

BOOK JACKET

AUTHOR

BOOK TITLE

ABOUT THE BOOK

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

GENRE



Allenworth, Rebecca

The Licensing Racket: How We Decide Who is Allowed to Work, and How it Goes ...

A bottom-up investigation of the broken system of professional licensing, affecting everyone from hairdressers and morticians to doctors, lawyers, and estate agents, and those who rely on their services.

Rebecca Howe Allenworth is David Daniels Allen Professor of Law at Vanderbilt University Law School. Her work appears in the Atlantic, the Wall Street Journal, and the New York Review of Books.

General Nonfiction



Amara, Laura Jo

Madison: Portraits of Our Neighbors

Internationally recognized photographer Stacie Hushefs and Madison, Tennessee, community volunteer Laura Amara have partnered to create a photographer art book and living historical document. Madison: Portraits of Our Neighbors. This is a "time capsule" of art as well as a historical document that captures the heart of the people who contribute to the Madison community as it is today. Home to a world-class blue printer, a newspaper critic's denier, a TikTok celebrity, a singer-songwriter, a mariachi band, the preeminent photographer for Johnny Cash, a beloved grammaria coach, model airplane enthusiasts, educators, a fashion designer, a puppet enthusiast, a pastor and outreach worker, an array of artists, small business owners, farmers, and local legends. Beyond a collection of portraits, it's a testament to an enduring urban community, a celebration of the shared human experience, and an opportunity to see our neighbors in their best light. Madison: Portraits of Our Neighbors invites readers to celebrate the tapestry of humanity that weaves through our unique neighborhood.

Laura Jo Amara is a Madison resident passionate about building community. A lover of books and supporter of original art, she started Lucky Jo Publishing to create beautiful art and photography books. She lives in Nashville with her husband and two daughters. One can find her nearly every day hiking Peckler Park, the crown jewel of Madison, Tennessee.

General Nonfiction



Arata, Aiden

You Have a New Memory

An open-hearted interrogation of our digital selves, blending cultural criticism, memoir, and narrative essays into an exploration of identity, grief, media, tech, nature and "finding the depth and beauty in the fucked-up world we live in" from a writer, artist, and influencer (Pleashe BeLaguna YOU HAVE A NEW MEMORY is a deeply human inventory of the digital lightness, a searing analysis of the present and a prescient assessment of the future. In her highly anticipated debut, Aiden Arata brings us raw reportage from the liminal space between online and offline worlds, illuminating how we get here and where to go next.

Aiden Arata is a writer and artist whose writing has appeared in publications including R&B, NYLON, The Fanzine, The Fanter, Hobart, and others, as well as NIDA: An Antifiction Anthology (Arctivays Editions 2021). Arata's visual and video work has been featured on platforms including VICE, The Cut, Harper's Bazaar, Mashable, and The Washington Post. You Have a New Memory is her first essay collection. She lives in Los Angeles and on the internet as @aidenarata.

General Nonfiction



Ballentine, KB

All the Way Through: Poems

There is a luxury in looking back at a journey completed. We begin something because we intend to finish it, and it is the journey that carries more weight than how we start or when we end. The "lower change of relationships, health, and home find us in denial and 'right now' when acceptance and appreciation are often hard-won battles. As the opening poem suggests, this collection is a meditation against forgetting those moments we tend to throw away - lonely, angry, ugly, grief-filled moments we would rather forget. But these are exactly the situations that make us who we are and should be valued even after we make it through the difficult times especially when we make it all the way through.

KB Ballentine received her MFA in Poetry from Lesley University, Cambridge, MA. She currently teaches high school composition, creative writing, and theatre and adjuncts for a local college. She is a board member for SoLiS (Chattanooga, TN) and a member of the Poetry Society of Tennessee, the Chattanooga Writers' Guild, the Knoxville Writers' Guild, and Rhyme n' Chart. Ballentine hosts a local Open Mic each month, conducts writing workshops, and is currently a reader for Campus Row (Washington DC).

Poetry



Barrette, Martha

Friends with Words: Adventures in LanguageLand

With warmth, a popular radio and podcast host shows her love of language, weaving together linguistic history, regional phrases, the hidden poetry in etymologies, new words, and stories from her life and time on the air. Martha Barrette has spent two decades as the co-host of A Way with Words, hosted by Mary Berry in The New Yorker as a "virtual treasure hunter" and "Let's Talk for Leptiphins." Over that time, she's developed a keen sense of what fascinates people about language. They are curious about etymology and revel in slang, are surprised by regional vocabulary and celebrate linguistic diversity. It takes both playful and delight word lovers, and they are eager to share family neologisms and that weird phrase Grandma always used to say. In Friends with Words, Barrette weaves together all these strands in a clear, informative, highly entertaining exploration of language. Check-did-of-anecdotes, humorous anides, new words, trivia, and other brainological delights. Friends with Words also tells Barrette's story—from her Appalachian roots through her study of ancient Greek, and on to the making of a beloved and enduring show. Friends with Words is an expert, good-humored, joyful book.

Martha Barrette is a longtime journalist, dynamic public speaker, and co-host of the popular radio show and podcast A Way with Words. She holds an undergraduate degree in English from Vance College, did graduate work in classical languages at the University of Kentucky, and studied Spanish in Costa Rica. Barrette is the author of A Garden of Words, Ladyfingers & Nuts' Tumblers, and Dog Days & Donutella. She lives in San Diego, California.

General Nonfiction



Barry, Megan

*It's What You Do Next: The Fall
and Rise of Nashville's First
Female Mayor*

[illegible]

Megan Barry is the former mayor of Nashville, TN, the first woman to be elected to the office. While she was in office, she has lost her only son, Max, to a drug overdose. Since leaving her position, Barry is working to combat the shame and guilt that comes from this soul-sucking disease and to help those who struggle with substance use disorder and their loved ones by speaking up and speaking out. She has shared her story in numerous podcasts and publications including *Elle* magazine, *TOKENS Podcast*, *Nashville Daily*, and *artefact Nashville*. Her professional experience includes working as a corporate executive, as an independent consultant focusing on business ethics and corporate responsibility, and as an adjunct professor. She has an MBA from Vanderbilt University and currently serves on the board of I.A.R.T. (the Women's Fund of the Nashville Foundation). She served on several boards including the YWCA of Middle TN and the Center for Non-Profit Management. She has been an invited speaker for numerous organizations and events including TEDx Nashville, the International Women's Forum, Georgia Pacific, National Overdose Awareness Days, and many others.

Autobiography/Memoir



Barry, Ouar

The Unveiling: A Novel

[illegible]

QUAN BARRY is the author of eight books of fiction and poetry including *When I'm Gone*, *Look for Me in the East*, *We Ride Upon Sticks*, winner of the 2020 ALA Alex Award; and *She Weeps Each Time You're Born*. Her most recent poetry collection, *Auction*, was named one of the five best collections of 2023 by the *New York Times*. Her first play, *The Mytilenean Debate*, premiered in 2022. She is the Lorraine Hansberry Professor of English at the University of Wisconsin–Madison.

Horror



Barsky, Robert

The Beltline Chronicles

The *Belgian Chronicle* is an epic poem by Robert F. Brankay, that chronicles the living history of spaces along the Atlantic Beltline. The poem is accompanied by multimedia full-color artwork by Susan Kerr-Seaymer, which evokes the layers, textures, and emotions of this powerful pathway. The poem draws inspiration from Linda Parris's epic adventure poem "Van Java, and Java's Van," and the lyrics of the song "Van Java, and Java's Van" by the band "Van Commey." All the way to Lewis Carroll's *Alice in Wonderland* and Tim Morrison's *Paradox*. The narrator of the poem is an enthusiastic and sweet named George, after George Gordon, Lord Byron. He arrives in America associated with the Beltline spaces and takes note of the Beltline's history and the people who have lived along it. The poem is inspired by the Beltline artists (both formal and informal), and emotions stirred by the amazing Beltline environment. By referencing Atlantic history, a glimpse of contemporary stories about the city. George calls attention to issues of social justice and historical memory, while advancing a love for the Beltline. The poem is a celebration of the Beltline's history and the people who have lived along it. The poem is a celebration of the Beltline's history and the people who have lived along it. The poem is a celebration of the Beltline's history and the people who have lived along it.

POETRY: Robert Barys's poetic quests began during his undergraduate years under the tutelage of Allen Grossman and Jim Merod, and the spell cast by the Great Books. Captivated by Romantic poets and canonical literary quests, he has since found great inspiration in the higher climates of the French, Italian and Swiss Alps, and in the crevices and crannies of the everyday. His fictional poet is a perennial flâneur whose love for serendipity's playful ways continues to drive him towards surprising encounters upon enchanted pathways.

Poetry



Bell, Chanda

The Elf on the Shelf
Santaverse: The Rise of
Nicholas the Noble

Before there was the Elf on the Shelf there was a young boy named Nicholas... Shipwrecked in the Arctic Tundra, a young Nicholas and his loyal dog, Barry, stumble upon the enchanted and mysterious world of One True North—home to gnomes, fairies, and, of course, magical elves. Nicholas discovers that these special creatures possess a powerful, rarely known as the Lumiella Stone, a shard of the Christmas star that fell to Earth thousands of years ago. To those who believe, the stone holds the power to spread goodwill and love throughout the universe. But his strength can be extinguished. Gangleri, a powerful force driven by greed and hate, seeks to smother the Lumiella Stone for his own sinister ambitions. With his army of twisted mortals and beasts known as Lightflats, Gangleri will launch an attack that will end One True North forever. Now caught in the crosshairs of an ancient prophecy, Nicholas and his new fellowship must battle Gangleri and his army. Can a little boy find the courage to become the noble hero that One True North—and the rest of the universe—so desperately needs? Only if he chooses to believe...

Chanda A. Bell was once a beloved middle school English teacher. Now she is the visionary founder and co-CEO of the Lumistella Company, home to the international phenomenon *The Elf on the Shelf*. As the author of *The Elf on the Shelf: A Christmas Tradition* and other books from the Santaverve brand, she is often referred to as "Santa's Chief Storyteller." Chanda has bought Santa's world to life with a Netflix partnership, a traveling holiday musical, and the *Elf on the Shelf* Brand Soft Elf character balloon in the Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade. Today, more than 25 million homes have embraced her magical Christmas characters. She lives in Atlanta, Georgia, with her family.

Children's



Benatar, Pat

**My Grandma and Grandpa
Rock!**

Savings Pre-order Price Guarantee. Terms A book for the coolest grandpas and grandmas everywhere! Grandparents love to rock every way they can—whether it's by singing out loud, dancing to a song in their hearts, or just living their best lives! From the musical team of Pat Benatar and Neil Giraldo comes a lyrical read-aloud that celebrates all kinds of grandparents from all walks of life—from plumbers to yoga instructors to...rock stars!

Pat Benatar and Neil Giraldo are one of rock's great power couples. Married for over forty years, they are Rock & Roll Hall of Fame inductees, Grammy winners, and proud grandparents. They live in the Los Angeles area.

Children's



Bialosky, Jill

The End Is the Beginning: A Personal History of My Mother

Jill Bialosky, the poet behind the "tender, absorbing, and deeply moving memoir" (Entertainment Weekly) *History of a Suicide*, returns with a lyrical portrait of her mother's life, told in reverse order from burial to birth.

When Iris Yvonne Bialosky died in an assisted care facility on March 26, 2020, it unleashed a torrent of emotions in her daughter, Jill Bialosky. *Gift of reverse*, but also grief, confusion, and doubt, all of which were compounded by the arrival of the COVID-19 pandemic which made it impossible for Jill to be with her mother as she was dying and to attend her mother's funeral.

Now, with a poet's eye for detail and a novelist's flair for storytelling, Jill presents a profoundly moving story of mother and daughter. Starting with her mother's end and the physical inquiry that led her to her true home. The End Is the Beginning explores Iris's battle with depression, the tragedy of a daughter's suicide, a failed second marriage, the death of her beloved first husband only five years into their young marriage, her father's teenage years, and the trauma of losing her own mother at just eight years old. Compounding her challenge of raising four daughters without a livelihood or partner, Iris's life coincided with an age of unparalleled social change and innovation, when the rules of life and motherhood were raised to include consent to the generations of stability and happiness.

As we see Iris become younger and younger, we learn how we are all the sum of our experiences. Iris becomes a multi-dimensional, fascinating woman. We come to understand her difficulties and shortcomings, her confusion and her generosity, her pride and her despair. The End Is the Beginning is not just a family memoir; it is a brave and compassionate celebration of a woman's life and death and a window into a daughter's inextricable bond to her mother.

Jill Bialosky is the author of five acclaimed collections of poetry, most recently *Applause*. Her poems have appeared in *The New Yorker*, *The New York Times*, and *The Atlantic*, among others. She is the author of many novels including *The Disgraces*, and several works of nonfiction including *The End Is the Beginning*, *History of a Suicide*, and *Poetry Will Love Your Life*. In 2013, Jill was honored by the Poetry Society of America for her distinguished contribution to the field of poetry. She lives in New York City. Find out more at jillbialskey.com.

Autobiography/Memoir



Birdsal, Jeanne

The Library of Unruly Treasures

The Recoverers meets Matilda in this funny, winning story of a girl who finds herself an unlikely hero when she stumbles upon a big secret about little creatures. The latest book from the National Book Award winning author of the Penderwicks, Jeanne Cowen's parents are dreadful. Truly, deeply, almost impressively dreadful. But Cowen's not upset at all when she finds out her never before seen Uncle Matthew for two weeks. Especially when it turns out he has a very opinionated dog named Pungplum. Things take a turn for the weird when she discovers a discovery in the local library. A discovery that involves tiny creatures with wings. And, yes, they're not birds. They're called Labakaks. But why can only Cowen and the youngest children, gathered for anytime, see them? The Labakak insist that Cowen is destined to help them find a new home. But how can a girl as unwanted, unengaged, and generally unhelpful as Cowen possibly come to the rescue? Pungplum has a few ideas...

Jeanne Birdsal grew up in the suburb west of Philadelphia, where she spent most of her time reading and daydreaming. She decided to be a writer when she was ten years old, though she didn't circle back to that idea until she was all grown up and there some. Her first book was *The Penderwicks*, which won the National Book Award and was a New York Times Bestseller. Four other Penderwick novels, all of which received glowing reviews and were New York Times bestsellers, followed to round out the series. She is also the author of several picture books and a chapter book. *Recoverers* also involve plenty of time yelling, gardening, and chasing around her two mischievous dogs.

Middle Grade



Black, Daniel

Isaac's Song: A Novel

The beloved author of *Don't Cry for Me and Perfect Peace* returns with a poignant, emotionally resonant novel about a young queer Black man finding his voice in 1980s Chicago—a novel of family, forgiveness and perseverance. For fans of *The Great Believers* and *On Earth We're Briefly Gorgeous*, Isaac is at a crossroads in his young life. Growing up in Missouri, the son of a racist, hard-driving father, he was conditioned to suppress his artistic dreams and physical desires, neither that didn't align with a traditional view of masculinity. But now, in late '80s Chicago, Isaac has finally carved out a life of his own. He is sensitive and undernourished and has built up the courage to walk out on community 'til just as he begins to embrace who he is, two sexual catalysts—the AIDS crisis and Rodney King's attack—collectively extinguish his hard-earned joy. As a therapist's encouragement, Isaac begins to write down his story. In the process, he taps into a creative energy that will send him on a journey back to his family, his ancestral home in Arkansas and the inherited trauma of the nation's dark past. But a surprise discovery will either subvert the truths he's working so hard to live the life he's fought so hard to claim. Poignant, sweeping and luminously told, *Isaac's Song* is a return to the beloved characters of *Don't Cry for Me* and a high-water mark in the career of an award-winning author.

Daniel Black is an author and professor of African American studies at Clark Atlanta University. His books include *The Coming, Perfect Peace* and *They Told Me of a Home*. He is the winner of the Distinguished Writer Award from the Middle-Atlantic Writers Association and has been nominated for the Tennessee Prize for Fiction, the Ernest J. Gaines Award, and the Georgia Author of the Year Award. He was raised in Blackwell, Arkansas, and lives in Atlanta, Georgia.

Fiction



Black, Regina

August Lane: A Novel

From the author of *The Art of Scandal* comes a small town romance about the viability of Black women's voices in country music. For readers of *The Final Revival of Opal & Noah*: Every Thursday night, former country music heartthrob Luke Randall has to sing "Another Love Song." God, he hates that song. But performing his love hit at an intimate motel lounge is the only regular money he still has. Following another lackluster performance at the rock bottom of his career, Luke receives the opportunity of his dreams, opening for his childhood idol—go-go's Black country music star, Jobe Lane, who's being inducted into the Country Music Hall of Fame. But the concert in Arcadia, Arkansas, the small hometown he swore he'd never see again. Going back means facing a painful past of abuse and neglect. It also means facing Jobe's daughter, August Lane—the woman who wrote the lyrics he's always claimed as his own. August also hates that song. But she hates Luke Randall even more. When he shows up ten years too late to apologize for his betrayal, she isn't interested in making amends. Instead, she threatens to expose his lies unless he co-writes a new song with her and performs it at the concert, something she hopes will launch her out of her mother's shadow and into a surprising career of her own. Desperate to keep his secret, Luke agrees to put on the major performance, despite the risk of losing his heart at a new record deal. When Luke's guitar resonates with August's soulful alto, neither can deny that the passionate bond they formed as teenagers is still there. As the concert nears, August will have to choose between an explosive public reckoning with the boy who betrayed her, or trusting the man he's become to write a different love song.

Regina Black is a former civil litigator, current law school administrator, and life long romance reader who has always been passionate about the depiction of Black women in popular culture. She currently resides in Little Rock, Arkansas with her husband and daughter.

Fiction



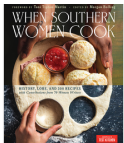
Blake, Wes

Peeville Trace

An "introspective, haunting tale that remains with us" (Heavy Feather Review) about a former revival preacher who walks away from an Eastern Kentucky prison in the 1970s, following a cat named Bulldog and trying to reconcile himself with his past. Winner of the Edithage Press Novella Prize! Finalist for the Next Generation Indie Book Award for First Novel! Finalist for the Feathered Quill Book Award for Debut Author! Featured on Deep South Magazine's Reading List "A man escapes from prison only to find he can't separate himself from his past. Wes Blake renders the tale with great empathy and in language that as lyrical it practically lifts from the page."

Wes Blake is the author of *Peeville Trace*, winner of the Edithage Press Novella Prize, finalist for the Next Generation Indie Book Award for First Novel, and finalist for the Feathered Quill Book Award for Debut Author. Edithage Press, Univ. of Indianapolis, 2024) the book was featured on Deep South Magazine's Fall Writers Reading List 2024-25. Pulitzer Prize finalist author Lee Martin called *Isaac's Song* "a must-read." His work has appeared in *Electric Literature*, *Los Angeles Review of Books*, *storyfish*, and *Luminous Literature* Journal, among others, and he holds an MFA from the Bluegrass Writers Studio. Wes lives in Nannuch, Kentucky with his wife and cats, whom they've planted over 100 trees.

Fiction



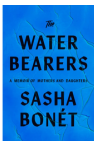
Bolling, Morgan

**When Southern Women Cook:
History, Lore, and 300 Recipes**

[illegible]

North Carolina-born Morgan Bolling is Cook's Country Executive Editor of Creative Content, a Cook's Country TV cast member, and a barbecue expert. Together, they aim to amplify the stories of Southern women cooks throughout history.

Cooking



Bonét, Sasha

The Waterbearers

"An epic love song and remarkable ballad of generations." —*Laurie Janigan* "I couldn't write about Black motherhood without writing about America." —*Sasha Bondi* *Sasha Bondi* grew up in Houston, Texas, removed from the Louisiana cotton plantation that raised her grandmother Betty Jean, and the Texas hepcats that shaped Sasha's mother, Connie. And though each generation has its own story, *Black Mother* is a story that connects generations. It is the story of an American motherhood with its origins in slavery. All of them knew that the hands used to whip and bind hair, shell pecans, and manage weary muscles were the very hands used to whip children into submission. When she had her own daughter, Sofia, Bondi was determined to interpret the struggle for Sofia's new York and out of it on a journey—not only as a mother but as a writer. *Black Mother* is a story of a mother's journey to understand her literature—Betty Davis, Raye Taylor, and Thelma Houston among them—to understand and both love and pain they passed on to their children and to create a way of mothering that honors the legacy but absconds the violence that shaped it. The Waterbeaters was a dazzling and powerful novel, and *Black Mother* is a powerful novel. It is a story of a mother, a woman, but she thinks of herself as—apart from individuals, parents, communities, and a country—just her.

SASHA BONÉT is a writer and cultural critic based in New York City. Her criticism and essays have appeared in *The Paris Review*, *Aperture*, *New York Magazine*, *Vogue*, and *BOMB*, among other publications. Bonét is a professor of creative writing for Columbia University and Barnard College.

Non-Fiction



Bridges, Mary

Dollars and Dominions: US Banking and the Making of a Superpower

the creation of a new banking infrastructure in the early twentieth century established the United States as a global financial power. The dominance of US multinational businesses today can be seen at least in part as a byproduct of the nation's expansive banking system. In Dallas and New York, the big banks developed with a different strategic eye than their European counterparts. In the United States, the big banks were established in the early twentieth century despite opposition from the US government, European know-how, and late-coming imperialism to maintain their work abroad. Big banks focus on an underrepresented part of the nation's financial infrastructure, the small business and middle class. In Europe, the big banks were established in the nineteenth century. Big banks today have bankers meet their new customers in "sa"—potential clients, and "cham"—local populations, who often entered in the periphery of the banking world. She argues that US bankers pressed their new communities to create a new financial infrastructure. Big banks today have bankers meet their new customers in "sa"—potential clients, and "cham"—local populations, who often entered in the periphery of the banking world. She argues that US bankers pressed their new communities to create a new financial infrastructure. Big banks today have bankers meet their new customers in "sa"—potential clients, and "cham"—local populations, who often entered in the periphery of the banking world. She argues that US bankers pressed their new communities to create a new financial infrastructure.

Mary Bridges, a historian of the twentieth-century United States, is the Ernest May Fellow in History and Policy at Harvard Kennedy School's Belfer Center for Science and International Affairs.

General Nonfiction



Bromiley, Evanthia

Crown: A Novel

"A book built of deep suspense, a survival story of the first order... Evanthis Bromiley writes at the intersection of poverty and motherhood better than almost anyone I know. Crown is an astonishing, revelatory first novel." —Emily Fridlund

A suspenseful, lyrical debut novel tracking three days leading up to the eviction of a pregnant single mother and her nine-year-old twins from a trailer park in the American Southwest.

has three days to box up her family's life and find a safe place to live. In the Woods' quiet trailer park, neighbors keep to themselves, but it's no secret Jude and her twins are in jeopardy—the eviction notice slapped on their front door like a white shirt.

When Jude's contritions flare just as their power is about off, she rushes to the hospital intrusting Evan and Virginia to look in their car in the surrounding fields. If the children are discovered outside alone, they will be taken from her. Jude labors through the night in a crowded emergency room while the twins, desperate in the heat of the cramped car and spurred by their wild imaginations, strike out along the dangerous riverbank in search of a new home for their grieving family. As night burlesques toward the morning locust, both mother and children reckon with what it means to live and dream in a modern America insistent on slamming doors.

Poetic and distinct, the voices of the three Woods open to a chorus of waitresses and oil men, veterans and graffiti artists as Crown travels the laundromats, public bus systems, and waiting rooms of a forgotten blue-collar city. In this mesmerizing, singular debut, the tenacious spirit of young family and their community comes to profound and moving life.

Evanthia Beemley is a graduate of the Warren Wilson M.F.A. Program for Writers and the recipient of scholarships from the Aspen Institute, a Lighthouse Fellowship, a Lise Mosler scholarship and Elizabeth George and Carol Horak Smith awards. Her short fiction and creative non-fiction can be found in *AGNI*, *Prairie Schooner*, *Five Points*, and elsewhere. When not writing, she works in impacted schools with young writers and their teachers as they sharpen their craft and voices, telling stories of growing up in the American Southwest. She lives in Durango, Colorado.

Fiction



Browne, Wes

They All Fall the Same: A Novel

An organized crime ring in Kentucky believes money and power are everything until his enterprise collides with a family tragedy in this gripping novel (thriller perfect for fans of *S.A. Cosby* and *El Cid* Carr). Cannabig Kingwell Buti Spoon has emigrated over the Jackson County area for a better life, building a powerful backwoods empire. But behind a well-run organization, his personal life is crumbling: his daughter can't stay clean, his son has hated him since coming out, and after enduring years of infidelity, his wife is straying too. The only person not on his payroll who still adores him is his six-year-old granddaughter, Chelsea. When his daughter overdoses on heroin laced with fentanyl and one of his employees is murdered, Buti's retaliation against Carmine Begley, the patriarch of the heroin-dealing family involved in both deaths, is inevitable. As Buti plunges into a firestorm of vengeance that threatens the safety of his granddaughter, his drive for revenge collides with his longing for redemption. On the brink of losing everything, Buti must find a path between retribution and protecting what's left of his family.

Wes Rowense has lived and practiced law as a criminal defense attorney, prosecutor, and public defender in Appalachian Kentucky for over twenty-four years. He also helps run his family's pizza shops. His novel *They All Fall the Same* was one of Goodreads Biggest Mysteries and Thrillers of 2015 and named a Most Anticipated Book of 2012 by Book Riot Read or Dead. His 2010 debut *Hillbilly Hustle* was named one of the Best Lockdown Reads by Merriam-Webster.

Mystery/Thriller



Burch, Paul

Meridian Rising: A Novel

[illegible]

PAUL BURCH, a native of Washington, D.C., is a writer, composer, and recording artist. Burch has produced numerous albums with his band the WPA Ballclub, including *Last of My Kind*, a companion to Tony Earley's best-selling novel *Jim In Boy*, as well as a musical version of Meridian Rising. In addition, Burch has produced recordings with Mark Knopfler, Ralph Stanley, Lambchop, and Charlie Louvin, which received a GRAMMY nomination. [Learn more at paulburch.com.](http://www.paulburch.com)

Fiction



Busby, Robert

Bodock: Stories

In 1994, the real Mid-South low storm strikes the fictitious town of Bodack in Clayden County, Mississippi. In the wake of the storm is a lot less unbroken, and what broken things can be rebuilt? Hailed by Maurice Canine Ruffin as "leaving no tragedy untouched," Robert Blynd delves balances big heart, violence with depth, and, tragically with humor. Two siblings survey the damage to their family's anchor after the storm while their rich nephew craves in the hopes of buying up the property. A darker divorce drives his ex-father-in-law to his long transplant surgery. A farmer tries to pivot his broken family back together in the wake of the loss of his son. In 1981, a couple's wide plows with an enslaved woman to at top her husband from committing a terrible act. And in a town that is not quite Bodack, a population of ghena reacts with their unsettled past. In the spirit of Brad Watson's Last Days of the Dog-Men, Bodack traverses time and dimensions to share the struggles of the everyday. Bodack: Stories is the winner of the 2024 C. Michael Curtis Short Story Book Prize.

Robert Busby grew up in the hill country of North Mississippi and has worked as a bandsaw operator, bookseller, copywriter, driving school instructor, powder coach, prep cook, produce clerk, teacher, and satellite television technician. A graduate of the University of Mississippi, he got his MFA in Fiction from Florida International University, and his stories have appeared in *Arkansas Review*, *Cold Mountain Review*, *Footnote*, *Mississippi Noir*, *PANK*, *Pleiades*, *Sou'wester*, *Surreal South*, and others. Currently, he writes, runs, and raises two humans with his wife in Memphis, TN.

Fiction



Clark, Julie

The Ghostwriter: A Novel

From the instant New York Times bestselling author of *The Last Flight* and *The Lies I Tell* comes a dazzling new thriller, June, 1975. The Vincent family shatters in a single night when two teenage siblings are found dead in their own home. The only surviving sibling, Vincent, never shakes the whispers and accusations that he was the one who killed them. Decades later, the legend only grows as his career as a horror writer skyrockets. Ghostwriter Olivia Dumont has spent her entire professional life hiding the fact that she is the only child of Vincent. Now on the brink of financial ruin, she's offered a job to ghostwrite her father's last book. What she doesn't know, though, is that this project is another one of his lies. Because it's not another horror novel he wants her to write. After fifty years of silence, Vincent is finally ready to talk about what really happened that night in 1975.

Julie Clark is the New York Times bestselling author of *The Lies I Tell* and *The Last Flight*, both of which were also #1 international bestsellers and have been translated into more than twenty-five languages. She lives in Los Angeles with her family and a golden doodle with poor impulse control.

Mystery/Thriller



Clark, P. Djeli

Ring Shout

Nehls, Lucius, and Alice Award-winning: P.D. Clark returns with Ring Shouts, a dark fantasy historical novella that gives a supernatural twist to the KKK Klan's quest for terror." [Read the story](#)

Political repression in the Jim Crow South: "The New York Times Named a Best of the Year Pick by NPR | Literary Journal | LixArticle | Bozle | Wikipedia | Washington Post IN AMERICA, DEMONS WALK WHITE HOODS. In 1955, the Birth of a Nation cast a spell across America, as the movie's racist depictions of the Ku Klux Klan's rise to power in the South across the nation they drew, spreading fear and violence among the vulnerable. They plan to bring hell to Earth, but even the Ku Klux can die. Standing in their way is Mayor Boudreaux and his fellow racist fighters, a mob-muzzled shapereaper and a Harlem Hellfighter. Armed with their own special brand of magic, they will stop the Klan at all costs." [Read the story](#)

But something awful's brewing in Boston, and the war on Hell is about to heat up. Can Mayrue stop the Klan before it ends the world? A New York Times Award of Choice Pick! A Nebula and Locus Award Winner! A finalist for Hugo Awards, a Nebula Award, and a Lambda Award. Goodreads Award for Best Fantasy, a Lambda Award, and the SIRBA Award.

Award, Henson/Vivigrid Foundation, Lambda Awards, and the SIRBA Award.

Born in New York and raised mostly in Houston, P. Djelal CLARK (he/him) spent part of his childhood in Trinidad and Tobago, the homeland of his parents. He is the author of the novel *A Master of Djinn* and the novellas *Ring Shout*, *The Black God's Drums*, and *The Haunting of Tram Car 005*. He has won the Nebula, Locus, and Alex Awards and been nominated for the Hugo, World Fantasy, and Sturgeon Awards. His stories have appeared in online venues such as *Tor.com*, *Daily Science Fiction*, *Heroic Fantasy Quarterly*, *Apex*, *Lightstep*, *Beneath Ceaseless Skies*, and in print anthologies, including *Griots*, *Hidden Youth*, and *Clockwork Cairo*. He is also a founding member of *FYHA* Magazine of Black Speculative Fiction and an infrequent reviewer at *Strange Horizons*.

Mystery/Thriller



Clayton, Meg Waite

Typewriter Beach: A Novel

set in Carmel-by-the-Sea and Hollywood. *Twelve Women* is an unforgettable story of the unlikely friendship between an Oscar-nominated screenwriter and a young actress hoping to attract Hitchcock's new star. 1957. Isabelle Glin is ten months into a standard seven-year contract when she auditions with Hitchcock, just weeks later, she is requested by the studio's "boss" in a tiny out-of-camera, winking and nodding, meaningful-but-never-said scene. As an attempt at a career, it's a disaster. But it's also the beginning of a friendship that will be able to save her when she's blacklisted. Soon, they're together in his mudroom, spending down the cash—shouldn't Big Star cost. 2018. Twenty-six-year-old screenwriter Gemma Chazan, in Carmel to visit her grandfather's estate, finds a hidden safe full of secrets—raising questions about who the screenwriter knew simply as Chazan really was, and whether she can live up to his name. In a graceful prose and an intimate understanding of human nature, May's new novel, *Twelve Women*, is a gem. It's a story of friendship, of the power of a woman's word, and being true. *Twelve Women* is the story of two women separated by generations—a tale of ideas and ideals, passion and persistence, creativity, politics, and family.

Meg Waite Clayton is the New York Times bestselling author of eight previous novels, including the Good Morning America Buzz Pick and New York Times Book Review Editors' Choice *The Postmistress of Paris*, *The Last Train to London*, and *The Wednesday Sisters*. Her books have been published in twenty-four languages, and have been finalists for the Bellwether Prize (now the PEN Bellwether), the National Jewish Book Award, and the Langum Prize. She also writes for major newspapers and magazines, mentors in the Cybil Project, and is a member of the National Book Critics Circle and the California bar. She lives in California and Connecticut.

Historical Fiction



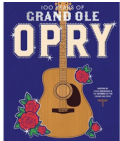
Cody, Michael

Streets of Nashville

In Streets of Nashville, Eric Mueller has a nearly encyclopedic knowledge of songs and their writers, and he has moved from the North Carolina mountains to Nashville's Music Row with the dream of becoming part of that songwriting world. Yet just as he is out on the town to celebrate his first great success after several previous tryings, an independent music publisher he witnesses the man who signed on the dotted lines with him gunned down with three others outside his Music Row office. The masked gunman spares Eric. But why?

Michael Ames Cody was born in the South Carolina Lowcountry and raised in the North Carolina highlands. He spent his teenage writing songs in Nashville and his childhood in school. He's the author of the novel Gabriel's Longbook (Penguin Press) and short fiction that has appeared in Tennessee, Tampa Review, Kill! The Journal, and elsewhere. His short story collection, A Twilight Road (Penguin Press) won the Short Story / Anthology category of the Feathered Quill Book Awards 2012. Cody lives with his wife Leona in Jonesborough, Tennessee, and teaches in the Department of Literature and Language at East Tennessee State University.

Mystery/Thriller



Colladay, Brenda

100 Years of Grand Ole Opry

The official book celebrating 100 years of the Grand Ole Opry—an intimate, gorgeously illustrated behind-the-scenes look at the American institution and world renowned stage for country music. Packed with spectacular photos and tributes from country music's biggest names, 100 Years of Grand Ole Opry is a glorious, one-of-a-kind celebration, and a must have for any country music fan. This centennial celebration showcases the beloved institution's history through lively never-before-seen photography, as well as behind-the-scenes stories from those who have passed backstage before career-defining performances, and those who have come to know the Opry as a second home. Since 1925, the Grand Ole Opry has left an undeniable mark on American culture. What began as an impromptu performance of old-time fiddle tunes has transformed into the longest-running radio broadcast in US history, as well as a live performance venue for millions of country music fans each year. Widely regarded as the show that made country music famous, the Opry has played an important role in the careers of country music's biggest stars—including Johnny Cash, Dolly Parton, Loretta Lynn, Carrie Underwood, Luke Combs, and countless others—popularizing and preserving some of the most beloved forms of American music. The hunger for country music has only grown in recent years, and the Grand Ole Opry stands at the center.

TK

Music



Colman, Alyssa

Where Only Storms Grow: A Novel About the Dust Bowl

For Fans of the I Survived series and The War That Saved My Life, this gripping middle grade novel is set during one of the most dangerous storms in American history. It's been five years since rain fell on the Oklahoma prairie and the division between the Houston twins has dried up as much as the land. Howe Houston has spent years venting away and long for the family to quit this land of dust where only tornadoes grow. Despite the isolation that causes Joanna Houston near-constant pain, she isn't ready to give up like her brother. But when Daddy leaves the family behind to find work in California, leaving the farm alone with Howe's scrawling and Joanna's uneven shoulders. To pay the mortgage, Joanna takes a job at the local hospital and discovers purpose in helping others. Howe finds unexpected joy in caring for his father's horse and escapes to borrowed books. But then a tragedy in town reveals the dust's deadly dangers. With the worst storms of the Dust Bowl bearing down on their home, Howe and Joanna must put aside their differences and work together, or everyone and everything they love will be lost to the dust.

Alyssa Colman is the author of Where Only Storms Grow, The Tamed Garden, and The Gilded Girl, which won the 2012 Northern Lights Book Award for middle grade fantasy. Publishers Weekly called the story "a thoughtful and imaginative exploration of friendship, internal change, and perseverance" in a starred review. Alyssa lives in northern Virginia with her family.

