

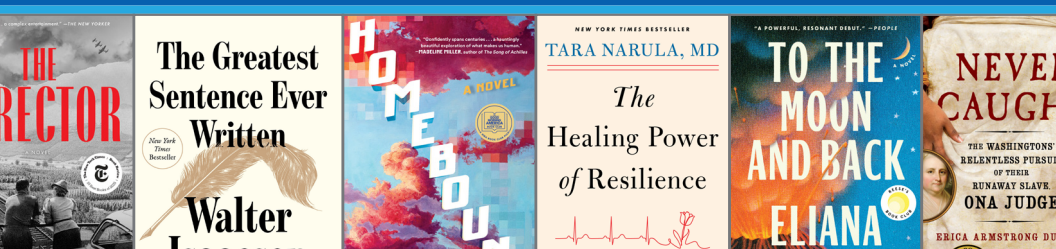


Simon & Schuster

First-Year and Common Reading Catalog

2026–2027

Simon & Schuster





Dear Common Reading Committee Member,

We are delighted to present the 2026–2027 First-Year and Common Reading catalog from Simon & Schuster.

Simon & Schuster publishes a wide variety of fiction and nonfiction titles that align with the core purpose of college and university programs across the country—to support students in transition, promote engaging conversations, explore diverse perspectives, and foster community during the college experience.

Visit FirstYearReading.com for additional titles, author videos, and more information. To request a review copy or for information on bringing an author to your campus, please email us at **Common.Reading@SimonandSchuster.com**.

For a roster of authors represented by the Simon & Schuster Speakers Bureau, visit **SimonSpeakers.com** or contact them at (866) 248-3049 or **Info@SimonSpeakers.com**.

Best,
Andrea Gochnauer
Associate Director of Academic Marketing

ORDERING INFO

Simon & Schuster offers discounts on bulk purchases of books for educational use where the books are given away to students and/or staff. The discount schedule follows below:

QUANTITY	DISCOUNT
20–99 copies	40% off list price
100–999 copies	50% off list price
1,000–2,499 copies	55% off list price
2,500+ copies	Net Price—please inquire

Please note the following terms and conditions of sale:

- A Premium bulk sales account will need to be created (separate from existing campus bookstore accounts).
- All bulk sales of books are nonreturnable and not for individual sale (not to be resold).
- List prices are subject to change. Discount is applied to the current list price at the time of the confirmed order.
- Discounts are based on quantities per order, per ship-to-address.
- State tax will be additional, as applicable.
- Shipping costs will be calculated based on weight and distance at the time the books ship.
- Subject to availability. Please allow additional time for reprints for all orders over 1,000 copies.
- Custom editions are available at 2,500+ copy minimum orders. Please inquire for further details.
- Bulk purchases of eBooks and eAudio for FYE programs are also available. FYE sales can be supported by Glose, Google, and VitalSource. Please email **Common.Reading@SimonandSchuster.com** for further details.

For more information about bulk purchases please contact us at Common.Reading@SimonandSchuster.com.

All prices shown in this catalog are subject to change without notice.

Table of Contents

Featured Titles	**Page 5**
Featured Authors	**Page 8**
Big Ideas	**Page 13**
Fiction	**Page 16**
Health and Mental Wellness	**Page 27**
History	**Page 30**
Memoir and Biography	**Page 34**
Nature and the Environment	**Page 48**
Success in College and Beyond	**Page 51**
Topics of Today	**Page 59**



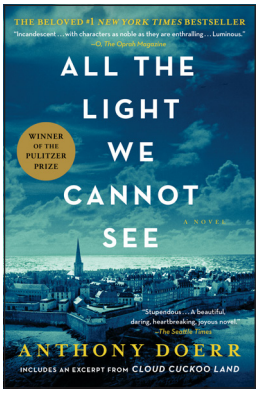
Audiobook Available

Visit **FirstYearReading.com** for additional title suggestions and to request review copies.

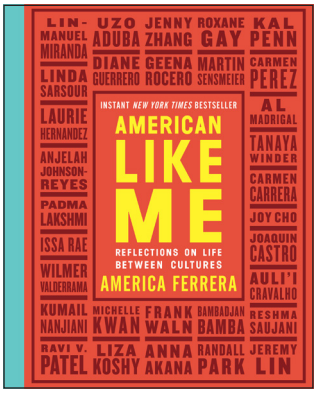


Simon & Schuster
ACADEMIC

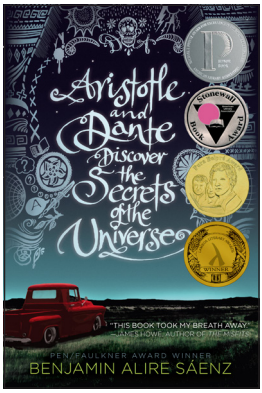
Frequently Selected Books



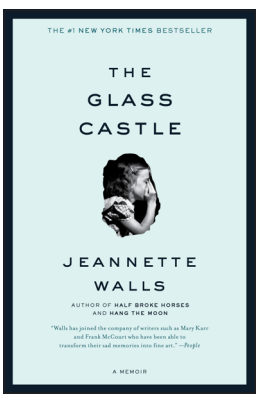
9781501173219
560 pages | $20.00



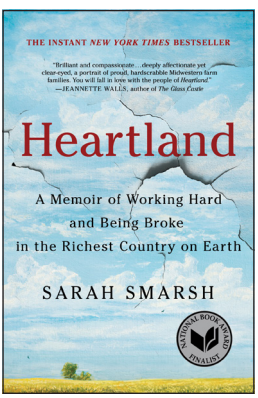
9781501180927
336 pages | $19.99



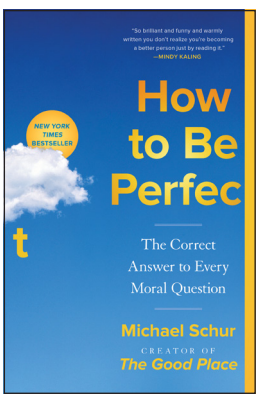
9781442408937
384 pages | $14.99



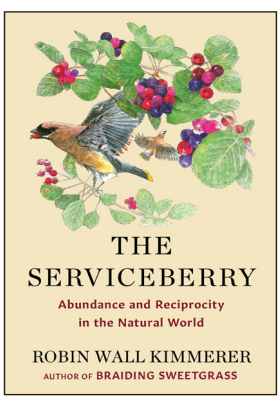
9780743247542
320 pages | $18.99



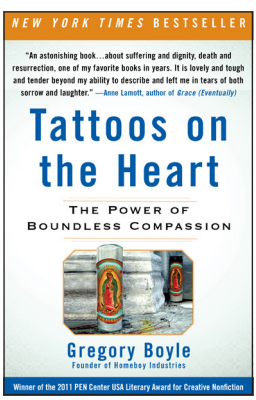
9781501133107
320 pages | $18.00



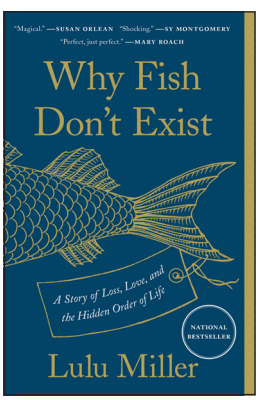
9781982159320
304 pages | $18.99



9781668072240
128 pages | $20.00

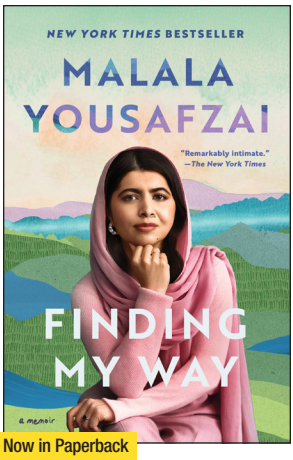


9781439153154
256 pages | $19.00



9781501160349
256 pages | $19.00

FEATURED TITLES



Now in Paperback

MEMOIR AND BIOGRAPHY

Finding My Way

A Memoir

Malala Yousafzai

9781668054284 | Paperback | 336 pages | $20.00 | Atria Books

Read by the author

When Malala Yousafzai was thrust onto the public stage, she was just fifteen years old. Forced to leave her home in Pakistan after the Taliban's brutal attack on her life, she became an international icon—a young woman who embodied resilience, activism, and hope. But underneath that outward-facing persona was a survivor grappling with how to move forward after having her life categorically and inalterably changed, set on a path that she never would have before predicted.

Touching on the raw reality of her survival, *Finding My Way* is a story of friendship and first love, of mental illness and self discovery, of trying to stay true to yourself when the world insists on telling you who you are. In it, Malala traces her path from high school loner to reckless college student to a young woman finally at peace with herself. Along the way, she offers surprising and profound meditations on her struggles with anxiety and PTSD, and the tightrope she walked to balance the weight of her public role with the private need to heal and rediscover herself.

Told with humor, fierce vulnerability, and piercing candidness, Malala reintroduces herself to the world, sharing how she navigated life as someone whose survival seemed to define her narrative—while seeking the freedom to find out who she truly is.

"A remarkably intimate and insistently human chronicle of a moral authority's coming of age." —*The New York Times*

"An earnest, charming, and empathetic memoir from a woman as determined as her younger self…[Yousafzai] positions herself as an authentic, enduring voice not only on girls' education, but also on topics such as mental health, the institution of marriage, the value of friendship, and the nature of risk and reward." —*Kirkus Reviews* (starred review)

"*Finding My Way* reveals the person beyond the symbol. It's the story of a young Malala learning the bounds of what it means to be a free woman—trying on jeans for the first time, falling in love, failing exams and confronting the trauma of a shooting that for a long time she had no memory of." —NPR

Reading Group Guide Available

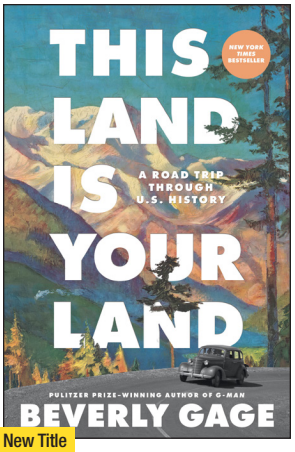
SELECTED BY Regis College

Themes: Coming of Age, Belonging, Connection, Activism, Mental Health



Author Photo © Rinaldo Sata

Malala Yousafzai is an education activist, cofounder of Malala Fund, the youngest-ever Nobel laureate, bestselling author, and an investor in women's sports. She was born in Mingora, Pakistan, in 1997 and graduated from Oxford University in 2020.



New Title

HISTORY

This Land Is Your Land

A Road Trip Through U.S. History

Beverly Gage

9781668033104 | Hardcover | 352 pages | $30.00 | Simon & Schuster

Ride along with Pulitzer Prize–winning historian Beverly Gage as she travels the country to see the museums, historic sites, roadside attractions, reenactments, and souvenir shops where Americans learn—and fight—about our history. From the birth of the nation in Philadelphia to Disneyland and the California dream, *This Land Is Your Land* offers a guided tour of thirteen places and thirteen key moments that define America's greatest successes and challenges.

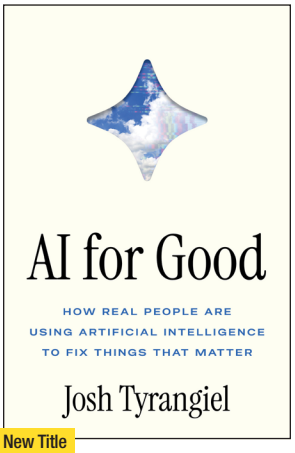
The year 2026 marks the 250th anniversary of the Declaration of Independence, a document that proclaimed the liberty and equality of all human beings, but produced a country that often failed to agree upon—or live up to—those ideals. *This Land Is Your Land* is for everyone who wants to find that history—to experience it and confront it, to celebrate it and condemn it—in the places where it happened.

Themes: US History, Observing History



Photo courtesy of the author

Beverly Gage teaches American history at Yale. Her book *G-Man* received the 2023 Pulitzer Prize for Biography, the Bancroft Prize in American History, and the National Book Critics Circle Award for Biography. She is also the author of *The Day Wall Street Exploded*, and writes for numerous journals and magazines.



New Title

TOPICS OF TODAY

AI For Good

How Real People Are Using Artificial Intelligence to Fix Things That Matter

Josh Tyrangiel

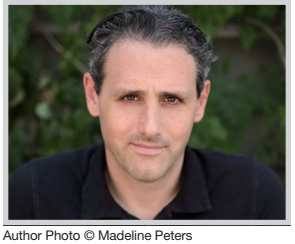
9781668082508 | Hardcover | 272 pages | $29.00 | Simon & Schuster

Read by the author

Josh Tyrangiel's journey into AI began with a late-night YouTube video featuring General Gustave Perna, the retired four-star general who orchestrated the distribution of Covid vaccines. Perna's success depended on AI's practical ability to synthesize and standardize vast amounts of logistical data. AI was the tool that helped real people get things done.

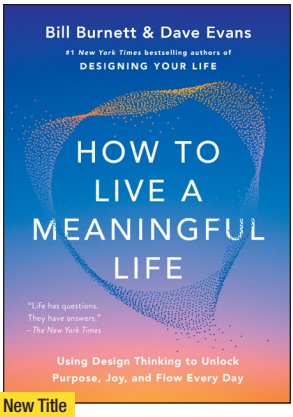
This book follows those people who make up a kind of AI counterculture. It explores AI's quiet revolution in government services, medicine, education, and human connection—places where it's being used to amplify human judgment rather than replace it. However, there is one big caveat—success is not guaranteed. Change is hard. Institutions move slowly. But even in failure there are lessons for everyone who's interested in using AI—carefully, thoughtfully—to build a better world today.

Themes: AI, Technology, Humanity



Author Photo © Madeline Peters

Josh Tyrangiel is a writer for *The Atlantic*. He was previously the editor of *Bloomberg Businessweek* and chief content officer for Bloomberg Media. A twelve-time Emmy and Peabody Award–winning producer, he created *Vice News Tonight* on HBO and has produced numerous feature-length documentaries for HBO, Netflix, and Apple TV.



New Title

SUCCESS IN COLLEGE AND BEYOND

How to Live a Meaningful Life

Using Design Thinking to Unlock Purpose, Joy, and Flow Every Day

Bill Burnett and Dave Evans

9781668084892 | Hardcover | 240 pages | $30.00 | Simon Element

Read by the authors

How to Live a Meaningful Life offers research-backed tools to help students build purpose, clarity, and connection without quitting jobs, blowing up their lives, or starting from scratch. Bill Burnett and Dave Evans have helped millions use design thinking to craft lives and careers they love. In this new book, they evolve their framework to focus on one question: What makes a life feel worth living, day to day?

Drawing on the latest science and years of teaching, they show how to:

- Reduce stress by aligning your time with what actually matters
- Bring more wonder, coherence, and flow into your everyday routines
- Turn ordinary moments into roots of joy and meaning
- Strengthen relationships and build your community

How to Live a Meaningful Life offers a clear, hopeful path out of the noise and overload of modern life and into deeper engagement, connection, and purpose, because everyone deserves a meaningful life.

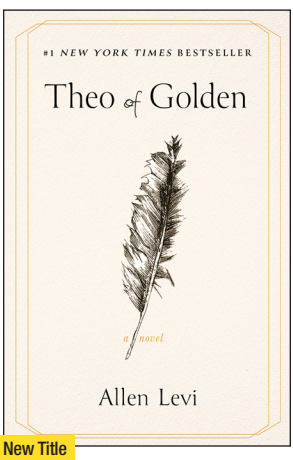
Themes: Self Improvement, Connection, Self Discovery



Author Photo © Jimmy Ruggiero

Bill Burnett (left) is the executive director of the Life Design Lab at Stanford University and an adjunct professor in mechanical engineering and design at Stanford. He is also the founder and managing director of the Designing Your Life Institute in Singapore.

Dave Evans (right) is the cofounder of the Life Design Lab at Stanford University, adjunct lecturer, and cofounder of Electronic Arts.



New Title

FICTION

Theo of Golden

A Novel

Allen Levi

9781668236512 | Paperback | 400 pages | $20.00 | Atria Books

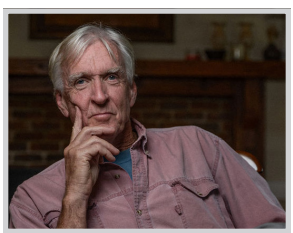
One spring morning, a stranger arrives in the small southern city of Golden. No one knows where he has come from…or why.

His name is Theo. He's eighty years old. And he asks a lot more questions than he answers.

Theo visits the local coffeehouse, where ninety-two pencil portraits hang on the walls, portraits of the people of Golden done by a local artist. He begins purchasing them, one at a time, and putting them back in the hands of their "rightful owners." With each exchange, a story is told, a friendship born, and a life altered.

A story of giving and receiving, of seeing and being seen, *Theo of Golden* is a beautifully crafted novel about the power of creative generosity, the importance of wonder to a purposeful life, and the invisible threads of kindness that bind us to one another.

Reading Group Guide Available
Themes: Community, Conversations, Generosity

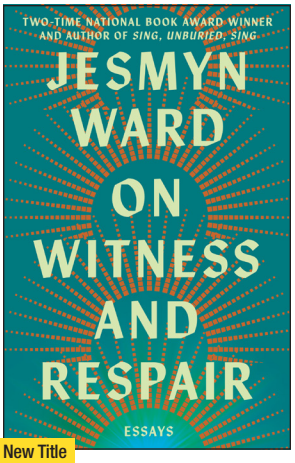


Author Photo © Garret Lee

Allen Levi is an attorney, judge, singer/songwriter, and author. He lives on and cares for family acreage near a small town in middle Georgia. *Theo of Golden* is his first novel.

Simon & Schuster First Year Reading

FEATURED AUTHORS



New Title

FEATURED AUTHOR: JESMYN WARD

On Witness and Respair

Essays

Jesmyn Ward

9781668064269 | Hardcover | 256 pages | $29.00 | Scribner

Read by the author

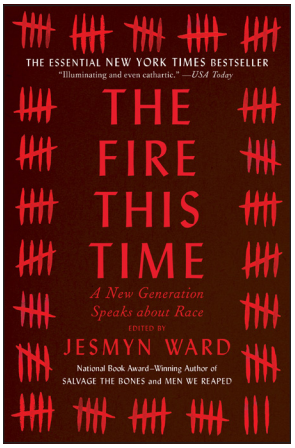
Respair (noun, obsolete), fresh hope after despair.

From the two-time National Book Award winner and *New York Times* bestselling author Jesmyn Ward, this collection of essays documents more than a decade of work in the life of a singular writer often lauded as "the heir apparent to Toni Morrison" (*LitHub*). Beginning with her upbringing in a multigenerational household in rural Mississippi, the cradle of both her youth and her gift for storytelling, Ward brings her keen wisdom and hauntingly lyrical prose to a range of topics, following in her grandmother Dorothy's footsteps when she promises always to "Tell it straight. Tell it all."

"Few contemporary writers express the agony and beauty of Black American life as evocatively as Ward…In her first nonfiction collection, she seamlessly blends the personal and the political. Marvelous and unforgettable." —*Booklist* (starred review)

"The communities and ecosystems that come alive in Ward's work make you want to be with her people and creatures…Her sentences carry real wisdom, and wisdom seems in short supply. If she can find a path to collective resilience in these dark times, I'd better suit up and buckle down." —*Los Angeles Times*

Themes: Hope, Resilience, Coming of Age, Community, Representation, African American Stories and Voices



The Fire This Time

A New Generation Speaks about Race

By Jesmyn Ward

9781501126352 | Paperback | 240 pages | $19.00 | Scribner

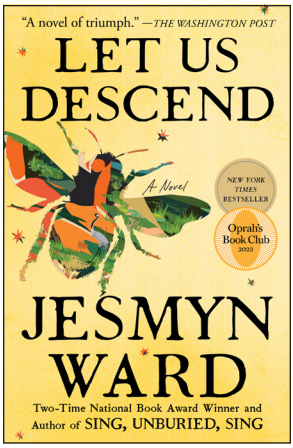
In this bestselling, widely lauded collection, Jesmyn Ward gathers our most original thinkers and writers to speak on contemporary racism and race, including Carol Anderson, Jericho Brown, Edwidge Danticat, Kevin Young, Claudia Rankine, and Honoree Jeffers. "An absolutely indispensable anthology" (*Booklist*, starred review), *The Fire This Time* shines a light on the darkest corners of our history, wrestles with our current predicament, and imagines a better future.

Envisioned as a response to *The Fire Next Time*, James Baldwin's groundbreaking 1963 essay collection, these contemporary writers reflect on the past, present, and future of race in America. We've made significant progress in the fifty-odd years since Baldwin's essays were published, but America is a long and painful distance away from a "post-racial society"—a truth we must confront if we are to continue to work towards change. Baldwin's "fire next time" is now upon us, and it needs to be talked about; *The Fire This Time* "seeks to place the shock of our own times into historical context and, most importantly, to move these times forward" (*Vogue*).

New York Times Bestseller

SELECTED BY University of South Carolina-Upstate, New York University-Liberal Studies, CUNY Medgar Evers College, Mount Holyoke College

Theme: Social Activism, African American Stories and Voices



Let Us Descend

A Novel

Jesmyn Ward

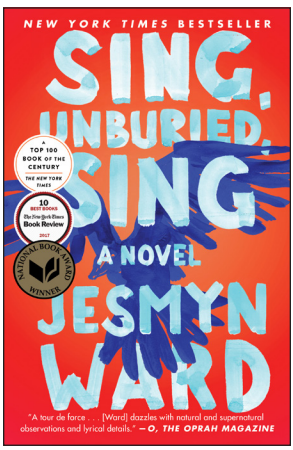
9781982104504 | Trade Paper | 336 pages | $17.99 | Scribner

Read by the author

Let Us Descend describes a journey from the rice fields of the Carolinas to the slave markets of New Orleans and into the fearsome heart of a Louisiana sugar plantation. A journey that is as beautifully rendered as it is heart wrenching, the novel is "[t]he literary equivalent of an open wound from which poetry pours" (NPR).

Annis, sold south by the white enslaver who fathered her, is the reader's guide. As she struggles through the miles-long march, Annis turns inward, seeking comfort from memories of her mother and stories of her African warrior grandmother. Throughout, she opens herself to a world beyond this world, one teeming with spirits: of earth and water, of myth and history; spirits who nurture and give, and those who manipulate and take. While Annis leads readers through the descent, hers is ultimately a story of rebirth and reclamation.

New York Times Bestseller | Carnegie Medal Honor Book
Reading Group Guide Available
Themes: Literary, African American Stories and Voices, Historical



Sing, Unburied, Sing

A Novel

Jesmyn Ward

9781501126079 | Trade Paper | 320 pages | $19.00 | Scribner

Jesmyn Ward's historic second National Book Award–winner is an intimate portrait of three generations of a family and an epic tale of hope and struggle.

"Ward's writing throbs with life, grief, and love… this book is the kind that makes you ache to return to it." —*BuzzFeed*

"*Sing, Unburied, Sing* is many things: a road novel, a slender epic of three generations and the ghosts that haunt them, and a portrait of what ordinary folk in dire circumstances cleave to as well as what they—and perhaps we all—are trying to outrun." —*The New York Times Book Review*

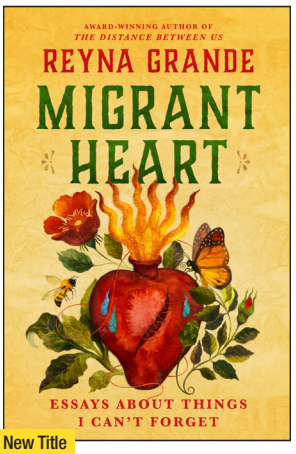
"If *Sing, Unburied, Sing* is proof of anything, it's that when it comes to spinning poetic tales of love and family, and the social metastasis that often takes place but goes unspoken of in marginalized communities—let alone the black American South—Jesmyn Ward is, by far, the best doing it today. Another masterpiece." —Jason Reynolds, author of *Ghost*

National Book Award Winner | BCALA Literary Award Honor
A *New York Times* Best Book of the 21st Century
Reading Group Guide Available
SELECTED BY Duke University, Williams College, Xavier University, The University of Michigan–Flint
Themes: Coming of Age, African American Stories and Voices, Regional: The South



Author Photo © Beowulf Sheehan

Jesmyn Ward received her MFA from the University of Michigan and has received the MacArthur Genius Grant, a Stegner Fellowship, a John and Renee Grisham Writers Residency, the Strauss Living Prize, and the 2022 Library of Congress Prize for American Fiction. She is the winner of two National Book Awards for Fiction for *Sing, Unburied, Sing* and *Salvage the Bones*. She is also the author of the novel *Where the Line Bleeds* and the memoir *Men We Reaped*, which was a finalist for the National Book Critics Circle Award and won the *Chicago Tribune* Heartland Prize and the Media for a Just Society Award. She is currently a professor of creative writing at Tulane University and lives in Mississippi.



New Title

FEATURED AUTHOR: REYNA GRANDE

Migrant Heart

Essays About Things I Can't Forget

Reyna Grande

9781668055274 | Hardcover | 256 pages | $29.00 | Primero Sueño Press

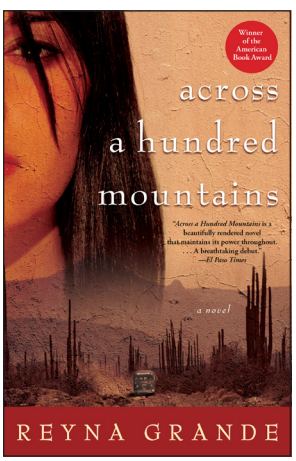
Read by the author

Reyna Grande has spent her career capturing the raw reality of life across borders. In this intricate and deeply intimate memoir-in-essays, Grande again turns her gaze inward to explore the scars left by migration and the ongoing work of stitching herself back together.

With her signature blend of sophistication and raw honesty, Grande interrogates how living between two nations, two languages, and two identities has shaped the woman, mother, and writer she has become. Moving from the legacy of violence in her hometown of Iguala, Mexico, to a bittersweet family vacation in Europe spent reconciling her own impoverished past with her children's world of abundance, she uncovers startling truths about the nature of survival.

Migrant Heart is a powerful testament to Grande's role as a storyteller and cultural witness. It expands our understanding of life in the United States and the complex people who cross and live within its borders. It is an essential read for the seekers, the dreamers, and anyone who believes in the enduring, transformative power of finding one's voice.

Themes: Global Perspective, Coming of Age, Immigrant Stories and Voices



Across a Hundred Mountains

A Novel

Reyna Grande

Forewords by Maria Amparo Escandón and Luis Valdez, celebrated playwright and father of Chicano theater

9780743269582 | Trade Paper | 288 pages | $18.99 | Primero Sueño Press

Winner of the American Book Award, *Across a Hundred Mountains* is a "timely and riveting" (*People*) novel now featuring two new forewords.

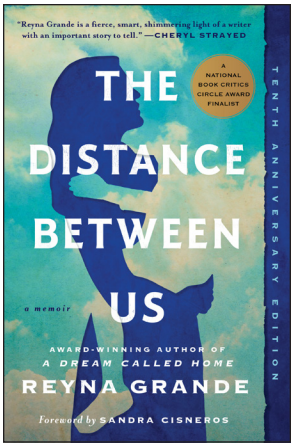
After a tragedy separates her from her mother, Juana García leaves in search of her father, who left them two years earlier. Out of money and in need of someone to help her across the border, Juana meets Adelina Vasquez, a young woman who left her family in California to follow her lover to Mexico. Finding themselves in a Tijuana jail in desperate circumstances, they offer each other much needed material and spiritual support and ultimately become linked forever in the most unexpected of ways.

