

A decorative border of watercolor-painted leaves in various colors (yellow, orange, red, pink, purple, blue, green) arranged in a circular pattern around the text.

BASIC BOOKS

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SEAL PRESS

WINTER 2022

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BASIC BOOKS

with SEAL PRESS

WINTER 2022

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ABOUT

BASIC BOOKS

Since its founding in 1950, Basic Books has shaped public debate by publishing award-winning books in history, science, sociology, psychology, politics, and current affairs. Basic's list of influential authors includes Stephon Alexander, Robert Alter, Isaac Asimov, Edward Baptist, H.W. Brands, Zbigniew Brzezinski, Iris Chang, George Chauncey, Eugenia Cheng, William Easterly, Richard Feynman, Richard Florida, Martin Ford, Howard Gardner, Adrian Goldsworthy, Adam Gopnik, Jonathan Haidt, Victor Davis Hanson, Judith Herman, Christopher Hitchens, Douglas Hofstadter, Leszek Kolakowski, Kevin Kruse, Lawrence Lessig, Claude Levi-Strauss, Alice Miller, Don Norman, Robert Nozick, Judea Pearl, Samantha Power, Diane Ravitch, Eugene Rogan, Thomas Sowell, Beverly Daniel Tatum, Eric Topol, Sherry Turkle, Timothy Snyder, Nicholas Stargardt, Michael Walzer, George Weigel, Bee Wilson, James Q. Wilson, Richard Wrangham, and Irvin Yalom.

ASHLEY WARD

THE SOCIAL LIVES OF ANIMALS

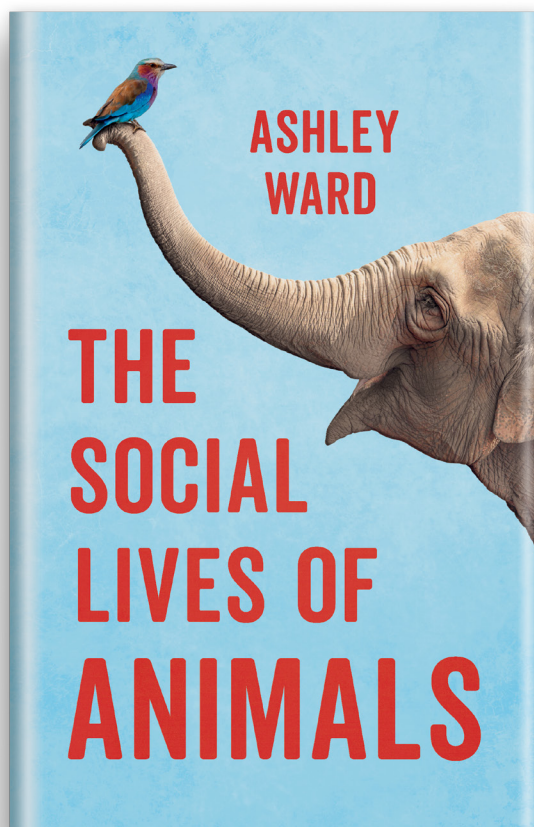
A rat will go out of its way to help a stranger in need. Lions have adopted the calves of their prey. Ants farm fungus in cooperatives. Why do we continue to believe that life in the animal kingdom is ruled by competition?

In *The Social Lives of Animals*, biologist Ashley Ward takes us on a wild tour across the globe as he searches for a more accurate picture of how animals build societies. Ward drops in on a termite mating ritual (while his guides snack on the subjects), visits freelance baboon goat-herds, and swims with a mixed family of whales and dolphins. Along the way, Ward shows that the social impulses we've long thought separated humans from other animals might actually be our strongest connection to them.

Insightful, engaging, and often hilarious, *The Social Lives of Animals* demonstrates that you can learn more about animals by studying how they work together than how they compete.



ASHLEY WARD is professor and director of the Animal Behaviour Lab at the University of Sydney, where he researches social behavior, learning, and communication across the animal kingdom. His research has been published in leading journals including *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences*, *Biological Reviews*, and *Current Biology*. He lives in Sydney, Australia.



From bees that vote to lions
that adopt their prey, a top biologist
explores how sociability, within
and between species, rules the
animal kingdom

NEW HARDCOVER • MARCH

Science • \$30.00 / \$38.00 CAN

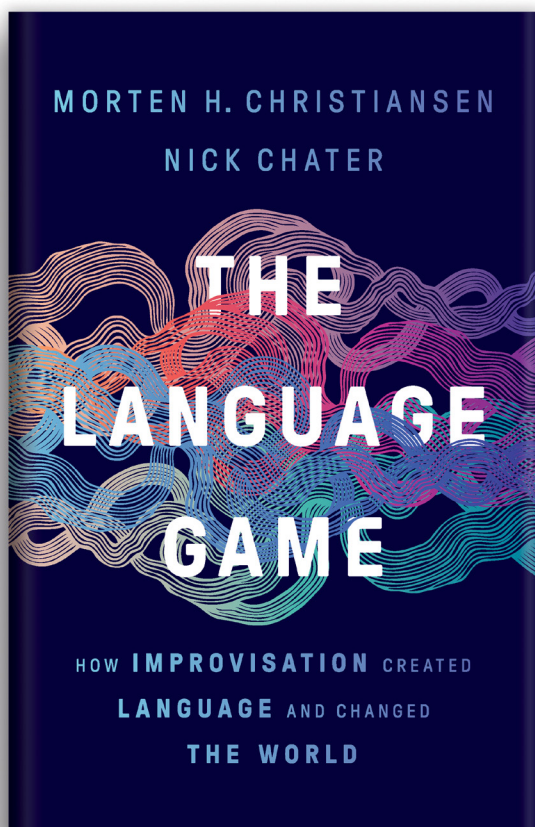
6 x 9¼ • 320 pages

978-1-5416-0083-6

E-BOOK 978-1-5416-0084-3

Selling Territory: USC

Author photo © Ashley Ward



Forget the language instinct—
this is the story of how we make up
language as we go

NEW HARDCOVER • JANUARY

Science • \$30.00 / \$38.00 CAN

6 x 9¼ • 304 pages

978-1-5416-7498-1

E-BOOK 978-1-5416-7497-4

Selling Territory: USC

Author photo: (Christiansen) © Jesse Winter LLC ;
(Chater) © Warwick Business School

MORTEN H. CHRISTIENSEN *and* NICK CHATER

THE LANGUAGE GAME

*How Improvisation Created
Language and Changed the World*

Language is perhaps humanity's most astonishing capacity—and one that remains poorly understood. In *The Language Game*, cognitive scientists Morten H. Christiansen and Nick Chater show us where generations of scientists seeking the rules of language got it wrong. Language isn't about hardwired grammars but about near-total freedom, something like a game of charades, with the only requirement being a desire to understand and be understood. From this new vantage point, Christiansen and Chater find compelling solutions to major mysteries like the origins of languages and how language learning is possible, and to long-running debates such as whether having two words for "blue" changes what we see. In the end, they show that the only real constraint on communication is our imagination.



MORTEN H. CHRISTIENSEN

is the William R. Kenan Jr. professor of psychology at Cornell University as well as professor in cognitive science of language at Aarhus University, Denmark. He lives in New York.



NICK CHATER is a professor of behavioral science at Warwick University. He is the author of the award-winning book *The Mind Is Flat*. He lives in the United Kingdom.

MATTHEW CONTINETTI

THE RIGHT

*The Hundred Year War for
American Conservatism*

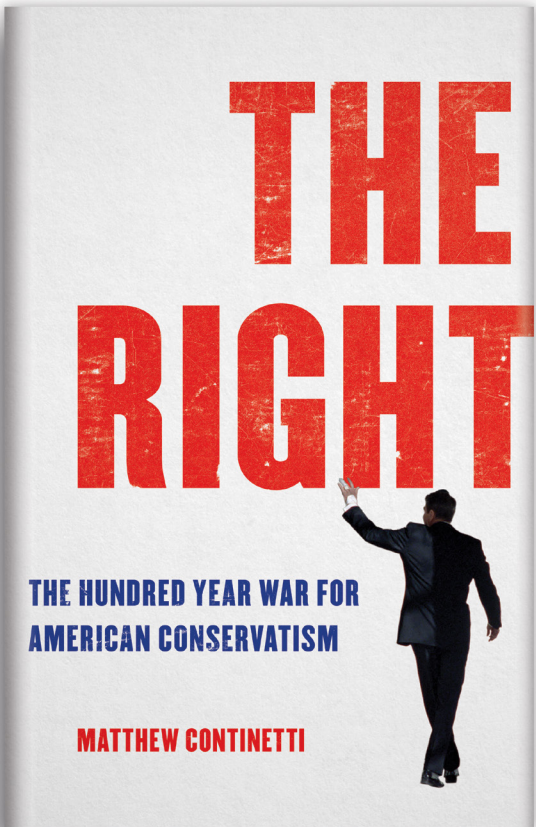
When most people think of the history of modern conservatism, they think of Ronald Reagan. Yet this narrow view leaves many to question: How did Donald Trump win the presidency? And what is the future of the Republican Party?

In *The Right*, Matthew Continetti gives a sweeping account of movement conservatism's evolution, from the Progressive Era through the present. He tells the story of how conservatism began as networks of intellectuals, developing and institutionalizing a vision that grew over time, until they began to buckle under new pressures, resembling national populist movements. Drawing out the tensions between the desire for mainstream acceptance and the pull of extremism, Continetti argues that the more one studies conservatism's past, the more one becomes convinced of its future.

Deeply researched and brilliantly told, *The Right* is essential reading for anyone looking to understand American conservatism.



MATTHEW CONTINETTI is a journalist and intellectual historian of the Right. He is a fellow at the American Enterprise Institute, the founding editor of the *Washington Free Beacon*, and a columnist for *Commentary* magazine. The author of *The Persecution of Sarah Palin* and *The K Street Gang*, he lives in Virginia.



A magisterial intellectual
history of the last century of
American conservatism

NEW HARDCOVER • APRIL

History / Politics • \$35.00 / \$44.00 CAN

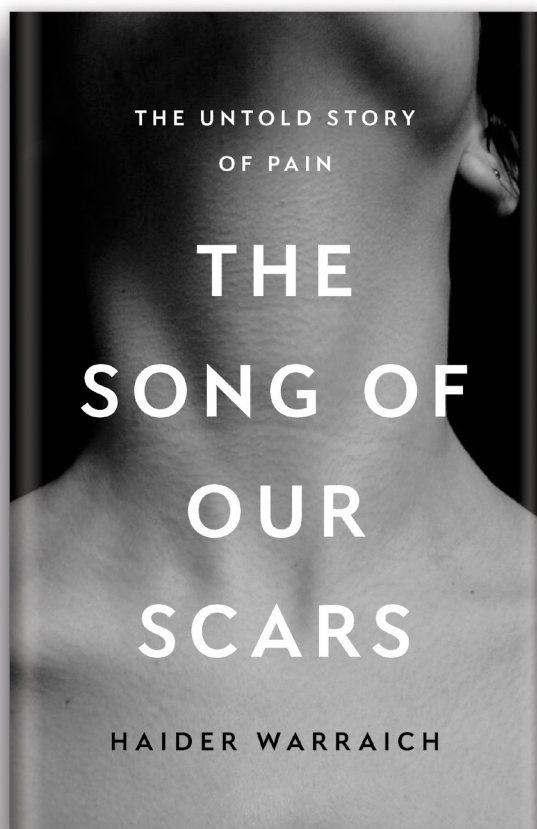
6 x 9¼ • 528 pages

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E-BOOK 978-1-5416-0052-2

Selling Territory: W

Author photo © Aaron Clamage Photography,
American Enterprise Institute



**A doctor's unsparing account
of how modern medicine's
failure to understand pain has
made care less effective**

NEW HARDCOVER • APRIL

Medicine • \$30.00 / \$38.00 CAN

6 x 9¼ • 320 pages

978-1-5416-7530-8

E-BOOK: 978-1-5416-7529-2

Selling Territory: USC

Author photo © Rabail Baig

HAIDER WARRAICH

THE SONG OF OUR SCARS

The Untold Story of Pain

In *The Song of Our Scars*, physician Haider Warraich offers a bold reexamination of the nature of pain, not as a simple physical sensation, but as a cultural experience.

