

# Penguin Press

Autumn / Winter 2025



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Allen Lane

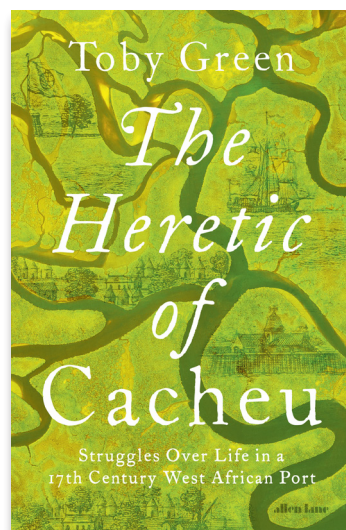
Autumn / Winter  
2025



# TOBY GREEN

## The Heretic of Cacheu

### Struggles over Life in a Seventeenth-Century West African Port



A unique, startling book that gives a rich and detailed sense of life in a West African port some 360 years ago.

In 1665, Crispina Peres, the most powerful trader in the slave-trafficking port of Cacheu, was denounced by her enemies and arrested by the Portuguese Inquisition. But who was Peres? And why was the Inquisition so concerned with policing the faith of this woman?

In *The Heretic of Cacheu*, Toby Green takes us to the heart of this conundrum. Amidst the haunting realities of the growing transatlantic slave trade and the rise of European empires, Cacheu was singular in its global connections – spanning from China to Colombia – and in being led by bold women like Crispina Peres who challenged the patriarchy of empire.

For the first time, through the surviving documents recording Peres's case, we can see what this world was really like – from how people built their houses and how they worshipped, to how they had fun and healed themselves from illness. *Cacheu* is an extraordinary act of historical recovery, revealing not only the story of a seventeenth-century West African woman, but also of the shifting, sophisticated world in which she lived – its beliefs, values and people.

**Toby Green** is a Fellow of the British Academy, and Professor of Precolonial and Lusophone African History and Culture at King's College, London. His books have been translated into twelve languages and include the award-winning *A Fistful of Shells* and (as co-editor) *Guinea-Bissau: Micro-State to 'Narco-State'*. He writes extensively for the media, including *London Review of Books*, *New Statesman*, *Prospect*, and *UnHerd*. He has worked on curriculum change in the teaching of African history both in the UK and in West Africa.

JULY 2025

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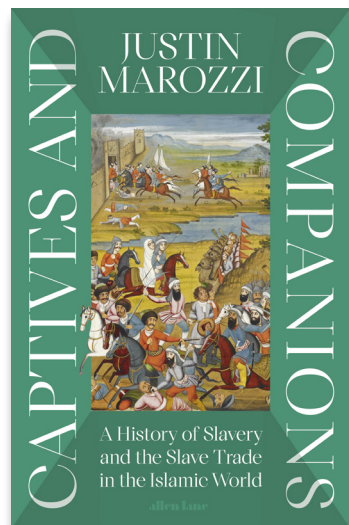
£25.00 | 288 PAGES



# JUSTIN MAROZZI

## Captives and Companions

### A History of Slavery and the Slave Trade in the Islamic World



A startling exploration of slavery in the Islamic world from the seventh century to the present.

Slavery in the Islamic world has a long and controversial history, though one much less known than the notorious Atlantic slave trade. *Captives and Companions* is a brilliant synthesis of history and contemporary reportage examining how, despite their terrible privations, some of the enslaved rose to the highest level of political and military command. Leading concubines and courtesans became some of the richest and most celebrated figures in the ninth-century Golden Age of Baghdad and beyond.

Africa bore the brunt of the insatiable demand for slave labour in the Middle East – slavers plied its coasts, traders raided inland for human cargo, and millions of enslaved trudged across the Sahara into captivity. Abolition had few champions and came late, and hereditary slavery still continues today in Mali and Mauritania. *Captives and Companions* takes the reader on an extraordinary historical journey across deserts, continents and oceans, from Baghdad to Bamako, Tripoli to Timbuktu, Istanbul to the Black Sea.

Justin Marozzi has spent most of his professional life living and working in the Muslim world. A Senior Research Fellow in Journalism and the Popular Understanding of History at Buckingham University, he is a former Trustee of the Royal Geographical Society and a Fellow of the Royal Society of Literature. His previous books include *South from Barbary* (2001), the bestselling *Islamic Empires* (2019), *Tamerlane* (2004), the Ondaatje Prize-winning *Baghdad* (2014), and *The Arab Conquests* (2021).

JULY 2025

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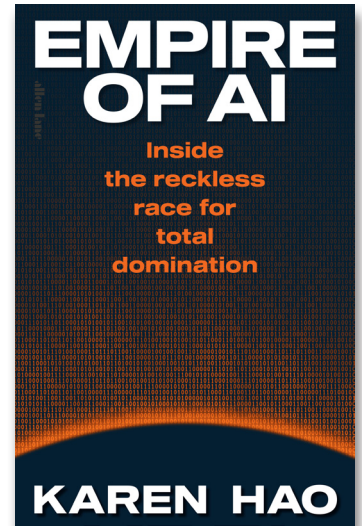
ROYAL OCTAVO HARDBACK

£30.00 | 448 PAGES

# KAREN HAO

## Empire of AI

Inside the reckless race for total domination



An eye-opening account of the tech arms race shaping our planet, from an award-winning journalist and insider to the world of OpenAI.

When longtime AI expert and journalist Karen Hao first began covering OpenAI in 2019, she thought they were the good guys. Founded as a nonprofit with safety enshrined as its core mission, it was meant, its leader Sam Altman told us, to act as a check against more purely market forces.

But the core truth of this massively disruptive sector is that it requires an unprecedented amount of proprietary resources: the ‘compute’ power of scarce high-end chips, the sheer volume of data that needs to be amassed at scale, the humans on the ground ‘cleaning it up’ for sweatshop wages throughout the Global South, and a truly alarming spike in the need for energy and water underlying everything. We have entered a new, ominous age of empire with OpenAI setting a breakneck pace, as a small group of the most valuable companies in human history try to chase it down.

In exhilarating prose and with unparalleled access to those closest to Sam Altman, Hao recounts the meteoric rise of OpenAI and shows us the sinister impact that this industry is having on society.

**Karen Hao** is an award-winning journalist covering the impacts of artificial intelligence on society and a contributing writer for the *Atlantic*. She leads the Pulitzer Center’s AI Spotlight Series, and sits on the AI advisory board of the Craig Newmark Graduate School of Journalism at CUNY. She was formerly a foreign correspondent covering China’s technology industry for the *Wall Street Journal* and a senior editor for AI at *MIT Technology Review*. She has received numerous accolades for her coverage, including an American National Magazine Award for Journalists Under 30.

JULY 2025

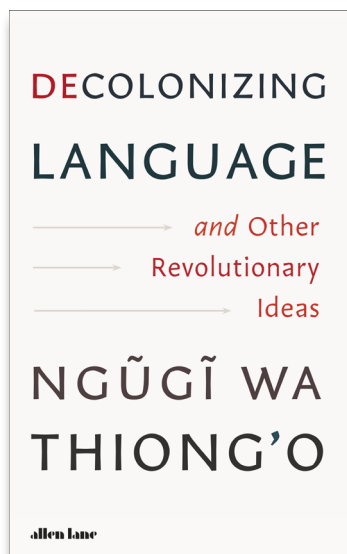
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£25.00 | 256 PAGES

# NGUGI WA THIONG'O

## Decolonizing Language and Other Revolutionary Ideas



A new collection of literary criticism and brilliant insights from one of the giants of contemporary thinking.

Who owns language? In *Decolonizing Language and Other Revolutionary Ideas*, Ngũgĩ wa Thiong'o presents a series of essays that build on his vast wealth of work on language and its constructive role in national culture, history, and identity. Here, in a book that is intricate, nuanced and accessible, he reaffirms the revolutionary power of African languages to fight back against both the psychic and material impacts of colonialism, past and present.

With immense relevance to our present moment, *Decolonizing Language and Other Revolutionary Ideas* is both a brilliant distillation of the enduring themes of Ngũgĩ's work, and a vital addition to the library of one of the world's greatest and most provocative living writers.

Ngũgĩ wa Thiong'o was born in Limuru, Kenya, in 1938, and is one of the leading writers and scholars at work today. He is the author of novels including *A Grain of Wheat*, *Devil on the Cross* and *Petals of Blood*; memoirs such as *Dreams in a Time of War*; and essays including the seminal *Decolonising the Mind*. Currently Distinguished Professor of English and Comparative Literature at the University of California, Irvine, Ngũgĩ is the recipient of fourteen honorary doctorates, among other awards, and has been nominated for the Man Booker International Prize.

AUGUST 2025

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£20.00 | 192 PAGES



# DAN WANG

## Breakneck

### China's Quest to Engineer the Future



© Silvia Lindner

From an 'indispensable voice on China' (Evan Osnos) comes a riveting, first-hand account of China's seismic progress.

America used to pride itself on ambition. Today, it looks stuck. Meanwhile, China has been busy building the future. Over the past six years, technology analyst Dan Wang lived through China's astonishing, messy progress and the dissolution of its relationship to the West.

In *Breakneck*, Wang offers a new framework for understanding China – which helps us to see global geopolitics more clearly too. While China is an *engineering state*, fearlessly building megaprojects, America is a *lawyerly society*, reflexively blocking everything, good and bad. Building big has fuelled China's economic ascent. At the same time, social engineering has led to unbearable costs, including the traumas of zero-Covid and the one-child policy. Wang traverses China's dazzling metropolises and factory complexes, blending political and economic analysis with reportage to show how the Communist Party's darkening ambitions have unsettled its people.

As the US and China are gearing up for a new Cold War, *Breakneck* reveals both the remarkable strengths and the appalling weaknesses of the engineering state. China has learned from the West's successes and failures – and now we in turn can learn from China, not least by taking its global ambitions seriously.

**Dan Wang** is a Fellow of Yale University's Paul Tsai China Center and one of the leading international experts on China and technology. He was based in China as the technology analyst at Gavekal Dragonomics, the Beijing-based economics research firm for six years. His essays have been published in *Foreign Affairs*, *The New York Times*, *The Financial Times*, *The Atlantic*, *New York Magazine* and *Bloomberg* among others.

AUGUST 2025  
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# PETER BRANNEN

## The Story of CO<sub>2</sub> is the Story of Everything

### A Planetary Experiment

An epic biography of the molecule that made – and could now break – everything we know.

All life is made from CO<sub>2</sub>. It was there at the earth's birth, and throughout evolution. It has kept our planet habitable for hundreds of millions of years. It has given us all the splendours of the world we know today. And yet it also holds the potential for life's destruction.

In this gripping adventure through eras and places, award-winning science journalist Peter Brannen tells the story of the world's most important molecule. We travel from the beginning of time all the way up to our present reality, witnessing the staggering journey that CO<sub>2</sub> has undertaken.

As we watch its movements through the rocks, the air, the oceans and living beings over four billion years, we come to see more clearly what it means for us to be churning through ancient life – in the form of fossil fuels – as we power our industrial world. We are, Brannen shows, performing an unprecedented experiment on our planet. If we are to avoid its catastrophic consequences, we must all begin to deepen our understanding of this curious substance, which has given us everything from the very first life forms on earth to the business titans reshaping our planet today.

**Peter Brannen** is an award-winning science journalist and contributing writer at the *Atlantic*. His work has also appeared in *The New York Times*, the *Washington Post*, the *New Yorker*, *Wired*, and the *Guardian*, among other publications. His first book, *The Ends of the World*, was published in 2017. Peter was a 2024 visiting scholar at the Kluge Center at the Library of Congress, and is an affiliate at the Institute of Arctic and Alpine Research at the University of Colorado, Boulder.

AUGUST 2025  
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£25.00 | 400 PAGES

# CLARE JACKSON

## The Mirror of Great Britain

### A Life of James VI & I



© Ian Farrell

## A major reassessment of one of Britain's most important monarchs.

James VI & I, who died 400 years ago, was one of Britain's most consequential and interesting monarchs, not least in creating the British monarchy itself by joining the English and Scottish thrones. A major intellectual, James's preoccupations ranged from witchcraft and theological controversy to hunting, diplomacy, poetry and sartorial fashion. The 'Mirror of Great Britain' was a spectacular jewel that gave symbolic endorsement to James's vision of British union, but mirrors themselves – with their limitless capacity to magnify, illuminate and distort – supplied James with one of his favourite literary metaphors.

Ruler of Scotland for nearly four decades before his accession to the English throne in 1603, James was a 'cradle king' whose long reigns encompassed extraordinary dramas, including his abduction in the 'Ruthven Raid' in 1582 and his attempted assassination in the Gunpowder Plot of 1605. In his lifetime, James often confounded contemporaries' expectations while his posthumous reputation has been distorted by crude stereotypes.

Closely attentive to James's own words – in numerous publications, manuscript musings, topical verse and private correspondence – Clare Jackson's wonderful new book tells the story of this highly unusual monarch with great flair and insight.

Clare Jackson is Honorary Professor of Early Modern History at Cambridge University and a Fellow of Trinity Hall. She has presented a number of highly successful programmes on the Stuart dynasty for the BBC and is the author of *Devil-Land: England under Siege 1588-1688* (2021), which won the 2022 Wolfson History Prize.

AUGUST 2025

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£35.00 | 432 PAGES



# CATHERINE CLARKE

## A History of England in 25 Poems



© William Bazinton

A delightful, thoughtful and original new way to understand England's history.

This is the history of England told in a new way: glimpsed through twenty-five remarkable poems written down between the eighth century and today, which connect us directly with the nation's past, and the experiences, emotions and imaginations of those who lived it.

These poems open windows onto wildly different worlds – from the public to the intimate, from the witty to the savage, from the playful to the wistful. They take us onto battlefields, inside royal courts, down coal mines and below stairs in great houses. Their creators, witnesses to events from the Great Fire of London to the Miners' Strike, range from the famous to the forgotten, yet each invites us into an immersive encounter with their own time.

*A History of England in 25 Poems* is a portal to the past; a constant companion, filled with vivid voices and surprising stories alongside familiar landmarks, and language that speaks in new ways on each reading. Catherine Clarke's knowledge and passion take us inside the words and the moments they capture, with thoughtful insights, humour and new perspectives on how the nation has dreamed itself into existence – and who gets to tell England's story.

Catherine Clarke is a Professor at the Institute of Historical Research, University of London, and Director of the Victoria County History of England. She was previously Professor of English Literature at the University of Southampton, where she remains a Visiting Professor.

SEPTEMBER 2025

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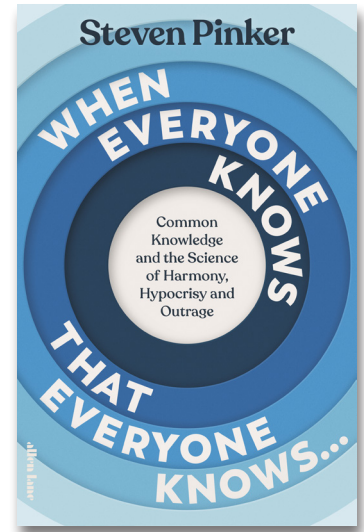
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£25.00 | 400 PAGES

# STEVEN PINKER

## When Everyone Knows That Everyone Knows...

### Common Knowledge and the Science of Harmony, Hypocrisy and Outrage



One of the world's greatest thinkers investigates the logic and psychology of common knowledge.

As a cognitive scientist, the ultimate subject of Steven Pinker's fascination is how we think about each other's thoughts, ad infinitum. It sounds impossible, but Steven Pinker shows that we do it all the time. This awareness, which we experience as something that is public or 'out there', is called *common knowledge*, and it has a momentous impact on our social, political, and economic lives.

Common knowledge, Pinker shows, can make sense of many of life's enigmas: financial bubbles and crashes, revolutions that come out of nowhere, the posturing and pretence of diplomacy, the eruption of social media shaming mobs and academic cancel culture, the awkwardness of a first date. But people also go to great lengths to *avoid* common knowledge – to ensure that even if everyone knows something, they can't know that everyone else knows they know it. And so we get rituals like benign hypocrisy, veiled bribes and threats, sexual innuendo, and pretending not to see the elephant in the room.

In exploring the paradoxes of human behaviour, *When Everyone Knows that Everyone Knows...* invites us to understand the ways we try to get into each other's heads, and the harmonies, hypocrisies and outrages that result.

**Steven Pinker** is an experimental cognitive scientist. Currently Johnstone Professor of Psychology at Harvard, he has also taught at Stanford and MIT. He has won many prizes for his research, teaching, and his eleven books, including *The Language Instinct*, *How the Mind Works*, *The Blank Slate*, *The Better Angels of Our Nature*, and *Enlightenment Now*. He is a member of the National Academy of Sciences, a two-time Pulitzer Prize finalist, a Humanist of the Year, a recipient of nine honorary doctorates, one of *Foreign Policy*'s 'World's Top 100 Public Intellectuals' and *Time*'s '100 Most Influential People in the World Today'.

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# LEA YPI

## Indignity

### A Life Reimagined

The acclaimed author of *Free* returns with an extraordinary investigation into historical injustice, dignity, truth and imagination.

When Lea Ypi discovers a photo of her grandmother, Leman, honeymooning in the Alps in 1941 posted by a stranger on social media, she is faced with unsettling questions. Growing up, she was told records of her grandmother's youth were destroyed in the early days of communism in Albania. But there Leman was with her husband, Asllan Ypi: glamorous newlyweds while World War II raged.

What follows is a thrilling reimagining of the past, as we are transported to the vanished world of Ottoman aristocracy, the making of modern Greece and Albania, a global financial crisis, the horrors of war and the dawn of communism in the Balkans. While investigating the truth about her family, Ypi grapples with uncertainty. Who is the real Leman Ypi? What made her move to Tirana as a young woman and meet a socialist who sympathized with the Popular Front while his father led a collaborationist government? And, above all, why was she smiling in the winter of 1941?