American Book Award Winner
Reading Group Guide Available | Spanish Language Edition Available
Themes: Coming of Age, Immigrant Stories and Voices



Author Photo © Ara Arbabzadeh

Reyna Grande is an award-winning author, motivational speaker, and writing teacher. As a young girl, she crossed the US–Mexico border to join her family in Los Angeles, a harrowing journey chronicled in *The Distance Between Us*, a National Book Critics Circle Award finalist. Her other books include the novels *A Ballad of Love and Glory*, *Across a Hundred Mountains*, and *Dancing with Butterflies*, the memoirs *Migrant Heart*, *The Distance Between Us: Young Readers Edition*, and *A Dream Called Home*, and the anthology *Somewhere We Are Human: Authentic Voices on Migration, Survival, and New Beginnings*. She lives in Woodland, California, with her husband and two children.



The Distance Between Us

A Memoir

Reyna Grande

9781451661781 | Trade Paper | 384 pages | $20.00 | Washington Square Press

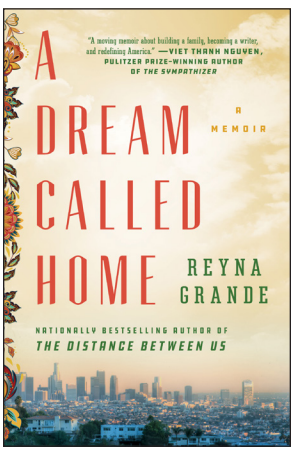
Reyna Grande vividly brings to life her tumultuous early years in this "compelling…unvarnished, resonant" (*BookPage*) story of a childhood spent torn between two parents and two countries. As her parents make the dangerous trek across the Mexican border to "El Otro Lado" (The Other Side) in pursuit of the American dream, Reyna and her siblings are forced into the already overburdened household of their stern grandmother. When their mother at last returns, Reyna prepares for her own journey to "El Otro Lado" to live with the man who has haunted her imagination for years, her long-absent father.

Funny, heartbreaking, and lyrical, *The Distance Between Us* poignantly captures the confusion and contradictions of childhood, reminding us that the joys and sorrows we experience are imprinted on the heart forever, calling out to us of those places we first called home.

National Book Critics Circle Award Finalist
Reading Group Guide Available | Young Readers Edition Available
Spanish Language Edition Available

SELECTED BY Over 13, most recently at Marist College, University of North Carolina–Greensboro, Finger Lakes Community College, Russell Sage College, California State University–Bakersfield

Themes: Global Perspective, Coming of Age, Immigrant Stories and Voices



A Dream Called Home

A Memoir

Reyna Grande

9781501171437 | Trade Paper | 336 pages | $18.99 | Washington Square Press

As an immigrant in an unfamiliar country, with an indifferent mother and abusive father, Reyna had few resources at her disposal. Taking refuge in words, Reyna's love of reading and writing propels her to rise above until she achieves the impossible and is accepted to the University of California, Santa Cruz.

Although her acceptance is a triumph, the actual experience of American college life is intimidating and unfamiliar for someone like Reyna, who is now estranged from her family and support system. Again, she finds solace in words, holding fast to her vision of becoming a writer, only to discover she knows nothing about what it takes to make a career out of a dream.

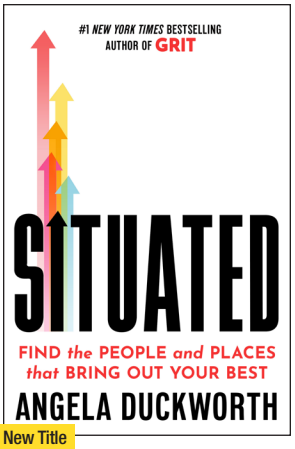
Through it all, Reyna is determined to make the impossible possible, going from undocumented immigrant of little means to "a fierce, smart, shimmering light of a writer" (Cheryl Strayed, author of *Wild*); a National Book Critics Circle Award Finalist whose "power is growing with every book" (Luis Alberto Urrea, Pultizer Prize finalist); and a proud mother of two beautiful children who will never have to know the pain of poverty and neglect.

Told in Reyna's exquisite, heartfelt prose, *A Dream Called Home* demonstrates how, by daring to pursue her dreams, Reyna was able to build the one thing she had always longed for: a home that would endure.

Reading Group Guide Available | Spanish Language Edition Available

SELECTED BY American River College, Florisa International University, Concordia University

Themes: Inspirational, Global Perspective, Regional: California, Immigrant Stories and Voices



New Title

FEATURED AUTHOR: ANGELA DUCKWORTH

Situated

Find the People and Places That Bring Out Your Best

Angela Duckworth

9781668005941 | Hardcover | 352 pages | $30.00 | Scribner

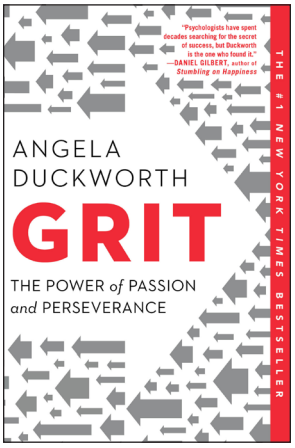
Read by the author

In Angela Duckworth's first book, she showed that a common denominator of successful strivers is a blend of passion and perseverance she dubbed "grit." This second book springs from her deepening realization that grit, while necessary, is sometimes not sufficient. How you situate yourself to meet a challenge can be crucial.

Duckworth's in-depth research reveals the enormous influence wielded by the objects within arm's reach, your peers and mentors, and even your zip code. Though you're often told to make the best of your situation, it is far, far better to make your situation better first.

Highlighting four essential elements of successful situations, Duckworth shows how high performers like Taylor Swift, Michael Phelps, and Jerry Seinfeld create situations that make it easier to excel. And with disarming honesty, she shares her own struggles with burnout—and how learning to change her situation, not herself, made all the difference. Whatever it is you want to achieve, there's a situation that can make your journey easier.

Theme: Personal Success



Grit

The Power of Passion and Perseverance

Angela Duckworth

9781501111112 | Trade Paper | 368 pages | $19.99 | Scribner

Read by the author

In this *New York Times* bestseller, Angela Duckworth shows anyone striving to succeed that the secret to outstanding achievement is not talent, but a special blend of passion and persistence she calls "grit." "Inspiration for non-geniuses everywhere" (*People*).

"Duckworth's ideas about the cultivation of tenacity have clearly changed some lives for the better" (*The New York Times Book Review*). Among *Grit*'s most valuable insights: any effort you make ultimately counts twice toward your goal; grit can be learned, regardless of IQ or circumstances; when it comes to child-rearing, neither a warm embrace nor high standards will work by themselves; how to trigger lifelong interest; the magic of the Hard Thing Rule; and so much more. Winningly personal, insightful, and even life-changing, *Grit* is a book about what goes through your head when you fall down, and how that—not talent or luck—makes all the difference. This is "a fascinating tour of the psychological research on success" (*The Wall Street Journal*).

New York Times Bestseller

Reading Group Guide Available

SELECTED BY California State Polytechnic University–Pomona, Buena Vista University, University of Pittsburgh Katz Graduate School of Business, New York University Tandon School of Engineering, Stanford University, Pennsylvania State University–Berks, Steton Hall University, University of Idaho

Themes: Leadership, Personal Success

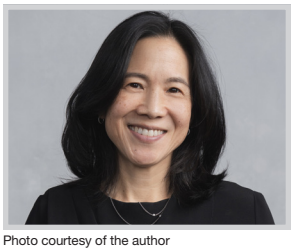
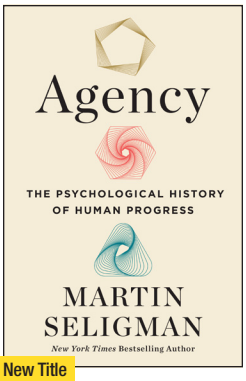


Photo courtesy of the author

Angela Duckworth, PhD, is a psychologist, a MacArthur Fellow, and the Rosa Lee and Egbert Chang Professor at the University of Pennsylvania. Duckworth's TED talk is among the most viewed of all time. Her book *Grit: The Power of Passion and Perseverance* was a #1 *New York Times* bestseller and has sold more than 5 million copies worldwide.

BIG IDEAS



New Title

Agency

The Psychological History of Human Progress

Martin E. P. Seligman

9781982190644 | Hardcover | 400 pages | $35.00 | Simon Acumen

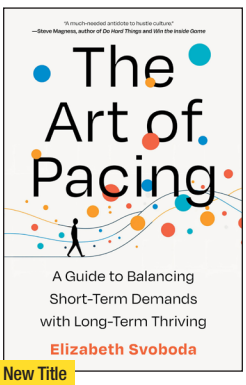
What actually drives human progress? Ecologists point to geography and climate. Sociologists invoke wars and class. Economists follow the money. But none of these accounts explains why innovation and human thriving occurs in some eras and stalls in others—often under identical material conditions. The missing variable, Seligman argues, is the psychological state known as: agency.

Agency is built from three interlocking capacities: efficacy, optimism, and imagination, the breadth of goals you can envision. When all three align, civilizations leap forward.

Drawing on six decades of pioneering research and a sweeping reexamination of the last twenty-five hundred years—from Periclean Athens to the Renaissance, the Enlightenment, and the Civil Rights Movement—Seligman reveals how surges and declines in agency have quietly steered the course of history. With a clear-eyed look at an AI-transformed future, *Agency* makes the case that the power to create the next great era of human flourishing is already alive within each of us.

"Martin Seligman is among the most influential psychologists in history, with seminal contributions spread over multiple decades straddling two centuries. But this may be his most important book yet. From a perspective that he above all commands—the positive parts of human nature—Seligman explains how we have improved the human condition in the past, and therefore what we will need to do to improve it in the future." —Steven Pinker, professor at Harvard University

Themes: Psychology, History, Culture, Technology, Society



New Title

The Art of Pacing

A Guide to Balancing Short-Term Demands with Long-Term Thriving

Elizabeth Svoboda

9781668022412 | Hardcover | 240 pages | $29.00 | Simon Acumen

Every distance runner knows this cardinal rule: don't go too fast, or you'll drain your energy well before the finish line. Intuitive for athletes, most of us struggle to pace ourselves in daily life. We find ourselves caught between two extremes: an endless sprint, or complete disengagement. Yet, cultivating this pacing sensibility can give us the breathing room we need to create a rich, meaningful life, all while making meaningful progress on our goals.

In *The Art of Pacing*, science writer Elizabeth Svoboda explores how shifting between the full range of paces can transform the way you reach your goals. Blending memoir, cutting-edge research, and interviews with Olympic athletes and entrepreneurs, Svoboda artfully uncovers the nuances of pacing and provides techniques to adjust your tempo across life's challenges, so you can effectively balance ambition with rest. You'll learn:

- How to determine your natural "pulse points" so you can reserve your most important work for your circadian high points and build in plenty of restorative rest.
- Why practicing modulation lays important groundwork for designing a life that nourishes you.
- What brief candle moments are, and how you can use them in your life to build in strategic, meaningful pauses.
- How narrative reflection reveals what gives you a sense of purpose, so you can pare excess from your life and make space for what matters.

Written with the perfect mix of soul and science, *The Art of Pacing* offers a refreshing alternative to all-or-nothing living—and reveals the path toward lasting success.

Themes: Self Improvement, Burnout, Flourishing, Self Fulfillment



Calling In

How to Start Making Change with Those You'd Rather Cancel

Loretta J. Ross

9781982190804 | Trade Paper | 288 pages | $19.00 | Simon & Schuster

Read by the author

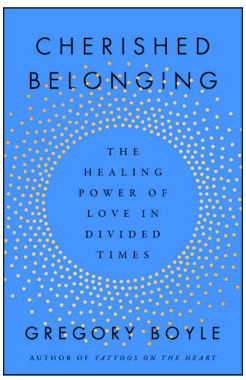
Calling In is at once a handbook, a manifesto, and a memoir—because the power of Loretta Ross's message comes from who she is and what she's lived through. She's a Black woman who's deprogrammed white supremacists, a survivor who's taught convicted rapists the principles of feminism. With stories from her five remarkable decades in activism, she vividly illustrates why calling people in—inviting them into conversation instead of conflict by focusing on your shared values over a desire for punishment—is the more strategic choice if you want to make real change. And she shows you how to do so, whether in the workplace, on a college campus, or in your living room.

Courageous, awe-inspiring, and blisteringly authentic, *Calling In* is a practical new solution from one of our country's most extraordinary change makers—one anyone can learn to use to transform frustrating and divisive conflicts that stand in the way of real connection with the people in your life.

"This book is the ultimate antidote to cancel culture. It's a master class in constructive confrontation, and Loretta Ross is the ideal teacher. Drawing on her extensive experience talking people out of hate, she offers profound insights about how to get through to others—and maintain your own dignity along the way. *Calling In* should be required reading for every student, activist, and social media user." —Adam Grant, #1 *New York Times* bestselling author of *Think Again*

SELECTED BY Smith College

Themes: Social Activism, Culture, Identity, Acceptance, Difficult Conversations



Cherished Belonging

The Healing Power of Love in Divided Times

Gregory Boyle

9781668061855 | Hardcover | 224 pages | $30.00 | Avid Reader Press

Read by the author

Over the past thirty years, Gregory Boyle has transformed tens of thousands of lives through his work as the founder of Homeboy Industries, the largest gang intervention program in the world. The program runs on two unwavering principles:

1) We are all inherently good (no exceptions), and

2) we belong to each other (no exceptions).

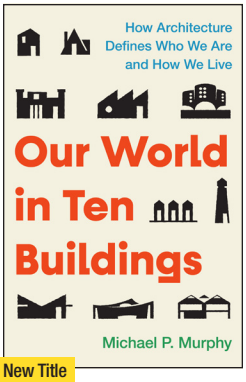
Boyle believes that these two ideas allow all of us to cultivate a new way of seeing the world. Rather than the tribalism that excludes and punishes, this new narrative proposes a village that cherishes. Pooka, a former gang member, puts it plainly: "Here, love is our lens. It is how we see things."

In *Cherished Belonging*, Boyle calls back to Christianity's origins as a spiritual movement of equality, emancipation, and peace. Early Christianity was a way of life—not a set of beliefs. Boyle's vision of community is a space for people to join together and heal one another in a new collective living, a world dedicated to kindness as a constant and radical act of defiance. As one homie, Marcus, told a classroom filled with inner city teenagers, "If love was a place, it would be Homeboy."

Cherished Belonging invites us to nurture the connections that are all around us and live with kindness. Boyle believes that "the answer to every question is, indeed, compassion." Through colorful and profound stories brimming with wisdom, humor, and inspiration, we understand that love is the light inside everything.

SELECTED BY Boston College

Themes: Inspirational, Faith, Community, Compassion



New Title

Our World in Ten Buildings

How Architecture Defines Who We Are and How We Live

Michael P. Murphy

9781668056554 | Hardcover | 256 pages | $30.00 | One Signal Publishers

Read by the author

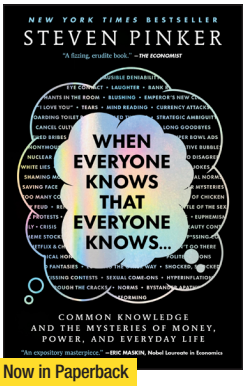
We've been led to believe that purposefully designed spaces are something reserved only for those that can afford them. But in reality, all the spaces we inhabit—to work, to learn, to heal, and to live—have been planned and built to influence our lives. They sway our emotions, nudge our behaviors, protect us from disease, and do more, or less, to support shared prosperity and our sense of the common good.

Our World in Ten Buildings unpacks this hidden but ever more important element of our lived experience. As author and architectural designer Michael Murphy takes us through ten milestone projects in his career he lays bare the physical, political, and intellectual labor at work shaping the world we live in.

With rare insight, access, and passion, Murphy braids the history of architecture with his own iconic projects to show the power of urban design and how it revolutionizes our homes, minds, workplaces, safety, and health care. Profound, and accessible, *Our World in Ten Buildings* will change the way you look at and think about your surroundings.

"An illuminating, optimistic take on how architecture might be harnessed to better the world." —*Kirkus Reviews*

Themes: Architecture, Functional Design, Social Justice, Healthcare, Climate Change, Sustainability



Now in Paperback

When Everyone Knows That Everyone Knows…

Common Knowledge and the Mysteries of Money, Power, and Everyday Life

Steven Pinker

9781668011591 | Trade Paper | 384 pages | $22.00 | Scribner

Common knowledge is necessary for coordination, for making arbitrary but complementary choices like driving on the right, and using paper currency. It's also necessary for social coordination: everything from rendezvousing at a time and place to speaking the same language to forming enduring relationships of friendship, romance, or authority. Humans have a sixth sense for common knowledge, and we create it with signals like laughter, tears, blushing, eye contact, and blunt speech.

But people also go to great lengths to avoid common knowledge—to ensure that even if everyone knows something, they can't know that everyone else knows they know it. And so we get rituals like benign hypocrisy, veiled bribes and threats, sexual innuendo, and pretending not to see the elephant in the room.

Pinker shows how the hidden logic of common knowledge can make sense of many of life's enigmas: financial bubbles and crashes, revolutions that come out of nowhere, the posturing and pretense of diplomacy, the eruption of social media shaming mobs and academic cancel culture. Artists and humorists have long mined the intrigues of common knowledge, and Pinker liberally uses their novels, jokes, cartoons, films, and sitcom dialogues to illuminate social life's tragedies and comedies.

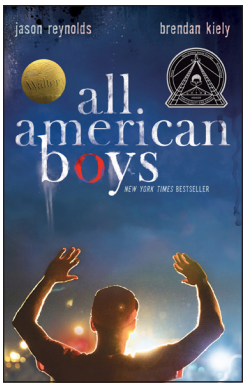
Consistently riveting in explaining the paradoxes of human behavior, *When Everyone Knows That Everyone Knows…* invites us to understand the ways we try to get into each other's heads and the harmonies, hypocrisies, and outrages that result.

"*When Everyone Knows That Everyone Knows…* is one of the most insightful books I've read about what makes us human and how we understand each other. It changed how I think about the interactions I have, and I bet it will do the same for you." —Bill Gates

Themes: Psychology, Human Nature

Simon & Schuster First Year Reading

FICTION



All American Boys

Jason Reynolds and Brendan Kiely

9781481463348 | Trade Paper | 336 pages | $12.99 | Atheneum/Caitlyn Dlouhy Books

A bag of chips. That's all sixteen-year-old Rashad is looking for at the corner bodega. What he finds instead is a fist-happy cop, Paul Galluzzo, who mistakes Rashad for a shoplifter, mistakes Rashad's resistance to leave the bodega as resisting arrest, mistakes Rashad's every flinch at every punch the cop throws as further resistance.

There were witnesses: Quinn—a varsity basketball player and Rashad's classmate who has been raised by Paul since his own father died in Afghanistan—and a video camera. Soon the beating is all over the news and Paul is getting threatened with accusations of prejudice and racial brutality. Quinn refuses to believe that the man who has basically been his savior could possibly be guilty. But then Rashad is absent. And absent again. And the basketball team starts to take sides. As does the school. And the town. Simmering tensions threaten to explode as Rashad and Quinn are forced to face decisions and consequences they had never considered before.

Written in tandem by two award-winning authors, this tour de force shares the alternating perspectives of Rashad and Quinn as the complications from that single violent moment, the type taken directly from today's headlines, unfold and reverberate to highlight an unwelcome truth.

"Diverse perspectives are presented in a manner that feels organic to the narrative, further emphasizing the tension created when privilege and racism cannot be ignored. Timely and powerful, this novel promises to have an impact long after the pages stop turning." —*School Library Journal* (starred review)

ALA Coretta Scott King Author Honor Book | *New York Times* Bestseller
Walter Dean Myers Award for Outstanding Children's Literature Recipient
Reading Group Guide Available
SELECTED BY Millersville University, Holy Names University
Themes: Social Justice, Racism, Diversity, Understanding Others, Sports, Reluctant Reader



Now in Paperback

All Better Now

Neal Shusterman

9781534432765 | Trade Paper | 528 pages | $14.99 | Simon & Schuster Books for Young Readers

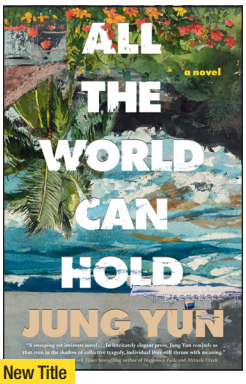
Read by the author and Greg Tremblay

A deadly and unprecedented virus is spreading. But those who survive it experience long-term effects no one has ever seen before: utter contentment. Soon after infection, people find the stress, depression, greed, and other negative feelings that used to weigh them down are gone.

More and more people begin to revel in the mass unburdening. But not everyone. People in power—who depend on malcontents and prey on the insecure to sell their products, and convince others they need more, new, faster, better everything—know this new state of being is bad for business. Surely, without anger or jealousy as motivators, productivity will grind to a halt and the world will be thrown into chaos. Campaigns start up to convince people that being eternally happy is dangerous. The race to find a vaccine begins. Meanwhile, a growing movement of Recoverees plan ways to spread the virus as fast as they can, in the name of saving the world.

It's nearly impossible to determine the truth when everyone with a platform is pushing their agenda. Three teens from very different backgrounds who've had their lives upended in very different ways find themselves at the center of a power play that could change humanity forever.

Reading Group Guide Available
Themes: Action, Dystopian, Humanity, Wealth, Corporate Greed



New Title

All the World Can Hold

Jung Yun

9781668200599 | Hardcover | 352 pages | $30.00 | 37 Ink

It's Sunday, September 16, 2001. Franny and her husband have traded in their elegant Park Avenue co-op for a suite on board the Sonata, a once-glittering cruise ship with a complicated history now long past its prime. Also on board is Doug, an aging actor and former star of *Starlight Voyages*, the hit *Love Boat*–style television series famously filmed on the Sonata. With few professional prospects, a now sober Doug has reluctantly joined his former castmates on a reunion cruise for fans of the show, but he dreads the dark specter of his past misdeeds.

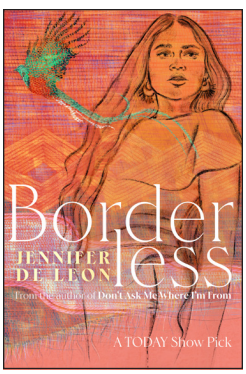
Meanwhile, Lucy, the only Black female graduate student in her department at MIT, has uncharacteristically accepted an invitation to join her roommate on the cruise during the height of recruitment season. Lucy's impulsive decision reflects her growing ambivalence about the tech companies that are trying to hire her, including a new one with a strange-sounding name, Google.

All the World Can Hold beautifully explores how we balance our needs and our wants, as well as the regrets we live with and the chances to set them right. And though it's not a 9/11 novel, it does remind us that while the great world spins, the interpersonal dramas don't cease, even as more dire ones play out in the larger world.

"Writing with grit and compassion, Yun unveils the heart of her characters and brings forth an engaging piece that looks into the realm of friendships, family, identity, and belonging. Book groups and fans of realistic fiction will discover a contemplative look at life on many levels and find much to reflect upon." —*Library Journal* (starred review)

Reading Group Guide Available

Themes: Identity, Belonging, Coming of Age, Connection, Hope, Family, Friendship



Borderless

Jennifer De Leon

9781665904179 | Trade Paper | 352 pages | $12.99 | Atheneum/Caitlyn Dlouhy Books

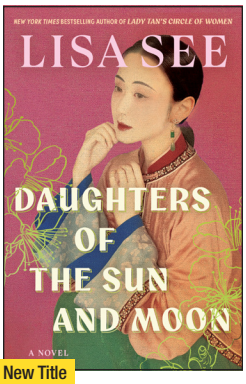
For seventeen-year-old Maya, trashion is her passion, and her talent for making clothing out of unusual objects landed her a scholarship to Guatemala City's most prestigious design school and a finalist spot in the school's fashion show. Mamá is her biggest supporter, taking on extra jobs to pay for what the scholarship doesn't cover, and she might be even more excited than Maya about what the fashion show could do for her future career.

So when Mamá doesn't come to the show, Maya doesn't know what to think. But the truth is worse than she could have imagined. The gang threats in their neighborhood have walked in their front door—with a boy Maya considered a friend, or maybe even more, among them. After barely making their escape, Maya and her mom have no choice but to continue their desperate flight all the way through Guatemala and Mexico in hopes of crossing the US border.

"De Leon tackles stereotypes and thoroughly unravels reductive narratives about immigration in this excellent work. Maya has hopes and dreams of a career in fashion design…She attends a well-funded 21st-century private school, has deep generational ties to her community, and a best friend she loves like a sister…But when Maya witnesses a murder, she and her mother must flee their beloved country to save their lives, and the rest of the novel becomes a fast-paced race to the US border. This is an important work that provides readers a nuanced look at a community that is often spoken of with disparaging clichés: illegal, poor, illiterate. Seamlessly woven elements result in a poignant, coming-of-age novel." —*School Library Journal* (starred review)

Reading Group Guide Available

Themes: Immigrant Experience, Coming of Age, Overcoming Difficulty, Latinx Stories and Voices



New Title

Daughters of the Sun and Moon

A Novel

Lisa See

9781982117054 | Hardcover | 384 pages | $29.00 | Scribner

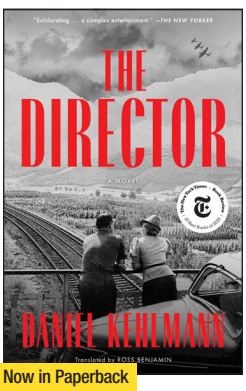
In 1870, three Chinese women's lives intersect in the small, dusty, violent pueblo of Los Angeles. Dove, the bound-footed daughter of an imperial scholar, is entrancing and innocent. Petal, the big-footed daughter of peasants, has grown up hungry and with dirt between her toes. Moon is married to a doctor of traditional Chinese medicine who is well-regarded in the town. Each woman has her own desires: Dove wants to love and be loved, Petal desires freedom, and Moon seeks justice. Together they face a larger society that wishes them not one ounce of good will. Anti-Chinese sentiment is strong in Los Angeles and eventually leads to the Night of Horrors, during which all three women are challenged in ways they could not have imagined. Brought together by hardship and heartbreak, they use their bravery, endurance, and ability to "eat bitterness" to discover their voices, find freedom, and connect through solace and friendship. Based on real women from the past and the Chinese Massacre of 1871 in post-Civil War Los Angeles, See brings her trademark focus on women, some of her own family history, and her keen imagining of the past to this new novel.

"See offers a stunning piece of historical fiction based in truth. It will touch readers with the characters' resilience, heroism, and devoted friendship." —*Library Journal* (starred review)

"[See] brilliantly mashes up history and fiction into character-driven page turners that bring to life ordinary women doing extraordinary things to survive a harsh and oppressive world that underestimates them." —*Publishers Weekly*

Reading Group Guide Available

Themes: Connection, Friendship, History, Resilience, Asian American Stories and Voices



Now in Paperback

The Director

A Novel

Daniel Kehlmann

Translated by Ross Benjamin

9781668087800 | Trade Paper | 352 pages | $19.00 | Summit Books

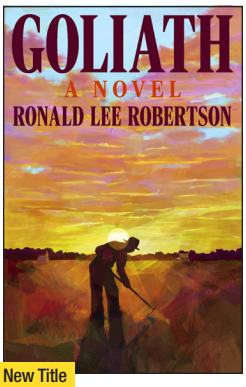
G.W. Pabst, one of cinema's greatest directors of the 20th century, was filming in France when the Nazis seized power. To escape the horrors of the new and unrecognizable Germany, he fled to Hollywood. But now, under the blinding California sun, the world-famous director suddenly looks like a nobody.

