

Afterlife

Julia Alvarez

Summary

The celebrated author of *In the Time of the Butterflies* and *How the García Girls Lost Their Accents* is back with her first adult novel in almost fifteen years—and it's a tour de force.

For Antonia Vega, the immigrant writer at the center of *Afterlife*, the rug has been pulled out from under her. She has just retired from the college where she taught English when her husband suddenly dies. Fiercely intelligent, sharply droll, and disinclined to engage, Antonia has always sought direction in the literature she has loved—lines from her favorite authors play in her head like a soundtrack. But when, on top of everything else, her bighearted but unstable sister disappears and a pregnant, undocumented migrant teenager appears on Antonia's doorstep, she finds that the world demands more of her than words.

Afterlife is a compact, nimble novel set in this political moment of tribalism and distrust, a novel that asks: What do we owe those in crisis in our families, including, maybe especially, members of our human family? How do we live in a broken world without losing faith in one another or ourselves? And how do we provide an afterlife for those glorious souls we have lost—so we stay true to everything they represent?

Contributor Bio

Julia Alvarez left the Dominican Republic for the United States in 1960 at the age of ten. She is the author of six novels, three books of nonfiction, three collections of poetry, and eleven books for children and young adults. Alvarez has taught and mentored writers in schools and communities across America, most recently as a writer-in-residence at Middlebury College, until her retirement in 2016. She is a co-founder and convener of Border of Lights, a collective of activists committed to promoting peace and solidarity between the Dominican Republic and Haiti. In 2009, *In the Time of the Butterflies* was selected by the National Endowment for the Arts for its national Big Read program. Her website is juliaalvarez.com.

Quotes

"The queen is back with the exact novel we need in this fraught era. A powerful testament of witness and humanity written with audacity and authority."

—Luis Alberto Urrea, bestselling author of *The House of Broken Angels*

Marketing Plans

- 10-city national tour: Boston, NYC, DC, Atlanta, Miami, Chicago, Minneapolis, Dallas, Los Angeles, San Francisco
- National media campaign, including TV and radio interviews
- National print and online campaign, including reviews, features, and original essays
- Prepublication industry buzz campaign, including widespread galley mailings, author appearances and galley giveaways at ABA Winter Institute and ALA Midwinter, and trade advertising
- Prepublication activation campaign for consumers, including targeted outreach and giveaways via Goodreads, LitHub, and LibraryThing
- National print and digital advertising campaign, including the *New York Times* Books newsletter and top literary sites
- Comprehensive social media campaign, including prepublication outreach to bookstagrammers and Facebook and Instagram advertising
- Reading group promotions and advertising on top book club sites
- Signed stock promotion

Algonquin Books
9781643750255
Pub Date: 4/7/2020
Ship Date: 3/11/2020
\$25.95
Hardcover

272 Pages
Carton Qty: 12
Fiction / Literary
FIC056000

7 in H | 5 in W

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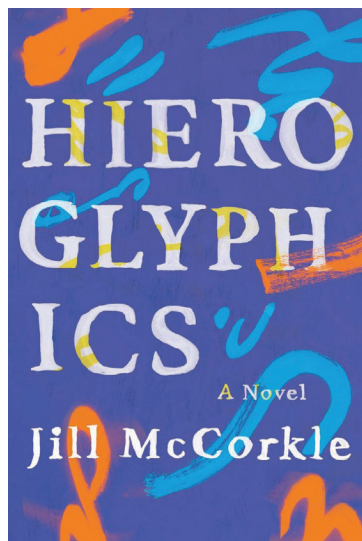
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\$15.95 USD
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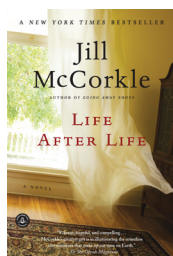


Algonquin Books
9781616209728
Pub Date: 6/9/2020
Ship Date: 5/20/2020
\$26.95
Hardcover

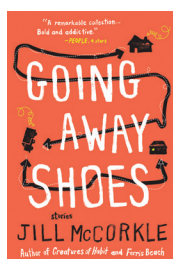
288 Pages
Carton Qty: 12
Fiction / Family Life
FIC045000

9 in H | 6 in W

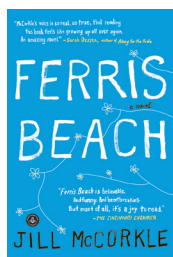
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Pub Date: 11/5/13
\$14.95 USD
368 pages
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Fiction
Ctn Qty: 24



9781616200145
Pub Date: 9/14/10
\$13.95 USD
258 pages
Trade Paperback
Fiction / Short Stories
Ctn Qty: 24



9781565129313
Pub Date: 9/22/09
\$13.95 USD
352 pages
Trade Paperback
Fiction
Ctn Qty: 24

Hieroglyphics

Jill McCorkle

Summary

"A powerful, deeply moving testament to both the ties of family and the taut fragility of memory's plumb-line . . . This book stayed with me well beyond the last page." —Daniel Mason, author of *The Winter Soldier*

We can never really know our parents; we can only construct their lives from our limited perspective, and from the bits and pieces we are left with. And sometimes we don't need to know them, and sometimes the most charitable thing they can do is to leave us with a version of themselves that we can handle.

Lil and Frank married young, and were launched into their courtship and marriage when they learned that they'd both lost a parent at a young age. But over time, that marriage grew and deepened and strengthened, with each harboring their secrets from one another, each still wishing for so much more understanding of the parents they'd lost. Now that they've left Boston and retired to North Carolina, Lil is determined to leave a history, and a story, behind for their children, but she's doing it in her own way, and in ways that Frank might not want others to see. Meanwhile, Frank is determined to find what he can of what his father left behind at a house on the outskirts of town, now being rented by a young single mother, Shelley. But his repeated visits to Shelley's house trigger her own fears, as well as memories that she'd rather leave buried. Because after all, not all parents are ones you want to remember.

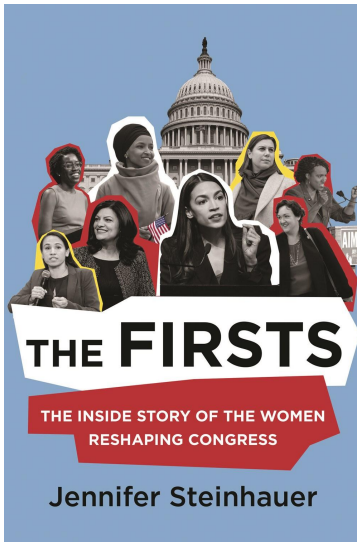
In a deeply layered and wise novel, *Hieroglyphics* reveals the difficulty of ever really knowing the intentions and dreams and secrets of the people who raised you. Jill McCorkle deconstructs and reconstructs what it means to be a father or a mother, and what it means to be a child piecing together the world all around you, a child learning to make sense of the hieroglyphics of history, and of memory.

Contributor Bio

Jill McCorkle is the author of nine previous books—four story collections and five novels—five of which have been selected as *New York Times* Notable Books. The recipient of the New England Book Award, the John Dos Passos Prize for Excellence in Literature, and the North Carolina Prize for Literature, she teaches writing at North Carolina State University and lives in Hillsborough, North Carolina. Visit her online at www.jillmccorkle.com.

Marketing Plans

- 12-city national tour: Raleigh / Chapel Hill, Charlotte, Greensboro, Asheville, Oxford, Jackson, Atlanta, Nashville, St. Louis, Kansas City, Boston, NYC, DC
- Appearances at fall literary festivals
- National media campaign, including TV, radio, and podcast interviews
- National print and online campaign, including reviews, features, and original essays
- Prepublication industry buzz campaign, including widespread galley mailings, galley giveaways at ABA Winter Institute and ALA Midwinter, and trade advertising
- Preorder campaign with SIBA and NEIBA bookstores, including pre-order kit and signed stock offer
- Positioning for LibraryReads and Indie Next
- Prepublication activation campaign for consumers, including targeted outreach and giveaways via Goodreads, LitHub, and LibraryThing
- National print and digital advertising campaign
- Summer reading campaign, including promotions with top book club sites and extensive social media



Algonquin Books
9781616209995
Pub Date: 3/10/2020
Ship Date: 2/12/2020
\$27.95
Hardcover

304 Pages
Carton Qty: 12
Political Science / American
Government
POL006000
9 in H | 6 in W

The Firsts

The Inside Story of the Women Reshaping Congress

Jennifer Steinhauer

Summary

A lively, behind-the-scenes look at the historic cohort of diverse, young, and groundbreaking women newly elected to the House of Representatives in 2018 as they arrive in Washington, D.C., and start working for change, by a *New York Times* reporter with sharp insight and deep knowledge of the Hill.

In November 2018, the largest number of women ever was elected to the 116th Congress, resulting in a grand total of 87 in the House and 23 in the Senate. Ushered in on a groundswell of grassroots support, diverse in background, age, professional experience, and ideology, the new freshmen immediately began making history—and noise. These include Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez, the youngest woman to be elected to the House; Sharice Davids and Deb Haaland, the first Native American women in Congress; Rashida Tlaib and Ilhan Omar, the first Muslim women representatives; and Abigail Spanberg, a former CIA agent. *The Firsts* will tell their stories—their triumphs and obstacles, alliances and controversies—as they arrive in Washington, D.C., ready to carry their historic legacy into institutional change.

Veteran Hill reporter Jennifer Steinhauer will follow these women's attempts to transcend the partisan rancor and dysfunction of Congress from their positions as upstarts and backbenchers in a Democratic caucus directed by leaders old enough to be their grandparents. Moving on from their trailblazing campaigns to the daily work of governance, these women will confront whether a gender and generational shift in the House can overcome institutional inertia. Will they work with their party's leadership, or will they work to overthrow it? Will their protests of the power structure fizzle, or will they create a lasting legislative framework for their ideas? How will they get on with their older peers, some of whom may feel resentful or pushed aside? What do their new roles mean for their lives back home, and how do they adjust to the weird, exciting, and often toxically seductive trappings of public office in the age of the twenty-four-hour news cycle?

Above all, will Washington change the changemakers—or will these women, many already social media stars and political punching bags, truly rock the boat?

Contributor Bio

Jennifer Steinhauer has covered numerous high-profile beats in her twenty-five-year reporting career at the *New York Times*, from City Hall bureau chief and Los Angeles bureau chief to Capitol Hill. She won the Newswoman's Club of New York Front Page Deadline Reporting Award in 2006 for her reporting on Hurricane Katrina. She has written a novel about the television business, and two cookbooks.