By turns epic and intimate, profound and gripping, *Indignity* shows what it is like to make choices against the tide of history – and reveals the fragility of truth, collective and personal. Through secret police reports of communist spies, court depositions, and Ypi's memories of her grandmother, we move between present and past, archive and imagination.

Ultimately, she asks, with what moral authority do we judge the acts of previous generations? And what do we really know about the people closest to us?



© Mihaela Noroc

Lea Ypi is Professor of Political Theory at the London School of Economics and a fellow of the British Academy. Her first trade book, *Free: Coming of Age at the End of History* won the Ondaatje Prize and the Slightly Foxed Best First Biography Prize and was shortlisted for the Baillie Gifford Prize and the Costa Biography Award. It is translated into over thirty languages.

SEPTEMBER 2025

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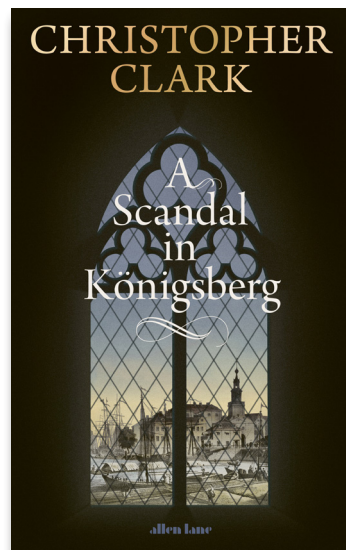
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# CHRISTOPHER CLARK

## A Scandal in Königsberg



A remarkable micro-history from  
the author of *The Sleepwalkers*  
and *Revolutionary Spring*.

Now part of the Russian Baltic enclave of Kaliningrad, the former Prussian and German port of Königsberg has always been a somewhat sleepy place, doomed to be famous for having once been the residence of Immanuel Kant. But in the late 1830s, just for a short while, it became famous for all the wrong reasons.

Christopher Clark's brilliant new book is the result of many years of fascination with this strange case. Sensational accusations were bandied about, implying that beneath the town's somnolent surface there were dark erotic currents and wrenching betrayals of trust. For the Prussian authorities this was just the sort of moral collapse they feared most. In the aftermath of the Revolutionary and Napoleonic Wars, which had unsettled a generation, every lapse could be seen as the harbinger of new storms.

*A Scandal in Königsberg* beautifully brings to life a time and a place that we would now situate in the tranquil 'Biedermeier' years between the seismic upheavals of the 1810s and 1840s. But there is a timeless quality to this small vortex of turbulence, in which spiritual hunger, vanity, professional rivalry, sexual incontinence, naivety and sheer human waywardness threatened to tear a city apart.

Christopher Clark is the Regius Professor of History at the University of Cambridge. He was knighted in 2015. His previous books are *The Politics of Conversion*, *Kaiser Wilhelm II*, *Iron Kingdom*, *The Sleepwalkers*, *Time and Power*, *Prisoners of Time* and *Revolutionary Spring*.

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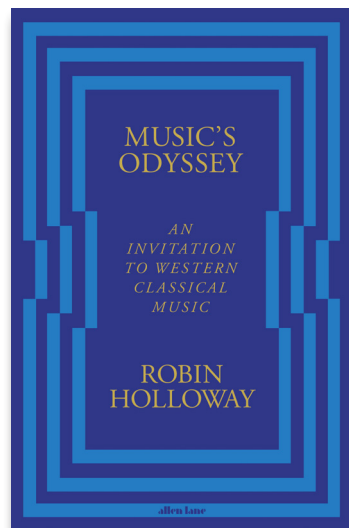
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£22.00 | 240 PAGES

# ROBIN HOLLOWAY

## Music's Odyssey

### An Invitation to Western Classical Music



A unique journey across classical music by an extraordinary writer, composer and teacher.

Robin Holloway's long-awaited *Music's Odyssey* is a book about classical music unlike any other. With the insights of a composer himself, he takes us to the essence of baroque, classical, romantic and modern classical music – lesser-known composers and their works, as well as the greats – through close readings, daring comparisons and brilliant insights. Holloway characterizes, illuminates, and energizes his subject with musical empathy, sureness of judgement and mastery of descriptive language. He writes:

‘My aim in this book is to offer an invitation to the glorious long voyage of Western classical music for all who enjoy and love it, and seek to deepen their enjoyment and love without getting bogged down in musicology and technicalities: an *invitation au voyage*, an entry to Aladdin's cave, an injunction to ‘taste and see’ re-angled for the sense of hearing in all its complex and various modes. Not historical; but broadly chronological and thematic, from the earliest adventures in notation up to the present day – some fourteen centuries of continuity and interruptions, revolutions and renewals, complements and contrasts, via many detailed descriptions of individual composers and individual pieces.’

**Robin Holloway** is a composer, teacher, writer and Emeritus Professor of Music at the University of Cambridge.

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# SARA AHMED

## No Is Not a Lonely Utterance

### The Art and Activism of Complaining



© Sarah Franklin

A moving exploration of the solace and power of listening in an unjust world, from the author of *The Feminist Killjoy Handbook*.

*'Behind many disasters are unheard complaints'*

To complain is an intimate, dangerous act. Whether it's speaking up about racism in the workplace or taking a stand against sexual harassment at university, the act of complaining to an institution can leave you isolated and undermined, all while the original injustice remains unresolved. Time and time again, we see these unanswered complaints compound to disastrous effect.

In *No is Not a Lonely Utterance*, Sara Ahmed dissects the anatomy of a complaint, revealing how institutions create hostile environments that stigmatize complainers, and charts a way we can listen to grievances with 'feminist ears': going beyond mere validation and seeking instead to address the root causes of injustice and inequality.

Weaving together testimonies from various walks of life, Ahmed shows us what we learn about the ways institutions exercise their power when complaints are raised, and indeed what we learn about our capacity to collectivize and create social bonds through complaint. In doing so, she inspires us to create better environments for our life's work.

Sara Ahmed is an independent feminist scholar who works at the intersection of feminist, queer and race studies. Her research is concerned with how bodies and worlds take shape; and how power is secured and challenged in everyday life as well as institutional cultures. She has published eleven books including *The Feminist Killjoy Handbook*.

SEPTEMBER 2025  
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# MARK MAZOWER

## On Antisemitism

### A Word in History



## What do we mean when we talk about antisemitism?

For most of history, antisemitism has been understood as a menace from Europe's political Right, the province of blood-and-soil ethno-nativists who built on Christendom's long-standing suspicion of its Jewish population and infused it with racist pseudo-science. Such threats culminated in the nightmare of Nazi Germany and the Holocaust.

The landscape is very different now, as Mark Mazower argues in this piercingly brilliant book. More than four-fifths of the world's Jews now live in Israel and the United States, with the former's military dominance of its region guaranteed by the latter while the loudest voices decrying antisemitism see it coming from the Left not the Right.

Mazower clearly and carefully shows us how we got here, seeking to illuminate rather than blame. Very few words have the punch of 'antisemitism' and yet no term is more liable to be misunderstood in ways affecting free speech and foreign policy alike. *On Antisemitism* is a vitally important attempt to draw a line that must be drawn.

**Mark Mazower** is Ira D. Wallach Professor of History at Columbia University, where he directs the Institute for Ideas and Imagination. His previous books include *Inside Hitler's Greece*, *Dark Continent*, *The Balkans and Salonica*, *City of Ghosts*. His most recent book, *The Greek Revolution*, won the Duff Cooper Prize.

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# MALCOLM GASKILL

## The Glass Mountain

### Escape and Discovery in Wartime Italy



The author of *The Ruin of All Witches* returns with a gripping, vividly told journey of rediscovery in World War Two Italy.

Malcolm Gaskill knew two things about his great-uncle Ralph's wartime adventures: he'd been a prisoner in Italy, and he'd cut his way out of a train with a knife and fork. Apart from that, he'd faded into family folklore, lost to view. Until, one hot afternoon in an English country garden, a chance conversation set Gaskill on his uncle's trail...

What Ralph really did in the war was, he discovers, even more extraordinary than the exaggerations of family myth. From last-ditch fighting in the Libyan desert and incarceration in a Puglian prisoner-of-war camp, to desperate, dramatic escapes and the assuming of an entirely new identity among the peasants and partisans of the Italian Alps, Gaskill traces a life transformed by conflict, while lifting the curtain on a long forgotten episode of the Second World War.

Yet *The Glass Mountain* is about more than war: it's a haunting exploration of what it means to encounter the past, and how we remember, forget and recover it. As he follows his uncle's path through dusty archives and the landscapes, towns and villages of present-day Italy, Gaskill finds himself confronted by questions that go to the heart of how we think about the people who came before us: Why do stories matter? How much of the past can ever be true?

**Malcolm Gaskill** is Emeritus Professor of Early Modern History at the University of East Anglia. One of Britain's leading experts in the history of witchcraft, his works include the highly acclaimed *Witchfinders*, *Between Two Worlds* and Sunday Times bestseller *The Ruin of All Witches: Life and Death in the New World*.

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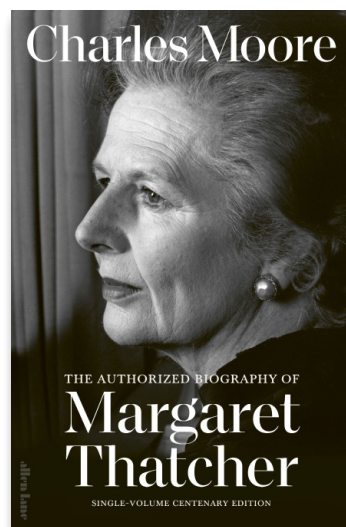
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# CHARLES MOORE

## Margaret Thatcher: The Authorized Biography

### One-volume Anniversary Edition



Charles Moore's bestselling and definitive biography of Britain's first female Prime Minister, now in a single volume.

With unparalleled authority and dramatic detail, Charles Moore's definitive biography of Margaret Thatcher, now published in a single volume to mark the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of her birth, presents the whole history of the woman who transformed Britain and the world in the late twentieth century. With unique access to Thatcher's private and governmental papers and extensive interviews with her, her family, and colleagues, Moore gives readers an unsurpassed portrait of her life.

From her early years and rise to power, through her transformative tenure as Prime Minister, to her final days, this biography illuminates the complexities of Thatcher's character – her determination, boldness, and the challenges she faced as a woman in a male-dominated political world. Moore brilliantly conveys her pivotal role on the world stage, her battles at home, and the dramatic events leading to her resignation.

This edition combines the insights of the original three volumes, providing a comprehensive portrait of one of the most influential figures of her age, whose impact has lasted well into our own.

Charles Moore joined the *Daily Telegraph* in 1979, and as a political columnist covered several years of Mrs Thatcher's governments. He was Editor of the *Spectator* 1984–1990; Editor of the *Sunday Telegraph* 1992–1995; and Editor of the *Daily Telegraph* 1995–2003, for which he is still a regular columnist. The first volume of his biography of Margaret Thatcher won the 2013 Elizabeth Longford Prize for Historical Biography, the H.W. Fisher Best First Biography Prize and the Paddy Power Political Book of the Year Award.

Daniel Collings is a historian who has collaborated with Charles Moore on all three volumes of the authorized biography.

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9780241687673  
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£40.00 | 1024 PAGES

# CARLO ROVELLI

## Seven Brief Lessons on Physics

### Anniversary Edition



A new anniversary edition of the international phenomenon: ‘one of the best books of the 21st century’ (*Guardian*)

These seven short lessons guide us, with simplicity and clarity, through the scientific revolution that shook physics in the twentieth century and still continues to shake us today. In this enchanting overview of modern physics, Carlo Rovelli explains Einstein’s theory of general relativity, quantum mechanics, black holes, the complex architecture of the universe, elementary particles, gravity, and the nature of the mind.

Not since Richard Feynman’s celebrated *Six Easy Pieces* has physics been so vividly, intelligently and entertainingly revealed.

Carlo Rovelli is an internationally acclaimed writer whose books, including *Seven Brief Lessons on Physics*, *The Order of Time* and *Helgoland*, have been number one bestsellers around the world and translated into over forty languages. As a theoretical physicist, he has made significant contributions to the physics of space and time and he is currently directing the quantum gravity research group of the Centre de physique théorique in Marseille, France.

SEPTEMBER 2025

9780241737675

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£10.99 | 96 PAGES

# HU ANYAN

## I Deliver Parcels in Beijing

A witty and humane first person account of one worker's daily life in the Chinese gig economy.

In the twenty years following Hu Anyan's high school graduation, he has held nineteen different jobs. He's been a convenience store clerk, a bicycle salesman, a security guard and a delivery driver, among other things. He's moved from city to city in China, slipping away every time the work gets too intense or the bosses too bossy, making a home in rented rooms and carrying almost nothing with him except his copies of Chekhov and Carver.

*I Deliver Parcels in Beijing* is his account of his life as a low-wage worker in the mega-cities of modern China. From the psychology of the pecking order on a parcel-sorting factory floor to the perfect alcohol dose to get some daylight shut-eye before a punishing night shift, from the Kafkaesque bureaucracy of the hiring departments to the ideal layout of a delivery route, Hu's sincere curiosity and deadpan humour highlight the human story behind the drudgery. Harnessing his love of literature, Hu begins to discover a new, freeing way of looking at and recording his world.

Translated from the Chinese by Jack Hargreaves.

Hu AnYan was born in Guangzhou, China, in 1979. After graduating from secondary school he joined the workforce, moving between cities and odd jobs to make a living. In 2020, a blog post based on his experience as a delivery driver in Beijing went viral, leading to the publication of his first book, *I Deliver Parcels in Beijing* (Insight Media, 2023). It has since become a major national bestseller in China and will be translated into fifteen languages.

Jack Hargreaves is a Chinese-English translator. He translated work by Shen Dacheng, Wen Zhen and Chen Chungheng, among others.

OCTOBER 2025  
9780241733820  
DEMY OCTAVO HARDBACK  
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SUDHIR  
HAZAREESINGH

## Daring to be Free

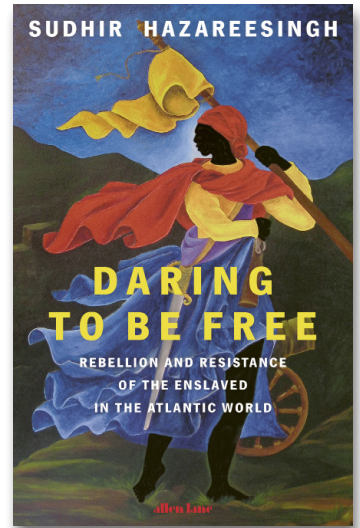
### Resistance and Rebellion of the Enslaved in the Atlantic World

A revelatory history of  
enslaved people's resistance  
to Atlantic slavery.

The ending of slavery during the nineteenth century is generally told as the work of enlightened liberals fighting against entrenched slaving interests in Africa, the Caribbean, and European capitals. Sudhir Hazareesingh here turns this narrative on its head, showing how the enslaved resisted their oppressors from the earliest years of Atlantic slavery in the sixteenth century.

*Daring To Be Free* portrays the struggle for liberation from the perspective of the enslaved, shining a light on the lives of the countless revolutionaries, maroons, insurgents and conspirators whose defiance destabilized the slave order in the colonies and galvanized the movement for abolition in Europe and the United States.

Drawing on a rich body of sources, it traces the networks of cooperation that connected antislavery revolts from Haiti, Jamaica, Brazil and Cuba to Mauritius and the United States, also emphasizing the powerful role of women. It explores how the struggle for liberty was shaped by African influences from before the Middle Passage – and by the inspiring example of Haiti, the first independent black state. Finally, it examines the legacies of slavery in discussions about redress, reparations, and memorial in our own time.



Sudhir Hazareesingh was born in Mauritius. He is a Fellow of the British Academy and a Fellow and Tutor in Politics at Balliol College, Oxford. His books include *The Legend of Napoleon* (winner of the Prix du Mémorial d'Ajaccio and the Prix de la Fondation Napoléon), *In the Shadow of the General* (winner of the Prix d'Histoire du Sénat), *How the French Think* (winner of the Grand Prix du Livre d'Idées), and *Black Spartacus* (winner of the Wolfson History Prize and the American Library in Paris Award).

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# HANS ULRICH OBRIST

## Life in Progress

World-renowned curator Hans Ulrich Obrist for the first time grants a private view of how a near-death experience in young childhood catapulted him towards art and artists.

When Hans Ulrich was six years old, he was knocked down by a speeding car as he was crossing the street. Hospitalized for weeks, a sense of urgency was instilled in him. Enraptured by the healing powers of art from this young age, he began to travel across Europe on night trains, visiting artist studios.

Part unputdownable coming-of-age story, part tour de force of the contemporary art world, part user's manual on how to live a life driven by curiosity, conversation, and not least hope, Obrist takes us through the formative experiences that made him. From his first exhibition in his Zurich kitchen to penning 250 postcards while trapped by an avalanche in Val Bregaglia, *Life in Progress* is an enchanting ode to the healing properties that engaging with art and the people around us boundlessly affords.

Hans Ulrich Obrist is Artistic Director of the Serpentine Galleries in London. Prior to this, he was a curator at the Musée d'Art Moderne de la Ville de Paris. Since his first show *World Soup (The Kitchen Show)* in 1991, he has curated more than 300 shows. Obrist's recent publications include *Ways of Curating* (2015), *The Age of Earthquakes* (2015), *Lives of the Artists*, *Lives of Architects* (2015), *Mondialité* (2017), *Somewhere Totally Else* (2018) and *The Athens Dialogues* (2018).

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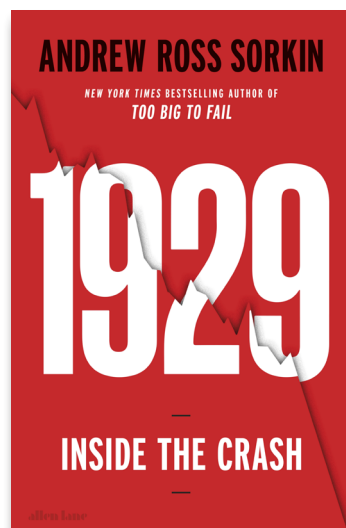
DEMY OCTAVO HARDBACK

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# ANDREW ROSS SORKIN

## 1929

### Inside the Crash



From the author of the landmark international bestseller *Too Big to Fail*, a riveting fly-on-the-wall account of the 1929 stock market crash.

