Scientist* to eventually call him "a one-man environmental disaster." But his first opponent was Alice Hamilton. *The Doctor and the Inventor* is, foremost, the riveting story of Hamilton and Midgley's decade-long battle over the merits of leaded gasoline, but also of the age-old tension between what an industry owes its labor and its consumers, and of what it means to stand up for what you know is right, even when you're in the extreme minority, and even when victory is not guaranteed. This book will introduce Alice Hamilton as the next unsung hero of workers' rights and public health at a moment when we are finally revisiting parts of American history and realizing that women have played a much larger part in it than we've been led to believe.

**Daniel Stone** is a writer on science, history, and the environment. He's a former staff writer for *National Geographic* and a former White House correspondent for *Newsweek*.

ACM Agent: Lauren Sharp

## WE DON'T EVEN KNOW YOU ANYMORE

A Journey into the Heart, Science, Politics, and Possibilities of Change

By Benoit Denizet-Lewis

NA

Spring 2025 / William Morrow (HarperCollins) / US Editor: Mauro DiPreta  
Proposal Available — Edited MS Summer 2024

**Rights Sold:**

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

Benoit Denizet-Lewis investigates how and why we change our behaviors, identities, and beliefs during a time of staggering cultural and demographic upheaval.

*We Don't Even Know You Anymore* will begin by transporting readers into the lives of four people actively embarking on journeys to transform their lives, personalities, identities, and brains. Denizet-Lewis will explore the different pathways to change, examining the validity and effectiveness of unexpected radical change, therapeutic change, change facilitated by life coaches, and pharmacological interventions. He will also explore the intersection of personal change, social change, and public policy, exploring how some of our most dearly held (and often mistaken) cultural and political beliefs about sexuality, incarceration, economic mobility, and political persuasion make change possible for some—while keeping it out of reach for many. In the final part of the book, Denizet-Lewis will return to the four characters who have embarked on journeys of transformation and report on the ways in which they've succeeded and failed, revealing the insights they've learned—and we've learned—along the way.

**Benoit Denizet-Lewis** is a longtime contributing writer at *The New York Times Magazine* and a tenured professor at Emerson College.

ACM Agent: Todd Shuster

## WE WANT THEM ALIVE

A Massacre on the Border, and the Mothers Who Exposed a U.S. Deal that Trained the Killers

By J. Weston Phippen

NA

Spring 2025 / St. Martin's Press (Macmillan) / US Editor: George Witte  
Proposal Available — Edited MS Fall 2024

*We Want Them Alive* begins with the disappearance of one person, Jorge Antonio Hernandez Dominguez, an 18-year-old U.S. citizen, in the border town of Nuevo Laredo, Mexico. Jorge's disappearance was one of 49 others over the course of three months, all attributed to the Mexican marines—trained by the US Army.

On April 4th 2018, the young man, having finished work, left home to pick up dinner. He would never return. As his mother Maria would soon learn, Jorge's disappearance was one of 49 others over the course of three months, all attributed to the Mexican marines. Bodies would be found days later, buried in the desert, with a single hand purposefully left above ground. Others would never be found, robbing their families of any sense of closure. Jorge had been pulled from the family's Dodge Caravan, not by narcos with gold-plated AK 47s, but by Mexico's marine special forces, the nation's most elite counter-cartel unit, soldiers trained in American bases who had worked with the U.S. Army's Delta Force, DEA, CIA, and two years earlier had become legends after they captured infamous drug lord Joaquin "El Chapo" Guzman.

In the Mexican press, the campaign of terror became known as *la limpieza*, the cleansing. But why would a country's own military inflict such injustice on its own people, individuals with no known ties to cartels? And why was no one—neither the Mexican police nor the United States' State Department, which has an obligation to investigate the deaths of US citizens abroad—doing anything about it?

*We Want Them Alive* follows three individuals as they seek answers to those questions: Maria, the determined mother who with a group of women set out to do the impossible; Raymundo Ramos, a former journalist and human rights activist rumored to be allied with the local cartel; and a marine, an anonymous soldier who will lift the veil on how America's chosen weapon in the drug war became mass murderers.

J. Weston Phippen's long-form reporting on the U.S.-Mexico relationship has appeared in publications such as *Rolling Stone*, *Mother Jones*, *The Atlantic*, *Politico*.

ACM Agent: Michael Signorelli

## AN AMERICAN GIRL

How a Billion Dollar Doll and Its Unlikely Founder (Almost) Unseated Barbie and Changed Girlhood Forever

By Amanda FitzSimons

NA

Fall 2025 / Atria (S&S) / US Editor: Kate Napolitano  
Proposal Available — Edited MS Spring 2025

A deep dive into the American Girl doll story & brand: it's got an incredible, bizarre female-founder story, a Barbie face-off, and Mattel all rolled into one story of feverish fandom, girlhood, race, class, and identity politics.

Molly. Samantha. Kirsten. Addy. For millions of Gen X-ers, millennials and Gen Z-ers, the much-loved, much-debated American Girl dolls behind these names need no further introduction. There's a reason why the dolls are featured in skit after skit on 'Saturday Night Live,' the subject of both *New York Times Style* pieces and endless memes. Dolls, as Britt Bennett put it in an essay about American Girl for *The Paris Review*, have never been only toys. They reflect and influence us on deep psychological and emotional levels, for better and for worse. Dolls are us.

This major work of narrative nonfiction about an unforgettable female founder and her then-radical, now-iconic line of 18-inch dolls that surprised and transfixed a nation and defined girlhood for four decades-plus will be written by Amanda FitzSimons, a journalist who covers women, politics, and pop culture. Amanda is also, as she puts it, "a Molly whose mother wishes she was a Samantha." This will be the first-ever book-length, meticulously-reported exploration of Rowland's singular personality, wildly successful company, and the enduring cultural mega-force that is American Girl. A mega-force that is, not coincidentally, now a subsidiary of Mattel.

It's an epic story of female empowerment, white privilege, corporate buffoonery, creative expression, class conflict, identity politics, historical accuracy, two-steps-forward-one-step-back progress, and the wonder of girlhood. With an American Girl movie in the works at Mattel on the heels of the Barbie movie success, this is a brand and a subject primed to remain central to the national conversation about girls and how their stories are told—and sold.

Amanda FitzSimons has served in editorial and staff writer roles at *Teen Vogue* and *Elle*, and has written for publications such as the *New York Times*, *The Economist*, *the Washington Post*, *Atlantic*, and *Bustle*.

ACM Agent: Jen Marshall

## LOUD AND CLEAR

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

By Brian Anderson

NA

Fall 2025 / St Martin's Press (Macmillan) / US Editor: Marc Resnick  
Proposal Available — Edited MS Spring 2025

A history of The Grateful Dead's monumental speaker system and the superhuman ambition, invention, and drama behind its rise and fall in the 1970s, the book will draw on new sources and trace a line from the Dead and crew's innovations to the audio technology of today.

Much like the band's four surviving members who are in their 70s and 80s and still tour the world playing shows in front of millions, devotion to The Grateful Dead is a seemingly ageless phenomenon.

It's well known that, by all measures of size, endurance, and fervor, few fandoms rival that of the Dead. Their live music reached an estimated 25 million people in over 2,000 live shows between 1965 to 1995. Even in 2015, the Dead's five-day "Fare Thee Well" Tour broke records for both attendance and pay-per-view streaming. Their ever-zealous followers, Deadheads, inaugurated the now typical practice of superfandom with their mass-documentation of the band since its beginnings, via zines, concert tapes, clothing and merchandise, books and documentaries, photo archives and podcasts. Given the widespread passion for and public scholarship on the Dead, it's surprising that few cultural considerations of the band, in books or otherwise, have focused on the most concrete and literally staggering embodiment of their ingenuity: their groundbreaking speaker system dubbed the "Wall of Sound."

More than just a technological feat and an underexplored piece of Deadhead lore, the story of the Wall of Sound is a tale about human creativity and ambition, with a cast of eccentric, at times neurotic, yet endearing characters who orbited the band and contributed to its zeitgeist-defining rise and an equally dazzling—temporary—downfall.

At 36, **Brian Anderson** is part of a younger generation that still clamors for all things Dead. He is a journalist and former editor at *Vice*, *The Atlantic*, and *Vox*

ACM Agent: David Kuhn & Nate Muscato

## RELINQUISHED

### The Untold Story of Birth Mothers

By Bernadette Murphy

NA

Fall 2025 / Spiegel & Grau / US Editor: Cindy Spiegel  
Proposal Available — Edited MS Spring 2025

Bernadette gave her son up for adoption when she found herself pregnant at 17, in an Irish-Catholic household with a mother who had bipolar disorder, and a very strict father who would allow an abortion even though it was legal at the time.

One of the biggest taboos in adoption stories and articles is looking at this life-altering situation from the birth mother's perspective. Books and articles tend to focus on the adoptees and adoptive parents and families. *Relinquished: The Untold Story of Birth Mothers* will take readers through Bernadette's own story—how she sought out this son 40 years later, even though she had a successful career and a loving family of four—but even more compellingly, Bernadette will be one of the first journalists to go to states that have outlawed abortion and interview young women who are facing the choice of adoption. To tell the story of birth mothers, Bernadette will lean heavily into memoir, but expand beyond her own experience by using research and interviews to provide a bigger picture, all woven into a narrative that will keep readers turning pages.

When the Supreme Courts draft to overturn Roe was first leaked, it included the phrase "domestic supply of infants" in Justice Alito's opinion, and he footnoted in his statement "...nearly 1 million women were seeking to adopt children in 2002 (i.e., they were in demand for a child), whereas the *domestic supply of infants* relinquished at birth or within the first month of life and available to be adopted had become virtually nonexistent." The argument seemed to be that if fewer women were given access to abortion, then more families hoping to adopt could be accommodated. What's not accounted for in this perspective are two reasons Bernadette wants to write this book: 1) Adoption is not an answer to abortion. Adoption, on the other hand, is an answer to the question, do you wish to (or are you able to) parent this child you have borne? And 2) To fully answer the second question, birth parents need to have information on what's involved. But since women like her have been so disgraced and discredited, their stories are not in the cultural vernacular and thus are unavailable to help people know what they're getting into.

**Bernadette Murphy** is an MFA professor, author, former book critic, and collaborative writer.

ACM Agent: Karen Murgolo

AEVITAS 74

# SALT LAKES

By Caroline Tracey

NA

Fall 2025 / W.W. Norton / US Editor: Helen Thomaides

Proposal Available — Edited MS Spring 2025

Part coming-of-age, part science reporting, part rallying cry for environmental protection, *Salt Lakes* is a love letter to a strange and delicate ecosystem—and to the freedom of queer living.

Salt lakes have a surprising cult following. They are both beautiful and weird, hard and delicate. Perhaps it is the juxtaposition of these unlikely traits working in harmony that mirrors our own human condition and causes the lakes to produce a magnetic pull on us. We often assume these lakes are barren and inhospitable, unaware of the crucial role they play in our ecosystems, the global water cycle, and public health. But Caroline Tracey is paying attention.

In *Salt Lakes* Caroline braids memoir and science writing to reveal the beauty and necessity of these underestimated bodies of water. Each chapter of her book will focus on a different salt lake, examining its conservation history, imperiled future, and intersections with her own story. As Caroline learns about these vulnerable lakes and the decades-long fight to protect them, she begins to explore her own queer identity and to build the boundary-defying life she's always longed for. In Caroline's deft hands, salt lakes become a symbol of resilience; a call to protect all that's rare and fragile in our environment and in our lives; and a reminder that each of us will need to adapt to our rapidly changing world. Her blend of memoir and science writing will appeal to fans of *H is for Hawk* by Helen McDonald and *Lab Girl* by Hope Jahren. But we also anticipate that it will find a place on the shelf alongside other gorgeously written queer memoirs, like Carmen Maria Machado's *In the Dream House* and Maggie Nelson's *The Argonauts*.

**Caroline Tracey** is a writer and geographer with a BA in Russian literature from Yale University, and an MS in rangeland ecology and PhD in geography from the University of California, Berkeley.

ACM Agent: Bridget Wagner Matzie



# THE ORBIT OF OUR DREAMING

By Joshua Bennett

WE

Spring 2026 / Little, Brown (Hachette) / US Editor: Tracy Sherrod

Proposal Available — Edited MS Spring 2025

A hybrid work of memoir, history, and cultural criticism which will investigate who is deemed “promising” (as in “gifted”) in our society, highlight how such judgements are wrapped up in issues of race and disability, and call for a much-needed broadening of the gifts and achievements we celebrate as prodigious.

In *The Orbit of Our Dreaming*, Joshua will examine the stories and achievements of prodigies from historically marginalized communities to glean lessons essential to reconceiving our measures of individual potential. *The Orbit of Our Dreaming* will braid Joshua's intellectual rigor with intimate first-person accounts from his life and education, as his experiences touch on many of the book's central questions: from growing up in Yonkers with an autistic brother and deaf sister; to attending prep school and obtaining a PhD as a young Black man whose promise, as he writes in the proposal, was subject to wildly changeable assessments from those in power; to becoming a father and reckoning with his hopes for his son.

**Joshua Bennett** has authored three collections of poetry with Penguin, most recently *The Study of Human Life*, and two books of criticism and narrative non-fiction. *Spoken Word*, his cultural history of the art form and first trade nonfiction book, was published by Knopf in late March and received this glowing notice in *The New York Times*: “A tender and heartwarming narrative of the evolution of an art form from a passionate, charismatic participant who was on the ground, in the audience and on the stage himself... [rendered] in lively, captivating prose... remarkable.” Joshua's writing has been published in *Best American Poetry*, *The New York Times*, *The Atlantic*, and *The Paris Review*, among others, and he has been awarded fellowships from the Whiting Foundation, the Guggenheim Foundation, and the National Endowment for the Arts, to name a few. Having previously been promoted to tenure as a full professor at Dartmouth, he is now a tenured full professor at MIT with an endowed chair.

ACM Agent: David Kuhn & Nate Muscato

AEVITAS 75

# CHILDREN OF THE REVOLUTION

A Blueprint for a Radical Future

By Zayd Ayers Dohrn

NA

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

Proposal Available — Edited MS Fall 2025

Rights Sold:

UK/Comm (Chatto & Windus / PRH UK)

We all struggle with a history we've inherited that defines us: a culture, a religion, a language, a family story. But what happens when you, like Zayd Ayers Dohrn, inherit a revolution?

Dohrn, son of 70's radical activists and Weather Underground founders, Bernadine Dohrn and Bill Ayers, spent his formative years underground, on the run. His parents, on the FBI's most wanted list, shared a singular purpose, a moral cause. They were dedicated to achieving racial and economic justice and dismantling American imperialism from the inside. Thirty years have gone by, and a new generation faces a similar struggle: a world on fire.

In *Children of the Revolution: A Blueprint for a Radical Future*, Dohrn seeks to answer the complicated question, "what can we learn from the radical past about how to change the world and make a better future?" He highlights the stark parallels between then and now – racism and police violence, the destruction of the environment, the questioning of sexuality and gender roles – and explores the hope, courage and radical imagination with which a previous generation of young people met those challenges, as well as speaks to the radical leaders of today. Each chapter in *Children of the Revolution* will explore a theme that charts the course of the radical movement into which Dohrn was born—those transformative years between 1966 and 1980—and connects that arc of progress to our current political moment. Just as Dohrn's parents and their comrades looked to abolitionists, labor organizers, and civil rights icons of the past, Dohrn wants *Children of the Revolution* to provide the next generation of future activists with the tools and historical context they desperately need to create a world filled with hope, idealism, and the possibility of radical transformation.

**Zayd Ayers Dohrn** is an acclaimed playwright, screenwriter, and writing professor. His most recent project is Crooked Media's hit narrative podcast [Mother Country Radicals](#), which has over 2 million downloads worldwide.

ACM Agent: Laura Nolan

# THE CODED LIFE

A Narrative Memoir

By Jeremy B. Jones

WE

Spring 2026 / Blair / US Editor: Robin Miura

Proposal Available — Edited MS Spring 2025

Skillfully blending memoir, biography and narrative history, *The Coded Life* is a book about fatherhood and legacy—one man's exploration of the histories we inherit and what we pass along, by choice or otherwise.

In 1975, a man stumbled upon a box of small, hand-sewn notebooks in a house set for demolition in Wadesboro, North Carolina. After thumbing through the delicate pages and finding something akin to hieroglyphics, he passed the books to a retired NSA cryptanalyst who quickly cracked the code, uncovering the recorded life of a white Southern farmer named William Thomas Prestwood. The diaries offered a ground-level view of the 19th century from the perspective of a man who passed his days recording eclipses and dissecting rabbits and calculating planetary orbits and reading Goethe and sneaking into barn lofts and closets with dozens of lovers. "The reader is left," the now-deceased codebreaker wrote, "with the lasting impression that here in these pathetic little books is the very essence of Everyman's life from the cradle to the grave." But to Jones, this strange farmer was no Everyman. He was his great-great-great-great grandfather.

*The Coded Life* is a biography of a forgotten 19th century farmer, but it's also a memoir about a man coming home, becoming a father and thinking hard about the life he wants to leave for his sons. Along the way, Jones reckons with his family's complicity in slavery, dips his toes into the worlds of cryptography and genetics, and explores universal questions about land, legacy, American history and how that history robs the most vulnerable among us. As Jones seamlessly weaves these strands together across the pages of *The Coded Life*, Prestwood's quotidian diaries take on new importance and heightened stakes, the author using him as a lens through which to understand not only his own life but a family history rich with love and tradition—while also stained with secret and sin.

**Jeremy B. Jones'** first book, *Bearwallow*, was winner of the Independent Publisher Gold Medal for Memoir, and his essays have been published or are forthcoming in *The Bitter Southerner*, *Oxford American*, *Quarterly West*, and *The Iowa Review*. A graduate of the nonfiction MFA program at Iowa, he is an associate professor of English at Western Carolina University.

ACM Agent: Justin Brouckaert

AEVITAS 76

# HONG KONG CONFIDENTIAL

Fame, Family, Fortune, and Murder at the Close of a Golden Era

By Eric Wilson

NA

Fall 2026 / Grand Central (Hachette) / US Editor: Colin Dickerman

Proposal Available — Edited MS Spring 2026

Rights Sold:

UK/Comm (A&U) / Atlantic Books)

This serious, page-turning narrative chronicles the inside story of the glittering, cutthroat global luxury fashion industry and an iconic city disappearing into the maw of communist China as seen through the tragic February 2023 murder of socialite and influencer Abby Choi.

