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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, Timothy Snyder, Thomas Sowell, Nicholas Stargardt, Beverly Daniel Tatum, Eric Topol, Sherry Turkle, Michael Walzer, George Weigel, Bee Wilson, James Q. Wilson, Richard Wrangham, and Irvin Yalom.

J. BRADFORD DeLONG

SLOUCHING TOWARDS UTOPIA

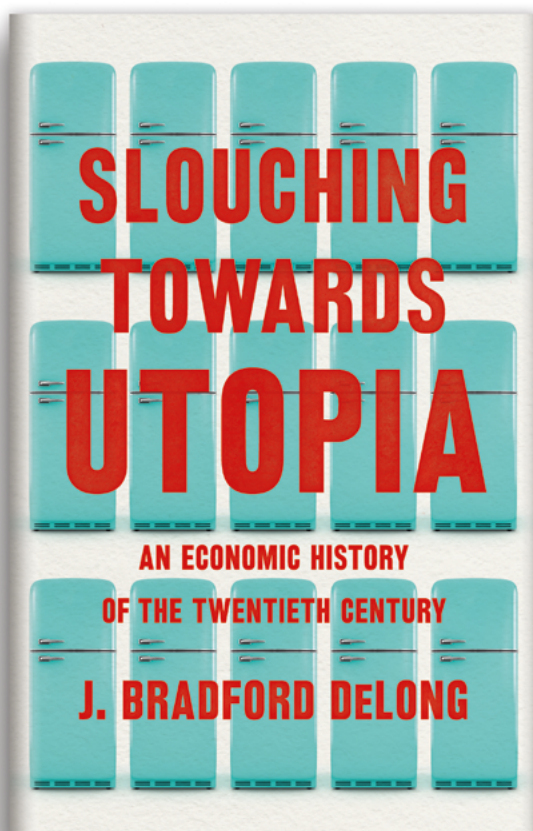
*An Economic History of the
Twentieth Century*

Before 1870, humanity lived in dire poverty, with a slow crawl of invention offset by a growing population. Then came a great shift: invention sprinted forward, doubling our technological capabilities each generation and utterly transforming the economy again and again. Our ancestors would have presumed we would have used such powers to build utopia. But it was not so. When 1870–2010 ended, the world instead saw global warming; economic depression, uncertainty, and inequality; and broad rejection of the status quo.

Economist Brad DeLong's *Slouching Towards Utopia* tells the story of how this unprecedented explosion of material wealth occurred, how it transformed the globe, and why it failed to deliver us to utopia. Of remarkable breadth and ambition, it reveals the last century to have been less a march of progress than a slouch in the right direction.



J. BRADFORD DeLONG, an economic historian, is a professor of economics at the University of California, Berkeley. He was a deputy assistant secretary of the US Treasury during the Clinton administration. He writes a widely read economics blog, now at braddelong.substack.com. He lives in Berkeley, California.



From one of the world's leading economists, a grand narrative of the century that made us richer than ever, yet left us unsatisfied

NEW HARDCOVER • SEPTEMBER

History • \$35.00 / \$44.00 CAN

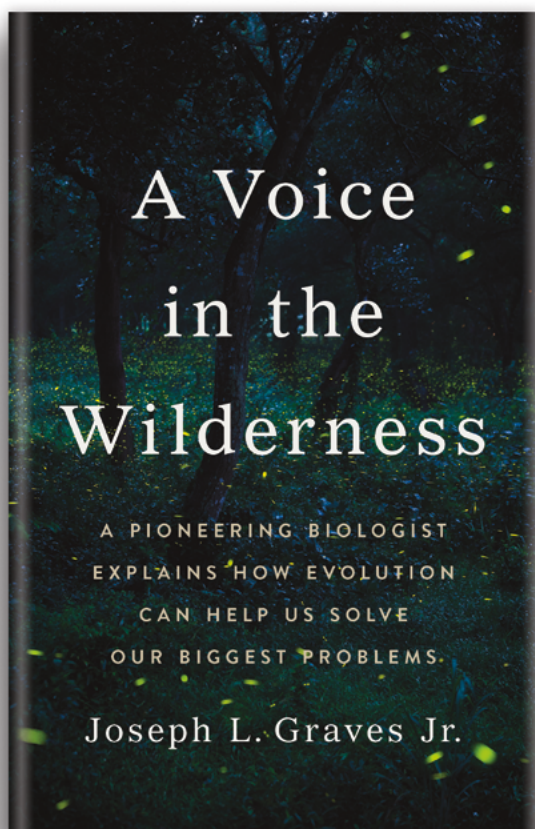
6 x 9¼ • 624 pages

978-0-465-01959-5

E-BOOK 978-0-465-02336-3

Selling Territory: W

Author photo © Genevieve Schiffrar



**Why understanding evolution—
the most reviled branch of science
—can help us all, from fighting
pandemics to undoing racism**

NEW HARDCOVER • SEPTEMBER

Science • \$30.00 / \$38.00 CAN

6 x 9¼ • 384 pages

978-1-5416-0071-3

E-BOOK 978-1-5416-0073-7

Selling Territory: W

Author photo © North Carolina Agricultural and
Technical State University

JOSEPH L. GRAVES JR.

A VOICE IN THE WILDERNESS

*A Pioneering Biologist Explains
How Evolution Can Help Us Solve
Our Biggest Problems*

Evolutionary science has long been regarded as conservative, a tool for enforcing regressive ideas, particularly about race and gender. But in *A Voice in the Wilderness*, evolutionary biologist Joseph L. Graves Jr.—once styled as the “Black Darwin”—argues that his field is essential to social justice. He shows, for example, why biological races do not exist. He dismantles recent work in “human biodiversity” seeking genes to explain the achievements of different ethnic groups. He decimates homophobia, sexism, and classism as well.

As a pioneering Black biologist, a leftist, and a Christian, Graves uses his personal story—his journey from a child of Jim Crow to a major researcher and leader of his peers—to rewrite his field. *A Voice in the Wilderness* is a powerful work of scientific anti-racism and a moving account of a trailblazing life.



JOSEPH L. GRAVES JR. is a professor of biological sciences in the department of biology at North Carolina A&T State University. He is the first African American to receive a PhD in evolutionary biology. He lives in Greensboro, North Carolina.

PENIEL E. JOSEPH

THE THIRD RECONSTRUCTION

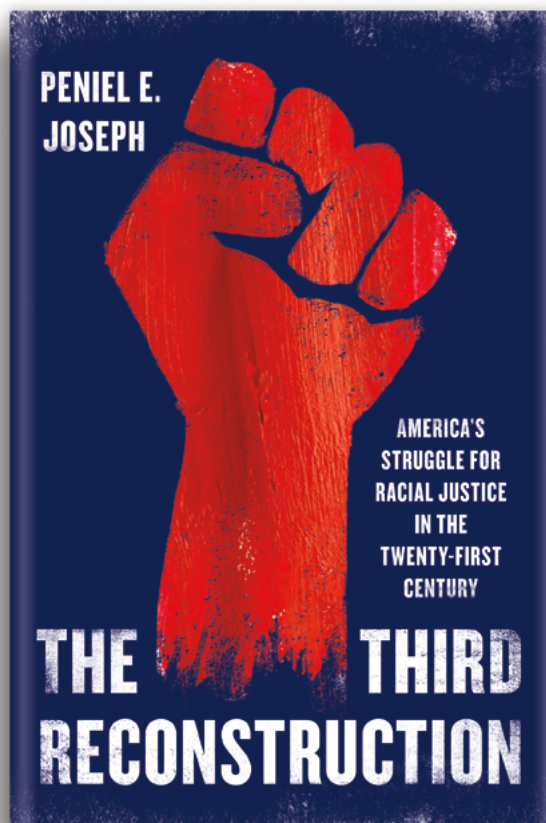
*America's Struggle for Racial Justice
in the Twenty-First Century*

In *The Third Reconstruction*, distinguished historian Peniel E. Joseph offers a powerful and personal new interpretation of recent history. The racial reckoning that unfolded in 2020, he argues, marked the climax of a Third Reconstruction: a new struggle for citizenship and dignity for Black Americans, just as momentous as the movements that arose after the Civil War and during the civil rights era. Joseph draws revealing connections and insights across centuries as he traces this Third Reconstruction from the election of Barack Obama to the rise of Black Lives Matter to the failed assault on the Capitol.

America's first and second Reconstructions fell tragically short of their grand aims. Our Third Reconstruction offers a new chance to achieve Black dignity and citizenship at last—an opportunity to choose hope over fear.



PENIEL E. JOSEPH is the Barbara Jordan Chair in Ethics and Political Values at the LBJ School of Public Affairs and Professor of History and Public Affairs at the University of Texas at Austin. He is the author of numerous books on African American history, including *The Sword and the Shield*. He lives in Austin, Texas.



One of our preeminent historians of race and democracy argues that the period since 2008 has marked nothing less than America's Third Reconstruction

NEW HARDCOVER • SEPTEMBER

History • \$27.00 / \$34.00 CAN

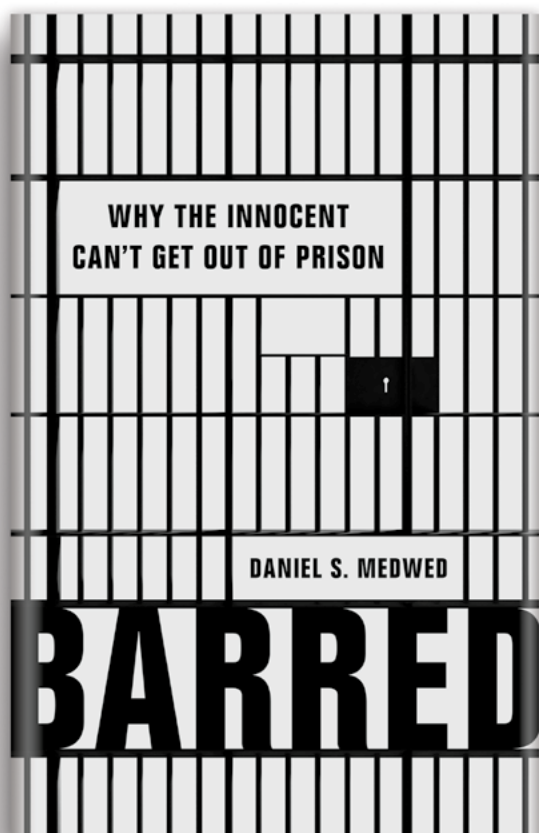
5½ x 8¼ • 272 pages

978-1-5416-0074-4

E-BOOK 978-1-5416-0076-8

Selling Territory: W

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**A groundbreaking exposé of
how our legal system makes it
nearly impossible to overturn
wrongful convictions**

NEW HARDCOVER • SEPTEMBER

Law • \$30.00 / \$38.00 CAN

6 x 9¼ • 336 pages

978-1-5416-7591-9

E-BOOK 978-1-5416-7590-2

Selling Territory: W

Author photo © Sara Sofia Wallach

DANIEL S. MEDWED

BARRED

*Why the Innocent
Can't Get Out of Prison*

Thousands of innocent people are behind bars in the United States. But proving their innocence and winning their release is nearly impossible.

In *Barred*, legal scholar Daniel S. Medwed argues that our justice system's stringent procedural rules are largely to blame for the ongoing punishment of the innocent. Those rules guarantee criminal defendants just one opportunity to appeal their convictions directly to a higher court. Afterward, the wrongfully convicted can pursue only a few narrow remedies. Even when there is strong evidence of a miscarriage of justice, rigid guidelines, bias, and deference toward lower courts all too often prevent exoneration.