Marketing Plans

- 8-city national author tour: Washington, DC, NYC, Boston, Los Angeles, San Francisco, Minneapolis, Atlanta, Austin
- Submitting for literary festivals
- 20-city radio satellite tour
- National media campaign, including TV and radio interviews
- National print and online campaign, including reviews, features, and original essays
- Prepublication campaign, including national media luncheon in NYC, promotion at BEA, industry advertising, influencer outreach, and social media/pre-order campaign with dedicated landing page
- National print and digital advertising campaign, including the *New Yorker*, *New York Times*, *O*, *The Oprah Magazine*, *Bust*, *Bustle*, *Daily Kos*, and the *Huffington Post*
- Comprehensive social media campaign, including Instagram advertising



Algonquin Books

9781616209117

Pub Date: 5/5/2020

Ship Date: 5/13/2020

\$24.95

Hardcover

304 Pages

Carton Qty: 12

Family & Relationships / Parenting

FAM020000

7 in H | 5 in W

A Better Man

A (Mostly Serious) Letter to My Son

Michael Ian Black

Summary

"Obviously, Michael Ian Black can be funny, but who knew he could write something so raw, intimate, and true? *A Better Man* cracked me wide open, and it's a template for the conversation we need to be having with our boys. So, if you have a son, are a son, or know anyone who has ever been a son, just please, read this book." —Peggy Orenstein, author of *Boys & Sex*

"I know, I know. I tell you I love you every day," Black writes. "Multiple times a day. It's probably annoying to you that I say it so much, but I think it's important. Our reluctance as men to express love is part of what I want to talk to you about."

In time for Father's Day, *A Better Man* is a thoughtful, witty, ambitious, and self-deprecating examination of the meaning of manhood and the "toxic masculinity" that is being blamed for so much of the violence across America today. Michael Ian Black weaves experiences from his own childhood, where being told to "be a man" meant not expressing fear or grief, even after he lost his father at a young age, with advice to his 18-year-old son about such subjects as fighting, sex, and dating. And throughout, he takes apart a culture that has led to mass shootings in places like Sandy Hook, near Black's own home. "My dream," he says, "is that this book will help all parents talk to their boys about navigating the complicated world of manhood, learning from their fathers' successes and failures, and becoming a better man."

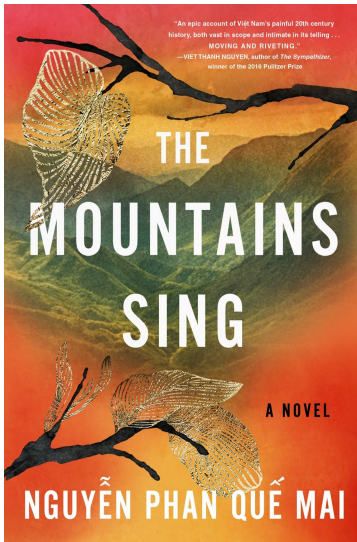
Contributor Bio

Michael Ian Black is an actor, comedian, and writer who started his career with the sketch comedy show, *The State*, on MTV. From there, he created and starred in the TV shows *Viva Variety*, *Stella*, and *Michael & Michael Have Issues*. He has also starred on several TV shows including *Ed*, VH1's *I Love The...*, *The Jim Gaffigan Show*, and *Another Period*. Movie appearances include *Wet Hot American Summer*, *The Baxter*, and *Sextuplets*.

Michael is the author of several books for children, including the award-winning *I'm Bored*, *I'm Sad*, and *I'm Worried*. His books for adults include the memoirs *You're Not Doing It Right* and *Navel Gazing*, and the essay collection *My Custom Van*. Michael also co-authored with Meghan McCain *America, You Sexy Bitch*. As a stand-up comedian, Michael regularly tours the country, and he has released several comedy albums. His podcasts include *Mike & Tom Eat Snacks*, with Tom Cavanagh, *Topics* with Michael Showalter, and *Obscure*. Michael lives in Connecticut with his wife and two children.

Marketing Plans

- 13-city national tour: NYC, Boston, Philadelphia, DC, Los Angeles, San Francisco, Seattle, Chicago, Minneapolis, Atlanta, Dallas, St. Louis, Kansas City
- National media campaign, including TV, radio, and podcast interviews
- National print and online campaign, including reviews and features
- 20-city national radio satellite tour
- Prepublication industry buzz campaign, including author appearances and galley giveaways at ABA Winter Institute and ALA Midwinter
- Bigmouth mailing to influencers, including celebrities Michael interviewed on his podcast, *How to Be Amazing*
- National print and digital advertising campaign,
- Comprehensive social media campaign, including Facebook and Instagram advertising
- Father's Day promotions, including e-blasts to retailers and giveaways via social media
- Signed stock promotion



Algonquin Books
9781616208189
Pub Date: 3/17/2020
Ship Date: 2/26/2020
\$26.95
Hardcover

352 Pages
Carton Qty: 12
Fiction / Cultural Heritage
FIC051000

9 in H | 6 in W

The Mountains Sing

Nguyễn Phan Quế Mai

Summary

**"An epic account of Việt Nam's painful 20th century history, both vast in scope and intimate in its telling . . . Moving and riveting."
—Viet Thanh Nguyen, author of *The Sympathizer*, winner of the Pulitzer Prize**

With the epic sweep of Min Jin Lee's *Pachinko* or Yaa Gyasi's *Homegoing* and the lyrical beauty of Vaddey Ratner's *In the Shadow of the Banyan*, *The Mountains Sing* tells an enveloping, multigenerational tale of the Trần family, set against the backdrop of the Việt Nam War. Trần Diệu Lan, who was born in 1920, was forced to flee her family farm with her six children during the Land Reform as the Communist government rose in the North. Years later in Hà Nội, her young granddaughter, Huang, comes of age as her parents and uncles head off down the Hồ Chí Minh Trail to fight in a conflict that tore not just her beloved country, but her family apart.

Vivid, gripping, and steeped in the language and traditions of Việt Nam, *The Mountains Sing* brings to life the human costs of this conflict from the point of view of the Vietnamese people themselves, while showing us the true power of kindness and hope.

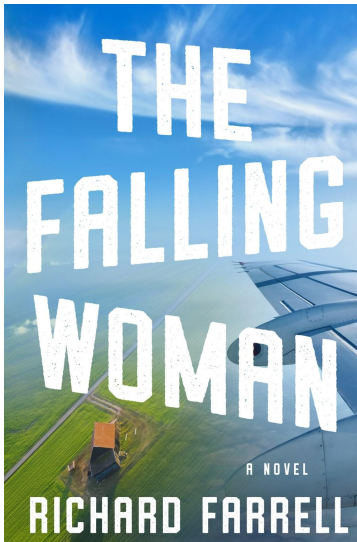
The Mountains Sing is celebrated Vietnamese poet Nguyễn Phan Quế Mai's first novel in English.

Contributor Bio

Born into the Việt Nam War in 1973, **Nguyễn Phan Quế Mai** grew up witnessing the war's devastation and its aftermath. She worked as a street seller and rice farmer before winning a scholarship to attend university in Australia. She is the author of eight books of poetry, fiction and non-fiction published in Vietnamese, and her writing has been translated and published in more than 10 countries, most recently in Norton's *Inheriting the War* anthology. She has been honored with many awards, including the Poetry of the Year 2010 Award from the Hà Nội Writers Association, as well as many grants and fellowships. Married to a European diplomat, Nguyễn is currently living in Jakarta with her two teenage children. For more information about Nguyễn, visit her at www.nguyenphanquemail.com.

Marketing Plans

- 8-city national author tour: Los Angeles, San Francisco, San Diego, Portland, Seattle, NYC, DC, and Boston
- National media campaign, including TV, radio, and podcast interviews
- National print and online campaign, including reviews, features, and original essays
- Prepublication industry buzz campaign, including galley distribution at fall regional trade shows, ALA Midwinter, and ABA Winter Institute
- National print and digital advertising campaign, including top literary sites
- Positioning for March retail placement programs, including Indie Next, Barnes & Noble Discover, and LibraryReads
- Comprehensive social media campaign, including Facebook and Instagram advertising
- Promotions and partnerships with Asian American cultural organizations and historical societies
- Reading group promotions and advertising on top book club sites



Algonquin Books
9781616208578
Pub Date: 5/19/2020
Ship Date: 4/22/2020
\$26.95
Hardcover

352 Pages
Carton Qty: 12
Fiction / Psychological
FIC025000

8.3 in H | 5.5 in W

The Falling Woman

A Novel

Richard Farrell

Summary

This Spring 2020 Indies Introduce Selection tells the suspenseful story of the sole survivor of a plane crash and the young agent assigned to find her.

Erin has reached a breaking point in her cancer treatment. She believes that she is essentially already dead to all who know her—her husband, her full-grown daughters, and the ex-lover from her office. Facing a third round of treatment, she decides to take a week off from doctors and hospitals and even her family, and to fly from her home in Washington, DC, to a retreat in California. When the plane she is on encounters extreme turbulence over Kansas and comes apart in midair, she accepts the reality of the fact that this will be her real death. But fate has other ideas, for she miraculously survives not only the explosion but also the fall from the sky.

Charlie Radford is a young National Transportation Safety Board investigator who is part of the team sent to determine what caused the crash, and also to find and identify the bodies of the fallen. When, several days into his investigation, he hears a rumor that a woman was found alive in a barn, still strapped to her airline seat, he assumes it is a hoax. As word of this “miracle” has reaches the media—as well as the men and women in Congress—young Radford is forced to assume responsibility for tracking down the source of the rumor and to find the woman, should she actually exist. Once he does he must convince her to come forward. The problem is that Erin refuses to cooperate. All she wants is to be left alone to live out what time she has left, away from the rest of the world. But when one reporter gets wind of her location, Radford must decide how to protect this “falling woman” while at the same time answering the commands of his superiors in the government agency.

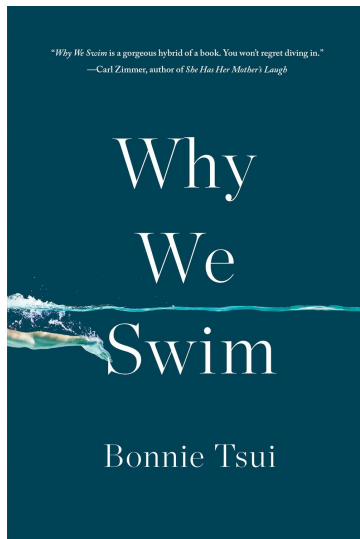
Fast-paced and full of twists and surprises, *The Falling Woman* is a story of the irony of fate, and of which conflicting factor will prevail: the need of the government and its people to know the truth, or the right of a woman to determine how her personal story will play out.

Contributor Bio

Richard Farrell is a graduate of the U.S. Naval Academy and former pilot who holds an MFA in Writing from Vermont College of Fine Arts. His work has appeared in *Potomac Review*, *Hunger Mountain*, *New Plains Review*, *upstreet*, *Descant*, *Contrary*, *Newfound*, *Numéro Cinq*, and elsewhere. Originally from Worcester, MA, he teaches creative writing at Grossmont College in San Diego, where he lives with his wife and two children. This is his first novel.

