



**BASIC  
BOOKS**

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**SPRING**

**2019**

*Renowned publisher of serious nonfiction by  
leading intellectuals, scholars, and journalists*

# BASIC BOOKS

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COVER DESIGN BY CHIN-YEE LAI



# BEE WILSON

## THE WAY WE EAT NOW

*How the Food Revolution Has Transformed  
Our Lives, Our Bodies, and Our World*

**F**ood is one of life's great joys. So why has eating become such a source of anxiety and confusion?

Bee Wilson shows that in two generations the world has undergone a massive shift from traditional, limited diets to more globalized ways of eating, from bubble tea to quinoa, from Soylent to meal kits.

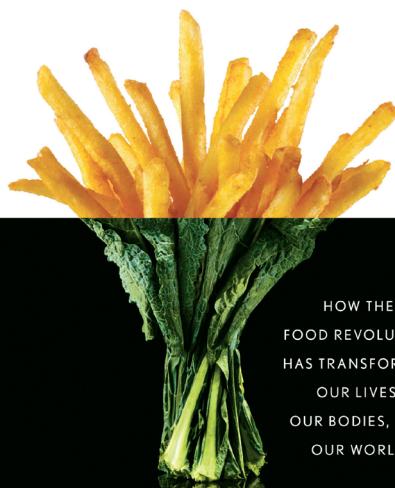
Paradoxically, our diets are getting healthier and less healthy at the same time. For some, there has never been a happier food era than today: a time of unusual herbs, farmers' markets, and internet recipe swaps. Yet modern food also kills—diabetes and heart disease are on the rise everywhere on earth.

This is a book about the good, the terrible, and the avocado toast. A riveting exploration of the hidden forces behind what we eat, *The Way We Eat Now* explains how this food revolution has transformed our bodies, our social lives, and the world we live in.



**BEE WILSON** is a celebrated food writer, food historian, and author of five books, including *First Bite: How We Learn to Eat* and *Consider the Fork: A History of How We Cook and Eat*. She has been named BBC Radio's food writer of the year and is a three-time Guild of Food Writers food journalist of the year. She writes a monthly column on food in the *Wall Street Journal*. She lives in Cambridge, England.

# THE WAY WE EAT NOW



**An award-winning food writer  
takes us on a global tour of what  
the world eats—and shows us how  
we can change it for the better**

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### NEW HARDCOVER • MAY

Food • \$30.00 / \$39.00 CAN

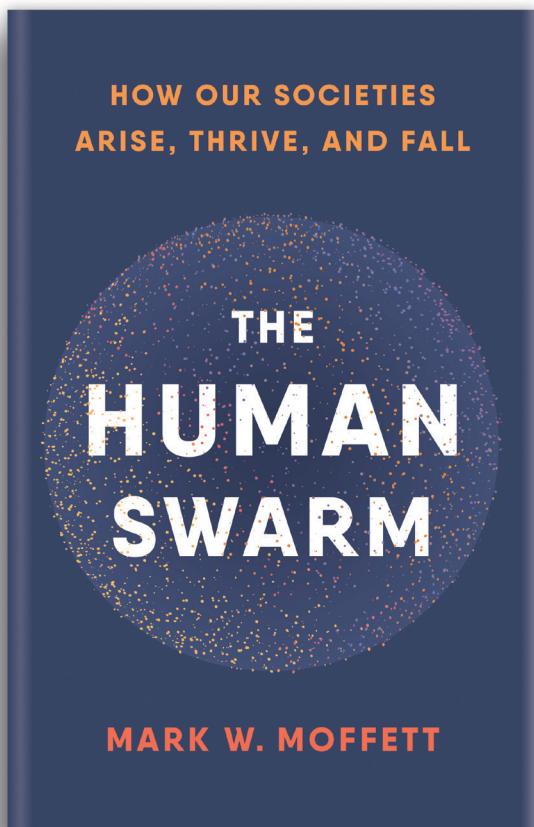
6 x 9¼ • 384 pages

978-0-465-09397-7

E-BOOK 978-0-465-09398-4

Selling Territory: USC

Author photo © Charlotte Griffiths



The epic story of how humans evolved  
from intimate chimp communities  
into a world-dominating species

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**NEW HARDCOVER • APRIL**

Science / Anthropology • \$32.00 US / \$42.00 CAN

6 x 9¼ • 480 pages

Twenty-four black-and-white illustrations

978-0-465-05568-5

E-BOOK 978-1-5416-1729-2

Selling Territory: W

Author photo © Lara Heimert

# MARK W. MOFFETT

## THE HUMAN SWARM

*How Our Societies Arise, Thrive, and Fall*

If a chimpanzee ventures into the territory of a different group, it will almost certainly be killed. But a New Yorker can fly to Los Angeles—or Borneo—with very little fear. Psychologists have done little to explain this: for years, they have held that our biology puts a hard upper limit—about 150 people—on the size of our social groups. But human societies are in fact vastly larger. How do we manage, by and large, to get along with each other?

In this paradigm-shattering book, biologist Mark W. Moffett draws on findings in psychology, sociology, and anthropology to explain the social adaptations that bind societies. He explores how the tension between identity and anonymity defines how societies develop, function, and fail. In the vein of *Guns, Germs, and Steel* and *Sapiens*, *The Human Swarm* reveals how mankind created sprawling civilizations of unrivaled complexity—and what it will take to sustain them.



**MARK W. MOFFETT**, called “a daring eco-adventurer” by Margaret Atwood, is a biologist and research associate at the Smithsonian. He is the author of four previous books and has been a regular guest on the *Colbert Report*, *Conan*, NPR’s *Fresh Air*, and CBS *Sunday Morning*. He lives in New York City.

# VICTOR DAVIS HANSON

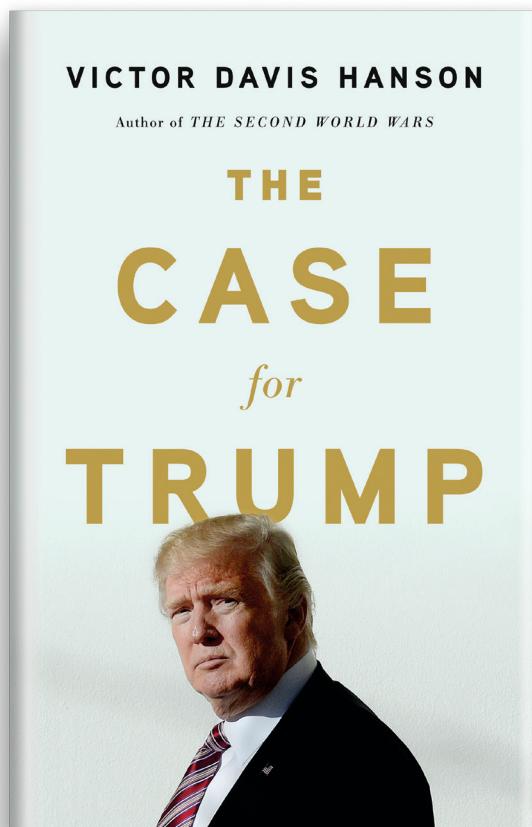
## THE CASE FOR TRUMP

In *The Case for Trump*, award-winning historian and political commentator Victor Davis Hanson explains how a celebrity businessman with no political or military experience triumphed over sixteen well-qualified Republican rivals, a Democrat with a quarter-billion-dollar war chest, and a hostile media and Washington establishment to become president of the United States—and an extremely successful president.

Trump alone saw a political opportunity in defending the working people of America's interior whom the coastal elite of both parties had come to scorn, Hanson argues. And Trump alone had the instincts and energy to pursue this opening to victory, dismantle a corrupt old order, and bring long-overdue policy changes at home and abroad. We could not survive a series of presidencies as volatile as Trump's. But after decades of drift, America needs the outsider Trump to do what normal politicians would not and could not do—a fact that explains the furor directed at Trump by the political and media status quo.



**VICTOR DAVIS HANSON** is a senior fellow in military history at the Hoover Institution at Stanford University and a professor emeritus of classics at California State University, Fresno. He is the author of more than two dozen books, ranging in topic from ancient Greece to modern America, most recently *The Second World Wars: How the First Global Conflict Was Fought and Won*. He lives in Selma, California.



**Why America needed—and needs—  
President Donald J. Trump**

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**NEW HARDCOVER • MARCH**

Politics / Current Events • \$30.00 / \$39.00 CAN

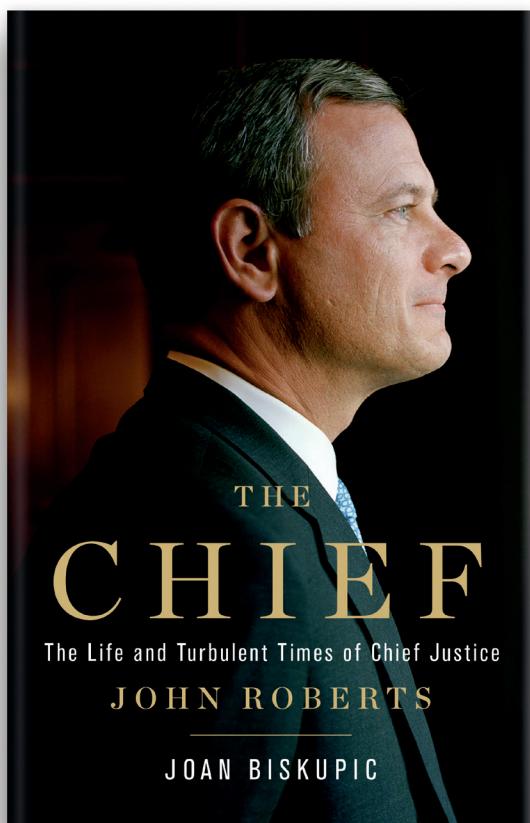
6 x 9¼ • 352 pages

**978-1-5416-7354-0**

E-BOOK 978-1-5416-7353-3

Selling Territory: W

Author photo © Hoover Institution



**An incisive biography of  
the Supreme Court's enigmatic  
chief justice, taking us inside  
the momentous legal decisions  
of his tenure so far**

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**NEW HARDCOVER • MARCH**

Biography • \$30.00 / \$39.00 CAN

6 x 9¼ • 400 pages

Fifteen black-and-white photos

978-0-465-09327-4

E-BOOK 978-0-465-09328-1

Selling Territory: USC

Author photo © Matt Mendelsohn

# JOAN BISKUPIC

## THE CHIEF

*The Life and Turbulent Times of  
Chief Justice John Roberts*

John Roberts was named to the Supreme Court in 2005 claiming he would act as a neutral umpire in deciding cases. His critics argue he has been anything but, pointing to his conservative victories on voting rights and campaign finance. Yet he broke from orthodoxy in his decision to preserve Obamacare. How are we to understand the motives of the most powerful judge in the land?

In *The Chief*, award-winning journalist Joan Biskupic contends that Roberts is torn between two often divergent priorities: to carry out a conservative agenda, and to protect the court's image and his place in history. Biskupic shows how Roberts's dual commitments have fostered distrust among his colleagues, with major consequences for the law. Trenchant and authoritative, *The Chief* reveals the making of a justice and the drama on this nation's highest court.



**JOAN BISKUPIC** is a legal analyst at CNN. Previously, she served as an editor-in-charge for legal affairs at Reuters and as the Supreme Court correspondent for the *Washington Post*. A Pulitzer Prize finalist and the author of books on Sandra Day O'Connor, Antonin Scalia, and Sonia Sotomayor, Biskupic lives in Washington, DC.

# ADAM GOPNIK

## A THOUSAND SMALL SANITIES

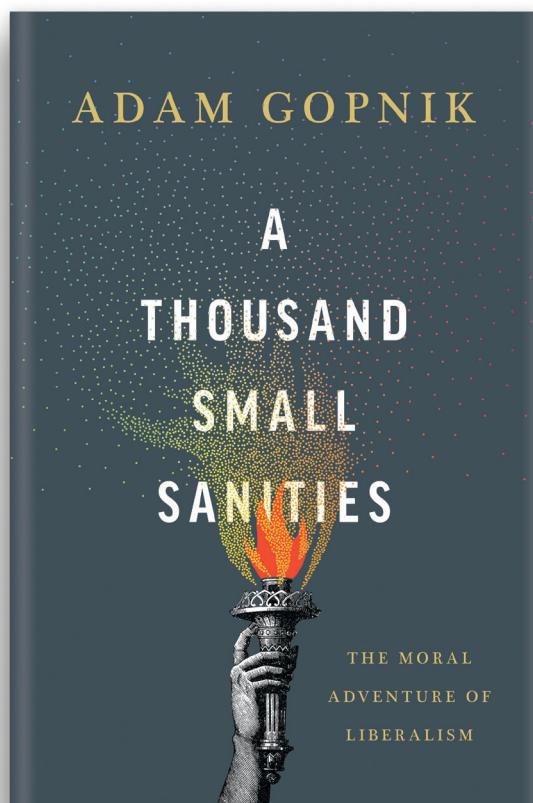
*The Moral Adventure of Liberalism*

Not since the early twentieth century has liberalism, and liberals, been under such relentless attack, from both right and left. The crisis of democracy in our era has produced a crisis of faith in liberal institutions and, even worse, in liberal thought.