Warraich, himself a sufferer of chronic pain, considers the ways our notions of pain have been shaped not just by science but by politics and power, by whose suffering mattered and whose didn't. He weaves a provocative history from the Renaissance, when pain transformed into a medical issue, through the racial legacy of pain tolerance, to the opiate epidemics of both the nineteenth and twenty-first centuries, to the cutting edge of present-day pain science. The conclusion is clear: only by reckoning with both pain's complicated history and its biology can today's doctors adequately treat their patients' suffering.

Trenchant and deeply felt, *The Song of Our Scars* is an indictment of a broken system and a plea for a more holistic understanding of the human body.



HAIDER WARRAICH is a doctor at Brigham and Women's Hospital, Harvard Medical School, and the VA Boston Healthcare System. He is the author of *Modern Death* and *State of the Heart*, and regularly writes for the *New York Times* and *Washington Post*, among others. He lives in Wellesley, Massachusetts.

LLOYD LLEWELLYN-JONES

PERSIANS

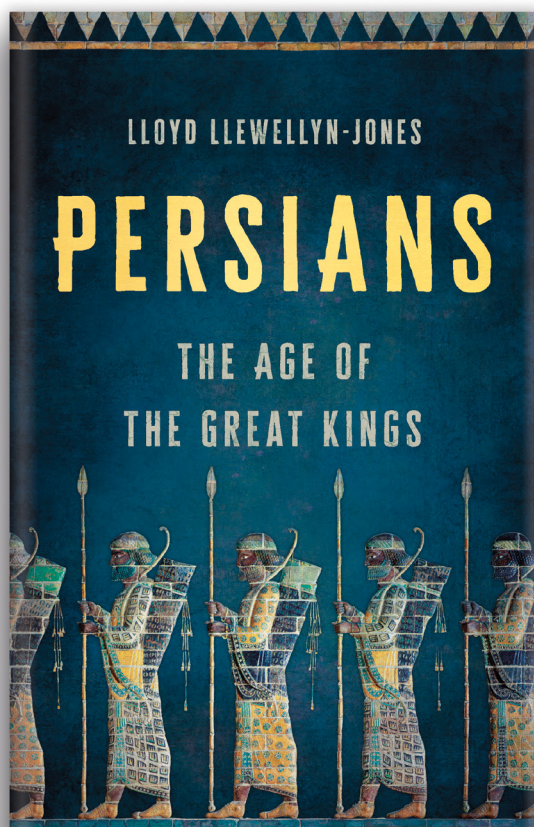
The Age of the Great Kings

The Achaemenid Persian kings ruled over the largest empire of antiquity, stretching from Libya to the steppes of Asia and from Ethiopia to Pakistan. From the palace-city of Persepolis, Cyrus the Great, Darius, Xerxes, and their heirs reigned supreme for centuries until the conquests of Alexander of Macedon brought the empire to a swift and unexpected end in the late 330s BCE.

In *Persians*, historian Lloyd Llewellyn-Jones tells the epic story of this dynasty and the world it ruled. Drawing on Iranian inscriptions, cuneiform tablets, art, and archaeology, he shows how the Achaemenid Persian Empire was the world's first superpower—one built, despite its imperial ambition, on cooperation and tolerance. This is the definitive history of the Achaemenid dynasty and its legacies in modern-day Iran, a book that completely reshapes our understanding of the ancient world.



LLOYD LLEWELLYN-JONES holds the chair in ancient history at Cardiff University and is the director of the Ancient Iran Program for the British Institute of Persian Studies. He has published widely on ancient history and lives in Taff's Well, Wales.



**A stunning portrait of the
magnificent splendor and enduring
legacy of ancient Persia**

NEW HARDCOVER • APRIL

History • \$35.00 / \$44.00 CAN

6 x 9¼ • 368 pages

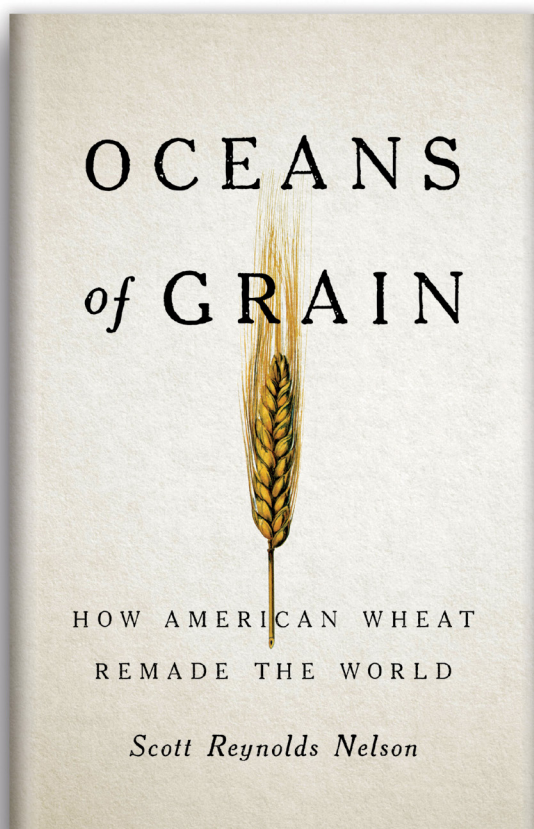
Sixteen-page full-color insert,
twenty line drawings, one map

978-1-5416-0034-8

E-BOOK 978-1-5416-0035-5

Selling Territory: USC

Author photo © Simon Gough Photography



**A revelatory global history shows
how cheap American grain toppled
the world's largest empires**

NEW HARDCOVER • FEBRUARY

History • \$32.00 / \$40.00 CAN

6 x 9¼ • 368 pages

Two maps, one graph, one table

978-1-5416-4646-9

E-BOOK 978-1-5416-4645-2

Selling Territory: W

Author photo © Cindy Hahamovitch

SCOTT REYNOLDS NELSON

OCEANS OF GRAIN

How American Wheat Remade the World

To understand the rise and fall of empires, we must follow the paths traveled by grain—along rivers, between ports, and across seas. In *Oceans of Grain*, historian Scott Reynolds Nelson reveals how the struggle to dominate these routes transformed the balance of world power.

Early in the nineteenth century, imperial Russia fed much of Europe through the booming port of Odessa. But following the US Civil War, tons of American wheat began to flood across the Atlantic, and food prices plummeted. This cheap foreign grain spurred the rise of Germany and Italy, the decline of the Habsburgs and the Ottomans, and the European scramble for empire. It was a crucial factor in the outbreak of the First World War and the Russian Revolution.

A powerful new interpretation, *Oceans of Grain* shows that amid the great powers' rivalries, there was no greater power than control of grain.



SCOTT REYNOLDS NELSON

is the UGA Athletics Association professor of the humanities at the University of Georgia. He is a Guggenheim fellow and the author of five books, including *Steel Drivin' Man*, which received the Merle Curti Social History Award and the National Award for Arts Writing. Nelson lives in Athens, Georgia.

JACOB MCHANGAMA

FREE SPEECH

A History from Socrates to Social Media

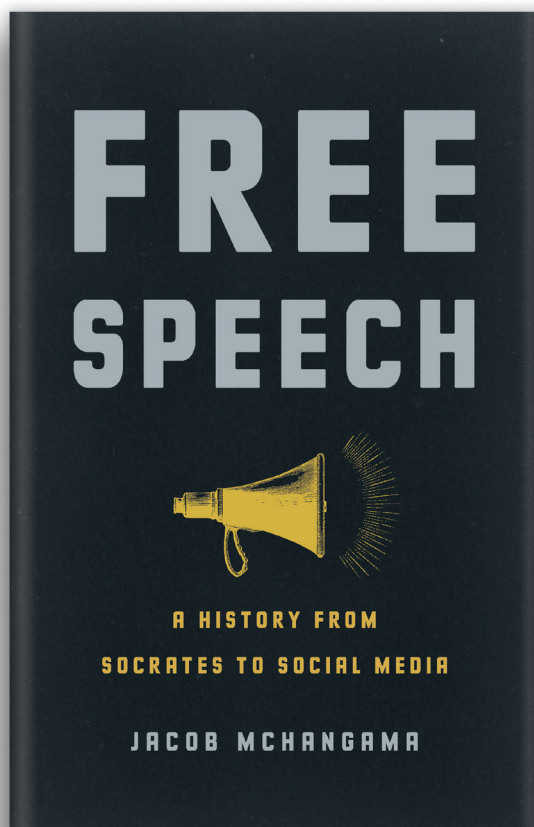
Hailed as the “first freedom,” free speech is the bedrock of democracy. But it is a challenging principle, subject to erosion in times of upheaval. Today, in democracies and authoritarian states around the world, it is on the retreat.

In *Free Speech*, Jacob Mchangama traces the riveting legal, political, and cultural history of this idea. Through captivating stories of free speech’s many defenders, Mchangama reveals how the free exchange of ideas underlies all intellectual achievement and has enabled the advancement of both freedom and equality worldwide. Yet the desire to restrict speech, too, is a constant, and he explores how even its champions can be led down this path when the rise of new and contrarian voices challenges power and privilege of all stripes.

Meticulously researched and deeply humane, *Free Speech* demonstrates how much we have gained from this principle—and how much we stand to lose without it.



JACOB MCHANGAMA is the founder and executive director of the Danish think tank Justitia and the host of the podcast *Clear and Present Danger: A History of Free Speech*. His writing on free speech has appeared in the *Economist*, the *Washington Post*, *Foreign Policy*, and other outlets. He lives in Copenhagen, Denmark.



A global history of free speech,
from the ancient world to today

NEW HARDCOVER • FEBRUARY

History • \$30.00 / \$38.00 CAN

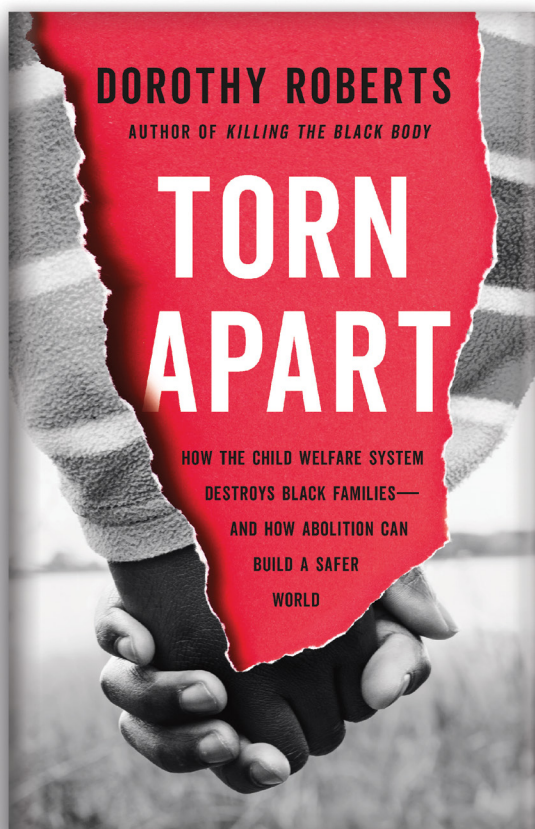
6 x 9 1/4 • 496 pages

978-1-5416-0049-2

E-BOOK 978-1-5416-2033-9

Selling Territory: W

Author photo © Justitia



An award-winning scholar exposes the foundational racism of the child welfare system and calls for radical change

NEW HARDCOVER • APRIL

Social Science • \$30.00 / \$38.00 CAN

6 x 9¼ • 272 pages

978-1-5416-7544-5

E-BOOK 978-1-5416-7545-2

Selling Territory: USC

Author photo © Chris Crisman

DOROTHY ROBERTS

TORN APART

How the Child Welfare System

Destroys Black Families—

and How Abolition Can Build a Safer World

Many believe the child welfare system protects children from abuse. But as *Torn Apart* uncovers, this system is designed to punish Black families. Drawing on decades of research, legal scholar and sociologist Dorothy Roberts reveals that the child welfare system is better understood as a “family policing system” that collaborates with law enforcement and prisons to oppress Black communities. Child protection investigations ensnare a majority of Black children, putting their families under intense state surveillance and regulation. Black children are disproportionately likely to be torn from their families and placed in foster care, driving many to juvenile detention and imprisonment.

