2019 First-Year & Common Reading

New and Recommended Books

www.commonreads.com
Dear Common Reading Director:

Penguin Random House Education is thrilled to present the latest new book recommendations for your common reading program. And this year is particularly special since it is the first time both Penguin and Random House publisher titles are featured within the same catalog, so now it’s even easier for you to discover the best books to inform, entertain, and inspire your students!

And just what are the new books, some of which have already become program mainstays? Here is just a small sample, to name a few: John Lewis’ account of his lifelong struggle for civil and human rights in the graphic memoir trilogy *March*; Matthew Desmond’s powerful portrayal of poverty and economic exploitation in 21st-century America in *Evicted*; Bryan Stevenson’s story of fighting for justice and redemption within a broken justice system in *Just Mercy*; a collection of stories of passion, courage, and commitment curated by Dave Isay in *Callings*; and Mohsin Hamid’s visionary love story that follows two refugees into the uncertain embrace of new lands in *Exit West*.

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, such as the second 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.

We have also launched another new online resource for Higher Education: www.penguinrandomhouseeducation.com. Featuring a large collection of Penguin Random House’s most frequently-adopted titles for more than 1,700 college courses, the site allows professors to more easily identify the books and resources most appropriate for a wide range of courses. Penguin Random House is the first trade publisher to provide this comprehensive and extensive service across its front and backlist.

Whatever your needs and interests, we are confident that you will be able to find the ideal book for your program, whether on our sites or in this catalog. Please contact us with any questions, requests or to just let us know what your program is reading.

Sincerely,

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The Penguin Random House Common Reading Advisory Board was launched in 2010. Comprised of your colleagues from across the country, the Board has been instrumental in guiding our outreach to you, the common reading program director. In fact, the catalog you now hold in your hands is a result of their efforts. Please visit tiny.cc/AdvisoryBoardFYE18 to read more about the board.
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Legend
HC = Hardcover  TR = Trade Paperback  MM = Mass Market
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DG = Discussion Guide Available

Examination Copies
Complimentary examination copies are available for adoption consideration. If you would like to review any of the titles in this catalog for your first-year or common reading program, please email commonreads@prh.com. Examination copies are limited to 10 per instructor per school year and can only be mailed to U.S. addresses. All requests are subject to approval and availability. Please allow 2-4 weeks for delivery.

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— Unique Perspectives for FYE®Events —

Casey Gerald reckons with the American Dream in his electrifying speeches and his memoir, There Will Be No Miracles Here.

Dr. Mona Hanna-Attisha (What the Eyes Don’t See) delivers a powerful first-hand account of the Flint water crisis and grapples with America’s history of environmental injustice.

Philanthropist and charity:water CEO Scott Harrison (Thirst) shares his strategies for inspiring generosity, sparking innovation, and disrupting the non-profit world.

Call Me American author Abdi Nor Iftin chronicles his extraordinary journey from Somali refugee to American resident in his profoundly moving talks.

Emmy-nominated journalist and Futureface author Alex Wagner explores how concepts of race, immigration, and politics have shaped our collective American identity.

Clemantine Wamariya, human rights advocate and author of The Girl Who Smiled Beads, uses her powerful story to catalyze change and create community.

Tara Westover, author of the #1 New York Times-bestselling memoir Educated, shares her inspiring story in talks on empowerment, education, empathy, and reinvention.

Free speech advocate Zachary R. Wood (Uncensored) passionately explains how engaging with controversial and dissenting opinions is a crucial ingredient of education.

www.prhspeakers.com • Tel. 212-572-2013 • Email: speakers@penguinrandomhouse.com
SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 16TH  Dinner

Tara Westover  
EDUCATED  
(Crown)

Clemantine Wamariya  
THE GIRL WHO SMILED BEADS  
(Crown)

Casey Gerald  
THERE WILL BE NO MIRACLES HERE  
(Riverhead)

Eli Saslow  
RISING OUT OF HATRED  
(Doubleday)

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 17TH  Lunch

Fatima Farheen Mirza  
A PLACE FOR US  
(Crown)

Sharmila Sen  
NOT QUITE NOT WHITE  
(Penguin)

Laurie Halse Anderson  
SHOUT  
(Viking Books for Young Readers)

Abdi Nor Iftin  
CALL ME AMERICAN  
(Knopf)

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 17TH  Cocktails and Conversation

Scott Harrison  
THIRST  
(Crown)

Mona Hanna-Attisha  
WHAT THE EYES DON'T SEE  
(Random House)

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 18TH  Lunch

Issac J. Bailey  
MY BROTHER MOOCIE  
(Other Press)

Alex Wagner  
FUTUREFACE  
(Random House)

Winona Gao and Priya Vulchi  
TELL ME WHO YOU ARE  
(TarcherPerigee)

Zachary Wood  
UNCENSORED  
(Dutton)

To register for any of these author events or for more information, go to: www.tiny.cc/PRHFYE19 or sign up at the PENGUIN RANDOM HOUSE BOOTHS #12-14 at the FYE® annual meeting.
AUDIOBOOKS
Consider the power of the spoken word to make the First-Year/Common Reading Experience More Inclusive

Increase participation in the common reading experience by integrating audiobooks into your lesson plans to better engage struggling readers or to simply enhance the reading experience. In the ever-changing technological landscape, the art of listening is an essential component in developing literate, critical thinkers.

WHY AUDIOBOOKS?
• 30% of people are auditory learners—processing information best through listening.
• 85% of what we learn, we learn by listening. For students, listening is THE dominant learning medium, fundamental to grasping all other language arts: reading, writing, and speaking.
• Audiobooks promote a sense of intimacy and human connection—we listened to stories long before we read them. Audiobooks reinforce good storytelling, an important tradition in human history.

AUDIOBOOK STATS
According to the 2018 Audio Publishers Association sales and consumer survey, more people are listening to audiobooks than ever before:
• Audiobook listeners consume books in all formats with 83% of frequent listeners having read a hardcover or paperback in the last 12 months and 79% having read an ebook.
• Audiobook listeners read or listened to an average of 15 books in the last year
• 57% of listeners agreed or strongly agreed that “audiobooks help you finish more books.”
• 53% of listeners say they most often listen at home and 36% say their car is where they listen most often.

GETTING STARTED
Bring Audiobooks into Your Evaluation Process: Inquire about an examination copy of a digital download by contacting commonreads@penguinrandomhouse.com.

Share an Audiobook Clip: Clips are available for all of our titles at penguinrandomhouseaudio.com. You can download or embed the file from the product page of any title.

This symbol ♫ appears in the catalog when an unabridged audiobook is available.
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. Living proof of his parents’ indiscretion, Trevor was kept mostly indoors for the earliest years of his life, bound by the extreme and often absurd measures his mother took to hide him from a government that could, at any moment, steal him away. Finally liberated by the end of South Africa’s tyrannical white rule, Trevor and his mother set forth on a grand adventure, living openly and freely and embracing the opportunities won by a centuries-long struggle.

Born a Crime is the story of a mischievous young boy who grows into a restless young man as he struggles to find himself in a world where he was never supposed to exist. It is also the story of that young man’s relationship with his fearless, rebellious, and fervently religious mother—his teammate, a woman determined to save her son from the cycle of poverty, violence, and abuse that would ultimately threaten her own life.

The stories collected here are by turns hilarious, dramatic, and deeply affecting. Whether subsisting on caterpillars for dinner during hard times, being thrown from a moving car during an attempted kidnapping, or just trying to survive the life-and-death pitfalls of dating in high school, Trevor illuminates his curious world with an incisive wit and unflinching honesty. His stories weave together to form a moving and searingly funny portrait of a boy making his way through a damaged world in a dangerous time, armed only with a keen sense of humor and a mother’s unconventional, unconditional love.

“[A] compelling new memoir . . . By turns alarming, sad and funny, [Trevor Noah’s] book provides a harrowing look, through the prism of Mr. Noah’s family, at life in South Africa under apartheid . . .”

 “[Noah’s] electrifying memoir sparkles with funny stories . . . and his candid and compassionate essays deepen our perception of the complexities of race, gender, and class.”—Booklist (starred review)

“A gritty memoir . . . studded with insight and provocative social criticism . . . with flashes of brilliant storytelling and acute observations.”—Kirkus Reviews

Selected for Common Reading at:
Aurora University, North Lake College,
Rider University, St. Edward’s University,
Syracuse University

Spiegel & Grau | HC | 978-0-399-58817-4
304 pp. | $28.00

Winner of the Thurber Prize for American Humor

Website: tiny.cc/NoahFYE
Video: tiny.cc/NoahVideo
Journalist Tom Rinaldi tells the story of real-life hero Welles Crowther, a young man who worked in the South Tower of the World Trade Center on 9/11 and sacrificed his own life to save countless others. After carrying an injured woman on his back, down nearly twenty flights of stairs, he turned around. "I'm going back up," was all he said. The survivors didn't know his name, but despite the smoke and panic, one of them remembered a single detail clearly: the man was wearing a red bandanna—a gift from Welles's father from when he was a child, which he carried in his back pocket every day.

The Red Bandanna is about a fearless choice, about a crucible of terror and the indomitable spirit to answer it. Examining one decision in the gravest situation, it celebrates the difference one life can make.

“The Red Bandanna could very well become one of those classic books that are handed down through generations, for more than any book I have read in a very long time it convincingly tells the story of how great men and women become great—how cultural, community, and spiritual drives can develop that inner character that will make the world a better place…. Every first responder will want to read this book, every high school and college English teacher will want to assign it, and every thoughtful reader will give it to someone they love.”

—Dennis Smith, retired FDNY firefighter, author of Report from Engine Co. 82

“Amid the myriad stories of Sept. 11, there are many moments of heroism. This…book tells one of the most memorable…. Rinaldi’s reconstruction of that final morning is gripping. His recounting of how Crowther’s family slowly learned of his valor…. and of how many now honor him, is deeply moving…. The payoff comes when President Obama tells Crowther’s mother after the death of Osama bin Laden, “I know about your son.” For her, he autographs a red bandanna and adds the message, ‘We won’t forget Welles.’”—The New York Times Book Review

“People see the fallen, beat-up world around them and ask: What can I do? Maybe: Be like Welles Crowther. Take your bandanna, change the world.”

—Peggy Noonan, The Wall Street Journal

Tom Rinaldi has been a national correspondent at ESPN since 2002. Among other honors, he has won fifteen national Sports Emmy Awards and six national Edward R. Murrow Awards. Born in Brooklyn, New York, he is a graduate of the University of Pennsylvania and the Columbia University Graduate School of Journalism. He lives in New Jersey, with his wife, Dianne, their son, Jack, and daughter, Tessa.
March: Book Three

By Andrew Aydin
Illustrator Nate Powell

Welcome to the stunning conclusion of the award-winning and bestselling March trilogy. Congressman John Lewis, an American icon and one of the key figures of the civil rights movement, joins co-writer Andrew Aydin and artist Nate Powell to bring the lessons of history to vivid life for a new generation, urgently relevant for today’s world. By the fall of 1963, the Civil Rights Movement has penetrated deep into the American consciousness, and as chair of the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee, John Lewis is guiding the tip of the spear.

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.

National Book Award Winner; 2017 Coretta Scott King Author Award Winner; 2017 Michael L. Printz Award Winner; 2017 Robert F. Sibert Informational Book Medal Winner; Winner of 2017 YALSA Award for Excellence in Nonfiction; Winner of 2017 Walter Dean Myers Award for Outstanding Children’s Literature; 2017 Flora Stieglitz Straus Award Winner; Finalist for 2017 LA Times Book Prize for Young Adult Literature

Website: tiny.cc/MarchFYE

March: Book One, Two, and Three have been selected at more than 25 colleges, including: Michigan State University; Georgia State University; George Mason University; University of Maryland; University of Utah and others. To view the complete list, go to: tiny.cc/MarchFYEadoptions

My Brother Moochie

Regaining Dignity in the Face of Crime, Poverty, and Racism in the American South

By Issac J. Bailey

At nine years old, Issac J. Bailey saw his hero, his oldest brother, taken away in handcuffs, not to return from prison until 32 years later. Bailey tells the story of their relationship and of his experience living in a family suffering from the guilt and shame of being associated with criminals. 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. What role did poverty, race, and faith play? What effect did their environment, living in the South along the Bible Belt, have? And why is their experience understood as a narrative trope for black men, while white criminals are never seen in this generalized way? My Brother Moochie provides a wide-ranging yet intensely intimate viewpoint of crime and incarceration in the United States, and the devastating effects they have on those who commit crimes, their loved ones, their victims, and society as a whole. It also offers hope for families caught in the incarceration trap: though the Bailey family’s lows have included prison and bearing the responsibility for multiple deaths, their highs have included Harvard University, the White House, and a renewed sense of pride and understanding that presents a path forward.

A 2019 FYE® Guest Speaker
**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.**

We meet a man from the barrios of Texas whose harrowing experiences in a family of migrant farmers inspired him to become a public defender. We meet a long-time waitress who takes pride in making regulars and newcomers alike feel at home in her Nashville diner. We meet a young man on the South Side of Chicago who became a teacher in order to help at-risk teenagers like the ones who killed his father get on the right track. We meet a woman from Little Rock who helps former inmates gain the skills and confidence they need to rejoin the workforce. *Callings* is an inspiring tribute to rewarding work and the American pursuit of happiness.

"Every one of the stories in this inspiring collection reveals the deep love that motivates the storytellers as they discover and embrace their vocations . . . . 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

**Selected for Common Reading at**
- Polk State College, Eastern Mennonite University, Berry College, Northeastern State University, Tablacleahok OK, Rivier University, Meredith College, Penn State New Kensington, Auburn University Montgomery, University of Houston - Clear Lake, University of South Carolina, Columbia, Texas A&M University, San Antonio, University of New Orleans, University of Toledo, Lebanon University, Mitchell College

**Dave Isay** is the founder of StoryCorps and the recipient of numerous broadcasting honors, including six Peabody awards, a MacArthur "Genius" Fellowship, and the 2015 TED Prize. He is the author/editor of numerous books that grew out of his public radio documentary work, including four StoryCorps books: *Listening Is an Act of Love* (2007), *Mom: A Celebration of Mothers from StoryCorps* (2010), *All There Is: Love Stories from StoryCorps* (2012), and *Ties That Bind: Stories of Love and Gratitude from the First Ten Years of StoryCorps* (2013).

**Website**: tiny.cc/dihiwy
**Video**: tiny.cc/bfypxy

For additional resources, including animated videos of stories from *Callings*, go to storycorps.org.
For information on how to download the StoryCorps app, go to storycorps.org/participate

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**Also Available:**

- **Listening Is an Act of Love**
  A Celebration of American Life from the StoryCorps Project
  Edited with an Introduction by Dave Isay
  *Penguin Books | TR* 978-0-14-311434-5
  320 pp. | $17.00/$19.00 Can.

- **Ties That Bind**
  Stories of Love and Gratitude from the First Ten Years of StoryCorps
  By Dave Isay
  *Penguin Books | TR* 978-0-14-312596-9
  224 pp. | $16.00/$21.00 Can.
The Girl Who Smiled Beads
A Story of War and What Comes After
By Clemantine Wamariya and Elizabeth Weil

Clemantine Wamariya was six years old when her mother and father began to speak in whispers, when neighbors began to disappear, and when she heard the loud, ugly sounds her brother said were thunder. In 1994, she and her 15-year-old sister, Claire, fled the Rwandan massacre and spent the next six years migrating through seven African countries, searching for safety—perpetually hungry, imprisoned and abused, enduring and escaping refugee camps, finding unexpected kindness, witnessing inhuman cruelty. They did not know whether their parents were dead or alive.

When Clemantine was 12, she and her sister were granted refugee status in the United States, there, in Chicago, their lives diverged. Though their bond remained unbreakable, Claire, who had for so long protected and provided for Clemantine, was a single mother struggling to make ends meet, while Clemantine was taken in by a family who raised her as their own. She seemed to live the American dream: attending private school, taking up cheerleading, and, ultimately, graduating from Yale. Yet the years of being treated as less than human, of going hungry and seeing death, could not be erased. She felt at the same time six years old and 100 years old.

In The Girl Who Smiled Beads, Clemantine provokes us to look beyond the label of “victim” and recognize the power of the imagination to transcend even the most profound injuries and aftershocks. Devastating yet beautiful, and bracingly original, it is a powerful testament to her commitment to constructing a life on her own terms.

“Like Ishmael Beah’s A Long Way Gone, on being a boy soldier in Sierra Leone, or Joseph Kim’s Under the Same Sky, on escaping North Korea, The Girl Who Smiled Beads is at once terrifying and life-affirming. And like those memoirs, it painstakingly describes the human cost of war.” —The Washington Post

Clemantine Wamariya is a storyteller and human rights advocate. Born in Kigali, Rwanda, and displaced by conflict, Clemantine migrated throughout seven African countries as a child. At age 12, she was granted refugee status in the United States and went on to receive a BA in Comparative Literature from Yale University. She lives in San Francisco.

