Dear Common Reading Committee Member:

The Common Reads team at Penguin Random House is excited to present our latest book recommendations for your common reading program. In this catalog you will discover new titles such as: Solito by Javier Zamora, a young poet's immediate and intimate memoir of his harrowing migration at the age of nine from El Salvador to the United States in order to reunite with his family; Recitatif, Toni Morrison's brilliant short story in which the race of the protagonists is purposely left ambiguous as a way of interrogating racial codes; Anna Qu’s fierce memoir, Made in China, that is unafraid to ask thorny questions about trauma and survival in immigrant families, the meaning of work, and the costs of immigration; and the highly anticipated new novel by Celeste Ng, Our Missing Hearts, an old story made new, of the ways supposedly civilized communities can ignore the most searing injustice and about the power—and limitations—of art to create change.

In addition to this catalog, our www.commonreads.com website features titles from across Penguin Random House's publishers as well as great blog content, including links to author videos, and the sixth iteration of our annual "What Students Will Be Reading: Campus Common Reading Roundup," a valuable resource and archive for common reading programs across the country.

And be sure to check out our online resource for Higher Education: PRHHigherEd.com. Featuring 22,000 titles from across more than 2,000 college courses, the site allows professors to easily identify books and resources appropriate for a wide range of courses.

Whatever your needs and interests, we are confident that you will be able to find the ideal book for your program, whether in this catalog, on our sites, or via one of our Account Managers. Please contact us by email at commonreads@penguinrandomhouse.com with any questions, review copy requests, or to just let us know what your program is reading.

Sincerely,

Alan Walker
Vice President, Higher Education Marketing
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New York, NY 10019
awalker@penguinrandomhouse.com

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The Penguin Random House Common Reading Advisory Board was launched in 2010. Comprised of your colleagues, the board has been instrumental in guiding our outreach to common reading programs around the country.
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- Audio Book  
- Discussion Guide Available  
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Examination Copies

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Penguin Random House Education hosts both virtual and in-person events in addition to our annual author events at the FYE® Conference. We will be reaching out in the near future with more details on participating authors, dates and times, and look forward to introducing you to our latest authors and titles that we think will resonate for your Common Reading programs.

Past authors have included:

**Qian Julie Wang**  
BEAUTIFUL COUNTRY

**Mondiant Dogon**  
THOSE WE THROW AWAY  
ARE DIAMONDS

**G’Ra Asim**  
BOYZ N THE VOID

**Cassandra Leah Quave**  
THE PLANT HUNTER

**Ian Manuel**  
MY TIME WILL COME

**Daniel Sherrell**  
WARMTH

**Jay Caspian Kang**  
THE LONELIEST AMERICANS

**Judith Heumann**  
BEING HEUMANN

**Anita Hill**  
BELIEVING

**Linda Villarosa**  
UNDER THE SKIN

**Mazie K. Hirono**  
HEART OF FIRE

**Heather McGhee**  
THE SUM OF US

**Michele Harper**  
THE BEAUTY IN BREAKING

**Isabel Wilkerson**  
CASTE

**Ishmael Beah**  
LITTLE FAMILY

**Emily Bernard**  
BLACK IS THE BODY

**Erin Brockovich**  
SUPERMAN’S NOT COMING

**Kathryn Sullivan**  
HANDPRINTS ON HUBBLE

**Ta-Nehisi Coates**  
THE WATER DANCER

**Karla Cornejo Villavicencio**  
THE UNDOCUMENTED AMERICANS

**Chanel Miller**  
KNOW MY NAME

**Gabby Rivera**  
JULIET TAKES A BREATH

**Ibram X. Kendi**  
HOW TO BE AN ANTIRACIST

**Adib Khorram**  
DARUIS THE GREAT  
IS NOT OKAY

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RISING OUT OF HATRED

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**Featuring new books in a variety of academic subjects, our monthly First-year Reading newsletter is an excellent way to keep up to date with the latest releases from Penguin Random House.**

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The following titles were among the most frequently selected titles from Penguin Random House divisions for Common Reads over the last three years. For a much more extensive and detailed view of Common Reading adoptions, visit our website, CommonReads.com, and view our What Students Will Be Reading: Campus Common Reading Roundup blogpost to look at what books were selected by colleges and universities across the country.

Transcendent Kingdom
Yaa Gyasi
9781984899767

All We Can Save
Edited by Ayana Elizabeth Johnson and Katharine K. Wilkinson
97805933237083

Tell Me Who You Are
Winona Guo and Priya Vulchi
9780593333073

They Called Us Enemy
George Takei; Justin Eisinger; Steven Scott; Harmony Becker
9781603094504

What Students are Reading

What the Eyes Don’t See
Mona Hanna-Attisha
9780399590856

Just Mercy
Bryan Stevenson
978082984965

Born a Crime
Trevor Noah
9780399588198

Educated
Tara Westover
9780399590528

Weapons of Math Destruction
Cathy O’Neil
9780553418835

There There
Tommy Orange
9780525436140

How to Be an Antiracist
Ibram X. Kendi
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Interior Chinatown
Charles Yu
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His Name Is George Floyd
One Man’s Life and the Struggle for Racial Justice
By Robert Samuels and Toluse Olorunnipa

The events of that day are now tragically familiar: on May 25, 2020, George Floyd became the latest Black person to die at the hands of the police, murdered outside of a Minneapolis convenience store by white officer Derek Chauvin. The video recording of his death set off the largest protest movement in the history of the United States, awakening millions to the pervasiveness of racial injustice. But long before his face was painted onto countless murals and his name became synonymous with civil rights, Floyd was a father, partner, athlete, and friend who constantly strove for a better life.

*His Name Is George Floyd* tells the story of a beloved figure from Houston’s housing projects as he faced the stifling systemic pressures that come with being a Black man in America. Placing his narrative within the context of the country’s enduring legacy of institutional racism, this deeply reported account examines Floyd’s family roots in slavery and sharecropping, the segregation of his schools, the overpolicing of his community amid a wave of mass incarceration, and the callous disregard toward his struggle with addiction—putting today’s inequality into uniquely human terms. Drawing upon hundreds of interviews with Floyd’s closest friends and family, his elementary school teachers and varsity coaches, civil rights icons, and those in the highest seats of political power, *Washington Post* reporters Robert Samuels and Toluse Olorunnipa offer a poignant and moving exploration of George Floyd’s America, revealing how a man who simply wanted to breathe ended up touching the world.

“A much-needed portrait of the life, times, and martyrdom of George Floyd, a chronicle of the racial awakening sparked by his brutal and untimely death, and an essential work of history I hope everyone will read.”—Henry Louis Gates, Jr., author of *The Black Church*

Robert Samuels is a national political enterprise reporter for *The Washington Post* who focuses on the intersection of politics, policy, and people. He previously wrote stories about life in the District for the Post’s social issues team. Samuels joined the Post in 2011 after spending nearly five years working at the *Miami Herald.*

Toluse Olorunnipa is a political enterprise and investigations reporter for *The Washington Post.* He joined the Post in 2019 and previously covered the White House. Before that, he spent five years at Bloomberg, where he reported on politics and policy from Washington and Florida.

“Since we know George Floyd’s death with tragic clarity, we must know Floyd’s America—and life—with tragic clarity. *His Name Is George Floyd* is essential for our times.”—Ibram X. Kendi, author of *How to Be an Antiracist*
In this 1983 short story—the only short story Morrison ever wrote—we meet Twyla and Roberta, who have known each other since they were eight years old and spent four months together as roommates in St. Bonaventure shelter. Inseparable then, they lose touch as they grow older, only later to find each other again at a diner, a grocery store, and again at a protest. Seemingly at opposite ends of every problem, and at each other’s throats each time they meet, the two women still cannot deny the deep bond their shared experience has forged between them.

Another work of genius by this masterly writer, *Recitatif* keeps Twyla’s and Roberta’s races ambiguous throughout the story. Morrison herself described *Recitatif*, a story which will keep readers thinking and discussing for years to come, as “an experiment in the removal of all racial codes from a narrative about two characters of different races for whom racial identity is crucial.” We know that one is white and one is Black, but which is which? And who is right about the race of the woman the girls tormented at the orphanage?

A remarkable look into what keeps us together and what keeps us apart, and how perceptions are made tangible by reality, *Recitatif* is a gift to readers in these changing times.

*Recitatif* is available for the first time in a stand-alone edition, with an introduction by Zadie Smith.

“Page for page, it is as powerful and audacious an exploration of racial bias in America as her 11 novels.... Its short length would make it an ideal, accessible selection for community-wide reading programs, sure to spark self-scrutiny and discussion. Both timely and timeless.”

—Heller McAlpin, *Christian Science Monitor*

**Features**

- **Selected for Common Reading at:** University of California, Santa Cruz - Porter College
- **Knopf Hardcover**
  978-0-593-31503-3 | 96 pp. | $16.00
  EB: 9780593315040
- **Also Available:** Beloved 9781400033416

**Themes:** Diversity, Equity & Inclusion, Coming of Age

**Featured Title**

- **Toni Morrison** is the author of eleven novels and three essay collections. She received the National Book Critics Circle Award, the Pulitzer Prize, and in 1993 the Nobel Prize in Literature. She died in 2019.

- **Zadie Smith** is the author of the novels *White Teeth*, *The Autograph Man*, *On Beauty*, *NW* and *Swing Time*, as well as a novella, *The Embassy of Cambodia*, and two collections of essays, *Changing My Mind* and *Feel Free*. Zadie Smith is currently a tenured professor of fiction at New York University and a Member of the American Academy of Arts and Letters.

-To request examination copies, visit [tinyurl.com/FYE23Form](http://tinyurl.com/FYE23Form)
Wastelands
The True Story of Farm Country on Trial

By Corban Addison

The once idyllic coastal plain of North Carolina is home to a close-knit, rural community that for more than a generation has battled the polluting practices of large-scale farming taking place in its own backyard. After years of frustration and futility, an impassioned cadre of local residents, led by a team of intrepid and dedicated lawyers, filed a lawsuit against one of the world’s most powerful companies—and, miraculously, they won.

Wastelands tells the story of a legal battle over the future of America’s farmland and into the lives of the people who found the courage to fight. Among the neighbors is Elsie Herring, the most outspoken, who has endured racial slurs and the threat of a restraining order to tell the story of the waste raining down on her rooftop from the hog operation next door. There is Don Webb, a larger-than-life hog farmer turned grassroots crusader. Fighting alongside them in the courtroom is Mona Lisa Wallace, who broke the gender barrier in her small southern town and built a storied legal career out of vanquishing corporate giants, and Mike Kaeske, whose trial skills are second to none.

Corban Addison’s Wastelands captures the inspiring struggle to bring a modern-day monopoly to its knees, to force a once-invincible corporation to change, and to preserve the rights—and restore the heritage—of a long-suffering community.

“In this book, Addison turns a novelist’s eye to the thorny complexities of a real legal case. The prose is lyrical, the cast of characters jump to life on the page, and the result is a captivating account of how a small group of citizens bring a huge corporation to justice.” —Jonathan Harr, author of A Civil Action

“Corban Addison is the author of four novels, A Walk Across the Sun, The Garden of Burning Sand, The Tears of Dark Water (winner of the inaugural Wilbur Smith Adventure Writing Prize), and A Harvest of Thorns, all of which address some of today’s most pressing human rights issues. An attorney, activist, and world traveler, he lives with his wife and children in Virginia.”

“[A] textbook case of environmental racism … a legal thriller, full of energy and compassion … [and] a damning portrait of how we feed ourselves.”


Corban Addison is the author of four novels, A Walk Across the Sun, The Garden of Burning Sand, The Tears of Dark Water (winner of the inaugural Wilbur Smith Adventure Writing Prize), and A Harvest of Thorns, all of which address some of today’s most pressing human rights issues. An attorney, activist, and world traveler, he lives with his wife and children in Virginia.

Twitter: @CorbanAddison

Knopf | Hardcover
$30.00 / $40.00 Can.
EB: 9780593320839

Themes: Food, Environmental Racism, Justice
FEATURED TITLE

Theme: Immigrant & First-Generation Stories

Solito
A Memoir
By Javier Zamora

A young poet tells the unforgettable story of his harrowing migration from El Salvador to the U.S. at the age of nine in this powerful memoir, hailed by Sandra Cisneros as “the mythic journey of our era.”

Javier’s 3,000-mile journey will take him from his small town in El Salvador, through Guatemala and Mexico, and across the U.S. border. He will leave behind beloved family members to reunite with parents he has not seen in years. Traveling alone except for a group of strangers and a “coyote” hired to lead them to safety, Javier’s trip is supposed to last two short weeks.

He cannot foresee the perilous boat trips, relentless desert treks, pointed guns, arrests and deceptions that await him; nor can he know that those two weeks will expand into two life-altering months alongside fellow migrants who will come to encircle him like an unexpected family.

A memoir as gripping as it is moving, Solito not only provides an immediate and intimate account of a treacherous and near-impossible journey, but also the miraculous kindness and love delivered at the most unexpected moments. Solito is Javier’s story, but it’s also the story of millions of others who had no choice but to leave home.

“Perhaps only a poet could invoke the fear and beauty of a migrant’s voyage. A witness who lived the story is essential to gain credibility. A child is necessary to summon compassion. This is the mythic journey of our era, told by a hero not old enough to tie his shoes, an oracle for our troubled times. I have waited decades for a memoir like Solito.”—Sandra Cisneros, author of The House on Mango Street

Javier Zamora was born in El Salvador in 1990. His father fled the country when he was one, and his mother when he was about to turn five. Both parents’ migrations were caused by the U.S.-funded Salvadoran Civil War. When he was nine Javier migrated through Guatemala, Mexico, and the Sonoran Desert. His debut poetry collection, Unaccompanied, explores the impact of the war and immigration on his family. Zamora has been a Stegner Fellow at Stanford and a Radcliffe Fellow at Harvard and holds fellowships from the National Endowment for the Arts and the Poetry Foundation.

Website: www.javierzamora.net
Twitter: @jzsalvipoet

Hogarth | Hardcover
978-0-593-49806-4 | 400 pp.
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EB: 9780593498071

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The Emergency
A Year of Healing and Heartbreak in a Chicago ER

By Thomas Fisher, Foreword by Ta-Nehisi Coates

Through 20 years of clinical practice as an emergency room doctor on the South Side of Chicago, time as a White House fellow, and work as a health-care entrepreneur, Dr. Thomas Fisher has seen firsthand how our country’s healthcare system can reflect the worst of society. In The Emergency, Fisher brings readers through his shift, as he works with limited time and resources to treat incoming patients. And when he goes home, he remains haunted by what he sees throughout his day. To cope with the relentless onslaught exacerbated by the pandemic, Fisher begins writing letters to patients and colleagues—letters he will never send—explaining it all to them as best he can.

The Emergency has all the elements that make doctors’ stories so compelling—the high stakes, the fascinating science and practice of medicine, the deep and fraught interactions between patients and doctors, the persistent contemplation of mortality. And, with the rare dual perspective of somebody who also has his hands deep in policy work, Fisher connects these human stories to the sometimes-cruel machinery of care. Beautifully written, vulnerable and deeply empathetic, The Emergency is a call for reform that offers a fresh vision of health care as a foundation of social justice.

“With scalpel-like precision and searing patient stories, Thomas Fisher exposes the battlefield of medicine and the scarring—and often fatal—wounds of inequality. The Emergency is a bat call. Health care doesn’t care, inequality kills, and we must do better.”—Dr. Mona Hanna-Attisha, author of What the Eyes Don’t See

“The Emergency is graphic and gut-wrenching, as it should be. It is an undeniable call for a just health-care system, as it will be.”—Ibram X. Kendi, author of How to Be an Antiracist
FEATUED TITLE

**Themes:** Social Action, Coming-of-Age

**Surrender**

40 Songs, One Story

*By Bono*

As one of the music world’s most iconic artists and the cofounder of the organizations ONE and (RED), Bono’s career has been written about extensively. But in *Surrender*, it’s Bono who picks up the pen, writing for the first time about his remarkable life and those he has shared it with. In his unique voice, Bono takes us from his early days growing up in Dublin, including the sudden loss of his mother when he was fourteen, to U2’s unlikely journey to become one of the world’s most influential rock bands, to his more than twenty years of activism dedicated to the fight against AIDS and extreme poverty. Honest and irreverent, intimate and profound, *Surrender* is the story of the remarkable life Bono has lived, the challenges he’s faced, and the friends and family who have shaped and sustained him.

*Surrender*’s subtitle, 40 Songs, One Story, is a nod to the book’s forty chapters, which are each named after a U2 song. Bono has also created forty original drawings for *Surrender*, which appear throughout the book.

“When I started to write this book, I was hoping to draw in detail what I’d previously only sketched in songs. The people, places, and possibilities in my life. *Surrender* is a word freighted with meaning for me. Growing up in Ireland in the seventies with my fists up (musically speaking), it was not a natural concept. A word I only circled until I gathered my thoughts for the book. I am still grappling with this most humbling of commands. In the band, in my marriage, in my faith, in my life as an activist. *Surrender* is the story of one pilgrim’s lack of progress . . . with a fair amount of fun along the way.” —Bono

The lead singer of U2, **Bono** was born Paul David Hewson in Dublin. He met The Edge, Larry Mullen Jr., and Adam Clayton at school, and in 1978, U2 was formed. Alongside his role in U2, Bono is a ground-breaking activist. A leader in Jubilee 2000’s Drop the Debt campaign, he next took on the fight against HIV/AIDS and extreme poverty, co-founding sister organizations ONE and (RED). ONE is a movement of millions of people dedicated to the fight against extreme poverty and preventable disease. (RED)—which partners with companies to raise public awareness about, and corporate contributions for, the AIDS crisis—has to date generated more than $700 million for the Global Fund to treat and prevent AIDS in Africa. Bono has received a number of awards for his music and activism, including Chile’s Pablo Neruda Medal of Honor, the Légion d’honneur from the French government, and the Fulbright Prize for International Understanding. He lives in Dublin with his wife, Ali Hewson.

**Twitter:** @U2

**Video:** tiny.cc/t5zsuz
Theme: Disabled Voices

Being Heumann
An Unrepentant Memoir of a Disability Rights Activist

By Judith Heumann

Being Heumann recounts Judy Heumann’s lifelong battle to achieve respect, acceptance, and inclusion in society. Paralyzed from polio at eighteen months, Judy’s struggle for equality began early in life. From fighting to attend grade school after being described as a “fire hazard” to later winning a lawsuit against the New York City school system for denying her a teacher’s license because of her paralysis, Judy’s actions set a precedent that fundamentally improved rights for disabled people.

As a young woman, Judy rolled her wheelchair through the doors of the US Department of Health, Education, and Welfare in San Francisco as a leader of the Section 504 Sit-In, the longest takeover of a governmental building in US history. Working with a community of over 150 disabled activists and allies, Judy successfully pressured the Carter administration to implement protections for disabled peoples’ rights, sparking a national movement and leading to the creation of the Americans with Disabilities Act.

Candid, intimate, and irreverent, Judy Heumann’s memoir about resistance to exclusion invites readers to imagine and make real a world in which we all belong.

“It’s one of the ironies of American life that the one category into which almost all of us will fit at some time in our lives—people with disabilities—is often the last on the list of included groups in this country. . . . I met Judy Heumann almost four decades ago, and her writing, activist skills, and kindness helped me to see this simple truth. Her life story as an activist will enlighten readers everywhere.”—Gloria Steinem

“You don’t have to have a disability to completely relate to Judy’s story. Haven’t all of us been dismissed by others at some point in our lives? Readers will finish this book with a whole new perspective on people with disabilities and on their own lives too.”

—Nicole Newnham and Jim LeBrecht, directors of Crip Camp

Judith Heumann is an internationally recognized leader in the Disability Rights Independent Living Movement. Her work with a wide range of activist organizations (including the Berkeley Center for Independent Living and the American Association of People with Disabilities), NGOs, and governments since the 1970s has contributed greatly to the development of human rights legislation and policy benefiting disabled people. She has advocated for disability rights at home and abroad, serving in the Clinton and Obama administrations and as the World Bank’s first adviser on disability and development.

Website: judithheumann.com
Twitter: @judithheumann
Video: tiny.cc/jheimann
tiny.cc/judyh

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Berry College, San Diego State University, University of Missouri – Law School, and Connecticut College

Beacon Press | Paperback 978-0-8070-0280-3 | 240 pp. $16.00 / $22.00 Can.
EB: 978080709382

Also Available: Rolling Warrior 9780807003596

Feature Title
Made in China
A Memoir of Love and Labor

By Anna Qu

As a teen, Anna Qu is sent by her mother to work in her family’s garment factory in Queens. At home, she is treated as a maid and suffers punishment for doing her homework at night. Her mother wants to teach her a lesson: she is Chinese, not American, and such is their tough path in their new country. But instead of acquiescing, Qu alerts the Office of Children and Family Services, an act with consequences that impact the rest of her life.

Nearly twenty years later, estranged from her mother and working at a Manhattan start-up, Qu requests her OCFS report. When it arrives, key details are wrong. Faced with this false narrative, and on the brink of losing her job as the once shiny start-up collapses, Qu looks once more at her life’s truths, from abandonment to an abusive family to seeking dignity and meaning in work.

Made in China is a fierce memoir unafraid to ask thorny questions about trauma and survival in immigrant families, the meaning of work, and the costs of immigration.

“The immigrant child longs to be understood and unload her truths, while simultaneously being tasked with preserving her parents’ humanity . . . The struggle . . . seems to be holding all of these conflicting emotions at once. To shield the parent while escaping her. To forgive abuse without excusing it. To be grateful for their sacrifice and still say, I needed more than you gave me. Qu . . . honor[s] these complexities, tell[s] us we were not meant to swallow our pain and survive in this world without support systems . . . Love, although never overt, is not absent.” —Chanel Miller, author of Know My Name, The New York Times Book Review

Anna Qu is a Chinese American writer. Her critically acclaimed debut memoir, Made In China: A Memoir of Love and Labor, was named a New York Times Editors’ Choice pick. Her work has appeared in Three Penny Review, Lumina, Kartika, Kweli, and Vol.1 Brooklyn, among others. She holds an MFA in Creative Nonfiction from Sarah Lawrence College and teaches at New England College and Monmouth University.

Website: www.annaqu.com
Twitter: @QuillingIt
Video: tiny.cc/AnnaQu

“Qu’s debut memoir untangles the knots of her complicated, traumatic past as she learns the truth about her own history and reckons with the hopes and constraints of the immigrant experience.” —Time

Catapult | Paperback
978-1-64622-152-3 | 224 pp.
$16.95 / $23.00 Can.
EB: 9781646220359

To request examination copies, visit tinyurl.com/FYE23Form
The Last White Man
By Mohsin Hamid

One morning, a man wakes up to find himself transformed. Overnight, Anders’s skin has turned dark, and the reflection in the mirror seems a stranger to him. At first he shares his secret only with Oona, an old friend turned new lover. Soon, reports of similar events begin to surface. Across the land, people are awakening in new incarnations, uncertain how their neighbors, friends, and family will greet them. Some see the transformations as the long-dreaded overturning of the established order that must be resisted to a bitter end. In many, like Anders’s father and Oona’s mother, a sense of profound loss and unease wars with profound love. As the bond between Anders and Oona deepens, change takes on a different shading: a chance at a kind of rebirth—an opportunity to see ourselves, face to face, anew.

“With one remarkable book after another, Mohsin Hamid has proven himself to be one of the 21st century’s most essential writers. This is, perhaps, his most remarkable work yet. The Last White Man is myth and poetry operating as a deeper form of social commentary, and an extraordinary vision of human possibility.”—Ayad Akhtar, author of Homeland Elegies

“A brilliantly realized allegory of racial transformation. . . . Hamid’s story is poignant and pointed, speaking to a more equitable future in which widespread change, though confusing and dislocating in the moment, can serve to erase the divisions of old as they fade away with the passing years. A provocative tale that raises questions of racial and social justice at every turn.”—Kirkus (starred review)


Website: mohsinhamid.com
Twelve-year-old Bird Gardner lives a quiet existence with his loving but broken father after his mother, a Chinese American poet, left their family when Bird was nine years old. Their daily lives are governed by laws written to preserve “American culture” in the wake of years of economic instability and violence. To keep the peace, the authorities are now allowed to relocate children of dissenters, especially those of Asian origin, and libraries have been forced to remove books seen as unpatriotic—including the work of Bird’s mother. But when Bird receives a mysterious letter, he is pulled into a quest to find her.