The only way to stop the destruction caused by family policing, *Torn Apart* argues, is to abolish the child welfare system and liberate Black communities.



DOROTHY ROBERTS is the George A. Weiss University Professor of Law and Sociology at the University of Pennsylvania, where she directs the Penn Program on Race, Science, and Society. The author of four books, including *Killing the Black Body*, she lives in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

BRIAN BUTTERWORTH

CAN FISH COUNT?

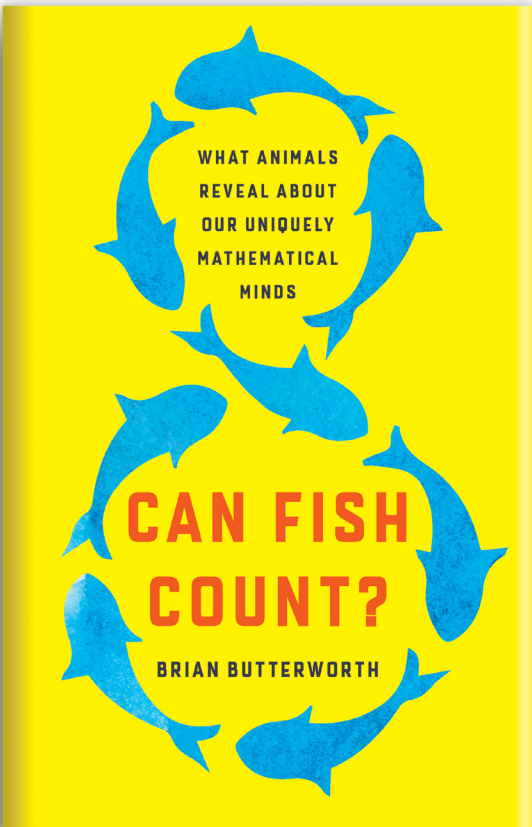
*What Animals Reveal About
Our Uniquely Mathematical Minds*

The philosopher Bertrand Russell once observed that realizing that a pair of apples and the passage of two days could somehow both be represented by the concept we call “two” was one of the most astonishing discoveries anyone had ever made. So what do we make of the incredible fact that animals seem to have inherent mathematical abilities? As cognitive psychologist Brian Butterworth shows us in *Can Fish Count?*, many “simple” animals—such as bees, which count trees and fence posts, and guppies, which can size up groups—have a sense of numbers. And unlike humans, they don’t need to be taught.

In telling animals’ stories, Butterworth shines new light on one of our most ancient questions: Just where, exactly, do numbers come from? He reveals how insights gleaned from studying animals can help us make better sense of our own abilities. Full of discovery and delight, *Can Fish Count?* is an astonishing journey through the animal kingdom and the human mind.



BRIAN BUTTERWORTH is emeritus professor of cognitive neuropsychology at University College London, working on the genetics and neuroscience of mathematical abilities and disabilities. He is a fellow of the British Academy and the author of *What Counts*, as well as of several academic books. He lives in London.



An entertaining investigation of the
numerical abilities of animals and our
own appetite for arithmetic

NEW HARDCOVER • MARCH

Science / Mathematics • \$30.00 / \$38.00 CAN

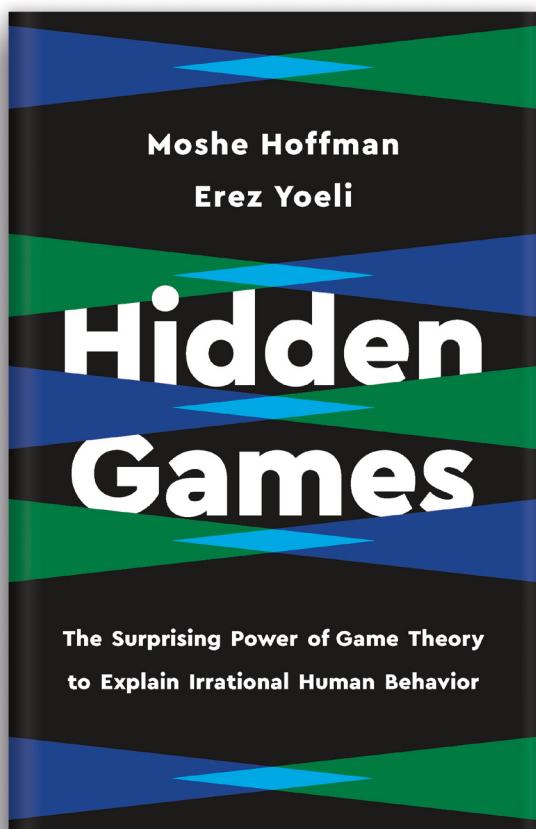
6 x 9¼ • 320 pages

978-1-5416-2081-0

E-BOOK 978-1-5416-2082-7

Selling Territory: USC

Author photo © Brian Butterworth



Two MIT economists show
how game theory—the ultimate
theory of rationality—
explains irrational behavior

NEW HARDCOVER • APRIL

Economics • \$28.00 / \$35.00 CAN

6 x 9¼ • 272 pages

Forty black-and-white illustrations

978-1-5416-1947-0

E-BOOK 978-1-5416-1946-3

Selling Territory: W

Author photo: (Hoffman) © Erez Yoeli ;

(Yoeli) © Rachel Tine

MOSHE HOFFMAN

and **EREZ YOELI**

HIDDEN GAMES

*The Surprising Power of Game Theory
to Explain Irrational Human Behavior*

We like to think of ourselves as rational. This idea is the foundation for classical economic analysis of human behavior, including the awesome achievements of game theory. But as behavioral economics shows, most behavior doesn't seem rational at all—which, unfortunately, casts doubt on game theory's real-world credibility.

In *Hidden Games*, Moshe Hoffman and Erez Yoeli find a surprising middle ground between the hyperrationality of classical economics and the hyper-irrationality of behavioral economics. They call it hidden games. Reviving game theory, Hoffman and Yoeli use it to explain our most puzzling behavior, from the mechanics of Stockholm syndrome and internalized misogyny to why we help strangers and have a sense of fairness.

Fun and powerfully insightful, *Hidden Games* is an eye-opening argument for using game theory to explain all the irrational things we think, feel, and do.



MOSHE HOFFMAN is a research scientist at the MIT Media Lab Human Dynamics group. He lives in Cambridge, Massachusetts.



EREZ YOELI is a research scientist at MIT's Sloan School of Management. He lives in Cambridge, Massachusetts.

JOAN DEJEAN

MUTINOUS WOMEN

*How French Convicts Became
Founding Mothers of the Gulf Coast*

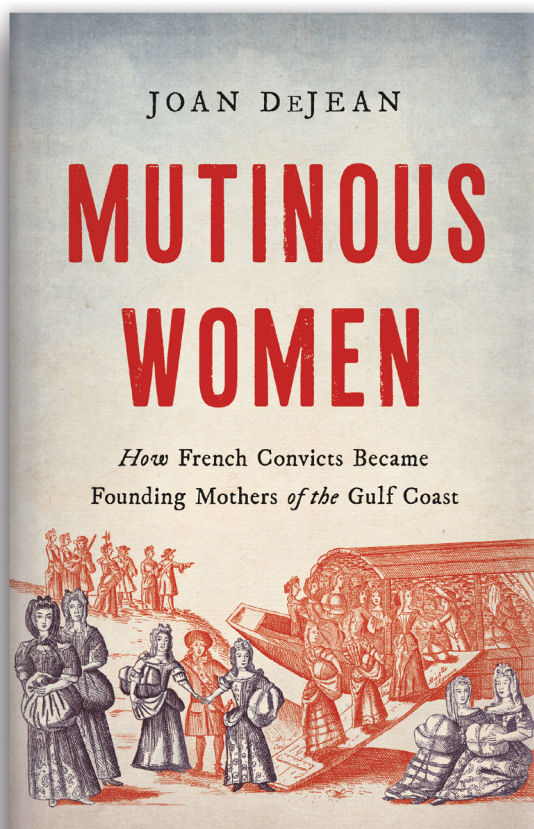
In 1719, a ship named *La Mutine* (the mutinous woman), sailed from the French port of Le Havre, bound for the Mississippi. It was loaded with urgently needed goods for the fledgling French colony, but its principal commodity was a new kind of export: women.

Falsely accused of sex crimes, these women were prisoners, shackled in the ship's hold. Of the 132 women who were sent this way, only 62 survived. But these women carved out a place for themselves in the colonies that would have been impossible in France, making advantageous marriages and accumulating property. Many were instrumental in the building of New Orleans and in settling Louisiana, Alabama, Arkansas, Illinois, and Mississippi.

Drawing on an impressive range of sources to restore the voices of these women to the historical record, *Mutinous Women* introduces us to the Gulf South's Founding Mothers.



JOAN DEJEAN is trustee professor at the University of Pennsylvania. She is the author of twelve books on seventeenth- and eighteenth-century France, including *How Paris Became Paris* and *The Essence of Style*. She lives in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, and Paris, France.



The secret history of the rebellious
Frenchwomen who were exiled to
colonial Louisiana and found power
in the Mississippi Valley

NEW HARDCOVER • APRIL

History • \$30.00 / \$38.00 CAN

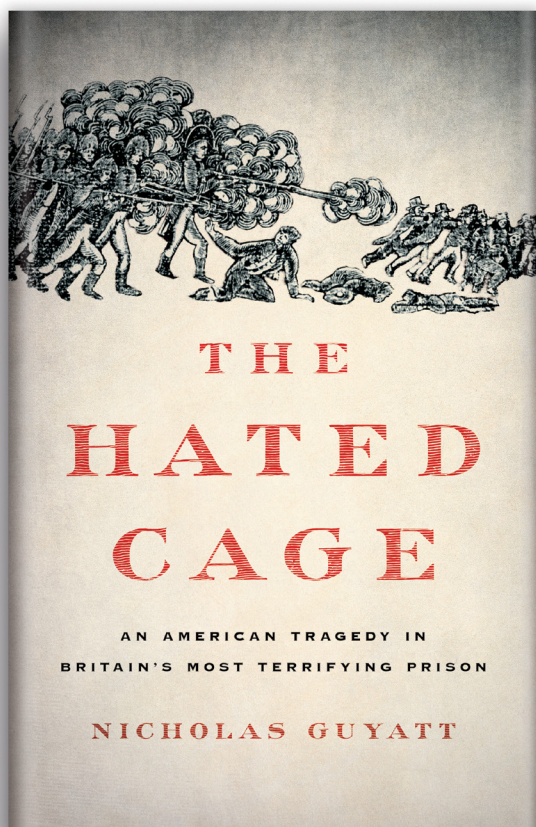
6 x 9¼ • 368 pages

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E-BOOK 978-1-5416-0059-1

Selling Territory: USC

Author photo © Candace Dicarlo



A leading historian reveals the never-before-told story of a doomed British prison and the massacre of its American prisoners of war

NEW HARDCOVER • FEBRUARY

History • \$32.00 / \$40.00 CAN

6 x 9¼ • 368 pages

978-1-5416-4566-0

E-BOOK 978-1-5416-4564-6

Selling Territory: USC

Author photo © Vic Leung

NICHOLAS GUYATT

THE HATED CAGE

An American Tragedy in Britain's Most Terrifying Prison

After the War of 1812, more than five thousand American sailors were marooned in Dartmoor Prison on a barren English plain; the conflict was over but they had been left to rot by their government. Although they shared a common nationality, the men were divided by race: nearly a thousand were Black, and at the behest of the white prisoners, Dartmoor became the first racially segregated prison in US history.