*A Thousand Small Sanities* is a manifesto rooted in the lives of people who invented and extended the liberal tradition. Taking us from Montaigne to Mill, and from *Middlemarch* to the civil rights movement, Adam Gopnik argues that liberalism is not a form of centrism, nor simply another word for free markets, nor merely a term denoting a set of rights. It is something far more ambitious: the search for radical change by humane measures. Gopnik shows us why liberalism is one of the great moral adventures in human history—and why, in an age of autocracy, our lives may depend on its continuation.



**ADAM GOPNIK** has been a staff writer at the *New Yorker* since 1986. He has won three National Magazine Awards and written numerous bestselling books, including *Paris to the Moon* and *Angels and Ages*. He lives in New York City.



The *New York Times*–bestselling author offers a stirring defense of liberalism against the dogmatism of our time

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### NEW HARDCOVER • MAY

Politics • \$26.00 / \$34.00 CAN

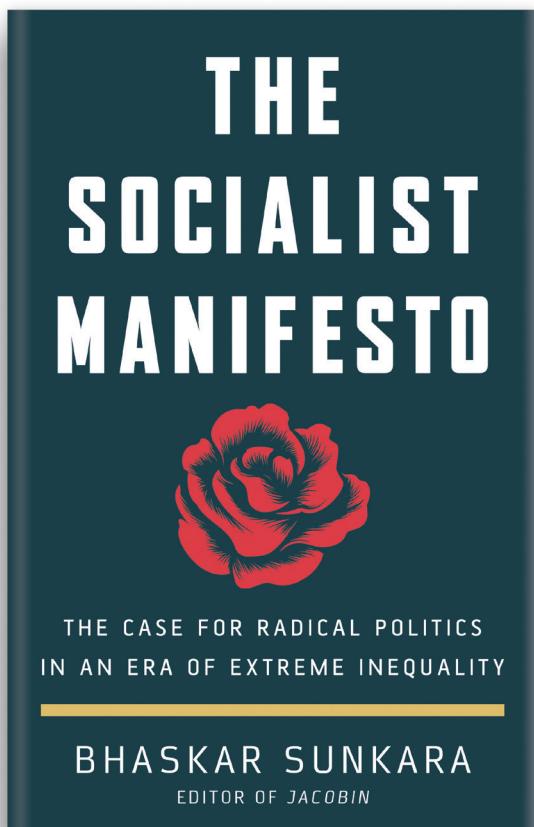
5½ x 8¼ • 208 pages

978-1-5416-9936-6

E-BOOK 978-1-5416-9935-9

Selling Territory: USC

Author photo © Brigitte Lacombe



# THE SOCIALIST MANIFESTO



THE CASE FOR RADICAL POLITICS  
IN AN ERA OF EXTREME INEQUALITY

**BHASKAR SUNKARA**  
EDITOR OF *JACOBIN*

**From one of the most prominent voices on the American Left, a galvanizing argument for why we need socialism in the United States today**

**NEW HARDCOVER • APRIL**

Politics • \$27.00 / \$35.50 CAN

6 x 9¼ • 272 pages

978-1-5416-1739-1

E-BOOK 978-1-5416-7399-1

Selling Territory: USC

Author photo © Erin Baiano

## BHASKAR SUNKARA

THE SOCIALIST MANIFESTO

*The Case for Radical Politics  
in an Era of Extreme Inequality*

The success of Bernie Sanders's 2016 presidential campaign revived a political idea many had thought dead. But what, exactly, is socialism? And what would a socialist system in America look like?

In *The Socialist Manifesto*, Bhaskar Sunkara explores socialism's history since the mid-1800s and presents a realistic vision for its future. The editor of *Jacobin* magazine, Sunkara shows that socialism, though often seen primarily as an economic system, in fact offers the means to fight all forms of oppression, including racism and sexism. The ultimate goal is not Soviet-style planning, but to win rights to health care, education, and housing, and to create new democratic institutions in workplaces and communities. A primer on socialism for the twenty-first century, this book is for anyone seeking an end to the vast inequities of our age.



**BHASKAR SUNKARA** is the founder and editor of *Jacobin*, which he launched in 2010 as an undergraduate at George Washington University. He has written for the *New York Times*, *Le Monde*, *Vice*, and the *Washington Post*. Sunkara lives in Brooklyn, New York.

# ERIC TOPOL, MD

## DEEP MEDICINE

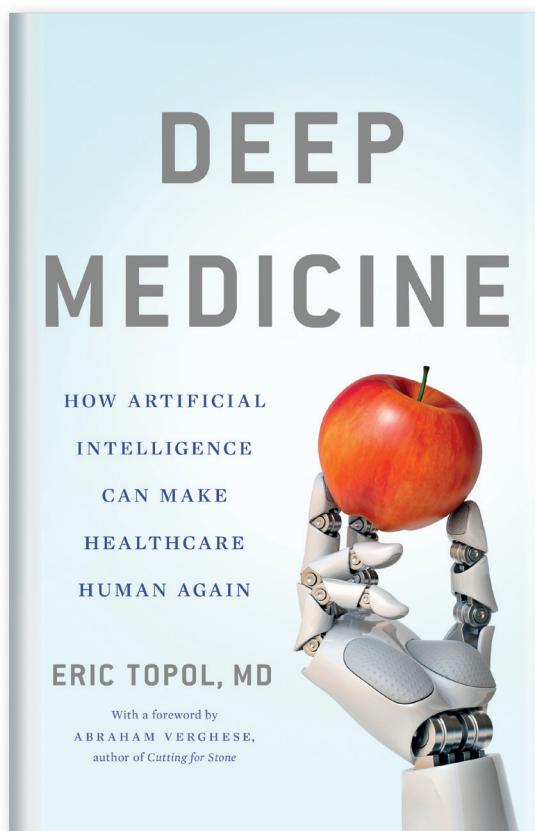
*How Artificial Intelligence Can  
Make Healthcare Human Again*

**M**edicine has become inhuman, to disastrous effect. The doctor-patient relationship—the heart of medicine—is broken: doctors are too distracted and overwhelmed to truly connect with their patients, and medical errors and misdiagnoses abound. In *Deep Medicine*, leading physician Eric Topol reveals how artificial intelligence can help. AI has the potential to transform everything doctors do, from note-taking and medical scans to diagnosis and treatment, greatly cutting down the cost of medicine and reducing human mortality. By freeing physicians from the tasks that interfere with human connection, AI will create space for the real healing that takes place between a doctor who can listen and a patient who needs to be heard.

Innovative, provocative, and hopeful, *Deep Medicine* shows us how the awesome power of AI can make medicine better, for all the humans involved.



**ERIC TOPOL, MD**, is a world-renowned cardiologist, executive vice president of Scripps Research, founder of a new medical school, and one of the top ten most cited medical researchers. The author of *The Patient Will See You Now* and *The Creative Destruction of Medicine*, he lives in La Jolla, California.



**One of America's top  
doctors reveals how AI will  
empower physicians and  
revolutionize patient care**

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### NEW HARDCOVER • MARCH

Medicine / Technology • \$30.00 / \$39.00 CAN

6 x 9¼ • 400 pages

Twenty black-and-white photos

**978-1-5416-4463-2**

E-BOOK 978-1-5416-4464-9

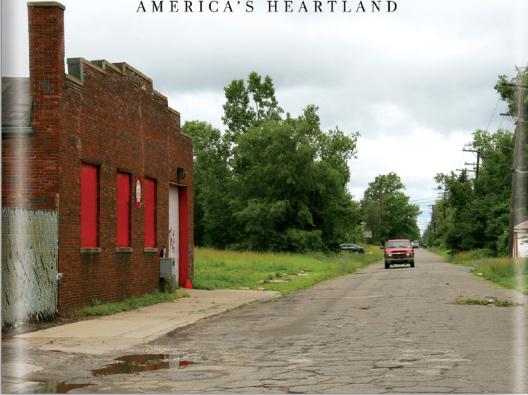
Selling Territory: USC

Author photo © John Arispizabal

JONATHAN M. METZL

# DYING OF WHITENESS

HOW THE POLITICS OF  
RACIAL RESENTMENT IS KILLING  
AMERICA'S HEARTLAND



**A physician reveals how right-wing backlash policies have mortal consequences—even for the white voters they promise to help**

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**NEW HARDCOVER • MARCH**

Politics • \$30.00 / \$39.00 CAN

6 x 9¼ • 352 pages

Thirty-nine black-and-white figures  
and illustrations

**978-1-5416-4498-4**

E-BOOK 978-1-5416-4496-0

Selling Territory: USC

Author photo © John Russell/Vanderbilt University

## JONATHAN M. METZL

DYING OF WHITENESS

*How the Politics of Racial Resentment  
Is Killing America's Heartland*

In the era of Donald Trump, many lower- and middle-class white Americans are drawn to politicians who pledge to make their lives great again. But as *Dying of Whiteness* shows, the policies that result actually place white Americans at ever-greater risk of sickness and death.

Physician Jonathan M. Metzl's quest to understand the health implications of "backlash governance" leads him across America's heartland. Interviewing a range of everyday Americans, he examines how racial resentment has fueled progun laws in Missouri, resistance to the Affordable Care Act in Tennessee, and cuts to schools and social services in Kansas. And he shows these policies' costs: increasing deaths by gun suicide, falling life expectancies, and rising dropout rates. White Americans, Metzl argues, must reject the racial hierarchies that promise to aid them but in fact lead our nation to demise.



**JONATHAN M. METZL**

is the Frederick B. Rentschler II professor of sociology and psychiatry at Vanderbilt University and director of its Center for Medicine, Health, and Society. He is the author of several books and a prominent expert on gun violence and mental illness. He hails from Kansas City, Missouri, and lives in Nashville, Tennessee.

# DARREN DOCHUK

## ANOINTED WITH OIL

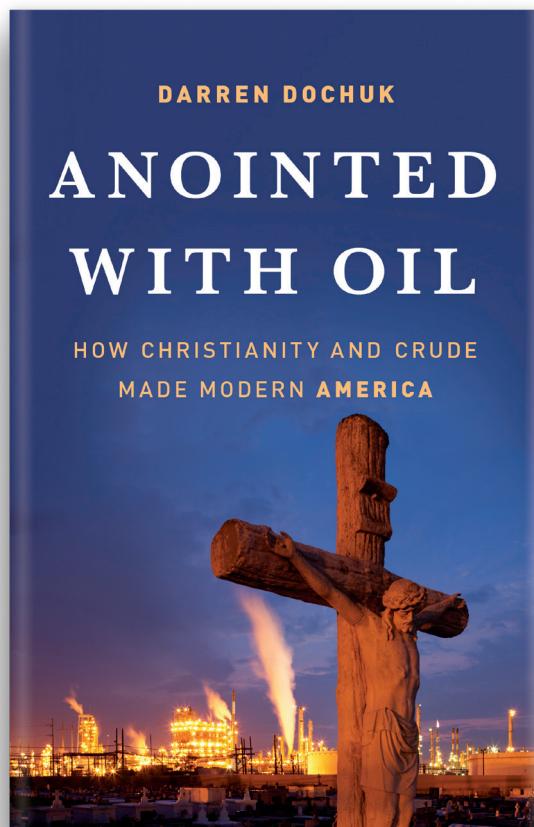
*How Christianity and Crude Made Modern America*

**A** *nointed with Oil* is a groundbreaking new history of the United States that places religion and oil at the center. As prize-winning historian Darren Dochuk reveals, from the earliest discovery of oil in America during the Civil War, citizens have seen petroleum as the nation's special blessing and its peculiar burden, the source of its prophetic mission in the world. Over the century that followed and down to the present day, the oil industry's leaders and its ordinary workers together have fundamentally transformed American religion, business, and politics—boosting America's ascent to become the preeminent global power, giving shape to modern evangelical Christianity, fueling the rise of the Republican Right, and setting the terms for today's political and environmental debates.

Ranging from the Civil War to the present, from West Texas to Saudi Arabia to the Alberta Tar Sands, and from oil-patch boomtowns to the White House, this is a sweeping, magisterial book that transforms how we understand our nation's history.



**DARREN DOCHUK** is an associate professor of history at the University of Notre Dame. He is the author of *From Bible Belt to Sunbelt*, which received the John H. Dunning Prize from the American Historical Association and the Ellis W. Hawley Prize from the Organization of American Historians. He lives in South Bend, Indiana.



A prize-winning historian offers a major new history of the United States, placing faith and oil at the center of America's rise to global power

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### NEW HARDCOVER • MAY

History • \$35.00 / \$45.50 CAN

6 x 9¼ • 608 pages

978-0-465-06086-3

E-BOOK 978-1-5416-7394-6

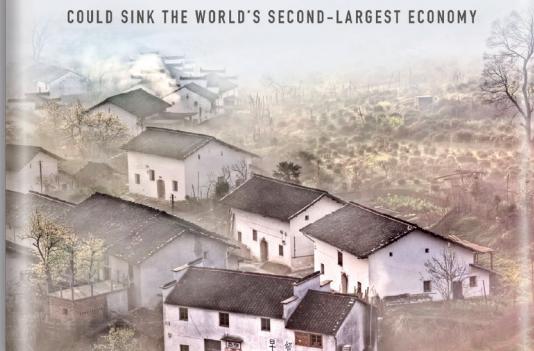
Selling Territory: W

Author photo © Lisa Svelmoe

SCOTT ROZELLE AND NATALIE JOHNSON

# CHINA'S INVISIBLE CRISIS

HOW A GROWING URBAN-RURAL DIVIDE  
COULD SINK THE WORLD'S SECOND-LARGEST ECONOMY



**A Stanford economist challenges claims about China's unstoppable ascendance, arguing that the nation's past failure to invest in its rural population may lead to economic stagnation**

**NEW HARDCOVER • MARCH**

Economics • \$30.00 / \$39.00 CAN

6 x 9¼ • 288 pages

978-1-5416-4482-3

E-BOOK 978-1-5416-4483-0

Selling Territory: W

Author photos © Steve Gladfelter

## SCOTT ROZELLE *and* NATALIE JOHNSON

CHINA'S INVISIBLE CRISIS

*How a Growing Urban-Rural Divide Could Sink the World's Second-Largest Economy*

China's future seems certain. Marveling at its stratospheric growth, observers have christened it "the inevitable superpower." But as Stanford economist Scott Rozelle and writer Natalie Johnson reveal, China faces a massive crisis invisible to outside observers, and to the Chinese themselves.

