COUNTERPOINT PRESS BOOKS

new titles and selected backlist

SPRING 2019
NEW TITLES
COUNTERPOINT
America is at a crossroads. We are alienated from civic engagement, and our democracy is in doubt. Yet there is a new energy in the air. Young people are again taking up the role they’ve often held: as leaders of change, demanding a better future, wielding their votes to uphold democracy and lead the country forward.

Enter Generation Citizen, an organization dedicated to empowering youth through revitalizing civics education across America. Since its beginnings in 2009 during CEO and cofounder Scott Warren’s senior year at Brown University, Generation Citizen has grown to become one of the preeminent civics education organizations in the country.

Generation Citizen: The Power of Youth in Our Politics details Warren’s political awakening alongside stories of how young people have always been the instruments of political change. Generation Citizen is also a practical guide, providing concrete steps to jumpstart an engagement with politics and rekindle our love of democracy. Through interviews with students and historical portraits of young people who have enacted great political change—from the civil rights movement to the election of Ronald Reagan to #BlackLivesMatter and the Parkland students’ standing up to gun violence—Generation Citizen shows that time and again, it is the young people who lead the way to change.

Championing the activism of young people around the world, Generation Citizen is an empowering reminder of the positive power of politics, and an inspiring, actionable guide for anyone ready to fight for democracy.
Claire Messud described Erin McGraw’s last collection of stories as “at once laugh-out-loud funny and utterly serious, exploring life’s profundity through its details.” This is even more true with McGraw’s new collection, *Joy*.

In these very short stories, narrators step out of themselves to explain their lives to us, sometimes defensively, sometimes regretfully, other times deceitfully. Voices include those of the impulsive first-time murderer, the depressed pet sitter, the assistant of Patsy Cline, the anxiety-riddled new mother, the aged rock-and-roller, the girlfriend of your husband—human beings often (incredibly) unaware of the turning points staring them in the face.

Crossing time, states, class, and religions, McGraw’s stories are on the edge, causing you to wince even as you laugh. And McGraw will draw you to a deep need to read some sentences aloud—a sweet voice, a shrewd insight, some uneasy charm.

**Praise for Erin McGraw**

“McGraw has a light hand with serious themes involving relationships and livelihood. She is deft with humor; her satire of green, aware living is funny without being snarky and is tempered by a generosity toward human foibles. Her characters are memorable, recognizable, quirky . . . McGraw is fresh and funny.”

—*Publishers Weekly*

“McGraw draws her small portraits with little of the studied, artists’-colony smugness that taints many literary writers’ descriptions of the lives of ordinary people. In its place there is humor and compassion, and an understanding that diminished expectations might be better than shattered dreams.”

—*The New York Times*

“McGraw refreshingly avoids the predictable, contemporary stance of moral ambiguity without sinking into an earlier era’s condescension . . . McGraw finds some rich material in that modern-day version of the revival meeting the reality television makeover show.”

—*San Francisco Chronicle*
THE ABSENT HAND
Reimagining Our American Landscape

Suzannah Lessard
Author of The Architect of Desire

This engrossing work of literary nonfiction is a deep dive into our surroundings—cities, countryside, and sprawl—exploring change in the meaning of place, and reimagining our American landscape. Following her bestselling The Architect of Desire, Suzannah Lessard returns with a remarkable book, a work of relentless curiosity and a graceful mixture of observation and philosophy. This intriguing hybrid will remind some of W. G. Sebald’s work and others of Rebecca Solnit’s, but it is Lessard’s singular talent to combine this profound book-length mosaic—a blend of historical travelogue, reportorial probing, philosophical meditation, and prose poem—into a work of unique genius, as she describes and reimagines our landscapes. In this exploration of our surroundings, The Absent Hand contends that to reimagine landscape is a form of cultural reinvention.

This engrossing work of literary nonfiction is a deep dive into our surroundings—cities, countryside, and sprawl—exploring change in the meaning of place and reimagining our American landscape.