*Our Missing Hearts* journeys through Chinese folktales, an underground network of librarians, New York City, and supposedly civilized communities rife with injustice. It’s a story about the power—and limitations—of art to create change, the lessons and legacies we pass on to our children, and how any of us can survive a broken world with our hearts intact.

“So much of this utterly stupendous tale is hauntingly, horrifically, historically, currently all too real, from removing and censoring children to anti-Asian hate crimes, violent protests, police brutality, and despotic (so-called) leadership . . . . An exquisite story of unbreakable family bonds, lifesaving storytelling . . . brilliantly subversive art, and accidentally transformative activism. As lyrical as it is chilling, as astonishing as it is empathic, *Our Missing Hearts* arguably achieves literary perfection.” —*Booklist* (starred review)
The 1619 Project
A New Origin Story

Created by Nikole Hannah-Jones & The New York Times Magazine

The New York Times Magazine’s award-winning “1619 Project” issue reframed our understanding of American history by placing slavery and its continuing legacy at the center of our national narrative. This new book substantially expands on that work, weaving together 18 essays that explore the legacy of slavery in present-day America with 36 poems and works of fiction that illuminate key moments of oppression, struggle, and resistance. The essays show how the inheritance of 1619 reaches into every part of contemporary American society, from politics, music, diet, traffic, and citizenship to capitalism, religion, and our democracy itself.

This is a book that speaks directly to our current moment, contextualizing the systems of race and caste within which we operate today. It reveals long-glossed-over truths around our nation’s founding and construction—and the way that the legacy of slavery did not end with emancipation, but continues to shape contemporary American life.

Winner of the NAACP Image Award for Outstanding Literary Work – Nonfiction

Selected for Common Reading at:
Metropolitan Community College - Penn Valley

Website: 1619books.com
Twitter: @nhannahjones
Video: tiny.cc/NikoleHannahJonesVideo

The Light We Carry
Overcoming in Uncertain Times

By Michelle Obama

In an inspiring follow-up to her critically acclaimed, #1 bestselling memoir Becoming, former First Lady Michelle Obama shares practical wisdom and powerful strategies for staying hopeful and balanced in today’s highly uncertain world. Michelle Obama offers readers a series of fresh stories and insightful reflections on change, challenge, and power, including her belief that when we light up for others, we can illuminate the richness and potential of the world around us, discovering deeper truths and new pathways for progress. With trademark humor, candor, and compassion, she also explores issues connected to race, gender, and visibility, encouraging readers to work through fear, find strength in community, and live with boldness. A rewarding blend of powerful stories and profound advice that will ignite conversation, The Light We Carry inspires readers to examine their own lives, identify their sources of gladness, and connect meaningfully in our turbulent world.

Twitter: @MichelleObama
Video: tiny.cc/TheLightWeCarryVideo
Asian American Histories of the United States

By Catherine Ceniza Choy

Original and expansive, Asian American Histories of the United States is a nearly 200-year history of Asian migration, labor, and community formation in the US. Reckoning with the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic and the surge in anti-Asian hate and violence, award-winning historian Catherine Ceniza Choy presents an urgent social history of the fastest growing group of Americans. The book features the lived experiences and diverse voices of immigrants, refugees, US-born Asian Americans, multiracial Americans, and workers from industries spanning agriculture to healthcare.

Despite significant Asian American breakthroughs in American politics, arts, and popular culture in the 21st century, a profound lack of understanding of Asian American history permeates American culture. Choy traces how anti-Asian violence and its intersection with misogyny and other forms of hatred, the erasure of Asian American experiences and contributions, and Asian American resistance to what has been omitted are prominent themes in Asian American history. This ambitious book is fundamental to understanding the American experience and its existential crises of the early 21st century.

"Accessibly written for a wide readership, Asian American Histories of the United States is a comprehensive, informative, and insightful work. Featuring multiple origins and trajectories of Asian American history, it offers important, new perspectives on Asian American rich and textured lives."—Yên Lê Espiritu, Distinguished Professor, Department of Ethnic Studies, University of California, San Diego

"With unflinching insight and grace, Professor Choy offers an evocative meditation on the histories of Asian Americans, histories that powerfully connect our past with our present. A stunning, timely work that deepens our understanding of race in the United States."—Vicki L. Ruiz, Distinguished Professor Emerita, University of California, Irvine

"Catherine Ceniza Choy closes the door on narrow and uniform understandings of Asian Americans. … A monument to the complexity of history and the fullness of historical prose."

—Ibram X. Kendi, author of How to be an Antiracist
Beautiful Country
A Memoir of an Undocumented Childhood
By Qian Julie Wang

In Chinese, the word for America, Mei Guo, translates directly to “beautiful country.” Yet when seven-year-old Qian arrives in New York City in 1994 full of curiosity, she is overwhelmed by crushing fear and scarcity. In China, Qian’s parents were professors; in America, her family is “illegal” and it will require all the determination and small joys they can muster to survive.

In Chinatown, Qian’s parents labor in sweatshops. Instead of laughing at her jokes, they fight constantly, taking out the stress of their new life on one another. Shunned by her classmates and teachers for her limited English, Qian takes refuge in the library and masters the language through books, coming to think of The Berenstain Bears as her first American friends. But then Qian’s headstrong Ma Ma collapses, revealing an illness that she has kept secret for months for fear of the cost and scrutiny of a doctor’s visit. As Ba Ba retreats further inward, Qian has little to hold onto beyond his constant refrain: Whatever happens, say that you were born here, that you’ve always lived here.

Inhabiting her childhood perspective with exquisite lyric clarity and unforgettable charm and strength, Qian Julie Wang has penned an essential American story about a family fracturing under the weight of invisibility, and a girl coming of age in the shadows, who never stops seeking the light.

“Heartrending, unvarnished, and powerfully courageous, this account of growing up undocumented in America will never leave you.”—Gish Jen, author of The Resisters

“Beautiful Country rings with power and authenticity. Wang’s searing exploration reveals how she and her family were forced to navigate the yawning cracks in the American Dream. An eloquent, thought-provoking and touching memoir.”—Jean Kwok, author of Girl in Translation

Kirkus Reviews (starred review)

Qian Julie Wang is a graduate of Yale Law School and Swarthmore College. She is managing partner of Gottlieb & Wang LLP, an educational civil rights law firm, and her writing has appeared in major publications such as the New York Times and the Washington Post. She lives in Brooklyn with her husband and their two rescue dogs, Salty and Peppers.

Website: qianjuliewang.com
Twitter: @QianJulieWang
Video: tiny.cc/27ssuz

“A potent testament to the love, curiosity, grit, and hope of a courageous and resourceful immigrant child. Engaging readers through all five senses and the heart, Wang’s debut memoir is a critical addition to the literature on immigration as well as the timeless category of childhood memoir.”

—Kirkus Reviews (starred review)
Stay True
A Memoir
By Hua Hsu

Despite first impressions, eighteen-year-old Hua, the son of Taiwanese immigrants, and Ken, whose Japanese American family has been in the United States for generations and is thoroughly acculturated, become unlikely best friends. And then violently, senselessly, Ken is gone, killed in a carjacking, not even three years after the day they first meet. Stay True is the book Hua Hsu has been working on ever since. A coming-of-age story that details both the ordinary and extraordinary, Stay True is a bracing memoir about growing up, and about moving through the world in search of meaning and belonging.

"Hua Hsu's Stay True is a rich, intelligent, and beautifully crafted portrait of just about everything that matters in life. Here is friendship, art, and family cast against a distinctly American backdrop of migration in language so precise and subtle that you might not even notice how it breaks and mends your heart."—Dinaw Mengestu, author of All Our Names

"Deep feelings coursed through me as I read Hua Hsu's story: Grief, nostalgia, pity, terror, mercy, . . . Stay True is a crucial, sense-making, healing book."—Maxine Hong Kingston, author of The Woman Warrior

Crying in H Mart
A Memoir
By Michelle Zauner

With humor and heart, Michelle Zauner, lead vocalist of Japanese Breakfast, tells of growing up one of the few Asian American kids at her school in Eugene, Oregon; of struggling with her mother’s high expectations of her; of a painful adolescence; of treasured months spent in her grandmother’s tiny apartment in Seoul, where she and her mother would bond, late at night, over heaping plates of food.

As she grew up, moving to the East Coast for college, finding work in the restaurant industry, performing gigs with her band, and meeting the man who would become her husband, her Koreanness began to feel ever more distant, even as she found the life she wanted to live. It was her mother’s diagnosis of terminal cancer, when Michelle was twenty-five, that forced a reckoning with her identity and brought her to reclaim the gifts of taste, language, and history her mother had given her.

"Michelle Zauner has written a book you experience with all of your senses: sentences you can taste, paragraphs that sound like music. She seamlessly blends stories of food and memory, sumptuousness and grief, to weave a complex narrative of loyalty and loss.”—Rachel Syme
MEMOIR & BIOGRAPHY

They Called Us Enemy
By George Takei; Justin Eisinger; Steven Scott; Harmony Becker

In 1942 every person of Japanese descent on the west coast was rounded up and shipped to one of ten “relocation centers,” hundreds or thousands of miles from home, where they would be held for years under armed guard. This graphic novel is Takei’s firsthand account of those years behind barbed wire.

New York Times Bestseller; Winner of the Asian/Pacific American Award for Young Adult Literature; Winner of the Eisner Award for Best Reality-Based Work

All You Can Ever Know
A Memoir
By Nicole Chung

Nicole Chung was placed for adoption by her Korean parents, and raised by a white family in a sheltered Oregon town. From childhood, she heard the story of her adoption as a comforting, prepackaged myth. But as Nicole grew up—facing prejudice her adoptive family couldn’t see, finding her identity as an Asian American and as a writer, becoming ever more curious about where she came from—she wondered if the story she’d been told was the whole truth.

“This book should be required reading for anyone who has ever had, wanted, or found a family—which is to say, everyone.”—Celeste Ng, author of Little Fires Everywhere

Family in Six Tones
A Refugee Mother, an American Daughter
By Lan Cao and Harlan Margaret Van Cao

Told in dual first-person by the acclaimed Vietnamese-American novelist, Lan Cao, and her thoroughly American teenage daughter, Harlan Margaret Van Cao, Family in Six Tones speaks to the unique struggles of refugees and to the universal tug-of-war between mothers and daughters.

“This memoir will forever trouble the water of the American Dream, complicating it and clarifying it of the myths and masks of survival, assimilation, and success.”—Monique Truong, author of The Book of Salt

Concepcion
Conquest, Colonialism, and an Immigrant Family’s Fate
By Albert Samaha

A journalist’s powerful and incisive account of the forces steering the fate of his sprawling Filipino American family reframes how we comprehend the immigrant experience.

“Absolutely extraordinary. . . . A landmark in the contemporary literature of the diaspora.”—Jia Tolentino, author of Trick Mirror

“A wonder of a book . . . should be required reading for anyone who thinks they know anything about America’s past, or wants to understand its present and future.”—Elaine Castillo, author of America Is Not the Heart
The Undocumented Americans
By Karla Cornejo Villavicencio

Karla Cornejo Villavicencio combines sensitive reporting and powerful personal narratives to bring to light the lives of the undocumented. She finds the singular, effervescent characters across the nation often reduced in the media to political pawns or nameless laborers, telling stories that are not deferential or naively inspirational but demonstrate the humanity and dignity of her subjects.

“Cornejo Villavicencio reveals a fullness of character that feels subversive, simply because of how rare it is.”—The New York Times Book Review

Finalist for the National Book Award for Nonfiction

Theme: Immigrant & First-Generation Stories

The Far Away Brothers
Two Young Migrants and the Making of an American Life
By Lauren Markham

Growing up in rural El Salvador in the wake of the civil war, the United States was a distant fantasy to identical twins Ernesto and Raul Flores—until, at age 17, a deadly threat from the region’s brutal gangs forces them to flee the only home they’ve ever known. In this urgent chronicle of contemporary immigration, journalist Lauren Markham follows the Flores twins as they make their journey, navigate school in a new language, and face their day in immigration court. With intimate access and breathtaking range, Markham offers an unforgettable testament to the immigrant experience.

Selected for Common Reading at:
Brescia University; California State University, Northridge; Indiana University Kelley School of Business; and University of Iowa Center for Human Rights

Theme: Immigrant & First-Generation Stories

Enrique’s Journey
The Story of a Boy’s Dangerous Odyssey to Reunite with His Mother
By Sonia Nazario

Enrique’s Journey recounts the unforgettable quest of a Honduran boy looking for his mother, 11 years after she is forced to leave her starving family to find work in the United States. Braving unimaginable peril, often clinging to the sides and tops of freight trains, Enrique travels through hostile worlds full of thugs, bandits, and corrupt cops. But he pushes forward, relying on his wit, courage, hope, and the kindness of strangers. As Isabel Allende writes: “This is a twenty-first-century Odyssey. If you are going to read only one nonfiction book this year, it has to be this one.”

Selected for Common Reading at:
Georgia State University; Michigan State University; Texas A&M University; University of California, Santa Barbara; University of Wisconsin–Madison; and over 80 other schools

Theme: Immigrant & First-Generation Stories

The Ungrateful Refugee
What Immigrants Never Tell You
By Dina Nayeri

Aged eight, Dina Nayeri fled Iran along with her mother and brother and lived in the crumbling shell of an Italian hotel–turned–refugee camp. Eventually she was granted asylum in America. She settled in Oklahoma, then made her way to Princeton University. In this book, Nayeri weaves together her own vivid story with the stories of other refugees and asylum seekers in recent years, bringing us inside their daily lives and taking us through the different stages of their journeys, from escape to asylum to resettlement.

Kirkus Prize in Nonfiction Finalist

Selected for Common Reading at:

Theme: Arab American Voices

To request examination copies, visit tinyurl.com/FYE23Form
A Way Out of No Way
A Memoir of Truth, Transformation, and the New American Story
By Raphael G. Warnock

Senator Reverend Raphael G. Warnock occupies a singular place in American life. As senior pastor of Atlanta’s Ebenezer Baptist Church, and now as the first Black senator from Georgia, his improbable journey reflects the ongoing toggle between the pain and promise of the American story. A powerful preacher and a leading voice for voting rights and democracy, Senator Warnock has a gift to inspire and lead us forward.

“A compelling, insightful memoir that details an extraordinary journey.” —Bryan Stevenson, author of Just Mercy

Website: warnock.senate.gov
Twitter: @SenatorWarnock

Becoming
By Michelle Obama

In a life filled with meaning and accomplishment, Michelle Obama has emerged as one of the most iconic and compelling women in recent history. In her memoir, a work of deep reflection and mesmerizing storytelling, Michelle Obama invites readers into her world, chronicling the experiences that have shaped her. With unerring honesty and lively wit, she describes her triumphs and her disappointments, both public and private, telling her full story as she has lived it—in her own words and on her own terms.

Winner of the NAACP Image Award for Outstanding Literary Work – Non-Fiction

Website: becomingmicelleobama.com
Twitter: @MichelleObama
Video: tiny.cc/MichelleObamaVideo

My Beloved World
By Sonia Sotomayor

The first Hispanic and third woman appointed to the United States Supreme Court, Sonia Sotomayor tells her story with intimacy never undertaken by a sitting Justice. She recounts her life from a Bronx housing project to the federal bench, a journey that offers an inspiring testament to her own extraordinary determination.

“A compelling and powerfully written memoir about identity and coming of age. . . . It’s an eloquent and affecting testament to the triumph of brains and hard work over circumstance, of a childhood dream realized through extraordinary will and dedication.”—Michiko Kakutani, The New York Times

Website: hirono.senate.gov
Video: tiny.cc/z8ssuz

Heart of Fire
An Immigrant Daughter’s Story
By Mazie K. Hirono

“If a life can be called implausible, Mazie Hirono has lived it. In Heart of Fire, she tells an astonishingly compelling story. As a child born in postwar Japan, she crossed an ocean with her brother and mother, grew up in poverty in paradisiacal Hawaii, and emerged as a fiery voice and agent of change in the male-dominated, rough-and-tumble worlds of American politics. Powerful, poignant, and beautifully told, Heart of Fire is her inspiring, singular story.”—George Takei, author of They Called Us Enemy

Website: hirono.senate.gov
Video: tiny.cc/Hirono

Cori Bush gives a powerful and inspiring memoir that sheds light on her harrowing personal journey and reveals how urgently we need our political leadership to prioritize meeting the needs of our most marginalized communities.

Having worked as a nurse, a pastor, and a community organizer in St. Louis, Missouri, Cori Bush hadn’t initially intended to run for political office. But when protests in Ferguson erupted in 2014, Bush found herself on the frontlines, providing medical care and protesting violence against Black lives. Encouraged by community leaders to run for office, and compelled by an urgency to prevent her children and others from becoming social media hashtags, Bush campaigned persistently while navigating myriad personal challenges—and ultimately rose to unseat a twenty-year incumbent to become the first Black woman to represent her state in Congress.

The Forerunner is the raw and moving account of a politician and activist whose life experiences, though underrepresented in the halls of Congress, reflect some of the same realities and struggles that many Americans face in their everyday lives. Courageously laying bare her experience as a minimum-wage worker, a survivor of domestic and sexual violence, and an unhoused parent, Congresswoman Bush embodies a new chapter in progressive politics that prioritizes the lives and stories of those most politically vulnerable at the core of its agenda. A testament to the lasting legacy of the Ferguson Uprising and an unflinching examination of how the American political system is so deeply intertwined with systemic injustice, The Forerunner is profoundly relatable and inspiring at its heart. At once a stirring and emotionally wrought personal account and a fierce call to action, this is political memoir the likes of which we’ve never seen before.

Cori Bush is a registered nurse, community activist, organizer, single mother, and ordained pastor for the people of St. Louis. She is serving her first term as the St. Louis Congresswoman. Bush is the first Black woman and first nurse to represent Missouri; the first woman to represent Missouri’s 1st Congressional District; and the first activist from the movement fighting for Black lives elected to Congress.

Website: Coribush.org
Twitter: @CoriBush
Video: tiny.cc/dassuz
The Ugly Cry
How I Became a Person (Despite My Grandmother’s Horrible Advice)
By Danielle Henderson

Abandoned by her mother at ten years old, Danielle grew up Black, weird, and overwhelmingly uncool in a mostly white neighborhood in upstate New York. Under the eye-rolling, foul-mouthed, loving tutelage of her uncompromising grandmother, Danielle grew into an awkward teenager who wore black eyeliner as lipstick and struggled with the aftermath of her mother’s choices.

“The funniest memoir I have ever read. It is also achingly sad. And powerfully redemptive.”—Augusten Burroughs, author of Running with Scissors

Boyz n the Void
a mixtape to my brother
By G’Ra Asim

How does one approach Blackness, masculinity, otherness, and the perils of young adulthood? For G’Ra Asim, punk music offers an outlet to express himself freely. As his younger brother grapples with finding his footing in the world, G’Ra gifts him with a survival guide for tackling the sometimes treacherous cultural terrain particular to being young, Black, brainy, and weird in the form of a mixtape. Boyz n the Void blends music and cultural criticism and personal essay to explore race, gender, class, and sexuality as they pertain to punk rock and straight edge culture.

The Other Wes Moore
One Name, Two Fates
By Wes Moore

Two kids named Wes Moore were born blocks apart within a year of each other. Both grew up fatherless in similar Baltimore neighborhoods and had difficult childhoods; both hung out on street corners with their crews; both ran into trouble with the police. How, then, did one grow up to be a Rhodes Scholar, decorated veteran, White House Fellow, and business leader, while the other ended up a convicted murderer serving a life sentence? Wes Moore, the author of this fascinating book, sets out to answer this profound question.

Invisible Child
Poverty, Survival & Hope in an American City
By Andrea Elliott

Following eight dramatic years in the life of a girl, Dasani, whose imagination is as soaring as the skyscrapers near her Brooklyn shelter, Invisible Child is an astonishing story about the power of resilience, the importance of family, and the cost of inequality. Based on nearly a decade of reporting, this book illuminates some of the most critical issues in contemporary America through the life of one remarkable girl.

Winner of the Pulitzer Prize for General Nonfiction
Acceptance
A Memoir
By Emi Nietfeld

Emi Nietfeld was convinced that the Ivy League was the only escape from her dysfunctional childhood. Though she would overcome mental health struggles, Adderall addiction, homelessness, and the unbecoming desperation of a teenager fending for herself to graduate from Harvard and become a software engineer at Google, she found that success didn’t necessarily mean safety. Both a chronicle of the American Dream and an indictment of it, this searing debut exposes the price of trading a troubled past for the promise of a bright future.

MEMOIR & BIOGRAPHY

Maybe An Artist, A Graphic Memoir
By Liz Montague

When Liz Montague was in college, she wrote to the New Yorker, asking them why they didn’t publish more inclusive comics. The New Yorker asked if she could recommend any. She responded: yes, me.

Those early cartoons in the New Yorker led to Maybe An Artist—her account of how she navigated life in her predominantly white New Jersey town, overcame severe dyslexia, and found the confidence to pursue art. This brilliant, laugh-out-loud graphic memoir offers a fresh perspective on identity development and proves that you don’t need to be a dead white man to find success in art.

It Won’t Always Be Like This
A Graphic Memoir
By Malaka Gharib

Nine-year-old Malaka Gharib arrives in Egypt for her annual summer vacation abroad and assumes it’ll be just like every other vacation she’s spent at her dad’s place in Cairo. But her father shares news that changes everything: He has remarried. Over the next 15 years, as she visits her father’s growing family summer after summer, Malaka must reevaluate her place in his life. This graphic memoir is a touching time capsule of Gharib’s childhood memories and a powerful reflection on identity, relationships, values, family, and what happens when it all collides.

My Broken Language
A Memoir
By Quiara Alegria Hudes

Quiara Alegria Hudes is the Pulitzer Prize–winning playwright of Water by the Spoonful, wrote the book for the Tony-winning Broadway musical In the Heights, and later adapted it for the screen. In her memoir, she tells her lyrical story of coming of age against the backdrop of an ailing Philadelphia barrio, with her sprawling Puerto Rican family as the collective muse that supported her as she developed into the artist she is today.

Longlisted for the Andrew Carnegie Medal for Excellence in Nonfiction

Theme: Coming of Age
Educated
A Memoir
By Tara Westover

Tara Westover was 17 the first time she set foot in a classroom. Her family was so isolated from mainstream society that there was no one to ensure the children received an education and no one to intervene when one of Tara’s older brothers became violent. When another brother got himself into college, Tara followed, and her quest for knowledge took her over oceans and across continents, to Harvard and to Cambridge University. Only then would she wonder if she’d traveled too far, if there was still a way home.

Finalist for the National Book Critics Circle’s Award for Autobiography, the National Book Critics Circle’s John Leonard Prize for Best First Book, and the PEN/Jean Stein Book Award

Website: tarawestover.com
Twitter: @tarawestover
Video: tiny.cc/TaraWestoverVideo

Selected for Common Reading at:
Harvard University, New York University, University of California, Berkeley; University of South Carolina; and over 70 other schools

Random House | Paperback
978-0-399-59052-8 | 368 pp.
$18.99
EB: 9780399590511

Born a Crime
Stories from a South African Childhood
By Trevor Noah

Trevor Noah’s unlikely path from apartheid South Africa to the desk of The Daily Show began with a criminal act: his birth. Trevor was born to a white Swiss father and a black Xhosa mother at a time when such a union was punishable by five years in prison. Born a Crime is a moving and searingly funny portrait of a boy making his way through a dangerous world in a dangerous time, armed only with a keen sense of humor and a mother’s unconventional, unconditional love.