China's future will be decided in the countryside, where over two-thirds of Chinese children are growing up. It is not a pretty picture. For decades, rural Chinese have received poor nutrition and education. Now, as wages rise, manufacturing flees, and automation progresses, many of those left behind are ill-equipped for jobs in a new knowledge economy. As *China's Invisible Crisis* shows, hundreds of millions of people could soon be without work, with grave costs in China and around the world.



**SCOTT ROZELLE** is the Helen F. Farnsworth senior fellow and the codirector of the Rural Education Action Program (REAP) at Stanford University's Freeman Spogli Institute for International Studies. He lives in Stanford, California.



**NATALIE JOHNSON** is a writer and researcher who has worked on Chinese education and health issues for the past six years. She lives in Redwood

City, California.

# BEN LINDBERGH *and* TRAVIS SAWCHIK

## THE MVP MACHINE

*How Baseball's New Nonconformists Are  
Using Data to Build Better Players*

**F**ifteen years after Michael Lewis brought the Oakland A's' team-building strategies to light in *Moneyball*, every team now takes a data-driven approach to evaluating players, and the league's smarter front offices no longer have an edge.

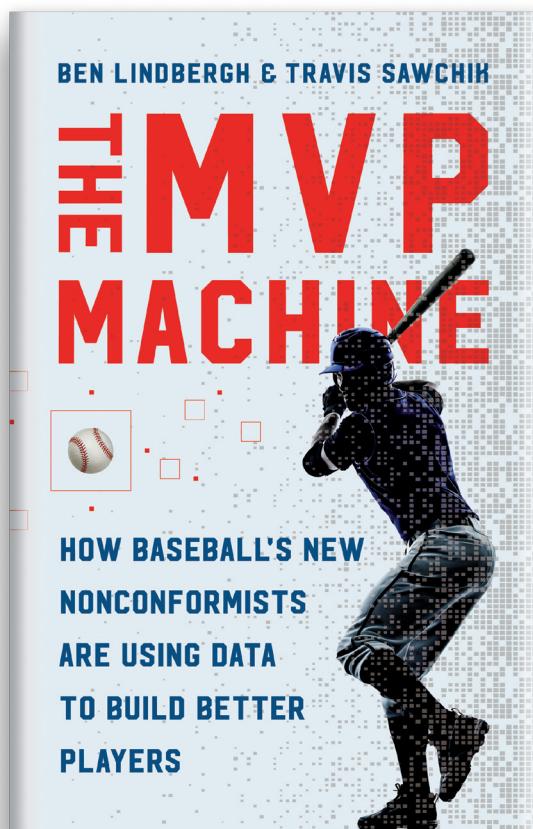
As Ben Lindbergh and Travis Sawchik reveal in *The MVP Machine*, instead of out-drafting, out-signing, and out-trading rivals, baseball's best minds have turned to out-developing opponents, eking extra runs out of athletes who were seen as finished products. Lindbergh and Sawchik take us inside the transformation of former role players into home-run kings and show how washed-up pitchers have emerged as aces. *The MVP Machine* charts the future of a sport and offers a lesson for any business: success comes from developing the people already working for you, rather than bringing in star performers from elsewhere.



**BEN LINDBERGH** is a staff writer for The Ringer and the coauthor of the *New York Times* bestseller *The Only Rule Is It Has to Work*. He lives in New York City.



**TRAVIS SAWCHIK** is a staff writer for FiveThirtyEight and the author of the *New York Times* bestseller *Big Data Baseball*. He lives in Bay Village, Ohio.



*Two New York Times*–bestselling authors chronicle the next revolution in baseball: the data-driven quest to build better players

**NEW HARDCOVER • JUNE**

Sports • \$28.00 / \$36.50 CAN

6 x 9¼ • 320 pages

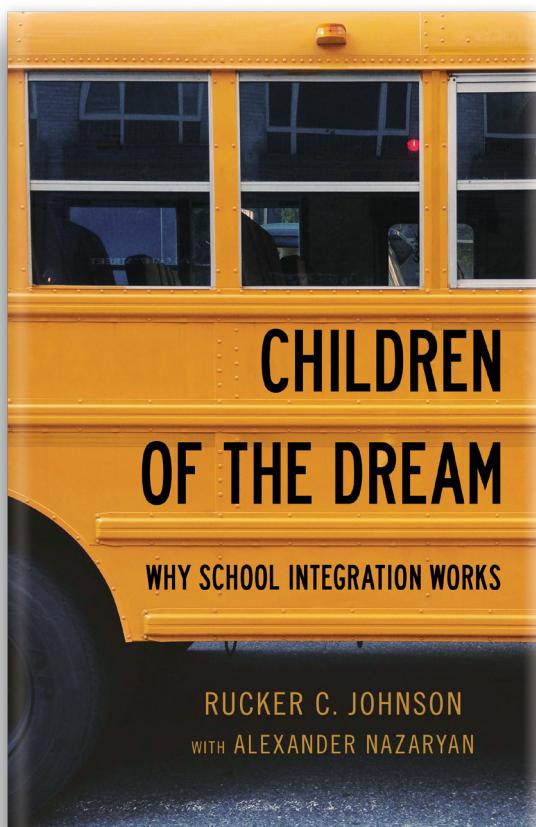
978-1-5416-9894-9

E-BOOK 978-1-5416-9895-6

Selling Territory: USC

Author photo © Lara Heimert (Ben Lindbergh)

© Fonzie Cuaycong (Travis Sawchik)



**An acclaimed economist reveals that school integration efforts in the 1970s and 1980s were overwhelmingly successful—and argues that we must renew our commitment to integration for the sake of all Americans**

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**NEW HARDCOVER • APRIL**

Social Science • \$30.00 / \$39.00 CAN

6 x 9¼ • 320 pages

Ten black-and-white charts

**978-1-5416-7270-3**

E-BOOK 978-1-5416-7269-7

Selling Territory: W

Author photo © Peg Skorpinski

# RUCKER C. JOHNSON

CHILDREN OF THE DREAM

*Why School Integration Works*

**W**e are frequently told that school integration was a social experiment doomed from the start. But as Rucker C. Johnson demonstrates in *Children of the Dream*, it was, in fact, a spectacular achievement. Drawing on longitudinal studies going back to the 1960s, he shows that students who attended integrated and well-funded schools were more successful in life than those who did not—and this holds true for children of all races.

Yet as a society we have given up on integration. Since the high point of integration in 1988, we have regressed, and segregation again prevails. Contending that integrated, well-funded schools are the primary engine of social mobility, *Children of the Dream* offers a radical new take on social policy. It is essential reading in our divided times.



**RUCKER C. JOHNSON** is an associate professor in the Goldman School of Public Policy at the University of California, Berkeley, and a faculty research associate at the National Bureau of Economic Research. He lives in Oakland, California.

# GRAHAM FARMELO

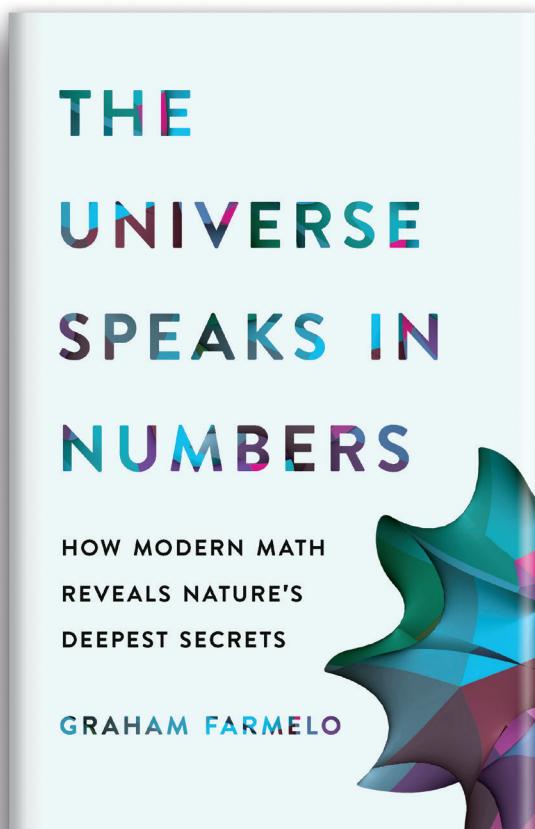
THE UNIVERSE SPEAKS  
IN NUMBERS

*How Modern Math Reveals  
Nature's Deepest Secrets*

**Y**ou must be able to test any physical theory in the real world. To most physicists, this is obvious. But since the 1980s, experimental physics has yielded vanishingly little insight into the fundamental physics of the universe. Meanwhile, some physicists have begun to probe the universe not with proton beams, but with pure math. They're less concerned with testable theories than with the drive to explain nature with mathematical beauty. This approach is often pilloried by traditional scientists, who point out that such approaches have yet to make a correct prediction about the real world. But in *The Universe Speaks in Numbers*, Graham Farmelo offers a gripping tour of the history of math-based physics and explores why it may be the key to the next big breakthrough in our understanding of the nature of reality.



**GRAHAM FARMELO** is an award-winning science writer, biographer, and fellow at Churchill College, Cambridge. He is the acclaimed author of several books on physics and mathematics, including *The Strangest Man: The Hidden Life of Paul Dirac*, *Quantum Genius* and *It Must Be Beautiful: Great Equations of Modern Science*. He lives in London.



How math helps us solve  
the universe's deepest mysteries

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**NEW HARDCOVER • MAY**

Science / Mathematics • \$30.00 / \$39.00 CAN

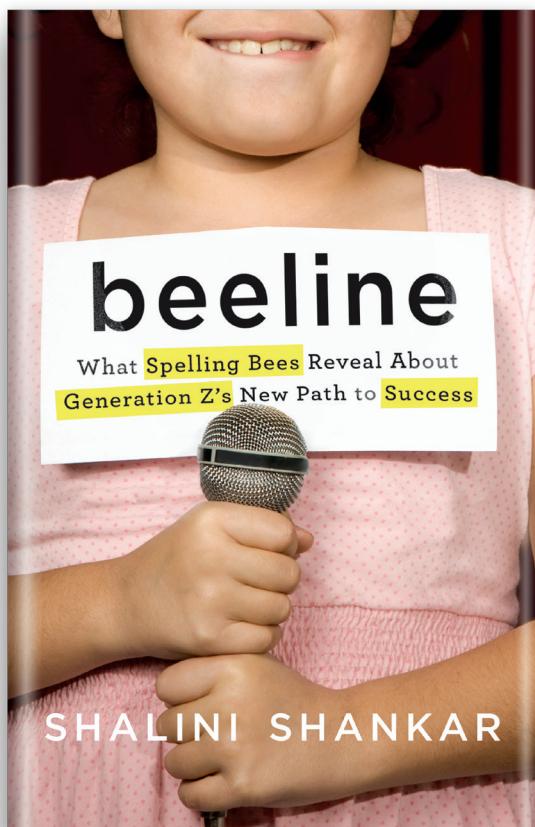
6 x 9¼ • 336 pages

**978-0-465-05665-1**

E-BOOK 978-1-5416-7392-2

Selling Territory: USC

Author photo © Paul Stuart



**An anthropologist uses  
spelling bees as a lens to examine  
the unique and diverse traits  
of Generation Z—and why  
they are destined for success**

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**NEW HARDCOVER • APRIL**

Social Science • \$30.00 / \$39.00 CAN

6 x 9¼ • 336 pages

Twenty-four black-and-white illustrations

**978-0-465-09452-3**

E-BOOK 978-0-465-09453-0

Selling Territory: USC

Author photo © Jim Prisching

# SHALINI SHANKAR

## BEELINE

*What Spelling Bees Reveal About  
Generation Z's New Path to Success*

**A**t first glance, Generation Z (youth born after 1997) seems to be made up of anxious overachievers, hounded by Tiger Moms and constantly tracked on social media. One would think that competitors in the National Spelling Bee—the most popular brain sport in America—would be the worst off. Counterintuitively, anthropologist Shalini Shankar argues that, far from being simply overstressed and overscheduled, Gen Z spelling bee competitors are learning crucial twenty-first-century skills from their high-powered lives, displaying a sophisticated understanding of self-promotion, self-direction, and social mobility. Drawing on original ethnographic research, including interviews with participants, judges, and parents, Shankar examines the outsize impact of immigrant parents and explains why Gen Z kids are on a path to success.



**SHALINI SHANKAR** is professor of anthropology and Asian American studies at Northwestern University. A Guggenheim fellow and National Science Foundation grant recipient, she is the mother of two Gen Z children. Shankar splits her time between Evanston, Illinois, and Brooklyn, New York.