Elizabeth Weil is a writer-at-large for The New York Times Magazine, a contributing editor to Outside magazine, and writes frequently for Vogue and other publications. She is the recipient of a New York Press Club Award for her feature reporting, a Lowell Thomas Award for her travel writing, and a GLAAD Award for her coverage of LGBT issues. In addition, her work has been a finalist for a National Magazine Award, a James Beard Award, and a Dart Award for coverage of trauma. She lives in San Francisco with her husband and two daughters.
Educated
A Memoir
By Tara Westover

Tara Westover was seventeen the first time she set foot in a classroom. Born to survivalists in the mountains of Idaho, she prepared for the end of the world by stockpiling home-canned peaches and sleeping with her “head-for-the-hills” bag. In the summer she stewed herbs for her mother, a midwife and healer, and in the winter she salvaged metal in her father’s junkyard.

Her father distrusted the medical establishment, so Tara never saw a doctor or nurse. Gashes and concussions, even burns from explosions, were all treated at home with herbalism. The 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 an older brother became violent.

When another brother got himself into college and came back with news of the world beyond the mountain, Tara decided to try a new kind of life. She taught herself enough mathematics, grammar, and science to take the ACT and was admitted to Brigham Young University. There, she studied psychology, politics, philosophy, and history, learning for the first time about pivotal world events like the Holocaust and the Civil Rights Movement. Her quest for knowledge transformed her, taking 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.

Educated is an account of the struggle for self-invention. It is a tale of fierce family loyalty, and of the grief that comes from severing one’s closest ties. With the acute insight that distinguishes all great writers, Westover has crafted a universal coming-of-age story that gets to the heart of what an education is and what it offers: the perspective to see one’s life through new eyes, and the will to change it.

Tara Westover was born in Idaho in 1986. She received her BA from Brigham Young University in 2008 and was subsequently awarded a Gates Cambridge Scholarship. She earned an MPhil from Trinity College, Cambridge, in 2009, and in 2010 was a visiting fellow at Harvard University. She returned to Cambridge, where she was awarded a PhD in history in 2014. Educated is her first book.

“A coming-of-age memoir reminiscent of The Glass Castle.”
—O: The Oprah Magazine

“The extremity of Westover’s upbringing emerges gradually through her telling, which only makes the telling more alluring and harrowing.”
—The New York Times Book Review
American Wolf
A True Story of Survival and Obsession in the West
By Nate Blakeslee

Before men ruled the earth, there were wolves. Once abundant in North America, these majestic creatures were hunted to near extinction in the lower 48 states by the 1920s. But in recent decades, conservationists have brought wolves back to the Rockies, igniting a battle over the very soul of the West.

With novelistic detail, Nate Blakeslee tells the gripping story of one of these wolves, O-Six, a charismatic alpha female named for the year of her birth. Uncommonly powerful, with gray fur and faint black ovals around each eye, O-Six is a kind and merciful leader, a fiercely intelligent fighter, and a doting mother. She is beloved by wolf watchers, particularly renowned naturalist Rick McIntyre, and becomes something of a social media star, with followers around the world.

But as she raises her pups and protects her pack, O-Six is challenged on all fronts: by hunters, who compete with wolves for the elk they both prize; by cattle ranchers who are losing livestock and have the ear of politicians; and by other Yellowstone wolves who are vying for control of the park’s stunningly beautiful Lamar Valley.

These forces collide in American Wolf, a riveting multigenerational saga of hardship and triumph that tells a larger story about the ongoing cultural clash in the West—between those fighting for a vanishing way of life and those committed to restoring one of the country’s most iconic landscapes.

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There Will Be No Miracles Here
A Memoir
By Casey Gerald

When Casey is recruited to play football at Yale, he enters a world he’s never dreamed of, the anteroom to secret societies and success on Wall Street, in Washington, and beyond. Looking from the inside out, Casey sees how the world crushes those who live at its margins and he sees, most painfully, how his own ascension is part of the scheme. There Will Be No Miracles Here has the arc of a classic rags-to-riches tale, but it stands the American Dream narrative on its head.

“This is the book for all of us who have juggled double (and triple, and quadruple) consciousnesses, and for those of us who have prayed to false gods and passed as false selves. Casey Gerald leads us through blackness and boyhood, love and masculinity, faith and privilege, on his journey toward the only self who could write these fierce and luminous pages. This book is fire.”—Danzy Senna, author of Caucasia and New People

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To request examination copies, email commonreads@prh.com
Uncensored
My Life and Uncomfortable Conversations at the Intersection of Black and White America
By Zachary R. Wood

Zachary Wood reveals for the first time how he grew up poor and black in Washington, DC, in an environment where the only way to survive was to resist the urge to write people off because of their backgrounds and their perspectives. By sharing his troubled upbringing—from a difficult early childhood filled with pain, uncertainty, and conflict to the struggles of code-switching between his home in a rough neighborhood and his elite private school—Zach makes a compelling argument for a new way of interacting with others, in a nation and a world that has never felt more polarized. In Uncensored, he hopes to foster a new outlook on society’s most difficult conversations, both on campus and beyond.

“This work provides a timely view of both political life on elite college campuses and the struggles of the working poor against the backdrop of institutional racism. It also explores, with bracing candor, Wood’s growth as a young writer and intellectual, whose mistakes are as formative as his successes. Wood’s memoir is a must-read for anyone concerned about the American promise of social mobility.”—Henry Louis Gates, Jr., Alphonse Fletcher University Professor, Harvard, and author of Life Upon These Shores

Brothers of the Gun
A Memoir of the Syrian War
By Marwan Hisham and Molly Crabapple
Illustrated by Molly Crabapple

In 2011, Marwan Hisham and his two friends—fellow working-class college students Nael and Tareq—joined the first protests of the Arab Spring in Syria, in response to a recent massacre. A long-bottled revolution was finally erupting, and freedom from a brutal dictator seemed, at last, imminent. Five years later, the three young friends were scattered: one now an Islamist revolutionary, another dead at the hands of government soldiers, and the last, Marwan, now a journalist in Turkish exile, trying to find a way back to a homeland reduced to rubble.

Marwan was there to witness and document firsthand the Syrian war, from its inception to the present. He watched from the rooftops as regime warplanes bombed soldiers; as revolutionary activist groups, for a few dreamy days, spray-painted hope on Raqqa; as his friends died or threw in their lot with Islamist fighters. He became a journalist by courageously tweeting out news from a city under siege by ISIS, the Russians, and the Americans all at once. He saw the country that ran through his veins—the country that held his hopes, dreams, and fears—be destroyed in front of him, and eventually joined the relentless stream of refugees risking their lives to escape.

Illustrated with more than eighty ink drawings by Molly Crabapple that bring to life the beauty and chaos, Brothers of the Gun offers a ground-level reflection on the Syrian revolution—and how it bled into international catastrophe and global war.
MEMOIR AND BIOGRAPHY

It’s What I Do
A Photographer’s Life of Love and War
By Lynsey Addario

Lynsey Addario was just finding her way as a young photographer when September 11 changed the world. She made a decision she would often find herself making—not to stay home, not to lead a quiet or predictable life, but to set out across the world, face the chaos of crisis, and make a name for herself—including the riveting story of her headline-making kidnapping by pro-Qaddafi forces in the Libyan civil war. Addario understands what she is documenting as a war photographer is more than just a snapshot of life on the front lines; it is witness to the human cost of war.

Themes: Life Skills; Current Events; Women’s Studies

SHOUT
By Laurie Halse Anderson

Inspired by her fans and enraged by how little in our culture has changed since her groundbreaking novel Speak was first published twenty years ago, Laurie Halse Anderson has written a poetry memoir that is as vulnerable as it is rallying, as timely as it is timeless. Searing and soul-searching, this important memoir is a denouncement of our society’s failures and a love letter to all the people with the courage to say #MeToo and #TimesUp, whether aloud, online, or only in their own hearts.

Themes: Coming-of-Age, Coping with Transitions/Change, Current Events, Identity, Women’s Studies

I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings
By Maya Angelou
Foreword by Oprah Winfrey

Here is a book as joyous and painful, as mysterious and memorable, as childhood itself. I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings captures the longing of lonely children, the brute insult of bigotry, and the wonder of words that can make the world right. Maya Angelou’s debut memoir is a modern American classic beloved worldwide.

"I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings liberates the reader into life simply because Maya Angelou confronts her own life with such a moving wonder, such a luminous dignity.”—James Baldwin

Themes: African-American Experience; Coming-of-Age, Diversity

How Does It Feel to Be a Problem?
Being Young and Arab in America
By Moustafa Bayoumi

An eye-opening look at how young Arab- and Muslim-Americans are forging lives for themselves in a country that often mistakes them for the enemy. Now with a new afterword from the author.

"Required reading for Americans . . . In a series of fascinating narratives about the horrors and conflicts young Muslim-Americans faced after 9/11, Bayoumi has written a work that is passionate, yet measured, humorous, and above all enlightening.”—Geneive Abdo, author of Mecca

Themes: Diversity, Immigration, Coming-of-Age, Identity

Website: tiny.cc/erbzzy
Video: tiny.cc/jgypxy

Selected for Common Reading at: Penn State, Penn State Lehigh

Penguin Books | TR
978-0-14-312841-0
368 pp. | $18.00/$24.00 Can.
EB: 978-1-101-59906-8

Website: http://tiny.cc/pafiwy
Video: http://tiny.cc/ek2hwy

Viking Books for Young Readers
HC | 978-0-670-01210-7
EB: 9780698195264
$10.99/$11.99 Can

Website: tiny.cc/AngelouFYE

Ballantine Books | MM
978-0-345-51440-0
EB: 978-1-58836-925-3

Random House Trade Paperbacks
TR | 978-0-8129-8002-8
304 pp. | $17.00/$20.00 Can.

Selected for Common Reading at: Berry College, Green River Community College, Luther College, and others

Website: tiny.cc/5siwy
Video: tiny.cc/xgypxy

Selected for Common Reading at Rider College, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill; South Dakota State University, Salem State University, Carlow University, Northern Kentucky University, University of North Carolina, Charlotte; University of South Carolina, Brooklyn College, and more

Penguin Books | TR
978-0-14-311541-0
320 pp. | $17.00/$19.00 Can.
EB: 978-1-101-66655-5
A Question of Freedom
A Memoir of Learning, Survival, and Coming of Age in Prison
By Dwayne Betts

At the age of sixteen, R. Dwayne Betts—a good student from a lower-middle-class family—served his nine-year sentence for carjacking as part of the adult population in some of the worst prisons in the state. *A Question of Freedom* chronicles Betts’s years in prison, reflecting back on his crime and looking ahead to how his experiences and the books he discovered while incarcerated would define him.

“A reminder that a black boy can turn his world around. This book will unlock your compassion.”—E. Ethelbert Miller, Howard University

Themes: African-American Experience; Crime & Justice; Diversity; Identity

She’s Not There
A Life in Two Genders
By Jennifer Finney Boylan
With an Afterword by Richard Russo

The provocative bestseller *She’s Not There* is the winning, utterly surprising story of a person changing genders. Author Jennifer Finney Boylan explores the territory that lies between men and women, examines changing friendships, and rejoices in the redeeming power of family.

“Jennifer Finney Boylan is an exquisite writer with a fascinating story, and this combination has resulted in one of the most remarkable, moving and unforgettable memoirs in recent history.”—Augusten Burroughs, author of *Running with Scissors* and *Dry*

Themes: Diversity; Identity; Women’s Studies

Raising Wild
Dispatches from a Home in the Wilderness
By Michael P. Branch

In this exhilarating, lyrical, and humorous exploration of natural history, author Michael P. Branch reveals a desert wilderness in which our ideas about nature and ourselves are challenged and transformed.

“With *Raising Wild*, Michael Branch turns his sharp mind and big heart to the subject of domestic wilderness—life with his wife and daughters in the high desert. Reading Branch’s prose is like attending a great and raucous party. . . . A profound and moving book that just might change some lives.”—David Gessner, author of *All the Wild that Remains*

Themes: Life Skills; Identity

Shooting Ghosts
A U.S. Marine, a Combat Photographer, and Their Journey Back from War
By Thomas J. Brennan, USMC (Ret.), and Finbarr O’Reilly

This joint memoir by a U.S. Marine and a conflict photographer, told in alternating first-person narratives, is about how two unlikely friends navigated the psychological aftershocks of war.

“An extraordinarily honest and courageous book that takes the reader on a journey through the darkest days of despair, then along the path to rediscovering purpose in life.”—Emma Sky, Yale University

Themes: Current Events; Life Skills; Identity; Coping with Transitions/Change
I Should Have Honor
A Memoir of Hope and Pride in Pakistan
By Khalida Brohi

“Khalida Brohi’s powerful storytelling exposes the little-known world of tribal Pakistan and the injustices facing women there. With insight and determination, she explores the most entrenched social customs facing women today and shares her secrets for innovation, impact, and success. This story is timely not just for those who care about women’s rights but for anyone involved in activism, community mobilization, and social entrepreneurship.”
—Arianna Huffington, founder, HuffPost and founder and CEO, Thrive Global

Boy Erased
A Memoir of Identity, Faith, and Family
By Garrard Conley

As a nineteen-year-old college student, Garrard Conley, the son of a Baptist pastor, was outed to his parents and forced to make a life-changing decision: either agree to attend a church-supported conversion therapy program that promised to “cure” him of homosexuality; or risk losing family, friends, and the God he had prayed to every day of his life. Even when faced with a harrowing and brutal journey, Conley found the strength and understanding to break out in search of his true self and forgiveness.

The Terrible
A Storyteller’s Memoir
By Yrsa Daley-Ward

From Yrsa Daley-Ward, the celebrated poet behind bone, a lyrical memoir about all the things that happened—even the terrible things. And God, there were terrible things.” Daley-Ward confronts her childhood in the northwest of England with her beautiful, careworn mother Marcia; the man formerly known as Dad (half fun, half frightening); and her little brother Roo, who sees things written in the stars.

“...a coming-of-age memoir . . . of particular lyricism and bracing honesty.”—The New York Times Book Review

Passing for Human
A Graphic Memoir
By Liana Finck

A visually arresting graphic memoir about a young artist struggling against what’s expected of her as a woman, and learning to accept her true self, from an acclaimed New Yorker cartoonist.

“A sure hit for readers of graphic memoirs.”—Annie Bostrom, Booklist

“Passing for Human is one of the most extraordinary memoirs I’ve ever read. It’s a story about becoming a person, about creativity, about love, all told with originality and grace. An amazing, amazing book.”—Roz Chast, author of Can’t We Talk About Something More Pleasant?
Shoot Like a Girl
One Woman’s Dramatic Fight in Afghanistan and on the Home Front
By Mary Jennings Hegar

“From her decorated service in Afghanistan to the courtrooms on the home front, MJ Hegar’s story is one of incredible courage, patriotism, ambition, and resilience. Shoot Like a Girl is not only an excellent read, but more important also a book of great historical and academic significance. It is simply a must read for anyone interested in military culture and the integration of women in military organizations.”—Robert Egnell, Swedish Defence University.

Themes: Women’s Studies; Current Events; Diversity

Wine to Water
How One Man Saved Himself While Trying to Save the World
By Doc Hendley

At just twenty-five years old, Doc was inexperienced, untrained, and in constant danger—but he stepped up to save lives. Alternatively begging international organizations for funding and dodging trigger-happy Janjaweed, Doc began drilling and repairing wells, bringing drinking water to those who desperately needed it. Wine to Water is his story about braving tribal warfare in far-flung regions of the world, and an inspirational tale of how one ordinary person can make a difference.

Themes: Altruism; Current Events; Economic Inequality

Patriot Number One
American Dreams in Chinatown
By Lauren Hilgers

Under the alias Patriot Number One, Zhuang Liehong stoked a series of pro-democracy protests in Southern China, hoping to change his home for the better. Instead, sensing an impending crackdown, Zhuang and his wife, Little Yan, left their infant son with relatives and traveled to America. Hilgers follows this dauntless family through the joys and indignities of building a life in a new country—and the stubborn allure of the American dream.

 “[A] clear-eyed, humane look at modern immigration. . . . The result is a quintessentially American story of exile and renewal.”—Publishers Weekly (starred review)

Themes: Economic Inequality; Immigration

When Breath Becomes Air
By Paul Kalanithi
Foreword by Abraham Verghese

At the age of 36, on the verge of completing a decade’s worth of training as a neurosurgeon, Paul Kalanithi was diagnosed with stage IV lung cancer. And just like that, the future he and his wife had imagined evaporated.