Marketing Plans

- Regional appearances in San Diego, Los Angeles, and Phoenix
- National media campaign, including TV, radio, and podcast interviews
- National print and online campaign, including reviews, features, and original essays
- Prepublication industry buzz campaign, including widespread galley mailings, trade advertising, and dedicated retail e-blast
- Prepublication activation campaign for consumers, including targeted outreach and giveaways via Goodreads, LitHub, and LibraryThing
- National print and digital advertising campaign, including Facebook and Instagram
- Comprehensive social media campaign, including prepublication outreach to bookstagrammers
- Summer reading campaign, including reading group promotions and advertising on top book club sites



Algonquin Books
9781616207861
Pub Date: 4/14/2020
Ship Date: 3/25/2020
\$26.95
Hardcover

272 Pages
Carton Qty: 12
Sports & Recreation / Swimming
& Diving
SPO043000
8.3 in H | 5.5 in W

Why We Swim

Bonnie Tsui

Summary

"A fascinating and beautifully written love letter to water. I was enchanted by this book." —Rebecca Skloot, bestselling author of *The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks*

Humans, unlike other animals that are drawn to water, are not natural-born swimmers. We must be taught. Our evolutionary ancestors learned for survival; now in the twenty-first century we swim in freezing Arctic waters and piranha-infested rivers to test our limits. Swimming is an introspective and silent sport in a chaotic and noisy age; it's therapeutic for both the mind and body; and it's an adventurous way to get from point A to point B. It's also one route to that elusive, ecstatic state of *flow*. These reasons, among many others, make swimming one of the most popular activities in the world.

Why We Swim is propelled by stories of Olympic champions, a Baghdad swim club that meets in Saddam Hussein's palace pool, modern-day Japanese samurai swimmers, and even an Icelandic fisherman who improbably survives a wintry six-hour swim after a shipwreck. *New York Times* contributor Bonnie Tsui, a swimmer herself, dives into the deep from the San Francisco Bay to the South China Sea, investigating what about water seduces us—despite its dangers—and why we come back to it again and again.

Contributor Bio

Bonnie Tsui lives, swims, and surfs in the Bay Area. A longtime contributor to the *New York Times* and *California Sunday Magazine*, she has been the recipient of the Jane Rainie Opel Young Alumna Award from Harvard University, the Lowell Thomas Gold Award, and a National Press Foundation Fellowship. Her last book, *American Chinatown: A People's History of Five Neighborhoods*, won the Asian/Pacific American Award for Literature and was a San Francisco Chronicle bestseller and Best of 2009 Notable Bay Area Books selection. Her website is bonnietsui.com.

Quotes

"Magnificent. Only a truly great story can hold my attention and *Why We Swim* had me nailed to the chair . . . I love this book."

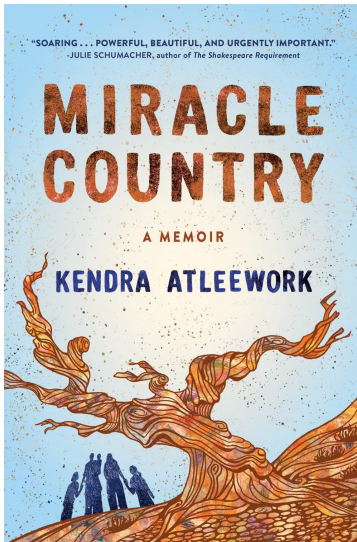
—**Christopher McDougall, author of *Born to Run***

"An aquatic tour de force, a captivating story filled with adventure, meditation, and celebration." —**Susan Casey, author of *The Wave***

"This is a jewel of a book, a paean to the wonders of water and our place within it." —**James Nestor, author of *Deep***

Marketing Plans

- 8-city national tour: San Francisco, Los Angeles, San Diego, Seattle, Portland, NYC, Boston, DC
- National media campaign
- 20-city national radio satellite tour
- Prepublication industry buzz campaign, including widespread galley mailings, galley giveaways at ALA Midwinter, trade advertising, and direct outreach to influential booksellers and librarians
- Prepublication activation campaign for consumers, including targeted outreach and giveaways via Goodreads and U.S. Masters swim clubs
- National print and digital advertising campaign, including Facebook and Instagram, along with literary, sports, and health sites
- Comprehensive social media campaign, including prepublication outreach to bookstagrammers



Algonquin Books
9781616209988
Pub Date: 6/16/2020 Ship
Date: 5/20/2020
\$27.95
Hardcover

368 Pages
Carton Qty: 12
Biography & Autobiography
/ Personal Memoirs
BIO026000

8.3 in H | 5.5 in W

Miracle Country

A Memoir

Kendra Atleework

Summary

"Blending family memoir and environmental history, Kendra Atleework conveys a fundamental truth: the places in which we live, live on—sometimes painfully—in us. This is a powerful, beautiful, and urgently important book."
—Julie Schumacher, author of *Dear Committee Members*

Kendra Atleework grew up in Swall Meadows, in the Owens Valley of the Eastern Sierra Nevada, where annual rainfall averages five inches and in drought years measures closer to zero.

Kendra's family raised their children to thrive in this harsh landscape, forever at the mercy of wildfires, blizzards, and gale-force winds. Most of all, the Atleework children were raised on unconditional love and delight in the natural world. But it came at a price. When Kendra was six, her mother was diagnosed with a rare autoimmune disease, and she died when Kendra was sixteen. Her family fell apart, even as her father tried to keep them together. Kendra took flight from her bereft family, escaping to the enemy city of Los Angeles, and then Minneapolis, land of all trees, no deserts, no droughts, full lakes, water everywhere you look.

But after years of avoiding the pain of her hometown, she realized that she had to go back, that the desert was the only place she could live. Like *Wild*, *Miracle Country* is a story of flight and return, bounty and emptiness, and the true meaning of home. But it also speaks to the ravages of climate change and its permanent destruction of the way of life in one particular town.

Contributor Bio

Kendra Atleework received her MFA in creative writing from the University of Minnesota, Minneapolis. An essay that formed the basis for a chapter of *Miracle Country* was selected for *The Best American Essays* 2015. She is the recipient of the Ellen Meloy Desert Writers Award and the AWP Intro Journals Project Award.

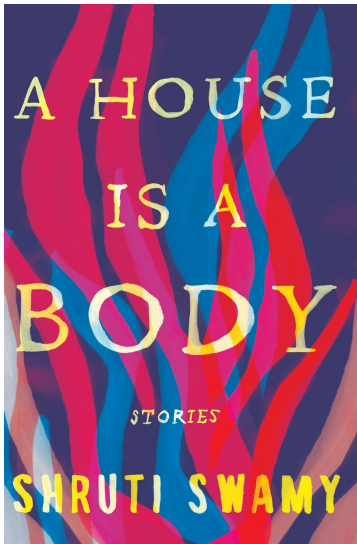
Quotes

"This eloquent narrative is both a natural history of the author's home place, a seemingly arid region, and a loving portrait of an extraordinary family. Kendra Atleework has an uncanny wisdom and a deep sense of people and their origins, and she writes like an angel." —**Charles Baxter, author of *The Feast of Love***

"Can a book be both radiant with light and shadowy as midnight? *Miracle Country* can. I felt the thrill I once knew reading Annie Dillard for the first time. Kendra Atleework can really write. She flies with burning wings." —**Luis Alberto Urrea, author of *The House of Broken Angels***

Marketing Plans

- 9-city tour: San Francisco, Denver, Phoenix, Seattle, Portland, Las Vegas, Boulder, Salt Lake City, and Los Angeles
- Appearances at fall literary festivals
- National media campaign
- Prepublication industry buzz campaign, including outreach to influential booksellers and librarians, pre-pub events in select cities, and trade advertising
- Author appearances and galley distribution at ABA Winter Institute, ALA Midwinter, and PLA
- Positioning for June retail placement programs, including Indie Next, Barnes & Noble Discover, LibraryReads, etc.
- National print and digital advertising campaign, including Facebook, Instagram, and top literary, women's, and environmental publications



Algonquin Books
9781616209896
Pub Date: 8/11/2020
Ship Date: 7/15/2020
\$25.95
Hardcover

256 Pages
Carton Qty: 12
Fiction / Short Stories
FIC029000

8.3 in H | 5.5 in W

A House Is a Body

Stories

Shruti Swamy

Summary

INTRODUCING A DAZZLING NEW LITERARY VOICE

In two-time O. Henry-prize winner Swamy's debut collection of stories, dreams collide with reality, modernity collides with antiquity, myth with true identity, and women grapple with desire, with ego, with motherhood and mortality. In "Earthly Pleasures," Radika, a young painter living alone in San Francisco, begins a secret romance with one of India's biggest celebrities. In "A Simple Composition," a husband's moment of crisis leads to his wife's discovery of a dark, ecstatic joy and the sense of a new beginning. In the title story, an exhausted mother watches, distracted and paralyzed, as a California wildfire approaches her home. With a knife blade's edge and precision, the stories of *A House Is a Body* travel from India to America and back again to reveal the small moments of beauty, pain, and power that contain the world.

Contributor Bio

The winner of two O. Henry Awards, **Shruti Swamy**'s work has appeared in *The Paris Review*, *McSweeney's*, *Prairie Schooner*, and elsewhere. In 2012, she was Vassar College's 50th W.K. Rose Fellow, and has been awarded residencies at the Millay Colony for the Arts, Blue Mountain Center, and Hedgebrook. She is a Kundiman fiction fellow, a 2017–2018 Steinbeck Fellow at San Jose State University, and a recipient of a 2018 grant from the Elizabeth George Foundation. She lives in San Francisco.

Marketing Plans

- 4-city tour: San Francisco, Seattle, Portland, Los Angeles
- Appearances at fall literary festivals
- National media campaign, including TV, radio, and podcast interviews
- National print and online campaign, including reviews, features, and original essays
- Prepublication industry buzz campaign, including widespread galley distribution, trade advertising, dedicated retail e-blast, and inclusion in Algonquin and Workman's bookseller and librarian e-newsletters
- Galley giveaways at ALA Midwinter and BEA
- Prepublication activation campaign for consumers, including targeted outreach and giveaways via Goodreads, LitHub, and LibraryThing
- National advertising campaign, including Facebook, Instagram, and top literary sites
- Comprehensive social media campaign
- Online reading group guide available at publication
- Summer reading campaign, including reading group promotions and advertising on top book club sites



9781616205034
Pub Date: 4/7/2020
\$14.95
Hardcover Paper over boards

80 Pages
4-color throughout
Humor / Form
HUM001000
7.4 in H | 7.9 in W

Long Story Short

100 Classic Books in Three Panels

Summary

Literature is long. Comics are short.

Does Proust get you down? Do you find *The Unbearable Lightness of Being* simply unbearable? Is *The Inferno* your own private hell? Do you long to be conversant about classics like *Moby Dick*, the Bhagavad Gita, *Madame Bovary*, and, um, *Twilight*?

Bestselling illustrator Lisa Brown (*The Airport Book*; *Baby, Mix Me a Drink*) did her homework. *Long Story Short* offers 100 pithy and skewering three-panel literary summaries, from curriculum classics like *Don Quixote*, *Lord of the Flies*, and *Jane Eyre* to modern favorites like *Beloved*, *The Brief Wondrous Life of Oscar Wao*, and *Atonement*, conveniently organized by subjects including "Love," "Sex," "Death," and "Female Trouble." Lisa Brown's *Long Story Short* is the perfect way to turn a traipse through what your English teacher called "the canon" into a frolic—or to happily cram for the next occasion that requires you to appear bookish and well-read.

