Dear Common Reading Director:

The Common Reads team at Penguin Random House is excited to present our latest book recommendations for your common reading program. In this catalog you will discover new titles such as Ibram X. Kendi’s bracingly original approach to understanding and uprooting racism and inequality in *How to Be an Antiracist*; actor/author/activist George Takei’s graphic memoir, *They Called Us Enemy*, recounting his childhood imprisoned within American concentration camps during World War II; mathematician and former NFL player John Urschel’s story of a life balanced between two passions in *Mind and Matter*, a profound call to action about what our world could look like in fifty years in David Wallace-Wells’s *The Uninhabitable Earth: Life After Warming*; and Chris Wilson’s inspiring, instructive, and ultimately triumphant tale of how he used hard work to turn a life sentence into a second chance in *The Master Plan*. The list could easily go on.

In addition to this catalog, our recently refreshed and updated [www.commonreads.com](http://www.commonreads.com) website features titles from across Penguin Random House’s publishers as well as great blog content, including links to author videos, and the third iteration of our annual “What Students Will Be Reading: Campus Common Reading Roundup,” a valuable resource and archive for common reading programs across the country. And be sure to check out our online resource for Higher Education: [www.prheducation.com](http://www.prheducation.com). Featuring Penguin Random House’s most frequently-adopted titles across more than 1,700 college courses, the site allows professors to easily identify books and resources appropriate for a wide range of courses. Penguin Random House is the first trade publisher to provide such a comprehensive and extensive service across its front and backlist.

Lastly, our newly reorganized Higher Education Account Manager team now provides field coverage across the entire country. Visit [tiny.cc/CRTeam](http://tiny.cc/CRTeam) to discover who your Account Manager is; they are an ideal resource to discuss what titles are the best fit for your school.

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

Sincerely,

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

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The Penguin Random House Common Reading Advisory Board was launched in 2010. Comprised of your colleagues 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.
Contents

MEMOIR AND BIOGRAPHY .......................................................... 5
SOCIAL JUSTICE-SPOTLIGHT ON IMMIGRATION ....................... .21
SOCIAL JUSTICE ................................................................. 25
INSPIRATION ............................................................................ 29
FICTION .................................................................................... 37
HISTORY .................................................................................... 45
THE ENVIRONMENT .................................................................. 57
SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY ................................................... 62
INDEX ....................................................................................... 71

Legend

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2020 FYE® Events

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 21ST    Dinner

Susan Fowler
WHISTLEBLOWER
(Viking)

Ibram X. Kendi
HOW TO BE AN ANTIRACIST
(One World)

Kwame Onwuachi
NOTES FROM A YOUNG BLACK CHEF
(Knopf)

Adib Khorram
DARIUS THE GREAT IS NOT OKAY
(Penguin Young Readers)

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 22ND    Luncheon

Jennifer L. Eberhardt
BIASED
(Viking)

Diane Smith
SALT IN MY SOUL
by Mallory Smith
(Random House)

John Urschel
MIND AND MATTER
(Penguin Press)

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 22ND    Cocktails and Conversation

Bina Venkataraman
THE OPTIMIST’S TELESCOPE
(Riverhead)

David Wallace-Wells
THE UNINHABITABLE EARTH
(Tim Duggan Books)

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 23RD    Luncheon

Carolyn A. Forché
WHAT YOU HAVE HEARD IS TRUE
(Penguin)

Brandon Hobson
WHERE THE DEAD SIT TALKING
(Soho Press)

Chris Wilson
THE MASTER PLAN
(Putnam)

Bren Smith
EAT LIKE A FISH
(Knopf)

To register for any of these events or for more information, go to: www.tiny.cc/PRHFYE20 or sign up at the PENGUIN RANDOM HOUSE booths #14-16 at the FYE® annual meeting.
Consider the power of the spoken word to make the First-Year/Common Reading Experience More Inclusive

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• Digital audiobook circulation is on the rise. Nearly half of audiobook listeners downloaded an audiobook from a library last year.