Offering clear explanations of legal procedures alongside heart-wrenching stories of their devastating impact, *Barred* exposes how the system is stacked against the innocent and makes a powerful call for change.



DANIEL S. MEDWED is university distinguished professor of law and criminal justice at Northeastern University School of Law. A renowned innocence advocate, he is the author of *Prosecution Complex: America's Race to Convict and Its Impact on the Innocent*. He lives in Cambridge, Massachusetts.

JACOB SOLL

FREE MARKET

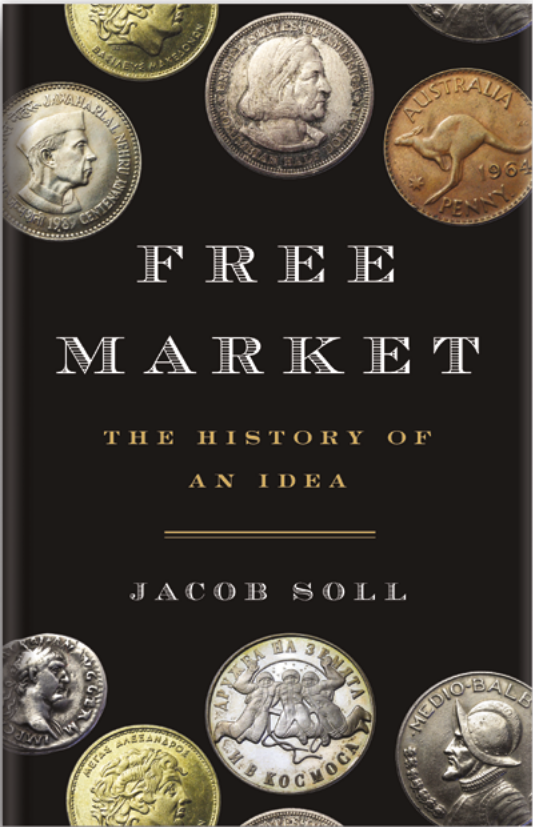
The History of an Idea

After two government bailouts of the US economy in less than twenty years, free market ideology is due for serious reappraisal. In *Free Market*, Jacob Soll details how we got to this current crisis, and how we can find our way out by looking to earlier iterations of free market thought. Contrary to popular narratives, early market theorists believed that states had an important role in building and maintaining free markets. But in the eighteenth century, thinkers insisted on free markets without state intervention, leading to a tradition of ideological brittleness. That tradition only calcified in the centuries that followed.

Tracing the intellectual evolution of the free market from Cicero to Milton Friedman, Soll argues that we need to go back to the origins of free market ideology in order to truly understand it—and to develop new economic concepts to face today’s challenges.



JACOB SOLL is university professor and professor of philosophy, history, and accounting at the University of Southern California. The author of *The Reckoning* and *The Information Master*, Soll is the recipient of many prestigious awards, including the MacArthur “Genius” grant. He lives in Los Angeles.



**From a MacArthur “Genius,”
an intellectual history of the
free market, from ancient Rome
to the twenty-first century**

NEW HARDCOVER • SEPTEMBER

History / Economics • \$32.00 / \$40.00 CAN

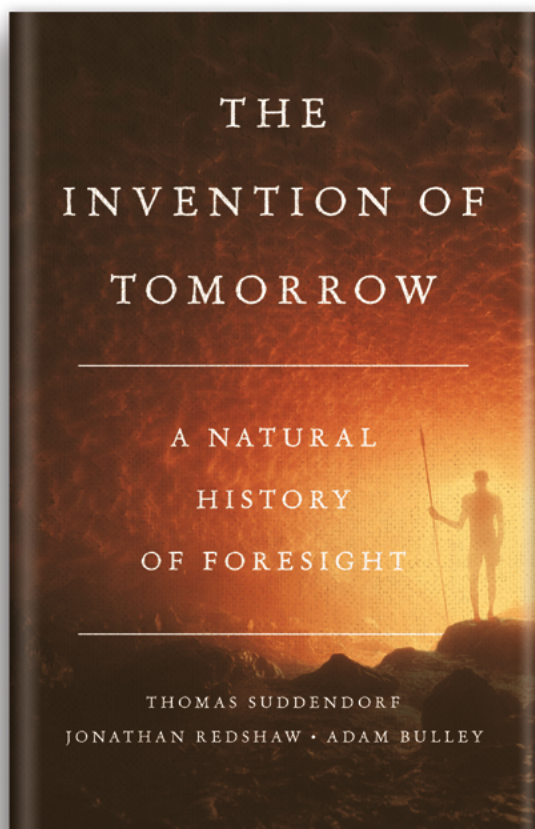
6 x 9¼ • 336 pages

978-0-465-04970-7

E-BOOK 978-1-5416-2023-0

Selling Territory: W

Author photo © Geraldine Bruneel



A spellbinding exploration of the human capacity to imagine the future

NEW HARDCOVER • SEPTEMBER

Psychology • \$30.00 / \$38.00 CAN

6 x 9¼ • 304 pages

978-1-5416-7572-8

E-BOOK 978-1-5416-7573-5

Selling Territory: W

**THOMAS SUDDENDORF,
JONATHAN REDSHAW,
and ADAM BULLEY**

THE INVENTION OF TOMORROW

A Natural History of Foresight

Our ability to think about the future is one of the most powerful tools at our disposal. In *The Invention of Tomorrow*, cognitive scientists Thomas Suddendorf, Jonathan Redshaw, and Adam Bulley argue that its emergence transformed humans from unremarkable primates to creatures that hold the destiny of the planet in their hands.

Drawing on their own cutting-edge research, the authors break down the science of foresight, showing us where it comes from, how it works, and how it made our world. Journeying through biology, psychology, history, and culture, they show that thinking ahead is at the heart of human nature—even if we often get it terribly wrong. Incisive and expansive, *The Invention of Tomorrow* offers a fresh perspective on the human tale that shows how our species clawed its way to control the future.

THOMAS SUDDENDORF is a professor in the School of Psychology at the University of Queensland and the author of *The Gap: The Science of What Separates Us from Other Animals*. He lives in Brisbane, Australia.

JONATHAN REDSHAW is a postdoctoral fellow at the University of Queensland. He lives in Brisbane, Australia.

ADAM BULLEY is a postdoctoral fellow at the University of Sydney and at Harvard University. He lives in Sydney, Australia.

MASSIMO PIGLIUCCI

THE QUEST FOR CHARACTER

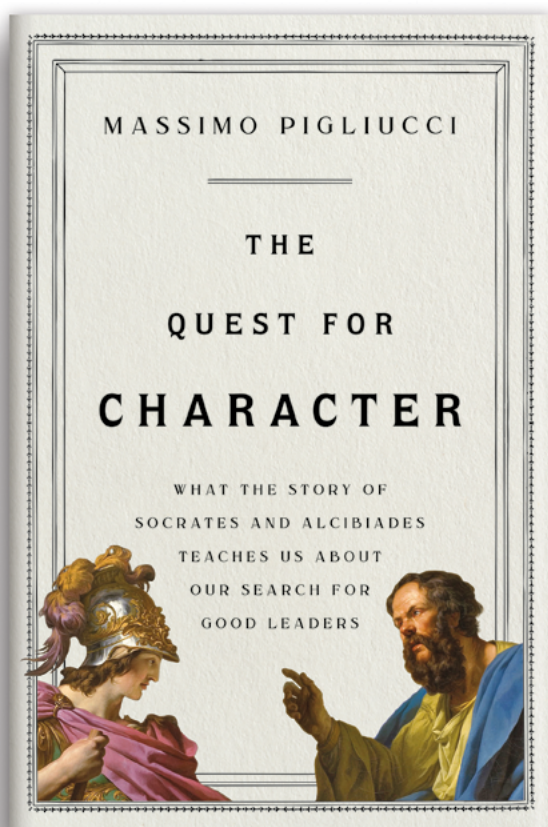
*What the Story of Socrates
and Alcibiades Teaches Us About
Our Search for Good Leaders*

Is good character something that can be taught? In 430 BCE, Socrates set out to teach the vain, power-seeking Athenian statesman Alcibiades how to be a good person—and failed spectacularly. Alcibiades went on to beguile his city into a hopeless war with Syracuse, and all of Athens paid the price.

In *The Quest for Character*, philosophy professor Massimo Pigliucci tells this famous story and asks what we can learn from it. He blends ancient sources with modern interpretations to give a full picture of the philosophy and cultivation of character, virtue, and personal excellence—what the Greeks called *arete*. At heart, *The Quest for Character* isn't simply about what makes a good leader. Drawing on Socrates as well as his followers among the Stoics, this book gives us lessons perhaps even more crucial: how we can each lead an excellent life.



MASSIMO PIGLIUCCI is the K. D. Irani Professor of Philosophy at the City College of New York. The author or editor of fifteen books, he has been published in the *New York Times*, the *Wall Street Journal*, the *Washington Post*, and *Salon*, among others. He lives in Brooklyn, New York.



**What Socrates's greatest failure reveals
about an ancient question: Can we teach
our leaders to be better people?**

NEW HARDCOVER • SEPTEMBER

Philosophy • \$28.00 / \$35.00 CAN

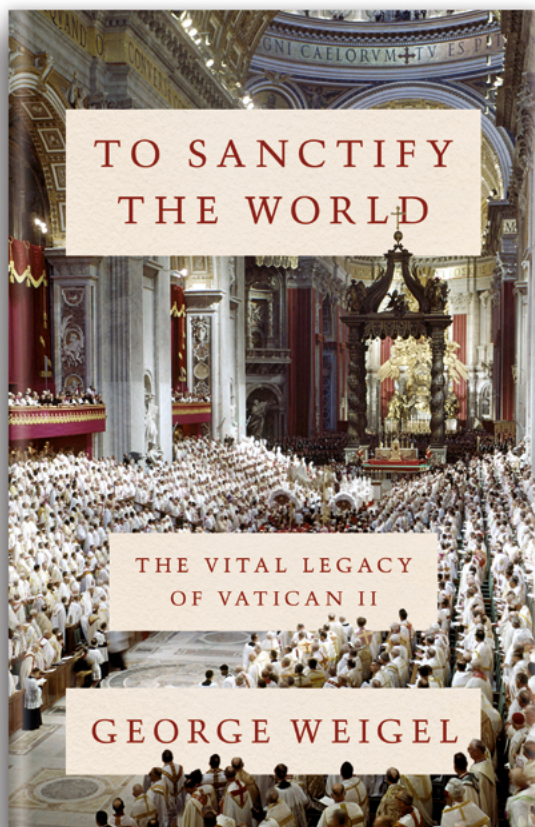
5½ x 8¼ • 272 pages

978-1-5416-4697-1

E-BOOK 978-1-5416-4695-7

Selling Territory: W

Author photo © Amy Quint



**A leading Catholic intellectual
explains why the teachings of the
Second Vatican Council are essential to
the Church's future—and the world's**

NEW HARDCOVER • OCTOBER

Religion • \$30.00 / \$38.00 CAN

6 x 9¼ • 368 pages

978-0-465-09431-8

E-BOOK 978-0-465-09432-5

Selling Territory: W

Author photo © Photo Courtesy of the Author

GEORGE WEIGEL

TO SANCTIFY THE WORLD

The Vital Legacy of Vatican II

The Second Vatican Council (1962–1965) was the most important Catholic event in the past five hundred years. Yet sixty years after its opening on October 11, 1962, its meaning remains sharply contested and its promise unfulfilled.