# BARBARA TVERSKY

## MIND IN MOTION

*How Action Shapes Thought*

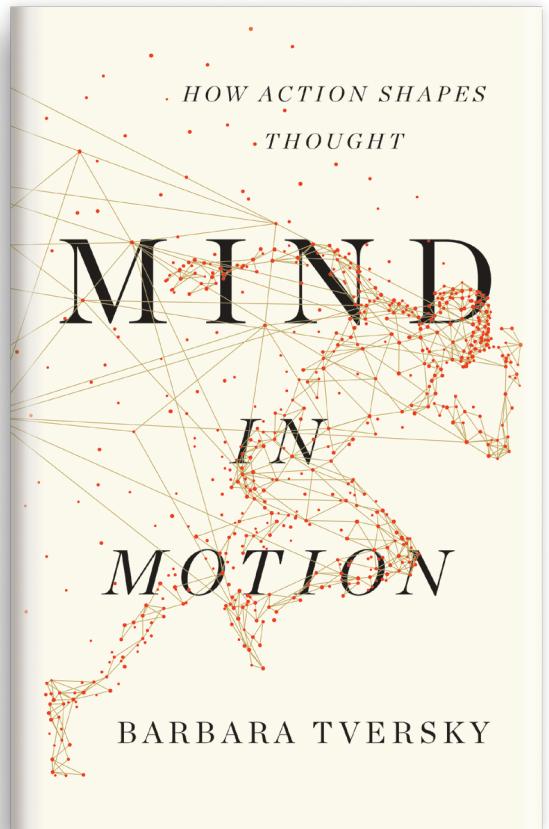
When we describe how we think, we usually do so in terms of an internal conversation. Indeed, some have even called language the stuff of thought. But if you can fill up a bathtub with just enough water to submerge your body without flooding the bathroom, you've accomplished something remarkable: abstract thinking without using any words at all. In *Mind in Motion*, psychologist Barbara Tversky reveals that spatial cognition isn't just an aspect of thought, but its foundation, enabling us to draw meaning from our bodily senses and the world around us. Spatial reasoning helps us to use maps, turn strategy into plans, design skyscrapers and spacecraft, even create mathematic abstractions.

Like *Thinking, Fast and Slow* before it, *Mind in Motion* gives us a new way to think about how—and where—thinking takes place.



**BARBARA TVERSKY** is emerita professor of psychology at Stanford University and professor of psychology at Columbia Teachers College.

She has published over two hundred scholarly articles and regularly speaks about embodied cognition at interdisciplinary conferences around the world. She lives in New York.



**An eminent psychologist offers a major new theory of human cognition: movement, not language, is the foundation of thought**

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### NEW HARDCOVER • MAY

Psychology • \$30.00 / \$39.00 CAN

6 x 9¼ • 352 pages

Forty black-and-white illustrations

978-0-465-09306-9

E-BOOK 978-0-465-09307-6

Selling Territory: USC

Author photo © Roslyn Banish

THE DEEP ROOTS OF THE  
URBAN-RURAL POLITICAL DIVIDE

# WHY CITIES LOSE

JONATHAN A. RODDEN

## How geography undermines the Left

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### NEW HARDCOVER • JUNE

Politics • \$28.00 / \$36.50 CAN

6 x 9¼ • 272 pages

Fifty black-and-white figures

978-1-5416-4427-4

E-BOOK 978-1-5416-4425-0

Selling Territory: USC

Author photo © Jackie Sargent

## JONATHAN A. RODDEN

### WHY CITIES LOSE

*The Deep Roots of the Urban-Rural  
Political Divide*

Why is it so much easier for the Democratic Party to win the national popular vote than to take control of Congress? Many blame partisan gerrymandering and voter suppression. But as political scientist Jonathan A. Rodden demonstrates in *Why Cities Lose*, geography is the fundamental cause of the Left's electoral woes—not only in America but throughout the West.

In the late nineteenth century, support for the Left began to cluster in cities among the industrial working class. Today, left-wing parties have become coalitions of diverse urban interest groups, from racial minorities to the creative class. These parties win big in urban districts but struggle to capture the suburban and rural seats necessary for legislative majorities.

A bold new interpretation of today's urban-rural political conflict, *Why Cities Lose* also points to electoral reforms that could address the challenges facing parties of the Left here and abroad.



### JONATHAN A. RODDEN

is professor of political science and a senior fellow at the Hoover Institution at Stanford University, and founder and director of the Stanford Spatial Social Science Lab. The author of the prizewinning *Hamilton's Paradox*, he lives in Stanford, California.

# STEPHANIE BURT

## DON'T READ POETRY

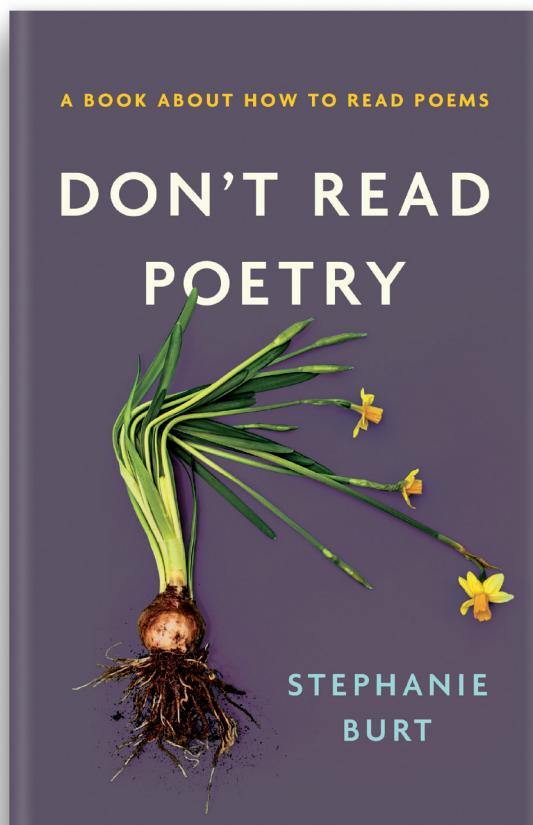
*A Book About How to Read Poems*

In *Don't Read Poetry*, award-winning poet and literary critic Stephanie Burt offers an accessible introduction to the seemingly daunting task of reading, understanding, and appreciating poetry. Burt dispels preconceptions about poetry and explains how poems speak to one another—and how they can speak to our lives. She shows readers how to find more poems once they have some poems they like, and how to connect the poetry of the past to the poetry of the present. Burt moves seamlessly from Shakespeare and other classics to the contemporary poetry circulated on Tumblr and Twitter. She challenges the assumptions that many of us make about “poetry,” whether we think we like it or think we don’t, in order to help us cherish—and distinguish among—individual poems.

A masterful guide to a sometimes confounding genre, *Don't Read Poetry* will instruct and delight ingénues and cognoscenti alike.



**STEPHANIE BURT** is a professor of English at Harvard University, coeditor of poetry at the *Nation*, and the recipient of a 2016 Guggenheim fellowship for poetry. Her work appears regularly in the *New York Times Book Review*, *New Yorker*, *London Review of Books*, and other journals. She lives in Massachusetts.



An award-winning poet offers a brilliant introduction to the joys—and challenges—of the genre

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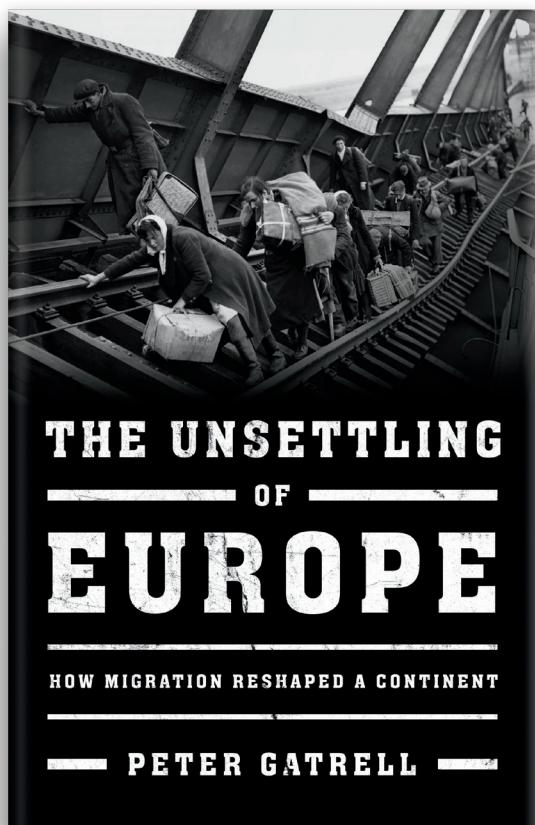
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An acclaimed historian examines  
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# PETER GATRELL

THE UNSETTLING OF EUROPE

*How Migration Reshaped a Continent*

Migration is perhaps the most pressing issue of our time, and it has completely decentered European politics in recent years. But as we consider the current refugee crisis, acclaimed historian Peter Gatrell reminds us that the history of Europe has always been one of people on the move.

The end of World War II left Europe in a state of confusion, with many Europeans virtually stateless. Later, as former colonies gained national independence, colonists and their supporters migrated to often-unwelcoming metropolises. The collapse of communism in 1989 marked another fundamental turning point.

Gatrell places migration at the center of postwar European history, and the aspirations of migrants at the center of the story of migration. This is an urgent history that will reshape our understanding of modern Europe.



**PETER GATRELL** is a renowned historian of modern migration and a professor of economic history at the University of Manchester. He is

the author of six previous books on migration history and modern European history. He lives in Manchester, England.

# LEAH PRICE

WHAT WE TALK ABOUT  
WHEN WE TALK ABOUT BOOKS

*The History and Future of Reading*

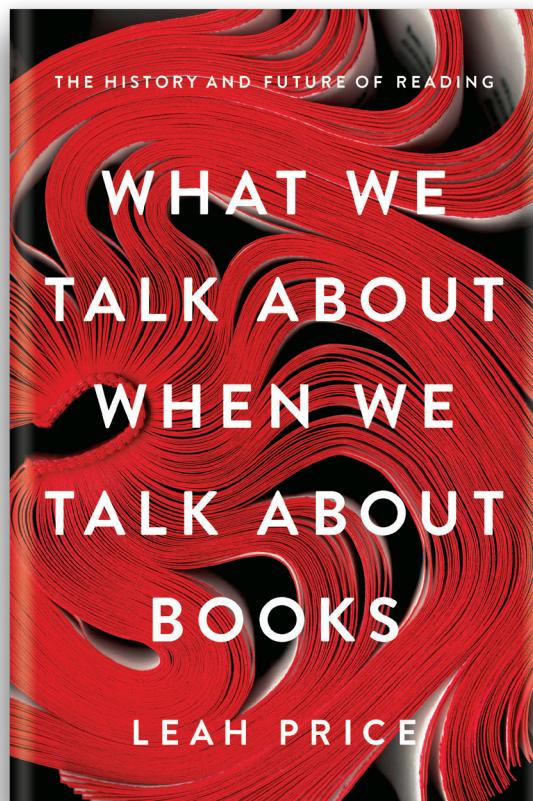
Do books have a future? Does reading? And what's the difference? Digital-age Jeremiahs lament that readers have lost patience for anything longer than a tweet. As our appetite for books dwindles, so too do the virtues in which printed, bound objects once trained us: the willpower to focus on a sustained argument, the curiosity to look beyond the day's news, even the willingness to be alone.

However, by examining objects on the shelves of the world's great libraries, book historian Leah Price has discovered that no golden age of reading ever existed. From the dawn of mass literacy to the invention of the paperback, most readers skimmed and multitasked. Print-era doctors warned against the very same silent absorption now recommended as a cure for electronic addictions.

A revealing examination of how readers have interacted with books over the centuries, *What We Talk About When We Talk About Books* holds lessons for bibliophiles and literature lovers alike.



**LEAH PRICE** is a professor of English at Harvard University. She is the author *How to Do Things with Books in Victorian Britain* and the editor of *Unpacking My Library*. She lives in Massachusetts.



Reports of the death of reading  
are greatly exaggerated

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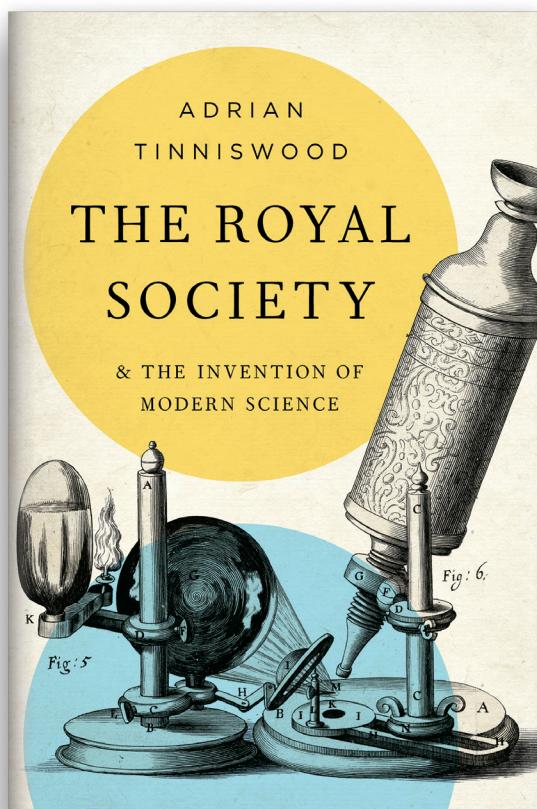
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An engaging new history of the  
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created modern scientific thought

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# ADRIAN TINNISWOOD

THE ROYAL SOCIETY

*And the Invention of Modern Science*

**F**ounded in 1660 to advance knowledge through experimentally verified facts, the Royal Society of London is now one of the preeminent scientific institutions in the world. It published the world's first science journal and has counted scientific luminaries from Isaac Newton to Stephen Hawking among its members. However, the road to truth was often bumpy. In its early years—while bickering, hounding members for dues, and failing to create their own museum—members also performed sheep-to-human blood transfusions and experimented with unicorn horns. In his characteristically accessible and lively style, Adrian Tinniswood charts the society's evolution from poisoning puppies to the discovery of DNA, and reminds us of the increasing relevance of its motto for the modern world: *Nullius in verba*—Take no one's word for it.



