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NEW TITLES
AT THE END OF THE CENTURY
The Stories of Ruth Prawer Jhabvala

WITH AN INTRODUCTION
BY ANITA DESAI

Multilayered, subtle, insightful short stories from the inimitable Booker Prize–winning author

Nobody has written so powerfully of the relationship between and within India and the Western middle classes than Ruth Prawer Jhabvala, herself caught between cultures. In this definitive selection, chosen by her surviving family members, her ability to tenderly and humorously view the all-too-human situations faced by three (sometimes interacting) cultures—European, post-Independence Indian, and American—is never more acute.

In “A Course of English Studies,” a young woman arrives at Oxford from India and struggles to adapt, not only to the sad, stoic object of her infatuation, but to a country that seems so resistant to passion and color. In the wrenching “Expiation,” the blind unconditional love of a cloth shop owner for his wastrel younger brother exposes the sometimes tragic beauty and foolishness of human compassion and faith. The wry and triumphant “Pagans” brings us middle-aged sisters Brigitte and Frankie in Los Angeles, who discover a youthful sexuality in the company of the languid and handsome young Indian, Shoki.

This collection also includes Jhabvala’s last story, “The Judge’s Will,” which appeared in The New Yorker in 2013 after her death.

The profound inner experience of both men and women is at the center of Jhabvala’s writing: she creates a vivid emotional landscape for her readers, and rivals Jane Austen with her impeccable observation. With an introduction by her friend, the writer Anita Desai, At the End of the Century celebrates a writer’s astonishing lifetime gift for language, and leaves us in no doubt of Ruth Prawer Jhabvala’s unique place in modern literature.

RUTH PRAWER JHABVALA was born in 1927, wrote numerous novels and short stories, and in collaboration with James Ivory and Ismail Merchant, she won two Oscars for Best Adapted Screenplay (for Howards End and A Room with a View). She won the Booker Prize in 1975 for Heat and Dust. She died in 2013.

ANITA DESAI was born in 1937 in Mussoorie, India. Her novels include Fire on the Mountain—which won the Winifred Holtby Memorial Prize—Clear Light of Day, In Custody, and Fasting, Feasting, each of which was short-listed for the Booker Prize. Her latest novel is The Artist of Disappearance.
The setting is Seattle’s Lake City neighborhood during the 2001 holiday season. In the wake of the 9/11 tragedy and at the peak of Seattle’s first wave of tech-boom gentrification—a wave that never quite made it to his neighborhood—Lane Beuche schemes to win back his wife (and her trust fund). In his childhood bedroom in his mother’s decrepit old house, the idealistic but self-serving striver Lane licks his wounds and hatches a plot.

He discovers a precarious path forward when he is contracted by a wealthy adoptive mom to seduce and sabotage a troubled birth mother from his neighborhood. Lane soon finds himself in a zero-sum game between the families as he straddles two cultures, classes, and worlds. Finally, with the well-being of the toddler at stake, Lane must choose between wanting to do the right thing (if he can only figure out what that is) and reclaiming the life of privilege he so recently had and, he feels, so richly deserves.

“Lake City is a hilarious and sneakily incisive examination of the cultural tensions and widening class divides that simmer on the fringes of an increasingly homogenized Seattle—or San Francisco, or Brooklyn, or Los Angeles, or any other American city in the throes of affluenza and gentrification.”
—Jonathan Evison, author of Lawn Boy

THOMAS KOHNSTAMM, a 2017 Sundance “New Voices” Fellow, is the author of the controversial memoir Do Travel Writers Go to Hell? He also runs a studio where he writes and produces digital multimedia for clients like Xbox and Minecraft. Lake City is his first novel. He lives in Seattle with his wife and two children.
After learning about Nazi persecution of his family, Herschel Grynszpan (pronounced “Greenspan”), an impoverished seventeen-year-old Jew living in Paris, bought a small handgun and on November 7, 1938, went to the German embassy and shot the first German diplomat he saw. When the man died two days later, Hitler and Goebbels made the shooting their pretext for the great state-sponsored wave of anti-Semitic terror known as Kristallnacht, still seen by many as an initiating event of the Holocaust.