Winner of the Thurber Prize for American Humor and NAACP Image Awards for Outstanding Literary Work – Debut Author and Biography/Autobiography

Website: www.trevornoah.com
Twitter: @Trevornoah

Selected for Common Reading at:
Indiana University Kelley School of Business; Oklahoma City University; Syracuse University; Washington State University; and over 25 other schools

One World | Paperback
978-0-399-58819-8 | 304 pp.
$18.00
EB: 9780399588181

Black American Refugee
Escaping the Narcissism of the American Dream
By Tiffanie Drayton

After leaving Trinidad and Tobago and following her mother to the US at a young age to pursue economic opportunities, Tiffanie Drayton must come to terms with the ways in which systematic racism and resultant trauma keep the American Dream inaccessible to Black people. An expansion of her New York Times piece of the same name, Black American Refugee examines in depth the intersection of her personal experiences and the broader culture and historical ramifications of American racism and global white supremacy.

Theme: Diversity, Equity & Inclusion

Viking | Hardcover
978-0-593-29854-1 | 304 pp.
$26.00 / $35.00Can.
EB: 9780593298558

Son of Elsewhere
A Memoir in Pieces
By Elamin Abdelmahmoud

At 12 years old, Elamin Abdelmahmoud emigrated with his family from his native Sudan to Kingston, Ontario. At the airport, he was handed his Blackness like a passport, and realized that he needed to learn what this identity meant in a new country. But after many years spent trying on different personalities, he now must face the parts of himself he’s kept suppressed all this time. Son of Elsewhere is an enlightening and deliciously witty collection of essays on Blackness, faith, pop culture, and the challenges—and rewards—of finding one’s way in the world.

Theme: Immigrant & First-Generation Stories
Why Didn’t You Tell Me?
A Memoir
By Carmen Rita Wong

Carmen Rita Wong has always craved a sense of belonging. First as a toddler during her childhood in Harlem, surrounded by Black and brown Latina women like her mother. And in Chinatown, where her immigrant father, “Papi” Wong, would show her off in opulent restaurants decorated in red and gold. Then came the almost exclusively white playgrounds of New Hampshire after her mother married her stepfather, Marty, who seemed to be the ideal of the white American dad.

Years later, when secrets her mother had kept for so long were revealed, bringing clarity to so much of Carmen’s life and her search for belonging, it was too late for answers. A former national television host, advice columnist, and professor, Carmen searches to understand who she really is as she discovers her mother’s hidden history, facing the revelations that seep out. Why Didn’t You Tell Me? is a riveting and poignant story of Carmen’s experience of race and culture in America and how they shape who we think we are.

Website: carmenritawong.com
Twitter: @CarmenSense
Video: tiny.cc/CarmenRitaWongVideo

Lost & Found
A Memoir
By Kathryn Schulz

Eighteen months before Kathryn Schulz’s beloved father died, she met the woman she would marry. In Lost & Found, she weaves the stories of those relationships into a brilliant exploration of how all our lives are shaped by loss and discovery—from the maddening disappearance of everyday objects to the sweeping devastations of war, pandemic, and natural disaster; from finding new planets to falling in love. A staff writer at The New Yorker and winner of the Pulitzer Prize, Kathryn Schulz writes with curiosity, tender-ness, erudition, and wit about our finite yet infinitely complicated lives.

Ancestor Trouble
A Reckoning and a Reconciliation
By Maud Newton

The stories Maud Newton was told about her ancestors have vexed and fascinated her since she was a girl. Inspired by this anxiety, Newton researched her genealogy and sought family secrets through her DNA. Her journey took her into the realms of genetics, epigenetics, and the debates over intergenerational trauma, mulling over modernity’s dismissal of ancestors along with psychoanalytic and spiritual traditions that center them. Ancestor Trouble is one writer’s attempt to use genealogy to expose the secrets and contradictions of her own ancestors, and to argue for the transformational possibilities that reckoning with our ancestors offers all of us.
MEMOIR & BIOGRAPHY

I’m Not Broken
A Memoir
By Jesse Leon

In this inspiring memoir, Jesse Leon tells his story of resilience and survival, shining a light on a childhood spent devastated by sex trafficking, street life, and substance abuse and against all odds ultimately leading him to Harvard University.

“I’m Not Broken is a powerful reminder that the human spirit can truly be resilient when it’s fed by faith, love and hope.”—Pedro Noguera, Dean of USC’s Rossier School of Education

Theme: LGBTQIA+ Voices

Twitter: @JesseLeonAuthor

Vintage | Paperback
978-0-593-46651-3 | 336 pp
$17.00 / $23.00 Can.

Dear Senthrunan
A Black Spirit Memoir
By Akwaeke Emezi

In this extraordinary memoir, the author of The Death of Vivek Oji reveals the harrowing yet resolute truths of their own life. Through intimate correspondence with friends, lovers, and family, Emezi traces the unfolding of a self and the journey of a creative spirit stepping into power in the human world. Their story weaves through transformative decisions about their gender and body, their precipitous path to success as a writer, and the turmoil of relationships on an emotional, romantic, and spiritual plane, culminating in a book that is as tender as it is brutal.

Theme: LGBTQIA+ Voices

Website: akwaeke.com
Twitter: @azemezi

Riverhead | Paperback
978-0-593-32920-7 | 240 pp
$16.00 / $22.00 Can.

Burn the Page
A True Story of Torching Doubts, Blazing Trails, and Igniting Change
By Danica Roem

Danica Roem made national headlines when, as a transgender former frontwoman for a metal band and a political newcomer, she unseated Virginia’s most notoriously anti-LGBTQ 26-year incumbent Bob Marshall as state delegate. Burn the Page takes readers from Danica’s lonely, closeted, and at times operatically tragic childhood to her position as a rising star in a party she’s helped forever change.

Theme: LGBTQIA+ Voices

Website: delegatedanica.roem.com
Twitter: @pwcdanica

Viking | Hardcover
978-0-593-29655-4 | 320 pp
$27.00 / $36.00 Can.

Love Is an Ex-Country
By Randa Jarrar

Queer. Muslim. Arab American. A proudly Fat woman. Randa Jarrar is all of these things. In this elegant and edgy memoir of a cross-country road trip, she explores how to claim joy in an unraveling and hostile America. Reclaiming her autonomy after a life of survival—domestic assault as a child, and later, as a wife; threats and doxxing after her viral tweet about Barbara Bush—Jarrar offers a bold look at domestic violence, single motherhood, and sexuality through the lens of the punished-yet-triumphant body.

Theme: LGBTQIA+ Voices

Website: randajarrar.com
Twitter: @randajarrar

Catapult | Hardcover
978-1-94822-658-5 | 240 pp
$26.00 / $30.00 Can.

Also Available: A Map of Home
978-0-14-311626-4
MEMOIR & BIOGRAPHY

Diary of a Misfit
A Memoir and a Mystery
By Casey Parks

When Casey Parks came out as a lesbian in college in 2002, she assumed her life in the South was over. But then Parks’s grandmother pulled her aside and revealed that she grew up across the street from a woman who lived as a man and implored Casey to find out what happened to him. Parks writes of her journey to unravel the mystery of Roy Hudgins, while confronting ghosts of her own. With an enormous heart and an unstinting sense of vulnerability, Parks writes about finding oneself through someone else’s story, and about forging connections across the gulfs that divide us.

What My Bones Know
A Memoir of Healing from Complex Trauma
By Stephanie Foo

By age 30, Stephanie Foo was successful on paper, but behind her office door, she was having panic attacks and sobbing at her desk every morning. Then she was diagnosed with complex PTSD—a condition that occurs when trauma happens continuously, over the course of years. As she searches for healing, Foo investigates the effects of immigrant trauma on her hometown, and she uncovers family secrets in the country of her birth, Malaysia, to learn how trauma can be inherited through generations. Ultimately, she discovers that you don’t move on from trauma—but you can learn to move with it.

Between Two Kingdoms
A Memoir of a Life Interrupted
By Suleika Jaouad

A few weeks shy of her 23rd birthday, Suleika Jaouad was diagnosed with leukemia and spent much of the next four years in a hospital bed, chronicling the saga in a column for The New York Times. When Jaouad finally walked out of the cancer ward, realizing that she’d survived but had no idea how to live, she embarked with her dog on a 100-day, 15,000-mile road trip across the country. Between Two Kingdoms is a profound chronicle of survivorship and a fierce, tender, and inspiring exploration of what it means to begin again.

Home Made
A Story of Grief, Groceries, Showing Up—and What We Make When We Make Dinner
By Liz Hauck

Liz Hauck and her dad had a plan to start a weekly cooking program in a residential home for teenage boys in state care. When her father died before they had a chance to get the project started, Liz decided she would try it without him. This is the story of what happened around the table, how one dinner became one hundred dinners, and the conversations that happen at the intersections of flavor and memory, vulnerability and strength, grief and connection.
Those We Throw Away Are Diamonds
A Refugee’s Search for Home
By Mondiant Dogon with Jenna Krajeski

When Mondiant Dogon, a Bagogwe Tutsi born in Congo, was just three years old, his father’s lifelong friend, a Hutu man, came to their home and warned the family they were to be killed within hours. Mondiant’s family fled into the forest, beginning a long and dangerous journey into Rwanda. They made their way to the first of several UN tent cities in which they would spend decades.

For much of his life, Mondiant and his family ate barely enough to keep themselves from starving. He fled back to Congo in search of the better life that had been lost, but there he was imprisoned and then forced to work as a child soldier.

For most refugees, the camp starts as an oasis but soon becomes quicksand, impossible to leave. Yet Mondiant managed to be one of the few refugees he knew to go to college. Though he hid his status from his fellow students out of shame, eventually he would emerge as an advocate for his people.

“This book should be read world-wide to counter the rhetoric of refugees as nothing but helpless, unable to do anything for their lives. This book shows otherwise.”—Abdi Nor Iftin, author of Call Me American

Penguin Books | Paperback | 978-1-9848-8130-4 | 336 pp. | $18.00 / $24.00 Can.
EB: 9781984881298

Video: tiny.cc/dogon

Every Day The River Changes
Four Weeks Down the Magdalena
By Jordan Salama

An American writer of Argentine, Syrian, and Iraqi Jewish descent, Jordan Salama tells the story of the Rio Magdalena, nearly one thousand miles long, it runs through the heart of Colombia: its territory belongs to Gabriel Garcia Marquez as much as of the Middle Eastern immigrants who live by its banks. Following the river from its source high in the Andes to its mouth on the Caribbean coast, Salama writes against stereotype and toward the rich lives of those who live along its path, including a builder of wooden canoes, biologists who study wild hippopotamuses, a jeweler practicing the art of silver filigree, and a traveling librarian whose donkeys haul books to rural children.

Salama’s eye catches what’s surprising and hilarious, as well as what’s grim and undeniable—from his experience riding a motobalinera, a funny improvised vehicle which runs on train tracks, to the heartbreaking of a village where the bodies of unknown victims of war are buried, and those bodies are now taken to be saints, bringing blessings and miracles. Every Day the River Changes is travel writing for a new generation of socially aware students and travelers who reject stereotypes about a much maligned place, and encourages us to look at what’s truthful.

Catapult | Paperback | 978-1-64622-161-5 | 224 pp. | $16.95 / $23.00 Can.
EB: 9781646220458

Website: jordansalama.com
Twitter: @jordansalama19

Selected for Common Reading at:
Princeton University
The Empathy Diaries
A Memoir
By Sherry Turkle

For decades, Sherry Turkle has shown how we remake ourselves in the mirror of our machines. Here, she illuminates our present search for authentic connection in a time of uncharted challenges. In this vivid and poignant narrative, Turkle ties together her coming-of-age and her pathbreaking research on technology, empathy, and ethics.

"Compelling... In every way, this is a book about an education."—Rachel Hadas, PhD, Board of Governors Professor of English, Rutgers University-Newark

Website: sherryturkle.mit.edu
Twitter: @STurkle

Penguin Books | Paperback
$18.00 / $24.00 Can.
EB: 9780525560104

Also Available: Reclaiming Conversation 9780143105792

A Place in the World
Finding the Meaning of Home
By Frances Mayes

Though Frances Mayes is known for her travels, she has always sought a sense of home wherever she goes. In this poetic testament to the power of place in our lives, Mayes reflects on the idea of home, from the earliest imprint of four walls to the startling discoveries of feeling the strange ease of homes abroad, friends’ homes, and even momentary homes that spark desires for other lives. From her travels across Italy to the American South, France, and Mexico, Mayes examines the connective tissue among them through the cornerstone closest to all of us—home.

Theme: Inspirational

Website: www.francesmayesbooks.com
Twitter: @francesmayes

Crown | Hardcover
978-0-593-44333-0 | 304 pp.
$27.00 / $37.00 Can.
EB: 9780593443347

Also Available: Under the Tuscan Sun 9780767900386

Tuesdays with Morrie
An Old Man, a Young Man, and Life’s Greatest Lesson,
25th Anniversary Edition
By Mitch Albom

Mitch Albom rediscovered his mentor Morrie, his college professor from nearly 20 years prior, in the last months of the older man’s life. Knowing he was dying, Morrie visited with Mitch in his study every Tuesday, just as they used to back in college. Their rekindled relationship turned into one final “class” lessons in how to live. Tuesdays with Morrie is a magical chronicle of their time together, through which Mitch shares Morrie’s lasting gift with the world. This special 25th anniversary edition of the beloved book that changed millions of lives includes a new afterword by the author.

Theme: Inspirational

Website: www.mitchalbom.com
Twitter: @MitchAlbom

Selected for Common Reading at:
Iowa State University; University of Nevada, Las Vegas; University of North Dakota; and more

Crown | Paperback
$17.00 / $23.00 Can.
EB: 9780307414090

A Book of Days
By Patti Smith

In 2018, without any plan or agenda for what might happen next, Patti Smith posted her first Instagram photo: her hand with the simple message “Hello Everybody!” Over time, a coherent story of a life devoted to art took shape, and more than a million followers responded to Smith’s unique aesthetic in images that chart her passions, devo-tions, obsessions, and whims. With over 365 photographs taking you through a single year, A Book of Days is an inspi-rational map of an artist’s life and a new way to experience the expansive mind of the visionary poet, writer, and performer.

Theme: Inspirational

Website: www.pattismith.net

Random House | Hardcover
978-0-593-44854-0 | 400 pp.
$28.99
EB: 9780593448557

Also Available: M Train 9781101910160
MEMOIR & BIOGRAPHY
Theme: Native American and Indigenous Voices

**Spirit Run**
A 6,000-Mile Marathon Through North America’s Stolen Land
By Noé Álvarez

Growing up in Yakima, Washington, Noé Álvarez worked at an apple-packing plant alongside his mother. A university scholarship offered escape, but as a first-generation Latino college-goer, Álvarez struggled to fit in. At nineteen, he learned about a Native American/First Nations movement called the Peace and Dignity Journeys, epic marathons meant to renew cultural connections across North America. He dropped out of school and joined a group of Dené, Secwépemc, Gitxsan, Dakelh, Apache, Tohono O’odham, Seri, Purépecha, and Maya runners, all fleeing difficult beginnings. Telling their stories alongside his own, Álvarez writes about a four-month-long journey from Canada to Guatemala that pushed him to his limits. Running through mountains, deserts, and cities, and through the Mexican territory his parents left behind, Álvarez forges a new relationship with the land, and with the act of running, carrying with him the knowledge of his parents’ migration, and—against all odds in a society that exploits his body and rejects his spirit—the dream of a liberated future.

“Lyrical . . . Part travelogue, part traditional memoir . . . The story of the striving, first-generation kid made good is a familiar one; Álvarez makes his ache.” —The New York Times Book Review

New York Times Book Review Editors’ Choice

Website: spiritrunbook.com  Twitter: @noealvarez509

**Red Paint**
The Ancestral Autobiography of a Coast Salish Punk
By Sasha LaPointe

Sasha taq’soaplu LaPointe has always longed for a sense of home. When she was a child, her family moved around frequently, often staying in barely habitable church attics and trailers, dangerous places for young Sasha. With little more to guide her than a passion for the thriving punk scene of the Pacific Northwest and a desire to live up to the responsibility of being the namesake of her beloved great-grandmother—a linguist who helped preserve her Indigenous language of Lushootseed—Sasha throws herself headlong into the world, determined to build a better future for herself and her people. Set against a backdrop of the breathtaking beauty of Coast Salish ancestral land and imbued with the universal spirit of punk, Red Paint is ultimately a story of the ways we learn to find our true selves while fighting for our right to claim a place of our own.

“Red Paint is an ode to healing and to healers, told by someone who intimately knows both. Steeped in punk music and poetry, it is an ode to indigenous inheritance, and to the work and wisdom necessary to recover from the legacies of trauma.” —Melissa Febos, author of Girhood

Website: sasha-lapointe.com  Twitter: @lapointe_sasha
A Mind Spread Out on the Ground
By Alicia Elliott

Alicia Elliott’s memoir details a life spent between Indigenous and white communities, a divide reflected in her own family, and engages with such wide-ranging topics as race, parenthood, love, art, mental illness, poverty, sexual assault, gentrification, and representation. Throughout, she makes connections both large and small between the past and present, the personal and political.

“Raw, unflinching . . . [Elliott] tells the impassioned, wrenching story of the mental health crisis within her own family and community.”—New York Times Book Review

There Plant Eyes
A Personal and Cultural History of Blindness
By M. Leona Godin

NOW IN PAPERBACK

From Homer to Helen Keller, from Dune to Stevie Wonder, from the invention of braille to the science of echolocation, M. Leona Godin explores the fascinating history of blindness, interweaving it with her own story of gradually losing her sight.

“The lively writing style and memorable personal anecdotes are delightful. This book is a gift to both blind and sighted readers.”—Haben Girma, human rights lawyer and author of Haben: The Deaf Blind Woman Who Conquered Harvard Law

Callings
The Purpose and Passion of Work
By Dave Isay

StoryCorps founder Dave Isay presents unforgettable stories from people doing what they love. Some found their paths at very young ages, others later in life; some overcame great odds or upturned their lives in order to pursue what matters to them. Callings is an inspiring tribute to rewarding work and the American pursuit of happiness.

“These wonderful stories reveal that work becomes meaningful to those who choose—or are in some cases chosen by—the calling that motivates, energizes, and inspires them.”—Publishers Weekly

The Keeper
Soccer, Me, and the Law That Changed Women’s Lives
By Kelcey Ervick

Growing up playing on a top national soccer team in the 1980s, Kelcey Ervick and her teammates didn’t understand the change they represented. Braiding together personal narrative, pop culture, literature, and history, this graphic memoir tells the story of how her adolescence was shaped by the boom in women’s organized sports. With wit and poignant storytelling, The Keeper brings to life forgotten figures who understood the importance of athletics to help women step into their confidence and power—and push for equality.

To request examination copies, visit tinyurl.com/FYE23Form
**Know My Name**

*Know My Name: A Memoir\n
By Chanel Miller*

Chanel Miller’s breathtaking story of trauma and transcendence illuminates a culture biased to protect perpetrators of sexual assault, indicting a criminal justice system designed to fail the most vulnerable, and, ultimately, shining with the courage required to move through suffering and live a full and beautiful life.

“*Know My Name* is an act of reclamation. On every page, Miller unflattens herself, returning from Victim or Emily Doe to Chanel, a beloved daughter and sister.”—Jennifer Weiner, *The New York Times*

**Selected for Common Reading at:**
- Duke University
- Stanford University
- Tulane University
- Pennsylvania State University
- Medical College of Wisconsin
- Seattle University
- Santa Clara University
- and more

Penguin Books | Paperback
978-0-7352-2372-1 | 384 pp.
$18.00 / $24.00 Can.
EB: 9780735223714

**Website:** chanel-miller.com

**Video:** tiny.cc/CMillerVideo

**Theme:** Resilience / Perseverance

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**App Kid**

*How a Child of Immigrants Grabbed a Piece of the American Dream\n
By Michael Sayman*

App Kid is an inspiring and deeply personal coming-of-age memoir from Michael Sayman, a second-generation Latino immigrant who taught himself to code as a thirteen-year-old and became Facebook’s youngest employee, claiming his share of the American dream.

“An beguiling account of how [Sayman] became one of Silicon Valley’s youngest entrepreneurs. . . . He also shares how—after growing up in a community where ‘kids still used “gay” as a putdown’—he learned to be proud of his sexual- ity as a gay man.”—Publishers Weekly (starred review)

**Selected for Common Reading at:**
- Florida International University

Vintage | Paperback
978-0-525-56623-8 | 304 pp.
$17.00 / $23.00 Can.
EB: 9780525566203

**Twitter:** @michaelsayman

**Video:** tiny.cc/98ssuz

**Theme:** Resilience / Perseverance

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**The Master Plan**

*My Journey from Life in Prison to a Life of Purpose\n
By Chris Wilson with Bret Witter; Foreword by Wes Moore*

At eighteen, Chris Wilson was sentenced to life in prison. While incarcerated, he embarked on a journey of self-improvement—reading, working out, learning languages, even starting a business. He wrote his Master Plan: a list of all he expected to accomplish and worked his plan every day until his mid-thirties when he convinced a judge to reduce his sentence to become a free man. Today Chris is a successful entrepreneur, a mentor, and public speaker.

**Selected for Common Reading at:**
- Loyola University of Maryland
- Northeastern State University
- Brescia University

Putnam | Paperback
$18.00 / $24.00 Can.
EB: 9780735215603

**Website:** chriswilson.biz

**Twitter:** @ChrisWilsonbalt

**Video:** tiny.cc/CWMasterPlan

**Theme:** Resilience / Perseverance

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**Mind and Matter**

*A Life in Math and Football\n
By John Urschel and Louisa Thomas*

Against the odds, John Urschel found a way to manage his double life as both a scholar and an athlete. While he was an offensive lineman for the Baltimore Ravens, he simultaneously pursued his PhD in mathematics at MIT. Equally at home discussing Georg Cantor’s work on infinities and Bill Belichick’s playbook, Urschel reveals how each challenge—whether on the field or in the classroom—has brought him closer to understanding the two different halves of his own life, and how reason and emotion, the mind and the body, are always working together.

**Selected for Common Reading at:**
- Nichols College

Penguin Books | Paperback
$17.00 / $23.00 Can.
EB: 9780735224872

**Website:** math.mit.edu/~urschel

**Twitter:** @JohnCurschel

**Video:** tiny.cc/mindandmatter

**Theme:** Resilience / Perseverance
MEMOIR & BIOGRAPHY

Theme: Resilience / Perseverance

How I Survived a Chinese “Reeducation” Camp
A Uyghur Woman’s Story
By Gulbahar Haitiwaji

Since 2017, more than one million Uyghurs have been deported from their homes in the Xinjiang region of China to “reeducation camps.” The brutal repression of the Uyghurs, a Turkish-speaking Muslim ethnic group, has been denounced as genocide, and reported widely in media around the world. Gulbahar Haitiwaji is the first Uyghur woman to write a memoir about the horrific conditions inside one of these “camps.” For three years Haitiwaji endured hundreds of hours of interrogations, torture, hunger, police violence, brainwashing, forced sterilization, freezing cold, and nights under blinding neon light in her prison cell. Essential to understanding one of the most central human rights issues of our time, her courageous memoir is a terrifying portrait of the atrocities she endured in the Chinese gulag.

“Gulbahar Haitiwaji’s beautifully written account of brutality in the Chinese government’s “reeducation camps” is a remarkable feat—accessible to all readers, deeply human despite the inhumanity detailed, and unsparing in its details of bleak efforts to destroy Uyghur identity. One constant throughout the book, and clearly throughout her life: Haitiwaji’s extraordinary courage.” —Sophie Richardson, China Director, Human Rights Watch

The Tears of a Man Flow Inward
Growing Up in the Civil War in Burundi
By Pacifique Irankunda

Pacifique Irankunda’s childhood in Burundi was marked by a 13-year civil war—a grueling struggle that destroyed his home, upended his family, and devastated his country’s beautiful culture. Written in moving, lyrical prose, The Tears of a Man Flow Inward tells a story of survival in a country whose rich traditions were lost to the ravages of colonialism and ethnic strife and gives us an illuminating window into what it means to come of age in dark times, and an example of how, even in the midst of uncertainty, violence, and despair, light can almost always be found.