Middle Grade



Cooper, Elisha

Here is a Book

A love letter to books, showing how many elements and people contribute to making something beautiful, from Caldecott honoree Elisha Cooper. Multiple starred reviews: "An immediate classic," "Special, bringing the parts of the book together into one unified message," "A step-by-step representation of how a book comes into being." In this poetic and beautifully illustrated ode to creativity and the process of making books, Caldecott honoree Elisha Cooper takes readers on a journey showing how words and art move from one person to another. From writer to reader, and everyone who contributes in between. Here is a book, made with love. An artist's creative overtures with sketches, drafts, a wastebasket, and wonder. A publisher's office brims with computers, laptops, coffee, and teamwork. A printer makes a layout into a book using presses, ink, paper, and time. And that book travels to a school, to a library, to a student, to a home. "Bulletin of the Center for Children's Books," "Booklist," "Publishers Weekly

Elisha Cooper is an author/illustrator who received a Caldecott Honor for Big Cat, Little Cat, and his following book River won the 2010 Robin Smith Picture Book Prize. She's / one of the earlier books, was a New York Times Best Illustrated Children's Book of the Year, and Book was the Society of Illustrators Gold Medal. In 2010, he was awarded a Scholastic Fellowship. His essays and illustrations have appeared in the sports section of the New York Times. Cooper lives with his wife, daughters, and cats in New York City.

Children's



Core, Jennifer

Tennessee Samplers: Female Education and Domestic Arts, 1800-1900

Jennifer Core and Janet Hamon's study of samplers—embroideries that are "first attempts at a new technique, color combination, or unusual material"—provides vivid descriptions of this nineteenth-century Tennessee art form in its many varieties. The authors not only catalogue and describe the samplers from each of Tennessee's major regions—West, Middle, and East—but also incorporate research on the sampler makers and their families. Their research provides fascinating insight into the stitchers, their teachers, and their academics. Including a chapter on female education on the Tennessee frontier and another on embroideries and needlework focused on mourning, the volume draws on and histories of the embroideries' descendants: family Bibles, diaries, scrapbooks, cemetery records, and other primary sources. Photos of the samplers are accompanied by detailed descriptions of style, thread used, materials used, frames, and motifs. Ultimately, the study provides a snapshot of the lives of girls and young women in nineteenth-century Tennessee, including the role of this monumental art in their education. Providing important historical context to Tennessee education, economy, and domestic life, Core and Hamon describe how embroidery came to be a crucial primary source in revealing the lives of girls and young women during a time when little was recorded about them. This book is an authoritative record of the material culture produced in the daily routine of school rooms. It is for all who see beauty in sometimes-overlooked handiwork and understand the importance of creating, preserving, and analyzing it.

JENNIFER C. CORE is executive director of the Tennessee Historical Society and cofounder and director of the Tennessee Sampler Survey.

History



Corwell, C.M.

The Memory Spinner: A Novel

"Emotions bubble like potions: Grief, anger, jealousy, and regret simmer beneath the surface of richly drawn characters with complex motivations...A heartfelt story that will leave readers hoping for more from this promising new voice." -Kirkus Reviews
Laverne, a thirteen-year-old Lavender has a disastrous memory problem. She forgets her lessons with her papa, an apothecary. She develops elaborate excuses to hide her lack of memory of the herbs and remedies she must learn to attain her dream of being an apothecary apprentice. Worst of all, she forgets memories of her mama. Despite her papa's disdain for magic, Lavender seeks a memory remedy from a cunning enchantress named Frey. In the time developing a friendship, Frey uses her spinning magic to help Lavender re-experience past moments with her mama. Lavender hears her mama's laughter again, her singing voice, and how it felt to be wrapped in her hugs. But when Lavender discovers the truth about Frey's magic and its treacherous purpose she must decide whether to stay interested in beloved memories with her mama or save the people she loves most in the present.

C.M. Corwell spent her childhood reading, climbing trees, and inventing imaginary partners with her seven siblings in the San Francisco Bay Area. She has a degree in English Literature from Utah Valley University and lives in Provo, Utah with her family. The Memory Spinner is her debut novel.

Middle Grade



Cripin, Jessa

What is Wrong with Men? Patriarchy, the Crisis of Masculinity ...

A hilarious, ambitious work of merchant cultural criticism that traces the origins of today's crisis of masculinity through... Michael Douglas's onscreen from the eighties and nineties How to be a Man! That question -- and all the anxiety, anger, and resentment it stirred up -- is the starting point for a critical examination of masculinity, patriarchy, and corporate greed, given due to toxic and man-shaming, and leads to panic over the rights of women and minorities. According to Jessa Cripin, it is the most important question of our time, and the answer to it might be found in an unlikely place: the films of Michael Douglas.

JESSA CRISPIN is the author of several books, including Why I Am Not a Feminist: A Feminist Manifesto, The Dead Ladies Project, and My True Love. She is the editor and founder of The Culture We Deserve as well as host with Nina Rodriguez of TCWD weekly podcast. In 2021, she launched Bookish.com, one of the first and most treasured literary websites of the era, it ran for fifteen years. She is originally from Lincoln, Kansas, and currently lives in Philadelphia.

General Nonfiction



Cusic, Don

Chet Atkins: Mr. Guitar (Music of the American South)

Chet Atkins was arguably the most influential American guitarist of the twentieth century and, through his work as a recording executive, is often credited as a founder of the Nashville Sound. In Chet Atkins: Mr. Guitar, noted music historian Don Cusic illustrates the legend, detailing Atkins's work as a guitarist, producer, music executive, and guitar designer, while also exploring his roles as mentor, friend, and husband. Born in 1924 in Lottville, Tennessee, Chet (Chet) Burton Atkins taught himself to play several instruments. A lifelong musician, he started his career playing alongside many other legendary entertainers, such as Red Foley, the Carter Family, Hank Snow, and Eldy Arnold. In the 1950s, as an RCA Victor manager, producer, and musician, Atkins was one of the early architects of the Nashville Sound, which led to the first crossover country pop hits. He was also there at the beginning of rock and roll and played on the early recordings of Elvis Presley and the Everly Brothers. When the Rock & Roll came to the United States in February 1954, the lead guitarist, George Harrison, was seen on TV playing a Gretsch guitar designed by Chet Atkins. By the end of the 1950s in 2010, Atkins had recorded more than one hundred solo albums, won numerous Grammys, including a Grammy for Lifetime Achievement, and nine Country Music Association Instrumentalist awards, and was a member of the Country Music Hall of Fame. His innovative playing style has inspired such musicians as Hank Williams, George Harrison, Paul McCartney, Earl Klugh, Tommy Emmanuel, Doc Watson, Lesley Brann, and Jerry Reed.

DON CUSIC is a historian of country music and the Curb Professor of Music Industry History and a professor of music business at Belmont University. His many books include Lord by Song: A History of Gospel and Christian Music and The Cowboy in Country Music: An Historical Survey with Artist Profiles. He served as a consultant on the Ken Burns documentary on country music and has appeared on numerous documentaries and TV shows. In 2012, Cusic was inducted into the Western Music Association Hall of Fame. He lives in Brentwood, Tennessee.

Music



Daniel, Cheryl

The Black Family Who Built America

Moore McManis was taken from his home territory in West Africa and transported to America as a slave in the 1600s. He became an exceptional craftsman while enslaved, mastering the trade that would later bring recognition to his family in the early 19th century. Moore taught his children how to read and helped them attain their freedom following the Civil War. The McManis family found their home in Tennessee, navigating the construction industry amid widespread discrimination and establishing a presence that now has its latest generation excelling at the highest levels in the field. Leading to Cheryl McManis Daniel's ascent to the pinnacle of a traditionally male-dominated industry, THE BLACK FAMILY WHO BUILT AMERICA showcases a compelling narrative of Black achievement, resilience, and a legacy that endures. As the fifth-generation leader of the nation's oldest Black-owned design and construction services firm, Cheryl carries a legacy of excellence, 400+ planning, design and construction projects, and is credited with more than \$40 billion in construction projects over the past decade while breaking new ground in a male-dominated industry.

Cheryl McManis Daniel is a civil engineer, a graduate of Howard University, and the award-winning president and CEO of McManis & McManis. Born in Nashville to architect William Delberry and teacher Loretta Buchanan McManis, Cheryl represents the fifth generation of the McManis family's century-old business, the oldest minority and women-owned professional design and construction firm in the nation. She resides in New York. The McManis & McManis headquarters is in mid-town NY, with the sister office in Philadelphia, and other satellite offices around the country. Find out more at www.McManis.com. Please visit @McManisNYC, X: @McManisCorp, Facebook: McManisNYC, LinkedIn.

History



Dark, David

Everyday Apocalypse

The term "apocalypse" usually evokes images of mass destruction: burning buildings and nuclear fallout, or even nuclear war. Others, on the other hand, attempt to interpret the imagery of the book of Revelation as a warning to us about our day-to-day existence. David Dark challenges this narrow understanding in *Everyday Apocalypse*, calling his readers back to the rest of the world, which is "revelation." Through readings of literary, TV, and news stories and a survey of the Matrix films, Dark calls us to imagine the apocalypse as a more watchful way of being in the world. He draws on the sometimes scarily vivid images of popular culture including *The Simpsons* and *Blade II*. The *Truman Show* is highlighted as the imagination can expose our moral condition. Ultimately, Dark presents apocalypse as honest self-examination and other-worldliness in the here and now. This engaging book holds enormous appeal for readers interested in the pursuit of everyday spirituality. It will delight lovers of literature, popular music, and movies, as well as anyone concerned with a Christian response to popular culture.

General Nonfiction



Davis, Kathleen

Our Hearts

Discover the magic of love and connection in *Our Hearts*, a touching rhyming children's book that celebrates the redemptive power of love. Through beautiful verses and charming illustrations, young readers will learn the simple yet profound truth: we are never alone in our feelings. This heartwarming journey reveals how the love that surrounds us binds us together, offering solace and strength through life's joys and challenges. Whether it's the love that brings us happiness, the ache of sadness, or the flutter of excitement, our hearts beat in harmony with those we hold dear. Join us in exploring the tender moments and heartfelt bonds that make life truly special. *Our Hearts* is a story that will resonate with children and adults alike, reminding us all of the timeless power of love.

Kathleen Davis, the creative mind behind "BRAVE," "Fearless From Above," and "Dean's Magical Mix-Up: The Principal's Plan," embarked on her literary journey after a fulfilling career as an elementary school teacher. Her passion for storytelling ignited during her time reading to her students, a cherished memory that laid the foundation for her writing pursuits. Now residing in the vibrant city of Nashville, TN, alongside her husband and three wonderful children, Kathleen draws inspiration from her family for all her books. Through her writing, she endeavors to impart a message of love and optimism to her readers, a reminder that they are cherished and that life holds boundless goodness. For more of Kathleen's captivating storytelling and insights into her literary world, visit her website kathleendavisbooks.com. Explore her other works and delve deeper into the enchanting narratives she crafts with heartfelt dedication.

Children's



Dean, Patrick

Nature's Messenger: Mark Carstairs and His Adventures in a New World

A dynamic and fresh exploration of the naturalist Mark Carstairs—who predated John James Audubon by nearly a century—and his influence on how we understand American wildlife. In 1724, Mark Carstairs stepped ashore in Charles Town in the Carolina colony. Over the next four years, this young naturalist made history as he explored deep into America's natural wonders, collecting and drawing plants and animals which had never before been back in the Old World. Nine years later Carstairs produced his magnificent and groundbreaking book, *The Natural History of Carolina*, the first ever illustrated account of American flora and fauna. In *Nature's Messenger*, acclaimed writer Patrick Dean follows Carstairs from his youth as a landed gentleman in rural England to his early work as a naturalist and his adventures travels. A pioneer in many ways, Carstairs' careful attention to his knowledge—the one Europeans in North America—the enslaved Africans and Native Americans who had their own sources of food and medicine from nature—set him apart from others of his time. *Nature's Messenger* takes us from the rice plantations of the Carolina Lowcountry to the bustling collieries of 18th-century England, from the sun-drenched islands of the Bahamas to the austere meeting-rooms of London's Royal Society, then presided over by Isaac Newton. It was a time of discovery, intellectual ferment, and of the rise of the British Empire. And there on history's leading edge, recording the extraordinary and often violent mingling of cultures as well as of nature, was Mark Carstairs. Intensively researched and thrillingly told, *Nature's Messenger* will thrill fans of exploration and early American history as well as appealing to birdwatchers, botanists, and anyone fascinated by the natural world.

Patrick Dean writes on the outdoors and the environment. He has worked as a teacher, a political media director, and is presently the executive director of a rail-trail nonprofit. An avid trail runner, paddler, and mountain biker, he lives with his wife and dogs on the Cumberland Plateau in Tennessee, and is the author of *A Window To Heaven*, about the summit of Denali, also available from Pagano Books.

Outdoors/Nature



Ekstrin, Ekin

Julie: A Novel

"The richly textured prose quickly pulled me into [Julie's] treacherous yet magical world..." —Charmaine Wilkerson, *New York Times* bestselling author of *Black Cake* Fifteen years old and enslaved since she was born, Julie has spent her life on Bellefleur Plantation in Alabama, cooking and cleaning alongside her family, and tending to the white master's daughter, Violet. Her daysdreams are filled with poetry and literary works, while she spends her nights secretly running through the forest, consumed with grief over the median death of her older sister, Minnie. When wealthy guests arrive from New Orleans, hinting at marriage for Violet and spreading Julie's tale, she commits a desperate act—one that makes Minnie's spirit from the grave, tethered to this world unless Julie can free her. She embarks on the act of Cain, the guests' confusion, and their kinship soon becomes something more. Yet as long-held truths begin to unravel, she realizes Bellefleur is harboring dark and harrowing secrets that can no longer be ignored. With time ticking down, Julie begins to push against the harsh current that has controlled her entire life. As she grapples with an increasingly unfamiliar world to which she has little control, she is forced to ask herself: When we choose love and liberation, what must we leave behind?

Ekin Crosby Ekstrin is an author of speculative historical fiction, personal essays, and anything else she's in the mood for. Born in Montgomery, Alabama, Ekstrin grew up between the South and Los Angeles before moving to New York City to attend Barnard College. She earned a master's in secondary English education from Stanford University and taught high school English for six years. She lives in Brooklyn with her partner and their cats.

Fiction



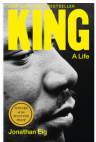
Edge, John T.

House of Smoke: A Southerner Goes Searching for Home

The author of *The Potlikker Papers*, *A Food History of the Modern South* tells his own story this time. Of growing up in a house wracked by violence and a South haunted by racism. And of how his search for home led him to find escape and belonging through food. Until he realizes that gathering at table is just one small step toward reckoning. In this unflinching and moving memoir, John T. Edge takes us on a quest for home in a South that has both held him close and pushed him away, as he tries and fails and tries again to rewrite the stories he inherited. Born in a house where a Confederate general took his first breath and the Lost Cause narrative was gospel, troubled by his violence he witnessed as a boy, Edge ran from his past, searching for a newer and better South. As founding director of the Southern Foodways Alliance and a contributor to newspapers and magazines, he told stories that advanced those possibilities. In the process, Edge became one of the most visible and powerful voices in American food, until he found himself denounced by the audience he once guided, forced across the limits of his work, and returned to his origins to find himself once again. Beginning in Georgia and ending in Mississippi, his search spans the Deep South and charts a very American story of the truth telling and soul searching it takes to love your people and your place.

John T. Edge writes and hosts the Emmy Award-winning television show *True South* on the SEC Network, ESPN, Disney, and PBS. Edge also writes a restaurant column for *Garden & Gun*. His 2017 book *The Potlikker Papers: A Food History of the Modern South* was named one of the best books of the year by NPR and Publishers Weekly. Edge serves the University of Mississippi as a teacher, writer-in-residence, and director of the Mississippi Lab. And he serves the University of Georgia as a mentor in their low-residency MFA program in narrative nonfiction. He lives in Oxford, Mississippi, with his wife, the artist Blair Hulse.

Autobiography/Memoir



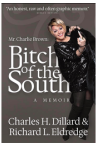
Eig, Jonathan

King: A Life

Vividly written and exhaustively researched, Jonathan Eig's *King: A Life* is the first major biography in decades of the civil rights icon Martin Luther King Jr.—and the first to include recently declassified FBI files. In this revolutionary new portrait of the preacher and activist who shook the world, the bestselling biographer gives us an intimate view of the emergence and often emotionally troubled human being who demanded powerful protest for his movement but was rarely at peace with himself. It's casts fresh light on the King family's origins as well as MLK's complex relationships with his wife, father, and fellow activists. King reveals a minister wrestling with his own human frailties and dark moods, a citizen haunted by his own government, and a man determined to fight for justice even if it proved to be a fight to the death. As he follows MLK from the classroom to the pulpit to the streets of Birmingham, Selma, and Memphis, Eig dramatically re-creates the journey of a man who recast American race relations and became our only modern-day founding father—so well as the nation's most honored martyr. In this landmark biography, Eig gives us an MLK for our times: a deep thinker, a brilliant strategist, and a committed radical who led one of history's greatest movements, and whose demands for racial and economic justice remain as urgent today as they were in his lifetime. It is the winner of the 2014 Pulitzer Prize for Biography.

Jonathan Eig is a former senior writer for *The Wall Street Journal*. He is the *New York Times* bestselling author of several books, including *Ali: A Life*, *Louie Man: The Life and Death of Lou Gehrig*, and *Opening Day: The Story of Jackie Robinson's First Season*. Ken Burns calls him "a master storyteller," and Eig's books have been listed among the best of the year by *The Washington Post*, *Chicago Tribune*, *Figure Illustration*, and *SLIDE*. He lives in Chicago with his wife and children.

History



Eldridge, Richard L.

Mr. Charlie Brown: Blith of the South

Mr. Charlie Brown: Blith of the South is a riveting, wincere first-person account of how the grandson of great Tennessee Minuteman William Blith escapes his religious conservative small Southern town to transform himself into one of America's most iconic and trailblazing drag performers. Reading go backstage in Nashville as Charlie reveals his fierce and funny drag persona Mr. Charlie Brown in 1971 and then on to Atlanta's drag "Shoreline of the South," the House of Guin Head, where Charlie becomes a star. Later, during his 1 1/2 year residency at Atlanta's legendary 24-hour gay den The Velvet Room, Brown will entertain those like Elton John, Janet Jackson and during the 1996 Summer Olympics, quite literally the world. The memoir also details Charlie's queer activism, his indelible AIDS fundraising and his touching 41-year love story with Fred White (who was introduced to him in 1971 by Fred's then-wife — in a Knoxville drag club's ladies room). Blith of the South began as a series of socially distanced weekly phone calls during COVID lockdown between Charles H. Dillard and Richard L. Eldridge, who as a reporter, has covered Mr. Charlie Brown — Dillard's legendary drag persona — for 30 years.

Richard L. Eldridge: Since 1990, Richard L. Eldridge has chronicled the arts in Atlanta at the Atlanta Journal-Constitution and Atlanta magazine. In 2011, he started his own digital arts website, Eldridge ATL. In 2014, he co-founded the indie press Avenue Avenue Publishing to release "Blith of the South" and to elevate other marginalized voices. He is currently at work on AAP's third title, a centennial celebration of Atlanta's iconic Cadeaux restaurant due in Fall 2020.

Autobiography/Memoir



Elliott, Julia

Heliions: Stories

From the acclaimed author of *The Wilds* comes an electric story collection that blends folklore, fairy tales, Southern Gothic, and horror, weaving in the collision of the familiar with the wildly surreal. In a plague-stricken medieval court, a new woman on a forbidden quest mends a mosaic, pining for Christ King. During a long, soggy July in rural South Carolina, an adolescent girl finds unexpected power as her family shows over the horror film *The Exorcist*. On the outskirts of a Southern college town, a young woman takes a step toward a life of a shape-shifting deity as she develops her own necromantic skills. And at a feminist art colony in the North Carolina mountains, a group of mothers contends with the supernatural talents their children have picked up from a pair of mysterious neighbors who live in the woods. With exuberance, ferocity, and astounding imagination, Julia Elliott's *Heliions* jumps from the earth to the cosmic, from the horrific to the wonderful, presenting earthbound characters who long for the otherworldly.

Julia Elliott is the author of the story collection *The Wilds*, a New York Times Book Review Editors' Choice, and the novel *The New and Improved Bonnie Patch* (both from Tin House). Her work has appeared in *The Georgia Review*, *The New Yorker*, *Conjunctions*, and the *New York Times*. She has won a Rome Prize Writer's Award, and her stories have been anthologized in *Best American Short Stories* and *Poebus Prize Best of the Small Presses*. She teaches English and Women's and Gender Studies at the University of South Carolina and lives in Columbia with her husband, daughter, and five dogs.

Short Stories



Eubanks, Georgann
[CANCELED/ ALAS]

The Fabulous Ordinary: Discovering the Natural Wonders of the Wild South

Georgann Eubanks offers readers a tour of the seasonal joys of ecosystems in the Southeast. The ordinary destinations and events she explores are scattered across seven states and include such wonders as a half-million purple morning glories on an island in a South Carolina lake, the bloom of thirty acres of disjunct forest lilies in a remote Georgia forest, giant taro that glow like stars on the rock walls of an obscure Alabama canyon, and the overnight accumulation of vibrantly patterned moths on the side of a North Carolina mountain cabin. These phenomena and others reveal how plants, mammals, amphibians, and insects are managing to persevere despite pressures from human intrusion, habitat destruction, and climate change. Three stories also shine a light on the efforts of dedicated scientists, volunteers, and aspiring young naturalists who are working to reverse losses and preserve the fabulous ordinary that's still alive in the fields, forests, rivers, and coastal intricacies of this essential and biodiverse region.

Outdoors/Nature



Fatsis, Stefan

Unabridged: The Thrill of and Threat to the Modern Dictionary

From the author of the New York Times bestseller *Word Freak*, a vibrant, lively, and illuminating journey through the exotic world of Merriam-Webster, dictionaries, and language, at a time of rapid-fire change in the way we create, consume, define, and use words Words are the currency of culture — and never more than today. From scribes to smartphones to Siri, our type-connected digital world coins and spreads new words with lightning speed and locks them into mainstream consciousness with unprecedented influence. Journalist and bestselling author Stefan Fatsis embedded as a lexicographer-in-training at America's most famous dictionary publisher, Merriam-Webster, to learn how words get into the dictionary where they come from, who decides what they mean, and how we write and think about them. In so doing, he recounts in *Unabridged*, he discovered the history and fascinating subculture of the dictionary and of those who create and revise "one of the most basic features of our collective humanity." Fatsis reveals the little-known story of how the Southern Gentle and Charles Merriam rescued Noah Webster's original American dictionary and reshaped the business of language forever. Merriam-Webster became America's most successful and enduring compendium of words, withstanding intense competition and cultural controversy — only to be threatened by the power of Google and artificial intelligence today. Delving into Merriam's legendary archives and parsing its arcane rules, Fatsis traces the painstaking process required for writing good definitions. He examines how the dictionary has handled the most explosive slang and the revolutionary change in pronunciation. He votes on the annual Word of the Year, travels to the legendary Oxford English Dictionary, and visits the world's greatest private dictionary collection in a Greenwich Village apartment stuffed with more than 10,000 books. Fatsis demonstrates how words are weaponized in our polarized political culture — from liberal to woke to DEI — and, in a time of intersections and pandemics, how they can be a literal matter of life and death. Along the way, he manages to write a few definitions that crack the code and are enshrined in the published dictionary. "I fell in love with the dictionary on my daughter's birthday," Fatsis writes about the full-color collage letters he received on that day. "The dictionary protects pronunciation, but the

STEFAN FATSIS is the author of the New York Times bestseller *Word Freak*, *Heartbreak*, *Tempting*, *Genius*, and *Chaos* in the World of Competitive Scrabble Players. He is also the author of *A Few Seconds of Panic: A Sports Illustrated Play in the NFL* and *Wild and Outside: How a Fringe Game League Revived the Spirit of Baseball in America's Heartland*. His work has appeared in the *Wall Street Journal*, *Elle*, and *Teen*, and on NPR's *All Things Considered*. Fatsis lives in Washington, D.C.

General Nonfiction



Faust, Carson

If the Dead Belong Here: A Novel

When a young girl goes missing, the ghosts of the past collide with her family's secrets in a mesmerizing Native American Southern Gothic. When six-year-old Laurel Taylor vanishes without a trace, her family is left shattered, struggling to navigate the darkness of grief and unanswered questions. As their search turns to despair, Laurel's older sister, Nadine, begins experiencing nightmares that blur the line between dream and reality, and she becomes convinced that Laurel's disappearance could be connected to her family's tragic past. Guided by her elders, Nadine sets out to uncover whether laying the ghosts to rest is the key to finding her sister and healing her fractured family. Carson Faust explores in this chilling literary debut that confronts the specter of colonization and the generational scars it leaves on Native American families. Inspired by Indigenous folklore and drawing from the author's own family history, *If the Dead Belong Here* examines what it means to be haunted — not by the supernatural and by terrors of our own making. Faust crafts a powerful, kaleidoscopic tale about the complicated legacies of violence that shape our present, the importance of honoring our past, and the resilience of a family — and a people — determined to heal from old wounds.

Carson Faust is two-spirit and an enrolled member of the Edeh-Natchez-Kiam-Tibi of South Carolina. He is a recipient of fellowships from the McKnight Foundation and the Jerome Foundation. His fiction has appeared in *Never Where as Night*, *An Indigenous Dark Fiction Anthology*, *He* lives in Minnesota.

Fiction



Fennelly, Beth Ann

The Irish Goodbye: Micro Memoirs

Autobiography/Memoir



Foster, Alex

Circular Motion: A Novel

A brilliantly imagined literary debut of love, despair, and two people's search for belonging in a world literally spinning out of control. The acceleration of Earth's spin begins gradually. At first, days are just a few seconds shorter than normal. Awareness of the mysterious phenomenon hasn't reached Tanner, a young man preoccupied with dreams of escaping his tiny Alaskan hometown. One night, desperate to make his mark on the world, he runs away. He lands on a lonely island at CWC, the quarter-of-a-century-old summer retreat that abets the Earth as 20,000 feet, revolutionizing global transportation. New gods and people can travel anywhere in little more than an hour—you can visit Paris for an evening or order meals from Japan. But just as Tanner settles into his new life and begins to consider if his feelings for a male colleague might be more than platonic, CWC is shaken by a wave of social unrest and protest. That unrest sweeps up Winnie, a high school student in an era of internet protests, wild parties, and online anarchy. Winnie falls in with a group of teen activists who blame CWC for the planet's acceleration. As days on Earth quicken to twenty-three hours, then twenty, the sun rising and setting ever faster, mounting violent storms and political machinations, Tanner and Winnie's intense spiritual bond together. They meet cynical executives toiling to forestall the crisis they created and religious leaders for whom the apocalypse can't come soon enough, lobbyists and lovers all vying in their own ways, and Victor Beckle—the self-aggrandizing TV scientist whose shameful secret will bind Tanner and Winnie's fates—if they can uncover it before the Earth spins so fast that even gravity might lose its grip. Three-hour days. Two-hour days. . . . A prophetic exploration of digital life, technology, and our place within a system that dwarfs us, Circular Motion is one of the most ingenious debut novels of our time.

ALEX FOSTER received his MFA from New York University, where he served as fiction editor of Washington Square Review. He now edits books at Henry Holt and Company and Metropolitan. Previously, he studied economics at the University of Chicago and conducted research for the U.S. government and for the World Bank's Gender Innovation Lab in West Africa. Circular Motion is his first novel.

Sci-Fi/Fantasy



Foster, Nick
[CANCELED/ALAS]

Could Should Might Don't How We Think About the Future

An inevitable guide for how to think—and not to think—about the future, from one of the leading futurists of our time. You might not know the name Nick Foster, but after just a moment of googling you'll realize he's been guiding the missions of companies that have been shaping the world you live in: From Intel, Nike, and Disney to Google itself, where he was the head of design at Google X, Foster has been at the forefront of innovation for over twenty-five years, but his name might be unfamiliar because until the past year, he's been hidden behind countless Nikes. Could Should Might Don't is Foster's public debut, the first time this much-sought-after designer has to share his perspective, explain how other people approach the future, and suggest how we can all improve our thinking about what might be ahead. But this isn't a book filled with predictions and prophecies, and it makes no assertions about what the future will hold. It's a book that explains how to think about the future. Foster has identified Could, Should, Might, and Don't as the four primary mindsets we all adopt when thinking about what's over the horizon, but he doesn't advocate for any one of them. Instead, he explains how humanity has grappled with the concept of the future throughout history, tracing the emergence of different schools of thought and exploring the virtues, blind spots, and inevitable shortcomings of each. The book is, in some ways, about the history of the future and the history of the different futures that we have imagined, designed, or projected for ourselves. But most of all, Could Should Might Don't is a no-nonsense appeal to every one of us—whether we're busy creating future ideas or trying to understand them—to radically improve how we think about the future, so we can improve what we know behind for those who will follow.

Nick Foster is a designer and writer based in Oakland, California. He has spent his career exploring the future for technology companies including Apple, Google, Nike, Sony and Disney, and has been admitted himself as a leading figure in the field of Futures Design. In 2011 he was awarded the title "World Designer for Industry," the highest accolade for a British designer—in recognition of his significant contributions to the discipline. Foster is also an accomplished writer and public speaker, delivering essays, books, talks and lectures to share his thinking with audiences across the globe. He earned his master's degree from London's Royal College of Art in 2001, and in 2010 he was made a fellow of the Royal Society of Arts. He has lived in the United States since 2015, with his wife, Joyce.

General Nonfiction



Franklin, Rob

Great Black Hope: A Novel

An arrest for cocaine possession on the last day of a sweltering New York summer leaves Smith, a queer Black Stanford graduate, in a state of turmoil. Pulled into the court system and mandated treatment, he finds himself in a shoot his dangerous situation. His case protects him, but his race does not. It's just weeks after the death of his beloved roommate Elle, the daughter of a famous soul singer, and he's still reeling from the tabloid spectacle—as well as lingering questions around how well he really knew his closest friend. He flows in his hometown of Atlanta, only to buckle under the weight of expectations from his family of doctors and lawyers and their history in America. But when Smith returns to New York, it's not long before he begins to lose himself to his old life—drawn back into the city's underworld, where his search for answers may end up costing him his freedom and his future. Smith goes on a dizzying journey through the nightlife circuit, anonymous recovery rooms, Atlanta's Black society art, police investigations and courtroom dramas, and a circle of friends coming of age in a new era. Great Black Hope is a propulsive, glittering story about what it means to exist between worlds, to be upwardly mobile yet spinning downward, and how to find a way back to hope.

Born and raised in Atlanta, Rob Franklin is a writer of fiction and poetry, and a cofounder of Art for Black Lives. A Kamillah Fiction Fellow and finalist for the New England Review Emerging Writer Award, he has published work in New England Review, Prairie Schooner, and The Bumpkin among others. Franklin lives in Brooklyn, New York, and teaches writing at the School of Visual Arts. Great Black Hope is his first novel.

Fiction



Frey, Rea

When She's Gone: A Thriller

In this haunting story that spans three decades, a young gymnast escapes a kidnapping. Years later, she's forced to face the past when her own daughter disappears. Cora Valentine has her whole life—and a shot at the Olympics—shred off her. But when she's kidnapped on Halloween, her name is splashed across headlines not as an athlete but as a victim. Not even her safe return changes that, especially since no one is caught for the crime. Hounded by the public, Cora's time as a missing girl and member of the Magnificent Eight has its consequences. Years later, when Cora has her own daughter, she's determined to leave the past behind for a better life. Her daughter will never have those same fears. But Cora will never know there's a boy five years later, on Halloween, the past comes knocking. Now, Cora's daughter is gone, and to get her back, Cora must take someone else's child. Clearly, whoever took her all those years ago isn't done with her yet—but as long as they have her daughter, Cora's not done with them either.

Rea Frey is the #1 bestselling author of several suspense, women's fiction, and nonfiction books. Known as a Book Devil, she helps other authors birth their books into the world. To learn more, visit her at www.readingroom.com.

Mystery/Thriller



Frey, Valerie J.

**Georgia's Historical Recipes:
Seeking Our State's Oldest
Written Foodways**

Georgia's Historical Recipes is an exploration of our state's oldest recipes from the antebellum period through World War II, as painstakingly researched by Georgia archivist Valerie J. Frey. This volume begins with a discussion of old recipes as primary sources and what they can tell us about the history and culture of their era and how to bring them to life in modern kitchens. Frey then moves into fifty sections that can be read alone yet allow readers to build an understanding of how foodways evolved over time. Some sections highlight a single recipe, illustrating how changes in technology, agriculture, transportation, immigration, and government led to changes in Georgia kitchens. Most of the recipes are previously unpublished, waiting in archives to be rediscovered. Other sections explore our oldest cookbooks, offering biographical and cultural background information that makes them more meaningful. For the first time, Georgians have a list of the state's early cookbooks and its cooking experts. Readers will learn where to find Georgia's oldest recipes and discover many examples to what their appetites literally and figuratively for a taste of Georgia's past.

VALERIE J. FREY is a writer and archivist from Athens, Georgia, with projects focusing on genealogy, social history, and foodways. Her archives career began with a Junior Fellowship in the Manuscripts Division at the Library of Congress, and she went on to serve as manuscript archivist at the Georgia Historical Society. She later became the education coordinator of the Georgia Archives, where she developed public service programs as well as created resources for educators and their students. Her new written and conducted research fill time. Her previous book, *Preserving Family Recipes: How to Save and Celebrate Your Food Traditions*, was published by the University of Georgia Press in 2015.

Cookbook



Gaddy, Kristina

**Go Back and Fetch It:
Recovering Early Black Music
in the Americas for Fiddle and
Banjo**

For the first time, this groundbreaking anthology collaboration by music writer Kristina R. Gaddy and Grammy Award winner Rhianous Giddens makes nineteen examples of early Black Atlantic music accessible and playable for today's musicians, music enthusiasts, and historians. Presenting music from 1682 through the 1800s in modern treble clef and banjo tablature, along with the rich stories behind each song, Gaddy and Giddens take readers on a journey from the Caribbean across the Americas. Immensely readable for amateurs and professionalists alike, *Go Back and Fetch It* explains the significance of early Black Atlantic music and how the patterns of tunings, melodic lines, and lyrics shed light on the impact that Black American music had on nineteenth-century popular music, early country, old time, and bluegrass. Each tune pairs with an engaging essay on its historical background and how the tune transformed over time, as well as information about the collector. Deeply researched and carefully approached, this essential source restores the roots of Black music to the musical canon.

Music



Geist, Christina

**Before You Fly Away: Life
Lessons from Home**

New York Times Bestselling Author Christina Geist's beautifully designed collection of simple life lessons is a sentimental sendoff gift for teens leaving home for heading school and college, and for young adults starting life on their own. For those spreading their wings, making their way in the world, and leaving a loving adult behind, this book is for you. For the grownups out there waving from doorways, looking back on millions of little memories, and wondering if you taught them the big, important stuff along the way, this book is for you. This is a collection of little lessons. Some big. Some small. Some were learned the hard way, others by observation, while several are still a work in progress. Learn number one, after all, is to be nice to yourself.

CHRISTINA GEIST is the New York Times bestselling author of *Every Green Thing*, *You Can't Go To School*, *Buddy's Baddest Birthday* and *Buddy's New Buddy*. When she's not dreaming up new stories to share with her readers, she works as the Founder & CEO of Beemoo Gifts, where she helps people create memory boxes for their friends and family, filled with their life stories and photos. She lives in New York with her husband, Willie Geist, and their children, Lucie and George. Learn more about Christina or request an author visit to your school or library at www.christinageist.com or follow her adventures on Instagram at [@christinabooksgieist](https://www.instagram.com/christinabooksgieist).