Overnight, Grynszpan, a bright but naive teenager—and a perfect political nobody—was front-page news and a pawn in a global power struggle. When France fell, the Nazis captured Grynszpan after a wild chase and flew him to Berlin. The boy became a privileged prisoner of the Gestapo while Hitler and Goebbels plotted a massive show trial to blame “the Jews” for starting World War II. A prisoner and alone, Grynszpan grasped Hitler’s intentions and waged a battle of wits to sabotage the trial, knowing that even if he succeeded, he would certainly be murdered. The battle of wits was close, but he finally won. Based on the newest research, Hitler’s Pawn is the richest telling of Grynszpan’s story to date.

But the best part is really Koch himself. Present in the narrative as a historical detective, connecting the dots between his various sources, Koch also excels as a literary critic, one who loves books that are morally nuanced and gets brilliantly angry when the authors he respects ruin their talents by committing themselves to shortsighted ideological points.”

— Publishers Weekly (starred review)
This is your chance to enroll in English 10 at highly rated Hellman College—if you can find a place to sit in the fantastically overcrowded classroom.

Mark Sternum, whom readers first met in Michael Downing’s beloved novel Perfect Agreement, is a veteran teacher. Twenty years older, separated for six months from his longtime lover, and desperate to duck the overtures of double-dealing deans above him and disgruntled adjunct faculty below him, Mark has one ambition every day he is on campus—to close the door and leave the world behind. His escape, however, is complicated by his contentious wrestling match of a relationship with the Professor, the tenured faculty member with whom Mark has co-taught this creative-writing workshop for ten years.

The spectacle of their combative academic relationship is a chance for students—all of us—to learn what an amazing arena the classroom can be. Replete with engaging writing exercises, harsh criticism, and contrarian advice, Still in Love is the story of one semester. And it is an urgent reminder that we desperately need classrooms, that those singular, sealed-off-from-the-world sanctuaries are where we learn to love our lives.

This hilarious and sometimes harrowing novel is the companion to the critically acclaimed national bestseller Perfect Agreement.

JANUARY  FICTION
$26.00  9781640091474
Hardcover  208 pages
Ebook Available  6.0” x 9.0”

Rights available: WORLD ENGLISH

Praise for Perfect Agreement

“Beautifully and economically written, and very funny.”
—Linda Wertheimer, NPR

“Downing is better at writing about the Shakers than Hawthorne or Melville ... The feeling for the community and its members rings true.”
—The New York Times Book Review

MICHAEL DOWNING is the author of nine books, including the national bestseller Perfect Agreement; Breakfast with Scot, which was adapted as a feature film; Shoes Outside the Door: Desire, Devotion, and Excess at San Francisco Zen Center; and Spring Forward: The Annual Madness of Daylight Saving Time. A frequent commentator in the national media on Congress and the clocks, he teaches creative writing at Tufts University.

michaeldowningbooks.com  downingmichaelb
When an unnamed narrator moves her family from the city of Atlanta to its wealthy suburbs, she discovers that neither the times nor the people have changed since her childhood in a small Southern town. Despite the intervening decades, the woman, known only as The Mother, is met with the same questions: Where are you from? No, where are you really from? The American-born daughter of Bengali immigrant parents, her truthful answer—Here—is never enough. She finds herself navigating a climate of lingering racism with three daughters in tow and a husband who spends more time in business class than at home.

The Mother’s simmering anger breaks through one morning, when, during a baseless and prejudice-driven police raid on her house, she finally refuses to be calm, complacent, polite—and is ultimately shot. As she lies bleeding on her driveway, The Mother struggles to make sense of her past and decipher her present—how did she end up here?

Devi S. Laskar has written a brilliant debut novel that grapples with the complexities of the second-generation American experience, what it means to be a woman of color in the workplace, a sister, a wife, and a mother to daughters in today’s America. Drawing inspiration from the author’s own terrifying experience of a raid on her home, The Atlas of Reds and Blues explores, in exquisite, lyrical prose, an alternate reality that might have been.

In her kaleidoscopic novel, Devi S. Laskar maps the wild pendulum swings of life in suburban America as experienced by a woman of color. From the quotidian to the epic, from traumatizing invisibility to mortal danger, the cumulative effects of racism are balanced against the narrator’s relentless determination to persevere—as a mother and as a human being. The Atlas of Reds and Blues provides a fiercely honest reckoning with today’s cultural landscape, both its history and its future.