GETTING STARTED

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In a life filled with meaning and accomplishment, Michelle Obama has emerged as one of the most iconic and compelling women of our era. As First Lady of the United States of America—the first African American to serve in that role—she helped create the most welcoming and inclusive White House in history, while also establishing herself as a powerful advocate for women and girls in the U.S. and around the world, dramatically changing the ways that families pursue healthier and more active lives, and standing with her husband as he led America through some of its most harrowing moments. Along the way, she showed us a few dance moves, crushed Carpool Karaoke, and raised two down-to-earth daughters under an unforgiving media glare.

In her memoir, a work of deep reflection and mesmerizing storytelling, Michelle Obama invites readers into her world, chronicling the experiences that have shaped her—from her childhood on the South Side of Chicago to her years as an executive balancing the demands of motherhood and work, to her time spent at the world’s most famous address. With unerring honesty and lively wit, she describes her triumphs and her disappointments, both public and private, telling her full story as she has lived it—in her own words and on her own terms. Warm, wise, and revelatory, Becoming is the deeply personal reckoning of a woman of soul and substance who has steadily defied expectations—and whose story inspires us to do the same.
Salt in My Soul
An Unfinished Life

By Mallory Smith

The diaries of a remarkable young woman who was determined to live a meaningful and happy life despite her struggle with cystic fibrosis and a rare superbug—from age fifteen to her death at the age of twenty-five.

Diagnosed with cystic fibrosis at the age of three, Mallory Smith grew up to be a determined, talented young woman who inspired others even as she privately raged against her illness. Despite the daily challenges of endless medical treatments and a deep understanding that she’d never lead a normal life, Mallory was determined to “Live Happy,” a mantra she followed until her death. Mallory worked hard to make the most out of the limited time she had, graduating Phi Beta Kappa from Stanford University, becoming a cystic fibrosis advocate well known in the CF community, and embarking on a career as a professional writer. Along the way, she cultivated countless intimate friendships and ultimately found love.

For more than ten years, Mallory recorded her thoughts and observations about struggles and feelings too personal to share during her life, leaving instructions for her mother to publish her work posthumously. She hoped that her writing would offer insight to those living with, or loving someone with, chronic illness.

What emerges is a powerful and inspiring portrait of a brave young woman and blossoming writer who did not allow herself to be defined by disease. Her words offer comfort and hope to readers, even as she herself was facing death. Salt in My Soul is a beautifully crafted, intimate, and poignant tribute to a short life well lived—and a call for all of us to embrace our own lives as fully as possible.

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Mallory Smith, who grew up in Los Angeles, was a freelance writer and editor specializing in environmental issues, social justice, and healthcare-related communications. She graduated Phi Beta Kappa from Stanford University. Smith died at the age of twenty-five on November 15, 2017, two months after receiving a double-lung transplant.

Website: tiny.cc/SaltinMySoulFYE

“This is a deeply moving book full of wisdom about health, life, and love—and about the importance of finding happiness wherever and whenever we can. Salt in My Soul broke my heart but also inspired me to make the most of every day.”

—Will Schwalbe, New York Times bestselling author of The End of Your Life Book Club
A stunning graphic memoir recounting actor, author, and activist George Takei’s childhood imprisoned within American concentration camps during World War II.

George Takei has captured hearts and minds worldwide with his captivating stage presence and outspoken commitment to equal rights. But long before he braved new frontiers in Star Trek, he woke up as a four-year-old boy to find his own birth country at war with his father’s—and their entire family forced from their home into an uncertain future.

In 1942, at the order of President Franklin D. Roosevelt, every person of Japanese descent on the west coast was rounded up and shipped to one of ten “relocation centers,” hundreds or thousands of miles from home, where they would be held for years under armed guard.

They Called Us Enemy is Takei’s firsthand account of those years behind barbed wire, the joys and terrors of growing up under legalized racism, his mother’s hard choices, his father’s faith in democracy, and the way those experiences planted the seeds for his astonishing future.