The Hated Cage documents the extraordinary but separate communities these men built within the prison—and the terrible massacre of nine Americans by prison guards that destroyed these worlds. As white people in the United States debated whether they could live alongside African Americans in freedom, could Dartmoor's Black and white Americans band together in captivity? Drawing on extensive new material, *The Hated Cage* is a gripping account of this forgotten history.



NICHOLAS GUYATT is professor of American history at the University of Cambridge and the author of five previous books, including *Bind Us Apart*:

How Enlightened Americans Invented Racial Segregation. He lives in Cambridge, UK.

DAVID J. ANDERSON

THE NATURE OF THE BEAST

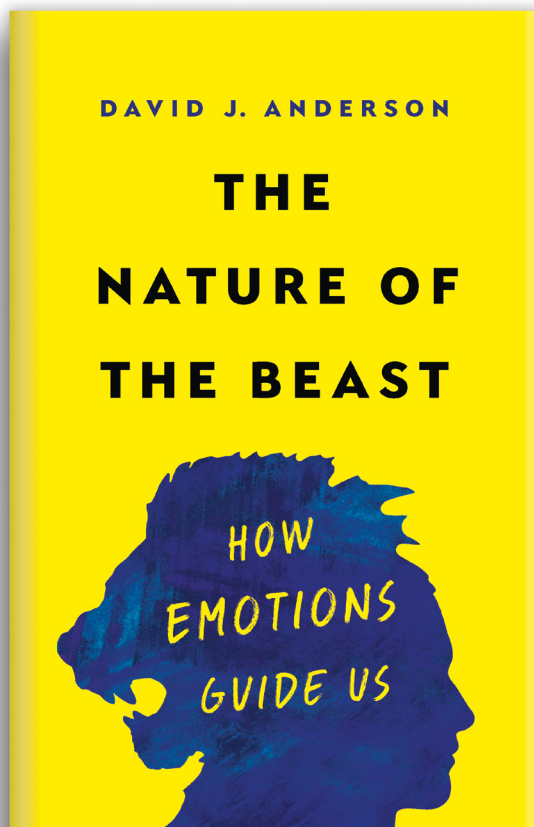
How Emotions Guide Us

Most of what we know about emotions is unreliable. It's gathered either by asking people about their feelings, or by putting them in an MRI and studying how they react to pretend situations, to which they are unlikely to respond as they would in real life. If we're ever going to understand how emotions work, we need a better way of studying them. In *The Nature of the Beast*, pioneering neuroscientist David J. Anderson reveals how he has begun to solve this problem. He and his team have figured out how to study the brain activity of animals as they navigate real-life scenarios, like foraging, fleeing a predator, or competing for a mate. His research has revolutionized what we know about animal fear and aggression. Here, he explains what his research can teach us about human behavior, offering new insights into why isolation makes us more aggressive, how sex and violence connect, and whether there's a link between aggression and mental illness.

Part *How Emotions Are Made*, part *Mama's Last Hug*, *The Nature of the Beast* reconceptualizes how the brain regulates emotions—and explains why we have them at all.



DAVID J. ANDERSON is Seymour Benzer professor of biology at Caltech, a Howard Hughes Medical Institute investigator, and a fellow of the National Academy of Sciences. He lives in Pasadena, California.



A pioneering neuroscientist
offers a new way of understanding
how emotions drive behavior

NEW HARDCOVER • MARCH

Science • \$28.00 / \$35.00 CAN

6 x 9 1/4 • 272 pages

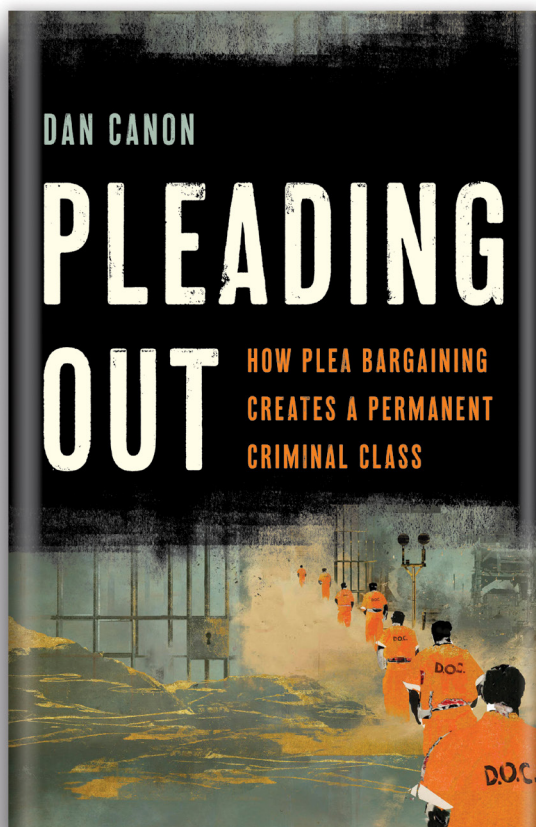
Twenty-five black-and-white illustrations

978-1-5416-7463-9

E-BOOK 978-1-5416-7464-6

Selling Territory: USC

Author photo © Robert Paz



A blistering critique of America's assembly-line approach to criminal justice and the shameful practice at its core: the plea bargain

NEW HARDCOVER • MARCH

Current Events • \$30.00 / \$38.00 CAN

6 x 9¼ • 352 pages

978-1-5416-7467-7

E-BOOK 978-1-5416-7468-4

Selling Territory: USC

Author photo © Brandy Brewer - BnB Photography

DAN CANON

PLEADING OUT

*How Plea Bargaining Creates
a Permanent Criminal Class*

Most Americans believe that the jury trial is the backbone of our criminal justice system. But in fact, the vast majority of cases never make it to trial: almost all criminal convictions are the result of a plea bargain, a deal made entirely out of the public eye.

Law professor and civil rights lawyer Dan Canon argues that plea bargaining may swiftly dispose of cases, but it also fuels an unjust system. This practice produces a massive underclass of people who are restricted from voting, working, and otherwise participating in society. And while innocent people plead guilty to crimes they did not commit in exchange for lesser sentences, the truly guilty can get away with murder.

With heart-wrenching stories, fierce urgency, and an insider's perspective, *Pleading Out* exposes the ugly truth about what's wrong with America's criminal justice system today—and offers a prescription for meaningful change.



DAN CANON is a civil rights lawyer and a law professor at the University of Louisville in Kentucky. In his practice, he has served as counsel for plaintiffs in the US Supreme Court case *Obergefell v. Hodges*, which brought marriage equality to all fifty states, and in a number of other high-profile cases. He lives in southern Indiana.

NEIL PRICE

CHILDREN OF ASH AND ELM

A History of the Vikings

The Viking Age saw an unprecedented expansion of the Scandinavian peoples into the world. But for centuries, the Vikings have been seen and distorted through the eyes of others.

Based on the latest archaeological evidence, *Children of Ash and Elm* tells the story of the Vikings on their own terms, uncovering how they exported new ideas and technologies to the lands and peoples they encountered. From Eirik Bloodaxe, who fought his way to a kingdom, to Gudríd Thorbjarnardóttir, the most traveled woman in the world, *Children of Ash and Elm* is a remarkable history of the Vikings and their time.

"Thousands of books have been published about the Vikings—this is one of the very best."

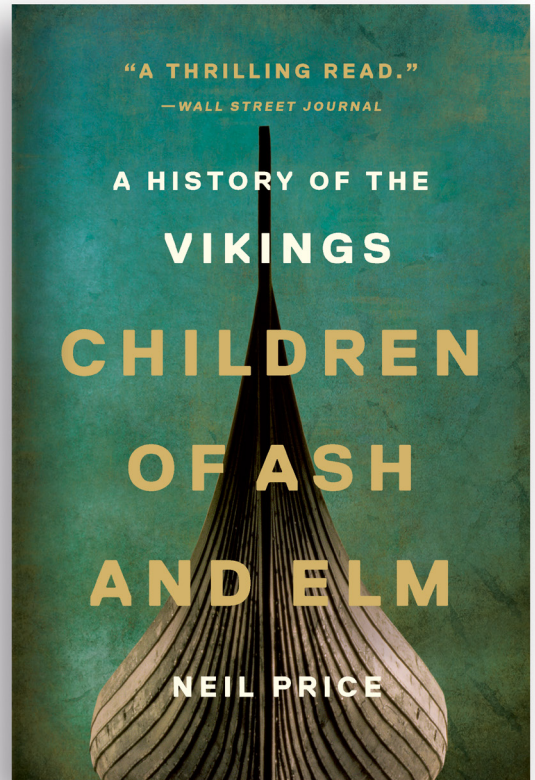
—*Sunday Times* (UK)

"A comprehensive, lyrically told and personal account of the Viking Age. . . . No other history of the Vikings is as vibrant or expands the scope of the Viking world to encompass not just landscapes, but mindscapes."

—*Times Literary Supplement*



NEIL PRICE is distinguished professor and chair of archaeology at Uppsala University, Sweden. He has been researching, teaching, and writing on the Vikings for nearly thirty-five years and is the author of several books on the history of the Viking Age. He lives in Sweden.



A "thrilling" (*Wall Street Journal*) history of the Vikings
by a preeminent scholar

TRADE PAPERBACK • APRIL

History • \$19.99 / \$24.99 CAN

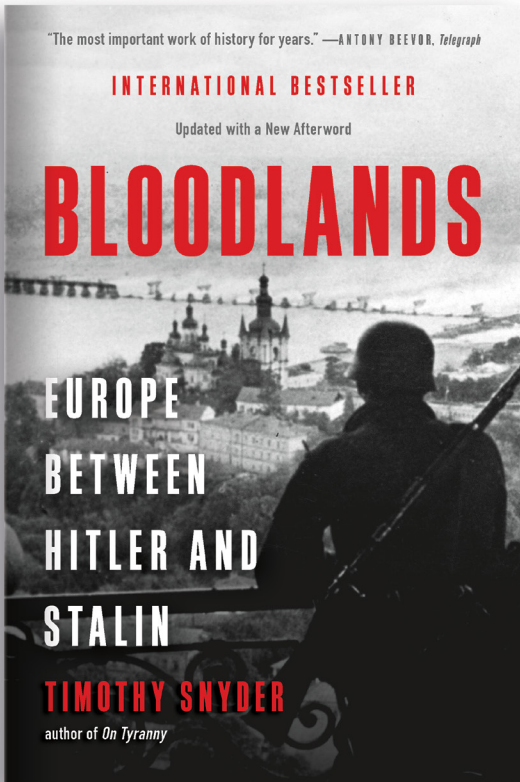
5½ x 8¼ • 640 pages

978-1-5416-0111-6

E-BOOK 978-0-465-09699-2

Selling Territory: W

Author photo © Linda Qvistrom



From the author of the international bestseller *On Tyranny*, the definitive history of Hitler's and Stalin's politics of mass killing

REISSUE • APRIL

History • \$22.99 / \$28.99 CAN

6 x 9 • 576 pages

Thirty-five maps

978-1-5416-0006-5

E-BOOK 978-0-465-03297-6

Selling Territory: W

Author photo © Ine Gundersveen

TIMOTHY SNYDER

BLOODLANDS

Europe Between Hitler and Stalin

NAMED A BEST BOOK OF THE YEAR BY

THE ATLANTIC • ECONOMIST

FINANCIAL TIMES • NEW REPUBLIC

Americans call the Second World War “the Good War,” but America’s ally Stalin killed millions of his own citizens. Before Hitler was defeated, he had murdered six million Jews and nearly as many other Europeans. At war’s end, German and Soviet killing sites fell behind the Iron Curtain.