On the surface Abby Choi led a life of perfection. She was an ambitious socialite on the rise in Hong Kong's rarefied and competitive monied social scene. But a dark, sinister reality lurked behind Abby's polished façade, one that she was desperate to escape but ultimately could not. Though she never betrayed a hint of her troubles or personal life online, in reality Abby Choi was, at twenty-eight, a twice-married mother of four young children. She hadn't been born rich; her family's money came from her mother's second marriage to a powerful mainland Chinese construction magnate when Abby was in high school. Abby, desperate to chart her own path, to earn her own money and position in the world, and an outsider at a Hong Kong high school where old guard families sent their kids, fell for the one person she shouldn't: Alex, the handsome bad-boy son of a fantastically corrupt, violent, and powerful police chief with ties to Hong Kong's infamous underworld. Her life would never be the same, even after she and Alex divorced and she married up, way up.

Abby Choi never made it to twenty-nine, though how and why she died is a story that could only take place in modern-day Hong Kong. And it reveals so much about what the remarkable, courageous people of that city, from every social class and circumstance, are facing in this watershed moment in history.

**Eric Wilson** has covered the fashion industry for more than 20 years. Over his career, he has held posts as a reporter for *Women's Wear Daily* and *The New York Times* Styles desk, fashion news director of *InStyle*, and most recently *Tatler's* editorial director for Asia and editor-in-chief of *Tatler Hong Kong*. He is based in Hong Kong.

ACM Agent: David Kuhn and Jen Marshall

# THE DIFFERENCE A DAY MAKES

How 24 Hours in America's Jails Can Have Devastating Consequences

By Sandra Susan Smith

WE

Fall 2026 / Spiegel & Grau / US Editor: Aaron Robertson

Proposal Available — Edited MS Spring 2026

Through vivid personal narratives, original research, and unflinching scrutiny, *The Difference a Day Makes* will expose the realities of pretrial detention and the harrowing consequences, both immediate and lasting, of spending even just 24 hours in jail.

Of the ten million people who are admitted to U.S. jails each year, only twenty percent have been convicted of a crime. The rest, the overwhelming majority, are being detained pretrial. *The Difference a Day Makes* will explore how, despite the central tenet of American law—the presumption of innocence—jails subject people to a relentless series of horrors from the moment of their arrest to their release. Most troublingly, the dehumanizing experiences that accompany even just a single day in jail stick with detainees long after the fact, ruining their lives for years to come and setting them on paths that lead back to incarceration. The book will investigate pretrial detention as an underexamined lynchpin in a system that punishes by design and often irreparably, regardless of whether someone is guilty of the crimes they allegedly committed.

In the vein of Michelle Alexander's *The New Jim Crow* and Matthew Desmond's contemporary classic *Evicted*, *The Difference a Day Makes* will weave together the narratives of ten core characters whose experiences and voices illuminate the many facets of pretrial detention and its propensity for harm. These accounts, drawn from extensive interviews as well as hundreds of hours of observation in county jails, will unfurl against the backdrop of U.S. criminal policy, which has brought about a five-fold increase in the number of people detained pretrial over the past fifty years. *The Difference a Day Makes* will offer dramatic, up-close testimony to the human suffering that occurs in jail. At the same time, the book will call readers' attention to efforts to correct and transform our understanding of justice, and it will galvanize them to pursue such change in their own communities.

**Sandra Susan Smith** is the Daniel & Florence Guggenheim Professor of Criminal Justice at the Harvard Kennedy School and the Director of the Malcolm Wiener Center for Social Policy.

ACM Agent: Nate Muscato

AEVITAS 77

# UPCOMING HISTORY



# THE LIFE OF THE QUR'AN

## From Eternal Roots to Enduring Legacy

By Mohamad Jebara

NA

February 2024 / St. Martin's Press (Macmillan) / US Editor: Elisabeth Dyssegaard  
Final PDF Available

Based on extensive scholarship, an innovative biography of the central text of Islam.

Over a billion copies of the Qur'an exist – yet it remains an enigma. Its classical Arabic language resists simple translation, and its non-linear style of abstract musings defies categorization. Moreover, those who champion its sanctity and compete to claim its mantle offer widely diverging interpretations of its core message – at times with explosive results.

Building on his intimate portrait of the Qur'an's prophet in Muhammad the World-Changer, Mohamad Jebara returns with a vivid profile of the book itself. While viewed in retrospect as the grand scripture of triumphant empires, Jebara reveals how the Qur'an unfolded over 22 years amidst intense persecution, suffering, and loneliness. *The Life of the Qur'an* recounts this vivid drama as a biography examining the book's obscured heritage, complex revelation, and contested legacy.

The Qur'an re-emerges with clarity as a dynamic life force that seeks to inspire human beings to unleash their dormant potential despite often-overwhelming odds – in order to transform themselves and the world.

**Mohamad Jebara** is a scriptural philologist and prominent exegetist known for his eloquent oratory style as well as his efforts to bridge cultural and religious divides. A semanticist and historian of Semitic cultures, he has served as Chief Imam as well as headmaster of several Qur'anic and Arabic language academies.

"Jebara takes an ancient, sacred, life-giving book and makes it accessible to modern readers." —**Rev. Takouhi Demirdjian-Petro, first Armenian woman minister ordained in Canada by the United Church**

**Previous Publishers for MUHAMMAD, THE WORLD-CHANGER:**  
Arabic (Arab Cultural Center)

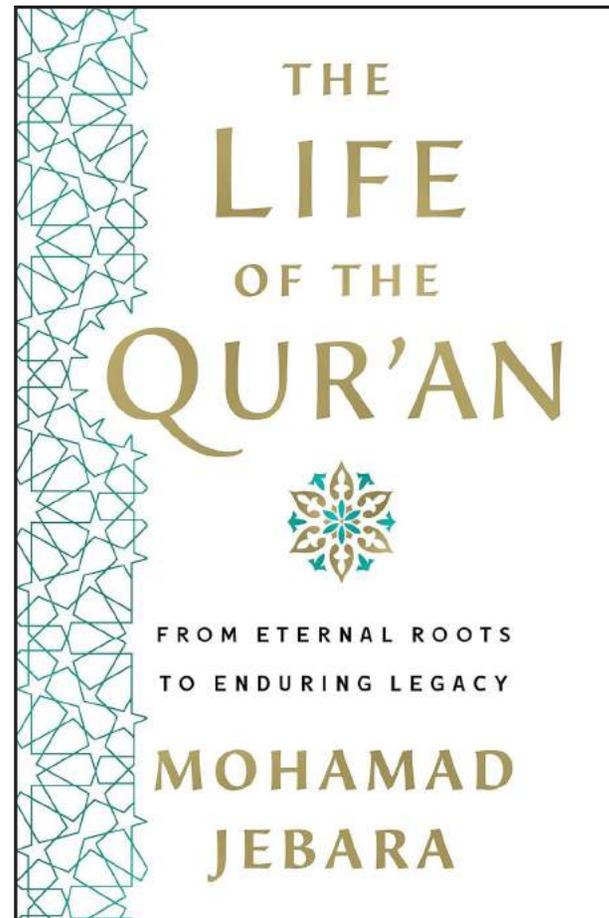
Brazilian Portuguese (Pensamento-Cultrix)

Indonesian (Bentang Pustaka)

Portuguese (Saida de Emergencia)

Romanian (Grup Media Litera)

ACM Agent: Becky Sweren



★ STARRED REVIEW, *KIRKUS* ★

“A vibrant biography of the holy book of Islam... the author capably intertwines the stories of the Qur'an, Muhammad, and the Muslim religion in general. Jebara approaches the Qur'an as a true subject for biography, no less so than its prophet”

“An extremely well-written introduction to the Qur'an. Jebara weaves basic concepts of the Arabic language easily with philosophical tropes interpreted against the backdrop of Arabic culture and local context.” —**Dr. Wendy L. Fletcher, President and Vice-Chancellor, Renison University College**

“A spiritually nourishing, visually captivating, and lyrically appealing work that is a delight to read. A powerful educational tool for Muslims and non-Muslims who seek to activate its message for the public good.” — **Dr. Daisy Khan, Women's Islamic Initiative in Spirituality and Equality**

“A well-researched masterpiece” —**His Eminence Dr. Mahmoud Akkam, Grand Mufti of Aleppo**

“Eloquent and engaging” —**Dr. Juan Cole, *Muhammad: Prophet of Peace Amid the Clash of Empires***

“Jebara understands the Qur'an within the framework of classical Qur'anic exegesis requires understanding the nuances of language as well as the culture and events of the time.” —**Booklist**

“An extensively researched look at the text of the Qur'an.” —**Library Journal**

# ONCE UPON A TIME

## The Captivating Life of Carolyn Bessette

By Elizabeth Beller

NA

May 2024 / Gallery (S&S) / US Editor: Aimee Bell

Edited MS Available

The life and legacy of Carolyn Bessette-Kennedy, wife of John F. Kennedy Jr., are reexamined in this captivating and effervescent biography that is perfect for fans of *My Travels with Mrs. Kennedy*, *What Remains*, and *Fairy Tale Interrupted*.

A quarter of a century after the plane crash that claimed the lives of John F. Kennedy Jr., his wife Carolyn, and her sister Lauren, the magnitude of this tragedy remains fresh. Yet, Carolyn is still an enigmatic figure, a woman whose short life in the spotlight was besieged with misogyny and cruelty. Amidst today's cultural reckoning about the way our media treats women, Elizabeth Beller explores the real person behind the tabloid headlines and media frenzy. When she began dating America's prince, Carolyn was increasingly thrust into an overwhelming spotlight filled with relentless paparazzi who reacted to her reserve with a campaign of harassment and vilification.

To this day, she is still depicted as a privileged princess—icy, vapid, and drug-addicted. She has even been accused of being responsible for their untimely death, allegedly delaying take-off until she finished her pedicure. But now, she is revealed as never before. A fiercely independent woman devoted to her adopted city and career, Carolyn relied on her impeccable eye and drive to fly up the ranks at Calvin Klein in the glossy, high-stakes fashion world of the 1990s. When Carolyn met her future husband, John was immediately drawn to her strong-willed personality, effortless charm, and high intelligence. Their relationship would change her life and catapult her to dizzying fame, but it was her vibrant life before their marriage and then hidden afterwards, that is truly fascinating.

Based on in-depth research and exclusive interviews with friends, family members, teachers, roommates, and colleagues, and featuring never-before-seen family photos, this comprehensive biography reveals a multi-faceted woman worthy of our attention regardless of her husband and untimely death.

**Elizabeth Beller** is a writer and journalist. Her work has appeared in *The Guardian*, *Vogue*, and *Travel + Leisure*, among other outlets.

ACM Agent: David Kuhn & Nate Muscato



“Beller reveals the true woman behind the mystery, and what a woman she turns out to be: fabulous, fierce, fashionable, flawed... formidable. Despite its sad ending, Carolyn's journey as told on these pages somehow still feels like a triumph.”  
—**J. Randy Taraborrelli**, *New York Times* bestselling author of *Jackie: Public, Private, Secret*

“Carolyn Bessette-Kennedy is unveiled as never before: the woman who was so much more than a fashion icon and a famous wife.” —**Robin Givhan**, Pulitzer Prize winning fashion journalist and author of *The Battle of Versailles*

“Composed with ineffable poignancy... Interweaving the chilling storyline of the violations by paparazzi who turned Bessette-Kennedy into their ‘favorite victim,’”  
—**Carl Sferrazza Anthony**, author of *Camera Girl: The Coming of Age of Jackie Bouvier Kennedy*

# WOMEN IN THE VALLEY OF KINGS

## Women Egyptologists in the Golden Age

By Kathleen Sheppard

WE

July 2024 / St. Martin's Press (Macmillan) / US Editor: Michael Flamini  
Edited MS Available

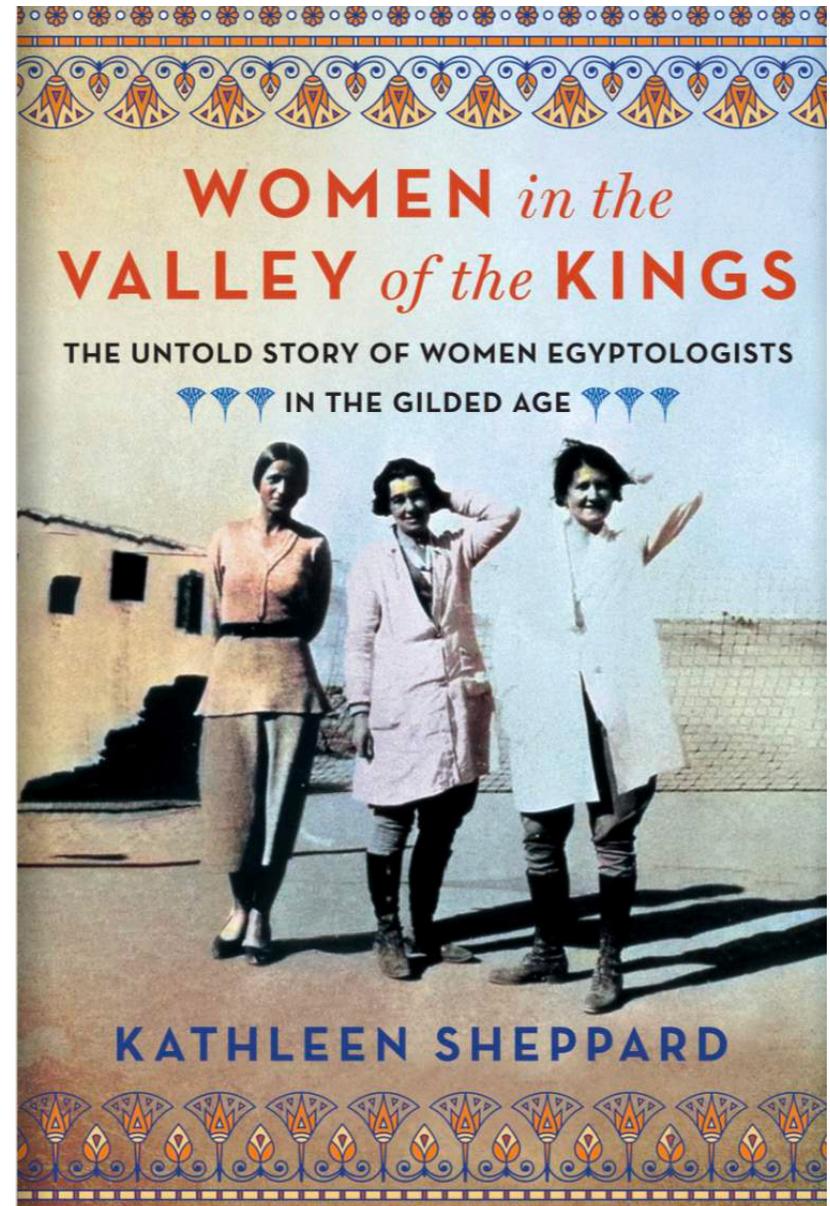
A feminist retelling of history—the first book to reframe the field of Egyptology through the great women—and some prominent Egyptians—whose unsung achievements formed the cornerstone of the discipline.

Egypt was a center of human experience for millennia. At the turn of the 19th century, Egypt's treasures took the western world by storm. Mummies, magic, adventure, pyramids, excavation, and gold – the public couldn't get enough – and hundreds of years later, the history and culture of ancient Egypt (and "Egyptology" as a field of study) continues to captivate. *Women in the Valley of Kings* will begin with the earliest European women who ventured to Egypt as travelers in search of something—health, sunshine, a life's purpose. It's solely because of these women that we have the legacies of richly-illustrated travelogues, of valuable excavation seasons on sites that had been deemed unimportant, of long-lost beautiful murals, copied and presented in books for future scholars to learn from, of great collections in famous museums and foundational research institutions that survived and thrived during war time and depression.

Including the stories of groups who have largely been ignored in the past, using their own voices, is the most powerful weapon historians have. In the history of Egyptology, this means telling the stories of the women and Egyptians whose lives and work have been passed over in favor of the fortune and glory pursued by dangerous men. Like the artifacts they unearthed, *Women in the Valley of Kings* will carefully excavate and extricate these women from the heap of the narrative footnotes, bringing their stories into the light and showcasing their work to be the true treasures, big and small.

**Kathleen Sheppard** is a multi award-winning Associate Professor in the History and Political Science department at Missouri S&T in Rolla, Missouri, and has been on faculty at the American University in Cairo. She is a historian of science whose work crosses a number of disciplinary boundaries, including history of science, gender studies, Egyptology, and Science and Technology Studies (STS).

ACM Agent: Sarah Levitt



# THREE KINGS

## Race, Class, and the Barrier-Breaking Rivals Who Re-defined Sports and Launched the Modern Olympic Age

By Todd Balf

WE

July 2024 / Scribd / US Editor: Mark Bryant

Edited MS Available

One hundred years later, *Three Kings* tells the epic true story of the 1924 Paris Olympics and the swimming rivalry that defined them. Hawaiian legend Duke Kahanamoku. The brash Chicago favorite Johnny Weissmuller. Rising Japanese star Katsuo Takaishi. Their 100-meter race would draw the fervent interest of princes and presidents; race ranking scientists and bookies; Waikiki beachboys and Tokyo earthquake survivors. The international outcome meant more than gold but master of the race.

On Sunday, July 20, 1924, 12,000 spectators—the men in bowler hats, the buttoned-up women twirling parasols—crept forward at Paris' sold-out, swelteringly hot Piscine des Tourelles outdoor stadium, waiting on the upraised starter's gun. Hollywood's Doug Fairbanks Jr., and Mary Pickford, and famous sprinter Charlie Paddock, just dethroned as the world's fastest man, sat in lower boxes, hoping their old friend had one more miracle in him. In one of the last events in a sprawling and spotty three-weeks-long 8th Olympiad, the august French Olympic Games director Count Clary was unmissable with his wizard length white beard. The Games architect, the diminutive and often melancholic Baron Pierre de Coubertin, sat delighted by the arena's positive energy. Italian fascist displays and spectator riots tainted the previous weeks, but this was golden, each customer a part of something greater. It was like a first-order Fresnel lens, bending many points of light into a singular beam so strong and luminous it could cut through the darkness of a stormy sea. All had turned out despite an ongoing heat wave that scorched the city that day with 100-degree temperatures. On tap was the long awaited 100-meter swimming showdown between Chicago's brash world record holder Johnny Weissmuller and Hawaii's stoic Duke Kahanamoku, the two-time defending Olympic sprint champ.