In *To Sanctify the World*, George Weigel explains the necessity of Vatican II and explores the continuing relevance of its teaching in a world seeking a deeper experience of freedom than personal willfulness. The Council's texts are also a critical resource for the Catholic Church as it lives out its original, Christ-centered evangelical purpose.

Written with insight and verve, *To Sanctify the World* recovers the true meaning of Vatican II as the template for a Catholicism that can propose a path toward genuine human dignity and social solidarity.



GEORGE WEIGEL is a distinguished senior fellow of Washington's Ethics and Public Policy Center. The first volume of his biography of Pope John Paul II, *Witness to Hope*, was a *New York Times* bestseller, and his writing appears in a variety of publications, including the *Wall Street Journal*. He lives in North Bethesda, Maryland.

ADRIAN HON

YOU'VE BEEN PLAYED

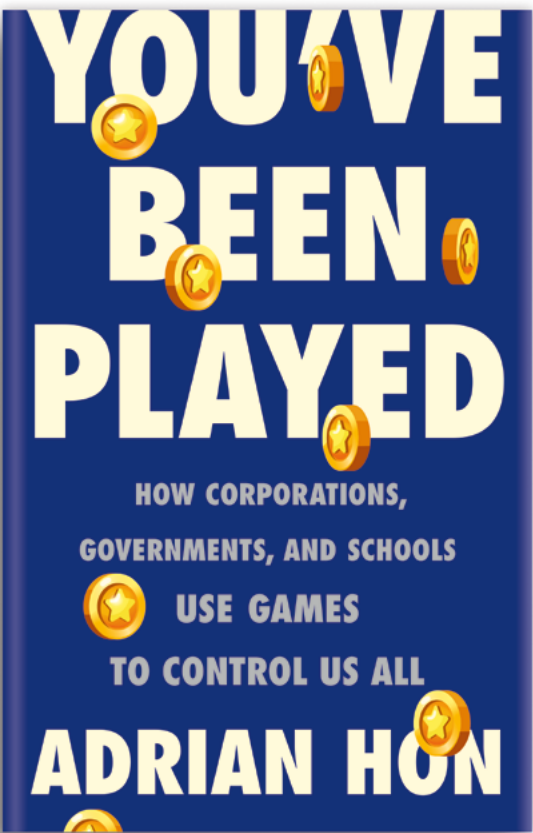
*How Corporations, Governments, and
Schools Use Games to Control Us All*

Warehouse workers pack boxes while a virtual dragon races across their screen. If they beat their colleagues, they get an award. If not, they can be fired. Uber presents exhausted drivers with challenges to keep them driving. China scores its citizens so they behave well, and games with in-app purchases use achievements to empty your wallet.

Points, badges, and leaderboards are creeping into every aspect of modern life. In *You've Been Played*, game designer Adrian Hon delivers a blistering takedown of how corporations, schools, and governments use games and gamification as tools for profit and coercion. These are games that we often have no choice but to play, where losing has heavy penalties. *You've Been Played* is a scathing indictment of a tech-driven world that wants to convince us that misery is fun, and a call to arms for anyone who hopes to preserve their dignity and autonomy.



ADRIAN HON is the CEO and founder of independent games developer Six to Start and the cocreator of *Zombies, Run!* He previously studied neuroscience at the University of Cambridge, the University of Oxford, and the University of California, San Diego. He lives in Edinburgh, UK.



**How games are being harnessed
as instruments of exploitation—
and what we can do about it**

NEW HARDCOVER • SEPTEMBER

Economics • \$30.00 / \$38.00 CAN

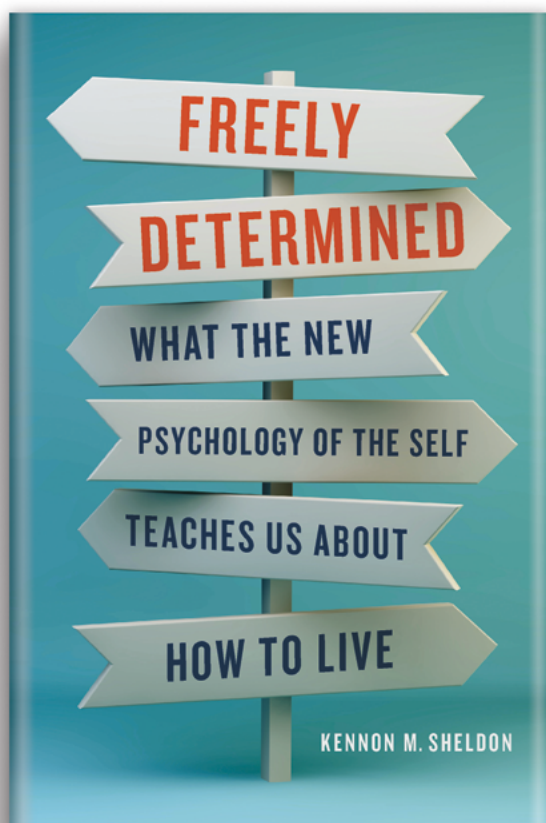
6 x 9¼ • 320 pages

978-1-5416-0017-1

E-BOOK 978-1-5416-0019-5

Selling Territory: W

Author photo © Joshua Fray



**A renowned psychologist argues
that free will is not only real
but essential to our well-being**

NEW HARDCOVER • OCTOBER

Psychology • \$29.00 / \$37.00 CAN

5½ x 8¼ • 272 pages

978-1-5416-2036-0

E-BOOK 978-1-5416-2037-7

Selling Territory: W

Author photo © Kennon Sheldon

KENNON M. SHELDON

FREELY DETERMINED

*What the New Psychology of the
Self Teaches Us About How to Live*

It's become fashionable to argue that free will is a fiction: that we humans are in the thrall of animal urges and unconscious biases and only think that we are choosing freely. In *Freely Determined*, research psychologist Kennon M. Sheldon argues that this perception is not only wrong but also dangerous. Drawing on decades of his own groundbreaking empirical research into motivation and goal setting, Sheldon shows us that embracing the ability to choose our path in life makes us happier, healthier, and more fulfilled. He also shows that this insight can help us choose better goals—ones that are concordant with our values and that, critically, we're more likely to actually see through.

Providing readers insight into how they can live a more self-directed, satisfying life, *Freely Determined* offers an essential guide for how we might recognize our freedom and use it wisely.



KENNON M. SHELDON is professor of psychology at the University of Missouri. He is one of the founding researchers of positive psychology, a fellow of the American Psychological Association, and a recipient of the Templeton Foundation Positive Psychology Prize. He lives in Columbia, Missouri.

SEAN CONNOLLY

ON EVERY TIDE

*The Making and Remaking
of the Irish World*

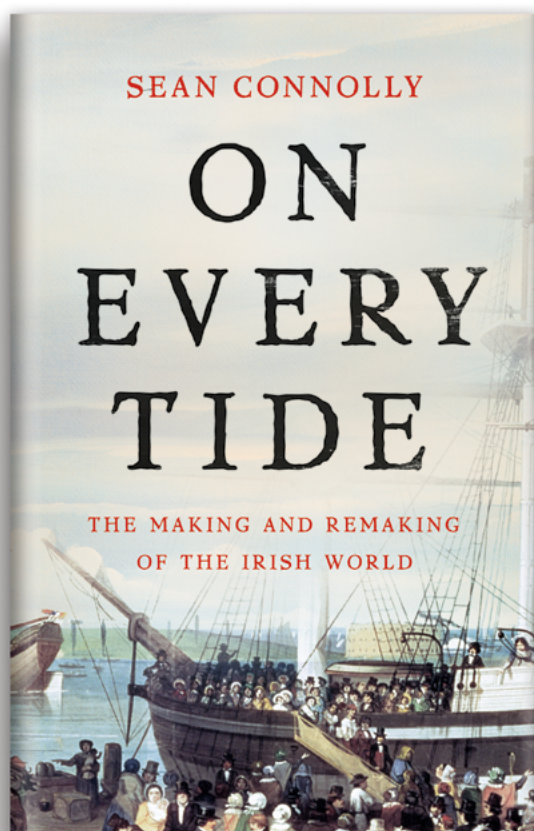
When people think of Irish emigration, they often think of the Great Famine of the 1840s, which caused many to flee Ireland for the United States. But the real history of the Irish diaspora is much longer, more complicated, and more global.

In *On Every Tide*, Sean Connolly tells the epic story of Irish migration, showing how emigrants became a force in world politics and religion. Starting in the eighteenth century, the Irish fled limited opportunity at home and fanned out across America, Canada, Australia, and New Zealand. These emigrants helped settle new frontiers, industrialize the West, and spread Catholicism globally. As the Irish built vibrant communities abroad, they leveraged their new-found power—sometimes becoming oppressors themselves.

Deeply researched and vividly told, *On Every Tide* is essential reading for understanding how the people of Ireland shaped the world.



SEAN CONNOLLY is professor of Irish history (emeritus) and visiting research fellow at the Institute of Irish Studies at Queen's University Belfast. He is the author of five books, including *Contested Island* and *Divided Kingdom*, and was general editor of *The Oxford Companion to Irish History*. Born in Dublin, he lives in Belfast.



**A sweeping history of Irish emigration,
arguing that the Irish exodus helped
make the modern world**

NEW HARDCOVER • OCTOBER

History • \$35.00 / \$44.00 CAN

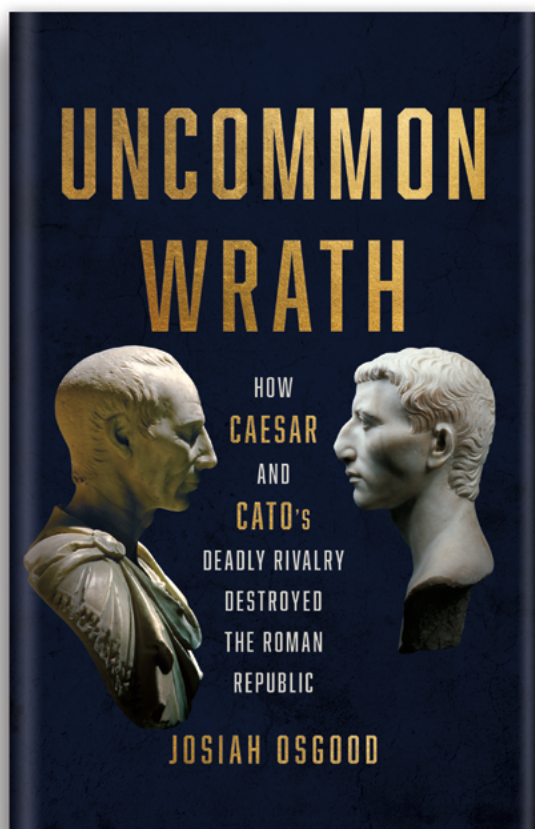
6 x 9¼ • 544 pages

978-0-465-09395-3

E-BOOK 978-0-465-09396-0

Selling Territory: USC

Author photo © Photo Courtesy of the Author



A dual biography of Julius Caesar and Cato the Younger that offers a dire warning: republics collapse when partisanship overrides the common good

NEW HARDCOVER • NOVEMBER

History • \$32.00 / \$40.00 CAN

6 x 9¼ • 352 pages

978-1-5416-2011-7

E-BOOK 978-1-5416-2010-0

Selling Territory: USC

Author photo © Moshe Zusman

JOSIAH OSGOOD

UNCOMMON WRATH

*How Caesar and Cato's Deadly Rivalry
Destroyed the Roman Republic*

In *Uncommon Wrath*, historian Josiah Osgood tells the story of how the political rivalry between Julius Caesar and Marcus Cato precipitated the end of the Roman Republic. As the champions of two dominant but distinct visions for Rome, Caesar and Cato each represented qualities that had made the Republic strong, but their ideological differences entrenched into enmity and mutual fear. The intensity of their collective factions became a tribal divide, hampering their ability to make good decisions and undermining democratic government. The men's toxic polarity meant that despite their shared devotion to the Republic, they pushed it into civil war.