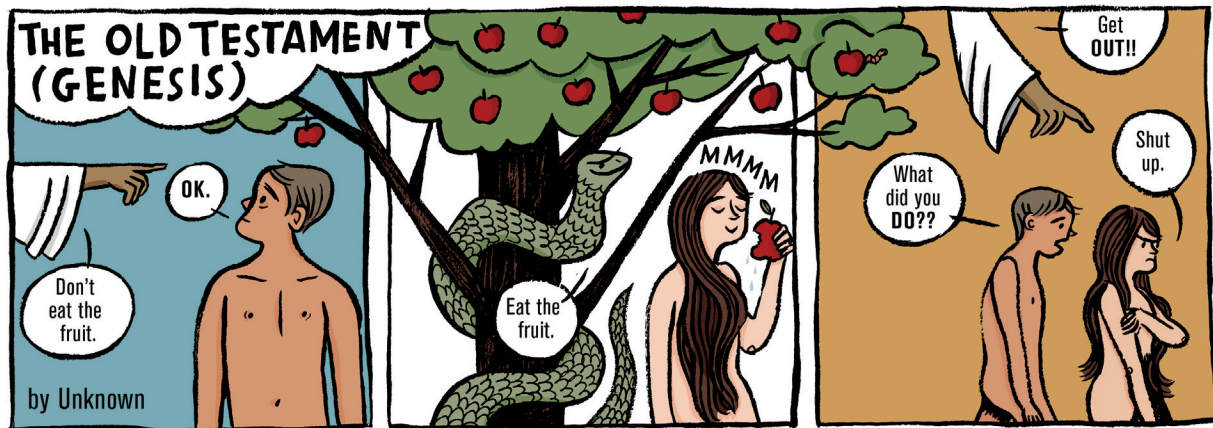
Contributor Bio

Lisa Brown draws things like illustrations and comics, writes things like books and book reviews, and teaches things to kids and college students. Her debut picture book, *How to Be*, was one of the Thirteen Best Children's Books for Family Literacy. She is a comics contributor at *The Rumpus* and teaches illustration at the California College of the Arts. She lives in San Francisco with her husband and son. You can find her online at americanchickens.com or on Twitter: @lisabrowndraws.

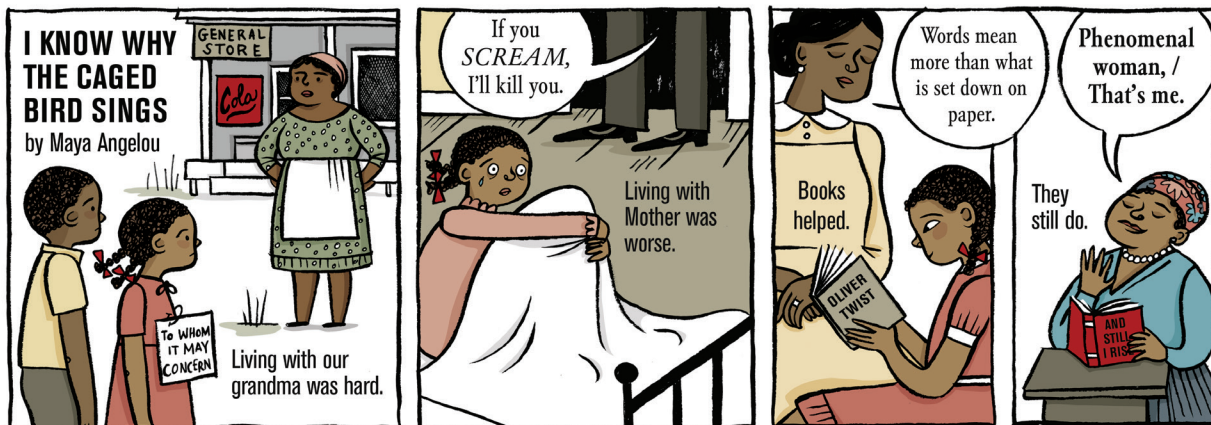
Marketing Plans

- 6-copy counter display available (ISBN: 978-1-64375-076-7, \$89.70)
- Prepublication trade and consumer buzz campaign
- National print and online reviews and features
- Major ARC distribution
- Select author appearances
- Extensive digital and social media campaigns, including giveaways and shareable digital assets
- ABA promotion including White Box mailing and Winter Institute feature
- Major librarian and educator promotion
- Big mouth industry mailings

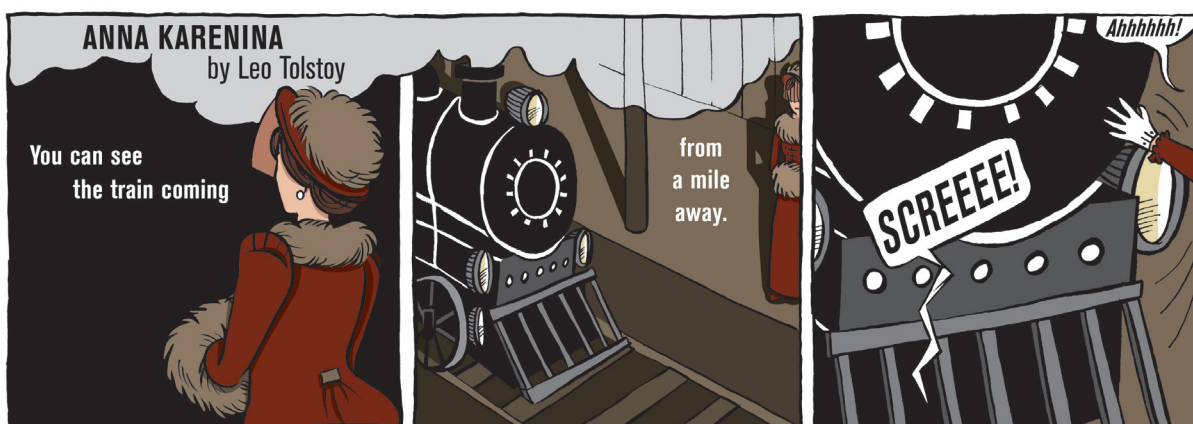
Long Story Short: Sample Illustrations



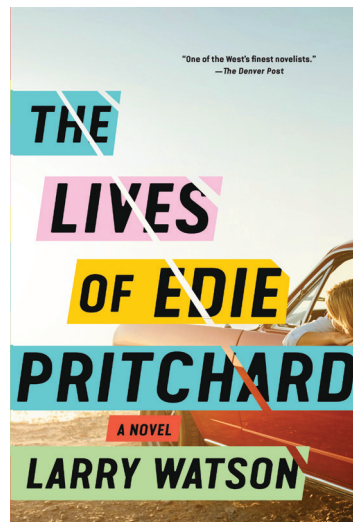
SEE "SEX"



SEE "FAMILIES"



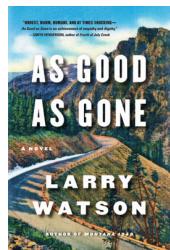
SEE "LOVE," "SEX," "DEATH"



Algonquin Books
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Pub Date: 7/7/2020
Ship Date: 6/7/2020
\$27.95
Hardcover

400 Pages
Carton Qty: 12
Fiction / Family Life
FIC045010
9 in H | 6 in W

Also Available:



9781616206956
Pub Date: 6/13/17
\$15.95 USD
368 pages
Trade Paperback
Fiction
Ctn Qty: 24

The Lives of Edie Pritchard

Larry Watson

Summary

From acclaimed novelist Larry Watson, a multi-generational story of the West told through the history of one beautiful woman trying to navigate a life on her own terms, rather than those of the men who seek to define her.

Edie—beautiful, smart, self-assured—always worked hard. She worked as a teller at a bank, she worked to save her first marriage, and later, she worked to raise her daughter even as her second marriage came apart. Really, Edie just wanted a good life, but everywhere she turned, her beauty defined her. Two brothers fought over her. Her second husband became unreasonably possessive and jealous. Her daughter resented her. And now even as a grandmother, Edie finds herself harassed by a younger man. It's been a lifetime of proving that she is allowed to exist in her own sphere outside of their gaze. *The Lives of Edie Pritchard* tells the story of one woman trying to carve out her own space even as multiple men try to categorize and own her.

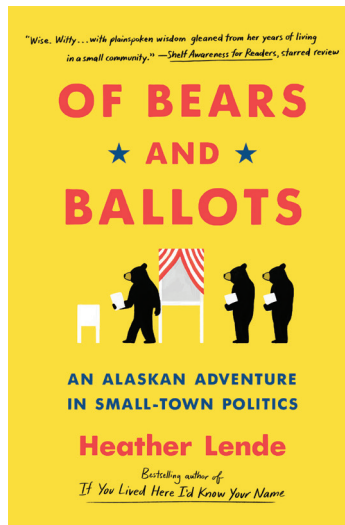
This is a triumphant, engaging, and perceptive commercial novel, with complex characters who refuse to yield to easy interpretations. By following one woman and her descendants, Larry expertly takes us through the changing (yet also unchanging) perceptions of women through the decades.

Contributor Bio

Larry Watson grew up in Bismarck, North Dakota, and received his BA and MA from the University of North Dakota and his PhD in creative writing at the University of Utah. He has received grants and fellowships from the National Endowment for the Arts and the Wisconsin Arts Board. He is the author of the novels *Let Him Go*, *Montana 1948*, *American Boy*, *In a Dark Time*, *White Crosses*, *Laura*, *Orchard*, and *Sundown*, *Yellow Moon*; the fiction collection *Justice*; and the chapbook of poetry *Leaving Dakota*. Watson's fiction has been published in many foreign editions, and has received multiple prizes and awards from, among others, the Mountain and Plains Booksellers Association, the Mountain and Plains Library Association, the New York Public Library, and the Wisconsin Library Association, and he has been awarded the Critics' Choice Award and the High Plains Book Award. He has published short stories and poems in a range of journals. His essays and book reviews have appeared in the *Los Angeles Times*, the *Washington Post*, the *Chicago Sun-Times*, and the *Milwaukee Journal-Sentinel*. Watson taught at the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point for twenty-five years before joining the faculty at Marquette University in 2003 as a visiting professor. He and his wife Susan live in Milwaukee, Wisconsin.

Marketing Plans

- 8-city tour: Chicago, Milwaukee, Madison, Minneapolis, Iowa City, St. Louis, Kansas City, Columbus
- National media campaign, including TV, radio, and podcast interviews
- National print and online campaign, including reviews, features, and original essays
- Prepublication industry buzz campaign, including widespread galley distribution, trade advertising, and inclusion in Algonquin and Workman's bookseller and librarian e-newsletters
- Promotion with the Midwest and Mountains & Plains regional trade associations, including dedicated e-blasts and positioning for Midwest Connections
- Prepublication activation campaign for consumers, including targeted outreach and giveaways via Goodreads, LitHub, and LibraryThing
- National advertising and comprehensive social media campaign
- Online reading group guide available at publication
- Summer reading campaign, including promotions with top book club sites
- Digital advertising leading up to and timed with the film release of *Let Him Go*



Algonquin Books
9781616208516
Pub Date: 6/30/2020
Ship Date: 6/3/2020
\$25.95
Hardcover

288 Pages
Carton Qty: 12
Political Science / American Government
POL040040
8.3 in H | 5.5 in W

Of Bears and Ballots

An Alaskan Adventure in Small-Town Politics

Heather Lende

Summary

"Citizenship—real, active citizenship of the kind we badly need—is hard work, as this book makes clear. But it's also rewarding in a profound way; hopefully this will inspire people to work with and for their neighbors in all kinds of ways!" —Bill McKibben, author of *Falter*

In the same year that Donald Trump was elected president, Heather Lende was one of the thousands of women inspired to take a more active role in politics. Some of them, like Lende, had never run for office before but now felt called to serve. Lende's entire campaign for assemblywoman in Haines, Alaska (pop. 2,500) cost less than 1,000 dollars. The competition was actually stiff—there were nine candidates for three open seats—but Heather prevailed.