Scenes from My Life
A Memoir
By Michael K. Williams with Jon Sternfeld

When Michael K. Williams died in 2021, he left behind a career as one of the most electrifying actors of his generation. At the time of his death, Williams had nearly finished a memoir that tells the story of his past while looking to the future, a book that merges his life and his life’s work as an activist dedicated to working with social justice organizations and his community, especially in helping at-risk youth find their voice and carve out their future. Scenes from My Life is the story of a performer who gave his all to everything he did—in his own voice, in his own words, as only he could.

To request examination copies, visit tinyurl.com/FYE23Form
The Black Period
On Personhood, Race, and Origin
By Hafizah Augustus Geter

A unique combination of gripping memoir and Afrofuturist thought, The Black Period disrupts the myths of both America’s origins and its present day through Hafizah Augustus Geter’s experiences as the queer Nigerian-born daughter of a Muslim Nigerian woman and a Black American man from a Southern Baptist family in Jim Crow Alabama.

Combining lyrical prose, biting criticism, and visual storytelling, Hafizah expertly weaves between the micro and the macro, from her own experience as the daughter of a Black American visual artist and a childhood populated with Southern and Nigerian relatives, to her days in a small Catholic school, to a loving but tragically short relationship with her mother, to the feelings of joy and community that the Black Lives Matter movement engendered in her as an adult. From North America to Europe to Africa, Hafizah addresses the larger systems of inequity that make it difficult for non-able-bodied persons, queer people, and communities of color to move through the world. The Black Period elegantly maps the untidy work of revision in order to write a new origin story.

Website: hafizahaugustusgeter.com  Twitter: @RhetoricAndThis

Freedom Dreams
Twentieth Anniversary Edition
The Black Radical Imagination
By Robin D.G. Kelley

First published in 2002, Freedom Dreams is a staple in the study of the Black radical tradition. Unearthing the thrilling history of grassroots movements and renegade intellectuals and artists, Kelley recovers the dreams of the future worlds Black radicals struggled to achieve. Focusing on the insights of activists, from the Revolutionary Action Movement to the insurgent poetics of Aimé and Suzanne Césaire, Kelley chronicles the quest for a homeland, the hope that communism offered, the politics of surrealism, the transformative potential of Black feminism, and the long dream of reparations for slavery and Jim Crow.

In this edition, Kelley includes a new introduction reflecting on how movements of the past 20 years have expanded his own vision of freedom to include mutual care, disability justice, abolition, and decolonization, and a new epilogue exploring the visionary organizing of today’s freedom dreamers.

“Few books have had a more profound impact on me as a thinker and as a human being than Freedom Dreams.”—Ibram X. Kendi, author of How to Be an Antiracist
My Brother Moochie
Regaining Dignity in the Face of Crime, Poverty, and Racism in the American South
By Issac J. Bailey

At the age of nine, Issac J. Bailey saw his hero, his eldest brother, taken away in handcuffs, not to return from prison for thirty-two years. Bailey tells the story of their relationship and of his experience living in a family suffering guilt and shame. Drawing on sociological research as well as his expertise as a journalist, he seeks to answer the crucial question of why moochie and many other young black men—including half of the ten boys in his own family—end up in the criminal justice system.

Theme: African American Voices

Notes of a Native Son
By James Baldwin

Written during the 1940s and early 1950s, when Baldwin was only in his twenties, the essays collected in Notes of a Native Son capture a view of Black life and Black thought at the dawn of the civil rights movement and as the movement slowly gained strength through the words of one of the most captivating essayists and foremost intellectuals of that era. Writing as an artist, activist, and social critic, Baldwin probes the complex condition of being Black in America.

Theme: African American Voices

Wrong Lanes Have Right Turns
A Pardoned Man’s Escape from the School-to-Prison Pipeline and What We Can Do to Dismantle It
By Michael Phillips

After losing his father, suffering a life-altering car accident, and losing his college scholarship, Michael Phillips turned to selling drugs to make ends meet. But when his house was raided, he was arrested and thrown into a living nightmare. From there, a mission was born—to help change the system that shuffles so many young Black men straight from school to prison. In this inspiring, thought-provoking, and energizing call to action, Michael’s practical steps provide a way forward to anyone wanting to help create space for collateral hope in the lives of for young people around them.

Theme: African American Voices

See No Stranger
A Memoir and Manifesto of Revolutionary Love
By Valarie Kaur

Valarie Kaur—renowned Sikh activist and civil rights lawyer—describes revolutionary love as a radical, joyful practice that extends in three directions: to others, to our opponents, and to ourselves. See No Stranger follows Kaur’s own riveting journey—as a brown girl growing up in California farmland finding her place in the world, as a law student fighting injustices in American prisons and on Guantánamo Bay, and as an activist working with communities recovering from xenophobic attacks—helping us imagine new ways of being with each other so that together we can begin to build the world we want to see.

Finalist for the Dayton Literary Peace Prize

Theme: Being Connected
Year of the Tiger
An Activist’s Life
By Alice Wong

NEW IN PAPERBACK
Drawing on a collection of original essays, previously published work, conversations, graphics, photos, commissioned art by disabled and Asian American artists, and more, Alice uses her unique talent to share an impressionistic scrapbook of her life as an Asian American disabled activist, community organizer, media maker, and dreamer. From her love of food and pop culture to her unwavering commitment to dismantling systemic ableism, Alice shares her thoughts on creativity, access, power, care, the pandemic, mortality, and the future.

“Wong’s collection provides a truly multidimensional portrait of a disabled writer effectively fighting the tendency of able-bodied people to treat the disability community as a monolith, an idea the author effectively deconstructs throughout the book. . . . Wong’s grasp of social justice issues is as impressive as her ability to explain complex ideas clearly, passionately, and often humorously. . . . A stunningly innovative, compulsively readable hybrid of memoir, cultural criticism, and social activism.”—Kirkus Reviews (starred review)

Website: tiny.cc/7assuz
Twitter: @SFdirewolf

Disability Visibility
First-Person Stories from the Twenty-First Century
Edited by Alice Wong
Disability Visibility is an urgent, galvanizing collection of contemporary essays by disabled people, celebrating and documenting disability culture in the now.

“If we’re going to talk about diversity in earnest then we must acknowledge the contributors in Alice Wong’s anthology and how their essays encapsulate intersectional dialogue, intellectual thought, and intimate details. . . . This book is a celebration and a source of deep education for many to bear witness (and feel seen by) the vastness of disabled stories, voices, and backgrounds.”—Jennifer Baker, editor of Everyday People: The Color of Life—A Short Story Anthology

Website: tiny.cc/7assuz
Twitter: @SFdirewolf
Video: tiny.cc/rbssuz

Unmasking Autism
Discovering the New Faces of Neurodiversity
By Devon Price, PhD
Masking is a common coping mechanism in which Autistic people hide their identifiably Autistic traits in order to fit in with societal norms, adopting a superficial personality at the expense of their mental health. In Unmasking Autism, Dr. Devon Price shares his personal experience with masking and blends history, social science research, prescriptions, and personal profiles to tell a story of neurodivergence that has thus far been dominated by those on the outside looking in. In embracing neurodiversity, we can all reap the rewards of nonconformity and learn to live authentically, Autistic and neurotypical people alike.
Disability Pride
Dispatches from a Post-ADA World

By Ben Mattlin

In Disability Pride, disabled journalist Ben Mattlin weaves together interviews and reportage to introduce a cavalcade of individuals, ideas, and events. He traces the generation that came of age after the ADA reshaped America, and how it is influencing the future. He documents how autistic self-advocacy and the neurodiversity movement upended views of those whose brains work differently. He lifts the veil on a thriving disability culture—from social media to high fashion, Hollywood to Broadway—showing how the politics of beauty for those with marginalized body types and facial features is sparking widespread change. He also explores the movement’s shortcomings, particularly the erasure of nonwhite and LGBTQIA+ people that helped give rise to Disability Justice. He delves into systemic ableism in health care, the right-to-die movement, institutionalization, and the scourge of subminimum-wage labor that some call legalized slavery. And he finds glimmers of hope in how disabled people never give up their fight for parity and fair play.

"Disability Pride probes the most profound legacy of the ADA: the ways that it forever transformed how disabled people feel about themselves, from passive recipients of charity to active agents in the transformation of society and leaders in a new kind of civil rights movement."—Steve Silberman, author of NeuroTribes

The Loneliest Americans

By Jay Caspian Kang

In 1965, a new immigration law lifted a century of restrictions against Asian immigrants to the United States. Nobody, including the lawmakers who passed the bill, expected it to transform the country’s demographics. But over the next four decades, millions arrived, including Jay Caspian Kang’s parents, grandparents, aunts, and uncles. They came with almost no understanding of their new home, much less the history of “Asian America” that was supposed to define them. The Loneliest Americans is the unforgettable story of Kang and his family, unfolding against the backdrop of a rapidly expanding Asian America, as millions more immigrants, many of them working-class or undocumented, stream into the country. At the same time, upwardly mobile urban professionals have struggled to reconcile their parents’ assimilationist goals with membership in a multicultural elite—all while trying to carve out a new kind of belonging for their own children.

Kang recognizes this existential loneliness in himself and in other Asian Americans who try to locate themselves in the country’s racial binary. In response, he calls for a new form of immigrant solidarity—one rooted in the struggles of refugees and the working class.

Theme: Disabled Voices

Theme: Asian American Voices
The Sum of Us
What Racism Costs Everyone and How We Can Prosper Together
By Heather McGhee

Heather McGhee's specialty is the American economy—and the mystery of why it so often fails the American public. From the financial crisis to rising student debt to collapsing public infrastructure, she found a common root problem: racism. But how did we end up here? And is there a way out?

McGhee embarks on a deeply personal journey across the country from Maine to Mississippi to California, tallying what we lose when we buy into the zero-sum paradigm—the idea that progress for some of us must come at the expense of others. But McGhee also finds proof of what she calls the Solidarity Dividend: gains that come when people come together across race, to accomplish what we simply can't do on our own.

With startling empathy, this heartfelt message from a Black woman to a multi-racial America leaves us with a new vision for a future in which we finally realize that life can be more than a zero-sum game.

Winner of the Porchlight Business Book of the Year Award; Longlisted for the National Book Award for Nonfiction and the Andrew Carnegie Medal for Excellence in Nonfiction

Tell Me Who You Are
A Road Map for Cultivating Racial Literacy
By Winona Guo and Priya Vulchi

Spurred by the realization that they had nearly completed high school without hearing any substantive discussion about racism in school, Winona Guo and Priya Vulchi deferred college admission for a year to collect first-person accounts of how racism plays out in this country every day. Featuring interviews with over 150 Americans accompanied by their photographs, Tell Me Who You Are offers a deep examination of racism and strategies for effecting change.

“This book is at once hopeful, raw, and brimming with curiosity, engagement and youthful energy. Through the conversations these women have with people from all walks of life, we see that the key to any kind of progress begins with letting people tell us who they are. If you want to have richer, more fruitful discussions about race, gender, all the things that comprise our identities, this book will give you a necessary vocabulary. All you have to do is turn the page.”
—Roxane Gay, author of Bad Feminist
Tales of Two Americas
Stories of Inequality in a Divided Nation
Edited by John Freeman

36 major contemporary writers examine life in a deeply divided America—including Roxane Gay, Rebecca Solnit, Anthony Doerr, Ann Patchett, Hector Tobar, Joyce Carol Oates, Edwidge Danticat, Richard Russo, Eula Biss, Karen Russell, and many more. Their stories, essays, and poems demonstrate how boundaries break down when experiences are shared, and that sharing our stories can help to alleviate a suffering that touches so many people.

"Poignant and profound, Tales of Two Americas . . . unites a multiplicity of voices into a powerful rallying cry."—NPR.org

How to Be an Antiracist
By Ibram X. Kendi

Antiracism is a transformative concept that reorients and reenergizes the conversation about racism—and, even more fundamentally, points us toward liberating new ways of thinking about ourselves and each other. In How to Be an Antiracist, Kendi takes readers through a widening circle of antiracist ideas—from the most basic concepts to visionary possibilities—that will help readers see all forms of racism clearly, understand their poisonous consequences, and work to oppose them in our systems and in ourselves.

Biased
Uncovering the Hidden Prejudice That Shapes What We See, Think, and Do
By Jennifer L. Eberhardt, PhD

Dr. Jennifer Eberhardt offers us the language we need to face one of the biggest and most troubling issues of our time. She exposes racial bias at all levels of society—in our neighborhoods, schools, workplaces, and criminal justice system. Yet she also offers us tools to address it. Eberhardt shows us how we can be vulnerable to bias but not doomed to live under its grip.

"Groundbreaking."—Bryan Stevenson, New York Times bestselling author of Just Mercy

White Fragility
Why It’s So Hard for White People to Talk About Racism
By Dr. Robin DiAngelo

In this vital and necessary book, antiracist educator Robin DiAngelo deftly illuminates the phenomenon of white fragility and “allows us to understand racism as a practice not restricted to ‘bad people’” (Claudia Rankine). Referring to the defensive moves that white people make when challenged racially, white fragility is characterized by emotions such as anger, fear, and guilt, and by behaviors including argumentation and silence. These behaviors, in turn, function to reinstate white racial equilibrium and prevent any meaningful cross-racial dialogue.

To request examination copies, visit tinyurl.com/FYE23Form
Social Justice

Between the World and Me
By Ta-Nehisi Coates

Americans have built an empire on the idea of “race,” a falsehood that damages us all but falls most heavily on the bodies of Black women and men—bodies exploited through slavery and segregation, and, today, threatened, locked up, and murdered out of all proportion. In this profound work that pivots from the biggest questions about American history and ideals to the most intimate concerns of a father for his son, Ta-Nehisi Coates offers a powerful new framework for understanding our nation’s history and current crisis.

Winner of the National Book Award for Nonfiction; Finalist for the Pulitzer Prize for General Nonfiction

Website: ta-nehisicoates.com
Video: tiny.cc/TaNehisiCoatesVideo

Selected for Common Reading at: Brooklyn College; New York University; Sewanee: The University of the South, University of California, Los Angeles; University of Kansas; and over 50 other schools

On Critical Race Theory
Why It Matters & Why You Should Care
By Victor Ray

What exactly is Critical Race Theory? From renowned scholar Dr. Victor Ray, this concise and accessible exploration demystifies an important framework for understanding and fighting racial injustice in the United States. In succinct thoughtful essays, Ray presents, analyzes, and breaks down the scholarship and concepts that constitute this often misconstrued term. He explores how the conversation on CRT has expanded into the contemporary popular conscience, underscoring why Critical Race Theory matters and why we should all care.

Website: www.shakasenghor.com
Twitter: @ShakaSenghor
Video: tiny.cc/ShakaSenghorVideo

Letters to the Sons of Society
A Father’s Invitation to Love, Honesty, and Freedom
By Shaka Senghor

In this collection of letters to his sons, Senghor, as a formerly incarcerated Black man in America, unpacks the toxic and misguided messages about masculinity, mental health, love, and success that boys learn from an early age. He issues a passionate call to all fathers and sons to cultivate positive relationships with other men, seek healing, tend to mental health, grow from pain, and rewrite the story that has been told about them.

Website: www.shakasenghor.com
Twitter: @ShakaSenghor
Video: tiny.cc/ShakaSenghorVideo

Breathe
A Letter to My Sons
By Imani Perry

Emotionally raw and deeply reflective, Imani Perry issues an unflinching challenge to society to see Black children as deserving of humanity. She admits fear and frustration for her African American sons in a society that is increasingly racist and at times seems irredeemable. However, as a mother, feminist, writer, and intellectual, Perry offers an unfettered expression of love—finding beauty and possibility in life—and she exhorts her children and their peers to find the courage to chart their own paths and find steady footing and inspiration in Black tradition.

Chautauqua Prize Finalist

Twitter: @imaniperry
Selected for Common Reading at: Princeton University

Website: www.imaniperry.com
Twitter: @ImaniPerry

Selected for Common Reading at: Brooklyn College; New York University; Sewanee: The University of the South, University of California, Los Angeles; University of Kansas; and over 50 other schools

Theme: Diversity, Equity & Inclusion

Theme: Family

Theme: African American Voices

Theme: Diversity, Equity & Inclusion
Believing
Our Thirty-Year Journey to End Gender Violence
By Anita Hill

From the woman who gave the landmark testimony against Clarence Thomas as a sexual menace, Believing is a new manifesto about the origins and course of gender violence in our society. Anita Hill offers a combination of memoir, personal accounts, law, and social analysis, and a powerful call to arms from one of our most prominent survivors.

“Brave, brazenly intelligent and ultimately hopeful wom-anifesto.”—San Francisco Chronicle

Theme: Gender

We Should All Be Feminists
By Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie

In this personal, eloquently-argued essay—adapted from her much-admired TEDx talk of the same name—Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie offers readers a unique definition of feminism for the twenty-first century, one rooted in inclusion and awareness. Drawing extensively on her own experiences and her deep understanding of the often masked realities of sexual politics, here is one remarkable author’s exploration of what it means to be a woman now.

“Adichie makes her arguments quietly but skillfully. A moving essay that should find its way into the hands of all students and teachers to provoke new conversation and awareness.”—Kirkus Reviews

Theme: Gender

The Other Dr. Gilmer
Two Men, a Murder, and an Unlikely Fight for Justice
By Benjamin Gilmer

Fresh out of medical residency, Dr. Benjamin Gilmer joined a rural North Carolina clinic only to find that not only had its previous doctor shared his last name, he’d been arrested for murder and sentenced to life in prison. Resolved to understand what had happened to his predecessor, Benjamin encountered a prison system that cared little about the mental health of its inmates. With deep compassion and an even deeper sense of justice, Dr. Benjamin Gilmer asks us to answer a profound question: In a country with the highest incarceration rates in the world, what would it look like if we prioritized healing rather than punishment?

Theme: Health & Wellbeing

The Shame Machine
Who Profits in the New Age of Humiliation
By Cathy O’Neil

Shame is a powerful and sometimes useful tool. But as Cathy O’Neil argues in this revelatory book, shaming has taken a new and dangerous turn. With clarity and nuance, O’Neil dissects the relationship between shame and power. Whom does the system serve? Is it counter-productive to call out racists, misogynists, and vaccine skeptics? If so, when should someone be “canceled”? How do current incentive structures perpetuate the shaming cycle? And, most important, how can we all fight back?

Theme: Health & Wellbeing

To request examination copies, visit tinyurl.com/FYE23Form
Here is the inspiring story of activist and poet Ian Manuel, who at the age of fourteen was sentenced to life in prison. He survived eighteen years in solitary confinement—through his own determination and dedication to art—until he was freed as part of an incredible crusade by the Equal Justice Initiative. Ian Manuel gives his powerful testimony of growing up homeless in a neighborhood riddled with poverty, gang violence, and drug abuse—and of his efforts to rise above his circumstances, only to find himself, partly through his own actions, imprisoned for two-thirds of his life. Here is the story of how he endured the savagery of the United States prison system, and how his victim, an extraordinary woman, forgave him and bravely advocated for his freedom.

“Ian is magic. His story is difficult and heartbreaking, but he takes us places we need to go to understand why we must do better. He survives by relying on a poetic spirit, an unrelenting desire to succeed, to recover, and to love. Ian’s story says something hopeful about our future.”—Bryan Stevenson, author of Just Mercy

Selected for Common Reading at: Butler University

I Cried to Dream Again
Trafficking, Murder, and Deliverance — A Memoir
By Sara Kruzan
At once disturbing and empowering, this is a memoir of a courageous woman who was abused, groomed, and trafficked for sex from age eleven to age sixteen, who then killed her trafficker and was sentenced as a juvenile to life in prison without parole.

“What’s so striking about Sara Kruzan’s devastating story is how thoroughly the adults in her young life failed her. Kruzan, together with the acclaimed playwright Cori Thomas, brings you into the world of trafficking from the child victim’s standpoint and provides astonishing insight into the much-misunderstood sex trade in America.”—Laura Day, author of Practical Intuition

Just Mercy
A Story of Justice and Redemption
By Bryan Stevenson
Bryan Stevenson was a young lawyer when he founded the Equal Justice Initiative, a legal practice dedicated to defending those most desperate and in need: the poor, the wrongly condemned, and women and children trapped in the farthest reaches of our criminal justice system. Just Mercy is at once an unforgettable account of an idealistic, gifted young lawyer’s coming-of-age, a moving window into the lives of those he has defended, and an inspiring argument for compassion in the pursuit of true justice.

Winner of the Carnegie Medal for Nonfiction and the NAACP Image Award for Outstanding Literary Work – Non-Fiction

Selected for Common Reading at: Northwestern University, Southern Methodist University, SUNY Binghamton, University of Michigan, University of Mississippi, and over 100 other schools

Theme: Resilience / Perseverance
After the Last Border
Two Families and the Story of Refuge in America
By Jessica Goudeau

Writer and activist Jessica Goudeau tracks the human impacts of America’s ever-shifting refugee policy with this intimate look at the lives of two women settling as refugees in Austin, Texas. Mu Naw, a Christian from Myanmar, was accepted at a time when America was at its most open to displaced families; and Hasna, a Muslim from Syria, agrees to relocate as a last resort for the safety of her family—only to be cruelly separated from her children by the travel ban.

Winner of the Anthony J. Lukas Book Prize

Theme: Immigrant & First-Generation Stories

The Line Becomes a River
Dispatches from the Border
By Francisco Cantú

“In a courageous endeavor to comprehend the complex issues that characterize America’s border with Mexico, Francisco Cantú joined the US Border Patrol. His story, and intelligent and humane perspective, should mortify anyone who ever thought building a wall might improve our lot. His words are emotionally true and his literary sensibility uplifting. The bilingual Mr. Cantú advocates here for clarity and compassion in place of xenophobia and uninformed rhetoric.”—Barry Lopez

Theme: Immigrant & First-Generation Stories

All the White Friends I Couldn’t Keep
Hope—and Hard Pills to Swallow—About Fighting for Black Lives
By Andre Henry

When the rallying cry “Black Lives Matter” was heard across the world in 2013, Andre Henry was one of the millions for whom the movement caused a political awakening. But Henry was aggrieved to discover that many white Americans—people he called friends and family—were more interested in debating whether racism existed or whether Henry was being polite enough. In this personal and thought-provoking book, Henry explains why this struggle will only be resolved through a revolution, one that moves beyond symbolic progress to disrupt systems of racial violence and inequality in tangible, creative ways.

Theme: Social Action

Become America
Civic Sermons on Love, Responsibility, and Democracy
By Eric Liu

What does it mean to be an engaged American in today’s divided political landscape, and how do we restore hope in our country? In a collection of “civic sermons” delivered at gatherings around the nation, popular advocate for active citizenship Eric Liu takes on these thorny questions and provides inspiration and solace in a time of anger, fear, and dismay over the state of the Union.

“This collection of essays exhorts Americans to love the nation they have by becoming the nation they want.”—The Washington Post

Theme: Social Action
First-Year & Common Reading 2023

Social Justice

Theme: Social Action

They Called Me a Lioness
A Palestinian Girl’s Fight for Freedom

By Ahed Tamimi and Dena Takruri

Ahed Tamimi’s father was born in 1967, the year that the Israeli occupation of
the West Bank began, and every aspect of their family’s life has been touched
by it since.

This vivid and riveting memoir is one of the first to deal directly with what life in
occupation actually means for the people in it, beyond geography or policy. It
brings readers into the daily life of the young woman seen as a freedom-fighting
hero by some and a naïve agitator by others. Beyond recounting her well-publici-
zed interactions with Israeli soldiers, there is her unwavering commitment to
family and her fearless command of her own voice, despite threats, intimidation,
and even incarceration.

An essential addition to a complicated conversation, They Called Me a Lioness
lets each of us see what is at stake for the people who live in the West Bank. With
her honest, unflinching reflections of a lifelong struggle, Ahed Tamimi shines a
light on the humanity not just in the pro-Palestine movement, but all political
efforts that speak for the unsung.