A deeply humane, inspiring memoir by a young neurosurgeon faced with a terminal diagnosis that attempts to answer the questions: given that all organisms die, what makes a meaningful life? And, as a doctor, what does it mean to hold mortal—and moral—responsibility for another person’s identity?

Themes: Coping with Transitions/Change; Health & Medicine

Selected for Common Reading at: Utah State University
**Orange Is the New Black**  
My Year in a Women’s Prison  
*By Piper Kerman*

With a career, a boyfriend, and a loving family, Piper Kerman barely resembles the reckless young woman who delivered a suitcase of drug money 10 years before. But that past has caught up with her. Convicted and sentenced to 15 months at the infamous federal correctional facility in Danbury, Connecticut, the well-heeled Smith College alumna is now inmate #11187–424—one of the millions of people who disappear “down the rabbit hole” of the American penal system.

**Mountains Beyond Mountains**  
The Quest of Dr. Paul Farmer, a Man Who Would Cure the World  
*By Tracy Kidder*

Pulitzer Prize winner Tracy Kidder tells the true story of medical genius Paul Farmer and shows how one person can effect global progress against seemingly impossible problems—TB, AIDS, poverty—with creativity, knowledge, and determination.

“Inspiring, disturbing, daring and completely absorbing.”—*New York Times Book Review*

An ALA Notable Book; A *New York Times* Notable Book

**Strength in What Remains**  
*By Tracy Kidder*

The story of one man’s inspiring American journey and of the ordinary people who helped him, providing brilliant testament to the power of second chances. Deo arrives in the United States from Burundi, having survived a civil war and genocide, and ekes out a precarious existence delivering groceries, living in Central Park, and learning English by reading dictionaries in bookstores. Then Deo begins to meet the strangers who will change his life, pointing him eventually in the direction of Columbia University, medical school, and a life devoted to healing.

*New York Times* Bestseller; Finalist, National Book Critics Circle Award

**Hidden America**  
From Coal Miners to Cowboys, an Extraordinary Exploration of the Unseen People Who Make This Country Work  
*By Jeanne Marie Laskas*

Award-winning journalist Jeanne Marie Laskas reveals profiles of America’s working class—such as miners, air traffic controllers, truckers, cheerleaders, and beef ranchers—the forgotten men and women who make our country run.

“She doesn’t just interview the people who dig our coal and extract our oil, she goes deep into the mines and tundra with them. With beauty, wit, curiosity, and grace, she finds the hidden soul of America.”—Rebecca Skloot, author of *The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks*
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. 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?

"Inspiring . . . a story for our times."—Alex Kotlowitz, author of There Are No Children Here

Winner of the Black Caucus of the ALA Literary Award for Nonfiction; A Booklist Top 10 Black History Nonfiction Book

Website: tiny.cc/WesMooreVideo

Selected for Common Reading at more than 50 colleges including: Albany State University; Ball State; Colorado School of Mines; Florida State University; Parkland College; Tufts University; University of Buffalo; Villanova University. To view the complete list, go to tinyurl.com/OtherWesMoore

Spiegel & Grau | TR
978-0-385-52820-7
272 pp. | $16.00/$21.00 Can.
EB: 978-1-58836-969-7

The Last Girl
My Story of Captivity, and My Fight Against the Islamic State
By Nadia Murad
Foreword by Amal Clooney

Nadia Murad’s story—as a witness to the Islamic State’s brutality, a survivor of rape, a refugee, a Yazidi—has forced the world to pay attention to the ongoing genocide in Iraq. It is a call to action, a testament to the human will to survive, and a love letter to a lost country, a fragile community, and a family torn apart by war.

“A devastating yet ultimately inspiring memoir that doubles as an urgent call to action.”—Kirkus Reviews

Website: tiny.cc/MuradFYE

New York Times Editors’ Choice

Themes: Current Events; Women’s Studies

In Order to Live
A North Korean Girl’s Journey to Freedom
By Yeonmi Park with Maryanne Vollers

Yeonmi Park, who escaped from North Korea as a child, shines a light into the darkest corners of life in North Korea, describing the deprivation and deception she endured and which millions of North Korean people continue to endure to this day. In intimate and devastating detail, she tells the harrowing story of her escape and the enormous price she had to pay for her freedom.

“An eloquent, wrenchingly honest work that vividly represents the plight of many North Koreans.”—Kirkus Reviews

Website: tiny.cc/6n3hwy

In Order to Live
A North Korean Girl’s Journey to Freedom
By Yeonmi Park with Maryanne Vollers

Themes: Women’s Studies; Current Events; Immigration; Coming-of-Age

The Underground Girls of Kabul
In Search of a Hidden Resistance in Afghanistan
By Jenny Nordberg

In Afghanistan, the birth of a boy is cause for celebration and the arrival of a girl is viewed as a misfortune. A bacha posh—meaning “dressed up like a boy”—is a girl temporarily raised as a boy. Investigative journalist Jenny Nordberg constructs a powerful and moving account of those who live as the socially favored gender through childhood and puberty, only to be later forced into marriage and childbirth.

Website: tiny.cc/NordbergFYE

Selected for Common Reading at: Northern Arizona University; Georgian Court University; Illinois Wesleyan University

Themes: Economic Inequality; Women’s Studies

In Order to Live
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A North Korean Girl’s Journey to Freedom
By Yeonmi Park with Maryanne Vollers

Themes: Women’s Studies; Current Events; Immigration; Coming-of-Age
**Acts of Faith**  
The Story of an American Muslim, in the Struggle for the Soul of a Generation  
*By Eboo Patel*

*Acts of Faith* is Eboo Patel’s remarkable account of coming-of-age and coming to understand what led him toward religious pluralism rather than hatred. His story is a hopeful and moving testament to the power and passion of young people, and to the notion that we find the fulfillment of our identities in the work we do in the world.

“A beautifully written story of discovery and hope.”—President Bill Clinton

**Undocumented**  
A Dominican Boy’s Odyssey from a Homeless Shelter to the Ivy League  
*By Dan-el Padilla Peralta*

“Should be required reading for every congressman addressing legislation on immigration and for anyone who believes the American dream should not be a nightmare for those who are now faceless, homeless, and helpless in our midst. It should be required reading in our schools, not just to educate the new leaders of America on these issues, but to inspire them to tell lively stories that captivate the imagination, inform the mind, and move the heart to act.”—Julia Alvarez, author of *How the Garcia Girls Lost Their Accent*.

**On Edge**  
A Journey Through Anxiety  
*By Andrea Petersen*

Andrea Petersen was first diagnosed with an anxiety disorder as a student at the age of 20, but she later realized that she had been experiencing panic attacks since childhood. With time her symptoms multiplied. Although having a name for her condition was an enormous relief, it was only the beginning of a journey to understand and master it—one that took her from psychiatrists’ offices to yoga retreats to the Appalachian Trail.

Woven into Petersen’s personal story is a fascinating look at the biology of anxiety and the groundbreaking research that might point the way to new treatments.

**A Girl’s Guide to Missiles**  
Growing Up in America’s Secret Desert  
*By Karen Piper*

Piper’s memoir looks at the belief systems that governed their lives but also searches for the truth of the past and what really brought her parents to China Lake—a missile range in the Mojave Desert, about the size of the state of Delaware—with two young daughters, a story that reaches back to her father’s World War II flights with contraband across Europe. Finally, it recounts the crossroads moment in a young woman’s life when she finally found a way out of a culture of secrets and fear, and out of the desert.
MEMOIR AND BIOGRAPHY

Look Me in the Eye
My Life with Asperger’s
By John Elder Robison

Ever since he was young, John Robison longed to connect with other people, but by the time he was a teenager, his odd habits had earned him the label “social deviant.” It was not until he was 40 that he was diagnosed with Asperger’s syndrome. That understanding transformed the way he saw himself—and the world. A born storyteller, Robison has written a moving, darkly funny memoir about a life that has taken him from developing exploding guitars for KISS to building a family of his own. It’s a strange, sly, indelible account—sometimes alien yet always deeply human.

Themes: Coming-of-Age, Diversity

Writing My Wrongs
Life, Death, and Redemption in an American Prison
By Shaka Senghor

The story of Shaka Senghor’s 19-year prison sentence is a narrative of forgiveness and redemption as well as a testament to the need for reform in the face of America’s mass incarceration epidemic.

“This beautiful and compelling story of recovery and redemption offers all of us powerful truths and precious insights as we seek recovery from decades of over-incarceration and excessive punishment.”—Bryan Stevenson, founder of the Equal Justice Initiative and author of Just Mercy

Themes: African-American Experience; Crime & Justice

A Hope in the Unseen
An American Odyssey from the Inner City to the Ivy League
By Ron Suskind

In this updated edition, Ron Suskind tells the story of Cedric Jennings, an African-American teenager who is ferociously determined to study his way out of the inner city and get his piece of the American dream. Suskind follows Jennings from his early years in high school through his difficult first year at Brown University, and his subsequent successes in college and the world of work.

Themes: African-American Experience; Economic Inequality

The Bosnia List
A Memoir of War, Exile, and Return
By Kenan Trebincevic and Susan Shapiro

This poignant memoir chronicles Kenan’s miraculous escape from the brutal ethnic cleansing campaign that swept the former Yugoslavia. After two decades in the United States, Kenan honors his father’s wish to visit their homeland where he finds something more powerful than revenge.

“With understated elegance, Kenan Trebincevic illuminates how the Bosnian tragedy blighted, and continues to blight, the lives of countless people in his homeland . . . This important and original work reminds us of the long half-life of an atrocity.”—David Margolick, bestselling author of Elizabeth and Hazel

Themes: Current Events; Immigration; Coming-of-Age; Crime + Justice
Memoirs of a Born Free
Reflections on the New South Africa
by a Member of the Post-apartheid Generation
By Malaika wa Azania; foreword by Simphiwe Dana

Apartheid isn’t over—so Malaika Wa Azania boldly argues in Memoirs of a Born Free, her account of growing up black in modern-day South Africa. Malaika was born as the white minority government was on its way out, making her a “Born Free”—the name given to the generation born after the end of apartheid. Recounting her upbringing in a black township racked by poverty and disease, she takes us through her anger and disillusionment with the myth of black liberation to the birth and development of her dedication to the black consciousness movement.

Losing My Cool
Love, Literature, and a Black Man’s Escape from the Crowd
By Thomas Chatterton Williams

Williams is the first of his generation to measure the seductive power of hip-hop against its restrictive worldview, which ultimately leaves those who live it powerless. Even more remarkably, Williams evokes the subtle salvation that literature offers and recounts with breathtaking clarity a burgeoning bond between father and son.

“Losing My Cool starts out as an explicit argument about ‘loss of discipline and spirit in the hip-hop era’ and shifts into an engaging, well-written memoir.”—Jabari Asim, Washington Post

The Master Plan
My Journey from Life in Prison to a Life of Purpose
By Chris Wilson with Bret Witter
Foreword by Wes Moore

At 18, Chris Wilson was sentenced to life in prison with no hope of parole. Deciding to make something of his life, he wrote his Master Plan: a list of all he expected to accomplish or acquire. Today, Chris is the embodiment of second chances, and this is his unforgettable story.

“Less of a roadmap and more of a philosophy that we should all take to heart … our sense of justice should honor the redemptive possibilities inherent in every person.”—Wes Moore, author of The Other Wes Moore

Brown Girl Dreaming
By Jacqueline Woodson

Raised in South Carolina and New York, Woodson always felt halfway home in each place. In vivid poems, she shares what it was like to grow up as an African-American in the 1960s and 1970s, living with the remnants of Jim Crow and her growing awareness of the Civil Rights movement. Woodson’s eloquent poetry also reflects the joy of finding her voice through writing stories, despite the fact that she struggled with reading as a child. Her love of stories inspired her and stayed with her, creating the first sparks of the gifted writer she was to become.
The Line Becomes a River
Dispatches from the Border
By Francisco Cantú

A former Border Patrol agent’s haunting experience of an unnatural divide and the lives caught on either side, struggling to cross or to defend it.

For Francisco Cantú, the border is in the blood. His mother, a second-generation Mexican American, raised him in Arizona’s desert scrublands and the national parks where she worked as a ranger, driven to protect the places she loved. Haunted by the landscape of his youth, Cantú joins the Border Patrol. He detains the exhausted, the parched, huddled children yearning for their families. He hauls in the bodies from where they have fallen.

Plagued by nightmares, Cantú abandons the Patrol for civilian life. But when a friend, a regular at the café where he works, travels back to Mexico to visit his dying mother and does not return, Cantú discovers that the border and its stories have migrated with him.

“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

Francisco Cantú served as an agent for the United States Border Patrol from 2008 to 2012, working in the deserts of Arizona, New Mexico, and Texas. A former Fulbright fellow, he is the recipient of a Pushcart Prize and a 2017 Whiting Award. His writing and translations have been featured in Best American Essays, Harper’s, n+1, Orion, and Guernica, as well as on This American Life. He lives in Tucson.

Website: tiny.cc/mhgkwy
Video: tiny.cc/a9ypxy

"A beautiful, fiercely honest, and nevertheless deeply empathetic look at those who police the border and the migrants who risk—and lose—their lives crossing it. In a time of often ill-informed or downright deceitful political rhetoric, this book is an invaluable corrective.”
—Phil Klay, author of Redeployment
The Far Away Brothers
Two Young Migrants and the Making of an American Life

By Lauren Markham

The deeply reported story of identical twin brothers who escape El Salvador’s violence to build new lives in California—fighting to survive, to stay, and to belong.

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 way across the Rio Grande and the Texas desert, into the hands of immigration authorities, and from there to their estranged older brother in Oakland, CA. Soon these unaccompanied minors are navigating school in a new language, working to pay down their mounting coyote debt, and facing their day in immigration court, while also encountering the triumphs and pitfalls of teenage life with only each other for support. With intimate access and breathtaking range, Markham offers an unforgettable testament to the migrant experience.

Named One of the Best Books of the Year by The New York Times Book Review; Winner of the Ridenhour Book Prize; Finalist for Los Angeles Times Book Prize; Shortlisted for the J. Anthony Lukas Book Prize

Video: tiny.cc/MarkhamFYEVideo

Futureface
A Family Mystery, an Epic Quest, and the Secret to Belonging

By Alex Wagner

Alex Wagner has always been fascinated by stories of exile and migration. Her father’s ancestors immigrated to the United States from Ireland and Luxembourg. Her mother fled Rangoon in the 1960s, escaping Burma’s military dictatorship. In her professional life, Wagner reported from the Arizona-Mexico border, where agents, drones, cameras, and military hardware guarded the line between two nations. She listened to debates about whether the United States should be a melting pot or a salad bowl. She knew that moving from one land to another—and the accompanying recombination of individual and tribal identities—was the story of America.

When a cousin’s offhand comment threw a mystery into her personal story—introducing the possibility of an exciting new twist in her already complex family history—Wagner was suddenly awakened to her own deep hunger to be something, to belong, to have an identity that mattered, a tribe of her own. So she set off on a quest to find the truth about her family history.

As she gets closer to solving the mystery of her own ancestry, she begins to grapple with a deeper question: Does it matter? Is our enduring obsession with blood and land, race and identity, worth all the trouble it’s caused us? The answers can be found in this deeply personal account of her search for belonging, a meditation on the things that define us as insiders and outsiders and make us think in terms of “us” and “them.” In this time of conflict over who we are as a country, when so much emphasis is placed on ethnic, religious, and national divisions, Futureface constructs a narrative where we all belong.

Video: tiny.cc/WagnerVideo

To request examination copies, email commonreads@prh.com
“They Take Our Jobs!”
And 20 Other Myths about Immigration, Expanded Edition
By Aviva Chomsky

“They Take Our Jobs!” challenges the underlying assumptions that fuel misinformed claims about immigrants, radically altering our notions of citizenship, discrimination, and US history. With fresh material including a new introduction, revised timeline, and updated terminology section, this expanded edition is essential reading for anyone who wants to understand how these myths are used to promote aggressive anti-immigrant policies.

Crux
A Cross-Border Memoir
By Jean Guerrero

In this lyrical, haunting memoir, Jean Guerrero tries to locate the border between truth and fantasy as she searches for explanations for her father’s erratic and elusive behavior. In the tradition of engrossing family memoirs like The Liar’s Club and The Glass Castle, Crux is both a riveting adventure story and a profoundly original exploration of the human psyche, the mysteries of our most intimate relationships—and ourselves.

An American Family
A Memoir of Hope and Sacrifice
By Khizr Khan

This inspiring memoir by the Muslim American Gold Star father and captivating DNC speaker is the story of one family’s pursuit of the American dream.