This is the true story one woman's term on the Haines Borough Assembly. Everyone knows everyone in Haines, and as the longtime obituary writer for the local newspaper, Heather is deeply ensconced in her community. Still, it is a year of downs (Lende was a target of a vicious whisper campaign and recall) and ups (she found her voice and survived the recall). We follow her as she keeps true to her principles and votes against hiring her daughter's good friend as the town manager, and takes a stance that alienates her husband's customers at the hardware store they own. And we are there, too, when she learns to compromise to get things done. Some votes—like funding a new outhouse without state management and allocating money on bear proof trash cans—seem pure Alaska; other issues, like the seizure of 100,000 marijuana plants, tie into national issues such as the legalization of marijuana. Whatever the agenda item, the background is the natural beauty and isolation of Alaska, the quirky and amusing cast of Haines characters, including Lende's large and loving family, and her keen appreciation of what all of us owe one another in this world. *Of Bears and Ballots* is illuminating, relevant, and highly entertaining.

Contributor Bio

Heather Lende has contributed essays and commentary to NPR, the *New York Times*, and *National Geographic Traveler*, among other newspapers and magazines, and is a former contributing editor at *Woman's Day*. A columnist for the *Alaska Dispatch News*, she is the obituary writer for the *Chilkat Valley News* in Haines and the recipient of the Suzan Nightingale McKay Best Columnist Award from the Alaska Press Club. Her previous bestselling books are *Find the Good*, *Take Good Care of the Garden and the Dogs*, and *If You Lived Here, I'd Know Your Name*. Lende was voted Citizen of the Year, Haines Chamber of Commerce, in 2004. Her website is heatherlende.com.

Marketing Plans

- 6-city author tour: Anchorage, Juneau, Seattle, Portland, San Francisco, Denver
- National media campaign, including TV, radio, and podcast interviews
- National print and online campaign, including reviews and features
- 20-city national radio satellite tour
- Prepublication industry buzz campaign, including widespread galley mailings, trade advertising, and dedicated retail e-blast
- Designed praise sheet, including blurbs from Haines locals
- Prepublication activation campaign for consumers, including targeted outreach and giveaways via Goodreads, LitHub, LibraryThing, and political organizing groups (She Runs, Run for Something, etc.)
- Promotional swag, including campaign buttons and signs
- National advertising campaign
- Comprehensive social media campaign, including prepublication outreach to bookstagrammers and political organizers

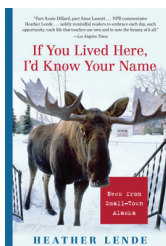
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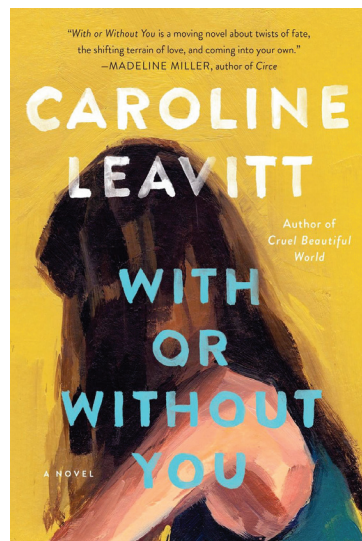
9781616201678
Pub Date: 4/28/15
\$16.95 USD
176 pages
Hardcover
Self-Help & Relationships
Ctn Qty: 12



9781616200510
Pub Date: 4/19/11
\$15.95 USD
304 pages
Trade Paperback
Biography & Memoir
Ctn Qty: 24



9781565125247
Pub Date: 3/29/06
\$14.95 USD
296 pages
Trade Paperback
Biography & Memoir
Ctn Qty: 24



Algonquin Books
9781616207793
Pub Date: 8/4/2020
Ship Date: 7/15/2020
\$26.95
Hardcover

304 Pages
Carton Qty: 12
Fiction / Contemporary Women
FIC044000
9 in H | 6 in W

With or Without You

A Novel

Caroline Leavitt

Summary

"With or Without You is a moving novel about twists of fate, the shifting terrain of love, and coming into your own. With tenderness and incisive insight, Leavitt spotlights a woman's unexpected journey towards her art."
—Madeline Miller, author of *Circe*

After almost twenty years together, Stella and Simon are starting to run into problems. An up-and-coming rock musician when they first met, Simon has been clinging to dreams of fame even as the possibility of it has grown dimmer, and now that his band might finally be on the brink again, he wants to go on the road, leaving Stella behind. But when she falls into a coma on the eve of his departure, he has to make a choice between stardom and his wife—and when she wakes a different person, with an incredible artistic talent of her own, the two of them must examine what it is that they really want.

Unapologetically honest and intimately written, *With or Without You* is a contemporary story of what happens to relationships as the people in them change, whether slowly or in one cataclysmic swoop.

Contributor Bio

Caroline Leavitt is the award-winning author of twelve novels, including the *New York Times* bestsellers *Pictures of You* and *Is This Tomorrow*. Her essays and stories have been included in *New York* magazine, *Psychology Today*, *More*, *Parenting*, *Redbook*, and *Salon*. She's a book critic for *People*, the *Boston Globe*, and the *San Francisco Chronicle*, and she teaches writing online at Stanford and UCLA.

Quotes

"What a compelling, wonderful read this book is . . . Another triumph for Caroline Leavitt." —**Joan Silber, author of *Improvement***

"*With or Without You* seduced me instantly and held my heart from the first page to the last. Like Elena Ferrante's raw and intimate explorations into human relationships, this novel will make you laugh, cry, yell, and possibly more."
—**Lidia Yuknavitch, author of *The Book of Joan***

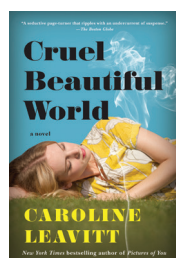
"Leavitt once again explores disaster's aftermath and its affect on the lives of ordinary people tethered by love and shared history. What makes this novel so poignant, and also makes it feel so true, is that there is no going back. There is only now, the newness of their altered realities and the courage to continue."
—**Helen Schulman, author of *This Beautiful Life***

"A complete original, an absolute delight." —**Janet Fitch, author of *White Oleander***

Marketing Plans

- 7-city tour: NYC; Boston; Providence; Philadelphia; Portland, ME; New Haven; and Washington, DC
- Appearances at fall literary festivals
- National media campaign, including TV, radio, and podcast interviews
- National print and online campaign, including reviews, features, and original essays
- Prepublication industry buzz campaign, including widespread galley distribution, trade advertising, and dedicated e-blasts
- Galley giveaways at ALA Midwinter and BEA
- National advertising and comprehensive social media campaign
- Summer reading campaign, including promotions on top book club sites

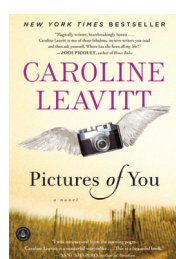
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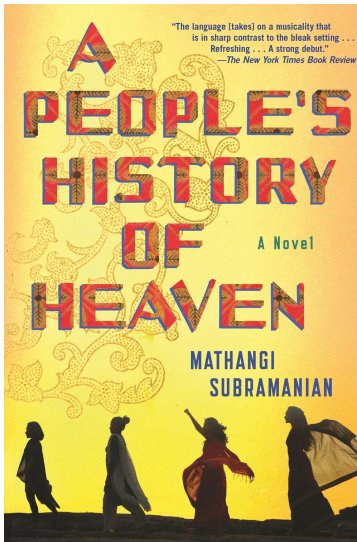
9781616207373
Pub Date: 8/8/17
\$15.95 USD
384 pages
Trade Paperback
Fiction
Ctn Qty: 24



9781616200541
Pub Date: 5/7/13
\$14.95 USD
384 pages
Trade Paperback
Fiction
Ctn Qty: 24



9781565126312
Pub Date: 1/25/11
\$13.95 USD
336 pages
Trade Paperback
Fiction
Ctn Qty: 24



Algonquin Books
9781643750422
Pub Date: 1/14/2020
Ship Date: 12/18/2019
\$15.95
Trade Paperback

320 Pages
Carton Qty: 24
Fiction / Literary
FIC019000
8.3 in H | 5.5 in W

A People's History of Heaven

Mathangi Subramanian

Summary

"This is a book to give your little sister, your mother, your best friend, yourself, so together you can celebrate the strength of women and girls, the tenacity it takes to survive in a world that would rather have you disappear." —Nylon

In the tight-knit community known as Heaven, a ramshackle slum hidden between luxury high-rises in Bangalore, India, five girls on the cusp of womanhood forge an unbreakable bond. Muslim, Christian, and Hindu; queer and straight; they are full of life, and they love and accept one another unconditionally. Whatever they have, they share. Marginalized women, they are determined to transcend their surroundings.

When the local government threatens to demolish their tin shacks in order to build a shopping mall, the girls and their mothers refuse to be erased. Together they wage war on the bulldozers sent to bury their homes, and, ultimately, on the city that wishes that families like them would remain hidden forever.

Elegant, poetic, and vibrant, *A People's History of Heaven* takes a clear-eyed look at adversity and geography—and dazzles in its depiction of these women's fierceness and determination not just to survive, but to triumph.

Contributor Bio

Mathangi Subramanian is an award-winning Indian American writer, author, and educator. She is a graduate of Brown University and the Teachers College of Columbia University, and the recipient of a Fulbright as well as other fellowships. Her writing has previously appeared in the *Washington Post*, *Quartz*, *Al Jazeera America*, and elsewhere. This is her first work of literary fiction.