—Elizabeth Rosner, author of Survivor Café

DEVI S. LASKAR is a native of Chapel Hill, North Carolina, and holds an MFA from Columbia University. Her work has appeared in Rattle, Tin House, Crab Orchard Review, and Raleigh Review. She has been nominated for a Pushcart Prize and Best of the Net, and is an alumna of The OpEd Project and VONA. The author of two poetry chapbooks from Finishing Line Press, this is her first novel. She lives in the San Francisco Bay Area.

www.devilaskar.com  @devislaskar  @devislaskar
THESE ARE STRANGE TIMES, MY DEAR
Field Notes from the Republic

WENDY WILLIS

A poet, mother, and activist traces her path as we careen toward this perilous moment in American political and civic life

Wendy Willis is one of our country’s sharpest observers of politics, art, and the American spirit. Her view is honed by her place as a poet, as a mother, and, when necessary, as an activist. Together, the essays in These Are Strange Times, My Dear work within that largely unmapped place where the heartbreaks and uncertainties of one’s inner life brush up against the cruelties and responsibilities of politics and government.

Her pointed and wide-ranging essays explore everything from personal resistance to the rise of political podcasts, civic loneliness to the exploitation of personal data, public outrage to the opioid crisis—all with a poet’s gift for finding the sacred in the mundane, and hope in the dark. Even the titles to her essays hint at the lyrical complexities within: “A Million People on One String: Big Data and the Poetic Imagination,” “Peeping in the Crack Under the Goddamn Door: One Citizen’s Reflections on the Phenom that Is S-Town 94,” “Reckoning with the Bros: Donald Trump, Robert Bly, and Swimming in the Sea of Grief,” “I Hear the Place That Can’t Be Named: One Writer’s Reflections on the Right to Be Forgotten.”

For many, it feels as if Americans have never before been involved in a situation where every day brings a loud new threat to our public order and to our commonwealth. Our executive branch is demanding scrutiny on a daily, even hourly, basis. Again and again, Wendy Willis returns to the demanding question posed by Czech writer, activist, and politician Václav Havel: what does it mean to live in truth? As a way to hear this question and to begin an answer, Willis circles around it, to realize her duties and reactions to truth and power as a woman, a mother, a lawyer, and a poet—as an American.

WENDY WILLIS is a writer living in Portland, Oregon. Winner of the Dorothy Brunsman Poetry Prize, she has published two books of poetry and in journals, including New England Review, Oregon Humanities, Poetry Northwest, The Rumpus, Zócalo Public Square, and ZYZZYVA. Willis is a lawyer, the executive director of the Deliberative Democracy Consortium, and the founder and director of Oregon’s Kitchen Table.

www.wendyraewillis.com  @WendyRaeW  @wendypiepdx
THE LOST PRINCE
A Search for Pat Conroy

Pat Conroy was America’s poet laureate of family dysfunction. A larger-than-life character and the author of such classics as The Prince of Tides and The Great Santini, Pat was remembered by everybody for his energy, his exuberance, his self-lacerating humor.

Michael Mewshaw’s The Lost Prince is an intimate memoir of his friendship with Pat Conroy, one that involves their families and those days in Rome when they were both young—when Conroy went from being a popular regional writer to an international bestseller. Shortly before his forty-ninth birthday, Conroy telephoned Mewshaw to ask a terrible favor. With great reluctance, Mewshaw did as he was asked—and never saw Pat Conroy again.

Although they never managed to reconcile their differences completely, Conroy later urged Mewshaw to “write about you and me and what happened . . . I know it would cause much pain to both of us, but here is what the story has that none of the others have.” The Lost Prince is Mewshaw’s fulfillment of a promise.

Praise for Sympathy for the Devil

“Exceptionally entertaining.”
—Michael Dirda, The Washington Post

“In The Lost Prince Michael Mewshaw sets down one of the most gripping stories of friendship I’ve ever read. With joy and sadness, and great psychological acuity, Mewshaw redeems and supersedes his often turbulent connection to Pat Conroy with the two qualities essential to all great stories: honesty and love.”
—Dnaiel Menaker, author of My Mistake: A Memoir

MICHAEL MEWSHAW’s five-decade career includes award-winning fiction, nonfiction, literary criticism, and investigative journalism. He is the author of the nonfiction works Sympathy for the Devil: Four Decades of Friendship with Gore Vidal and Between Terror and Tourism; the novel Year of the Gun; and the memoir Do I Owe You Something? He has published in The New York Times, The Washington Post, Los Angeles Times, and numerous international outlets. He spends much of his time in Key West, Florida.
NEWLY REISSUED