Bloodlands presents the mass murders committed by the Nazi and Stalinist regimes as two aspects of a single story. With a new preface addressing these events’ enduring legacy, *Bloodlands* is required reading for anyone seeking to understand the central tragedy of modern history.

“A startling new interpretation of the period...a stunning book.”

—*New Yorker*

“A comprehensive and eloquent account.”

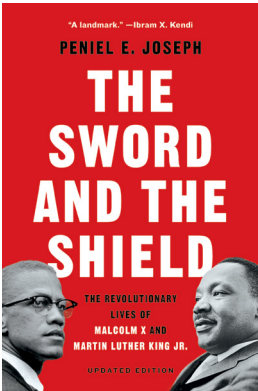
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TIMOTHY SNYDER is a professor of history at Yale University and a permanent fellow at the Institute for Human Sciences in Vienna. The author of thirteen books, including the bestsellers *On Tyranny* and *Black Earth*, his work has been translated into forty languages. He lives in New Haven, Connecticut.

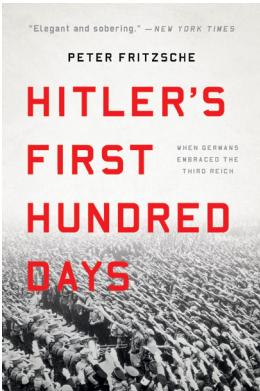
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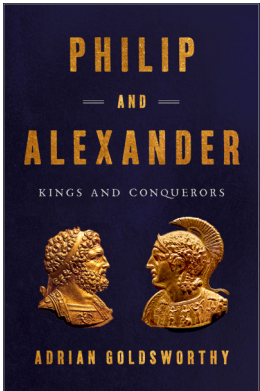
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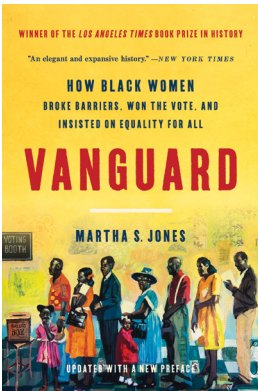
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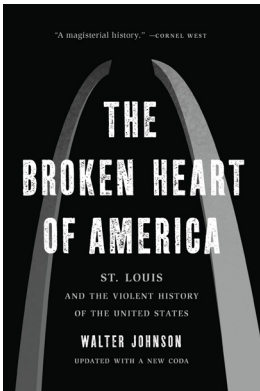
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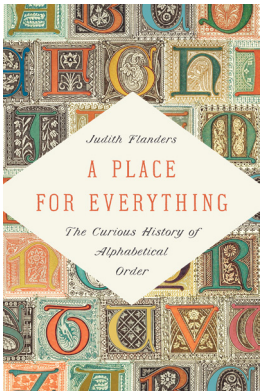
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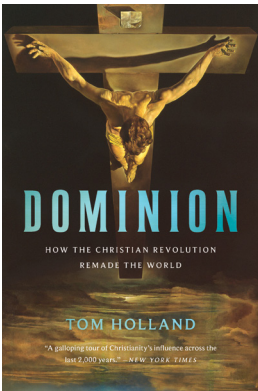
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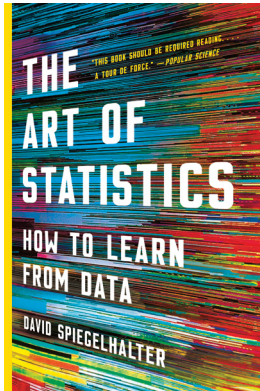
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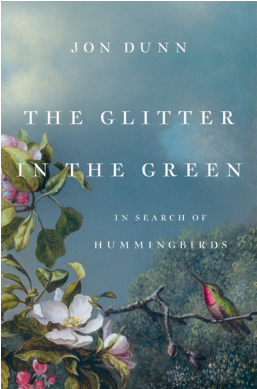


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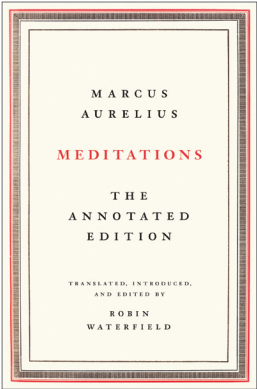


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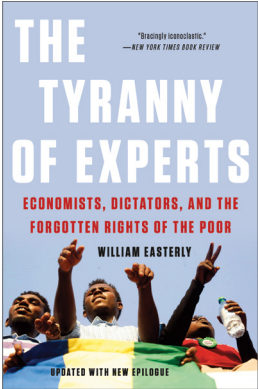
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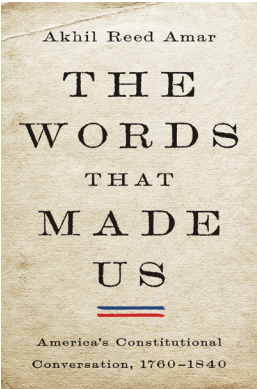
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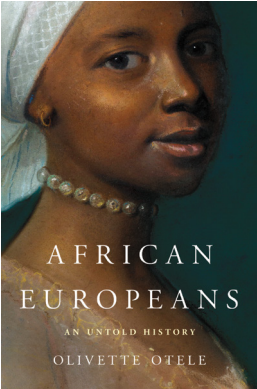
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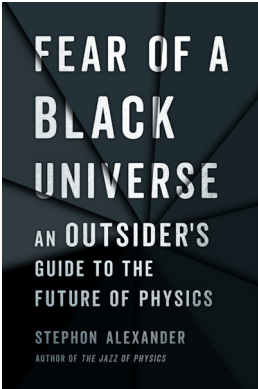
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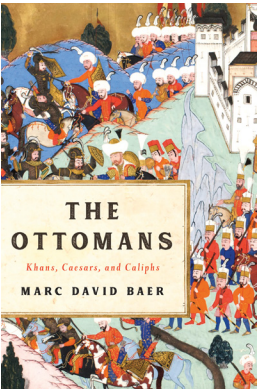
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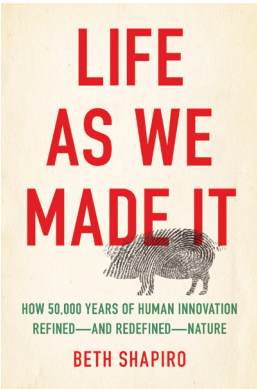
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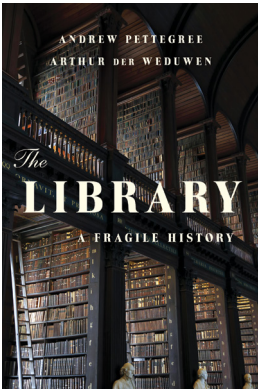
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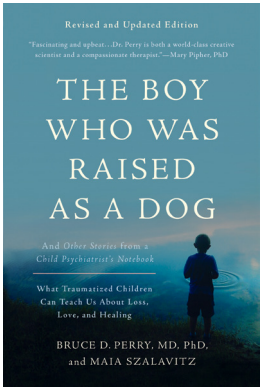


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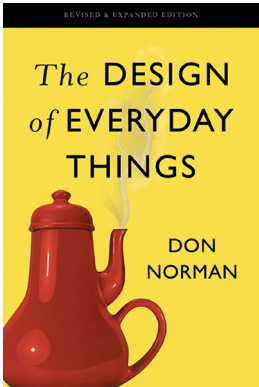


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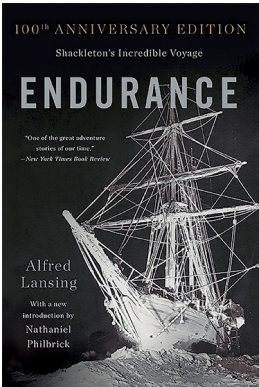
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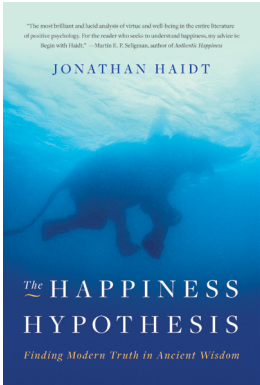
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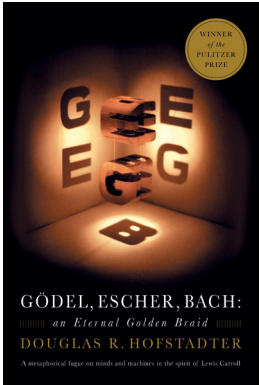
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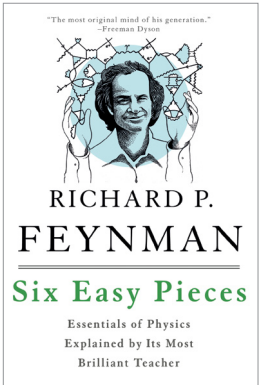
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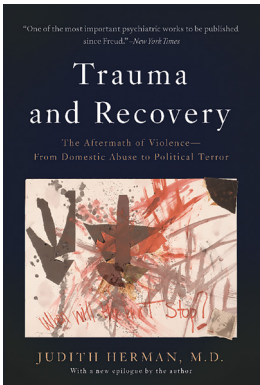
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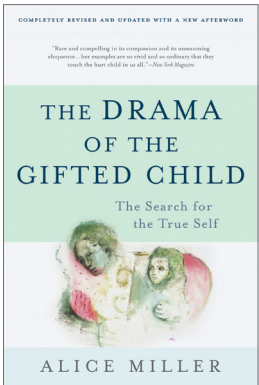
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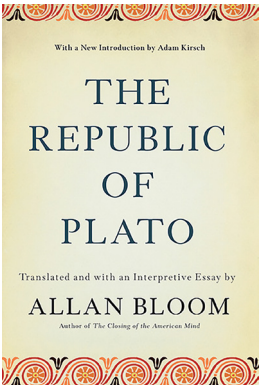
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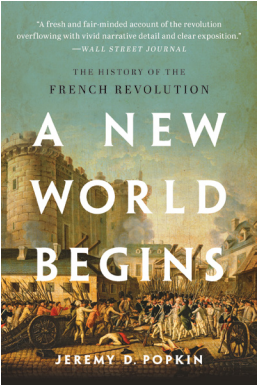


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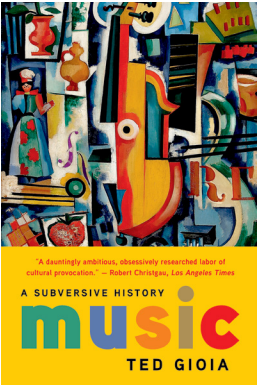


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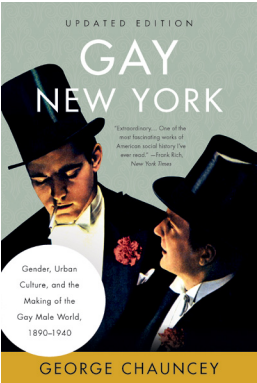
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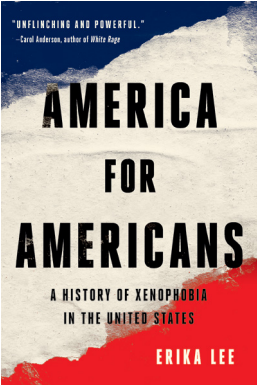
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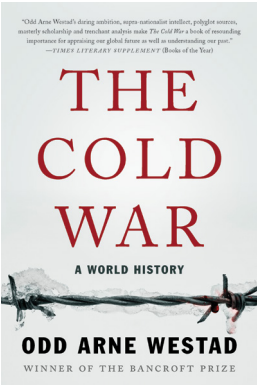
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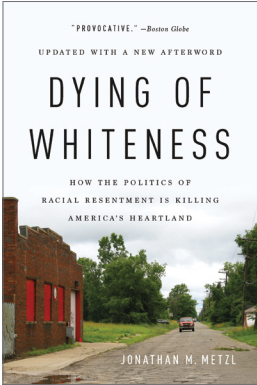
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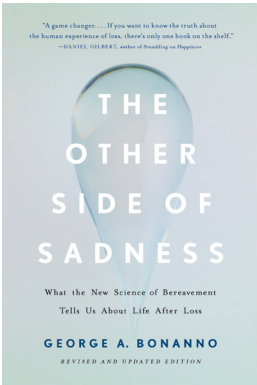
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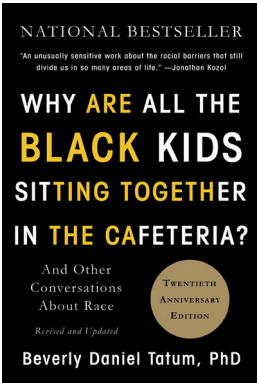
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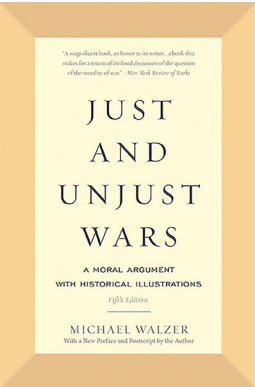