“An American Family holds its own alongside other fine memoirs of immigration and would be an inspired addition to any college or high school syllabus. The Gold Star father who spoke so movingly at the 2016 Democratic National Convention is just as affecting on the page.”—Shelf Awareness (starred review)

Behold the Dreamers
(Elseah’s Book Club)
A Novel
By Imbolo Mbue

A compulsively readable debut novel about marriage, immigration, class, race, and the trapdoors in the American Dream—the unforgettable story of a young Cameroonian couple making a new life in New York just as the Great Recession upends the economy.

Named one of the best books of the year by The New York Times, The Washington Post, Kirkus Reviews, NPR, San Francisco Chronicle, The Guardian, St. Louis Dispatch; An Oprah’s Book Club Selection; Winner of the PEN/Faulkner Award

Themes: Coping with Transitions/Change; Economic Inequality; Immigration; World Fiction

Themes: Immigration; Current Events

Themes: Current Events; Immigration

Themes: Current Events; Diversity; Immigration

Themes: Diversity; Immigration

Themes: Coping with Transitions/Change; Economic Inequality; Immigration; World Fiction

Themes: Current Events; Immigration

Website: tiny.cc/GuerreroFYE
Video: tiny.cc/GuerreroVideo

Website: tiny.cc/KhanVideo

Website: tiny.cc/MbueFYE
Video: tiny.cc/MbueVideoFYE

Selected for Common Reading at: Nassau Community College; New York University
Enrique’s Journey: The Story of a Boy’s Dangerous Odyssey to Reunite with His Mother
By Sonia Nazario

Enrique’s Journey is an award-winning and timely account of one anguished family’s experience with an issue of international scope and urgency—illegal immigration—but it is also a timeless, mythic story of a dangerous journey undertaken to make a broken family whole.

“This portrait of poverty and family ties has the potential to reshape American conversations about immigration.”
—Kirkus Reviews (starred review)

Detained and Deported: Stories of Immigrant Families Under Fire
By Margaret Regan

Compelling and heart-wrenching, Detained and Deported offers a rare glimpse into the lives of people ensnared in America’s immigration dragnet. Drawing on years of reporting in the Arizona-Mexico borderlands, journalist Margaret Regan tells their poignant stories. Inside the massive Eloy Detention Center, a for-profit private prison in Arizona, she meets detainee Yolanda Fontes, a mother separated from her three small children. In a Nogales soup kitchen, deportee Gustavo Sanchez, a young father who’d lived in Phoenix since the age of eight, agonizes about the risks of the journey back.

Outcasts United: An American Town, a Refugee Team, and One Woman’s Quest to Make a Difference
By Warren St. John

Outcasts United is the story of a refugee soccer team, a remarkable woman coach, and a small Southern town turned upside down by the process of refugee resettlement.

"Not merely about soccer, St. John’s book teaches readers about the social and economic difficulties of adapting to a new culture and the challenges facing a town with a new and disparate population. Despite their cultural and religious differences and the difficulty of adaptation, the Fugees came together to play soccer. This wonderful, poignant book is highly recommended.”—Library Journal (starred review)

We Built the Wall: How the U.S. Keeps Out Asylum Seekers from Mexico, Central America and Beyond
By Eileen Truax
Translated by Diane Stockwell

From a storefront law office in the US border city of El Paso, Texas, one man set out to tear down the great wall of indifference raised between the US and Mexico. Carlos Spector, a Mexican-American lawyer, has led hundreds of political asylum cases on behalf of human rights defenders, journalists, and political dissidents. We Built the Wall is an immersive, engrossing look at the new front in the immigration wars.
Thirst
A Story of Redemption, Compassion, and a Mission to Bring Clean Water to the World
By Scott Harrison

An inspiring personal story of redemption, second chances, and the transformative power within us all, from the founder and CEO of the nonprofit charity: water.

At 28 years old, Scott Harrison had it all. A top nightclub promoter in New York City, his life was an endless cycle of drugs, booze, models—repeat. But 10 years in, desperately unhappy and morally bankrupt, he asked himself, “What would the exact opposite of my life look like?” Walking away from everything, Harrison spent the next 16 months on a hospital ship in West Africa and discovered his true calling. In 2006, with no money and less than no experience, Harrison founded charity: water. Today, his organization has raised over $300 million to bring clean drinking water to more than 8.2 million people around the globe.

In Thirst, Harrison recounts the twists and turns that built charity: water into one of the most trusted and admired nonprofits in the world. Renowned for its 100% donation model, bold storytelling, imaginative branding, and radical commitment to transparency, charity: water has disrupted how social entrepreneurs work while inspiring millions of people to join its mission of bringing clean water to everyone on the planet within our lifetime.

In the tradition of such bestselling books as Shoe Dog and Mountains Beyond Mountains, Thirst is a riveting account of how to build a better charity, a better business, a better life—and a gritty tale that proves it’s never too late to make a change.

“Thirst is a story about all of us. In sharing his own remarkable journey, Scott shows us how to find the extraordinary in the ordinary, how to find hope in despair, and how simple acts of generosity can transform everything from what we believe about ourselves to how we connect with each other. In the end, Thirst is about what matters most. Love.”—Brené Brown, PhD, author of the #1 New York Times bestseller, Braving the Wilderness

Scott Harrison is the founder and CEO of charity: water, a non-profit that has mobilized over one million donors around the world to fund over 28,000 water projects in 26 countries that will serve more than 8.2 million people. Harrison has been recognized on Fortune’s 40 under 40 list, Forbes’ Impact 30 list, and was ranked #10 in Fast Company’s 100 Most Creative People in Business. He is currently a World Economic Forum Young Global Leader and lives in New York City with his wife and two children.

Website: tiny.cc/HarrisonFYE
Video: tiny.cc/HarrisonVideo

100% of the author’s net proceeds from Thirst will go to fund charity: water projects around the world.
American Prison
A Reporter’s Undercover Journey into the Business of Punishment

By Shane Bauer

Shane Bauer was hired for $9 an hour to work as an entry-level prison guard at a private prison in Winnfield, Louisiana. An award-winning investigative journalist, he used his real name; there was no meaningful background check. Four months later, his employment came to an abrupt end. But he had seen enough, and in short order he wrote an exposé about his experiences that won a National Magazine Award and became the most-read feature in the history of the magazine Mother Jones. But he had more to say. American Prison is a ground-breaking and brave inside reckoning with the nexus of prison and profit in America, in one Louisiana prison and over the course of our country’s history.

“Deprivation, abuse, and fear oppress inmates and guards alike in this hard-hitting exposé of the for-profit prison industry . . . A gripping indictment of a bad business.”
—Publishers Weekly (starred review)

“Shane Bauer reports in the best way a journalist can: by going into a prison himself . . . . With this braid of history and reportage Bauer reveals the criminal nature of private prisons, a world of pain that is also a business. His is a beautiful rage.”
—Ted Conover, Pulitzer Prize finalist and director of the Arthur L. Carter Journalism Institute of New York University

Tales of Two Americas
Stories of Inequality in a Divided Nation

By John Freeman, editor

Thirty-six 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

“Each contribution stands out. Each voice is unique. The only common threads in the collection are theme and excellence . . . This anthology is spectacular and devastating and provocative.”
—Minneapolis Star Tribune

Selected for Common Reading at Alfred University

Video: tiny.cc/67ypxy
The Coddling of the American Mind
How Good Intentions and Bad Ideas Are Setting Up a Generation for Failure

By Greg Lukianoff and Jonathan Haidt

First Amendment expert Greg Lukianoff and social psychologist Jonathan Haidt show how the new problems on campus have their origins in three terrible ideas that have become increasingly woven into American childhood and education: What doesn’t kill you makes you weaker; always trust your feelings; and life is a battle between good people and evil people.

"No one is omniscient or infallible, so a willingness to evaluate new ideas is vital to understanding our world. Yet universities, which ought to be forums for open debate, are developing a reputation for dogmatism and intolerance. Haidt and Lukianoff, distinguished advocates of freedom of expression, offer a deep analysis of what’s going wrong on campus, and how we can hold universities to their highest ideals.”—Steven Pinker, professor, Harvard University, and author of Enlightenment Now

On the Other Side of Freedom
The Case for Hope

By DeRay Mckesson

From the internationally recognized civil rights activist/organizer and host of the podcast Pod Save the People, continues a conversation about activism, resistance, and justice that embraces our nation’s complex history, he dissects how deliberate oppression persists, how racial injustice strips our lives of promise, and how technology has added a new dimension to mass action and social change. He argues that our best efforts to combat injustice have been stunted by the belief that racism’s wounds are history, and suggests that intellectual purity has curtailed optimistic realism. The book offers a new framework and language for understanding the nature of oppression. With it, we can begin charting a course to dismantle the obvious and subtle structures that limit freedom.

"By turns lyrical reflection and practical handbook, On the Other Side of Freedom reveals the mind and motivations of a young man who has risen to the fore of millennial activism through study, discipline, and conviction.”—Henry Louis Gates, Jr.

"Mckesson and a core group of other activists have built the most formidable American protest movement of the 21st century to date”—The New York Times
A False Report
A True Story of Rape in America
By T. Christian Miller and Ken Armstrong
Two Pulitzer Prize–winning journalists tell the riveting true story of Marie, a teenager who was charged with lying about having been raped, and the detectives who followed a winding path to arrive at the truth.

On August 11, 2008, 18-year-old Marie reported that a masked man broke into her apartment near Seattle, Washington, and raped her. Within days police and even those closest to Marie became suspicious of her story. The police swiftly pivoted and began investigating Marie. Confronted with inconsistencies in her story and the doubts of others, Marie broke down and said her story was a lie—a bid for attention. Police charged Marie with false reporting, and she was branded a liar.

Based on investigative files and extensive interviews with the principals, A False Report is a serpentine tale of doubt, lies, and a hunt for justice, unveiling the disturbing truth of how sexual assault is investigated today—and the long history of skepticism toward rape victims.

“Gripping . . . . [Contains a] John Grisham-worthy twist . . . . Though stranger rape isn’t the norm for sexual assault, or the focus of the sexual misconduct fueling the #MeToo moment in which this book appears, it offers broadly relevant lessons . . . Miller and Armstrong tell their story plainly, expertly and well.”—Emily Bazelon, New York Times Book Review

Not Quite Not White
Losing and Finding Race in America
By Sharmila Sen
A first-generation immigrant’s exploration of race and assimilation in the United States, an American’s journey into the heart of not-whiteness. Part memoir, part manifesto, first-generation immigrant Sharmila Sen explores race and assimilation in the United States—a witty and sharply honest story of discovering that not-whiteness can be the very thing that makes us American.

“In this intimate, passionate look at race in America, Sen considers the price paid by nonwhite immigrants who try to become white, while always wearing a smiling face. Her provocative solution is for people like us to defiantly embrace not being white. That feels just right to me.”—Viet Thanh Nguyen, Pulitzer Prize–winning author of The Sympathizer and The Refugees

“This important book dares to call out the hypocrisies of the current racialized order and imagines another future for our children’s generation.”—Kushanava Choudhury, author of The Epic City

To request examination copies, email commonreads@prh.com
**Political Tribes**

*Group Instinct and the Fate of Nations*

*By Amy Chua*

Yale Law School professor Amy Chua examines the role of group identities—ethnic, religious, sectarian, and clan-based—in political violence and conflict around the globe and at home, arguing that a misunderstanding of political tribalism lies at the heart of many of our foreign policy failures as well as domestic partisan strife.

“Brilliant, timeless and timely . . . Concisely explains the forces that made our experiences in Vietnam, Afghanistan, and Iraq so maddeningly difficult to comprehend, and brings that same thoughtful analysis to America today.”—General Stanley McChrystal, U.S. Army (Ret.).

**Themes:** Identity; Current Events; Immigration; Religion & Spirituality

**Website:** [tiny.cc/4mgkwy](http://tiny.cc/4mgkwy)

**Video:** [tiny.cc/59ypxy](http://tiny.cc/59ypxy)

**By Amy Chua**

**Penguin Press | HC**

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**Between the World and Me**

*By Ta-Nehisi Coates*

In a 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.

“This is required reading.”—Toni Morrison

“Eloquent . . . in the tradition of James Baldwin with echoes of Ralph Ellison’s *Invisible Man* . . . an autobiography of the black body in America.”—The Boston Globe

#1 New York Times Bestseller; National Book Award Winner for Nonfiction

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**Spiegel & Grau | TR**

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**Evicted**

*Poverty and Profit in the American City*

*By Matthew Desmond*

In *Evicted*, Princeton sociologist and MacArthur “Genius” Matthew Desmond follows eight families in Milwaukee as they struggle to keep a roof over their heads. Hailed as “wrenching and revelatory” (*The Nation*), “vivid and unsettling” (*New York Review of Books*), *Evicted* transforms our understanding of poverty and economic exploitation while providing fresh ideas for solving one of 21st-century America’s most devastating problems. Its unforgettable scenes of hope and loss remind us of the centrality of home, without which nothing else is possible.

Winner of the 2017 Pulitzer Prize for General Nonfiction; Andrew Carnegie Medal for Excellence in Nonfiction; PEN/John Kenneth Galbraith Award for Nonfiction; National Book Critics Circle Award for Nonfiction; Chicago Tribune Heartland Prize; Finalist for Los Angeles Times Book Prize

**Themes:** Current Events; Economic Inequality

**Website:** [tiny.cc/MattDesmondFYE](http://tiny.cc/MattDesmondFYE)

**Video:** [tiny.cc/DesmondVideo](http://tiny.cc/DesmondVideo)

**Evicted**

*Poverty and Profit in the American City*

*By Matthew Desmond*

Broadway Books | TR

978-0-553-44705-3

448 pp. | $17.00/$23.00 Can.

EB: 978-0-553-44704-6
Incarceration Nations
A Journey to Justice in Prisons Around the World
By Baz Dreisinger

Beginning in Africa and ending in Europe, Incarceration Nations is a first-person odyssey through the prison systems of the world. Founder of the Prison-to-College Pipeline program Baz Dreisinger looks into the human stories of the incarcerated and those who imprison them.

“This book is more than a cry for massive overhaul in prison reform, it gives voice to the silent millions of men and women who live behind prison walls on every continent, and whose suffering is a reflection of our own inhumanity and fear.”—James McBride, author of The Color of Water

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

From one of the world’s leading experts on unconscious racial bias, a personal examination of one of the central controversies and culturally powerful issues of our time, and its influence on contemporary race relations and criminal justice.

“She is saying things that make people uncomfortable, but she has the evidence to back up the reality of what’s she’s describing...[her work is]...original, provocative, and rigorous. I think she has changed the way we all think about the American dilemma of race.”—Susan Fiske, Psychologist, Princeton University

Five Days at Memorial
Life and Death in a Storm-Ravaged Hospital
By Sheri Fink

Pulitzer Prize winner Sheri Fink landmark investigation of patient deaths at a New Orleans hospital ravaged by Hurricane Katrina draws students into the lives of those who struggled to survive and maintain life amid chaos.

“What we have here is masterly reporting and the glow of fine writing.”—Sherwin B. Nuland, New York Times Book Review

Winner of the National Book Critics Circle Award; PEN/John Kenneth Galbraith Award for Nonfiction; Los Angeles Times Book Prize; Named One of the New York Times Ten Best Books of the Year

Rest in Power
The Enduring Life of Trayvon Martin
By Sybrina Fulton and Tracy Martin

“Not since Emmett Till has a parent’s love for a murdered child moved the nation to search its soul about racial injustice and inequality. Sybrina Fulton and Tracy Martin’s extraordinary witness, indomitable spirit and unwavering demand for change have altered the dynamics of racial justice discourse in this country. This powerful book illuminates the witness, the grief, and the commitment to reform that Trayvon Martin’s death has mobilized; it is a story fueled by a demand for justice but rooted in love.”—Bryan Stevenson, author of Just Mercy
Tell Me Who You Are  How Sharing Our Stories of Race and Identity Can Change the World  
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, Guo and Vulchi deferred college admission for a year to collect first-person accounts of how racism plays out in this country every day. They reveal the invisible lines that separate us based on race or other perceived differences and how telling our stories—and listening deeply to the stories of others—are the first and most crucial steps we can take towards negating racism and discrimination in our culture. Featuring interviews with over 150 Americans accompanied by their photographs.

Themes: Diversity; Identity

Food Fight  GMOs and the Future of the American Diet  
By McKay Jenkins

In this nuanced examination of the state of our food system, a prominent environmental journalist takes a fresh look at GMOs, investigates the controversy behind them, and provides a guide for consumers looking to make informed choices about their diet.

"[A] balanced account of the contentious role of GMOs in the U.S. food supply . . . . Pro- and anti-GMO proponents will find plenty to argue with, but anyone wanting to understand what the fights are about . . . will find this book a big help."—Marion Nestle, New York University

Themes: Current Events; Health & Medicine

The Death of Truth  Notes on Falsehood in the Age of Trump  
By Michiko Kakutani

In social media and literature, television, academia, and politics, former New York Times critic Michiko Kakutani identifies the trends that have combined to elevate subjectivity over factuality in America. With remarkable erudition and insight, Kakutani offers a diagnosis of our current condition and points toward a new path for our truth-challenged times.