“In the beauty and terror of her prose, [Lessard] gives form to a century of hidden experience, puts words to a century of silence . . . Language, too, has an architectural dimension. In the right hands, it can span vast, uncharted regions of time and place. And this edifice . . . is Lessard’s gift to her readers.”
—The Boston Sunday Globe

Praise for The Architect of Desire

“Few writers have ever captured the exquisite, delicate balance of architecture and memory as eloquently and as movingly.”
—The New York Times Book Review

“Powerful . . . Seductive.”
—Elle

Suzannah Lessard is the bestselling author of The Architect of Desire: Beauty and Danger in the Stanford White Family, a New York Times Notable Book. A founding editor of The Washington Monthly and a staff writer at The New Yorker for twenty years, she is a recipient of the Whiting and Lukas Awards, and has received fellowships from the Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars and George Washington University.

www.suzannahlessard.com
Growing up in middle-class Lagos, Nigeria, during the late 1980s and early ‘90s, Ihechi forms a band of close friends discovering Lagos together as teenagers with differing opinions of everything from film to football, Fela Kuti to spirituality, sex to politics. They remain close-knit until tragedy unfolds during an anti-government riot.

Exiled from Lagos by his concerned mother, Ihechi moves in with his uncle’s family, where he struggles to find himself outside his former circle of friends. He eventually finds success by leveraging his connection with a notorious prostitution linchpin and political heavyweight, earning favor among the ruling elite.

But just as Ihechi is about to make his final ascent into the elite political class, he reunites with his childhood friends and experiences a crisis of conscience that forces him to question his world, his motives, and whom he should become. Nnamdi Ehirim’s debut novel, *Prince of Monkeys*, is a lyrical, meditative observation of Nigerian life, religion, and politics at the end of the twentieth century.
SHAKESPEARE’S LIBRARY
Unlocking the Greatest Mystery in Literature

From acclaimed author and ardent bibliophile Stuart Kells comes an exploration of the quest to find the personal library of the world’s greatest writer.

Millions of words of scholarship have been expended on the world’s most famous author and his work. And yet a critical part of the puzzle, Shakespeare’s library, is a mystery. For four centuries people have searched for it: in mansions, palaces, and libraries; in riverbeds, sheep pens, and partridge coops; and in the corridors of the mind. Yet no trace of the Bard’s manuscripts, books, or letters has ever been found.

The search for Shakespeare’s library is much more than a treasure hunt. Knowing what the Bard read informs our reading of his work, and it offers insight into the mythos of Shakespeare and the debate around authorship. The library’s fate has profound implications for literature, for national and cultural identity, and for the global Shakespeare industry. It bears on fundamental principles of art, identity, history, meaning, and truth.

Unfolding the search like the mystery that it is, acclaimed author Stuart Kells follows the trail of the hunters, taking us through different conceptions of the library and of the man himself. Entertaining and enlightening, Shakespeare’s Library is a captivating exploration of literature’s most enduring enigma.

Praise for The Library

“Library holdings have helped reassure me that values associated with reason, intellect and art really do tend to survive dark ages of various kinds . . . It was therefore a pleasure to sit down among the stacks and read a new book about the history of this very subject . . . The Library lends itself to browsing, but a sequential reading reveals a larger theme . . . Abounds in fascinating tales.”
—The New York Times Book Review

“Excellent . . . Tracks the history of that greatest of all cultural institutions.”
—The Washington Post

“A thread of wonder runs throughout these pages, weaving in and out of the subject of libraries in general—the strangeness of the idea, the intrinsic appeal of the idea.”
—The National

STUART KELLS is an author and historian. His history of Penguin Books, Penguin and the Lane Brothers, won the prestigious Ashurst Business Literature Prize. His book The Library: A Catalogue of Wonders was short-listed for the New South Wales Premier’s General History Prize and has been published around the world in multiple languages.

www.stuartkells.com @stuartkells
SOLID SEASONS
The Friendship of Henry David Thoreau and Ralph Waldo Emerson

JEFFREY S. CRAMER

Any biography that concentrates on either Henry David Thoreau or Ralph Waldo Emerson tends to diminish the other figure, but in Solid Seasons both men remain central and equal. Through several decades of writing, friendship remained a primary theme for them both.