Twitter: @Dena

No Study Without Struggle
Confronting Settler Colonialism in Higher Education

By Leigh Patel

Using campus social justice movements as an entry point, Leigh Patel shows how the struggles in higher education
often directly challenged the tension between narratives of
education as a pathway to improvement and the structural
reality of settler colonialism that creates and protects
wealth for a select few. By acknowledging and challenging
settler colonialism, Patel outlines the importance of under-
standing the relationship between the struggle and study and how this understanding is vital for societal im-
provement.

Website: decolonizing.net
Twitter: @lipatel

Rising Troublemaker
A Fear-Fighter Manual for Teens

By Luvvie Ajayi Jones

Luvvie Ajayi Jones uses her honesty and humor to inspire
young adults going out into the adult world to be their
bravest, boldest, truest selves, in order to create a world
they would be proud to live in.

“Young people, especially Black teen girls, will appreciate
Jones’ affirmations and kick-ass self-empowerment wis-
dom. Highly recommended.” —Booklist, starred review

Website: luvvie.org
Twitter: @Luvvie

Theme: Social Action

Theme: Inspirational
We Need To Build
Field Notes for Diverse Democracy
By Eboo Patel

In his youth, Eboo Patel was inspired by love-based activists like John Lewis, Martin Luther King Jr., Badshah Khan, Mahatma Gandhi, Mother Teresa, Dorothy Day, Abraham Joshua Heschel, and Thich Nhat Hanh. Their example, and a timely challenge to build the change he wanted to see, led to a life engaged in the particulars of building, nourishing, and sustaining an institution that seeks to promote positive social change—Interfaith America. Now, drawing on his twenty years of experience, Patel tells the stories of what he's learned and how, in the process, he came to construct as much as critique and collaborate more than oppose.

The goal of social change work is not a more ferocious revolution; it is a more beautiful social order. It is harder to organize a fair trial than it is to fire up a crowd, more challenging to build a good school than it is to tell others they are doing education all wrong. But every decent society requires fair trials and good schools, and that's just the beginning of the list of institutions and structures that need to be efficiently created and effectively run in large-scale diverse democracy. We Need to Build is a call to create those institutions and a guide for how to run them well.

Website: interfaithamerica.org  
Twitter: @EbooPatel

Selected for Common Reading at: Moraine Valley Community College

Seek You
A Journey Through American Loneliness
By Kristen Radtke

In Seek You, Kristen Radtke digs into the ways in which people attempt to feel closer to one another, and the distance that remains. Through the lenses of gender and violence, technology and art, Radtke ushers us through a history of loneliness and longing, and shares what feels impossible to share. With her distinctive, emotionally charged drawings and deeply empathetic prose, she masterfully shines a light on some of the most vulnerable and sublime moments, and asks how we might keep the spaces between us from splitting entirely.

"Kristen Radtke's Seek You: A Journey Through American Loneliness defies categorization—and it does so in spectacular fashion. … The beauty of Seek You is that it feels like a communal experience. Reading this book is reading about ourselves and our lives. … The art is superb and each section uses different colors to set the mood, but words take center stage more often than the art, and that turns the art into the perfect companion. … Seek You accomplishes a lot and its unique hybrid nature makes it a must-read."

—Gabino Iglesias, NPR

Finalist for the Andrew Carnegie Medal for Excellence in Nonfiction

Website: kristenradtke.com  
Twitter: @KristenRadtke

To request examination copies, visit tinyurl.com/FYE23Form
The Light We Give
How Sikh Wisdom Can Transform Your Life

By Simran Jeet Singh

As a boy growing up in South Texas, Simran Jeet Singh and his brothers confronted racism daily: at school, in their neighborhood, playing sports, and later in college and beyond. Despite the prejudice and hate he faced, this self-described “turban-wearing, brown-skinned, beard-loving Sikh” refused to give in to negativity. Instead, Singh delved deep into the Sikh teachings that he grew up with and embraced the lessons to seek the good in every person and situation and to find positive ways to direct his energy. Part memoir, part spiritual journey, The Light We Give is a transformative book of hope that shows how each of us can turn away from fear and uncertainty and move toward renewal and positive change.

Simran Jeet Singh is executive director for the Aspen Institute’s Religion & Society Program and a visiting professor of history and religion at Union Theological Seminary. He is a Soros Equality Fellow with the Open Society Foundations, and in 2020 Time magazine recognized him among sixteen people fighting for a more equal America.

“Beautiful, profound, and above all transformative…. Through harrowing stories of personal experiences and a rarely seen exploration of the tenets of the Sikh faith, Simran Jeet Singh calls us to have empathy and love and to operate in them. This book couldn’t be more timely.”—Angie Thomas, author of The Hate U Give

Website: simranjeetsingh.org  Twitter: @simran

Good Arguments
How Debate Teaches Us to Listen and Be Heard

By Bo Seo

When Bo Seo was 8 years old, he and his family migrated from Korea to Australia. At the time, he did not speak English, and struggled at school. But, then, in fifth grade, something happened to change his life: he discovered competitive debate. By tracing his own journey from immigrant kid to world champion, Seo shows how the skills of debating—information gathering, truth finding, lucidity, organization, and persuasion—are often the cornerstone of successful careers and happy lives.

Drawing insights from its strategies, structure, and history, Seo teaches readers the skills of competitive debate, and in doing so shows how they can improve their communication with friends, family, and colleagues alike. Seo proves that good-faith debate can enrich our daily lives. Indeed, these good arguments are essential to a flourishing democracy, and are more important than ever at time when bad faith is all around, and our democracy seems so imperiled.

“While his book will turn the shyest introvert into a wannabe debater, it makes a compelling argument of its own: that civil disagreement can save our troubled civilization.”—Jay Heinrichs, author of Thank You for Arguing

Website: helloboseo.com  Twitter: @helloboseo
Allies
Real Talk About Showing Up, Screwing Up, And Trying Again
By Shakirah Bourne and Dana Alison Levy

This collection of true stories from 17 critically acclaimed and bestselling YA authors is all about being an ally, having an ally, and showing up for both friends and strangers. From raw stories of racism and invisible disability to powerful moments of passing the mic, these authors share their truths. They invite readers to think about their own experiences and choices and how to be a better ally. Self-reflection prompts, journaling ideas, and further reading suggestions will help students ask better questions and find out what they can do. Because we’re all in this together. And we all need allies.

How Minds Change
The Surprising Science of Belief, Opinion, and Persuasion
By David McRaney

What made a prominent conspiracy-theorist YouTuber finally see that 9/11 was not a hoax? How do voter opinions shift from neutral to resolute? From one of our greatest thinkers on reasoning, How Minds Change is a book about the science of transformation.

“David McRaney’s brilliant book will force you to rethink your views about how to motivate other people to rethink theirs. In a time when too many minds seem closed, this is a masterful analysis of what it takes to open them.”—Adam Grant, author of Think Again

Think Again
The Power of Knowing What You Don’t Know
By Adam Grant

Intelligence is usually seen as the ability to think and learn, but in a rapidly changing world, there’s another set of cognitive skills that might matter more: the ability to rethink and unlearn. Too many of us favor the comfort of conviction over the discomfort of doubt. In Think Again, Adam Grant examines the critical art of rethinking: learning to question your opinions and open other people’s minds.

“In an increasingly divided world, the lessons in this book are more important than ever.”—Bill and Melinda Gates

The Power of Regret
How Looking Backward Moves Us Forward
By Daniel H. Pink

Regrets are a universal and healthy part of being human. Drawing on research in social psychology, neuroscience, and biology, Daniel H. Pink debunks the myth of the “no regrets” philosophy of life. And using the largest sampling of American attitudes about regret ever conducted, he lays out the four core regrets that each of us has. These deep regrets offer compelling insights into how we live and how we can find a better path forward.
Curious Minds
The Power of Connection

By Perry Zurn and Dani S. Bassett

According to this exhilarating, genre-bending book, what’s left out of the conventional understanding of curiosity are the wandering tracks, the weaving concepts, the knitting of ideas, and the thatching of knowledge systems—the networks, the relations between ideas and between people. Curiosity, say Perry Zurn and Dani Bassett, is a practice of connection: it connects ideas into networks of knowledge, and it connects knowers themselves, both to the knowledge they seek and to each other.

Zurn and Bassett—identical twins who write that their book “represents the thought of one mind and two bodies”—harness their respective expertise in the humanities and the sciences to get impressively curious about curiosity. Traipsing across literatures of antiquity and medieval science, Victorian poetry and nature essays, as well as work by writers from a variety of marginalized communities, they trace a multitudinous curiosity. They identify three styles of curiosity—the busybody, who collects stories, creating loose knowledge networks; the hunter, who hunts down secrets or discoveries, creating tight networks; and the dancer, who takes leaps of creative imagination, creating loopy ones. Investigating what happens in a curious brain, they offer an accessible account of the network neuroscience of curiosity. And they sketch out a new kind of curiosity-centric and inclusive education that embraces everyone’s curiosity.

Website: perryzurn.com, complexsystemsupenn.com
Twitter: @perryzurn, @DaniSBassett

The Anthropocene Reviewed
Essays on a Human-Centered Planet
By John Green

The Anthropocene is the current geologic age, in which humans have profoundly reshaped the planet and its biodiversity. In this remarkable symphony of essays adapted and expanded from his groundbreaking podcast, John Green reviews different facets of the human-centered planet on a five-star scale—from the QWERTY keyboard and sunsets to Canada geese and Penguins of Madagascar.

“What Green is really telling us with these unexpected stories . . . is how much there is to love in the world and why that love is worth the effort.”—NPR.com

Website: johngreenbooks.com
Twitter: @johngreen

The Nexus
Augmented Thinking for a Complex World—The New Convergence of Art, Technology, and Science
By Julio Mario Ottino with Bruce Mau

Today’s complex problems demand a radically new way of thinking—one in which art, technology, and science converge to expand our creativity and augment our insight. The place of this convergence is the Nexus. In this visually striking book, Julio Mario Ottino and Bruce Mau offer a guide for navigating the intersections of art, technology, and science.

Website: juliomarioottino.com

Theme: Critical Thinking

Theme: Being Connected

Theme: Critical Thinking
The Good Life Method
Reasoning Through the Big Questions of Happiness, Faith, and Meaning
By Meghan Sullivan and Paul Blaschko

Notre Dame philosophy professors Meghan Sullivan and Paul Blaschko have reinvigorated the philosophical tradition in their wildly popular and influential undergraduate course “God and the Good Life,” in which they wrestle with the big questions about how to live and what makes life meaningful. They invite students to work through issues like what justifies our beliefs, whether we should practice a religion and what sacrifices we should make for others—as well as to investigate what figures such as Aristotle, Plato, Marcus Aurelius, Iris Murdoch, and W. E. B. Du Bois have to say about how to live well. Sullivan and Blaschko do the timeless work of philosophy using real-world case studies that explore love, finance, truth, and more. In so doing, they push students to escape their own caves, ask stronger questions, explain their deepest goals, and wrestle with suffering, the nature of death, and the existence of God.

“In writing about The Good Life Method, Sullivan and Blaschko have provided a flexible yet focused approach to help us all ask—and answer—life’s most important questions.”—Penny Rue, PhD, Vice President for Campus Life, Wake Forest University

Website: paulblaschko.com Twitter: @plblaschko

Designing Your Life
How to Build a Well-Lived, Joyful Life
By Bill Burnett and Dave Evans

In this book, Bill Burnett and Dave Evans show us how design thinking can help us create a life that is both meaningful and fulfilling, regardless of who or where we are, what we do or have done for a living, or how young or old we are. The same design thinking responsible for amazing technology, products, and spaces can be used to design and build your career and your life, a life of fulfillment and joy, constantly creative and productive, one that always holds the possibility of surprise.

“An empowering book based on their popular class of the same name at Stanford University. . . . Perhaps the book’s most important lesson is that the only failure is settling for a life that makes one unhappy. With useful fact-finding exercises, an empathetic tone, and sensible advice, this book will easily earn a place among career-finding classics.”—Publishers Weekly

“Designing Your Life walks readers through the process of building a satisfying, meaningful life by approaching the challenge the way a designer would. Experimentation. Wayfinding. Prototyping. Constant iteration. You should read the book. Everyone else will.”—Daniel Pink, author of Drive

Website: designingyour.life
Twitter: @wburnett & @DaveEvansDYL
Video: tiny.cc/scssuz

Selected for Common Reading at:
- Arizona State University – New College
- Boston College
- Cornell University – Dyson School
- Wake Forest University
- and 4 other schools

To request examination copies, visit tinyurl.com/FYE23Form
Life Is Hard
How Philosophy Can Help Us Find Our Way
By Kieran Setiya

There is no cure for the human condition: life is hard. But MIT professor Kieran Setiya believes philosophy can help. In this profound and personal book, Setiya shows how the tools of philosophy can help us find our way. Drawing on ancient and modern philosophy as well as fiction, history, memoir, film, comedy, social science, and stories from Setiya’s own experience, Life Is Hard is a book for this moment—a work of solace and compassion.

Bittersweet
How Sorrow and Longing Make Us Whole
By Susan Cain

With Quiet, Susan Cain urged our society to cultivate space for the undervalued, indispensable introverts among us, thereby revealing an untapped power hidden in plain sight. Now she employs the same mix of research, storytelling, and memoir to explore why we experience sorrow and longing. At a time of profound discord and personal anxiety, Bittersweet provides insights into human psychology that are essential for creativity, connection, and transcendence, in school, business, and life.

Awe
The New Science of Everyday Wonder and How It Can Transform Your Life
By Dacher Keltner

In Awe, University of California, Berkeley professor of psychology Dacher Keltner presents a radical investigation and deeply personal inquiry into this elusive emotion. Revealing new research into how awe transforms our brains and bodies, alongside an examination of awe across history, culture, and within his own life during a period of grief, Keltner shows us how cultivating awe in our everyday life leads us to appreciate what is most humane in our human nature.

This Book Will Make You Kinder
An Empathy Handbook
By Henry James Garrett

This timely, insightful guide lays out the case for developing a strong, courageous, moral kindness, one that will make the world a more empathetic place. Building on his academic studies in metaethics and using his signature animal cartoons, Garrett explores the sources and limitations of human empathy and the many ways we can work toward being our best and kindest selves for the people around us and the society we need to build.

“[Garrett] blends distinctly human comics with an academic approach to understanding empathy.”—Adam J. Kurtz
Radical Curiosity
Questioning Commonly Held Beliefs to Imagine Flourishing Futures
By Seth Goldenberg

In Radical Curiosity, thought leader Seth Goldenberg argues that because we value knowing above learning and prioritize doing over thinking, curiosity has become an endangered species. Blending philosophy, business strategy, cultural criticism, and fascinating case studies, Goldenberg offers a new way of solving our most complex problems—one focused not on technology or science but on the power of human inquiry. By asking us to relearn how we learn, reengage in dialogue, revive our youthful sense of wonder, and rethink what we value, this is a book that rekindles the curiosity needed to imagine and build a better world.

You Are More Than Magic
The Black and Brown Girls’ Guide to Finding Your Voice
By Minda Harts

When you’re a girl of color, figuring out how to find your voice and make sure everyone around you can hear it is essential. CEO and bestselling author Minda Harts knows—she’s been there. With lots of practical advice and real-life anecdotes, as well as questions for reflection and further resources, this book is all about finding a personalized path to success—at school, at work, at home, and beyond.

Man’s Search for Meaning
By Viktor E. Frankl

Viktor Frankl’s landmark tribute to hope in the face of unimaginable loss is as relevant today as when it was first published in 1959. At once a memoir, a self-help book, and a psychology manual, Man’s Search for Meaning is the story of Frankl’s struggle for survival during his three years in Auschwitz and other Nazi concentration camps. This seminal work offers students an avenue to greater meaning and purpose in our own lives.

Big Feelings
How to Be Okay When Things Are Not Okay
By Liz Fosslien and Mollie West Duffy

We all experience unwieldy feelings. But between our emotion-phobic society and the debilitating uncertainty of modern times, we usually don’t know how to talk about what we’re going through, much less handle it. Big Feelings addresses anyone intimidated by oversized feelings they can’t predict or control, offering the tools to understand what’s really going on, find comfort, and face the future with a sense of newfound agency.

Website: fosslien.com; molliewestduffy.com
Twitter: @fosslien, @molliewest

Crown | Hardcover
$30.00 / $41.00Can.
EB: 9780593138182

Portfolio | Hardcover
$26.00 / $35.00Can.
EB: 9780593418246

Dial | Hardcover
978-0-593-32661-9 | 192 pp.
EB: 9780593326633

To request examination copies, visit tinyurl.com/FYE23Form
Craft in the Real World
Rethinking Fiction Writing and Workshopping
By Matthew Salesses
The traditional writing workshop was established with white male writers in mind; what we call craft is informed by their cultural values. In this bold and original examination of elements of writing and aspects of workshop, Matthew Salesses asks questions to invigorate these familiar concepts. He upends Western notions of how a story must progress. How can we rethink craft, and the teaching of it, to better reach writers with diverse backgrounds? How can we invite diverse storytelling traditions into literary spaces?

The Startup of You
Revised and Updated
Adapt, Take Risks, Grow Your Network, and Transform Your Career
By Reid Hoffman and Ben Casnocha
The career landscape has changed dramatically in the decade since LinkedIn co-founder Reid Hoffman and venture capitalist Ben Casnocha first published this guide to accelerating one’s career in today’s competitive world. In an urgent update to the frameworks that have helped hundreds of thousands of people transform their careers, this new edition of The Startup of You will equip students with the tools they need to achieve their boldest professional ambitions.

Hanging Out
The Radical Power of Killing Time
By Sheila Liming
Almost every day it seems that our world becomes more fractured, more digital, and more chaotic. Sheila Liming has the answer: we need to hang out more. Starting with the assumption that play is to children as hanging out is to adult, Liming makes a brilliant case for the necessity of unstructured social time as a key element of our cultural vitality.

How to Do Nothing
Resisting the Attention Economy
By Jenny Odell
In a world where addictive technology is designed to buy and sell our attention, and our value is determined by our 24/7 data productivity, it can seem impossible to escape. But in this inspiring field guide to dropping out of the attention economy, artist and critic Jenny Odell shows us how we can still win back our lives.
Nightcrawling
By Leila Mottley

Nightcrawling is a novel about a young Black woman who walks the streets of Oakland and stumbles headlong into the failure of its justice system.

Kiara and her brother, Marcus, are scraping by in an East Oakland apartment complex optimistically called the Regal-Hi. Both have dropped out of high school, their family fractured by death and prison. But while Marcus clings to his dream of rap stardom, Kiara hunts for work to pay their rent—which has more than doubled—and to keep the nine-year-old boy next door, abandoned by his mother, safe and fed.

One night, what begins as a drunken misunderstanding with a stranger turns into the job Kiara never imagined wanting but now desperately needs: nightcrawling. Her world breaks open even further when her name surfaces in an investigation that exposes her as a key witness in a massive scandal within the Oakland Police Department.

This novel speaks urgently to issues that are uppermost today: race and sexuality, justice and equality, and conversations about systems of policing. Rich with raw beauty, electrifying intensity, and piercing vulnerability, Nightcrawling marks the stunning arrival of a voice unlike any we have heard before.

“Nightcrawling bursts at the seams of every page and swallows you whole.”
—Tommy Orange, author of There There

“Unflinching…. Essential to understanding how maddeningly elusive justice can be.”
—San Francisco Chronicle

Leila Mottley is the 2018 Oakland Youth Poet Laureate. Her work has been featured in The New York Times and Oprah Daily. She was born and raised in Oakland, where she continues to live. Nightcrawling is her first novel.

Leila Mottley

Nightcrawling

Knopf | Hardcover
$28.00

Twitter: @LeilaMottley
Video: tiny.cc/aaotuz

Leila Mottley
is the 2018 Oakland Youth Poet Laureate. Her work has been featured in The New York Times and Oprah Daily. She was born and raised in Oakland, where she continues to live. Nightcrawling is her first novel.

Twitter: @LeilaMottley
Video: tiny.cc/aaotuz
The Survivalists
By Kashana Cauley

In the wake of her parents’ death, Aretha, a habitually single Black lawyer, has had only one obsession in life—success—until she falls for Aaron, a coffee entrepreneur. Moving into his Brooklyn brownstone to live along with his Hurricane Sandy-traumatized, illegal-gun-stockpiling, optimized-soy-protein-eating, bunker-building roommates, Aretha finds that her dreams of making partner are slipping away, replaced by an underground world, one of selling guns and training for a doomsday that’s maybe just around the corner.

The Survivalists is a darkly humorous novel from a smart and relevant new literary voice that’s packed with tension, curiosity and wit, and unafraid to ask the questions most relevant to a new generation of Americans: Does it make sense to climb the corporate ladder? What exactly are the politics of gun ownership? And in a world where it’s nearly impossible for young people to earn enough money to afford stable housing, what does it take in order to survive?

Website: kashanacauley.com  Twitter: @kashanacauley

The Nickel Boys
By Colson Whitehead

In The Nickel Boys, Colson Whitehead brilliantly dramatizes another strand of American history through the story of two boys sentenced to a hellish reform school in Jim Crow-era Florida.

“Colson Whitehead continues to make a classic American genre his own. . . . The narration is disciplined and the sentences plain and sturdy, oars cutting into water. Every chapter hits its marks. . . . Whitehead compports himself with gravity and care, the steward of painful, suppressed histories; his choices on the page can feel as much ethical as aesthetic.”—The New York Times

Winner of the Pulitzer Prize

Website: colsonwhitehead.com  Twitter: @colsonwhitehead
Video: tiny.cc/1oosuz
Selected for Common Reading at: Bryant University; Carnegie Mellon University – Tepper School of Business; Chaffey College; D’Youville College; Siena College; University of Arkansas, Fort Smith; University of Notre Dame; University of Pittsburgh; Bradford; and Wallace State Community College

The Office of Historical Corrections
By Danielle Evans

Danielle Evans is widely acclaimed for her blisteringly smart voice and x-ray insights into complex human relationships. With The Office of Historical Corrections, Evans zooms in on particular moments and relationships in a way that speaks to larger issues of race, culture, and history. Ultimately, she provokes us to think about the truths of American history—who gets to tell them, and the cost of setting the record straight.

Website: daniellevevans.com  Twitter: @daniellevalore
Selected for Common Reading at: Saint Michael’s College

Also Available: The Underground Railroad 9780316280327

Also Available: Before You Suffocate Your Own Fool Self 9781594485367

$26.00 / $34.00Can.
EB: 9781593767280

Riverhead | Paperback
978-0-593-38946-7
$17.00 / $23.00Can.
EB: 9780593389467

Also Available: Before You Suffocate Your Own Fool Self 9781594485367
Hell of a Book
By Jason Mott

"A powerfully envisioned and artfully crafted exploration of identity and love (in their many forms), and of the unrelenting perils of being Black in America. Mott masterfully weaves together two seemingly disparate narratives—one a fantastical book tour for an unnamed author, the other an all too familiar story of police violence in a Black community—into a labyrinthian surrealist tale that is by turns farcical and heartbreaking, tragic and redemptive."—Southern Review of Books

Winner of the 2021 National Book Award, the 2021 Sir Walter Raleigh Award for Fiction, and the Joyce Carol Oates Literary Prize Finalist

The Vanishing Half
By Brit Bennett

From the author of The Mothers comes a stunning new novel about twin sisters, inseparable as children, who ultimately choose to live in two very different worlds. One lives with her black daughter in the same southern town of her youth. The other passes for white, and her white husband knows nothing of her past. Still, even separated by so many miles and just as many lies, the fates of the twins remain intertwined.

"An ambitious meditation on race and identity."—The New York Times

Such a Fun Age
By Kiley Reid

Such a Fun Age is a page-turning story about race and privilege, set around a young black babysitter, her well-intentioned employer, and a surprising connection that threatens to undo them both.