When he receives word that his elderly mother is ill, he finds himself back in his homeland of Austria. Pabst, his wife, and his young son are suddenly confronted with the barbaric nature of the regime. So, when Joseph Goebbels—the minister of propaganda in Berlin—sees the potential for using the European film icon for his directorial genius and makes big promises to Pabst and his family, Pabst must consider Goebbels's thinly veiled order. While Pabst still believes that he will be able to resist these advances, that he will not submit to any dictatorship other than art, he has already taken the first steps into a hopeless entanglement.

"Daniel Kehlmann, the finest German writer of his generation, takes on the life of the eminent film director G.W. Pabst to weave a tragicomic historical fantasia that stretches from Hollywood to Nazi Germany, from Garbo to Goebbels, to show how even a great artist can make, and be unmade by, moral compromises with evil. A dazzling performance and a real page turner." —Salman Rushdie, author of *Knife*

"At times absurdist, at times horrifyingly realist, *The Director* asks where the moral duty of the artist resides, and how the narcissism of the artistic project can bleed into complicity." —Lauren Groff, author of *The Vaster Wilds*

Themes: Morality, Art, Historical, Power



New Title

Goliath

A Novel

Ronald Lee Robertson

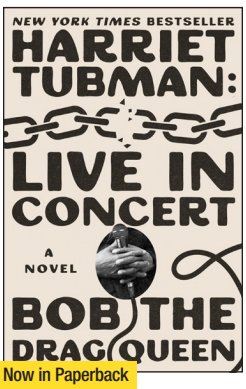
9781668204016 | Hardcover | 336 pages | $29.00 | Scribner

Fourteen-year-old David Jeremiah Lightfoot feels called to Mississippi, and there is nothing anyone can do to stop him. He leaves Chicago for the Deep South with the deed to his father's property in hand. When he arrives, he finds himself toe-to-toe with the largest person he's ever seen, a preacher at the church on his father's land. The boy is drawn to Big Man, and Big Man to the boy. Soon, their families are entangled. And soon after that, the men are locked in a battle of wills so volatile that it threatens the fate of the land, their family, and the community around them.

Our guide through it all is David's youngest son, Little Bit. From an exceedingly unusual vantage point, the boy tells the story of his beloved family: his father, his grandfather, his uncle, his mother Micah, his cousin Memphis, and his siblings: Ladybird, Absalom, and Amnon. With a child's sweetness and an elder's fierce, protective love, Little Bit leads us through his family's most prosperous years and beyond, into a time marked by peril and loss. Spanning the earliest decades of the 20th century, their lives are shaped by Jim Crow-era racism, technological revolutions in agriculture, and the fear through it all that the family has made a mistake coming home amid the Northward push of the Great Migration.

Studded with the natural beauty of the rural south and propelled by the power struggle between two men of immense influence and pride, *Goliath* inspects patriarchal traditions and comes up with a family tragedy for the ages. One grounded in history and the timeless truth that power is sought at great cost.

Themes: African American Voices and Stories, Historical, Family



Now in Paperback

Harriet Tubman: Live in Concert

A Novel

Bob the Drag Queen

9781668061985 | Trade Paper | 240 pages | $18.00 | Gallery Books

Read by the author

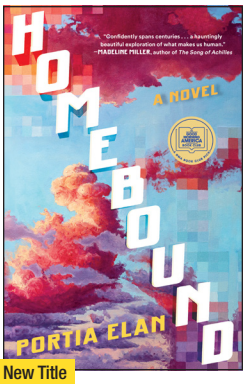
In an age of miracles where our greatest heroes from history have magically, unexplainably returned to shake us out of our confusion and hate, Harriet Tubman is back, and she has a lot to say. Harriet Tubman and four of the enslaved persons she led to freedom want to tell their story in a unique way. Harriet wants to create a hip-hop album and live show about her life, and she needs a songwriter to help her. She calls upon Darnell, a once successful hip-hop producer who was topping the charts before being outed on a BET talk show. Darnell has no idea what to expect when he steps into the studio with Harriet, only that they have a short period of time to write a legendary album she can take on the road. Over the course of their time together, they not only create music that will take the country by storm, but confront the horrors of both their pasts, and learn to find a way to a better future.

"The first novel from TV host and *RuPaul's Drag Race* winner Bob the Drag Queen vibes with energy and humor but never wavers in its focus on the resilience and power of Black Americans, 'made out of something stronger than steel and diamonds combined,' and the universal passion for liberation." —*Booklist* (starred review)

"Yes, it's true: that Bob the Drag Queen wrote a novel and it is about Harriet Tubman coming back to life and making a hip-hop album. You already know you're on board, as well you should be: the novel is funny and wild and sharp, about fame and race and creativity and America. Harriet's is a show not to be missed." —*LitHub*

ALA Alex Award

Themes: Resilience, African American Stories and Voices, Historical, Race, Creativity



New Title

Homebound

A Novel

Portia Elan

9781668201732 | Hardcover | 304 pages | $28.00 | Scribner

It's 1983 and Becks can't wait to get the hell out of Cincinnati. She's nineteen, blasting her Walkman, and hiding from the fact that her beloved uncle, the only person who understood her, is dead. But she has work to do: he left her a half-finished game to complete—one last collaboration to find her way out of loneliness.

Little does she know, what Becks is making will echo far into the future and shape the lives of a scientist, a sentient automaton, and a flinty sea captain in ways she cannot imagine. All are bound together by their search for connection—and by a futuristic traveler on a mysterious mission through space.

A novel about our deep interconnectedness, *Homebound* is a clear-eyed, hopeful adventure into humanity's future and capacity for love.

"*Homebound* is a joy—at once a gripping mystery that confidently spans centuries, and a hauntingly beautiful exploration of what makes us human. Inventive and gritty, powerful and clear-eyed, it kept me up all night!" —Madeline Miller, #1 *New York Times* bestselling author

"An ingenious narrative that explores the meaning of love and interconnectedness across time." —*Kirkus Reviews* (starred review)

"*Homebound* is a big, bold, ecstatic world—full of heart and wonder—where stories weave through time to connect us, and our faith in each other makes us human." —Ruth Ozeki, *New York Times* bestselling author of *A Tale for the Time Being*

Reading Group Guide Available

Themes: Coming of Age, Humanity, Family, AI, Resilience, Hope, Connection



Hum

A Novel

Helen Phillips

9781668008843 | Trade Paper | 288 pages | $17.99 | Scribner

In a near-future world addled by climate change and inhabited by intelligent robots called "hums," May loses her job to artificial intelligence. Desperate to resolve her family's debt and secure their future for another few months, she becomes a guinea pig in an experiment that alters her face so it cannot be recognized by surveillance.

Seeking reprieve from her recent hardships and her family's addiction to their devices, May splurges on passes for her family to spend three nights respite in the Botanical Garden: a rare green refuge where forests, streams, and animals still thrive. But when her children come under threat, May is forced to put her trust in a hum of uncertain motives to save her family.

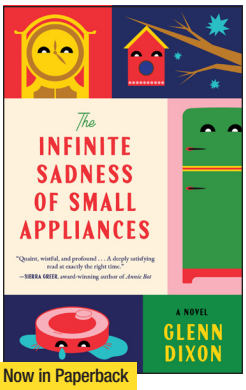
Hum is a "striking new work of dystopian fiction" (*Vogue*) that delves into the complexities of marriage, motherhood, and selfhood in a world compromised by global warming and dizzying technological advancement, a world of both dystopian and utopian possibilities.

"Philips's new novel again shows her talent for finding warmth, humanity, and connection within an all-too-conceivable dystopian landscape…Writing with precision, insight, sensitivity, and compassion, Phillips renders the way love and family bonds—between partners, parents, and children, and siblings—can act as a balm and an anchor amid the buffeting winds of a fast-changing, out-of-control world. A perceptive page-turner." —*Kirkus Reviews* (starred review)

"An indelible family portrait and a narrative tour de force, *Hum* generates almost unbearable tension and unease from start to end. Stunning, strangely beautiful, and written from a place of deep compassion but also a clear and analytical eye. Helen Phillips, in typical bravura fashion, has found a way to make visible uncomfortable truths about our present by interrogating the near-future. I loved it." —Jeff VanderMeer, *New York Times* bestselling author of *Hummingbird Salamander*

Reading Group Guide Available

Themes: AI, Technology Dependence, Connection, Climate Change, Humanity



Now in Paperback

The Infinite Sadness of Small Appliances

A Novel

Glenn Dixon

9781668097274 | Trade Paper | 224 pages | $18.00 | Atria Books

In a self-running, smart house, a young and sentient Roomba listens as her owner, Harold, reads aloud to his dying wife, Edie. Mesmerized by *To Kill a Mockingbird* and craving the human connection she witnesses in Harold's stories, the little vacuum renames herself Scout and embarks on a journey of self-discovery.

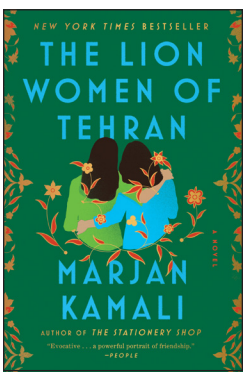
But when Edie passes away, Scout and her fellow sentient appliances discover that there are sinister forces in their midst. The omnipresent Grid, which monitors every household in the City, seeks to remove Harold from his home, a place he's lived in for fifty years.

With the help of Adrian, a neighborhood boy who grows close to Scout and Harold, as well as Kate, Harold and Edie's formerly estranged daughter, the humans and the appliances must come together to outwit the all-controlling Grid lest they risk losing everything they hold dear.

"'Futuristic Roomba' must rank high on the list of most unlikely protagonists, but Dixon's characters are calculated to delight without ever tipping the narrative into feeling cynical…This heartfelt fable for the digitally automated age is smart in more than one sense of the word." —*Shelf Awareness*

"Quaint, wistful, and profound, Dixon's novel pits scrappy innocence against a pitiless, totalitarian future. This is a deeply satisfying read at exactly the right time." —Sierra Greer, award-winning author of *Annie Bot*

Themes: Self Discovery, AI, Connection



The Lion Women of Tehran

Marjan Kamali

9781668036594 | Trade Paper | 352 pages | $18.99 | Gallery Books

In 1950s Tehran, seven-year-old Ellie lives in grand comfort until the untimely death of her father, forcing Ellie and her mother to move to a tiny home downtown. Lonely and bearing the brunt of her mother's endless grievances, Ellie dreams for a friend to alleviate her isolation.

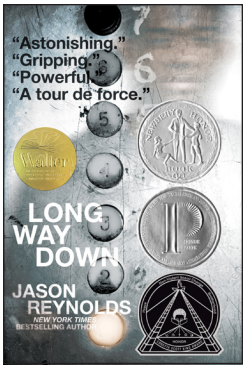
Luckily, on the first day of school, she meets Homa, a kind girl with a brave and irrepressible spirit. Together, the two girls play games, learn to cook in the stone kitchen of Homa's warm home, wander through the colorful stalls of the Grand Bazaar, and share their ambitions of becoming "lion women."

But their happiness is disrupted when Ellie and her mother are afforded the opportunity to return to their previous bourgeois life. Now a popular student at the best girls' high school in Iran, Ellie's memories of Homa begin to fade. Years later, however, her sudden reappearance in Ellie's privileged world alters the course of both of their lives.

Together, the two young women come of age and pursue their own goals for meaningful futures. But as the political turmoil in Iran builds to a breaking point, one earth-shattering betrayal will have enormous consequences.

"Kamali's storytelling is both evocative and hauntingly beautiful, creating a vivid portrayal of the characters' lives and the cultural tapestry of Tehran. *The Lion Women of Tehran* is not merely a novel; it is a sweeping exploration of the enduring influence of early connections, the resilience of the human spirit, and the transformative power of love and courage in the face of political upheaval. This novel is a testament to Kamali's storytelling prowess and her ability to create a deeply moving and thought-provoking narrative." —Jean Kwok, *New York Times* bestselling author of *Searching for Sylvie Lee*

New York Times Bestseller
Reading Group Guide Available
Themes: Friendship, History, Resilience, Global Perspective



Long Way Down

Jason Reynolds

9781481438261 | Trade Paper | 336 pages | $13.99 | Atheneum/Caitlyn Dlouhy Books

Read by the author

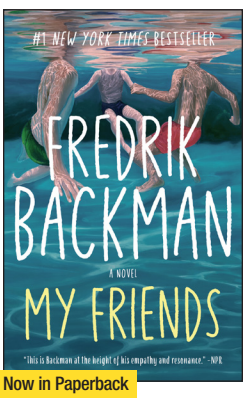
"Spanning a mere one minute and seven seconds, Reynolds's new free-verse novel is an intense snapshot of the chain reaction caused by pulling a trigger. First, fifteen-year-old Will Holloman sets the scene by relating his brother's, Shawn's, murder two days prior—gunned down while buying soap for their mother. Next, he lays out The Rules: don't cry, don't snitch, always get revenge. Now that the reader is up to speed, Will tucks Shawn's gun into his waistband and steps into an elevator, steeled to execute rule number three and shoot his brother's killer. Yet, the simple seven-floor descent becomes a revelatory trip. At each floor, the doors open to admit someone killed by the same cycle of violence that Will's about to enter. He's properly freaked out, but as the seconds tick by and floors count down, each new occupant drops some knowledge and pushes Will to examine his plans for that gun. Reynolds's concise verses echo like shots against the white space of the page, their impact resounding. He peels back the individual stories that led to this moment in the elevator and exposes a culture inured to violence because poverty, gang life, or injustice has left them with no other option. In this all too real portrait of survival, Reynolds goes toe-to-toe with where, or even if, love and choice are allowed to exist." —*Booklist* (starred review)

National Book Award for Young People's Literature Longlist | Newbery Honor Book | Coretta Scott King Honor Book | Printz Honor Book | *Los Angeles Times* Book Prize Winner for Young Adult Literature | Walter Dean Myers Award Winner | Edgar Award Winner for Best Young Adult Fiction | Parents' Choice Gold Award Winner

Reading Group Guide Available | Graphic Novel Adaptation Available

SELECTED BY Northern Vermont University–Johnson

Themes: Family, Society, Injustice



Now in Paperback

My Friends

A Novel

Fredrik Backman

9781982112837 | Trade Paper | 448 pages | $20.00 | Atria Books

Most people don't even notice them—three tiny figures sitting at the end of a long pier in the corner of one of the most famous paintings in the world. Most people think it's just a depiction of the sea. But Louisa, an aspiring artist herself, knows otherwise, and she is determined to find out the story of these three enigmatic figures.

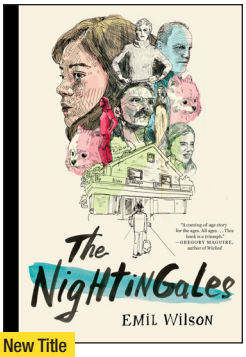
Twenty-five years earlier, in a distant seaside town, a group of teenagers find refuge from their bruising home lives by spending long summer days on an abandoned pier, telling silly jokes, sharing secrets, and committing small acts of rebellion. These lost souls find in each other a reason to get up each morning, a reason to dream, a reason to love.

Out of that summer emerges a transcendent work of art, a painting that will unexpectedly be placed into eighteen-year-old Louisa's care. She embarks on a surprise-filled cross-country journey to learn how the painting came to be and to decide what to do with it. The closer she gets to the painting's birthplace, the more nervous she becomes about what she'll find. Louisa is proof that happy endings don't always take the form we expect in this stunning testament to the transformative, timeless power of friendship and art.

"This is Fredrik Backman at the height of his empathy and resonance… I frequently paused to marvel at the way Backman captured the rebellion of joy, the ferocity of devotion, and the cruelty of indifference. Every Backman book should come with the warning that your heart will be split in two, but also, more importantly, with the assurance that it will be repaired with restored faith in the small miracles of being human." —NPR, Favorite Fiction Reads of 2025

Reading Group Guide Available

Themes: Friendship, Coming of Age, Resilience, Class



New Title

The Nightingales

Emil Wilson

9781668217771 | Hardcover | 416 pages | $38.00 | Avid Reader Press

It's the spring of 1985. Lou Miller's father, Donald, invites his coworker Jim and his two Pomeranians, Henny and Penny, to move into his family's home. What he doesn't tell his wife, Annemarie, or his daughter, Lou, is that Jim has AIDS.

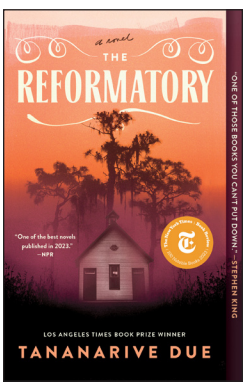
Months before Rock Hudson's diagnosis shocked the public and ushered in a new era of awareness for the crisis, AIDS is a news story that happens in faraway places to faraway people, and Jim's presence in the house turns this small-town Oregon family upside down. As Annemarie's fear and resentment grows, resulting in increasingly bitter fights with the gentle and stubborn Donald, so too does Lou's unlikely friendship with Jim (and Henny and Penny)—a friendship that not only buoys Jim through the most difficult parts of his illness, but is a catalyst for Lou to finally pursue her truest and bravest self in the bigger world.

The Nightingales is an unforgettable portrait of an imperfect family grappling with extraordinary circumstances, and a powerful example of how confronting the unknown with curiosity and compassion is the first step to building a better world.

"*The Nightingales* is a deeply moving book that brings to vivid life the alienation so many of us have felt on the road to adulthood as it illustrates the transformative power of friendship. I was overwhelmed with emotion on every page of this gorgeous graphic work…Here is a book that richly deserves a place alongside coming-of-age classics like *Running with Scissors* and *Fun Home*." —Will Schwalbe, *New York Times* bestselling author of *The End of Your Life Book Club*

"A singularly beautiful book, the subtlety of its layered and playful visuals a match for the emotional intricacies of this family drama and coming of age story." —Emma Donoghue, author of *Room*

Themes: Coming of Age, Friendship, Graphic Novel



The Reformatory

A Novel

Tananarive Due

9781982188351 | Trade Paper | 576 pages | $19.99 | Saga Press

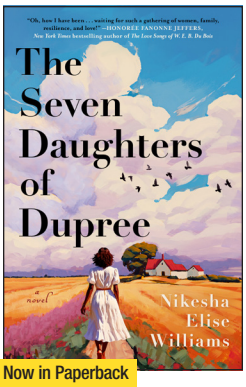
Gracetown, Florida. June 1950. Twelve-year-old Robbie Stephens Jr. is sentenced to six months at the Gracetown School for Boys, a reformatory, for kicking the son of the largest landowner in town in defense of his older sister, Gloria. So begins Robbie's journey further into the terrors of the Jim Crow South and the very real horror of the school they call The Reformatory.

Robbie has a talent for seeing ghosts, or haints. But what was once a comfort to him after the loss of his mother has become a window to the truth of what happens at the reformatory. Boys forced to work to remediate their so-called crimes have gone missing, but the haints Robbie sees hint at worse things. Through his friends Redbone and Blue, Robbie is learning not just the rules, but how to survive. Meanwhile, Gloria is rallying every family member and connection in Florida to find a way to get Robbie out before it's too late.

The Reformatory is a work of historical fiction written as only American Book Award–winning author Tananarive Due could, by piecing together the life of the relative her family never spoke of and bringing his tragedy and those of so many others at the infamous Dozier School for Boys to the light in this riveting novel.

"A vividly realized page-turner, which is at once an ingenious ghost story, a white-knuckle adventure, and an illuminating if infuriating look back at a shameful period in American jurisprudence." —*Kirkus Reviews* (starred review)

ALA Notable Book | *Los Angeles Times* Book Prize Winner
Bram Stoker Award Winner | Shirley Jackson Award Winner
Reading Group Guide Available
Themes: African American Stories and Voices, Historical, Regional: The South, Supernatural



Now in Paperback

The Seven Daughters of Dupree

A Novel

Nikesha Elise Williams

9781668051955 | Trade Paper | 336 pages | $19.00 | Scout Press

From the two-time Emmy Award–winning producer and host of the *Black and Published* podcast comes a sweeping multi-generational epic following seven generations of Dupree women as they navigate love, loss, and the unyielding ties of family in the tradition of *Homegoing* and *The Love Songs of W.E.B. DuBois*.

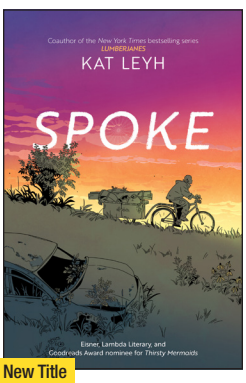
It's 1995, and fourteen-year-old Tati is determined to uncover the identity of her father. But her mother, Nadia, keeps her secrets close, while her grandmother Gladys remains silent about the family's past, including why she left Land's End, Alabama, in 1953. As Tati digs deeper, she uncovers a legacy of family secrets, where every generation of Dupree women has posed more questions than answers.

From Jubi in 1917, whose attempt to pass for white ends when she gives birth to Ruby; to Ruby's fiery lust for Sampson in 1934 that leads to a baby of her own; to the night in 1980 that changed Nadia's future forever, the Dupree women carry the weight of their heritage. Bound by a mysterious malediction that means they will only give birth to daughters, the Dupree women confront a legacy of pain, resilience, and survival that began with an enslaved ancestor who risked everything for freedom.

"Nikesha Elise Williams is a writer of transcendent, vivid power. *The Seven Daughters of Dupree* is a novel of unflinching honesty and explosive secrets—and the galloping, haunting prose captures not only the heartbreak of oppression, but also the breathtaking moral beauty of resilience, honesty, and the soul's endurance. I admire this book deeply, and it deserves to be not only read, but celebrated." —Elizabeth Gilbert, *New York Times* bestselling author of *City of Girls*

Reading Group Guide Available

Themes: Resilience, African American Stories and Voices, Historical, Family



New Title

Spoke

Kat Leyh

9781668052426 | Hardcover | 208 pages | $29.99 | Gallery 13

The Eisner and Lambda Literary Award–nominated creator of *Thirsty Mermaids* returns with a heartfelt and transporting graphic novel about connection, community, and rebuilding after the end of the world.

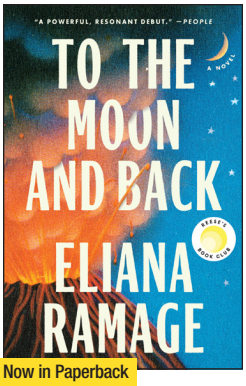
Many years ago, a mysterious force swept across the land, reclaiming and forever silencing every source of power. In its absence and over the generations since, the denizens of one rural area have learned to live differently: growing and trading their own food, preserving old knowledge in danger of being lost, and relying on one another to survive.

Spoke knows the winding roads of this place better than anyone. A deaf and nonverbal courier who communicates through sign language, Spoke spends her days ferrying deliveries between scattered villages and settlements, moving quietly through the surrounding land with only her cargo bike for company. Though she's welcomed almost everywhere she goes, Spoke has nonetheless built her life around routine and solitude.

But when a series of deliveries draws her into the orbit of trusted friends, ancient tales, and a traveler who perhaps understands loneliness as deeply as she does, Spoke begins to imagine a larger life than the one she's always known. As seasonal changes roll across the landscape, the fragile connections between these communities—and between people—suddenly feel more important than ever.

Warm, wistful, and quietly hopeful, *Spoke* is a beautifully realized vision of life moving forward—and an unforgettable story about the people who keep the world turning.

Themes: LGBTQIA+ Stories and Voices, Disability, Community



Now in Paperback

To the Moon and Back

A Novel

Eliana Ramage

9781668065860 | Trade Paper | 464 pages | $20.00 | Avid Reader Press

Steph Harper is convinced that only space—outer space—can save her. From a childhood of fearful running and alienation; from a family and community that threaten to suffocate her with their reverence for the past. Equal parts tender, funny, and heartbreaking, *To the Moon and Back* charts the course of Steph's singular dream: to become the first Cherokee astronaut, no matter who or what she has to leave behind.

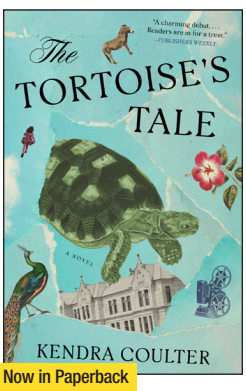
But despite her self-prescribed loneliness and reckless ambition, Steph's story isn't hers alone. *To the Moon and Back* also brings to life the vibrant, complex women—a celebrity activist younger sister, an ex-Mormon college girlfriend, and a devoted mother with a crushing secret—who insist on loving her…even when she least deserves them.

From a simulated Mars habitat on a Hawaiian volcano, to a house in the Ozark foothills in Cherokee Nation, to a pressurized research station on the floor of the Atlantic and beyond, Steph will stretch her bonds with each of these women to the point of breaking, driving them to reconsider their own deepest desires in her shadow. An awe-inspiringly epic novel of mothers and daughters, sisters and sacrifice, love and loss, terror and wonder, *To the Moon and Back* is the unforgettable story of one astronaut's most surprising discovery: how deeply she loves life on earth.

"Eliana Ramage's *To the Moon and Back* is a captivating debut about family, queer identity, love, career, and heritage. This novel has something for everyone." —De'Shawn Charles Winslow, author of *Decent People*

Reading Group Guide Available

Themes: Coming of Age, Identity, Belonging, Indigenous Stories and Voices, Ambition, LGBTQIA+ Stories and Voices



Now in Paperback

The Tortoise's Tale

A Novel

Kendra Coulter

9781668068632 | Trade Paper | 256 pages | $18.00 | Simon & Schuster

Snatched from her ancestral lands, a giant tortoise finds herself in an exclusive estate in southern California where she becomes an astute observer of societal change. Her journey is one of discovery, as she learns to embrace the music of jazz and the warmth of human connection.

The tortoise's story is enriched by her bond with Takeo, the estate's gardener, who sees her as a being with thoughts and feelings, not just a creature to be observed. The tortoise's mind and heart are further expanded by Lucy, a young girl who names the tortoise Magic and shares a friendship that transcends species. Together, they witness the estate's transformation into a haven for industry titans, politicians, and rock stars, each leaving their mark on the world and on Magic's heart.

The tortoise embraces her role as a muse with gusto and witnesses how diverse human harmonies and the mighty winds of social change both uplift people and tear them apart. Over the course of her lifetime, the estate changes ownership, bringing raucous Hollywood parties, and animals both familiar and unexpected. There are also threats, as the estate's idyll is not immune to the ravages of a damaged planet. Through each era, the tortoise remains a refreshingly honest and endearing narrator whose unique vantage point illuminates the transcendent power of compassion, the unexpected connections that shape how we see ourselves and each other, and the wide-reaching effects of choice—or the lack thereof.

Themes: Resilience, Hope, Nature, Connection



New Title

When Mikan Road Was Ours

A Novel

D.K. Furutani

9781668086926 | Hardcover | 320 pages | $29.00 | Atria Books

Amidst a sweltering Los Angeles heat wave, Murano, a reclusive high school English teacher, is muddling through life. Reeling from his father's sudden death as well as his own recent cancer diagnosis, he passes time hazily grading papers and appeasing disgruntled parents while counting down each day until summer vacation.