Themes: Current Events

Palaces for the People  How Social Infrastructure Can Help Fight Inequality, Polarization, and the Decline of Civic Life  
By Eric Klinenberg

An eminent sociologist and bestselling author offers an inspiring blueprint for rebuilding our fractured society. In Palaces for the People, Eric Klinenberg suggests a way forward. He believes that the future of democratic societies rests not simply on shared values but on shared spaces: the libraries, childcare centers, bookstores, churches, synagogues, and parks where crucial, sometimes life-saving connections, are formed.

Themes: Current Events; Diversity, Economic Inequality
Daring Democracy
Igniting Power, Meaning, and Connection for the America We Want
By Frances Moore Lappé and Adam Eichen
An optimistic book for Americans looking for ways to become more politically active and engage with democracy.

“It is all too easy to fall into despair when observing what is happening in the world and contemplating the severe challenges that humans face. It is much harder, and far more important, to recognize that we . . . can instead come together to confront the challenges, overcome them, and once again bend the arc of the moral universe towards justice and freedom.”—Noam Chomsky

Talking Across the Divide
How to Communicate with People You Disagree with and Maybe Even Change the World
By Justin Lee
In a time when every conversation quickly becomes a battlefield, social justice activist Justin Lee explains how to break through the barriers that make people resist differing opinions. With a combination of psychological research, pop-culture references, and anecdotes from Justin’s many years of experience mediating contentious conversations, this book will help you understand people on the other side of the argument and give you the tools you need to change their minds.

Becoming a Citizen Activist
Stories, Strategies & Advice for Changing Our World
By Nick Licata
The playbook for citizen activists wanting to improve the world around them from Nick Licata, admired Seattle city council member and one of the city’s most effective leaders of political and social change since the 1960s. In this smart and powerful book, Licata explains how to get organized, congregate power, and master the tactics for change.

Taking on Diversity
How We Can Move from Anxiety to Respect
By Rupert W. Nacoste
Dr. Rupert W. Nacoste regularly counsels students at North Carolina State University about their problems dealing with diversity of all kinds, including of gender, race, ethnicity, and sexual-orientation. Here, he shares his most effective techniques for handling the unavoidable realities of being in a neo-diverse community, whether that means in college or greater America.
Becoming Nicole
The Transformation of an American Family
By Amy Ellis Nutt

When Wayne and Kelly Maines adopted identical twin boys, they thought their lives were complete. But it wasn’t long before they noticed a marked difference between Jonas and his brother, Wyatt. By the time the twins were toddlers, confusion over Wyatt’s insistence that he was female began to tear the family apart. In the years that followed, the Maineses came to question their long-held views on gender and identity, to accept and embrace Wyatt’s transition to Nicole, and to undergo an emotionally wrenching transformation of their own that would change all their lives forever.

Themes: Coping with Transitions/Change; Current Events; Identity

Website: tiny.cc/NuttFYE

The Art of Gathering
How We Meet and Why It Matters
By Priya Parker

Priya Parker argues that the gatherings in our lives are lackluster and unproductive—which they don’t have to be. At a time when coming together is more important than ever, Parker sets forth a human-centered approach to gathering that will help everyone create meaningful, memorable experiences, large and small, for work and for play.

“Priya Parker has created both an art and a science to gathering in ways that can bring joy and fulfillment to any meeting.”—Deepak Chopra

Themes: Life Skills

Website: tiny.cc/hzgkwy

Sacred Ground
Pluralism, Prejudice, and the Promise of America
By Eboo Patel

In Sacred Ground, author and renowned interfaith leader Eboo Patel says this prejudice is not just a problem for Muslims but a challenge to the very idea of America. Patel shows us that Americans from George Washington to Martin Luther King Jr. have been “interfaith leaders,” illustrating how the forces of pluralism in America have time and again defeated the forces of prejudice. And now a new generation needs to rise up and confront the anti-Muslim prejudice of our era. To this end, Patel offers a primer in the art and science of interfaith work.

Themes: Diversity; Identity; Current Events

Website: tiny.cc/EbooPatelFYE

The Broken Ladder
How Inequality Affects the Way We Think, Live, and Die
By Keith Payne

Psychologist Keith Payne examines how inequality divides us not just economically, but also has profound consequences for how we think, how our cardiovascular systems respond to stress, how our immune systems function, and how we view moral ideas such as justice and fairness.

“The Broken Ladder’s examination of the consequences of inequality . . . is as profound as it is revelatory.”—Sonja Lyubomirsky, University of California, Riverside, author of The How of Happiness.

Themes: Economic Equality; Health & Medicine; Diversity

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New York Times Bestseller; A New York Times Notable Book; Named One of the Ten Best Books of the Year by People; A Stonewall Honor Book for Nonfiction; Finalist for the Lambda Literary Award for Transgender Nonfiction
The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks
By Rebecca Skloot

This phenomenal New York Times bestseller tells a riveting story of the collision between ethics, race, and medicine; of scientific discovery and faith healing; and of a daughter consumed with questions about the mother she never knew.

“Deftly crafted investigation of a social wrong committed by the medical establishment, as well as the scientific and medical miracles to which it led.”—Washington Post

Named by more than 60 critics as one of the best books of the year

Themes: African-American Experience; Health & Medicine; Women's Studies

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.


Themes: Crime & Justice; Current Events

Glimmer of Hope
How Tragedy Sparked a Movement
By the March for our Lives Founders

Glimmer of Hope tells the story of how a group of teenagers raced to channel their rage and sorrow into action, and went on to create one of the largest youth-led movements in global history.

100% of the authors’ proceeds will benefit the March for Our Lives Foundation and the ongoing fight for sensible gun control legislation in the United States.

Themes: Coming-of-Age, Coping with Transitions/Change, Current Events, Health & Medicine, Life Skills

Also of Interest:
#NeverAgain
A New Generation Draws the Line
By David Hogg and Lauren Hogg

Random House Trade Paperbacks | TR
978-1-98480-183-8 | 176 pp. | $10.00/$13.50 Can.

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12 Rules for Life
An Antidote to Chaos

Jordan B. Peterson

What does everyone in the modern world need to know? Renowned psychologist Jordan B. Peterson’s answer to this most difficult of questions uniquely combines the hard-won truths of ancient tradition with the stunning revelations of cutting-edge scientific research.

Humorous, surprising and informative, Dr. Peterson tells us why skateboarding boys and girls must be left alone, what terrible fate awaits those who criticize too easily, and why you should always pet a cat when you meet one on the street.

What does the nervous system of the lowly lobster have to tell us about standing up straight (with our shoulders back) and about success in life? Why did ancient Egyptians worship the capacity to pay careful attention as the highest of gods? What dreadful paths do people tread when they become resentful, arrogant and vengeful? Dr. Peterson journeys broadly, discussing discipline, freedom, adventure and responsibility, distilling the world’s wisdom into 12 practical and profound rules for life. 12 Rules for Life shatters the modern commonplaces of science, faith, and human nature, while transforming and ennobling the mind and spirit of its readers.
Hyperfocus
How to Be More Productive in a World of Distraction
By Chris Bailey

Productivity researcher Chris Bailey examines how to manage your attention—the most powerful resource you have to get stuff done, become more creative, and live a meaningful life.

“Hyperfocus does a remarkable job of unpacking the realities, obstacles, and best practices of managing the subtle but ever-present world of our conscious attention. All of us can get better at how, when, and on what we focus; and this is an extraordinary, eye-opening and research based report of what affects us in this regard, and how to take advantage of this information to achieve greater satisfaction in our lives.”
—David Allen, author of Getting Things Done

“Chris Bailey offers actionable, data-driven insights for sharpening your focus—and finding the right moments to blur it.”—Adam Grant, author of Originals

Website: tiny.cc/6nypxy

Learning How to Learn
How to Succeed in School Without Spending All Your Time Studying: A Guide for Kids and Teens
By Barbara Oakley, PhD, and Terrence Sejnowski, PhD, with Alistair McConville

A surprisingly simple way for students to master any subject—based on one of the world’s most popular online courses and the bestselling book A Mind for Numbers.

“A fun, practical book about how to help your kids build the most important skill in life: the skill of learning.”—Adam Grant, New York Times bestselling author of Give and Take, Originals

“Young people are expected to learn, but are rarely taught how. This book does that job beautifully. I wish someone had given me this book when I was in middle or high school. If you have (or know) children this age, do them a favor and give them this book.”
—Henry L. Roediger III, coauthor of Make It Stick: The Science of Successful Learning

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TarcherPerigee
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Prometheus Books
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Cold-Blooded Kindness
Prometheus Books
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Big Potential
How Transforming the Pursuit of Success Raises Our Achievement, Happiness, and Well-Being
By Shawn Achor

In a world that thrives on competition and individual achievement, pursuing success in isolation only serves to limit potential, increase stress, and create a disconnect from other people. Achor, drawing on his work in 50 countries, reveals that success and happiness are not competitive sports. Rather, they depend almost entirely on how well we connect with, relate to, and learn from each other.

Themes: Life Skills

The Happiness Advantage
How a Positive Brain Fuels Success in Work and Life
By Shawn Achor

Based on the largest study on happiness and human potential ever conducted, Shawn Achor, one of the world’s leading experts on happiness, success, and potential, shares seven core principles of positive psychology that individuals can use to become more effective, successful, and fulfilled in the workplace.

“The Happiness Advantage reveals the most important discoveries coming out of modern psychology.”—Rom Brafman, bestselling co-author of Sway and Click

Themes: Life Skills

Getting Things Done for Teens
Take Control of Your Life in a Distracting World
By David Allen, Mike Williams, and Mark Wallace

Offering a fresh take on the GTD methodology by framing life as a game to play and GTD as the game pieces and strategies to play your most effective game, Getting Things Done for Teens presents GTD in a highly visual way and frames the methodology not only as a system for being productive in school, but as a set of tools for everyday life.

“If you learn these techniques when you’re young, they’ll pay off for decades. I can’t think of a better guide for success in life.”—Charles Duhigg, New York Times bestselling author of The Power of Habit

Themes: Life Skills

What Color Is Your Parachute? 2019
A Practical Manual for Job-Hunters and Career-Changers
By Richard N. Bolles

With more than 10 million copies sold in 28 countries, the world’s most popular job-search book is updated for 2019 and tailors Richard Bolles’s long-trusted guidance with up-to-the-minute information and advice for today’s students and job-hunters.

“What Color Is Your Parachute? is about job-hunting and career-changing, but it’s also about figuring out who you are as a person and what you want out of life.”—Time

Themes: Life Skills
The Road to Character
By David Brooks

With the wisdom, humor, curiosity, and sharp insights that have brought millions of readers to his New York Times column and his previous bestsellers, David Brooks focuses on the deeper values that should inform our lives.

"Brooks’s gift—as he might put it in his swift, engaging way—is for making obscure but potent social studies research accessible and even startling. . . . A hyper-readable, lucid, often richly detailed human story . . . In the age of the selfie, Brooks wishes to exhort us back to a semiclassical sense of self-restraint, self-erasure, and self-suspicion. ”—Pico Iyer, The New York Times Book Review

Rising Strong
How the Ability to Reset Transforms the Way We Live, Love, Parent, and Lead
By Brené Brown, PhD, LMSW

Social scientist Brené Brown has ignited a global conversation on courage, vulnerability, shame, and worthiness. Her pioneering work uncovered a profound truth: Vulnerability—the willingness to show up and be seen with no guarantee of outcome—is the only path to more love, belonging, creativity, and joy. But living a brave life is not always easy: We are, inevitably, going to stumble and fall.

Braving the Wilderness
The Quest for True Belonging and the Courage to Stand Alone
By Brené Brown, PhD, LMSW

Social scientist Brené Brown, PhD, LMSW, has sparked a global conversation about the experiences that bring meaning to our lives—experiences of courage, vulnerability, love, belonging, shame, and empathy. In Braving the Wilderness, Brown redefines what it means to truly belong in an age of increased polarization. With her trademark mix of research, storytelling, and honesty, Brown will again change the cultural conversation while mapping a clear path to true belonging.

Dare to Lead
By Brené Brown, PhD, LMSW

In her #1 New York Times bestsellers, Brené Brown has taught us what it means to dare greatly, rise strong, and brave the wilderness. Now, based on new research conducted with leaders, change makers, and culture shifters, she’s showing us how to put those ideas into practice so we can step up and lead.
The Moth Presents
All These Wonders
True Stories About Facing the Unknown
Edited by Catherine Burns
Foreword by Neil Gaiman

Celebrating the 20th anniversary of storytelling phenomenon The Moth, this print companion to the live show and podcast presents 45 unforgettable true stories about risk, courage, and facing the unknown. Carefully selected and adapted to the page by the creative minds at The Moth, All These Wonders features voices both familiar and new, celebrating the raw and transformative power of storytelling and narrative.

Themes: Coming-of-Age, Coping with Transitions/Change, Diversity

The Moth Presents
Occasional Magic
True Stories of Defying the Impossible
Edited by Catherine Burns
Foreword by Meg Wolitzer

Carefully selected by the creative minds at The Moth, and adapted to the page to preserve the raw energy of live storytelling, Occasional Magic features voices familiar and new. Alongside Adam Gopnik, Krista Tippett, Andrew Solomon, Rosanne Cash, and Ophira Eisenberg, storytellers from around the world share times when, in the face of challenging situations, they found something—whether a power, strength, or passion—that they never knew they possessed. With courage and humor, they encourage us all to be more open, vulnerable, and alive.

Themes: Coming-of-Age, Coping with Transitions/Change, Diversity

Quiet
The Power of Introverts in a World That Can’t Stop Talking
By Susan Cain

At least one-third of the people we know are introverts, those who prefer listening to speaking; who innovate and create but dislike self-promotion; who favor working on their own over working in teams. It is to introverts—Rosa Parks, Chopin, Dr. Seuss, Steve Wozniak—that we owe many of the great contributions to society.

In Quiet, Susan Cain argues that we dramatically undervalue introverts and shows how much we lose in doing so. She charts the rise of the Extrovert Ideal throughout the 20th century and explores how deeply it has come to permeate our culture.

Themes: Life Skills

How We Learn
The Surprising Truth About When, Where, and Why It Happens
By Benedict Carey

In How We Learn, award-winning science reporter Benedict Carey sifts through decades of education research and landmark studies to uncover the truth about how our brains absorb and retain information. What he discovers is that, from the moment we are born, we are all learning quickly, efficiently, and automatically; but in our zeal to systematize the process we have ignored valuable, naturally enjoyable learning tools like forgetting, sleeping, and daydreaming.

Theme: Life Skills
The Career Playbook
Essential Advice for Today's Aspiring Young Professional
By James M. Citrin

Based on an in-depth survey of thousands of graduates and young professionals, and hundreds of interviews with the world’s top business and nonprofit leaders—not to mention James Citrin’s decades of experience as a senior partner at the premier executive search firm Spencer Stuart—The Career Playbook offers recent graduates and aspiring young professionals actionable advice for excelling. Citrin provides an invaluable guide to the most urgent questions that are at the heart of every person’s career deliberations.

Themes: Life Skills

The Culture Code
The Secrets of Highly Successful Groups
By Daniel Coyle

In The Culture Code, Daniel Coyle goes inside some of the world’s most successful organizations—including the U.S. Navy’s SEAL Team Six, IDEO, and the San Antonio Spurs—and reveals what makes them tick. Combining leading-edge science, on-the-ground insights from world-class leaders, and practical ideas for action, The Culture Code offers a roadmap for creating an environment where innovation flourishes, problems get solved, and expectations are exceeded.

Themes: Life Skills

The Power of Habit
Why We Do What We Do in Life and Business
By Charles Duhigg

In The Power of Habit, Pulitzer Prize–winning business reporter Charles Duhigg takes us to the thrilling edge of scientific discoveries that explain why habits exist and how they can be changed.

“Few [books] become essential manuals for business and living. The Power of Habit is an exception. Charles Duhigg not only explains how habits are formed but how to kick bad ones and hang on to the good.”—Financial Times

Themes: Life Skills

Smarter Faster Better
The Transformative Power of Real Productivity
By Charles Duhigg

In The Power of Habit, Pulitzer Prize–winning journalist Charles Duhigg explained why we do what we do. In Smarter Faster Better, he applies the same relentless curiosity, deep reporting, and rich storytelling to explain how we can improve at the things we do. It’s a groundbreaking exploration of the science of productivity, one that can help anyone learn to succeed with less stress and struggle, and to get more done without sacrificing what we care about most—to become smarter, faster, and better at everything we do.