Deeply researched and compellingly told, *Uncommon Wrath* is a groundbreaking biography of two men whose hatred for each other destroyed the world they loved.



JOSIAH OSGOOD is professor of classics at Georgetown University and holds a PhD from Yale University. A winner of the Rome Prize, he is the author of five books on Roman history and the translator and editor of *How to Be a Bad Emperor*, a 2020 edition of Suetonius's *Lives of the Caesars*. He lives in Washington, DC.

JARED FARMER

ELDERFLORA

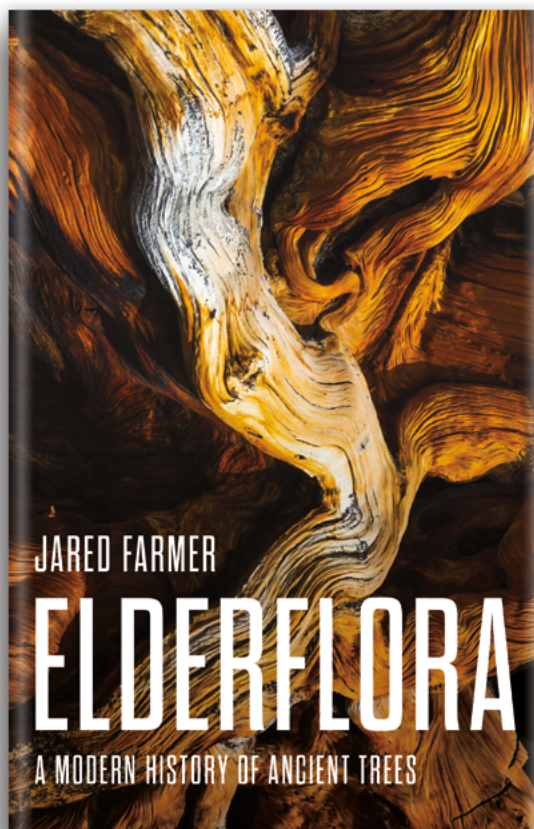
A Modern History of Ancient Trees

Humans have always revered long-lived trees. But as historian Jared Farmer reveals in *Elderflora*, our veneration took a modern turn in the eighteenth century, when naturalists embarked on a quest to locate and precisely date the oldest living things on earth. The new science of tree time prompted travelers to visit ancient specimens and conservationists to protect sacred groves. Exploitation accompanied sanctification, as old-growth forests succumbed to imperial expansion and the Industrial Revolution.

Taking us from Lebanon to New Zealand to California, Farmer surveys the complex history of the world's oldest trees, including voices of Indigenous peoples, religious figures, and contemporary scientists who study elderflora in crisis. In a changing climate, a long future is still possible, Farmer shows, but only if we give care to young things that might grow old.



JARED FARMER is the Walter H. Annenberg Professor of History at the University of Pennsylvania. A former Andrew Carnegie Fellow, he is the author of several books, including *On Zion's Mount*, which won the Francis Parkman Prize. He lives in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.



**The epic story of the planet's oldest trees
and the making of the modern world**

NEW HARDCOVER • OCTOBER

History • \$35.00 / \$44.00 CAN

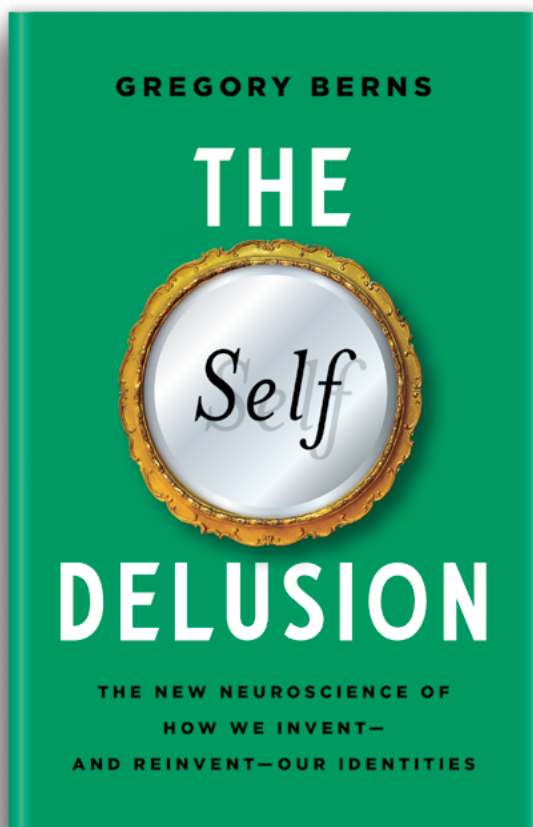
6 x 9¼ • 448 pages

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E-BOOK 978-0-465-09785-2

Selling Territory: W

Author photo © Annette Hornischer, courtesy American Academy in Berlin



A *New York Times*–bestselling author reveals how the stories we tell ourselves, about ourselves, are critical to our lives

NEW HARDCOVER • OCTOBER

Psychology • \$30.00 / \$38.00 CAN

6 x 9½ • 304 pages

978-1-5416-0229-8

E-BOOK 978-1-5416-0230-4

Selling Territory: USC

Author photo © Helen Berns

GREGORY BERNS

THE SELF DELUSION

*The New Neuroscience of
How We Invent—and Reinvent—
Our Identities*

We all know we tell stories about ourselves. But as psychiatrist and neuroscientist Gregory Berns argues in *The Self Delusion*, we don't just tell stories; we are the stories. Our self-identities are fleeting phenomena, continually reborn as our conscious minds receive, filter, or act on incoming information from the world and our memories.

Drawing on new research in neuroscience, social science, and psychiatry, Berns shows how our stories and our self-identities are temporary and therefore ever changing. Berns shows how we can embrace the delusion of a singular self to make our lives better, offering a plan not centered on what we think will be best for us, but predicated on minimizing regrets. Enlightening, empowering, and surprising, *The Self Delusion* shows us how to be the protagonist of the stories we want to tell.



GREGORY BERNs is a professor of psychology at Emory University, where he directs the Center for Neuropolicy and Facility for Education & Research in Neuroscience. He is the author of several books, including the *New York Times* and *Wall Street Journal* bestseller *How Dogs Love Us*. He lives on a farm near Atlanta, Georgia.

KEVIN M. KRUSE *and* JULIAN E. ZELIZER

MYTH AMERICA

*Historians Take On the Biggest Legends
and Lies About Our Past*

The United States is in the grip of a crisis of bad history. Distortions of the past promoted in the conservative media have led large numbers of Americans to believe in fictions over facts, making constructive dialogue impossible and imperiling our democracy.

In *Myth America*, Kevin M. Kruse and Julian E. Zelizer have assembled an all-star team of fellow historians to push back against this misinformation. The contributors debunk narratives that portray the New Deal and Great Society as failures, immigrants as hostile invaders, and feminists as anti-family warriors—among numerous other partisan lies. Based on a firm foundation of historical scholarship, their findings revitalize our understanding of American history.

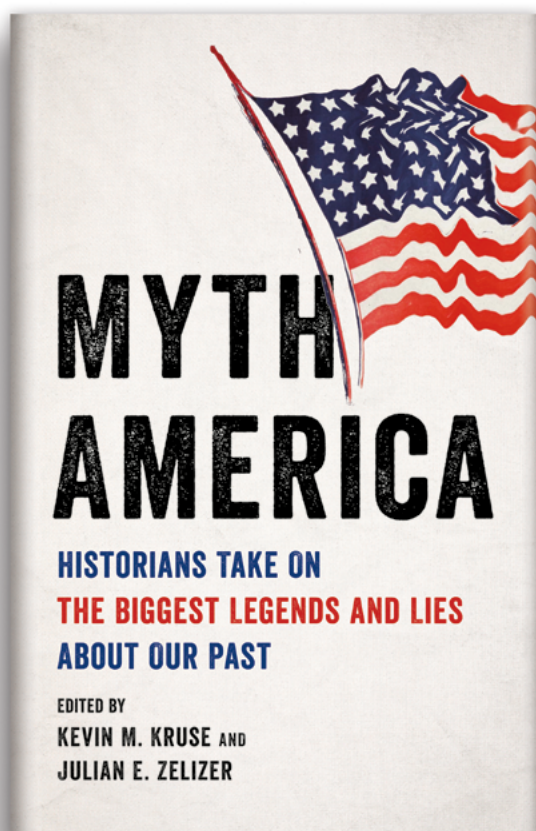
Replacing myths with research and reality, *Myth America* is essential reading amid today's heated debates about our nation's past.



KEVIN M. KRUSE and **JULIAN E. ZELIZER** are professors of history at Princeton University. Each has authored or edited several books, and together they served as coauthors of *Fault Lines: A History of the United States Since 1974*. Kruse lives in



Princeton, New Jersey, and Zelizer lives in New York City.



**America's top historians set the
record straight on the most pernicious
myths about our nation's past**

NEW HARDCOVER • OCTOBER

History • \$32.00 / \$40.00 CAN

6 x 9¼ • 400 pages

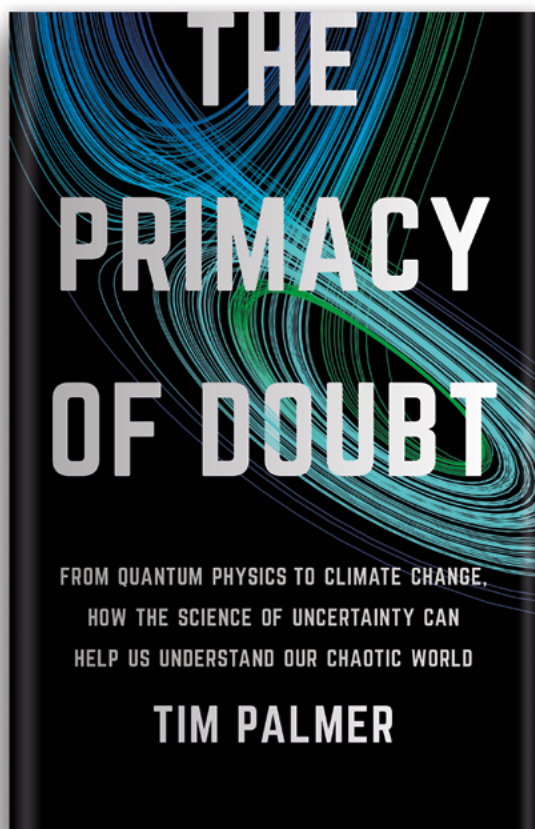
978-1-5416-0139-0

E-BOOK 978-1-5416-0140-6

Selling Territory: USC

Author photo: (Kruse) © Ricardo Barros;

(Zelizer) © Zoran Jelenic



**How the tools that enabled us
to overcome the uncertainty of the
weather will enable us to find
new answers to modern science's
most pressing questions**

NEW HARDCOVER • OCTOBER

Science • \$30.00 / \$38.00 CAN

6 x 9¼ • 320 pages

978-1-5416-1971-5

E-BOOK 978-1-5416-1970-8

Selling Territory: USC

Author photo © David Fisher

TIM PALMER

THE PRIMACY OF DOUBT

*From Quantum Physics to Climate Change,
How the Science of Uncertainty Can Help
Us Understand Our Chaotic World*

Why does your weather app say “There’s a 10% chance of rain” instead of “It will be sunny tomorrow”? In large part this is due to the insight of Tim Palmer, who made uncertainty essential to the study of weather and climate. Now he wants to apply it to how we study everything else.