Quotes

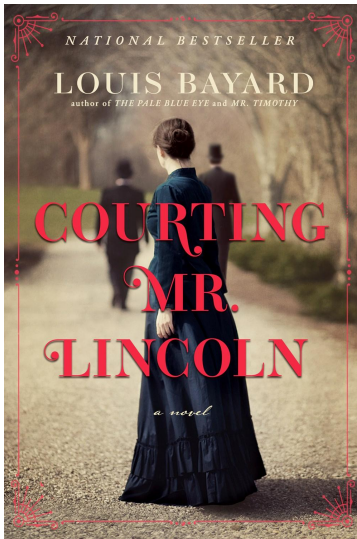
"The language [takes] on a musicality that is in sharp contrast to the bleak setting . . . refreshing . . . a strong debut." —***The New York Times Book Review***

"Gives a full account of the extraordinary lives that stand shoulder-to-shoulder in the wreckage of a wealthy city, ready to fight against the bulldozers upon the horizon." —***The Believer***

"Subramanian is a remarkable writer whose vibrant words carry a lot of heart. This inspiring novel is sure to draw in readers with its lyrical prose and endearing characters." —***Booklist***

Marketing Plans

- National media campaign, including "New in Paperback" roundups and original essays
- Appearances in San Francisco
- National print and digital advertising campaign, targeting top literary and women's publications
- Inclusion in Algonquin's Hear Our Voices campaign, including e-blasts and giveaways
- Extensive outreach to book clubs and promotion on top book club sites and newsletters
- Bound-in reader's guide, including author essay and questions for discussion
- Comprehensive social media campaign, including Facebook and Instagram advertising
- Finished book mailing to accounts



Algonquin Books
9781643750446
Pub Date: 2/11/2020
Ship Date: 1/15/2020
\$16.95
Trade Paperback

416 Pages
Carton Qty: 24
Fiction / Historical
FIC014000

8.3 in H | 5.5 in W

Courting Mr. Lincoln

A Novel

Louis Bayard

Summary

A page-turning novel about the brilliant, melancholic future president and the two people who knew him best: his handsome and charming confidant (and roommate), Joshua Speed, and the spirited young debutante Mary Todd.

A Washington Post Bestseller

A May Indie Next Pick

An Apple Books Best of the Month for April

A People Magazine Best Book of the Week

"Exquisite." —People

"A triumph of a novel." —Bookreporter.com

"Rich, fascinating, and romantic." —Newsday

When Mary Todd meets Abraham Lincoln in Springfield in the winter of 1840, he is on no one's short list to be president. A country lawyer living above a dry goods shop, he is lacking both money and manners, and his gift for oratory surprises those who meet him. Mary, a quick, self-possessed debutante with an interest in debates and elections, at first finds him an enigma. "I can only hope," she tells his roommate, the handsome, charming Joshua Speed, "that his waters being so very still, they also run deep."

It's not long, though, before she sees the Lincoln that Speed knows: an amiable, profound man who, despite his awkwardness, has a gentle wit to match his genius, and who respects her keen political mind. But as her relationship with Lincoln deepens, she must confront his inseparable friendship with Speed, who has taught his roommate how to dance, dress, and navigate the polite society of Springfield.

Told in the alternating voices of Mary Todd and Joshua Speed, and inspired by historical events, *Courting Mr. Lincoln* creates a sympathetic and complex portrait of Mary unlike any that has come before; a moving portrayal of the deep and very real connection between the two men; and most of all, an evocation of the unformed man who would grow into one of the nation's most beloved presidents. Louis Bayard, a master storyteller, delivers here a page-turning tale of love, longing, and forbidden possibilities.

Contributor Bio

Louis Bayard is a *New York Times* Notable Book author and has been shortlisted for both the Edgar and Dagger awards for his historical thrillers, which include *The Pale Blue Eye* and *Mr. Timothy*. His most recent novel was the critically acclaimed young-adult title *Lucky Strikes*. He lives in Washington, D.C., and teaches at George Washington University. Visit him online at www.louisbayard.com.

Marketing Plans

- National media campaign, including "New in Paperback" roundups and original essays
- 5-city tour: DC, Denver, San Francisco, Portland, Seattle
- Appearances at spring literary festivals
- An Indie Next pick in hardcover
- National print and digital advertising campaign, targeting top literary and historical publications
- Extensive outreach to book clubs and promotion on top book club sites
- Bound-in reader's guide, including author essay and questions for discussion
- Comprehensive social media campaign
- Finished book mailing to retailers



Algonquin Books
9781643750453
Pub Date: 4/21/2020
Ship Date: 3/25/2020
\$15.95
Trade Paperback

336 Pages
Carton Qty: 24
Fiction / Family Life
FIC045000
8.3 in H | 5.5 in W

Prairie Fever

A Novel

Michael Parker

Summary

"Michael Parker has captured a time, place, and sisterhood so perfectly it hurts to turn the last page. A riveting, atmospheric dream of a novel."

—Dominic Smith, author of *The Last Painting of Sara de Vos*

Set in the hardscrabble landscape of early 1900s Oklahoma, but timeless in its sensibility, *Prairie Fever* traces the intense dynamic between the Stewart sisters: the pragmatic Lorena and the chimerical Elise. The two are bound together not only by their isolation on the prairie but also by their deep emotional reliance on each other. That connection supersedes all else until the arrival of Gus McQueen.

When Gus arrives in Lone Wolf, Oklahoma, as a first time teacher, his inexperience is challenged by the wit and ingenuity of the Stewart sisters. Then one impulsive decision and a cataclysmic blizzard trap Elise and her horse on the prairie and forever change the balance of everything between the sisters, and with Gus McQueen. With honesty and poetic intensity and the deadpan humor of Paulette Jiles and Charles Portis, Parker reminds us of the consequences of our choices. Expansive and intimate, this novel tells the story of characters tested as much by life on the prairie as they are by their own churning hearts.

Contributor Bio

Michael Parker is the author of six novels and three collections of stories. His short fiction and nonfiction have appeared in the *Washington Post*, the *New York Times Magazine*, the *Oxford American*, *Runner's World*, *Men's Journal*, and other publications. His work has been anthologized in *The O. Henry Prize Stories* and *The Pushcart Prize*. He is the Nicholas and Nancy Vacc Distinguished Professor in the MFA Writing Program at the University of North Carolina at Greensboro. He lives in Saxapahaw, North Carolina, and Austin, Texas.

Quotes

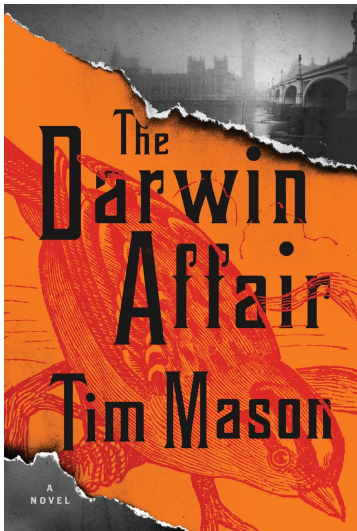
"The novel is timeless and riveting in its strangeness . . . Parker's gift for language transcends its 1900s setting, finds its peak expression in the sisters' letters, as incisive and deadpan as Charles Portis' *True Grit*." —**Vogue**

"In the tradition of Katherine Anne Porter, Parker's exceptional tale explores the power and strength of kinship on the harsh American frontier." —**Publishers Weekly**

"Parker's chimerical slipstream of a novel asks, Is it better to hew to that which is, or to see the world as you wish? Readers will surely be pulled deep into the strange and wild river of Elise's fanciful peregrinations." —**Booklist, starred review**

Marketing Plans

- National media campaign, including "New in Paperback" roundups and original essays
- National print and digital advertising campaign, including top literary sites
- Extensive outreach to book clubs and promotion on top book club sites and newsletters
- Bound-in reader's guide, including author essay and questions for discussion
- Comprehensive social media campaign, including Facebook and Instagram advertising



Algonquin Books
9781643750460
Pub Date: 5/19/2020
Ship Date: 4/22/2020
\$16.95
Trade Paperback

400 Pages
Carton Qty: 24
Fiction / Mystery & Detective
FIC022060

8.3 in H | 5.5 in W

The Darwin Affair

A Novel

Tim Mason

Summary

"Intellectually stimulating and viscerally exciting, *The Darwin Affair* is breathtaking from start to stop." —*The Wall Street Journal*

London, June 1860: When an assassination attempt is made on Queen Victoria, and a petty thief is gruesomely murdered moments later—and only a block away—Chief Detective Inspector Charles Field quickly surmises that these crimes are connected to an even more sinister plot. Was Victoria really the assassin's target? Are those closest to the Crown hiding something? And who is the shadowy figure witnesses describe as having lifeless, coal-black eyes?

Soon, Field's investigation exposes a shocking conspiracy in which the publication of Charles Darwin's controversial *On the Origin of Species* sets off a string of murders, arson, kidnapping, and the pursuit of a madman named the Chorister. As the investigation takes Field from the dangerous alleyways of London to the hallowed halls of Oxford, the list of possible conspirators grows, and the body count escalates. And as he edges closer to the Chorister, he uncovers dark secrets that were meant to remain forever hidden.

Tim Mason has created a rousing page-turner that both Charles Dickens and Sir Arthur Conan Doyle would relish and envy.

Contributor Bio

Tim Mason is a playwright whose work has been produced in New York and throughout the world. Among the awards he has received are a Kennedy Center Award, the Hollywood Drama-Logue Award, a fellowship from the National Endowment for the Arts, and a Rockefeller Foundation grant. In addition to his dramatic plays, he wrote the book for Dr. Seuss's *How the Grinch Stole Christmas! The Musical*, which had two seasons on Broadway and tours nationally every year. He is the author of the young adult novel *The Last Synapsid*. *The Darwin Affair* is his first adult novel.

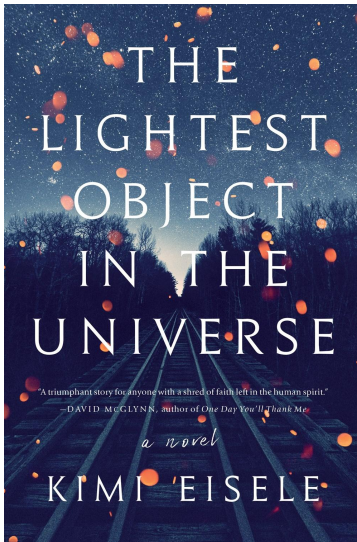
Quotes

"A perfect addition to your summer reading list. Fast-paced and lively, this page-turner would appeal to fans of Charles Dickens and Sir Arthur Conan Doyle."
—**Reader's Digest**

"Shares the edgy appeal of Caleb Carr's *The Alienist* and Louis Bayard's *Mr. Timothy*."
—**Booklist, starred review**

Marketing Plans

- National media campaign, including "New in Paperback" roundups and original essays
- Appearances in New York and Los Angeles
- National print and digital advertising campaign, targeting readers of historical novels and detective thrillers
- Extensive outreach to book clubs and promotion on top book club sites and newsletters
- Bound-in reader's guide, including author essay and questions for discussion
- Comprehensive social media campaign, including Facebook and Instagram advertising



Algonquin Books
9781643750484
Pub Date: 6/9/2020
Ship Date: 5/20/2020
\$15.95
Trade Paperback

352 Pages
Carton Qty: 24
Fiction / Dystopian
FIC055000

8.3 in H | 5.5 in W

The Lightest Object in the Universe

A Novel

Kimi Eisele

Summary

"Clear-eyed and tender . . . An enlightening, though never precious, perspective on what it means to rebuild something, rather than just wallow in destruction. It's a story of hope, resilience, and being human." —Nylon

What if the end times allowed people to see and build the world anew? This is the landscape that Kimi Eisele creates in her surprising and original debut novel. Evoking the spirit of such monumental love stories as *Cold Mountain* and the creative vision of novels like *Station Eleven*, *The Lightest Object in the Universe* imagines what happens after the global economy collapses and the electrical grid goes down.