"This is a deft coming-of-age story for the current American moment. . . . Kiley Reid explores serious issues—race, class, sex, power, ambition, and what it’s like to live in our hyperconnected world—with a light touch and sly humor."—Rumaan Alam, author of That Kind of Mother

Take My Hand
By Dolen Perkins-Valdez

Take My Hand is a searing and compassionate new novel about a young Black nurse’s shocking discovery and burning quest for justice in post-segregation Alabama, from the New York Times bestselling author of Wench.

"In her newest novel, Dolen Perkins-Valdez probes the many ways institutional racism and classism inflicts lasting scars, especially on young Black women—and the grace, courage, and love needed to begin to heal those wounds."—Celeste Ng, author of Little Fires Everywhere
Transcendent Kingdom  
By Yaa Gyasi

Transcendent Kingdom is a powerful, raw, intimate, deeply layered novel about a Ghanaian family in Alabama. Gifty, a sixth-year PhD candidate in neuroscience, is determined to discover the scientific basis for the suffering around her. As she turns to the hard sciences to unlock the mystery of her brother’s death to OxyContin and her family’s loss, she finds herself hungering for her childhood faith and grappling with the evangelical church in which she was raised.

"An evocative portrayal of the immigrant experience and an astutely written character study of an individual reconciling with her past, along with her struggle with faith and science."—Chicago Review of Books

Finalist for the Women’s Prize

What the Fireflies Knew  
By Kai Harris

In the vein of Jesmyn Ward’s Salvage the Bones and Sue Monk Kidd’s The Secret Life of Bees, a coming-of-age novel told by almost-eleven-year-old Kenyatta Bernice (KB), as she and her sister try to make sense of their new life with their estranged grandfather in the wake of their father’s death and their mother’s disappearance.

"Harris rewrites the coming-of-age story with Black girlhood at the center."—New York Times Book Review

Required Reading for the Disenfranchised Freshman  
By Kristen R. Lee

A striking debut novel from Kristen R. Lee about a college freshman grappling with the challenges of attending an elite university with a disturbing racist history. Savannah Howard thought everyone followed the same checklist to get into Wooddale University, but now that she’s on campus, she’s realizing that some peers bought their acceptance letters. Savannah tries to keep her head down, but when the statue of the university’s first Black president is vandalized, how can she look away? Someone has to put a stop to the injustice. But will telling the truth about Wooddale’s racist past cost Savannah her own future?

The Book of Unknown Americans  
By Cristina Henríquez

The Book of Unknown Americans is a stunning novel of hopes and dreams, guilt and love—a book that offers a resonant new definition of what it means to be American. Henríquez seamlessly interweaves the story of two young, star-crossed lovers—Maribel Rivera and Mayor Toro—and of their families, with the testimonials of men and women who have come to the United States from all over Latin America.

"Unfailingly well written and entertaining…. [Henríquez’s] stories illuminate the lives behind the current debates about Latino immigration."—The New York Times Book Review

Finalist for the Dayton Literary Peace Prize for Fiction
Binti: The Complete Trilogy
By Nnedi Okorafor

In her award-winning novella, Nnedi Okorafor introduced us to Binti, a young Himba girl with the chance of a lifetime: to attend the prestigious Oomza University. Despite her family’s concerns, Binti’s talent for mathematics and her aptitude with astrolabes make her a prime candidate to undertake this interstellar journey. Collected now for the first time in omnibus form—and introducing a new Binti story—follow Binti’s journey in this groundbreaking sci-fi trilogy.

Website: nnedi.com
Twitter: @Nnedi

Selected for Common Reading at: Muhlenberg College and Purdue University

DAW Trade | Paperback
$17.00 / $23.00 Can.
EB: 9780756415198
Also Available: Noor 9780756418304

Pet
By Akwaeke Emezi

An award-winning, genre-defying novel by the New York Times bestselling author Akwaeke Emezi.

There are no monsters anymore, or so the children in Lucille are taught. But then Jam meets Pet—a creature who has emerged from one of her mother’s paintings to hunt a real monster. Jam’s quest to uncover the truth about whatever grim still lurks in Lucille is met with doubt and disbelief. The city is supposed to be safe for everyone.

Pet, a finalist for the National Book Award for Young People’s Literature, asks: how do you save the world from something if no one will admit it exists?

Website: akwaeke.com
Twitter: @azemezi

Alfred A. Knopf BFYR | Paperback
978-0-593-17544-6 | 224 pp.
EB: 9780525647096

Klara and the Sun
By Kazuo Ishiguro

Klara and the Sun is a thrilling, inventive novel that offers a look at our changing world through the eyes of an unforgettable narrator, Klara, an Artificial Friend, and one that explores the fundamental question: what does it mean to love?

“What stays with you in Klara and the Sun is the haunting narrative voice—a genuinely innocent, egoless perspective on the strange behavior of humans obsessed and wounded by power, status and fear.”—Booker Prize committee

Winner of the Nobel Prize

Facebook: tiny.cc/b5ssuz

Selected for Common Reading at: Florida Atlantic University - Wilkes Honor College and New York University

Vintage | Paperback
$16.95
EB: 9780593318188

Also Available: Never Let Me Go 9781400078776

The Mermaid of Black Conch
By Monique Roffey

This enchanting tale of a cursed mythical creature and the lonely fisherman who falls in love with her draws on ancient folklore, while exploring contemporary ideas of romance, family dynamics, gender, race relations, and the connection between feminism and the environment.

“This is a novel packed with layers of meaning around womanhood, alienation, masculinity, toxic attitudes towards women, and inter-female rivalry, as well as love, compassion and the search for home.”—Bernardine Evaristo, author of Girl, Woman, Other

Winner of the Costa Book of the Year Award

Website: moniqueroffey.com
Twitter: @moniqueroffey

Knopf | Hardcover
$26.00 / $35.00 Can.
EB: 9780593534212

To request examination copies, visit tinyurl.com/FYE23Form
Dig
By A.S. King

Former potato farmers Gottfried and Marla Hemmings managed to trade digging spuds for developing subdivisions and now they sit atop a million-dollar bank account—wealth they’ve refused to pass on to their five teenage grandchildren. As the rot beneath the surface of the Hemmings’ white suburban respectability destroys the family from within, the estranged cousins must find their ways back to one another. In Dig, A.S. King exposes how a toxic culture of polite white supremacy tears a family apart and how one determined generation can dig its way out. Winner of the 2020 Michael L. Printz Medal

Kindred
By Octavia E. Butler

The visionary author’s masterpiece pulls us—along with her Black female hero—through time to face the horrors of slavery and explore the impacts of racism, sexism, and white supremacy then and now. Dana, a modern black woman, is celebrating her 26th birthday when she is transported to the antebellum South to save the drowning son of a plantation owner. Brought through time repeatedly, each stay grows more and more treacherous until it is uncertain whether Dana’s life will end before it had the chance to begin.

Parable of the Sower
By Octavia E. Butler

Parable of the Sower is the Butlerian odyssey of a woman in a world that has become dehumanized. The year is 2025. The place is California, where small communities must protect themselves from hordes of people addicted to a drug that activates an orgasmic desire to burn, rape, and murder. When one community is overrun, Lauren Olamina, an 18 year old black woman with the hereditary train of “hyperempathy”—which causes her to feel others’ pain as her own—sets off on foot along the dangerous coastal highways, moving north into the unknown.

Where the Crawdads Sing
By Delia Owens

“A painfully beautiful first novel that is at once a murder mystery, a coming-of-age narrative and a celebration of nature. . . . Owens here surveys the desolate marshlands of the North Carolina coast through the eyes of an abandoned child. And in her isolation that child makes us open our own eyes to the secret wonders—and dangers—of her private world.”—The New York Times Book Review

Business Insider Defining Book of the Decade

Theme: Social Action

Website: as-king.com
Twitter: @AS_King

Selected for Common Reading at: SUNY Oswego
Penguin Books | Paperback
EB: 9781101994924

Kindred
By Octavia E. Butler

Selected for Common Reading at: Pasadena Community College; University of Maryland; Newberry College; and many more

Beacon Press | Paperback
$16.00 / $22.00 Can.
EB: 9780807083703

Parable of the Sower
By Octavia E. Butler

Selected for Common Reading at: CSU - Los Angeles; College of the Redwoods; Goucher College; Hampshire College; Humboldt State University; Skidmore College; Stetson University; Tulane University; University of California - Merced; University of Toledo; University of Tulsa; and Williams College

Seven Stories Press | Hardcover
978-1-60980-719-1 | 336 pp.
$24.00 / $32.00 Can.
Also Available: Parable of the Talents
9781609807207

Where the Crawdads Sing
By Delia Owens

Selected for Common Reading at: Illinois Wesleyan University; John Wood Community College; and Sussex County Community College

Putnam | Paperback
$18.00 / $24.00 Can.
EB: 9780735219113

Theme: Alternate Worlds: Speculative Fiction

Theme: African American Voices

Theme: Resilience / Perseverance
**Themes:** Asian American Voices, Disabled Voices

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**Tomorrow, and Tomorrow, and Tomorrow**

*By Gabrielle Zevin*

In this novel two friends come together as creative partners in the world of video game design, where success brings them fame, joy, tragedy, duplicity, and, ultimately, a kind of immortality.

Sam Masur and Sadie Green, friends since childhood, borrow money, beg favors, and, before even graduating college, they have created their first blockbuster video game, *Ichigo*. Overnight, the world is theirs. Not even twenty-five years old, Sam and Sadie are brilliant, successful, and rich, but these qualities won’t protect them from their own creative ambitions or the betrayals of their hearts.

Spanning thirty years, *Tomorrow, and Tomorrow, and Tomorrow* examines the multifarious nature of identity, disability, failure, the redemptive possibilities in play, and the need to connect.

“Utterly brilliant. In this sweeping, gorgeously written novel, Gabrielle Zevin charts the beauty, tenacity, and fragility of human love and creativity. *Tomorrow, and Tomorrow, and Tomorrow* is one of the best books I’ve ever read.” —John Green, author of *The Anthropocene Reviewed*

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**Which Side Are You On**

*By Ryan Lee Wong*

Twenty-one-year-old Reed is fed up. Angry about the killing of a Black man by an Asian American NYPD officer, he wants to drop out of college and devote himself to the Black Lives Matter movement. But would that truly bring him closer to the moral life he seeks?

In a series of intimate, charged conversations, his mother—once the leader of a Korean-Black coalition—demands that he rethink his outrage, and along with it, what it means to be an organizer, a student, an ally, an American, and a son. As Reed zips around his hometown of Los Angeles with his mother, searching and questioning, he faces a revelation that will change everything.

“Blasting easily woke platitudes, this honest, hilarious, and deeply healing novel gets at the heartbreaking core of building connections between families and friends, and solidarities within and between racial communities. For years I’ve been waiting for a novel like Ryan Lee Wong’s *Which Side Are You On*, and I urge everyone to read it.” —Cathy Park Hong, author of *Minor Feelings*
**Interior Chinatown**
*By Charles Yu*

Willis Wu doesn’t perceive himself as the protagonist in his own life: he’s merely Generic Asian Man a bit player in the background relegated to a prop in a TV series. Yet every day, he dreams one day of being Kung Fu Guy. This infinitely inventive and deeply personal novel explores the themes of pop culture, assimilation, and immigration.

“Brilliant and hilarious *Interior Chinatown* . . . satirizes the racist imagination and brings us deep into the humanity of those who suffer from—and struggle against—dehumanization.”—Viet Thanh Nguyen, author of *The Sympathizer*

Winner of the National Book Award

**The Book of Form and Emptiness**
*By Ruth Ozeki*

“An extremely vivid picture of a small family enduring unimaginable loss, and a very powerful meditation on the way books can contain the chaos of the world and give it meaning and order. Annabelle and Benny Oh try to stay afloat in a sea of things, news, substances, technological soullessness, and psychiatric quagmires, and the way they learn to live and breathe and even swim through it all feels like the struggle we all face. The Book of Form and Emptiness builds . . . ratifies Ozeki as one of our era’s most compassionate and original minds.”—Dave Eggers, author of *The Circle*

Winner of the Women’s Prize for Fiction

**The Chinese Groove**
*By Kathryn Ma*

When 18-year-old Shelley moves from Yunnan Province, China to San Francisco, he is confident that any hurdles will be easily overcome by the awesome powers of the “Chinese groove,” a belief in the unspoken bonds between countrymen that transcend time and borders. What he finds, however, is an extended family whose lives are in shambles. Ever the optimist, Shelley concocts a plan to resuscitate his American dream by insinuating himself into the family. And, who knows, maybe he’ll even manage to bring them back together in the process.

**What Strange Paradise**
*By Omar El Akkad*

What *Strange Paradise* is a profoundly moving novel that looks at the global refugee crisis through the eyes of a child.

“Hope and kindness light the story in unexpected ways. . . . El Akkad’s precise prose allows him to inject heartfelt observations throughout the novel. . . . Perhaps El Akkad’s biggest accomplishment with *What Strange Paradise* is that it manages to push past political talking points and shocking statistics to rehumanize the discussion about migration on a global scale, and it does so with enough heart to be memorable.”—Gabino Iglesias, NPR

Winner of the Scotiabank Giller Prize
**Bitter Orange Tree**

*By Jokha Alharthi*

Bitter Orange Tree is a profound exploration of social status, wealth, desire, and female agency. It presents a mosaic portrait of one young woman’s attempt to understand the roots she has grown from, and to envisage an adulthood in which her own power and happiness might find the freedom necessary to bear fruit and flourish. Zuhour, an Omani student at a British university, is caught between the past and the present. As she attempts to form friendships and assimilate in Britain, she can’t help but ruminate on the relationships that have been central to her life. Most prominent is her strong emotional bond with Bint Amir, a woman she always thought of as her grandmother, who passed away just after Zuhour left the Arabian Peninsula. As the historical narrative of Bint Amir’s challenged circumstances unfurls in captivating fragments, so too does Zuhour’s isolated and unfulfilled present, one narrative segueing into another as time slips and dreams mingle with memories.

“This mesmerizing novel is an illuminating, important work and Jokha Alharthi points her pen at some of the most harrowing circumstances facing women and girls across the world.” —Kali Fajardo-Anstine, author of Sabrina & Corina

Catapult | Hardcover | 978-1-64622-003-8 | 224 pp. | $26.00
EB: 9781646220045
Also Available: Celestial Bodies 9781948226943

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**Darius the Great Is Not Okay**

*By Adib Khorram*

Darius Kellner speaks better Klingon than Farsi, and he knows more about Hobbit social cues than Persian ones. He’s a Fractional Persian—half, his mom’s side—and his first-ever trip to Iran is about to change his life. Darius has never really fit in at home, and he’s sure things are going to be the same in Iran. His clinical depression doesn’t exactly help matters, and trying to explain his medication to his grandparents only makes things harder. Then Darius meets Sohrab, the boy next door, and everything changes.

Theme: Coming of Age

EB: 9780525552987
Also Available: Darius the Great Deserves Better 9780593108239

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**When We Were Sisters**

*By Fatimah Asghar*

In this lyrical debut work of fiction, Fatimah Asghar traces the intense bond of three orphaned siblings who, after their parents die, are left to raise one another. As the youngest, Kausar, grows up, she must choose whether she’s known or carve out a new path for herself. When We Were Sisters tenderly examines the bonds and fractures of sisterhood, names the perils of being three Muslim American girls alone against the world, and ultimately illustrates how those who’ve lost everything might still make homes in each other.

Longlisted for the 2022 Center for Fiction First Novel Prize

Theme: Coming of Age
FICTION & POETRY

You Exist Too Much
By Zaina Arafat

In Bethlehem, a 12-year-old Palestinian-American girl is yelled at by a group of men outside the Church of the Nativity. She has exposed her legs in a biblical city, an act they deem forbidden, and their judgement will echo on through her adolescence. When our narrator admits to her mother that she is queer, her mother’s response only intensifies a sense of shame: “You exist too much,” she says. Told in vignettes from New York to Jordan, Lebanon, and Palestine, Zaina Arafat’s novel explores the desires of one woman caught between cultural, religious, and sexual identities.

Website: zainaarafat.com
Twitter: @ZainaArafat

You Exist Too Much
Zaina Arafat

Woman of Light
By Kali Fajardo-Anstine

Luz “Little Light” Lopez is left to fend for herself after her older brother, Diego, is run out of town by a violent white mob. As Luz navigates 1930s Denver, she begins to have visions that transport her to her Indigenous homeland in the nearby Lost Territory and discovers it is up to her to save her family stories from disappearing into oblivion. Written in Kali Fajardo-Anstine’s singular voice, the complex lives of the Lopez family fill the pages of this multigenerational western saga.

Website: www.kalifajardoanstine.com

Woman of Light
Kali Fajardo-Anstine

Mexican Gothic
By Silvia Moreno-Garcia

After receiving a frantic letter from her newly-wed cousin begging for someone to save her from a mysterious doom, Noemí Taboada heads to High Place, a distant house in the Mexican countryside. Once she arrives, the house begins to invade Noemí’s dreams with visions of blood and doom, signalling that Noemí may soon find it impossible to ever leave this enigmatic place behind.

“The author’s postcolonial spin on the gothic tradition evokes the usual suspects: Daphne du Maurier, Emily Brontë, Mary Shelley, even Anne Radcliffe. . . . But to these she adds a more politically inflected horror, both ancient and timely.”—Los Angeles Times

Website: silviamoreno-garcia.com

Mexican Gothic
Silvia Moreno-Garcia

Brown Girls
By Daphne Palasi Andreades

Welcome to Queens, New York, where young women of color like Nadira, Gabby, Naz, Trish, Angelique, and countless others, attempt to reconcile their immigrant backgrounds with the American culture in which they come of age. Here, they become friends for life—or so they vow. A blazingly original debut novel told by a chorus of unforgettable voices, Brown Girls illustrates a collective portrait of childhood, adulthood, and beyond, and is a striking exploration of female friendship, a powerful depiction of women of color attempting to forge their place in the world today.

Longlisted for the 2022 Center for Fiction First Novel Prize

Website: daphnepalasiandreades.com

Brown Girls
Daphne Palasi Andreades

Theme: Arab American Voices

Theme: Family

Theme: Latinx Voices

Theme: Coming of Age
Tell Me I’m An Artist
By Chelsea Martin

At her San Francisco art school, Joey is an art student from a poor family struggling to find her place in a new social class of rich, well-connected peers. *Tell Me I’m An Artist* examines the invisible divide created by class and privilege, ruminates on the shame that follows choosing a path that has not been laid out for you, and interrogates what makes someone an artist at all.

“Anyone who has ever tried to do meaningful work in spite of a growing suspicion that nothing matters will find a home in this hilarious, heart-piercing book, and a memorable companion in its young but wise narrator.” —Emily Gould, author of *Perfect Tunes*

Our Colors
By Gengoroh Tagame

This graphic novel set in contemporary suburban Japan is the story of Sora Itoda, a sixteen-year-old aspiring painter. He wants to live honestly as a young gay man in high school, but that is still not acceptable in Japanese society. Sora’s world changes forever when he meets Mr. Amamiya, a middle-aged gentleman who is the owner of a local coffee shop and is unapologetically out as a gay man.

“This is a world full of grace and tenderness for people at all stages of coming into their own.”—Bowen Yang, writer and actor, “Saturday Night Live”

Juliet Takes a Breath
By Gabby Rivera

Juliet Milagros Palante is a self-proclaimed closetsed Puerto Rican baby dyke from the Bronx. Only, she’s not so closeted anymore. Not after coming out to her family the night before flying to Portland, Oregon, to intern with her favorite feminist writer—what’s sure to be a life-changing experience.

“Dazzling, funny as hell, poignant, all the things.”—Roxane Gay, author of *Hunger: A Memoir of (My) Body*

The Magic Fish
(A Graphic Novel)
By Trung Le Nguyen

Tiê and his mother read fairy tales together. While her English improves, Tiê struggles to find the word for what he is—a boy who loves boys. Is there even a way to explain what he’s going through in Vietnamese? Where will he find the words to tell his parents that he’s gay?

This beautifully illustrated graphic novel speaks to the complexity of family, and to the power of stories to bring us together even when we don’t know the right words.
**There There**  
*By Tommy Orange*

Tommy Orange’s novel follows twelve characters from Native communities: all traveling to the Big Oakland Powwow, all connected to each other in ways they may not yet realize. Together, this chorus of voices tells of the plight of the urban Native American—grappling with a complex and painful history.

“Welcome to a brilliant and generous artist who has already enlarged the landscape of American Fiction. There There is a comic vision haunted by profound sadness. Tommy Orange is a new writer with an old heart.”—Louise Erdrich

**Where the Dead Sit Talking**  
*By Brandon Hobson*

With his mother in jail, Sequoyah, a fifteen-year-old Cherokee boy, is placed in foster care with the Troutt family. Scarred by his mother’s years of substance abuse, Sequoyah keeps to himself, living with his emotions repressed. At least until he meets seventeen-year-old Rosemary, a troubled artist who also lives with the family.

“I was really struck by the intelligence of the book . . . about what it’s like to be a modern Indigenous person in this country . . . and to be in the foster care system.”—Min Jin Lee, author of *Pachinko*

**Little Family**  
*By Ishmael Beah*

A novel about young people living at the margins of society, struggling to replace the homes they have lost with the one they have created together.

“Deeply affecting. . . . An empathy-expanding story without the heavy gears of polemical fiction. . . . [The] little family have such a clear-eyed sense of their place as disposable members of society. To hear their story should make our confirmed blindness a little harder to maintain.”—The Washington Post

**The Girl with the Louding Voice**  
*By Abi Daré*

Adunni is a 14-year-old Nigerian girl who knows what she wants: an education. This, her mother has told her, is the only way to get a “louging voice”—the ability to speak for herself and decide her own future. So when her father sells her to be the third wife of a local man, Adunni runs away to the city. And when she realizes that she must stand up not only for herself, but for other girls, she finds the resolve to speak, however she can—in a whisper, in song, in broken English—until she is heard.
The Fortune Men
By Nadifa Mohamed

PAPERBACK FORTHCOMING NOVEMBER 2022

Based on a true event in Cardiff, Wales in 1952, this novel tells the story of Mahmood Mattan, a young Somali sailor who was accused of a crime he did not commit: the brutal killing of Violet Volacki, a shopkeeper from Tiger Bay. At first, Mahmood believes he can ignore the fingers pointing his way, but as the trial draws closer, his prospect for freedom dwindles. Now, Mahmood must stage a terrifying fight for his life, with all the chips stacked against him: a shoddy investigation, an inhumane legal system, and, most evidently, pervasive and deep-rooted racism at every step.

“Brilliantly depicts the complexities of community within the Black diaspora. . . . Mohamed balances colonial history and violence with the evocative interior lives of Mahmood and Violet Volacki. . . . After Mahmood’s arrest, the novel shifts its focus to the British criminal justice system, providing a visceral account of the protagonist’s carceral experience.”—Nicole R. Fleetwood, The New York Times

“Mohamed has given us a clear vision of so many victims caught in the maw of racist legal systems.”—Ron Charles, The Washington Post

Finalist for the Booker Prize

Knopf | Hardcover | 978-0-593-53436-6 | 320 pp.
$27.00 / $36.00 Can.

How Beautiful We Were
By Imbolo Mbue

Set in the fictional African village of Kosawa, How Beautiful We Were is the story of a people struggling against environmental degradation wrought by an American oil company. Told from the perspective of a generation of children, it is a masterful exploration of what happens when the reckless drive for profit, coupled with the ghost of colonialism, comes up against one community’s determination to hold on to its ancestral land.

Selected for Common Reading at:
Colgate University and University of Evansville Honors Program

Random House | Paperback
$18.00 / $24.00 Can.

Also Available:
Behold the Dreamers
9780525509714

Sankofa
By Chibundu Onuzo

Anna is at a stage of her life when she’s beginning to wonder who she really is. In her 40s, she has separated from her husband, her daughter is grown, and her mother is dead. Searching through her mother’s belongings, Anna finds clues about the African father she never knew. Anna discovers that he eventually became the president—some would say dictator—of a small nation in West Africa. And he is still alive. . . .

Examining freedom, prejudice, and personal and public inheritance, Sankofa is a story for anyone who has ever gone looking for a clear identity and found something more complex.