COUNTERPOINT
WINDELL BERRY

SEX, ECONOMY, FREEDOM & COMMUNITY
Eight Essays

DECEMBER • ESSAYS • Trade Paper • 9781640091405
$16.95 • 208 pages • 5.0" x 8.0" • Ebook available • Rights: WORLD

“Read [him] with pencil in hand, make notes, and hope that somehow our country and the world will soon come to see the truth that is told here.”
—The New York Times Book Review

MIRIAM TOEWS

A COMPLICATED KINDNESS
A Novel

JANUARY • FICTION • Trade Paper • 9781640091412
$16.95 • 272 pages • 5.0" x 8.0" • Ebook available • Rights: US

Winner of the Governor General's Literary Award

“Brilliant . . . There is beauty and compassion in [Toews'] portrayal of Nomi's struggle.”
—The New York Times Book Review

“A darkly funny and provocative novel.”
—O. The Oprah Magazine
THE FLYING TROUTMANS
A Novel

MIRIAM TOEWS

Winner of the Rogers Writers' Trust Fiction Prize

“Not since Stephen Leacock have our neighbors to the north given us a writer as witty and wise as Miriam Toews . . . She is out to entertain with words, and the tale of the Flying Troutmans is her best entertainment yet.”
—Los Angeles Times

AN AMATEUR’S GUIDE TO THE NIGHT
Stories

MARY ROBISON

“Mary Robison’s short stories are short, subtle, and substantial . . . Her ironic sense of detail bursts from every sentence.”
—Vogue

“Continues Robison’s practice of penetrating the heart. There is not one story in this collection that does not evoke an emotional response . . . It’s an intimate, enriching experience.”
—San Francisco Chronicle
“Oh! I loved Oh! It’s hilarious. Maybe it’s brilliant. In any case, it will be one of the best funny books of 1981, and it’s serious.”
—The Boston Globe

“At first, Oh! seems a satire, a sitcom stripped of its sentiment and foolishness. But it is far more. Mary Robison is trying to show us how the incredibly complicated dance of family life works, how it balances love and hate, respect and contempt, humor and self-righteousness, wisdom and foolishness.”
—The New Yorker
“This gut punch of a memoir . . . [is] essentially a love letter, full of humor and truth, to tough, challenging women everywhere.”
—Marie Claire

“A luminous, poetic memoir.”
—Entertainment Weekly, 1 of 50 Most Anticipated Books of 2018

“Sometimes a writer’s voice is so distinctive, so angry and messy yet wise, that her story takes on the kind of urgency that makes you turn pages faster and faster. Terese Marie Mailhot has one of those voices, and her memoir about being raised on a Canadian reservation and coming to understand what it means to be an indigenous person in modern times is breathtaking.”
—Esquire, 1 of 27 Most Anticipated Books of 2018

“Powerful and raw, Heart Berries looks unflinchingly at trauma, love, pain, self-acceptance, and what it means to be a Native woman today.”
—BuzzFeed, 1 of 33 Most Exciting New Books of 2018

“Poetic is an oft-used descriptor of lovely writing, and this book seems to be something more striking than the word signifies: a memoir and a poem, a haunting and dazzlingly written narrative of Mailhot’s growing up on a reservation in the Pacific Northwest.”
—Huff Post, 1 of 60 Books We Can’t Wait to Read in 2018

“This is a writer for our times who simultaneously blows up time. Thank oceans.”

“I have read at least two dozen memoirs this year; Heart Berries is the only one I was compelled to read twice. Heart Berries achieves that most elusive and sacred goal of literature—to make us feel less alone in the world.”
—Tina Ontiveros, Kindl’s Booksellers (The Dalles, OR), Pacific Northwest Booksellers Association board member

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—Tina Ontiveros, Kindl’s Booksellers (The Dalles, OR), Pacific Northwest Booksellers Association board member

“Some books need us more than we need them. Others, the rare ones, are gifts that restore potency to language, confront trauma with williness and craft, and revitalize the world. Heart Berries is one of these rare books.”
—Stephen Sparks, Point Reyes Books (Point Reyes Station, CA)