**Todd Balf**, a former senior editor of *Outside* magazine, is an author and a contributor to several national magazines including *The New York Times Magazine*, *Harper's*, *Men's Journal*, *Yankee*, and *Travel & Leisure*.



Takaishi and Weissmuller

Duke Kahanamoku



# ANTIDEMOCRATIC

## Inside the Far Right's Fifty-Year Plot to Control American Elections

By David Daley

NA

August 2024 / Mariner (HarperCollins) / US Editor: Matt Harper  
Proposal Available — Edited MS Available Spring 2024

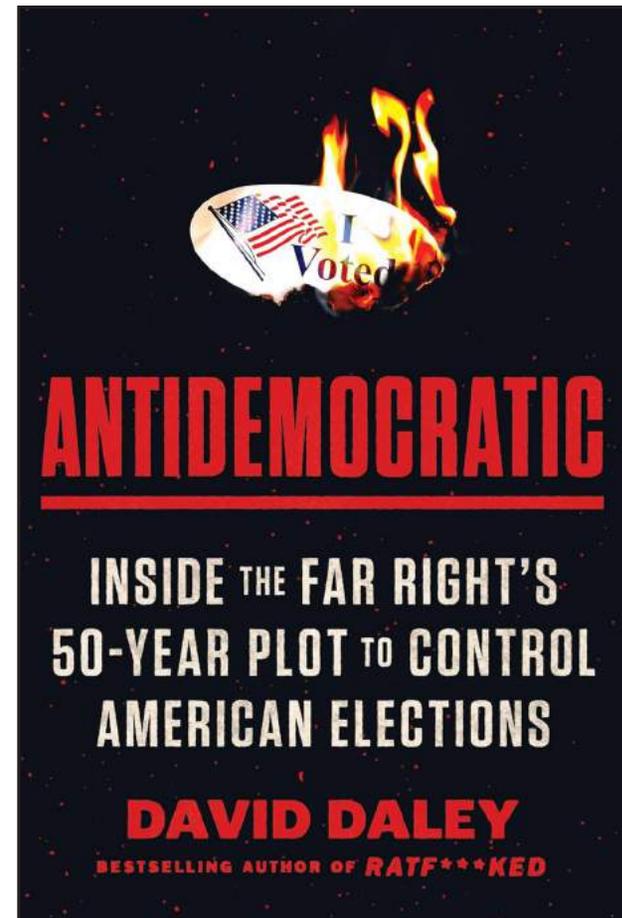
Equal parts *Dark Money* and *Democracy in Chains*, *Antidemocratic* is a riveting yet disturbing history of the fifty-year Republican plot to hijack voting rights in America, its profound implications for the 2024 presidential election, and the crucial role that Chief Justice John Roberts has played in determining how we vote.

In 1981, a young lawyer, fresh out of Harvard law school, joined the Reagan administration's Department of Justice, taking up a cause that had been fomenting in Republican circles for over a decade by that point. From his perch inside the Reagan DOJ, this lawyer would attempt to bring down one of the defining pieces of 20th century legislation—the Voting Rights Act. His name was John Roberts. Over thirty years later in 2013, these efforts by John Roberts and the conservative legal establishment culminated when Roberts, now Chief Justice of the Supreme Court, wrote *Shelby County vs. Holder*, one of the most consequential decisions of modern jurisprudence. A move that gutted the Voting Rights Act, Roberts's decision—dangerously premised on the flawed notion that racism was a thing of the past—emboldened right-wing, antidemocratic voting laws around the country immediately. No court decision has done more to hand elections to Republicans than *Shelby*.

Now lauded investigative reporter Daley reveals the story of this fifty-year Republican plot to end the Voting Rights Act and encourage minority rule in their party's favor. From the bowels of Reagan's DOJ to the walls of the conservative Federalist Society to the moneyed Republicans bankrolling restrictive voting laws today, Daley reveals a hidden history as sweeping as it is troubling. Through careful research and reporting, he connects *Shelby* to a well-funded, highly-coordinated right-wing effort to erode the power of minority voters and Democrats at the ballot box—an effort that has only grown stronger each year. In the process Roberts and his conservative allies have enabled fringe conservative theories about our elections with the potential to shape the 2024 election and topple the foundations of democracy.

Timely and alarming, Daley offers a powerful message that, while *Shelby* was the misguided end of the Voting Rights Act, it was also the beginning of something far darker.

ACM Agent: Jane von Mehren



David Daley is the author of the national bestseller *Ratf\*\*ked: Why Your Vote Doesn't Count*, which helped spark the drive to reform gerrymandering. He regularly discusses democracy and voting rights on CNN, MSNBC, NPR, and other outlets. His work has appeared in *The New Yorker*, *The New York Times*, *The Washington Post*, *The Atlantic*, and *The Guardian*, among other publications. He is the former editor in chief of *Salon*. He lives in Massachusetts.

**Praise for *Ratf\*\*ked: Why Your Vote Doesn't Count***

“Extraordinarily timely and undeniably important.” —*NYT Book Review*

“An eye-opening tour of a process that many Americans never see.”  
— *Washington Post*

“Compelling.” — *The New Yorker*

# BOOK AND DAGGER

## How Scholars Won World War II and Shaped Modern Spycraft

By Elyse Graham

NA

Spring 2025 / Ecco (HarperCollins) / US Editor: Sarah Murphy

Edited MS Available Summer 2024

### Rights Sold:

Japanese (Kawadeshobo-Shinsha)

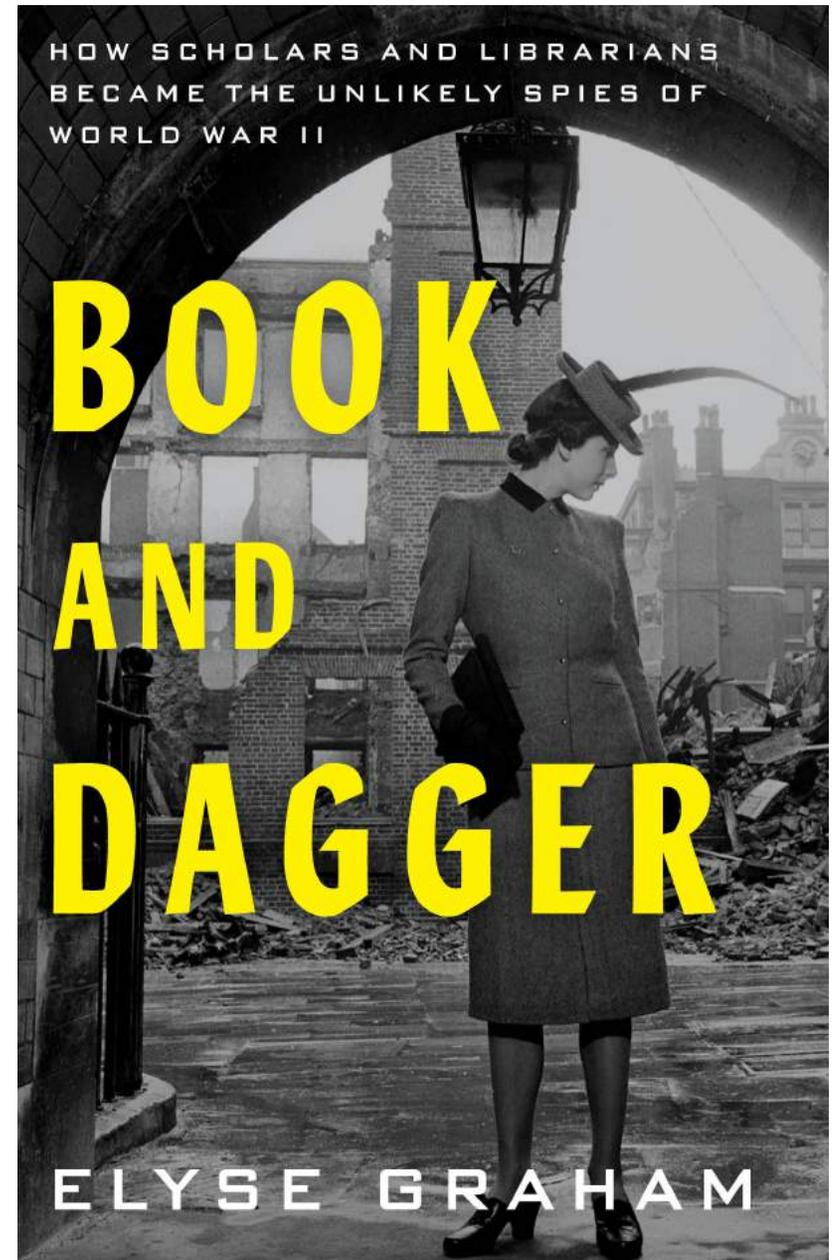
The riveting, untold story of the scholars, librarians, and university professors who were recruited as spies during WWII and helped turn the tide of the war.

At the start of WWII, the US found itself in desperate need of an intelligence agency. The Office of Strategic Services (OSS), a precursor to today's CIA, was quickly formed—and, in an effort to fill its ranks with experts, the OSS turned to academia for recruits. Suddenly, literature professors, librarians, and historians were training to perform undercover operations and investigative work—and these surprising spies would go on to profoundly shape both the course of the war and our cultural institutions with their efforts.

In *Book and Dagger*, Elyse Graham draws on personal histories, diaries, and declassified OSS files to tell the story of a small but connected group of humanities scholars turned unlikely spies. Among them are Joseph Curtiss, a literature professor who hunted down German spies and turned them into double agents; Sherman Kent, a smart-mouthed history professor who rose to become the head of analysis for all of Europe and Africa; and Adele Kibre, an archivist who was sent to Stockholm to secretly acquire documents for the OSS. These unforgettable characters would ultimately help lay the foundations of modern intelligence and transform American higher education when they returned after the war.

Thrillingly paced and rigorously researched, *Book and Dagger* is an inspiring and gripping true story about a group of academics who helped beat the Nazis—a tale that reveals the indelible power of humanities to change the world.

**Elyse Graham** is a historian and professor at Stony Brook University and author of three academic books. She holds degrees from Princeton, Yale, and MIT, and has learned how scholars whisper, scheme, launder information, and guard secrets.



## THE BOYS IN PHILLY

### Guns, Country, and the I.R.A.'s Secret American Legacy

By Ali Marie Watkins

NA

Winter 2025 / Little, Brown (Hachette) / US Editor: Alex Littlefield  
Proposal Available — Edited MS Available Summer 2024

#### Rights Sold:

UK/Comm (Icon Books)

A rollicking true crime tale and an intimately reported work of narrative nonfiction, *The Boys in Philly* traces the incredible true story of a group of Philadelphia gunrunners who supplied the IRA—and whose success and ultimate takedown illuminates Irish America's critical but long-overlooked role in the Troubles.

Based on the author's exhaustive research, exclusive sourcing and in-depth reporting, *The Boys in Philly* will tell the incredible true story of Danny Cahalane, a reserved ex-pat Irishman who led one of the most robust channels of covert support for Northern Ireland during the most violent years of the Troubles by smuggling large quantities of rifles, rocket launchers, explosives and armor-piercing bullets out of Philadelphia, across the Atlantic Ocean and into the hands of the Irish Republican Army. A carpenter and family man who had the demeanor of a mild schoolteacher, the reserved Cahalane was a ruthlessly effective operative. Whether he was steering money in the coffers of his community's chapter of the Irish Northern Aid Committee (NORAI), coolly secreting weapons away in a compartment built into the bottom of his work van, or scouring local graveyards to take down names of dead Irishman to use on federal firearm forms, Cahalane approached his activism with a quiet intensity and unflappable poise—even in the face of increasing scrutiny from the federal officials tracking his incredible success. The narrative will hit its crescendo with an unprecedented federal court case that sent Cahalane away to prison, decimated one of the most reliable streams of arms for the I.R.A., and in the process tarred an entire network of historic Irish societies and community groups. *The Boys in Philly* promises to clarify the active role U.S. citizens played in one of Western Europe's most violent chapters in recent memory. At the same time, it will tell a broader, more universal story about legacy, unresolved conflict and the complicated bonds of an immigrant community.

**Ali Watkins** is a reporter on Metro desk at *The New York Times*. Previously, she covered national security in Washington for *The Times*, *BuzzFeed* and *McClatchy Newspapers*, where she was a finalist for the 2015 Pulitzer Prize.

ACM Agent: Justin Brouckaert

## MOSKVA

### Seven Hills, Fifteen Places, and One Thousand Years of the Russian Soul

By Simon Morrison

WE

Spring 2025 / Knopf (PRH) / US Editor: Andrew Miller  
Proposal Available — Edited MS Summer 2024

#### Rights Sold:

Dutch (Meulenhoff)

UK/Comm (Bodley Head)

Simplified Chinese (ThinKingdom)

*Moskva* explains Moscow, which explains Russia as a global cultural, economic, and political power. And, Simon argues, it is the city that will decide the future, for better or for worse.

Simon Morrison's evocative narrative of Russian history becomes the backdrop for an epic exploration of the city as protagonist in a global drama. He recounts the history of Russia's capital as a place, an idea, and worldview by exploring sites throughout the city. It comprises fifteen chapters, spanning nearly as many centuries, that weave together the past, present, and personal to reveal the world-historical significance of a country and sensibility so strange to so many in the West. In his stories of fifteen places, Simon explores Moscow's 1000-year transformation from a "big village" to former Soviet capital to pyramid scheme gangland to glittering city-state with great geopolitical reach. He delves into the history of the Russian language, the rise and fall of the blood-stained Rurik dynasty, the icons in St. Basil's Cathedral, Tsarist beauty and cruelty, the invasions by Napoleon and Hitler, the "House of Culture" of the KGB and the Red Army, "everyday Stalinism" and onto the seemingly limitless internet imperium of cyberspace, where, instead of Marxist-Leninist ideology, the state exports populist politics, corruption, fake news, and other forms of social media-sown chaos.



ACM Agent: Will Lippincott

**Simon Morrison** is a cultural historian specializing in Russia, a Professor of Slavic Languages and Literatures and Music at Princeton University, and author of, most recently, *Bolshoi Confidential* and a biography of Lina Prokofiev.

## THE LION AND THE GENERAL

Churchill, Eisenhower and the Friendship That Changed the World

By Mitchell Yockelson

NA

Spring 2025 / Bombadier Press / US Editor: Adam Bellow  
Proposal Available — Edited MS Available Fall 2024

A dramatic narrative that paints the definitive picture of the Churchill-Eisenhower alliance, while clearly outlining the tremendous impact their relationship had on the current world order, through impressive, unmatched research and fast-paced narrative.

To truly understand their unusual but significant bond, Yockelson digs deep into an unmatched collection of historical documents to bring the parallel lives of these two men to the legions of readers who devour WWII history—from their formative years, to their growth as powerbrokers hellbent on keeping Europe out of Hitler's grasp, to their time leading America and Great Britain after the War.

In many ways, the Eisenhower-Churchill friendship was an unlikely one. Eisenhower, born in a small town in Kansas and raised in a middle-class midwestern family, was almost 16 years younger than Churchill, the privileged son of a British aristocrat and an American-born heiress. But their lives and career paths converged and the story of their remarkable brotherhood provides a special window into history—and the strategy that brought Hitler to his knees. *THE LION AND THE GENERAL* will detail how the two men teamed up successfully to temper communism and lay the groundwork for NATO as the Cold War raged. And it will prove that their friendship is largely responsible for the Special Relationship that keeps the US and the UK in lock step today. These are two of the most influential men of the 20th century and both will jump off the page in *THE LION AND THE GENERAL* with unforgettable personality and color, attracting readers of Cornelius Ryan's *The Longest Day* (76,000+ copies sold), Rick Atkinson's *Liberation Trilogy* (743,000+ copies sold), and fans of "The Crown," which drew more than 21 million viewers.

**Mitchell Yockelson** is a professor of military history and the chief historian for the United States World War One Centennial Commission. He leads the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA) Archival Recovery Program and investigates the theft of historical documents. He has taught at the United States Naval Academy and is currently a professor at Norwich University.

ACM Agent: Bridget Wagner Matzie

## ORIGINAL SIN

The October Surprise of 1980 and the GOP's Assault on Democracy

By Craig Unger

WE

Spring 2025 / Mariner (HarperCollins) / US Editor: Matt Harper  
Proposal Available — Edited MS Summer 2024

*Original Sin* will walk readers through the 1980s October Surprise conspiracy between Republicans and Iran that prolonged the hostage crisis and sank Jimmy Carter's reelection chances—and will dive deep into the media coverup of the incident that Craig witnessed firsthand while at *Newsweek*.

In the fall of 1979, in the wake of Iran's Islamic Revolution, a group of militants seized the United States Embassy in Tehran, and 52 Americans were taken hostage. President Jimmy Carter immediately began to negotiate for their freedom. As the crisis stretched on, the perception that Carter bungled the situation hampered his support during the election, and the hostages were finally freed on January 20, 1981, the day his opponent, Ronald Reagan, took office.

In *Original Sin*, Craig will argue that Carter's loss and the protracted hostage negotiation were the result of a clandestine arms deal arranged between the Republican Party and Iran that ensured that the hostages wouldn't be freed prior to the election, practically guaranteeing Reagan the presidency. Long dismissed as a hoax despite persuasive evidence to the contrary, this would have amounted to a scheme that, as Craig writes in the proposal, desecrated the most sacred principles of our democracy by sabotaging an American presidential election on behalf of the Republicans. Sound familiar? Craig's work of braided personal narrative and deeply sourced investigative journalism will finally present the definitive account of the October Surprise. With his independent research, travel around the globe, and interviews with scores of the story's major and minor players, the book will capture Craig's first-hand perspective on the disinformation campaign carried out by both media institutions and the government to obscure and deny the events of the October Surprise. After chronicling the underhandedness and duplicity of the Trump years in his last two books, Craig will trace these insidious patterns back to the very tactics Republicans deployed in the October Surprise, which he is determined to unearth once and for all.

**Craig Unger** is the author of three *New York Times* bestsellers: *American Kompro-mat*; *House of Trump*; *House of Putin*; and *House of Bush, House of Saud*.