Collecting extracts from the letters and journals of both men, as well as words about them from their contemporaries, Jeffrey S. Cramer beautifully illustrates the full nature of their twenty-five-year dialogue. Biographers like to point at the crisis in their friendship, focusing particularly on Thoreau’s disappointment in Emerson—rarely on Emerson’s frustration with Thoreau—and leaving it there, a friendship ruptured. But the solid seasons remained, as is evident when, in 1878, Anne Burrows Gilchrist, the English writer and friend of Whitman, visited Emerson. She wrote that his memory was failing “as to recent names and topics but as is usual in such cases all the mental impressions that were made when he was in full vigour remain clear and strong.” As they chatted, Emerson called to his wife, Lidian, in the next room: “What was the name of my best friend?”

“How, Thoreau,” she answered.

“Oh, yes,” Emerson repeated. “Henry Thoreau.”

A thoughtfully researched, movingly presented dual biography of two iconic American writers, each trying to find the ideal friend with whom they could share their journey through our imperfect world.
A taciturn carpenter has been too busy putting the final details on others’ homes to pay much attention to his own fixer-upper. But when his wife becomes pregnant with their first child, he realizes he’ll need to apply his art closer to home. For Taz and Marnie, their dreams are coming into focus, sustained by their deep sense of love and now family.

The blueprint for the perfect life eludes Taz, plummeting him headfirst into the strange new world of fatherhood, of responsibility and late nights and unexpected joy and sorrow. His journey to make peace with his past and chart out a future with his young daughter will lead him to new revelations about what it means to build a home.

A Job You Mostly Won’t Know How to Do beautifully captures people who, isolated by land and by their actions, end up building a life that is both unexpected and brave.

Five-time winner of the Pacific Northwest Booksellers Association Book Award, Pete Fromm joins Counterpoint with his bighearted new novel, a love story about family full of hope and resilience and second chances.
THE MAN THEY WANTED ME TO BE

Toxic Masculinity and Forging Another Way for Men

JARED YATES SEXTON

Based on his provocative and popular New York Times op-ed, The Man They Wanted Me to Be is both memoir and cultural analysis. Jared Yates Sexton alternates between an examination of his working-class upbringing and historical, psychological, and sociological sources that examine the genesis of toxic masculinity and its consequences for society.

As progressivism changes American society, and globalism shifts labor away from traditional manufacturing, the roles that have been prescribed to men since the Industrial Revolution have been rendered obsolete. Donald Trump’s campaign successfully leveraged male resentment and entitlement, and now, with Trump as president and the rise of the #MeToo movement, it’s clear that our current definitions of masculinity are outdated and even dangerous.

Deeply personal and thoroughly researched, The Man They Wanted Me to Be examines how we teach boys what’s expected of men in America, and the long-term effects of that socialization—which include depression, shorter lives, misogyny, and suicide. Sexton turns his keen eye to the establishment of the racist patriarchal structure which has favored white men, and investigates the personal and societal dangers of such outdated definitions of manhood.

JARED YATES SEXTON is the author of The People Are Going to Rise Like the Waters Upon Your Shore. He is a contributing political writer at Salon, and his political writing has appeared in The New York Times, The New Republic, and elsewhere. Sexton is also the author of three collections of fiction and a crime novel, and is an associate professor of creative writing at Georgia Southern University.

www.jysexton.com .twitter.com/jysexton
Published in time for the fiftieth anniversary of the Stonewall riots

In his skillful hybrid of true crime and cultural history, James Polchin provides an important look at how popular culture, the media, and the psychological profession forcefully portrayed gay men as the perpetrators of the same violence they suffered. He traces how the press depicted the murder of men by other men from the end of World War I to the Stonewall era, when gay men came to be seen as a class both historically victimized and increasingly visible.

*Indecent Advances* tells the story of how homosexuals were criminalized in the popular imagination—from the sex panics of the 1930s to Kinsey’s study of male homosexuality of the 1940s and the Cold War panic of communists and homosexuals in government. Polchin illustrates the vital role crime stories played in circulating ideas of normalcy and deviance, and how those stories were used as tools to discriminate and harm the gay men who were observers and victims of crime. More important, Polchin shows how this discrimination was ultimately transformed by activists to help shape the burgeoning gay rights movement in the years leading up to the Stonewall riots of 1969.