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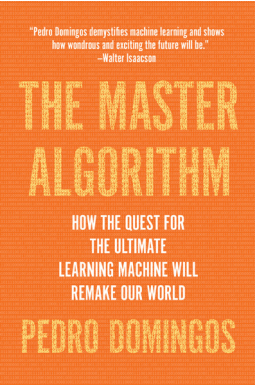
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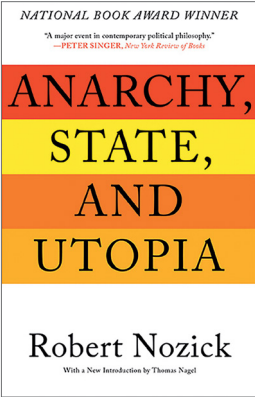
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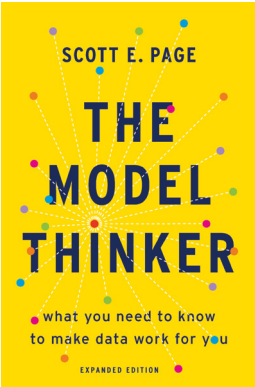
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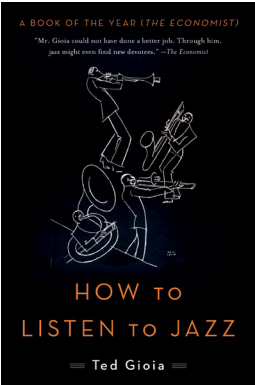
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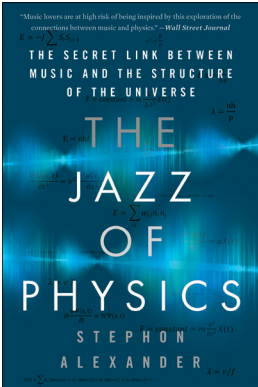
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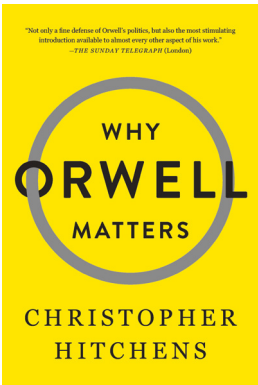
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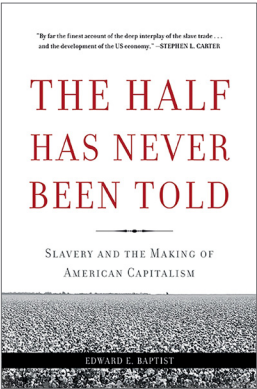


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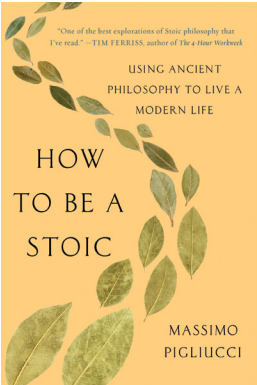


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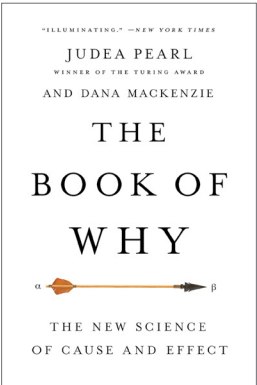
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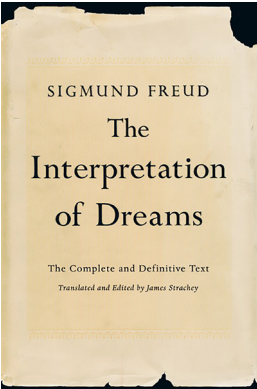
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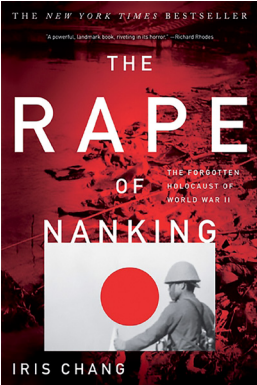
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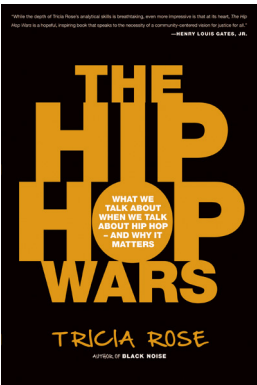
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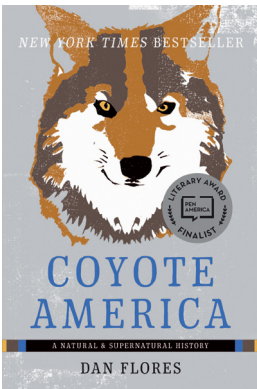
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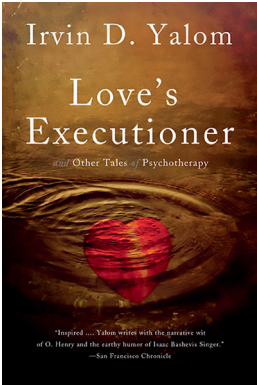
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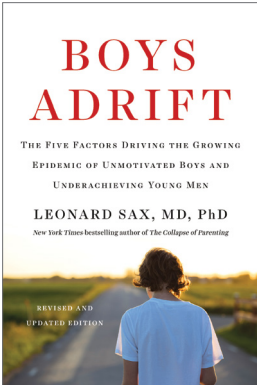
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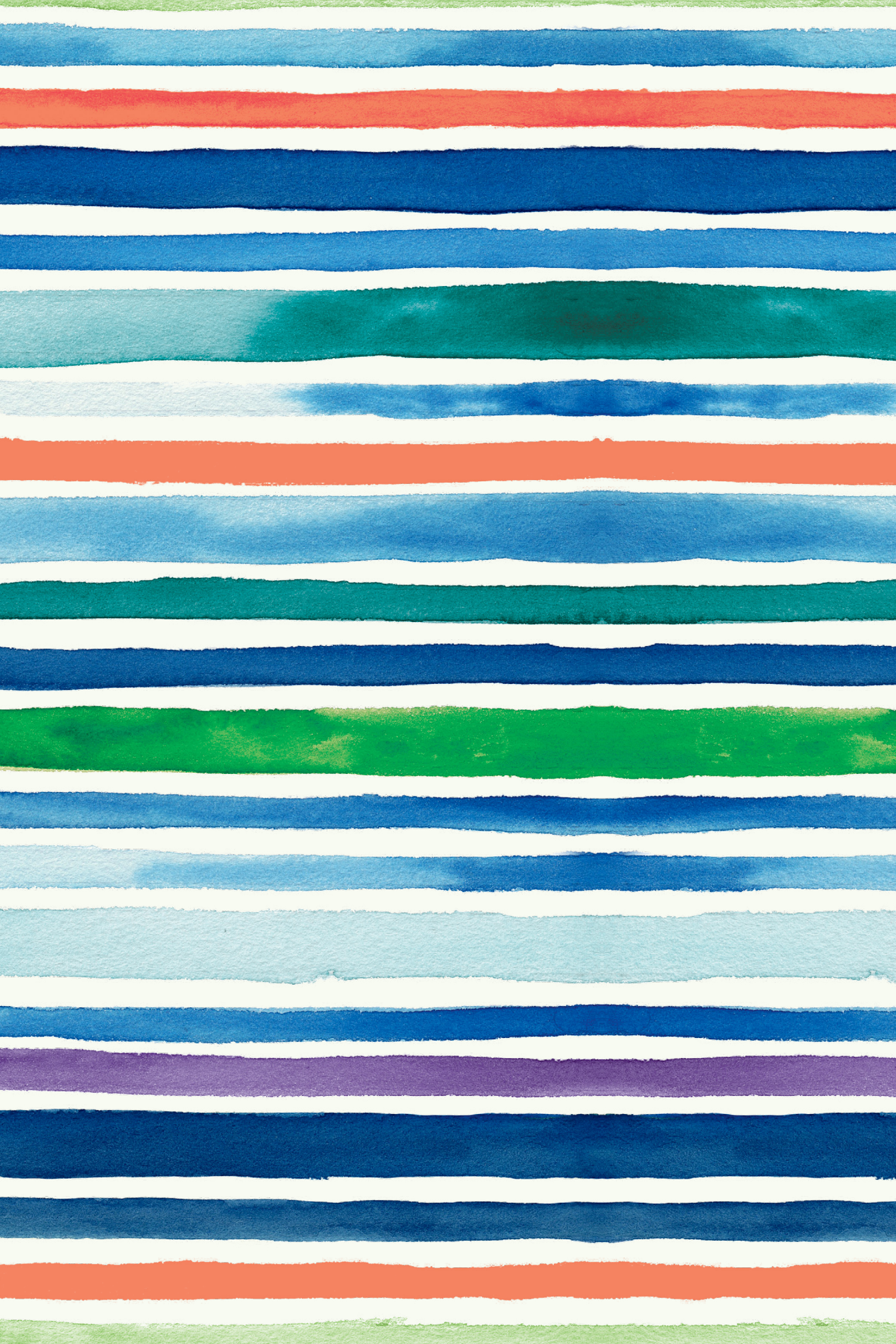
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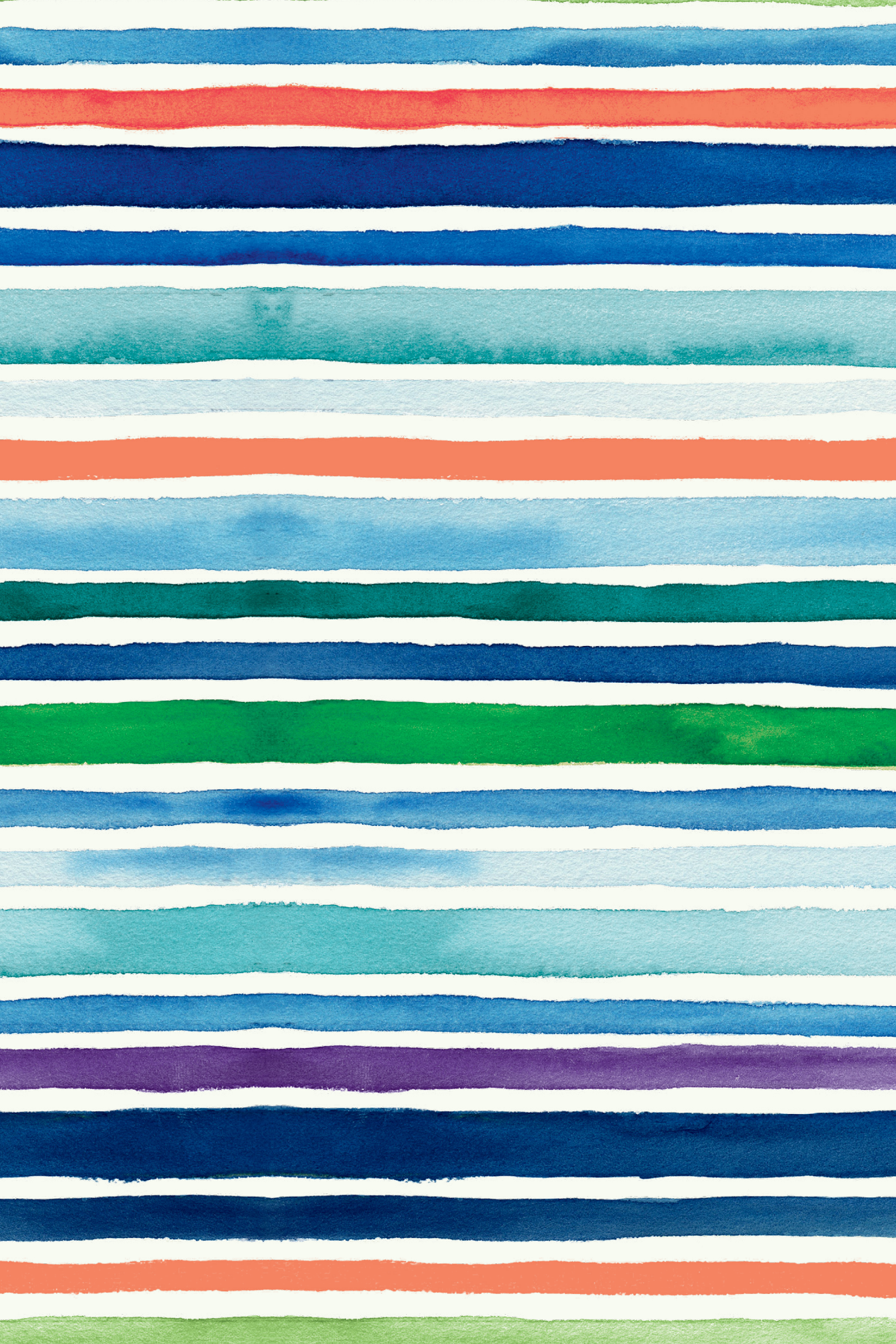