ACM Agent: David Kuhn & Nate Muscato

AEVITAS 86

## TANAQUIL

Le Clercq, Balanchine, and a Life at the Forefront of the 20th Century

By Holly Brubach

NA

Spring 2025 / Simon & Schuster / US Editor: Mindy Marques

Proposal Available — Edited MS Available Fall 2024

### Rights Sold:

UK/Commonwealth (Faber UK)

In the mode of Stacy Schiff's Pulitzer Prize-winning *Véra*, the novelistic story of Vladimir Nabokov's wife and their fifty-two-year marriage, *Tanaquil* will carry all the cultural heft of a "ballet book." Le Clercq's and Balanchine's love story is one for the ages, akin to those depicted in Amanda Vaill's *Everybody Was So Young* and Sam Kashner and Nancy Schoenberger's *Furious Love*.

George Balanchine was to dance what Picasso was to painting—not just a genius, but an inventor of a modern art form, and a defining artist of his century, founding what would eventually become the New York City Ballet. Tanaquil Le Clercq would rise through Balanchine's school to become the fledgling City Ballet's star dancer, a sly performer whose unprecedented lines perfectly expressed the choreographer's radical vision. She became his fifth and final wife, and the only one—according to friends and fellow dancers—who truly understood him and loved him for who he was, rather than what he could do for her. In 1956, during City Ballet's European tour, Le Clercq was stricken with polio, leaving her without the use of her legs. Her life and Balanchine's stalled as their efforts at rehabilitation failed along with their marriage. And yet, even after their divorce, with Le Clercq confined to her wheelchair, she remained Balanchine's trusted adviser, a quietly astute observer of his work who refused to let tragedy diminish her enjoyment of life and dance.

**Holly Brubach** has worked as a staff writer and editor at *The New Yorker*, *the New York Times*, *the New York Times Magazine*, and *The Atlantic*, where she won a National Magazine Award in Essays & Criticism.

ACM Agent: David Kuhn



## OTHER FRONTS

Dwight Eisenhower, Kay Summersby, and the Women of the General's Inner Circle During World War II

By Elise Jordan

NA

Spring 2025 / Knopf (PRH) / US Editor: Andrew Miller

Proposal Available — Edited MS Fall 2024

Telling untold stories from history, and uncovering forgotten ones, has become the literary project of our time.

Writers and scholars have dedicated themselves to the recovery of narratives that the historical record has ignored, and this act of unearthing has become a powerful means of questioning our cultural memory and the previously accepted historical record. Rarer, and perhaps even more illuminating, are the stories that were not passively forgotten but rather actively suppressed. Such is the case of Kay Summersby, known as the favored aide and driver to Supreme Allied Commander General Dwight D. Eisenhower during World War II, who has been erased from American history both literally and figuratively.

Kay, a glamorous former model eighteen years Eisenhower's junior, was one of the two-star general's most trusted advisors and closest confidants during the war. She was arguably the person who knew the famously closed-off Eisenhower best—and was also, possibly, his lover. But whether or not Ike and Kay had a physical affair, just the appearance of impropriety made her existence problematic to the future president's image and was enough to have her relegated to the historical margins. Eisenhower's biographers have waffled on the issue and failed to give Kay her due.

With *Other Fronts*, Elise hopes to bring Kay's story, and those of the other pioneering women in Ike's orbit during the same period, to a wide range of readers interested in World War II, women's history, and action-packed narrative non-fiction.

**Elise Jordan** is a former State Department employee and speechwriter turned print journalist and political analyst for NBC News and MSNBC.



ACM Agent: David Kuhn & Nate Muscato

AEVITAS 87

# BLACK, WHITE, COLORED

## The Hidden Story of an Insurrection, a Family, a Town and Identity in America

By Laretta Malloy and LeeAnet Noble

NA

Spring 2025 / Amistad (HarperCollins) / US Editor: Patrik Bass

Proposal Available — Edited MS Fall 2024

*Black, White Colored* tells the singular story of Laurinburg, North Carolina as a lens through which to view the story of race and identity in the United States in the late 19th and early 20th centuries.

While many have heard about the 1921 race massacre in Tulsa, Oklahoma, the home of Black Wall Street, and the tragedy of the riots that wiped out much of the Black population and its wealth, few know about Laurinburg, North Carolina and the bloody race riot by the Red Shirts, a White supremacist group, that forced many black families and black-owned businesses to flee Laurinburg, North Carolina before Election Day, 1898. This was the only recorded insurrection that successfully changed the outcome of an election.

In the late 19th Century, Laurinburg, North Carolina in Scotland County stood as a beacon, an example of how Blacks and Whites could live and work together. Blacks were landlords, businessmen and doctors, a community who created their own an oasis amid chaos and dangerous gazes. Churches and businesses were built by families whose parents were enslaved a few years prior. Booker T. Washington sanctioned a school, The Laurinburg Institute, to fight the remnants of the Laurinburg insurrection through education. This institute was built on the land the Malloy family owned, and was responsible for the education of Dizzy Gillespie, Ben Vereen, the family of Spike Lee, Sam Jones, and many NBA basketball players. During Reconstruction and Jim Crow, Laurinburg and the Malloy home was a hot spot for notable doctors, tennis players, and political figures. The authors are a daughter and a granddaughter of Lawrence E. Malloy Sr., a key character in their book. They set out to research and share the history of their family and Laurinburg, North Carolina, both of which can be seen to be a microcosm of race and identity in the United States.

**Laretta Malloy** is a critically acclaimed performer, writer, vocalist, musician, producer and fashion influencer.

**LeeAnet Noble** is an internationally critically acclaimed multi-faceted artist, and Theatre Director.

ACM Agent: Karen Murgolo

# LETTERS FROM PARIS ON FIRE

## An American Journalist and A German Killer on the Eve of WWII

By Mark Braude

NA

Fall 2025 / Grand Central (Hachette) / US Editor: Maddie Caldwell

Proposal Available — Edited MS Spring 2025

The untold story of Janet Flanner, a culture-writer stationed in Paris from 1925-1939, who woke the world to the political, economic, and military realities in Europe and singlehandedly turned a fledgling magazine called *The New Yorker* from a provincial gossip rag into a powerhouse of global reporting.

The story begins when Flanner, a Midwesterner living in Paris, receives a letter from Harold Ross and Jane Grant asking if she'd like to join their new project. It's a fun, humor magazine, explicitly apolitical (and not very good); would she report on the latest trends from the City of Lights? Flanner agrees. She loves art, beauty, and culture. She has no way of knowing that the following decade will be defined by an economic depression, the rise of fascism, and a darkness that is creeping across Europe.

*Letters From Paris on Fire* is a tightly coiled drama for readers of gripping, character-driven nonfiction such as *Death in the City of Light* by David King, *The Hotel on Place Vendome* by Tilar J. Mazzeo, and *In the Garden of Beasts* by Erik Larson. It's for fans of books featuring unconventional women and hidden figures—as woman in a male-dominated profession, Flanner revolutionizes journalism. She consistently bucks convention, escaping marriage (in exchange for long-term relationships with three women), life in America, and the confines of her job description, transforming from an insecure novelist to a trailblazing truth-teller. Along the way, she loses and regains her faith in the power of art, in the potential for goodness to prevail over evil, and in her own voice.

**Mark Braude** is a cultural historian and the author of *Kiki Man Ray*, *The Invisible Emperor*, and *Making Monte Carlo*. He has been a visiting fellow at the American Library in Paris, a postdoctoral fellow at Stanford, a National Endowment for the Humanities Public Scholar, and the recipient of a Silvers Grant.

### Previous Publishers of Mark Braude:

Czech (Beta)

Dutch (Balans)

German (Suhrkamp)

Italian (Neri Pozza)

Korean (Wisdomhouse)

Polish (Arkady)

Spanish (Algaida / Alianza)

UK/Comm (Two Roads/John Murray)

ACM Agent: Becky Sweren

AEVITAS 88

# AMERICAN GRAMMAR

## Race, School, and the Building of a Nation

By Jarvis R. Givens

NA

Fall 2025 / Harper (HarperCollins) / US Editor: Adenike Olanwareju  
Proposal Available — Edited MS Fall 2024

An essential new work of narrative history—this book will chronicle of the social and political forces that shaped the emergence of the U.S. education system over the nineteenth century, a revised origin story that will open readers' eyes to a legacy of racism, violence, and exploitation involving Black, white, and Native Americans.

Jarvis Givens' research exposes the degree to which race—a factor that goes unexamined in other stories of early U.S. education—was part and parcel of the federal government's approach to establishing its schools. The book will document how the conquest and sale of Native American lands directly funded the country's public schools, many of which were constructed using the labor of enslaved Black Americans. The profits of slavery and settler colonialism underwrote classrooms for white students, in which they learned to adopt an American identity grounded in antiblackness and anti-indigeneity. Central to the book will be both the material backdrop of schools and the intimate interplay of Black, Native, and white education. Throughout the narrative, readers will encounter familiar characters such as Booker T. Washington and Thomas Jefferson whose lives and contributions to the national education system will be cast in a new light. Readers will also meet understudied historical communities—Native students at white-run, state-sanctioned schools that aimed to strip them of their tribal identity; enslaved and freed Black Americans living in Indian Territory—whose educational experiences illuminate the close, complicated relationships between races and how the United States deployed schools as a weapon in building the nation. Additionally, Jarvis will draw on his own experiences, from attending grade school in Compton, CA, through obtaining his doctorate, to show how this history reverberates in the present.

*American Grammar* will argue that if we are to address the stark educational inequities throughout the country today—especially for Black and Native students—we must confront how such inequities were built into our schools by design.

**Jarvis R. Givens** is an assistant professor of education and African & African American Studies at Harvard University.

ACM Agent: Nate Muscato

# CONQUERING ALEXANDER

By Elizabeth Samet

WE

Fall 2025 / Liveright (Norton) / US Editor: Bob Weil  
Edited MS Available Spring 2025

*Conquering Alexander* will trace the life of Alexander the Great, the charismatic world conqueror, of which he is the historical original. Elizabeth aims to write a comprehensive and subversive retelling of the many different lives of Alexander to be found in history, fiction, and popular culture.

Obsessed with fame in an ancient culture where the battlefield was the surest place to win it, Alexander spent his entire adult life on campaign. During its 13-year campaign, Alexander's army marched over 20,000 miles, through most of the regions where the US has concentrated its military energies since 2001. He was there before us.

In our present moment, so alive to the idea of "greatness," an examination of Alexander and his myth can open a rich discussion about both the personal and national ambition to be great. Alexander's life is the template against which those of subsequent conquerors from Julius Caesar to Genghis Khan to Napoleon have been compared. Alexander's career, like that of Caesar, became a lesson in the dangers of a military despot. However, political and cultural trends suggest a surprising hunger for latter-day Alexanders.

An English professor at West Point, **Elizabeth Samet** received her BA from Harvard and her PhD from Yale. *Soldier's Heart* won the *Los Angeles Times* Book Prize for Current Interest and was also named one of *The New York Times's* 100 Notable Books in 2007.



ACM Agent: David Kuhn

# FANDOM FOREVER (AND EVER)

By Allegra Rosenberg

NA

Fall 2025 / W.W. Norton / US Editor: Helen Thomaides

Proposal Available — Edited MS Spring 2025

An entertaining and insightful deep dive into the history of fandom, revealing the crucial role that fans have played in shaping culture over the last centuries.

*Fandom Forever (and Ever)* will be a deep dive into the history of fandom—from the initial stirrings of mass culture after the Industrial Revolution, through the 19th century’s Janeites and Holmesians, the 20th century’s Golden Age of Science Fiction, Deadheads, and the first slash shippers, up to today’s BTS Army and Marvel superfans. Rosenberg connects stories of historical fans and proto-fans to central questions about gender, power, taste, and technology, revealing not just a rich array of subcultures but also how those subcultures have left their indelible mark on the world at large.

Across decades, fandom has defined identity, built community, and fostered creativity, and in this book, Rosenberg will illuminate how understanding what came before Tumblr, Twitter, and TikTok is the key to shoring up the foundations of fandom as a force for joy and togetherness, even in the midst of polarization, censorship, and technological change. Sprinkled throughout the book will be narrative vignettes designed to transport readers into the hearts and minds of the fans of yesteryear, creating a perfect union of the deeply nerdy and highly accessible that will speak equally to her fellow fans and the fandom-curious. *Fandom Forever (And Ever)* will be catnip for readers of subculture-specific deep dives like Lizzy Goodman’s *Meet Me in the Bathroom*, pop culture-fueled social histories like Jill Lepore’s *The Secret History of Wonder Woman*, and accessible yet rigorous analysis in the vein of Amanda Montell’s *Cultish*—as well as a critical first trade book to take the entirety of fandom’s history as seriously as it deserves.

**Allegra Rosenberg** brings both a native’s fluency and an academic’s expertise to her topic. A lifelong fan and multidisciplinary maven of all things technology and culture, she’s spent the last year completing a graduate degree in Experimental Humanities & Social Engagement at NYU, writing for the popular newsletter *Garbage Day* and *Today in Tabs*, as well as *The Verge*, *Insider*, *Polygon*, and elsewhere.

ACM Agent: Maggie Cooper

# SOMEWHERE TOWARDS FREEDOM Sherman’s March and Emancipation

By Bennett Parten

WE

Fall 2025 / Grand Central (Hachette) / US Editor: Colin Dickerman

Proposal Available — Edited MS Spring 2025

How did emancipation really happen? Histories of the Civil War never tell us what it was like for the people caught in the middle of battling armies? How did they emancipate themselves in the face of chaos and war? How can we understand the profound meaning of emancipation without seeing the on-the-ground struggles to achieve it, to hear from those who risked everything to attain it?

Ben Parten, a historian who grew up in Georgia, well knew the story of Sherman’s March to the sea. He loved Doctorow’s *The March* and, of course, knew the skewed story told by *Gone with the Wind*. He realized that what was missing from these tales were the experiences, fears, challenges, and hardships faced by the thousands of enslaved people caught up in what was the largest emancipation event of the Civil War. He went to Yale, got his Ph.D. under David Blight, and the result is this remarkable, gripping, heartbreaking story. Too often our history tells only half the story. By forgetting the real struggles, we ignore what remains to be done.

“One of the most innovative studies of American emancipation in the Civil War we have ever seen. No one has quite done what Ben has done—dig out and tell the story of the well over 20,000 former slaves who were both liberated by William T. Sherman’s army and liberated themselves in 1864-65. This is the story of how the freedpeople became “free,” where they came from, their stunning travails along the March to Savannah, and then, with quite some originality, what happened to them when they were forced into the Port Royal region as they became one of the largest and most sprawling groups of refugees produced during the Civil War. In Ben’s telling, this is an epic tale of movement, of collisions with nature, of military history of a new kind in the annals of American warfare, and of the great human drama, full of loss and tragedy and confusion, of an evolving freedom for former slaves across a vast landscape.” —David W. Blight, author of *Frederick Douglass*

**Bennett Parten** is Assistant Professor of History at Georgia Southern University.

ACM Agent: Wendy Strothman

## THE GIRL IN BLUE

### A True Story of Defiance, Murder & Beautiful Obsessions

By Doreen Carvajal

NA

Fall 2025 / Grand Central (Hachette) / US Editor: Colin Dickerman  
Proposal Available — Edited MS Spring 2025

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

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

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

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

ACM Agent: Todd Shuster

## AN ETERNAL TRIBUTE

### The Story and Meaning of Mount Rushmore

By Matthew Davis

NA

Fall 2025 / St. Martin's Press (Macmillan) / US Editor: Cassidy Graham  
Proposal Available — Edited MS Spring 2025

To be published for the 100th anniversary of Rushmore's dedication in October 2025.

*An Eternal Tribute* will be a newly energized consideration of supposedly familiar history and a work of literary nonfiction for the same readers of *How The Word is Passed* by Clint Smith, and *On Juneteenth* by Annette Gordon-Reed—and it is written with Peter Matthiessen's *In the Spirit of Crazy Horse* as its artistic polestar. Having to look no further than former President Trump's July 3, 2020 speech before the monument, Mount Rushmore remains a contested symbol at the heart of American identity and the nation's conception of its own history.

Davis will revisit the meaning and the myth of Mount Rushmore's creation via three narrative strands. The first is the story of Mt. Rushmore's origins and construction, with particular attention paid to its creator, sculptor Gutzon Borglum, an American artist whose parents had immigrated from Denmark as Mormons and who was born in a log cabin in Idaho. His ambition led him to study in Rodin's studio in Paris, to begin and fail to complete the Confederate shrine at Stone Mountain in Georgia, and to become a member of the Klu Klux Klan, all before embarking upon a sixteen-year quest to construct what he called his "Shrine of Democracy" in the Black Hills of South Dakota. The second strand is a contemporary travelogue through those very hills, known to the Lakota as Paha Sapa, wherein Davis gathers images and voices that present an altogether different view of America's greatest monument. For it is impossible to separate the story of Rushmore from the story of the United States' treatment of American Indians and the Federal government's shameful violation of the 1868 Treaty of Laramie. The third strand will consist of essayistic analysis that explores this moment of American "historical memory," asking: What is the role of our national monuments? Whose history do they tell? Should a place like Mount Rushmore—which has become celebrated by white nationalists—exist in 21st-century America?

**Matthew Davis** is the founder and Executive Director of the Alan Cheuse International Writers Center at George Mason University.

ACM Agent: Michael Signorelli

AEVITAS 91

# GHOST CATS

## The Last Mountain Lions of Los Angeles

By Deanne Stillman

WE

Fall 2025 / Univeristy of California Press / US Editor: Reed Malcolm  
Proposal Available — Edited MS Spring 2024

A natural history for readers of Nate Blakeslee's *American Wolf* and Helen Macdonald's *H is for Hawk*.

"If you've been outdoors in a place where cougars live, then you've been close to a cougar. They saw you, but you didn't see them."

The mountain lions of California are the last of a decimated population, descendants from the Ice Age, slipping through the shadows of American suburbia, reminding us that the wild isn't so far away. Deanne Stillman, acclaimed and bestselling author of literary nonfiction such as *Mustang: The Saga of the Wild Horse in the American West*, contemplates the deep-time legacy and unfolding fate of cougars in the American West. Spellbound by celebrity cats like P-22, the subject of the just-released documentary, "The Cat that Changed America," and others, such as the Culvert Cat who died trying to flee the Woolsey Fire, Stillman pursues the history and state of the mountain lion in the region that came be known as Los Angeles, a dynamic border where urbanity meets a slice of raw, untamed nature.

*Ghost Cats* will travel from the cougar's evolutionary origins, to the Pueblo's spiritual reverence for the animal, to Teddy Roosevelt's far-sighted conservation of its habitat that belied his complicated relationship to creatures he considered "abject cowards," "beast[s] of stealth and rapine," and "ferocious and bloodthirsty." In the present, Stillman accompanies the scientists fighting to understand and protect these vulnerable animals; and she weighs this schizophrenic history, in which humans fail to reconcile a dangerous combination of awe, indifference, and fear.