**INDECENT ADVANCES**

The Hidden History of Murder and Masculinity Before Stonewall

JAMES POLCHIN

A skillful hybrid of true crime and social history that examines how popular culture, the media, and the psychological profession portrayed crimes against gay men in the years leading up to the Stonewall riots
Norco '80 tells the story of how five heavily armed young men—led by an apocalyptic born-again Christian—attempted a bank robbery that turned into one of the most violent criminal events in U.S. history, forever changing the face of American law enforcement. Part action thriller and part courtroom drama, Norco '80 transports the reader back to the Southern California of the 1970s, an era of predatory evangelical gurus, doomsday predictions, megachurches, and soaring crime rates, with the threat of nuclear obliteration looming over it all.

A group of landscapers transform from pot-smoking, petty scofflaws to a murderous gang of bank robbers armed to the teeth with military-grade weapons. Their desperate getaway turned the surrounding towns into war zones. When it was over, three were dead and close to twenty wounded; the robbers had bombed a gas main, forced down a police helicopter, and destroyed thirty-two police vehicles with thousands of rounds of ammo. The resulting trials shook the community to the core, raising many issues that continue to plague society today: from racism and the epidemic of posttraumatic stress disorder within law enforcement to religious extremism, the regulation of assault rifles, and the militarization of local police forces.

In the vein of Killers of the Flower Moon and The Onion Field, Norco '80 is a gripping true crime account of one of the most violent bank heists in U.S. history, which forever altered the lives of those who lived through it.

Peter Houlahan holds an MFA from Sarah Lawrence College. In his career as an emergency medical technician, he has contributed to a number of articles related to his profession, including the impact of PTSD on first responders. A native Southern Californian, Houlahan now lives in Fairfield County, Connecticut.

www.peterhoulahan.com  @pchoulahan
INHABITATION

A Novel

TERU MIYAMOTO
TRANSLATED FROM THE JAPANESE
BY ROGER K. THOMAS

A living lizard nailed to a pillar and a young man bound by a family misfortune—a tale that poses questions about life, death, and karma by one of Japan’s most beloved living writers

In 1970s Osaka, college student Tetsuyuki moves into a shabby apartment to evade his late father’s creditors. But the apartment’s electricity hasn’t been reconnected yet, and Tetsuyuki spends his first night in darkness. Wanting to hang up a tennis cap from his girlfriend, Yōko, he fumbles about in the dark and drives a nail into a pillar. The next day he discovers that he has pierced the body of a lizard, which is still alive. He decides to keep it alive, giving it food and water and naming it Kin.

Inhabitation unfolds from there, following the complications in Tetsuyuki’s relationship with Yōko, a friendship with his supervisor who hides his heart disease at work, and his father’s creditors, always close on his heels. Daunted, Tetsuyuki speaks to Kin night after night, and Kin’s peculiarly tortured situation reflects the mingled pain, love, and guilt that infuses Tetsuyuki’s human relationships.

Born in Kobe in 1947, TERU MIYAMOTO is among Japan’s most widely read living authors. He has received Japan’s most prestigious literary distinctions, including the Dazai Osamu Prize and the Akutagawa Prize. Several of his works have been made into award-winning movies, including Maborosi, directed by Hirokazu Kore-eda.

ROGER K. THOMAS is a professor of East Asian languages and cultures at Illinois State University, where he also directs the program in East Asian Studies. He has translated two of Teru Miyamoto’s books, along with other works of modern Japanese fiction, including Enchi Fumiko’s A Tale of False Fortunes, winner of the Japan-U.S. Friendship Commission Prize for the Translation of Japanese Literature.

Praise for Kinshu: Autumn Brocade

“Miyamoto’s gentle touch with these well-meaning and generally honorable characters lends subtle drama to his treatise on loss. Readers will want more translations, and soon.”

—Kirkus Reviews

“I love the novels of Teru Miyamoto.”

—Hirokazu Kore-eda, director of Shoplifters, winner of the Cannes Film Festival’s Palme d’Or

“Miyamoto, a prize-winning author in Japan, writes with an unflattering, quiet authority.”