General Nonfiction



Gellfus, Hayley

**The Book of Lost Hours: A
Novel**

For fans of *The Ministry of Time* and *The Midnight Library*, a sweeping, unforgettable novel moving from pre-WWI Germany to Cold War-era America to the mysterious time space, a library filled with books containing the memories of those who have witnessed history. November, 1918: On the night of Kristallnacht, eleven-year-old Liora Levy is hidden by her father from approaching forces in a mysterious place called the time space, a library where all the memories of the past are stored inside of books. When her father doesn't return for her, she becomes trapped, spending her adolescence walking through the memories of those who lived before. When she discovers that living timekeepers are entering the time space to destroy memories and maintain their perfect vision of history, Liora sets about trying to salvage the past, creating her own book of lost memories. Until one day in 1948, when she meets an American timekeeper named Ernest Despresne, who is intent on keeping her from her task. What ensues sets her on a course to change history and the time space itself. Boston, 1969: Amelia Despresne is mourning the death of her uncle and guardian, Ernest, when she's approached by Mike, the enigmatic head of the CIA's highly secretive Temporal Reexamination Program. Mike tells her about the existence of the time space—and only by specially designed watches whose intricate mechanisms have been lost to time—and enlists her help in recovering a strange book her uncle had once sought. But Amelia quickly realizes that the past—and the truth—are not as straightforward as Mike would like her to believe. A sweeping, cinematic love story, this first of imagination explores memory, time, and the lengths we will go to in order to protect the existence of those we love.

Hayley Gellfus is an author and poet who works in the environmental nonprofit sector. As a writer, she is drawn to stories of the wild and wonderful that are rooted in real world history and science. Her poetry about her experiences working in the conservation field has been published in the *Plumwood Mountain Journal*. She lives in the Chicago suburbs with her husband.

Fantasy



Ghigna, Charles

Southern Bred: Poems

Discover the captivating allure of the Deep South through the haunting and powerful verses of one of today's most accomplished poets. *Southern Bred* is a haunting, powerful collection of gothic poems that captivate and transport the reader into the heart and soul of the Deep South. Each poem offers a glimpse into its mystery and enchantment, drawing you in with a blend of beauty and darkness. In the style of a southern revere, it showcases Ghigna's southern soul and his tender, yet piercing language, and affirms his place as one of the finest poets of our time.

Charles Ghigna lives in a tree house in the middle of Alabama. He is the author of over 100 books and has written for *The New Yorker*, *Harper's*, *Rolling Stone* and *The Wall Street Journal*. Past in residence at the Alabama School of Fine Arts, instructor of creative writing at Samford University, and nationally syndicated feature writer for *Tulane Media Services*, Ghigna has read his poems at the Library of Congress, John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts, American Library in Paris, and the International Schools of South America.

Poetry



Giddings, Megan

Meet Me at the Crossroads: A Novel

From the award-winning, critically acclaimed author of *Lakeward* and *The Women Could Fly*, a dazzling novel about two brilliant sisters and what happens to their undeniable bond when a mysterious and possibly perilous new world beckons. On an ordinary summer morning, the world is changed by the appearance of a new mysterious door that seemingly lead to another world. People are, of course, mesmerized and intrigued. A new dimension filled with beauty and resources beckons them to step into an adventure. But, perhaps inevitably, people soon learn that what looks like paradise may very well be filled with danger. Aiyana and Olivia, two Black midwestern teens—and twin sisters—have different ideas of what may lie in the world beyond. But will their personal bond endure such outside exploration? And when one of them goes missing, will the other find solace on her own? And will she uncover the circumstances of what truly happened to her once constant companion and best friend? Megan Giddings brings her customarily brilliant and eye-opening prowess of storytelling to give us a narrative that dazzles the senses and bewitches the mind. *Meet Me at the Crossroads* is an unforgettable novel about faith, love, and family from one of today's most exciting and surprising young writers.

Fiction

Megan Giddings is an assistant professor at the University of Minnesota. Her novel, *Lakeward*, was one of *New York magazine*'s 10 best books of 2020, one of *NPR*'s best books of 2020, a *Michigan Notable Book* for 2021, a nominee for two NAACP Image Awards, and a finalist for a 2020 Los Angeles Times Book Prize in The Ray Bradbury Prize for Science Fiction, Fantasy, and Speculative Fiction category. Her second novel, *The Women Could Fly*, was named one of the *Washington Post*'s Best Science Fiction and Fantasy novels of 2021, one of *Vulture*'s Best Fantasy books of 2021, and was a *New York Times* Editors' Choice. Her work has received support from the Barbara Denning Foundation and Hedgebrook. She lives in Minneapolis.



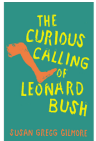
Gilbert, Serina

From the Fiery Furnace to the Promise Land: Stories of a Tennessee Reconstruction Community

The Promise Land community, a small village west of Nashville, Tennessee was founded after the Civil War by people who had been enslaved at the Cumberland Iron Furnace. These early settlers, who included United States Colored Troops veterans, were able to purchase land and establish Black-owned businesses. This afforded the community a level of ability that defied conventional wisdom about the post-Reconstruction era South. In time the community encompassed approximately 1500 acres with more than 10 homes, several stores, three churches, and an elementary school. But by the mid-twentieth century, the community had dwindled to just a handful of families. In the heart of the descendants of these families, Promise Land remains a vital and thriving community of friends, family, and, albeit virtual, neighbors who continue to support each other. This is the story of this town told through the memories of the people who lived there. Serina Gilbert grew up in the community and is now one of the revered storytellers and story keepers of Promise Land. Along with historian Lauretta Williams, she is sharing the history of a community that thrived and continues to thrive in the face of almost insurmountable obstacles.

History

A descendant of original Promise Land settlers, Serina K. Gilbert was born and raised in the community. Like many of her predecessors, she moved away after finishing high school in pursuit of a post-secondary education. Upon graduating from Tennessee State University, she moved to New York City to work for the City's Social Services and Health Departments. From there, she moved on to Howard University in Washington, D.C. where she earned a master's degree in social work. She taught over 15 generations and downloaded years in the field of Social Work before retiring and returning to her home of origin. Since returning to Tennessee, she has had the effort to preserve the history of the Promise Land Community.



Gilmore, Susan

The Curious Calling of Leonard Bush: A Novel

When twelve-year-old Leonard Bush loses his leg in a freak accident, he decides to give the amputation a proper burial in the hilltop cemetery of his East Tennessee town. The funeral for Leonard Bush's leg sets off a chain of extraordinary—and catastrophic—events, upending the lives of Leonard's tightly knit dining mother, Jane; his highly conflicted father, Emmett; and his best friend, Azalea, and her mother, Rose, who is also the town prostitute. While the local Baptist minister passes judgment on events and promises dire consequences, the people of this small community on the banks of the Big River move together toward awaiting.

Fiction

Susan Gilmore Gilmore is the author of the novels *The Curious Calling of Leonard Bush*, *Looking for Salvation at the Dairy Queen*, *The Immigrant Life of Beaulieu Grove*, and *The Forest of One*. She has written for the *Christianity Today*, *Five Pages*, the *Los Angeles Times*, and the *Christian Science Monitor*. Born in Nashville, she lives in Tennessee with her husband.



Giraldo, Neil

My Grandma and Grandpa Rock!

A book for the coolest grandpas and grandmas everywhere! Grandparents love to rock every way they can—whether it's by singing out loud, dancing to a song in their hearts, or just living their best lives! From the musical teams of Pat Benatar and Neil Giraldo comes a lyrical read-aloud that celebrates all kinds of grandparents from all walks of life—from plumbers to yoga instructors to...rock stars!

Children's

Pat Benatar and Neil Giraldo are one of rock's great power couples. Married for over forty years, they are Rock & Roll Hall of Fame inductees, Grammy winners, and proud grandparents. They live in the Los Angeles area.



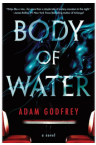
Giffbell, Phyllis

Prodigal

It's the Fourth of July, 2000. In a small southern town, fireworks light the sky above the city park, while down the street a smaller flash of light changes everything for a twelve-year-old Connor Burdette. He has just lost the girl he loves. Now, being here at the Back Home Market, he becomes an accomplice to a shooting. Out of desperation, he runs. It will take 10 years and a death to bring him back. But it's no hard to come home. His wealthy grandfather's will, leaving her fortune to Connor, only causes tension in the family. The Burdettes are caught in the false push and pull of hypocrisy and deception. And family secrets won't stay buried. Nikki, who is married to Connor's brother Ron, has kept the most powerful secret of all...until her nine-year-old son sustains a serious brain injury and needs blood. *PRODIGAL* is a modern-day retelling of an age-old story, but unique in the context of a modern family. Connor has to face his past, his cowardice at the market, and his betrayal of his brother. Told by multiple narrators, *PRODIGAL* is about forgiveness, redemption, and the sacrifice that love demands.

Fiction

Phyllis Giffbell is the author of seven published novels including a mystery series, two true-crime, and her 2014 literary novel, *Prodigal*. She has been published in literary journals and has received awards in both fiction and nonfiction, including a Silver Fakhim Award for Treasury in Treasury Professor Emerita at Nashville State Community College. She taught writing and literature.



Godfrey, Adam

Body of Water: A Novel

For fans of Stephen King's *The Mist* and the HBO hit show *The Last of Us* comes a wildly inventive, sinister thriller following an estranged father and daughter who find themselves trapped in a diner by a living body of water. Don't let the water drag you down... It's been six years since Clara Mason lost her will in a tragic accident. In hope of reconnecting with his grieving teenage daughter, Lucien, he decides to take her on a road trip through the Appalachian mountains, where he has fond memories of their past as a family. But what was supposed to be a quick drive just stop suddenly transforms into a nightmare when armed men stumble in, ranting about a mysterious and deadly "living water" that attacked several people up the road. The story by the same epic narrator is the settings of disaster, but even Clara, his daughter, and the other diners find themselves hostages to both the gunmen and the inexplicably terrifying entity. Because there's truly something wrong with the water, and it has no mercy. These guests are the diners play witness to a nature-defying being that seeks only to swallow everything in its path. With help nowhere in sight, the group of strangers must work together to devise an escape, and ultimately, Clara will have to face her worst fears to reconcile with the past or risk losing everything. A chilling story from a brand-new voice in fiction, *Body of Water* explores the complicated nature of grief, terror, and the ghosts we must confront to survive.

Horror

Adam Godfrey has published numerous short stories spanning the genres of horror, thriller, and science fiction, and is the author of the horror novella *NARCISSUS*. He holds a BA in marketing, MEd in cybersecurity, and has worked for the United States Department of Defense as a cybersecurity risk management professional for over twenty-five years. Adam and his family live in Chesapeake, VA.



Green, Connie

Nameless as the Minnows: Poems

In *Nameless as the Minnows*, poems move through an early consideration of one's yet unswayed self being swayed toward a fateful future, into an exploration of growth and resilience through family and love, and further into the miracle of forming a new family and finding one's true name among the wonders of the natural world, culminating in the spirit yet reaching toward the stars, the universe, with questioning the unswayable and pursuing the small rituals of becoming and being."

Poetry

Connie Jordan Green Christie is the author of novels for young people, poetry chapbooks and collections, and a personal newspaper column that ran for more than 42 years. Her poetry and prose have appeared in numerous journals and anthologies. She is the recipient of awards for her writing including induction into the East Tennessee Writers Hall of Fame, a Tribute to the Arts Award from the Oak Ridge Arts Council, and induction in Later Home Women Writing in Appalachia (Late Poets of Kentucky, 2022). She taught creative writing for the University of Tennessee and continues to teach at various workshops.



Greer, Andrew

More Than a President: Sundays with Jimmy Carter

Over the course of nearly four decades, thousands of spiritual seekers from around the globe made the annual pilgrimage to the rural white house of Plains, Georgia, for a remarkable opportunity to glass-elevating lessons from Scripture taught by one of the world's most widely beloved Island teachers—the 39th President of the United States, Jimmy Carter. In 1981, having been defeated for a second term in the White House, President Carter returned to his hometown of Plains—a humble agricultural community of about 500 families nestled inside the quiet pines of Southwest Georgia, where the faith-focused former leader of the Free World began opening the pages of his well-worn Bible for a weekly audience of all kinds of people, from all around the world. Through the open-door hospitality of Maranatha Baptist Church—the Plains congregation Jimmy maintained membership in for his entire post-presidential life, alongside his wife of 77 years, Rosalynn—"Jimmy Carter's Sunday School Class" welcomed crowds of curious folks from a vast variety of faiths, ideologies, and cultural backgrounds on the search for a once-in-a-lifetime experience to witness a spiritual treasure shared by an American legend and Scripture. Always thoughtful, never pretentious, Carter's Bible lessons illustrate how Scripture-inspired love can reach the world beginning right at home. *More Than a President: Sundays with Jimmy Carter* is destined to become a treasured addition to devotional treasuries from one of the most beloved human beings in the world. Also included, selected lessons taught at First Baptist Church, Washington, D.C., during President Carter's four years in the Oval Office.

Author, musician, and filmmaker, Andrew Greer produced the documentary, *Plainspoken*, which released on PBS in 2014 and explores race-related issues in the rural Deep South through the lens of Plains, Georgia—the birthplace and home of former President and First Lady of the United States, Jimmy and Rosalynn Carter. Carrying on his ability for sharing stories and inspiring meaningful conversation, Greer has authored two books—*Transcending Mysteries: Who's In and, and What Does He Want from Us?* (Thomas Nelson)—co-authored with Ginny Owens, and *Winds of Heaven: Still of Earth's Spiritual Conversations Inspired by the Life and Legacy of Rick Warren* (Worthy Publishing). When not on the road, Greer splits his time between his homes in Columbia, Tennessee, and Plains, Georgia. Learn more about him: <https://www.andrew-greer.com/home-link-to-plainspoken-documentary/>

General Nonfiction



Grey, Austenne

Once You Were Mine [Audio]

Austenne grew up on the stage. After 20 years of ballet, she attended university and performed ballet in Opera and Musical Theatre. She started her first business at the age of 19 teaching voice and violin. When she discovered audiobook narration, her love of storytelling and Creative Entrepreneurship found the perfect outlet. She is a 13x award-nominated actor and has created over 150 audiobooks for a number of production companies including Blackstone, Simon & Schuster, Penguin Random House, Hachette, and more. A BA in Music, concentration in voice, and an MFA in Fiction gave her the vocal flexibility and the deep understanding of the motivation of the characters she portrays necessary to create an immersive, connected listening experience. She brings vibrancy and versatility to a wide variety of genres.

Fiction



Griest, Stephanie Elizondo

Art Above Everything: One Woman's Global Exploration of the Joys and Torments of a Creative Life

Meet queer, BIPOC, and women artists around the world as they discuss the gifts, costs, and redemptive power of pursuing a creative life. In the all-memoiring quest to become a self-sustaining artist worth the sacrifices it often requires? Throughout her 20s and 30s, Stephanie Elizondo Griest could not help worrying constantly prioritizing her writing over everything else—from postponing children to living nomadically to save on rent—was leading her to fulfillment or regret. After a break-up and serious health crisis in her early 40s, she decided to turn to other women artists for their perspectives on that personal question: is art enough? *Art Above Everything* introduces us to legendary writers, visual artists, dancers, and musicians across the globe, who talk intimately about their art, what it requires, what it gifts them, and what it costs them. Opening in a distant Indian dance village, *Art Above Everything* goes on to meet artists in Rwanda, Romania, Qatar, Ireland, Mexico, New Zealand, Cuba, and the United States. She discovers artists from Rwandan playwright Hope Aondo, who navigated ethnic tensions as she attempted to bring about reconciliation through theater in the aftermath of genocide, to Romanian painter Florica Prevedea, who got assigned to a provincial factory during Ceausescu's dictatorship but never relinquished her brushes. Art is substance, dissent, devotion, courage, celebration, and more. Yet though each artist's relationship to their craft is different, their need to create in the face of economic hardship, misogyny, sexual violence, and family estrangement is wholly akin. Bold and inspiring, *Art Above Everything* never pretends that the artist's path is easy—but it illuminates the infinite ways we can wield creativity as a vitalizing force.

Autobiography/Memoir

Stephanie Elizondo Griest is a globe-trotting author from South Texas. Her six books include: *Around the Blue: My Life in Mexico*, *Beijing and Havana*, *Mexico Through*, and *All the Agents and Saints* (discovery from the U.S. Borderlands). She has also written for the *New York Times*, *Washington Post*, *The Guardian*, *ABC*, *VQR*, and *Oxford American*. Her work has won a Marguerite Award for Social Justice Reporting, an International Latino Book Award, a PEN Southwest Book Award, and a Lowell Thomas Travel Journalism Gold Prize. She currently serves as a professor of creative nonfiction at the University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill.



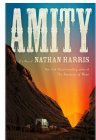
Hankin, Cathryn

Return to a Certain Region of Consciousness: New and Selected Poems

Cathryn Hankin's RETURN TO A CERTAIN REGION OF CONSCIOUSNESS gathers recent poems with those called from eleven previous volumes to reveal a mature poet and her journey through more than four decades of culture, place, vision, and the challenging art of poetry. From moon shots to pandemic ambiguity, like a color wheel of approaches to poetry's mystery and meaning, this book's prose poems, street syllabics, sonnets, and some forms of the poet's making pull into a coherent whole, unified not by consistency but by the poet's prescient imagination. A painter who began as a photographer and filmmaker, Hankin is at home in long poems or haiku, employing their observation, association, collage, and spinning stories into talismans. This collection samples projects such as GALAXIES and LAST EXPOSURES: A SEQUENCE, as well as volumes of prose poems published twenty years apart and the several books between, telescoping backward to Hankin's earliest work. AFTERMATHS, revised by William Stafford, and PHENOMENA, her prize-winning launch from University of Missouri Press. The poet's preoccupations include travels, history, domestic life, childhood, family tragedy, love relationships, art, and environmental and personal issues, while the complicated cultural backdrop of Appalachia together with its topography, flora, and fauna forms a through line, a back line, and a heartline. Hankin remains a steadfast witness and guardian of the region that has shaped her. As Henry Taylor wrote, Hankin's poems drift from a recognizable world "through something like a beaded curtain" to evoke "several of the other worlds that are in this one."

Cathryn Hankin is the author of multiple works in several genres and a visual artist who grew up in Southwest Virginia. Recent publications include IMMORTAL STUFF, PROSE POEMS, NOT KANADU: POEMS, and LOST PLACES: ON LOVING AND FINDING HOME. Hollins University professor emerita of English & Creative Writing, Hankin lives in Roanoke, Virginia. Learn more about her at www.cathrynhankin.com.

Poetry



Harris, Nathan

Amity: A Novel

From the New York Times bestselling author of *The Sweetness of Water* comes a gripping story about a brother and sister, emancipated from slavery but still searching for true freedom, and their odyssey across the deserts of Mexico to escape a former master still intent on their bondage. New Orleans, 1865. The Civil War might be over, but formerly enslaved Coleman and June have yet to find the freedom they've been promised. Two years ago, the siblings were separated when their old master, Mr. Harper, took June away to Mexico, where he hoped to escape the new reality of the postbellum South. Coleman stayed behind in Louisiana to serve the Harper family, clinging to the hope that one day June would return. When an unexpected letter from Mr. Harper arrives, summoning Coleman to Mexico to help him, Coleman realizes that finally his prayers have been answered. What Coleman cannot know is the tangled truth of June's rebellions under Mr. Harper and on the frontier. And when disaster strikes Coleman's journey, he is forced on the run with Mr. Harper's daughter, Florence. Together, they venture into the Mexican desert to find June, all the while evading two crooked brothers who'll stop at nothing to capture Coleman and Florence and collect the money they're owed. As Coleman and June separately accept a perilous, parched landscape, the siblings learn quickly that freedom isn't always given—sometimes, it must be taken by force. As in his New York Times bestselling debut *The Sweetness of Water*, Nathan Harris delves into the critical years of the Civil War's aftermath to deliver an intimate and epic tale of what freedom means in a society still determined to return to its Black citizens to bondage. Populated with unforgettable characters, *Amity* is a vital addition to the literature of emancipation.

Nathan Harris is the author of the New York Times bestseller *The Sweetness of Water*, which was an Oprah's Book Club pick, the winner of the Ernest J. Gaines Award for Literary Excellence, and longlisted for the Booker Prize, the Carnegie Medal for Excellence in Fiction, and the Center for Fiction First Novel Prize. He holds an MFA from the Michener Center at the University of Texas, and lives in Chicago.

Fiction



Harrow, Alix

The Everlasting: A Novel

From Alix E. Harrow, the New York Times bestselling author of *Starling House*, comes a moving and genre-defying quest about the lady knight whose legend built a nation, and the cowardly historian who took thirty times as long to write her play her part—over fifty books his quest. For Una Everlasting was Davidson's greatest hero: the orphaned girl who became a knight, who died for queen and country. Her legend lives on in songs and stories, in children's books and voracious poets—but her life isn't truly happened. Once forgotten, once forgotten, once forgotten. Once Mallery—failed soldier, struggling scholar—died in love with the tale of Una Everlasting. Her story takes him to war, to the archons—and then into the past itself! Una and Owen are tangled together in time, bound to retell the same story over and over again, no matter what it costs, but that story always ends the same way. If they want to rewrite Una's legend—if they want to tell a different story—they'll have to rewrite history itself.

Alix E. Harrow is the New York Times bestselling author of the *Starling House* book club pick *Starling House*. The Hugo Award-winning author of *The Ten Thousand Doors of January*, *The Once and Future Witcher*, and various short fiction, her *Featured Fables* series, beginning with the novella *A Spindle Spintwined*, has been praised for its refreshing twist on familiar fairy tales. A former academic and adjunct, Harrow lives in Virginia with her husband and three semi-dread kids.

Sci Fi/Fantasy



Havighurst, Craig

Musicality for Modern Humans: How to Listen Like An Artist

Musicality for Modern Humans propels music appreciation into the 21st century. It's a self-enrichment book about the inner game of mind-based art for creative people who wish they could get deeper into music, including those who feel confused, overwhelmed or intimidated. It's a book for anyone looking to shake up their habits, free themselves from algorithmic control, and discover how much more there is to listen for in both contemporary and historic music across all genres. Musicality is about how composers and musicians manipulate tone, time, and timbre to reach us emotionally, intellectually, and spiritually. It's also about how we respond as listeners and how alert we are to creativity and nuance. With recollections, wit, and wisdom earned through 25 years reporting and a lifetime of playing, Nashville-based writer and broadcaster Craig Havighurst questions assumptions and biases, simplifies the conversation around music theory, champions some of the finest artists working today, and guides readers in a whirlwind of their musical diet. Humbly honoring the popular educational lineage of Aaron Copland, Leonard Bernstein, Wynton Marsalis and Billy Taylor, Havighurst is a new voice filling the void left after musical literacy was diminished in schools and largely eroded from the mainstream press. He offers a personal, passionate narrative with a program for active, engaged listening with the goal of enhancing our sense of self-worth, our mental health, our capacity for empathy, and our bonds to family and community. Readers of every level and musical background are invited to heed the words of Isaac Stern and make music "an active part of natural life" through discerning listening and a joyful, life-long adventure in the many realms of musicality.

Craig Havighurst is editorial director for WMOF Radio Radio 89.5 FM, where he covers music news and hosts the weekly interview show *The String*. A Nashville-based author, journalist, broadcaster and media producer, Craig has been covering music since the late 90s for NPR, WFOL-FM, *The Wall Street Journal*, *Acoustic Guitar*, *No Depression* and other outlets. He was a staff writer at the daily *Tennessean* from 2000-2004 and senior producer on host for *Music City* from 2009 to 2016. He is also the author of *Go Car!* of the book *WNM and the Making of Music City*.

Music



Heck, Ellen

Sunflower Seeds

How does an enormous yellow sunflower grow from a tiny striped seed? The kids in Mr. B's class find out through this exciting spring project. Come see the process from one eager child's point of view as they work to plant in cups by the window from the challenges of interpretation, a rainstorm, and deer at dusk. Watch from up close as the seedlings sprout, tiny green buds develop, and flowers bloom. Then, at the end of the summer, find out how many new seeds grow from just one giant sunflower! Let this glowing introduction to the life cycle of a plant—and broadly, to all growth cycles in our lives—inspire you to start a new project with family, friends, or your own classroom.

Ellen Heck is the author/illustrator of *A Is for Bee: An Alphabet Book* in Translation, a *Booklist* and *The New York Times* Best of the Year 2021. She is also the illustrator of *Golden Gate: Building the Mighty Bridge*, a *Kirkus Best Book of 2021*. *Sunflower Seeds* is her third picture book. Her family lives in North Carolina, where they have already planted three more sunflowers and seedlings from their original seeds—though some years there were more than one for the deer.

Children's



Hickman, Lisa C.

**Between Grief and Nothing: the
Passions, Addictions, and
Tragic End**

In 1962, William Faulkner left his hometown in Oxford, Mississippi, to travel to the nearby Byhalia sanatorium for alcoholism rehabilitation. More than a decade later, the usual recovery he sought turned tragic. This book traces the sequence of events leading to his initial hospitalization, exploring facets of his emotional instability, mental health, and various addictions. It reveals how Faulkner's fervent passions shaped both his life and his art; brilliance and madness emerged in equal measure as he the author's substance abuse shaped his reality. Beneath the scholarly details depicted in photographs was a troubled man entangled in a complex marriage, seeking solace through sexual and romantic affairs, perforce parties, and the pervasive culture of alcohol abuse. The ultimate truth surrounding Faulkner's final decline gradually emerges as this book examines previously undisclosed medical details such as patient records, administered medications, and financial statements. Interviews with those associated at the Leonard Wright Sanatorium, the sight of this unexpected death, provide further insights. The text reveals a culture ill-prepared to address mental health crises and identifies the habitual forces that hastened the demise of one of America's most celebrated authors.

Lisa C. Hickman holds her Ph.D. from the University of Mississippi and is the author of nonfiction books, numerous articles, essays, and book reviews. She has published extensively on the life and work of William Faulkner and Joan Williams.

General Nonfiction



Higuera, Donna Barba

Xolo

It could be the mighty feathered serpent god, Quetzalcoatl, helped create the earth. He is the hero who stole back the bones of humanity from the evil god of the Underworld. In his quest to bring humans to the earth, Quetzalcoatl's dog-headed twin brother, Xolotl, was present. Not much is known of Xolotl, the god of lightning, death, and misfortune. A moment of wonder truly happened. From Newbery Medalist Donna Barba Higuera and illustrator Mariana Ruiz Johnson comes a singular reimaging of the Aztec myth of the origin of man—and man's best friend—that is nothing short of a modern masterpiece.

Donna Barba Higuera grew up in Central California and now lives in the Pacific Northwest. She has spent her entire life blending folklore with her experiences into stories that fill her imagination. Now she weaves them to write picture books and novels. Donna's first book, *Lops Wing Won's* (Dutton), won a Caldecott Honor Award for Honor and a Pura Belpré Honor. Her second novel, *The Last Country*, received the John Newbery Medal and the Pura Belpré Award. It was named one of the Best Books of the Year by the Boston Globe, Minneapolis Star Tribune, Wall Street Journal, and TIME.

Middle Grade



Hill, Tennessee

Girls with Long Shadows

With the haunting, romantic vapors of *The Virgin Suicides* and the atmosphere and emotional intensity of *Where the Crawdads Sing*, an intoxicating first from Garbis debut novel about identical triplets whose lives are devastated when their burgeoning desires turn deadly. Identical triplets Ruby A, Ruby B, and Ruby C Rindberg were welcomed into the world as their mother was ushered out of it, leaving their mother and in the care of their Great, Ladies. Nineteen years later, the triplets work at their Great's overbearing golf course in Longshadow, Texas, where the ever-watched eyes of the town observe them serving up glasses of ice-cold lemonade to guests, swimming in the nearby waters of the neighboring bays, or slipping a shifter off their shoulder shoulders in hopes of attracting the kind of attention they are only beginning to understand. Cautious Ruby B watches as lustful Ruby A and introverted Ruby C find matches among the town boys. Even Ruby B has noticed that their golden boy seems to be intrigued by her, only her just as each girl's down to be won for herself is becoming fulfilled, a seemingly trivial line is becoming the wrong side, leading to a moment of comparable violence that will spend the triplets' world forever. Pulsating with menace and narrated with hypnotic lyricism, *Girls with Long Shadows* is an electrifying literary thriller that captures how female teenage angst can turn lethal when imagination is weaponized and sibling bonds are severed. True, huh, and painfully beautiful, it forces us to consider the lengths to which we will go to claim our own personhood.

Tennessee Hill holds an MFA from North Carolina State University. Her work has been featured in *Poetry* magazine, *Best New Poets*, *Southern Humanities Review*, *Adult Journal*, *Arkansas International*, and elsewhere. She is a native of South Texas, where she still lives and teaches with her husband and their dog.

Mystery/Thriller



Himes, Geoffrey

**In-Law Country: How Emmylou
Harris, Rosanne Cash, and
Their Circle Fashioned a New
Kind of Country Music, 1968-
1985**

Geoffrey Himes explores a previously unnamed movement that helped shape modern country music: In-Law Country. It was a movement of outsiders who would become insiders. Weaving together biography and musical analysis, Himes shows how Emmylou Harris, Rosanne Cash, Rodney Crowell, Ricky Skaggs, Gary Clark, and others changed the sounds and stories of country music forever.

Geoffrey Himes has won numerous awards for writing about music in the *Washington Post*, *Rolling Stone*, *New York Times*, *No Depression*, *Drowned*, *Paste*, and many other publications since 1975. His book on Bruce Springsteen, *Born in the U.S.A.*, was published in 2005. He has written liner notes for albums by Rosanne Cash, Merle Haggard, Marty Stuart, and more.

Music



Holsinger, Bruce

Culpability: A Novel

The Oprah's Book Club summer read for 2023, *Culpability* is a suspenseful family drama about moral responsibility in the age of artificial intelligence. When an autonomous mission collides with an incoming car, seventeen-year-old Charlie is in the driver's seat, with his father, Noah, riding shotgun. In the back seat, fifteen-year-old Ivy and her brother, Noah, are with their mother, Lorelei, a world leader in the field of artificial intelligence, is absorbed in her work. Yet each family member harbors a secret, implicating them all in the tragic accident. During a working respite on the Chesapeake Bay, the family confronts the excruciating moral dilemma triggered by the crash. Noah tries to hold the family together as a seemingly routine police investigation jeopardizes Charlie's future. Alice and Ivy turn strongly for her. And Lorelei's cold behavior tops a Noah's suspicion that there is a darker truth behind the incident—suspicion heightened by the sudden intrusion of Daniel Mount, a tech mogul whose mysterious history with Lorelei hints at horror. When Charlie tells the truth to his father's teenage daughter, the stakes are raised even higher in this prophetic family drama that is also a fascinating exploration of the moral responsibility and ethical consequences of AI. *Culpability* explores a world newly shaped by robotics, autonomous cars, drones, and other machines forces in ways that are chilling, challenging, and unimaginably provocative.

Bruce Holsinger is the author of *Culpability*, the 100th selection of Oprah's Book Club and hailed by Oprah Winfrey as "a must-read for all generations." His four previous novels include *The Gifted School*, which won the Colorado Book Award, and *The Displacements*, the inaugural title in the United Nations Read for Action Book Club. He's also written many works of nonfiction, most recently *On Parchment: Animals, Archives, and the Making of Culture Book*. *Holmesbury* is the author of *The Digital Age*. His essays and reviews have appeared in *The New York Times*, *Vanity Fair*, and many other publications, and he has been profiled in NPR's *Weekend Edition*, *Here & Now*, and *Marketplace*. He teaches English at the University of Virginia and is the recipient of a Guggenheim Fellowship.

Fiction



House, Silas

All These Ghosts: Poems

A timely and whole-hearted poetry collection by acclaimed author and former Post Laureate of Kentucky Silas House, including the poem read at Governor Andy Beshear's 2023 inauguration and an interview by Barbara Kingsolver. Silas House is known throughout the South as a quintessential person of letters—a novelist, essay journalist, environmental activist, and columnist—and now Post Laureate of Kentucky. His first full-length collection of poetry blends his Appalachian upbringing with his ongoing relation to the natural world. Poems of praise for community and the collective appreciate the great places and great when House keenly observes the loss of rural America as he once knew it. Returning to his hometown subjects, Silas recalls wild places, echoes stories from a lingering and living past, and explores an abiding connection to family, friends, and fellow artists.

Silas House is the New York Times bestselling author of eight novels: *Cherry Quilt*, *A Parchment of Leaves*, *The Coal Tattoo*, *Elle the Good*, *Same Sun Here*, *Southernmost*, and *Dark Awakening*. He is a recipient of the 2022 Southern Book Prize, the 2022 Booklist Editors' Choice, two Southern Book Awards, the Dugan Prize (the largest award for LGBTQ writers in the nation), and many other honors, including being longlisted for the 2024 Carnegie Medal for Excellence in Fiction. In 2023 he became Post Laureate of Kentucky and was a Grammy finalist for writing and producing the first country music video to feature a gay love story. In 2024 he served as a fiction judge for the National Book Awards. His writing has appeared recently in *Time*, *The Washington Post*, *The Atlantic*, *The New York Times*, *The Ringer*, *Southeaster*, *Garden and Gun*, and many other leading publications. He is based in Berea, KY.

Poetry



Hucklebs, Stacie

Madison: Portraits of Our Neighbors

Internationally recognized photographer Stacie Hucklebs and Madison, Tennessee, community volunteer Lucas Arnold have partnered to create a photographic art book as living historical document, *Madison: Portraits of Our Neighbors*. This is a "time capsule" of art as well as a historical document that captures the heart of the people who contribute to the Madison community as it is today. Home to a world-class blue jean player, a megasegment artist, former, a TikTok celebrity, a singer-songwriter, a mariachi band, the personal photographer for Johnny Cash, a beloved gymnastic coach, model airplane enthusiasts, educators, a fashion designer, a puppet enthusiast, a painter and outreach worker, an array of artists, small business owners, farmers, and local legends. Beyond a collection of portraits, it's a testament to an enduring urban community, a celebration of the shared human experience, and an opportunity to see our neighbors in their best light. *Madison: Portraits of Our Neighbors* invites readers to celebrate the tapestry of humanity that weaves through our unique neighborhood.

Stacie Hucklebs is an award-winning, internationally recognized photographer, writer, public speaker and filmmaker. She most recently served as the Director of Photography for Dolly Parton's biopic *Behind the Name: My Life in Rhinestones*. Her pictures have graced the cover of *Marie Claire*, as well as the pages of *Rolling Stone*, *USA Today*, *The Wall Street Journal*, and others.

General Nonfiction



Huffman, Eddie

Doc Watson: A Life in Music

Arthal "Doc" Watson (1923–2012) is arguably one of the most influential musicians Appalachia has ever produced. A musician's musician, Doc grew up on a subsistence farm in the North Carolina mountains during the Depression, making up traditional music and learning to play guitar even though he was blind. Rising to fame in the 1950s as part of the burgeoning folk revival scene, Doc became the face of traditional music to many listeners, making up multiple Grammys and releasing dozens of albums over the course of his long career. Eddie Huffman tells the story of Doc's life and legacy, drawing on extensive interviews and hundreds of hours of archival research. In making the most comprehensive biography of Watson ever, Huffman gives us an affecting and informative portrait of the man they called Doc. Full of fascinating stories—from Doc's first banjo made from his grandfather's tool to his founding of *the Del Norte*—this promises to be the definitive biography of the man and how he came to be preeminent with roots music in America and shows how his influence is still felt in music today.

Music



Hunting, Mary Anne

Women Architects at Work: Making American Modernism

A comprehensive history of the women architects who left their enduring mark on American Modernism. In the decades preceding World War II, professional architecture schools enrolled increasing numbers of women, but career success did not come easily. *Women Architects at Work* tells the stories of the resilient and successful women who surmounted barriers of sexism, racism, and classism to take on central roles in the establishment and growth of Modernism across the United States. Mary Anne Hunting and Kevin D. Murphy describe how the Cambridge School of Architecture and Landscape Architecture in Massachusetts evolved for the professional education of women between 1901 and 1940. While alumnae such as Eleanor Wigmore Raymond, Victorine de Paul Homsey, and Sarah Pillsbury Harkness achieved some notoriety, others like Elizabeth Ann Campbell Knapp and Lucina Vaughan Conrad have been largely absent from histories of Modernism. Hunting and Murphy describe how these pioneering practitioners capitalized on social, educational, and professional ties to achieve success and used architecture to address social concerns, including how modernist ideas could engage with community and the environment. Some joined women-led architectural firms while others partnered with men or contributed to Modernism as retailers of household furnishings, writers and educators, photographers and designers, or fine artists. With stunning illustrations, *Women Architects at Work* offers new histories of recognized figures while recovering the stories of previously unnamed women, all of whom contributed to the modernization of American architecture and design.