In a time when we have retreated to our homes, Stillman invites us to contemplate something completely primal, sheer wildness in flesh and sinew and claw, a manifestation of power, strength, self-knowledge, and mystery.

Deanne Stillman's books include *Blood Brothers*, *Desert Reckoning*, and *Mustang*, a *Los Angeles Times* Best Book of the Year. In addition, she wrote the cult classic, *Twenty-nine Palms*, another *Los Angeles Times* bestseller.

ACM Agent: Michael Signorelli

# JEAN STEIN

## An American Scene

By Kevin Burke

Spring 2026 / W.W. Norton / US Editor: John Glusman  
Proposal Available — Edited MS Fall 2025

Jean Stein was at the center of a literary scene that spanned New York, Los Angeles, and Paris. Her friends, guests, and confidantes included Joan Didion, Dennis Hopper, Truman Capote, Gore Vidal, Tennessee Williams, Leonard and Felicia Bernstein, Diana Ross and many others. Yet as fabulous and famous as those in her scene were, Jean herself has largely remained a hidden subject.

Jean Stein best known for her masterpiece, *Edie: An American Biography*, an oral narrative on the life and times of Warhol Superstar Edie Sedgwick consisting of close to three hundred interviews she recorded. Yet despite knowing and loving Edie herself, she left out her own voice.

That's where historian and documentary film producer Kevin Burke comes in. Kevin will write the first book to be written about this remarkable and brilliant woman, constructed with the help of her family and access to her newly opened archive at the New York Public Library.

Kevin Burke is a historian, documentary film producer, and host/executive producer of the award-winning podcast series *Your Hometown*. In addition to serving as the director of research at the Hutchins Center for African & African American Research at Harvard University, he is the founder and CEO of Kevin Burke Productions, Inc., a New York-based company. His film credits include working as a producer on the popular PBS series *Finding Your Roots*, now in production on its tenth season; *Making Black America: Through the Grapevine* (PBS, 2022); the Emmy-nominated series *The Black Church: This Is Our Story, This is Our Song* (PBS, 2021); and *Reconstruction: America after the Civil War* (PBS, 2019), winner of the Alfred I. duPont-Columbia University Award. With Henry Louis Gates Jr., Burke is the coauthor of *And Still I Rise: Black America since MLK* (Ecco/HarperCollins, 2015) and co-editor of the Norton Critical Edition of Solomon Northup's 1853 memoir, *Twelve Years a Slave* (W. W. Norton & Co., 2016). Burke graduated from Harvard College in 1998 and from Harvard Law School in 2003. He received his master's degree in History and Ph.D. in the History of American Civilization from Harvard in 2004 and 2006, respectively.

ACM Agent: David Kuhn & Nate Muscato

# THE LOST FOUNDER

## James Wilson and the Dream of a New America

By Jesse Wegman

NA

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

Proposal Available — Edited MS Spring 2025

You're probably familiar with many of America's founding fathers. Washington, Jefferson, Franklin, Hamilton, Madison—but one founder has somehow slipped through the cracks, despite the fact that his contributions were arguably more essential to the country's founding than those of any other, and his vision was without doubt the most democratic of them all. His name: James Wilson.

Jesse Wegman will reveal that James Wilson (and not James Madison) was the main architect of the Constitution—Wilson hand-wrote the first draft—and he was one of the few founders to sign both that document and the Declaration of Independence. He was a justice on the first Supreme Court; his interpretations guided the development of American law and inform its functioning even today. And despite his erudition and influence, Wilson was an unapologetic proponent of democracy; he believed political power must lie in the hands of common people. He was a poor immigrant from Scotland who studied with David Hume, Adam Smith, and Thomas Reid, and through them came to understand the crucial role of government in the lives of ordinary citizens. Wilson was also a complicated, flawed man who was nearly murdered by the people he championed, and whose mismanagement of his personal finances resulted in him being the only Supreme Court justice ever to go to prison. His eventual flight from his lenders led to a death in ignominy and his name being erased from history. There are at least three groups who are hungry for a book like this: the built-in readership that has always devoured stories of the founders; the younger generation of readers that is eager to hear new accounts about America's founding, complete with its complexities and contradictions; and the lawyers, judges, and other members of the legal world who rely on Wilson's thinking more than most of them realize.

**Jesse Wegman** joined the editorial board of the *New York Times* in 2013, and has since written close to 600 signed and unsigned editorials on the Supreme Court, politics, law, and justice. He was previously a senior editor at *The Daily Beast* and *Newsweek*, a legal news editor at Reuters, and the managing editor of *The New York Observer*. He is the author of *Let the People Pick the President*.

ACM Agent: David Kuhn & Nate Muscato

# MOMENT IN THE SUN

## Freedom in Antebellum Black Manhattan

By Shane White

NA

Spring 2026 / Liveright (Norton) / US Editor: Robert Weil

Proposal Available — Edited MS Fall 2025

The typical history of Black Americans in New York City is that slavery, which was outlawed in New York in 1827, was followed by poverty and silence until the Harlem Renaissance occurred in the 1920s. *An Eternal Tribute* shows that this interpretation is not only incorrect but omits a rich story of Black American creativity and achievement.

Shane's new book shows us a New York of the 1820s through 1840s that was alive with creative, ambitious, and successful African Americans. No longer barely visible slaves, they invented tap dancing, started the first African American newspaper, and Black theater. African Americans created one of the earliest Black joint stock companies and much more. Fascinating individuals ranging from a Black millionaire, cross-dressers, pimps for touch houses (brothels) through to burners, or Black confidence tricksters, stalked the streets. It was one of the most exciting periods in the city's history—and a lot of that excitement can be attributed to Black freedom.

When New York finally ended slavery in 1827, the city was one of the first sizeable urban slave societies in the New World forced to come to grips with abolition. To an often-startling extent, this first attempt at integration worked. People, languages, and customs mixed promiscuously in the "amalgamated" city in these years. Freedom produced a change in consciousness. Its public spaces filled with the sight and sound of ordinary African New Yorkers—and that was deliberate. The way African New Yorkers dressed or strolled down Broadway, gambled on a dreamed number, and especially created music and dancing that made the city a different and more exciting place. Their activities not only marked a new and exhilarating status as free people, but also fascinated, occasionally horrified, white onlookers. The resulting conjunction between Black creative activity and white voyeurism was unprecedented and would not recur until the Harlem Renaissance of the 1920s.

**Shane White** is Challis Professor of History Emeritus at the University of Sydney specializing in African American history. His last book, *Prince of Darkness* (2015) won the Society of the Historians of the Early American Republic's Best Book Prize and the New York Society's New York City Award.

ACM Agent: Wendy Strothman

AEVITAS 93

# A TERRIBLE SWIFT SWORD

## The Supreme Court on Race, From Dread Scott to Harvard

By Louis Menand

NA

Fall 2026 / Penguin Press (PRH) / US Editor: Scott Moyers

Proposal Available — Edited MS Fall 2025

A historical account of race's centrality to the American story through Supreme Court cases from Dred Scott to the Harvard Affirmative Action case, bringing to life the plaintiffs, Justices, and times, and illuminating how an old constitutional system forces the quest for equality down twisted paths, with consequences up to today.

*A Terrible Swift Sword* tells the tortured story of race relations in the United States through cases decided by the Supreme Court. Menand will begin with the Dred Scott case, decided in 1857, four years before the outbreak of the Civil War, and end with the dispute over affirmative-action admissions at Harvard and the University of North Carolina, cases expected to be decided in June 2023. That trajectory, Dred Scott to Harvard, tells us a story about where we began as a country and where we find ourselves today in the long and uneven effort to achieve racial equality. We seem, as society, to be on a knife edge, where race relations could tip in either direction. It is a good time to take a close look at our situation through the eyes of the law.

**Louis Menand** is an award-winning essayist, critic, author, professor, and historian, best known for his Pulitzer-winning book *The Metaphysical Club*, an intellectual and cultural history of late 19th and early 20th century America. His other notable works include the National Book Award-nominated *The Free World: Art and Thought in the Cold War*, *American Studies*, *Discovering Modernism*, and *Pragmatism*. In 2016, he was awarded the National Humanities Medal by President Barack Obama.

### Previous Publishers of Louis Menand

Arabic (Jadawel)

Brazilian Portuguese (Ediouro)

Dutch (De Bezige Bij)

Italian (RCS Libri SpA)

Japanese (Misuzu Shobo Ltd.)

Korean (Minumsa Publishing)

Portuguese (PRH Portugal)

Romanian (Editrui Trei)

Russian (Idea Press)

Simplified Chinese (Post Wave)

Spanish (Planeta)

UK/Comm (Harper UK)

ACM Agent: David Kuhn & Nate Muscato

# NOW WE SEE THE WORLD TOGETHER

## Five Midwesterners and the Revolution of Modern Art

By Liesl Olson

WE

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

Proposal Available — Edited MS Spring 2026

A thrilling new art history, told as a group biography, of five provocative artists who lived, loved, and worked with each other in the unheralded artistic hub of Chicago in the mid-20th century. *Now We See the World Together* will tap into the vast, enthusiastic readerships that made such successes out of Mary Gabriel's *Ninth Street Women*, Sarah Bakewell's *At the Existentialist Café*, and Saidiya Hartman's *Wayward Lives, Beautiful Experiments*.

When we think of the great turning points in the evolution of art, we don't often think of mid-century Chicago, that looming metropolis with its reputation for industry and organized crime. But in fact Chicago in the 1930s, '40s, and '50s was the locus of some of our culture's most lasting artistic advances—in sculpture, dance, literature, architecture, and beyond—and we can't understand the story of modern art without celebrating this time and place. That's where this book comes in.

There was Ruth Page, the captivating ballerina; Katherine Dunham, the magnetic dancer and anthropologist; Richard Wright, at one time the most famous Black writer in America; Katharine Kuh, the visionary art curator; and Isamu Noguchi, who made his artistic mark on various worlds ranging from sculpture to costume design. In assorted combinations members of this group collaborated with each other, had affairs with each other, supported each other's work and dreams, and fed off of each other's talents in ways that forever changed the culture—ways that are still evident today. *Now We See the World Together* chronicles the three decades at the heart of these figures' careers, the 1930s through the 1950s, and for the first time examines how this period became a turning point in the history of modern art. As Liesl writes in the proposal, "this formative circle created some of the most recognizable styles of the twentieth century." And in fact, many of the challenges to democracy and equality that we're experiencing today have their roots in the backlash to the 1930s' progress, to which the book's main characters made indelible contributions.

**Liesl Olson** is an author, historian, and museum director.

ACM Agent: Lauren Sharp & Wendy Strothman

# INFINITE MOTION

## Ernie Barnes' Black America

By Derrais Carter

NA

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

Proposal Available — Edited MS Fall 2025

Ernie Barnes, the football player-turned-artist whose lithe, exuberant, and instantly recognizable painted figures endeared him to generations of Black Americans, was largely overlooked by the fine art establishment until recently. In May 2022, over a decade after his death in 2009, Barnes was propelled back into the spotlight when his replica of his masterpiece, “The Sugar Shack,” sold at Christie’s for 15.3 million dollars. Now, the art world is finally giving one of the most important Black artists of the twentieth century his due.

*Infinite Motion* will be, remarkably, the first trade book to chronicle Barnes’ life, career, and influence—a quintessential tale of Black American striving, from North Carolina under Jim Crow to professional football stadiums, nationwide gallery shows, and then to Hollywood, along the way establishing a new model for how fine artists engage with pop culture. Barnes’ work is familiar to many readers who will come to the story of the man behind paintings used on iconic album covers and in the beloved ‘70s sitcom *Good Times*, and whose entrepreneurial spirit kicked off his art career as the first official artist of the American Football League. Whether he was portraying the athletes of the 1984 Los Angeles Olympics in his capacity as official artist of the Games, or working on a commission for Kanye West, or capturing the beauty in quotidian scenes of Black life, Barnes used his paintbrush to set the world in ecstatic and infinite motion. The book will reveal the inner workings of a complex and pathbreaking figure in American art history who created prints of his paintings that adorned the walls Black households nationwide, cementing his era-defining style in the cultural imagination.

**Derrais Carter** is a scholar, author, and artist. He is currently an Associate Professor of Gender & Women’s Studies and Africana Studies at the University of Arizona.



ACM Agent: David Kuhn & Nate Muscato

# UPCOMING HEALTH, MINDFULNESS & SELF-HELP



# HOW TO FIND A FOUR-LEAF CLOVER

## What Autism Can Teach Us About Difference, Connection, and Belonging

By Jodi Rodgers

NA

February 2024 / Little, Brown Spark (Hachette) / US Editor: Tracy Behar /  
Final PDF Available Michael Szczerban

### Rights Sold:

ANZ (Hachette Australia) Japanese (Toyokan)  
Brazilian Portuguese (Faro Editorial) UK (Souvenir Press / Profile Books)

Beloved *Love on the Spectrum* star and disability rights advocate Jodi Rodgers shares stories from her expansive career working within the autistic community and calls for a more inclusive and accepting society.

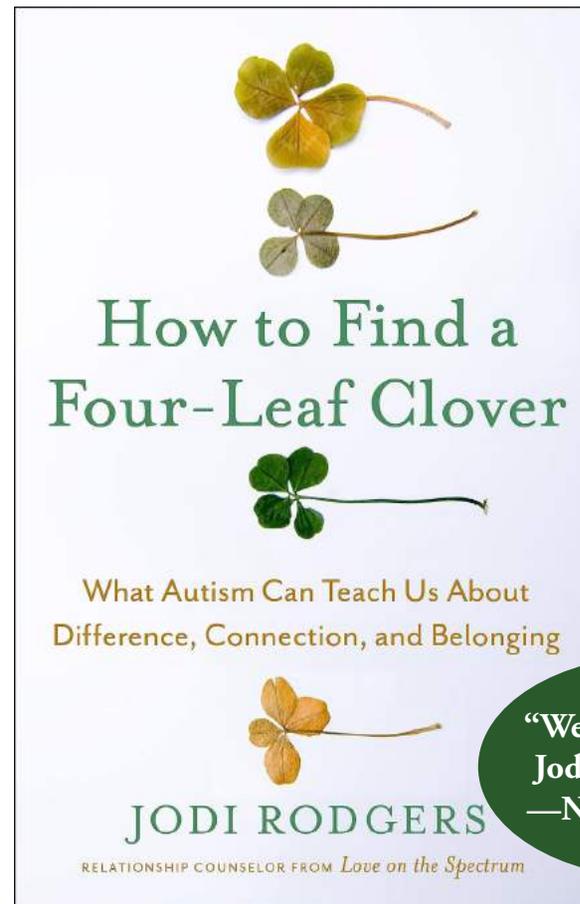
In *How to Find a Four-Leaf Clover*, Jodi Rodgers gives us inspiring, heartwarming stories from her years of experience as a teacher and counselor supporting autistic people. While acknowledging our differences, these stories invite us to expand our empathy and compassion for the neurodivergent people in our lives. Throughout, Rodgers explores the powerful impact of embracing neurodiversity and forming meaningful connections with those around us. Each chapter highlights a different story and an aspect of human behavior, including:

- How we perceive the world, and our own unique experience of thinking, sensing, and feeling
- How we communicate our perspective to others, understand one another, and express ourselves
- How we can better connect with one another

With dozens of moving stories, *How to Find a Four-Leaf Clover* will give readers a deeper understanding of and appreciation for the neurodiverse community around them. Above all, it will inspire a profound sense of belonging, revealing that we're much more similar than we think.

**Jodi Rodgers** is a qualified counselor, sexologist, and special-education teacher with thirty years of experience in the education, disability, and sexuality fields. She has worked with clients of all ages and their families. Her private practice, Birds and Bees, helps neurodivergent people learn about the complex areas of sexuality and relationships and how to create love and connection. She has become well known as the relationship counselor on the hit Netflix show *Love on the Spectrum*.

ACM Agent: Jane von Mehren



“We could all use a Jodi in our lives.”  
—New York Times

“An empathetic counselor with more than 30 years of experience, Jodi Rodgers enters the world of many individual autistic people. She will serve as your guide to their inner experiences. This book will provide greater acceptance and understanding.” —**Temple Grandin, author of *Visual Thinking***

“While reading Jodi’s stories, I was warmly and consistently reminded that different does not mean less than.” —**Jory Fleming, author of *How to Be Human***

“As a psychologist myself, I have been able to see on TV what an excellent clinician she is. It is no mystery why her autistic patients place their trust in her. They recognize that she is not just ‘assessing’ them; she is genuinely interested in them. In this marvelous book, Rodgers makes it clear that neurodivergent and neurotypical people all want the same things: love, security, and to be free of loneliness.”  
—**Cathy Gildiner, author of *Good Morning Monster***

# UNDERESTIMATED

## The Wisdom and Power of Teenage Girls

By Chelsey Goodan

NA

March 2024 / Gallery (S&S) / US Editor: Pamela Cannon

Final PDF Available

Rights Sold:

Polish (Relacja / Mamania)

Simplified Chinese (New Oriental)

In the vein of *Reviving Ophelia* and *Untangled* comes a fresh, unexpected, and empowering guide to better understand teenage girls, revealing how their insights can create heartfelt connections and impactful change.

Written with warmth and humor, *Underestimated* is the first book to invite us into a teenage girl's brain and heart, as told from the point of view of a beloved and trusted mentor. Chelsey Goodan is a highly sought-after academic tutor who has worked with hundreds of girls from all different backgrounds, earning their trust, confidence, and friendship. They in turn have shared with her their innermost concerns, doubts, and what they wish they could communicate to their parents and the world at large.

With topics and language directly chosen by the girls, Goodan reveals how the solutions to a girl's well-being lie within her. She offers parents the exact words they can use to help her discover these solutions and demonstrates how adults can better support a teenage girl's voice to create positive change. Rather than dismissing teenage girls based on our own fears or treating them as problems that need to be solved, Goodan encourages us as parents, and as a society, to help girls unleash their power and celebrate their intrinsic wisdom, creating more healing and connection for everyone. With inspiring ease, *Underestimated* shows us how to do this with accessible advice, entertaining narratives, and profound wisdom.

**Chelsey Goodan** has been an academic tutor and mentor for sixteen years, with a particular emphasis on the empowerment of teenage girls.