**ADRIAN TINNISWOOD** is senior research fellow in history at the University of Buckingham and the author of several books, including *Behind the Throne* and the *New York Times* bestseller *The Long Weekend*. He was awarded an OBE for services to heritage by Her Majesty, the Queen, and lives in Bath, England.

# ANDREAS WAGNER

## LIFE FINDS A WAY

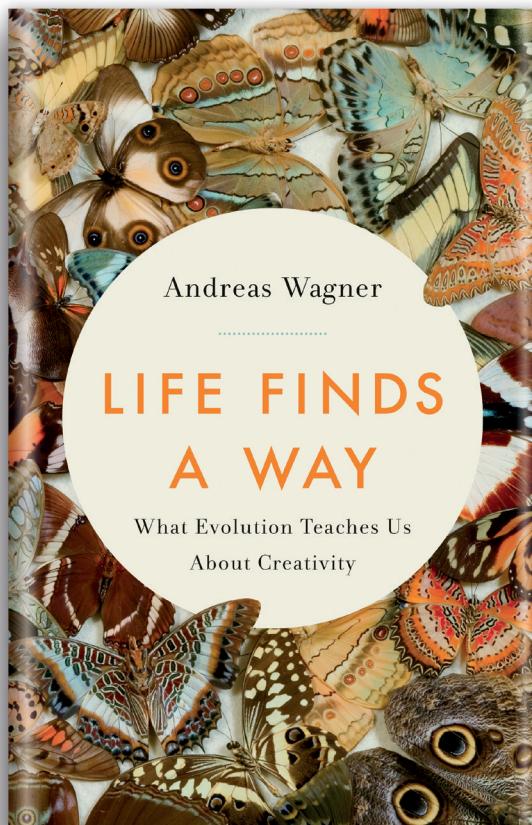
*What Evolution Teaches Us  
About Creativity*

In *Life Finds a Way*, biologist Andreas Wagner reveals the deep symmetry between innovation in biological evolution and human cultural creativity. Rarely is either a linear climb to perfection—instead, “progress” is typically marked by a sequence of peaks, plateaus, and pitfalls. For instance, in Picasso’s forty-some iterations of *Guernica*, we see the same combination of small steps, incessant reshuffling, and large, almost reckless, leaps that characterize the way evolution transformed a dinosaur’s grasping claw into a condor’s soaring wing. By understanding these principles, we can also better realize our own creative potential to find new solutions to adversity.

Ultimately, *Life Finds a Way* offers a new framework for the nature of creativity, enabling us to better adapt, grow, and change in art, business, or science—that is, in life.



**ANDREAS WAGNER** is a professor and chairman at the Department of Evolutionary Biology and Environmental Studies at the University of Zurich and an external professor at the Santa Fe Institute. He is also the author of four books on evolutionary innovation. He lives in Zurich, Switzerland.



**How the principles of  
biological innovation can help us  
overcome creative challenges  
in art, business, and science**

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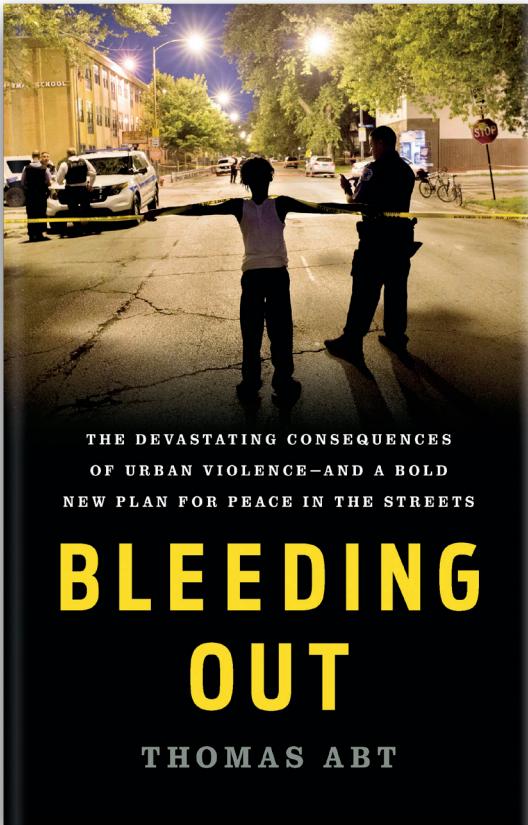
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From a Harvard scholar and former Obama official, a powerful proposal for curtailing violent crime in America

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# THOMAS ABT

## BLEEDING OUT

*The Devastating Consequences of Urban Violence—and a Bold New Plan for Peace in the Streets*

Urban violence is one of the most divisive and allegedly intractable issues of our time, but in *Bleeding Out*, Harvard scholar Thomas Abt shows that we actually possess all the tools necessary to stem violence in our cities. Combining the latest social science with firsthand experience as a crime fighter, Abt demonstrates that we must focus on “hot people,” the small groups of men who commit the majority of serious crimes, and “hot spots,” the blocks and corners where violence clusters.

Arguing against hopelessness and fear-mongering, Abt proposes a relentless focus on violence—not drugs, gangs, or guns. But the goal is not just to save lives. As Abt reveals, because violence acts as the linchpin of urban poverty, curbing such crime can unlock the untapped potential of our nation’s most disadvantaged communities.



**THOMAS ABT** is a senior research fellow at the Harvard Kennedy School of Government. Previously, he served as a policy-maker in Barack Obama’s Justice

Department and worked for New York governor Andrew Cuomo, overseeing all criminal justice and homeland security agencies in the state. Abt lives in Cambridge, Massachusetts.

# MICHAEL E. WEBBER

## POWER TRIP

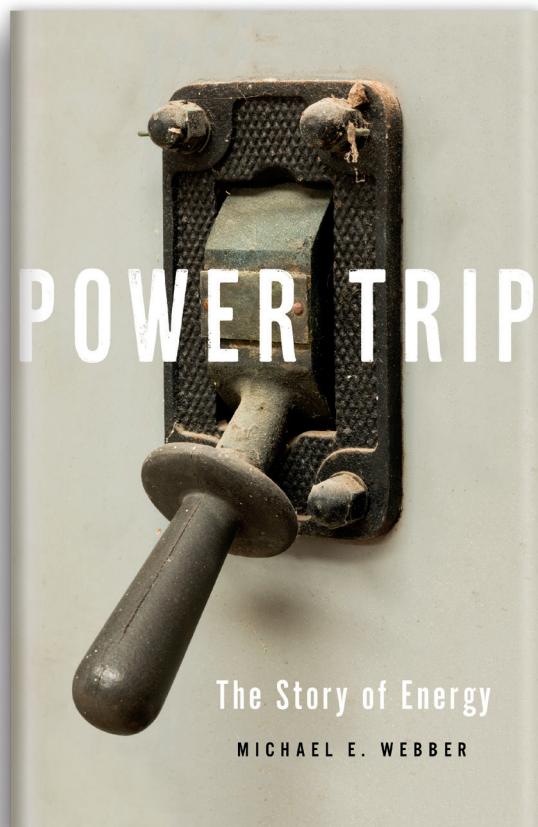
*The Story of Energy*

**E**nergy is humanity's single most important resource. In fact, as energy expert Michael E. Webber argues in *Power Trip*, the story of how societies rise can be told largely as the story of how they manage energy sources through time. In 2019, as we face down growing demand for and accumulating environmental impacts from energy, we are at a crossroads and the stakes are high. But history shows us that energy's great value is that it allows societies to reinvent themselves.

*Power Trip* explores how energy transformed societies of the past and offers wisdom for today's looming energy crisis. There is no magic bullet; energy advances always come with costs. Scientific innovation needs public support. Energy initiatives need to be tailored to individual societies. We must look for long-term solutions. Our current energy crisis is real, but it is solvable. We have the power.



**MICHAEL E. WEBBER** is the Josey centennial professor in energy resources at the University of Texas, Austin. He is also the host of the upcoming documentary *Power Trip* and the author of *Thirst for Power*. He lives in Austin, Texas.



**A global tour of energy:  
the builder of human civilization  
and also its greatest threat**

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*Discrimination and Disparities* gathers a wide array of empirical evidence to challenge the idea that different economic outcomes can be explained by any one factor, be it discrimination, exploitation, or genetics. This revised and enlarged edition also analyzes the human consequences of the prevailing social vision of these disparities and the policies based on that vision—from educational disasters to widespread crime and violence.

**“Timely . . . a must-read.”**

—RUSH LIMBAUGH



**THOMAS SOWELL** is a senior fellow at the Hoover Institution, Stanford University. He is the author of dozens of books and the recipient of various awards, including the National Humanities Medal, presented by the president of the United States in 2003.

# LEWIS DARTNELL

## ORIGINS

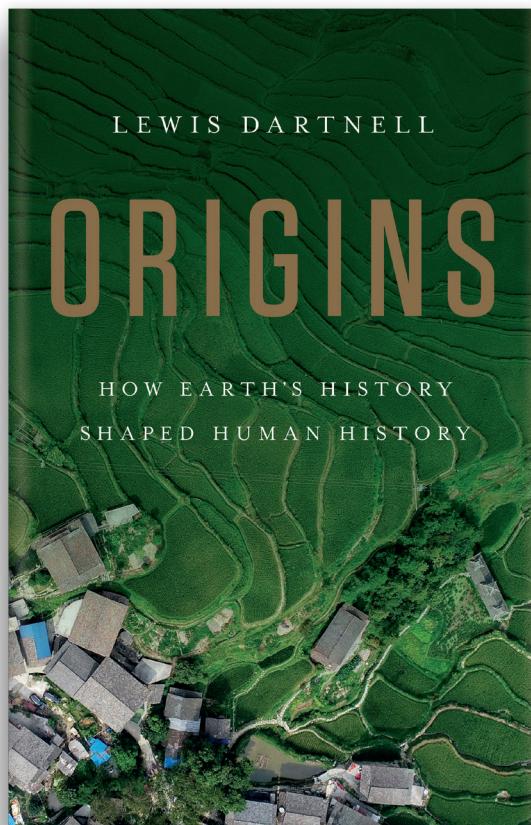
*How Earth's History Shaped  
Human History*

**W**hen we talk about human history, we often focus on great leaders, population forces, and decisive wars. But how has the earth itself determined our destiny? Our planet has wobbled, driving changes in climate that forced the transition from nomadism to farming. Mountainous terrain led to the development of democracy in Greece. Atmospheric circulation patterns later on shaped the progression of global exploration, colonization, and trade. Even today, voting behavior in the southeast United States ultimately follows the underlying pattern of seventy-five-million-year-old sediments from an ancient sea. The deep imprint of the planetary on the human is everywhere.

From the cultivation of the first crops to the founding of modern states, *Origins* reveals the breathtaking impact of the earth beneath our feet on the shape of human civilizations.



**LEWIS DARTNELL** is an astrobiologist and a professor at the University of Westminster. He has won several awards for his science writing and has written for the *New York Times* and *Scientific American*. He is the author of four books, including the *New York Times* bestseller, *The Knowledge*. He lives in London.