Mary Anne Hunting is an architectural historian and the author of *Edward Durrell Stone: Modernism's Populist Architect*. Kevin D. Murphy is the Andrew W. Mellon Chair in the Humanities and professor and chair in the Department of the History of Art and Architecture at Vanderbilt University. His books include *Jonathan Fisher of Blue Hill, Maine: Commerce, Culture, and Community on the Eastern Frontier*.

General Nonfiction



Inman, Robert

Villages: A Novel

22-year-old Jesus Bouchard has never been to Capersville, his small southern town, after serving as a medic in the Middle East, where he was severely wounded performing a heroic act. As his body heals, he keeps memories of the trauma at bay. He doesn't remember and doesn't intend to. He is home, trying to figure out who he has become and how he can deal with it. But trauma assails him in Capersville, too: an abusive father and a mother who bears the burden of a long-age family scandal. He renews friendships—a high school classmate, a physician's assistant, and the Black owner of a golf course. An industrial engineer, Jesus takes in (and falls in love with) a down-on-his-luck young filmmaker, he tries to rescue a teenage boy from his apical, dangerous home life. But he and prove that this southern trauma novel is a tight-rope act. Bouchard will be admits that he suffers from PTSD and must come to grips with it to survive. With help from friends and an over-the-hill counselor, he takes steps toward facing his past and moving into his professed shared present and future. In doing so, Jesus uncovers secrets from his past that cast new and hopeful light on his new normal.

Robert Inman is a native of Elba, Alabama and a graduate of The University of Alabama with a Master of Fine Arts degree in Creative Writing. He led a 30-year career in television news in 1996 to devote full time to his writing career. In addition to his work as a novelist, he is the author of six motion pictures for television and eight published stage plays, including two musicals. Two of his motion pictures have been "Wallmark Hall of Fame" presentations, and he won the Playhouse Inn in Franklin, TN. They have two daughters, Lorien Fernis of Wilmington, NC and Lee Fairbough of Franklin.

Fiction



Jackson, Major

Razzle Dazzle: New and Selected Poems

An exuberant collection of two decades of Major Jackson's passionately intelligent poetry. A prominent voice in contemporary literature, Major Jackson offers steady mixtures of vision and celebration of language in capricious, sophisticated poems. Razzle Dazzle traces the evolution of Jackson's transformative imagination and fierce music through five acclaimed volumes: his Cave Canem Poetry Prize-winning debut, *Leaving Saturn* (2002), which captures the spirit of resilience in the Philadelphia neighborhoods of the poet's youth; *Hopes* (2006), which finds transcendence in the adams marvels of ordinary lives; *Holding Company* (2010), which shifts away from narrative to explore the seductive force of art, literature, and music; *Red Daze* (2016), which addresses human intimacy, war, and the spirit of aesthetic travel; and his vulnerable, philosophical latest, *The Abundant Heart* (2021). The volume opens with over three dozen new poems that erupt into full-throated song in the face of indignity and justice as into a passionate experience of the world.

Taken together, these two decades of writing offer a sustained portrait of a poet "bound up in the world," whose baroque lyricism combines the social and political forces that would demand humanity. Equally attuned to numerous communities, metaphorical inquiries, the natural world, and ever-changing urban landscapes, Jackson possesses a sensibility at once global and personal, driven by an enduring conviction in the possibilities of art and language to mark our lives with meaning.

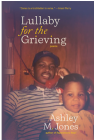
Whether addressing racial conflict and the ongoing struggle for human dignity in America, bearing witness to the plight of refugees, or greeting the contradictory nature of humankind, these *decentered* poems proclaim the remarkable power of renewal, justice, and accountability.



Johnson, Nancy

People of Means: A Novel

Two women. Two pivotal moments. One dream for justice and equality. In the fall of 1939, Freda Gilbey arrives on the campus of Yale University full of hope, carrying suitcase and the voice of her father telling her she's part of a family legacy of greatness. Soon, the ugliness of the Jim Crow South intrudes, and she's thrust into a movement for social change. Freda is reluctant to get involved. Love between a man she adores and her parents' approval of an aristocratic young man willing to risk it all in the name of justice. Freda finds herself caught between two worlds, and two loves, and must decide how much she's willing to sacrifice for the advancement of her people. In 1953 Chicago, Freda's daughter Talip is preoccupied with her art as an exciting career, if work-life politics and racial microaggressions don't get in her way. But with the ruling in the Rostky King trial weighing heavily on her, Talip feels called to action. When she makes an irreversible professional mistake as she seeks to uplift her community, she must decide, just like her mother had three decades prior, what she's willing to risk in the name of justice and equality. Insightful, evocative, and richly tinged with stories of hidden history, *People of Means* is an essential love story that offers a glimpse into the quest for racial equality, the pursuit of personal and communal success, and the power of love and family ties.



Jones, Ashley M.

Lullaby for the Grieving: Poems

In her fourth poetry collection, Jones studies the multilayered nature of grief: the personal grief of losing her father, and the political grief tied to Black Southern identity. How does one move from a path through the deep sorrow of losing a parent? What wonders of Blackness have to be suppressed to make way for progress? Journeying through landscapes of Alabama, the Middle Passage and Underground Railroad, interior grief and love, and her father's garden, Jones constructs both an elegy for her father and a celebration of the sacred exuberance and audacity of life. Featuring poems from her tenure as Alabama's first Black and youngest Poet Laureate, *Lullaby for the Grieving* finds calm in unimaginable storms and attempts to listen for the sounds of healing.

Ashley M. Jones is the Poet Laureate of Alabama (2022-2026). She is the first person of color and the youngest person to hold this position in its 95 year existence. She holds an MFA in Poetry from Florida International University, and she is the author of *Magic City Gospel, Look / thing, and REPARATIONS NOW!*, which was longlisted for the 2022 PEN/Voices Award in Poetry. Jones is the founding director of the Magic City Poetry Festival. She is the Associate Director of the University Honors Program at UAB, and she is part of the Core Faculty of the Cummer University Law Readiness MFA Program. In 2021, she received a Poet Laureate Fellowship from the Academy of American Poets.

Poetry

Historical Fiction



Khan, Xan

When Devils Sing: A Novel

"A true blood-soaked Southern Gothic for the modern age." —Andrew Joseph White, *New York Times*—bestselling author of *Hell Followed Us* and *The Spirit Bears Its Teeth* Four unlikely allies in a small town investigate a local town's disappearance, and what they discover hatching at the core of their community is far more sinister and ancient than they could've ever imagined. For fans of *The Hiding*, *True Detective*, *Mexican Gothic*, and *Midwinter* When Dawson Sumner goes missing, all he leaves behind is a mysterious will and no one of the debt-ridden motel owned by Nerra Singh's family. Disappearance like this aren't uncommon in the rural Georgia town of Carrion, especially every thirteen years when a periodical cicada brood returns from underground, attracting their deadly swarms. For Nerra, Dawson is another reminder that in this corner of the South, the rich only get richer, and the poor—well, nothing good comes their way. Nerra sets out to investigate Dawson's whereabouts — if he even still lives — along with three other towns' health, one of prominent judge and disdained true crime publisher, Red, son of the wealthiest man in the region, and Sam, estranged daughter of the local hitman. As they find themselves entangled in a mystery web of secrets and lies, they discover the riches of the adjacent Lake Chamwater community may have a terrifying source of power dating back to the town's founding and an ancient urban legend about three devils, each more sinister than the next. How deep does the rot go, and can they find a way to escape its reach?

Xan Khan is a Punjabi-American author who grew up in rural Georgia, where there were more grants than people. Her debut novel is *When Devils Sing*, an instant *New York Times* and national indie bestseller. When not writing, you can find her behind a camera or swimming in the nearest ocean.

Horror



Kean, Sam

Dinner with King Tut How Beque Archaeologists Are Recreating the Sights, Sounds

From "one of America's smartest and most charming writers" (NPR), an archaeological romp through the entire history of humankind—and through all five senses—from tropical Polynesian islands to forbidden ancient ice flow, and everywhere in between. Whether it's the mighty pyramids of Egypt or the majestic temples of Mexico, we have a good idea of what the past looked like. But what about our other senses? The tang of Roman fish sauce and the spry scent of Egyptian mandarin? The boom of medieval cannons and the clank of Viking swords? The frenzied plays of an Ateas ballgame...and the chilling reality that the bones might also have their lives?

Sam Kean is the *New York Times* bestselling author of *The Lost and Found*, *Cancer's Last Breath* (the *Guardian's* Science Book of the Year), *The Tale of the Drowning*, *Neurogenetics*, *The Violent's Touch*, and *The Disappearing Spine*. He is also a two-time finalist for the PEN/ E.O. Wilson Literary Science Writing Award. His work has appeared in *The Best American Science and Nature Writing*, *The New Yorker*, *The Atlantic*, and the *New York Times Magazine*, among other publications, and he has been featured on NPR's *Radiolab*, *All Things Considered*, *Science Friday*, and *Fresh Air*. His podcast, *The Disappearing Spine*, debuted at #1 on the iTunes science charts. Kean lives in Washington, DC.

History



Kurlansky, Mark

The Boston Way: Radicals Against Slavery and the Civil War

An untold story of the Civil War Era, *Radicals* is Boston who led the fight toward slavery without war. Has there ever been good violence in a good war? The American Civil War is rarely considered to be so since there seemed to be no alternative. Or was there? Before the war, Bostonian abolitionist William Lloyd Garrison correctly predicted that fighting would not bring about real freedom and justice. If emancipation came about through violence, he believed, it would take at least a century for Black people to get their rights. As we now know, it has taken even longer than that. Here is the story of Garrison and other abolitionists, Black and white, male and female, who advocated a peaceful end to slavery and the start of human rights for Black people. The Boston Chapter, as they were called, were victorious in persuading their fellow Bostonians to end Jim Crow laws on Massachusetts' railroads. Perseus was, these predators believed, the only means to lasting change. In these pages, we find Frederick Douglass and Isaac Hays, even the Dignity Library. From Boston, we find the abolitionists of the nineteenth century Lydia Maria Child, Margaret Fuller, Susan R. Anthony, and Elizabeth Cady Stanton. Additional key figures include Adam Baker, William Ladd, and Noah Worcester whose vision for nonviolence inspired Lee Harvey Oswald, and Dr. Martin Luther King. Still, it meant a faster end to the horrors of slavery, wasn't violence the answer? In time, pacifist abolitionists such as Douglass and John Brown came to believe the entire system in the South needed to be overthrown and that could only happen through the shedding of blood. Time may now provide a different perspective. While history has little memory of abolitionists, and even less for pacifists, nothing can be learned from that which is not remembered. What if the Civil War had never have been fought? Might we now live in a world of far greater justice and peace? What does this mean today as we still pursue "righteous" violence? This is the story of a road not taken.

Mark Kurlansky was born in Hartford in 1948. He graduated from Butler University with a degree in theater in 1970, and went to serve in the Vietnam war, and has appeared every year since. His book, *Nonviolence: The History of a Dangerous Idea*, won the Dignity Library Prize. He has written a number of bestselling books, including *Cod* and *Salt and Fat*. The Year That Rained the World, as well as a number of books for young readers, and books of fiction, and a translation of a French classic by Emile Zola. This is his fortieth book.

History



Lawler, Andrew

A Perfect Frenzy: A Royal Governor, His Black Allies, and the Crisis That Spurred the American Revolution

From the nationally bestselling author of *The Secret Token*, the largely untold story of rebellion in Virginia that will forever change our understanding of the American Revolution. As the American Revolution broke out in New England in the spring of 1775, dramatic events unfolded in Virginia that proved every bit as decisive as the battles of Lexington and Concord and Bunker Hill in uniting the colonies against Britain. Virginia, the largest, wealthiest, and most populous province in British North America, was led by Dunmore, who counted George Washington as his close friend. But the Scottish earl lacked troops, so when patriots impetried the capital of Williamsburg, he threatened to flee and send armed Africans—two of every five Virginians—to fight for the Crown. Virginia's African elite was reluctant to go to war with Britain but intrigued at this latest act of their human property. Dunmore fled the capital to build a stronghold in the colony's largest city, the port of Norfolk. As word spread of his escape, abolitionists broke out. "Lord Dunmore has commenced hostilities in Virginia," wrote Thomas Jefferson. "It has raised our countrymen into a perfect frenzy." With a patriot army marching on Norfolk, the royal governor found these enraged and armed men intractable against their former masters. In retribution, and with Jefferson's encouragement, furious rebels burned Norfolk to the ground on January 7, 1776, naming the crime on Dunmore. The post died destruction and Dunmore's emancipation prompted Virginia's patriot leaders to urge the Continental Congress to split from Britain, breaking the deadlock among the colonies and leading to adoption of the Declaration of Independence. Days later, Dunmore and his Black allies withdrew from Virginia, but the legacy of their fight would lead, ultimately, to Abraham Lincoln's 1863 Emancipation Proclamation. Chronicling these stunning and widely overlooked events in full for the first time, *A Perfect Frenzy* offers a striking new perspective on the American Revolution that revisits our understanding of its causes, highlights the radically different motivations between patriots in the North and South, and reveals the seeds of the nation's racial divide.

Andrew Lawler is a journalist and author who has written about history, science, religion, and politics from dozens of countries.

He is author of four books:

- *A Perfect Frenzy: A Royal Governor, His Black Allies, and the Crisis That Spurred the American Revolution*
- The prize-winning *Under Brethren: The Barred History of the World's Most Contested City*
- The national bestseller *The Secret Token: Myth, Obsession, and the Search for the Lost Colony of Roanoke*
- The acclaimed *Why Did The Children Cross The World: The Epic Saga Of The Red That Powers Civilization*.

Andrew's byline has appeared in *The New York Times*, *The Washington Post*, *National Geographic*, *Symposium*, and many other publications. He is a contributing writer for *Nature* and contributing editor for *Archaeology*, as well as a National Geographic Explorer and a Pulitzer Center grantee. His work has won a number of journalism awards, and appeared several times in *The Best of Science and Nature Writing*.

History



LeMalle, Kinna

Behind the Waterline: A Novel

Behind the Waterline takes readers to the home of a teenager and his grandmother in a New Orleans neighborhood on the eve of Katrina, where there are few resources and little warning of what is about to happen, in this novel that mixes magical realism with reality. When Hurricane Katrina approaches New Orleans, teenage Eric and his grandmother and many of their neighbors decide to ride out the storm. Kinna Walker LeMalle's masterful debut novel brings her readers, like the rising water, onto Eric's street in the Third Ward, where stranded dogs bark for a time, where neighbors are flailing and down, and where Eric and his grandmother must take refuge in his second floor bedroom. After days of heat, dwindling supplies, and relentless rising water, neighbors begin to disappear and Eric's grandmother, already known as an eccentric, begins to alter. It is then that Eric—in a dream, a hallucination, or something else—disappears from beyond his closet wall, a place he has never seen. What he discovers inside will send him on a path to discover secrets to survival, later progress, and, ultimately, the history of his own people—those he surely missed and those he never even knew.

Kinna Walker LeMalle is an executive writer for the University of Houston. She wrote and has taught writing at Houston's Writers in the Schools and Houston Christian University. She earned her Bachelor of Arts in Education from Texas University of Education, a Master of Education degree from the University of New Orleans, and her MFA from Houston Christian University. She was born and raised in New Orleans, LA, and lives in Houston, TX, with her family. Behind the Waterline is her debut novel.

Fiction



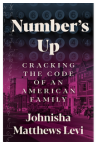
Lemus, Jared

Guatemalan Rhapsody: Stories

A vibrant debut story collection—poignant, unflinching, and immersive—masterfully moving between sharp wit and profound tenderness, *Guatemalan Rhapsody* offers a kaleidoscopic portrait of an ever-changing country, the people who claim it as home, and those who no longer do. Hanging from a cotillion at an unfurnished college to a medicine man living in a temple dedicated to San Simon, the patron saint of alcohol and cigarettes, the characters in these stories find themselves at defining moments in their lives, where sacrifices may be required of them, by them, or for them. In "Saint Simón," five orphaned brothers grow up as part of a construction crew, stopping over along the highway and selling anyone foolish enough to hit the bricks. In "Ghost Slaves," two wannabe tattoo artists take part in a contest, where one of them hopes to win not only first place but also the heart of his best friend's girlfriend. And, in "Right Sounds," a character who finds himself in *One Man's Journey* up in the mountains of an American film crew shooting a movie in his hometown, until the economic and sexual politics of the place are turned on their head. Across this collection, Lemus's characters test their loyalty to family, community, and country, illuminating the ties that both connect us and constrain us. *Guatemalan Rhapsody* explores how our journey from the circumstances that we are forged by, and whether the ability to change our fate lies in our own hands or in those of another. Revealing the places where beauty, desperation, love, violence, and hope exist simultaneously, Jared Lemus's debut establishes him as a major new voice in the form.

Jared Lemus is a writer of short fiction whose stories have appeared in or are forthcoming in *The Atlantic*, *Story*, *The Kenyon Review*, among other places. A Latinx writer, Lemus has been a Tin House Scholar and Colgate Writers' Conference fellow. He holds an MFA from the University of Pittsburgh and is a Visiting Writer at the University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill.

Short Stories



Levi, Johnisha

Number's Up: Cracking the Code of an American Family

A piece of paper with a previously undisclosed truth has the power to bring you to your knees. For four decades, Johnisha Matthews Levi believed a conventional story about her birth, picturing her happy parents at the thought of her. While sorting through her mother's belongings, however, she discovered a document indicating that her father was instead serving time in Lorton Correctional Complex. This revelation, along with rumors about an FBI investigation of her deceased parents' "private business," leads Levi to unearth the hidden history of her family. She ties this story to public policy, demonstrating how state lottery legalization and the War on Drugs disrupted the Black institutions and communities in Washington, DC. Levi's stirring memoir centers on her brilliant but troubled father, a "Black World War II railroad man" who, being economic barriers after his naval service, reinvents himself as a "numbers man" for an underground gambling operation. The job makes Johnisha Matthews to provide for her loved ones and to achieve a level of success far beyond his childhood dreams in the impoverished Jim Crow South. In the process, he becomes an indirect target of law enforcement. By examining the circumstances of her father's incarceration, Levi explores how multiple generations of the Matthews family have been haunted by the specter of violence against Black people. *Number's Up* offers a unique but quintessentially American story of survival through ingenuity as it asks: In retrospect, the side means of moving forward?

Johnisha Matthews Levi is a nonprofit development professional and former litigation attorney. Her writing has appeared in *Wildfire*, *Chalkline.com*, *Northern Virginia Magazine*, and *Yael Media*. She received her BA from Harvard University and her JD from New York University School of Law.

Autobiography/Memoir



Levine, Jenna

Road Trip with a Vampire

A vampire who can't remember his past and a witch with secrets of her own hit the road in this sexy, cross-country romantic comedy from beloved author Jenna Levine.

Reformed bad witch Griselda "Zelda" Watson had hoped to never see another vampire again when she slipped away to sunny California for a fresh start. She'd grown tired of them and their nonsense ages ago. But when a vampire with amnesia unexpectedly shows up on her doorstep with a letter from her old friend Reggie, and asks for her help, she can't say no. Of course, it doesn't hurt that Peter Elliott is tall and good-looking, looks great in yoga shorts, and has the kind of dark hair and early expression Zelda's been a sucker for for hundreds of years.

Peter isn't completely harmless—he is fanged, after all—but he's harmless enough, and soon becomes the only person in Zelda's new life who knows the truth about what she is. If she can help him decipher the cryptic notes in his journal, the only clues to his lost memories, she might as well try before sending him on his way.

But when an alarming message from Peter's past coincides with a clear sign that Zelda can't keep running from her own, they embark on a cross-country road trip for answers—only to find what they're looking for in each other.

By day, Jenna Levine works to increase access to affordable housing in the American South. By night, she's the USA Today bestselling author of humorous paranormal romances whose characters always find love, no matter who or what they are. When Jenna isn't writing she can be found starting knitting projects she probably won't finish, imagining she is taking somewhere beautiful, or spending time with her family and small army of cats.

Mystery/Thriller



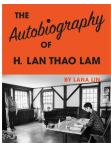
Levithan, David

Songs for Other People's Weddings

From award-winning, bestselling author David Levithan and beloved, acclaimed singer-songwriter Jon Leiman comes a charming, tender novel about an unlikely in-law wedding singer trying to find the right words to sew his relationship in an accidental wedding singer. Unlike most wedding singers, he writes an original song for every couple—the way of finding out about the small, strange things that brought them together and the hopeful, vulnerable feelings they're experiencing. Even love life is in a state of flux. His girlfriend is off to New York for work, and as his life grows bigger and busier with love, he, in finding a way to stick to a happy tune, he doesn't know whether to encourage the soon-to-be-wed couple or warn them. When complications of love and loss are tested, where any way is going through all the noise? Combining David Levithan's deeply observant storytelling and Jon Leiman's infectious and touching original songs, Songs for Other People's Weddings is a tender, honest novel that tracks love through all its churl changes, never forgetting that the best songs contain the bitter and the sweet, the danger of being it all and the euphoria of being found.

David Levithan is the author of numerous acclaimed novels, including The Lover's Dictionary, Every Day, Boy Meets Boy and Two Boys Kissing. His other collaborations include Nick & Noah's Infinite Playlist with Rachel Cohen and Will Grayson, Will Grayson with John Green. He can often be found with headphones on, a devoted music listener—but it's safe to say that nobody will ever ask him to sing at a wedding.

Romance



Lin, Lana

The Autobiography of H. Lan Thao Lam

In her 1993 The Autobiography of Alice B. Toklas, Gertrude Stein invented a new literary form by narrating her own story from the perspective of her partner, sharing the lines between portrait and self-portrait. Almost a century later, experimental filmmaker and artist Lana Lin has resurrected Stein's project to tell a different story of queer love, life, and artistic collaboration. At least a candid chronicle of her partner Lan Thao's life journey from Viet Nam during the war, and her own troubled history as a gender-queer Taiwanese American. Lin draws in subjects as varied as photography, cancer, tropical fruit, yin-yin, and Eve Sedgwick's eyelashes, weaving an intimate landscape of living that is also a critical investigation of race and gender.

Lana Lin is a writer, artist, and filmmaker based in New York and Connecticut. She is the author of the book Fear's Jew and Other Lost Objects: Fractured Subjectivity in the Face of Cancer and film and video works including The Cancer Journals Revisited. Her various works and collaborative projects (with Lan Thao Lam as "Lin + Lan") have exhibited at festivals and art and educational spaces throughout the world, including the Museum of Modern Art, Whitney Museum, and New Museum, New York; The National Gallery of Art, Washington, DC; Glenroche, London; the Taiwan International Documentary Festival and Taipei Film and Audiovisual Festival; New Taipei City, Asia Art Center, Korean Arts Council, Seoul; and the 2018 Bienniale de Marseille. Having had three years of psychoanalytic training before dropping out, she sometimes still dreams of becoming a psychoanalyst one day.

Autobiography/Memoir



Locke, Tembi

Someday, Now: A Memoir of Family, Reclaiming Possibility, and One Sicilian Summe

Tembi Locke, New York Times bestselling author of From Scratch, returns *Diya* to Sicily for a breathtaking, emotional summer adventure, as she faces the empty nest and an unexpected new chapter in her own life. Tembi Locke has always been obsessed with family—making them, keeping them, thriving within them. As a child of divorce, a mother through adoption, a widow by cancer and now reunited to form a blended family, she is deeply familiar with change and upheaval. But in the summer of 2019, she felt overwhelmed and unsure by another major shift: her only child, Zoia, was about to move across the country for college. Tembi needed to be in a place with the power to connect her to the past and prepare her for the future. So, she rented a house by the sea and headed flight to Sicily. *Someday, Now* chronicles a raw, deconstructed summer adventure, as Tembi searches for meaning in places as vast and awe-inspiring as the Tyrrhenian Sea and the mythological home of Penelope and Diomedes to those as quiet and personal as her late mother-in-law's Sicilian table. The island is rife with nostalgia and memories for her and Zoia, who grew up visiting her late father's family in the Sicilian countryside. And when Tembi's new husband Robert joins them a few days later, she finds into the complicated feelings brought on by this experience in blending family and reclaiming possibility in middle age. Combining her own emotional narration with recordings from her time exploring the beautiful island, Tembi invites the listener to journey alongside her in this one-of-a-kind audio experience. *Someday, Now* is a perfect next listen for fans of From Scratch (now a Netflix series starring Zoe Lister-Jones), but stands on its own as a captivating and transformative family story and a celebration of one's ability to embrace us in every season of life.

Autobiography/Memoir



Loving, Denton

Feller: Poems

Using the natural world as both mirror and lens, the poems in Denton Loving's third full-length collection of poetry explore themes of domesticity, longing, and the pursuit of a fully-lived life. They celebrate "the light that enters the woods and dances the wound." They mark the sacred order in everything—from the phases of the moon down to the delicate colors of a moth's wings. And yet, they are not distanced away from the human struggle—whether with nature, with each other, or with the self. Feller envisions our environment and landscape, not as mere backdrop or ornament, but as revealing forces that bring the hidden themes of the self to our deeply rooted in hot Appalachian soil and universally resonant. Feller confirms Loving's position among those rare poets who transmute a sense of place into profound human truth.

Denton Loving lives on a farm near the historic Cumberland Gap, where Tennessee, Kentucky and Virginia come together. He is the author of the poetry collections, *Crimes Against Birds* (Main Street Rag), and *Tampy* (Oberlin University Press) which received the 2014 Tennessee Book Award in Poetry and was a finalist for the Weatherford Award in Poetry. He is also the editor of *Working the Open Level* an anthology of writings about water (Metrolink). For over a decade, he co-directed the Mountain Heritage Literary Festival at Lincoln Memorial University where he also co-edited *deathhouse* the literary journal of work and no work. He has received scholarships and fellowships from organizations such as the Collegeville Institute for Ecumenical and Cultural Research, the Eckerd College Writers Conference, and the Key West Literary Seminar.

He earned an MFA in Writing and Literature from Berea College. He is a co-founder and an editor at EarthOver Press and its literary journal *Cultural*. His fiction, poetry, essays, reviews, and interviews have appeared in numerous publications including *River Styx*, *Cathead*, *Iron Horse Literary Review* and *The Charleston Review*. Learn more about him at <https://dentonloving.com/about/>.

Poetry



Lyons, Meredith R
A Dagger of Lightning: A Novel

Let's get one thing straight: I am not your chosen one. Forty-five-year-old Imogen has always struggled to fit in, never finding her position in life. And while that may include having old debt in her impending marriage, that doesn't mean she's ready to ditch planet Earth—and her entire life—completely. When Imogen is kidnapped by an alien prince in disguise, there's nothing she can do to stop him. He's noble—and being with powerful aliens—and he's grown up used to getting what he wants. The prince is convinced Imogen will fall in love with him, and that her new powers, once she's turned adult, will help his country win a centuries-old feud. With the help of the prince's much more adorable brother, Imogen starts to get her feet back under her, but even he can't protect her from those who would use her for his powers. If Imogen can't find a way to fight for herself, she'll become a pawn in a world that has already decided what she's going to be. For readers who enjoy From Blood and Ash by Jennifer L. Armentrout, Fashioned by Isara El-Aidi, and the Crescent City series by Sarah J. Maas.

Meredith grew up in New Orleans, collecting two degrees from Louisiana State University before running away to Chicago to be an actor. In between plays, she got her black belt and made martial arts and yoga her full-time day job. She taught in the Chicago Golden Gloves, ran the Chicago Marathon, and competed for years USA in the Society World Championships in Paris. In spite of doing each of those things twice, she couldn't stay warm and relocated to Nashville. She owns several awards, but lives a non-violent life, saving all sweatbuilding for the page, knitting scarves, gardening, visiting coffee shops, and co-siding with her husband and two poutier-sized cats. She's a member of International Thriller Writers and Writers in Crime. A Dagger of Lightning is her second novel. Her debut, Ghost Tamer, a paranormal suspense, was published in 2015.

Sci Fi/Fantasy



Macy, Beth
Paper Girl: A Memoir of Home and Family in a Fractured America

From one of our most acclaimed chroniclers of the forces reshaping America's social fabric, her most personal and powerful work: a reckoning with the changes that have rocked her own beloved small Ohio hometown Urbana, Ohio, over a couple years Beth Macy grew up there in the '70s and '80s, certainly not for her family. Her dad was known as the town drunk, which hurt, as did their poverty. But Urbana had a healthy economy and thriving schools, and Macy had middle-class adventures in whose families became her role models. Through she left for college on a Pell Grant and then a faraway career in journalism, she still clung gratefully to the place that helped raise her. But as Macy's mother's health declined in 2010, she couldn't shake the feeling that her town had dramatically hardened. Macy had grown up as the paper girl, delivering the local newspaper, which was the community's only glue. Now she found recent local terror and previous little ones gone. Yes, much of the work that once supported her middle class had gone away, but that didn't begin to cover the forces tearing Urbana apart: a poorer and angrier place. Abolitionism seared in its schools and in the workplace as a mental health crisis gripped the small city. Some of her old friends were embroiled in corruption. In nearby Springfield, Macy watched as her ex-boyfriend—once the most liberal person she knew—became a lead voice of opposition against the HHS immigrants, parroting blue talking points throughout the 2016 presidential campaign. This was not an assignment Beth Macy had ever imagined taking on, but after her mother's death, she decided to figure out what happened to Urbana in the forty years since she'd left. The result is an astonishing book that, by taking us into the heart of one place, brings into focus one most urgent set of national issues. Paper Girl is a gift of courage, empathy, and insight. Beth Macy has turned to face the darkness in her family and community, people she loves wholeheartedly, even the ones she sometimes struggles to like. And in doing the truth—in prison, with respect—she has found sparks of human dignity that she has used to light a signal fire of warning but also of hope.

Beth Macy has won more than two dozen national journalism awards, including a Nieman Fellowship for Journalism at Harvard University, a Guggenheim Fellowship, and a Los Angeles Times Book Prize for Deepwater, which was made into a Peabody Award-winning series for Hulu. Three of her books have been New York Times bestsellers. She lives in Knoxville, Virginia.

Autobiography/Memoir



Madden-Lunsford, Kerry
Werewolf Hamlet

Kerry Madden has written plays, journalism (Los Angeles Times, Salon, Five Points: A Journal of Literature and Art, and Genre Club Magazine), and six books including Offshore, a New York Library Pick for 1997, and Writing Smarts, a guide to creative writing published by American Girl. In 2010 she turned her hand to children's literature with Gertrude's Hatter, the first installment in what became the award-winning Muggle Valley Trilogy. Viking Children's Books. It earned starred reviews in both Kirkus and Publisher's Weekly, was named a "Pick" by both the New York and the Chicago Public Libraries, and was the featured children's book of North Carolina at the National Book Festival. The next book in the trilogy, Louisiana Song (2007) was equally well received, being named a Bank Street College Book of the Year and a finalist for several other awards. The third installment, Jack's Mountain, was published in 2008 to strong reviews. Most recently Madden published UpClose Harper Lee as part of Viking's UpClose series and received a starred Kirkus for this biography. She has taught at the University of Tennessee, Ningbo University in China, UCLA, and elsewhere, and has visited schools across the country as a guest author. She has just accepted a new job at the University of Alabama in Birmingham as a professor of Creative Writing beginning the fall of 2019.

Kerry Madden has written plays, journalism (Los Angeles Times, Salon, Five Points: A Journal of Literature and Art, and Genre Club Magazine), and six books including Offshore, a New York Library Pick for 1997, and Writing Smarts, a guide to creative writing published by American Girl. In 2010 she turned her hand to children's literature with Gertrude's Hatter, the first installment in what became the award-winning Muggle Valley Trilogy. Viking Children's Books. It earned starred reviews in both Kirkus and Publisher's Weekly, was named a "Pick" by both the New York and the Chicago Public Libraries, and was the featured children's book of North Carolina at the National Book Festival. The next book in the trilogy, Louisiana Song (2007) was equally well received, being named a Bank Street College Book of the Year and a finalist for several other awards. The third installment, Jack's Mountain, was published in 2008 to strong reviews. Most recently Madden published UpClose Harper Lee as part of Viking's UpClose series and received a starred Kirkus for this biography. She has taught at the University of Tennessee, Ningbo University in China, UCLA, and elsewhere, and has visited schools across the country as a guest author. She has just accepted a new job at the University of Alabama in Birmingham as a professor of Creative Writing beginning the fall of 2019.

Middle Grade



Morano, Andrew
Hutt Hutt Hibel A Branches Book

Best friends Jasper, Mo, and Ruby try out for the flag football team and learn what it means to be a part of a team in the first installment of this action-packed, fully illustrated early chapter book series! Pick Book. Come a Branch! This series is part of Hibel's early chapter book line. Branches, aimed at newly independent readers. With easy-to-read text, high-interest content, full-paned photos, and illustrations on every page, these books will boost reading confidence and stamina. Branches books help readers grow! "New-year-old Jasper is the best football player ever, when he's playing in his living room with his dad. But when he tries out for his town's flag football team, along with his friends Mo and Ruby, he realizes he might not be as skilled as he thought he was. Will Jasper help lead his team to victory in their first game? Or will Coach Sanders keep him on the sidelines? Engaging black-and-white artwork appears on every page, and game-time scenes are told through fully-illustrated, graphic novel-style panels. Narrative sections are also scattered throughout, introducing young readers to sports legends and other fun facts. Kids will learn all about flag football as they read this book, and they won't be able to put it down because of its action-packed, reliable story!"

Andrew Morano is a New York Times bestselling author of sports nonfiction for teens and adults. The Scholastic Branches series Sports Zone!, illustrated by Aishwarya Pandey, is his first fiction early chapter book series. He lives in Nashville, Tennessee, with his wife and two young children.

Children's



Martinez, Maddie
The Maiden and Her Monster: A Novel

The Maiden and Her Monster is a gothic, atmospheric debut fantasy rooted in history, folklore, and sapphic romance—perfect for fans of Katherine Arden, Ana Reid, Hannah Whitten, and Naomi Novik. The forest eats the girls who wander out after dark. As the healer's daughter, Malia has seen how the world's come her plagued her village, but the Devil's Church only means to exploit its title, not to protect heretics with false stories of monsters in the trees. So when a clergy god wanders too close to the forest and Malia's mother is accused of her murder, Malia strikes an impossible bargain with a malevolent Coven priest. To take things the monster out, he will spare her mother from execution. When she ventures into the shadowed woods, Malia finds a monster, though not the one she expects, an imperious, elegant goblin who agrees to implicate herself, but only if Malia helps her fulfill a promise first and free the imprisoned rabbit who created her. But a deal easily made is not easily kept. And as their bargain begins to unravel a much more sinister threat, protecting her people may leave Malia to danger if the one person she left behind to save—and face her growing feelings for the very creature she was taught to fear.

Maddie Martinez was born and raised in Albuquerque, New Mexico. She has a BA in Political Science from Northeastern University in Boston, Massachusetts and an MA in International Peace and Conflict Resolution from American University in Washington, DC. You can now find Maddie in New York City, filling her free apartment with an unsavory number of books. The Maiden and Her Monster is her first novel.

Fantasy



Mazor, Barry

Blood Harmony: The Everly Brothers Story

In between the 1950s years and the rise of the Beatles, there was no bigger act than The Everly Brothers. From 1957-1966, they were among the highest selling pop acts in the U.S. In that time, they developed their own brand of rock 'n' roll and gentle pop balladry that leaned heavily on older, close harmony styles of country music singing "Wake Up, Little Susie," "All I Have to Do Is Dream," "Cathy's Clown," "Let it Be Me" -- their hits were legit and their sweet and aural Appalachian-style harmonies influenced everyone from The Beatles to Simon and Garfunkel to the Beach Boys to Crosby, Stills, and Nash. The Everly Brothers -- Don and Phil -- are inducted members of both the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame and the Country Music Hall of Fame, and progenitors of the hybrid American roots genre known as Blood Harmony. The Everly Brothers Story is the first biography that's focused on the dramatic, complicated relationship of these two famous and strikingly talented brothers, and explores how the evolution of their relationship played out in the music... loved music they created...through some sixty years of performing. Their story is the story of American music, from their rural Kentucky origins to massive international fame, falling out of fashion in the wake of the rise of rock bands and singer songwriters, and their many comebacks. Blood Harmony is a fitting ode to the brothers who made a huge impact on the modern music scene, celebrating how their creative 'blood harmony' evolved to become an entry point into country music for millions around the world.