—San Francisco Chronicle

“Mr. Miyamoto’s delicately woven tale of romance, violated and painfully relinquished, provides a satisfying taste of what it means to grapple with fate at the intersection of modernity and tradition.”

—The Washington Times
SPEAKING OF SUMMER
A Novel

KALISHA BUCKHANON

On a cold December evening, Autumn Spencer’s twin sister, Summer, walks to the roof of their shared Harlem brownstone and is never seen again—the door to the roof is locked, and only one set of footsteps is found. Faced with authorities indifferent to another missing woman, Autumn must pursue answers on her own, all while grieving her mother’s recent death.

With her friends and neighbors, Autumn pretends to hold up through the crisis. But the loss becomes too great, the mystery too inexplicable, and Autumn starts to unravel, all the while becoming obsessed with the various murders of local women and the men who kill them, thinking their stories might shed light on what happened to her sister.

In Speaking of Summer, critically acclaimed author Kalisha Buckhanon has created a postmodern, fast-paced story of urban peril and victim invisibility, and the fight to discover truth at any cost.

Praise for Solemn

“This work earns a place alongside James Hannaham’s Delicious Foods as top-notch literary fiction sending a message about African American struggles in the 21st century.”

—Library Journal

“The novel is a success for what it does well: giving voice to the desires, fears and lyrical language of ordinary Southern black people.”

—The Washington Post

“A searing story . . . fueled by emotion.”

—Bustle

“Kalisha Buckhanon has no problem taking readers into the lives of those we often pass by.”

—Essence

KALISHA BUCKHANON is the author of the novels Solemn, Conception, and Upstate. Her honors include an Audie Award for Literary Fiction, American Library Association Alex Award, Friends of American Writers Literature Award, Illinois Arts Council Artist Fellowship, Pushcart Prize and Hurston/Wright Awards nominations, and Terry McMillan Young Author Award. She also appears on Investigation Discovery, BET, and TV One as a true crime expert in cases involving women.
Radical Ritual recounts, through interviews with fabled Burning Man personages, the festival’s evolution from the first scrapwood bonfire on a San Francisco beach to the weeklong extravaganza in Black Rock City.

Written from Neil Shister’s perspective as a five-time participant, journalist, and student of American culture, Radical Ritual presents Burning Man as vitally, historically important, a significant player in the avant-garde, forging new social paradigms as liberal democracy unravels. Burning Man’s contribution to this new order is post-postmodern, a fusion of sixties humanism with state-of-the-art Silicon Valley wizardry.

Shister is not alone in his opinion. Led by conservative activist Grover Norquist, the Cato Institute recently held an event on what libertarians can learn from Burning Man. The festival intertwines conservative and progressive ideas. On the one hand, it is a celebration of self-reliance, personal accountability, and individual freedom; on the other hand, it is based on strong values of inclusion, consensual decision making, and centered, collaborative endeavor.

In a wonderful mix of narrative storytelling and reportage, Radical Ritual discusses how Burning Man has impacted the art world, disaster relief, urban renewal, the utilization of renewable energy, and even the corporate governance of Google. The story concludes with the sudden death in May 2018 of Larry Harvey, now renowned as the philosophical epicenter of the movement.

NEIL SHISTER has been a correspondent with Time magazine, television critic for the Miami Herald, and editor of Atlanta magazine. He’s taught at Hampshire College, Boston University, and George Washington University. He was a Peace Corps volunteer in Côte d’Ivoire (1968–1970). He lives in Washington, D.C., with wife, Catherine, and son, William.
A BOY OF GOOD BREEDING

A Novel

MIRIAM TOEWS

MARCH • Fiction • Paperback • 9781640091795
$16.95 • 256 pages • 5.0” x 8.0” • Ebook available • Rights: US

Winner of the McNally Robinson Book of the Year Award

“Charming tall tales.”
—The New York Times

“Tonic for the spirit: a charming, deeply moving, unerringly human story, perfectly shaped and beautifully told.”
—The Globe and Mail

SUMMER OF MY AMAZING LUCK

A Novel

MIRIAM TOEWS

APRIL • Fiction • Paperback • 9781640091836
$16.95 • 240 pages • 5.0” x 8.0” • Ebook available • Rights: US