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author explains how the  
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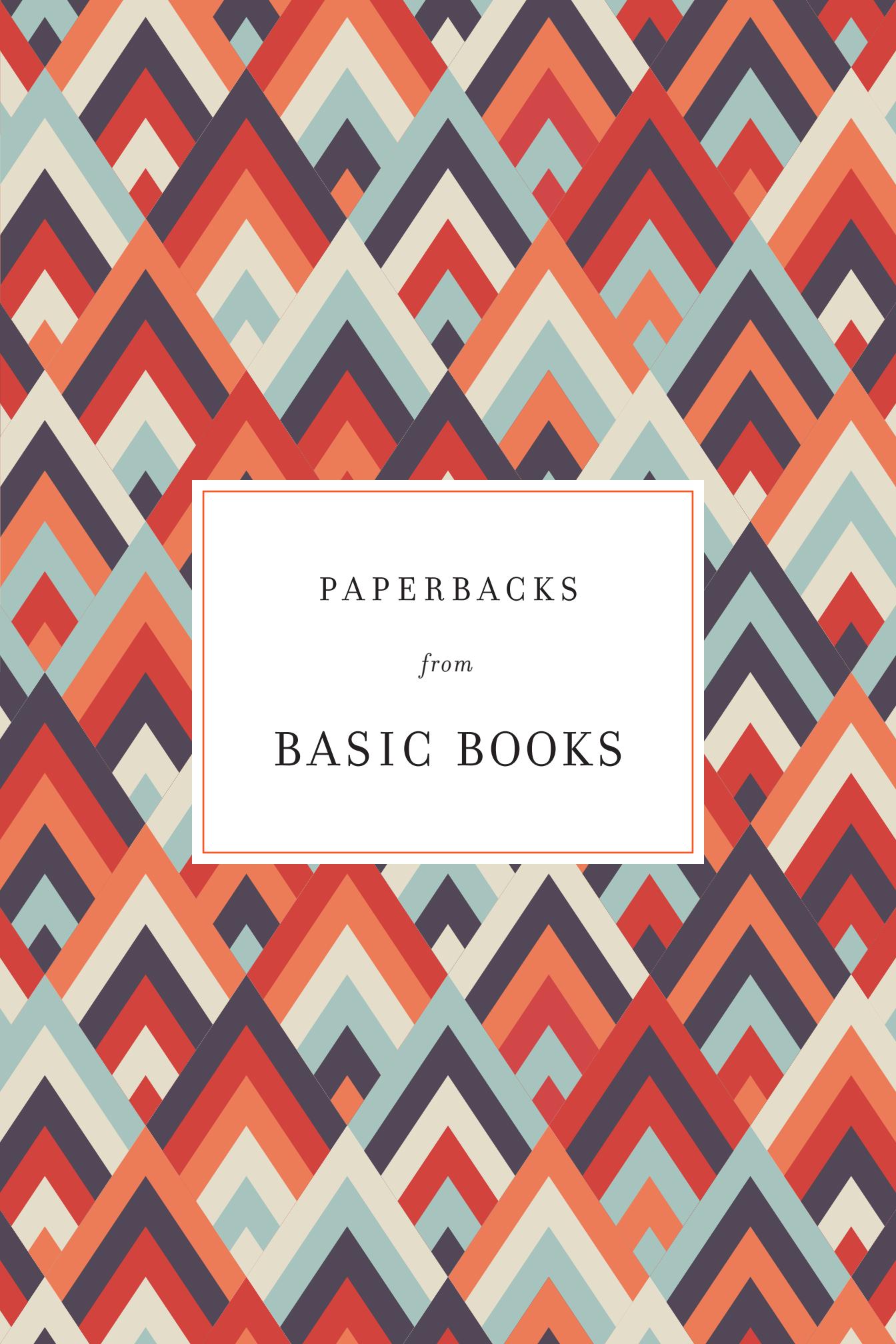
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—*GUARDIAN*



**LAURENCE TRIBE** is the Carl M. Loeb university professor and a professor of constitutional law at Harvard. One of America’s foremost constitutional scholars, he is the coauthor of *Uncertain Justice* (with Joshua Matz) and numerous other books and articles. He lives in Brookline, Massachusetts.



**JOSHUA MATZ**, a graduate of Harvard Law School and a constitutional lawyer, is the publisher of *Take Care*, which provides legal analysis of the Trump presidency. He lives in Washington, DC.

# LUCY COOKE

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**LUCY COOKE** is an award-winning filmmaker and *National Geographic* Explorer with a master's in zoology from the University of Oxford. Her first book, *A Little Book of Sloth*, was a *New York Times* bestseller. She lives in London.

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IRVIN D. YALOM is an emeritus professor of psychiatry at Stanford University and a psychiatrist in San Francisco. He is the author of many books, including *Love's Executioner*, *The Gift of Therapy*, and *When Nietzsche Wept*.

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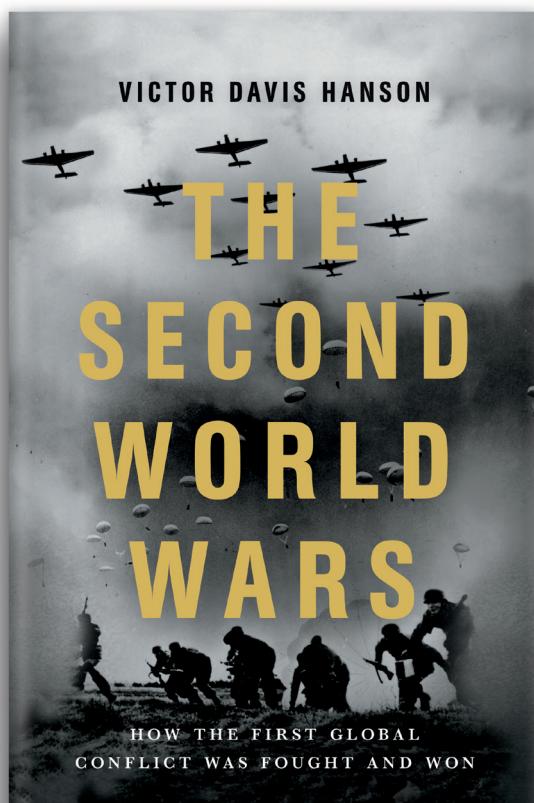
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### VICTOR DAVIS HANSON

is a senior fellow at the Hoover Institution and a professor emeritus at California State University, Fresno. He is the author of over twenty-four books, ranging in topic from ancient Greece to modern America. He contributes regularly to the *National Review* and is a frequent guest analyst on Fox News. He lives in Selma, California.



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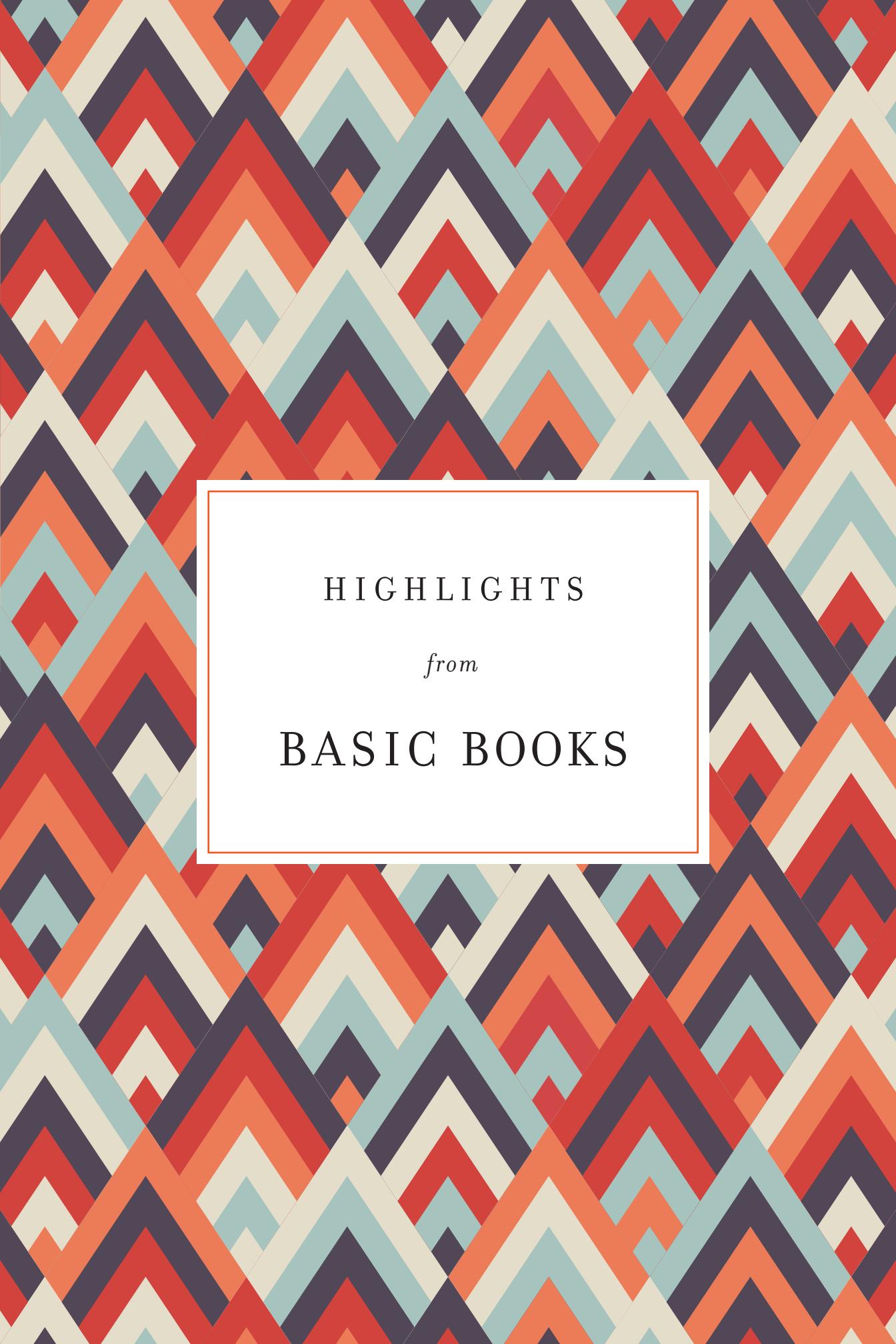
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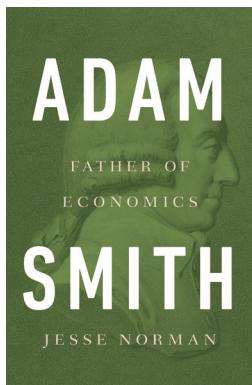
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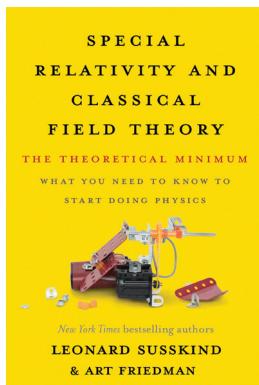


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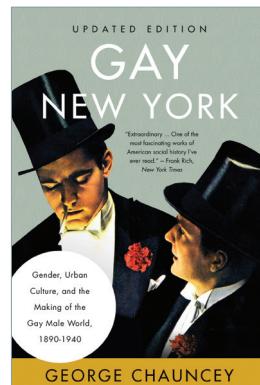
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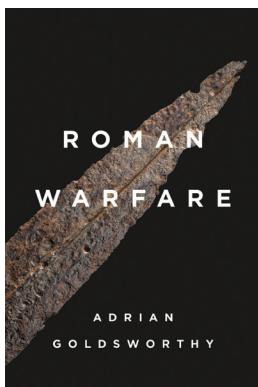
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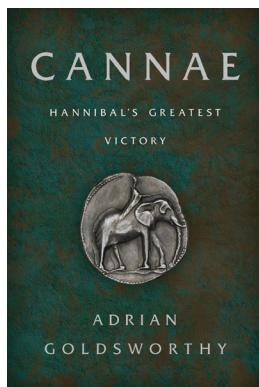
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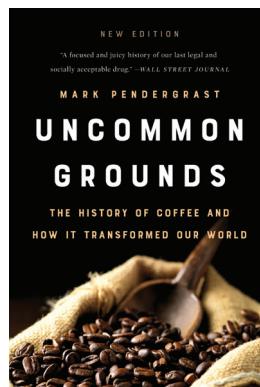
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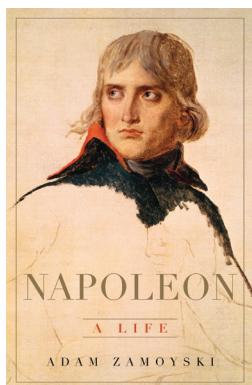
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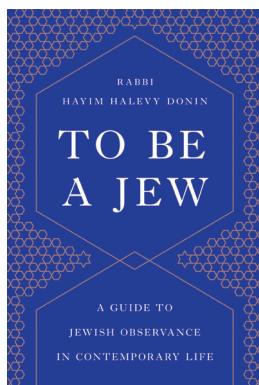
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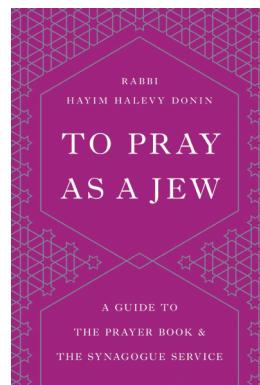
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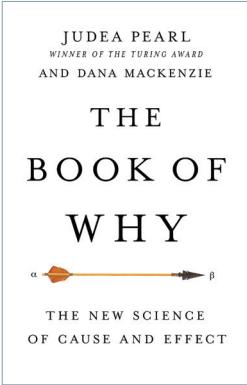


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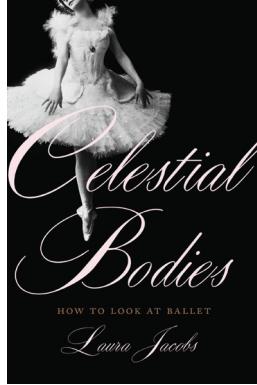