"I've personally witnessed how Chelsey changes the lives of teenage girls for the better by deepening connections and helping everyone feel more heard and understood. With passion and enthusiasm, Chelsey empowers girls to discover their voices in both the most practical and deepest of ways."—**Laura Dern, Academy Award-winning actress**

ACM Agent: Karen Murgolo

"What makes this book stand out is the way Goodan allows girls to share their truths openly and without judgment... empower[ing] young women by showing readers what they have to teach adults about the power of (inter)personal authenticity."—**Kirkus**

"A critical blueprint for the kinds of conversations that parents and their children are afraid to have, but deeply need."—**Liz Plank, *For the Love of Men***

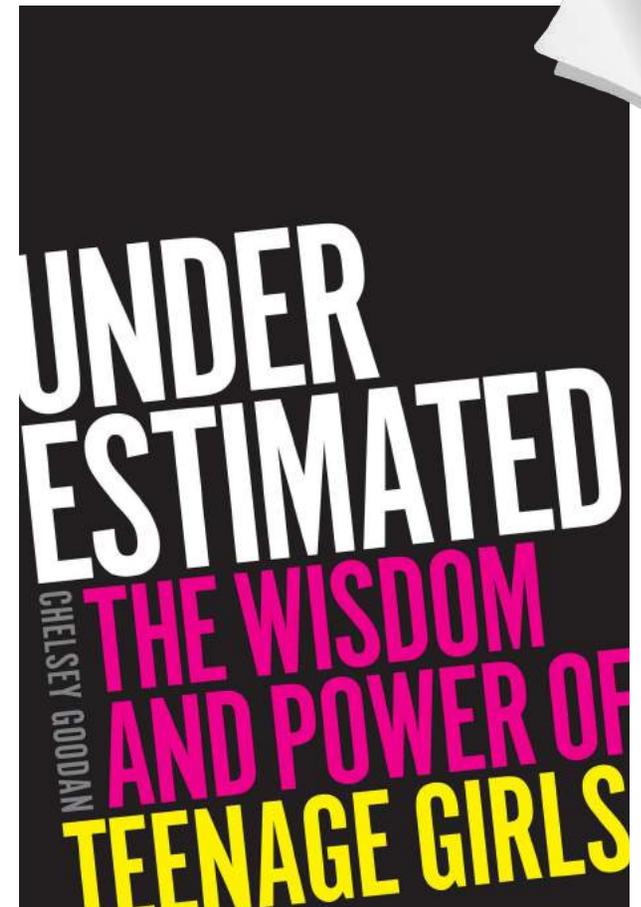
"This book teaches us not only how to bring out the best in teenage girls, but in everyone."—**Moon Zappa, actress, artist, and author**

"If you are a parent, caregiver, or educator who cares in any way about understanding this crucial period in a teenager's development, in a way that supports thriving rather than walling off, *Underestimated* is essential reading."—**Neil Strauss, #1 NYT bestselling author of *The Truth***

"Chelsey gives us all the tools needed to have the difficult and much needed conversations with our teenagers. Or any teenagers."—**Jenni Konner, writer, director, and executive producer of HBO's *Girls***

"Underestimated gives insight into ways to create a fairer and more empowering world where girls and women can thrive."—**Eve Rodsky, *New York Times* bestselling author of *Fair Play***

"To create a world that welcomes girls' and women's powerful voices and fosters their agency, we need this book."—**Jennifer Siebel Newsom, filmmaker**



# AGELESS AGING

## A Woman's Guide to Increasing Healthspan, Brainspan, and Lifespan

By Maddy Dychtwald with Kate Hanley

NA

May 2024 / Mayo Clinic Press / US Editor: Daniela Rapp

Final PDF Available

Rights Sold:

Spanish (Cúpula / Planeta)

A holistic plan based on cutting-edge science that helps women take advantage of the scientific, medical, psychological, and spiritual tools to feel younger for longer.

We are in the midst of a longevity revolution. And that's particularly true for women:

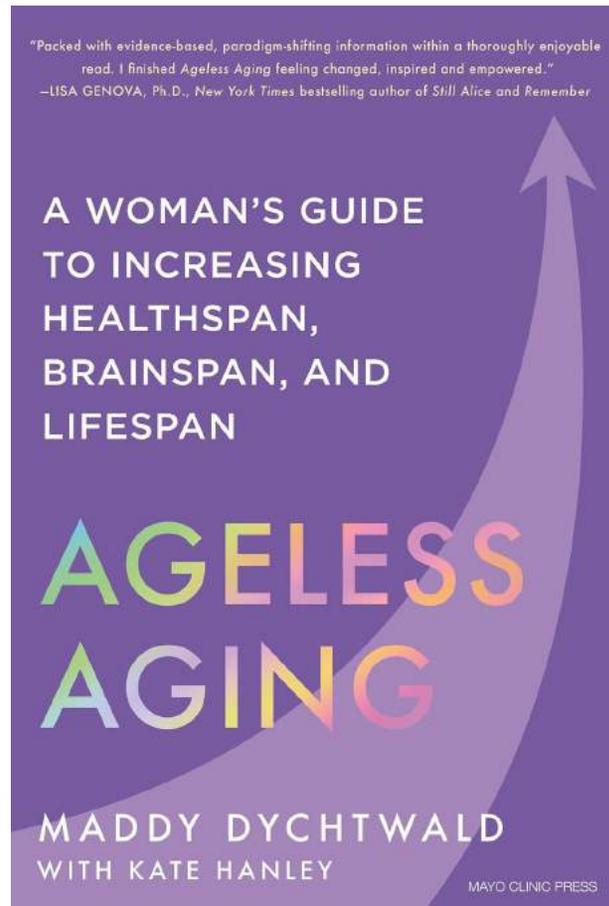
- \* Women can expect to live five years longer than men.
- \* A 50-year-old woman can expect to live another 35 years, on average.
- \* Women comprise 80% of centenarians, now the fastest growing segment of the world's population.

But despite these incredible statistics showing how women are living longer, women are not living well. Women typically spend the last 14 years of their lives in a cascade of poor health. And while current research suggests that some 70 to 90% of your health and longevity is under your control, rather than at the mercy of the genes you were born with, the reality is that most women are not taking advantage of the measures that could lead to a longer and better life.

*Ageless Aging* presents a pioneering new way for women to age—an ascent that includes feeling youthful and vital while gaining wisdom, resilience, and experience. It provides a holistic plan that helps women take advantage of the scientific, medical, psychological, and spiritual tools available to them as they grow older. Women are at the forefront of the longevity revolution and they need a trusted resource to help them thrive in old age. With her finger on the pulse of all the research, science, and information about longevity, aging, and the specific issues women face, Maddy Dychtwald is the perfect guide. She understands that *Ageless Aging* is a process, that the various pieces of the puzzle work synergistically, and with this book she shows you how to take control of what you can control to create your best future self.

**Maddy Dychtwald** is an internationally acclaimed author, public speaker, and thought leader on longevity, aging, the new retirement, and the ascent of women. She co-founded Age Wave, the world's leader in understanding and addressing the far-reaching impacts of our aging population.

**ACM Agent:** Jane von Mehren



“The tips, tools and techniques featured are practical gems of enlightenment.” —**Pam Peeke MD, NYT best-selling author *Body for Life for Women***

“A thorough, clear, and actionable guide.” —**Jean Chatzky, CEO of HerMoney.com**

“An essential roadmap to help women live better longer with energy, vitality, brain health, and a deep sense of purpose.” —**Marc Freedman, *How to Live Forever***

“Expertly researched, easy to understand, and chock-full of practical advice” —**Sonia Arrison**

“Maddy Dychtwald brings together best-of-the-best expert advice, breakthrough research, and practical action steps to help women take control of their future.” — **Peter H. Diamandis, MD, *New York Times* bestselling author of *Abundance***

“Broadens the longevity conversation by covering all the essential pieces of the aging journey—including how to navigate ageism, rewrite our own attitudes about getting older, find purpose, foster connection, and manage our finances throughout a longer lifespan.” —**Dr. Kara Fitzgerald, author of bestselling *Younger You***

“*Ageless Aging* shares today's most current thinking and best practices in longevity science to help women take control of their own aging and live their best lives for years to come.” —**Robert Goldman, MD**

“A must-read tutorial for anyone interested in maximizing their health, wellness and joy as well as their longevity as they mature.” —**Mary Furlong, Founder/CEO, Mary Furlong & Associates; Producer of *What's Next Longevity Summit* AEVITAS 99**

# THE ART AND SCIENCE OF CONNECTION

## Why Social Health Is the Missing Key to Living Longer, Healthier, and Happier

By Kasley Killam, MPH

NA

June 2024 / HarperOne (HarperCollins) / US Editor: Anna Paustenbach

Edited MS Available

### Rights Sold:

Romania (Lifestyle Publishing) UK/Comm (Piatkus / LittleBrown)

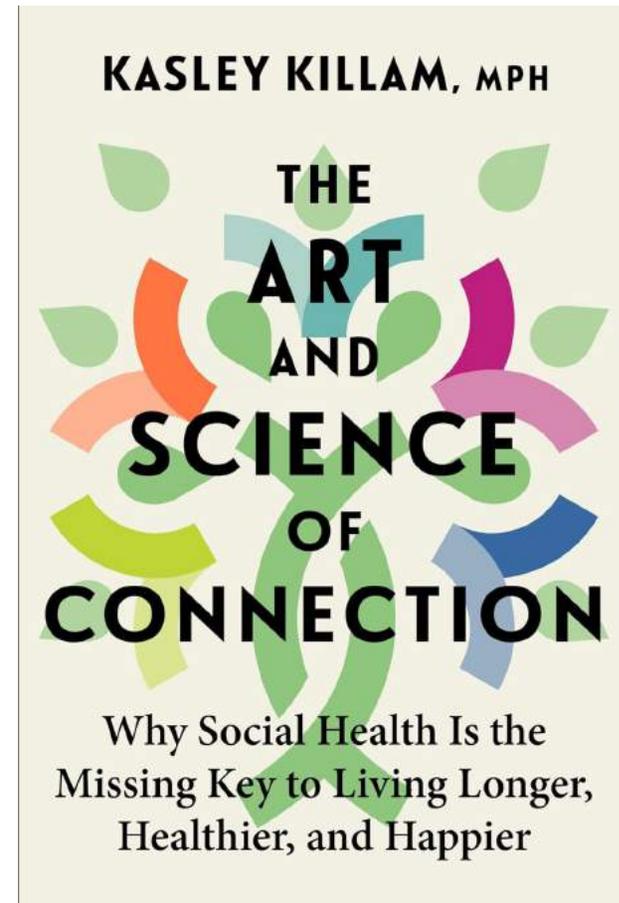
A groundbreaking redefinition of what it means to be healthy that introduces the need for social health—the part of wellbeing that comes from feeling connected—to truly flourish.

Most wellness advice is focused on achieving and maintaining good physical and mental health. But Harvard-trained social scientist and pioneering social health expert Kasley Killam reveals that this approach is missing a vital component: human connection. Relationships not only make us happier, but also are critical to our overall health and longevity. Research shows that people with a strong sense of belonging are 2.6 times more likely to report good or excellent health. Perhaps even more astonishingly, people who lack social support are up to 53% more likely to die from any cause. Yet social health has been overlooked—until now.

Weaving together cutting-edge science, mindset shifts, and practical wisdom, Killam offers the first methodology for how to be socially healthy. An antidote to the loneliness epidemic and an inspiring manifesto for seeing wellbeing as not only physical and mental, but also social, *The Art and Science of Connection* is a handbook for thriving. It will transform the way you think about each interaction with a friend, family member, coworker, or neighbor, and give you the tools you need to live a more connected and healthy life—whether you are an introvert or extrovert, if you feel stretched thin, and no matter your age or background. Along the way, Killam will reveal how a university student, a newlywed, a working professional, and a retired widow overcame challenges to thrive through connection—and how you can, too.

**Kasley Killam, MPH**, is a pioneering expert in social health and the Founder and Executive Director of Social Health Labs. A social scientist by training, she oversaw a national community engagement strategy and partnerships for Verily, the health tech sister-company to Google, and conducted research on mental health at Queen's University and positive psychology at the University of Pennsylvania.

ACM Agent: Esmond Harmsworth



“Social connections are the key to sustainable flourishing in an uncertain and changing world. Killam not only accurately diagnoses our human need for connection, but also offers concrete solutions for creating better conditions for global social health so that we can flourish together.” — **Robert Emmons, Editor-in-Chief of *The Journal of Positive Psychology*, author of *Thanks!***

“Killam will change the way you think about health, relationships, and what success really means.” — **Dorie Clark, *Wall Street Journal* bestselling author of *The Long Game* and executive education faculty, Columbia Business School**

“Kasley Killam has had a lifelong passion for helping people build social connection and in *The Art and Science of Connection*, she turns her research and wisdom into a manual to help you find your people!” — **Emma Seppälä, Yale faculty, best-selling author of *The Happiness Track* and *Sovereign***

# FREE TO BE

## Understanding Kids & Gender Identity

By Dr. Jack Turban

NA

June 2024 / Atria (S&S) / US Editor: Stephanie Hitchcock

Edited MS Availble

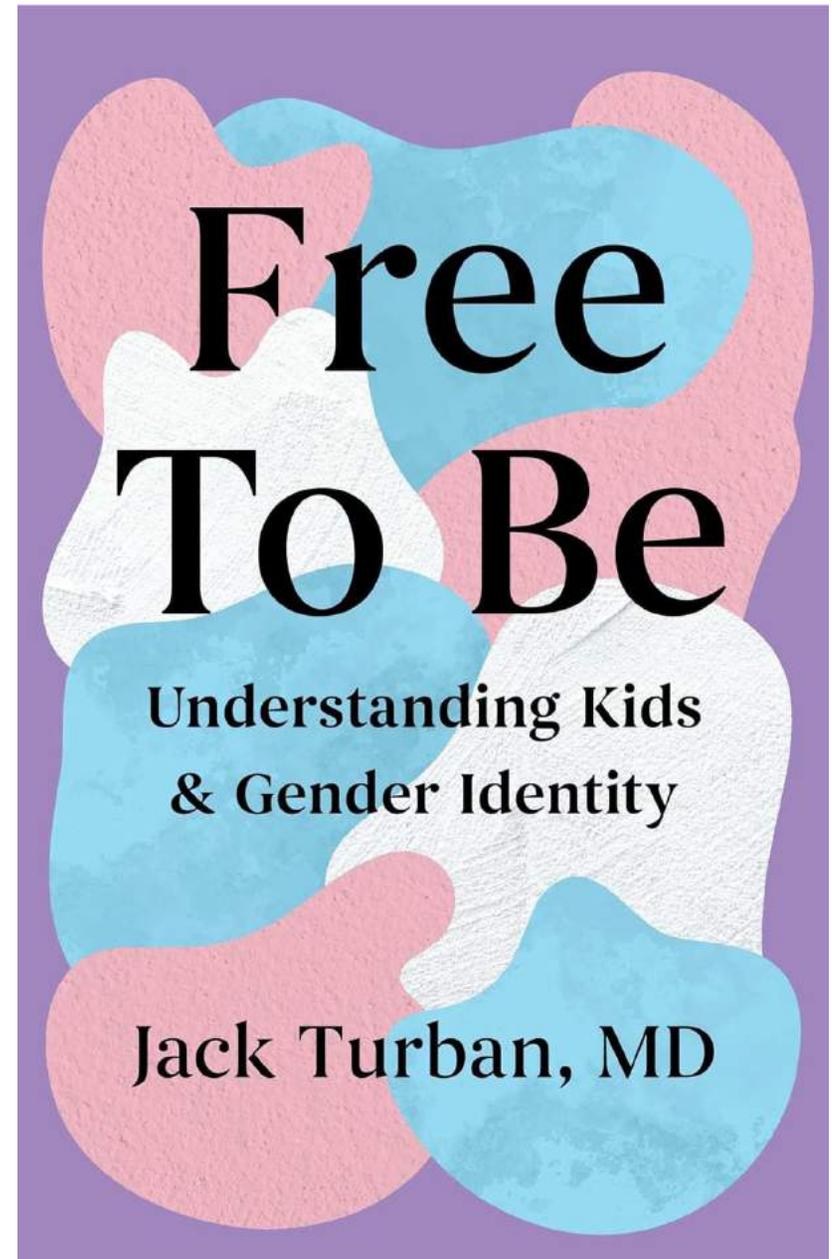
An authoritative guide to understanding and navigating gender identity from an acclaimed expert on the mental health of transgender and gender diverse youth.

Kids today are more gender fluent and expansive than ever before. In America, around two percent of teenagers (over 700,000) openly identify as transgender. As it becomes increasingly common for us to encounter and know transgender kids, as well as kids with more expansive notions of gender than past generations, it is vital that we have the tools we need in order to truly see and support them.

*Free to Be* is an authoritative deep dive by internationally renowned child and adolescent psychiatrist Dr. Jack Turban into the science, medicine, and politics of gender identity. You will be immersed in the lives of three trans and gender diverse youth—Meredith, Kyle, and Sam—as they navigate their gender identities, make decisions around gender-affirming medical and psychological care, and confront an overwhelming political and social terrain.

By combining the latest scientific research, stories of transgender children, and the intricacies of today's political gender wars, *Free to Be* gives you the tools to help the kids in your life navigate the complexity of gender identity, while also coming to better understand what the nuances of gender mean to yourself and society at large.

**Jack Turban, MD** is a Harvard, Yale, and Stanford-trained child and adolescent psychiatrist and director of the Gender Psychiatry Program at The University of California, San Francisco (UCSF). He is an internationally recognized researcher and clinician, whose expertise and research on the mental health of transgender youth has been cited in legislative debates and in major federal court cases regarding the civil rights of transgender people in the United States. He is also a frequent contributor to *The New York Times*, *The Washington Post*, *Scientific American*, and more. He has appeared on numerous programs, including *The Daily Show with Trevor Noah* and *PBS NewsHour*.



# RENEGADE GRIEF

## An Invitation

By Carla Fernandez

NA

January 2025 / Simon & Schuster / US Editor: Maria Mendez

Proposal Available — Edited MS Summer 2024

When Carla Fernandez lost her father to brain cancer, she was 21 years old and just starting her life as an adult. Her friends wanted to help, but they didn't know what to say. The support groups she found lacked the soulful conversations she needed to have. And the existing literature, like so much else in the culture, was focused on moving on, getting over loss rather than grieving—and living—fully. For Carla, this lack was a catalyst, inspiring her to co-found The Dinner Party, which became the nation's largest peer support organization for young adults living with loss.