Reese’s Bookclub Pick, A Time Best Book of the Year, An Amazon Best Book of the Year

Catapult | Hardcover
978-1-64622-083-0 | 304 pp.
$26.00 / $34.00 Can.

To request examination copies, visit tinyurl.com/FYE23Form
In the Wild Light
By Jeff Zentner

Life in a small Appalachian town is not easy. Cash lost his mother to an opioid addiction and his papaw is dying slowly from emphysema. Dodging drug dealers and watching out for his best friend, Delaney, is second nature. But when Delaney manages to secure both of them full rides to a prestigious boarding school in Connecticut, Cash must weigh his desire to protect Delaney with his love for home. Change is painful, but poetry is a salve for heartbreak in this coming-of-age novel about finding the courage to change the things you can.

Theme: Coming of Age

Time Is a Mother
By Ocean Vuong

In this deeply intimate second poetry collection, Ocean Vuong searches for life among the aftershocks of his mother’s death, embodying the paradox of sitting within grief while being determined to survive beyond it. Shifting through memory, and in concert with the themes of his novel On Earth We’re Briefly Gorgeous, Vuong contends with personal loss, the meaning of family, and the cost of being the product of an American war in America.

“Time is a Mother at once innovates and affirms the existing poetic tradition... Vuong’s portrait of Hông is both intimate and iconic.” —NPR.org

Theme: Asian American Voices

Ink Knows No Borders
Poems of the Immigrant and Refugee Experience
Edited by Patrice Vecchione and Alyssa Raymond

This collection of sixty-four poems shares the experience of first- and second-generation young adult immigrants and refugees. Whether it’s cultural and language differences, homesickness, social exclusion, racism, stereotyping, or questions of identity, the Dreamers, immigrants, and refugee poets encourage readers to honor their roots as well as explore new paths, offering empathy and hope. many of the struggles described are faced by young people everywhere: isolation, self-doubt, confusion, and emotional dislocation. But also joy, discovery, safety, and family. Includes poetry by Ocean Vuong, Samira Ahmed, Elizabeth Acevedo.

Theme: Immigrant & First-Generation Stories

Poūkahangatus
Poems
By Tayi Tibble

Poūkahangatus is Tay Tibble’s American debut as she explores her identity as a twenty-first-century Indigenous woman of Māori descent. Poem by poem, Tibble carves out a bold new way of engaging history, of straddling modernity and ancestry, desire and exploitation.

“Tayi Tibble is one of the most startling and original poets of her generation. Her poetry makes doorways of insight into turbulent history. At the end, there we are, all standing together, listening.”—Joy Harjo, U.S. Poet Laureate and author of An American Sunrise

Theme: Native American and Indigenous Voices
**Worn**
A People’s History of Clothing
*By Sofi Thanhauser*

Here is a sweeping and captivatingly told history of clothing and the stuff it is made of—an unparalleled deep-dive into how everyday garments have transformed our lives, our societies, and our planet.

In this panoramic social history, Sofi Thanhauser brilliantly tells five stories—Linen, Cotton, Silk, Synthetics, Wool—about the clothes we wear and where they come from, illuminating our world in unexpected ways. She takes us from the opulent court of Louis XIV to the labor camps in modern-day Chinese-occupied Xinjiang. We see how textiles were once dyed with lichen, shells, bark, saffron, and beetles, displaying distinctive regional weaves and knits, and how the modern Western garment industry has refashioned our attire into the homogenous and disposable uniforms popularized by fast fashion brands.

“A masterpiece of investigative reporting and a riveting adventure story, *Worn* is both panoramic and richly particular. Thanhauser is the best of guides: humane, engaging, generous with historical anecdote and always able to reveal the telling detail. She shows how the cost of fashion far exceeds any retail price tag, and how the revival of venerable traditions might yet lead us to a sustainable future.”—Geraldine Brooks, author of *The Secret Chord*

Website: sofithanhauser.com

**Walking Gentry Home**
A Memoir of My Foremothers in Verse
*By Alora Young*

In *Walking Gentry Home*, Youth Poet Laureate of the Southern United States Alora Young tells the story of her ancestors. The lives of these girls and women form a unique American epic in verse, one that speaks of the brutal and ever-present legacy of slavery in our nation’s psyche. Together, these poems form a heart-wrenching and inspiring family saga of girls and women connected through blood and history.

Website: alorayoung.com
Twitter: @Alora_young

**Bless the Daughter Raised by a Voice in Her Head**
Poems
*By Warsan Shire*

With her first full-length poetry collection, Warsan Shire draws from her own life, as well as pop culture and news headlines to find vivid, unique details in the experiences of refugees and immigrants, mothers and daughters, Black women and teenage girls. The long-awaited collection from one of our most exciting contemporary poets, this book is a blessing, an incantatory celebration of resilience and survival.

Website: warsanshire.squarespace.com
Twitter: @warsan_shire

Theme: Family

Theme: Gender

Theme: Innovation

**HISTORY**

Theme: Innovation
**The Ground Breaking**  
An American City and Its Search for Justice  
*By Scott Ellsworth*

The *Ground Breaking* not only tells the story of the notorious 1921 Tulsa Race Massacre, the history of how the massacre was covered up and the individuals who fought to keep the story alive, but also of the ongoing archaeological saga and the search for the unmarked graves of the victims of the massacre, and the fight to win restitution for the survivors and their families.

“Essential reading for anyone interested in an honest grappling with our racial past.” —Kenneth W. Mack, Professor of Law, Harvard University

**All That She Carried**  
The Journey of Ashley’s Sack, a Black Family Keepsake  
*By Tiya Miles*

In 1850s South Carolina, an enslaved woman named Rose packed a cotton bag with a few precious items as a token of love for her daughter Ashley before she was separated from her mother and sold. Historian Tiya Miles carefully unearths these women’s faint presence in archival records to write a singular and revelatory history of the experience of slavery, and the uncertain freedom afterward, in the United States.

Winner of the National Book Award for Nonfiction and the PEN/John Kenneth Galbraith Award for Nonfiction; Finalist for the Kirkus Prize for Nonfiction

**Four Hundred Souls**  
A Community History of African America, 1619–2019  
*Edited by Ibram X. Kendi and Keisha N. Blain*

*Four Hundred Souls* is a unique one-volume “community” history of African Americans. The editors, Ibram X. Kendi and Keisha N. Blain, have assembled 90 brilliant writers, each of whom takes on a five-year period of that 400-year span. This is a history that illuminates our past and gives us new ways of thinking about our future, written by the most vital and essential voices of our present.

Finalist for the Andrew Carnegie Medal for Excellence in Nonfiction

**Requiem for the Massacre**  
A Black History on the Conflict, Hope, and Fallout of the 1921 Tulsa Race Massacre  
*By RJ Young*

More than one hundred years ago, the city of Tulsa, Oklahoma, perpetrated a massacre against its Black residents. For generations, the true story was ignored, covered up, and diminished by those in power and in a position to preserve the status quo. Blending memoir and immersive journalism, native Tulsan RJ Young shows how, today, Tulsa combats its racist past while remaining all too tolerant of racial injustice.
We Refuse to Forget
A True Story of Black Creeks, American Identity, and Power
By Caleb Gayle

Award-winning journalist Caleb Gayle tells the extraordinary story of the Creek Nation, a Native tribe that two centuries ago both owned slaves and accepted Black people as full citizens. In 1866, the U.S. government recognized Creek citizenship for its Black members. Yet this equality was shredded in the 1970s when tribal leaders revoked the citizenship of Black Creeks. By delving into the history and interviewing Black Creeks who are fighting to have their citizenship reinstated, Gayle lays bare the racism and greed at the heart of this story.

Facing the Mountain
An Inspiring Story of Japanese American Patriots in World War II
By Daniel James Brown; Foreword by Tom Ikeda, Executive Director of Densho

From the author of The Boys in the Boat, Facing the Mountain is a gripping World War II saga highlighting the contributions and sacrifices that Japanese immigrants and their American-born children made for the sake of the nation: the courageous Japanese-American Army unit that overcame brutal odds in Europe; their families, incarcerated back home; and a young man who refused to surrender his constitutional rights, even if it meant imprisonment.

White Tears/Brown Scars
How White Feminism Betrays Women of Color
By Ruby Hamad

Taking us from the slave era, when white women fought in court to keep “ownership” of their slaves, through the centuries of colonialism, when they offered a soft face for brutal tactics, to the modern workplace, White Tears/Brown Scars tells a charged story of white women’s active participation in campaigns of oppression. It offers a long overdue validation of the experiences of women of color.

Discussing subjects as varied as The Hunger Games, Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez, the viral BBQ Becky video, and 19th century lynchings of Mexicans in the American Southwest, Ruby Hamad undertakes a new investigation of gender and race. She shows how the division between innocent white women and racialized, sexualized women of color was created, and why this division is crucial to confront.

“A stunning and thorough look at White womanhood that should be required reading for anyone who claims to be an intersectional feminist. Hamad’s controlled urgency makes the book an illuminating and poignant read.”—Rosa Boshier, The Washington Post
An Afro-Indigenous History of the United States

By Kyle T. Mays

Beginning with pre-Revolutionary America and moving into the movement for Black lives and contemporary Indigenous activism, Afro-Indigenous historian, Kyle T. Mays argues that the foundations of the US are rooted in antiblackness and settler colonialism, and that these parallel oppressions continue into the present. He explores how Black and Indigenous peoples have always resisted and struggled for freedom, sometimes together, and sometimes apart. Whether to end African enslavement and Indigenous removal or eradicate capitalism and colonialism, Mays show how the fervor of Black and Indigenous peoples calls for justice have consistently sought to uproot white supremacy.

Mays uses a wide-array of historical activists and pop culture icons, “sacred” texts, and foundational texts like the Declaration of Independence and Democracy in America. He covers the civil rights movement and freedom struggles of the 1960s and 1970s, and explores current debates around the use of native American imagery and the cultural appropriation of Black culture. Mays compels us to rethink both our history as well as contemporary debates and to imagine the powerful possibilities of Afro-Indigenous solidarity.

“Required reading to comprehend the deep historical relationship between the Indigenous peoples who were transported from Africa into chattel slavery and the Indigenous peoples who were displaced by European settler colonialism to profit from the land and resources, two parallel realities in search of self-determination and justice.”—Roxanne Dunbar-Ortiz, author of An Indigenous Peoples’ History of the United States

As Long as Grass Grows

The Indigenous Fight for Environmental Justice, from Colonization to Standing Rock

By Dina Gilio-Whitaker

Indigenous researcher and activist Dina Gilio-Whitaker exposes the fraught history of treaty violations, struggles for food and water security, and protection of sacred sites, while highlighting the important leadership of Indigenous women in this centuries-long struggle. As Long As Grass Grows gives readers an accessible history of Indigenous resistance to government and corporate incursions on their lands and offers new approaches to environmental justice activism and policy.

Our History Is the Future

Standing Rock Versus the Dakota Access Pipeline, and the Long Tradition of Indigenous Resistance

By Nick Estes

In 2016, a small protest encampment at the Standing Rock Reservation in North Dakota, initially established to block construction of the Dakota Access oil pipeline, grew to be the largest Indigenous protest movement in the twenty-first century. In Our History Is the Future, Nick Estes traces traditions of Indigenous resistance that led to the #NoDAPL movement. Our History Is the Future is at once a work of history, a manifesto, and an intergenerational story of resistance.
Redbone

The True Story of a Native American Rock Band

By Thibault Balahy; Christian Staebler; Sonia Paoloni

Brothers Pat and Iolly Vegas were talented native American rock musicians that took the 1960s Sunset Strip by storm. They influenced The Doors and jammed with Jimmy Hendrix before he was “Jimi,” and the idea of a band made up of all native Americans soon followed. Determined to control their creative vision and maintain their cultural identity, they eventually signed a deal with Epic Records in 1969. But as the American Indian movement gained momentum the band took a stand, choosing pride in their ancestry over continued commercial reward.

Website: tinyurl.com/FYE23Form

Theme: Native American and Indigenous Voices

The Black Panther Party

A Graphic Novel History

By David F Walker; Illustrated by Marcus Kwame Anderson

Founded in Oakland, California, in 1966, the Black Panther Party for Self-Defense was a radical political organization that stood in defiant contrast to the mainstream civil rights movement. Using dramatic comic book–style retellings and profiles of key figures, this illustrated history captures the major events, people, and actions of the party, as well as their cultural and political influence and enduring legacy.

Website: davidfwalker.com
Twitter: @DavidWalker1201

Selected for Common Reading at:
The Community Read Project of the Hub for Black Affairs and Community Engagement at Butler University


Also Available: The Life of Frederick Douglass 9780399581441

Theme: Social Action

Midnight in Vehicle City

General Motors, Flint, and the Strike That Created the Middle Class

By Edward McClelland

In a time of great inequality and a gutted middle class, the dramatic story of “the strike heard around the world” is a testament to what workers can gain when they stand up for their rights. The tumultuous Flint sit-down strike of 1936-1937 was the birth of the United Auto Workers, which set the standard for wages in every industry. Midnight in Vehicle City tells the gripping story of how workers defeated General Motors, the largest industrial corporation in the world.

Website: edwardmcclelland.com
Twitter: @TedMcClelland

Beacon Press | Paperback 978-0-8070-0726-6 | 256 pp. $17.95 / $23.95Can.

Theme: Social Action

White Borders

The History of Race and Immigration in the United States from Chinese Exclusion to the Border Wall

By Reece Jones

Racist anti-immigration policies, from the border wall to the Muslim ban, have left many Americans wondering: How did we get here? In a sweeping account, Reece Jones reveals that although the US is often mythologized as a nation of immigrants, it has a long history of immigration restrictions that are rooted in racist fears.

“This powerful and meticulously argued book reveals that while immigration crackdowns are justified as protecting jobs and workers, they’ve always been about saving and protecting the racist idea of a white America.”—Ibram X. Kendi, author of How to Be an Antiracist


Theme: Immigrant & First-Generation Stories
**HISTORY**

### Not “A Nation of Immigrants”
*Settler Colonialism, White Supremacy, and a History of Erasure and Exclusion*
*By Roxanne Dunbar-Ortiz*

Many Americans will say proudly that we are a nation of immigrants. Here, historian Roxanne Dunbar-Ortiz asserts this ideology is harmful and dishonest because it serves to mask and diminish the US’s history of settler colonialism, genocide, white supremacy, slavery, and structural inequality, all of which we still grapple with today.

“Historian Roxanne Dunbar-Ortiz rightly argues that the United States is not ‘a nation of immigrants’ but, more accurately, a nation of colonizers. A must-read.”—Nick Estes (Lakota), author of *Our History Is the Future*

### Caste
*The Origins of Our Discontents*
*By Isabel Wilkerson*

In this book, the Pulitzer Prize–winning, bestselling author of *The Warmth of Other Suns* examines the unspoken caste system that has shaped America and shows how our lives today are still defined by a hierarchy of human divisions. Linking the caste systems of America, India, and Nazi Germany, Wilkerson uses riveting stories about people to show the ways that the insidious undertow of caste is experienced every day.

**Winner of the Los Angeles Times Book Prize for Current Interest, Finalist for the National Book Critics Circle Award for Nonfiction and the PEN/John Kenneth Galbraith Award for Nonfiction, Longlisted for the PEN/Jean Stein Book Award**

### March: Book Three
*By John Lewis; Andrew Aydin; Nate Powell*

To carry out their nonviolent revolution, Lewis and an army of young activists launch a series of innovative campaigns, including the Freedom Vote, Mississippi Freedom Summer, and an all-out battle for the soul of the Democratic Party waged live on national television. But fractures within the movement are deepening . . . even as 25-year-old John Lewis prepares to risk everything in a historic showdown high above the Alabama river, in a town called Selma.

**New York Times Bestseller; National Book Award Winner; Coretta Scott King Author Award**

### Tiananmen 1989
*Our Shattered Hopes*
*By Lun Zhang, Adrien Gombeaud; Ameziane*

In this powerful graphic novel, Lun Zhang, at the time a young sociology teacher in charge of safety service for the protests, pairs with French journalist and Asia specialist Adrien Gombeaud, and artist Ameziane, to share his first-hand account of the Tiananmen Square Massacre of 1989. Providing comprehensive coverage of the protests that ended in bloodshed and drew global scrutiny, Zhang includes full context for these explosive events. Many voices and viewpoints are on display, from Western journalists to Chinese administrators.
Conditional Citizens
On Belonging in America
By Laila Lalami

In this brilliantly argued and deeply personal work, Pulitzer Prize–finalist Laila Lalami recounts her unlikely journey from Moroccan immigrant to U.S. citizen, using her own story as a starting point for an exploration of the rights, liberties, and protections that are traditionally associated with American citizenship. Tapping into history, politics, and literature, she elucidates how accidents of birth—such as national origin, race, and gender—that once determined the boundaries of Americanness still cast their shadows today, poignantly illustrating how white supremacy survives through adaptation and legislation. Weaving together her experiences with an examination of the place of nonwhites in the broader American culture, Lalami illuminates how conditional citizens are all those whom America embraces with one arm and pushes away with the other.

"An urgent, compelling, and persuasive book, written by one of our most important critics of the American character. Lalami has given us a clear-eyed, even-handed assessment of this country's potential—and its limits—through her insightful notion of conditional citizenship. Her book is a gift to all Americans—if they are willing to receive it."—Viet Thanh Nguyen, author of The Sympathizer

Uncertain Ground
Citizenship in an Age of Endless, Invisible War
By Phil Klay

The chasm between the military and the civilian in American life, and the moral blind spot it has created, is one of the great themes of Phil Klay’s powerful series of reckonings with some of our country’s thorniest concerns, written in essay form over the past ten years.

"[The] essays and articles presented here . . . amount to an interwoven, evolving and revealing examination of Klay’s central topic: What it means for a country always at war, that so few of its people do the fighting . . . Engrossing and important."—James Fallows, New York Times Book Review

Mine!
How the Hidden Rules of Ownership Control Our Lives
By Michael Heller and James Salzman

Drawing on mind-bending accounts from business, history, courtrooms, and everyday life Mine! reveals how the rules of ownership shape the world and how they are continually up for grabs.

"Who owns what underlies human conflicts, economic development, innovation, and international relations. With vivid stories and memorable insights, Heller and Salzman decode legal rules about ownership much as Freakonomics decodes economics and psychological rules of incentives."—Martha Minow, Former Dean, Harvard Law School

To request examination copies, visit tinyurl.com/FYE23Form
CURRENT EVENTS
Theme: Social Action

The Persuaders
At the Front Lines of the Fight for Hearts, Minds, and Democracy
By Anand Giridharadas

In *The Persuaders*, Anand Giridharadas shines a light on the activists, politicians, educators, and everyday citizens working to change minds, bridge divisions, and fight for democracy and who continue to champion persuasion in an age of polarization. He introduces a leader of Black Lives Matter; white parents at a seminar on raising adopted children of color, among others. As the book’s subjects grapple with how to call out threats and injustices while calling in those who don’t agree with them (but just might one day), they point a way to healing and changing, a fracturing country.

"*The Persuaders* is the book we need right now. Giridharadas gets unmatched access to some of today’s most important movement-builders, and then explains how they’ve gotten more people to buy in to their movements without selling out. Persuading in a time of extremes is not easy, but Giridharadas proves it’s possible. Readers will walk away more optimistic and more capable of forging coalitions in their own lives and in the world.”—Heather McGhee, author of *The Sum of Us*

Knopf | Hardcover | 978-0-593-31899-7 | 352 pp. | $30.00 / $41.00Can.
EI: 9780593319000

Also Available: *Winners Take All* 9781101972670

Twitter: @AnandWrites

Theme: Immigrant & First-Generation Stories

A Good Country
My Life in Twelve Towns and the Devastating Battle for a White America
By Sofia Ali-Khan

Sofia Ali-Khan’s parents emigrated from Pakistan to America, and by the time she had children of her own—having lived, worked and worshipped in 12 different towns across the nation—Ali-Khan felt deeply American. In the wake of 9/11, and on the cusp of the 2016 election, as vitriolic attacks on Islam and Muslims intensified, she wondered if the American dream had ever applied to families like her own, and if she had gravely misunderstood her home.

In *A Good Country*, Ali-Khan revisits the color lines in each of her 12 towns, unearthing the half-buried histories of forced migration that still shape every state, town, and reservation in America today. From the expulsion of Maroon and Seminole people during the conquest of Florida to Virginia’s stake in breeding humans for sale, Ali-Khan reveals how America’s settler colonial origins have defined the law and landscape to maintain a White America. She braids this historical exploration with her own story, providing an intimate perspective on the modern racialization of American Muslims, and why she chose to leave.

Equal parts memoir, history, and current events, *A Good Country* presents a vital portrait of our nation, its people, and the pathway to a better future.

EI: 9780593237045

Website: sofiaalikhan.com
Twitter: @Sofia_alikhan

—Heather McGhee, author of *The Sum of Us*
Dear Freedom Writer
Stories of Hardship and Hope from the Next Generation
By The Freedom Writers with Erin Gruwell

Over 20 years ago, the students in first-year teacher Erin Gruwell’s high school class together co-authored The Freedom Writers Diary, launching a movement that remains incredibly relevant and impactful today. In Dear Freedom Writer, the next generation of Freedom Writers shares its struggles with abuse, racism, discrimination, poverty, mental health, imposed borders, LGBTQIA+ identity, and police violence. Through its eye-opening and inspiring stories, Dear Freedom Writer paints an unflinchingly honest portrait of today’s youth and offers a powerful message of perseverance, understanding, and hope.

#HashtagActivism
Networks of Race and Gender Justice
By Sarah J. Jackson, Moya Bailey, and Brooke Foucault Welles; Foreword by Genie Lauren

In this book, Sarah Jackson, Moya Bailey, and Brooke Foucault Welles explore how and why Twitter has become an important platform for historically disenfranchised populations, including Black Americans, women, and transgender people. They show how marginalized groups, long excluded from elite media spaces, have used Twitter hashtags to advance counternarratives, preempt political spin, and build diverse networks of dissent.

The Story of More
How We Got to Climate Change and Where to Go from Here
By Hope Jahren

Hope Jahren is an award-winning scientist, a brilliant writer, a passionate teacher, and one of the seven billion people with whom we share this earth. In The Story of More, she illuminates the link between human habits and our imperiled planet. In concise, highly readable chapters, she takes us through the science behind the key inventions—from electric power to large-scale farming to automobiles—that, even as they help us, release greenhouse gases into the atmosphere like never before. She explains the current and projected consequences of global warming—from superstorms to rising sea levels—and the actions that we all can take to fight back. At once an explainer on the mechanisms of global change and a lively, personal narrative given to us in Jahren’s inimitable voice, The Story of More is the essential pocket primer on climate change that will leave an indelible impact on everyone who reads it.

Website: www.freedomwritersfoundation.org
Twitter: @freedomwriters

Selected for Common Reading at: Nassau Community College

Crown | Paperback
978-0-593-23986-5 | 408 pp
$18.00 / $24.00 Can.
EB: 9780593239872

Also Available: The Freedom Writers Diary (20th Anniversary Edition)
9780385494229

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Winner of the McGannon Book Award

Theme: Social Action

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“Hope Jahren asks the central question of our time: how can we learn to live on a finite planet? The Story of More is thoughtful, informative, and—above all—essential.”—Elizabeth Kolbert, author of The Sixth Extinction

Selected for Common Reading at: College of Charleston; College of DuPage; Northwestern University; Piedmont Virginia Community College; University of Pittsburgh – Pitt Public Health; and University of South Carolina Upstate

Website: tiny.cc/f3ssuz
Twitter: @HopeJahren
Video: tiny.cc/j3ssuz

Theme: Climate Change
How to Avoid a Climate Disaster
The Solutions We Have and the Breakthroughs We Need

By Bill Gates

In this urgent, authoritative book, Bill Gates sets out a wide-ranging, practical—and accessible—plan for how the world can get to zero greenhouse gas emissions in time to avoid a climate catastrophe.