What does it mean to be an American? Who gets to decide? When the world is against you, what can one person do? To answer these questions, George Takei joins co-writers Justin Eisinger and Steven Scott and artist Harmony Becker in a graphic memoir that earns its place amongst other pivotal texts such as Marjane Satrapi’s Persepolis, John Lewis’ March trilogy, and Art Spiegelman’s Maus.

“They Called Us Enemy is truly beautiful—moving, thoughtful, important, engaging, and stunningly rendered. I am so excited to see this book’s impact on the world.”—Jacqueline Woodson, National Ambassador for Young People’s Literature and National Book Award-winning author of Brown Girl Dreaming

George Takei is known around the world for his founding role as Hikaru Sulu, helmsman of the Starship Enterprise, in the acclaimed television series Star Trek. But Takei’s story goes where few stories have gone before. From a childhood spent with his family wrongfully imprisoned in Japanese American internment camps during World War II, to becoming one of the country’s leading figures in the fight for social justice, LGBTQ rights, and marriage equality. Mashable named Takei the #1 most-influential person on Facebook, with 10.4 million likes and 2.8 million followers on Twitter.

Justin Eisinger is Editorial Director, Graphic Novels & Collections for IDW Publishing, where he has spent more than twelve years immersed in graphic storytelling.

Steven Scott has worked regularly in comics since publishing his debut book in 2010, most notably as a publicist. His writing has appeared in publications by Archie Comics, Arcana Studios, and Heavy Metal magazine.

Harmony Becker is an artist and illustrator. She is the creator of the comics Himawari Share, Love Potion, and Anemone and Catharus. She is a member of a multicultural family and has spent time living in South Korea and Japan. Her work often deals with the theme of the language barrier and how it shapes people and their relationships.

Website: georgetakei.com
Video: tiny.cc/ Takei

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New York Times Bestseller

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

**A Memoir**

*By Tara Westover*

An unforgettable memoir about a young girl who, kept out of school, leaves her survivalist family and goes on to earn a PhD from Cambridge University.

Born to survivalists in the mountains of Idaho, Tara Westover was seventeen the first time she set foot in a classroom. Her family was so isolated from mainstream society that there was no one to ensure the children received an education, and no one to intervene when one of Tara’s older brothers became violent. When another brother got himself into college, Tara decided to try a new kind of life. 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.

“A subtle, nuanced study of how dysfunction of any kind can be normalized even within the most conventional family structure, and of the damage such containment can do.”—Financial Times

“Westover’s one-of-a-kind memoir is about the shaping of a mind. . . . In briskly paced prose, she evokes a childhood that completely defined her. Yet it was also, she gradually sensed, deforming her.”—The Atlantic

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

**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.

**Website:** tiny.cc/WestoverFYE

**Video:** tiny.cc/WestoverVideo

“Westover has somehow managed not only to capture her unsurpassably exceptional upbringing, but to make her current situation seem not so exceptional at all, and resonant for many others.”

—The New York Times Book Review
Growing up in a tough Washington, D.C., neighborhood, Chris Wilson was so afraid for his life he wouldn’t leave the house without a gun. One night, defending himself, he killed a man. At eighteen, he was sentenced to life in prison with no hope of parole.

But what should have been the end of his story became the beginning. Deciding to make something of his life, Chris embarked on a journey of self-improvement—reading, working out, learning languages, even starting a business. He wrote his Master Plan: a list of all he expected to accomplish or acquire. He worked his plan every day for years, and in his mid-thirties he did the impossible: he convinced a judge to reduce his sentence and became a free man. Today Chris is a successful social entrepreneur who employs returning citizens; a mentor; and a public speaker. He is the embodiment of second chances, and this is his unforgettable story.