The monotony breaks when he inherits his great-uncle Benjiro's unpublished memoir. What Murano expects to be a grim reminder of his position as the half-white son of the family's outcast instead whisks him away to 1930s California, to a time when the Murano family was inseparable, relishing life together on their bucolic farm. As the memoir introduces him to relatives he never knew existed and unearths hidden complexities of the past, Murano is pulled close to the Japanese identity he's dismissed all of his life. Faced with the reality of his family's dissolution, Murano becomes determined to understand its breaking point following their incarceration in American concentration camps during World War II, no matter what hidden truths he might uncover about his ancestors or himself.

Lovingly crafted with poignant and profound attention to historical detail, *When Mikan Road Was Ours* is a rich meditation on belonging that seamlessly blends the intricacies of heritage, the resilience of family bonds, and the struggle to reconcile a past filled with both heartache and hope.

"A kaleidoscopic account of Japanese displacement and resilience, expertly weaving archival material with a nuanced contemporary struggle to find oneself inside of a silenced history. Absorbing, richly researched, and artfully constructed, *When Mikan Road Was Ours* is a phenomenal debut." —Megan Kamalei Kakimoto, bestselling author of *Every Drop is a Man's Nightmare*

Themes: Resilience, Hope, History, Asian American Stories and Voices



Now in Paperback

When We Were Real

A Novel

Daryl Gregory

9781668060056 | Trade Paper | 464 pages | $20.00 | Saga Press

From multiple award-winning author Daryl Gregory comes a madcap adventure following two friends on a cross-country bus tour through the mind-boggling glitches in their simulated world as they grapple with love, family, secrets, and the very nature of reality in a simulation.

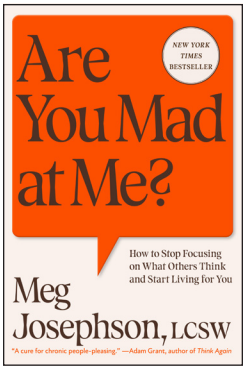
"Daryl Gregory takes a classic 'what if?' thought experiment—the same one that undergirds *The Matrix* and other high-concept sci-fi extravaganzas—and treats it with groundedness, nuance and literary sophistication. The result is a deeply absorbing novel of cross-country adventure about real, recognizable people…the irony being that they're not real people at all. What absolute fun." —Ben H. Winters, Edgar Award–winning author of The Last Policeman Trilogy

"*When We Were Real* goes far beyond the usual SF novels of living in a simulation. Its poignant, appealing, boisterous characters know they are simulations, and as they get on with their complicated digital lives, they—and we—explore what it means to be real, to be human, to be alive. A must-read by one of science fiction's most versatile and talented authors." —Nancy Kress, winner of six Nebulas, two Hugos, a Sturgeon, and the John W. Campbell Memorial Award

Finalist for the Nebula Award for Best Novel

Themes: Science Fiction, Adventure, Family, Friendship, Grief, Humanity

HEALTH AND MENTAL WELLNESS



Are You Mad at Me?

How to Stop Focusing on What Others Think and Start Living for You

Meg Josephson, LCSW

9781668082461 | Hardcover | 304 pages | $30.00 | Gallery Books

Read by the author

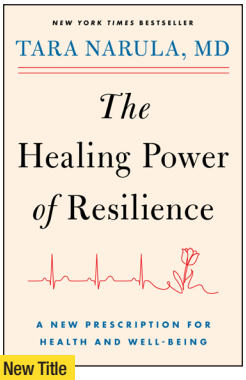
Psychotherapist Meg Josephson is here to show you that people-pleasing is not a personality trait. It's a common survival mechanism known as "fawning": an instinct often learned in childhood to become more appealing to a perceived threat in order to feel safe. Yet many people are stuck in this way of being for their whole lives. *Are You Mad at Me?* weaves Josephson's own moving story with that of fascinating client stories and thought-provoking exercises to show you how to:

- Identify all the roles you might play that keep you far from yourself.
- Stop fearing your thoughts and emotions, even if they're unpleasant.
- Rethink conflict and boundaries as an opening for deeper connection.
- Manage well-being so one can best explore their aptitudes; discover their passions; build confidence; and cultivate independence, health, and happiness.
- Shift away from the familiar chaos, anxiety, and resentment you're used to as you move closer to yourself and a life that no longer depletes you—but brings you joy.

With Josephson's "lucid prose and smart mix of clinical expertise, personal disclosure, and pertinent case studies" (*Publishers Weekly*), *Are You Mad at Me?* will help you shed the behaviors that are keeping you stuck in the past so that you can live in your most authentic present.

New York Times Bestseller

Themes: Psychology, Happiness, Personal Growth



New Title

The Healing Power of Resilience

A New Prescription for Health and Well-Being

Tara Narula, MD

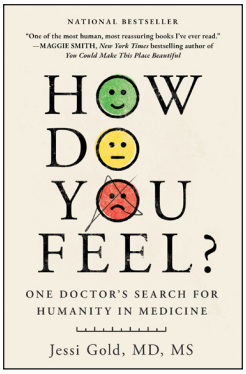
9781982198862 | Paperback | 288 pages | $20.00 | Simon Element

Over the course of her decades-long career as a board-certified cardiologist and journalist, Dr. Tara Narula noticed there was something missing in patient care: the need to address mental health alongside physical health. This realization transformed Dr. Narula's career and led her down an eye-opening path, studying landmark medical trials and the latest advancements in the field as well as interviewing patients, doctors, researchers, and thought leaders.

The Healing Power of Resilience is the culmination of this work, offering practical tools to build your resilience, which Dr. Narula calls the "Resilience Response." Challenging situations can lead to a stress reaction in the body. Learning to practice the "Resilience Response" when that happens can mitigate it, and therefore help prevent disease, promote healing, and improve quality of life. Through scientific research, pioneering medical journalism, and personal stories, this book presents a revolutionary new approach to living well.

"At a time when stress has become overwhelming in people's lives, Dr. Narula's prescription for well-being and resilience could not be more timely or essential. Her eloquent, heartfelt blend of experience and science show us that a better life is not just possible but within our grasp." —Vivek Murthy, MD, MBA, 19th and 21st Surgeon General of the United States

Themes: Resilience, Mental Health, Wellness



How Do You Feel?

One Doctor's Search for Humanity in Medicine

Jessi Gold, MD, MS

9781982199784 | Trade Paper | 288 pages | $19.00 | Simon Element

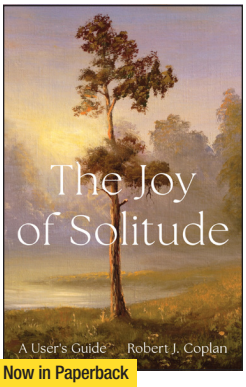
In *How Do You Feel?* Dr. Jessi Gold offers a deeply personal and poignant memoir that explores the hidden tolls of taking care of others. As an assistant professor, practicing psychiatrist, and university wellness leader, Dr. Gold was accustomed to a life of constant busyness, always putting the needs of her patients, colleagues, and loved ones before her own. But when an unthinkable error during a patient session forces her to confront her own mental health, she begins a journey of self-discovery and reevaluation of the medical system that trained her.

Expertly weaving her research expertise with unforgettable stories and raw emotions, Dr. Gold's memoir is at once deeply personal and utterly universal. *How Do You Feel?* demonstrates the unbridled capacity for connection, learning, and growth, reminding us all that in order to care for others, we must first remember to care for ourselves.

"In *How Do You Feel?* Jessi Gold, MD, opens a compassionate, intelligent portal into the lives of the healthcare workers struggling with their own mental health. Gold's deep-dive into the human psyches of those who serve others in the healthcare industry illuminates how difficult it is for the helpers among us to get help for themselves. With the perfect blend of stories from her practice, science, and personal narrative, Gold sheds light on the price healthcare workers pay for neglecting themselves and breaks through the stigma that keeps so many of them silent. This book is a salve for anyone facing burnout in any field, and Gold is the best kind of guide: warm, witty, and genuinely invested in other people's lives." —Christie Tate, *New York Times* bestselling author of *Group*

Reading Group Guide Available

Themes: Mental Health, Compassion



Now in Paperback

The Joy of Solitude

How to Reconnect with Yourself in an Overconnected World

Robert J. Coplan

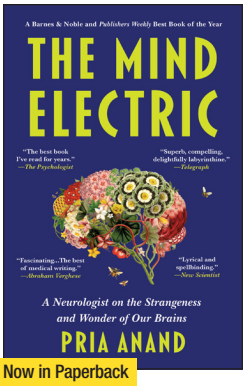
9781668053430 | Trade Paper | 272 pages | $19.00 | Simon & Schuster

In *The Joy of Solitude*, Robert Coplan draws from diverse fields including psychology, neuroscience, literature, and sociology to guide readers through solitude's many dimensions and its profound effects on mental health and well-being. In this enlightening book, students will discover:

- The many different types of solitude, ranging from enjoyable to challenging, each influencing personal experiences in unique ways.
- Why choosing to spend even fifteen minutes alone each day can help stabilize their mood, recharge their battery, and spark creativity.
- A deeper understanding of extraverts and introverts and their (often misunderstood) relationship to solitude.
- What alone time looks like in a world where social connection is always a click away.
- Groundbreaking scientific insights into the effects of both loneliness and "aloneliness."
- The surprising ways that time alone can enhance relationships with others.
- Practical strategies for harmonizing moments of social engagement and solitude, crucial for achieving optimal life satisfaction.

The Joy of Solitude is a vital resource for those who wish to understand the complexities of solitude and its potential to enhance mental health, creativity, and self-discovery.

Themes: Mental Health, Creativity, Personal Growth



Now in Paperback

The Mind Electric

A Neurologist on the Strangeness and Wonder of Our Brains

Pria Anand

9781668064023 | Trade Paper | 288 pages | $19.00 | Washington Square Press

Read by the author

In *The Mind Electric*, neurologist Pria Anand reveals—through case study, history, fable, and memoir—all that the medical establishment has overlooked: the complexity and wonder of brains in health and in extremis, and the vast gray area between sanity and insanity, doctor and patient, and illness and wellness, each separated from the next by the thin veneer of a different story.

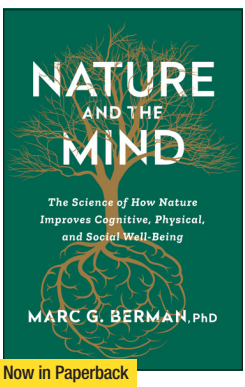
Moving from the Boston hospital where she treats her patients, to her childhood years in India, to Isla Providencia in the Caribbean and to the Republic of Guinea in West Africa, she demonstrates again and again the compelling paradox at the heart of neurology: that even the most peculiar symptoms can show us something universal about ourselves as humans.

"Neurologist Anand artfully stitches together memoir, medical history, neuroscience, and glimpses of people with neurological diseases to introduce readers to different types of wounded brains. Featured disorders include epilepsy, multiple sclerosis, fatal familial insomnia, Creutzfeldt-Jakob disease, cerebellar degeneration, metastatic breast cancer wrapping itself around the brain, and autoimmune encephalitis. The book excels in Anand's ruminations on the art of clinical medicine and her insights into the physician experience. She startlingly confesses, 'To become a doctor, I was becoming less of a human being.' Fully charged…an undeniable grace and humanity permeate these pages that are sure to spark a response in readers." —*Booklist* (starred review)

"*The Mind Electric* is stunning, full of wisdom, revelation, and poetry. I was continually awed by Dr. Pria Anand's insight into the darkest shadows of the human experience. I loved every minute of this remarkable book, and I will never think of my brain and body in the same way again." —Susannah Cahalan, *New York Times* bestselling author of *Brain on Fire*

Winner of the PEN/E.O. Wilson Literary Science Writing Award

Themes: Medical, Stories, Inequality, Health



Now in Paperback

Nature and the Mind

The Science of How Nature Improves Cognitive, Physical, and Social Well-Being

Marc G. Berman, PhD

9781668058787 | Trade Paper | 336 pages | $19.00 | Simon Element

Dr. Marc Berman, the pioneering creator of the field of environmental neuroscience, has discovered the surprising connection between mind, body, and environment, with a special emphasis on the natural environment. If you sometimes feel drained, distracted, or depressed, Dr. Berman has identified the elements of a "nature prescription" that can boost your energy, sharpen your focus, change your mood, and improve your mental and physical health. *Nature and the Mind* is both an introduction to a revolutionary new scientific field and a helpful guide to better living.

With an engaging and approachable style, Dr. Berman offers the nature prescription for physical health, mental health, and social health. Importantly, you don't have to pack up your house and move to the country to participate. The nature prescription includes practical ways to bring the outside indoors and to "naturize" our spaces, no matter where you live. The positive effects of nature don't just end at the individual; contact with nature can make people more caring towards one another, promote economic and racial justice, encourage people to care more for the environment, and more.

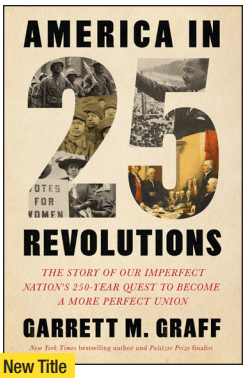
"An eye-opening book about how green and blue spaces can transform our thoughts and our lives. Marc Berman is a pioneering environmental neuroscientist, and he makes a compelling case that nature plays a vital role in our mental, social, and physical health." —Adam Grant, #1 *New York Times* bestselling author of *Think Again*

A 2026 Nautilus Book Award Winner

Themes: Nature, Psychology, Mental Health, Wellness

Simon & Schuster First Year Reading

HISTORY



New Title

America in 25 Revolutions

The Story of Our Imperfect Nation's 250-Year Quest to Become a More Perfect Union

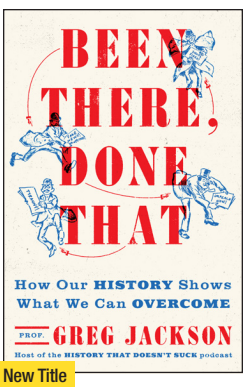
Garrett M. Graff

9781668247525 | Hardcover | 496 pages | $32.50 | Avid Reader Press

In *America in 25 Revolutions*, acclaimed historian Garrett M. Graff immerses us in the legendary—and the forgotten—milestones in Americans' ongoing quest to create a more perfect union. Since our founding in 1776, Americans have never stopped fighting for revolutionary advances to get closer to our founding promise of a nation where all are created and treated equal. *America in 25 Revolutions* tells their stories.

The rights, freedoms, and opportunities so many of us now enjoy began as creative acts of imagination by individuals and groups excluded from the country's founding principles. Progress has often been hard and come at great cost; many times, efforts to enshrine new rights and freedoms failed multiple times and efforts continued for years. From the Reconstruction Amendments in the 1860s to the Civil Rights Acts of the 1960s, from Brown v. Board of Education to the end of Jewish quotas at elite universities, from the Social Security Act to the Americans with Disabilities Act, the stories in *America in 25 Revolutions* offer a critical lesson for a trying time in the United States: Progress isn't linear nor is it constant, but the challenge our country delivers to each generation is to leave the nation better than it was. *America in 25 Revolutions* leaves us with restored inspiration and hope for tomorrow.

Themes: Civil Rights, US History



New Title

Been There, Done That

How Our History Shows What We Can Overcome

Greg Jackson

9781668062609 | Hardcover | 432 pages | $31.00 | Simon & Schuster

Read by the author

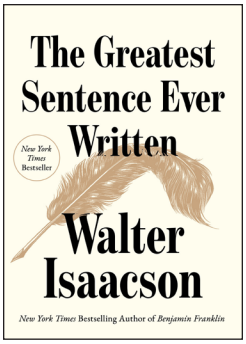
Professor Greg Jackson, podcast host of *History That Doesn't Suck*, proves that while today's political climate may be dark, these aren't as unprecedented times as we may think.

Our nation's past is full of massive upheaval, disagreement, and departures from the moral high ground. The political gentlemanly conduct of yesteryear is no more than a myth. But that reality never allowed our worst historical selves to defeat our better angels. In *Been There, Done That*, Greg looks back in time to eight examples from our nation's history and shows that some of the hottest issues of our day are, in fact, American traditions that stand firmly beside another deeply American trait: the will to push back on these demons, prevail, and overcome.

It may be 250 years since this country's founding, but the playbook has remained mostly the same. From the Founding Father's hyperpartisan print war of the 1790s, to the caning of Senator Charles Sumner in 1856, to the thoroughly corrupt presidential election of 1876, and all the way through the yellow journalism and print war of Joseph Pulitzer and William Randoph Hearst, you will recognize how familiar these stories are to our own supposedly unprecedented times.

Full of fascinating characters, page-turning narrative storytelling, and Greg's characteristic humor, *Been There, Done That* will fill readers with hope for our future by showing us the warts of our past—only by knowing that our country has been here before, and prevailed toward a more just future, can we find the strength to rebound once more.

Themes: US History, Political Science, Resilience



The Greatest Sentence Ever Written

Walter Isaacson

9781982181314 | Hardcover | 80 pages | $20.00 | Simon & Schuster

Read by the author and Holter Graham

To celebrate America's 250th anniversary, Walter Isaacson takes readers on a fascinating deep dive into the creation of one of history's most powerful sentences: "We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty, and the pursuit of Happiness."

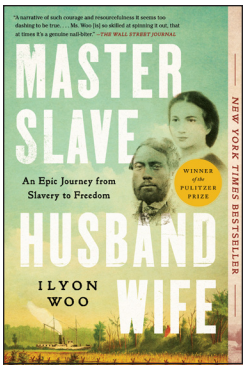
Drafted by Thomas Jefferson and edited by Benjamin Franklin and John Adams, this line lays the foundation for the American Dream and defines the common ground we share as a nation.

Isaacson unpacks its genius, word by word, illuminating the then-radical concepts behind it. Readers will gain a fresh appreciation for how it was drafted to inspire unity, equality, and the enduring promise of America. With clarity and insight, he reveals not just the power of these words but describes how, in these polarized times, we can use them to restore an appreciation for our common values.

"In Isaacson's expert hands, those 35 words, and the ones that come after them, gain a new level of clarity and relevance, and inspire deepened appreciation." —*Booklist* (starred review)

"A short, smart analysis of perhaps the most famous passage in American history reveals its potency and unfulfilled promise." —*Kirkus Reviews*

Themes: US History, Democracy



Master Slave Husband Wife

An Epic Journey from Slavery to Freedom

Ilyon Woo

9781501191060 | Trade Paper | 432 pages | $21.00 | 37 Ink

Read by Janina Edwards and Leon Nixon

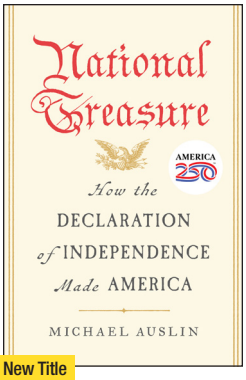
In 1848, a year of international democratic revolt, a young, enslaved couple, Ellen and William Craft, achieved one of the boldest feats of self-emancipation in American history. Posing as master and slave, while sustained by their love as husband and wife, they made their escape together across more than 1,000 miles, riding out in the open on steamboats, carriages, and trains that took them from bondage in Georgia to the free states of the North.

But even then, they were not out of danger. With the passage of an infamous new Fugitive Slave Act in 1850, all Americans became accountable for returning refugees like the Crafts to slavery. Then yet another adventure began, as slave hunters came up from Georgia, forcing the Crafts to flee once again—this time from the United States, their lives and thousands more on the line and the stakes never higher.

With three epic journeys compressed into one monumental bid for freedom, *Master Slave Husband Wife* is an American love story—one that would challenge the nation's core precepts of life, liberty, and justice for all—one that challenges us even now.

"A gripping adventure…suspenseful and wonderfully told. A captivating tale that ably captures the determination and courage of a remarkable couple." —*Kirkus Reviews* (starred review)

New York Times Bestseller | 2024 Pulitzer Prize in Biography Winner
ALA Notable Book
Reading Group Guide Available
Themes: US History, African American Stories and Voices



New Title

National Treasure

How the Declaration of Independence Made America

Michael Auslin

9781668214541 | Hardcover | 368 pages | $30.00 | Avid Reader Press

Read by the author and Pete Simonelli

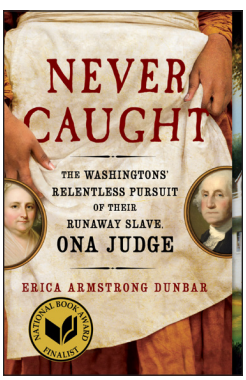
The first book ever to tell the complete story of the Declaration of Independence—from its drafting by Thomas Jefferson to its enshrinement in the National Archives—charting the many lives of a document that was neglected, mistreated, and only gradually became a national relic, uniting vastly different generations through war and crisis around its defiant ideals.

As the country has grown from 4 million to 40 million to 400 million, the Declaration has inspired immigrants to become American and fueled implausibly varied causes, from abolitionists, suffragists, socialists and civil rights leaders to groups waging war on the US government. Over time, as Jefferson hoped, the principles set forth in the Declaration became a beacon to the world. But what lessons should we take from them today? Can this statement of ideals in whose name the signers pledged their lives and sacred honor bring a fractured nation together? As we celebrate the 250th anniversary of our bold experiment in democracy, Auslin reminds us that this enduring document was an eloquent statement of the principles that, for all our differences, still bind us together.

"A nimble, captivating view of the defiant 1,320 words that have knit themselves into every chapter of the last 250 years." —Stacy Schiff

"Fascinating…weaves the glorious narrative of the Declaration from its inception to our day." —Walter Isaacson

Themes: US History, Political Science



Never Caught

The Washingtons' Relentless Pursuit of Their Runaway Slave, Ona Judge

Erica Armstrong Dunbar

9781501126413 | Trade Paper | 288 pages | $18.99 | 37 Ink

When George Washington was elected president, he reluctantly left behind his beloved Mount Vernon to serve in Philadelphia, the temporary seat of the nation's capital. In setting up his household he brought along nine slaves, including Ona Judge. As the President grew accustomed to Northern ways, there was one change he couldn't abide: Pennsylvania law required enslaved people be set free after six months of residency in the state. Rather than comply, Washington decided to circumvent the law. Every six months he sent the slaves back down south just as the clock was about to expire.

Though Ona Judge lived a life of relative comfort, she was denied freedom. So, when the opportunity presented itself one clear and pleasant spring day in Philadelphia, Judge left everything she knew to escape to New England. Yet freedom would not come without its costs. At just twenty-two-years-old, Ona became the subject of an intense manhunt led by George Washington, who used his political and personal contacts to recapture his property.

Historian and National Book Award finalist Erica Armstrong Dunbar weaves a powerful tale and offers fascinating new scholarship on how one young woman risked everything to gain freedom from the famous founding father and most powerful man in the United States at the time.

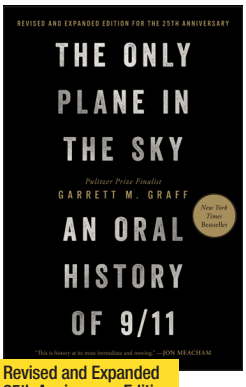
"A fascinating and moving account of a courageous and resourceful woman. Beautifully written and utilizing previously untapped sources it sheds new light both on the father of our country and on the intersections of slavery and freedom in the flawed republic he helped to found." —Eric Foner, Pulitzer Prize–winning author

National Book Award Finalist

Reading Group Guide Available | Young Readers Edition Available

SELECTED BY Franklin College, University of Missouri–Kansas City, Southern Methodist University–University Honors Program, Marywood University, Ramapo College, Duke University, Southern New Hampshire University

Themes: US History, Women's Studies, African American Stories and Voices



Revised and Expanded 25th Anniversary Edition

The Only Plane in the Sky

An Oral History of 9/11

Garrett M. Graff

9781668247457 | Hardcover | 592 pages | $34.00 | Avid Reader Press

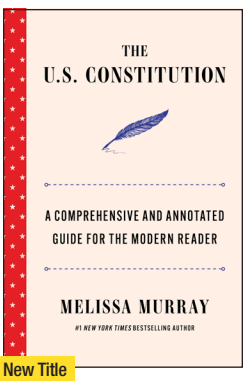
Read by a full 45-person cast, with Holter Graham

In *The Only Plane in the Sky*, Garrett Graff tells the story of 9/11 as it was lived—in the words of those who lived it. Drawing on never-before-published transcripts, declassified documents, original interviews, and oral histories from nearly five hundred government officials, first responders, witnesses, survivors, friends, and family members, he paints the most vivid and human portrait of the September 11 attacks yet.

More than simply a collection of eyewitness testimonies, *The Only Plane in the Sky* is the historic narrative of how ordinary people grappled with extraordinary events in real time: the father and son caught on different ends of the impact zone; the firefighter searching for his wife who works at the World Trade Center; the operator of in-flight telephone calls who promises to share a passenger's last words with his family; the beloved FDNY chaplain who bravely performs last rites for the dying, losing his own life when the Towers collapse; and the generals at the Pentagon who break down and weep when they are barred from trying to rescue their colleagues.

At once a powerful tribute to the courage of everyday Americans and an essential addition to the literature of 9/11, *The Only Plane in the Sky* weaves together the unforgettable personal experiences of the men and women who found themselves caught at the center of an unprecedented human drama. The result is a unique, profound, and searing exploration of humanity on a day that changed the course of history, and all of our lives.

New York Times Bestseller
Reading Group Guide Available
Themes: Politics, Journalism, US History



New Title

The U.S. Constitution

A Comprehensive and Annotated Guide for the Modern Reader

Melissa Murray

9781668221938 | Paper Over Board | 352 pages | $30.00 | 37 Ink

Read by the author and Dion Graham

Think of this as the U.S. Constitution explained by America's favorite law professor, Melissa Murray. On her podcast, *Strict Scrutiny*, Murray and her cohosts, Kate Shaw and Leah Litman, provide in-depth, accessible, and irreverent analysis of the Supreme Court and its cases, culture, and personalities.

On that podcast, on *MSNOW*—where she is a frequent contributor—in opinion pieces, and when providing commentary as she did in a recent New York Times piece on Justice Brown Jackson, Murray spends an awful lot of time demystifying laws for everyone else. In this book, she tackles one of the founding American documents: the Constitution. Each amendment will be annotated with some historical context provided, as well as examples of how it is relevant to our present day.

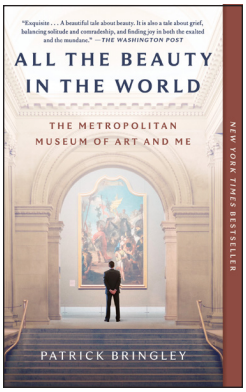
More necessary than ever, as we look to the Supreme Court and their interpretation of the Constitution as the last institution upholding our democracy, this book is an indispensable read for every thinking American.

"At long last, we have an annotated and explanatory guide to our Constitution that ordinary people, lawyers, and democracy advocates can understand. Constitutional law scholar Melissa Murray does the hard work of distilling the meaning of our Constitution into a book that should be in every home library, on every desk, and in every school. This is a critical work for our time." —Sherrilyn Ifill, President and Director-Counsel Emeritus, The Legal Defense Fund

Themes: US History, Constitution

Simon & Schuster First Year Reading

MEMOIR AND BIOGRAPHY



All the Beauty in the World

The Metropolitan Museum of Art and Me

Patrick Bringley

9781982163310 | Trade Paper | 240 pages | $18.99 | Simon & Schuster

Read by the author

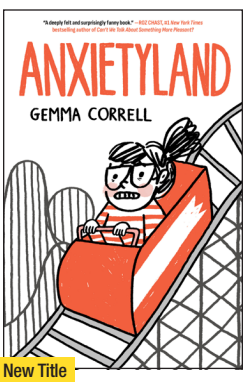
Millions of people climb the grand marble staircase to visit the Metropolitan Museum of Art every year. But only a select few have unrestricted access to every nook and cranny. They're the guards who keep a watchful eye on the two million square foot treasure house. Caught up in his glamourous fledgling career at *The New Yorker*, Patrick Bringley never thought that he'd be one of them. Then his older brother was diagnosed with fatal cancer and he found himself needing to escape the mundane clamor of daily life. So he quit *The New Yorker* and sought solace in the most beautiful place he knew.