McMeley, Brian

Breathe In, Bleed Out: A Novel

It's a Malesman night's storm in this blood-soaked thriller set at a remote healing retreat from horror author Brian McMeley. Hannah has been missing from her dorms ever since she emerged from a harrowing wilderness trip without her fiancé. No one knows exactly what happened the day her dad, and Hannah would like to keep it that way, even if this post will benefit her with vivid waking nightmares that are ruining her life. So when her friend group gets an exclusive invitation to a restorative spiritual retreat in Joshua Tree, Hannah reluctantly agrees in search of a fresh start. Despite her skepticism of the strange Pax and his belief in the supernatural world, Hannah soon finds healing through all the yoga, sound baths, and hot springs offered at the tech-free haven. But this peaceful journey of self-discovery quickly descends into a violent fight for self-preservation when a mysterious killer starts picking off retreat attendees in increasingly gruesome ways. As the body count rises and Hannah's sanity frays, she'll have to confront her dark past and uncover the true nature of a ruthless monster hellbent on killing her with for good.



McDade, Peter

King Cal: A Novel

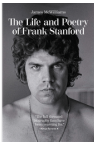
Many novels set in the world of rock music depict stardom, debauchery and death. King Cal instead focuses on the creative process, the devotion required to choose an uncertain life in music, the inspiration for songwriting and the challenge of making the rest while making art. In the course of one ordinary day, Atlanta fan-ford writer Calvin loses his girlfriend, his band and his best friend. Suddenly, everything he had planned to spend the rest of his life doing seems to have flown away. Told with insight, sensitivity and deep respect for what it takes to make a life in music, King Cal concerns a determined young man who starts with little, aims to earn a little more and has to decide whether success, or even dipping to his dream, is worth the sacrifice. Praise for King Cal: "When I am asked by parents of kids who are considering a life in popular music if I would recommend that path, I say that if their child can even imagine doing anything else with their life, they should do that. But if the kid can't conceive of any future but music, I urge them to offer encouragement. Now, I can just tell them to read this book." --Ellie Fasten, lead guitarist for the Cars and a member of the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame



McDonough, Max

Python with a Dog Inside It

Set in the mundaneness of cooking-class on the New Jersey, Python with a Dog Inside It: the debut collection by poet Max McDonough, traces the tangled story of two gay brothers as they endeavor to survive their mother's erratic and escalating violence. They retreat to the privacy of suburban woods and attempt a world of their own glimmering with rain and possibility abandoned furniture, mud-caked jewelry, a time machine. The poems in this collection occupy, as Judith Herman described it, the space between "the will to deny horrible events and the will to proclaim them aloud." Ultimately, Python with a Dog Inside It is not only a story of survival, but one of redemption. By precluding the events of a particular, harrowing childhood, McDonough invents a future beyond it, one marked by radical openness, hope's flame brighter for the darkness.



McWilliams, James

The Life and Poetry of Frank Stanford

When twenty-nine-year-old Frank Stanford put three bullets in his chest on June 5, 1918, he ended a life that had been inextricably linked with poetry since childhood. Deeply influential but largely unknown outside his corner of the poetry world, this prodigy of the American South inspired a cult following that has kept his reputation and work flickering on the periphery of the American literary tradition ever since. The Life and Poetry of Frank Stanford offers for the first time a comprehensive study of Stanford's life and work, introducing to a broad reading poetry that remains both captivating to poets and, in its celebration of everyday experience over academic erudition, accessible to those who rarely read poetry. Stanford's poems range from one line to his 14,000-line epic, The Battlefield Where the Moon Says I Love You. The vital thread running through all of his poetry is an eye for language that vies with Walt Whitman in its expansiveness and generosity. Stanford's consistent attraction to vernacular, particularly Irish and rural vernacular, contrasted as an admission for the marginalized and exoteric. Blending the Southern Gothic of Faulkner and O'Connor with a socially egalitarian vision, his poetry betrays on the surface and tradition of the oppressed and forgotten. The themes that permeated Stanford's prolific output -- language, sex, death, class, geography, commercialism, surrealism, film, race -- also preoccupied the poet in his daily life, which was marked by heavy drinking, philandering, mental instability, emotional abuse, and, though it all, an inextinguishable desire for beauty. Constantly attentive to this tension, biographer James McWilliams traces the short and painfully complicated life of this hidden talent who left a lifetime's worth of poetry that, through its grounding in the mundane, achieved a vision of the transcendent.

Barry Mazor is a long-time music and media journalist, and the author of several books, including Ralph Peer and the Making of Popular Record Music and Meeting Jimmy Rodgers: How America's Original Roots Music Have Changed the Pop Sounds of a Century. He has also contributed to the volumes Oxford Handbook of Country Music, The Best of No Depression (2003), the Encyclopedia Britannica, The Grove Dictionary of American Music, The Encyclopedia of Country Music, and the Routledge Encyclopedia of the Blues. Mazor has been writing regularly on roots and country music for The Wall Street Journal since 2003, and was previously a music writer and columnist for the "alternative country" music bible, No Depression magazine. His artist profiles, interviews, essays and music reviews have also appeared in The Oxford American, The Washington Post, the Village Voice, The New Republic, The Nashville Scene, American Songwriter, The Journal of Country Music, Freshwater, and Crowdfunder, among other publications. Mazor was the 2007 winner of The Charlie Lamb Award for Excellence in Country Music Journalism. He holds a Master of Fine Arts degree from NYU's Tisch School of the Arts graduate film school, and a B.A. from The George Washington University. He lives in Nashville, TN, with his wife, Nina Maleschew.

Music

Brian McMeley's debut novel Curse of the Reaper was named one of the Best Horror Books of 2012 by Empire. His holiday double novella Candy Cane Killers earned praise from Kotaku Reviews for its "subtly drawn characters," some of whom arrived for the sequel, Candy Cane Killers Again: The Second Slaying. His next novel Breathe In, Bleed Out releases September 2nd, 2012 from Potomac Press. As a WGA screenwriter, Brian has written several from family sitcoms (Full House) to horror films (Dominion). He teaches as a Clinical Assistant Professor of Screenwriting at ASU's Valley Pastore New American Film School. Connect with him on social media @BrianMcWriter

Horror

Peter McDade spent fifteen years traveling the highways of America as the drummer in the rock bands Uncle Green and J.B. Thell, releasing a half-dozen albums on various major and independent labels. Raised in New Jersey, he now lives with his family in Atlanta, where he teaches at Clark Atlanta University. King Cal (coming in April 2015) is his third novel, following The Weight of Sound (2012) and Sleep by Hazyfield (2015).

Fiction

Max McDonough's work has appeared in The New York Times, the Best New Poets anthology, AGNI, Northeast Review, The Adroit Journal, Kootenai, T Magazine, and elsewhere. He is a graduate of the Vanderbilt MFA program, and now lives and teaches in Philadelphia. Python with a Dog Inside It is his debut collection.

Poetry

James McWilliams is a writer and historian who teaches at Texas State University. His work has appeared in Oxford American, Virginia Quarterly Review, The New York Times Book Review, The American Scholar, and Mississippi Review.

Poetry



Merritt, Tyler

This Changes Everything: A Surprisingly Funny Story About Race, Cancer, Faith

A cancer diagnosis caused Tyler Merritt—beloved author of *I Take My Coffee Black*—to realize that there was no time for anger, entitlement, indifference, or lost friendships. None of us have anytime to waste. When Tyler Merritt was diagnosed with cancer, everything he thought he knew about what mattered in life changed. But he made it through a highly invasive surgery and thought he was in the clear. Tyler soon realized that the cancer had other plans. It wasn't a question of if the tumor would come back for an encore, but when it did him. It was a question of when. The clock was ticking. *This Changes Everything* is a humorous and optimistic love letter to this beautiful life. As Tyler reveals during the days and the weeks, he became more confident and that some of us have time for anger, for loneliness, for setbacks, for letting relationships drift, or for letting friendships be lost. It's a clear-eyed reckoning with the reality that our time on this earth is limited and a hopeful vision of how each of us can make the most of the time we have left. Laced with Tyler's trademark humor, love of pop culture, and arguably too many musical theater references, *This Changes Everything* is a story about how wrestling with the idea of death can help a whole new outlook on life, how we live it, and the urgency that comes when you grasp that time is a precious commodity.

Tyler Merritt is an actor, musician, comedian, and activist behind The Tyler Merritt Project. Raised in Las Vegas, he has always had a passion for singing, laughter, grace, and love into any community he is a part of. His film credits include *Benefit of the Doubt*, *Danny Marvin's Fiction* and the *Winter Soldier*, NBC's *Young Rock*, and *Aiya The Impersonator*, to name a few. Tyler's viral videos "Before You Call the Cops" and "Walking While Black" have been viewed by over 100 million people worldwide, with "Before You Call the Cops" being voted the most powerful video of 2019 by *NewsThis Politics*. He is a cancer survivor who lives in Nashville, Tennessee.

Autobiography/Memoir



Metzl, Jonathan M. [CANCELED, ALAS]

What We've Become: Living and Dying in a Country of Arms

When a naked, mentally ill white man with an AR-15 killed four young adults of color at a Waffle House, Nashville-based physician and gun policy scholar Dr. Jonathan M. Metzl once again advocated for common-sense gun reform. But as he pored back evidence surrounding the racially charged mass shooting, a shocking question emerged: Did the public health approach he had championed for years have it all wrong?

Long at the forefront of a movement advocating for gun reform as a matter of public health, Metzl has been in constant media call in the aftermath of fatal shootings. But the 2015 Nashville killings led him on a path toward reexamining the limitations of biomedical frameworks for fully diagnosing or treating the impassioned complexities of American gun politics. As he came to understand it, public health is neither all it is nor what it fundamentally disrupts about what it means to be sick, healthy, or free.

In *What We've Become*, Metzl reckons both with the long history of distrust of public health and the larger forces—social, ideological, historical, racial, and political—that allow mass shootings to occur as a near daily basis in America. Looking closely at the cycle in which mass shootings lead to shock, horror, calls for action, and, ultimately, political gridlock, he explores what happens to the rest of a nation—and the meanings of safety and community—when we normalize violence as an acceptable trade-off for freedom. Mass shootings and our inability to stop them have become more than horrific crimes: they are an American national autobiography.

This brilliant, piercing analysis points to mass shootings as a symptom of our most unresolved national conflicts. *What We've Become* ultimately sets us on the path of alliance, forging, racial reckoning, and political power, beseeching we must take to put things right.

Jonathan M. Metzl is the Frederick R. Kessler III Professor of sociology and psychiatry and the director of the Department of Medicine, Health, and Society at Vanderbilt University. The award-winning author of *Unlabeled Whiteness: How the Politics of Racial Resentment Is Killing America's Heartland* and other books, he hails from Kansas City, Missouri, and lives in Nashville, Tennessee.

Non-Fiction



Millichap, Joseph

These Vivid American Documents: Walker Evans, Dorothea Lange, and FSA Photobooks

The story behind the most iconic American photobooks of the twentieth century. In the late 1930s and early 1940s, the Farm Security Administration (FSA) funded a now-famous photography project to document and highlight American rural life and its economic challenges. In time, the project launched a genre of works that incorporated photographic evidence and artistic documentation of rural poverty, highlighting the struggles and resilience of the American people during this period. Nearly a century later, these photographs have become largely synonymous with the Great Depression. In *These Vivid American Documents*, Joseph P. Millichap presents an illuminating examination of the photobooks born of the FSA project: *Northward Bound* and *Dorothea Lange's Land of the Free*, Walker Evans and Lincoln Kirstein's *American Photographs*, *Dorothea Lange and Paul Taylor's An American Exodus*, and James Agee and Walker Evans's *Let Us Now Praise Famous Men*. Millichap includes in his volume a critical analysis of thirty-two photographs from these four photobooks, showcasing the realities of the social, individual, political, artistic, and economic aspects of that time. Through Millichap's thorough and insightful study, readers will gain a deeper understanding of the significant cultural and historical impact of this photographic project. Examining what are now historical American icons, like Walker Evans's portrait of Alice Walker and Dorothea Lange's *Migrant Mother*, Millichap draws into the intersections, tensions, and meanings that this particular era and medium encapsulate. His close comparison of the documentary and artistic purposes of the photobooks both analyzes how they balance text and imagery and offers a thoughtful study of the photographers and writers who produced them. *These Vivid American Documents* is an illuminating volume for scholars and general readers alike.

JOSEPH P. MILLICHAP is an associate professor of English at Western Kentucky University. He is the author of *The Language of Vision: Photography and Southern Literature in the 1930s and After: A Southern Gaze*. The *Southern Renaissance*, the *Autobiographical Epic*, and the *Classical Legacy*; and *Robert Penn Warren, Shadowed Autobiography, and Other Measures of American Literature*.

General Nonfiction



Mirvis, Tova

We Would Never: A Novel

No one appears more surprised than Halley Gelman when she comes under suspicion for the murder of her niece-to-be ex-husband Josh Halley—nicknamed Sunshine by her mother for her bright outlook and ever-present smile—has always tried to do what is expected of her and is regarded as the family peacekeeper. But in anyone, including Halley, who she has always seemed to be? The months leading up to Josh's death have been fraught, including a bitter separation and a messy custody battle over their young daughter, Maya. When Halley files a motion to relocate to Florida so she can be near her family, Josh retaliates and she divorce begins to spiral dangerously out of control. Surely, Halley's mother, still at an almost seething in long Josh from getting what he wants. Note, Halley's impulsive and protective older brother, has tried to keep his distance, but he can't stand to see his little sister suffer. And then there's Solomon, the patriarch, who is keeping a secret that threatens the stability and security Halley has worked so hard to maintain. Then, they are forced to reckon with who they are as individuals and as a family, and just how far they will go for each other. Inspired by a true story, *We Would Never* is a gripping mystery, an intimate family drama, and a provocative exploration of loyalty, betrayal, and the blurred line between protecting and fixating the ones we love most.

Tova Mirvis is the author of the memoir *The Book of Forgiveness* as well as three previous novels: *Valley City*, *The Outside World*, and *The Ladies Auxiliary*, which was a national bestseller. Her essays have appeared in numerous publications including *The New York Times*, *The Boston Globe*, and *Real Simple*, and her fiction has been broadcast on NPR. She lives in Newton, Massachusetts, with her family. You can connect with her on her website, TovaMirvis.com.

Mystery/Thriller



Moehling, Joshua

A Long Time Gone: A Novel (Ben Packard, 3)

"A big thriller with an even bigger heart!" — Lisa Gardner, New York Times bestselling author "Equal parts compelling mystery and riveting family drama. I'd follow its hero, Deputy Ben Packard, anywhere!" — Just Lemony, Edgar Award-winning author of *The Taken* One time you go to the past to rest... Ben Packard was just a boy when his older brother disappeared. Ben watched him walk out the back door of their grandparents' house and into the cold night. His brother was never seen again. Decades later, Deputy Packard finds himself with too much time on his hands. A shooting has him on leave and under investigation, and all he can do is dwell on the past. For the first time in years, new information about his brother has surfaced that may lead them to the location of his body. The midwestern ground is frozen solid. Winter. Packard is not off from department resources. As he strikes out to finally uncover the truth behind his brother's disappearance, he stumbles on a separate, mysterious death. A tenuous connection exists between the two cases, and as Packard starts to dig, he must face resistance from friends and foes alike who want him to stand down. The winter is long and cold. By the end of it, Packard will risk everything to catch a killer and reveal the shocking truth about his brother.

JOSHUA MOEHLING grew up as an Army brat and moved all over the US and Germany. After attending college in South Dakota and Montana, AN he moved to Minneapolis and began a career in the medical device industry AND THERE HE KEPT HER in his first novel.

Mystery/Thriller



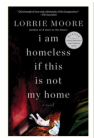
Moore, Carrie

Make Your Way Home: Stories

A debut collection of stories set across the American South, featuring characters who struggle to find love and belonging in the wake of painful histories. How can you love where you come from, even when home doesn't love you back? In eleven stories that span Florida marshes, North Carolina mountains, and Southern metropolitan cities, *Make Your Way Home* follows Black men and women who grapple with the homes that have shaped them. A pregnant pregnant alongside her mother reflects her uncertain desire to either become or the father of their child. Centuries after slavery separated his ancestor, a native Texan tries to win over the love of his life, despite the grip of a family curse. A young doctor, who falls for a new church member, wonders what it means when God stops speaking to her. And as the very roots of the South as we know it, two sisters seek to escape North to freedom, to promises of a more stable climate. Artfully and precisely drawn, and steeped in place and history as it explores themes of belonging, inheritance, and deep intimacy, Carrie R. Moore's debut collection announces an extraordinary new talent in American fiction, inviting us all to examine how the past shapes our present—and how our present choices will echo for years to come.

Carrie R. Moore's fiction has appeared in *New York*, *New England Review*, *The Sewanee Review*, *Virginia Quarterly Review*, and other publications. A recipient of the Kenan Prize and the inaugural writer-in-residence at the Stanford Writers' Retreat, she earned her MFA at the Michener Center for Writers. Born in Georgia, she currently resides in Texas with her husband.

Short Stories



Moore, Lorie

I Am Homeless If This Is Not My Home

Lorie Moore's first novel since *A Gate at the Straits*—a daring, meditative exploration of love and death, passion and grief, and what it means to be haunted by the past, both by history and the human heart.

A teacher visiting his dying brother in the Bronx. A mysterious journal from the nineteenth-century stolen from a boarding house. A therapy client and an assassin, both presumed dead, but perhaps not dead at all...

With her distinctive, irresistible wryly and singular very humor and wisdom, Lorie Moore has given us a magic box of longing and surprise as she writes about love and rebirth and the pull towards life, hope, meditation, theatrical, this new novel is an intimate, poetic portrait of lives and abiding as it questions the stories we have been told which may or may not be true.

I Am Homeless If This Is Not My Home takes us through a trap door, into a windswept, imagined journey to the tragic-comic landscape that is, unmistakably, the world of Lorie Moore.

LORIE MOORE is the Gertrude Conaway Vanderbilt Professor of English at Vanderbilt University. She is the recipient of a Lamont Foundation Fellowship, as well as the PEN/Malamud Award and the Kenan Award for her achievement in the short story. She is a member of the American Academy of Arts and Letters. She lives in Nashville, Tennessee.

Fiction



Mulachy, Joanne

Marion Greenwood: Portrait and Self-Portrait: A Biography

This new biography reveals Marion Greenwood's central place in the past house of history's remarkable women artists. Marion Greenwood: Portrait and Self-Portrait—A Biography brings to life a woman who blazed through the twentieth-century art world. Born in Brooklyn in 1905, Greenwood lived at artistic institutions and art centers such as the Art Students League, the studios of German modernist Wassily Kandinsky, the Woodstock Colony, and Yaddo. In 1933, she was named to international fame as the first woman to paint a public mural in Mexico. Deep Rivers celebrated Greenwood as one of "the world's greatest living women word painters." She traveled the globe to create award-winning portraits of people from diverse backgrounds, crossing social, cultural, and class lines to reflect her vision for a new world. This biography, the first about Greenwood, is based on a decade of research and interviews. Author Joanne B. Mulachy integrates the artist's astonishing personal life with her journey to artistic glory. Greenwood comes alive as a notable and spirited part of the leading art scenes of 1920s and 1930s Mexico, New York City, and Paris, and as one of two women artist-correspondents during World War II. After social realism and political art fell from favor, Greenwood doggedly stuck with what she called "the human thing" in art. Her groundbreaking romantic life and independent spirit defied expectations for women, and she dismissed sexist critics who mistook acclaim for her work with commentary on her stunning beauty. A feminist pioneer, Greenwood made a living as an artist in a time when few women could. In following Greenwood's maverick path and artistic achievements, this book reveals her central place in the pantheon of history's remarkable women artists.

Joanne B. Mulachy is author of *Remedies: The Healing Life of Eva Castellanos and Bertha and Rebirth on an Alaskan Island: The Life of an Alaskan Healer and Counselor of Writing Ahead: A Guide for Travelers*. Her award-winning essays have appeared in numerous journals and anthologies. For over thirty years, she taught creative nonfiction at Lewis and Clark College in Portland, Oregon, and in prisons, libraries, and other community settings.

Biography



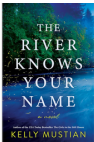
Murphy, Kevin

Women Architects at Work: Making American Modernism

A comprehensive history of the women architects who left their enduring mark on American Modernism. In the decades preceding World War II, professional architecture schools enrolled increasing numbers of women, but career success did not come easily. *Women Architects at Work* tells the stories of the resilient and successful women who surmounted barriers of sexism, racism, and classism to take on central roles in the establishment and growth of Modernism across the United States. Mary Anne Houting and Kevin D. Murphy describe how the Cambridge School of Architecture and Landscape Architecture in Massachusetts evolved for the professional education of women between 1910 and 1940. While pioneers such as Eleanor Wigton Raymond, Victorine de Pont Homey, and Sarah Pillsbury Harkness achieved some notoriety, others like Elizabeth Ann Campbell Knapp and Lucian Vaughan Conrad have been largely absent from histories of Modernism. Houting and Murphy describe how these pioneering practitioners capitalized on social, educational, and professional ties to achieve success and used architecture to address social concerns, including how modernist ideas could engage with community and the environment. Some joined women-led architectural firms while others partnered with men or contributed to Modernism as retailers of household furnishings, writers and educators, photographers and designers, or fine artists. With stunning illustrations, *Women Architects at Work* offers new histories of recognized figures while recovering the stories of previously unnamed women, all of whom contributed to the modernization of American architecture and design.

Kevin D. Murphy is the Andrew W. Mellon Chair in the Humanities and professor and chair in the Department of the History of Art and Architecture at Vanderbilt University. His books include *Jonathan Fisher of Blue Hill, Maine: Commerce, Culture, and Community on the Eastern Frontier*.

General Nonfiction



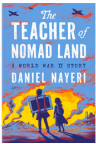
Mustian, Kelly

The River Knows Your Name: A Novel

From the acclaimed author of *The Girls in the Still House* comes a long-awaited novel both atmospheric and lyrical, a haunting Southern story about memory, family secrets, and love and fragile love. For nearly thirty years, Nell has kept a childhood promise to never reveal what she and Eve found tucked inside a copy of Jane Eyre in their mother's bookstore—a record of Eve's birth naming at strange as her mother. But lately, Nell has been haunted by hazy memories of their early life in Mississippi, years their exclusive mother, Hazel, has kept shrouded in secrecy. Eve recalls nothing before their house on Clay Mountain in North Carolina, but Nell remembers almost moves, odd accommodations, and the rainy night a man in a dark coat and a hat pulled her cloaked their porch steps with a very little girl—Eve—then left without her. In dead storylines, Nell, forty-two in 1961, wanders into the past to uncover dangerous, long-buried secrets, and Eve, a young mother in the early 1930s, presses ahead, each moving toward 1914, the catastrophic year that would forever ghost their lives. From long forgotten, to a river house in notorious Natchez Under the Hill, to a moody night club stage, Eve's father mother emerges from the shadows of Depression-era Mississippi in a story of hardship and perseverance, of betrayal and trust, and of unexpected redemption in a world in which the lines between horror and pulp are not always clearly drawn.

Kelly Mustian is the USA Today bestselling author of *The Girls in the Still House* and *The River Knows Your Name*. She is the recipient of the Mississippi Library Association's 2022 Author Award for Fiction, and *The Girls in the Still House* was shortlisted for the 2021 Cuda's Corner Book Prize for best debut novel set in the American South. Her work has appeared in numerous literary journals and commercial magazines. Originally from Mississippi, she currently lives in North Carolina.

Historical Fiction



Nayeri, Daniel

The Teacher of Nomad Land

1941. The German armies are storming across Europe. Iran is a neutral country occupied by British forces on one side, Soviet forces on another. Soldiers fill the townhouses of Isfahan. Nazi spies roam the alleysways. Babak and his little sister have just lost their father. Now orphans, fearing they will be separated, the two decide a plan. Babak will take up his father's old job as a teacher to the nomads. With a chalkboard strapped to Babak's back, and a satchel full of textbooks, the siblings set off to find the nomads where they make their home. They will travel across the vast, empty deserts of Iran. Their teachers journey they meet a Jewish boy, hiding from a Nazi spy. And suddenly, they are all in a race for survival. Against the backdrop of World War II comes an epic adventure in the faraway places. Through the company of children, tanks, and planes, can young hearts of different minds and nations learn to find a common language? Master storyteller Daniel Nayeri keeps you on the edge of your seat, uncertain to the very end.

Award-winning author Daniel Nayeri, who was born in Iran and immigrated to Oklahoma as a refugee, captured readers with his poignant memoir *Everything Sad Is Untrue* (Penguin Award Winner) and the epic adventure *The Library Assassinations of Samir, the Seller of Dreams* (Newbery Award Honor). A former publisher, editor, and poetry chef, he resides along the East Coast with his family.

Middle Grade



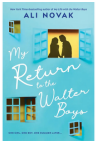
Niven, Jennifer

When We Were Monsters

A simmering psychological thriller about a dead teacher at an elite boarding school, the students who had every reason to trust her gone, and the tangled web of secrecy and romance concealing the truth—from the #1 New York Times best-selling author of *All the Bright Places*. At an elite New England boarding school, eight students are selected for an exclusive storytelling workshop with the one and only Mendelick Graffman—an enigmatic writer, director, and actor. For sixteen days, they will live in the isolated estate of the school's founder, surrounded by money, woods, and a remote sound stage. Only one of the chosen will walk away with a life-changing opportunity to realize their creative dreams. Everyone, including Graffman, has a compelling reason to be there—Eli, the orphan, Isaac, the legacy. Noah, the well-loved. Kameron, the outsider, and Aoki, whose unexpected arrival leaves Eli spiraling—but only the most ambitious will last the term. Graffman's unorthodox methods push the students past the breaking point, revealing their darkest secrets, taking unthinkable risks, and slowly starting to turn on one another. But Graffman never expected they would turn on her.... From the #1 New York Times best-selling author of *All the Bright Places* comes a psychological thriller about the monsters who walk among us—even in the glittering upper echelons of society—and the ways in which we seek redemption for the wrongs we've done.

JENNIFER NIVEN is the #1 New York Times and internationally bestselling author of *All the Bright Places*, *Building a Boy*, *The Distance and Betweenness*. Her books have been translated in over 75 languages and have won literary awards around the world. An Emmy award-winning screenwriter, she co-wrote the script for *All the Bright Places* movie—currently screening on Netflix and starring Elle Fanning and Justice Smith. She is also the author of several narrative nonfiction titles and the *Velvet Jean* historical fiction series. Jennifer divides her time between coastal Georgia and Los Angeles with her husband and literary cats.

Young Adult



Novak, Ali

My Return to the Walter Boys

The highly anticipated sequel to *My Life with the Walter Boys*, the internationally bestselling novel that inspired the Netflix series *Home* returns to the Walter family after a summer in New York. She needed space—and got it. But she doesn't know where things stand with her and Cole Walter after that goodbye kiss. Over the summer, she stopped texting him. She never stopped thinking about him. Still, with Cole's going off to one of the best prep schools before he heads off to college, Jackie thinks it'll be easy to avoid him—only to find that when she sees him face to face at last, it's a well, impossible to meet him. Things are getting complicated. Is he the boy she can't get off her mind, and the Walters have become the family she loves and needs. How can Jackie move forward when she's afraid of taking the next step?

Born and raised in Wisconsin, Ali Novak is the New York Times and internationally bestselling author of contemporary young adult novels. She started writing her debut book, *My Life with the Walter Boys*, when she was only fifteen. Since then, her work has received more than 150 million reads online. When she isn't writing, Novak enjoys traveling with her husband, Jared, finding her fiction, and reading any type of fantasy novel she can get her hands on. You can follow her on Wattpad, Facebook, Twitter, Instagram and TikTok authorlinks.com.

Young Adult



Oates, Joyce Carol

Fox: A Novel

AMOST ANTICIPATED BOOK: The New York Times, The Boston Globe, Seattle Times, Vulture, Empire, Publishers Weekly, LA Rush, AV Club, AARP

Who is Francis Fox? A charming English teacher new to the idyllic Longshore Academy. Fox begins many of his students, their parents, and his colleagues at the elite boarding school, while leaving others wondering where he came from and why his biography is so enigmatic. When two brothers discover Fox is a half-scholarship in a grand old hotel where power and part of an unidentified body are known about the nearby woods, the entire community, including Detective Horace Zwander and his deputy, begins to ask disturbing questions about Francis Fox and who he might really be.

A hypnotic, gripping tale of crime and complexity, revenge and retribution, victim vs. predator, Joyce Carol Oates Fox illuminates the darkest corners of the human psyche while asking profound moral questions about justice and the response evil demands. A character as magnetically disheveled as Patricia Highsmith's Tom Ripley and Vladimir Nabokov's Invictus Humbert, Francis Fox enchants and manipulates nearly everyone around him, until at last he meets someone he can't outfox. Written in Oates's trademark intimate, sweeping style, and interesting multiple points of view, Fox is a triumph of craftsmanship and artistry, a novel as profound as it is propulsive, as moving as it is full of mystery.

Joyce Carol Oates is a recipient of a National Humanities Medal awarded by President Barack Obama, the National Book Critics Circle's Ivan Sandrof Life Achievement Award, the National Book Award in Fiction, the Jerusalem Prize, the Prix Femina, the Cien Del Duce World Prize, and a lifetime finalist for the Pulitzer Prize. She has written some of the most enduring fiction over time, including the bestsellers *Blonde* and *We Were the Mulanseys*. She is the Roger S. Berlind '54 Distinguished Professor of the Humanities Emerita at Princeton University and a member of the American Academy of Arts and Letters. In 2014 she won the Raymond Chandler Lifetime Achievement Award given to "a master of the thriller and noir literary genre."

Fiction



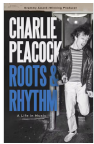
Okeowo, Alexia

Blessings and Disasters: A Story of Alabama

From a New Yorker staff writer and PEN award winner, a blend of memoir, history, and reportage on one of the most complex and least understood states in America. "In Alabama, we exist at the border of blessing and disaster..." Alexia Okeowo grew up in Montgomery—the former seat of the Confederacy—as the daughter of Nigerian immigrants. Here, she weaves her family's story with Alabama's, defying stereotypes about her childhood struggles, often pigeonholed home state. She immerses us in a landscape dominated today not by cotton fields but by Amazon warehouses, reconstructing high-powered Christian business leaders lobbying for retail sovereignty and mill-town women coming out against conservative politics. Okeowo shows how people can love their home while still acknowledging its sins. In this perspective-shifting work that is both an intimate memoir and a journalistic triumph, Okeowo brings to life, when Alabama lives, and the state's lesser-known histories to examine why Alabama has been the stage for the most extreme results of the American experiment.

Alexia Okeowo has reported on conflict, human rights, and culture across Africa, Mexico, Europe, and the American South for the New Yorker and other publications. Okeowo is the author of *A Monsoon*, *Strawberry Ordinary Women* and *Men Fighting Extremism in Africa*, which received the 2017 PEN Open Book Award. Her work has also been anthologized in *The Best American Sports Writing* and *The Best American Travel Writing*. Okeowo was named journalist of the year by the Newswomen's Club of New York in 2020 and received the Reed Environmental Writing Award in 2020.

General Nonfiction



Peacock, Charlie

Roots and Rhythm: A Life in Music

A beautifully crafted memoir revealing the ancestral, musical, and spiritual roots of Grammy Award-winning music producer Charlie Peacock. In this heartfelt memoir, Grammy Award-winning music producer Charlie Peacock draws his literary chops and gives readers the gritty backstage stories they crave: biographical anecdotes, party trivia, and how the hits were written and recorded (from jazz to rock and pop). Threaded throughout is Peacock's unique ancestral and spiritual story—the roots. Like Coltrane, Dylan, and Boni before him, Peacock evokes a Christ affiliation while refusing genres too small for his music.

Music

Charlie Peacock is a *Billboard* chart-topping musical creator, a six-time Grammy Award-winning music producer (Jelly, Country, Rock Gospel), and three-time recipient of the Gospel Music Association's Producer of the Year award (his recordings and productions exceed \$5 million albums). Named by *Billboard's* Encyclopedia of Record Producers as one of the 100 most important producers in popular music history, Charlie has produced music for film and television and held executive and A&R positions at DML/Universal and Sony/ATV. Charlie is the founder of the Universal Music Group imprint vertikal. Founder and director emeritus of the Commercial Music Program at Lipscomb University and a longtime advocate for social justice, working directly with International Justice Mission, and the OHL Campaign beginning in 2010 when Charlie and wife Andi hosted co-founder Ross in their home, putting the rock star activist in front of Nashville's artist community. Charlie is the creator/host of the Apple Top 100 music podcast Music & Meaning, and continues to create his own jazz/improvisational and stage-singer/producer recordings, including *Every Kind of Us: Ch.*, a full-length vocal album produced by Charlie and his son, Grammy and Oscar-nominated songwriter and producer Sam Ashworth (J.E.B., Andy Grammer, Leslie Odom Jr.).



Pelletier, Stacia

The Deliverance of Barker McRae: A Novel

It's a wintry April 1855, Warkenville, Georgia. Fourteen-year-old Barker McRae is stuck living with her ruthless uncle, militia captain Wiley Wind, as she waits for her father, a Methodist circuit rider, to return. Instead, a stranger arrives, Matthew Higgenbotham, a local lettery messenger who dreams of leaving Georgia, shows up at Wiley's farm with unexpected news: Barker has won an acre in the latest state lottery. It's an uncommon win in a nation on an edge of unimaginable violence, a harrowing escape, and a cat-and-mouse chase across frontier Georgia during America's first gold rush and the illegal seizure of Cherokee lands. With Higgenbotham as her reluctant ally, Barker's mission is clear: escape her uncle and reunite with her father. Or else she needs to flee herself from both! And what about the troubled aunt she has left behind? Set against the backdrop of the Georgia Gold Rush, alongside the era of Methodist circuit riders and early nineteenth-century evangelists, *The Deliverance of Barker McRae* weaves fiction and meticulously researched history to introduce readers to two travelers, thrown together by luck and duty, on an adventures author of their world. This is a tale about religion, frontier religion, fathers and daughters, and friendships between unlikely companions. It's also about what it means to make a moral choice in a profoundly immoral historical moment.

Historical Fiction

Stacia Pelletier is the author of *Accidents of Providence* and *The Fall of Wines*, both short-listed for the Tennessee Prize for Fiction. She earned an MEd and a PhD in Religion from Emory University and has been a Kirk Foundation Fellow and a Woodlief Fellow. She lives in the north Georgia mountains.



Polly, Liz

Mood Machine

An unspooking investigation into Spotify's origins and influence on music, weaving unprecedented reporting with incisive sociological criticism, illuminating how streaming is reshaping music for listeners and artists alike. Drawing on over one hundred interviews with industry insiders, former Spotify employees, and musicians, *Mood Machine* takes us to the inner workings of today's highly commodified and changed music business, showing what has changed as much as has become increasingly playfaced, personalized, and autoplayed.

General Nonfiction

Liz Polly is a journalist living in New York. Her essays and reporting have appeared in *The Ruffler*, where she is a contributing editor, as well as in *The Guardian*, *NPR*, *Rolling Stone*, *Fitchfield*, and many other outlets. She frequently speaks about music streaming on radio shows and podcasts, including appearances with *The New York Times* Podcast, *NPR's Morning Edition*, and others. Polly teaches in the recorded music program at New York University, and has spent over a decade involved in all-ages-show-banking. Learn more at LizPolly.info and follow her on social media @LizPolly.