In this book, Carla invites readers to join her in what she calls *Renegade Grief*—a transformative experience that not only allows us to find what we need to move forward, but also teaches us how we can transform grief into a powerful tool for creativity, connection, and a whole-hearted life. For inspiration and guidance, Carla turns to a variety of rituals—some rooted in ancestral practices, others newly imagined—ranging from altar building and taking the time for radical rest to joining the fight for a cause and finding new ways to mark anniversaries, birthdays, and holidays.

In beautiful and poignant prose, *Renegade Grief* tells Carla's personal story and the stories of her fellow Dinner Party members, marrying these narratives with a compassionate and wide-ranging look at grief and healing rituals—offering readers comfort, companionship, and inspiration to guide them on their own journeys through loss. While conventional modes of grieving often fall short, *Renegade Grief* offers an alternative, inviting us all to both grieve—and live—fully.

**Carla Fernandez** is a community builder and experience designer helping healing ideas enter culture. Through her work co-founding The Dinner Party, Carla is transforming the isolation felt through grief and loss into a source of connection, friendship and forward motion for thousands of 20-40 somethings across the US. Her work has been featured in *New York Times*, *Good Morning America*, *O Magazine*, and as a case study in over a dozen books. She is an NYU Reynolds Scholar in Social Entrepreneurship, an Annenberg Innovation Lab Senior Fellow and was named one of the most interesting Angelenos by *LA Weekly*.

ACM Agent: Maggie Cooper & Jane von Mehren

# SUPER LEARNERS

## What Kids Need to Succeed in School, Work, and Life

By Jenny Anderson and Rebecca Winthrop

NA

January 2025 / Crown (PRH) / US Editor: Leah Trouwborst

Proposal Available — Edited MS Spring 2024

### Rights Sold:

Korean (Book21)

Simplified Chinese (CTPH)

A research-based parenting book for maximizing learning and engagement for adolescents who struggle to stay interested in the modern educational landscape.

Drawing on the latest from education, psychology, neuroscience, sociology, and behavioral economics, *Super Learners* will offer readers everywhere a robust new paradigm for empowering students to embrace learning, succeed at school, and be happy. It promises readers intuitive, actionable advice and an innovative multi-disciplinary approach to help meet every child's needs. It will be based upon four pillars which Jenny and Rebecca have built based on insights from the world's best teachers, decades of research and actual evidence of how to unleash learning. In an age when so many schools still cling to outdated approaches and leave many children feeling left out, unmotivated and/or completely lost, *Super Learners* will be the vital "at last someone can explain this to us" book that parents, educators, and young adults everywhere will run to read, buy, and recommend to others.

*Super Learners* will reveal a roiling crisis of student disengagement even as it articulates a powerful multi-pronged approach to redress it. Students today face countless distractions and profound social distress. Based on prodigious reporting and scientific inquiry, *Super Learners* will help students become critical thinkers ready to address 21st century issues. It will herald the importance of teaching students about meta-cognition, or so-called "learning how you learn." It will champion hands-on project-based learning and "productive failure" rather than rote, memorization-based, spoon-fed lessons. And it will show why helping students learn how to socialize is also a critical building block for lifelong learning and success.

**Jenny Anderson** spent more than a decade of her award-winning career reporting for *The New York Times*, before leaving to build a digital community at *Quartz*.

**Rebecca Winthrop** is a global thought leader whose blog posts regularly reach as many as 100,000 readers, and she frequently appears on television and radio, including CNN, ABC, BBC, NPR, and Economist Radio.

ACM Agent: Todd Shuster

AEVITAS 102

# HOW TO BE ENOUGH

The Definitive Guide to Self-Acceptance for Self-Critics, Perfectionists and Overthinkers

By Ellen Hendriksen

NA

February 2025 / St. Martin's Press (Macmillan) / US Editor: Anna deVries

Proposal Available — Edited MS Summer 2024

## Rights Sold:

Italian (HarperCollins Italy)	Russian (Azbooka-Atticus)
Korean (Across Publishing)	Simplified Chinese (Huazhang)
Polish (MT Biznes)	Spanish (Diana / Planeta)
Romanian (Editura Trei)	UK/Comm (Lagom/Bonnier)

Featuring Ellen's highly accessible, upbeat, empathetic prose, *How To Be Enough* is poised to become the go-to, no-nonsense, best-selling guide to making perfectionism work for rather than against the millions of people worldwide struggling with the condition and its debilitating sequelae.

Perfectionism affects so many of us, eroding our feelings of confidence and self-worth, sapping our energy, and robbing us of joy. If left unaddressed, it can wreak havoc in the lives of children and adults alike. Over the last three decades, the number of young people who feel unable to meet the too-high expectations they believe others have for them has risen by some 32%.

In *How To Be Enough*, Ellen will share the insights of her prodigious clinical research into the subject as well as what she has learned in her own experience living life as a perfectionist. To break perfectionism's iron grasp, Ellen will herald seven critical science-backed shifts readers can and must make: for instance, from (self) criticism to kindness, from control to authenticity, from procrastination to productivity. As readers come to understand and enact these essential changes in mindset and behavior, they will begin to unlearn the unhappy self-sabotaging habits that have long held them back. *How To Be Enough* will reveal how, once you're able to forego harsh self-criticism, perfectionism can actually evolve into conscientiousness. Conscientiousness, Ellen will show, is an amazing core attribute that can help forge a long and happy life, even as it preserves the kind of top-of-your-game work that makes so many perfectionists standouts at most everything they do.

**Ellen Hendriksen** is a clinical psychologist and anxiety specialist at Boston University's Center for Anxiety and Related Disorders.

ACM Agent: Todd Shuster

# THE POWER OF PARTING

The Tyranny of Family Abuse—And How to Overcome It

By Eamon Dolan

NA

Spring 2025 / Putnam (PRH) / US Editor: Michelle Howry

Proposal Available — Edited MS Fall 2024

## Rights Sold:

Brazilian Portuguese (Planeta)	Korean (Munhakdongne)
German (Goldmann)	Simplified Chinese (Huazhang)
Italian (Rizzoli / Mondadori)	UK/Comm (Bluebird/Macmillan)

A transformative resource for millions who have survived child abuse—as well as a much-needed clarion call for all readers. Few of us realize the devastating frequency of family abuse, and Eamon will shine a bright light on this epidemic and share an effective, empowering approach to escaping abuse and reclaiming your life: estranging yourself from your toxic relative.

By staying silent, we allow families to decide whether their children find safety or suffering. With *The Power of Parting*, Eamon will argue that the time has come for all of us to do everything we can to rescue abused children from their tormenters and encourage adult survivors to estrange from them. As a survivor himself, Eamon brings fierce moral force and authority to this subject. After decades of enduring his mother's physical and psychological abuse, Eamon took a radical step: he cut his mother out of his life, and almost immediately, he felt relief. In fact, he felt joy. At last, he could begin to unlearn her corrosive messages, move past his trauma, and discover freedom and hope he'd never known before. The author's journey, along with testimony from other survivors—some of whom he has already interviewed—will form the emotional heart of *The Power of Parting*.

Eamon will walk readers through all the steps on the path to successful estrangement: how to take crucial time for yourself; how to make sure no one can gaslight you into minimizing; how to set rules for your abuser and—if they can't or won't respect your rules—how to end a toxic, one-sided relationship once and for all. *The Power of Parting* will make the unflinching case that many abuse survivors will find estrangement to be the only feasible solution when “working things out” with their abuser has proven too difficult, too painful, or simply impossible.

**Eamon Dolan** is VP and Executive Editor at S&S, and has worked on countless award-winning and bestselling titles over his nearly 30-year career.

ACM Agent: Todd Shuster

AEVITAS 103

## ALL THE FEELS

How Technology is Changing Our Emotional Lives for the Better

By Pamela Pavliscak

NA

Spring 2025 / Algonquin / US Editor: Maddie Jones

Proposal Available — Edited MS Fall 2024

### Rights Sold:

UK/Comm (Elliott & Thompson)

In this accessible and insightful work, Pavliscak will show readers how to harness the power of technology to live emotionally rich lives both online and off. *All The Feels* will open readers' eyes to the ways in which their emotional lives are inextricably entwined with their digital lives—and why embracing that nexus will embolden a happier, more connected future of feelings.

From “three dot anxiety” to Zoom fatigue, Pavliscak will validate readers' current emotional landscapes while also predicting how the next wave of tech will further rewire the way we express ourselves and understand others. But it's not just us humans who are feeling the feels—computers are now able to read and express sentiments, too. Pavliscak will preview the threats that “Big Emotion” presents to our health and autonomy while also introducing readers to the charismatic people and organizations working to ensure that we don't spiral into discord and disconnection. Equal parts emotion history and emerging technology, *All the Feels* will open readers' eyes to the ways in which their emotional lives are inextricably entwined with their digital lives—and why embracing that nexus will embolden a happier, more connected future of feelings. The book will be a desperately needed existential toolkit for readers' emotional lives in the digital age. It will be structured via the ways that technology is influencing our emotions, such as how it will Atomize, Amplify, Attune, Augment, Animate, and Awaken our senses.

As one of the few experts working at the intersection of technology and emotion, **Pamela Pavliscak** has more than 15 years of experience in the psychology of technology and design and has consulted with such prominent corporations as Google, IKEA, NBC Universal, Discovery Channel, Virgin Atlantic, Citi, and Instagram. She has been featured in such outlets as NPR, *The LA Times*, *Slate*, and *Engadget*, written for such publications as *Quartz* and *Mashable*, and has been a keynote speaker at high-profile events all over the world, including TEDx and SXSW.

ACM Agent: Justin Brouckaert

## THE FUTURE OF EDUCATION

Mastery-Based Education in Schools and the Workplace

By Tony Wagner and Ulrik Christensen

WE

Spring 2025 / Basic Books (Hachette) / US Editor: Lara Heimert

Proposal Available — Edited MS Fall 2024

### Rights Sold:

Simplified Chinese (China Youth)

It won't surprise you to learn, after over a year of “Zoom school”, that Tony and Ulrik argue that the education system is broken. They believe that having students hear and read material so that they, hopefully, memorize it, and then asking them to prove it by taking multiple-choice tests and exams, is bad way to educate people. But, in their book, *Mastery*, they argue that the system also fails to address inequity—they believe it perpetuates it—and they promote a new way of teaching that could change everything for the better.

One of the key advantages of mastery-based education is that students do not advance, individually, until they have passed milestones, and, therefore, it can be tailored to each student's ability and learning speed, allowing all to learn effectively. The nature of a mastery-based system is that teachers give more individualized feedback than they do in the traditional one—but as there are far fewer hours spent on group teaching, it can be less burdensome on teachers' time.

As Tony and Ulrik show in the proposal, mastery involves more collaborative work and creativity than traditional education, and it is much more immersive and engaging than classroom work. In fact, it is much more like real world work, a more solid preparation for the workplace than traditional education. In the schools where it has been implemented – which range from high schools to some medical schools – the change is almost always permanent. The change is also beneficial to students at the top, and at the bottom, of their class, as mastery is not about bell curve grading and averages, but instead, about learning to master actual skills, and students continue to get attention and help until they have mastered them.

**Tony Wagner** is one of the best-known education experts writing today. He is the author of several books, including most recently, *Learning By Heart*.

**Ulrik Christensen**, a learning entrepreneur who has worked in Danish education, and who serves on the board of McGraw-Hill, is Executive Chairman and founding partner of Area 9 Group.

ACM Agent: Esmond Harmsworth

AEVITAS 104

## THE BIG WE

Unlocking Generosity, Strengthening Community, and Making Change

By Hali Lee

NA

Spring 2025 / Zando / US Editor: Sarah Ried

Proposal Available — Edited MS Fall 2024

An inspiring and practical book centered on the radically simple idea that when we work together, we have the power to make the world a better place.

Hali Lee is a longtime leader of the giving circle movement, with a mission to empower ordinary people to make change through collective action. In *The Big We*, Hali will make her case for sharing of the 5 T's—time, treasure, talent, testimony, and ties—in order to address pressing needs in our own communities. Drawing on her experience with giving circles, a form of grassroots fundraising that builds from traditions of generosity rooted in many of our ancestral cultures, Hali will show us how working together can help us overcome our sense of overwhelm at the many problems we face—illustrating how, when we pool our resources, our small efforts can become something bigger. Hali aims to prove that, while the traditional philanthropic establishment often overlooks women and people of color, all of us can be a part of change-making, whether we're contributing \$6 a week, \$60,000 a year, or 60 minutes of our time to a worthy cause. Whether our efforts are large or small, formal or informal, engaging in collective change-making allows us to connect with shared values and community to make an impact. *The Big We* will be full of practical guidance and inspiring stories from real people—including Hali's own Asian Women Giving Circle, which has given away \$1.5M since 2005.

A highly accessible, solutions-oriented companion to Edgar Villanueva's *Decolonizing Wealth* and Anand Giridharadas' *Winners Take All* by a too-rare female voice in the field, *The Big We* will appeal to readers of Priya Parker's *The Art of Gathering* and Melinda Gates' *The Moment of Lift*,—anyone seeking a path to a meaning, kindness, and justice through community building, philanthropy, and civic engagement.

**Hali Lee** was named to *Forbes'* 50 Over 50: Impact. She leads a boutique consulting practice, Radiant Strategies, whose clients include Fidelity Charitable, the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, and the W.K. Kellogg Foundation. Her work has been covered by *The Washington Post*, *New York Times*, and *Good Housekeeping*, who called her “The Mindful Giver” and one of “10 Women Over 50 Who Prove It's Never Too Late to Change the World.”

ACM Agent: Maggie Cooper

## BEAUTY AND BEAST

Weightlifting and the Fulfillment of Female Strength

By Anne Marie Chaker

NA

Spring 2025 / Avery (PRH) / US Editor: Lucia Watson

Proposal Available — Edited MS Fall 2024

As 45 years old and as the single mother of two young daughters, Anne Marie Chaker became a muscle-bound bikini competitor.

For too long, Anne Marie had chased the “skinny ideal”—the thin figure that women are trained from girlhood to idolize. Anne Marie was not alone in her years-long vicious diet cycle. As many as 15% of women will develop an eating disorder at some point in their lives—and more than a quarter of people with eating disorders will attempt suicide. What we have on our hands is nothing short of a devastating public health crisis.

Anne Marie's *Beauty and Beast* will tell the real story of women's bodies, explaining how diet culture and the “skinny ideal” have woefully misled women and revealing how working out to strengthen their hearts, bodies, and minds can tremendously enhance the quality—and the length—of their lives. Blending rich personal anecdotes, affecting stories from other female bodybuilders, sharp investigative reporting, and vital highlights from the most important recent scientific and medical research, this book will offer women a new paradigm, one that centers on resistance and weight-based workouts and proper, balanced nutrition, one that encourages them to aim for a powerful physique and will deliver bountiful new energy, happiness, and self-confidence.

Across three sections—“Strive Toward Strong,” “Embrace Your Power,” and “Maintain Strength and Self Care”—Anne Marie will chronicle the profound changes that took place when she and other women committed to strength-building journeys and made weightlifting a central part of their lives. *Beauty and Beast* will inspire women everywhere to take back control of their bodies and dedicate themselves to the notion of female strength. It will also stoke them to pass on these important lessons to the next generation of young girls so that they will never again have to succumb to the toxic culture of thin and so that they will be able to untap their inherent physical and psychic strength across their lives.

**Anne Marie Chaker** is a veteran features writer for *The Wall Street Journal*.

ACM Agent: Todd Shuster

AEVITAS 105

# A PSYCHOLOGICALLY RICH LIFE

## A Nonfiction Book Proposal

By Shigehiro Oishi

NA

Spring 2025 / Doubleday (PRH) / US Editor: Kris Puopolo

Proposal Available — Edited MS Fall 2024

### Rights Sold:

Arabic (Jarir Bookstore)

Korean (Wisdom House)

Romanian (Editura Trei)

Russian (Mann, Ivanov and Ferber)

Simplified Chinese (CITIC)

UK/Comm (Torva/Transworld)

*A Psychologically Rich Life* is a deeply personal yet, at the same time, scientifically rigorous and objective. This book will speak on a very deep level to the percentage of people (estimated at 15%) who will find the greatest life satisfaction by embracing adventure and variety, even though sadness and difficulty can come with such unexplored territory.

Shige is the originator of the hypothesis that psychological richness should join happiness and meaning as a goal for the “good life”. As you will see, however, Shige’s research has identified some clear weaknesses, both for individuals and for society as a whole, within the concept of “the happy life” and “the meaningful life”. It’s not just true that these concepts do not suit everyone; it is also true that everyone, no matter their idea of a good life, could use a little more psychological richness. Shige’s work shows how playfulness, creativity and mutual understanding both enhance and result from the psychologically rich life. As such, *A Psychologically Rich Life* will be, for seekers, for questioners, for anyone looking for a better life, including the hundreds of thousands of readers who have embraced classic books like *Stumbling On Happiness* and *The Happiness Hypothesis*.

Shige Oishi has worked closely with or knows very well virtually every well-known psychologist who has recently written a bestselling book. Among those we expect to blurb this book are: Martin Seligman; Daniel Gilbert; Sonja Lyubomirsky; Jonathan Haidt; Barbara Frederickson; Katherine Kinzler; Mahzarin Banaji; Barry Schwartz, Ayelet Fishbach; Angela Duckworth; Susan Fiske; Daniel Kahneman; Carol Dweck; and, Dacher Keltner.

**Shige Oishi** is the Marshall Field IV Professor of Psychology at the University of Chicago. He is a personality and social psychologist interested in well-being, culture, and social ecology,

ACM Agent: Esmond Harmsworth

# TRUTH MEDICINE

## Healing and Living Authentically through Psychedelic-Assisted Psychotherapy

By Dr. Michael Sapiro

NA

Spring 2025 / May Clinic Press / US Editor: Daniela Rapp

Proposal Available — Edited MS Fall 2024

### Rights Sold:

Dutch (Samsara)

How exactly does psychedelic-assisted therapy work and what goes on during a session? With *Truth Medicine: Healing and Living Authentically Through Psychedelic-Assisted Psychotherapy*, Dr. Michael Sapiro will answer that question.

The book’s core message is that the psychedelic medicine acts as a truth serum, (encouraging neuroplasticity versus stuck patterns) and truth helps resolve traumas, leading to transformation. Discovering, exposing, speaking, and ultimately living one’s truth has been the missing component in traditional psychotherapy as the ego and its defenses are often so strong that people continue to perpetuate, protect, and project the lies they have been told about themselves, keeping them from healing.