In 1929, the world watched in shock as the unstoppable Wall Street bull market went into a devastating freefall, wiping out fortunes overnight and igniting a crisis that would reshape a generation. But behind the flashing ticker tapes and panicked traders, another drama unfolded – one of visionaries and fraudsters, titans and dreamers, euphoria and ruin.

With unparalleled access to historical records and newly uncovered documents, International bestselling author Andrew Ross Sorkin takes readers inside the chaos of the crash, following the larger-than-life characters whose ambition, greed, and blind faith in an endless boom led to ruin. The dizzying highs and brutal lows of this era eerily mirror today's world – where markets soar, political tensions mount, and the battle over financial power plays out once again. This is not just a story about money. It's about disregarded alarm bells, financiers who fell from grace, and skeptics who saw the crash coming – only to be dismissed until it was too late.

More than just a history, 1929 is a crucial blueprint for understanding the cycles of speculation, the forces that drive financial upheaval, and the warning signs we ignore at our peril.

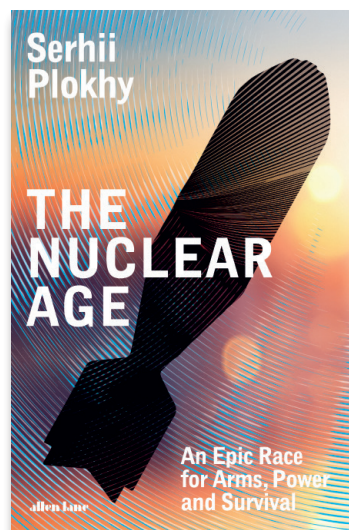
Andrew Ross Sorkin is the author of *Too Big to Fail*, which won the Gerald Loeb Award for Best Business Book, and was shortlisted for the Samuel Johnson Prize and the *Financial Times* Business Book of the Year Award. Sorkin is a long-time journalist at *The New York Times*, the creator of DealBook, the *New York Times*'s DealBook conference, and the TV drama *Billions*, and a television correspondent for CNBC's Squawk Box.

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# SERHII PLOHKY

## The Nuclear Age

### An Epic Race for Arms, Power and Survival



From the bestselling author of *Chernobyl* comes a sweeping history of the geopolitics behind the nuclear arms race, from the first atomic bomb to today

On 16 July 1945, the Nuclear Age began with the explosion of the first atomic bomb and the words of J. Robert Oppenheimer: 'Now I am become Death, the Destroyer of Worlds.'

While the threat of mutually assured destruction kept a lid on a simmering and tense geopolitical landscape, events like the Chernobyl disaster and near-misses like the Cuban Missile Crisis showed that total destruction was only ever one malfunction, mistake, or miscommunication away. Now, as governments re-arm their nuclear arsenals, treaties designed to limit the acquisition and use of nuclear weapons fall away, and nuclear weapons come increasingly within reach of non-state actors, we are on the brink of a renaissance of the nuclear industry.

In *The Nuclear Age*, acclaimed historian Serhii Plokhy paints an intricate picture of a world governed by fear. From the first artificial splitting of the atom in 1917 and the race to create the first atomic bomb in World War II, through the fraught arms race of the Cold War, to the imperialism, neo-colonial motivation and wars being waged today, the threat posed by nuclear weapons is as pertinent as ever.

As he examines the motivations of key players, Plokhy confronts the crucial question of our age: what can we learn from the first nuclear arms race that can help us to stop the new one?

Serhii Plokhy is the author of *Chernobyl: History of a Tragedy*, which won the Baillie Gifford Prize and the Pushkin House Book Prize, and the *New York Times* bestseller *The Gates of Europe*. His many acclaimed books, including *The Russo-Ukrainian War*, *Nuclear Folly* and *Atoms and Ashes*, have been translated into over a dozen languages. He is Professor of History at Harvard University where he also serves as Director of the Harvard Ukrainian Research Institute.

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RICHARD H.  
THALER AND  
ALEX O. IMAS

## The Winner's Curse

### Behavioral Economics Anomalies Revisited and Replicated

Nobel Prize winner Richard Thaler revisits economic anomalies in this fully updated edition of his *The Winner's Curse*.

Why do people still choose to cooperate when it seems irrational? Why do we hold onto things of little value? And why is the winner of an auction so often disappointed?

In the original 1992 version of *The Winner's Curse*, Richard Thaler introduced readers to behavioral economics, challenging the notion that people can be well-described as selfish, rational optimizers. Three decades later, Thaler teams up with Alex Imas for a fully updated edition. They revisit Thaler's original columns on economic anomalies, some written with collaborators like Daniel Kahneman and Amos Tversky, and explore how these anomalies hold up today.

Whether in households saving for retirement (or not), professional golfers putting for millions of dollars, or shoppers at large retail chains, many anomalies remain. In this era of meme stocks and Dogecoin, it is hard to defend the view that financial markets are highly efficient. The good news, however, is that they have gotten funnier.

Threading the needle between readability and rigor, *The Winner's Curse* is approachable for anyone with even a cursory understanding of economics, without oversimplifying so that experts cannot read it without cringing. In the final chapter, the authors reflect on the field's progress and future directions.

Richard H. Thaler received the 2017 Nobel Prize in Economic Sciences. He is a distinguished service professor of economics and behavioral science at the University of Chicago's Booth School of Business. He is the *New York Times* bestselling coauthor of *Nudge: Improving Decisions about Health, Wealth, and Happiness* (with Cass Sunstein) and the author of *Misbehaving: The Making of Behavioral Economics*.

Alex O. Imas is Professor of Behavioral Science and Economics at the University of Chicago School's Booth School of Business. He is the recipient of the 2023 Alfred P. Sloan Research Fellowship, the Review of Financial Studies Rising Scholar Award, the New Investigator Award from the Behavioral Science and Policy Association, the Hillel Einhorn New Investigator Award from the Society of Judgment and Decision Making, the Distinguished CESifo Affiliate Award, and the NSF Graduate Research Fellowship. Previously, he was Assistant Professor of Behavioral Economics at Carnegie Mellon University.

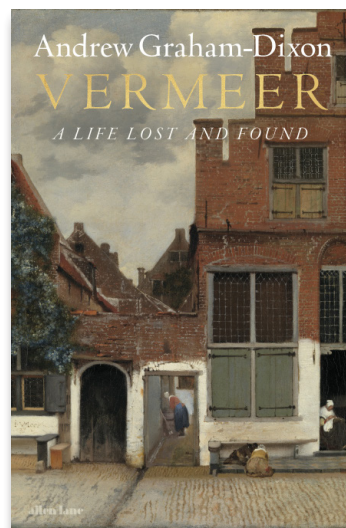
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# ANDREW GRAHAM- DIXON

## Vermeer

### A Life Lost and Found



A revelatory new biography of the enigmatic Dutch artist, published to coincide with the 350th anniversary of his death.

The paintings of Johannes Vermeer of Delft are some of the most beautiful, even sublime, in the history of art. Yet like the life of Vermeer himself, they are mysterious and have for centuries defied explanation. Following new leads, and drawing on a mass of historical and freshly uncovered archival evidence, Andrew Graham-Dixon paints a dramatically new picture of Vermeer, revealing many of his unknown relationships as well as his previously undetected allegiance to a radical religious movement driven underground by persecution.

The hitherto elusive figure of Vermeer emerges here as a man deeply engaged with his society and times. Graham-Dixon vividly evokes the world of the Dutch Republic in the so-called Golden Era, and shows how Vermeer was deeply affected by the wars and atrocities that shook his world. He also reveals the difficulties of his home life, and how his closest collaborator and chief patron was a woman.

At the heart of this book are many piercing descriptions of Vermeer's pictures, which are reassessed and their meanings rethought to shed light on the artist's intentions. As a result, the two great unresolved questions about Vermeer – why did he paint his pictures, and what do they mean? – are persuasively answered for the first time.

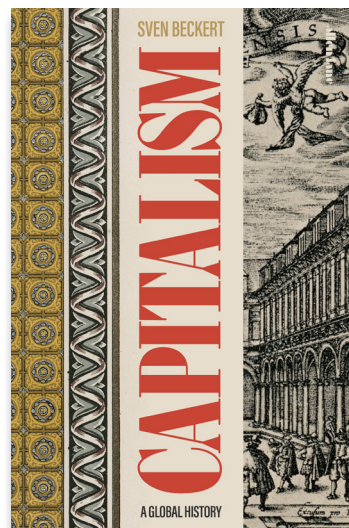
Andrew Graham-Dixon is an art historian, biographer and broadcaster who has made more BBC television series about art than any other presenter. He was for many years the main art critic of the *Sunday Telegraph* and the *Independent*. Of his biography of Caravaggio, Peter Carey said 'it is a thrilling lesson in the art of seeing' and Neil MacGregor wrote 'the man and his work emerge enriched and enlightened.' It has been translated into many languages.

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# SVEN BECKERT

## Capitalism

### A Global History



A brilliant global narrative that unravels the defining story of the past thousand years.

No other phenomenon has shaped human history as decisively as capitalism. It structures how we live and work, how we think about ourselves and others, how we organize our politics. Sven Beckert situates the story of capitalism within the largest conceivable geographical and historical framework in this fascinating new book.

Capitalism, argues Beckert, was born global. Emerging from merchant communities across Asia, Africa and Europe, capitalism's radical recasting of economic life rooted itself only gradually. Then it burst onto the world scene, as European states and merchants built a powerful alliance that would propel them across the oceans. This epic drama corresponded at no point to an idealized dream of free markets. All along, state-backed institutions and imperial expansions shaped its dynamics.

*Capitalism* decentres the European perspective, highlighting agency, resistance, innovation and ruthless coercion around the world through to the present with the rise of Asian economies, particularly China. Sven Beckert doesn't merely add up capitalism's debits and credits in this monumental book, but allows us to think afresh about the past to help us re-imagine the future.

Sven Beckert is Laird Bell Professor of History at Harvard University. His last book, *Empire of Cotton*, won many prizes, including the Bancroft Prize and the Philip Taft Prize. It was also a finalist for the 2015 Pulitzer Prize for History, shortlisted for the Cundill Prize in Historical Literature and was chosen by *The New York Times* as one of the ten best books of the year.

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# MARIA ALYOKHINA

## Political Girl

### Life and Fate in Russia Today

What do you do when your  
country becomes a repressive  
authoritarian state?

2014: Russia prepares to host the Winter Olympics. Russia invades Crimea. Putin is re-elected president. Several political prisoners are amnestied and released early from prison.

Maria Alyokhina is among them. She had spent two years in a penal colony after performing the punk prayer 'Virgin Mary, Banish Putin' with her friends in the Cathedral of Christ the Saviour. They had warned the rest of the world of the dangers of authoritarianism but the Russia she finds when she gets out of prison is even more oppressive.

As Masha recounts her brave and colourful protests, we are drawn straight into the world of grassroots opposition and witness the absurd measures the Russian state takes to contain protest. Over and over, Masha and her fellow members of Pussy Riot are tracked and attacked but find ways to subvert the authorities: they throw hundreds of paper planes at the gloomy stone colossus of the intelligence services, they dress up as police officers to disrupt a football match, or they spend the night in a huge Christmas bauble papered over with photos of political prisoners.

When the full-scale war against Ukraine starts and the Russian opposition is repeatedly silenced, Masha and her activist friends continue to protest despite the high stakes. They fight increasingly absurd cycles of detention and house arrest: sometimes with the smallest acts such as going for a walk or having a rainbow ice cream. Faced with a new prison sentence, she escapes Russia in May 2022 dressed as a delivery food courier. Her story, like her life, is fiercely courageous, darkly funny and highly inspiring to anyone who wants to stand up for the truth.

**Maria Alyokhina** is a political activist, artist and member of Pussy Riot collective.

NOVEMBER 2025

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# JONATHAN C. SLAGHT

## Tigers Between Empires

The Journey to Save  
the Amur Tiger from  
the Brink of Extinction



© Matt Garton

The remarkable story of the quest to bring one of the world's most iconic animals back from the brink of extinction.

In the forests of Northeast Asia fish owls, brown bears, musk deer, moose, wolves and leopards roam, as well as the majestic Amur tigers, more popularly known as 'The Siberian Tiger'. But in the final years of the Cold War, only a few hundred tigers stepped quietly through the snow of the Amur River basin. And as the Soviet Union fell, catastrophe arrived, with poaching and logging taking a fast, astonishing toll on an already vulnerable species.

Taking us on an unforgettable journey through remote frozen landscapes, globally renowned conservationist Jonathan Slaght charts the incredible story of how Russian scientists and American conservationists came together to save these magnificent, solitary creatures. He retraces their steps to show how this dedicated, fearless coalition laid the foundations of new tiger research across Asia, transforming public opinion around tigers from something to be feared and hunted, to creatures we must protect.

Today, tigers occupy 7 percent of the lands they did 100 years ago, disappearing in the wild from Bali to Iran. In the ongoing global crisis of species destruction, Slaght shows us that the revival of the Amur tiger can bring us hope for the future: a model for how to live alongside, and revive, the natural world.

Jonathan C. Slaght is an expert on endangered species of north Asia. He is the Regional Director of Temperate Asia for the Wildlife Conservation Society and has spent nearly thirty years travelling to and living in the region. His work has featured in *The New York Times*, BBC World Service, *The Guardian*, *Smithsonian* and *Audubon*. *Owls of the Eastern Ice*, his first book, was named *The Times* Nature Book of the Year in 2020.

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# CÉSAR A. HIDALGO

## The Infinite Alphabet

### And the Laws of Knowledge



For the first time, a world-renowned polymath articulates and usefully quantifies the multifaceted nature of knowledge.

Why is it that Silicon Valley in California or Zhongguancun in Beijing are such successful hubs for innovation, when the seeds of knowledge can fail to take root elsewhere? How did the industrial revolution spread to America, and Italian aircraft manufacturers choose to make Vespa scooters? What sustains the exponential growth in some technologies, such as the extraordinary improvement in computers since the 1960s, yet we forgot how to make Polaroid film or Lockheed Martin's TriStars?

Sooner or later we all understand that knowledge is key, that we inhabit a knowledge economy. But like the uniqueness of snowflakes, tree rings, and fingerprints, knowledge is one of the more nuanced ideas in our world. It is not a thing, but an infinite alphabet. An ever-growing tapestry of unique ideas, experiences, and received wisdom.

Through a series of fascinating stories, the laws of knowledge described in this book explain how it grows or sometimes shrinks, how it spreads from place to place, and why some pieces are far more valuable than others. They give us a way to score the words that an economy makes when it plays Scrabble with the infinite alphabet. And light the path forward to more effectively grow the knowledge we need in the future.

César A. Hidalgo is a Chilean-Spanish-American scholar known for his contributions to economic complexity, data visualization, and applied artificial intelligence. For nine years he was a professor at MIT before moving to France where he leads the Center for Collective Learning at the University of Toulouse's Artificial and Natural Intelligence Institute. Author of *Why Information Grows* (Allen Lane, 2015) and co-author of *The Atlas of Human Complexity* and *How Humans Judge Machines* (MIT, 2014, 2021), he was the sole recipient of the 2018 Lagrange Prize recognizing excellence and innovation in the study of complex systems, and has won three Webby awards for Data Africa, Streetchange and DataUSA.

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# BRANKO MILANOVIC

## The Great Global Transformation

### National Market Liberalism in a Multipolar World



A world-leading economist guides us through the ruins of the current world order: where do we go next?

Global neoliberalism is on its last legs, as a new international economic order takes hold: National Market Liberalism. Trade blocs, tariff wars, economic sanctions, and national champions are in; nationalism, anti-immigration movements, and the far-right are on the rise.

The old Liberalism is being rejected by the civic realm, as the status quo of the past fifty years crumbles. What remains in its wake?

Drawing on original research, leading economist Branko Milanovic reveals the seismic shifts that are shaping our world. He details the facts: how the rising economic power of Asia is creating a new global 'middle class' – in the greatest reshuffle of incomes since the Industrial Revolution. He explores our fears: why are we becoming increasingly unhappy, when the world is becoming richer and more equal? And he shows us the fight ahead: as plutocracy returns, global war threatens, and a new system silently shapes our nations, driving malcontent to breaking point. In *The Great Global Transformation*, Milanovic provides an invaluable guide to the new 21<sup>st</sup> century.

Branko Milanovic is Senior Scholar at the Stone Center on Socio-Economic Inequality at the City University of New York and Visiting Professor at the International Inequalities Institute at the London School of Economics and Political Science. Formerly Lead Economist in the World Bank's research department, he is a world-leading scholar of income inequality, and was the co-creator of The Elephant Curve, also known as the Lakner-Milanovic curve. He is the author of numerous books, including *Visions of Inequality*, *Capitalism, Alone* and *Global Inequality: A New Approach for the Age of Globalisation*.

NOVEMBER 2025

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# GRAHAM HARMAN

## Waves and Stones

### On the Ultimate Nature of Reality



© Ismail Baydas

A new exploration of  
our conception of reality,  
by one of the world's most  
influential philosophers.

How do we understand the world and our place in it? Do our lives consist of a small number of dramatic turning points, or is there nothing but a series of gradual changes from infancy to old age? Are there two fully discrete genders existing by nature, or numerous gradations between the male and female poles? And in physics, how can the continuities of general relativity coexist with the discontinuities of quantum theory?

In *Waves and Stones*, Graham Harman shows that the paradoxical interaction between the continuous and the discrete, the question of whether reality is made up of sudden jumps or is laid out along a gentle gradient with no clear divisions between the various things in the world, permeates every area of human life. What's more, this paradox is as old as human thought itself. In exploring how the continuous and discrete relate to each other, he takes us on a kaleidoscopic journey from the philosophers of ancient Greece, through the writings of the great Arab historian Ibn Khaldun, through architectural and evolutionary theory, the compatibility of religion with science, and the wave-particle duality of matter.