In *The Primacy of Doubt*, Palmer argues that embracing the mathematics of uncertainty is vital to understanding ourselves and the universe around us. Whether we want to predict climate change or market crashes, understand how the brain is able to outpace supercomputers, or find a theory that links quantum and cosmological physics, Palmer shows how his vision of mathematical uncertainty provides new insights into some of the deepest problems in science. The result is a revolution—one that shows that power begins by embracing what we don’t know.



TIM PALMER, FRS, CBE,

is a Royal Society Research Professor in the department of physics at the University of Oxford who pioneered the development of operational ensemble weather and climate forecasting. He is a fellow of the National Academy of Sciences and a recipient of the Dirac Medal. He lives near Oxford, UK.

WILLIAM MAGNUSON

FOR PROFIT

A History of Corporations

Americans have long been skeptical of corporations, and that skepticism has only grown more intense in recent years. Meanwhile, corporations continue to amass wealth and power at a dizzying rate, recklessly pursuing profit while leaving society to sort out the costs.

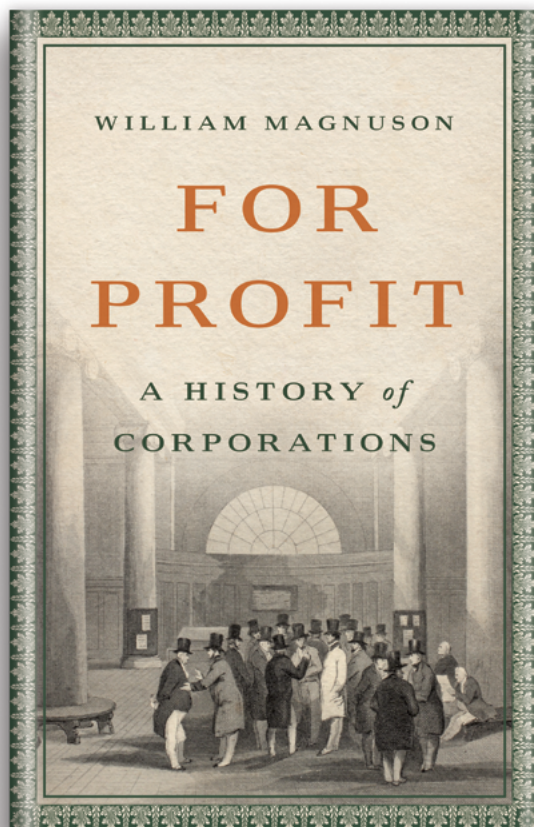
In *For Profit*, law professor William Magnuson argues that the story of the corporation didn't have to come to this. Throughout history, he finds, corporations have been purpose-built to benefit the societies that surrounded them. Corporations enabled everything from the construction of ancient Rome's roads and aqueducts to the artistic flourishing of the Renaissance to the rise of the middle class in the twentieth century. By recapturing this original spirit of civic virtue, Magnuson argues, corporations can help craft a society in which all of us—not just shareholders—benefit from the profits of enterprise.



WILLIAM MAGNUSON

is an associate professor at Texas A&M Law School, where he teaches corporate law. Previously, he taught law at Harvard

University. The author of *Blockchain Democracy*, he has written for the *Wall Street Journal*, *Washington Post*, *Los Angeles Times*, and Bloomberg. He lives in Austin, Texas.



**A history of how corporate innovation
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Selling Territory: W

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**A bestselling historian uncovers
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Author photo © Maresa Patterson

ERIC ALTERMAN

WE ARE NOT ONE

*A History of America's Fight
Over Israel*

Fights about the fate of the state of Israel, have long been a staple of both Jewish and American political culture. But no one has ever systematically examined their history and explained why they matter.

In *We Are Not One*, historian Eric Alterman traces this debate from its nineteenth-century origins. Following Israel's 1948–1949 War of Independence (called the “nakba” or “catastrophe” by Palestinians), few Americans, including few Jews, paid much attention to Israel or the challenges it faced. Following the 1967 Six-Day War, however, almost overnight support for Israel became *the* primary component of American Jews' collective identity. Over time, Jewish organizations joined forces with conservative Christians and neoconservative pundits and politicians to wage a tenacious fight to define Israel's image in the US media, popular culture, Congress, and college campuses. Deeply researched, *We Are Not One* reveals how our consensus on Israel and Palestine emerged and why, today, it is fracturing.



ERIC ALTERMAN is a CUNY Distinguished Professor of English at Brooklyn College and holds a PhD in US history from Stanford University. A contributing writer to the *Nation* and the *American Prospect*, he is the author of eleven previous titles, including the *New York Times* bestseller *What Liberal Media?*. He lives in New York.

JAMIE K. McCALLUM

ESSENTIAL

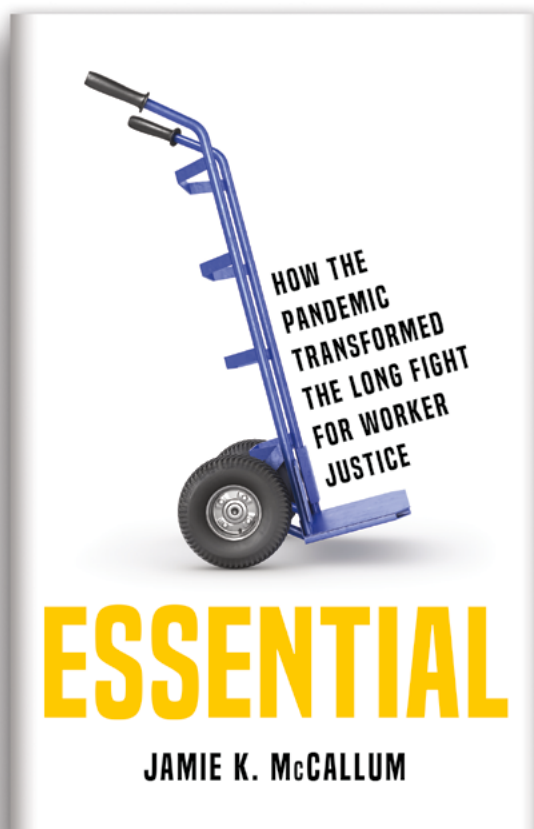
*How the Pandemic Transformed the
Long Fight for Worker Justice*

Throughout the coronavirus pandemic, essential workers lashed out against low wages, long hours, and safety risks, attracting a level of support unseen in decades. This explosion of labor unrest seemed sudden to many. But *Essential* reveals that American workers had simmered in discontent long before their anger boiled over.

Decades of austerity, sociologist Jamie K. McCallum shows, have left frontline workers vulnerable to employer abuse, lacking government protections, and increasingly furious. Through firsthand research conducted as the pandemic unfolded, McCallum traces the evolution of workers' militancy, showing how their struggles for safer workplaces, better pay and health care, and the right to unionize have benefitted all Americans and spurred a radical new phase of the labor movement. This is essential reading for understanding the past, present, and future of the working class.



JAMIE K. McCALLUM is professor of sociology at Middlebury College. He is the author of *Worked Over* and *Global Unions, Local Power*, which won the American Sociological Association's prize for the best book on labor. His writing has appeared in the *Washington Post*, *Mother Jones*, *Dissent*, and *Jacobin*. He lives in Weybridge, Vermont.



**How essential workers' fight
for better jobs during the pandemic
revolutionized US labor politics**

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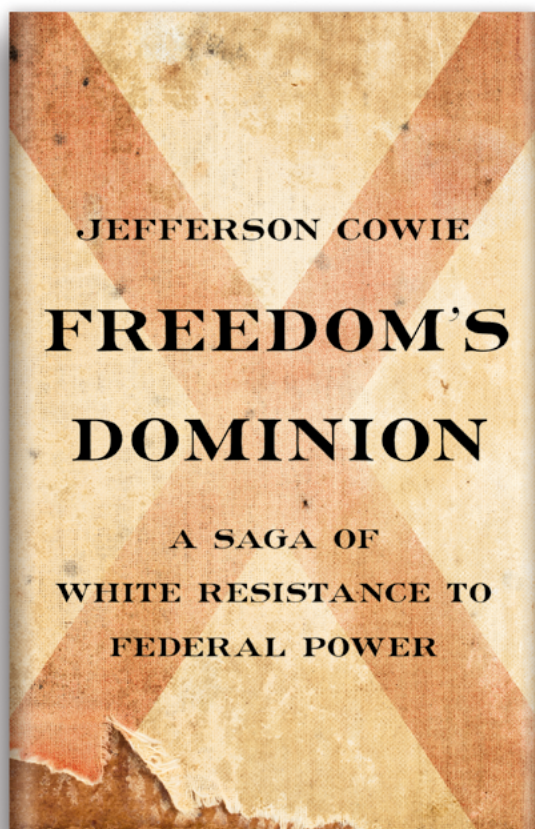
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**A prize-winning historian
chronicles a sinister idea of freedom:
white Americans' freedom
to oppress people of color**

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Author photo © Madeleine Casad

JEFFERSON COWIE

FREEDOM'S DOMINION

*A Saga of White Resistance to
Federal Power*

American freedom is typically associated with the fight of the oppressed for a better world. But for centuries, whenever the federal government has intervened on behalf of nonwhite people, white Americans have fought back by invoking freedom—their freedom to dominate others.

In *Freedom's Dominion*, historian Jefferson Cowie traces this complex saga by focusing on a quintessentially American place: Barbour County, Alabama, the ancestral home of political firebrand George Wallace. In a land shaped by settler colonialism and chattel slavery, white people weaponized freedom to seize Native lands, champion secession, oppose Reconstruction, question the New Deal, and fight desegregation and civil rights laws.

A riveting history of the long-running clash between white people and federal authority, this book radically shifts our understanding of what freedom means in America.



JEFFERSON COWIE holds the James G. Stahlman Chair in History at Vanderbilt University. He is the author of three books, including *Stayin' Alive:*

The 1970s and the Last Days of the Working Class, and his work has appeared in numerous outlets including *Time*, the *New York Times*, *Foreign Affairs*, and *Politico*. He lives in Nashville, Tennessee.

NICK RIGGLE

THIS BEAUTY

A Philosophy of Being Alive

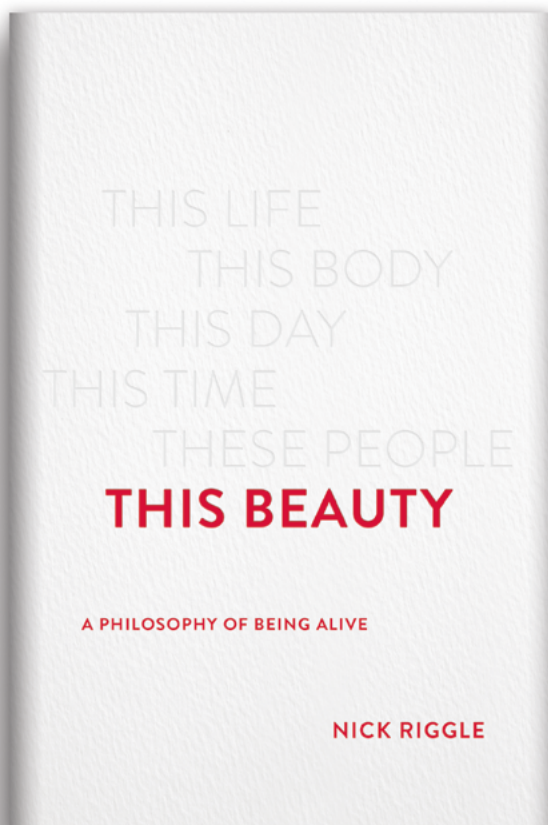
Say you and your friend often go hiking. One day, they propose that you go sky-diving instead. You're wavering, and they deliver a rousing speech. They tell you, *Come on, you only live once!* You relent. Why?