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ABOUT



Seal Press was founded in 1976 and stands as one of the most enduring feminist publishing houses to emerge from the women's press movement of the 1970s. What began as a letterpress in a Seattle garage has grown to an award-winning publishing house in New York and an imprint of Hachette, the third largest publisher in the world. Seal's list is devoted to groundbreaking, boldly conceived books that inspire and challenge readers, lift up original voices, and imagine a better future. Publishing highlights include Ijeoma Oluo's *So You Want to Talk About Race*, Julia Serano's *Whipping Girl*, Michelle Tea's *Valencia*, Minda Harts's *The Memo*, and Susan Stryker's *Transgender History*.

GRACE LAVERY

PLEASE MISS

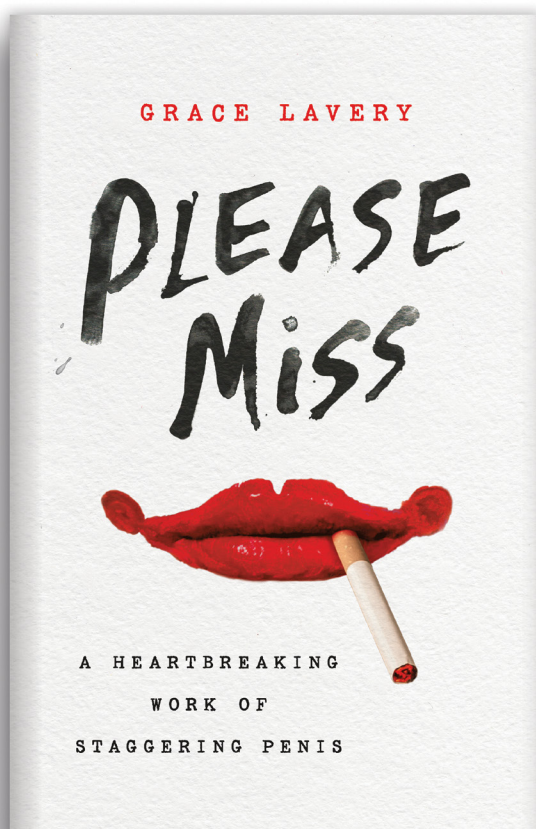
*A Heartbreaking Work of
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Grace Lavery is a reformed druggie, an unreformed omnisexual chaos Muppet, and 100 percent, all-natural, synthetic female hormone monster. As soon as she solves her “penis problem,” she begins receiving anonymous letters, seemingly sent by a cult of sinister clowns, and sets out on a magical mystery tour to find the source of these surreal missives. Misadventures abound: Grace performs in a David Lynch remake of *Sunset Boulevard* and is reprogrammed as a sixties femmebot; she writes a Juggalo *Ghostbusters* prequel and a socialist manifesto disguised as a porn parody of a quiz show. Or is it vice versa? As Grace fumbles toward a new trans identity, she tries on dozens of different voices, creating a coat of many colors.

With more dick jokes than a transsexual should be able to pull off, *Please Miss* gives us what we came for, then slaps us in the face and orders us to come again.



GRACE LAVERY is an associate professor of English at University of California, Berkeley. A prominent public intellectual and activist, she has contributed to the *Los Angeles Review of Books*, *Autostraddle*, the *New Inquiry*, *Them*, the *Guardian*, *Foreign Policy*, and *Slate*. She’s been sober since January 2016 and “full time” as a trans person since March 2018. She lives in Brooklyn, New York.



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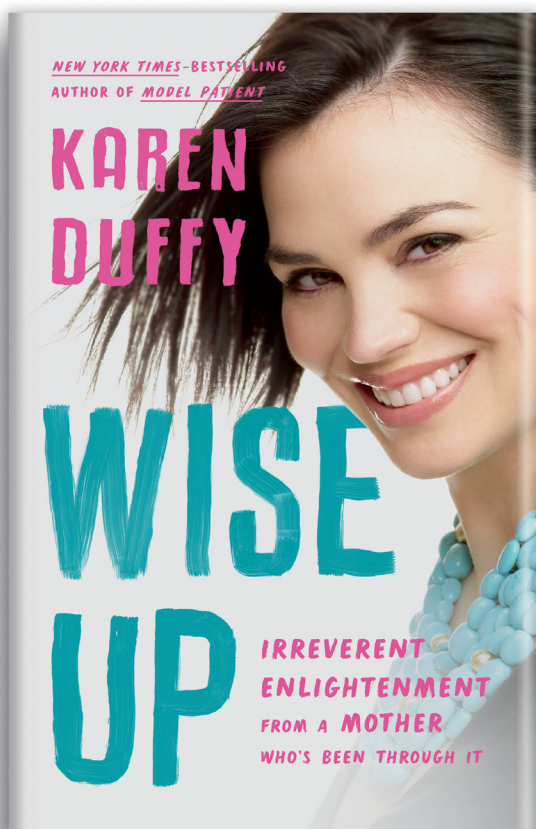
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KAREN DUFFY

WISE UP

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From becoming an iconic MTV VJ to starring in *Dumb and Dumber* to being diagnosed with a life-threatening disease, Karen Duffy has been through a lot. But it was only when she became a mother that she realized she had some pretty solid life lessons to pass down. In her new book, she offers advice on building a friend group that is weasel free, finding the love of your life, and determining how much to duke the waiter (as with everything—be generous!). With dry humor and maternal warmth, she shows how we all can learn from unexpected philosophers, even from Bulgarian dancing bears.

There are times in life when we should turn to the wisdom of great thinkers. And there are times when you need the kind of enlightenment that only a former Coney Island Mermaid Queen can give. *Wise Up* offers wisecracks—and some profound insights—in a unique book of parental inspiration.



KAREN DUFFY is the *New York Times*–bestselling author of *Model Patient*. She is a producer, actress, and former MTV VJ. She has written for the *New York Times*, the *Wall Street Journal*, and *O, The Oprah Magazine*. She lives in New York.

DAISY AUGER-DOMÍNGUEZ

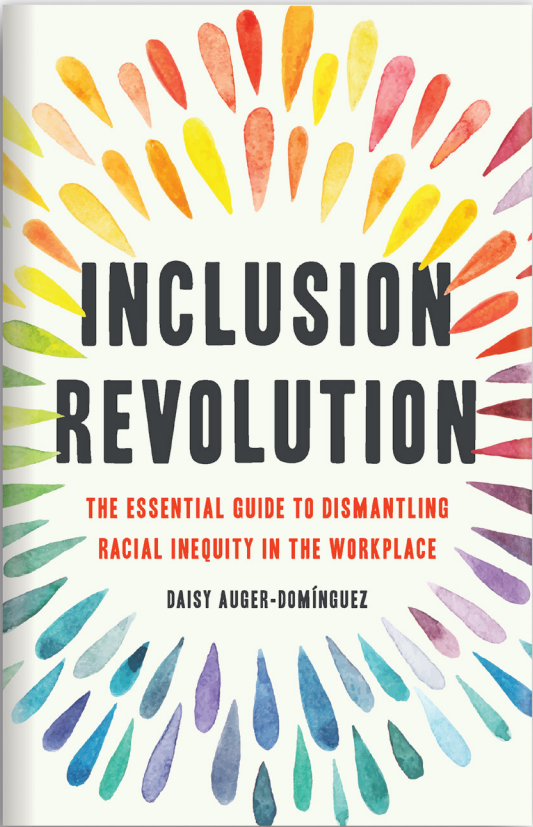
INCLUSION REVOLUTION

*The Essential Guide to Dismantling
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We are amid a national reckoning on race, and corporations are on high alert. But managers, especially those between the C-suite and entry-level, often feel uncertain of how to make transformative change. In *Inclusion Revolution*, award-winning diversity, equity, and inclusion advocate Daisy Auger-Domínguez shows how we can avoid common pitfalls and instead dramatically refocus our efforts on proven initiatives. She shares clear-cut strategies honed through years of working as a leading executive in diversity at Google, Disney, and Vice. She shows why popular efforts like diversity training fall short, and then offers bold innovations on restructuring recruiting, interviews, mentoring, and more to help companies achieve true equity. Through hiring, retaining, and growing the best teams, companies can finally build a stronger future. *Inclusion Revolution* is a call to action for lasting learning and change.



DAISY AUGER-DOMÍNGUEZ is the chief people officer at Vice Media Group. She was formerly Google’s director of global diversity and inclusion strategy and the VP, talent acquisition and workforce diversity, at Disney ABC Television Group. She lives in Brooklyn, New York.



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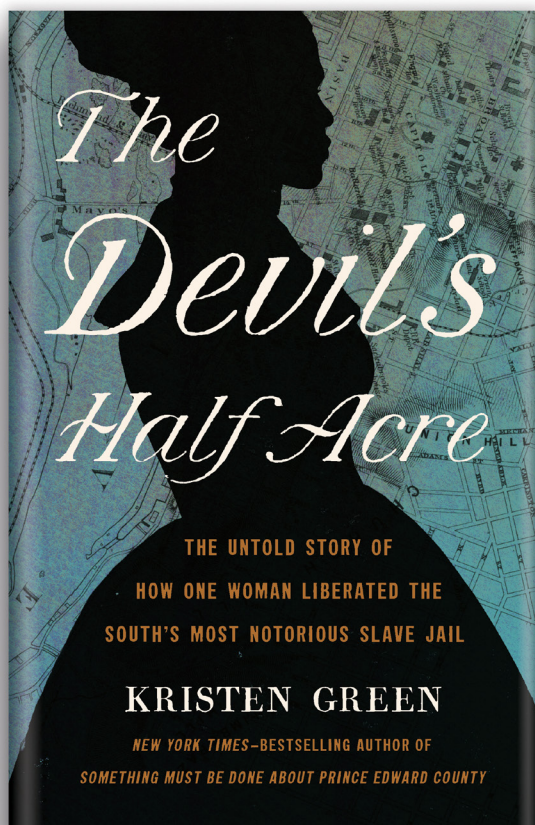
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KRISTEN GREEN

THE DEVIL'S HALF ACRE

The Untold Story of How One Woman Liberated the South's Most Notorious Slave Jail

In *The Devil's Half Acre*, *New York Times*—bestselling author Kristen Green draws on years of research to tell the extraordinary and little-known story of young Mary Lumpkin, an enslaved woman who blazed a path of liberation for thousands. She was forced to have the children of a brutal slave trader and live on the premises of his slave jail, known as the “Devil’s Half Acre.” When she inherited the jail after the death of her slaveholder, she transformed it into “God’s Half Acre,” a school where Black men could fulfill their dreams. It still exists today as Virginia Union University, one of America’s first Historically Black Colleges and Universities.