To explore the relationship between the continuous and the discrete, Harman shows, is to explore the very fabric of reality. With this dazzling new book, he proposes a new way of thinking about this ancient problem, with profound implications for our understanding of ourselves and the bewilderingly complex world in which we live.

**Graham Harman** is Distinguished Professor of Philosophy at SCI-Arc, Los Angeles. A key figure in the contemporary speculative realism movement in philosophy and known for his development of object-oriented ontology, he was named by *Art Review* magazine as one of the 100 most influential figures in international art. His previous books include *Object-Oriented Ontology: A New Theory of Everything* (Penguin, 2018).

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# PAUL GILLINGHAM

## Mexico

### A History



© Randy Belice/Northwestern University

The remarkable story of one of humankind's most far-reaching, dynamic and brutal experiments.

This superb book begins in 1511 with the shipwreck of two Spanish sailors in Yucatán. Only ten years later an army of European adventurers and indigenous rebels seized the island city of Tenochtitlán, seat of one of the world's great empires. The capture of the future Mexico City marked the collision of two long-separated worlds, radically different in everything from biota to urban planning. Spaniards discovered tomatoes, chocolate, and the most sophisticated city they had ever seen. Mexicans discovered horses, wheels, and lethal germs.

Gillingham chronicles the cataclysmic century of disease, brought from afar, that killed a majority of the indigenous population and led to a startling recombination of cultures. The industrial mining of Mexico's silver transformed the wealth and trade of the world. Mexico's independence from Spain went on to bring a calamitous war with the United States, one of the first great social revolutions and a one-party government that, whatever its shortcomings, brought peace for Mexicans throughout many of the global horrors of the twentieth century before the country itself collapsed into violence in the 2000s.

A pleasure to read, *Mexico: A History* uses the latest research to dazzling effect, showing how often Mexico has been a dynamic and vital shaper of world affairs.

Paul Gillingham is the author of the prize-winning books *Cuauhtémoc's Bones* and *Unrevolutionary Mexico*. He is the founder of the Mexican Intelligence Digital Archives and Professor of Latin American History at Northwestern University.

NOVEMBER 2025

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# PAUL McCartNEY

## Wings

### The Story of a Band on the Run



© Mary McCartney

A landmark account of Paul McCartney's triumphant musical reinvention in the 1970s and the subsequent rise of one of the decade's most iconic bands.

As the Sixties came to a close, Paul McCartney was faced with the daunting prospect of being a solo artist for the first time. *Wings'* ascent to the top of the charts with classic albums including *Band on the Run*, *Venus and Mars* and *At the Speed of Sound*, along with the band's stadium-filling live shows, would prove to critics and fans that not all great acts are impossible to follow. *Wings: The Story of a Band on the Run* is a rousing, stereophonic celebration of the songs, collaborations and performances that would shape the soundtrack of the late twentieth century.

Featuring over 100 black and white and colour photographs, many previously unseen, drawing on over 500,000 words and dozens of hours of interviews with McCartney and numerous key players in the band's orbit, *Wings: The Story of a Band on the Run* weaves together the improbable trajectory of Paul McCartney and his newly formed band (featuring co-founding members Linda McCartney and guitarist Denny Laine) across the technicolor 1970s until their dissolution in 1981.

Edited with an introduction by Ted Widmer.

Born in Liverpool in 1942, **Paul McCartney** was raised in the city and educated at the Liverpool Institute. Since writing his first song at fourteen, McCartney has dreamed and dared to be different. He lives in England.

**Ted Widmer** is a historian, writer, librarian, and musician who writes about American history in *The New York Times*, *New Yorker*, *Washington Post*, and other venues. He has taught at Harvard, Brown, and Washington College. In 2022 he was awarded a prestigious Guggenheim Fellowship.

NOVEMBER 2025

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# DANIEL NEEP

## A History of Modern Syria



© Eric Lee

### A powerful, definitive account of modern Syria and its fate.

Few countries have had as vexed a political history as Syria. Carved out of the Ottoman empire at the end of the First World War, Syria was then brutally ruled by France. This French ‘mandate’ carved out new borders with equally provisional neighbours in a process that pulled apart families, trade networks and political assumptions that had already been ravaged by the war.

Syria’s subsequent history has been a series of attempts to make sense of its borders, including a failed attempt in the late 1950s to unite with Egypt and several humiliations at the hands of Israel’s armed forces. The civil war that broke out in 2011 plunged Syria into a nightmarish series of disasters, including the terrible years of Islamic State, ultimately resulting in the reimposition of Bashar al-Assad’s dictatorship, which came to an end in 2024.

Daniel Neep’s remarkable book creates a gripping, intelligent narrative of how Syrians have lived through these events, never losing sight either of the fates of ordinary people or of Syria’s rich, complex and diverse society, unwillingly or willingly brought together in such a highly contested space.

**Daniel Neep** researches politics and society in the Middle East, with a focus on Syria. He is Non-Resident Fellow at the Crown Center for Middle East Studies, Brandeis University, and has taught Middle East politics at George Washington University, Georgetown University, and the University of Exeter. He was previously Research Director (Syria) at the Council for British Research in the Levant and spent several years living in Syria and Jordan. He is also the author of *Occupying Syria under the French Mandate: Insurgency, Space, and State Formation*.

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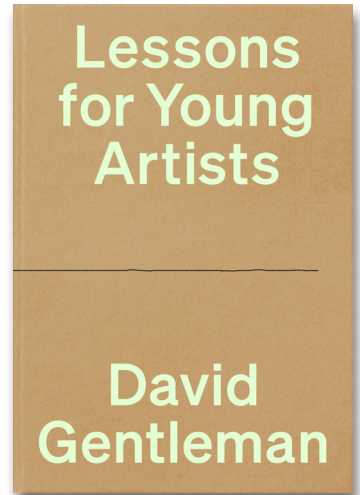


# Particular Books

Autumn / Winter  
2025

# DAVID GENTLEMAN

## Lessons for Young Artists



A master hands over his tools  
in this generous, gentle book  
of artistic advice.

We are all artists as children, painting and drawing each day. Most of us stop when we get older – but David Gentleman kept going. For over ninety years he has been drawing, painting, engraving and printing, rising to become one of Britain's best-known and most loved artists. His watercolours have filled galleries; his iconic wood cuts are emblazoned across posters, book jackets and train stations; his stamps have made their way to the furthest corners of the world.

Here, the great, polymathic artist and craftsman shares what he has learned over the course of a lifetime of making and thinking about art. Unlike his contemporaries, Gentleman was never a teacher; his lessons are a sequence of unconventional prompts and reflections that will deepen your relationship with your art, and with the world around you.

Sincere, practical and unpretentious, Gentleman's insights are a breath of fresh air. These are new ways to focus, notice the world and cultivate your own style; techniques to evolve your work, from playing with time to painting in bad weather; methods for getting the most out of mistakes and negative criticism; and, above all, reminders to return, always, to the simple delights of creativity.

**David Gentleman** is a painter and printmaker, working in many mediums. His work is held in many major galleries, including the Tate, the V&A and the British Museum. He has designed British postage stamps and coins, and the platform-length mural at Charing Cross on the underground. He lives in Camden.

JULY 2025  
9780241692813  
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# SHUNRYU SUZUKI

## Becoming Yourself

### Teachings on the Zen Way of Life



© Jack Weller

The long-awaited new book on the essence of Zen practice from the beloved author of *Zen Mind, Beginner's Mind*.

*'Our way of sitting is for you to become yourself.'*

Shunryū Suzuki was one of the most influential spiritual teachers of the last century, who brought Zen philosophy to millions of people. In this book of teachings, many published for the first time, he shares simple, warm-hearted lessons on a practice that is fundamentally about becoming yourself. Filled with humour and insight, *Becoming Yourself* speaks directly to the newest beginners while also serving as a touchstone and a continual source of inspiration for even the most experienced practitioners and Zen masters.

Resonant, clear and brimming with insight, *Becoming Yourself* brings together a lifetime's wisdom in one remarkable volume.

Shunryu Suzuki (1904–1971) was one of the most influential spiritual teachers of the twentieth century and is truly a founding father of Zen in America. A Japanese priest of the Soto lineage, he taught in the United States from 1959 until his death. He was the founder of the San Francisco Zen Center and the Tassajara Zen Mountain Center. He is the author of *Zen Mind, Beginner's Mind* and *Not Always So*.

JULY 2025

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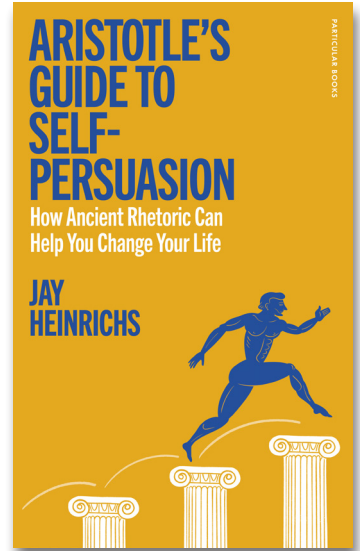
DEMY OCTAVO HARDBACK

£20.00 | 256 PAGES

# JAY HEINRICHS

## Aristotle's Guide to Self-Persuasion

### How Ancient Rhetoric Can Help You Change Your Life



Show yourself who's in charge using the original art of persuasion, from the *New York Times* bestselling author of *Thank You for Arguing*.

Rhetoric once sat at the centre of elite education. It was used to build empires, write deathless literature, and inspire democracies. Three thousand years on, these ancient tools are still woven through our politics, literature and popular culture, and deployed by some of today's most persuasive figures. But there's one application most of us haven't thought of: harnessing rhetoric in our own lives.

Bringing in examples from history and pop culture – Winston Churchill, Iron Man, Dolly Parton, and the woman who serendipitously invented the chocolate chip cookie – rhetoric expert Jay Heinrichs tests the tools of self-persuasion and asks: can the same techniques that seduce lovers, sell diet books, and overturn governments help us achieve our most desired goals?

Jay Heinrichs is the bestselling author of *Thank You for Arguing* and *How to Argue with a Cat*. He has written for dozens of publications, including *The New York Times* magazine, *Vice* and the *Huffington Post*, and won numerous journalism awards. He has taught persuasion to college and university editors at Ivy League universities, NASA, and the Pentagon. He runs the acclaimed blog *Figarospeech.com*, as well as the rhetoric site *ArgueLab.com*.

JULY 2025

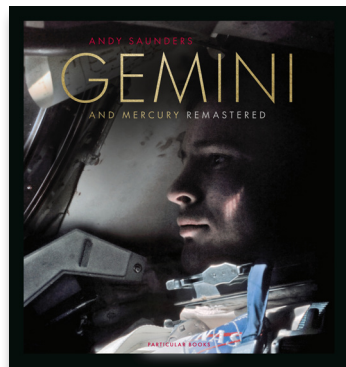
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# ANDY SAUNDERS

## Gemini and Mercury Remastered



Embark on a captivating photographic journey beyond Earth, from the dawn of human space exploration, through the untold story of the Mercury and Gemini missions.

When we think of the history of space exploration, we can't help but think of the Apollo missions and Neil Armstrong's one giant leap. But what about the small steps that enabled NASA to reach for the Moon?

Astronauts working on the earliest space missions, from Project Mercury to the Gemini missions of the mid-1960s, answered fundamental questions about the possibilities of long-duration space travel, paving the way for the Apollo missions and, ultimately, the Moon landings. They also took the first, and still some of the finest, images of Earth ever captured on film.

Now, the bestselling author of *Apollo Remastered*, Andy Saunders has restored images from these first missions to show them in unprecedented detail and tell their full story, filled with dramatic life or death moments, mischievous pranks and astonishing triumphs. This stunning visual odyssey brings to life the pivotal, intimate moments of early space travel, unveiling the raw beauty and profound challenges faced by the pioneering astronauts pushing the boundaries of human achievement. *Gemini and Mercury Remastered* is a striking tribute to the visionaries who dared to dream beyond our world and a testament to the enduring power of exploration.

Andy Saunders is one of the world's foremost experts of NASA digital restoration and author of the *Sunday Times* bestselling *Apollo Remastered*. His work has been exhibited internationally, and he collaborated with Tom Hanks to produce *The Moonwalkers* — an immersive show telling the story of the Apollo missions. His photographs have also appeared in *BBC News*, the *Daily Telegraph*, *Smithsonian Magazine*, *The New York Times*, as well as in NASA's own archives. In 2019, he created the only clear, recognisable image of Neil Armstrong on the Moon, and in 2023, he received the Royal Photographic Society Award for Scientific Imaging.

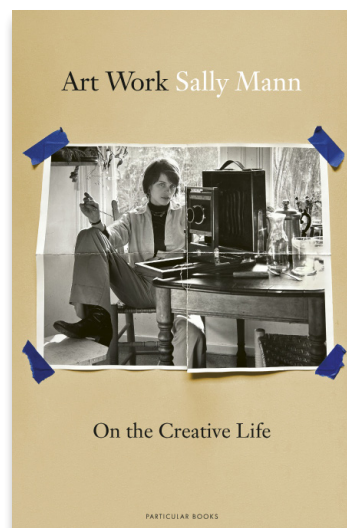
AUGUST 2025  
9780241638194  
OTHER HARDBACK  
£50.00 | 320 PAGES



# SALLY MANN

## Art Work

### On the Creative Life



An exhilarating account of the challenges and transcendent pleasures of the creative process.

*Art Work*, by photographer and writer Sally Mann, offers a spellbinding mix of wild and illuminating stories, practical (and some impractical) advice, and life lessons for artists and writers – or anyone interested in the creative path. Illustrated throughout with photographs, journal entries, and letters that bring immediacy and poignancy to the narrative, *Art Work* is full of thought-provoking insights about the hazards of early promise; the unpredictable role of luck; the value of work, work, work, and more hard work; the challenges of rejection and distraction; the importance of risk-taking; and the rewards of knowing why and when to say yes. In sparkling prose and thoughtfully juxtaposed visuals and ephemera, *Art Work* is a generous, provocative, and compulsively readable exploration of creativity by one of the most original thinkers of our times.

Sally Mann is a Guggenheim Fellow and three-time recipient of the National Endowment for the Arts Fellowship. She was named 'America's Best Photographer' by *Time* in 2001. In 2021, she received the Prix Pictet and was inducted into the International Photography Hall of Fame. She has been the subject of two documentaries: *Blood Ties* (1994), which was nominated for an Academy Award, and *What Remains* (2006), which premiered at the Sundance Film Festival and was nominated for an Emmy for Best Documentary. Mann's *Hold Still: A Memoir with Photographs* received universal critical acclaim and was a finalist for the National Book Award.

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# PAUL KINGSNORTH

## Against the Machine

### On the Unmaking of Humanity

‘England’s greatest living writer’ (*unHerd*) examines the technological, historical, and – above all – spiritual currents driving the global industrial economy and prophesies what’s next for a dead civilization.

In *Against the Machine*, Paul Kingsnorth recounts how the Machine, a combination of technological, political, economic, and spiritual forces, is destroying the life support systems of the Earth itself. He examines the Machine’s way of homogenizing the mosaic of human cultures and using humans as fodder in a techno-industrial juggernaut. Most importantly, he identifies how this ‘progress’ and its ideologies put humanity in a headlong plunge towards what looks to be a glorified nihilism disguised as ‘freedom’.

In the age of the Machine, it takes effort to remain truly human. Drawing on deep readings of philosophers, poets, and mystics like Ivan Illich, Wendell Berry, and Simone Weil, Kingsnorth reminds us what humanity requires: a healthy suspicion of entrenched power; connection to land, nature and heritage; a deep attention to matters of the spirit; heterodox tolerance, freedom of expression and an appreciation of beauty. *Against the Machine* is the spiritual manual for Kingsnorth’s fellow madmen.

Paul Kingsnorth is an English writer living in the west of Ireland. He is the author of nine books of fiction, non-fiction and poetry, including the novel *The Wake*, which was longlisted for the Man Booker Prize.

SEPTEMBER 2025

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# MARTIN PARR AND WENDY JONES

## Utterly Lazy and Inattentive

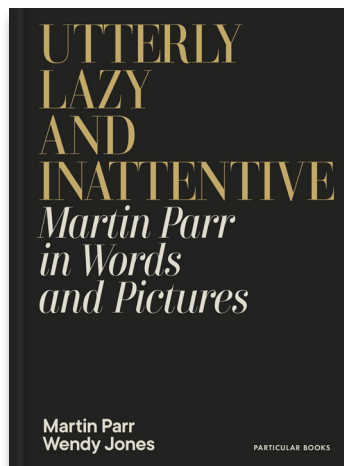
### Martin Parr in Words and Pictures

The enigmatic photographer recounts his life and art.

When Martin Parr was fourteen, his teacher wrote that he was ‘utterly lazy and inattentive.’ He went on to become one of the most popular photographers in the world, publishing over one hundred photobooks on subjects from seaside resorts to smoking. Now, for the first time, Martin tells his own story, in his own words.

This autobiography combines over 150 of Martin’s photographs – from his earliest snapshots to the work he is doing today – with his recollections and reflections. As Martin shares his story, his distinctive voice delicately captured by his friend, the writer Wendy Jones, he also reveals his particular approach to work and commissions; his tricks for gaining access and getting the shot; and he shares his passions: for crowds and queues, village fêtes and bad weather, Spice Girls, crisp packets and more.

This is the definitive account of a great photographer’s career. It shows us the world through Martin Parr’s eyes and lens, and and it leaves us seeing Martin Parr – and ourselves – a little differently.