Penner, Sarah

The Amalfi Curse: A Novel

Powerful witchcraft. A hunt for ancient treasure. Forbidden love on the high sea. Beware the Amalfi Curse... Haven Harbour, a thriving magical archipelago, has come to the one-island village of Pontano to investigate the mysterious disappearances along the Amalfi Coast. But Haven is hoping to find more than old artifacts beneath the azure waters; she is secretly on a quest to locate a treasure of priceless gemstones her late father spotted on his final drive (upon Haven's arrival, strange earthquakes and midnight sea plagues the town, let it survive or something more sinister at work)? As Haven searches for her father's ancient treasure, she begins to unearth a centuries-old tale of ancient money and one woman's quest to save her lover and her village by using the legendary art of alchemists, a magical ability to harness the ocean. Could this magic be behind Pontano's latest calamities? Haven must unravel the Amalfi Curse before the region is destroyed forever... Against the dazzling backdrop of the Amalfi Coast, this bewitching novel shimmers with mystery, romance and the untamed magic of the sea.

Fiction

Sarah Penner is the New York Times and internationally bestselling author of *The Last Apothecary* and *The London States Society*. Her books have been translated into more than forty languages and her debut, *The Last Apothecary*, has sold over one million copies worldwide. A graduate of the University of Kansas, Sarah spent thirteen years in corporate finance and now writes full-time. In her free time, Sarah enjoys hiking, yoga, and reading. She also sits on the Board of Directors at her local animal shelter, Friends of Strays. Sarah and her husband, Marc, live in Florida. To learn more, visit SarahPenner.com.



Perot, SC

Styles of Joy: A Feel-Good Framework for Redefining Joy (with a Twist)

Through *Styles of Joy*, embark on an extraordinary journey blending the excitement of one-to-one hundred randoms with thoughtful reflections on joy—effort, mine, and ours. After a post-divorce and post-pandemic "grief subliminal" took her to seventeen Harry Styles concerts across five countries in two months, the author reveals how throwing out the rulebook can lead to profound personal joy. This narrative nonfiction series of heartwarming short stories is equal parts anthropological observation, whimsical fangel manifests, and reflection on life after loss. Structured into four colorful yet thought-provoking parts, *Styles of Joy* prompts readers to examine joy in their own lives while enjoying tales from the author's own adventures. *Culminate—What brings you joy?* Discover how to pay attention and learn to transform everyday moments into celebrations. *Adapt—Are you adopting others' joy as your own?* Explore how looking for "joy in the wild" can enrich your own life. *Protect—Are you protecting your joy and where?* Learn to maintain a positive mindset and support the well-being of yourself and those around you. *Spend—Are you spreading joy?* Be inspired by stories of any individual's power to change the world with simple kindness. Discover ways to multiply joy in your community and beyond, creating a ripple effect that fosters a more connected, vibrant world. *Styles of Joy* is a dynamic blend of personal anecdotes and practical wisdom, guiding you toward more joyful living.

General Nonfiction

Sarah Catherine "SC" Perot was born and raised in Dallas, Texas. She is a proud graduate of Vanderbilt University and Stanford Law School, where she earned a Juris Doctor degree. After practicing law, she protested during the pandemic to follow a longtime dream to teach. She is presently an Adjunct Faculty member at her alma mater, Vanderbilt University, where she teaches in the Human and Organizational Development department. The meaning through line of her varied career and life is a steadfast love for people and storytelling. *Styles of Joy* is SC's debut book. Her passion for living joy on land is contagious, outrageous, and resonates in every facet of her life. SC's other passions include cooking, live music, art, and design, traveling, and writing. She lives in Nashville, Tennessee with her four-legged sidekick, Ranger.



Pethel, Mary Ellen

Howdy! The Minnie Pearl Story

"Take the backroads, cut the highways," Minnie Pearl often said – a sentiment that captures her life's winding, unpredictable journey. Born Sarah Ophelia Carter in 1915, she grew up in Centerville, Tennessee. This small town upbringing inspired her imagined hometown of Ginkler's Switch. During the Great Depression, Sarah moved to Nashville to study theater at the Ward-Belmont School. After graduating, she joined a touring theater company and performed throughout the Southeast. It was on the road, in 1936, that she met and stayed with Marie Buden. Marie became the inspiration for Minnie Pearl's iconic persona – witty country girl known for her signature growling and straw hat with a dangling price tag. Minnie Pearl's big break came in 1940 when a friend of a WSM radio executive saw her perform and recommended her for the Grand Ole Opry. Her debut marked the beginning of a career that spanned more than fifty years. Guthrie Brooks later remarked, "When she walked out, everybody waited for the 'hiss' she'd do just as she walked in, but every time she said it, it felt like it was just for you." At the Opry, the "Queen of Country Comedy" shared the spotlight with legends like Patsy Cline and Hank Williams. After World War II, she became a mentor and matron, befriending a young Joan Carter and warming up the crowd for Johnny Cash's Opry debut in 1955. Throughout her career, Cannon skillfully balanced her dual roles as Minnie and Sarah. Whether at the Opry, on the road, or on Hot Hot Hot, Minnie remained a treasured friend to female performers like Dolly Parton, Tanya Tucker, and Reba McEntire. As it long ended, "Minnie understood where country music needed rage and who it needed to embrace. She was a visionary." Rich with 151 historic photographs, this definitive biography covers the many chapters of Sarah Cannon's life. Drawing from archives and interviews with those who knew her, *Howdy! The Minnie Pearl Story* captures not only Cannon's enduring humor and impact, but also the woman behind the laughter.

Mary Ellen Pethel is a professor of practice at Belmont University. She is the author of *Title IX*, *Pat Summitt, and Tennessee's Trailblazing Fifty Years*, *Fifty Minutes and Athens of the New South*, *College Life and the Making of Modern Nashville*.

Music



Piazza, Tom

Living in the Present with John Prine

In the spring of 2018, Tom Piazza climbed into a 1977 Dodge DeVille with the great singer-songwriter John Prine, taking a Florida road trip that soon evolved into a deep friendship, full of jokes and tall tales over epic meals, afternoon jogging around antique malls and round drives, and long nights playing guitar and trading songs. Eventually they decided to write Prine's memoirs together, and Prine shared intimate, often hilarious stories of his youth and family in Chicago and Kentucky, his breakthrough into the national spotlight, his move early in life to Nashville country scene, and much more. When Prine died suddenly of COVID in April 2020, that unfinished memoir evolved into an intimate narrative of the artist's final years. Piazza offers fans an unforgettable portrait of the beloved musician in his late glory—as a drinker cut up, an epic raconteur, a great American poet, and most importantly, the good friend his fans have always imagined.

Tom Piazza's books include the nonfiction bestseller *Why New Orleans Matters* and the novels *The Ashkenaz Conference* and *A Free State*. He is a three-time winner of the ASCAP–Deems Taylor Award for Music Writing. He lives in New Orleans, Louisiana.

Music



Pierce, Yolanda

The Wounds are the Witness: Black Faith Weaving Memory Into Justice and Healing

From celebrated scholar Dr. Yolanda Pierce comes this indelible meditation on Black faith, suffering, hope, and the healing possibilities of justice, written in the venerable tradition of James Cone and Kelly Brown Douglas. What do we do with wounds—our own, others', and a nation's? We can turn away, avert our gaze. We can make a spectacle of suffering. Or like the doubting disciple who longed to touch Jesus' side, we can acquaint ourselves with the wounds both the story they tell and the healing they prodigize. In *The Wounds Are the Witness*, Yolanda Pierce, dean of Vanderbilt University Divinity School and author of *In My Grandmother's House*, weaves together her own memories, vignettes from Black life, and scenes from scripture, especially the passion of Christ. To work for liberation in a broken world, we cannot look away from crucified flesh. Issues from the Middle Passage to the Black Lives Matter movement, women inmates shackled while giving birth—we must take all such wounds seriously. They testify to both the pain and the faith of a people. With the lyrical eye of a poet and the moral precision of a preacher, Pierce casts evocative, intimate stories of God's healing. From the crucifixion, powers of apartheid to the work of justice in history, politics, medicine, higher education, and the Black church, Pierce asks: Where are the remedies for the hurt and broken? What does accountability look like? Is there any cure? Healing takes time, Pierce writes, and even the wounds of the risen Christ do not immediately close. When the wounds become the witness, we find a faith reimagined and a hope rekindled. They tell the truth about the extent of the injury and the extraordinary work of healing.

Yolanda Pierce is professor and dean of Vanderbilt Divinity School. She is a scholar of African American religious history, womanist theology, and religion and literature, as well as a public theologian, columnist, and activist. She is the author of the books *God Without Fear*, *In My Grandmother's House*, and *The Wounds Are the Witness*.

General Nonfiction



Pimenta, Jose

Halfway to Somewhere

New school, new country, but only half a family? Embark on a coming of age journey with a middle school teen navigating their parent's divorce while moving to a new country in this stunning graphic novel. As he struggles moving to Kansas while being and failing at adjusting the mountains and trails in Mexico, but at least they would have their family with them. Unfortunately, while Aze, their mom, and their younger brother are relocating to the US, Aze's father and older sister will be staying in Mexico permanently. Their parents are getting a divorce. As if learning a whole new language wasn't hard enough, and now a Middle-Schooler has to figure out a new family dynamic, and what this means for them as they start middle school with no friends. Jose Pimenta's stunningly illustrated and thought-provoking middle graphic novel is about exploring identity, understanding family, making friends with a language barrier, and above all else, learning what truly makes a place a home.

Jose Pimenta was raised in Mexico, Baja California and now resides in Los Angeles, CA where they work on comic and storyboards for animation and film. Somewhere was their debut YA graphic novel and ended as many 'Shut of late. Their second graphic novel, *Twice Cities* received four starred reviews and Jose's work with students, in both English and Spanish, has made them a great guest at many school across the US. In their stories, they focus on the importance of Latin culture and the experience of growing up on the border.

Middle Grade



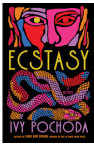
Pittard, Hannah

If You Love It Let It Kill You: A Novel

Divorced and childless by choice, Hans P. has built a cozy life in Lexington, Kentucky, teaching at the university, living with his boyfriend (a fellow academic) and helping raise his pre-teen daughter. Her sister's sprawling family lives just across the street, and his long-divorced, deeply complicated parents have also recently moved to town. One day, Hans learns that an unsettling version of himself will appear prominently—and soon—in her ex-husband's debut novel. For a week, her life continues largely unaffected by the news—she cooks, runs, teaches, entertains—but the morning after hiding mac 'n' cheese from scratch for her nephew's sixth birthday, she wakes up changed. The moment she's long craved is gone. In its place, nothing. A remarkable ride through middle-class messiness, featuring a talking cat, a visit to the dean's office, a shadowy figure from the past, a Greek chorus of indignant students whose primary complaint concerns Hans's unrefined narrative, and a game called Dead Body. Stripped in the scholastic and strangeness of contemporary life, *If You Love It, Let It Kill You* is a deeply nuanced and disturbingly funny examination of memory, ownership, and artistic expression for readers of Miranda July's *All Fools* and Sigrid Nunez's *The Friend*.

Hannah Pittard is the author of six books, including the novels *Latent to Me* and *The Future Will Find Their Way*. She is a winner of the Amanda Davis Highwire Fiction Award, a MacBrewell fellow, and a professor of English at the University of Kentucky. She lives with her boyfriend and stepdaughter in Lexington. Much of her family lives nearby.

Fiction



Pochoda, Ivy

Ecstasy

A deliciously dark horror reimagining of a Greek tragedy, by Ivy Pochoda, winner of the LA Times Book Prize. Lena wants her life back. Her wealthy, controlling, homeless husband has just died, and now she contends with her controlling, homeless son, Drew. Lena lands in Naxos with her best friend in tow for the scorching after-noon, per project—the beautiful Agave’s Villa. Years of marriage amongst the wealthy elite has what did Lena’s spirit into rage and awe, smothered by “tasteful” medical doses and wandering off with the Naxos she prays to rediscover her true nature, remember the exuberant dancer and party girl she once was. But Drew tightens his grip, keeping her contained inside the hotel, demanding that she fall in line. Lena is intrigued by a group of women living in tents on the beach in front of the Agave, but can her true desires at night, hear their seductive leader calling her to dance. Soon she’ll find that an ancient God sits in the beach, awakening dark desires of women across the island. The only question left will be whether Lena will join them, and what it will cost her. *Ecstasy* is a riveting, darkly poetic, un-putting read about empowerment, desire, and what happens when women reject the roles set out for them.

Ivy Pochoda is the author of the critically acclaimed novels *Wander Valley*, *Visitation Street*, *These Women*, and *Sing Her Down* which won the LA Times Book Prize. She won the 2018 Ethical Critica Award for Best Novel and the Prix Page America in France, and has been a finalist for the the Edgar Award, among other awards. For many years, Ivy has led a creative writing workshop in Mid Row Los Angeles where she helped found *Shed Row Zine*. She is currently a professor of creative writing at the University of California Riverside. Palm Desert low-residency MFA program. She lives in Los Angeles.

Mystery/Thriller



Power, Rory

Kill Creatures: A Novel

NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLER—Last year, Nan’s three best friends ventured into the canyons near their small town and never returned. Now one of them is back, and Nan can believe it... because she’s the one who killed them. From the New York Times bestselling author of *Wildfire Girls* comes another dark thriller about friendship, jealousy, desire, and revenge, with a twist ending that needs to be talked about. Last summer, Lena, Edie, Jane, and Nan took a boat out for one final swim in the river. It was a perfect summer night. But the only one who returned that night was Nan. Edie, Jane, and Luca disappeared, and Nan’s story has always been the same: She has no idea what happened. The girls went about, and it was as though they vanished into thin air. Now, one year later, all of Saltondale has gathered at the river for a memorial. Nan even recreated the night she wore that fateful day last summer. And when Luca drifts out of the water, no one is more surprised than Nan. Because Nan killed her. Right before she killed Edie and Jane.

Rory Power lives in Rhode Island. She has an MA in prose fiction from the University of East Anglia, and is the New York Times bestselling author of books for both adult and young adult readers, including *Wildfire Girls* and *In a Garden Burning Gold*.

Young Adult



Quinones, Sam

The Perfect Tuba: Forging Fulfillment From the Blues and Hom, Band, and Hard Wor

From National Book Critics Circle Award-winning author Sam Quinones, the story of a demanding instrument, the determined people who play it, and the hope they offer a fractured nation. The tuba sound is mighty, emerging, it seems, from deep in the human body. Very little music has, up until recently, been written to play to its strengths. The best the tuba seems to promise is a war at the back of the band. Nevertheless, there, on Internet education. And yet, this born the youngest of all brass instruments has captured the hearts of an inspired group of musicians ever since its invention in 1915. In *The Perfect Tuba*, Sam Quinones embarks on a trek to get to know American tubists. He tells the inspiring stories of two men whose art is to replicate the “perfect tuba,” an instrument made by York & Sons in the 1930s and never since equalled, of Big Bill Bell, whose 1970s album rearranged the tuba landscape; and of Arnold Jacob, a tuba guru at the Chicago Symphony Orchestra, who studied the physiology of breathing and offered ruse like suggests of violence to his legions of students. Quinones also takes us through the tuba scenes of New Orleans, Orlando, Knoxville, New York City, and, most importantly, Rome, Texas, a dusty town in the Rio Grande Valley where a visionary high school marching band director fashioned a program that now regularly wins state championships and sends its students off to college. After nearly a decade on the front lines of America’s battle with drug addiction, Sam Quinones delivers another story of our nation, this time brought together by the transformative power of shared joy and humble achievement.

Sam Quinones is a journalist, storyteller, former LA Times reporter, and author of four acclaimed books of narrative nonfiction, including New York Times bestseller and National Book Critics Circle Award winner *Deinonychus: The True Tale of America’s Optic Epidemic*. “The most original writer on Mexico and the border” (*San Francisco Chronicle*), he lives with his family in Tennessee.

Music



Ratliff, Ben

Run the Song: Writing About Running About Listening

“An ecstatic and eccentric blend of criticism, music, autobiography and philosophy that is knowingly caught between genres.” — Bruce Fretts, *Washington Post*
Out the front door, across the street, down the hill, and into Van Cortlandt Park in the Bronx. This is how Ben Ratliff’s runs started most days of the week for about a decade. Sometimes listening to music, not always. Then, at the beginning of the pandemic, he began taking notes about what he listened to. He wondered if it held in motion. In his body was helping him to listen better to the music in music.

He runs through the woods, along the Hudson River, and into the lowlands of the Bronx. He encounters newly erected fences for an intended FEMA field hospital, and demonstrations against racial violence. He runs, and the notes that result from them, vary in length just as the songs he listens to: de sevens and, jazz, hardcore punk, string quartets, Elton Rialgo’s slow-change electronics, Carnatic singing. Offers piano music of all kinds, Sade, Fred Astaire, and Ice Cube.

Run the Song is also the story of how a professional critic, frustrated with conventional modes of criticism, finds his way back to a deeper relationship with music. When it stopped or preoccupied by a piece of music, Ratliff starts to think that perhaps running can tell him more about what he’s listening to— he runs it, he runs it, and with that, the reader is invited to listen alongside one of the great listeners of our day in this wildly inventive and consistently thought-provoking chronicle of a profoundly meaningful time.

Ben Ratliff is the author of *Every Song Ever* and *Culture: The Story of a Sound*, a finalist for the National Book Critics Circle Award. A former music critic for the New York Times, he lives in New York City and teaches at New York University.

General Nonfiction



Redel, Victoria

I Am You: A Novel

This “hark, very, shocking even” of historical fiction “brings to life two artists who are intricately linked in passion and competition” (Melissa Paken, bestselling author of *Girlhood*) A “captivating” Indian romance set in the “wonderfully atmospheric” art world of mid-17th century Amsterdam (Sarah Jessica Parker, *SNL*) is the night person. Gerta Pictura is forced to disguise herself as a boy and sent to work for a general Dutch family. Among their brilliant and beautiful daughter Maria sees through Gerta’s ruse, she insists that Gerta accompany her to Amsterdam and help her enter the elite, male-dominated art world. While Maria sees in the marks of anxiety a painting prodigy, Gerta makes herself invaluable in every way: confidante, muse, lover. But as Gerta grows into her own talents, their relationship fractures into a complex web of obsession and rivalry—and the secrets they keep threaten to unravel everything. A mesmerizing historical novel, *I Am You* is a meditation on gender, on the role of artistic creation, and an unforgettable love story that reimagines the life of reemerged still life painter Maria van Oosterwijk during the Dutch Golden Age.

Victoria Redel has written four books of poetry and six books of fiction. Her short stories, poetry, and essays have appeared in *Granta*, *The New York Times*, *Los Angeles Times*, and *BOB*, and she’s received fellowships from the Guggenheim Foundation, the National Endowment for the Arts, and the Fine Arts Work Center. Victoria is a professor at Sarah Lawrence College and splits her time between New York City and Utah.

Fiction



Reichl, Ruth

The Paris Novel

Stella reached for an opium, tipped her head, and tumbled back. It was cool and slippery, the flavor serene? It was like diving into the ocean. Opium, she thought. Where have they been all my life? When her estranged mother dies, Stella is left with an unusual inheritance: a one-way plane ticket and a note reading "Go to Paris." Stella hardly cut out for adolescence; a traumatic childhood has kept her confined to the strict routines of her comfort zone. But when her boss encourages her to take time off, Stella resigns herself to honoring her mother's last wishes. Alone in a foreign city, Stella finds out old habits, living positively and properly. Then she stumbles across a vintage store, where she tries on a fabulous Dior dress. The shopkeeper insists that this dress was worn by Stella and for the first time in her life Stella starts connecting feelings. She buys the dress—and embarks on an adventure. Her first stop: the iconic boutique Les Deux Magots, where Stella starts her first opium and then meets an enigmatic art collector who decides to take her under his wing. As Stella introduces Stella to a world where the Paris literary, art, and culinary worlds, she begins to understand what it might mean to live a larger life. As weeks—and many decadent meals—go by, Stella ends up living as a "cousineuse" at famed bookstore Shakespeare & Company, encounters a hundred-year-old expert in a Mount painting, and discovers a passion for food that may be connected to her past. A feast for the senses, this novel is a testament to living deliciously, taking chances, and finding your true home.

Fiction

Ruth Reichl is the New York Times bestselling author of five memoirs, the novel *Delicious!*, and the cookbook *My Kitchen Year*. She was editor in chief of *Gourmet* magazine and previously served as restaurant critic for *The New York Times*, as well as food editor and restaurant critic for the *Los Angeles Times*. She has been honored with an James Beard Award. In 2014, she received the James Beard Lifetime Achievement Award.



Reyes, Ruben

Archive of Unknown Universes

Cambridge, 2018. Ana and Luis's relationship is on the rocks, despite their many similarities, including their mothers who both died of leukemia during the war. In her search for answers, and against her best judgment, Ana uses *The Deductor*, an experimental device that allows users to peek into alternate versions of their lives. What she sees leads her and Luis on a quest through Havana and San Salvador to uncover the family histories they are desperate to know, eager to find if what might have been could fix what is. Havana, 1978. The Salvadorean war is brewing, and Neco, a young revolutionary with a knack for digging through papers, meets Rafael at a meeting for the People's Revolutionary Army. The two form an intense and forbidden love, shedding their fake names and revealing themselves to each other inside the covert world of their activism. When their work separates them, they begin to exchange weekly letters, but soon, as the devastating war rages on, fears beyond their control threaten to pull them apart forever. Ruben Reyes's debut novel is an epic, genre-bending journey through inverted worlds—one where war ends with a peace treaty, and one where it ends with a decisive victory by the Salvadorean government. What unfolds is a stunning story of displacement and belonging, of love and loss. It's both a daring imagining of what might have been and a powerful reckoning of our past.

Fiction

Ruben Reyes Jr. is the son of two Salvadoran immigrants and the author of *There Is a Rio Grande in Heaven: A graduate of the Iowa Writers Workshop and Harvard College, his writing has appeared in *The Boston Globe*, *The Washington Post*, *Lighted Magazine*, and other publications. Originally from Southern California, he now lives in Brooklyn.*



Reynolds, Jason

Coach

In this companion to Jason Reynolds's award-winning and New York Times bestselling *Track* series, meet Coach as a boy striving to come into his own as a track star while facing upheaval at home. Before Coach was the man who gave us the gold medalist of Coach, La, Patina, and Sunny on the Defenders track team, he was Little Ole Ready, who was obsessed with Me 100 (a.k.a. Carl Lewis) and Marty McFly from *Back to the Future*. Like Me 100—and his own dad—Coach is a sprinter. Sprinter for his dad, a pro who has lost his way. Then he has to sprint away from his dad, a pro who has lost his way. *JORDANS*. First a fine one can be. One gets them and find him in the trap to the moon... maybe even lay Me 100 when he won the Olympic gold medal in the long jump. But one morning he wakes up to find his brand new secret weapon kids are missing—right off his feet! And One who might have a fiery memory of his dad eating them off as One was sleeping, but that can't be right, can it?

Middle Grade

Jason Reynolds is a #1 New York Times best-selling author, recipient of the MacArthur Genius Grant, a Newbery Award Honor, a Printz Award Honor, a two-time National Book Award finalist, a 2014 MacArthur Fellow, a Kathan Award winner, a UK Carnegie Medal winner, a two-time Walter Dean Myers Award winner, an NAACP Image Award Winner, an Odyssey Award Winner and two-time honoree, and the recipient of multiple Coretta Scott King honors, a Coretta Scott King Author Award, and the Margaret A. Edwards Award. He was also the 2010-2012 National Ambassador for Young People's Literature. His many books include *All American Boys* (co-written with Brendan Kiely), *When I Was the Greatest*, *The Boy to the Black Sky*, *Stamped: As Brave as You*, *For Every One* (the *Track* series) (*Coach*, *Patina*, *Sunny*, *La*, and *Coach*), *Look Both Ways*, *Stimulus*, *In the Museum*, *Stimulus: In-Between Time*, *Miss Merilee Suspend!*, *Am I Banned All the Bright* (recipient of the Caldecott Honor and My Name Is Jason), *Miss You* (both co-written with Jason Goff), *Twenty-Four Hours from Now...*, and *Long Way Down*, which received a Newbery Honor, a Printz Honor, and a Coretta Scott King Honor. His debut picture book, *There Was a Party for Langston*, won a Caldecott Honor and a Coretta Scott King Illustration Honor. He lives in Washington, D.C. You can find his ramblings at JasonWriteshook.com.



Risen, Clay [CANCELED, ALAS]

Red Scar: Blacklists, McCarthyism, and the Making of Modern America

As relevant as it is comprehensive, *Red Scar* tells the story of McCarthyism and the Red Scare—based in part on newly declassified sources—by an award-winning writer of history and New York Times reporter. The film *Oppenheimer* has awakened interest in this vital period of American history. Now, for the first time in a generation, *Red Scar* presents a narrative history of the anti-Communist witch hunt that gripped America in the decade following World War II. The cultural phenomenon, most often referred to as McCarthyism, was an outgrowth of the conflict between social conservatives and New Deal progressives, coupled with the terrifying onset of the Cold War. This defining moment in American history, unlike any that preceded it, was marked by an unprecedented degree of political hysteria. Drawing upon newly declassified documents, journalist Clay Risen recounts how politicians like Joseph McCarthy, with the help of an extended network of other government officials and organizations, systematically ruined thousands of lives in their deluded pursuit of alleged Communist conspiracies. Beginning with the origins of the era after WWII through to its conclusion in 1957, Risen brings to life the politics, patriotism, opportunism, outrage, and delusion of those years through the lives and experiences of a cast of towering historical figures, including President Eisenhower, Roy Cohn, Paul Robeson, Robert Oppenheimer, Helen Gandy Douglas, Richard Nixon, and many more individuals known and unknown. *Red Scar* takes us beyond the familiar story of McCarthyism and the Hollywood blacklists to a fuller understanding of what the country went through at a time of moral questioning and perceived threat from the left, and what we were capable of doing to each other as a result. An urgent, accessible, and important history, *Red Scar* reveals an all-too-familiar pattern of illiberal conspiracy mongering and political and cultural backlash that speaks directly to the antagonism and divisions of our contemporary moment.

History

Clay Risen, a reporter and editor at *The New York Times*, is the author of *The Crowded Hour*, a New York Times Notable Book of 2010 and a finalist for the Golden-Leslieman Prize in Military History. He is a member of the Society of American Historians and a fellow at the Perry World House at the University of Pennsylvania. He is also the author of two other acclaimed books on American history, *A Nation on Fire* and *The Bill of the Century*, as well as his most recent book on McCarthyism, *Red Scar*. He lives in Brooklyn, New York, with his wife and two young children.



Rix, Philip

For the Love of Chocolate: 80 At-Home Recipes from a Master Chocolatier's Imagination

Indulge your love of chocolate and learn to make delectable desserts you have only dreamed of... until now! Step into a world where cocoa isn't just an ingredient but a source of endless creativity, and explore the rich, luxurious depths of chocolate. In *For the Love of Chocolate*, Philip Ashley Rix, whose skill and innovation have made him a renowned name in the world of chocolate, guides you through an inspiring collection of desserts, confections, and drinks that promise to transform your chocolate-making experience—whether you are a beginner or experienced baker. For the Love of Chocolate comes to you from the heart of Memphis, Tennessee, a place as vibrant and soulful as the flavors embedded in every recipe. Each page is a doorway of imaginative forms, blending tradition with innovation, and ranging from the comfort of Philip's beloved grandmother's recipes to the thrill of avant-garde creation. The unique mouthwatering creation you can master include: "Bollywood" Caramel Cinnamon Curry Truffles, Turtle Chocolate-Roasted Orange Cuckoo Peanut Butter Caramel Cinnamon Bonbons, Dried Strawberry Chocolate-Covered Orange Cuckoo Peanut Butter Caramel Cinnamon Bonbons, Black Velvet Cake with Tiramisu, "Silk" Truffles with Chocolate, Forest of Chocolate with Brown Sugar Meringue. If you're taking your first steps into the delightful world of chocolate desserts or seeking to refine your craft with new, innovative recipes, Philip's wisdom and creativity are here to guide you. You'll gain a deeper appreciation for what is truly chocolate (the art of making chocolate) and learn about the history of chocolate, tempering chocolate, chocolate varieties, equipment for working with chocolate, chocolate molds and shells, and fancy finishes. For the Love of Chocolate isn't simply a cookbook; it's a love letter to the craft of chocolate-making and a gateway to mastering the art of chocolate. Embark on this flavorful journey, empower your culinary skills, and witness the transformative power of chocolate in bringing people together. This cookbook is an essential addition to the libraries of all who dream in chocolate.

Cooking

Philip Ashley Rix has achieved international acclaim as a renowned luxury chocolatier and is celebrated for his exceptional craftsmanship. He has created premium gifts for Hollywood's elite at the EMMYS®, GRAMMYS®, and OSCARS®, and was named one of America's finest confectioners by Forbes. A finalist on Food Network's *Chopped* season 1, his "Pebble Truffle" was featured on Oprah's Favorite Things list in 2010. He is the Official Chocolatier for Cadillac, designed chocolates for President Barack Obama, and was a James Beard Award nominee in 2013 and 2014. His imaginative chocolate factory and home are in Memphis, Tennessee.



Robinson, Shauna

Lauryn Harper Falls Apart

[illegible]

SHAUNA ROBINSON writes contemporary fiction with humor and heart. Originally from San Diego, she now lives in Virginia with her husband and their sleepy greyhound. Shauna is an introvert at heart—she spends most of her time reading, baking, and figuring out the politest way to avoid social interaction.

Fiction



Rodgers, Erica

Lord of Blade and Bone
(Waking Hearts 2)

A barrowing companion to the romantic fantasy adventure, *Lady Snow and the King of Ninovia's* most vulnerable is being hunted – their lives mercilessly collected for a arsenal of wealth. With young Prince Astor locked away and the Order of the Guardians deposed from the capital, Cardinal Lordano the Pure faces her gaze on conspiring bordering nations. To succeed, she'll have to convince her captives to help her overthrow the power he has been wielding for three centuries. But even Lord Snow, the lone knight for the light, is not immune. Preceding an all-time Christmas Eve legend, *Lady Snow and the King of Ninovia*, War, are staged in rebellion with the underground network, the Broken Bird. Three new Guardians have also sworn to aid their cause, but someone in their ranks is not who they seem. And with corruption spreading, the Guardians' hearts are weakening. Can Charlotte try to lead to abandon his former master and secure peace for the kingdom? Or will the darkness hunting Charlotte's Guardian destiny any chance for reconciliation? In the end, this is another most installment in the *Waking Hours* series, this YA fantasy was inspired by The Three Musketeers and offers a different kind of *fantasy*.

Erica Ivy Rodgers lives in Nashville, Tennessee with her husband, two children, and one very lovable, frenetic pit bull mix. When she isn't writing or driving kids around, you can usually find her starting another DIY home project in the woods, rock climbing, or beneath an ever-growing pile of bookish quilting fabric.

Young Adult



Ross, Adam

Playworld: A Novel

Griffin Felt is over his head. Behind his role as Peter Petron on the hit TV show *The Nanny*, Family and the pressure of high school at New York's elite *Roslyn Prep*—along with the increasingly common knowledge of this wrestling coach's... he's wrestling on the edge of collapse. Then comes Naomi Shabi, twenty-two years Griffin's senior. Unwilling to lay his hands on his shrink—when she shares with him father, mother, and younger brother, Rose—Griffin and Naomi become the best of friends. But when Naomi's father dies, Griffin is left with a person who might do him the most harm. Like a blind man stumbling on a story of misadventure, *Playwrestler* is a novel of epic proportions, bristling with laughter and heartache. And Rose immerses us in the life of Griffin and his loving (yet disastrously) family while seeming to leave the entirety of Manhattan and the ethos of an era—with Jimmy Carter on his way out and a B-list celebrity named Malcolm Reagan on his way in. Surrounded by adults who embody the city's excesses, Griffin grows from a scared kid to a man who can stand up to, taking and giving. Griffin not only finds the line between youth and maturity, dependence and love, losing and truly grasping with life.

Adam Ross is the author of *Mr. Peanut*, which was selected as one of the best books of the year by *The New York Times*, *The New Yorker*, and *The Economist*. He has been a fellow in fiction at the American Academy in Berlin and a Hodder Fellow for Fiction at Princeton University. He is editor of *The Sewanee Review*. Born and raised in New York City, he now

Fiction



Roth, Ashley

We Never Took A Bad Picture

It's a busy three years for the *Joyce* made a final pact to save their failing marriage. Gloria Joyce knows the anniversary party she's planning is more than a celebration—it's a crack in the promise she made to her husband after losing their teenage son. Artie has spent decades retreating from the mundane and ordered world of his grocery store to avoid facing the choices he made as a father and husband. Will the party finally force him to confront the past—or shatter the only routines holding him together? When their estranged daughter Autumn returns, she is forced to navigate the strained relationship with her mother and her own daughter, along with the feinting guilt surrounding the role she played in her baby brother's untimely death. As the party looms nears, the family faces new tragedies, forcing the Joyces to confront what they've buried beneath decades of curated memories and a crafted veneer. With timelines and voices that weave seamlessly between decades, *We Never Told a Soul* Picture explores the creation of memories as legacies, intergenerational complexities, and the quiet battles fought behind closed doors.

Ashley N. Roth is a Nashville-based writer, educator, and performer. Her writing has appeared in *Moonchild Magazine*, *Literary Ophraphs*, *Crack the Spine*, *Jersey Devil Press*, and elsewhere, with her short story "Adolescent" earning a Pushcart nomination. Her multimedia work has also appeared in various exhibits including the *Flying Toaster Video: An Art Exhibit Dedicated to the 1990s*, *Bowievacs*, and *Art All Night* in Trenton, New Jersey. When not writing she can be found revamping www.ashleynroth.com, starring in campy music videos alongside her husband, or perfecting vegan pastries with her ten-year-old daughter.

Fiction



Samuel, Patrick

and another thing: poems

And Another Thing is an audacious, shape-shifting collection that moves through queer identity, pop culture, desire, and dislocation with sharp wit and restless energy. The poems are tactile and cinematic, layering surreal imagery with the raw textures of memory, lust, and self-interrogation. Tarek figures, cut film references, and intimate confessions collide in a voice that both wryly detached and deeply visceral. Unapologetically playful yet emotionally precise, *And Another Thing* is a collection that refuses to settle, slipping between personas and perceptions with an electrifying sense of movement and reinvention.

Patrick Paridee Samuel is the author of *And Another Thing* (Broken Sleep Books) and the chapbook *A Suite of Heads* (Ghost City Press). He received an MFA from Columbia College Chicago. Patrick currently lives in Nashville, and is in print. Originally from Michigan, Patrick currently lives in Nashville where he works in university press publishing.

Poetry



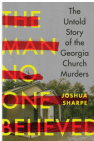
Saviano, Tamara

Poets and Dreamers: My Life in Americana Music

Part memoir, part oral history, *Poets and Dreamers* My Life in Americana Music traces Tamara Saviano's remarkable journey through the core of the Americana music genre. Spending more than three decades, Saviano unfolds the story of Americana—a country music's bohemian oasis—from her unique perspectives as a journalist, historian, Grammy-winning music producer, filmmaker, and artist-activist. The first woman president of the Americana Music Association and producer of the early Americana Honors and Awards shows at Nashville's famed Ryman Auditorium, Saviano takes readers behind the scenes for some of the most significant moments in Americana history. *Poets and Dreamers* illuminates the exceptional Americana community as an ever-expanding pot where kind circle of friends and unusual heroes devoted to the success of roots music and its artists. Highlights include interviews with artists and colleagues and memories of special events, concerts, and day-to-day life with singers, songwriters, and musicians. Truett states recalling Saviano's close relationships with two of her most enduring clients, iconic songwriters Kris Kristofferson and Guy Clark, reveal not this singular historical work, including photographs of significant people and moments in Americana music, *Poets and Dreamers: My Life in Americana Music* will entertain and inform a worldwide readership of fans, students, and scholars of Americana and roots music.

TAMARA SAVIANO is the author of *Without Getting Killed or Caught: The Life and Music of Guy Clark*, winner of the Belmont Award, sponsored by the International Country Music Conference. A Nashville music and film producer, she also produced *Beautiful Dreamer: The Song of Stephen Foster*, which won the 2005 Grammy Award for Best Traditional Folk Album, and the 2020 documentary *Without Getting Killed or Caught*. In 2017, the Texas Heritage Songwriters Association honored Saviano with the Donzell K. Royal Texas Legend Award for her work with Texas songwriters, and in 2020, the Austin Music Awards selected her to receive the Margaret Moore Award, which recognizes women in music.