“This is the boldest kind of writing because it speaks directly to people. Terese Marie Mailhot addresses numerous people she has loved in her life—a mother, a father, a lover, and others—and in doing so, she gets right to the core of it: what it feels like to love, to accept love, despite our and its limitations . . . To call anything in this memoir ‘sensational’ would be to eschew its logic. Everything in Heart Berries rings true to me . . . Though it deals in questions of love, health, grief, inheritance, and shame, it gave me something to hold.”
—Will Walton, Avid Bookshop (Athens, GA)
HOLLOW
A Novel

OWEN EGERTON

DECEMBER • FICTION • Trade Paper • 9781640091610
$16.95 • 256 pages • 5.5” x 8.25” • Ebook available • Rights: US/CAN

An NPR Best Book of 2017

“There’s profound sorrow to be found here, but great wit too.”
—Texas Monthly

“An incredibly imaginative examination of grief, faith, and the relationship between the two.”
—Barnes & Noble Reads

STALIN’S METEOROLOGIST
One Man’s Untold Story of Love, Life, and Death

OLIVIER ROLIN
TRANSLATED FROM THE FRENCH BY ROS SCHWARTZ

DECEMBER • BIOGRAPHY • Trade Paper • 9781640091573
$16.95 • 192 pages, with 16-page color insert • 5.5” x 8.25”
Ebook available • Rights: US

Winner of the 2014 Prix du Style

“Masterful . . . An eloquent addition to a violent episode in the history of science in the twentieth century.”
—Nature

“Rolin’s writing is haunting, poetic.”
—The Washington Post
ANESTHESIA
The Gift of Oblivion and the Mystery of Consciousness

KATE COLE-ADAMS

DECEMBER • SCIENCE • Trade Paper • 9781640091566
$16.95 • 416 pages • 5.5” x 8.25” • Ebook available • Rights: NORTH AMERICA

“An obsessive, mystical, terrifying, and even phantasmagorical exploration of anesthesia’s shadowy terra incognita.”
—The New Yorker

“Ms. Cole-Adams’s journey was spurred by her discovery in 2010 that she was to be scheduled for major spinal surgery. A novelist as well as a journalist . . . she writes fluidly and dramatically, using her travels, researches, and interviews to trace her anxieties about her forthcoming general anesthetic back to their roots. Her book is as much a diary of the writing process as a scientific investigation.”
—The Wall Street Journal

FROM THE MONASTERY TO THE WORLD
The Letters of Thomas Merton and Ernesto Cardenal

INTRODUCTION BY ROBERT HASS
TRANSLATED AND EDITED BY JESSIE SANDOVAL
ADDITIONAL NOTES AND TRANSLATIONS BY JEFFREY NEILSON

DECEMBER • LITERARY COLLECTIONS / RELIGION • Trade Paper • 9781640091559
$16.95 • 352 pages • 5.5” x 8.25” • Ebook available • Rights: WORLD ENGLISH

“Through their letters, Merton and Cardenal engage and transcend the deepest fears of the twenty-first century and point the way to a better future. In sum, From the Monastery to the World is both timely and wise.”
—Małgorzata Poks, author of Multiculturalism, Multilingualism and the Self
THE ART OF LOADING BRUSH
New Agrarian Writings

WENDELL BERRY

JANUARY • ESSAYS • Trade Paper • 9781640091580
$16.95 • 240 pages • 5.5" x 8.25" • Ebook available • Rights: WORLD

“In Berry’s new book, *The Art of Loading Brush*, he is a frustrated advocate, speaking out against local wastefulness and distant idealism; he is a gentle friend, asserting as he always has, the hope possible in caring for the world, and your specific place in it . . . *The Art of Loading Brush* is singular in Berry’s corpus.”

—The Paris Review

A GIRL IN EXILE
Requiem for Linda B.

ISMAIL KADARE
TRANSLATED FROM THE ALBANIAN BY JOHN HODGSON

JANUARY • FICTION • Trade Paper • 9781640091634
$16.95 • 192 pages • 5.5" x 8.25" • Ebook available • Rights: US/CAN


“Ismail Kadare’s readers are astonished every year when the Nobel committee overlooks him . . . *A Girl in Exile*, published in Albanian in 2009, may rekindle the worldwide hopes.”