**Martin Parr** is one of the world’s most famous and successful photographers, particularly celebrated as a searing and witty documentarian of British life. He holds the Guinness World Record for the largest simultaneous photography exhibition: on 1st April 1999, *Common Sense* was shown simultaneously at 41 galleries around the world. Today, there is always at least one Parr show on somewhere in the world. **Wendy Jones** is a writer based in London. She is the author of seven books, including the bestselling *Grayson Perry, Portrait of the Artist as a Young Girl*. She has a PhD from Goldsmiths on writing interview-based biographies, and her books have been published in eleven languages.

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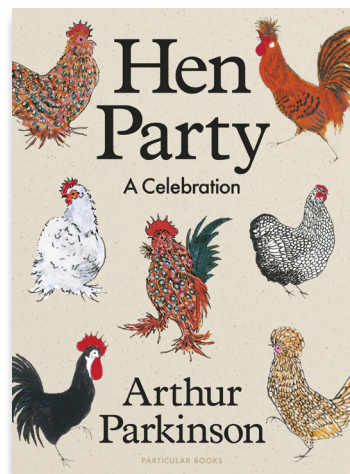
OTHER HARDBACK

£30.00 | 240 PAGES

# ARTHUR PARKINSON

## Hen Party

### A Celebration



An illustrated compendium  
of common and rare breed  
chickens by the *Sunday Times*  
bestselling gardener.

*'It is my hope that this book will help you discover,  
or reconfirm, which chicken breeds are your favourites  
and encourage you to keep them yourself, or at least  
to remember them.'*

Spotlighting more than fifty breeds of chicken, from the classy Ancona to the lavishly laced Wyandotte, Arthur Parkinson shares everything you need to know about each breed's attributes, behaviour, quirks and qualities alongside gorgeous illustrations of his 'ladies'. Later in the book he offers detailed advice that will equip you with the practical skills to look after hens in your own garden, whether the most common breeds or the most perilously rare – for as Arthur notes, if we don't celebrate all hens great and small, the lesser-known varieties may well disappear.

Joyful and inspiring, *Hen Party* is a riotous, clucking poultry show of a book for anyone dreaming of the good life.

Arthur Parkinson was born and brought up in Nottinghamshire. He has loved chickens all his life and his other passions concern organic gardening, conservation and sustainable floristry. He is a writer, illustrator and photographer with his work and interests regularly shared on his Instagram account. This is his fifth book.

OCTOBER 2025

9780241674703

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£16.99 | 144 PAGES

# LUCY LAVERS, JUDY OVENS AND SUZANNA PRIZEMAN

## Adventurous Vents

### A Journey through the Ventilation Shafts of Britain

A spectacularly beautiful  
gazetteer to some of the UK's  
strangest, most charismatic  
and most *useful* structures.

At the heart of the modern world lie ventilation shafts. We may not notice them, but wherever there are tunnels, sewers, mines, car parks and energy stations under our feet, vents will be doing vital work keeping them cool and fume-free.

Vents come in a wonderful and inventive variety of forms. This book celebrates them both in their own right as intriguing individual structures, and as an innovative way to tell the story of Britain's subterranean industrial development from the eighteenth century to the present day.

Here are one hundred of the most interesting ventilation shafts, dotted around Britain, sometimes in the most surprising places. You'll find them masquerading as sculptures and small buildings, adorned with fine details or displaying their purpose with confidence.

Whether you're inspired to take off in search of them, or just to admire them from your armchair, vents are fabulous objects. By putting them – perhaps for the very first time – centre-stage, *Adventurous Vents* celebrates a highly unusual but exciting architectural form.



Lucy Lavers, Judy Ovens and Suzanna Prizeman co-founded the architecture education charity Our Hut through which they deliver inspiring school and community projects focused on the built environment. Their previous book, *Inventive Vents: A Gazetteer of London's Ventilation Shafts*, was the legacy of a London-centred project and led to this Britain-wide investigation of ventilation shafts, *Adventurous Vents*. In addition to being educators, Judy Ovens and Suzanna Prizeman are art historians and Lucy Lavers is a practising architect with Thomson Lavers Architects.

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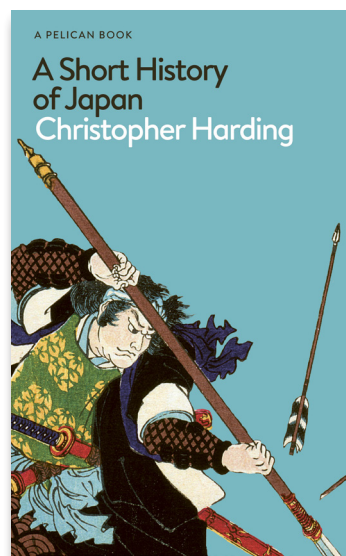
# Pelican

Autumn / Winter  
2025



# CHRISTOPHER HARDING

## A Short History of Japan



A brief and thrilling introduction to Japan from one of the country's leading British historians.

In this enormously enjoyable introduction to a remarkable country, Christopher Harding traces Japan's rich history over several millennia. Beginning with its earliest coastal communities through to the spread of Buddhism, the rise of the warlords, the promise and menace of the West and Japan's own empire-building, Harding explores how a distinctly Japanese society and culture was forged.

Drawing on the latest scholarship, *A Short History of Japan* moves beyond traditional tourist-board clichés to consider Japan's own view of its past, values and culture, from ceramics and theatre to food and architecture. The result is a sensory, tactile history, where the reader experiences all the pleasures of a visit to Japan: a bolt of silk or a warm bowl of ramen; the feel and scent of *tatami* underfoot; the warmth of slipping into a hot spring bath. Harding skilfully shows how these everyday details are intimately bound up with the bigger historical picture, as an expression of the values that have been extraordinarily successful in helping the country to cope with centuries of radical change.

Christopher Harding is the author of *Japan Story*, *The Japanese* and *The Light of Asia*. Harding teaches at the University of Edinburgh and frequently broadcasts on Radio 3 and Radio 4. He also writes the *IlluminAsia* blog, about Asia's influence on Western life.

SEPTEMBER 2025

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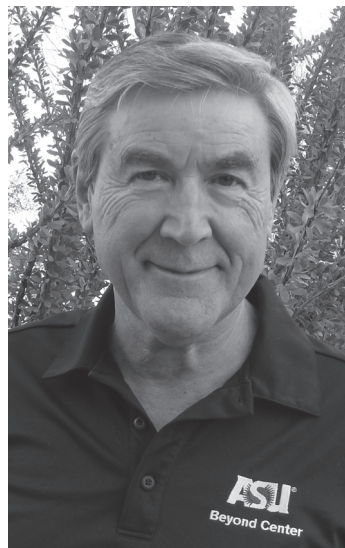
DEMY OCTAVO HARDBACK

£20.00 | 224 PAGES

# PAUL DAVIES

## Quantum 2.0

### The Weird Physics Driving a New Revolution in Technology



Welcome to the world of Quantum 2.0. Everything is about to change – it's time you understood how.

*Quantum 2.0* tells the gripping story of how quantum mechanics made the modern world – and might now be about to make it anew. With luminous clarity, renowned scientist and author Paul Davies reveals how exotic states of matter that have no counterpart in the everyday world are today being harnessed for a technological revolution. Powerful new tools such as quantum computers, quantum cryptography and the quantum internet have attracted billions of dollars of investments, triggering a frantic quantum arms race. And appearing on the horizon is the most awesome and game-changing prospect of all – quantum AI.

Yet underpinning this dazzling promise lies a paradox. Although quantum mechanics is the most successful scientific theory ever, quantum systems possess properties that defy intuition and shred everyday notions of reality. Albert Einstein could never quite believe it. And decades after Erwin Schrödinger introduced his famous cat paradox, scientists are still divided over how to make sense of the weird quantum realm, one where ghostly quantum particles produce tiny forces in nanotechnology, cause black holes to evaporate – and may even be making the universe expand faster and faster.

How have we got here, and what lies ahead? *Quantum 2.0* takes the reader gently from the basic concepts to the cutting edge, inviting us all to peek into the new wonderland of quantum physics and glimpse its stunning implications.

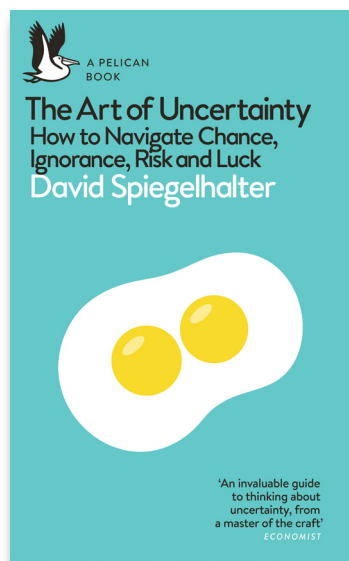
Paul Davies is a Regents' Professor of Physics and Director of the Beyond Center for Fundamental Concepts in Science at Arizona State University. The bestselling author of some thirty books, his many awards include the Templeton Prize and the Faraday Prize of the Royal Society. He is a Member of the Order of Australia and has an asteroid named after him.

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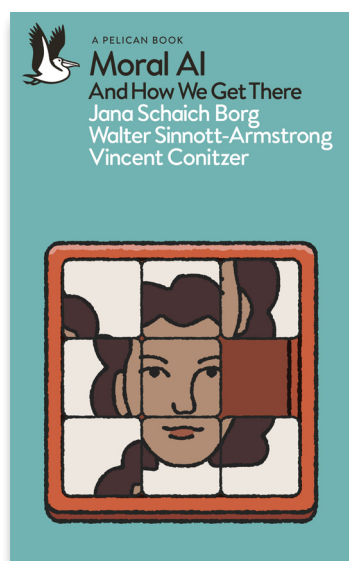
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DAVID SPIEGELHALTER

# The Art of Uncertainty

*How to Navigate Chance, Ignorance, Risk and Luck*

From the UK's 'statistical national treasure', a clever and data-driven guide to how we can live with risk and uncertainty.



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JANA SCHAICH BORG,  
WALTER SINNOTT-ARMSTRONG  
AND VINCENT CONITZER

# Moral AI

*And How We Get There*

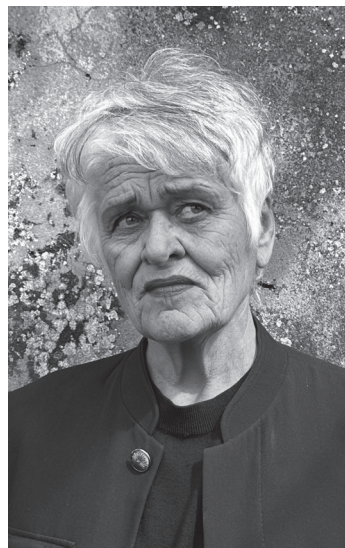
A balanced and thought-provoking guide to all the big questions about AI and ethics.

# Penguin International Writers

Autumn / Winter  
2025

# PIRKKO SAISIO

## Lowest Common Denominator



© Pirjo Honkasalo

A riveting, funny coming-of-age story: the first volume in Pirkko Saisio's award-winning Helsinki trilogy.

*'Grandpa says everyone should leave me alone. If I want to be a boy, then I'm a boy: simple as that.'*

Writing in the wake of her father's death, the narrator of Pirkko Saisio's autofictional novel transports us to the 1950s Finland of her youth, where she navigates life as an only child of communist parents. Convinced she will grow up to become a man, a young Pirkko keeps trying and failing to meet the expectations of the adults around her.

With wit and style, Saisio captures the heart-wrenching intensity of childhood feeling, merging fever dreams with sensory-laden memories as each formative experience – with the Big Bad Wolf, a bikini-clad circus announcer, and Jesus Christ himself – drives her further and further from her family and others. Struggling to understand her place in the world around her, it's in language that she discovers a refuge and a way to be seen at last. An unforgettable story of transformation, *Lowest Common Denominator* is the first volume in a trilogy that has been celebrated in Finland as the best work of the century.

Translated from Finnish by Mia Spangenberg.

Pirkko Saisio (born 1949) is a Finnish author, actor and director. The author of numerous novels, plays and scripts for film and television, Saisio has been nominated for the Finlandia Prize seven times, winning it with *The Red Book of Farewells* in 2003. She has, among other awards, received the Aleksis Kivi Prize and the State Literature Award.

Mia Spangenberg translates from Finnish, Swedish, and German. She is the winner of the Nadia Christensen translation Prize for her translation of *Lowest Common Denominator*.

AUGUST 2025

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# ÁGOTA KRISTÓF

## I Don't Care



Never before translated short stories by the legendary genius Ágota Kristóf.

*'I don't care: it's not even pretty. The song is sad, and old, so old.'*

*I Don't Care* presents the best short fiction by the Hungarian master Ágota Kristóf, selected by the author herself and available in English for the first time. Written immediately before her acclaimed *Notebook* trilogy, the works here oscillate between parables, surrealist anecdotes, and stories animated by a realism stripped to the bone. By turns harrowing and whimsical, cruel and sharply funny, Kristóf's world shifts our gaze to a shared reality, past and present. Here exile and existential alienation are undeniable – as is the force of every sentence, making for extraordinary and essential reading.

Translated from French by Chris Andrews.

Ágota Kristóf was born in Hungary in 1935. Aged twenty-one, Kristóf, her husband and their daughter fled the Soviet repression of the Hungarian Uprising and were resettled in French-speaking Switzerland. Working in a factory, she slowly learned the language of her adopted country. Her first novel, *The Notebook* (1986), won the European Prize for French literature and was translated into forty languages. *The Proof* (1988) and *The Third Lie* (1991) complete her renowned trilogy. She died in 2011.

Chris Andrews has received the Valle-Inclán Prize and the French-American Foundation Translation Prize for his translations. He has published two collections of poems, *Cut Lunch* and *Lime Green Chair*, for which he won the Anthony Hecht Poetry Prize.

AUGUST 2025

9780241774052

A FORMAT PAPERBACK

£10.99 | 96 PAGES



# MIRCEA CARTARESCU

## Blinding: Volume I

The first volume of the enthralling, hallucinatory masterwork by one of Central Europe's most celebrated novelists.

*'We exist between the past and future like the vermiform body of a butterfly, in between its two wings'*

Beneath the streets of communist Bucharest linger hidden passageways, lost to memory. Here, sprawling hospitals give way to travelling circuses and underground jazz clubs, and Cartarescu's childhood, prehistory and visionary fever dreams are woven into the landscape of the city, haunted by secret police and zombie hoards.

Part visceral dream-memoir, part phantasmic pilgrimage, Mircea Cartarescu's *Blinding* is one of the most widely heralded literary sensations in contemporary Romania, and a fascinating, kaleidoscopic journey into the past.

Translated from Romanian by Sean Cotter.

Mircea Cartarescu was born in Bucharest in 1956. His novels, including *Nostalgia*, *Blinding* and *Solenoid* are widely considered to be the best writing to emerge from post-communist Romania. He has received many awards, including the Thomas Mann Prize, the Prix Formentor and the Dublin Literary Award, and his books have been translated into over twenty languages.

Sean Cotter is Professor of Literature and Translation Studies at the University of Texas at Dallas. He has received the Best Translated Book Award for Poetry and multiple grants from the National Endowment for the Arts.

NOVEMBER 2025

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# INGER CHRISTENSEN

## Natalja's Stories



© Gregers Nielsen\_Gyldendals billedarkiv

From one of Europe's most revered poets, a startlingly original novel about a migrant's fate, told across several generations of women.

Known primarily for her poetry, Inger Christensen (1935–2009) remains one of Denmark's most distinguished authors. Now available in English for the first time, *Natalja's Stories* is the Danish master at her most exquisite.

Told to the narrator by her grandmother, this is the story of the narrator's mother, Natalja, who as a young woman was 'abducted' to Russia from Copenhagen. When Natalja dies after the Revolution, her ashes are carried back to Denmark, igniting a chain reaction of stories told and retold against a shifting ground of meaning. We meet murderers and fable-like characters, such as the hilarious and deeply unsettling Viktor Blanke, who manages to seduce not one, not two, but three generations of mothers and daughters.

Tantalizing and full of remarkable wit, Christensen eschews fast reading. Any attempt at holding Natalja in one place is bound to fall short, as she constantly departs and digresses, only to return again. Rather than giving in to the tragedy that befalls her, she – tragedy that befalls her, she wills herself to become someone else, reinventing her family's narrative reinventing her family's narrative one irresistible tale at a time.

Translated from Danish by Denise Newman.

Inger Christensen (1935–2009) was one of Scandinavia's most powerful literary voices. Her ingeniously crafted poetry and prose have been variously called naturalist, experimental, formalist, and structuralist; essentially, her work defies labels. Each of her books resembles nothing else, yet each is imbued with her characteristic visionary clarity and human sensibility. Christensen won numerous major European literary awards, including the Grand Prix des Biennales Internationales de Poésie, the Nordic Prize of the Swedish Academy, and the Austrian State Prize for European Literature. During her final decade, she was consistently mentioned as a candidate for the Nobel Prize for Literature, including by Herta Müller.

Denise Newman is a poet and translator. She is the author of three collections of poems, *The New Make Believe*, *Wild Goods*, and *Human Forest*. Her poems, collaborations, and translations have appeared in *Denver Quarterly*, *Volt*, *Fence*, *New American Writing*, *ZYZZYVA*, and elsewhere.

DECEMBER 2025

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# Penguin Classics

Autumn / Winter  
2025

# DAVID HUME

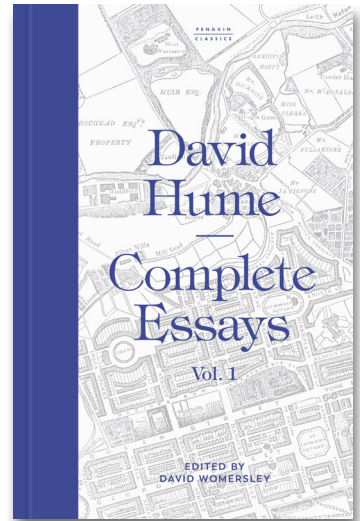
## Complete Essays

Edited by  
David Womersley

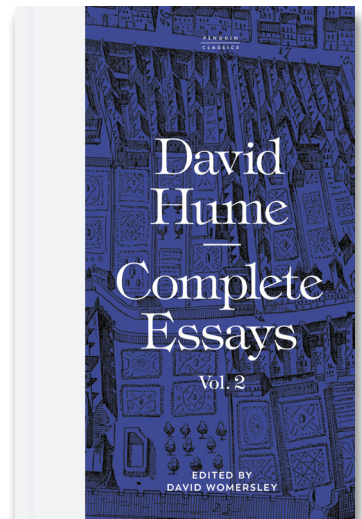
A superb new two-volume edition of the essays of one of the greatest and most enjoyable prose writers in English.