To his surprise and your delight, this temporary refuge becomes Bringley's home away from home for a decade. We follow him as he guards delicate treasures, strolls the labyrinths beneath the galleries, and marvels at the beautiful works in his care. As his bonds with his colleagues and the art grow, he comes to understand how fortunate he is to be walled off in this little world, and how much it resembles the best aspects of the larger world to which he gradually, gratefully returns.

"Exquisite…A beautiful tale about beauty. It is also a tale about grief, balancing solitude and comradeship, and finding joy in both the exalted and the mundane." —*The Washington Post Book World*

New York Times Bestseller

Themes: Art, Grief, Friendship, Community



New Title

Anxietyland

Gemma Correll

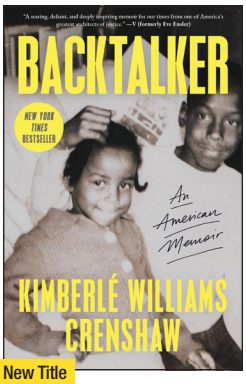
9781668004159 | Hardcover | 448 pages | $33.00 | Gallery Books

Gemma brings readers into the surreal world of *Anxietyland*, an amusement park in her own mind. In pages packed with humor and pathos she captures the experience of mental illness—including severe anxiety, agoraphobia, depression, panic attacks, and disassociation—which can take her to a frightening and darkly funny world that "feels like a place apart from 'real' life."

With humor that is both gentle and precise, and accompanied by her trademark illustrations, Gemma approaches mental illness in a uniquely imaginative and approachable way. And in the ultimate sleight of hand, she's written a charming and moving book about anxiety that won't make you feel anxious.

"I laughed, I teared up, I teared up from laughing, and I thought, other people have these thoughts, too?! Correll captures the essence of anxiety in a sharp, relatable, and warm way. She illustrates just how sneaky and consuming anxiety can be (in both the mind and the body), and how the true practice isn't trying to make the anxiety disappear, but to create a relationship with it—and all the discomfort and uncertainty that it brings. A wise, comforting read!" —Meg Josephson, *New York Times* bestselling author of *Are You Mad At Me?*

Themes: Mental Health, Humor, Graphic Novel



New Title

Backtalker

An American Memoir

Kimberlé Williams Crenshaw

9781982181000 | Hardcover | 400 pages | $30.00 | Simon & Schuster

Read by the author

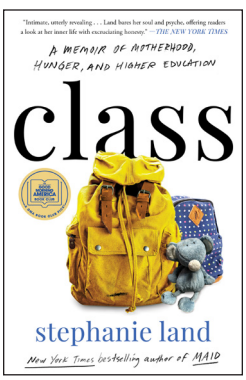
Backtalker is the powerful and intimate story of how a little girl from Canton, Ohio, came up with a new way to look at the world. Crenshaw's memoir traces the way her lived experience made her see things others didn't as the daughter of a strong-minded teacher and a pathbreaking public servant, and as the sister of a protective, yet bullying older brother. She starts to talk back, and that backtalking has continued throughout her life. It happens when she is denied a role in the kindergarten school play. When she is escorted to the back door of a private club. When Anita Hill is exiled for testifying against Clarence Thomas. When OJ Simpson goes on trial. When Obama launches My Brother's Keeper, a movement focused on boys of color only. When the movement against police violence overlooks Black women. Crenshaw is there for all of it.

In the vein of Ta-Nehisi Coates and Bryan Stevenson, Crenshaw evokes each time and place like a gifted novelist with extreme honesty and specificity, making her book a series of awe-inspiring, deep revelations. As a result of her work, Crenshaw has become a force to be reckoned with across America—at schools, in the workplace, at dinner tables, and, of course, in our public square.

"A beautifully written, compelling and insightful memoir from the extraordinary intellectual, activist and scholar who has shaped critical discourse in America. A moving and powerful read." —Bryan Stevenson

"It is rare that creators of movements that shake the world use the memoir form to honestly and precisely explore how their will to change was created. Kimberlé Crenshaw has made a fleshy piece of theory, a foundational book for this nation, a moving memoir that will continue to build on the monumental work Crenshaw has already done. We will thankfully be feeling the work of this book for generations." —Kiese Laymon

Themes: Coming of Age, Activism, Community, African American Stories and Voices



Class

A Memoir of Motherhood, Hunger, and Higher Education

Stephanie Land

9781982151409 | Trade Paper | 288 pages | $18.99 | One Signal Publishers

Read by the author

Maid was a story about a housecleaner, but it was also a story about a woman with a dream. In *Class*, Stephanie Land takes us with her as she finishes college and pursues her writing career. Facing barriers at every turn including a Byzantine loan system, food insecurity, the judgments of professors and fellow students who didn't understand the demands of attending college while under the poverty line—Land finds a way to survive once again, finally graduating in her mid-thirties.

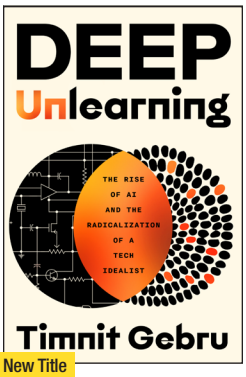
Class paints an intimate and heartbreaking portrait of motherhood as it converges and often conflicts with personal desire and professional ambition. Who has the right to create art? Who has the right to go to college? And what kind of work is valued in our culture? In clear, candid, and moving prose, *Class* grapples with these questions, offering a searing indictment of America's educational system and an inspiring testimony of a mother's triumph against all odds.

"Captivating…Eye-opening and heartrending, [*Class*] will provide succor for readers who've faced similar hardships and essential education for anyone who hasn't. It's another stirring personal history from one of the foremost chroniclers of 21st-century economic anxiety." —*Publishers Weekly* (starred review)

"An illuminating portrait of a part of the higher education experience that is often ignored…a powerful read." —*Kirkus Reviews*

National Bestseller

Themes: Society, Identity, Overcoming Life's Challenges



New Title

Deep Unlearning

The Rise of AI and the Radicalization of a Tech Idealist

Timnit Gebru

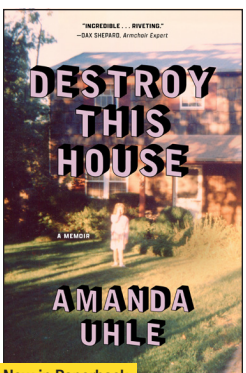
9781668093078 | Hardcover | 320 pages | $30.00 | One Signal Publishers

Timnit Gebru is a Silicon Valley prophet who has been present at nearly every inflection point in tech's recent history. She was an engineer at Apple on the cusp of the iPhone's first release, a PhD student at Stanford's computer vision lab as her advisor compiled the enormous datasets so crucial to AI's development, and the most senior Black woman on the Ethical AI team at Google as DeepMind and Open AI took over the field of artificial intelligence. Gebru is one of the fiercest voices in the world speaking truth to power. When she talks, people listen. And for very good reason.

Starting with her childhood during which she was forced to flee the war in Ethiopia, through the fraught process of achieving refugee status, Gebru shows how her early love of science and math was inextricably intertwined with her belief that these were reliably objective safe spaces. Over time, through high school outside Boston, college at Stanford, and jobs at Apple and Google, she came to realize that perhaps some of the biases and injustices she witnessed in her life outside of academics were true about technology too.

Over the course of her life, Gebru has seen up close how destructive ideologies and outsized egos have come to wreak havoc on our environment, our economies, and the lives of billions of people—through technology. She also came to understand how we could have made a different choice every step of the way—and still can.

Themes: Technology, AI, Women's Voices and Stories, African American Voices and Stories, Global Perspective, First Gen



Now in Paperback

Destroy This House

A Memoir

Amanda Uhle

9781668083451 | Trade Paper | 352 pages | $20.00 | Summit Books

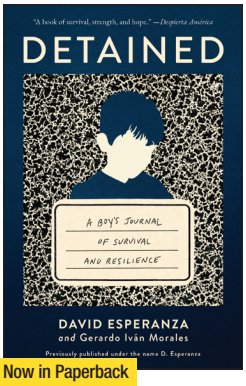
The Long family's love was fierce, their lifestyle bizarre, and their deceptions countless. Once her parents were gone, Amanda Uhle realized she was closer to them than anyone else, yet she found herself utterly confounded by the lives they had led.

Amanda's striving fashion designer mother and her charismatic wheeler-dealer father wove a complex life together that spanned ten different homes across five states over forty perplexing years. Throughout her childhood, as her mother's hoarding disorder flourished and her father's schemes crumbled, contradictions abounded. They bartered for dental surgery and drove their massive Lincoln Town Car to the food bank. When financial ruin struck, they abandoned their repossessed mansion for humble parish housing, and Amanda's father became a preacher. They swung between being filthy rich and dirt poor, devious and virtuous, lonely and loved, fake and real.

In *Destroy This House*, Amanda sets out to document her parents' unbelievable exploits and her own hard-won escape into independence. With humor and tenderness, Uhle has crafted a heartfelt and utterly unique memoir, capturing the raucousness, pain, joy, and ultimately, the boundless love that exists between all parents and children.

"The American Dream turns pathological in Amanda Uhle's beautiful memoir, *Destroy This House*, as Uhle reckons with her parents' snarled identities and confounding lifestyles. Poignant, wryly funny, and exquisitely written, Uhle masterfully depicts the confluence of ambition and greed, pioneerism and narcissism, love and pain. I devoured every sentence." —Erika Krouse, author of *Tell Me Everything: The Story of a Private Investigation*

Themes: Financial Insecurity, Coming of Age, Family, Mental Illness



Now in Paperback

Detained

A boy's journal of survival and resilience

David Esperanza and Gerardo Iván Morales

9781668033784 | Trade Paper | 256 pages | $19.00 | Primero Sueno Press

D Esperanza was just thirteen years old when he lost his caregivers, his beloved grandmother and uncle. Since both of his parents were working and living in the United States, D was left on his own in a small town in Honduras. He quickly realized he simply could not make enough money to survive so he made the difficult decision to head north with his cousins and hopefully reunite with his parents in el norte.

Together, the boys struggled to survive a long and treacherous journey through Central America and Mexico. Along the way, D and his cousins formed a deep bond, only for the four to be brutally separated at the border of the United States. When he is captured and processed at a facility, neither D nor his family are given an update on when he will be released or where he'll go next. Over the next five months, he kept a journal of his experience. The pages tell a story of pain, cruelty, friendship, and resilience, a living testament to the reality of the border. Amidst the senseless inhumanity and violence of US immigration policy, D found hope in the friendship he and his fellow companions forged, and mentorship from one intrepid advocate who fought on his behalf named Gerardo Iván Morales.

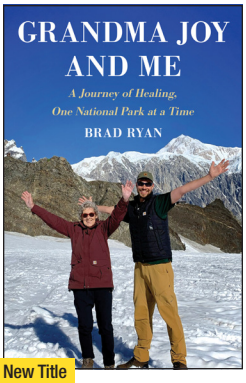
Timely, powerful, and unforgettable, *Detained* brings the border crisis to vivid life.

"A shocking and moving read. A brutally honest account of the impact of family separation at the US border." —*Kirkus Reviews*

A 2025 Latino Book Award Winner | Bronze Medal for Best Autobiography — English

Spanish Language Edition Available

Themes: Immigration, Resilience



New Title

Grandma Joy and Me

A Journey of Healing, One National Park at a Time

Brad Ryan

9781668099261 | Hardcover | 336 pages | $29.00 | Simon & Schuster

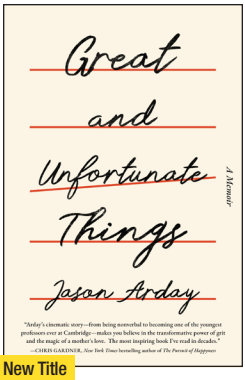
Read by the author

A heartrending, transformative true story following Brad Ryan and his grandmother Joy Ryan as they embark on a seven-year journey to visit every US National Park.

Raised in Appalachia, Grandma Joy lived a life shaped by constraints and hardships, while Brad grappled with the weight of family rifts and unresolved pain. Together, they embarked on a quest not only to witness the majesty of America's wild landscapes but also to heal generations of struggles and misunderstandings. Over seven years, they sought to visit all sixty-three US National Parks. From the towering peaks of Denali to the otherworldly beauty of the Everglades, each park became a classroom, teaching them profound lessons about nature, resilience, and each other.

Grandma Joy and Me follows a seven-year adventure of intergenerational healing, wherein a grandmother and grandson find themselves released from the injustices—real and imagined—that had long held them hostage. An emotionally charged exploration of love, forgiveness, and resilience, this unique bond between a young man and his ninety-three-year-old grandmother—the oldest person to visit every US National Park—is more than just any travel tale; it is a testament to what makes us deeply human.

Themes: Resilience, Nature, Family, Connection, Forgiveness



New Title

Great and Unfortunate Things

By Jason Arday with Eve Claxton

9781668085578 | Hardcover | 288 pages | $29.00 | 37 Ink

Read by the author

Jason Arday was born the second youngest of three boys and grew up in a colorful and lively section of South London. At three years old, he was diagnosed with autism and development delays. Experts told his parents that he would never be able to speak, write, or live independently. An institution would best serve his needs, it was suggested.

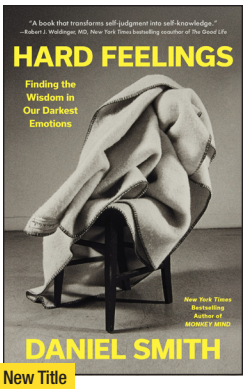
His parents would have none of it. Instead, thinking outside the box and drawing on her faith, his extraordinary mother Giff embraced his neurodivergence and fiercely dedicated herself to helping her son realize a potential few others believed was possible. Giff drew on proverbs from her West African culture, popular music by the likes of Enya, and comedic television shows and movies to help Jason make sense of the world.

In *Great and Unfortunate Things*, we see how Arday went from being nonverbal until he was eleven and illiterate until eighteen to becoming a professor at Cambridge. Without romanticizing the struggle, it's a story of a son's determination against insurmountable odds and how his family and a band of ordinary people with extraordinary compassion joined forces to encourage Jason to believe in himself and maximize his capabilities.

This is the story we need right now, and Arday, who believes in paying it forward, is the kind of figure the world can use more of now more than ever.

"Arday's cinematic story from being nonverbal to becoming one of the youngest professors ever at Cambridge makes you believe in the transformative power of grit and the magic of a mother's love. The most inspiring book I've read in decades." —Chris Gardner, *New York Times* bestselling author of *The Pursuit of Happyness*

Themes: Neurodiversity, Community, Education, Resilience, Coming of Age, Overcoming Life's Challenges



New Title

Hard Feelings

Finding the Wisdom in Our Darkest Emotions

Daniel Smith

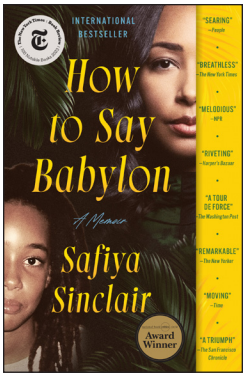
9781982103903 | Hardcover | 256 pages | $28.00 | Simon & Schuster

When two birthday gifts—a centuries-old treatise on melancholy and a book of Bosch's hellscapes—arrived just months before the birth of Daniel Smith's second child, he began questioning our culture's dismissal of difficult feelings and his own lifelong struggle against these so-called "negative" emotions. Moving between intimate personal narrative and rich intellectual exploration, Smith investigates how our relationship with negative emotions has evolved through history—from the Seven Deadly Sins to modern psychology's sometimes equally damning classifications. He explores what science, psychology, art, and philosophy can and cannot tell us about the nature of emotion itself, challenging conventional wisdom about what our feelings really are and how they function.

With unflinching honesty about his own emotional turbulence and the insights gained from his work as a psychotherapist, Smith makes a compelling case that our negative emotions serve crucial purposes—if only we would listen to what they're trying to tell us. Whether examining the striking absence of anger among the Inuit or confronting his own emotional inheritance as a new father, Smith offers a perspective that is both deeply humane and surprisingly hopeful.

This book is not so much a guide to banishing difficult feelings, but rather an invitation to wholeness—to feeling everything—and discovering that even our darkest emotions contain intelligence, meaning, and the potential for profound transformation.

Themes: Personal Growth, Emotions, Self Awareness



How to Say Babylon

A Memoir

Safiya Sinclair

9781982132347 | Trade Paper | 352 pages | $18.99 | 37 Ink

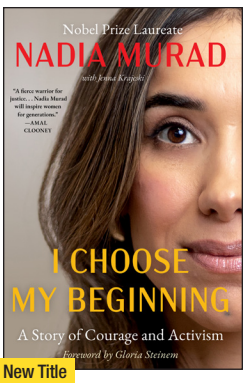
Read by the author

Throughout her childhood, Safiya Sinclair's father, a volatile reggae musician and a militant adherent to a strict sect of Rastafari, was obsessed with the ever-present threat of the corrupting evils of the Western world outside their home, and worried that womanhood would make Safiya and her sisters morally weak and impure. For him, a woman's highest virtue was her obedience.

Safiya's extraordinary mother, though loyal to her father, gave her the one gift she knew would take Safiya beyond the stretch of beach and mountains in Jamaica their family called home: a world of books, knowledge, and education she conjured almost out of thin air. When she introduced Safiya to poetry, Safiya's voice awakened. As she watched her mother struggle voicelessly for years under relentless domesticity, Safiya's rebellion against her father's rules set her on an inevitable collision course with him. Her education became the sharp tool to hone her own poetic voice and carve her path to liberation. Rich in emotion and page-turning drama, *How to Say Babylon* is "a melodious wave of memories" of a woman finding her own power (NPR).

"In this remarkable memoir, Sinclair, an award-winning poet, conjures coming of age in Jamaica with her father, a reggae musician who embraced a strict sect of Rastafari and sought to protect his family from the evil and pervasive influence of the West—what Rastafari call Babylon—and coming into her own as a poet, a writer, and a young woman in charge of her own destiny." —*The New Yorker*

National Book Critics Circle Award Winner | A *New York Times* Notable Book
Reading Group Guide Available
Themes: Coming of Age, African American Stories and Voices, Overcoming Life's Challenges



New Title

I Choose My Beginning

A Story of Courage and Activism

Nadia Murad

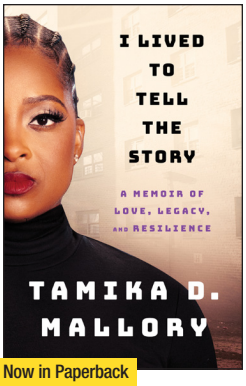
9781668097052 | Hardcover | 304 pages | $29.00 | Summit Books

In 2014, Nadia Murad was living in northern Iraq when her world was shattered. Fighters from the so-called Islamic State attacked her village, massacring hundreds—including her mother and six of her brothers—and forcing her, along with thousands of Yazidi women and girls, into ISIS's system of sexual slavery. Her life since then has been split in two. In one she is a global symbol of courage —a survivor and activist who has stood before world leaders to demand justice. In the other, she is a woman learning how to be a friend, a student, a wife; a woman rediscovering ordinary joy.

In *I Choose My Beginning*, Nadia brings these two selves together. With honesty and grace, she transforms the pain of her past into a life defined not by what was done to her, but by strength, perseverance, and the freedom to choose happiness. From reshaping international law to building a life filled with friendship and love, Nadia carries the memory of those she lost and those who survived. Their presence reminds her—and all of us—that she has always been more than a victim.

Powerful and deeply inspiring, *I Choose My Beginning* is the story of an extraordinary woman reclaiming her humanity—and showing that survival is not the end of the story. It is the beginning.

Themes: Resilience, Activism, Friendship, Joy



Now in Paperback

I Lived to Tell the Story

A Memoir of Love, Legacy, and Resilience

Tamika D. Mallory

9781982173500 | Trade Paper | 304 pages | $19.00 | Black Privilege Publishing

Read by the author

In *I Lived to Tell the Story*, Tamika Mallory takes us beyond the headlines and podiums, offering an unfiltered look at the moments that shaped her—not just as an activist but as a woman navigating love, loss, and self-discovery.

From her early days as the daughter of civil rights organizers in Harlem to her battles with the personal pain that many never imagined—the trauma of sexual assault, the pressures of motherhood, the fallout of public scrutiny, and the fight to reclaim her peace—this is Tamika as the world has never seen her before.

A follow-up to her "masterful" (Marc Lamont Hill) debut, *State of Emergency*, which confronted the murders of Breonna Taylor and George Floyd, this memoir ventures deeper into her journey. Tamika shares untold stories of resilience, courage, and internal struggles while waging war against injustice in America.

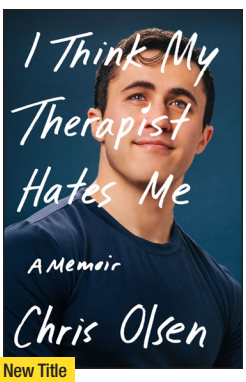
At its core, *I Lived to Tell the Story* is not just about activism; it's about what happens after the smoke clears. It's about healing, survival, and the power of truth to bring us closer to ourselves and one another.

"Shifting between outrage, hope, and resolute determination, this call to action will resonate with readers already fighting for racial justice, as well as those looking to join the movement." —*Publishers Weekly*

"Mallory gives readers the tools they need to fight injustice and find a pathway towards true freedom." —*Marie Claire*

"Mallory provides a history of racism in the US as well as equity-centered pathways forward." —*Ms. Magazine*

Themes: Public Policy, Social Justice, Resilience



New Title

I Think My Therapist Hates Me

A Memoir

Chris Olsen

9781668094297 | Hardcover | 320 pages | $28.00 | Simon Element

Read by the author

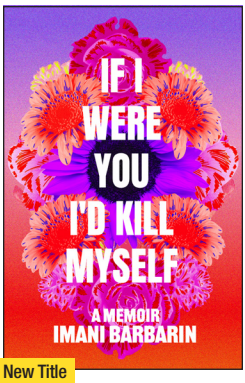
Social media phenomenon and mental health advocate Chris Olsen invites readers into his therapist's office—and into the story he's spent years trying to understand—in this raw, fearless, and darkly funny memoir.

For much of his childhood, Chris Olsen believed his family was ordinary, even idyllic. Then, at thirteen years old, everything changed. When his mother revealed she was an alcoholic, the foundation beneath him cracked open, exposing secrets, struggles, and generational wounds that would shape the course of his life.

Years later, determined to make sense of a story that often felt written for him rather than by him, Chris returns to the moments that defined him. Guided by conversations with his therapist, Lizzie, he revisits the memories he's spent years avoiding: hiding his sexuality from the people he loved, navigating his parents' tumultuous divorce, surviving toxic relationships, watching his mother cycle through treatment centers, and eventually confronting his own addiction.

By turns hilarious, heartbreaking, and deeply hopeful, *I Think My Therapist Hates Me* is a personal exploration of the stories we inherit, the identities we construct, and the courage it takes to face ourselves honestly. It's a heartfelt reminder that self-discovery is messy, recovery is hard-won, and becoming the author of your own life begins with telling yourself the truth.

Themes: Coming of Age, LGBTQIA+ Stories and Voices, Social Media, Addiction, Resilience



New Title

If I Were You, I'd Kill Myself

A Memoir

Imani Barbarin

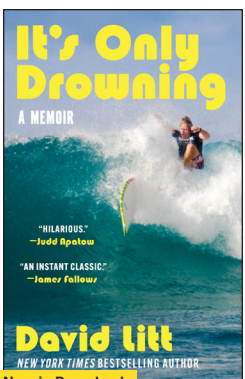
9781668009451 | Trade Paper | 272 pages | $19.00 | Simon & Schuster

Often followed by the casual confession that, in her place, they would "kill themselves," Imani Barbarin has been called "inspiring" for simply living, "pretty for a disabled girl," and "brave." What others offer as kindness, Imani recognizes for what it is: a projection of fear, discomfort, and deeply ingrained ideas about whose lives are worth living.

Imani was two years old when she was diagnosed with cerebral palsy, a congenital motor disability that affects her ability to walk without crutches. Since then, she has spent her life navigating not just the physical realities of her condition, but the relentless assumptions of able-bodied strangers—people who stare, who comment, who insist on turning her existence into something for their own comfort.

With sharp humor and unflinching clarity, Imani dismantles these everyday encounters, exposing the quiet violence beneath so-called compliments while reclaiming her own story on her own terms. Blending the sardonic wit of Samantha Irby with the incisive cultural criticism of Roxane Gay, *If I Were You, I'd Kill Myself* is an unapologetic, hilarious, and triumphant debut that announces a vital voice in the disability community.

Themes: Essays, People With Disabilities



Now in Paperback

It's Only Drowning

A Memoir

David Litt

9781668035368 | Trade Paper | 304 pages | $19.00 | Gallery Books

Read by the author

David, the Yale-educated writer with a fear of sharks, and Matt, the daredevil electrician with a shed full of surfboards, had never been close. But as America's crises piled up and David spiraled into existential dread, he noticed that his brother-in-law was thriving. He began to suspect Matt's favorite hobby had something to do with it.

David started taking surf lessons. For months, he wiped out on waves the height of daffodils. Yet, after realizing that surfing could change him both in and out of the water, he set an audacious goal: riding a big wave in Hawaii. He searched for an expert he could trust to guide and protect him—and when he couldn't find one, he asked Matt. Together, they set out on a journey that spanned coasts, and even continents, before taking them to Oahu's famously dangerous North Shore.

It's Only Drowning is a laugh-out-loud love letter to surfing—and so much more. It's the story of an unlikely friendship, one that crosses the fault lines of education, ideology, and culture tearing so many of us apart.

"Litt's chronicle offers beautiful writing and laugh-out-loud humor and will engage anyone who has dreamed about learning to surf or undertaking any other seemingly improbable challenge. Litt also navigates the ebb and flow of familial relationships, sharing his own experience as an example of how to agree to disagree without demonizing one another. Timely and uplifting."
—*Booklist* (starred review)

National Bestseller

Themes: Connection, Coming of Age, Friendship



Now in Paperback

Lin-Manuel Miranda

The Education of an Artist

Daniel Pollack-Pelzner

9781668014714 | Trade Paper | 400 pages | $20.00 | Simon & Schuster

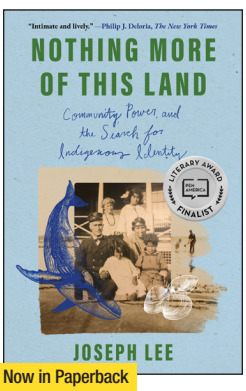
How did Lin-Manuel Miranda, the sweet, sensitive son of Puerto Rican parents from an immigrant neighborhood in Manhattan, rise to become the preeminent musical storyteller of the 21st century? *Lin-Manuel Miranda: The Education of an Artist* is his incredible story as never told before, tracing Miranda's path from an often isolated child to the winner of multiple Tonys and Grammys for his Broadway hits *Hamilton* and *In the Heights*; a global chart-topping sensation for his songs in Disney's *Moana* and *Encanto*; and the recipient of a Pulitzer Prize and a MacArthur Genius Grant.

Miranda's journey is a testament to the power of creativity, collaboration, and cultural synthesis. He was not a musical prodigy, but an insatiable drive to create art and learn from those around him propelled him to fuse his Latino heritage with pop, hip-hop, and the musical styles of Broadway. His was a new way of telling American stories, and of speaking to new audiences.