Themes: Life Skills
Mindset
The New Psychology of Success
By Carol S. Dweck, Ph.D.
Dweck reveals what all great parents, teachers, CEOs, and athletes already know: how a simple idea about the brain can create a love of learning and a resilience that is the basis of great accomplishment in every area.

“If you manage any people or if you are a parent (which is a form of managing people), drop everything and read Mindset.”—Guy Kawasaki, author of The Art of the Start and the blog How to Change the World

Theme: Life Skills

Well-Read Black Girl
Finding Our Stories, Discovering Ourselves
By Glory Edim
In this timely anthology, Glory Edim brings together original essays by some of our best black women writers to shine a light on how important it is that we all—regardless of gender, race, religion, or ability—have the opportunity to find ourselves in literature.

“Glory Edim has curated a brilliant collection of essential American reading for the twenty-first-century reader. This book is smart, powerful, and complete.”—Min Jin Lee, author of the National Book Award finalist Pachinko and Free Food for Millionaires

Themes: African-American Experience; Diversity; Women’s Studies

Thank You for Arguing, Third Edition
What Aristotle, Lincoln, and Homer Simpson Can Teach Us About the Art of Persuasion
By Jay Heinrichs
A favorite text for English, writing, and journalism courses, Thank You for Arguing is your student’s master class in the art of persuasion. The new revised third edition includes extensive new material on persuasive essay writing, tropes, facing bullies, and arguing when people don’t believe the same facts.

Themes: Life Skills; Rhetoric

Out of the Maze
An A-mazing Way to Get Unstuck
By Spencer Johnson
Foreword by Ken Blanchard
The posthumous sequel to Who Moved My Cheese? digs deeper to show how readers can adapt their beliefs and achieve better results. Johnson’s theme is that all of our accomplishments are due to our beliefs: whether we’re confident or insecure, cynical or positive, open-minded or inflexible. But it’s difficult to change your beliefs—and with them, your outcomes. Find out how Hem, Haw, and the other characters from Who Moved My Cheese? deal with this challenge.

Themes: Life Skills
**Reading with Patrick**

**A Teacher, a Student, and a Life-Changing Friendship**

*By Michelle Kuo*

A memoir of the life-changing friendship between an idealistic young teacher and her gifted student, jailed for murder in the Mississippi Delta.

“In all of the literature addressing education, race, poverty, and criminal justice, there has been nothing quite like *Reading with Patrick*.”—The Atlantic

“This memoir of teaching literature in one of the poorest counties in America is a reminder of how literacy changes lives. Highly recommended.”—Library Journal (starred review)

**Themes:** African-American Experience; Diversity; Economic Inequality

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**The Book of Joy**

**Lasting Happiness in a Changing World**

*By His Holiness the Dalai Lama and Archbishop Desmond Tutu with Douglas Abrams*

Two spiritual masters share hard-won wisdom about living with joy even in the face of adversity, relating their own stories and teachings, the most recent findings in the science of deep happiness, and the daily practices that anchor their emotional and spiritual lives.

“It’s a book that binds these two incredible souls. And it’s a book that vividly probes the very nature of joy itself—the illusions that eclipse it, the obstacles that obscure it, the practices that cultivate it, and the pillars that sustain it.”—Rich Roll, *The Rich Roll Podcast*

**Themes:** Life Skills; Religion & Spirituality; Altruism

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**Weaponized Lies**

**How to Think Critically in the Post-Truth Era**

*By Daniel J. Levitin*

Bestselling author and neuroscientist Daniel Levitin exposes how deceptive arguments and numerical misinformation can produce a grossly distorted perspective, and how fringe theories, fake news, and pseudo-facts can be disarmed with logic and the scientific method.

“An indispensable guide to thinking better. As Big Data becomes a dominant theme in our culture, we are all obliged to sharpen our critical thinking so as to thwart the forces of obfuscation.”—Jasper Rine, University of California, Berkeley.

**Themes:** Life Skills; Current Events

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**Lift Off**

**From the Classroom to the Stars**

*By Donovan Livingston*

In *Lift Off*, Donovan Livingston offers a groundbreaking rallying call about education, race, and the true nature of equality. In emotionally charged spoken-word poetry, Livingston shares a message of hope and hard truths, declaring that education can become an equalizer only if we first acknowledge the inequality and racial divides holding back America’s future.

**Themes:** Inspiration; Life Skills; Diversity
**INSPIRATION**

**Start Something That Matters**  
*By Blake Mycoskie*

TOMS Shoes melds profit-making with social action: for every pair of shoes purchased, the company donates a pair to a child. Although he had no prior fashion or retail experience, Mycoskie’s business is profitable, even while giving shoes away. He shares his innovative approach to business, and the business of doing good.

“The TOMS story has already inspired many, and Start Something That Matters supplements that inspiration with wisdom and practical experience that will help to catalyze the next generation of social entrepreneurs. This is exactly the book that my students and I have been waiting for!”—Jim Schorr, Professor of Social Enterprise, Vanderbilt University

**College Rules!, 4th Edition**  
*How to Study, Survive, and Succeed in College*  
*By Sherrie Nist-Olejnik, PhD, and Jodi Patrick Holschuh, PhD*

This updated classic gives students the tools they need to successfully transition from high school to college, avoid rookie mistakes, and set themselves up for academic success from day one.

**When**  
*The Scientific Secrets of Perfect Timing*  
*By Daniel H. Pink*

Drawing on findings from psychology, biology, and economics, Pink distills cutting-edge research and data on timing and synthesizes them into a fascinating narrative that gives readers compelling insights into how we can live richer, more engaged lives.

“Pink’s deeply researched but never boring study could be a turning point. College students may find new ways to organize their schedules and ease difficult decisions by using the ‘hidden pattern’ of time to their advantage.”—*The Wall Street Journal*

**Popular**  
*Finding Happiness and Success in a World That Cares Too Much About the Wrong Kinds of Relationships*  
*By Mitch Prinstein*

Prinstein, professor and director of clinical psychology at the University of North Carolina, examines the surprisingly profound role that popularity in childhood plays in human development and happiness in our adult years.

“Status is one thing, and likability quite another. The origins of both types of popularity are the topic of this singularly fascinating, extraordinarily well-written book. I … learned as much about the science as I did about myself.”—Angela Duckworth, University of Pennsylvania, author of *Grit*
**Calm Clarity**  
*How to Use Science to Rewire Your Brain for Greater Wisdom, Fulfillment, and Joy*  
By Due Quach

Due Quach, Vietnam refugee and Harvard Graduate, draws on the latest scientific research and ancient spiritual traditions alike to show us how we too can take ownership of our thoughts, feelings, and actions in order to be our best selves. 

“Quach offers an extensive exploration of neuroscience and trauma resolution that led her from a struggling beginning with her impoverished Vietnamese family, to Harvard, a Wharton MBA, and business success.”—Allan Lokos, author of *Patience*

**On Being Awesome**  
*A Unified Theory of How Not To Suck*  
By Nick Riggle

What can the invention of the high five and the history of “cool” tell us about the origins of awesome? How do our expectations of awesome relate to race, gender, and sexuality? How is our desire for awesomeness shaping our cultural landscape? These are just a few of the questions University of San Diego Professor Nick Riggle explores in this accessible, philosophical road trip through the ethos of our time, presenting an inspiring framework for understanding friendship, success, and happiness in our everyday lives.

**Brave, Not Perfect**  
*Fear Less, Fail More, and Live Bolder*  
By Reshma Saujani

Women have been taught from an early age to be quiet and polite, to be careful so as not to get hurt, and to avoid many activities at which they could shine. Meanwhile, boys we expected to speak up, get dirty, and play rough. In short, boys are taught to be brave, while girls are taught to be perfect.

As a result, women grow up to be afraid to fail, to take risks, to take a stand, and to ask for what we want. But it doesn’t have to be that way. In a book inspired by her popular TED Talk, Reshma Saujani shows us how to end our love affair with perfection, and rewire ourselves for bravery.

**Congratulations, by the way**  
*Some Thoughts on Kindness*  
By George Saunders

Most convocation addresses are delivered and quickly forgotten. Not so with George Saunders’s 2013 speech at Syracuse University. After the transcript was posted by *The New York Times*, the address went viral. Saunders’s powerful message about living with kindness struck an immediate chord with students. *Congratulations, by the Way*, which is full of the writer’s trademark wit, offers an expanded version of this highly lauded speech.
Nadia and Saeed meet in a country teetering on the brink of civil war. As the violence escalates, they decide to leave their homeland and their old lives behind. The love story that unfolds between these remarkable characters, across the rapidly changing face of a volatile world, forces them into an alien and uncertain future—both completely of our time and for all time.

“Hamid rewrites the world as a place thoroughly, gorgeously, and permanently overrun by refugees and migrants . . . . But, still, he depicts the world as resolutely beautiful and, at its core, unchanged. The novel feels immediately canonical, so firm and unerring is Hamid’s understanding of our time and its most pressing questions.”—The New Yorker

Mohsin Hamid is the author of the international bestsellers Exit West and The Reluctant Fundamentalist, both finalists for the Man Booker Prize. His first novel, Moth Smoke, won the Betty Trask Award and was a finalist for the PEN/Hemingway Foundation Award. His essays, a number of them collected as Discontent and Its Civilizations, have appeared in The New York Times, the Washington Post, The New York Review of Books, and elsewhere. He lives in Lahore, Pakistan.

“Exit West is lit with hope. Hamid has said that ‘part of the great political crisis we face in the world today is a failure to imagine plausible desirable futures,’ and that ‘fiction can imagine differently.’ Exit West does so, and beautifully. May Hamid’s hopes turn out to be as prescient as his concerns already are.”

—San Francisco Chronicle

Selected for Common Reading at University of Utah; Chaffey College; Penn State Altoona; Pomona College; Skidmore College; Connecticut College; Rhode Island College

Riverhead Books | TR | 978-0-7352-1220-6
256 pp. | $16.00/$22.00 Can.

Winner of the 2018 Los Angeles Times Book Prize for Fiction
Finalist for the 2017 Man Booker Prize and The National Book Critics Circle Award

Also of Interest:

How to Get Filthy Rich in Rising Asia
A Novel
By Mohsin Hamid
Riverhead Books | TR
978-1-59463-233-4
240 pp. | $16.00/$22.00 Can.

Moth Smoke
A Novel
By Mohsin Hamid
Riverhead | TR
978-1-59468-660-9
288 pp. | $16.00/$22.00 Can.

Discontent and Its Civilizations
Dispatches from Lahore, New York, and London
By Mohsin Hamid
Riverhead Books | TR
978-1-59463-403-1
256 pp. | $16.00/$21.00 Can.
Little Fires Everywhere
A Novel
By Celeste Ng

From the author of Everything I Never Told You, a riveting novel that explores the weight of secrets, the nature of art and identity, the ferocious pull of motherhood, and the danger of believing that following the rules can avert disaster.

When single mother Mia Warren and her teenaged daughter, Pearl, arrive in the idyllic bubble of Shaker Heights and rent a house from the Richardsons, all four Richardson children are drawn to the pair. But Mia carries with her a mysterious past and a disregard for the status quo that threatens to upend the carefully ordered community.

“Riveting . . . unearthing the ways that race, class, motherhood and belonging intersect to shape each individual.” —Chicago Tribune

Also of Interest:

Everything I Never Told You: A Novel
Penguin | 978-0-14-312755-0 | 320 pp. | $16.95

An exquisite debut novel about a Chinese American family living in 1970s small-town Ohio, Everything I Never Told You explores the divisions between cultures and the rifts within a family and uncovering the ways in which mothers and daughters, fathers and sons, and husbands and wives struggle, all their lives, to understand one another.

“This is, in the end, a novel about the burden of being the first of your kind—a burden you do not always survive.” —Alexander Chee, The New York Times Book Review

Selected for common reading at: Fitchburg State University, Virginia Wesleyan University, CUNY Baruch College, Regis College, Owens Community College, College of the Canyons
As an Indian wedding gathers a family back together, parents Rafiq and Layla must reckon with the choices their children have made. There is Hadia: their headstrong, eldest daughter, whose marriage is a match of love and not tradition. Huda, the middle child, determined to follow in her sister’s footsteps. And lastly, their estranged son, Amar, who returns to the family fold for the first time in three years to take his place as brother of the bride. What secrets and betrayals have caused this close-knit family to fracture? Can Amar find his way back to the people who know and love him best?

_A Place for Us_ takes us back to the beginning of this family’s life: from the bonds that bring them together, to the differences that pull them apart. All the joy and struggle of family life is here, from Rafiq and Layla’s own arrival in America from India, to the years in which their children—each in their own way—tread between two cultures, seeking to find their place in the world, as well as a path home.

_A Place for Us_ is a book for our times: an astonishingly tender-hearted novel of identity and belonging, and a resonant portrait of what it means to be an American family today. It announces Fatima Farheen Mirza as a major new literary talent.

“Mirza draws Amar’s lifelong struggle with the concept of unconditional devotion so poignantly that readers will find it exceedingly relatable. But so too is the mysterious whisper in his ear urging him always to return, no matter how far he strays, back home.”

—New York Times Book Review

Fatima Farheen Mirza was born in 1991 and raised in California. She is a graduate of the Iowa Writers’ Workshop and a recipient of the Michener-Copernicus Fellowship.
FICTION

The Idiot: A Novel  
By Elif Batuman

The year is 1995, and email is new. Selin, the daughter of Turkish immigrants, arrives for her freshman year at Harvard. She signs up for classes in subjects she has never heard of, befriends her charismatic and worldly Serbian classmate, Svetlana, and, almost by accident, begins corresponding with Ivan, an older mathematics student from Hungary. Selin may have barely spoken to Ivan, but with each email they exchange, the act of writing seems to take on new and increasingly mysterious meanings.

“[A] masterly, funny debut novel . . . . Erudite but never pretentious, The Idiot will make you crave more books by Batuman.”—Sloane Crosley, Vanity Fair.

Kindred: A Novel  
By Octavia E. Butler

Dana, a modern black woman, is celebrating for 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 longer and more treacherous until it is uncertain whether Dana’s life will end before it had a chance to begin.

“One of the most original, thought-provoking works examining race and identity.”—Lynell George, Los Angeles Times

Ready Player One: A Novel  
By Ernest Cline

In the year 2044, reality is an ugly place. The only time teenage Wade Watts really feels alive is when he’s jacket into the virtual utopia known as the OASIS. Wade’s devoted his life to studying the puzzles hidden within the world’s digital confines—puzzles that are based on their creator’s obsession with the pop culture of decades past and that promise massive power and fortune to whoever can unlock them. But when Wade stumbles upon the first clue, he finds himself beset by players willing to kill to take the ultimate prize.

Winner of the ALA Alex Award; A School Library Journal “Best Adult Book 4 Teens”; A 2018 major motion picture

VOX: A Novel  
By Christina Dalcher

Set in a United States in which the government decrees that women are no longer allowed more than one hundred words per day, females no longer have a voice. Vox is the harrowing, unforgettable story of what one woman will do to protect herself and her daughter.

“The names that come to mind are Margaret Atwood, George Orwell, and Aldous Huxley—had Orwell and Huxley had a taste of the information age. VOX is a book for the dystopic present. It woke me up.”—Melissa Broder, author of The Pisces

Themes: Current Events; Coming-of-Age

Website: tiny.cc/67ciwy  
Video: tiny.cc/trypxy

Penguin Books | TR  
978-0-14-311106-1  
432 pp. | $16.00/$22.00 Can.  

A Pulitzer Prize Finalist

Kindred: A Novel  
By Octavia E. Butler

Beacon Press | TR  
978-0-8070-8369-7  
264 pp. | $16.00/$18.00 Can.  
EB: 978-0-80708-370-3

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

Ready Player One: A Novel  
By Ernest Cline

Broadway Books | TR  
978-0-307-88744-3  
400 pp. | $16.00/$22.00 Can.  
EB: 978-0-307-88745-0

Selected for Common Reading at: Bethel College; Bismark State College; Coastal Carolina University; Kansas State University; UNC Wilmington; University of Massachusetts; Washington State University; and many others

VOX: A Novel  
By Christina Dalcher

Berkley | HC  
978-0-440-00078-5  
336 pp. | $26.00/$35.00 Can.

Themes: Science Fiction & Fantasy; African-American Experience; Identity

Website: tiny.cc/ButlerFYE

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

Themes: Coming-of-Age; Science Fiction & Fantasy

Website: tiny.cc/EclineFYE

Selected for Common Reading at: Bethel College; Bismark State College; Coastal Carolina University; Kansas State University; UNC Wilmington; University of Massachusetts; Washington State University; and many others

Themes: Women’s Studies; Identity; Science Fiction & Fantasy

Website: tiny.cc/acxjwy

Website: tiny.cc/9rypxy
Hotel on the Corner of Bitter and Sweet: A Novel
By Jamie Ford

Set during one of the most conflicted and volatile times in American history, Hotel on the Corner of Bitter and Sweet is an extraordinary story of commitment and enduring hope.