**David Hume** reshaped, redirected, and re-energized the English essay. His sceptical, rational, self-questioning persona created what amounted to a new intellectual arena, in which it was possible to think afresh about the world and the self. When he famously wrote that ‘the life of man is of no greater importance to the universe than that of an oyster’, something had changed.

**David Womersley** is the Thomas Warton Professor of Literature at the University of Oxford. Among his interests are Jonathan Swift (he was the general editor of the CUP edition of Swift), Daniel Defoe and Edward Gibbon, whose *Decline and Fall of the Roman Empire* he edited for Penguin Classics.



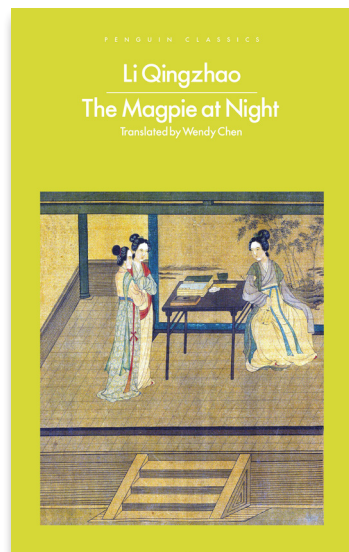
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# LI QINGZHAO

## The Magpie at Night



### A luminous new translation one of the greatest poets in Chinese history.

Li Qingzhao is justly celebrated for her place in Chinese literary history. She was a poet with a wry, unsentimental style and a rich sense of melody. Her *ci* – lyrics that were originally set to music – are glorious in their depth and genius, spare and arresting on the line. They evoke with rare immediacy the haunting beauty of country life during the Song dynasty; the unseen, restive labour of the poet; and Li Qingzhao's bracing take on what it means to create art as a woman in the shadow of exile, war, imprisonment, and an unwelcoming literary establishment.

In Wendy Chen's splendid new translation, each poem is as sharp and fresh as the edge of a new spring leaf. These richly textured bolts of melody are masterpieces of verse, as resonant and bracing today as they were in the eleventh century; and they underscore Li Qingzhao's status as a necessary and iconic literary figure.

Li Qingzhao (1084–1151), also known as Yi'an Jushi, is considered the greatest woman poet in Chinese history. During her lifetime, she defied cultural expectations for women by writing through war, exile, imprisonment, and the loss of her fortune.

Wendy Chen is a translator, poet, editor and novelist. She is the author of the novel *Their Divine Fires* and the poetry collection *Unearthings*.

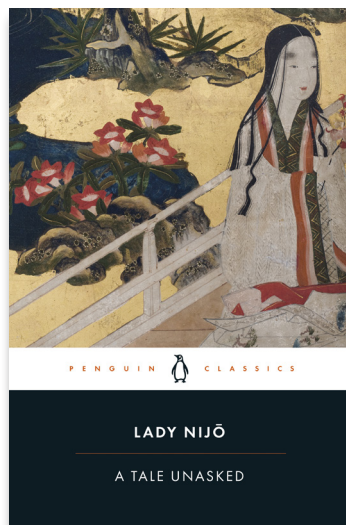
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# LADY NIJŌ

## A Tale Unasked



### A new translation of Lady Nijō's diary – one of classical Japan's greatest literary works.

Lady Nijō's *A Tale Unasked* (*Towazugatari*) is the last, and arguably the finest, among classical Japanese literature's famous 'women's diaries'. Thought to have been completed around 1307, when the author was in her late forties, the first two thirds of this autobiographical work document in rich and compelling detail the experiences of an imperial concubine whose time at court was ruled and finally ruined by her passionate and complicated love life. The final third of the work equally memorably describes her peripatetic life after the emperor expelled her from the court in her mid-twenties and she became a nun, wandering the roads of Japan as a form of Buddhist austerity.

Meredith McKinney's superb translation breathes new life into Lady Nijō's fascinating diaries, which survived her era in a single copy and were only rediscovered in the 1940s.

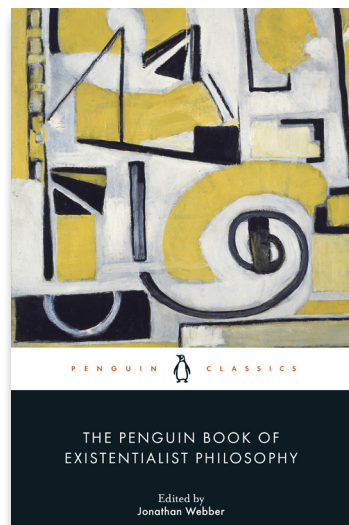
Lady Nijō (1258–after 1307) was a Japanese noblewoman, poet and author. She was raised in the court of Emperor Go-Fukakusa and became his concubine, before being expelled for her affairs with other men. She became a travelling Buddhist nun and eventually wrote a memoir, *Towazugatari* ('A Tale Untold'). It survived in a single copy and remained hidden for years in the library of the Imperial Family Household before being rediscovered in 1940.

Meredith McKinney is a translator of Japanese literature. She lived in Japan for twenty years and is Honorary Associate Professor at the Australian National University in Canberra. Her translations for Penguin Classics include *The Pillow Book of Sei Shonagon*, *Essays in Idleness* and *Hojoki* by Kenko and Chomei, two novels by Natsume Soseki and an anthology of classical Japanese travel writing, *Travels with a Writing Brush*.

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# The Penguin Book of Existentialist Philosophy



A powerful new anthology that redefines our understanding of existentialism and argues for its contemporary relevance.

*'We are thrown into the world at every moment, and committed within it'*

In the aftermath of the Second World War, a group of intellectuals gathered to discuss urgent questions of existence, commitment, racism, colonialism and feminism. Their ideas would continue to shape debates throughout the twentieth and twenty-first centuries. This major new anthology gathers the key texts of existentialism, and their major intellectual influences, along with other works previously neglected in overviews and anthologies of the movement. Incorporating the writings of Simone de Beauvoir, Jean-Paul Sartre and Frantz Fanon, alongside selections from Søren Kierkegaard, Friedrich Nietzsche, Sigmund Freud and Martin Heidegger, it significantly expands and redefines our understanding of what existentialism means, and why it matters.

Edited with an introduction by Jonathan Webber.

Jonathan Webber is Professor of Philosophy at Cardiff University. He is the author of *Rethinking Existentialism* (Oxford University Press, 2018) and *The Existentialism of Jean-Paul Sartre* (Routledge, 2009), editor of *Reading Sartre: on Phenomenology and Existentialism* (Routledge, 2011), and translator of Sartre's book *The Imaginary* (Routledge, 2004). He has written on existentialism for public audiences at Aeon, the *New Statesman*, and the *Times Literary Supplement*. He is a trustee of the Mind Association and President of the UK Sartre Society.

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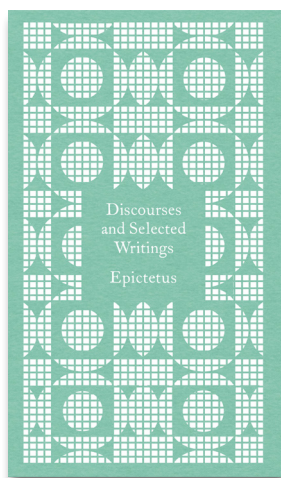
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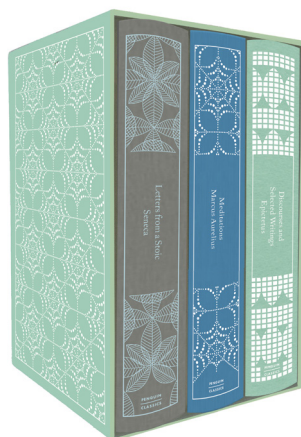


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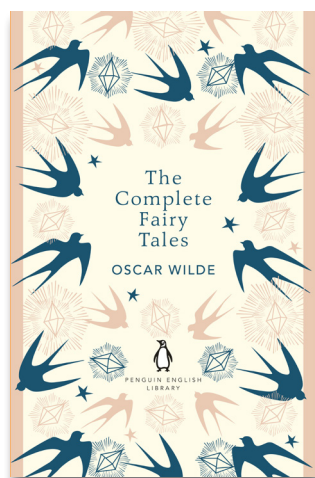


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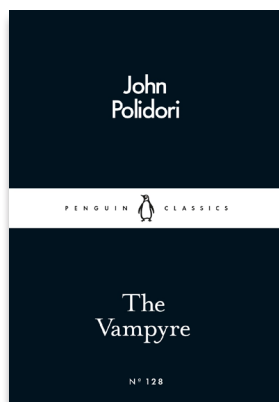


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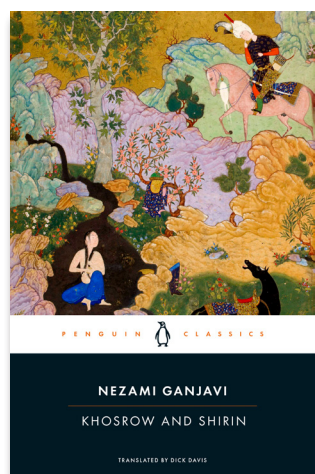


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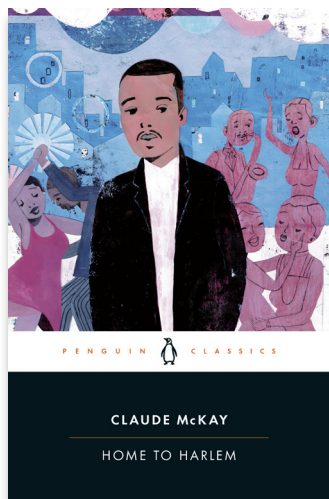


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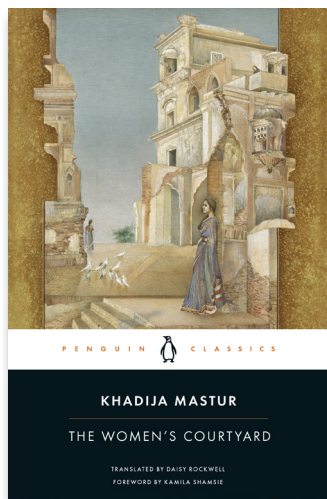
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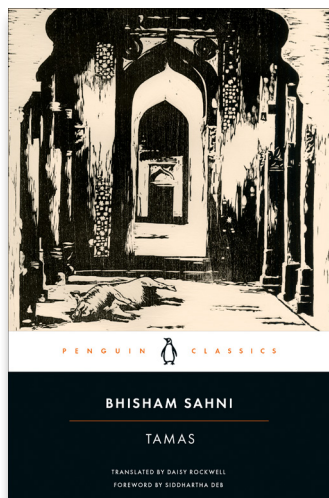
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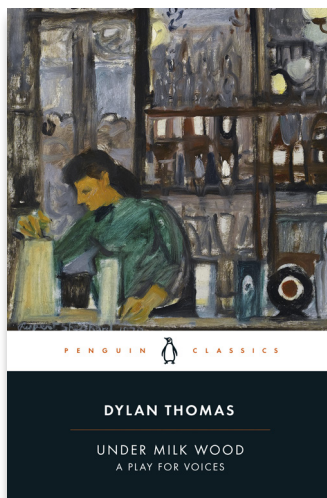
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# GUN-BRITT SUNDSTRÖM

## Engagement



A feminist cult classic about love, independence and what it means to be an individual, translated into English for the first time.

*'I want to have him, I really do. I just don't want him to have me.'*

Martina and Gustav, students in 1970s Stockholm, meet and fall immediately into coupledness. But what *is* coupledness? A route to marriage? A declaration of co-dependency? Or is it a habit that an intelligent person must consider breaking? Martina and Gustav discuss their relationship endlessly, between themselves and with others, as they attempt to make it work.

*Engagement*, set during a time of social change and political upheaval, sees Martina trying to live in the world on her own terms. Unwilling to marry, she finds herself in a state of permanent engagement while her friends settle down to marriage and children; uncertain of the world's future, she engages with demos, sit-ins and philosophy seminars in her quest for a new blueprint for joy. First published in 1976, when it was heralded as an instant classic, *Engagement* remains as relevant, hilarious and heartbreaking today.

Translated from the Swedish by Kathy Saranpa.

Gun-Britt Sundström (b.1945) works as an author, critic and translator. She is the author of sixteen books, including *Engagement* (1976). Since the 1990s, Sundström has established herself as one of Sweden's foremost translators of children's books and fiction. She received the Helga Prize in 2019 for her 'linguistic sensitivity, self-distance, black humour and acuity'.

Kathy Saranpa (b.1955) translates from Swedish and Finnish into English. Her first book-length translation was Ingrid and Joachim Wall's *A Silenced Voice* (2020). *Engagement* fulfils a lifelong dream of rendering *Maken* into English.

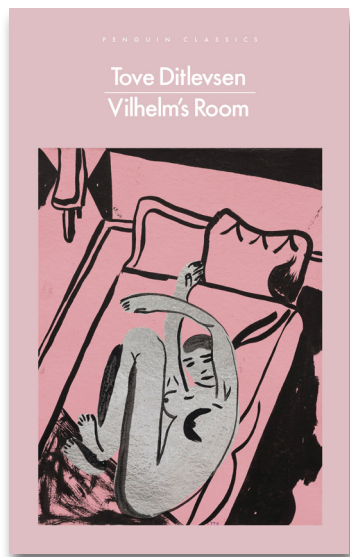
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# TOVE DITLEVSEN Vilhelm's Room



Divorce, madness and self-destruction: the unforgettable final novel from the great Danish writer.

*'I want to write a book about Vilhelm's room and the events which took place in it, or arose from it; those that led to Lise's death, which I have survived only so that I might write down the story of her and Vilhelm...'*

The ripples from a breakup radiate outwards from the room where a married couple once loved each other, and a bizarre Lonely Hearts ad sets off a train of tragicomic events that lead to an inevitable conclusion. Tove Ditlevsen's final novel – published a year before her suicide in 1976 – is a masterful conclusion to a great work of writing: a blackly funny and devastating tour-de-force that pulses with life even as it journeys towards death.

Tove Ditlevsen was born in 1917 in a working-class neighbourhood in Copenhagen. Her first volume of poetry was published when she was in her early twenties, and was followed by many more books, including the novels *The Faces* and *Vilhelm's Room* and her autobiographical masterpiece, *Childhood* (1967), *Youth* (1967) and *Dependency* (1971). She married four times and died by suicide in 1976.

Sophia Hersi Smith and Jennifer Russell are translators living in Copenhagen. Together, they have translated fiction and poetry by Danish writers such as Olga Ravn, Tove Ditlevsen and Solvej Balle.

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# GEORGES SIMENON

## The Cat



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An acerbic tale of marital warfare  
and emotional estrangement,  
in a brilliant new translation.

*'In the oppressive silence of the sitting room, the woman finally smoothed out the paper and, without putting on her glasses, read the two words her husband had written:*

*The cat.'*

Amidst the din of their Parisian neighbourhood, Émile and Marguerite live in total silence. After a hasty marriage in their sixties, their uneasy peace was shattered when Émile's beloved cat mysteriously disappeared and was later found dead. Branding his wife the culprit, Émile's retaliation against Marguerite's cherished parrot sparked a silent battle of wills. Now they live parallel lives, communicating only through spiteful notes, mocking glances and mute accusations. Yet as their suspicion and resentment mount, this bitter game of psychological warfare becomes a twisted necessity, binding them together in a relentless cycle of torment from which there can only be one escape.

First published in 1967, *The Cat* is a masterful exploration of marital discord, loneliness and the absurdity of human relationships, painting a vivid portrait of two souls trapped in quiet desperation.

Translated by Ros Schwartz.

Georges Simenon was born in Liège, Belgium, in 1903. A household name in continental Europe and author of the much beloved Inspector Maigret series, he also wrote over 100 *romans durs* which include some of his finest, most intense psychological fiction. He died in 1989 in Lausanne, Switzerland, where he had lived for the latter part of his life.

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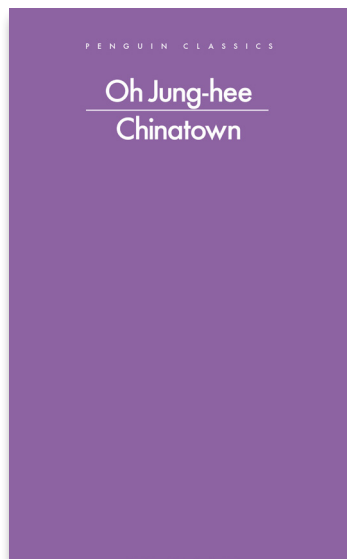
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# OH JUNG-HEE

## Chinatown



## A selection of the best short stories by Oh Jung-hee, one of South Korea's most influential writers.

In this emblematic selection of her stories, Oh Jung-hee probes beneath the surface of seemingly quotidian lives to show families reconfigured by desertion, psychosis, and death. In 'Chinatown' a young girl living on the edge of the city's Chinese community comes of age among mundane violence, collisions with adult sexuality and the American occupation; in 'The Garden Party' a woman grapples with her conflicting identities of wife, mother and writer at an alcohol-fuelled gathering. Oh Jung-hee has drawn comparisons to Alice Munro, Virginia Woolf, and Joyce Carol Oates, and had blazed her own path through a career spanning six decades.

Translated from the Korean by Bruce and Ju-Chan Fulton.