In *This Beauty*, philosopher Nick Riggle investigates the things we say to inspire each other and ourselves: *seize the day, treat yourself, you only live once*. Riggle calls them *existential imperatives*, and they present a conundrum. They are at best vague, at worst stupid. And yet these exhortations can't help but be profound. Drawing on insights from aesthetics and from his experiences as a professional skater, academic, and new father, Riggle argues that these phrases shock us out of our routines and key us into the beauty of life.

Insightful and deeply humane, *This Beauty* offers a personal and searching inquiry into the mystery of life's beauty.



NICK RIGGLE is associate professor of philosophy at the University of San Diego. The author of *On Being Awesome*, he regularly lectures at top philosophy departments internationally. His work has been published in *McSweeney's*, *Aeon*, and *Hyperallergic*, among other outlets. He lives in San Diego, California.



An acclaimed philosopher argues that living life to the fullest requires seeing life through the lens of beauty

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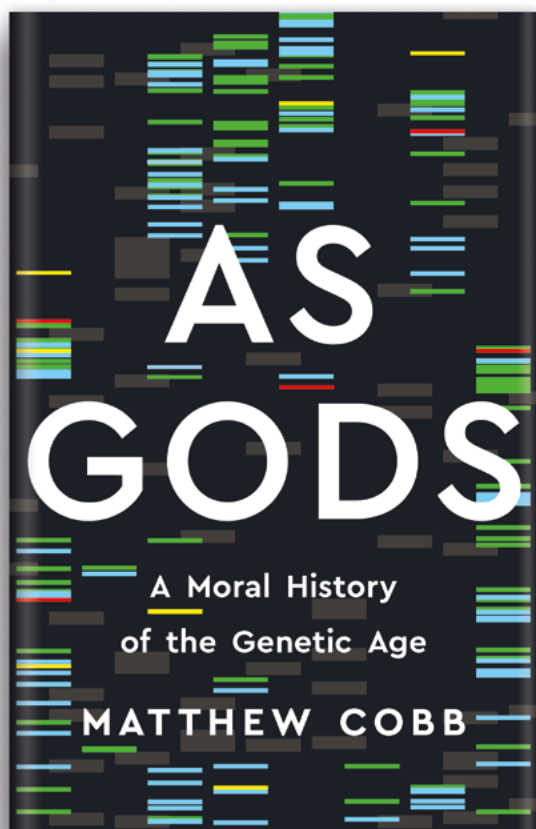
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Author photo © Brett Riggle



**The thrilling and terrifying history
of genetic engineering**

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MATTHEW COBB

AS GODS

A Moral History of the Genetic Age

In 2018, scientists manipulated the DNA of human babies for the first time. As biologist and historian Matthew Cobb shows in *As Gods*, this achievement was one many scientists have feared from the start of the genetic age. Four times in the last fifty years, geneticists, frightened by their own technology, have called a temporary halt to their experiments. They ought to be frightened: now we have powers that can target the extinction of pests, change our own genes, or create dangerous new versions of diseases in an attempt to prevent future pandemics. Both awe-inspiring and chilling, *As Gods* traces the history of genetic engineering, showing that this revolutionary technology is far too important to be left to the scientists. They have the power to change life itself, but should we trust them to keep their ingenuity from producing a hellish reality?



MATTHEW COBB is a professor in the School of Biological Sciences at the University of Manchester. He is the author of six books: *The Idea of the Brain*, *Life's Greatest Secret*, *Generation*, *The Resistance*, *Eleven Days in August*, and *Smell: A Very Short Introduction*. He lives in England.

ERICA THOMPSON

ESCAPE FROM MODEL LAND

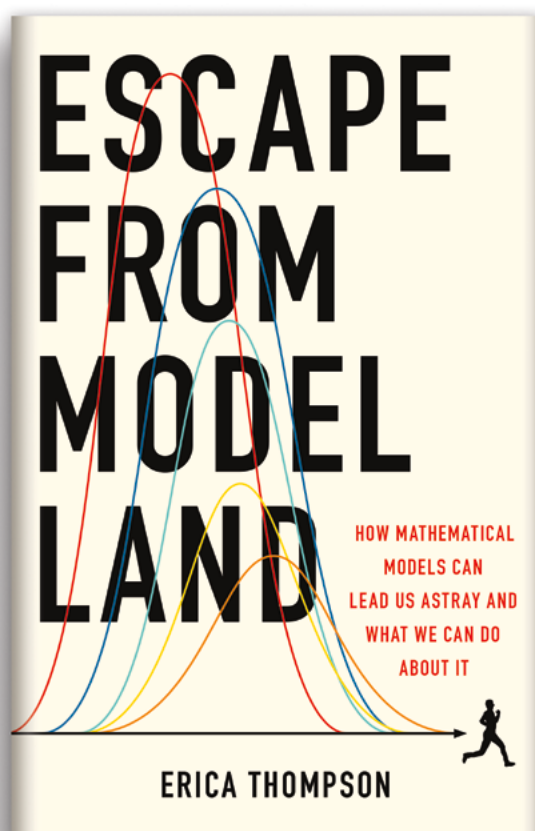
*How Mathematical Models
Can Lead Us Astray and
What We Can Do About It*

Whether we are worried about the spread of COVID-19 or making a corporate budget, we depend on mathematical models to help us understand the world around us every day. But models aren't a mirror of reality. In fact, they are fantasies, where everything works out perfectly, every time. And relying on them too heavily can hurt us.

In *Escape from Model Land*, statistician Erica Thompson illuminates the hidden dangers of models. She demonstrates how models reflect the biases, perspectives, and expectations of their creators. Thompson shows us why understanding the limits of models is vital to using them well. A deeper meditation on the role of mathematics, this is an essential book for helping us avoid either confusing the map with the territory or throwing away the map completely, instead pointing to more nuanced ways to *Escape from Model Land*.



ERICA THOMPSON is a senior policy fellow at the London School of Economics' Data Science Institute and a fellow of the London Mathematical Laboratory. With a PhD from Imperial College, she has recently worked on the limitations of models of COVID-19 spread, humanitarian crises, and climate change. She lives in West Wales.



Why mathematical models are so often wrong, and how we can make better decisions by accepting their limits

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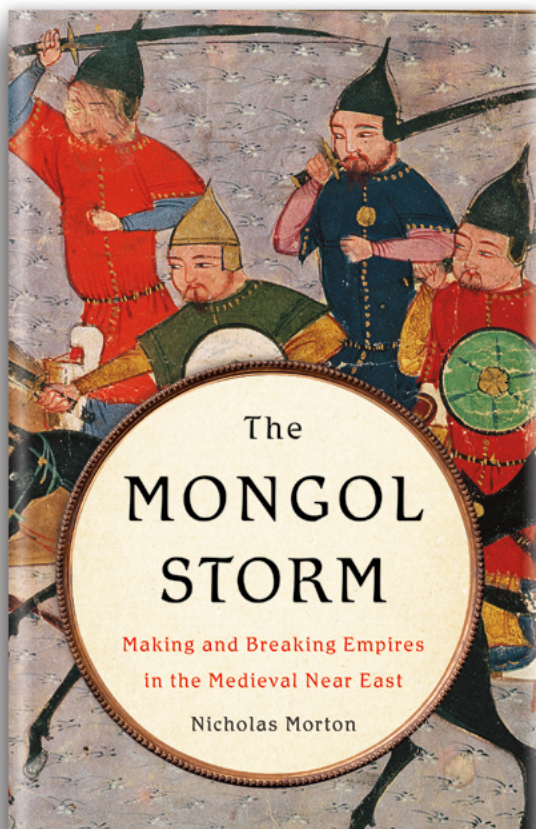
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**How the Mongol invasions of the
Near East reshaped the balance of
world power in the Middle Ages**

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Selling Territory: W

Author photo © Bethan Laughlin

NICHOLAS MORTON

THE MONGOL STORM

*Making and Breaking Empires
in the Medieval Near East*

For centuries, the Crusades have been central to the story of the medieval Near East, but these religious wars are only part of the region's complex history. As *The Mongol Storm* reveals, during the same era the Near East was utterly remade by another series of wars: the Mongol invasions.

In a single generation, the Mongols conquered vast swaths of the Near East and upended the region's geopolitics. Amid the chaos of the Mongol onslaught, long-standing powers such as the Byzantines, the Seljuk Turks, and the crusaders struggled to survive, while new players such as the Ottomans arose to fight back. The Mongol conquests forever transformed the region, while forging closer ties among societies spread across Eurasia.

This is the definitive history of the Mongol assault on the Near East and its enduring global consequences.



NICHOLAS MORTON is a senior lecturer at Nottingham Trent University. The author or editor of nine books, including *The Field of Blood*, Morton lives in Nottinghamshire, UK.

JUDITH HERMAN, MD

TRAUMA AND RECOVERY

*The Aftermath of Violence—
From Domestic Abuse to Political Terror*

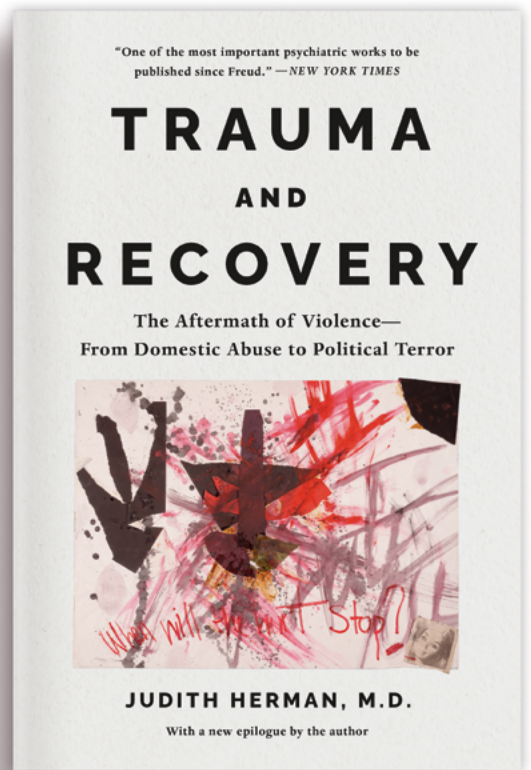
T*rauma and Recovery* is the foundational text on understanding trauma survivors. By placing individual experience in a political frame, psychiatrist Judith Herman argues that psychological trauma is inseparable from its social and political context. Drawing on her own research on incest, as well as a vast literature on combat veterans and victims of political terror, she shows surprising parallels between private horrors like child abuse and public horrors like war.

This edition includes a new epilogue by the author assessing what has—and hasn't—changed in understanding and treating trauma over the last three decades.

Hailed by the *New York Times* as “one of the most important psychiatry works to be published since Freud,” *Trauma and Recovery* is essential reading for anyone seeking to understand how we heal.



JUDITH HERMAN, MD, is a professor of psychiatry at Harvard Medical School. She was the recipient of the Lifetime Achievement Award from the International Society for Traumatic Stress Studies and is a distinguished life fellow of the American Psychiatric Association.