Music



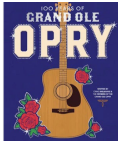
Sharpe, Joshua

The Man No One Believed: The Untold Story of the Georgia Church Murders

"Only very rarely does one of our stories—one of us—change the course of human events. Joshua Sharpe asked the right questions, asking our answers." —Anna Quindlen, Pulitzer Prize-winning journalist and best-selling author The riveting story of a 1981 double murder, a long creative investigation, and the fight for justice on an innocent man. In 1981, a white man walked into a South Georgia church and brutally murdered Harold and Thelma Swain, two pillars of the area's Black community. The killer vanished into the night. For fifteen years, the case remained unsolved. Then authoritat turned in on Dr. Perry, a respected pastor and a member of the church. Convicted with devastatingly flawed evidence, Perry received a double life sentence. When award-winning journalist and South Georgia native Joshua Sharpe returns to the case, he discovers a winding path of corruption, devastating missteps, and secrets. Driven by the pursuit of the truth, Sharpe's investigation takes him through dusty courthouse archives, down winding dirt roads, and into intimate interviews. But he keeps knocking on doors—even after they're slammed in his face. Sharpe uncovers explosive evidence that helps prove Dr. Perry's innocence.

Joshua Sharpe is a print and audio journalist and editor whose stories have helped free two innocent people from life in prison. He is a 2015 Type Media Center Fellow, a 2019–2024 Knight-Wallace Fellow, a Livingston Award winner, and a 2022 and 2023 Pulitzer Prize judge. A native of Waycross, Georgia, he lives in Detroit, Michigan.

General Nonfiction



Shelburne, Craig

100 Years of Grand Ole Opry

The official book celebrating 100 years of the Grand Ole Opry—an intimate, gorgeously illustrated behind-the-scenes look at the American institution and world-renowned stage for country music. Packed with spectacular photos and tributes from country music's biggest names, 100 Years of Grand Ole Opry is a glorious, one-of-a-kind celebration, and a must-have for any country music fan. This centennial celebration showcases the behind-the-scenes history through lively never-before-seen photography, as well as behind-the-scenes stories from those who have passed backstage before career-defining performances, and those who have come to know the Opry as a second home. Since 1925, the Grand Ole Opry has left an undeniable mark on American culture. What began as an impromptu performance of old-time fiddle tunes has transformed into the longest-running radio broadcast in US history, as well as a live performance venue for millions of country music fans each year. Widely regarded as the show that made country music famous, the Opry has played an important role in the career of country music's biggest stars—including Patsy Cline, Johnny Cash, Dolly Parton, Loretta Lynn, Carrie Underwood, Luke Combs, and countless others—popularizing and preserving some of the most beloved forms of American music. The hunger for country music has only grown in recent years, and the Grand Ole Opry stands at the center.

TK

Music



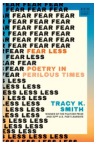
Shradar, Mary

The Modern Pioneer Pantry: A Complete Guide to Preserving Food

Fill your pantry, save money, and eat healthier using time-tested methods from Mary Bryant Shradar of the Mary's Nest YouTube channel. There is no better way to preserve food than by using the methods our predecessors used. Canning, preserving, pickling, and drying have been used for centuries to make food last longer and preserve garden harvests. Now, as grocery prices continue to rise, people have realized that these methods, when done properly and safely, can preserve fresh food for months and even years, which means low waste, a well-stocked pantry, and a bounty of delicious and healthy food. Fans of Mary Bryant Shradar's YouTube channel and website love her positive, encouraging approach to teaching complex topics in a way that is both entertaining and easily informative. In her first book, *The Modern Pioneer Cookbook*, Mary shared tips for cooking traditional foods and using simple ingredients to make healthy meals more economically. Now, in *The Modern Pioneer Pantry*, Mary goes in depth and teaches you how to use water-bath canning, pressure canning, pickling, fermenting, freezing, dehydrating, and drying to preserve everything from fruits and vegetables to salads, jams and jellies, pickles, and so much more. Its additional two-deep instruction for each method and over 115 recipes, you'll learn how to use Mary's unique Four Canners Pantry approach to ensure your home will stay well-stocked and food will never go bad. You'll also learn how to source inexpensive ingredients, get the most out of your garden (or your produce section at your local supermarket), and create a pantry that will be a source of pride and also nutrient-rich food for your family. Each chapter also includes a scannable QR code that links to instructional videos on the Mary's Nest website.

Mary Bryant Shradar is the creator of Mary's Nest, a YouTube channel with over one million subscribers devoted to traditional cooking techniques using whole ingredients. In addition to her first bestselling book, *The Modern Pioneer Cookbook*, Mary's in-depth videos have helped thousands of followers on their journey to creating nutritious and delicious foods. Her gentle, patient approach helps home cooks of all abilities cook simpler and healthier. Mary lives in the Texas Hill Country with her sweet husband, Ted, and their lovable yellow lab, Indy. Their son, Ben, is just a drive away. You can join Mary and her sweet friends @MarysNest.

Cooking



Smith, Tracy K.

FEARLESS: POETRY IN PERILOUS TIMES

A Pulitzer Prize-winning poet reveals how poetry is a powerful tool of connection and understanding in a fractured world. Drawing on deep passion and personal experience, former US Poet Laureate Tracy K. Smith deconstructs the art form that has too often been characterized as "inaesthetic," "irrelevant," or "stimulating." She argues that poetry is rooted in fundamentally human qualities: desire to our capacities to love, dream, question, and cultivate community. Lifting the veil on her own creative process, Smith shows us how reading and writing poetry allows us a better comfort. It's every conversation and home, held simultaneously with strangers, and understood and ourselves more fully. In six insightful chapters, she grounds readers in the technical elements of the craft and provides close readings of the work of contemporary poets such as Jay Keefe, Danez Smith, and Francisco Marquez, alongside classic poems by Dickinson, Keats, Milly, and others. By reimagining and reexamining the age-old art form, *Fear Less* is a warm invitation to find meaning, consolation, and hope through poetry for poetry fans and newcomers to the art form.

TRACY K. SMITH is a librettist, a translator, and the author of five acclaimed poetry collections, including *Life on Mars*, which was awarded the Pulitzer Prize. Her memoir, *Ordinary Light*, was a finalist for the National Book Award. From 2017 to 2021, she served as the twenty-second Poet Laureate of the United States. She lives in Massachusetts.

Poetry



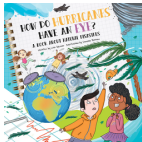
Sparks, Kameza

The Corus Wave

Kameza Sparks' appearance is supported using public funding by the National Lottery through Arts Council England. London's just trying to think her 3d there. This her research into an obscure star shaped Devonian-era cephalopod fossil drops her into a sewerage beast that indicates her subject may be hiding more of the central secrets of the universe. Or at least, that's what 19th century polypmath Harina Corus thought. Conceiving through libraries, churches, botanical gardens, and stone circles with her roommate Edith (and their treaty cat Raine, who streaks with them the helpfully). London explores the possible and the impossible the polypmath has hidden from the world... women in the architecture and the nature all around her. Can London find the solutions to the secrets of fossil history? And will her those advice think her hard work is a legitimate dissertation topic? London, Edith, and Raine are on the case!

Kameza Sparks is a multidisciplinary designer, comic creator, animator, and fossil hunter from Cornwall. She has a particular interest in purification, story telling, interactive experiences, and participatory artworks. Sparks graduated from Kingston school in 2010 and is based in Cornwall. The Corus Wave is her first graphic novel.

Fiction



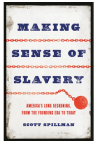
Spencer, Lisa

How Do Hurricanes Have an Eye? A Book About Natural Disasters

Have you ever wondered how earthquakes shake the ground or what makes a blizzard different than a snowstorm? Come along on a science adventure to learn all about natural weather events, how and where they form, the science behind them, safety tips and alerts to know if they do, and so much more through diagrams, illustrations, and informative and engaging text. Each of the six questions examined in the book are given a silly answer before the true answer is revealed making this an approachable way to learn scientific facts. Each chapter includes a glossary and activities to further learning. Questions answered in the book - How do hurricanes have an eye? Unlike the eyes we have, this one swirls and is in the center of a massive storm! - How do tsunamis get so strong? High wind speeds up the strength of a tsunami. - How do you know how much water is too much water? Too much water means there could be flooding, and not enough water means there could be a drought. - How do earthquakes shake the ground? Tectonic plates bumping against each other can cause the ground to shake. - How do tsunamis form? Underwater earthquakes can create massive waves. - How do blizzards not snow and not these regular snowstorms? Blizzards require more wind, last longer, and tend to be less visible. About the How Do series: These fully illustrated nonfiction picture books are a great introduction to various STEM topics. Each title includes facts and figures, simple diagrams and fun illustrations and is written in a question-and-answer format to encourage readers to ask questions and guess the answers before exploring the science behind the correct answers.

Lisa Spencer is a long-time broadcast meteorologist at WSMV in Nashville, Tennessee. She earned her master's degree in geography with a concentration in atmospheric science from the University of Memphis as well as a bachelor's degree in broadcast communications. She also obtained a certificate in meteorology from Mississippi State University. Lisa has been recognized nationally by the American Meteorological Society and the National Weather Association. Her career has taken her from TV stations in Memphis, TN, Raleigh, NC, and The Weather Channel. Lisa and her husband Brady have two grown children and a dog.

Children's



Spillman, Scott

Making Sense of Slavery: America's Long Reckoning from the Founding Era to Today

An "essential" (James Oakes, author of *The Crossed Paths to Abolition*) history of the study of slavery in America, from the Revolutionary era to the 1919 Project, showing how these intellectual debates have shaped American public life in recent years, from school board meetings to the halls of Congress. Americans have engaged in fierce debates about how slavery and its legacies ought to be taught, researched, and narrated. But since the earliest days of the Republic, political leaders, abolitionists, judges, scholars, and ordinary citizens have all struggled to explain and understand the peculiar institution.

Scott Spillman received his PhD in history from Stanford University. His writing has appeared in the *New Republic*, the *Los Angeles Review of Books*, *es*, and *The Point*. He lives in Denver, Colorado.

History



St. Aubin, Cynthia

Love Bites (Tails from the Alpha Art Gallery, 1)

Love Bites is the first book in a snappy supernatural mystery series with a heroine who has her priorities in order. Solve the murder, save the day, but most importantly—feed her cats. A girl's gotta eat—and so do her three cats. Recently divorced and history grad student Hanna Harvey has just fibbed her way into a job as the assistant to a dangerously dead-worthy art gallery owner Mark Abernathy. For Hanna, working in the field she desperately loves provides the perfect opportunity to begin putting her life back together. So, her chosen budget in the thick and her feline life partners are no longer crying her like a six-foot can of Fancy Feast. But when her boss's lady friends start turning up dead, Hanna finds herself in the crosshairs of a murder investigation. From weird, husky homicide detective James Mortimer from here might be the next body he discovers. With the "body" of the gallery's quirky cast of resident artists, Hanna will have to hunt down the truth about Abernathy's dark secret—before it hunts her.

USA Today bestselling author Cynthia St. Aubin is the author of *The Case Files of Dr. Martha Schindler* and the *June Avery* mysteries. Private Line and *Lying Low*. She wrote her first play at age eight and made her brothers perform to her admission price of gum, vermouth, a salad, considering she provided the vermouth in advance. Though her early work debited to mixed reviews, she never quite gave up on the writing thing, even while earning a mostly useless master's degree in art history and taking her turn as a table minder in the separate world. Because this is the best body he discovers. With the "body" of the gallery's quirky cast of resident artists, Hanna will have to hunt down the truth about Abernathy's dark secret—before it hunts her. work, she started writing instead.

Mystery/Thriller



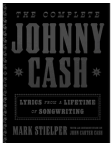
Stevens, Court

Tell Me Something Good: A Novel

"This is a writer that understands people down to the bones. Her characters are likable and lovable, flawed and loving, and so real they have stayed with me." —Joshilyn Jackson, New York Times bestselling author "A knockout." —Booklist Starred Review This is a story of the rich and the very poor. This is a story of an illegal marriage with dire consequences. This is a story of murder past and present. This is a story of intertwined relationships and the silent ripples they leave behind, where love becomes a guiding force, revealing the lengths one will go to protect those they cherish. Over twenty years ago, a young woman grudge in real Kentucky was drinking his last in the early morning mist when his peaceful crime was cut short by a scene so disturbing, he packed up and moved away. Nine women died early that morning, but it was linked to a similar crime in Texas, so the police quickly wrote it off as having nothing to do with them. Now, all these years later, when everyone has nearly forgotten about that grisly part of their past, one man's accidental death will bring everything back up to the surface. The trouble who have better one no longer claim it had nothing to do with them, and one woman, desperate to do whatever it takes to save her mother's life, will learn that nearly everyone in her life has been lying to her. In Court Stevens's wildish debut, she takes deep into the heart of a community, where some will learn that we don't always live to see the ripples we make, but we must make them all the same.

Court Stevens grew up among rivers, cornfields, churches, and gossip in the small-town South. She is a former adjunct professor, youth minister, and Olympic torchbearer. These days she writes coming-of-age fiction and is the director of Warren County Public Library in Kentucky. She has a pet whale named Herman, a husband named Rex, and several screws with her name on the spine. Last Girl Breathing, We Were Gangs, The June Boys, Faking Normal, The Line About Truth, the e-novels The Blue-Haired Boy, Drew Collier for Small Towns, and Four Three Two One. Find Court online at CourtneyCStevens.com, Instagram: @courtland, Facebook: @CourtneyStevens, X: @courtland

Mystery/Thriller



Stripler, Mark

The Complete Johnny Cash Lyrics from a Lifetime of Songwriting

The official, comprehensive archive of Johnny Cash's writing, with 128 lyrics spanning his 35 years of genre-defining writing: a "journey through the mind and soul of one of *America's greatest storytellers*" (Eric Alper)

Johnny Cash remains one of the most prolific and influential songwriters in American history. In a voice like no other, his words and melodies speak to the soul of the nation—capturing the complexities of American life and the wonder of the human condition.

This definitive volume, fully authorized by the Cash estate, spans the entire arc of his extraordinary career, from the earliest compositions penned in poverty amid the glow of youthful ambition, through the moments that defined him as an inspiration to generations, to the final songs of devotion written near the end of a life filled with pain, sorrow, hardship, and joy. With unprecedented access to Cash's personal writings, this work presents newly-discovered, essential compositions, alongside never-before-seen handwritten pages that offer readers a raw and intimate look into his process and poetic mind.

Organized to reflect the areas in which they were created, with an introduction by his son, John Carter Cash, and incisive reflections by historian Mark Stripler, these songs trace Cash's evolution as an artist and a cultural icon through periods of struggle, transformation, activism, and tests of faith.

What emerges is an unprecedented portrait of Johnny Cash—a timeless American artist who never stopped searching for truth in rhythm and rhyme.

Mark Stripler has chronicled the life of the Man in Black for nearly forty years. Cash called him "my rock," and said, "he knows more about me than me." Stripler has collaborated on more than two dozen Cash biographies and documentary films, and given lectures across the United States, including at the Rock & Roll Hall of Fame, the Country Music Hall of Fame, and the Johnny Cash Museum. His most recent work was the companion to his book, *Johnny Cash: The Life in Lyrics*.

Music



Stratton, L.S.

In Deadly Company: A Novel

A twisty, propulsive murder mystery following a young executive assistant who realizes the peril of "prying your nose" — and a chilling and satirical examination of corporate culture values. A year after a thirtieth birthday celebration accidentally ended in the death of her nightmarish boss, Xander Chambers, Nicole Underwood is writing the public record straight by consulting on a feature film based on the story that she and Xander were romantically involved by inappropriate casting and frequent, bizarre script changes. In reality, Xander was a horrible boss and an unfit leader, and on the night he died, Nicole had been asking questions about Xander's mysterious rise to power. As the narrative rolls and her memories of that night replay, she begins to wonder... Could she have been the reason he's dead in the first place?

L.S. Stratton's previous thrillers ("Not as Perfect Strangers", "Do What Godmother Says") were chosen as one of NPR's "Books We Love," and a Book Riot "Best Mystery & Thriller."

Mystery/Thriller



Sullivan, Archer

The Witch's Orchard

A ninth generation Appalachian herself, Archer Sullivan brings the mountains of North Carolina to life in *The Witch's Orchard*, a wonderfully atmospheric novel that introduces private investigator Annie Cane. Former *Albany Times Herald* Investigator Annie Cane joined the military right after high school to escape the drought-battered life of her childhood. Now, she's getting by as a private investigator and her latest case takes her to an Appalachian hollow not unlike the one where she grew up. Ten years ago, three little girls went missing from their tiny mountain town. While one was returned, the others were never seen again. After all this time without answers, the brother of one of the girls wants to hire an outsider, and he wants Annie. While she may not be from his town, she gets mountain towns. Mountain people. Driving back into the hills for a case this old — it might be a fool's errand. But Annie needs to get money in the bank and she can't turn down a case. Not even one that dredges up her own painful past. In the shadow of the Blue Ridge, Annie begins to track the truth, unraveling a decade's worth of secrets, folklore of witches and crows, and a whole town that prefers to forget. But while the case may have been buried, echoes of the past linger. And Annie's arrival stirs someone into action.

ARCHER SULLIVAN is a ninth generation Appalachian. She's moved thirty-seven times and has lived everywhere from Manhattan, Kentucky to Manhattan, New York and from Black Mountain, North Carolina to Beverly Hills, California. Her work has appeared in *Elery Queen Mystery Magazine*, *Tough*, *Shiraz*, *Heavy*, *Rockin Review*, *Black and a Hard Place*, and *The Best Mystery Stories of the Year* 2014.

Mystery/Thriller



Sumner, Jamie

Please Pay Attention

A girl with cerebral palsy navigates love, grief, and the aftermath of trauma following a school shooting in a world that won't budge for her in this "intimate, lyrical" (Publishers Weekly, starred review) novel in verse from Jamie Sumner, the acclaimed author of *Roll with It*. There is a Before and an After for sixth grader Bea Coughlin. Before the shooting at her school that took the lives of her classmates and teacher and after, when she must figure out how to grieve, live, and keep rolling forward. But as her community rallies in a tidal wave of marches and speeches and protests, Bea can't get past the helplessness she felt in her wheelchair as others around her took cover. Through the help of therapist homework riding, Bea finally begins to find the herself again. And as she heals, she finds her voice and the bravery to demand change.

Jamie Sumner is the author of *Roll with It*, *Time to Roll*, *Rolling On*, *Time Is Out*, *One Kid's Trash*, *The Summer of June*, *Maid for It*, *Deep Water*, *Please Pay Attention*, *School*, and *Clay to Me*. Her work has appeared in *The New York Times*, *The Washington Post*, and other publications. She loves stories that celebrate the grit and beauty in all kids. She is also the mother of a son with cerebral palsy and has written extensively about parenting a child with special needs. She and her family live in Nashville, Tennessee. Visit her at Jamie-Sumner.com. Read more.

Middle Grade



Swift, Serra

Kill the Beast: A Novel

The Witcher meets Homer's *Moving Castle* in this debut original faerie tale of revenge, redemption, and friendship — for fans of *T. Kingfisher*, *Numb'Nervz*, and cozy fantasy with a dash of gritty adventure. The night Lynn Colgrave's brother was murdered by a faerie-made monster known as the Beast, she made him a promise: she would find a way to destroy the immortal creature and avenge his death. For thirteen years, she has been hunting faeries and the abominations they created. But in all that time, she saw Beast she is most desperate to find has never resurfaced. Until she meets Adrien Caudin de Laureot, a malodorous dandy with a coin purse bigger than his brain. Somehow, he has found the monster's lair, and—*even more surprising*—retained one of its claws. As her Lynn needs in order to keep a secret that can kill the Beast, Adrien is ill-equipped for a hunt and almost guaranteed to get himself killed. But as the two of them search for the end of the nightmare that will be the Beast's ending, Adrien reveals hidden depths dark secrets that he guards as carefully as Lynn guards hers. Before long, and against Lynn's better judgment, an unlikely friendship begins to bloom—one that will either lead to the extermination of Lynn's quest for vengeance, or spell doom for them both.

Sierra Swift lives in Southern California with her husband and their Boston Terrier, Waffles. Where she isn't writing, she can usually be found reading or (if she's honest) eating a snack. Kill the Beast is her first novel.

Sci Fi/Fantasy



Terry, Pamela

Through An Open Window: A Novel

A charming, heart-tugging tale about the bonds of family, whether found or forfeited, from the author of *The Sweet Taste of Mucadamas*. In the small southern town of Wexleya, Georgia, where the air smells of red clay and sea salt, Margaret Elliot has lived a seemingly charming life—until the recent loss of her beloved husband. Now, then, Margaret has been seeing visions of her late husband, and she's convinced that he's trying to tell her something important about her baby. As these mysterious and undeniable visions continue, Margaret becomes convinced that Aunt Edna is trying to tell her something important. As she follows the clues that almost magically present themselves, it becomes clear there is a secret from Margaret's past waiting to be uncovered. As Margaret grapples with each new revelation, she also worries about her three young children, who are growing up in a household where the past is always just a ghostly grief of living father. Her son, Lawrence, always his mother's favorite, faces life-altering changes that he both longs for and fears—while Tom, Lawrence's twin, must wrestle with the consequences of a work decision that has blown up his entire life. Despite the tensions among the siblings as they argue about how best to support their mother, the whole family is soon embroiled in a quest to uncover the truth about the past. As the story unfolds, Margaret's quest to uncover the truth invites us to see the grace that is woven there in the background, just waiting to be revealed. And reminds us that not even death can keep love from winning out in the end.

A lifelong Southerner, Pamela Terry learned the power of storytelling at a very early age. Terry is the author of *The Sweet Taste of Muscadines* and the internationally popular blog *From the House of Edward*, which was named one of the top ten home blogs of the year by *London's Telegraph*. She lives in Georgia with her songwriter husband, Pat, and their three dogs, Apple, Andrew, and George. She travels to the Scottish Highlands as frequently as possible.

Fiction



Thomas, Michael

The Broken King: A Memoir

[illegible]

Michael Thomas is the author of the national bestseller *Man Gone Down*, winner of the International IMPAC Dublin Literary Award and a New York Times Top Ten Book of the Year. His writing has appeared in *A Public Space*, *The New York Times*, and in Ben George's anthology *The Book of David*. He is a professor of English at Hunter College. He lives in Brooklyn.

Autobiography/Memoir



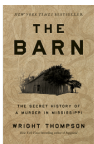
Thomas, Sheree Renée

Majorhythm[illegible]

these Renée Thomes to a twice Hugo Award nominated, Lucas Arana, and a three-time World Fantasy Award-winning author. Her work is widely anthologized and appears in *The Big Book of Speculative Fiction*. The author has also written several novels, including *Mojavech*, which was named Best Science Fiction novel by the American Library Association. She has also edited *States from an Ancient Future*, *Sleeping Under the Tree of Life*, and *Shogun: Legends*. There is a co-editor for the *Eerie Rises: A New Era of Speculative Fiction*. Trouble the Waters! Treads the Deep Bay is her latest book. She is currently working on her Master speculative fiction anthology that she first introduced at W.E.B. DuBois's work as science fiction and explored 1905-1965 of Black Speculative Fiction. In 2023 she was honored with the Octavia E. Butler Award. She is editor of the *Journal of Afrofuturism* and the *Journal of Speculative Fiction*. She is also the Editor of *Obidian*. Her collaboration with artist Janelle Monroe for the "Timesheet Altered?" novelties appears in *The Memory Librarian* and *Other Stories of Dirty Computer*.

She is also a frequent speaker at literary events. Her novel *Marvel without a Mask* featuring the novel, *Black Panther: Panther Rage* (Tegan/Pennan House), an adaptation of Dr. McGregors legendary graphic novel, and her comic book *Black Panther: The World Is Not Ready* featuring the Black Panther character are available on Amazon.com. She lives in her hometown, Memphis, Tennessee and is a mother, a wife, and a mighty river and a pyramid.

Sci Fi/Fantasy



Thompson, Wright
[CANCELED/ ALAS!]

The Barn: The Secret History of a Murder in Mississippi

Wright Thompson's family farm in America history is a mile from the site of one of the most notorious and consequential killings in American history, yet he had to leave the farm to collect evidence and write his book. He was not alone. In the 1960s, thousands of people were arrested, including where they took place and how many people were involved. This was not the only case of a large-scale killing in the South. In 1968, 1969, 1970, 1971, 1972, 1973, 1974, 1975, 1976, 1977, 1978, 1979, 1980, 1981, 1982, 1983, 1984, 1985, 1986, 1987, 1988, 1989, 1990, 1991, 1992, 1993, 1994, 1995, 1996, 1997, 1998, 1999, 2000, 2001, 2002, 2003, 2004, 2005, 2006, 2007, 2008, 2009, 2010, 2011, 2012, 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023, 2024, 2025, 2026, 2027, 2028, 2029, 2030, 2031, 2032, 2033, 2034, 2035, 2036, 2037, 2038, 2039, 2040, 2041, 2042, 2043, 2044, 2045, 2046, 2047, 2048, 2049, 2050, 2051, 2052, 2053, 2054, 2055, 2056, 2057, 2058, 2059, 2060, 2061, 2062, 2063, 2064, 2065, 2066, 2067, 2068, 2069, 2070, 2071, 2072, 2073, 2074, 2075, 2076, 2077, 2078, 2079, 2080, 2081, 2082, 2083, 2084, 2085, 2086, 2087, 2088, 2089, 2090, 2091, 2092, 2093, 2094, 2095, 2096, 2097, 2098, 2099, 2100, 2101, 2102, 2103, 2104, 2105, 2106, 2107, 2108, 2109, 2110, 2111, 2112, 2113, 2114, 2115, 2116, 2117, 2118, 2119, 2120, 2121, 2122, 2123, 2124, 2125, 2126, 2127, 2128, 2129, 2130, 2131, 2132, 2133, 2134, 2135, 2136, 2137, 2138, 2139, 2140, 2141, 2142, 2143, 2144, 2145, 2146, 2147, 2148, 2149, 2150, 2151, 2152, 2153, 2154, 2155, 2156, 2157, 2158, 2159, 2160, 2161, 2162, 2163, 2164, 2165, 2166, 2167, 2168, 2169, 2170, 2171, 2172, 2173, 2174, 2175, 2176, 2177, 2178, 2179, 2180, 2181, 2182, 2183, 2184, 2185, 2186, 2187, 2188, 2189, 2190, 2191, 2192, 2193, 2194, 2195, 2196, 2197, 2198, 2199, 2200, 2201, 2202, 2203, 2204, 2205, 2206, 2207, 2208, 2209, 2210, 2211, 2212, 2213, 2214, 2215, 2216, 2217, 2218, 2219, 2220, 2221, 2222, 2223, 2224, 2225, 2226, 2227, 2228, 2229, 2230, 2231, 2232, 2233, 2234, 2235, 2236, 2237, 2238, 2239, 2240, 2241, 2242, 2243, 2244, 2245, 2246, 2247, 2248, 2249, 2250, 2251, 2252, 2253, 2254, 2255, 2256, 2257, 2258, 2259, 2260, 2261, 2262, 2263, 2264, 2265, 2266, 2267, 2268, 2269, 2270, 2271, 2272, 2273, 2274, 2275, 2276, 2277, 2278, 2279, 2280, 2281, 2282, 2283, 2284, 2285, 2286, 2287, 2288, 2289, 2290, 2291, 2292, 2293, 2294, 2295, 2296, 2297, 2298, 2299, 2300, 2301, 2302, 2303, 2304, 2305, 2306, 2307, 2308, 2309, 2310, 2311, 2312, 2313, 2314, 2315, 2316, 2317, 2318, 2319, 2320, 2321, 2322, 2323, 2324, 2325, 2326, 2327, 2328, 2329, 2330, 2331, 2332, 2333, 2334, 2335, 2336, 2337, 2338, 2339, 2340, 2341, 2342, 2343, 2344, 2345, 2346, 2347, 2348, 2349, 2350, 2351, 2352, 2353, 2354, 2355, 2356, 2357, 2358, 2359, 2360, 2361, 2362, 2363, 2364, 2365, 2366, 2367, 2368, 2369, 2370, 2371, 2372, 2373, 2374, 2375, 2376, 2377, 2378, 2379, 2380, 2381, 2382, 2383, 2384, 2385, 2386, 2387, 2388, 2389, 2390, 2391, 2392, 2393, 2394, 2395, 2396, 2397, 2398, 2399, 2400, 2401, 2402, 2403, 2404, 2405, 2406, 2407, 2408, 2409, 2410, 2411, 2412, 2413, 2414, 2415, 2416, 2417, 2418, 2419, 2420, 2421, 2422, 2423, 2424, 2425, 2426, 2427, 2428, 2429, 2430, 2431, 2432, 2433, 2434, 2435, 2436, 2437, 2438, 2439, 2440, 2441, 2442, 2443, 2444, 2445, 2446, 2447, 2448, 2449, 2450, 2451, 2452, 2453, 2454, 2455, 2456, 2457, 2458, 2459, 2460, 2461, 2462, 2463, 2464, 2465, 2466, 2467, 2468, 2469, 2470, 2471, 2472, 2473, 2474, 2475, 2476, 2477, 2478, 2479, 2480, 2481, 2482, 2483, 2484, 2485, 2486, 2487, 2488, 2489, 2490, 2491, 2492, 2493, 2494, 2495, 2496, 2497, 2498, 2499, 2500, 2501, 2502, 2503, 2504, 2505, 2506, 2507, 2508, 2509, 2510, 2511, 2512, 2513, 2514, 2515, 2516, 2517, 2518, 2519, 2520, 2521, 2522, 2523, 2524, 2525, 2526, 2527, 2528, 2529, 2530, 2531, 2532, 2533, 2534, 2535, 2536, 2537, 2538, 2539, 2540, 2541, 2542, 2543, 2544, 2545, 2546, 2547, 2548, 2549, 2550, 2551, 2552, 2553, 2554, 2555, 2556, 2557, 2558, 2559, 2560, 2561, 2562, 2563, 2564, 2565, 2566, 2567, 2568, 2569, 2570, 2571, 2572, 2573, 2574, 2575, 2576, 2577, 2578, 2579, 2580, 2581, 2582, 2583, 2584, 2585, 2586, 2587, 2588, 2589, 2590, 2591, 2592, 2593, 2594, 2595, 2596, 2597, 2598, 2599, 2600, 2601, 2602, 2603, 2604, 2605, 2606, 2607, 2608, 2609, 2610, 2611, 2612, 2613, 2614, 2615, 2616, 2617, 2618, 2619, 2620, 2621, 2622, 2623, 2624, 2625, 2626, 2627, 2628, 2629, 2630, 2631, 2632, 2633, 2634,

Wright Thompson is the bestselling author of *Pappyland* and *The Cost of These Dreams*. He lives in Oxford, Mississippi, with his family.

History



Tipton-Martin, Toni

When Southern Women Cook: History, Lore, and 300 Recipes

A feast of the old Southern cookbooks features more than 300 Cook's Country recipes and fascinating insights into the culinary techniques and histories of American South. Tour the diverse history of Southern food through 300+ stories of winners who shaped the cuisine! Meet the people behind the recipes, and learn how to make them. Includes a special section on Morgan Bolling, when Southern Women Cook showcased the hard work, hospitality, and creativity of women who have given us Southern cooking from the start. Every page amplifies their contributions, from the enslaved cooks who blended traditional food at Monticello to the women who created the first Southern cookbooks. From the 18th-century South to the 21st-century South, the Smithsonian American Foodways Project has been documenting the history of Southern food. From the early days of the South's Emory Award—winning producer and author Vivian Oakes over Caribbean immigrant foodways through Southern stew, food journalist Kim Severson dives into cuisine's power as cultural currency, microbiologist and beverage historian Tulliana Berríos reflects on Instagram's impact on Southern food, and author and food historian Leah Starns explores the South's fascinating—contested!—relationship to 300 Recipes—most famous, little-known, and modern investments. Regional Brunswick Stew, Delicacy Cornmeal Bread, Prime-Ribbed Fried Chicken Sandwiches, Gumbo à la Louisiane, Chicken Rémoulade, and Oat Gingers (look for the gay-baiting, "Oat Gingers" recipe) are just a few of the recipes featured. Includes a special section on contesting your region's food: Leah Levin's "swamp" recipe about Dead Waffle House and fly chickens (they go light as air—swamp, meet Joy Jorjani, the "Bad Girl of Chicken"). Connecting every region and flavor of the American South, from Texas barbecue to Carolina Gullah greens, this collection of recipes and stories is a feast for the palate, mind, and soul.

Julia Child Award recipient, journalist, and *Cook's Country* Editor-in-Chief Toni Tipton-Martin is the force behind the James Beard and IACP Award-winning book *Jubilee* as well as *The Jemima Code* and the newly released *Juke Joints, Jazz Clubs & Juice*.

Cooking



Tournino, Rachelle

HELL YEAH!

"Hell Yeah is vital in the social sense... Tournino's got it." —Nick Stuenkel
Rachelle Tournino is a very gifted poet, and Hell Yeah is a stunning collection... Amused, restless, generous, loving, funny, plaintive, and high octane! —Steve Grant
"Commensurate, profound, and vibrant, these poems sing into the wild gap between our earthly selves and the wider world to gird at the interval between knowing and not knowing." —Rita Nye
"What a fantastic book this is! I want everyone who loves poetry to read it!" —C. C. Conard
Hell Yeah, Rachelle Tournino's highly anticipated second collection of poems, is an intimate, ecstatic examination of the wonders of common speech. As automatic and exhilarating as a hell yeah and between friends, the poems interject into various sites of the interpersonal— from a work email and doctor's office to a long-distance call and Yale's Answer cable box—to measure the strange, mundane, and ancient ways we relate and respond to one another. In an alternating rhythm of elegiac and lyric, daily and dunking down, Tournino riffs plain and subverted language to arrive at a theory for familiarity and something like faith: how we know what we know and why we share what we know. With curiosity, generosity, sardonic intellect, and charm, Hell Yeah captures that gut impulse to feel you, say so, and sing it.

Poetry



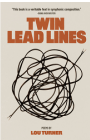
Turner, Jessica

I Thought It Would Be Better Than This

Learn how to recover from life's disappointments and rebuild a life you love. What happens when you look at your life and think, I thought it would be better than this? You know you can't stay where you are, but have no idea what to do next. When Jessica N. Turner, a mom of three, lost her 10-year marriage after her husband came out as gay, her life shattered. With grit and determination, she picked up the pieces, chose hope and courageously rebuilt a beautiful new chapter. During this process, Jessica discovered universal truths that can support you, no matter what you're facing. Using thoughtful reflections and exercises, vulnerable storytelling, and practical takeaways, Jessica will help you: Evaluate your disappointments, heartaches, and unmet expectations so that you can move forward in healing; Talk candidly about your feelings to keep healthier and more meaningful relationships; Practice forgiveness and empathy for yourself and others so that you live with more love and less pain; Regain control over the parts of life where you have agency instead of passively waiting for things to happen to you; Discover creative practices to cultivate daily validation and contentment; Learn to love yourself and the characteristics that make you unique so that you can be more confident and content. I Thought It Would Be Better Than This is a manifesto of hope that will empower you to transform your circumstances and move forward with intention and purpose.