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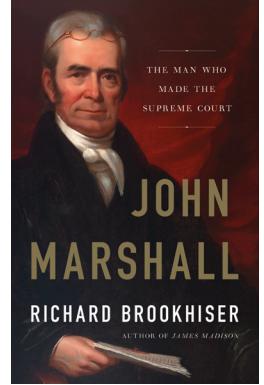
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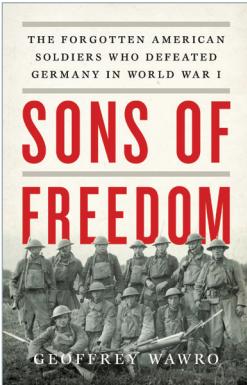
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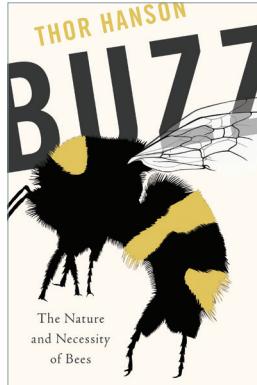
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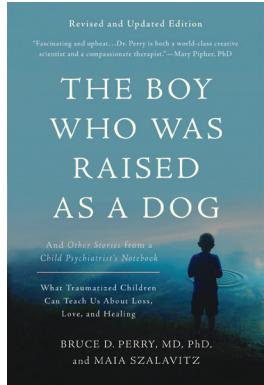
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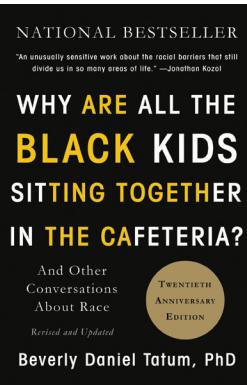
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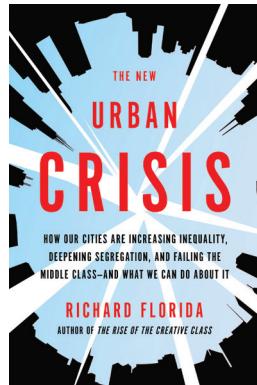
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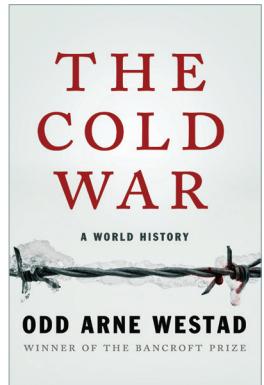
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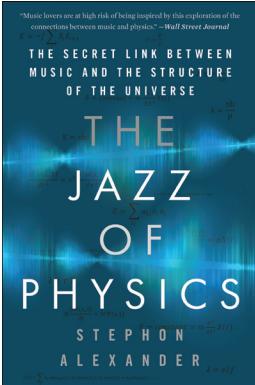


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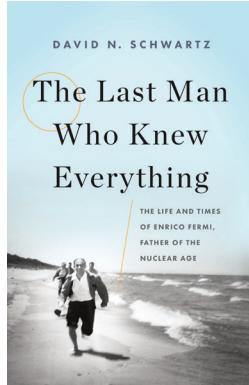


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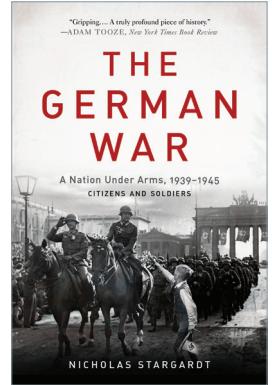
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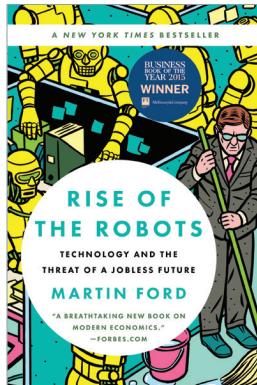
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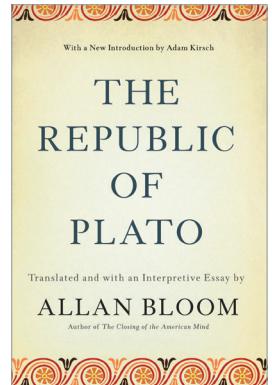
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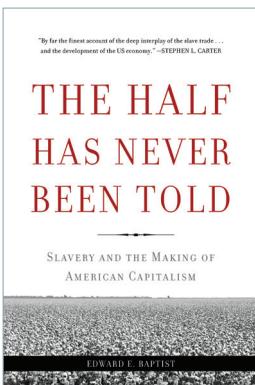
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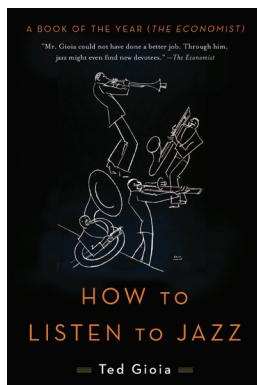
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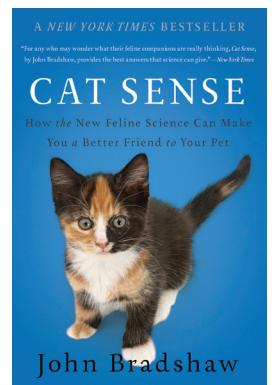
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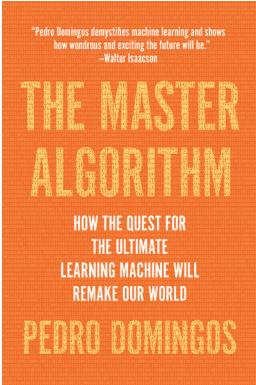


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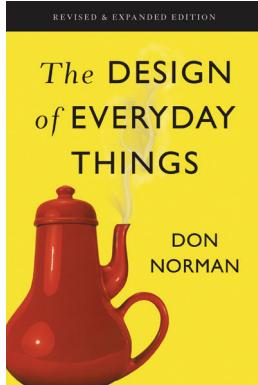


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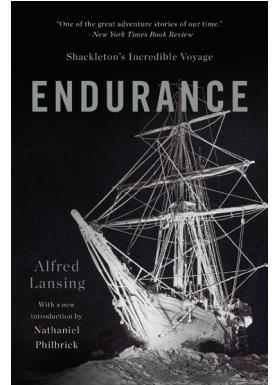
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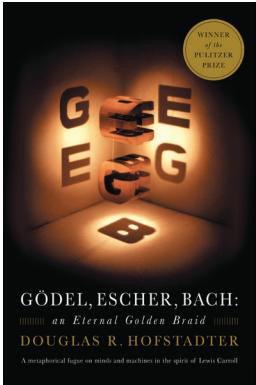
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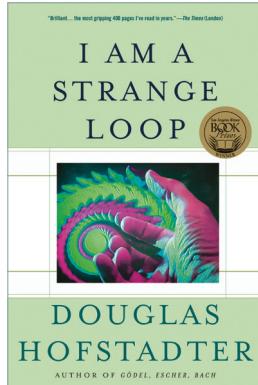
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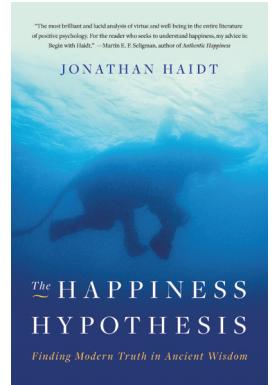
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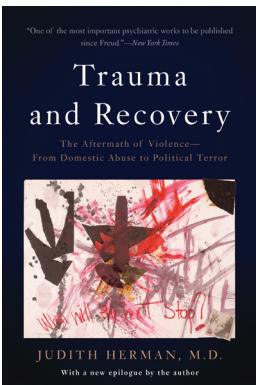
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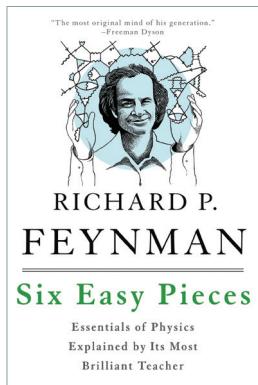
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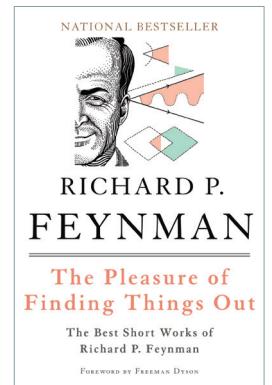
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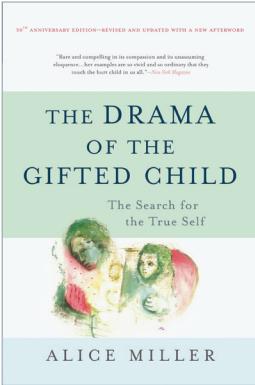


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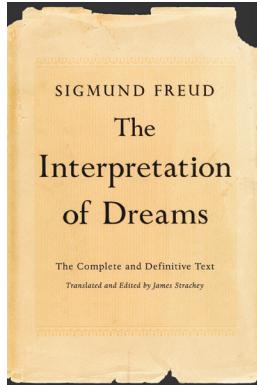


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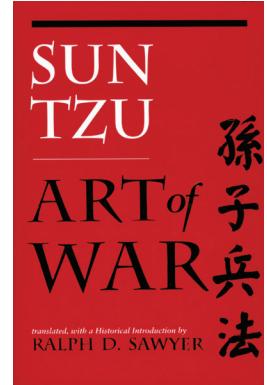
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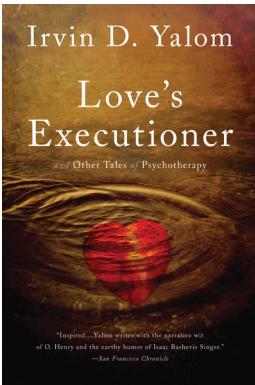
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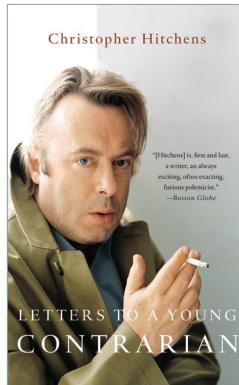
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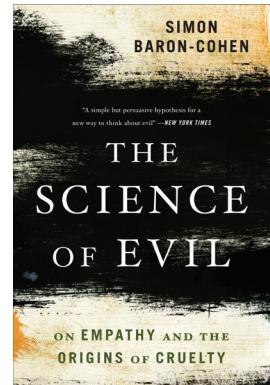
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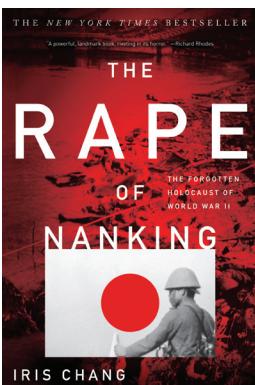
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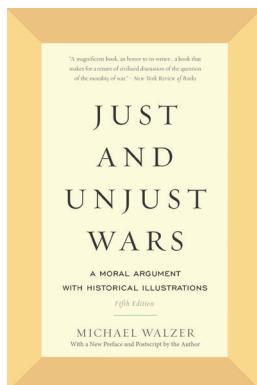
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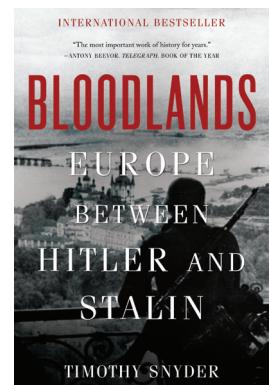
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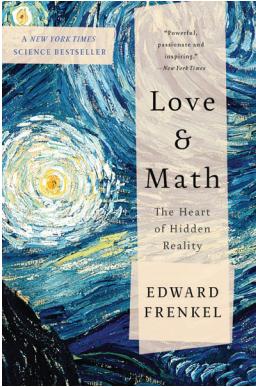


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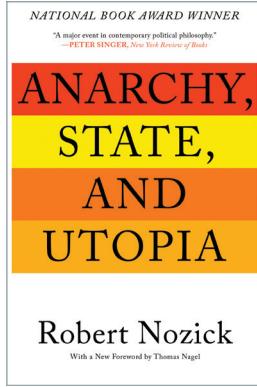


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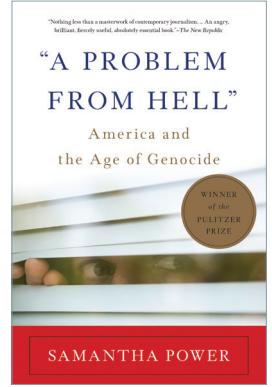
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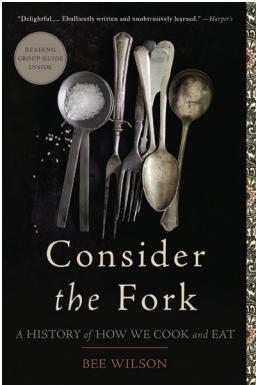
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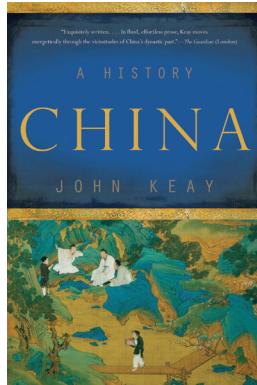
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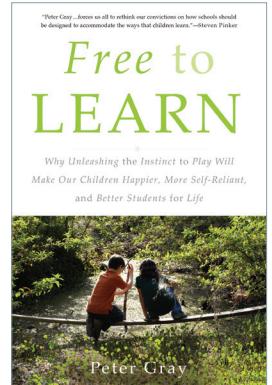
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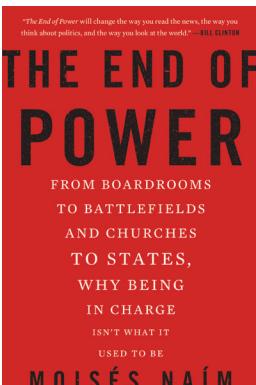
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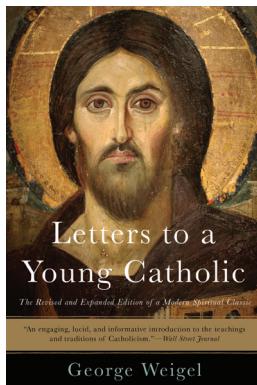
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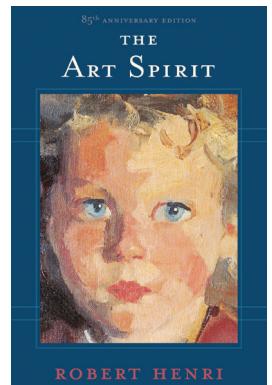
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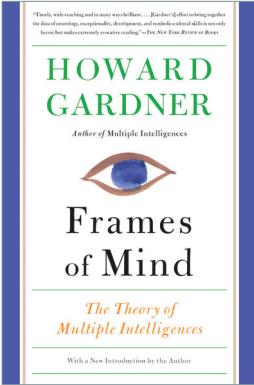