Winner of the Asian Pacific American Librarians Association (APALA) Literature Award—Fiction

Themes: Coming-of-Age, Diversity, Immigration

Dream Country: A Novel
By Shannon Gibney

Told in five parts, Dream Country follows five generations of an African-and-American family pursuing an elusive dream of freedom. Spanning from modern-day Minneapolis, to the Liberian Civil War, and back to the American Colonization Society in 1827, the novel spins a riveting tale of the nightmarish spiral of death and exile connecting America and Africa, and of how one determined young dreamer tries to break free and gain control of her destiny.

“Gibney has masterfully woven together the histories of America and Africa through the multigenerational journeys of young people in search of home and self. Beautifully epic, timely, and outstanding in its breadth and scope.”—Ibi Zoboi, author of American Street

Themes: African-American Experience, Coming-of-Age, Diversity, Identity, Immigration

Green: A Novel
By Sam Graham-Felsen

Infectiously funny about the highs and lows of adolescence, and sharply honest in the face of injustice, Sam Graham-Felsen’s debut novel is a wildly original take on the struggle to rise in America.

“Sam Graham-Felsen achieves an extraordinary balancing act, creating a poignant and convincing coming-of-age story while at the same time reflecting much larger themes about race and the country’s changing social landscape.”—Jewish Book Council

Themes: Coming-of-Age, Diversity, Identity

An Absolutely Remarkable Thing: A Novel
By Hank Green

Hank Green—co-creator of Crash Course, Vlogbrothers, and SciShow—spins a cinematic tale that grapples with big themes, including how the social internet is changing fame, rhetoric, and radicalization; how our culture deals with fear and uncertainty; and how vilification and adoration spring from the same dehumanization that follows a life in the public eye.

“You’re about to meet somebody named April May who you’re immediately going to want to be best friends with … An Absolutely Remarkable Thing is pure book-joy.”—Lev Grossman, author of The Magicians

Themes: Coming-of-Age, Science Fiction + Fantasy
Turtles All the Way Down: A Novel
By John Green
Aza Holmes is trying. She is trying to be a good daughter, a good friend, a good student, and maybe even a good detective, while also living within the ever-tightening spiral of her own thoughts. When she is swept up in the mystery of a fugitive billionaire by her best friend, Aza learns to navigate her daily existence while the world feels out of control. Turtles All the Way Down is a brilliant novel of love, resilience, and the power of lifelong friendship.

Themes: Coming-of-Age, Coping with Transitions/Change, Identity, Health & Medicine

We Are Okay: A Novel
By Nina LaCour
After tragedy strikes, Marin flees from the California coast to begin college in New York, refusing to speak to anyone from her old life. Now, months later, Marin’s best friend Mabel is coming to visit, and Marin will be forced to face the ghosts of her past and finally confront her loneliness.

“A meditation on surviving grief, We Are Okay is short, poetic and gorgeously written . . . . The power in this little book is in seeing Marin come out on the other side of loss.”—The New York Times Book Review

Themes: Coming-of-Age, Coping with Transitions/Change, Identity, Women’s Studies, Health & Medicine

Every Day: A Novel
By David Levithan
In his New York Times bestselling novel, David Levithan, co-author of bestsellers Will Grayson and Nick and Norah’s Infinite Playlist, introduces readers to a love story about A, a teen who wakes up every morning in a different body, living a different life. This new paperback edition features six additional chapters about A’s earlier life.

“Fresh, unique, funny, and achingly honest, Levithan brilliantly explores the adolescent conundrum of not feeling like oneself, and not knowing where one belongs. I didn’t just read this book—I inhaled it.”—Jodi Picoult, New York Times bestselling author of Lone Wolf and Between the Lines

Themes: Fiction/Literature; Family & Relationships; Gender & Sexuality; Identity; Social Situations

We Were Liars: A Novel
By E. Lockhart
We Were Liars is a modern, sophisticated suspense novel from New York Times bestselling author, National Book Award finalist, and Printz Award honoree E. Lockhart. Read it. And if anyone asks you how it ends, just LIE.

“No one should be talking about the shocking twist ending. What we can talk about is . . . [Lockhart’s] razor-sharp portrayal of a family for whom keeping up appearances is paramount and, ultimately, tragic.”—The Chicago Tribune

Themes: Fiction/Literature; Coming-of-Age, Mystery

Website: http://www.turtlesallthewaydownbook.com/
Video: tiny.cc/fuypxy

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EB: 978-0-525-55535-3

Website: http://tiny.cc/affiwy

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978-0-14-242293-9
EB: 978-0-399-53851-3

Website: tiny.cc/LevithanFYE
Selected for Common Reading at: California State University; Longwood University: Northridge; Northern Arizona University

Website: tiny.cc/EmilyLockhartFYE

Delacorte Press | HC
978-0-385-74126-2
EB: 978-0-375-98440-2

**The Postmortal: A Novel**
*By Drew Magary*

The gripping first novel by Drew Magary, author of *The Hike*, that takes place in a near future where a cure for aging is discovered and, after much political and moral debate, made available to people worldwide. Immortality, however, comes with its own unique problems—including evil green people, government euthanasia programs, a disturbing new religious cult, and other horrors. Witty . . . and full of humanity, *The Postmortal* envisions a pre-apocalyptic world so real that it is completely terrifying.

"Magary’s vision of future technology and science is eerily realistic."—The New York Press

**Website:** tiny.cc/orfiwy
**Video:** tiny.cc/myupsy

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**The Association of Small Bombs: A Novel**
*By Karan Mahajan*

A devastating look at the effects of terrorism on victims and perpetrators, this novel is the story of a bombing in Delhi, in which two brothers are killed. Mahajan follows the lives of their parents and friend who survived the attack as they cope with the aftermath. Woven among this story are narratives of a young activist and a bomb maker who has forsaken his own life for the independence of his homeland.


**Themes:** Current Events; World Fiction

**Website:** tiny.cc/12fjwy
**Video:** tiny.cc/fvypxy

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**Let the Great World Spin: A Novel**
*By Colum McCann*

A sweeping and radical social novel, *Let the Great World Spin* captures the spirit of America in a time of transition, extraordinary promise, and, in hindsight, heartbreaking innocence. Award-winning novelist McCann has delivered a triumphantly American masterpiece that awakens in us a sense of what the novel can achieve, confront, and even heal.

"In McCann’s wise and elegiac novel of origins and consequences, each of his finely drawn, unexpectedly connected characters balances above an abyss, evincing great courage with every step."—Booklist (starred review)

**Themes:** World Fiction

**Website:** tiny.cc/McCannFYE
**Video:** tiny.cc/McCannVideo

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**Blood Water Paint: A Novel**
*By Joy McCullough*

This novel in verse weaves the story of 17th-century painter and feminist icon Artemisia Gentileschi, who persisted through one of history’s first documented sexual assault trials, with the stories of two ancient heroines who become not only the subjects of Artemisia’s paintings but sources of strength as she battles to paint a woman’s timeless truth in the face of violence.

"An impassioned, lushly described account of a young woman who refuses to dwell in secret shame . . . . Fits smoothly into the current conversation surrounding the #MeToo movement."—Chicago Tribune

**Themes:** Coming-of-Age, Identity, Women’s Studies

**Website:** http://tiny.cc/ek2hwy

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*Selected for Common Reading at* University of Mount Olive, Michigan Technological University, University of North Carolina, Charlotte; California State University, Northridge; East Stroudsburg University, University of Tennessee Chattanooga, University of South Carolina, and many more

*Winner of the National Book Award for Fiction*
Refuge: A Novel
By Dina Nayeri

An Iranian girl escapes to America as a child, but her father stays behind. Over twenty years, as she transformed from confused immigrant to overachieving Westerner to sophisticated European transplant, daughter and father know each other only from their visits. Their lives diverge, but each comes to need the other’s wisdom and, ultimately, rescue.

“Beautifully elegiac, Refuge brings into focus the entire experience of emigration . . . . A remarkably textured portrayal of . . . everyday Iran that defies news-media stereotypes.”—Matthew Thomas, author of We Are Not Ourselves.

Themes: Coming-of-Age; World Fiction; Identity

The Darkest Child: A Novel
By Delores Phillips; Introduction by Tayari Jones

A new edition of this award-winning modern classic with a discussion guide.

Parkersfield, Georgia, 1958: Thirteen-year-old Tangy Mae Quinn is the sixth of ten fatherless siblings. She is the darkest-skinned among them and therefore the ugliest, in her mother’s estimation, but also the brightest. When she Tangy Mae is selected to be part of first integrated class at a nearby white high school, she finally has the chance to break free from her mother’s violent grasp.

Themes: African-American Experience; Coming-of-Age; Identity

Tenth of December
Stories
By George Saunders

Writing brilliantly and profoundly about class, sex, love, loss, work, despair, and war, Saunders cuts to the core of the contemporary experience. These stories take on the big questions and explore the fault lines of our own morality, delving into the questions of what makes us good and what makes us human.

“A visceral and moving act of storytelling. . . . No one writes more powerfully than George Saunders about the lost, the unlucky, the disenfranchised.”—Michiko Kakutani, The New York Times

Lincoln in the Bardo: A Novel
By George Saunders

Willie Lincoln finds himself in a strange purgatory, where ghosts mingle, gripe, commiserate, quarrel, and enact bizarre acts of penance. Within this transitional state—called, in the Tibetan tradition, the bardo—a monumental struggle erupts over young Willie’s soul. From the stories and reports about the death of Abraham Lincoln’s 11-year-old son, Willie, George Saunders spins an unforgettable story of familial love and loss that breaks free of its realistic, historical framework into a thrilling, supernatural realm both hilarious and terrifying.

Themes: Coming-of-Age; World Fiction; Identity

Website: tiny.cc/c5fowy

Riverhead Books | TR
978-0-399-57325-5
336 pp. | $16.00/$22.00 Can.
EB: 978-0-399-57640-9

Soho Press | TR
978-1-61695-872-5
EB: 978-1-56947-749-6

Winner of the Black Caucus at ALA Award

Random House Trade Paperbacks | TR
978-0-8129-9381-3
368 pp. | $17.00/$23.00 Can.
EB: 978-0-8129-9535-0

#1 New York Times Bestseller; Winner of the Man Booker Prize
**Home Fire: A Novel**  
*By Kamila Shamsie*  
Isma travels to America to resume a dream long deferred, but she worries about Aneeka, her headstrong sister back in London, and their brother, Parvaiz, who’s disappeared in pursuit of his own dream, to prove himself to the dark legacy of their jihadist father. Then the son of a powerful politician enters the sisters’ lives. Suddenly, two families’ fates are inextricably entwined.  
"An absorbing and incisive study of race and roots, attachment and affiliation . . . timely and incendiary."—*Minneapolis Star-Tribune*

**More Happy Than Not: A Novel**  
*By Adam Silvera*  
In the months after his father’s suicide, it’s been tough for 16-year-old Aaron Soto to find happiness again, even with his girlfriend and mother’s support. When Aaron starts hanging out with a new guy, Thomas, Aaron’s crew isn’t thrilled. But Thomas makes him feel safe from himself. Should he consider turning to the Leteo Institute’s revolutionary memory-alteration procedure to straighten himself out, even if it means forgetting who he truly is?  
"[An] important addition to speculative fiction for young adults . . . Silvera’s tale combines the best features of science fiction with social justice in this engaging read, as Aaron finds a place where he belongs"—*Los Angeles Times*

**Swing Time: A Novel**  
*By Zadie Smith*  
Two brown girls dream of being dancers—but only one Tracey, has talent. Tracey makes it to the chorus line but struggles with adult life, while Aimee leaves the old neighborhood behind, traveling the world as an assistant to a famous singer, observing close up how the one percent live and developing grand philanthropic ambitions.  
"Smith’s most affecting novel in a decade, one that brings a piercing focus to her favorite theme: the struggle to weave disparate threads of experience into a coherent story of a self."—*The New Yorker*

**The Female Persuasion: A Novel**  
*By Meg Wolitzer*  
An electric novel about a shy college freshman who learns not just about who we want to be with, but who we want to be. It’s a story about the people who guide and the people who follow (and how those roles evolve over time), and the desire within all of us to be pulled into the light.  
"Wolitzer’s narrative poses difficult questions about feminism using an approach that is direct, generous, and, most importantly, not presuming there is one correct answer. A work of imagination and intelligence that deserves a wide readership."—*Los Angeles Review of Books*
Enlightenment Now
The Case for Reason, Science, Humanism, and Progress
By Steven Pinker

In this elegant assessment of the human condition, Pinker urges us to step back from gory headlines and prophecies of doom, which play to our psychological biases. In seventy-five jaw-dropping graphs, Pinker shows that life, health, prosperity, safety, peace, knowledge, and happiness are on the rise, not just in the West, but worldwide. With intellectual depth and literary flair, Enlightenment Now makes the case for reason, science, and humanism: the ideals we need to confront our problems and continue our progress.

“A terrific book . . . . [Pinker] recounts the progress across a broad array of metrics, from health to wars, the environment to happiness, equal rights to quality of life.”—Nicholas Kristof, The New York Times

“The world is getting better, even if it doesn’t always feel that way. I’m glad we have brilliant thinkers like Steven Pinker to help us see the big picture. Enlightenment Now is not only the best book Pinker’s ever written. It’s my new favorite book of all time.”—Bill Gates

On Tyranny
Twenty Lessons from the Twentieth Century
By Timothy Snyder

A historian of fascism offers a guide for surviving and resisting America’s turn towards authoritarianism.

The Founding Fathers tried to protect us from the threat they knew, the tyranny that overcame ancient democracy. Today, our political order faces new threats, not unlike the totalitarianism of the 20th century. We are no wiser than the Europeans who saw democracy yield to fascism, Nazism, or communism. Our one advantage is that we might learn from their experience.

“Snyder is superbly positioned to bring historical thinking to bear on the current political scene. . . . These unpretentious words remind us that political resistance isn’t a matter of action-movie heroics, but starts from a willingness to break from social expectations.”—Jeet Heer, The New Republic
The World in a Grain
The Story of Sand and How It Transformed Civilization
By Vince Beiser

Award-winning journalist Vince Beiser delves deep into the compelling true story of the hugely important and diminishing natural resource that grows more essential every day, and of the people who mine it, sell it, build with it—and sometimes, even kill for it. From Egypt’s pyramids to the Hubble telescope, from the world’s tallest skyscraper to the sidewalk below it, from Chartres’ stained-glass windows to your iPhone, sand shelters us, empowers us, engages us, and inspires us. It’s the ingredient that makes possible our cities, our science, our lives—and our future.

Themes: Current Events

Website: tiny.cc/Sfgiwy

Behind the Beautiful Forevers
Life, Death, and Hope in a Mumbai Undercity
By Katherine Boo

In this brilliant, breathtaking book by Pulitzer Prize winner Katherine Boo, a bewildering age of global change and inequality is made human through the dramatic story of families striving toward a better life in the slums of Mumbai.

“Moving . . . a humane, powerful and insightful book . . . a book of nonfiction so stellar it puts most novels to shame.”—The Boston Globe

Winner of the National Book Award, Los Angeles Times Book Prize, and American Academy of Arts and Letters Literature Award; Finalist, Pulitzer Prize and the National Book Critics Circle Award; Shortlisted for the Samuel Johnson Prize

Themes: Current Events; Economic Inequality

Website: tiny.cc/BooFYE

The Boys in the Boat
Nine Americans and Their Epic Quest for Gold at the 1936 Berlin Olympics
By Daniel James Brown

“The astonishing story of the UW’s 1936 eight-oar varsity crew and its rise from obscurity to fame . . . . The individual stories of these young men are almost as compelling as the rise of the team itself. Brown excels at weaving those stories with the larger narrative, all culminating in the 1936 Olympic Games . . . . The narrative rises inexorably, with the final 50 pages blurring by with white-knuckled suspense as these all-American underdogs pull off the unimaginable.”—The Seattle Times

Themes: Coming-of-Age

Website: tiny.cc/vnhkwY

We Were Eight Years in Power
An American Tragedy
By Ta-Nehisi Coates

We Were Eight Years in Power features Coates’s iconic essays first published in The Atlantic, including “Fear of a Black President” and “The Black Family in the Age of Mass Incarceration,” along with eight fresh essays that revisit each year of the Obama administration through Coates’s own experiences and intellectual development, capped by a bracingly original assessment of the election that fully illuminated the tragedy of the Obama era.