Drawing on interviews with Miranda's family, friends, and mentors—and many conversations with Miranda himself—Daniel Pollack-Pelzner delves into the formative experiences that shaped Miranda as an artist, from his early musicals in high school and college to the creation of his Broadway and Hollywood triumphs. With full access to Miranda's inner circle, this behind-the-scenes origin story is sure to captivate his legions of fans and beyond.

"This compelling biography provides a profound and inspiring glimpse into the life and creative evolution of Lin-Manuel Miranda, one of the most influential figures in contemporary entertainment. From his early childhood to his rise as a cultural icon, the book captures not just the milestones of his career but the heart, hustle, and humanity behind them. A rich and engaging read for both fans and creatives." —*Library Journal* (starred review)

Themes: Coming of Age, Creativity



Now in Paperback

Nothing More of This Land

Community, Power, and The Search for Indigenous Identity

Joseph Lee

9781668087268 | Trade Paper | 256 pages | $19.00 | One Signal Publishers

Before Martha's Vineyard became one of the most iconic vacation destinations in the country, it was home to the Wampanoag people. Today, as tourists flock to the idyllic beaches, the island has become increasingly unaffordable for tribal members, with nearly three-quarters now living off-island. Growing up Aquinnah Wampanoag, journalist Joseph Lee grappled with what this situation meant for his tribe, how the community can continue to grow, and more broadly, what it means to be Indigenous.

In *Nothing More of This Land*, Lee weaves his own story and that of his family into a panoramic narrative of Indigenous life around the world. He takes us from the beaches of Martha's Vineyard to the icy Alaskan tundra, the smoky forests of Northern California to the halls of the United Nations, and beyond. Along the way he meets activists fighting to protect their land, families clashing with their own tribal leaders, and communities working to reclaim tradition.

Nothing More of This Land is a sweeping, personal exploration of Indigenous identity and the challenges facing Indigenous people around the world.

"*Nothing More of This Land* is a stark, beautifully rendered reminder of all that had to occur for the happening of our existences to take place, and all who lived and fought against their own erasure to maintain a semblance of a legacy. This is a profound, and moving book, a powerful indictment of the colonial mindset that firmly balances an ode to people, to place, to remaining." —Hanif Abdurraqib, author of *There's Always This Year*

Finalist for the 2026 PEN/John Kenneth Galbraith Award for Nonfiction
Themes: Indigenous Stories and Voices, History, Identity, Community, Connection, Diversity, Belonging



Now in Paperback

The Outsider

A Memoir for Misfits

Vir Das

9781668066317 | Trade Paper | 272 pages | $19.00 | Simon Element

Read by the author

When comedian and actor Vir Das found himself stranded on a pier in Cozumel, Mexico, watching his cruise ship sail away without him due to visa issues, it became a metaphor for his life: he's always been, and will always be, an outsider. Standing on that beach, he took in the absurdity of it all—broke, hungover, dumped, jobless, trousers full of sand. He knew the best way to deal with the situation wasn't to retreat. It was to laugh.

Vir's story is one of cultural dissonance and identity exploration. As a child, he bounced from India to Lagos, Nigeria, and back again. He navigated life between worlds, never quite fitting in.

You've heard stories of kids who despise boarding school, but have you ever heard the story of a kid who despised it so much they faked appendicitis and went through with the surgery to get out? That's Vir. In Africa, he was the kid from India, and back in India, he was the kid from Africa. As the only Indian kid costarring in *War and Peace* on stage at Knox College in Illinois, his outsider status was undeniable. Whether he's washing dishes at a Grand Lux Café in Chicago, navigating Bollywood, getting cancelled by an entire country and then embraced by that country all over again, or performing on stages from New York to Mumbai to Stavanger, Norway, Vir has learned to lean way into his place as an outsider, and to find humor and meaning on the fringes.

The Outsider is more than just a memoir about Vir's rise to comedic fame; it's a powerful reflection on how being a misfit can shape one's identity into something truly unique. Vir's story speaks to anyone who has ever felt out of place, serving as a testament to the resilience and humor that can arise when you resist the urge to fit in, and stay true to who you are.

Themes: Identity, Culture, Humor, Community



The Pretty One

On Life, Pop Culture, Disability, and Other Reasons to Fall in Love with Me

Keah Brown

9781982100544 | Trade Paper | 256 pages | $19.00 | Atria Books

Read by the author

Keah Brown loves herself, but that hadn't always been the case. Born with cerebral palsy, her greatest desire used to be normalcy and refuge from the steady stream of self-hate society strengthened inside her. But after years of introspection and reaching out to others in her community, she has reclaimed herself and changed her perspective.

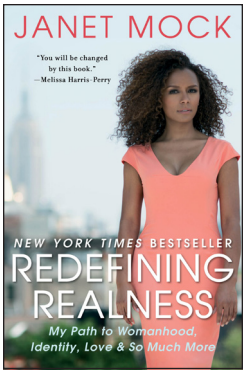
In *The Pretty One*, Brown gives a contemporary and relatable voice to the disabled—so often portrayed as mute, weak, or isolated. With clear, fresh, and light-hearted prose, these essays explore everything from her relationship with her able-bodied identical twin (called "the pretty one" by friends) to navigating romance; her deep affinity for all things pop culture—and her disappointment with the media's distorted view of disability; and her declaration of self-love with the viral hashtag #DisabledAndCute.

By "smashing stigmas, empowering her community, and celebrating herself" (*Teen Vogue*), Brown and *The Pretty One* aims to expand the conversation about disability and inspire self-love for people of all backgrounds.

"Witty and insightful…This book would be a great choice for anyone interested in social justice, disability rights, or just interested in learning more about a fun, funny, beautiful woman." —*Booklist*

"A hopeful, relatable memoir about a twenty-something just trying to figure out the world and her place in it." —*Bustle*

Themes: Inclusivity, Diversity



Redefining Realness

My Path to Womanhood, Identity, Love & So Much More

Janet Mock

9781476709130 | Trade Paper | 288 pages | $18.99 | Atria Books

In her profound and courageous *New York Times* bestseller, Janet Mock establishes herself as a resounding and inspirational voice for the transgender community—and anyone fighting to define themselves on their own terms.

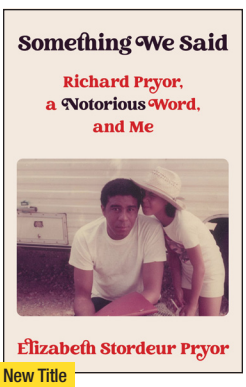
With unflinching honesty and moving prose, Janet Mock relays her experiences of growing up young, multiracial, poor, and trans in America, offering readers accessible language while imparting vital insight about the unique challenges and vulnerabilities of a marginalized and misunderstood population. Though undoubtedly an account of one woman's quest for self at all costs, *Redefining Realness* is a powerful vision of possibility and self-realization, pushing us all toward greater acceptance of one another—and of ourselves—showing as never before how to be unapologetic and real.

"Mock defies the historically apolitical confines of the transgender memoir, and draws bright lines connecting her experiences to the larger realm of social justice, with a keen political eye that uses her individual experience to elucidate the wider condition of trans women of color in the US. Her vivid prose arouses every sense…Although the book is ostensibly one woman's coming-of-age story, Mock fulfills grander purposes here; in coming to terms with her own difficult journey she also uses that experience didactically, as if to take the uninitiated, non-transgender reader with her, most certainly achieving 'realness.'" —*Publishers Weekly*

New York Times Bestseller | *Women's Way* Book Prize Winner
Goodreads Best of 2014 Semi-Finalist | Books for a Better Life Award Finalist
Lambda Literary Award Finalist

SELECTED BY University of California, Davis, SUNY Oneonta, Stony Brook University, Northern Michigan University, University of Colorado, Anschutz Medical Campus

Themes: Gender Issues, Coming of Age, Leadership, Social Activism



New Title

Something We Said

Richard Pryor, a Notorious Word, and Me

Elizabeth Stordeur Pryor

9781982154509 | Hardcover | 304 pages | $29.00 | 37 Ink

Read by the author

The N-word is one of the most perplexing, controversial and misunderstood words in the American lexicon. It's a word that Elizabeth Pryor has not only contemplated, it's one that she has taught and observed up close.

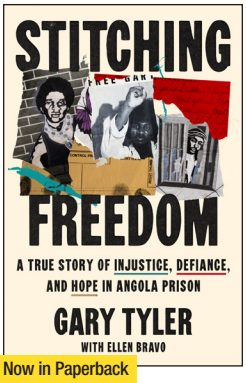
When a white student quoted her father and blurted out the N-word in the middle of a class she was teaching, Professor Pryor's worlds collided. In that moment, she was forced to confront the history of the notorious slur in the United States, and her complicated relationship with her father Richard Pryor, who made the word a trademark of his comedy in the 1970s.

As she dives into her research, her own memories of the N-word come flooding back in unprocessed memories that she hadn't thought about for decades. In reckoning with those memories, Elizabeth goes on a more public journey of discovery of the messy and sometimes surprising legacies of racism in the United States.

A braided narrative that seamlessly integrates the history of the n-word with Elizabeth's own story of growing up the Black Jewish daughter of Richard Pryor, *Something We Said* follows Elizabeth as she becomes a leading scholar and teacher of the very word her father put on the pop culture map.

"Half memoir and half racial history, Elizabeth Pryor explores how the N-word shaped both the public and private worlds of her father, Richard Pryor, and how it defined her own sense of identity as his biracial daughter…Moving, courageous, and intellectually rich, this is a work that reminds us we are far from finished reckoning with the word that has both haunted and defined American life." —Michael Eric Dyson, *New York Times* bestselling author of *Tears We Cannot Stop*

Themes: Coming of Age, Identity, African American Stories and Voices



Now in Paperback

Stitching Freedom

A True Story of Injustice, Defiance, and Hope in Angola Prison

Gary Tyler with Ellen Bravo

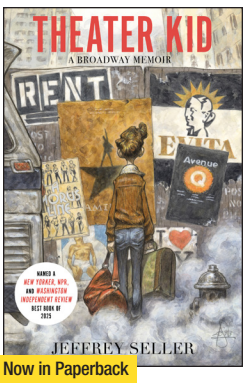
9781668097335 | Trade Paper | 304 pages | $20.00 | One Signal Publishers

In 1975, seventeen-year-old Gary Tyler was sent to Angola prison to die. A year earlier, he had been wrongfully charged with the killing of a white teenager and found guilty by an all-white jury, making Gary the youngest prisoner on death row in the country.

Following his conviction, Amnesty International and investigative reporters documented the brutal treatment, fabricated evidence, recanted testimony, and repeated injustices that led to his sentencing. Three times Gary was recommended for a pardon; three times Louisiana governors refused to accept the political risk. After more than four decades in prison, Tyler was released in 2016—but he was never exonerated.

This is not a story of mistaken identity or circumstantial evidence, but one of systemic injustice from an institution hard-wired into a legacy of slavery—in effect, this was a legal lynching. It is precisely this harsh reality that makes this memoir a remarkable celebration of life and justice, a story of pride, forgiveness, community, and triumph. With insight and heart, Gary shows how he learned to reject bitterness and survive with the help and mentorship from activists such Albert Woodfox and Herman Wallace on the inside, and the relentless support from people on the outside. *Stitching Freedom* is the page-turning chance for Gary to reclaim his power and exonerate himself at last.

Themes: Social Justice, African American Stories and Voices, Community



Now in Paperback

Theater Kid

A Broadway Memoir

Jeffrey Seller

9781668064191 | Trade Paper | 368 pages | $20.00 | Simon & Schuster

Read by the author with an ensemble cast including Annaleigh Ashford, Darren Criss, Jesse Tyler Ferguson, Renée Elise Goldsberry, Lin-Manuel Miranda, Andrew Rannells, and more

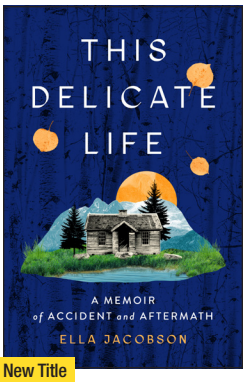
Before he was producing the musical hits of our generation, Jeffrey was just a kid coming to terms with his adoption, trying to understand his sexuality, and determined to escape his dysfunctional household in a poor neighborhood just outside Detroit. We see him find his voice through musical theater and move to New York, where he is determined to shed his past and make a name for himself on Broadway.

But moving to the big city is never easy—especially not at the height of the HIV/AIDS crisis—and Jeffrey learns to survive and thrive in the colorful and cutthroat world of commercial theatre. From his early days as an office assistant, to meeting Jonathan Larson and experiencing the triumph and tragedy of *Rent*, to working with Lin-Manuel Miranda on *In the Heights* and *Hamilton*, Jeffrey completely pulls back the curtain on the joyous and gut-wrenching process of making new musicals, finding new audiences, and winning a Tony Award—all the while finding himself.

Told with Jeffrey's candid and captivating voice, *Theater Kid* is a gripping memoir about fighting through a hardscrabble childhood to make art on one's own terms, chasing a dream against many odds, and finding acceptance and community.

"In this searing and inspiring memoir, Jeffrey Seller writes the book he wishes he'd had as a kid; about a wildly brilliant, closeted young man from tough circumstances in Detroit who finds his way into the wilds of New York and helps develop and support some of the most innovative musical theater of the twentieth and twenty-first century. It belongs on your shelf next to *Act One* by Moss Hart—if you can manage to put it down; I certainly couldn't."—Lin-Manuel Miranda

Themes: Coming of Age, Acceptance, Community, LGTBQIA+ Stories and Voices



New Title

This Delicate Life

A Memoir of Accident and Aftermath

Ella Jacobson

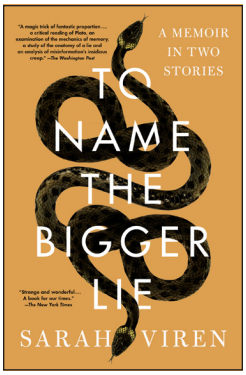
9781668099704 | Hardcover | 272 pages | $29.00 | Washington Square Press

When she was sixteen, Ella Jacobson drove through an intersection as a cyclist ran his red light. He died shortly after impact, while she was on the phone with the 911 operator. In those few minutes, her understanding of the world, and what it would allow, fell apart. In exquisite yet unflinching prose, *This Delicate Life* explores the experience of growing up when every narrative about living in the world—about goodness, about blame, about the moral arc of the universe—is proven wrong. It reckons with the difficulty of living in a world of random chance, where tragedy can happen without intention or reason.

Raised in Alaska, Ella did not grow up expecting the world to be a bloodless place. Her community of Fairbanks, spread across a beautiful and dangerous valley, was marked by drownings and snowmobile accidents, bush plane crashes and hypothermia. From her family too, she learned about legacies of violence and loss. But exposure did not prepare her for the shocking realization that anyone, without intent, can find themselves in the position of taking a life.

There is no word in English for someone who has accidentally killed another person. In a culture that struggles with stories that don't follow the redemptive arc of victim to survivor, or the easy justice of crime and punishment, *This Delicate Life* demonstrates the necessity of naming, of bearing grief, and of finding something like peace—in remote cabins and gardens, and through friendship—after the unthinkable.

Themes: Coming of Age, Grief, LGBTQIA+ Stories and Voices, Class, Environment, Forgiveness



To Name the Bigger Lie

A Memoir in Two Stories

Sarah Viren

9781982166601 | Trade Paper | 320 pages | $20.00 | Scribner

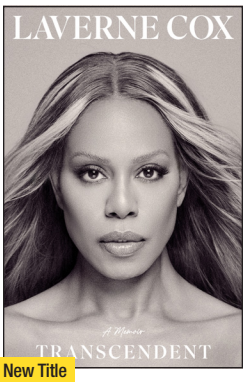
In *To Name the Bigger Lie*, Sarah Viren "has pulled off a magic trick of fantastic proportion" (*The Washington Post*), telling the story of an all-too-real investigation into her personal and professional life that she expands into a profound exploration of the nature of truth. The memoir begins as Viren is researching what she believes will be a book about her high school philosophy teacher, a charismatic instructor who taught her and her classmates to question everything—eventually, even the reality of historical atrocities. As she digs into the effects of his teachings, her life takes a turn into the fantastical when her wife, Marta, is notified that she's being investigated for sexual misconduct at the university where they both teach.

To Name the Bigger Lie follows the investigation as it challenges everything Sarah thought she knew about truth, testimony, and the difference between the two. She knows the claims made against Marta must be lies, and as she attempts to uncover the identity of the person behind them and prove her wife's innocence, she's drawn back into the questions that her teacher inspired all those years ago: about the nature of truth, the value of skepticism, and the stakes we all have in getting the story right.

An incisive journey into honesty and betrayal, this memoir explores the powerful pull of dangerous conspiracy theories and the pliability of personal narratives in a world dominated by hoaxes and fakes.

SELECTED BY Stockton University

Themes: Truth, Identity



New Title

Transcendent

A Memoir

Laverne Cox

9781668097755 | Hardcover | 256 pages | $30.00 | Gallery Books

Read by the author

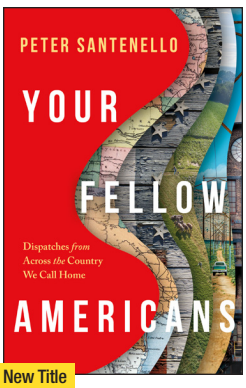
Laverne Cox is a powerhouse in the fight for transgender rights and representation—but her path from a struggling trans actress to a cultural movement was anything but easy.

Surviving a childhood full of trauma, dealing with depression, and working at a drag restaurant in New York City for seven years, Laverne was turning forty and felt it was time to throw in the towel when it came to being a Hollywood star—then she booked the character of Sophia Burset in *Orange Is the New Black*. Her world changed overnight.

She made history as the first openly transgender person nominated for a Primetime Emmy, starred in a range of high-profile shows, and became the first transgender person to win a Daytime Emmy as executive producer on *Laverne Cox Presents: The T Word*. A red-carpet fashion icon, podcast host, and fearless advocate, she uses her stardom to champion LGBTQ+ rights, whether on Hollywood's biggest stages, her personal channels, or at Supreme Court hearings. And she's only getting started.

In *Transcendent*, you will experience life in Laverne's shoes, from her childhood abuse to making her big break, dealing with Hollywood bureaucracy, feeling lonely in a world that is unaccepting, and finding her voice through the chaos of it all. With behind-the-scenes stories and personal reflection, we can heal and fight for equality, right alongside Laverne.

Themes: Coming of Age, LGBTQIA+ Stories and Voices, Mental Health, Identity



New Title

Your Fellow Americans

Dispatches from Across the Country We Call Home

Peter Santenello

9781668214343 | Hardcover | 336 pages | $30.00 | Simon & Schuster

Read by the author

Have you ever swapped stories on a porch with Amish snowbirds in Florida? Searched for reindeer with the Siberian Yupik in Alaska? Been a guest on a houseboat deep in the Louisiana bayou?

Peter Santenello hadn't either, until after years spent traveling through eighty-five countries and living abroad, he realized the most unfamiliar territory was often his own American backyard. And so, with a camera in hand and an open mind, he began visiting communities across the country that most media overlooks or misrepresents, from tiny towns in Appalachia to the streets of East LA.

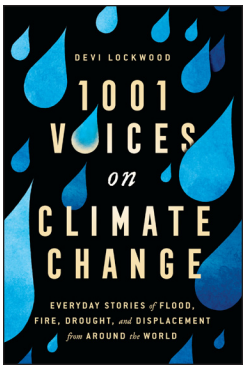
What began as curiosity became—one story at a time—an intimate, revealing portrait of America today. From road trips and chance encounters to dinners shared in locals' homes, *Your Fellow Americans* captures what makes this country so dynamic, so resilient, and most of all, so very human. Because what Peter discovered on his travels wasn't a nation torn in two. He found something more complex and more powerful: people who want to be seen, who are willing to listen, and who still believe we're more alike than we are different.

With humor, exuberance, and reverence for the human spirit, *Your Fellow Americans* is a celebration of the United States that exists far beyond the headlines—and an invitation to sit down, open up, and rediscover the soul of this place that we call home.

Themes: Connection, Community, Hope, Understanding

Simon & Schuster First Year Reading

NATURE AND THE ENVIRONMENT



1,001 Voices on Climate Change

Everyday Stories of Flood, Fire, Drought, and Displacement from Around the World

Devi Lockwood

9781982146733 | Trade Paper | 352 pages | $18.99 | Simon Element

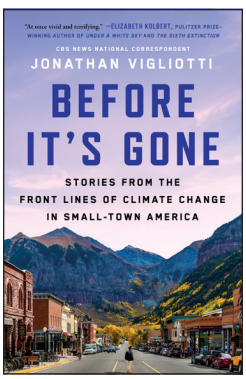
In *1,001 Voices on Climate Change*, Lockwood travels the world, often by bicycle, collecting first person accounts of climate change. She frequently carried with her a simple cardboard sign reading, "Tell me a story about climate change."

Over five years, covering twenty countries across six continents, Lockwood hears from indigenous elders and youth in Fiji and Tuvalu about drought and disappearing coastlines, attends the UN climate conference in Morocco, and bikes the length of New Zealand and Australia, interviewing the people she meets about retreating glaciers, contaminated rivers, and wildfires. She rides through Thailand, Laos, and Cambodia to listen to marionette puppeteers and novice Buddhist monks.

From Denmark and Sweden to China, Turkey, the Canadian Arctic, and the Peruvian Amazon, she finds that ordinary people sharing their stories does far more to advance understanding and empathy than even the most alarming statistics and studies. This "luminous book" (Deborah Blum, Pulitzer Prize–winning author of *The Poison Squad* and *The Poisoner's Handbook*) is a hopeful global listening tour for climate change, channeling the urgency of those who have already glimpsed the future to help us avoid the worst.

SELECTED BY Alvernia University

Themes: Climate Change, Public Policy, Community



Before It's Gone

Stories from the Front Lines of Climate Change in Small-Town America

Jonathan Vigliotti

9781668008188 | Trade Paper | 304 pages | $18.99 | One Signal Publishers

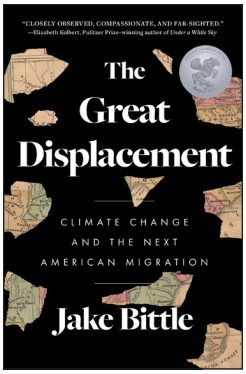
Read by the author

Discussion of the climate crisis has always suffered from a problem of abstraction. Data points and warnings of an overheated future struggle to break through the noise of everyday life. But climate change is here whether we want to pay attention or not.

CBS News national correspondent Jonathan Vigliotti has personally witnessed that crisis unfold, spending nearly two decades reporting across the United States (and the world) documenting the people, communities, landmarks, and traditions we've already surrendered. Vigliotti shares with urgency and personal touch the story of an America on the brink.

This "page-turning tour de force" (Steve Brusatte, *New York Times* bestselling author) traces Vigliotti's travels across the country, taking him to the frontlines of climate disaster and revealing the genuine impacts of climate change that countless Americans have already been forced to confront. From massive forest fires in California to hurricanes in Louisiana, receding coastlines in Massachusetts and devastated fisheries in Alaska, we learn that warnings of a future impacted by climate are no more; the climate catastrophe is already here.

Theme: Climate Change



The Great Displacement

Climate Change and the Next American Migration

Jake Bittle

9781982178260 | Trade Paper | 368 pages | $18.99 | Simon & Schuster

Even as climate change dominates the headlines, many of us still think about it in the future tense. What we often don't realize is that the consequences of climate change are already visible, right here in the United States. In communities across the country, climate disasters are pushing thousands of people away from their homes.

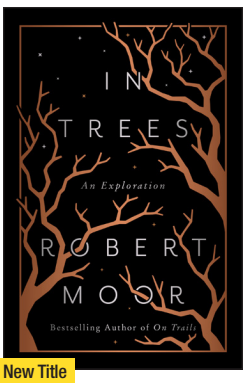
A human-centered narrative with national scope, *The Great Displacement* is "a vivid tour of the new human geography just coming into view" (David Wallace-Wells, *New York Times* bestselling author of *The Uninhabitable Earth*). From half-drowned Louisiana to fire-scorched California, from the dried-up cotton fields of Arizona to the soaked watersheds of inland North Carolina, people are moving. In the last few decades, the federal government has moved tens of thousands of families away from flood zones, and tens of thousands more have moved of their own accord in the aftermath of natural disasters. Insurance and mortgage markets are already shifting to reflect mounting climate risk, pricing people out of risky areas.

Over the next fifty years, millions of Americans will be caught up in this churn of displacement, forced inland and northward in what will be the largest migration in our country's history. Jake Bittle is "an empathetic writer" (NPR) who compassionately tells the stories of those who are already experiencing life on the move, while detailing just how radically climate change will transform our lives—erasing historic towns and villages, pushing people toward new areas, and reshaping the geography of the United States.

Shortlisted for the 2024 Carnegie Medal for Excellence

SELECTED BY Minnesota State University, Mankato

Themes: Climate Change, Poverty, Social Science



New Title

In Trees

An Exploration

Robert Moor

9781476739250 | Hardcover | 384 pages | $30.00 | Simon & Schuster

Read by the author

One day, on a whim, Robert Moor set out to climb a tree near his home—unwittingly embarking on what would become a decade-long adventure of intellectual and spiritual transformation.

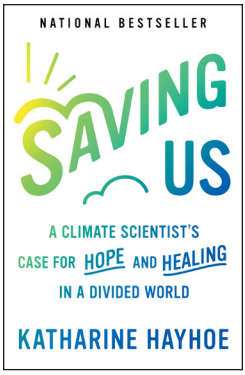
Pursuing the hidden wisdom of trees, he digs through forgotten archives, scales to the top of a giant sequoia with Sir David Attenborough, trudges through swamps in Papua to reach a treehouse-dwelling tribe of hunter-gatherers, and travels to a remote research camp in Tanzania, where he spends one very uncomfortable night sleeping in a chimpanzee nest. Galvanized by a radical new outlook on both our gnarled past and our ever-branching future, he ultimately falls in with a ragtag clan of climate activists risking everything to halt construction of an oil pipeline and save an old-growth forest.

Along the way, Moor learns the art of "treethinking," which, he discovers, has the power to break open some of humanity's oldest questions: What is the secret to truly growing old? How do we set down roots in an increasingly chaotic world? Can we ever learn to pursue our future in the farsighted, deeply entangled manner of an ancient forest?

A witty, relentlessly curious excursion through philosophy, history, and science, what begins as an ode to the miracle of trees blossoms into a joyous, daring, and fiercely hopeful effort to "arborize humanity."

"With adventurous journeys, lively storytelling, and provocative reflection, Moor invites us to know charismatic forests through the eyes of other worldviews in order to guide us through these urgent times." —Robin Wall Kimmerer, #1 *New York Times* bestselling author of *The Serviceberry*

Themes: Humanity, Climate Change



Saving Us

A Climate Scientist's Case for Hope and Healing in a Divided World

Katharine Hayhoe

9781982143848 | Trade Paper | 320 pages | $19.99 | One Signal Publishers

Read by the author

Called "one of the nation's most effective communicators on climate change" by *The New York Times*, Katharine Hayhoe knows how to navigate all sides of the conversation on our changing planet. A Canadian climate scientist living in Texas, she negotiates distrust of data, indifference to imminent threats, and resistance to proposed solutions with ease. Over the past fifteen years, Hayhoe has found that the most important thing we can do to address climate change is talk about it—and she wants to teach you how.