“A comic take on what initially appears a most improbable topic for humour... It works.”
—The Globe and Mail

“The novel offers a humorous look at the absurdities of the Canadian welfare system while unwinding the intricacies of a sticky-sweet friendship.”
—Publishers Weekly
“Robison is both wise and entertaining.”
—The New York Times Book Review

“Robison writes like an avenging angel, and I think she may be a genius.”
—Richard Yates, author of Cold Spring Harbor

MARCH • Fiction • Paperback • 9781640091801
$16.95 • 192 pages • 5.0” x 8.0” • Ebook available • Rights: US/CAN

DAYS
Stories

MARY ROBISON

MARCH • Fiction • Paperback • 9781640091887
$16.95 • 160 pages • 5.0” x 8.0” • Ebook available • Rights: US/CAN

“Robison uses a minimalist discipline and barely ruffled surfaces, but her hidden pictures of childhood and other states of vulnerability are boundless in their emotion.”
—Los Angeles Times Book Review

BELIEVE THEM
Stories

MARY ROBISON

APRIL • Fiction • Paperback • 9781640091887
$16.95 • 160 pages • 5.0” x 8.0” • Ebook available • Rights: US/CAN

“Robison uses a minimalist discipline and barely ruffled surfaces, but her hidden pictures of childhood and other states of vulnerability are boundless in their emotion.”
—Los Angeles Times Book Review
THE WILD BIRDS

Six Stories of the Port William Membership

WENDELL BERRY

MAY • Fiction • Paperback • 9781640092105
$16.95 • 160 pages • 5.0” x 8.0” • Ebook available • Rights: WORLD

“And I am a superb writer . . . Short stories don’t get any better than these.”
—People

“Told with the same intelligence, craft, and reverence that characterize Berry’s novels, essays on agriculture, and poems, these stories have at their core the necessity of human friendship, the good that has been possible in the world . . . the good that is desirable in it.” Highly recommended.
—Library Journal

JESUS LAND

A Memoir

JULIA SCHEERES

JUNE • Memoir • Paperback • 9781640092167
$16.95 • 400 pages • 5.5” x 8.25” • Ebook available • Rights: WORLD

Winner of the ALA Alex Award

Winner of the QPB New Visions Award

“A page turner . . . Heart-stopping and enraging . . . Focused, justified, and without a trace of self-pity. Shot through with poignancy.”
—The New York Times Book Review
“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

“[A] singularly moving, poetic book, one full of rage and desire, fear and brilliance. Prepare for it to sink its teeth into your very heart.”
—NYLON, 1 of 50 Books We Can’t Wait to Read in 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.”
—HuffPost, 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

“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)
THE GUNNERS
A Novel

REBECCA KAUFFMAN

MARCH • Fiction • Paperback • 9781640091948
$16.95 • 272 pages • 5.5” x 8.25”
Ebook available • Rights: WORLD ENGLISH

“A moving novel . . . Like an intimate hangout session, dashed with suspense and a few extra layers of emotional beauty.”
—Entertainment Weekly

“Kauffman has done something remarkable with The Gunners . . . There’s so much generosity and spirit and humor shared by whatever characters are on the page at any given time that I was always happy to accompany them.”
—The New York Times Book Review

FLUNK. START.

Reclaiming My Decade Lost in Scientology

SANDS HALL

MARCH • Memoir • Paperback • 9781640091931
$16.95 • 416 pages • 5.5” x 8.25”
Ebook available • Rights: WORLD ENGLISH

“Novelist and actress Hall probes her descent into Scientology in this impassioned, wonderfully constructed memoir . . . Hall reflects with brutal honesty on her decisions throughout this meticulously crafted book.”
—Publishers Weekly (starred review)

“An intriguing, beautifully written memoir.”
—Literary Hub
THE LIBRARY
A Catalogue of Wonders

STUART KELLS

MARCH • History • Paperback • 9781640092266
$16.95 • 288 pages • 5.5” x 8.25” • Ebook available • Rights: US/CAN

“Abounds in fascinating tales.”
—The New York Times Book Review

“Excellent.”
—The Washington Post

“A thread of wonder runs throughout these pages, weaving in and out of the subject of libraries in general—the strangeness of the idea, the intrinsic appeal of the idea.”
—The National