—The New York Times Book Review

“Kadare’s mellifluous fever dream is a portrait of madness: the madness of the Stalinist state and the madness of men and women in the clamp of the state’s machinations . . . At a time when parts of the world are indulging nostalgia for communism, Kadare’s novel confronts the infuriating impossibility of art in an autocratic, anti-individualist system.”

—The Washington Post
THE ROMANCE OF ELSEWHERE

Essays

LYNN FREED

FEBRUARY • ESSAYS • Trade Paper • 9781640091597
$16.95 • 224 pages • 5.5" x 8.25" • Ebook available • Rights: NORTH AMERICA

"Freed approaches the world—and her prose—with the cleareyed, forthright wonder required of the most committed of travelers . . . Elsewhere she speaks eloquently of travel's power to transform . . . Freed is also one of the funniest writers around . . . [A] marvelous collection."

—The New York Times Book Review

“If Joan Didion and Fran Lebowitz had a literary love child, she would be Lynn Freed—or, at least, the resulting book would be Lynn Freed’s essay collection, The Romance of Elsewhere . . . Equal turns funny, wise, and sardonic . . . Travelers and readers seeking an unusually un-romanticized take on wandering the world will love it.”

—Bustle

WINTER KEPT US WARM

A Novel

ANNE RAEFF

FEBRUARY • FICTION • Trade Paper • 9781640091641
$16.95 • 304 pages • 5.5" x 8.25" • Ebook available • Rights: NORTH AMERICA

“Every word here feels set down with care and fierce conscience. The resulting narrative glows as if distilled.”

—San Francisco Chronicle

“The novel is a profound success that manages to take its place in the canon of excellent war literature while also maintaining a kind of magical surreality . . . At moments, the narrative even veers into Gabriel García Márquez territory with its mastery of human complications and conditions, its holiness of unrequited love . . . This is an astounding read, a best-of, and a masterful treatise on enduring.”

—Lambda Literary
STILL LIVES
by Maria Hummel
FICTION • Hardcover • 9781619021112
$26.00 • 288 pages • Ebook available

A Reese Witherspoon Book Club Pick

“A suspenseful, splashy story about fame, sex, and how our culture views women’s bodies . . . Tackle[s] the sticky subject of how women are portrayed in art, culture, and the media—and the consequences of those portrayals. This is a thrilling book, and a much–needed one.”
—Book of the Month Club, Official Selection

OLD IN ART SCHOOL:
A MEMOIR OF STARTING OVER
by Nell Painter
MEMOIR • Hardcover • 9781640090613
$26.00 • 352 pages • Ebook available

“Candid and cheerfully irreverent . . . One of the most enjoyable aspects of Old in Art School is seeing her relax her historian’s grip on social meaning and open up to new ways of seeing . . . Old in Art School is . . . meandering, pleasingly and profoundly so, as Painter negotiates the artist she’s becoming: not identical with her historian self, but not running away from it either.”
—The New York Times

THE WILDLANDS: A NOVEL
by Abby Geni
FICTION • Hardcover • 9781619022348
$26.00 • 368 pages • Ebook available

“The Wildlands: A Novel

“Geni’s fascination with the borders between human and animal drives this distinctive sophomore novel . . . Geni continues to create works of art with perfect voices that are simultaneously thrillers and meditations on nature. It is an incredible trick.”
—Kirkus Reviews (starred review)

THE NEW ORDER: STORIES
by Karen E. Bender
SHORT STORIES • Hardcover • 9781640090996
$26.00 • 240 pages • Ebook available

“The New Order

“Bender’s willingness to go deep, to burrow down into what’s right and wrong about 21st century America and Americans is a mirror that draws us in and does not allow us to look away.”
—Los Angeles Times on Refund
SILICON STATES: THE POWER AND POLITICS OF BIG TECH AND WHAT IT MEANS FOR OUR FUTURE
by Lucie Greene
NONFICTION • Hardcover • 9781640090712
$26.00 • 288 pages • Ebook available

“Whip-smart and ultimately scary read . . . Tech titans are transforming every industry and shaping the future. What will that mean for the rest of us? Highly recommended.”
—Dan Lyons, author of the New York Times bestselling Disrupted: My Misadventure in the Start-Up Bubble

A KIND OF FREEDOM: A NOVEL
by Margaret Wilkerson Sexton
FICTION • Trade Paper • 9781640090430
$16.95 • 256 pages • Ebook available

A 2017 NATIONAL BOOK AWARD NOMINEE
A New York Times Notable Book of 2017
Winner of the First Novel Award from the Black Caucus of the American Library Association

IMPROVEMENT: A NOVEL
by Joan Silber
FICTION • Trade Paper • 9781640091139
$16.95 • 240 pages • Ebook available

WINNER OF THE 2018 PEN/FAULKNER AWARD FOR FICTION
WINNER OF THE NATIONAL BOOK CRITICS CIRCLE AWARD FOR FICTION
Now available in paperback.