General Nonfiction

Jessica N. Turner has spent the last two decades as a content creator and tastemaker for busy moms looking for hacks to live life with more intention and less stress. Additionally, Jessica is an award-winning content strategist and marketing professional. She speaks at events nationwide on a variety of topics including work-life balance, grief and disappointment, and social media best practices. She is also the author of the Wall Street Journal bestselling book The Fringe House: Making Time for You and Strengthened Two Times: How Working Moms Can Love the Guilt, Work Smarter, and Thrive. She has been featured in numerous media outlets including The Today Show, the Tamron Hall Show, O, the Oprah Magazine, People magazine, Better Homes & Gardens, Time zone, Inc.com, and more. Jessica lives with her three children in Nashville, Tennessee. Connect with her on Instagram: @jessicaturner



Turner, Lou

Twin Lead Lines

"These meticulously lyrical poems serve not only as auto-ethnographic lenses through which we can see both Little Jimmy Dickens being examined, but also the person doing the looking and the looking." —Diana Khai Nguyen, author of What Profound and Ghastly Off This is a book that demands to be read and reread." —Paige Lewis, author of Spine Struck
Twin Lead Lines, the remarkably original debut from poet and musician Lou Turner, is born of overlap: those of memory and shared family, of love and loss, and of TV myths of storytelling, and of listening deeply to others and oneself. Turner's distant cousin and Great Ole Opry legend Little Jimmy Dickens plays a role in the poems as part-cousin, part-fail, and full-late star—not flawless, but bright—for the poems to extend around as Turner has her voice and calling to attracting Dickens as Turner's partner in one of many of the duets played throughout Twin Lead Lines, along with a book-length series of tongue-twisters, the twin lead verse used to transmit radio signals, and the twin lead style of guitar playing made popular by Dickens' band. Turner deftly moves between traditional and invented forms in these poems, which—like a country song—are by turns funny and mourning.

Poetry

Lou Turner is a writer and musician (Styrodium Winsa, Ryan Davis & the Roadhouse Band) based in Nashville, TN. She holds an MFA in poetry from Randolph College and is the author of the chapbook Shape Note Singing (VA Press, 2020) as well as the editor of Quarter Note, a literary magazine with a musical ear. Turner was a 2022 recipient of a solo artist residency from The Coburn, as well as a recipient of a Nashville Music Lane Thru Grant. The 2022 winner of The Push Prize in Poetry, recent poems have appeared in OER's Aural Portraits issue, Visionary Poems, The Continental Review, Ecotone, and elsewhere. Turner's latest solo album Microcosmos (SPINSTER) was named a Best Album of 2022 by NPR Music's Song Power. Twin Lead Lines—called "a veritable feat of symphonic composition" by Diana Khai Nguyen—is her first book.



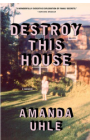
Twitty, Michael

Recipes from the American South

A home cook's guide to one of America's most diverse—and delicious—cuisines, from James Beard Award-winning author and culinary historian Michael W. Twitty. Our cuisine, with its grits and black-eyed peas, crab cakes, red rice, and endless variations on the staple foods of the region, casts a spell that, if you're lucky, gets passed down with every string bean at the table and chewing gum on the back porch." —Michael W. Twitty
In the introduction to his groundbreaking recipe collection, acclaimed historian Michael W. Twitty declares, "No one state or area can give you the breadth of the Southern story or fully tell the Southern tale." To answer this, Recipes from the American South journeys from the Louisiana Bayou to the Chesapeake Bay, showcasing more than 250 of the region's most beloved dishes. Across more than 400 pages, Twitty explores the broad culinary sweep that Southern history and its many cultures represent. Recipes for breads and biscuits, mains and sides, stews, soups, and sweets feature insightful headnotes and clear, step-by-step instructions. Home cooks will discover both iconic dishes and lesser-known specialties: Chicken and Dimples, She-crab Soup, Red Eye Gravy, Bama Red Vidler, Hummingbird Cake, and Mint Juleps appear alongside Shrimp Pilau, Chicken Dirty Rice, Sumac Lemnisk, and Capon Pig's Jaw Party. A beautiful story of food, Twitty's rich and extensive recipe collection with lyrical, deeply researched essays that celebrate the region's "multicultural gems" of influences from immigrants from across the globe. Vivid food photography adds further color to the fascinating narrative. Expansive, authoritative, and beautifully designed, Recipes from the American South is a classic cookbook in the making.

Cooking

Michael W. Twitty is an acclaimed culinary historian, and author of the two-time James Beard Award-winning book The Cooking Gene, as well as Rice and Kohnenore. He has written for many publications and been featured throughout print and broadcast media, including the Guardian, The New York Times, The Washington Post, PBS, and NPR's The Splendid Table. He has given over 100 public talks and appeared in numerous series, including Taste the Nation and High on the Hog.



Uhle, Amanda

Destroy This House

For fans of The Glass Castle and The Lion's Club, a tender, heartbreaking, and hilarious memoir chronicling the challenges of growing up with a desperately alcoholic father, a mother plagued by an acute hoarding disorder, and parenting parents while seeking independence. The Long family's love was fierce, their life a joy, but their dysfunction coursed through their lives. Amanda Uhle realized she was closer to them than anyone else, yet she found herself utterly consumed by the love they had laid.

Autobiography/Memoir

Amanda Uhle writes about culture, politics, and civil rights for The Washington Post, Politico Magazine, The Boston Globe, and Newsweek. Uhle is coeditor of the I, Woman series of first-person stories by youth activists, former director of the International youth writing and reading program, and collaborator with Dave Eggers, of the International Congress of Youth's Voices. Their work with youth writing organizations worldwide is documented in Uncommonly Beautiful: Essays for Young Minds on Fire. Uhle is the publisher and executive director of McHenry's, an independent nonprofit publisher of distinctive books and magazines.



Uhlen, Mary

The Flock We Found

Mostly Baby Bird worries when Papa Bird comes home. Sometimes he comes home too loud, or too quiet, or too...different. When all the birds in the tree decide to host a Bird Day, Baby Bird hatches a plan. If the sun win field day, Papa Bird will come home happy...right? With the help of Mama and all his neighbors, Baby Bird figures out, builds a practically perfect nest, and catches the fastest worm! And Papa Bird doesn't even notice. Baby Bird is devastated. Was all his hard work for nothing? Mama and all his neighbors help him to understand that he is surrounded by love. And what's more? Papa Bird will always support him. This is a story of found family and encouragement for any bird with a parent who may not be able to be fully present in their lives. Includes a reader's note by Ellen Bratton, PhD, with more information on the effect on children living in unpredictable homes and ways to help these kids.

Mary Ravenr Uhlén is a picture book author, illustrator, and former animator whose recent illustration credits include Counting on Nannab and Let's Pop, Pop, Popcorn. She lives with her family in Nashville, Tennessee.

Children's



Vanasco, Jeannie

A Silent Treatment: A Memoir

"A Silent Treatment condenses both the complexity of family and the quandary of capturing a family's shoplifting and prepping love, their treifed and devoted love, in the author of memoirs." —Megha Majumdar She did it to my dad, though. They used the silent treatment on each other, she explained, because they didn't want to say something they'd regret. What does she want to say now that she's an adult? Jeannie Vanasco's mother starts using the silent treatment not long after moving into the renovated apartment within Jeannie's home. The silence begins at any perceived slight. Her shorter period of silence lasts two weeks. Her longest, six months. As Vanasco guides us through her mother's childhood, their shared past, and the devastating silence of their present, she paints a layered, complicated portrait of a mother and daughter talking, falling, and—in big and small ways—needing to be treated and each other. In the margins of her research, at her kitchen table with her partner, in phone calls to friends, and in delightful very gentle queries, Vanasco explores the loneliness and isolation of silence as punishment, both in her own life and beyond it, and confides her greatest fear that her mother will never speak to her again. From the acclaimed author of Things We Didn't Talk About When I Was a Girl and The Glass Eye, Jeannie Vanasco's A Silent Treatment is a wondrously honest and lasting testament to the power of all things left unsaid.

Jeannie Vanasco is the author of the memoir Things We Didn't Talk About When I Was a Girl and The Glass Eye. Born and raised in Sandusky, Ohio, she lives in Baltimore and is an assistant professor of English at Towson University.

Autobiography/Memoir



Vernon, Alex

Peace Is a Shy Thing: The Life and Art of Tim O'Brien

The first literary biography of Tim O'Brien, the preeminent American writer of the war in Vietnam and one of the best writers of his generation, drawing on never-before-seen materials and original interviews. "Vietnam made me a writer." —Tim O'Brien Featuring over one hundred interviews with family, friends, peers, and others—not to mention casual exchanges with Tim O'Brien himself—Peace Is a Shy Thing provides a steady day-by-day, gripping account of O'Brien's thirteen months as an infantryman in Vietnam and gives equal diligence to reconstructing O'Brien's writing process. This meticulously researched biography explores his life and journey that turned O'Brien into a literary icon and a household name. It includes an unpublished short story about O'Brien from a college girlfriend, documentation of his crucial involvement with the Washington Post's coverage of Vietnam, and a 1986 article exchange between American and Vietnamese writers on the eve of the publication of O'Brien's most beloved book, The Things They Carried, years before the two men became intimate friends. Peace Is a Shy Thing is as much a history of the era as it is a story of O'Brien's life, from his small-town and war-torn mid-century childhood, to winning the National Book Award and his status as a literary elder statesman. A story which Vernon, a combat veteran of the Persian Gulf War and a literary scholar trained by officers and professors of the Vietnam era, is uniquely suited to tell.

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

General Nonfiction



Viswanathan, Padma

The Charterhouse of Padma

Two women, living in America's heartland, unearth shocking secrets about the men they love and question the lives they chose. *Padma* is on deadline. She should be translating. Instead, she's writing obsessively about her former editor-chapterman. A literary translator in Arkansas (if all planned), she married to Mac, a professional limousine taxi driver for his own good. As the COVID lockdown continues, *Padma* discovers a secret about her husband, one that upends her understanding of her life's trajectory. In the widening gulf between who she is and who she thought she might be, she imagines a double, someone very like her, but less lonely, more independent, more angry, more maternal, more fun... "Now we must murder!" "I'll consider it." She's married to a successful poet and translator called Mat. It's a second marriage—her first fell apart when she came upon a secret concealed by her then-husband. This *Padma* is exhausted and enraged by racial microaggressions, by structural obstacles, by her husband's dubious responses to her ambitions. Then the pandemic falls and her new novel falters, along with everything else she (and everyone else) had planned. In the new silence, though, she starts to read her marriage differently. And, unexpectedly, she begins an essay about her favorite editor-chapterman. The Charterhouse of Padma is full of delicious ascriptions, revelations, and sharply observed truths about what it is to be a woman, a writer, a mother, and an artist. Exhibiting absorbing, charged with mature candor and humor, this is a novel for anyone who ever wondered how, or if, they ever chose the thing they love.

Padma Viswanathan is a Canadian-American novelist and translator whose novels have been published in eight countries and shortlisted for the PENUSA Prize, the Scotiabank Giller Prize, and others. Her most recent book is *Like Every Form of Love: A Memoir of Friendship and True Crime*. Viswanathan's short fiction, essays and translations have appeared in *Granta*, *The Boston Review*, *BRICK*, and elsewhere. Her full-length translations include *São Bernardo*, by Brazilian novelist Graciliano Ramos, and *Where We Stand* by philosopher Daniela Rabinov. She is Professor of Creative Writing at the University of Arkansas—Fayetteville, where she is Founding Director of the Arkansas International Writers-at-Risk Residency Program.

Fiction



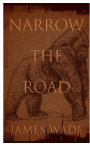
Wade, E.J.

The Devil's Pulpit and Other Mostly True Scottish Misadventures

On the heels of a global pandemic, two post-menopausal Appalachian women, one black, one white, abandoned heart, home, and spouses dragging in dubious wonderment to live and study abroad together in a university that along Scotland's River Ayr. Post E.J. Wade and author Karen Spearman Zacharias returned from the depths of Finnish Glen to the outcroppings of Dunrobin Castle. Sometimes wishing they'd been raised by Buddhist monks instead of by first-mooned chain-smoking Appalachian mothers, these two University of the West of Scotland grad students embraced the wandering spirits of their matrilineal ancestors and left no ScotRail ticket unused. In Glasgow's Shona Ballroom, as musicians misinterpreted the compositions of writer and abolitionist Ignatius Sancho, they danced a waltz. Along Edinburgh's Holyrood Street, Wade performed a solo. Hiking past windmills and golfers, they went in search of fairies and unearthed ritual mummies. They pined and Highland men in kilts and staid gipsy-mounted before the Falkirk Kelzies. THE DEVIL'S PULPIT & OTHER MOSTLY TRUE SCOTTISH MISADVENTURES is part travelogue, part memoir, part poetry, and is unashamedly Scottish storytelling tradition, a wee bit of singing 'n' somewhere along Scotland's northwestern tip to its southeastern heids, they forged a friendship that defies generations of racial animosity. At its heart, this collection is the rediscovery of friendships first formed through studying and making about.

E.J. (Ellen) Wade is an award-winning poet whose work has been published in the ANTHOLOGY OF APPALACHIAN WRITERS, Women Speak, Salvation South, and Callaloo Literary Journal. A four-time National Endowment of the Humanities Teacher Institute winner, she holds an Ed.D. in Disability and Equity in Education from National Louis University, an M.A. in Appalachian Studies from England University, and an M.A. in Creative Media Practice from the University of West of Scotland.

Historical Fiction



Wade, James

Narrow the Road: A Novel

In this gripping coming-of-age story, a young man's quest to reunite his family takes him on a life-altering journey through the wilds of 1930s East Texas, where both danger and opportunity grow as thick as the pines. With his father missing and his mother gravely ill, William Carter is struggling to keep his family's cotton farm afloat in the face of drought and foreclosure. As his opinion wanes, William receives a mysterious letter that claims to know his father's whereabouts. Together with his best friend Clint, a musician-in-training, William sets out to find his father and bring him home to set things right. But before the boys can complete their quest, they must navigate the labyrinth of the Big Thicket, some of the country's most uncharted, untamed land. Along the way they encounter eccentric backwoods characters of every order, running afoul of moonshiners, bootleggers, and even the legendary Bonnie and Clyde. As the boys' journey is derailed when the boys agree to take on a medicine show runaway named Lena, eliciting the ire of the show's leader, the reluctant cotton farmer Dierdra Denton. As William, Clint, and Lena race to uncover the clues and find William's father, Denton is closing in on them, creating a real good on his violent reputation. With the clock ticking, William must decide where his loyalties lie and how far he's willing to go for the people he loves. From award-winning author James Wade, *Narrow the Road* is a riveting exploration of a young man's hunt—over coming-of-age and the outrageous ways a person can forge a singular path in the face of overwhelming adversity. Alive with grit and tenderness, this is an unforgettable story of the power of friendship to sustain us through loss, betrayal, and devastating consequence.

James Wade is the award-winning author of *Hollow Out the Dark*, *Beats of the Earth*, *All Things Lost* Wild, and *River, Sing Out*. He is the youngest novelist to win two Spier Awards from the Western Writers of America, and a recipient of the MIBA's prestigious Reading the West Award. His work has appeared in *Texas Highway*, *Western Digest*, and numerous additional publications. James lives and writes in the Texas Hill Country with his wife and children.

Autobiography/Memoir



Wambogo, Stephanie
[CANCELED/ALAS]

Lonely Crowds

Luster meets *The Idiot* in this riveting debut novel about a volatile friendship between two outsiders who escape their bleak childhoods and enter the glamorous early '90s art world in New York City, where only one of them can make it. Ruth, an only child of recent immigrants to New England, lives in an emotionally cold home and attends the local Catholic girl's school on a scholarship. Maria, a beautiful orphan whose Panamanian mother dies by suicide and is taken care of by an ill, unloving aunt, is one of the only other students attending the school on a scholarship. Ruth is drawn forcefully into Maria's orbit, and they fall in love as they attempt to follow her around to college and then into the early nineties art world of New York City. There, ambition and competition threaten to rupture their friendship, while strong and unspoken forces pull them together over the years. When Maria finds early success in New York City as an artist, Ruth stumbles along the fringes of the art world, pulled toward a quieter life of work and marriage. As their lives converge and diverge, they must in one final bid for self-confirmation. Ruth and Maria's decades-long friendship interrogates the nature of intimacy, desire, class and time. What does it mean to be an artist and to be true to oneself? What does it mean to give up on an dreamer? Marking the arrival of a sensational new literary talent, *Lonely Crowds* challenges us to reckon honestly with our own ambitions and the lives we hope to lead.

Stephanie Wambogo was born in Monrovia, Kenya in 1998 and grew up in Rhode Island. She lives and works in New York, where she received her MFA from Columbia University. She is an editor of *Poetryland Magazine*. *Lonely Crowds* is her first novel.

Fiction



Weiss, Elaine

Spell Freedom: The Underground Schools that Built the Civil Rights Movement

The acclaimed author of the "stirring, definitive, and engrossing" (NPR) *The Woman's Hour* returns with the story of four activists whose audacious plan to restore voting rights to Black Americans laid the groundwork for the Civil Rights Movement. In the summer of 1964, educator Septima Clark and small businessman James Jackson travelled to rural Tennessee's Highlander Folk School, an interracial training center for social change founded by A. Philip Randolph, a white southerner with roots in the labor movement. There, the two united behind a shared mission: preparing Black southerners to pass the daunting Jim Crow era voter registration literacy tests that were designed to disenfranchise them. Together with local activists turned teacher Bernice Robinson, they launched the underground Citizenship Schools project, which began with a single makeshift classroom hidden in the back of a rural grocery store. By the time the Voting Rights Act was signed into law in 1965, the secret undertaking had established more than nine hundred citizenship schools across the South, preparing tens of thousands of Black citizens to read and write, demand their rights—and vote. Simultaneously, it nurtured a generation of activists—many of them women—trained in community organizing, political citizenship, and tactics of resistance and struggle who became the grassroots foundation of the Civil Rights Movement. Dr. King called Septima Clark "Mother of the Movement." In *The Vote of Willard*, Figures and Devil in the Grove, *Spell Freedom* is both a riveting, crucially important look onto our past, and a deeply moving story for our present.

Elaine Weiss is an award-winning journalist, author, and public speaker. In addition to *Spell Freedom*, she is the author of *Fruits of Victory: The Women's Land Army of the Great War*, and *The Woman's Hour: The Great Fight to Win the Vote*. Elaine lives with her husband in Baltimore, Maryland. Find out more at ElaineWeiss.com.

History



West, Kevin

The Cook's Garden

From the critically acclaimed author of *Saving the Season* comes an accessible, comprehensive, and inspiring guide to growing your own garden and incorporating homegrown produce into everyday cooking—no matter how much or how little you grow. In *The Cook's Garden*, the most practical path to successful gardens leads through the kitchen door. And preparing for a fantastic meal of homegrown vegetables—the kind of meal that leaves you not only satisfied, but grateful—is just what he wants to help you learn to do. In *The Cook's Garden*, West goes beyond the tools and confidence they need to grow food for their own meals. From gardening basics and advice on harvesting, to delicious recipes showing how to make the best use of produce in any season—including pointers on freezing surplus vegetables, making pantry staples such as canned tomatoes, and effectively using stored produce—this book promises to inspire anyone, even if their growing plot is as small as a windowsill in a city apartment. West's wisdom is practical guide is interwoven with meditations on the beauty, poetry, and spirituality inherent in growing and preparing one's own food. *The Cook's Garden* guides readers through inspiring their gardens and revolutionizing their kitchens—in whole and nourishing their minds and souls.

Kevin West comes from East Tennessee farmers and Smoky Mountain settlers, country people with generations of commitment to growing delicious food. He is the author of *Saving the Season: A Cook's Guide to Home Canning, Pickling, and Preserving* and also coauthored *The Great Central Market Cookbook* and contributed to *Eden Lewis At the Table with an American Original*. He lives the Berkshire, in rural western Massachusetts.

Cooking



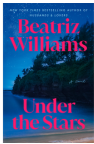
Williams, Andrea

Inside the Park

From Andrea Williams, the bestselling author of *We Are Family* with LeBron James, comes *Inside the Park*, the story of a young baseball fan's misadventures after getting locked inside a pro baseball stadium on the eve of the biggest game of the season. In this awe, hilarious, action-packed middle grade tale, Timmy "Pumpkin" Strickland, a baseball-loving twelve-year-old, is about to step up to the plate for the biggest swing of his life. Pumpkin needs a win. Or to be more precise, he needs the Nashville Wildcats to win. Pumpkin's been waiting his entire life—twelve whole years!—for his favorite team to make it to the playoffs. And this year—finally!—they're just one win away. But when Pumpkin accidentally gets trapped in Lookout Field the night before the last game of the season, with only a hot dog stand Coney for company, he may have accidentally stumbled into the last night of his life. For a baseball fan like Pumpkin, using the pro's batting cages, running the bases, playing with the police address patrol, eating all the concession stand food find he can find is a dream come true...until he realizes he's not alone in the stadium. First pitch is brewing beneath Lookout Field, and now it's on Pumpkin to swallow his fears, grow up his courage, and swing for the fences the fans he wants to watch the Wildcat's postseason chances. *Inside the Park* is a fun-filled, action-packed tale of wish fulfillment that's perfect for fans of Mike Lupica and Tim Green or any kid who's ever closed their eyes and imagined stepping up to the plate with the game tied and the season on the line.

Andrea Williams is an author, journalist, and editor. Though she currently resides in Nashville, Tennessee, with her husband and four children, Andrea's heart will always remain in her hometown of Kansas City, Missouri.

Historical Fiction



Williams, Beatrix

Under the Stars: A Novel

When a daughter and her famous mother return to Winthrop Island to confront their complicated past, they discover a secret town of paintings that connect them to a mysterious woman who vanished on a luxury steamship two centuries earlier. From the New York Times bestselling author of *Household & Lovers* comes an epic tale of family legacy, love, and truth that echoes down generations. Audrey Fisher has struggled all her life to emerge from the shadow of her famous mother by forging a career as a world-class chef. Meredith Fisher's glamorous screen persona disguises the trauma of the tragic accident that haunted her dreams. Neither woman wants to return to the New England island they left behind and its complicated emotional ties, but Meredith has one last chance to make up and salvage her big comeback, and where else but distant, mysterious Winthrop Island can a famous actress spend the summer without the intrusion of other people? Until Audrey discovers an old wonder chest among the belongings of her estranged bartender father, Mike Kennedy, and the astonishing contents draw the women deep into Winthrop's past and its many secrets...attracting the interest of their handsome neighbor, Dodge Peabody. How did a town of paintings from one of America's greatest artists wind up in the cellar of the *Madhouse Inn*? And who is the mysterious woman portrayed on every canvas? On a stormy November night in 1846, Providence Descartes Bottom and boards the luxury steamship *Atlantic* one stop ahead of the law...as she believes. But when a catastrophic accident leaves the ship at the mercy of a nightful gale, Providence finds herself trapped in a deadly game of cat and mouse with the one man who knows her real identity—the detective investigating the suspicious death of her employer, the painter Henry Irving. As the *Atlantic* fights for her life and the rocky shore of Winthrop Island edges closer, a desperate Providence searches for her chance to escape...before the sea swallows her without a trace. In *Under the Stars*, the destinies of three women converge across centuries, in a harrowing true disaster at the dawn of the steamship era evokes a complex legacy of family secrets in modern-day New England. Williams has written a timeless epic of mothers and daughters, of love lost and found, and of the truths that echo down generations.

Beatrix Williams is the New York Times and internationally bestselling author of *Household & Lovers* and many other novels, including four novels in collaboration with bestselling authors Karen White and Lauren Willig. A graduate of Stanford University with an MFA in fiction from Columbia University, Beatrix has won numerous awards for her fiction, which has been translated into more than a dozen languages. Beatrix lives near the Connecticut shore with her husband and four children.

Midlife Grade



Williams, LaCharron

Blood at the Root: A Novel

Two years ago, Malik's life changed forever the night his mother mysteriously vanished and he discovered he had uncontrollable powers. Since then, he has kept his abilities hidden, looking out for himself and his younger first brother, Tape. Now, at 17, Malik is finally ready to start a new life for both of them, far from the trauma of his past. However, a dating app to rescue Tape reveals an unexpected connection with his long-lost grandmother: a legendary conjurer with ties to a hidden magical community that Malik neither attended.

At Calicut University, Malik's eyes are opened to a future he never could have envisioned for himself—one that includes the appearance of his first love, Alexis. His search for answers about his heritage, his powers, and what really happened to his mother exposes the cracks in their magical community and a fabled ancestral civil dating back to the Italian Revolution. Together with Alexis, Malik discovers a lot beneath the surface of Calicut: breeding ovens and magical politics, forbidden knowledge and buried mysteries.

In a wholly unique saga of family, history and community, Malik must embrace his legacy to save what is left of his old family as well as his own. Exploring the roots and secrets that connect us in an unforgettable contemporary setting, this heart-pounding fantasy series opens a rich tapestry of atmosphere, intrigue, and emotion.

LaCharron Williams is a Los Angeles-based playwright, filmmaker, author, and screenwriter whose goal is to cultivate a new era of Black fiction, providing space and agency for Black characters and stories to be seen, heard and featured way. He is currently a resident playwright/co-creator of The Black Cosmos Collective, where he plays UMOJA made its West Coast premiere in January 2021 and produced North Hollywood's first Black playwrights festival at the West Theatre Center. *Blood at the Root* is his first novel. His viral and award-winning short film based on the same concept, is currently on YouTube and Amazon Prime.

Fantasy



Williams, Lavertha

From the Firefly Furnace to the Promise Land

The Promise Land community, a small village west of Nashville, Tennessee was founded after the Civil War by people who had been enslaved at the Cumberland Iron Furnace. These early settlers, who included United States Colored Troops veterans, were able to purchase land and establish Black-owned businesses. This afforded the community a level of ability that defied conventional wisdom about the post-Reconstruction era South. In time the community encompassed approximately 1,000 acres with more than 30 homes, several stores, three churches, and an elementary school. But by the mid-twentieth century, the community had dwindled to just a handful of families. Now all that remains physically is a church and the old school building. But in the hearts of the descendants of those families, Promise Land remains a vital and thriving community of friends, family, and, albeit virtual, neighbors who continue to support each other. This is the story of this town told through the memories of the people who lived there. Seeing Gilbert grow up in the community and is now one of the revered storytellers and story keepers of Promise Land. Along with historian Lavertha Williams, she is sharing the history of a community that thrived and continues to thrive in the face of almost insurmountable obstacles.

Lavertha Williams Jr. is a professor of African American, Civil War and Reconstruction, and Public History at Tennessee State University and coordinator of the Nashville Heritage Project. He is the co-editor of *It's All You Thine: Exploring Nashville's Social Justice Side* (also published by Vanderbilt University Press).

History



Wilson, Kevin

Run for the Hills: A Novel

An unexpected road trip across America brings a family together, in this raucous and moving new novel from the bestselling author of *Nothing to Fear*. Ever since her dad left them twenty years ago, it's been just Madeline Hill and her mom on their farm in California, Tennessee. While it's not fairly, she sometimes admits, and a less exciting life than what she imagined for herself, it's mostly okay. Mostly. Then one day Bracken Hill pulls up in a PT Cruiser and informs Madeline that he believes she's his father. Bracken—left behind by his dad thirty years ago—has hired a detective to track down their father and a string of other half-siblings. And he wants Mad to leave her home and join him for the easiest (and) real trip imaginable to find them all. As Mad and Brack—and eventually the others—share stories of their father, who believed so differently in each life he created, they begin to question what he was looking for with every new revelation. What are they to one another? What kind of man will they find? And how will these new relationships change Mad's previously solitary life on the farm? Infused with deadpan wit, racy hijinks, and enormous heart, *Run for the Hills* is a sibling story like no other—a novel about a family forged under the most unlikely circumstances and united by hope in an unknown future.

Kevin Wilson is the New York Times bestselling author of five novels, including *Now Is Not the Time to Panic*, *Nothing to Fear*, and *The Family Fang*, as well as two story collections. His work has received the Shirley Jackson Award and been selected as a *Read with Your Kids* book club pick. He lives in Swanton, Tennessee, with his wife and two sons.

Mystery/Thriller



Winstead, Ashely

This Book Will Bury Me: A Novel

From bestselling author Ashely Winstead comes a chilling psychological thriller that explores the dark heart of digital obsessions, collection grief, and what happens when murder becomes entertainment. After losing her father, college student Jane Sharp finds solace—and purpose—in the strange intimacy of online true crime forums. Among amateur detectives and anonymous alibis, she becomes someone new: sharp-eyed, fast-thinking, celebrated. But when the brutal death of three college girls in Delphine, Idaho sparks a viral frenzy, Jane and her online friends become part of the investigation. This time, they aren't just watching from behind a screen. This time, they're in it. But every clue uncovers more contradictions. The town seems eerily, the police too polished, and the killer always one step ahead. As Jane inches closer to the truth, she begins to suspect they've walked into something far more dangerous than a mystery. Now, one year later, Jane is ready to tell the true story. What she's about to reveal will change everything. Perfect for fans of Gillian Flynn, *This Book Will Bury Me* is a gripping combination of digital justice, dangerous fame, and the price of being seen. Tense, emotional, and thought-provoking, *This Book Will Bury Me* is more than a thriller—it's a warning. For anyone who's ever binged a crime doc, shared a theory, or shared justice from their phone, Jane's confusion will haunt you long after the final line.

Ashely Winstead is an academic-turned novelist with a PhD in contemporary American literature. She lives in Houston with her husband, two cats, and beloved wine fridge. You can find her at www.ashelywinstead.com.

Fiction



Wolf, Peter [CANCELED, ALAS]

Waiting on the Moon Artist, Poets, Differs, Giffers, and Goddesses

In the tradition of classic collections of observations and musings such as Christopher Isherwood's *I Am a Camera* and Truman Capote's *The Dogs Bark*, *Waiting on the Moon* is a treasure trove of vignettes from a legendary musical figure whose career spans more than six decades and is still going strong. Peter Wolf grew up in the Bronx, a child of "kellow travelers" whose artistic inclinations influenced both his love of music and his initial desire to become a painter. Stories of his living and sometimes eccentric parents complement women depicting a very young Bob Dylan as he arrived on the Greenwich Village folk scene. Reflections on Wolf's studies in Boston—where he shared an apartment with David Byrne—can be read with accounts of fine love, an untraditional literary education, and early musical influences such as Muddy Waters. *After Wolf* joined the Grateful Dead as their front man and his musical fame grew, he rubbed shoulders with other musicians who left significant impressions on him, including members of the Rolling Stones, Sly Stone, Tennessee Williams, Albert Einstein, and Van Morrison. Wolf's marriage to Faye Dineenay is presented in a clear yet balanced and measured light. Told with gentle humor and often heart-rending poignancy, the word portraits in *Waiting on the Moon* provide a revealing glimpse of artists, writers, actors, and musicians as they work—the creative forces that drive them to achievement, the demons they battle, the patterns of their human relationships. They are meant to inspire not only empathy but also admiration. Like Isherwood, Wolf remains "a camera with its shutter open."

Peter Wolf, born in the Bronx NY, became a rock 'n' roll icon at the age of fifteen after attending an Alan Freed event that included performances by Chuck Berry, Buddy Holly, Jerry Lee Lewis, and others. Although at first, he agreed to become a painter and studied at the Boston Museum School of Fine Arts, he experienced a life-changing epiphany after jumping onstage with a band of fellow art students at a folk party forming one of Boston's early rock bands, the Hallucinations. Shortly thereafter, Wolf secured a job as an all-night DJ on the fledgling FM radio station WBCN, where he adopted the persona of the "Woods Guide" and spun obscure rock 'n' roll and early rhythm and blues. His encyclopedic musical knowledge came to handy when he and some like-minded Boston players formed the J. Geils Band, much of whose early repertoire was drawn from Wolf's vast record collection. In 1970 the band was signed by Jerry Wester for Atlantic Records where they went on to release nine influential albums and scored a reputation as one of rock's most exciting live acts. In 1979 they were signed by EMI America topping the charts world-wide with their hit songs "Freddie Frame," "Love Stinks," and "Centerfield." With the 1984 album *Lights Out*, Wolf began his career as a solo artist. In the ensuing years he collaborated with suchs as Franklin, Merle Haggard, John Lee Hooker, and Nick Jagger, among others. His album *Sleepless* was voted one of the top five hundred albums of all time by *Rolling Stone*. He

Autobiography/Memoir



Yee, Katie

Maggie Or, a Man and a Woman Walk into a Bar

A Chinese American woman spins tragedy into comedy when her life falls apart in a fast, very adult novel that grapples with grief, melancholy, and asphyx—perfect for fans of Juno Diaz and *Crying in H Mart*. A man and a woman walk into a restaurant. The woman expects a lovely night filled with endless plates of dumplings. Instead, she finds out her husband is having an affair with a woman named Maggie. A short while after, her chest starts to ache. She walks into an examination room, where she finds out the pain in her breast isn't just heartbreak—it cancer. She decides to tell the tumor Maggie. Unbeknownst to her, the cancer is the cancer of the coming month. Maggie Or, a Man and a Woman Walk Into a Bar follows the narrator as she embarks on a journey of grief, healing, and revelation. She starts talking to Maggie (the tumor), getting acquainted with her body's new inhabitant. She unexpectedly creates a "Guide to My Husband: A User's Manual" for Maggie (the other woman), hoping to ease the process of discovering her ex-husband's whens and quids. She turns her children's bedtime stories into a retelling of Chinese folklore passed down by her own mother, in an attempt to make them fall in love with their shared culture—and to maybe save herself in the process. In the style of Jenny O'Neill and the tradition of New England's hilarious and devastating writing on heartbreak and melancholy, Maggie is a master class in transforming personal tragedy into a form of defiant comedy.

Katie Yee is a writer from Brooklyn. She has received fellowships from the Center for Fiction, the Asian American Writers' Workshop, and Kundalini. Her work has appeared in the *Los Angeles Review of Books*, *No Takers*, *The Believer*, the *Washington Square Review*, *Triangle House*, *Epiphany*, and *Literary Fish*. By day, she works at the Brooklyn Museum. By night, she writes, usually under the watch of her judgmental rescue dog, Olive.

Fiction



Young, Jessica

Today at School with Yesterday and Tomorrow

Award-winning author Jessica Young and New York Times bestselling illustrator Brian Kestell crafted a heartwarming story about the first day of school, told from the perspective of three timely characters: Yesterday, Today, and Tomorrow. Yesterday and Tomorrow do everything together. Now that the first day of school is here, Yesterday and Tomorrow are worried about what the day will bring! Until now enough they discover the power of being in the present with the help of their new friend, Today. From the New York Times bestselling illustrator of *Just Because*, here is a gentle and uplifting picture book for anyone facing a new experience.

Jessica Young is an award-winning author of books for young readers, including *Two Homes*, *One Heart*, *I'll Meet You in Your Dreams*, *My Blue Is Happy*, *Play This Book*, *The Huggo and Tink Unhatched* series, and *The Fairlight Friends* series. A former art teacher, she loves sharing the creative process with students. She's a lot like Tomorrow, and she's thankful to have great friends like Today! Jessica grew up in Canada and lives in Tennessee with her family. Find out more about her books and school visits at jessicayoungbooks.com.

Children's



Zachariah, Karen Spears

The Devil's Pulpit and Other Mesquy Tree Scottish Misadventures

On the heels of a global pandemic, two post-menopausal Appalachian women, one Black, one white, abandoned hearts, home, and spouses struggling in dubious vocation to live and study abroad together in a university (that along Scotland's River Ayr, Post E.J. Wade and author Karen Spears Zachariah earned from the depths of French Guian to the interregnum of Dunoon Castle. Sometimes wishing they'd been raised by Buddhist monks instead of by foul-mouthed chain-smoking Appalachian mothers, these two University of the West of Scotland grad students embraced the wandering spirits of their maternal ancestors and left no ScotRail ticket unused. In Glasgow's Steam Ballroom, as musicians reimaged the compositions of writer and abolitionist Ignatius Sancho, they danced a waltz. Along Edinburgh's Fife's Street, Wade performed a solo. Hiking past windmills and gullies, they went in search of fairies and unearthed magical moments. They snatched Highland cows in Stranraer and stood gag-mouthed before the Falkirk Palace. THE DEVIL'S PULPIT & OTHER MESQUY TREE SCOTCH MISADVENTURES is part travelogue, part memoir, part poetry, and in unadulterated Scottish storytelling tradition, a wee bit of magical realism. Somewhere along Scotland's northeastern tip to its most hermetic, they forged a friendship that defies generations of racial animosity. At its heart, this collection is the rediscovery of friendships first formed through studying and musing about.

Karen Spears Zachariah is an American writer whose work focuses on women and justice. She holds an MA in Appalachian Studies from Shepherd University and an MA in Creative Media Practice from the University of the West of Scotland. A Georgia native, she lives at the foot of the Cascade Mountains in Oregon. Learn more about her at www.karenspears.com.

Autobiography/Memoir