Oh Jung-hee is often considered the grande dame of South Korean literature. Her work has received both the Yi Sang Literary Award and the Dong-in Literary Award, South Korea's most prestigious prizes for short fiction, and has been translated into multiple languages in Southeast Asia, Latin America, the United States, and Europe.

Bruce and Ju-Chan Fulton are the award-winning translators of numerous volumes of modern Korean fiction, most recently *Togani*, a novel by Gong Ji-young (2023). Their translations of Korean short fiction appear in journals such as the *Massachusetts Review*, *Granta*, *Ploughshares*, the *Southern Review*, and the *New England Review*. Bruce Fulton is the editor of *The Penguin Book of Korean Short Stories* (2023).

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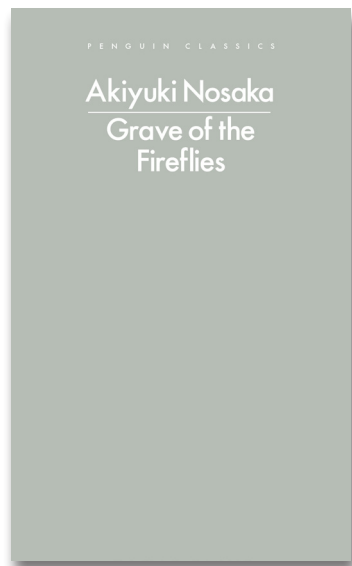
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# AKIYUKI NOSAKA

## Grave of the Fireflies



The heartbreaking story of two orphans fighting for survival at the end of World War Two, published in English for the first time.

In the dying days of the War, Seita and Setsuko must fend for themselves. Firebombs have obliterated their home in Kobe, leaving them searching for shelter, and scrambling to survive in the depths of the countryside. But, as their suffering becomes a constant companion, so do the lights of the fireflies – shining from the bomber planes, and the insects glowing by the lake at night.

This unforgettable semi-autobiographical tale by Akiyuki Nosaka won him the Naoki Prize, cementing his place in the Japanese cultural canon. Published here for the first time as a standalone story, *Grave of the Fireflies* illuminates the untold sorrows of normal people who lived in the shadow of war.

**Akiyuki Nosaka (1930-2015)** was a novelist, singer, lyricist and former member of the House of Councillors in Japan. Born in Kamakura, Kanagawa, his memories of living through the Second World War – including the loss of his adoptive father in the 1945 Kobe bombings – served as the inspiration for his most famous short stories. In 1967, he won the Naoki Prize for *Grave of the Fireflies* and *American Hijiki*, both based on the Japanese experience of the War. Nosaka also wrote erotic fiction, including *The Pornographers* (1963), and in later life he continued his career as a newspaper and TV journalist, as well as a politician and chanson singer.

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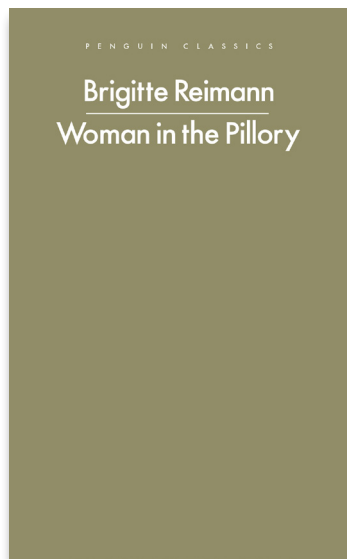
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# BRIGITTE REIMANN

## Woman in the Pillory



### A gripping novella by the cult writer of *Siblings*.

Kathrin – five years into a disenchanting marriage – struggles to work the farm with her sister-in-law while her husband Heinrich is away fighting for the Third Reich. To help them with the harvest, Heinrich arranges for Alexei, a Russian prisoner of war, to labour in the fields. Though initially suspicious of this watchful stranger, Kathrin is soon drawn to Alexei, with ruinous consequences.

First published in 1956, *Woman in the Pillory* is a formative novella by one of East Germany's most significant writers, showcasing Brigitte Reimann's vivacious ideological engagement with the legacy of Nazi Germany and the Communist drive to create 'a new kind of person' following the devastation of the war.

Translated from the German by Lucy Jones.

**Brigitte Reimann (1933-1973)** was among East Germany's most significant writers. Like her heroines, she was spirited and outspoken, addressing issues and sensibilities otherwise repressed in the GDR. She believed passionately in socialism, yet never joined the party; stayed with her second husband, yet pursued a series of affairs. Her stated aim was to live 'thirty wild years instead of seventy well-behaved ones'. In 1960, her brother left for the West and she began writing *Siblings*. She died from cancer at the age of thirty-nine, a celebrated writer and cult figure.

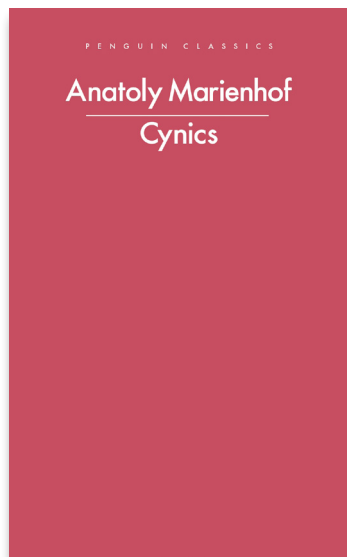
**Lucy Jones** is a British translator based in Berlin. She has translated the work of Anke Stelling and Ronald M. Schernikau, among others, and was runner-up in the Schlegel-Tieck Prize in 2023 for her translation of *Die Geschwister (Siblings)* by Brigitte Reimann. Her own writing has appeared in *SAND*, *Pigeon Pages* NYC, *LitroMag* and others.

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# ANATOLY MARIENHOF

## Cynics



A blistering satire of Bolshevik Russia, written in 1928 and unpublishable in the Soviet Union until 1988.

*'A love that cannot be throttled by the rubber tube of an enema bulb is immortal.'*

Bookish and idealistic Vladimir is tormented with love for Olga; he brings her flowers when other men bring her flour and millet. Olga eventually agrees to marry him, as her building's central heating will be out of service all winter and at least with two in the bed they'll be warmer. When she decides she'd like to serve the revolution, he introduces her to his brother Sergei, a Bolshevik who manages the waterways. Thus begins an excruciating love triangle, measured in ration coupons and black market goods.

Described by the poet Joseph Brodsky as 'one of the most innovative novels in Russian literature,' Marienhof's *Cynics* is a pitch-black comedy set during the wild and savage years of War Communism and the New Economic Policy. Cinematic in its style and collagist in its aesthetic, it established Marienhof as a true formal radical. It is a bawdy, savage, lavishly emotional portrayal of working for the revolution (and trying to ignore it).

Translated from the Russian by Bryan Karetnyk.

Anatoly Marienhof (1897–1962) was a poet, novelist, dramatist and memoirist. Marienhof became a leading figure of the avant-garde Imaginist movement, and was the author of the novels *The Novel without Lies* (1926) and *Cynics* (1928).

Bryan Karetnyk is British writer and translator. His recent translations include major works by Yuri Felsen, Gaito Gazdanov and Boris Poplavsky. He is also the editor of the landmark Penguin Classics anthology *Russian Émigré Short Stories from Bunin to Yanovsky*.

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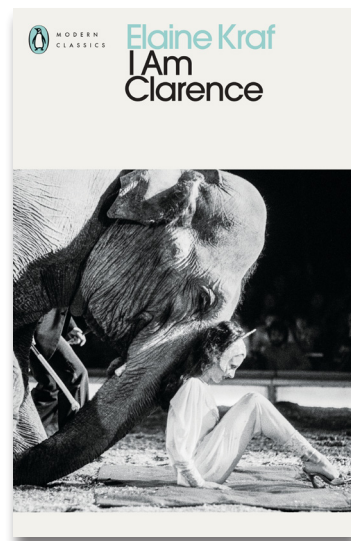
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# ELAINE KRAF

## I Am Clarence



A haunting novel exploring a mother's fierce love for her disabled son as she grapples with her own mental health, by the author of the feminist cult classic *The Princess of 72nd Street*.

For Clarence's mother, life revolves around her young son; she takes him to see specialists to find the cause of his blindness and developmental delays, protects him from the cruelty of other children, and loves him tenderly. But she has her own struggles too. Her sanity is precarious and fractured, making caregiving increasingly difficult.

When her mental health reaches a breaking point, she checks herself into an institution so that she can get better and, she tells herself, be a better mother to Clarence. As she is forced to decide between his well-being and hers, Elaine Kraf poses the essential question: can a mother's love for her child soothe her own emotional upheaval? How much can she sacrifice for her son?

Through this unforgettable journey into one woman's mind and relationships, Kraf paints a harrowing portrait of motherhood which remains timely and inventive over fifty years after its initial publication.

Elaine Kraf (1936–2013) was a writer and painter. She was the author of four published works of fiction: *I Am Clarence* (1969), *The House of Madelaine* (1971), *Find Him!* (1977) and *The Princess of 72nd Street* (1979) – as well as several unpublished novels, plays and poetry collections. She was the recipient of two National Endowment for the Arts awards, a 1971 fellowship at the Broad Loaf Writers' Conference and a 1977 residency at Yaddo. She was born and lived in New York City.

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# SEICHŌ MATSUMOTO

## A Quiet Place



A thrillingly dark novel from  
'Japan's Agatha Christie' (*Sunday Times*).

While on a business trip to Kobe, Tsuneo Asai receives the news that his wife Eiko has died of a heart attack. Eiko had a heart condition so the news of her death wasn't totally unexpected. But the circumstances of her demise left Tsuneo, a softly spoken government bureaucrat, perplexed. How did it come about that his wife, who was shy and withdrawn, and only left their house twice a week to go to haiku meetings ended up dead in a small shop in a shady Tokyo neighbourhood?

When Tsuneo goes to apologize to the boutique owner for the trouble caused by his wife's death he discovers the villa Tachibana near by, a house known to be a meeting place for secret lovers. As he digs deeper into his wife's recent past, he must eventually conclude that she led a double life...

Translated by Louise Heal Kawai.

Seichō Matsumoto was born in 1909 in Fukuoka, Japan. Self-educated, Matsumoto published his first book when he was forty years old and he quickly established himself as a master of crime fiction. His exploration of human psychology and Japanese post-war malaise, coupled with the creation of twisting, dark mysteries, made him one of the most acclaimed and best-selling writers in Japan. He received the prestigious Akutagawa Literary Prize in 1950 and the Kikuchi Kan Prize in 1970. He died in 1992.

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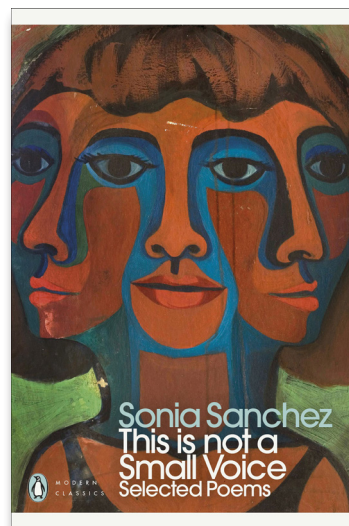
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# SONIA SANCHEZ

## This Is Not a Small Voice

### Selected Poems



A dazzling selection from one of the most beloved American poets, whose distinctive verse resonates around the globe.

*'hear your voice  
a wild sea pausing in the wind'*

Few poets in history have possessed the irrepressible humanity and abundant positivity that characterize Sonia Sanchez's astonishing body of work.

Energetic, infectious and rich with sonic exuberance, Sanchez's poems have radically transformed the direction of American poetry over the past six decades and have been an inspiration to readers around the world, including Toni Morrison and Chinua Achebe. Whether it's her iconic haiku, rhythmic ballads or devastating elegies, Sanchez's luminous verse thrums with a profound generosity and an international consciousness, rendering all of life's agony and ecstasy.

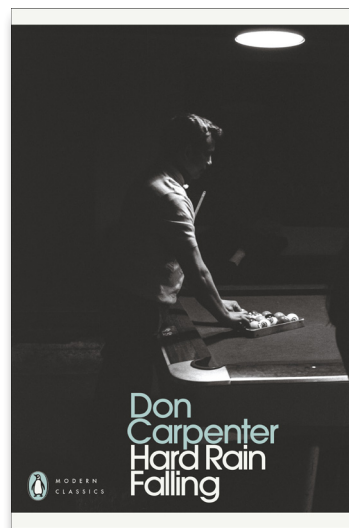
This volume draws on Sanchez's diverse repertoire to showcase the multiplicities of the poet's voice – the profound and personal, the firebrand and socially conscious, the playful and formally dextrous, and the musical – to celebrate her as one of the world's most skilled and versatile poets of the past half century.

Sonia Sanchez is a poet, playwright, educator, activist, and one of the founders of the Black Arts movement. She is the author of more than a dozen books of poetry, including *Does Your House Have Lions?*, which was nominated for the National Book Critics Circle Award, and *Homegirls & Handgrenades*, which won an American Book Award. She has also received many other awards including the Robert Creeley Award, the Frost Medal, the Wallace Stevens Award, and the Anisfield-Wolf Lifetime Achievement Award. She lives in Philadelphia.

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A Dostoevskyan noir in the hard-boiled tradition, *Hard Rain Falling* is also a shocking, tender novel about looking for meaning somewhere between the seedy and the sublime.

With a new foreword by Stuart Evers.

**Don Carpenter** (1931-1995) was an American writer, best known as the author of *Hard Rain Falling*, which the *Independent* described as 'bring[ing] gold to grit'. He wrote numerous novels, novellas, short stories and screenplays over the course of a twenty-two-year career. Facing a mounting series of debilitating illnesses, died by suicide in 1995.

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Vienna, 1939. Count Wallmoden, an officer and veteran of the First World War, is preparing to take part in a mysterious 'military exercise'. One evening, while off duty, he meets the austere and beautiful Baroness Pistohlkors, whose secretive nature and elusive circle of acquaintances suggest that things – including the 'military exercise' – are not quite what they seem. Forced to leave the Baroness, Wallmoden promises to return for a tryst once his tour of duty is over, only to discover his unit has been mobilized for war. He finds himself over the border, marching across Europe – and, more seductively, stumbling to and fro over the border that separates the living from the dead. One constant remains: in this world or the next, he must keep his tryst with Baroness Pistohlkors.

Simultaneously a ghost story drawing on the phantasms of the unconscious mind, a thriller where the erotic and the supernatural converge, and a shockingly realist account of the German Wehrmacht's invasion of Poland, the novel *Mars in Aries* was refused a publishing permit by the Nazis, hinting as it did at the existence of an Austrian resistance. The book's entire print run was put into storage and subsequently destroyed by an Allied air raid. Reprinted from the author's proofs after the war, *Mars in Aries* is one of Alexander Lernet-Holenia's finest and most celebrated novels.

Translated from the German by Robert Dassanowsky and John S. Barrett.



© Courtesy of Alexander Lernet-Holenia

**Alexander Lernet-Holenia** (1897-1976) served in the Austro-Hungarian army in the First World War and became a protégé of Rainer Maria Rilke. A vital figure of Austrian literature, he wrote numerous celebrated novels, plays, screenplays and poetry.

**Robert Dassanowsky** (1965-2023) was an academic, independent film producer, and author. He was a member of the European Film Academy and fellow of the Royal Historical Society.

**John S. Barrett** (1935) is a translator, reviewer and retired cardiologist. His translations have won the American Literary Translators' Association Award and the Koret Foundation Award.

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Georges Simenon was born in Liège, Belgium, in 1903. A household name in continental Europe and author of the much beloved Inspector Maigret series, he also wrote over 100 romans durs which include some of his finest, most intense psychological fiction. He died in 1989 in Lausanne, Switzerland, where he had lived for the latter part of his life.

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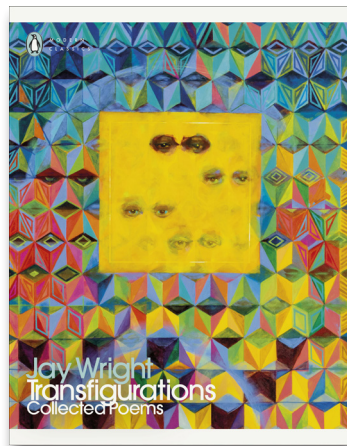
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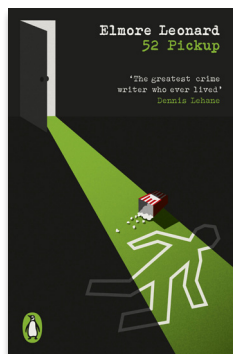
Jay Wright is a poet and playwright. He has received numerous awards, including the Bollingen Prize for Poetry, the Anisfield-Wolf Award for Lifetime achievement, the L.L. Winship/PEN Award, the Lannan Literary Award for Poetry, a Guggenheim Fellowship, and the 62nd Fellowship of the Academy of American Poets. A MacArthur Fellow and a member of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, Wright lives in Vermont.

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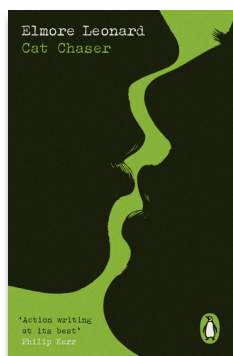
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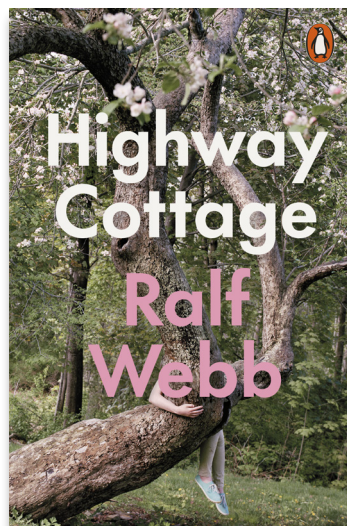
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Ralf Webb is the author of *Rotten Days* in *Late Summer*, which was shortlisted for the Forward Prize for Best First Collection, and the nonfiction book *Strange Relations*. His poems, essays, and fiction have appeared widely, including in the *London Review of Books*, *Fantastic Man*, *Granta* and the *Guardian*. This is his second collection.