In this new world, Carson, on the East Coast, is desperate to find Beatrix, a woman on the West Coast who holds his heart. Working his way along a cross-country railroad line, he encounters lost souls, clever opportunists, and those who believe they'll be saved by an evangelical preacher in the middle of the country. While Carson travels west, Beatrix and her neighbors begin to construct the kind of cooperative community that suggests the end could be, in fact, a bright beginning.

Without modern means of communication, will Beatrix and Carson find their way to each other, and what will be left of the old world if they do?

The Lightest Object in the Universe is a moving and hopeful story about resilience and adaptation and a testament to the power of community, where our best traits, born of necessity, can begin to emerge.

Contributor Bio

Kimi Eisele is a writer and multidisciplinary artist. Her writing has appeared in *Guernica*, *Longreads*, *Orion Magazine*, *High Country News*, and elsewhere. She holds a master's degree in geography from the University of Arizona, where in 1998 she founded *You Are Here: The Journal of Creative Geography*. She has received grants from the Arts Foundation of Southern Arizona, the Arizona Commission on the Arts, the Kresge Foundation, and the National Endowment for the Arts. She lives in Tucson and works for the Southwest Folklife Alliance. This is her first novel.

Quotes

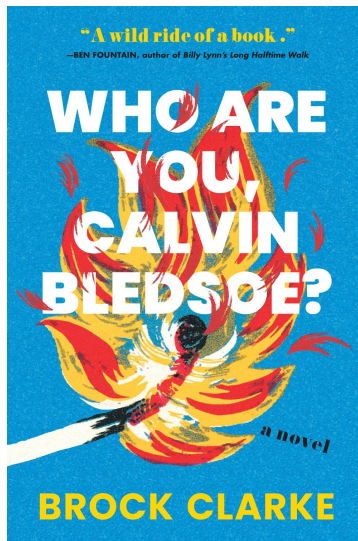
One of *Real Simple's* Best Books of 2019

"A worthy addition to the realm of speculative fiction . . . More than just standard techno-challenged-humanity-rendered-atavistic fare, this is a love story. More accurately, the quest for love and its potential in a world demanding to be rebuilt."
—The Millions

"*Sleepless In Seattle* meets *Station Eleven* . . . Full of beauty." **—The A.V. Club**

Marketing Plans

- An Indie Next pick and Indies Introduce selection in hardcover
- National media campaign
- Regional author tour
- National print and digital advertising campaign, targeting top women's, literary, and speculative sites
- Promotions and partnerships with sustainability organizations, including giveaways via social media
- Promotion on top book club sites
- Bound-in reader's guide, including author essay and questions for discussion



Algonquin Books
9781643750781
Pub Date: 6/23/2020
Ship Date: 6/3/2020
\$15.95
Trade Paperback

320 Pages
Carton Qty: 24
Fiction / Humorous
FIC016000

8.3 in H | 5.5 in W

Who Are You, Calvin Bledsoe?

A Novel

Brock Clarke

Summary

"This is a book of many trips—across oceans, back to the past, and, most profoundly, into the infinite deep space of the human heart. Brock Clarke has given us a wonderful novel that bursts with all the meaty stuff of real life."

—Ben Fountain

Calvin Bledsoe's journey begins with the death of his mother. An internationally known theologian and an expert on all things John Calvin, she had been the dominant force in her son's existence, so much so that he never left home—even when he married—and, as a result, never grew up.

At his mother's funeral, Calvin is introduced to his aunt Beatrice, a woman he had not even known existed. Beatrice immediately makes it clear to Calvin that she is now in charge of his life, and the first thing she is going to do is whisk him off to Europe with her for a grand adventure.

As Calvin and his aunt traverse the continent, it becomes apparent that her clandestine behavior is leading him into danger. Facing a menagerie of antiquities thieves, secret agents, religious fanatics, and an ex-wife who is stalking him, Calvin begins to suspect there might be some meaning behind the madness. Maybe he's not the person he thought he was? Perhaps no one is ever who they appear to be? But there's little time for soul-searching, as Calvin first has to figure out why he has been kidnapped, why his aunt has disappeared, and who the hell burned down his house in Maine.

Powered by pitch-perfect dialogue, lovable characters, and surprising optimism, *Who Are You, Calvin Bledsoe?* is a modern-day take on Graham Greene's classic *Travels with My Aunt*, a novel about grabbing life, and holding on—wherever it may take you.

Contributor Bio

Brock Clarke is an award-winning author of seven previous works of fiction, including the bestselling *An Arsonist's Guide to Writers' Homes in New England*. He lives in Maine, and teaches at Bowdoin College.

Quotes

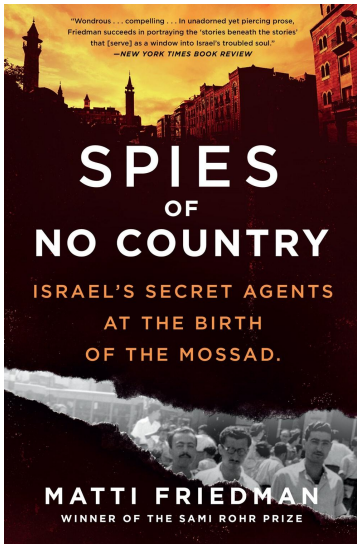
"This exuberant comic novel-involving explosions, secret agents, religious fanatics and a hapless narrator dragged around Europe by his long-lost aunt—is also a sly theological exploration of fate and predestination." —**The New York Times Book Review**

"Clarke takes his readers into his safe-and wacky-hands for an experience that should not be missed. A wonderful read." —**Elizabeth Strout**

"Clarke is a one-of-a-kind novelist with a captivating voice and an ability to capture both the profundity and the absurdity of our lives." —**Tom Perrotta**

Marketing Plans

- An Indie Next pick in hardcover
- National media campaign
- Regional author tour
- National print and digital advertising campaign
- Promotion on top book club sites
- Bound-in reader's guide, including author essay and questions for discussion



Algonquin Books
9781643750439
Pub Date: 2/4/2020
Ship Date: 1/15/2020
\$16.95
Trade Paperback

272 Pages
b&w photos throughout
Carton Qty: 24
History / Middle East
HIS019000
8.3 in H | 5.5 in W

Spies of No Country

Israel's Secret Agents at the Birth of the Mossad

Matti Friedman

Summary

"Wondrous . . . Compelling . . . Piercing." —The New York Times Book Review

Award-winning writer Matti Friedman's tale of Israel's first spies has all the tropes of an espionage novel, including duplicity, betrayal, disguise, clandestine meetings, the bluff, and the double bluff—but it's all true.

The four agents at the center of this story were part of a ragtag unit known as the Arab Section, conceived during World War II by British spies and Jewish militia leaders in Palestine. Intended to gather intelligence and carry out sabotage operations, the unit consisted of Jews who were native to the Arab world and could thus easily assume Arab identities.

In 1948, with Israel's existence hanging in the balance, these men went undercover in Beirut, where they spent the next two years operating out of a newsstand, collecting intelligence and sending messages back to Israel via a radio whose antenna was disguised as a clothesline. Of the dozen spies in the Arab Section at the war's outbreak, five were caught and executed. But in the end, the Arab Section would emerge as the nucleus of the Mossad, Israel's vaunted intelligence agency.

Spies of No Country is about the slippery identities of these young spies, but it's also about the complicated identity of Israel, a country that presents itself as Western but in fact has more citizens with Middle Eastern roots and traditions, like the spies of this narrative. Meticulously researched and masterfully told, *Spies of No Country* is an eye-opening look at the paradoxes of the Middle East.

Contributor Bio

Matti Friedman's 2016 book *Pumpkinflowers* was chosen as a *New York Times* Notable Book and as one of Amazon's 10 Best Books of the Year. It was selected as one of the year's best by *Booklist*, *Mother Jones*, *Foreign Affairs*, the *National Post*, and the *Globe and Mail*. His first book, *The Aleppo Codex*, won the 2014 Sami Rohr Prize and the American Library Association's Sophie Brody Medal. A contributor to the *New York Times'* opinion page, Friedman has reported from Israel, Lebanon, Morocco, Moscow, the Caucasus, and Washington, DC, and his writing has appeared in publications such as the *Wall Street Journal*, the *Atlantic*, and the *Washington Post*. Friedman grew up in Toronto and now lives with his family in Jerusalem.

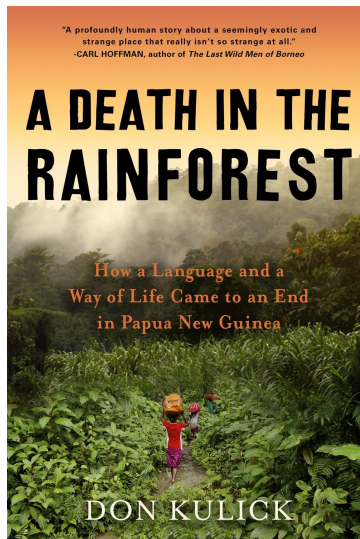
Quotes

"Engaging . . . Illuminating . . . When I was done, I couldn't stop thinking about the men inside the Beirut kiosk." —**The Washington Post**

"An important book . . . Americans are not accustomed to hearing about Israel's complexity, or its diversity. We are rarely asked to consider Israel as a country that is, as Friedman says, 'more than one thing.' Any serious defender or critic of Israeli politics should consider this a serious problem. Meaningful opinions require nuanced understanding, and *Spies of No Country* offers that." —**NPR Books**

Marketing Plans

- National media campaign, including original essays
- National print and digital advertising campaign, targeting top political, historical, and Jewish-interest sites and publications
- Bound-in reader's guide, including questions for discussion
- Comprehensive social media campaign, including Facebook and Instagram advertising



Algonquin Books
9781643750477
Pub Date: 6/2/2020
Ship Date: 5/6/2020
\$16.95
Trade Paperback

288 Pages
Carton Qty: 24
Social Science / Anthropology
SOC002010
8.3 in H | 5.5 in W

A Death in the Rainforest

How a Language and a Way of Life Came to an End in Papua New Guinea

Don Kulick

Summary

"Perhaps the finest and most profound account of ethnographic fieldwork and discovery that has ever entered the anthropological literature."

—The Wall Street Journal

"If you want to experience a profoundly different culture without the exhausting travel (to say nothing of the cost), this is an excellent choice."

—The Washington Post

As a young anthropologist, Don Kulick went to the tiny village of Gapun in New Guinea to document the death of the native language, Tayap. He arrived knowing that you can't study a language without understanding the daily lives of the people who speak it: how they talk to their children, how they argue, how they gossip, how they joke. Over the course of thirty years, he returned again and again to document Tayap before it disappeared entirely, and he found himself inexorably drawn into their world, and implicated in their destiny. Kulick wanted to tell the story of Gapuners—one that went beyond the particulars and uses of their language—that took full stock of their vanishing culture. This book takes us inside the village as he came to know it, revealing what it is like to live in a difficult-to-get-to village of two hundred people, carved out like a cleft in the middle of a tropical rainforest. But *A Death in the Rainforest* is also an illuminating look at the impact of white society on the farthest reaches of the globe—and the story of why this anthropologist realized finally that he had to give up his study of this language and this village.