He gives us a clear-eyed description of the challenges we face. Drawing on his understanding of innovation, he describes the areas in which technology is already helping to reduce emissions, how the current technology can be made to function more effectively, where breakthrough technologies are needed, and who is working on these essential innovations. Finally, he lays out a concrete, practical plan for achieving the goal of zero emissions—suggesting not only policies that governments should adopt, but what we as individuals can do to keep our government, our employers, and ourselves accountable in this crucial enterprise.

“His expertise . . . is apparent in the book’s lucid explanations of the scientific aspects of climate change. The solutions he outlines are pragmatic and grounded in forward-thinking economic reasoning. Although he does not avoid the hard truths we must face as our climate changes, Gates remains optimistic and believes that we have the ability to avoid a total climate disaster.”
—Miriam R. Aczel, Science

Website: tiny.cc/93ssuz  Twitter: @BillGates  Video: tiny.cc/83ssuz

Warmth
Coming of Age at the End of Our World

By Daniel Sherrell

Warmth is a new kind of book about climate change: not what it is or how we solve it, but how it feels to imagine a future—and a family—under its weight. In a fiercely personal account written from inside the climate movement, Sherrell lays bare how the crisis is transforming our relationships to time, to hope, and to each other. At once a memoir, a love letter, and an electric work of criticism, Warmth goes to the heart of the defining question of our time: how do we go on in a world that may not?

“Searchingly honest . . . the work of someone actively engaged in the most important fight of our time . . . and also of a writer able to establish the necessary distance. Dan Sherrell is . . . open, vulnerable, able to face fully that which we all must grapple with in this overheating century.”—Bill McKibben, New York Times bestselling author of Falter

“A moving, beautifully written memoir of an activist’s coming-of-age in this era of climate disruption. It is also a powerful and profound meditation on writing, language and story-telling, and their relationship to politics and activism.”
—Amitav Ghosh, author of The Great Derangement

Website: danielsherrell.com  Video: tiny.cc/DanSherrell
Under a White Sky
The Nature of the Future

By Elizabeth Kolbert

The Pulitzer Prize–winning author of The Sixth Extinction returns to humanity’s transformative impact on the environment, now asking: After doing so much damage, can we change nature, this time to save it?

In Under a White Sky, Elizabeth Kolbert meets biologists who are trying to preserve the world’s rarest fish, which lives in a single tiny pool in the middle of the Mojave; engineers who are turning carbon emissions to stone in Iceland; Australian researchers who are trying to develop a “super coral” that can survive on a hotter globe; and physicists who are contemplating shooting tiny diamonds into the stratosphere to cool the earth.

One way to look at human civilization, says Kolbert, is as a 10,000-year exercise in defying nature. In The Sixth Extinction, she explored the ways in which our capacity for destruction has reshaped the natural world. Now she examines how the very sorts of interventions that have imperiled our planet are increasingly seen as the only hope for its salvation. By turns inspiring, terrifying, and darkly comic, Under a White Sky is an utterly original examination of the challenges we face.

Embrace Fearlessly the Burning World
Essays

By Barry Lopez; Introduction by Rebecca Solnit

An ardent steward of the land, fearless traveler, and unrivaled observer of nature and culture, Barry Lopez died after a long illness on Christmas Day 2020. The previous summer, a wildfire had consumed much of what was dear to him—a tragic reminder of the climate change of which he’d long warned. This remarkable collection of essays adds indelibly to Lopez’s legacy. They unspool memories both personal and political and, in prose of searing candor, reckon with the cycle of life, including his own, and—as he has done throughout his career—with the dangers the earth and its people are facing.

Under the Sky We Make
How to Be Human in a Warming World

By Kimberly Nicholas, PhD

After speaking to the international public for close to fifteen years about sustainability, climate scientist Dr. Nicholas realized that concerned people were getting the wrong message about the climate crisis. Yes, companies and governments are hugely responsible for the mess we’re in. But individuals can effect real, significant, and lasting change to solve this problem. Nicholas explores finding purpose in a warming world, combining her scientific expertise and her personal experience.
Regeneration
Ending the Climate Crisis in One Generation
By Paul Hawken

Regeneration describes how an inclusive movement can engage the majority of humanity to save the world from the threat of global warming, with climate solutions that directly serve our children, the poor, and the excluded. This means we must address current human needs with initiatives that include but go well beyond solar, electric vehicles, and tree planting to include such solutions as the fifteen-minute city, bioregions, azolla fern, food localization, fire ecology, deecommodification, forests as farms, and the number one solution for the world: electrifying everything.

Regeneration - Website: paulhawken.com
Twitter: @PaulHawken
Penguin Books | Paperback
978-0-14-313697-2 | 256 pp.
$25.00 / $34.00 Can.
EB: 9780525508496
Also Available: Drawdown 9780143130444

All We Can Save
Truth, Courage, and Solutions for the Climate Crisis
Edited by Ayana Elizabeth Johnson and Katharine K. Wilkinson

All We Can Save illuminates the expertise and insights of dozens of diverse women leading on climate in the United States—scientists, journalists, farmers, lawyers, teachers, activists, innovators, wonks, and designers, across generations, geographies, and race—and aims to advance a more representative, nuanced, and solution-oriented public conversation on the climate crisis. Curated by two climate leaders, this book offers a spectrum of ideas and insights for how we can rapidly, radically reshape society.

All We Can Save - Website: www.allwecansave.earth
Twitter: @ayanaeliza, @DrKWilkinson
Selected for Common Reading at:
Moraine Valley Community College; San Jose State University; University of Maryland; University of Richmond; and more

Unraveled
The Life and Death of a Garment
By Maxine Bédat
Visiting a Texas cotton farm, weaving factories in China, and sewing floors in Bangladesh and Sri Lanka, entrepreneur, researcher, and advocate Maxine Bédat follows the life of a pair of jeans to reveal what really happens to give us our clothes.

“Fascinating and disturbing. Read it before you buy a new pair of jeans, or anything else, for that matter. It will forever change the way you look at fashion.”—Elizabeth Kolbert, author of The Sixth Extinction

Unraveled - Website: linktree/maxinebedat
Twitter: @maxinebedat
Selected for Common Reading at:
Baylor University Honors College

Regenesis
Feeding the World Without Devouring the Planet
By George Monbiot
Farming is the world’s greatest cause of environmental destruction—and the one we are least prepared to talk about. Now the food system itself is beginning to falter. But, as George Monbiot shows us, we can resolve the biggest of our dilemmas and feed the world without devouring the planet.

“This remarkable book, staring curiously down at the soil beneath our feet, points us convincingly in one of the directions we must travel.”—Bill McKibben, author of Falter

Regenesis - Website: monbiot.com
Twitter: @GeorgeMonbiot
Penguin Books | Paperback
978-0-14-313596-8 | 352 pp.
$18.00 / $23.95 Can.
EB: 9780525507567

Theme: Climate Change
Theme: Social Action
Theme: Being Connected
Theme: Food
THE ENVIRONMENT

Paradise Falls
The True Story of an Environmental Catastrophe
By Keith O’Brien

Paradise Falls is the story of an unlikely band of mothers in the 1970s who discovered Hooker Chemical’s deadly secret of Love Canal and exposed one of America’s most devastating toxic waste disasters, sparking the modern environmental movement.

“At once heart-wrenching and uplifting, infuriating and inspiring, Paradise Falls is an exhaustively researched and compelling excavation of the past that remains eerily relevant in this moment.”—Denise Kiernan, author of The Girls of Atomic City

Website: keithob.com
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Video: keithob.com/paradisefallsfinal

Pantheon | Hardcover
978-0-593-31843-0 | 480 pp.
$30.00 / $40.00Can.
EB: 9780593318447

The Worth of Water
Our Story of Chasing Solutions to the World’s Greatest Challenge
By Gary White and Matt Damon

A third of the people on the planet don’t have access to clean water. This crisis, however, is solvable. That conviction is what brought together actor Matt Damon and water expert and engineer Gary White. In The Worth of Water, Gary and Matt take us along on the journey—telling stories as they uncover insights, try out new ideas, and travel between the communities they serve and the halls of power where decisions get made.

Website: water.org
Twitter: @Water
Portfolio | Hardcover
$27.00 / $36.00Can.
EB: 9780593189986

The Water Defenders
How Ordinary People Saved a Country from Corporate Greed
By Robin Broad and John Cavanagh

The David and Goliath story of ordinary people in El Salvador who rallied together with international allies to prevent a global mining corporation from poisoning the country’s main water source.

“If you ever felt that your own contribution didn’t matter and that the powerful always win, this captivating saga will help you envision who truly has power if we unleash our imaginations and act together.”—Ai-jen Poo, executive director of the National Domestic Workers Alliance

Beacon Press | Paperback
$16.95 / $22.95Can.
EB: 9780807029053

What the Eyes Don’t See
A Story of Crisis, Resistance, and Hope in an American City
By Mona Hanna-Attisha

What the Eyes Don’t See is the inspiring story of how Dr. Mona Hanna-Attisha, alongside a team of researchers, parents, friends, and community leaders, discovered that the children of Flint, Michigan, were being exposed to lead in their tap water—and then battled her own government and a brutal backlash to expose that truth to the world. And at the center of the story is Dr. Mona herself—an immigrant, doctor, scientist, and mother whose family’s activist roots inspired her pursuit of justice in this riveting account of a shameful disaster that became a tale of hope.

Website: monahannaattisha.com
Twitter: @MonaHannaA
Video: tiny.cc/MonaHannaAttisha

Selected for Common Reading at:
Tufts University School of Medicine, University of Chicago Harris School of Public Policy, University of Iowa College of Public Health; and over 45 other schools

One World | Paperback
978-0-399-59085-6 | 384 pp.
$18.00 / $24.00Can.
EB: 9780399590849

To request examination copies, visit tinyurl.com/FYE23Form
Under the Skin
The Hidden Toll of Racism on American Lives and on the Health of Our Nation
By Linda Villarosa

Under the Skin is a landmark book that tells the full story of racial health disparities in America, revealing the toll racism takes on individuals and the health of our nation.

In Under the Skin, Linda Villarosa lays bare the forces in the American healthcare system and in American society that cause Black people to “live sicker and die quicker” compared to their white counterparts. Today’s medical texts and instruments still carry fallacious slavery-era assumptions that Black bodies are fundamentally different from white bodies. Study after study of medical settings show worse treatment and outcomes for Black patients. Black people live in dirtier, more polluted communities due to environmental racism and neglect from all levels of government. And, most powerfully, Villarosa describes the new understanding that coping with the daily scourge of racism ages Black people prematurely. Anchored by unforgettable human stories and offering incontrovertible proof, Under the Skin is dramatic, tragic, and necessary reading.

“In Under the Skin, Linda Villarosa has written a book that will transform how you understand the relationship between race and medicine, one that makes clear the connection between our history and our health. This is a book filled with indispensable research, but also filled with humanity. Villarosa tells us important stories, and also becomes part of the story herself. I’m so glad this book exists, I will be thinking about it for a long time.”—Clint Smith, author of How the Word Is Passed

“Villarosa’s empathic and sharp-sighted journalism is as astute as it is groundbreaking, as brilliant as it is timely. Let the conversations begin!”—Jacqueline Woodson, author of Red at the Bone

“'It’s no secret that Black people are subject to the cumulative effects of systemic racism. But Linda Villarosa’s Under the Skin walks us through the inevitable consequences of living in a racist country on our bodies, our environments, and our healthcare system. Those of us who understand that structural violence has physical ramifications will be in debt to Under the Skin. I am grateful for the arrival of this book. It is a relief to have the truth of racialized trauma exposed in such cogent, undeniable writing and with such genius analysis. This is journalism at its finest. If you read one book this year, let it be this one.”—Claudia Rankine, author of Citizen: An American Lyric
The Beauty in Breaking
A Memoir
By Michele Harper

Michele Harper is a female, African American emergency room physician in a profession that is overwhelmingly male and white. Brought up in Washington, D.C., she went to Harvard before joining the staff of a hospital in central Philadelphia. As she shines a light on the systemic disenfranchisement of the patients she treats, Harper comes to understand that each of us is broken—physically, emotionally, psychologically. How we recognize those breaks, how we try to mend them, and where we go from there are all crucial parts of the healing process.

Voices from the Pandemic
Americans Tell Their Stories of Crisis, Courage and Resilience
By Eli Saslow

Here is a powerful and cathartic portrait of a country grappling with the Covid-19 pandemic—from feeling afraid and overwhelmed to extraordinary resilient—told through voices of people from all across America. From its first ominous stirrings, renowned journalist Eli Saslow began interviewing a cross-section of Americans to capture their experiences in real time. These deeply personal accounts constitute a crucial record and show us America from its worst and to its resilient best.

“Voices from the Pandemic offers a rich and valuable portrait of a confusing, frightening time in our history.”—Associated Press

How to Prevent the Next Pandemic
By Bill Gates

Bill Gates believes that we can prevent the next pandemic, and in this book he lays out clearly and convincingly what the world should have learned from COVID-19 and what all of us can do to ward off another disaster like it. Relying on the shared knowledge of the world’s foremost experts and on his own experience of combating fatal diseases through the Gates Foundation, he first helps us understand the science of infectious diseases. Then he shows us how the nations of the world, working in conjunction with one another and with the private sector, can not only ward off another COVID-like catastrophe but also eliminate all respiratory diseases, including the flu. Here is a clarion call—strong, comprehensive, and of the gravest importance—from one of our greatest and most effective thinkers and activists.

“In this concise and lucid book, global health activist Gates reflects on the current COVID-19 pandemic, considers future ones, and renders several sensible recommendations for prevention. . . . Passionate but never preachy, Gates delivers an expert, well-reasoned, and robust appeal for the world to unite in averting upcoming pandemics.”—Booklist (starred review)
**Epidemic Illusions**

*On the Coloniality of Global Public Health*

*By Eugene T Richardson; Foreword by Paul Farmer*

Physician and anthropologist Eugene Richardson contends that public health practices—from epidemiological modeling and outbreak containment to Big Data and causal inference—play an essential role in perpetuating a range of global inequities. Drawing on his clinical work in a variety of epidemics, including Ebola in West Africa and the Democratic Republic of Congo, HIV/TB in southern Africa, and SARS-CoV-2 in the United States, he concludes that the biggest epidemic we currently face is an epidemic of illusions.

**The Invisible Siege**

*The Rise of Coronaviruses and the Search for a Cure*

*By Dan Werb*

In *The Invisible Siege*, epidemiologist Dan Werb unpacks the dynamic history and microscopic complexity of an organism that has wreaked cycles of havoc upon the world for millennia. He traces the rising threat of the coronavirus family and the attempts by a small group of scientists who worked for decades to stop a looming viral pandemic. As humanity’s gaze remains fixed on the present crisis of the COVID-19 pandemic, Werb provides a powerful look at the infuriating factors that threaten to derail discovery and leave the world vulnerable to the inevitable coronaviruses to come.

**Carbon Democracy**

*Political Power in the Age of Oil*

*By Timothy Mitchell*

Does oil wealth lead to political poverty? It often looks that way, but *Carbon Democracy* tells a more complex story. In this magisterial study, Timothy Mitchell rethinks the history of energy, bringing into his grasp as he does so environmental politics, the struggle for democracy, and the place of the Middle East in the modern world.

**Shape**

*The Hidden Geometry of Information, Biology, Strategy, Democracy, and Everything Else*

*By Jordan Ellenberg*

From world-class geometer Jordan Ellenberg, *Shape* reveals the geometry underneath some of the most important scientific, political, and philosophical problems we face. Geometry doesn’t just measure the world—it explains it. "Ellenberg’s evident affection for both his subject and his reader makes us feel like the lucky ones who get to hear him hold forth in an intimate setting about his favorite subject, mathematics." —Cathy O’Neil, author of *Weapons of Math Destruction*
An Immense World
How Animal Senses Reveal the Hidden Realms Around Us
By Ed Yong

The Earth teems with sights and textures, sounds and vibrations, smells and tastes, electric and magnetic fields. But every kind of animal, including humans, is enclosed within its own unique sensory bubble, perceiving but a tiny sliver of our immense world.

In An Immense World, author and Pulitzer Prize–winning science journalist Ed Yong coaxes us beyond the confines of our own senses. We encounter beetles that are drawn to fires, turtles that can track the Earth’s magnetic fields, fish that fill rivers with electrical messages, and even humans who wield sonar like bats. We learn what bees see in flowers, what songbirds hear in their tunes, and what dogs smell on the street. We listen to stories of pivotal discoveries in the field, while looking ahead at the many mysteries that remain unsolved.

Funny, rigorous, and suffused with the joy of discovery, An Immense World takes us on what Marcel Proust called “the only true voyage . . . not to visit strange lands, but to possess other eyes.”

“This book feels like a tremendous burst of oxygen, animating everything around us with life and color and texture and wonder at precisely the moment we all need it.”—Rebecca Skloot, author of The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks

Finding the Mother Tree
Discovering the Wisdom of the Forest
By Suzanne Simard

NOW IN PAPERBACK

Suzanne Simard writes—in inspiring, illuminating, and accessible ways—how trees, living side by side for hundreds of years, have evolved, how they learn and adapt their behaviors, recognize neighbors, and have traits that are the essence of civil societies. As she writes of her scientific quest, she writes of her own journey, making us understand how deeply human scientific inquiry exists beyond data and technology.

“Finding the Mother Tree reminds us that the world is a web of stories, connecting us to one another. Her vivid manuscript carries the stories of trees, fungi, soil and bears—and of a human being listening in on the conversation. The interplay of personal narrative, scientific insights and the amazing revelations about the life of the forest make a compelling story. Dr. Simard’s journey as a scientist embodies the power of curiosity coupled to commitment to listen to the natural world and the courage to share what she has learned, against the resistance of scientific establishment. I have great admiration for her science and her storytelling alike. These are stories that the world needs to hear.”—Robin Wall Kimmerer, author of Braiding Sweetgrass

Website: mothertreeproject.org
Twitter: @DrSuzanneSimard
Video: tiny.cc/l9ssuz
The Plant Hunter
A Scientist’s Quest for Nature’s Next Medicines

By Cassandra Leah Quave

In today’s world of synthetic pharmaceuticals, scientists and laypeople alike have lost this connection to the natural world. But by ignoring the potential of medicinal plants, we are losing out on the opportunity to discover new life-saving medicines needed in the fight against the greatest medical challenge of this century: the rise of the post-antibiotic era.

No one understands this better than Dr. Cassandra Quave, whose groundbreaking research as a leading medical ethnobotanist is helping to provide clues for the next generation of advanced medicines. In *The Plant Hunter*, Dr. Quave weaves together science, botany, and memoir to tell us the extraordinary story of her own journey. Traveling by canoe, ATV, mule, airboat, and on foot, she has conducted field research in the flooded forests of the remote Amazon, the murky swamps of southern Florida, and isolated mountaintops in Albania and Kosovo—all in search of natural compounds that could help save us all from the looming crisis of untreatable superbugs. And as a person born with multiple congenital defects of her skeletal system, she’s done it all with just one leg. Filled with grit, tragedy, triumph, awe, and scientific discovery, her story illuminates how the path forward for medical discovery may be found in nature’s oldest remedies.

Website: cassandraquave.com  
Twitter: @QuaveEthnobot

Resetting the Table
Straight Talk About the Food We Grow and Eat
By Robert Paarlberg

NOW IN PAPERBACK

Here is a science-based corrective to the groundswell of misinformation about food and how it’s produced, examining in detail local and organic food, food companies, nutrition labeling, ethical treatment of animals, environmental impact, and every other aspect from farm to table.

“Paarlberg’s firm grasp on the realities of modern agriculture lend credence to his insights on how we might take meaningful steps toward solving our dietary and environmental ills.”—Jayson Lusk, Purdue University

Theme: Disabled Voices
SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

Handprints on Hubble
An Astronaut’s Story of Invention
By Kathryn D. Sullivan

In Handprints on Hubble, retired astronaut Kathryn Sullivan describes her work on the NASA team that made the Hubble Space Telescope possible. Sullivan, the first American woman to walk in space, recounts how she and other astronauts, engineers, and scientists launched, rescued, repaired, and maintained Hubble. Along the way, Sullivan chronicles her early life as a “Sputnik Baby,” her path to NASA through oceanography, and her initiation into the space program as one of “35 new guys.”

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The MIT Press | Paperback
978-0-262-53964-7 | 304 pp.
$17.95 / $23.95 Can.
EB: 9780262355940

The Alchemy of Us
How Humans and Matter Transformed One Another
By Ainissa Ramirez

The Alchemy of Us is a clever and engaging look at materials, the innovations they made possible, and how these technologies changed us. Scientist and science writer Ainissa Ramirez examines eight inventions—clocks, steel rails, copper communication cables, photographic film, light bulbs, hard disks, scientific labware, and silicon chip—and reveals how they shaped the human experience.

Winner of the 2021 Brown University Book Award, Winner of the 2021 Connecticut Book Award for Nonfiction, Winner of the 2021 AAAS/Subaru SBF Prize in the Young Adult Science Book Category

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Twitter: @ainissaramirez

The MIT Press | Paperback
$17.95 / $23.95 Can.
EB: 9780262358088

Ten Patterns That Explain the Universe
By Brian Clegg

Our universe might appear chaotic, but it’s simply a myriad of rules working independently to create patterns of action, force, and consequence. In Ten Patterns That Explain the Universe, Brian Clegg explores the phenomena that make up the very fabric of our world by examining ten essential sequenced systems. From diagrams that show the deep relationships between space and time to the quantum behaviors that rule the way that matter and light interact, Clegg shows how these patterns provide a unique view of the physical world and its fundamental workings.

Website: brianclegg.net

The MIT Press | Paperback
$29.95 / $39.95 Can.

Broad Band
The Untold Story of the Women Who Made the Internet
By Claire L. Evans

In a world where tech companies are still male-dominated and women are often dissuaded from STEM careers, Broad Band shines a much-needed light on the bright minds history forgot, from pioneering database poets, data wranglers, and hypertext dreamers to glass ceiling-shattering dot com-era entrepreneurs.

“Evans’s riveting account of female innovators from the Victorian age to today fills in gaps in the history we should have had all along.”—Joshua Davis, author of Spare Parts

Website: clairelevans.com
Twitter: @TheUniverse

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California State University, Bakersfield

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SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

Weapons of Math Destruction
How Big Data Increases Inequality and Threatens Democracy
By Cathy O’Neil

Increasingly, the decisions that affect our lives—where we go to school, whether we can get a job or a loan, how much we pay for health insurance—are being made not by humans, but by algorithms. In theory, this should lead to greater fairness. But as mathematician and data scientist Cathy O’Neil reveals, the mathematical models being used today are unregulated, uncontestable, and reinforce discrimination, undermining our democracy in the process. Welcome to the dark side of Big Data.

Longlisted for the National Book Award for Nonfiction

How to Take Over the World
Practical Schemes and Scientific Solutions for the Aspiring Supervillain
By Ryan North

In this introduction to the science of comic-book supervillainy, Ryan North details a number of outlandish villainous schemes that harness the potential of today’s most advanced technologies. Picking up where How to Invent Everything left off, his explanations are as fun and elucidating as they are completely absurd.

“I can attest that How to Take Over the World is both a) filled with actual science (including linguistics!) and b) hilarious.” —Gretchen McCulloch, author of Because Internet

Seeing Science
The Art of Making the Invisible Visible
By Jack Challoner

With more than 200 color images and an engaging text by leading science writer Jack Challoner, Seeing Science explains and illustrates the techniques by which scientists create visualizations of their discoveries. We see the first detection of a black hole as represented by an image from an X-ray telescope, get a direct view of DNA through an electron microscope, and much more.

A Quantum Life
My Unlikely Journey from the Street to the Stars
By Hakeem Oluseyi with Joshua Horwitz

Navigating poverty, violence, and instability, a young James Plummer had two guiding stars: a genius IQ and a love of science. In this memoir, James—who adopted a new name, Hakeem Muata Oluseyi, to honor his African ancestors—recounts how, once admitted to the elite physics PhD program at Stanford University and with the encouragement of his mentor and the sole Black professor in the department, he confronted his personal demons as well as the entrenched racism and classism of the scientific establishment.
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