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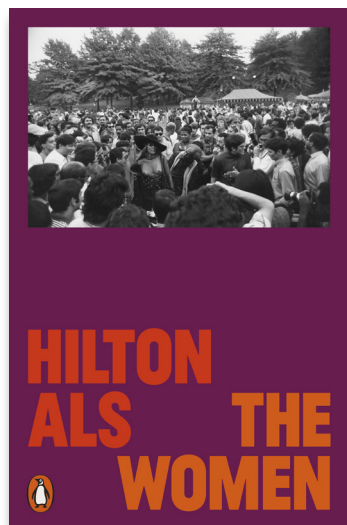
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Hilton Als is a Pulitzer prize-winning writer and staff writer at the *New Yorker*. He has received a number of awards, including a Guggenheim, a George Jean Nathan Award for Dramatic Criticism, and the Windham Campbell prize from Yale University. He is the author of three acclaimed books – *The Women*, *White Girls*, and *My Pinup*; *White Girls* was shortlisted for the National Book Critics Circle Award, and won the LAMBDA Literary Award. Als is a teaching professor at the University of California, Berkeley.

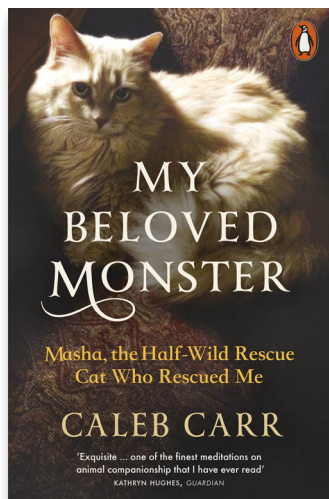
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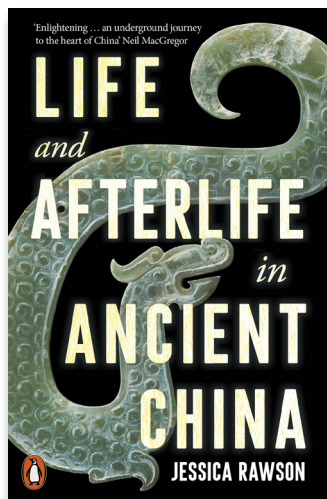




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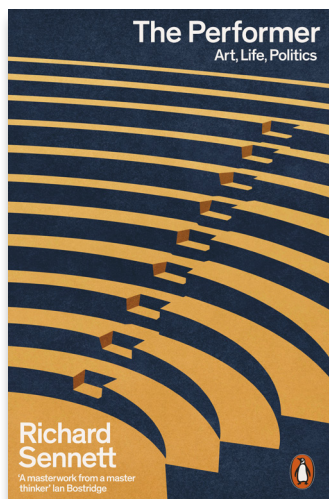
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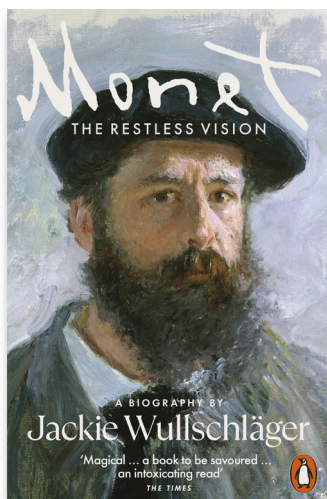
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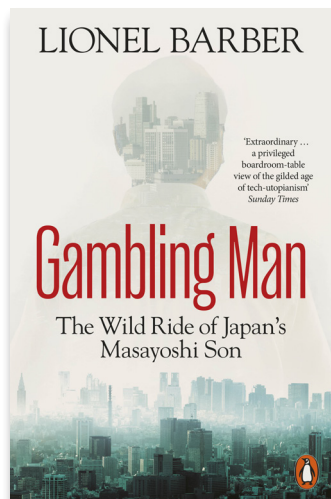
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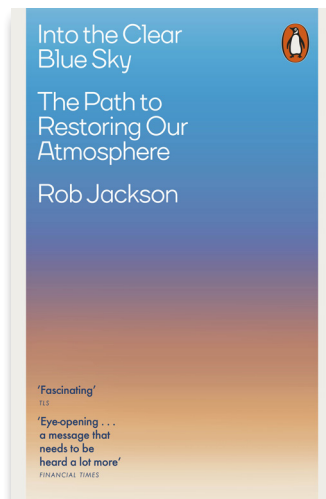
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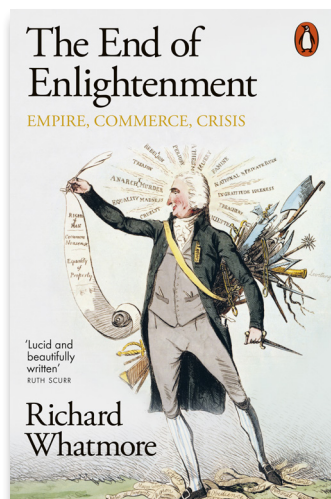
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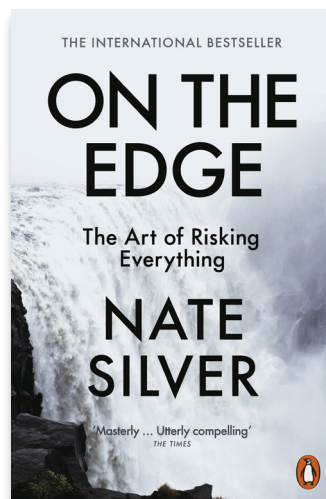
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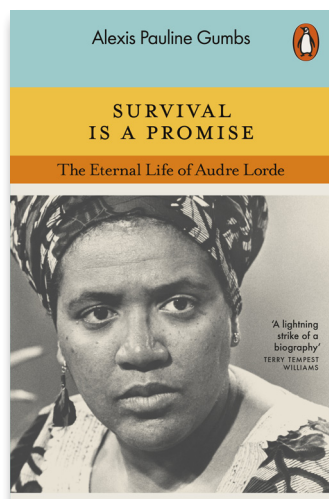
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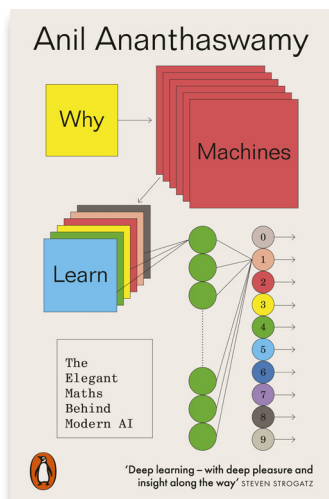
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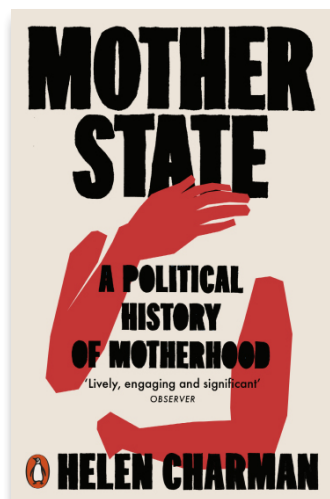
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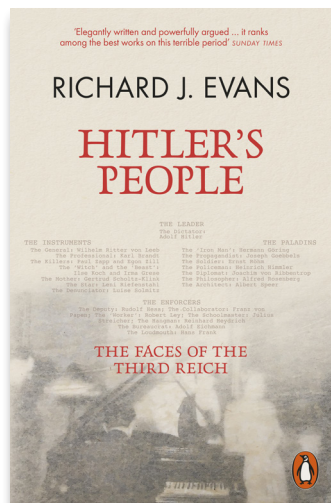
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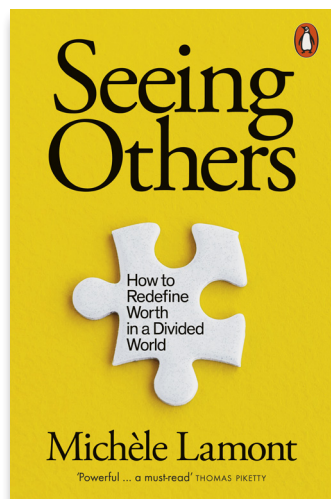
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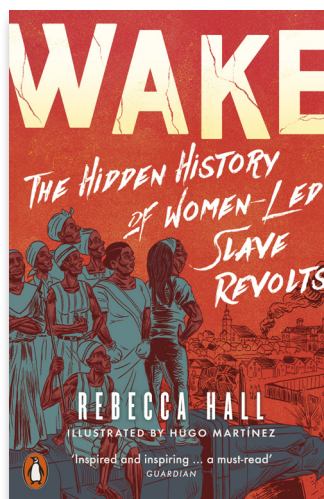


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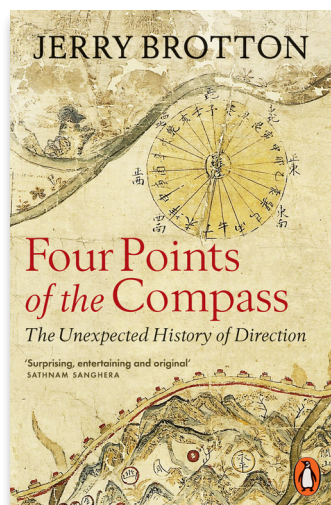
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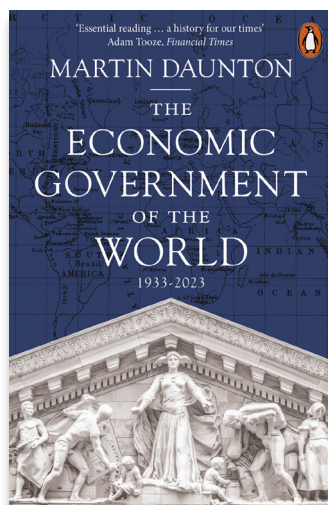


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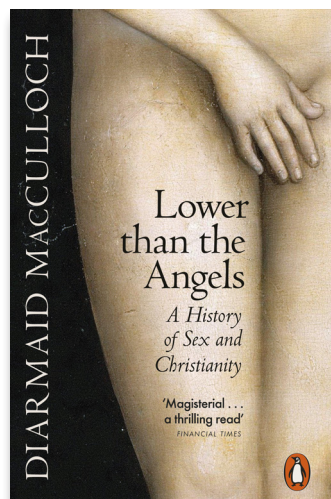


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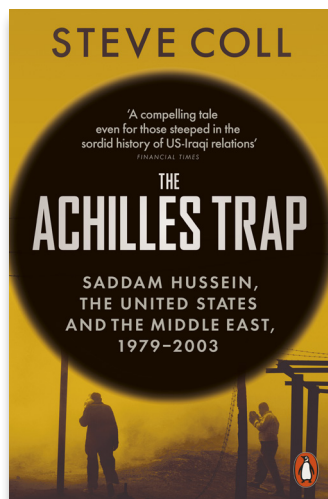


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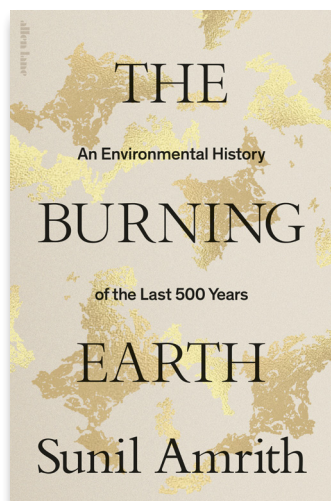


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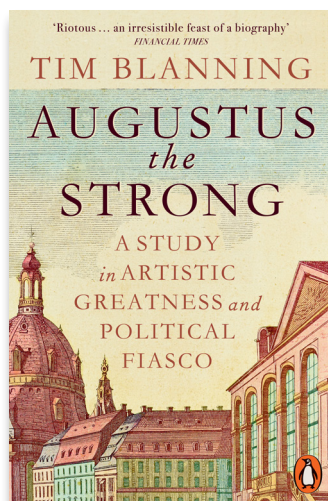


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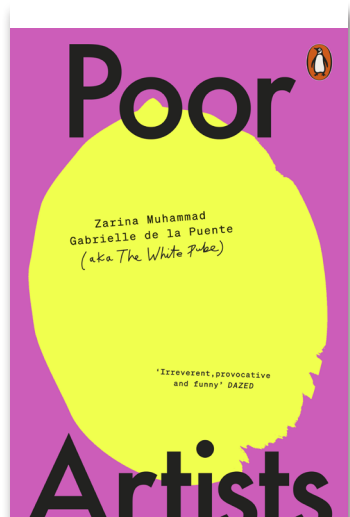


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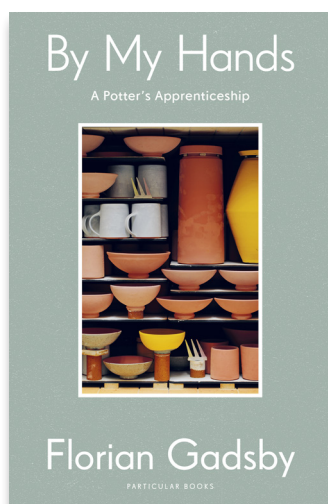
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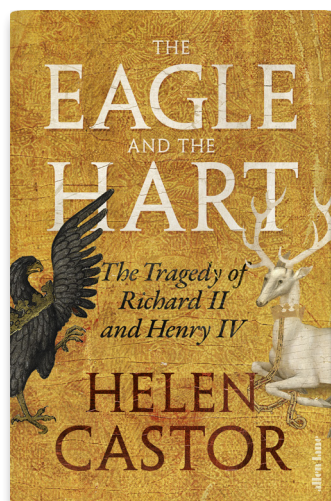


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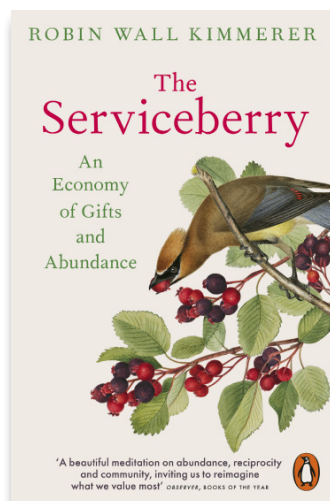


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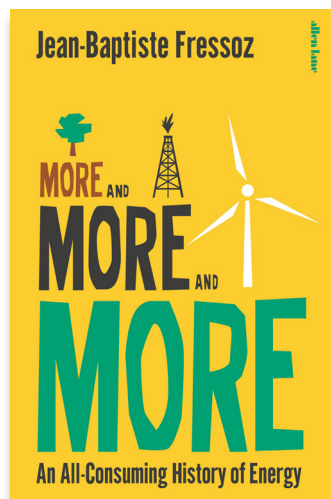


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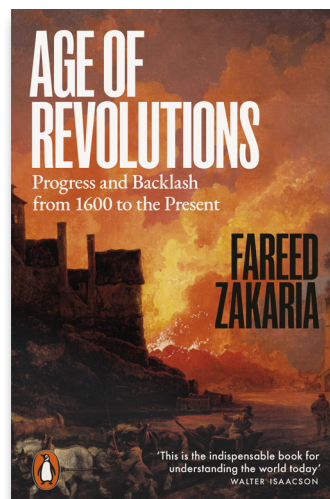


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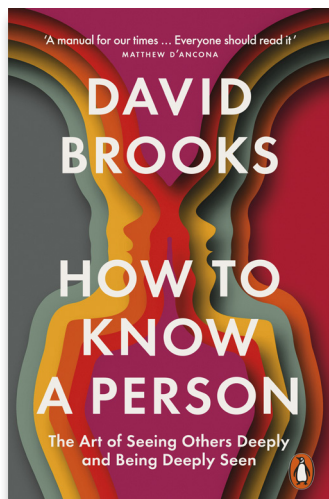


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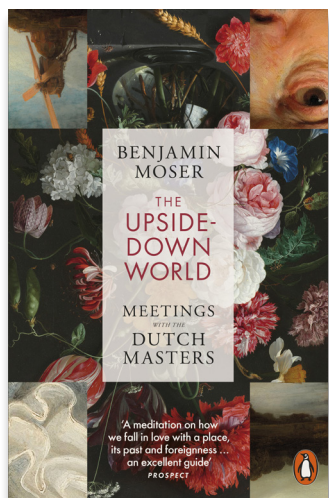
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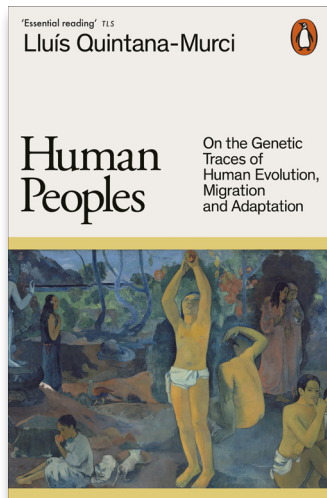
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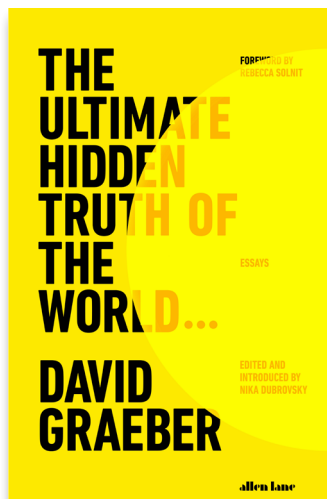
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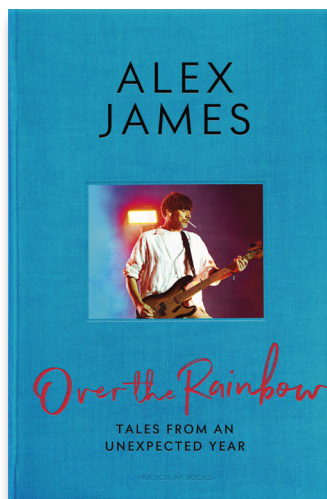


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