An engaging, deeply perceptive, and brilliant interrogation of what it means to study a culture, *A Death in the Rainforest* takes readers into a world that endures in the face of massive changes, one that is on the verge of disappearing forever.

Contributor Bio

Don Kulick is the author or editor of more than a dozen books on topics that range from the lives of transgender sex workers to the anthropology of fat. He has conducted extensive anthropological fieldwork in Papua New Guinea, Brazil, and Scandinavia. He is the recipient of numerous grants and honors, including an NEH Fellowship, an A. W. Mellon Foundation Guest Professorship, and a Guggenheim Fellowship. He is currently Distinguished University Professor of Anthropology at Uppsala University in Sweden, where he directs the research program Engaging Vulnerability.

Quotes

One of *Time's* "32 Books You Need to Read This Summer"

One of *National Geographic's* "Best Travel Books of Summer"

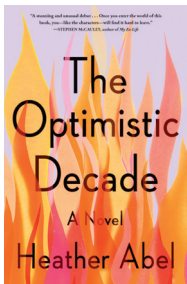
"Magical and powerful . . . Insightful and empathetic. It is a profoundly human story about a seemingly exotic and strange place that really isn't so strange at all."

—Carl Hoffman, author of *The Last Wild Men of Borneo*

Marketing Plans

- National media campaign, including "New in Paperback" roundups and original essays
- National print and digital advertising campaign
- Bound-in reader's guide, including questions for discussion
- Comprehensive social media campaign, including Facebook and Instagram advertising

Backlist Best Bets: Fiction



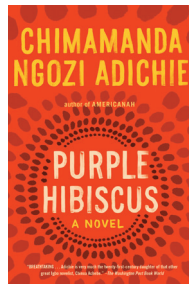
9781616209346

Pub Date: 4/30/2019

\$15.95 USD

368 pages • Trade Paperback

Carton Qty: 24



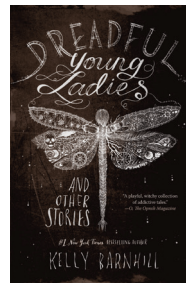
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Pub Date: 4/17/2012

\$15.95 USD

336 pages • Trade Paperback

Carton Qty: 24



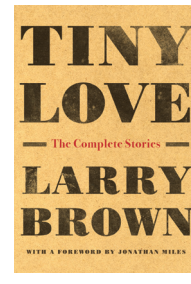
9781616209247

Pub Date: 3/12/2019

\$15.95 USD

304 pages • Trade Paperback

Carton Qty: 24



9781616209759

Pub Date: 11/26/2019

\$18.95 USD

480 pages • Trade Paperback

Carton Qty: 24



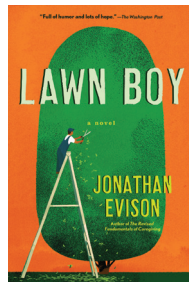
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Pub Date: 1/11/2011

\$15.95 USD

272 pages • Trade Paperback

Carton Qty: 24



9781616209230

Pub Date: 3/19/2019

\$15.95 USD

336 pages • Trade Paperback

Carton Qty: 24



9781565125605

Pub Date: 5/1/2007

\$15.95 USD

352 pages • Trade Paperback

Carton Qty: 24



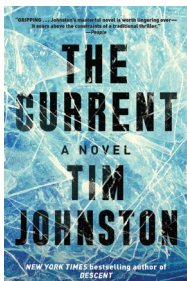
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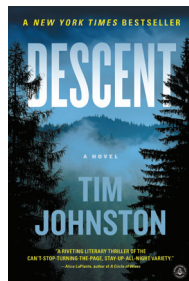
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Pub Date: 11/5/2019

\$16.95 USD

432 pages • Trade Paperback

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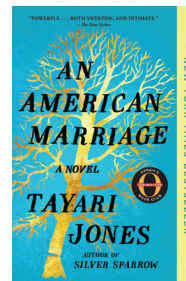
9781616204778

Pub Date: 12/1/2015

\$15.95 USD

400 pages • Trade Paperback

Carton Qty: 24



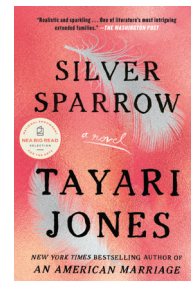
9781616208684

Pub Date: 2/5/2019

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336 pages • Trade Paperback

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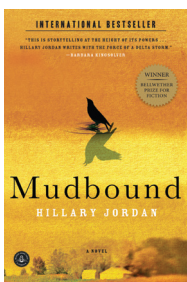
9781616201425

Pub Date: 5/8/2012

\$15.95 USD

368 pages • Trade Paperback

Carton Qty: 24



9781565126770

Pub Date: 3/17/2009

\$15.95 USD

368 pages • Trade Paperback

Carton Qty: 24



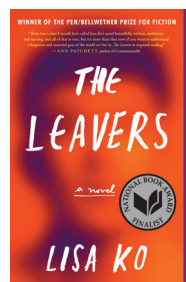
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\$15.95 USD

368 pages • Trade Paperback

Carton Qty: 24



9781616208042

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\$15.95 USD

368 pages • Trade Paperback

Carton Qty: 24



9781616209810

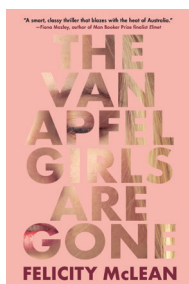
Pub Date: 10/8/2019

\$15.95 USD

336 pages • Trade Paperback

Carton Qty: 24

Backlist Best Bets: Fiction



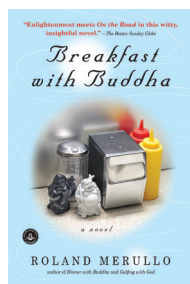
9781616209643

Pub Date: 6/25/2019

\$15.95 USD

304 pages • Trade Paperback

Carton Qty: 24



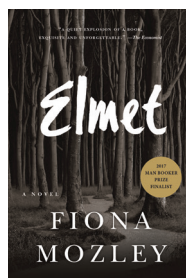
9781565126169

Pub Date: 8/26/2008

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336 pages • Trade Paperback

Carton Qty: 24



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Pub Date: 12/5/2017

\$15.95 USD

320 pages • Trade Paperback

Carton Qty: 24



9781616208523

Pub Date: 11/27/2018

\$15.95 USD

304 pages • Trade Paperback

Carton Qty: 24



9781616209803

Pub Date: 6/11/2019

\$15.95 USD

352 pages • Trade Paperback

Carton Qty: 24



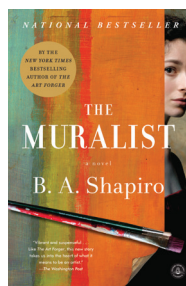
9781616203160

Pub Date: 5/21/2013

\$15.95 USD

384 pages • Trade Paperback

Carton Qty: 24



9781616206437

Pub Date: 10/11/2016

\$15.95 USD

368 pages • Trade Paperback

Carton Qty: 24



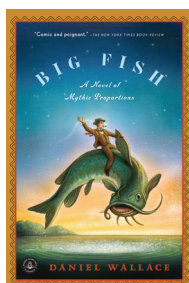
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Pub Date: 11/22/2016

\$15.95 USD

320 pages • Trade Paperback

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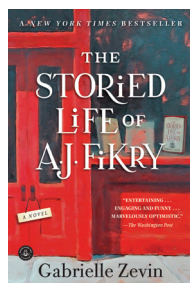
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Pub Date: 5/15/2012

\$15.95 USD

196 pages • Trade Paperback

Carton Qty: 24



9781616204518

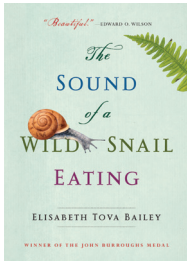
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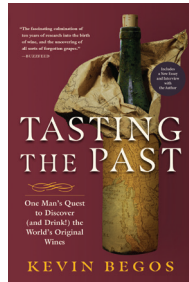
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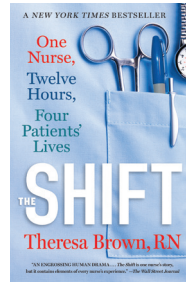
Backlist Best Bets: Nonfiction



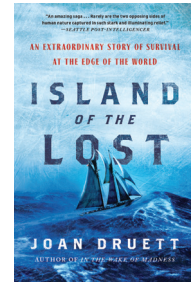
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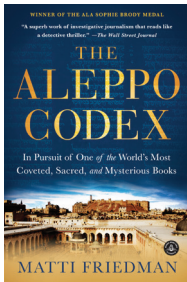
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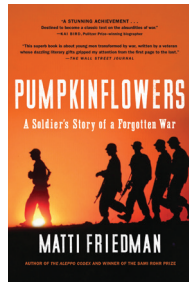
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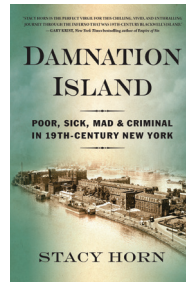
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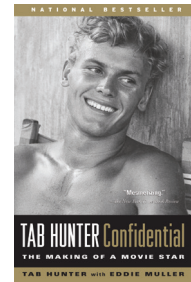
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320 pages • Trade Paperback
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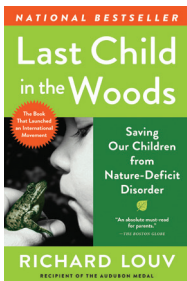
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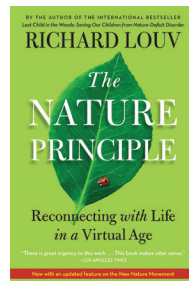
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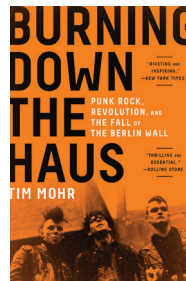
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Carton Qty: 24



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Carton Qty: 24



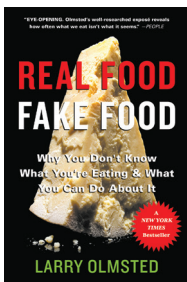
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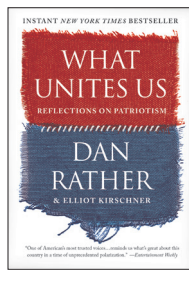
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384 pages • Trade Paperback
Carton Qty: 24



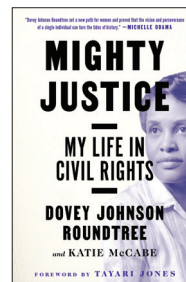
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288 pages • Trade Paperback
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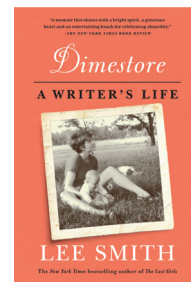
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352 pages • Trade Paperback
Carton Qty: 24



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\$16.95 USD
304 pages • Trade Paperback
Carton Qty: 24



9781616209551
Pub Date: 11/5/2019
\$16.95 USD
304 pages • Trade Paperback
Carton Qty: 24



9781616206468
Pub Date: 4/4/2017
\$15.95 USD
224 pages • Trade Paperback
Carton Qty: 24