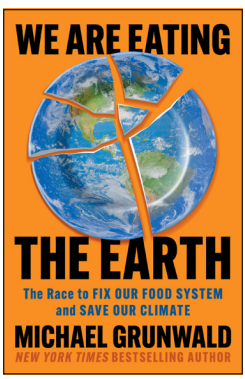
In *Saving Us*, Hayhoe argues that when it comes to changing hearts and minds, facts are only one part of the equation. We need to find shared values in order to connect our unique identities to collective action. This is not another doomsday narrative about a planet on fire. It is a multilayered look at science, faith, and human psychology, from an icon in her field.

Drawing on interdisciplinary research and personal stories, Hayhoe shows that small conversations can have astonishing results. *Saving Us* leaves us with the tools to open a dialogue with your loved ones about how we all can play a role in pushing forward for change.

"Practical advice abounds in this compassionate guide to conducting meaningful discussions about the environment. Those in search of a hope-filled approach will find plenty of encouragement." —*Publishers Weekly*

SELECTED BY College of New Jersey

Themes: Climate Change, Public Policy



We Are Eating the Earth

The Race to Fix Our Food System and Save Our Climate

Michael Grunwald

9781982160081 | Trade Paper | 384 pages | $20.00 | Simon & Schuster

In this rollicking, shocking narrative, Michael Grunwald shows how the world, after decades of ignoring the climate problem at the center of our plates, has pivoted to making it worse, embracing solutions that sound sustainable but could make it even harder to grow more food with less land. But he also tells the stories of the dynamic scientists and entrepreneurs pursuing real solutions, from a jungle-tough miracle crop called pongamia to genetically-edited cattle embryos. It's an often infuriating saga of lobbyists, politicians, and even the scientific establishment making terrible choices for humanity, but it's also a hopeful account of the people figuring out what needs to be done—and trying to do it.

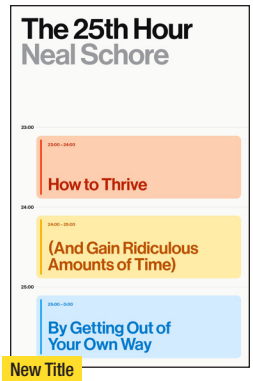
Grunwald builds his narrative around a brilliant, relentless, unforgettable food and land expert named Tim Searchinger. He chronicles Searchinger's uphill battles against bad science and bad politics, both driven by the overwhelming influence of agricultural interests. And he illuminates a path that could save our planetary home for ourselves and future generations—through better policy, technology, and behavior, as well as a new land ethic recognizing that every acre matters.

"A thrilling and provocative survey of inventions, innovations, and wild flights of imagination aimed at feeding more people while using less land… People who would rather solve problems than posture over them, people who understand that popularity is no measure of truth, will find in this book a bracing, beautiful picture of what's possible—and a sobering look at the difficulty of change." —*The Washington Post*

Themes: Food, Policy, Climate Change

Simon & Schuster First Year Reading

SUCCESS IN COLLEGE AND BEYOND



New Title

The 25th Hour

How to Thrive (And Gain Ridiculous Amounts of Time) by Getting Out of Your Own Way

Neal Schore

9781668090121 | Hardcover | 272 pages | $30.00 | Avid Reader Press

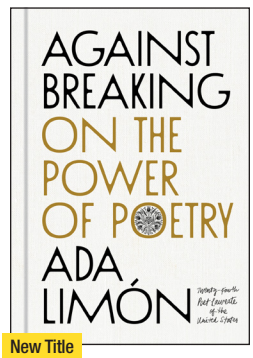
Read by the author

We often equate saving time with working smarter. If only we could cut unnecessary meetings, streamline emails, and collaborate more strategically, we could claw back all the stolen hours in our day. While these tactical adjustments help, they only skim the surface. The real problem isn't external, but internal. In *The 25th Hour*, Neal Schore reveals how our emotional reactions quietly eat away not just at our time but also our energy. It's the unproductive worrying, the anxiety that blooms and spirals, the decisions we make based on fear, the obsession over other people's actions and behaviors—all those complicated emotional dynamics that we so rarely address at work. More than anything else, we get in our own way.

Drawing on Schore's personal experiences and his successful work with some of today's most consequential business leaders, *The 25th Hour* will show you how to manage yourself in order to manage your professional life. With proven guidance and tools for becoming more self-aware, reigning in unruly feelings, and preventing needless drama, this book will equip everyone from CEOs to students with the skills to focus in on what matters to work more productively and efficiently while also having more fun along the way.

"*The 25th Hour* is both a revelation and a challenge…The result is a bracing guide to reclaiming your time by confronting the emotional habits that quietly give it away." —Daniel H. Pink, #1 *New York Times* bestselling author of *Drive*

Themes: Personal Growth, Time Management



New Title

Against Breaking

On the Power of Poetry

Ada Limón

9781668224724 | Hardcover | 80 pages | $20.00 | Scribner

Read by the author

Ada Limón—celebrated poet laureate and 2023 MacArthur fellow—takes us on an inspiring journey into a world where poetry is both a soothing balm for the soul and a spark for transformation. With her blend of accessible yet profound prose, Limón delivers a powerful message: poetry has the ability to heal, connect, and remind us of our shared humanity.

Limón's mission to make poetry approachable shines brightly in this slim but impactful book. Recognized as a 2024 *Time* magazine Woman of the Year for her commitment to bringing poetry into everyday lives, Limón passionately argues that poetry is essential to understanding ourselves—our tenderness, courage, imperfections, and our deep, unshakable worthiness of love.

Drawing from her own experiences as the 24th US poet laureate, Limón shares how poetry connects us not only to each other but to the natural world. This theme is at the heart of her project *You Are Here*, which celebrates the beauty of our environment and our place in it. Her prose, like her poetry, feels like an open invitation—welcoming readers of all backgrounds to explore the richness of human experience through verse.

Themes: Connection, Creativity, Power of Words, Individuality, Humanity, Belonging, Paying Attention



New Title

Better Good

A Simple System for Creating Lasting Impact

Scott M. Curran

9781668091654 | Hardcover | 352 pages | $29.00 | Simon Acumen

Read by the author

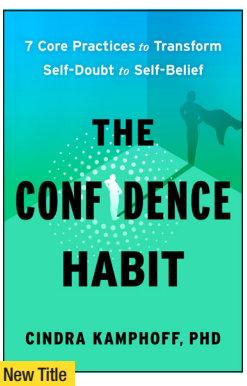
Almost everyone wants to do good in some form—in their communities, through their work, or for a cause they care about. And yet, these dreams often get pushed aside by the pressing needs of daily life, and we give up before we even start. The good news is, you don't need extra time or money to make the world better. Instead, you can start where you are, with what you already know, love, and do.

Better Good teaches you exactly where and how to begin. Using the same framework reflected in the work of leading companies, global nonprofits, and changemakers—from organizations like Starbucks and Chobani to individuals like Will Smith and MacKenzie Scott—you'll learn how to leverage your PPP (Profile, Platform, and Passion) and TTT (Time, Talent, and Treasure) to deepen and expand your impact in your life and organization. An actionable, practical guide for both leaders and individuals, you'll learn:

- What levers make up your unique platform, and how to pull those levers to 10x your impact.
- How to use Transformative Time, Found Extra Time, and even No Extra Time to do more good, and do it better.
- Why more isn't always better—better is better—when it comes to making an impact, and how to ensure that your efforts are the highest and best use of your PPP and TTT to contribute in new (and not redundant or insignificant) ways.

When faced with challenges and inequities, too many of us think, "Somebody should do something about that." This book shows you that you are as much somebody as anybody, and you have more power than you realize to make your corner of the world better.

Themes: Leadership, Community Service, Activism



New Title

The Confidence Habit

7 Core Practices to Transform Self-Doubt to Self-Belief

Cindra Kamphoff, PhD

9781668225257 | Hardcover | 224 pages | $30.00 | Simon Acumen

Read by the author

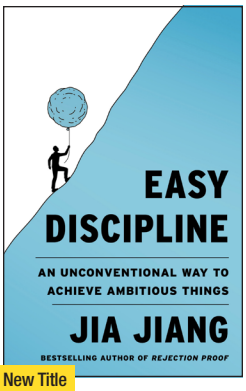
Break free from crippling self-doubt, readjust your mindset, and step into confidence—no matter the situation. As Dr. Cindra Kamphoff knows from working as a top sports and performance psychologist to business leaders and professional athletes, confidence isn't an elusive trait reserved for the lucky few; it's a skill that anyone can master. In *The Confidence Habit*, Dr. Kamphoff shows you how to build this skill through an actionable and a proven framework based on cutting-edge research in performance psychology, neuroscience, and positive psychology.

Here's the truth: confidence isn't about never experiencing doubt—it's a skill you can learn. Dr. Kamphoff walks you through nineteen confidence-boosting strategies built from seven core practices and step-by-step methods that help you shift self-doubt into self-belief, transform fear into action, and create a rock-solid inner foundation. Each practice is a habit you build, while the tools are the techniques you use to implement them in real life. You'll get:

- Insights from a national study on confidence
- Lessons from Olympians, Fortune 500 leaders, and high performers Dr. Kamphoff has personally coached—including clients like the Minnesota Vikings, USA Track & Field, Target, and Verizon
- A Confidence Assessment Tool, guided exercises and practical takeaways

The Confidence Habit is your practical guide to turning self-doubt into courage, fear into action, and potential into performance.

Themes: Personal Success, Confidence, Resilience



New Title

Easy Discipline

An Unconventional Way to Achieve Ambitious Things

Jia Jiang

9781668093580 | Hardcover | 304 pages | $29.00 | Simon Acumen

Read by the author

From the bestselling author of *Rejection Proof*, a guide to achieving your goals—the easy way—for anyone who struggles with distractions, disorganization, and discipline.

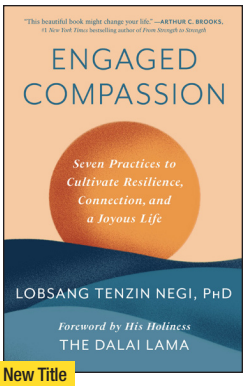
Most people think that because great achievements are difficult, they must also feel difficult. But great accomplishments are rarely achieved through mental toughness. Rather, the most successful people find ways to make hard actions repeatable and enjoyable.

Drawing on stories from his own battles with ADHD and procrastination, as well as twelve epic stories from history and pop culture, bestselling author Jia Jiang outlines the four principles of *Easy Discipline*—Enjoyment, Artistry, Systems, and Yourself—so you can take hard actions on a consistent basis, and love your work in the process. Each principle offers a mindset of *Easy Discipline*, as well as powerful, practical tools to turn mindset into action. You'll learn:

- How to harness the power of the One Action Goal system—and why it's the only system you'll ever need
- Why "Changing the Game" can turn dreaded tasks into energizing pursuits
- How to curate your media consumption to educate and inspire you toward your goal, the way developers fine-tune AI machines
- How to create an "Inspiration Index" that concretely ties your efforts (inputs) to measurable outputs
- Why "Repetition with Variation" is the key to success

Easy Discipline will give you the mindsets and tools to turn flaws into assets, obstacles into stepstones, and dreams into realities. Work can be fun. Focus can be automatic. And success can be easy.

Theme: Personal Success



New Title

Engaged Compassion

Seven Practices to Cultivate Resilience, Connection, and a Joyous Life

Lobsang Tenzin Negi, PhD

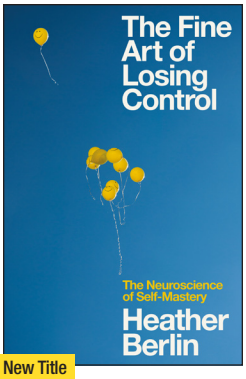
9781668006450 | Hardcover | 272 pages | $28.00 | Simon Element

Former Tibetan Buddhist monk and current Emory professor and scholar, Lobsang Tenzin Negi was tasked by the Dalai Lama himself to find new ways of sharing ancient Tibetan wisdom to create a more compassionate, peaceful, and happier modern world.

In a world where burnout and disconnection have become epidemic, people are searching for a way to care deeply for others without depleting themselves. *Engaged Compassion* offers a revolutionary approach to human flourishing that goes beyond traditional self-care advice. This isn't about building walls to protect yourself—it's about developing the emotional intelligence and practical skills needed to create more meaningful connections at both individual and societal levels.

Through seven evidence-based steps, readers learn to transform their relationship with suffering—both their own and others'—into a source of resilience rather than exhaustion. Bridging time-tested contemplative methods with insights from cutting-edge psychology, it demonstrates how genuine compassion energizes us when practiced skillfully. The result? Discovering compassion as the key to making a meaningful difference in the world without sacrificing your own well-being.

Themes: Mindfulness, Resilience, Connection



New Title

The Fine Art of Losing Control

The Neuroscience of Self-Mastery

Heather Berlin

9781982150006 | Hardcover | 288 pages | $29.00 | Simon & Schuster

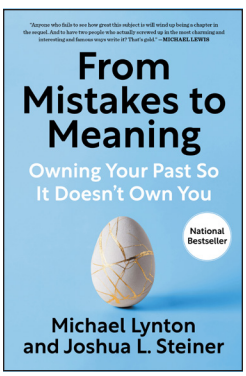
At some point you've probably whispered, What is wrong with me? Because you did the thing you said you wouldn't do. Again! You sent the double text. You bought the jacket. You opened the Instagram "for a minute" and lost an hour. You promised yourself tomorrow, and tomorrow turned into next week, and next week turned into a version of you that's always about to begin.

In this life-changing book, neuroscientist Heather Berlin answers one deceptively simple question: how do you learn when to loosen control and when to tighten it, so your impulses serve you rather than sabotage you?

Most of us were taught that the strong resist temptation while the weak give in. But the science tells a different story. Self-control isn't a on/off switch. It's a dial. Turn it too far down and you're impulsive: you chase short-term relief or pleasure, even when it costs you later. Turn it too far up and you're rigid or compulsive: you over-control, overthink, and lose the spontaneity and joy that make life feel worth living. The goal isn't "more control." The goal is flexibility—being able to adjust the dial to fit the moment.

Berlin shows us the surprising science of why losing control at the right time, in the right way, can unlock flow, connection, originality, relief, and even healing—and counterintuitively help you gain more control.

Themes: Personal Success, Neuroscience, Habits, Mental Health



From Mistakes to Meaning

Owning Your Past So It Doesn't Own You

Michael Lynton and Joshua L. Steiner

9781668080221 | Hardcover | 272 pages | $30.00 | Avid Reader Press

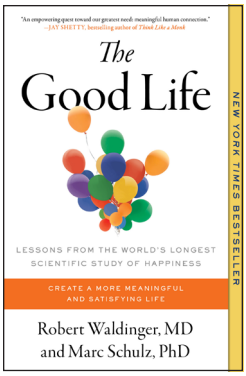
Read by the authors, Sean Patrick Hopkins, and Marni Penning

Longtime friends Michael Lynton and Josh Steiner made mistakes that shaped their careers and lives, but it wasn't until the isolation of the pandemic that they began to open up to each other about them. When Michael was the CEO of Sony Entertainment, he greenlit the film that led to the infamous North Korean hack; meanwhile, a private diary Josh had kept as Chief of Staff at the Treasury Department became a focal point in the Clinton Whitewater scandal. As their conversations deepened, they searched for a book to guide their exploration, but came up empty. So they set out to write one themselves.

Through a revealing examination of their own stories and candid interviews with influential figures such as Larry Summers, Joanna Coles, and Malcolm Gladwell along with people from all walks of life, the authors unveil the hidden dimensions of mistakes and the universal struggle to move beyond them. Working with Alison Papadakis, Director of Clinical Psychological Studies at Johns Hopkins, they ground their observations in relevant research and unpack the difference between failures and mistakes, the stages of mistakes, and how it's possible to break the patterns that lead to misunderstandings and shame.

From Mistakes to Meaning is an essential and fascinating read, combining compelling narrative and actionable advice, showing that mistakes can be used as portals for personal growth instead of lifelong burdens.

Themes: Personal Success, Identity, Self Reflection, Facing Your Problems



The Good Life

Lessons from the World's Longest Scientific Study of Happiness

Robert Waldinger, MD and Marc Schulz, PhD

9781982166700 | Trade Paper | 352 pages | $19.99 | Simon & Schuster

Read by the authors

What makes a life fulfilling and meaningful? The simple but surprising answer is: relationships. The stronger our relationships, the more likely we are to live happy, satisfying, and healthier lives. In fact, the Harvard Study of Adult Development reveals that the strength of our connections with others can predict the health of both our bodies and our brains as we go through life.

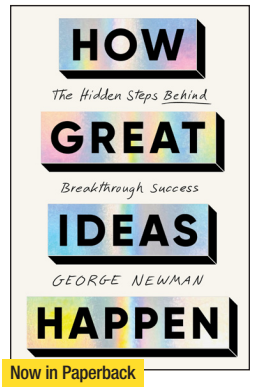
The invaluable insights in *The Good Life* emerge from the revealing personal stories of hundreds of participants in the Harvard Study as they were followed year after year for their entire adult lives, and this wisdom was bolstered by research findings from many other studies. Relationships in all their forms—friendships, romantic partnerships, families, coworkers, tennis partners, book club members—all contribute to a happier, healthier life. And as *The Good Life* shows us, it's never too late to strengthen the relationships you already have, and never too late to build new ones. *The Good Life* provides examples of how to do this.

With "insightful [and] interesting" (Daniel Gilbert, *New York Times* bestselling author of *Stumbling on Happiness*) life stories, *The Good Life* shows us how we can make our lives happier and more meaningful through our connections to others.

"Want the secret to the good life? Robert Waldinger and Marc Schulz give it to you in this magnificent new book. Based on the longest survey ever conducted over people's lives, *The Good Life* reveals who winds up happy, who doesn't, and why—and how you can use this information starting today." —Arthur C. Brooks, professor, Harvard Kennedy School and Harvard Business School

New York Times Bestseller

Themes: Happiness, Friendship, Connection



How Great Ideas Happen

The Hidden Steps Behind Breakthrough Success

George Newman

9781668026014 | Paperback | 304 pages | $19.00 | Simon & Schuster

Read by the author

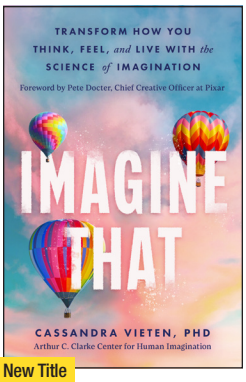
In *How Great Ideas Happen*, cognitive scientist George Newman draws on cutting-edge research to show that creativity isn't magic, it's method. The most successful innovators don't wait to be struck by brilliance; their creative process is more like archeology. As keen-eyed explorers, they scan the terrain, dig with intention, and, with a little luck, find gold.

With vivid examples from the arts, science, and business, Newman shows how creativity often comes from discovering what was already there. By revealing the hidden steps behind breakthrough success, *How Great Ideas Happen* uncovers a repeatable method that anyone can follow, reframing creativity not as a rare gift, but as a universal capacity waiting to be unlocked through exploration. The creative process is an adventure of ideas—this book is your guide.

"*How Great Ideas Happen* is a revelation. George Newman has written a brilliant and illuminating exploration of creativity and innovation. This book is wise, funny, and delightfully counterintuitive. It's also a genuine pleasure to read. It has changed the way I think about coming up with new ideas, and it is a book I will return to again and again." —Paul Bloom, professor of psychology at the University of Toronto and Yale University, and author of *Against Empathy* and *Psych: The Story of the Human Mind*

"An inspiring reminder that creativity is a capacity we can all cultivate. Drawing on rigorous research and vivid examples, Newman offers an evidence-based roadmap for sparking breakthroughs. This fantastic book is sure to help every one of its readers." —Katy Milkman, author of *How to Change*, host of the podcast *Choiceology*, and the James G. Dinan Professor at the Wharton School of The University of Pennsylvania

Themes: Creativity, Personal Success



New Title

Imagine That

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

Cassandra Vieten, PhD

9781668067390 | Hardcover | 304 pages | $29.00 | Simon Element

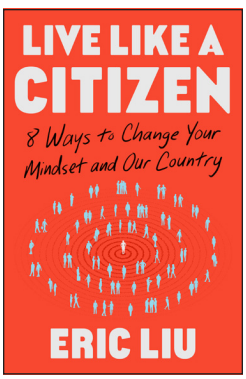
In *Imagine That*, psychologist and imagination scientist Dr. Cassandra Vieten makes a radical claim: imagination is not just for artists and dreamers, it's the operating system behind how all of us think, act, and live. And it exists within everyone.

Drawing on her original, cutting-edge neuroscientific research, Vieten introduces the concept of imagination neurodiversity: the idea that each of us has a unique set of strengths and tendencies that can be understood and activated. Vieten's research unpacks the neurological, cognitive, and social components of imagination, and uncovers how we can cultivate and apply it in our daily lives. Readers of this book will gain the ability to:

- Open their mind to new possibilities to help alleviate depression, anxiety, and other mental health struggles.
- Boost their workouts, sports, and physical training.
- Enrich relationships.
- Be more creative in work, school, hobbies, art, and music.
- Deepen spirituality or other existential explorations.
- Develop more joy and creative energy through a more colorful way of seeing and being.

This is the first book to offer a road map to determining your imagination strengths and how you can leverage them to invent, create, innovate, and lead a richer and more fulfilling life.

Themes: Psychology, Happiness, Mental Health, Connection, Creativity



Live Like a Citizen

8 Ways to Change Your Mindset and Our Country

Eric Liu

9781668008867 | Hardcover | 240 pages | $28.00 | Simon & Schuster

Read by the author

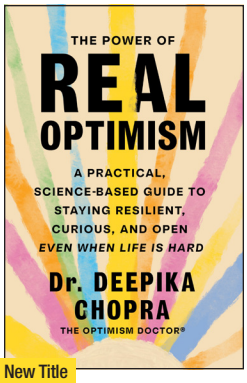
We live in a time of fracture and lost faith. But most Americans don't want this feeling. Most of us, the exhausted majority, want to be invited into something better. That's the call of *Live Like a Citizen*: to give everyone the tools to turn away from the resentment and cynicism eroding democratic life. To turn toward a healthier way of living together. Eric Liu, CEO of Citizen University, gives readers eight deep practices for rekindling our belief in democracy—and our own humanity.

Each chapter centers on a single verb—an elemental civic way to be and to be with. Through powerful stories of Americans from many backgrounds, we learn anew how to see, listen, feel, join, fight, change, imagine, and commit.

Democracy works only if enough of us believe democracy works. *Live Like a Citizen* will give you reason to believe—and the tools to transform belief into everyday action.

"Eric Liu is one of the great practitioners and teachers of the art of joining. His work is inspired, and reading his lucid, insightful book will make you smarter—and your community stronger." — Robert D. Putnam, author of *Bowling Alone*

Themes: Civic Engagement, Hope, Democracy



New Title

The Power of Real Optimism

A Practical, Science-Based Guide to Staying Resilient, Curious, and Open Even When Life Is Hard

Dr. Deepika Chopra

9781668081129 | Hardcover | 304 pages | $29.99 | Simon Element

Read by the author

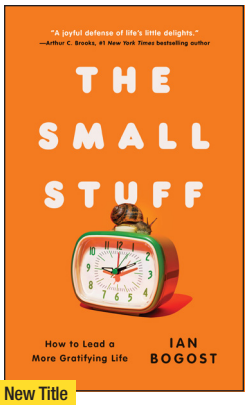
We've been sold the idea that optimism is a mood, a mindset, or worse—just an inherent trait. But what if real optimism is something else entirely?

In *The Power of Real Optimism*, Dr. Deepika Chopra—known as The Optimism Doctor®—offers a radically different definition: optimism as a science, a skill, and a psychological muscle we can strengthen. Drawing from over a decade immersed in the science of resilience, emotional well-being, and cognitive psychology—as well as her work with clients, innovative workshops, and hallmark practices (think: evidence-based visualization, narrative reframing, her signature "self-worth work," and even color therapy)—Dr. Chopra offers a tool kit for navigating the chaos, uncertainty, and nuance of being human—without losing yourself to it.

Grounded, practical, and poetic in all the right ways, this book will challenge your relationship with hope, rewire how you recover from hard things, and invite you to stay soft without falling apart. With her blend of intimate storytelling, psychological insight, and tangible tools—including a 33-day Real Optimism Challenge—Dr. Chopra offers something far more enduring than a quick fix or fleeting affirmation. She invites us into a deeper, more resilient way of living—one where we can stay curious in the face of fear, open in the face of grief, and grounded even as the world wobbles beneath us.

Because real optimism doesn't deny the dark—it teaches us how to see in it.

Themes: Resilience, Psychology, Happiness



New Title

The Small Stuff

How to Lead a More Gratifying Life

Ian Bogost

9781668062630 | Hardcover | 240 pages | $27.00 | Atria Books

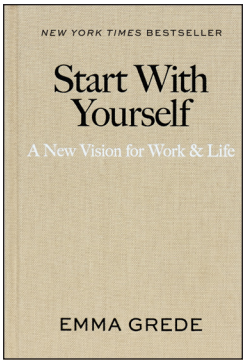
In an era dominated by convenience and efficiency, one would think that life would be simpler, easier, and most importantly, happier. After all, shouldn't all the time saved with machines and technology leave us with more time for ourselves? *The Atlantic* columnist Ian Bogost thinks not. From digital tickets to automated faucets, he argues that the simple pleasures of daily life have been stripped away, replaced by sleek, but soulless, design.

Through engaging anecdotes and sharp analysis, Bogost uncovers how modern conveniences not only fail to deliver on their promises but also rob us of small, satisfying tasks and moments that keep us grounded and human. He challenges us to rethink our daily interactions with the material world and illuminates how the loss of these tangible interactions has contributed to widespread feelings of disconnection and dissatisfaction.

But all hope is not lost. Bogost guides us to identify and appreciate the overlooked joys hidden in everyday life. By reforming how we approach ordinary tasks, we can rediscover the gratification embedded in the tactile world around us.

Humorous, thought-provoking, and practical, *The Small Stuff* reveals that finding joy isn't about achieving monumental happiness or prolonged satisfaction. It's about doing small things, deliberately and with attention, to unlock the basic pleasures that flavor our daily lives.

Themes: Psychology, Happiness



Start With Yourself

A New Vision for Work & Life

Emma Grede

9781668085486 | Hardcover | 320 pages | $30.00 | Avid Reader Press

Read by the author

Based on the factors of her early life—she's the child of a working-class single mother and grew up in a rough neighborhood in East London and dropped out of high school—you'd never guess that Emma Grede would go on to become one of America's richest self-made women.

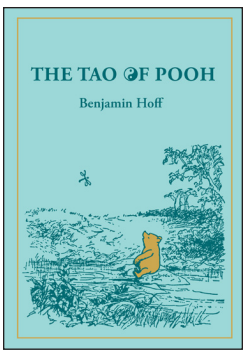
This makes Grede unique, but she's convinced you can do it, too: *Start With Yourself* is a blueprint to her mindset and how she thinks about business and life, structured in easy takeaways, so you can immediately apply her philosophy to what you're trying to build and create.

Grede identifies what she calls "Old Thoughts": stale thinking, outdated ideas; set-in-stone rules ingrained into the culture about work-life balance, the crassness of money, and the unseemliness of ambition—that aren't actually rules at all. They're biases, Grede insists, system errors, and we must strike them from our minds so that we can gain a greater sense of control, even mastery, over our day-to-day and long-range goals.