HERE IN BERLIN: A NOVEL
by Cristina García
FICTION • Trade Paper • 9781640091085
$16.95 • 224 pages • Ebook available

Long-listed for the Andrew Carnegie Medal for Excellence
A New York Times Book Review Editor’s Choice
We’re edging toward a new kind of global fascism driven by aggression and strident nationalism. In this energetic, focused book, a group of five accomplished writers confronts five would-be dictators.

- American playwright Eve Ensler (The Vagina Monologues) burrows beneath the skin of Donald Trump.
- Danish Husain, Indian storyteller and actor, finds himself recounting the story not only of Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi, but also of the ascension of the extremism of the Sangh Parivar.
- Burhan Sönmez, Turkish novelist, ferrets about amid the bewildering career of the Turkish president Recep Tayyip Erdoğan.
- Ninotchka Rosca, Filipina feminist novelist, unravels the macho world of Rodrigo Duterte.
- Lara Vapnyar, Russian American novelist and journalist, ponders the Stalinist origins of the Supreme Leader of All the Russians.

These essays do not presume to be neutral. They are by partisan thinkers, magical writers, people who see not only the monsters but also a future beyond the ghouls. A future that is necessary. The present is too painful.

VIJAY PRASHAD (pictured below) is the executive director of Tricontinental: Institute for Social Research. His most recent book is Red Star Over the Third World. He writes regularly for Frontline, The Hindu, Alternet, and BirGün.

EVE ENSLER is the Tony Award–winning playwright, activist, founder of V-Day, and author of the theatrical Obie Award–winning phenomenon The Vagina Monologues. Her new play, The Fruit Trilogy, opens in 2018.

DANISH HUSAIN is an actor, poet, storyteller, and theater director. He has appeared in a number of films, including Peepli Live, Ankhon Dekhi, and Newton.


BURHAN SÖNMEZ is a novelist, editor, and the translator of William Blake into Turkish. In April 2018, he was awarded the first European Bank Literature Prize for his novel Istanbul Istanbul. A board member of PEN International, he also won the Disturbing the Peace Award from the Václav Havel Library Foundation in 2017.

NINOTCHKA ROSCA is a journalist, novelist, and human rights activist. Her two novels—State of War and Twice Blessed (which won the American Book Award in 1993)—are considered classics of modern Philippine literature.
When white nationalists and supporters clashed with counter-demonstrators in Charlottesville in August 2017, resulting in the death of one antiracist activist and the wounding of thirty-five more, a signal moment in American history was reached. Suddenly, U.S. citizens who had previously thought of themselves as moderate began to wonder whether violence in defending their values against fellow citizens was not only an option but a necessity—whether the way American history has been commonly presented is not only unfair but inaccurate; whether the current president is to blame for the sudden visibility of white supremacist groups; and, finally, whether a surge in racism and ultranationalism is irrevocably reshaping the country.

Charlottesville: White Supremacy, Populism, and Resistance untangles the meaning of the events that unfolded last August. Part One of the book documents and comments upon the immediate aftermath of the violence. Part Two addresses the context, both before and after, for interpreting the violence: essays reflect on the social and cultural landscape of the nation, the role of the media, and the logic of “punching Nazis in the face.”

Including writing by Eric Anthamatten, Nicholas Baer, Wes Bellamy, Keval Bhatt, Vaughan A. Booker, Andrew Boyer, Maria Bucur, Jordan Dunn, Mindy Fullilove, Laura Goldblatt, Jeffrey C. Goldfarb, Maggie Hennefeld, Christopher Howard-Woods, Jeffery Isaac, Michael Sasha King, Mitchell Kosters, Jared Loggins, Gordon Mantler, Marcus McCullough, Rachel McKinney, Julia Ott, Claire Potter, Isaac Ariail Reed, Neil Roberts, Melvin Rogers, Sanford Schram, Siva Vaidhyanathan, Michael Weinman, Leonard A. Williams, and Deva Woodly.