A sweeping narrative of a life in the margins of the American slave trade, *The Devil's Half Acre* brings Mary Lumpkin into the light. This is the story of the resilience of a woman on the path to freedom, her historic contributions, and her enduring legacy.



KRISTEN GREEN is a journalist and the author of the award-winning and bestselling *Something Must Be Done About Prince Edward County*. She was a reporter for the *San Diego Union-Tribune* and the *Boston Globe*. She holds a master’s from Harvard University and lives in Richmond, Virginia.

BARBARA KINGSOLVER

ANOTHER AMERICA /
OTRA AMERICA

con traducción español por Rebeca Cartes

As a new college graduate, Barbara Kingsolver moved to the borderlands of Tucson, Arizona. What she found, she says, was “another America.”

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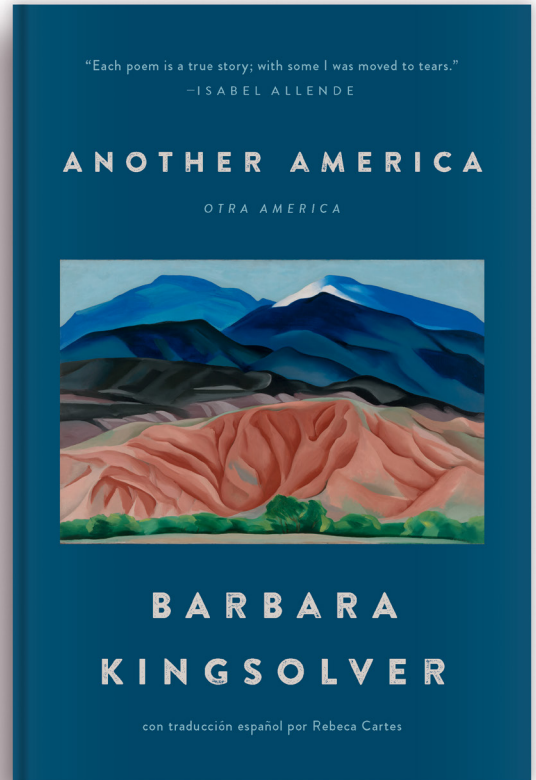
—Isabel Allende

“These poems made me stop mid-book,
telephone a friend and brave
saying the unsayable—*palabras del*
corazón that often go unsaid.”

—Sandra Cisneros



BARBARA KINGSOLVER is the author of sixteen books and is the recipient of the National Humanities Medal. She is a member of the American Academy of Arts and Letters, and the founder of the PEN/Bellwether Prize for Socially Engaged Fiction. She lives with her husband on a farm in southern Appalachia.



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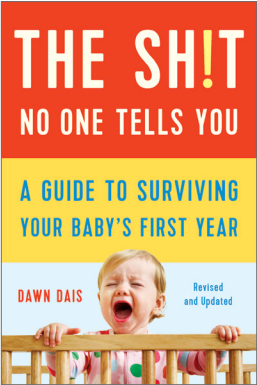
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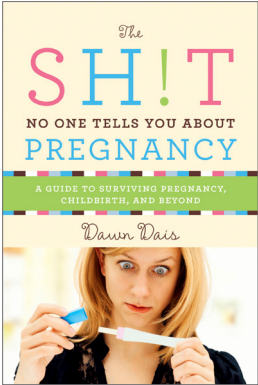
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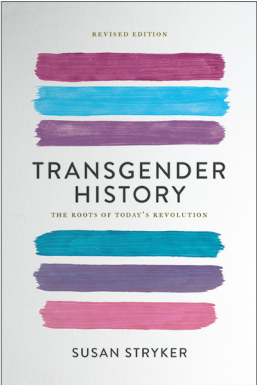
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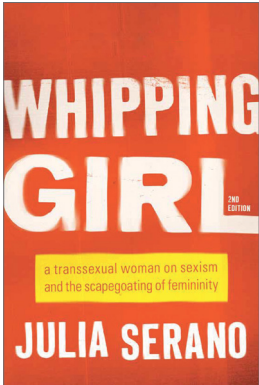
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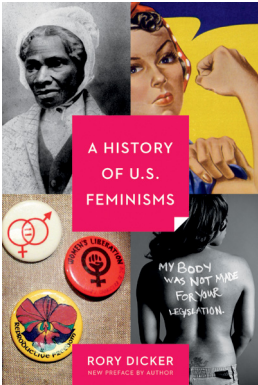
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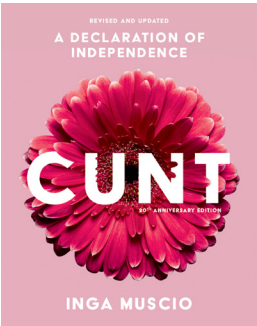
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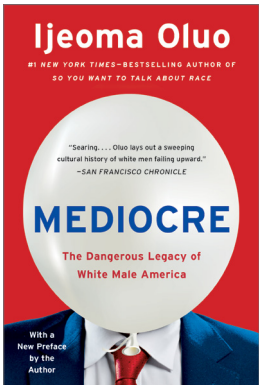
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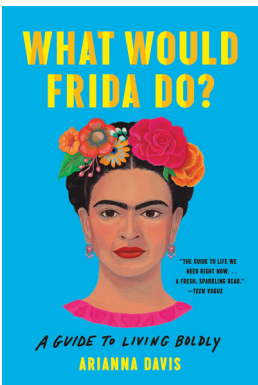
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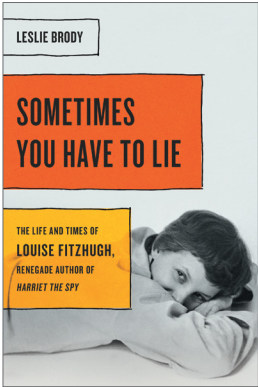
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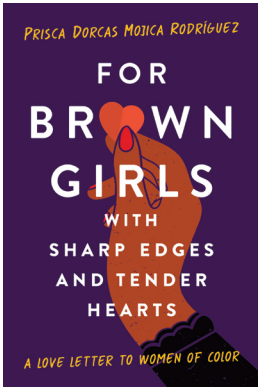
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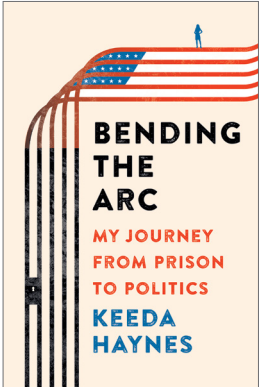
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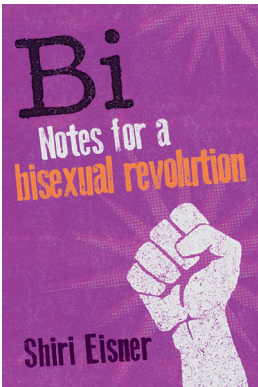
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Lara Heimert joined Basic Books in 2005. Previously, she was publisher of the trade division at Yale University Press. She has published numerous prize-winning and *New York Times*—bestselling titles. Highlights include Edward Baptist’s *The Half Has Never Been Told*, Eugene Rogan’s *The Fall of the Ottomans*, Timothy Snyder’s *Bloodlands*, Bee Wilson’s *Consider the Fork*, Victor Davis Hanson’s *The Second World Wars*, and Neil Price’s *Children of Ash and Elm*. 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, Thor Hanson, Eugenia Cheng, and Leonard Susskind, among many others. Recent highlights include Azra Raza’s *The First Cell*, Julian Barbour’s *The Janus Point*, Stephon Alexander’s *Fear of a Black Universe*, Adam Becker’s *What Is Real?*, Beth Shapiro’s *Life as We Made It*, Rob Dunn’s *A Natural History of the Future*, 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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Brian J. Distelberg joined Basic Books in 2015 and acquires primarily in history. Books he has edited and published include Martha Jones’s *Vanguard*, Peniel Joseph’s *The Sword and the Shield*, Martyn Rady’s *The Habsburgs*, Edward Watts’s *Mortal Republic*, Walter Johnson’s *The Broken Heart of America*, and Erika Lee’s *America for Americans*. He also publishes a select number of books in politics and law; highlights include Jonathan Metzl’s *Dying of Whiteness* and Jonathan Sacks’s *Morality*. Brian worked previously at Harvard University Press and holds a PhD in US history from Yale University.

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Emma Berry joined Basic Books in 2020 and acquires in history, politics, and the social sciences, with a particular interest in feminism and queer studies. Before joining Basic, she was an editor at Crown, where she acquired and edited books including *The Women with Silver Wings* by Katherine Sharp Landdeck, *American Radicals* by Holly Jackson, *The Whiteness of Wealth* by Dorothy Brown, and *Let the Lord Sort Them* by Maurice Chammah.

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Claire Potter joined Basic Books and Seal Press in 2019. On the Basic list, she acquires broadly in the field of history, as well as biography, literary studies, and Classics. Books she has edited and published include Peter Fritzsche's *Hitler's First Hundred Days*, Lisa Levenstein's *They Didn't See Us Coming*, Wendy Moore's *No Man's Land*, Judith Flanders's *A Place for Everything*, and Leslie Brody's *Sometimes You Have to Lie*. Her forthcoming Basic titles include works by Dan Berger, Ellen Carol DuBois, Joan DeJean, Maurice Isserman, and Robert Zaretsky. On the Seal list, she publishes social history, group biography, theory, and queer studies, with an emphasis on feminist modes of scholarship, works of literary quality, and original voices. Her forthcoming Seal titles include books by Grace Lavery, Peggy O'Donnell, and Joanna Scutts. Before joining Basic, she worked at Crown, an imprint of Penguin Random House, and the Feminist Press.

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Emi Ikkanda joined Seal Press in 2019. She previously worked as an editor at Spiegel & Grau and at Henry Holt & Company. She acquires books on current and global affairs, social issues, race, LGBTQ+, feminism, parenting, humor, history, business, politics, tech, and science. Recent standout titles include #1 *New York Times*—bestselling author Ijeoma Oluo's *Mediocre*, Karla Cornejo Villavicencio's National Book Award finalist *The Undocumented Americans*, Ellen Pao's narrative of her Silicon Valley gender discrimination case *Reset*, Julia Angwin's *New York Times* bestseller about online surveillance *Dragnet Nation*, and NASA astronaut Nicole Stott's *Back to Earth*.

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Kyle Gipson joined Basic Books in 2021 and primarily acquires in history, biography, and the social sciences, with a particular interest in African American studies, gender and sexuality, and social justice. Kyle worked previously at Johns Hopkins University Press, the MIT Press, and Beacon Press. He holds an MA in English from Harvard University, where his studies focused on African American literature.

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Marissa Koors joined Basic Books in 2021, and acquires broadly in philosophy, history, and new media studies. She also acquires selectively in theology and religious studies. Before joining Basic, she was an editor at Wiley-Blackwell, an imprint of John Wiley and Sons, where she acquired and published books by Peter Singer, Peter Hacker, Ernest Sosa, Susan Schneider, Alister McGrath, Anthony Kenny, and Timothy Williamson.



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