Grede offers tangible and applicable-right-now solutions to create a mindset, an overall system of thought to manage emotions, clarify ideas, and illuminate the right next step—while always staying positive. It's about gathering yourself after failure. It's about being accountable but also forgiving yourself. It's about not expecting shortcuts while never being bashful about grabbing them when they appear. It's about pushing hard for wins and never apologizing for your dreams. Grede offers a new vision for work and life that encourages readers everywhere to take responsibility for their own thinking in order to achieve personal and professional success at the highest levels.

New York Times Bestseller

Themes: Personal Success, Business, Inspirational, Managing Emotions



The Tao of Pooh

Benjamin Hoff

9781668259641 | Hardcover | 176 pages | $25.00 | Simon Element

Experience the gentle character of Winnie-the-Pooh through the lens of ancient Taoist principles, and discover how simplicity, humility, and naturalness lead to a happier and more harmonious life.

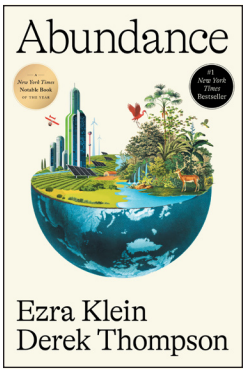
First published in 1982, *The Tao of Pooh* introduces the principles of Taoist philosophy through the humor and familiar world of *Winnie-the-Pooh* by A. A. Milne.

At the heart of the book is the concept of living in harmony with the Tao—the natural way of things. Pooh, with his unpretentious and sincere outlook, embodies the principle of wu wei, or "effortless action." He does not strive to be clever or ambitious. Instead, he responds naturally to life as it unfolds. In contrast, characters such as Rabbit, Owl, Eeyore, and Tigger reflect common human tendencies toward overthinking, worry, pessimism, or restless energy.

Blending storytelling with philosophical insight, Benjamin Hoff presents Taoism as a path of gratitude, simplicity, authenticity, and inner balance. Illustrated with E. H. Shepard's original drawings, *The Tao of Pooh* remains a timeless and inviting guide to finding wisdom within the uncomplicated, natural self.

Themes: Mindfulness, Inspirational, Philosophy, Gratitude, Resilience

TOPICS OF TODAY



Abundance

Ezra Klein and Derek Thompson

9781668023488 | Hardcover | 304 pages | $30.00 | Avid Reader Press

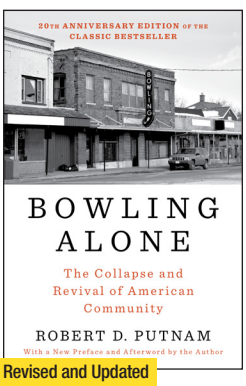
Read by the authors

Abundance explains that our problems today are not the results of yesteryear's villains. Rather, one generation's solutions have become the next generation's problems. Rules and regulations designed to solve the problems of the 1970s often prevent urban-density and green-energy projects that would help solve the problems of the 2020s. Laws meant to ensure that government considers the consequences of its actions have made it too difficult for government to act consequentially.

Progress requires facing up to the institutions in life that are not working as they need to. It means, for liberals, recognizing when the government is failing. It means, for conservatives, recognizing when the government is needed. In a book exploring how we can move from a liberalism that not only protects and preserves but also builds, Klein and Thompson trace the political, economic, and cultural barriers to progress and propose a path toward a politics of abundance. At a time when movements of scarcity are gaining power in country after country, this is an answer that meets the challenges of the moment while grappling honestly with the fury so many rightfully feel.

"Spectacular…Offers a comprehensive indictment of the current problems and a clear path forward…Klein and Thompson usher in a mood shift. They inspire hope and enlarge the imagination by describing the good things that are actually within our grasp: abundant energy, cheaper housing, affordable cities, shorter workweeks, lab-grown meat so that we no longer have to use 25 percent of global land to raise livestock." —David Brooks, *The New York Times*

New York Times Bestseller
Reading Group Guide Available
Theme: Public Policy, US History, Political Science



Revised and Updated

Bowling Alone

The Collapse and Revival of American Community

Robert D. Putnam

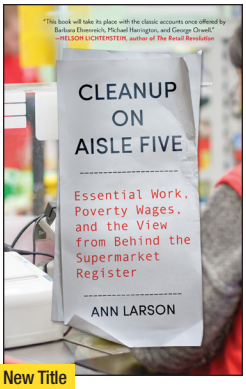
9781982130848 | Trade Paper | 592 pages | $21.99 | Simon & Schuster

Twenty years, ago, Robert D. Putnam made a seemingly simple observation: once we bowled in leagues, usually after work; but no longer. This seemingly small phenomenon symbolized a significant social change that became the basis of the acclaimed bestseller, *Bowling Alone*.

Bowling Alone surveyed in detail Americans' changing behavior over the decades, showing how we had become increasingly disconnected from family, friends, neighbors, and social structures, whether it's with the PTA, church, clubs, political parties, or bowling leagues. In the revised edition of his classic work, Putnam shows how our shrinking access to the "social capital" that is the reward of communal activity and community sharing still poses a serious threat to our civic and personal health, and how these consequences have a new resonance for our divided country today. He includes critical new material on the pervasive influence of social media and the internet, which has introduced previously unthinkable opportunities for social connection—as well as unprecedented levels of alienation and isolation.

Updated to include a new chapter about the influence of social media and the Internet—the 20th anniversary edition of *Bowling Alone* remains a seminal work of social analysis, and its examination of what happened to our sense of community remains more relevant than ever in today's fractured America.

Themes: Community, US History, Public Policy



New Title

Cleanup on Aisle Five

Essential Work, Poverty Wages, and the View from Behind the Supermarket Register

Ann Larson

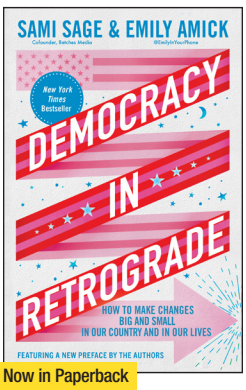
9781668094501 | Hardcover | 272 pages | $29.00 | One Signal Publishers

Unemployed and looking for work during the pandemic, journalist and activist Ann Larson found a job as a cashier at a supermarket in Utah. Though she had written about low-wage work for years, nothing could have prepared her for what she experienced.

Informed by her time behind the register, *Cleanup on Aisle Five* is Larson's deep dive into supermarkets and how they operate from the inside out: from the low-wage workers stocking the shelves and the customers coming through at all hours, to the communities these stores serve and the larger capitalist forces and corporate interests at play that control how we shop for food. In the process, she chronicles the evolution of the grocery store, unpacks the political implications of the battles between shoppers and staff, and invites us to imagine grocery stores as places where one can foster community and even equity—if we can separate food distribution from profit motive.

Deeply reported and refreshingly insightful, Larson follows the interactions between the workers, including Stanley who can't afford a sandwich, and Scarlet who is all out of patience, and customers, including the old lady who finds comfort in tidying the shelves to the one homeless guy who only comes in to use the facilities. From the unforgettable characters to the common challenges we face when it comes to food, *Cleanup in Aisle Five* will forever change the way we look at grocery stores.

Themes: Economic Insecurity, Community, Class



Now in Paperback

Democracy in Retrograde

How to Make Changes Big and Small in Our Country and in Our Lives

Sami Sage and Emily Amick

9781668053492 | Trade Paper | 256 pages | $19.00 | Gallery Books

At this fragile moment in history, Emily Amick, lawyer and former counsel to Senate Minority Leader Chuck Schumer, alongside Betches Media cofounder Sami Sage, want to reframe civic engagement as a form of self-care: an assertion of one's values and self-respect. This book is not just about voting, but about claiming your singular place in your country and community.

Including real stories of regular people who have made a difference along with helpful exercises and quizzes, *Democracy in Retrograde* is a choose-your-own-adventure map to civic engagement that will help students:

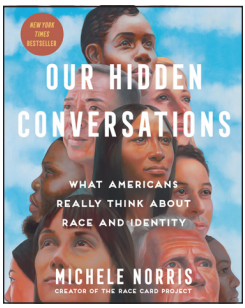
- Define their values and passions
- Understand how the system works, so it's easier to know how to change it
- Match their personality, skills, resources, and interests, to meaningful actions within their community
- Implement changes (big and small) that matter
- Build a civic life that's sustainable and authentic to them

"This upbeat, extremely accessible guide to managing political anxiety offers reassurance and hope." —*Booklist*

"A comprehensive guide to regaining ownership of American civic life…An uplifting and useful book of activism." —*Kirkus Reviews*

New York Times Bestseller

Themes: Political Science, Leadership, Civic Engagement



Our Hidden Conversations

What Americans Really Think About Race and Identity

Michele Norris

9781982154394 | Hardcover | 528 pages | $35.00 | Simon & Schuster

Read by the author and a full cast

The prompt seemed simple: Race. Your Thoughts. Six Words. Please Send.

The answers, though, have been challenging and complicated. The stories are shocking in their depth and candor, spanning the full spectrum of race, ethnicity, identity, and class. Even at just six words, the micro-essays can pack quite a punch, revealing, fear, pain, triumph, and sometimes humor. Responses such as: You're Pretty for a Black girl. White privilege, enjoy it, earned it. Lady, I don't want your purse. My ancestors massacred Indians near here. Urban living has made me racist. I'm only Asian when it's convenient.

Many go even further than just six words, submitting backstories, photos, and heirlooms: a collection much like a scrapbook of American candor you rarely get to see. *Our Hidden Conversations* is a unique compilation of stories, richly reported essays, and photographs providing a window into America during a tumultuous era. This powerful book offers an honest, if sometimes uncomfortable, conversation about race and identity, permitting us to eavesdrop on deep-seated thoughts, private discussions, and long submerged memories.

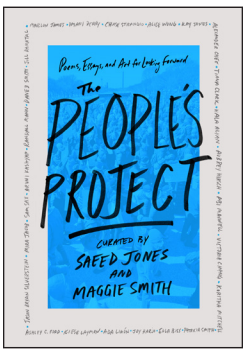
Our Hidden Conversations reminds us that even during times of great division, honesty, grace, and a willing ear can provide a bridge toward empathy and maybe even understanding.

"A stunning book and a gift to our nation. Anchored by more than a decade of research and engagement with Americans across the country, Michele Norris takes us on a journey into the heart of this country's painful, complex and unrelenting battle with the salience and significance of race in our lives." —Sherrilyn Ifill, Howard Law School

Peabody Award Winner

SELECTED BY Dallas College

Themes: Identity, Society, Race



The People's Project

Poems, Essays, and Art for Looking Forward

Saeed Jones and Maggie Smith

9781668207024 | Hardcover | 128 pages | $22.00 | Washington Square Press

Inspired by Saeed Jones and Maggie Smith's conversations in the wake of the 2024 election, this is a collection of poems, essays, and visual art on what we—individually and collectively—can hold onto, and what we can work towards.

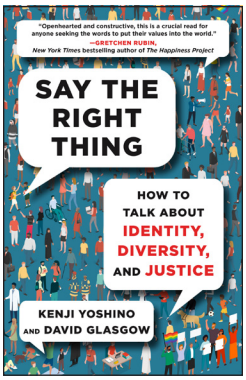
In times of difficulty, with a government working against its own people, we must turn to our friends and loved ones to provide context, language, energy, and hope. *The People's Project* offers a range of perspectives, drawing wisdom from their communities and histories: from know-your-place aggression to crip time as a way forward, from finding strength in nature to how trans people provide a guide for the future, and how hope has everything to do with survival.

We hope these meditations and strategies will provide you with inspiration and fortitude for the years ahead.

Featuring original and selected work from Alexander Chee, Chase Strangio, Tiana Clark, Hala Alyan, Aubrey Hirsch, Imani Perry, Abi Maxwell, Victoria Chang, Koritha Mitchell, Jason Silverstein, Alice Wong, Mira Jacob, Aruni Kashyap, Sam Sax, Ashley C. Ford, Marlon James, Eula Biss, Randall Mann, Danez Smith, Ada Limón, Kiese Laymon, Joy Harjo, Jill Damatac, and Patricia Smith.

"After the election of 2024, poets Jones and Smith looked to their 'mentors, siblings on the page, and friends' for hope and solace, strategies and commiseration. Their collection of 27 essays, poems, and artwork honors that diverse community of writers and artists who share their reflections on how to cope with oppression and how to move forward…All underscore the crucial power of community. A stirring anthology." —*Kirkus Reviews*

Themes: Poetry, Hope, Community



Say the Right Thing

How to Talk About Identity, Diversity, and Justice

Kenji Yoshino and David Glasgow

9781982181383 | Hardcover | 240 pages | $29.00 | Simon Acumen

In the current period of social and political unrest, conversations about identity are becoming more frequent and more difficult. On subjects like critical race theory, gender equity in the workplace, and LGBTQ-inclusive classrooms, many of us are understandably fearful of saying the wrong thing. That fear can sometimes prevent us from speaking up at all, depriving people from marginalized groups of support and stalling progress toward a more just and inclusive society.

Kenji Yoshino and David Glasgow, founders of the Meltzer Center for Diversity, Inclusion, and Belonging at NYU School of Law, are here to show potential allies that these conversations don't have to be so overwhelming. Through stories drawn from contexts as varied as social media posts, dinner party conversations, and workplace disputes, they offer seven user-friendly principles that teach skills such as how to avoid common conversational pitfalls, engage in respectful disagreement, offer authentic apologies, and better support people in our lives who experience bias.

Research-backed, accessible, and uplifting, *Say the Right Thing* charts a pathway out of cancel culture toward more meaningful and empathetic dialogue on issues of identity. It also gives us the practical tools to do good in our spheres of influence. Whether managing diverse teams at work, navigating issues of inclusion at college, or challenging biased comments at a family barbecue, Yoshino and Glasgow help us move from unconsciously hurting people to consciously helping them.

"A must-read for anyone seeking guidance on how to foster positive communication about identity." —*Kirkus Reviews*

Living Now Book Awards Gold Medalist
Themes: Society, Psychology, Identity



What the Fact?

Finding the Truth in All the Noise

Dr. Seema Yasmin

9781665900041 | Trade Paper | 368 pages | $12.99 | Simon & Schuster Books for Young Readers

Read by the author

What is a fact? What are reliable sources? What is news? What is fake news? How can anyone make sense of it anymore? Well, we have to. As conspiracy theories and online hoaxes increasingly become a part of our national discourse and "truth" itself is being questioned, it has never been more vital to build the discernment necessary to tell fact from fiction, and media literacy has never been more important.

In this accessible guide, Dr. Seema Yasmin, an award-winning journalist, scientist, medical professional, and professor, traces the spread of misinformation and disinformation through our fast-moving media landscape and teaches young readers the skills that will help them identify and counter poorly-sourced clickbait and misleading headlines.

"Educators will applaud a book that helps navigate an already overwhelming problem and curious teens will be rewarded with helpful tips for media consumption. It's a book every library and classroom should have." —*School Library Journal*

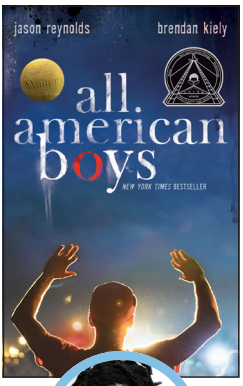
"Laden with entertainingly presented tips and techniques, this informative overview will encourage further exploration and contemplation. A savvy, accessible, and critical guide to media literacy." —*Kirkus Reviews* (starred review)

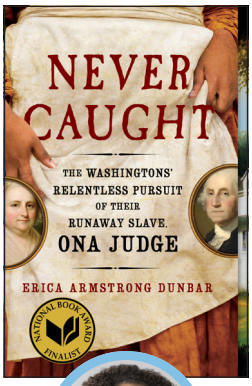
"Journalist Yasmin (*If God Is a Virus*, for adults) effectively explores contemporary media literacy's barriers and how to overcome them in this eye-opening work told via contagion and vaccine metaphor." —*Publishers Weekly* (starred review)

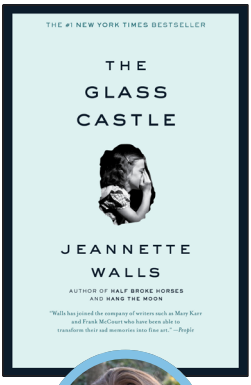
Curriculum Guide Available
SELECTED BY Highland Community College
Theme: Media Literacy

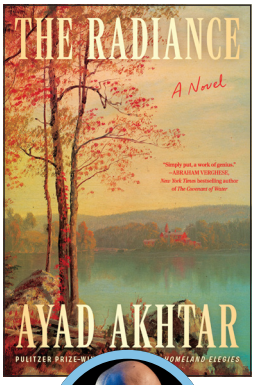
Bestselling Authors and Industry Leaders.
Important Topics and Recognized Experts.

Bring a Simon & Schuster Author to Speak at Your Next Event!











For a roster of authors available through the Simon & Schuster Speakers Bureau visit **SimonSpeakers.com**.
You can also contact the Speakers Bureau directly by emailing **Info@SimonSpeakers.com** or by calling (866) 248-3049.

Simon & Schuster ACADEMIC | Simon & Schuster | Simon & Schuster SPEAKERS BUREAU

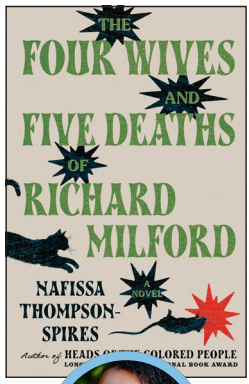
Jason Reynolds photo © Adedayo "Dayo" Kosoko; Erica Armstrong Dunbar photo © Whitney Thomas;
Jeannette Walls photo © John Taylor; Ayad Akhta photo © Vincent Tullo; Reyna Grande photo © Ara Arbabzadeh

Books Like Us

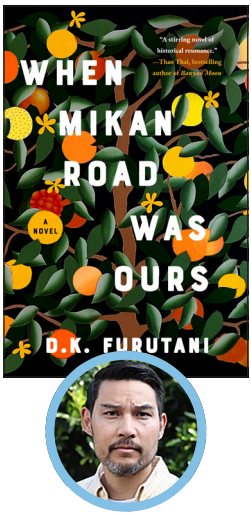
BY SIMON & SCHUSTER

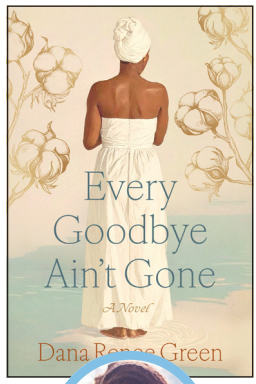
Simon & Schuster's Books Like Us (BLU) is a platform dedicated to amplifying our diverse authors and their literature. The Books Like Us vertical features author video content, monthly newsletters, influencer collaboration, and public programming at cultural and literary events nationwide. For more information and opportunities for BLU to exhibit visit **SimonandSchuster.com/p/Books-Like-Us** or contact Imani Seymour at **Imani.Seymour@SimonandSchuster.com**





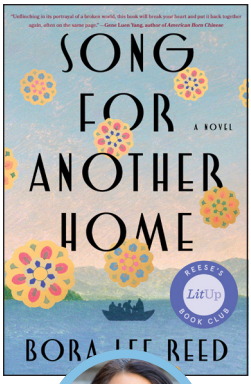








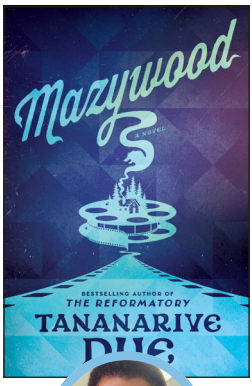
Candice Carty-Williams photo © Holly-Marie Cato; Nafissa Thompson-Spires photo © Miranda Barnes; D.K. Furutani photo © James Sullivan; Dana Renee Green photo © Terrence Pickett









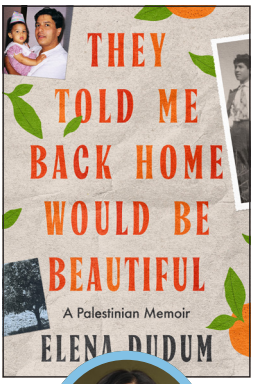




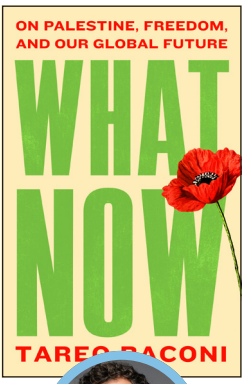














Bora Lee Reed photo courtesy of author; Natalie Messier photo © Chris Messier; Tananarive Due photo © Larry Traevon; Cynthia Pelayo photo © Gerardo Pelayo; Elena Dudum photo © Rebecca Need-Menear; Tareq Baconi photo © Anastasia Casey

Title Index

1,001 Voices on Climate Change 48
25th Hour, The 51
Abundance 59
Across a Hundred Mountains 10
Against Breaking 51
Agency 13
AI for Good 6
All American Boys 16
All Better Now 16
All the Beauty in the World 34
All the World Can Hold 17
America in 25 Revolutions 30
Anxietyland 34
Are You Mad at Me? 27
Art of Pacing, The 13
Backtalker 35
Been There, Done That 30
Before It's Gone 48
Better Good 52
Borderless 17
Bowling Alone: Revised and Updated 59
Calling In 14
Cherished Belonging 14
Class 35
Cleanup on Aisle Five 60
Confidence Habit, The 52
Daughters of the Sun and Moon 18
Deep Unlearning 36
Democracy in Retrograde 60
Destroy This House 36
Detained 37
Director, The 18
Distance Between Us, The 11
Dream Called Home, A 11
Easy Discipline 53
Engaged Compassion 53
Finding My Way 5
Fine Art of Losing Control, The 54
Fire This Time, The 8
From Mistakes to Meaning 54
Goliath 19
Good Life, The 55
Grandma Joy and Me 37
Great and Unfortunate Things 38
Great Displacement, The 49
Greatest Sentence Ever Written, The 31
Grit 12
Hard Feelings 38
Harriet Tubman: Live in Concert 19
Healing Power of Resilience, The 27
Homebound 20
How Do You Feel? 28
How Great Ideas Happen 55
How to Live a Meaningful Life 7
How to Say Babylon 39
Hum 20
I Choose My Beginning 39
I Lived to Tell the Story 40
I Think My Therapist Hates Me 40
If I Were You, I'd Kill Myself 41
Imagine That 56
In Trees 49
Infinite Sadness of Small Appliances, The 21
It's Only Drowning 41
Joy of Solitude, The 28
Let Us Descend 9
Lin-Manuel Miranda 42
Lion Women of Tehran, The 21
Live Like a Citizen 56
Long Way Down 22
Master Slave Husband Wife 31
Migrant Heart 10
Mind Electric, The 29
My Friends 22
National Treasure 32
Nature and the Mind 29
Never Caught 32
Nightingales, The 23
Nothing More of This Land 42
On Witness and Respair 8
Only Plane in Sky, The 33
Our Hidden Conversations 61
Our World in Ten Buildings 15
Outsider, The 43
People's Project, The 61
Power of Real Optimism, The 57
Pretty One, The 43
Redefining Realness 44
Reformatory, The 23
Saving Us 50
Say the Right Thing 62
Seven Daughters of Dupree, The 24
Sing, Unburied, Sing 9
Situated 12
Small Stuff, The 57
Something We Said 44
Spoke 24
Start With Yourself 58
Stitching Freedom 45
Tao of Pooh, The 58
Theater Kid 45
Theo of Golden 7
This Delicate Life 46
This Land is Your Land 6
To Name the Bigger Lie 46
To the Moon and Back 25
Tortoise's Tale, The 25
Transcendent 47
U.S. Constitution, The 33
We Are Eating the Earth 50
What the Fact? 62
When Everyone Knows That Everyone Knows 15
When Mikan Road Was Ours 26
When We Were Real 26
Your Fellow Americans 47

Author Index

Amick, Emily 60
Anand, Pria 29
Arday, Jason 38
Auslin, Michael 32
Backman, Fredrik 22
Barbarin, Imani 41
Benjamin, Ross 18
Berlin, Heather 54
Berman, Marc G. 29
Bittle, Jake 49
Bob the Drag Queen 19
Bogost, Ian 57
Boyle, Gregory 14
Bravo, Ellen 45
Bringley, Patrick. 34
Brown, Keah 43
Burnett, Bill 7
Chopra, Deepika 57
Claxton, Eve. 38
Coplan, Robert J. 28
Correll, Gemma 34
Coulter, Kendra 25
Cox, Laverne 47
Crenshaw, Kimberlé Williams 35
Curran, Scott M. 52
Das, Vir 43
De Leon, Jennifer 17
Dixon, Glenn 21
Duckworth, Angela 12
Due, Tananarive. 23
Dunbar, Erica Armstrong 32
Elan, Portia 20
Esperanza, David. 37
Evans, Dave. 7
Furutani, D.K.. 26
Gage, Beverly 6
Gebru, Timnit. 36
Glasgow, David 62
Gold, Jessi. 28
Graff, Garrett M.. . . . . 30, 33
Grande, Reyna. 10, 11
Grede, Emma 58
Gregory, Daryl 26
Grunwald, Michael. 50
Hayhoe, Katharine 50
Hoff, Benjamin. 58
Isaacson, Walter 31
Jackson, Greg 30
Jacobson, Ella 46
Jiang, Jia. 53
Jones, Saeed. 61
Josephson, Meg 27
Kamali, Marjan 21
Kamphoff, Cindra 52
Kehlmann, Daniel 18
Kiely, Brendan 16
Klein, Ezra 59
Land, Stephanie 35
Larson, Ann 60
Lee, Joseph. 42
Levi, Allen 7
Leyh, Kat. 24
Limón, Ada 51, 61
Litt, David 41
Liu, Eric 56
Lockwood, Devi. 48
Lynton, Michael 54
Mallory, Tamika D. 40
Mock, Janet 44
Moor, Robert 49
Morales, Gerardo Iván 37
Murad, Nadia. 39
Murphy, Michael P. 15
Murray, Melissa. 33
Narula, Tara. 27
Negi, Lobsang Tenzin. 53
Newman, George. 55
Norris, Michele 61
Olsen, Chris. 40
Phillips, Helen 20
Pinker, Steven 15
Pollack-Pelzner, Daniel 42
Pryor, Elizabeth Stordeur 44
Putnam, Robert D. 59
Ramage, Eliana 25
Reynolds, Jason 16, 22
Robertson, Ronald Lee 19
Ross, Loretta J. 14
Ryan, Brad. 37
Sage, Sami 60
Santenello, Peter 47
Schore, Neal 51
Schulz, Marc 55
See, Lisa 18
Seligman, Martin E. P. 13
Seller, Jeffrey. 45
Shusterman, Neal 16
Sinclair, Safiya. 39
Smith, Daniel. 38
Smith, Maggie. 61
Steiner, Joshua L. 54
Svoboda, Elizabeth 13
Thompson, Derek 59
Tyler, Gary 45
Tyrangiel, Josh 6
Uhle, Amanda 36
Vieten, Cassandra 56
Vigliotti, Jonathan 48
Viren, Sarah. 46
Waldinger, Robert 55
Ward, Jesmyn 8, 9
Williams, Nikesha Elise 24
Wilson, Emil. 23
Woo, Ilyon 31
Yasmin, Seema 62
Yoshino, Kenji 62
Yousafzai, Malala. 5
Yun, Jung 17

Simon & Schuster

First-Year and Common Reading Catalog

2026–2027

Visit **FirstYearReading.com** for additional titles, author videos, and more information. To reach us and to request review copies please email **Common.Reading@SimonandSchuster.com**.

Simon & Schuster ACADEMIC

Simon & Schuster
1230 Avenue of the Americas
New York, NY 10020