Chris Howard-Woods is the media editor at Public Seminar and received his BA in philosophy from The New School in 2018.

Colin Laidley is an editor at Public Seminar and a graduate student pursuing an MA in creative publishing and critical journalism at The New School.

Maryam Omidi is an editor at Public Seminar and an MA candidate in psychology at The New School for Social Research.

Public Seminar (publicseminar.org) is an online publishing project of The New School in New York City.
How did evangelical Christians become the American right wing’s attack troops?

Televangelist Pat Robertson was one of the first to realize the political potential of millions of evangelicals, and decided to determine how battle lines were drawn. Robertson, now a leading and unflinching Trump supporter, rose to national prominence in the 1960s with his Christian Broadcasting Network and his hit show The 700 Club.

Terry Heaton was instrumental in Robertson’s rise to power and now deeply regrets his role at The 700 Club, where he was executive producer. He now provides the inside story of how evangelical Christianity forced itself on a needy Republican Party in order to gain political influence on a global level. Using deliberate and strategic social engineering, The 700 Club moved Christians steadily into the Republican Party—and moved the party itself to the right.

With a gospel message that appealed to self-interest, The 700 Club violated numerous laws in an attempt to create a shadow government of evangelicals, all in the name of doing God’s work on earth. The results of this long-term campaign were fully on display in the 2016 electoral season.

“When a former right-hand man of Pat Robertson and one of the key players of the religious right tells you what he really thinks, you’d better listen. I’m grateful for Terry Heaton’s courageous new book, The Gospel of Self: How Pat Robertson Stole the Soul of the GOP. It could not be more timely.”
—Brian McLaren, author of The Great Spiritual Migration

“Heaton’s stories of his involvement with Pat Robertson and The 700 Club, as well as other fascinating stories, pepper his incredibly deep and insightful analysis of contemporary Christianity in the West. I recommend this book to anyone who wants a thorough exposition of the state of Christianity, theology, and the Church today.”
—David Hayward, producer of The Naked Pastor and author of Questions Are the Answer
Fighting in the streets, corruption at the highest levels, thuggish police, a daily threat of nuclear war: few of us thought we’d find ourselves here, so far into the twenty-first century. What’s next? Are we really going to be “great again,” however that’s meant?

In this diverse and vigorous mix of original stories by newcomers and luminaries, writers offer their takes on what life might hold for us in the next few years. The resulting visions of oppression and daily struggle are sometimes humorous, sometimes terrifying, but always thought-provoking.

METAPHYSICAL GRAFFITI
Rock ‘n’ Roll and the Meaning of Life

SETH KAUFMAN

A provocative, entertaining, but ultimately serious examination of rock’s most essential questions: Beatles or Stones? Which is the best air guitar to play? Does Rush suck? And what is the meaning of Billy Joel?

Metaphysical Graffiti is a book for music fans, humor fans, and, if a meaningful ontological category, fans of philosophy, too. It is a provocative, inflammatory, hilarious, but ultimately serious book about the essential questions of rock—Beatles or Stones? What kind of air guitar do you play? Does Rush suck? And, of course, the meaning of Billy Joel. In a rich mix of original pieces, Seth Kaufman not only examines the essential issues facing all rock fans, but also delves into the deeper, metaphysical roots of these questions.

The book’s title is a riff on the classic Led Zeppelin album, Physical Graffiti, while the book itself is an innovative, critical work that in many ways mirrors the best rock ‘n roll. Funny, audacious, irreverent, and relentlessly creative, it stretches the parameters of traditional criticism by incorporating short fiction, “Moronic Dialogues,” and even a short miniplay, “Godot, The Musical,” in order to explore philosophical concepts of reality, authenticity, hype, and, ultimately, the purpose of music criticism itself.

“I would like to offer a lurid, half-baked, and wholly despised essay in the hope that it will serve as a living, breathing breathing ground for the most profound of all the questions: Why do we put on our shoes in the morning?”

SETH KAUFMAN grew up overseas, in Kenya and India, the son of foreign correspondents. He ran a popular online music store where he sold so many copies of Kenny G records he should be tried at The Hague. He has written a number of books, including The King of Pain (which The New York Times calls “one of 2012’s most enjoyable novels”), contributed humor pieces to newyorker.com, and freelanced for many other publications.