PRACTICE RESURRECTION
And Other Essays

ERIK REECE

APRIL • Essays • Paperback • 9781640092068
$16.95 • 224 pages • 6.0” x 9.0” • Ebook available • Rights: US/CAN

“Few are better than [Reece] is at discussing a personal crisis of faith—although he prefers to say his religion ‘vanished like a mist off the creek’—in such authentic language. For Reece, universal truth is personal.”
—Booklist (starred review)

“Delightful and illuminating. Reece’s insightful, witty, and reflective essays offer up new ways of thinking about spirituality, culture, and the environment.”
—Kirkus Reviews
The World-Ending Fire
The Essential Wendell Berry
Selected and with an Introduction by Paul Kingsnorth

WENDELL BERRY

MAY • Essays • Paperback • 9781640091979
$16.95 • 368 pages • 5.5” x 8.25” • Ebook available • Rights: WORLD

“America’s greatest philosopher on sustainable life and living.”
—Chicago Tribune

“A pleasing selection of essays from the lifelong farmer and award-winning writer... In this day and age, his writings are must-reads.”
—Kirkus Reviews (starred review)
END OF THE ROPE
Mountains, Marriage, and Motherhood

JAN REDFORD

MAY • Memoir • Paperback • 9781640091962
$16.95 • 320 pages with a 24-page B&W photo insert
5.5” x 8.25” • Ebook available • Rights: US

One of Outside’s “Best Summer Books,” Bitch Media’s “10 Books Feminists Should Read in May,” Book Riot’s “8 Books to Read for Mother’s Day,” and Bustle’s “Love Cheryl Strayed? These 4 Books Need to Be in Your TBR Pile”

“The book is a welcome addition to mountain literature, where women’s voices are still noticeably rare . . . It will resonate with anyone trying to find her path.”
—Outside

“It’s refreshing to read about a strong woman’s experiences in the climbing world, with topics like why men fight over leads, how climbing with men and women is different, and the difficulties of climbing with loved ones.”
—Climbing

SAVAGE LIBERTY
A Mystery of Revolutionary America

ELIOT PATTISON

MAY • Fiction • Paperback • 9781640091993
$16.95 • 400 pages • 5.5” x 8.25”
Ebook available • Rights: WORLD ENGLISH

“Pattison has few peers when it comes to integrating historical events into a complex but plausible whodunit plot.”
—Publishers Weekly (starred and boxed review)

“For those who enjoy politics, history, and hairbreadth escapes swirled together.”
—Library Journal
ONE DAY YOU’LL THANK ME
Lessons from an Unexpected Fatherhood

DAVID McGlynn

MAY • Memoir • Paperback • 978-1640091955
$16.95 • 272 pages • 5.5” x 8.25”
Ebook available • Rights: NORTH AMERICA

“A poignant, funny book about the life of a modern-day dad.”
—Los Angeles Times

“Timeless, funny, and honest stories of raising boys.”
—Kirkus Reviews

“Each brutally honest chapter is filled with heart and humor . . . All parents will relate and enjoy, but fathers of sons will most certainly relish this charming and hilarious tale of fatherhood.”
—Booklist

TOMB OF THE UNKNOWN RACIST

A Novel

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“Through personal stories, insights gleaned from decades of working to end gender-based violence, and practical advice for those men ready to step up to the plate, Kaufman has produced an important guide.”
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“Heart-stopping . . . In the light of Koch’s scrupulous unearthings, we must now count [this] brief, tormented life . . . among the lasting necessary chronicles.”
—Cynthia Ozick, author of The Shawl

LAKE CITY: A NOVEL
by Thomas Kohnstamm
JANUARY • Fiction • Trade Paperback Original • 9781640091429
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“Kohnstamm delivers a blistering, clear-eyed, and sure-footed debut novel about the perils and pitfalls of misguided ambition.”
—Jonathan Evison, author of Lawn Boy
As a prison chaplain, Cuong Lu discovered that when the men inside allowed themselves to feel their pain—including remorse for committing crimes—knowing and feeling the truth became a source of strength for them.