The groundbreaking work on trauma that remains a “classic for our generation” (Bessel van der Kolk, MD, author of *The Body Keeps the Score*)

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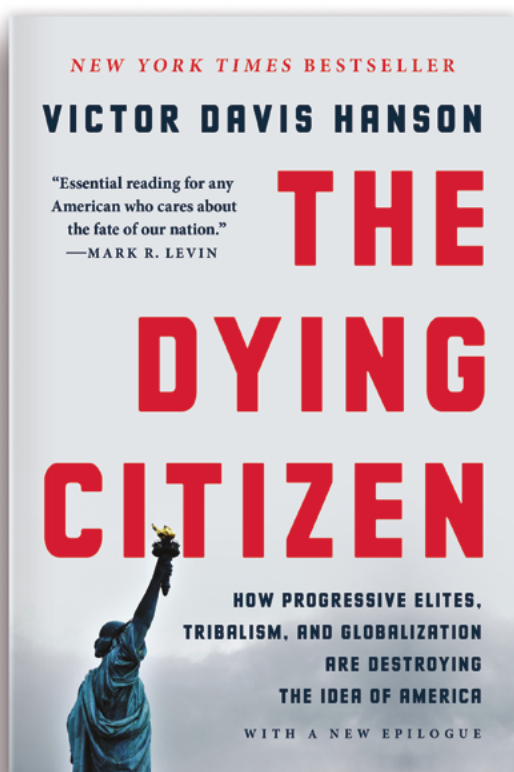
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Selling Territory: W

Author photo © Bill Atkinson



**A New York Times bestseller,
 “The Dying Citizen is essential reading
 for any American who cares about the
 fate of our nation” —Mark R. Levin**

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VICTOR DAVIS HANSON

THE DYING CITIZEN

*How Progressive Elites, Tribalism,
 and Globalization Are Destroying
 the Idea of America*

Human history is full of the stories of peasants, subjects, and tribes. Yet the concept of the “citizen” is historically rare—and was among America’s most valued ideals for over two centuries. But without shock treatment, warns Victor Davis Hanson, American citizenship may soon vanish.

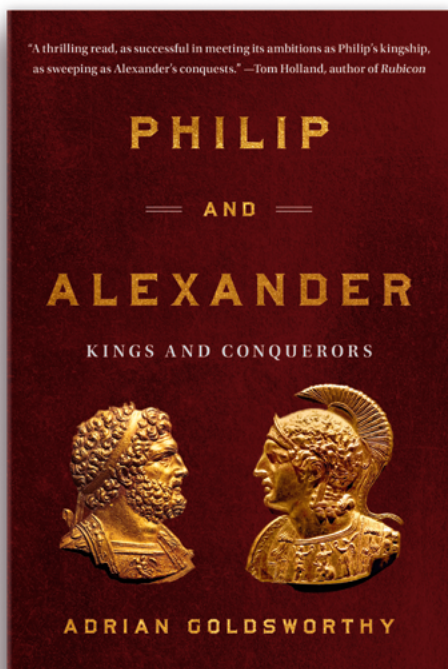
In *The Dying Citizen*, Hanson outlines the forces that led to this crisis. The evisceration of the middle class has made many Americans dependent on the federal government. Open borders have undermined allegiance to a particular place. Identity politics have eradicated our collective sense of self. And a top-heavy state has endangered personal liberty.

With a new epilogue that assesses how the events of 2021 have further diminished the meaning of American citizenship, *The Dying Citizen* is a clarion call to rebuild our collective national identity.



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 over two dozen books, most recently *The Case for Trump*. He lives in Selma, California.

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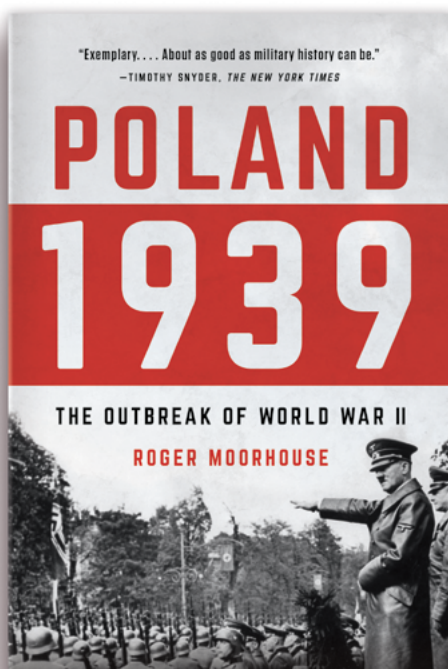


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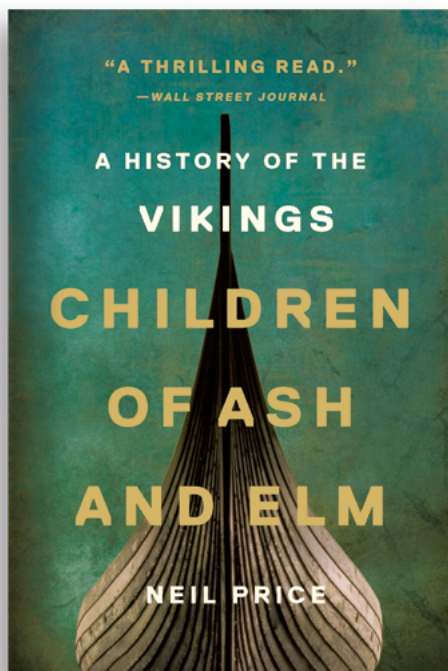


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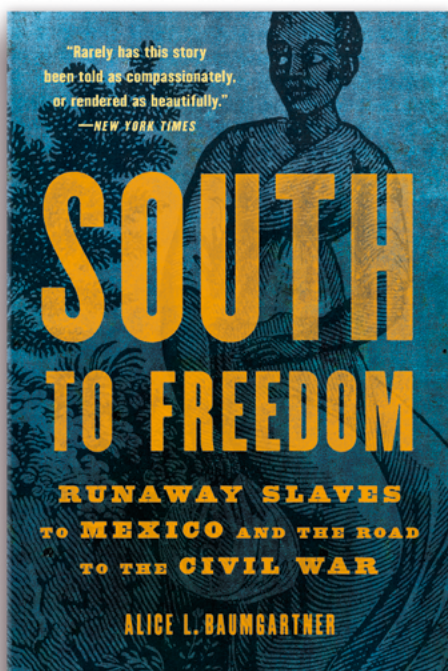
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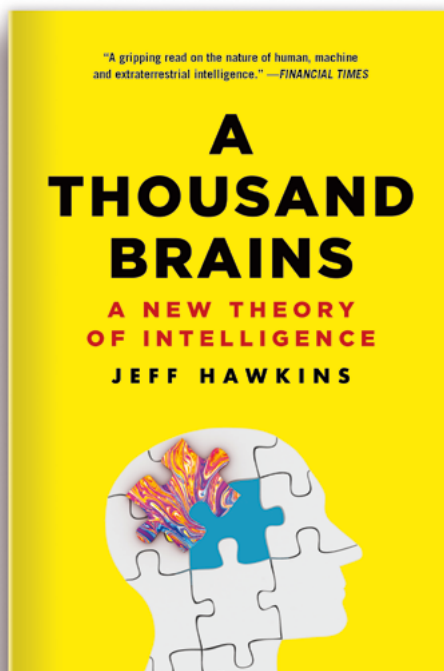


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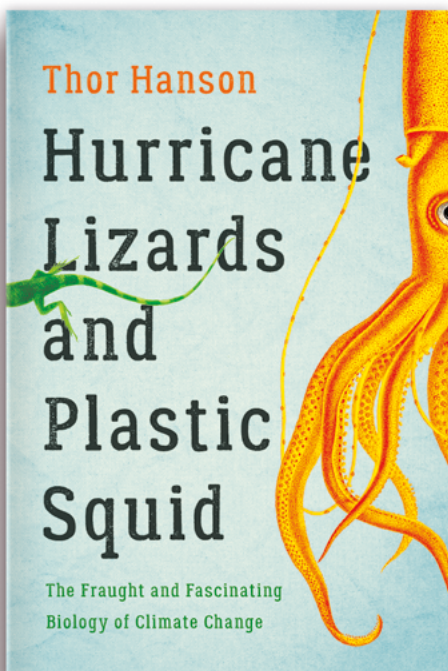


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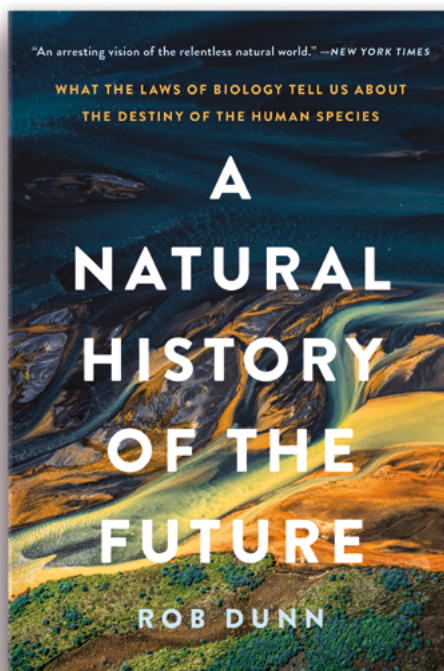


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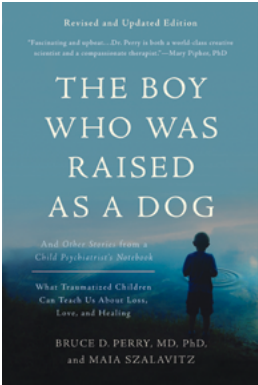
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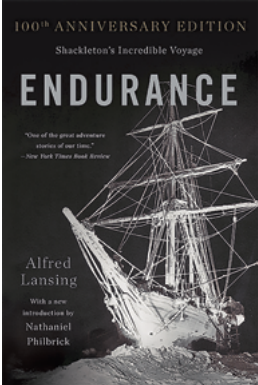
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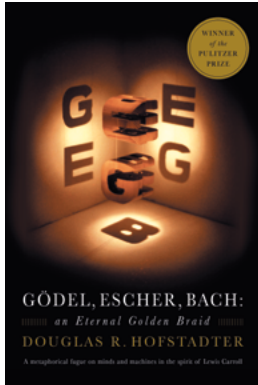
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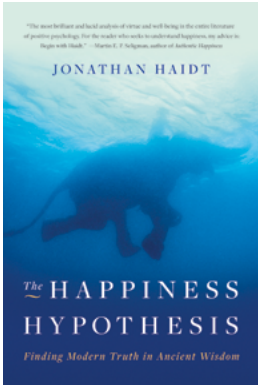
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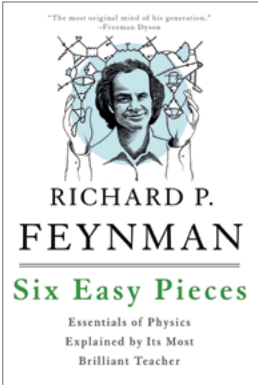
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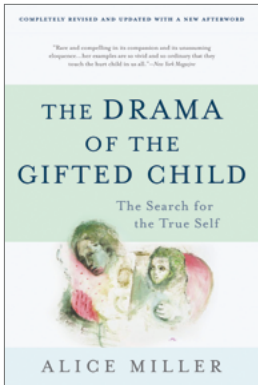
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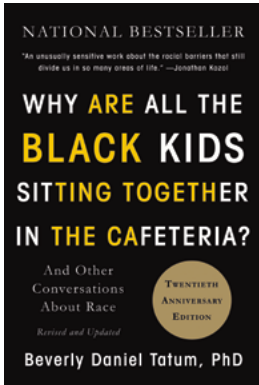
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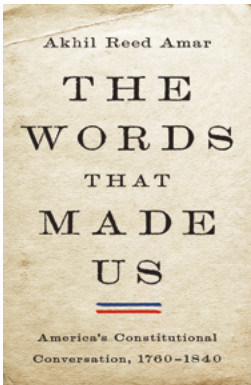
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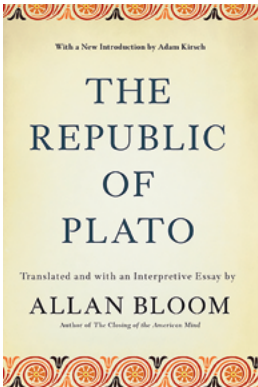