Themes: African-American Experience; Current Events

Website: tiny.cc/Coates
Video: tiny.cc/CoatesVideo

New York Times Bestseller; One of the Best Books of the Year by The New York Times; Finalist for the PEN/Jeann Stein Book Award and the Los Angeles Times Book Prize
**Storm Lake**
A Chronicle of Change, Resilience, and Hope from a Heartland Newspaper
*By Art Cullen*

In this candid and timely book, 2017 Pulitzer-winning newspaperman Art Cullen describes how the rural prairies have changed dramatically over his career, as seen from the vantage point of a farming and meatpacking town of 15,000 in Northwest Iowa. An unsentimental ode to America’s heartland as seen in small-town Iowa, politics, agriculture, the environment, and immigration are all themes in Storm Lake, a chronicle of a resilient newspaper, as much a survivor as its town.

Themes: Current Events; Economic Inequality; Immigration

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**The Potlikker Papers**
A Food History of the Modern South
*By John T. Edge*

A people’s history of the modern South, told through its food. Beginning with the pivotal role cooks and waiters played in the civil rights movement, Edge narrates the South’s fitful journey from a hive of racism to a hotbed of American immigration, showing why working-class Southern food has become a driver of American cuisine.

A wonderful narrative of the region’s evolution on race.”
—Diane McWhorter, Pulitzer Prize-winning author of *Carry Me Home*

Themes: Identity; Immigration; Economic Inequality

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**The Creative Spark**
How Imagination Made Humans Exceptional
*By Agustín Fuentes, PhD*

A bold new synthesis of paleontology, archaeology, genetics, and anthropology that overturns misconceptions about race, war and peace, and human nature itself, answering an age-old question: What made humans so exceptional among all the species on Earth?

“A magisterial tour of what makes us human, and how we got that way . . . This is the best guide I know on how the human world evolved, and a solid foundation for creative optimism.”—R. Brian Ferguson, Rutgers University

Themes: Identity

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**The Book That Changed America**
How Darwin’s Theory of Evolution Ignited a Nation
*By Randall Fuller*

Fuller takes us back to a turning point in American history in 1860 with the story of the influence of Charles Darwin’s just-published *On the Origin of Species* on five American intellectuals, including Bronson Alcott, Henry David Thoreau, the child welfare reformer Charles Loring Brace, and the abolitionist Franklin Sanborn.

“A lively, wide-ranging, informative account of the enthusiasm—and consternation—provoked by Darwin’s masterpiece among his first influential American readers.”
—Lawrence Buell, Harvard University

Themes: Religion & Spirituality

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**Video:** tiny.cc/mxypxy

**Website:** tiny.cc/yb8jwy

**Selected for Common Reading at Skidmore College**

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To request examination copies, email commonreads@prh.com
Beneath a Ruthless Sun
A True Story of Violence, Race, and Justice Lost and Found
By Gilbert King

A crime in 1950s Florida exposes the fears that rippled through the South as integration began to take hold, sparking a surge of contagious racism that savaged the vulnerable, debased the powerful, and survives still.

“A fascinating examination of an injustice story all too familiar and still largely ignored, an engaging and essential read.”—Bryan Stevenson, author of *Just Mercy*


Themes:
African-American Experience; Crime & Justice; Diversity; Immigration

Website: tiny.cc/yb8jwy
Video: tiny.cc/3yp3wy

In the Shadow of Statues
A White Southerner Confronts History
By Mitch Landrieu

The New Orleans mayor who removed the Confederate statues confronts the racism that shapes us and argues for white America to reckon with its past. A passionate, personal, urgent book from the man who sparked a national debate.

“With a balance of humility and conviction, [Mayor Landrieu] recounts his path to a more profound understanding of racial justice and explains how this journey led him to remove the Confederate monuments in New Orleans. It’s an important book for everyone in America to read.”—Walter Isaacson, author of *Steve Jobs*

Themes:
African-American Experience; Current Events

Website: tiny.cc/2yyppy
Video: tiny.cc/2yyppy

Salt Sugar Fat
How the Food Giants Hooked Us
By Michael Moss

Every day, Americans ingest 8,500 milligrams of salt, double the recommended amount, almost none of which comes from the shakers on our table. It comes from processed food, an industry that hauls in $1 trillion in annual sales. In *Salt Sugar Fat*, Pulitzer Prize–winning investigative reporter Michael Moss shows how we ended up here.

“[Michael] Moss has written a *Fast Food Nation* for the processed food industry. Burrowing deep inside the big food manufacturers, he discovered how junk food is formulated to make us eat more of it and, he argues persuasively, actually to addict us.”—Michael Pollan, author of *The Omnivore’s Dilemma*

Themes:
Current Events; Health & Medicine

Website: tiny.cc/MossFYE

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

O’Neil exposes the “weapons of math destruction” that score teachers and students, sort résumés, grant (or deny) loans, set parole, and monitor our health. In theory, this should lead to greater fairness, but as O’Neil reveals, the opposite is true.

“An urgent critique of . . . the rampant misuse of math in nearly every aspect of our lives.”—The *Boston Globe*

Longlisted for the National Book Award; *New York Times* Editor’s Choice

Themes:
Current Events; Economic Inequality

Website: tiny.cc/ONeilFYE
Video: tiny.cc/ONeilVideo

Selected for Common Reading at:
North Carolina Agricultural and Technical State University; Virginia Commonwealth University; Southwest Virginia Governor’s School

Random House Trade Paperbacks
TR | 978-0-8129-8219-0
480 pp. | $18.00

EB: 978-0-679-60477-8

Selected for Common Reading at:
Adelphi University; Cowell College at University of California, Santa Cruz; Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute

Broadway Books | TR
978-0-553-41883-5
288 pp. | $16.00/$22.00 Can.

EB: 978-0-553-41882-8
**West Wingers**
*Stories from the Dream Chasers, Change Makers, and Hope Creators Inside the Obama White House*
*By Gautam Raghavan, editor*

Eighteen Obama staffers bring us deep inside the presidency, culminating an inspiring call to arms for public service, a manifesto for the power of committed public servants to make real change, and a powerful testament to what true diversity, inclusivity, and progress can look like in America.

"West Wingers is exceptional because of the people in it: ordinary citizens who did extraordinary work and always put the American people first. We have so much to learn from their stories.” —Joe Biden

**Themes:** Current Events; Altruism; Diversity; Life Skills; Identity

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**Churchill and Orwell**
*The Fight for Freedom*
*By Thomas E. Ricks*

A dual biography of Winston Churchill and George Orwell. Together, to an extent not sufficiently appreciated, these two men kept the West’s compass set toward freedom despite the menace of authoritarian rule.

“What comes across strongly in this highly enjoyable book is the fierce commitment of both Orwell and Churchill to critical thought.” —*The New York Times Book Review*

“An elegantly written celebration of two men who . . . demonstrated that an individual can make a difference.” —San Francisco Chronicle

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**The Food Explorer**
*The True Adventures of the Globe-Trotting Botanist Who Transformed What America Eats*
*By Daniel Stone*

The true adventures of David Fairchild, a late-nineteenth-century food explorer who traveled the globe and introduced diverse crops—like avocados, mangoes, seedless grapes—to the American plate. Along the way, he was arrested, caught diseases, and bargained with island tribes. But his culinary ambition came during a formative era, and through him, America transformed into the most diverse food system ever created.

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**The Vaccine Race**
*Science, Politics, and the Human Costs of Defeating Disease*
*By Meredith Wadman*

The epic and controversial story of a major breakthrough in cell biology that led to the conquest of rubella and other devastating diseases.

“A riveting tale of scientific infighting, clashing personalities, sketchy ethics, and the transformation of cell biology from a sleepy scientific backwater to a high-stakes arena where vast fortunes are made.” —*The Wall Street Journal*
Flint was already a troubled city in 2014 when the state of Michigan—in the name of austerity—shifted the source of its water supply from Lake Huron to the Flint River. Soon after, citizens began complaining about the water that flowed from their taps—but officials rebuffed them, insisting that the water was fine. Dr. Mona Hanna-Attisha, a pediatrician at the city’s public hospital, took state officials at their word and encouraged the parents and children in her care to continue drinking the water—after all, it was American tap water, blessed with the state’s seal of approval.

But a conversation at a cookout with an old friend, leaked documents from a rogue environmental inspector, and the activism of a concerned mother raised red flags about lead—a neurotoxin whose irreversible effects fall most heavily on children. Even as circumstantial evidence mounted and protests grew, Dr. Mona knew that the only thing that could stop the lead poisoning was undeniable proof—and that to get it, she’d have to enter the fight of her life.

What the Eyes Don’t See is the inspiring story of how Dr. Mona—accompanied by an idiosyncratic team of researchers, parents, friends, and community leaders—proved that Flint’s kids were exposed to lead and then fought her own government and a brutal backlash to expose that truth to the world. Paced like a scientific thriller, this book shows how misguided austerity policies, the withdrawal of democratic government, and callous bureaucratic indifference placed an entire city at risk. 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.

What the Eyes Don’t See is a riveting, beautifully rendered account of a shameful disaster that became a tale of hope, the story of a city on the ropes that came together to fight for justice, self-determination, and the right to build a better world for their—and all of our—children.
The Good Food Revolution  
Growing Healthy Food, People, and Communities  
By Will Allen

Despite financial challenges and daunting odds, Will Allen built the country’s preeminent urban farm—a food and educational center that now produces enough produce and fish year-round to feed thousands. Employing young people from the neighboring housing project and community, Growing Power shows how local food systems can help troubled youths, dismantle racism, create jobs, bring urban and rural communities closer together, and improve public health. The Good Food Revolution is the story of a pioneering urban farmer and MacArthur Genius Award-Winner pointing the way to a new food system that can feed—and heal—communities.

Themes: Altruism; Current Events; Health & Medicine; Economic Inequality; African-American Experience

Ocean Country  
One Woman’s Voyage from Peril to Hope in Her Quest To Save the Seas  
By Liz Cunningham  
Foreword by Carl Safina

Ocean Country is an adventure story, a call to action, and a poetic meditation on the state of the seas. But most importantly, it is the story of finding true hope in the midst of one of the greatest crises to face humankind.

“Citing examples of sustainable fisheries and marine-protected areas around the world, the book ends on the hopeful note that we may have stopped hitting the snooze button when it comes to taking action against climate change.”—Booklist

Themes: Science & Technology

Drawdown  
The Most Comprehensive Plan Ever Proposed to Reverse Global Warming  
By Paul Hawken, editor  
Foreword by Tom Steyer

Scientists, policymakers, and activists lay out the 100 most substantive solutions to reverse global warming, based on meticulous research by leading scientists and policymakers around the world. These measures promise cascading benefits to human health, security, prosperity, and well-being—giving us every reason to see this planetary crisis as an opportunity to create a just and livable world.

Themes: Current Events

Garbology  
Our Dirty Love Affair with Trash  
By Edward Humes

A Pulitzer Prize–winning journalist takes readers on a surprising tour of America’s biggest export, our most prodigious product, and our greatest legacy: our trash.

“A real romp through the waste stream. Garbology is an illuminating, entertaining read that ultimately provides hope and tips for a less wasteful future. This book will make you want to burn, or at least recycle, your trash can!”—Jonathan Bloom, author of American Wasteland

“An important addition to the environmentalist bookshelf.”—Kirkus Reviews

Themes: Current Events

To request examination copies, email commonreads@prh.com
THE ENVIRONMENT

Trespassing Across America
One Man’s Epic, Never-Done-Before (and Sort of Illegal) Hike Across the Heartland
By Ken Ilgunas

Both a travel memoir and a reflection on climate change, Trespassing Across America is both a fascinating account of one man’s remarkable journey along the proposed Keystone XL pipeline route and a meditation on climate change, the beauty of the natural world, and the extremes to which we can push ourselves—both physically and mentally.

“Timely and riveting . . . . The book mirrors its young author: impulsive, tenacious, reflective and, amazingly, cautious . . . . ”—The Huffington Post

Themes: Current Events

Big Chicken
The Incredible Story of How Antibiotics Created Modern Agriculture and Changed the Way the World Eats
By Maryn McKenna

Acclaimed health journalist and National Geographic contributor Maryn McKenna documents how antibiotics transformed chicken from local delicacy to industrial commodity—and human health threat—uncovering the ways America’s favorite meal can be made safer again.

Rich with scientific, historical, and cultural insights, this cautionary tale shines a light on one of America’s favorite foods.

Themes: Science & Technology; Health & Medicine

Where the Water Goes
Life and Death Along the Colorado River
By David Owen

“Owen is effortlessly engaging, informally parceling out information about acre-foot allotments alongside sketches of notable, often dreadful figures in the river’s history . . . . It’s a restless travelogue of long-term human impact on the natural world, and how politics and economics have as much to do with redirecting rivers as any canal. But with its historical eddies, policy asides, and trips to the Hoover Dam, at heart Where the Water Goes is about water as a function of time, and a reminder that we’re running out of both.”—NPR.org

Themes: Current Events

Stuffed and Starved
The Hidden Battle for the World Food System—Revised and Updated
By Raj Patel

There are more starving people in the world than ever before, while there are also more people who are overweight. To find out how we got to this point and what we can do about it, Raj Patel launched a comprehensive investigation into the global food network. What he found was shocking.

“For anyone attempting to make sense of the world food crisis . . . Stuffed and Starved is indispensable.”—Michael Pollan, author of The Omnivore’s Dilemma

Themes: Science & Technology; Health & Medicine

Selected for Common Reading at George Williams College of Aurora University

Selected for Common Reading at Skagit Valley College

Selected for Common Reading at Melville House

Blue Rider Press | TR
Website: tiny.cc/Teakwy
Video: tiny.cc/giyspsy

Plume | TR
Website: tiny.cc/McKennaFYE
Video: tiny.cc/McKennaFYEVideo

Riverhead Books | TR
Website: tiny.cc/ahakwy

Melville House | TR
Website: tiny.cc/RPatelFYE
Video: tiny.cc/RPatelVideo

National Geographic | HC
Website: tiny.cc/McKennaFYE

Skagit Valley College
Website: tiny.cc/ahakwy

Melville House
Website: tiny.cc/RPatelFYE

First-Year & Common Reading 2019
Wonderland
How Play Made the Modern World
By Steven Johnson

This lushly illustrated history of popular entertainment takes a long-zoom approach, contending that the pursuit of novelty and wonder is a powerful driver of world-shaping technological change. Introducing readers to the colorful inventions of leisure from exotic meals to magic shows, Johnson argues that, throughout history, the cutting edge of innovation lies wherever people are working the hardest to keep themselves and others amused.

“Crammed with elegantly told vignettes from the history of ideas . . . The book is full of excellent facts.”—The Wall Street Journal

“Johnson’s writing derives its appeal from his ability to illuminate complex ideas in unpretentious language . . . Wonderland is original and fun, as well it should be, given the subject.”—San Francisco Chronicle


Steven Johnson is the bestselling author of ten books, including Farsighted, How We Got to Now, Where Good Ideas Come From, The Invention of Air, The Ghost Map, and Everything Bad Is Good for You. The founder of a variety of influential websites, he is the host and co-creator of the PBS and BBC series How We Got to Now.

Website: tiny.cc/aiakwy
Video: tiny.cc/s4ypxy

“A rare gem . . . . Our illogical, enduring fascination with play remains one of life’s great mysteries. That is precisely what makes the subject so fascinating, and Wonderland such a compelling read.”—The Washington Post

Also by Steven Johnson:

Farsighted
How We Make the Decisions That Matter the Most
By Steven Johnson

“One of those rare works that is highly relevant to the daily functioning of just about everybody.”—Publishers Weekly

How We Got to Now
Six Innovations That Made the Modern World
By Steven Johnson

“An innovative way to talk about history.”—Jon Stewart

Shortlist 2014 PEN/E. O. Wilson Literary Science Writing Award

To request examination copies, email commonreads@prh.com
For three years Jon Ronson, author of The Psychopath Test, traveled the world meeting people whose mistakes or lapses in judgment were met with a firestorm of collective outrage enabled by social media—often with profound consequences on their lives. Once their transgression is revealed, collective outrage circles with the force of a hurricane and the next thing they know they’re being torn apart by an angry mob, jeered at, demonized, sometimes even fired from their job. In So You’ve Been Publicly Shamed, he explores their stories and delivers an incisive critique of modern-day shaming as a form of social control and as a war on human nature and its flaws.

“A work of original, inspired journalism, it considers the complex dynamics between those who shame and those who are shamed, both of whom can become the focus of social media’s grotesque, disproportionate judgments.”
—Financial Times

“Ronson manages to be at once academic and entertaining.”—The Boston Globe

“Gutsy and smart. Without losing any of the clever agility that makes his books so winning, [Ronson] has taken on truly consequential material and risen to the challenge….. Fascinating.”
—The New York Times
Irresistible
The Rise of Addictive Technology and the Business of Keeping Us Hooked
By Adam Alter

Alter, a professor of psychology and marketing at NYU, tracks the rise of behavioral addiction and explains why so many of today’s digitized products are impossible to resist.

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