This is a book of fifty-two vignettes—stories and teachings about Lu’s six years as a prison chaplain. He found that when the inmates felt listened to, understood, and not judged, it transformed their sense of who they were, and as a result changed their attitudes and their behavior.

Lu opens our eyes beyond prejudice to see others—and ourselves—in a larger perspective. When we look at prisoners without judgment, we connect with those we might never know, and with our own basic goodness. The message of The Buddha in Jail is one of redemption.

This book is not just about the prisoners. It’s about all of us. We’re all caught in distorted and limiting ideas of ourselves. We don’t believe freedom and happiness are attainable. But when we come to believe in ourselves, we discover the freedom and happiness already within. Lu shows us that this approach works. It can be applied to all prisons, and also to our own lives.

“Read these stories carefully, a few at a time, and apply them to our encounters with those who have acted badly, those we don’t particularly like, and ourselves, for all these dialogues are taking place within each of us all the time.”

—Roshi Joan Halifax, from the foreword

“In The Buddha in Jail, Cuong Lu demonstrates how to be in a helping relationship without getting caught in roles. As a prison chaplain, he did not attach to the idea of being a helper, or even of ‘helping.’ He sat quietly, deeply present with each inmate, and saw each of them as a soul, not just their personality or their troubled past. I congratulate Cuong Lu for the depth of his prison ministry and this beautiful book.”

—Ram Dass, author of Be Here Now and Walking Each Other Home: Conversations on Loving and Dying

CUONG LU was born in Nha Trang, Vietnam. He was ordained a monk at Plum Village in France under the guidance of Thich Nhat Hanh. In 2009, Lu helped develop the Buddhist Spiritual Care Program within the Dutch penitentiary system. Lu is the founder of Mind Only School in the Netherlands, where he teaches Buddhist philosophy and psychology, specializing in Yogachara Buddhism combined with the Madhyamaka (Middle Way) School of Nagarjuna.
FRED W. McDARRAH
WITH A NEW FOREWORD BY HILTON ALS

The fiftieth anniversary of the Stonewall rebellion is in 2019, with World Pride Day taking place in New York City in June: this is the ultimate visual chronicle of life in the gay community, circa 1970

Fifty years ago this spring, the Stonewall uprising occurred in Greenwich Village—an event that marked the coming-out of New York’s gay community and a refusal by gays to accept underground status that was as important in its way as the Montgomery bus boycott was to the civil rights movement. As a direct outcome of Stonewall, gay pride marches were held in 1970 in San Francisco, Los Angeles, and New York.

The ultimate chronicler of New York’s downtown scene in that period, and therefore of pre-AIDS life in the gay community, was the late Fred W. McDarrah, senior staff photographer of the legendary Village Voice. Twenty-five years ago, to mark Stonewall’s twenty-fifth anniversary, he brought out a work that became a classic: Gay Pride: Photographs from Stonewall to Today. That book has long been out of print. Now, scanning from original negatives, OR Books has lovingly reset and redesigned the book, newly titled Pride. This edition also includes a number of photographs not in the original and available nowhere else.

The forthcoming edition of Pride features a foreword by Hilton Als (the New Yorker critic, who got his first job from McDarrah) and essays by Allen Ginsberg and Jill Johnston. Its portraits of people and setting are unique, but as Hilton Als puts it, McDarrah deserves a lasting place in New York’s alternative history not only for his documentation of a world in transformation, but for his work as “an agent of change himself.”

PRAISE FOR FRED W. McDarrah

“McDarrah had an inflamed curiosity, great feelers and an ability to capture liquid moments. He also had hustle.”


“[McDarrah’s] nocturnal flash reveals a multitude of subversions.”

—Allen Ginsberg

“Inescapable images of a dirtier, mangier, more creatively churning time that is receding into legend.”

—James Wolcott, Vanity Fair

FRED W. McDARAH is considered one of the essential chroniclers of alternative New York from the days of the Beats through the 1970s. As the first on-staff photographer for The Village Voice, he was one of the first professionals to photograph artists such as Bob Dylan and Jack Kerouac. McDarrah received a Guggenheim Fellowship for his work in 1972. He died in 2007 in Greenwich Village.
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