Dr. Mike Sapiro details the psychedelic therapy philosophy, protocol, and practice that he uses with patients suffering from PTSD and trauma (including Navy Seals and First Responders), anxiety, depression, agoraphobia, OCD, difficult personality traits, and other difficult mental health conditions, as well as those suffering from chronic pain and those near end of life. Part Two of the book describes the protocol Dr. Sapiro uses from start to finish so the readers have a sense of the flow of engaging in psychedelic therapy, from the prep sessions all the way to the final integration sessions.

As this field is in its infancy, Dr. Sapiro is compelled to write this book because there are only a few books giving a general overview of psychedelic assisted therapy, and there is need for a deeper understanding of this innovative type of therapy, and how it can help the reader, as its use increases exponentially.

**Michael Sapiro, PsyD**, is a clinical psychologist, psychedelic-assisted therapist, writer, meditation teacher and researcher. He is also a transformational coach for world-class musicians, athletes, former special operations veterans, scientists and CEOs. Over the last two decades he has served and reached thousands of people in a variety of settings: therapy, workshops, retreats, keynotes, podcasts and more.

ACM Agent: Karen Murgolo

AEVITAS 106

## BODY-FIRST HEALING

Get Unstuck and Recover from Trauma through Somatic Experiencing

By Brittany Piper

NA

Spring 2025 / Tarcher-Perigee (PRH) / US Editor: Caroline Sutton  
Proposal Available — Edited MS Fall 2024

Rights Sold:

Dutch (Gottmer)

German (Mosaik/Goldmann)

Romanian (Bookzone)

Turkish (Diyojen)

UK/Comm (Ebury/PRH UK)

In *Body-First Healing*, Brittany Piper will introduce the reader to Somatic Experiencing, a pioneering body-based trauma therapy that heals the damage done to your nervous system.

Brittany is unusual in the trauma and anxiety space as she is a survivor of trauma that nearly put her in jail. The trauma resulted from her beloved brother's death when he was a teenager, and then two years later, a brutal rape and subsequent trial. When she was arrested for driving under the influence, Brittany had an understanding judge who knew her from her rape trial, and told her, "We're going to drop the charges, but..." she paused, "but, you need to learn to *live with your pain better*." That roadmap became *Body-First Healing*.

Brittany will provide a proven roadmap to recovery that in the past five years has compassionately guided her clients globally in removing the defensive walls that were keeping them stuck—allowing them to recreate a life deeply centered around safety, connection, and joy. *Body-First Healing* isn't just for those suffering from the aftermath of severe trauma. It will help anyone with Anger, Anxiety, Boundary Issues, Burnout, Depression, Unhealthy Family Dynamic, Toxic Relationships, or an overall sense of Stuck-ness. Once learned, the simple somatic practices in this book can be done by the reader, without having to rely on years of costly assistance by a medical professional. They get to harness their innate tools from within, so that they can self-heal in the ways their body was built to. These are small and convenient practices, easily woven into everyday life, that can give anyone profound relief in just a few minutes. And, over time, the cumulative effect will create greater resilience in the nervous system's natural ability to move through stress.

**Brittany Piper** has made body-first healing and Somatic Experiencing her life's mission. Her work has been recognized by The United States Army, the Laura Bush Institute of Women's Health, Cosmopolitan, Elite Daily and more.

ACM Agent: Karen Murgolo

## GOOD & READY

Modern Puberty, Mental Health and the Transition from Middle Childhood to the Teen Years

By Dr. Sheryl Gonzalez Ziegler

NA

Spring 2025 / Harvest/William Morrow / US Editor: Sarah Pelz  
Proposal Available — Edited MS Fall 2024

A nonfiction proposal positioned to reframe the conversation around the unprecedented youth mental health crisis and the ever-younger children being affected by it.

*Good and Ready* will be the first comprehensive, scientifically-driven, and shame-free guide for all parents of the 24 million children entering or already going through puberty in today's world. The book will open with two chapters detailing, via the best-available research and data, what modern puberty looks like now and why, what parents can and cannot reasonably do about the global earlier puberty trend, and why we all need to make a paradigm shift around our understanding of puberty. We need to accept that puberty is happening earlier, recognize the attendant challenges and opportunities, get ready for them and act. The second section of Dr. Ziegler's book will teach parents and caregivers exactly how to do that, addressing the factors that kids are facing earlier than ever before, such as physical changes, moodiness, body image, substances, gender and sexual identity questions, friendship changes, social media, pornography, race and class differences in puberty, sleep disturbances, and anxiety and depression, and more.

Using case studies from her practice and drawing upon decades of data and the newest research, Dr. Ziegler will offer *age-appropriate* interventions that parents and caregivers can use at home, school, or on the playing field and reap both immediate benefits (kids learn how to feel good about themselves, even on bad days) and future rewards (kids become more ready for adolescence). Finally, Dr. Ziegler will show parents how to recognize the specific signs of a child in need of professional help. She will also offer a comprehensive list of things parents and caregivers can do to safely help a child in the interim if, like so many, they find themselves on a waiting list for a mental health provider.

**Dr. Sheryl Gonzalez Ziegler, Psy.D.** is an acclaimed expert on children's mental health. A first-generation Latina with Puerto Rican and Cuban roots, Dr. Ziegler completed her advanced doctoral training at The Astor Home for Children in Rhinebeck, NY, where she was supported by The Bill and Melinda Gates Scholarship Foundation. She has contributed to or been interviewed by *The New York Times*, *Washington Post*, *Harvard Business Review*, *Time*, *Parents*, *Elle*, and more.

ACM Agent: Jen Marshall

AEVITAS 107

# THE CERTAINTY ILLUSION

Break Free from Health Information Chaos

By Timothy Caulfield

CAN

Spring 2025 / Penguin Canada / Editor: Laura Dosky

Full MS Available — Edited MS Fall 2024

*The Certainty Illusion* provides strategies for navigating today's chaotic information environment and for separating fact-based health information from the fictions that can throw us off course and compromise our well-being.

One of the defining characteristics of this era is the near constant bombardment of information about how we are supposed to live our lives. There is noise about how we should eat, exercise, build relationships, and improve ourselves. There is noise about high-tech health interventions (genetic testing, the microbiome, vaccines) and low-tech wellness regimes (sleep, hydration, relaxation). There is a growing body of evidence (much of it very new) that this chaotic information environment is doing substantial harm to our physical and mental health, work life, romantic relationships, and social interactions. It is making it more difficult for us to tease out misinformation from credible, science-informed, advice, often with tragic consequences for individual and public health. And it is further polarizing public debates about what it takes to live a healthy lifestyle. Indeed, how best to negotiate this information ecosystem has become one of the great challenges of our time. But despite this reality, new forms of health noise are constantly emerging and presented to us as essential to our daily lives.

Tim offers a unique blend of engaging and practical advice in his deeply relatable, no-bullshit voice, on a range of topics relevant to overall wellbeing. Informed by new, cutting-edge research, the book will provide usable tools that will allow readers to escape the noise and navigate our frenetic information ecosystem.

**Timothy Caulfield** is a Canadian professor of law at the University of Alberta and the research director of its Health Law Institute. He is the author of several bestselling books, including *Relax, Dammit!* and *The Cure for Everything*. Caulfield is also the host and co-producer of the award-winning documentary TV show, *A User's Guide to Cheating Death*, which has been shown in over 60 countries.

ACM Agent: Chris Bucci

# LEARNING ENVIRONMENT

The Classroom as the Starting Line for Student Empowerment and Community Change

By Dr. Jared Fox, Ph.D.

NA

Spring 2025 / Beacon Press / US Editor: Rachael Marks

Proposal Available — Edited MS Fall 2024

An invigorating look over-the-shoulder of an inspired and inspiring teacher.

In *Learning Environment*, Dr. Fox intends to change what we think is possible in the classroom. Drawing upon his seventeen years working in New York City Public Schools, he will show teachers how to truly empower young people to engage with and improve their local community and natural environment.

Each chapter of *Learning Environment* will recreate a unit of study from his urban high school environmental classroom. Readers will canoe the Bronx River, hike in the Catskill Mountains, peer into the abyss of the New York City sewer system—among other lively, hands-on experiences—with the goal of reimagining what environmental education can and should be. After all, his goal in this book is the same as his goal as an educator, to prepare his readers—whether they are students, teachers, or administrators—to change the world.

With a foreword by Christopher Emdin, *New York Times* bestselling author of *For White Folk Who Teach in the Hood*, Fox's voice will lead a conversation in education, and will offer a practical pedagogy for his fellow teachers. As Emdin writes,

"I've known Jared Fox for close to a decade. In that time, there are few people I know who have the writing ability, education expertise, and thoughtfulness to write a book about the contemporary state of education. Jared is masterful with the pen and equally as masterful in the classroom. I have the ultimate confidence that he will produce a manuscript that will change the landscape of education."

**Dr. Jared Fox Ph.D.** was a science department chair, instructional coach, leadership team member, and science teacher at the Washington Heights Expeditionary Learning School (WHEELS) in northern Manhattan. He has been recognized as a Math for America (MfA) Master Teacher, Academy for Teachers Fellow, the 2019 Sloan Award winner for Excellence in Teaching Science and Mathematics, the 2020 Time Square New Years Eve Waterford Crystal Ball honoree, and a 2022 WE ACT for Environmental Justice Advocate.

ACM Agent: Michael Signorelli

AEVITAS 108

# THE SURPRISING FAT THAT CAN SAVE YOUR LIFE

By Stephanie Venn-Watson

WE

Spring 2025 / Simon Element (S&S) / US Editor: Leah Miller

Proposal Available — Edited MS Fall 2024

How Fixing Nutritional C15:0 Deficiencies Reverses Aging (and Helps Fight Nonalcoholic Fatty Liver Disease, Too).

Stephanie Venn-Watson has searched for years for the holy grail of healthy aging and longevity, but the origin story of this hunt may surprise you. Her research began when she worked a veterinary epidemiologist focusing on Navy dolphins—yes, as in dolphins who work with the U.S. Navy. These dolphins apparently age in a remarkably similar way to humans—they develop chronic aging-associated diseases, including chronic inflammation, high cholesterol, arthritis, and even Alzheimer's disease—and Stephanie's research led to her discovery of the revolutionary molecule C15:0, which has the potential to extend both healthspan and lifespan in long-lived mammals.

Extensive cell-based studies, animal studies, and large human population studies led by her team and many independent researchers at Harvard University, Johns Hopkins University, University of Cambridge, and other prestigious institutions, have shown that C15:0 meets the four must-haves of a longevity molecule. Dr. Venn-Watson is breaking new ground in longevity science, and her book will encourage readers to eat a certain way to get more C15:0 into their bodies and ultimately lead healthier, longer lives.

**Dr. Stephanie Venn-Watson** is a veterinary epidemiologist with over 80 peer-reviewed scientific publications and 70 patents. Upon completing eight key studies over three years, she presented C15:0 as the first essential fatty acid to be found in over 90 years, and she is the world's leading expert on C15:0. Her discovery and movement is a [TEDx talk](#). Her unique One Health approach to discovering novel ways to improve both human and animal health has been featured on NPR's *Science Friday*, *The New York Times*, *Inverse*, *BBC*, *National Geographic* and more. In addition to working for the U.S. Navy, Stephanie has worked for the World Health Organization and Centers for Disease Control and Prevention; a National Research Council Fellow at the Armed Forces Medical Intelligence Center; and a Technical Agent for the Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency.

ACM Agent: Karen Murgolo

# YOU ARE NOT A F\*CK UP

The Adult ADHD Survival Guide

By Cate Osborn and Erik Gude

NA

Summer 2025 / Gallery (S&S) / US Editor: Lauren Spiegel

Proposal Available — Edited MS Spring 2025

Rights Sold:

UK/Comm (Monoray/Octopus)

Receiving an ADHD diagnosis in adulthood can be an emotional rollercoaster. While awareness of ADHD in adults is at an all-time high, meaningful resources have not kept up with the increase in diagnoses. ADHD adults are left to navigate medication, treatment, and education largely on their own. *You Are Not A F\*ck Up* will be a much-needed resource for the roughly 8 million adults living with the condition.

Cate and Erik are ADHD educators and community leaders who have grown a huge and highly engaged platform by sharing information about their disorder with relatable and often hilarious videos. Their debut book will act as a centralized guide to help readers understand not just the most essential, foundational information about ADHD but also issues that rarely get discussed. Drawing from the thousands of questions the authors receive weekly, Cate and Erik will use a Q&A format to cover topics like relationships, sex and intimacy, navigating the healthcare system, and personal and home care. Unlike existing titles on the topic, their compassionate approach is intentionally structured to incorporate ADHD accessibility features - offering bite-sized pieces of knowledge that cater to the unique needs of ADHD readers. *You Are Not A F\*ck Up* will arm readers with the vital skills they need to understand, identify, and respond to symptoms in a way that works for their individual lifestyles. As such, it is likely to enjoy the same wide readership as *How To Keep House While Drowning* by KC Davis and *Why Has Nobody Told Me This Before?* by Dr. Julie Smith.

**Cate Osborn (she/ they) and Erik Gude (he/him)** have a significant platform, with a combined following of over 2 million followers on TikTok. The pair are also the hosts of the popular podcast *Catie and Erik's Infinite Quest: An ADHD Adventure*, where they share their experiences living life with ADHD. They will be joined on this project by collaborative writer Rennie Dyball, who has co-written numerous titles, including *Stronger Together* by Terry Crews and Rebecca King and *Full Circle: From Hollywood to Real Life and Back Again* by Andrea Barber.

ACM Agent: Rick Richter & Caroline Marsiglia

AEVITAS 109

# DEEP LISTENING

## How to Listen When it Matters Most

By Emily Kasriel

NA

Fall 2025 / William Morrow (HarperCollins) / US Editor: Nick Amphlett  
Proposal Available — Edited MS Spring 2025

### Rights Sold:

UK/Comm (Harper Nonfiction)

A guide to better understanding others through transformational listening, outlining an eight-step deep listening process rooted in mindfulness and self-awareness and exploring how truly listening to others can help bridge divides.

In *Deep Listening*, Emily Kasriel explores the barriers that prevent us from respectful, Deep Listening and explains how to overcome them, using an Eight Step process. In the book, Emily will show how Deep Listening goes further than the popular framework of ‘Active Listening,’ encouraging us to check in with ourselves and our own emotions throughout every conversation. Deep Listening, she will argue, is transformational, not transactional: instead of listening to extract information, we listen openly to learn more about the person speaking—and ourselves.

A full-hearted yet practical guide to better understanding the people around us, *Deep Listening* will speak to readers from all walks of life, whether they want to improve their relationships with their partners or parents or are hoping to help bridge political divides in their communities. It will engage both readers of perennial bestsellers on listening—such as *Crucial Conversations*—and those interested in division and conflict resolution, such as readers of Jonathan Haidt’s *The Righteous Mind*. And since the *Deep Listening* approach is rooted in cultivating attention and focus, the book will also appeal to anyone interested in meditation or mindfulness.

**Emily Kasriel** is a London-based expert who has worked for decades for the BBC, while at the same time developing a significant reputation as an authority on Deep Listening. Emily has researched Deep Listening and social entrepreneurship as a Senior Visiting Research Fellow at King’s College London Policy Institute, and has been a Practitioner in Residence at the London School of Economics, and a Visiting Fellow at Said Business School at the University of Oxford. Recently, she developed a season of BBC’s *Crossing Divides*; trained 1,000 individuals in 100 countries for her BBC 100 *Crossing Divides* around the Globe program. She has just been nominated as an Ashoka Fellow for her work on Deep Listening.

ACM Agent: Esmond Harmsworth

# EACH AND EVERY DAY

## Seven Essential Daily Practices to Restore Your Energy, Productivity, and Happiness—and Get Back Your Life

By Andrea Rogers

WE

Fall 2025 / BenBella Books / US Editor: Glenn Yeffeth  
Proposal Available — Edited MS Spring 2025

A transformational new guide to help readers re-vamp their strength and confidence and find inner peace.

Exercise and wellness expert Andrea Rogers has established herself as one of the most trusted leaders in the worlds of self-development and fitness. She advises women on how to get and stay motivated to pursue whatever goals they set for themselves, whether they want to improve their cardiovascular health, eat well—or simply ramp up their motivation, energy, and productivity. *Each and Every Day* will reveal the secret behind Andrea’s own personal and professional success: a no-nonsense regimen of seven simple daily practices.

Modern women are in crisis. As Deloitte reports, “women bore the brunt of the pandemic in 2020 to a greater degree than men.” They faced more pressure at home and at work—and many lost their jobs. Many women know the basic practical steps they need to stay happy and healthy. Yet, too often, they fail to commit to these healthy behaviors in a consistent ongoing way. They join a health club on January 1, paying a steep monthly membership, yet by February they stop going. They do a juice cleanse in February but by March they’re back to eating their kids’ chicken nuggets or scarfing down late-night take-out. *Each and Every Day* calls upon readers to lock in a daily ritual in order to sustain enduring mental and physical health and, in turn, more energy, confidence, and productivity. With *Each and Every Day* Rogers will rely on the same intuitive and proven principles of habit formation that have made titles like *Atomic Habits* by James Clear and *The Power of Habit* by Charles Duhigg into such life-changing mega bestsellers.

An indefatigable self-starter, **Andrea Rogers** was a professional dancer before she decided to launch her own fitness and wellness brand. Arriving in a crowded field with little in the way of financial backing, Rogers built Xtend Barre into one of the most popular workouts worldwide. Her expertise and reach soon expanded to advising her followers on the importance of embracing holistic health to address body, mind and spirit.

ACM Agent: Todd Shuster

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# IMAGINATION

Exploring Your Inner World to Create an Extraordinary Life

By Cassandra Vieten

NA

Fall 2025 / Simon Element (S&S) / US Editor: Leah Miller

Proposal Available — Edited MS Spring 2025

## Rights Sold:

Dutch (Ten Have)

Spanish (Planeta)

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

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

Readers of this book will gain the ability to:

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

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

ACM Agent: Karen Murgolo

# AGE STRONG

The Modern Health Approach for Women Age 35 and Beyond

By Dr. Elizabeth Poynor

WE

Spring 2026 / Simon Element (S&S) / US Editor: Doris Cooper

Proposal Available — Edited MS Fall 2025

## Rights Sold:

Dutch (Fontaine)

Spanish (Imago Mundi / Planeta)

Simplified Chinese (Cheers)

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

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

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

ACM Agent: Laura Nolan

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