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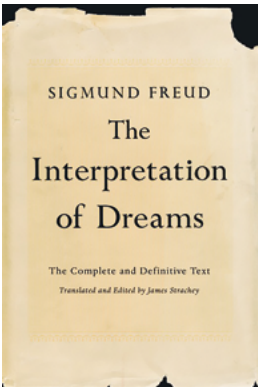


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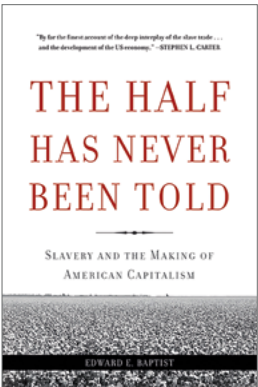
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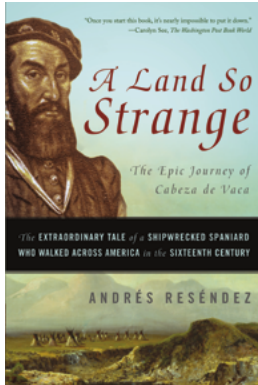
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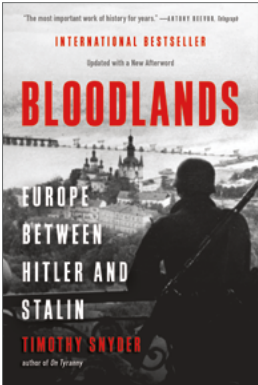
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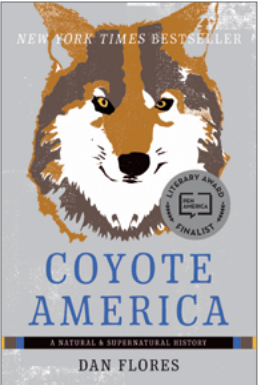
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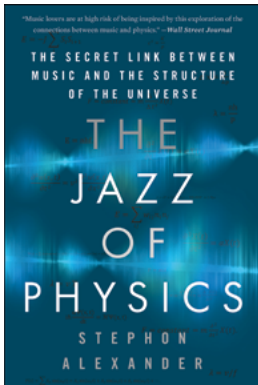
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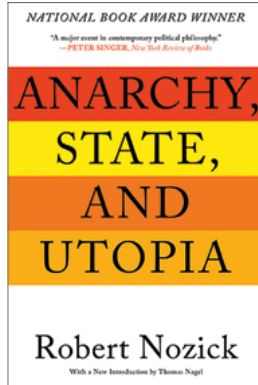
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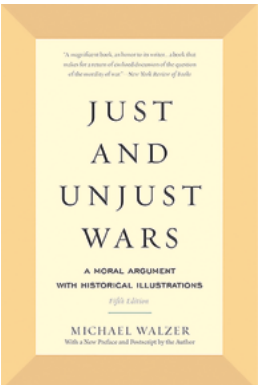
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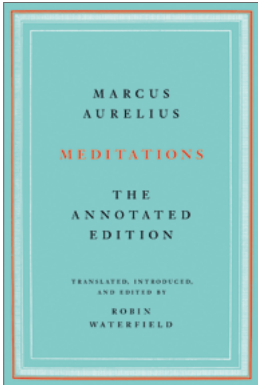


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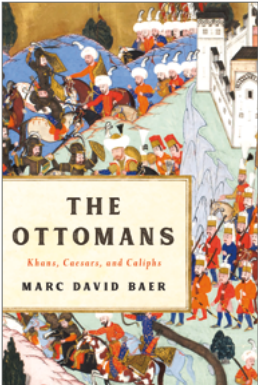
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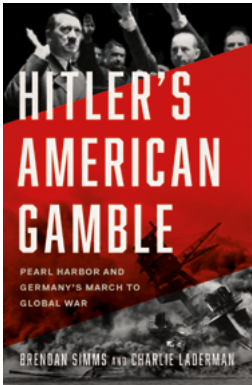
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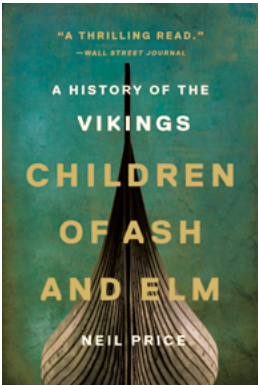
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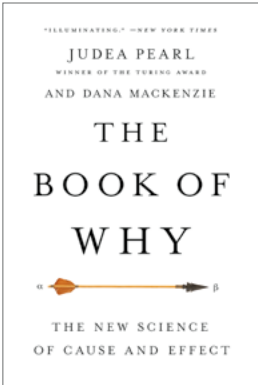
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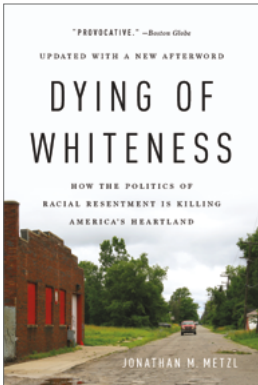
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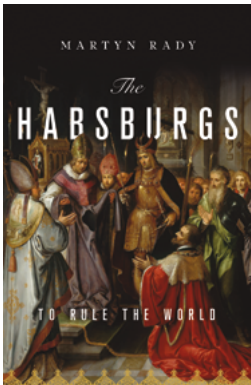
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KIT HEYAM is a university lecturer, a queer history activist, and a trans awareness trainer who has worked with organizations across the United Kingdom. They live in Leeds, UK, with their partner Alex.

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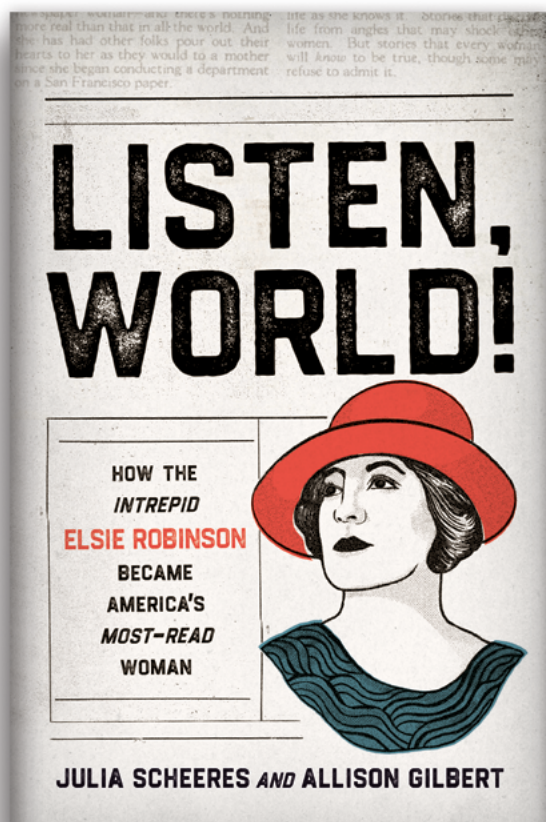
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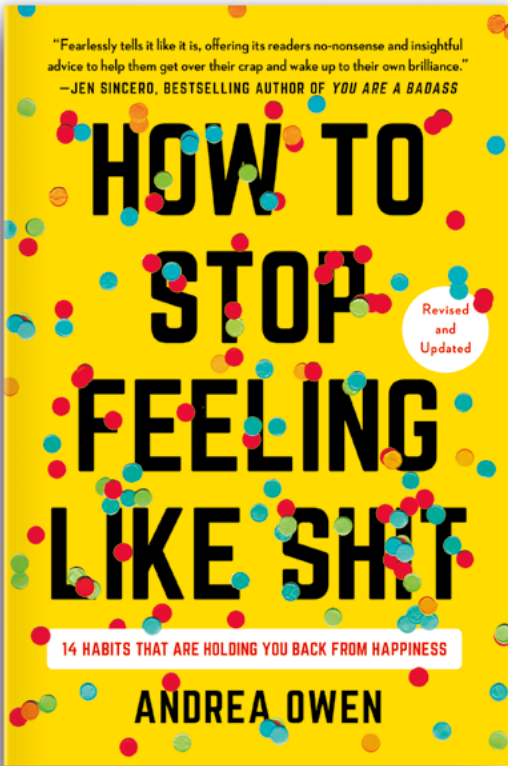
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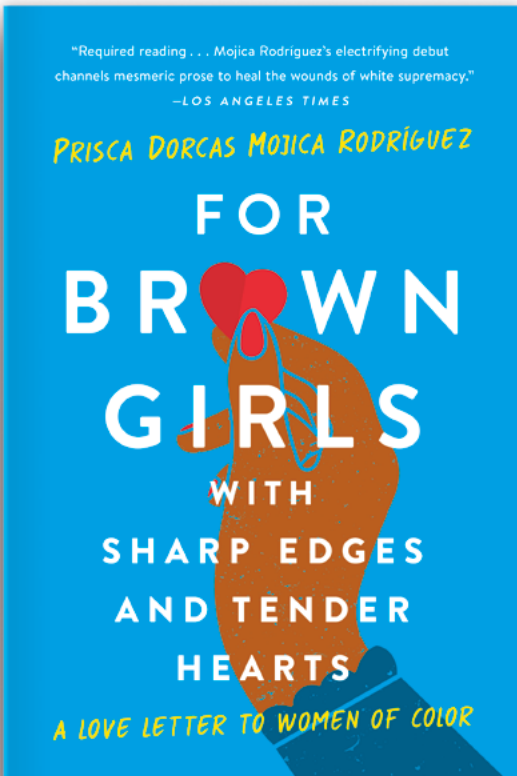
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Lara Heimert joined Basic Books in 2005. Previously, she was publisher of the trade division at Yale University Press. She has published numerous prize-winning and *New York Times* best-selling titles. Highlights include Edward Baptist's *The Half Has Never Been Told*, Eugene Rogan's *The Fall of the Ottomans*, Timothy Snyder's *Bloodlands*, Bee Wilson's *Consider the Fork*, Victor Davis Hanson's *The Dying Citizen*, Neil Price's *Children of Ash and Elm*, and Jason Riley's *Maverick*. 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*, Erika Lee's *America for Americans*, and Alice Baumgartner's *South to Freedom*. 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 law, psychology, medicine, and the social sciences, with a particular interest in feminism and queer studies. Forthcoming acquisitions include Steve Vladeck's *The Shadow Docket*, Jedediah Purdy's *Two Cheers for Politics*, and June Thomas's untitled book on lesbian spaces. Before joining Basic, she was an editor at Crown, where she acquired and edited books including *The Whiteness of Wealth* by Dorothy Brown and *Let The Lord Sort Them* by Maurice Chammah.

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