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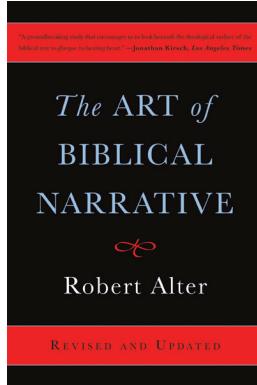


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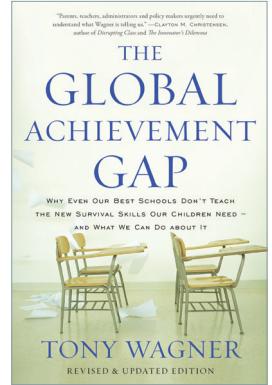
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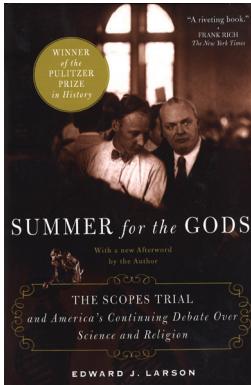
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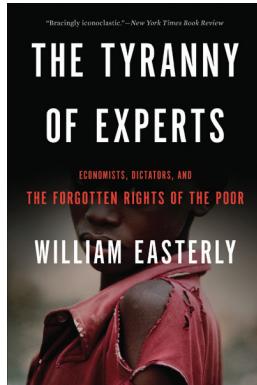
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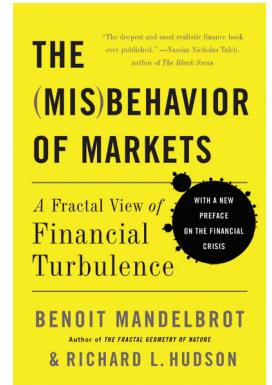
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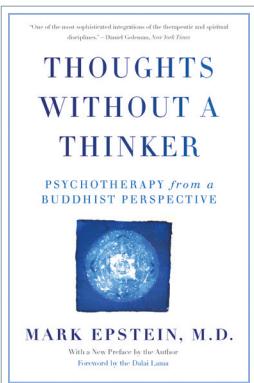
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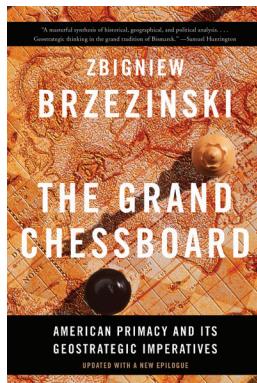
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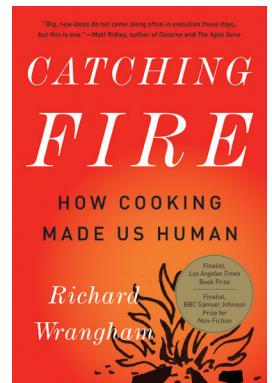
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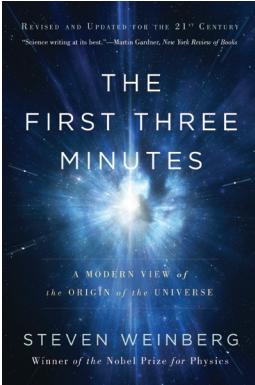


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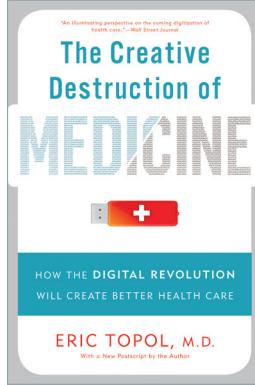


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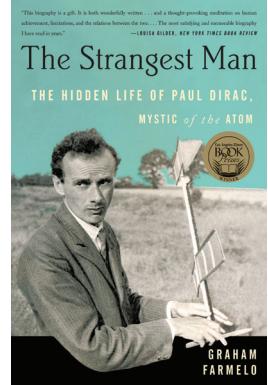
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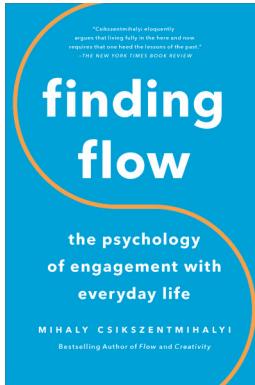
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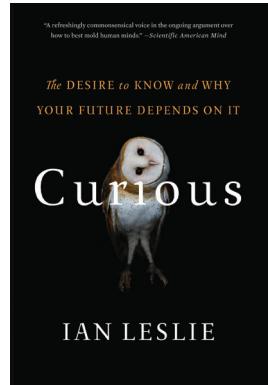
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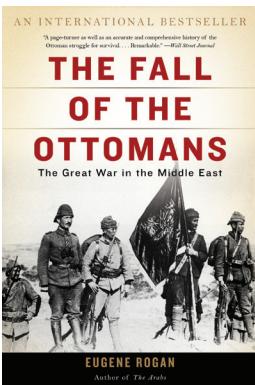
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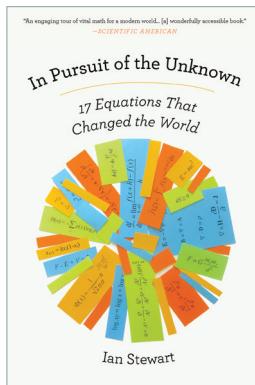
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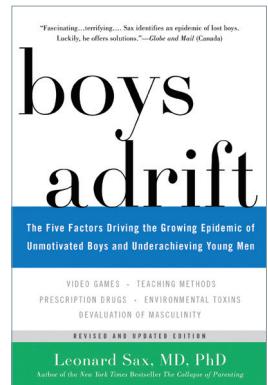
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Lara Heimert joined Basic Books in 2005. Previously, she was publisher of the trade division at Yale University Press. She has published numerous prize-winning and *New York Times* best-selling titles. Highlights include Edward Baptist's *The Half Has Never Been Told*, Eugene Rogan's *The Fall of the Ottomans*, John Bradshaw's *Dog Sense* and *Cat Sense*, Timothy Snyder's *Bloodlands*, Nicholas Stargardt's *The German War*, Bee Wilson's *Consider the Fork*, and Victor Davis Hanson's *The Second World Wars*. A graduate of Princeton University, Lara acquires primarily in the field of history, broadly conceived—from world wars to marginalia, from culinary history to political theory, from diaspora to doodles.

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Thomas Kelleher joined Basic Books in 2009, and publishes predominantly in science, mathematics, and economics. He has published Eric Topol, Sherry Turkle, Edward Frenkel, Eugenia Cheng, and Leonard Susskind, among many others. Recent highlights include Martin Ford's *Rise of the Robots*, Dan Flores's *Coyote America*, Stephon Alexander's *The Jazz of Physics*, Massimo Pigliucci's *How to Be a Stoic*, and Sabine Hossenfelder's *Lost in Math*. He is also responsible for the publishing program surrounding *The Feynman Lectures on Physics*.

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Dan Gerstle joined Basic Books in 2013 from Farrar, Straus and Giroux, and acquires mainly in history, politics, current affairs, and the social sciences. The books he has edited and published include John Boles' *Jefferson*, John Pfaff's *Locked In*, Cathy Davidson's *The New Education*, and Joseph Crespino's *Atticus Finch*. Forthcoming titles include next works from historians H. W. Brands, Manisha Sinha, Walter Johnson, Jeremy Popkin, A. K. Sandoval-Strausz, and Jefferson Cowie; from journalists Bhaskar Sunkara and Joan Biskupic; and from social scientists Rucker Johnson, Scott Rozelle, and Thomas Abt. Dan holds a BA from Princeton University and an MA in American Studies from Yale University.

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Brian J. Distelberg joined Basic Books in 2015. He acquires primarily in history. The books he has edited and published include Laurence Tribe and Joshua Matz's *To End a Presidency*, R. Marie Griffith's *Moral Combat*, Christopher Goscha's *Vietnam*, Alisa Roth's *Insane*, and Rachel Devlin's *A Girl Stands at the Door*. Forthcoming titles include books by historians including Sunil Amrith, Sarah Churchwell, Philip Dwyer, Claire Potter, Martyn Rady, Edward Watts, and Michael Willrich, as well as social scientists including Jonathan Metzl, Alexandra Natapoff, and Jonathan Rodden. Brian worked previously at Harvard University Press and also holds a PhD in US history from Yale University.

### ERIC HENNEY

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Eric Henney joined Basic Books in 2018 and acquires across the sciences. Previously, he was the editor for physical, earth, and computer sciences at Princeton University Press. Eric has edited and acquired books by Mark Serreze, Kevin Hand, Skylar Tibbits, Jeremy England, Marcia Bjornerud, Carl Landwehr, Kerry Emanuel, Phillip Rogaway, and Susan Schneider.

### LEAH STECHER

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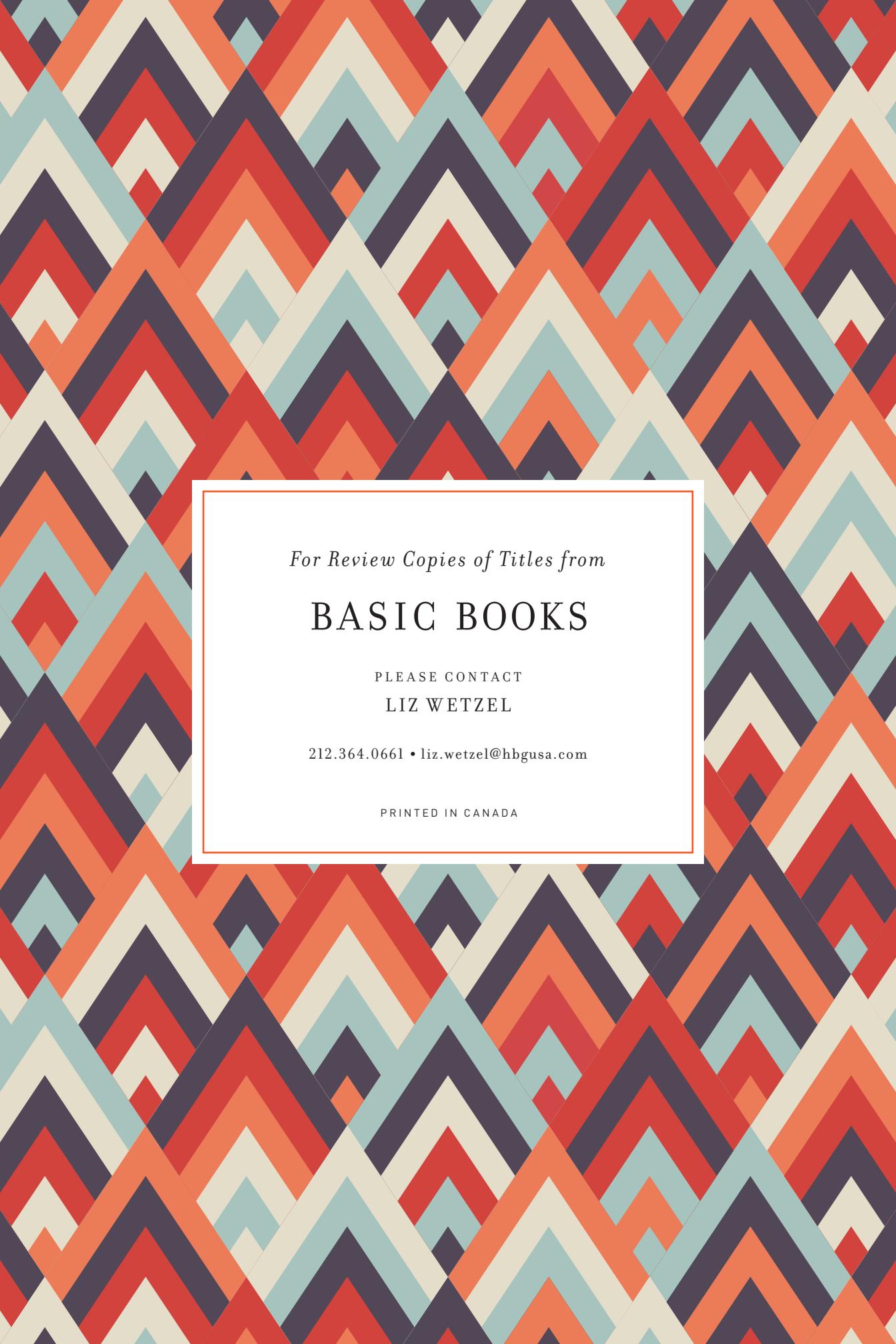
Leah Stecher joined Basic Books in 2013. A graduate of Bowdoin College, she acquires in history, women's studies, social sciences, and biography, and has acquired books by authors including Mo Moulton, Kirstin Downey, Virginia Postrel, Lisa Levenstein, Ernest Freeberg, and Maurice Samuels.



# NOTES



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