“This is a brave book, full of thought-provoking insight on criminal justice, the modern prison system, and the possibility of redemption. . . . Thank you, Chris Wilson, for taking us into the cave, so that we can better understand the light.”
—Beth Macy, bestselling author of Dopesick and Factory Man

“The Master Plan is less of a roadmap and more of a philosophy that we should all take to heart: we are all better than our worst decision, our sense of justice should honor the redemptive possibilities inherent in every person, and our destinies are truly intertwined.”
—Wes Moore, author of The Other Wes Moore
Hill Women
Finding Family and a Way Forward in the Appalachian Mountains
By Cassie Chambers

Nestled in the Appalachian mountains, Owsley County is one of the poorest counties in both Kentucky and the country. Buildings are crumbling and fields sit vacant, as tobacco farming and coal mining decline. But strong women are finding creative ways to subsist in their hollers in the hills.

Cassie Chambers grew up in these hollers and, through the women who raised her, she traces her own path out of and back into the Kentucky mountains. Chambers’s Granny was a child bride who rose before dawn every morning to raise seven children. Despite her poverty, she wouldn’t hesitate to give the last bite of pie or vegetables from her garden to a struggling neighbor. Her two daughters took very different paths: strong-willed Ruth—the hardest-working tobacco farmer in the county—stayed on the family farm, while spirited Wilma—the sixth child—became the first in the family to graduate from high school. Cassie would spend much of her childhood with Granny and Ruth in the hills of Owsley County, both while Wilma was in college and after. With her “hill women” values guiding her, Cassie went on to graduate from Harvard Law. But while the Ivy League gave her knowledge and opportunities, its privileged world felt far from her reality, and she moved back home to help her fellow rural Kentucky women by providing free legal services.

What You Have Heard Is True
A Memoir of Witness and Resistance
By Carolyn Forché

Written by one of the most gifted poets of her generation, What You Have Heard Is True is the story of Carolyn Forché’s fateful encounter with an intriguing man who invites her to visit and learn about his country, El Salvador. Captivated for reasons she doesn’t fully understand, she accepts and becomes enmeshed in something beyond her comprehension.

In a country on the verge of war, the two meet with high-ranking military officers, impoverished farm workers, and clergy desperately trying to assist the poor and keep the peace. As priests and farm-workers are murdered and protest marches attacked, the man is determined to save his country, and Forché is swept up in his work. What You Have Heard Is True is a devastating, lyrical, and visionary memoir about a young woman’s brave choice to engage with horror in order to help others.

“Forché vividly evokes her complex relationship with her mentor and with organizers, laborers, and religious leaders whose courage in the face of atrocity taught her that ‘resistance to oppression begins when people realize deeply within themselves that something better is possible.’” —The New Yorker

A 2020 FYE® Guest Speaker

Video: tiny.cc/CarolynForcheVideo
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.

March: Book Three
By John Lewis, Andrew Aydin, and Nate Powell

Welcome to the stunning conclusion of the award-winning and best-selling MARCH trilogy. By the fall of 1963, the Civil Rights Movement has penetrated deep into the American consciousness, and as chairman 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.

March: Book One, Two, and Three have been selected for common reading at more than 30 colleges, including: Michigan State University; Georgia State University; George Mason University; University of Maryland; University of Utah and more. To view the complete list, go to: tiny.cc/MarchFYEadoptions
Breathe
A Letter to My Sons
By Imani Perry

In her memoir, Imani Perry explores the terror, grace, and beauty of coming of age as a Black person in contemporary America and what it means to parent our children in a persistently unjust world.

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

Perry draws upon the ideas of figures such as James Baldwin, W. E. B. DuBois, Emily Dickinson, Toni Morrison, Ralph Waldo Emerson, and Ida B. Wells. She shares vulnerabilities and insight from her own life and from encounters in places as varied as the West Side of Chicago; Birmingham, Alabama; and New England prep schools.

Mind and Matter
A Life in Math and Football
By John Urschel and Louisa Thomas

Against the odds, John Urschel found a way to manage his double life as both a scholar and an athlete. While he was an offensive lineman for the Baltimore Ravens, he simultaneously pursued his PhD in mathematics at MIT. Equally at home discussing Georg Cantor’s work on infinities and Bill Belichick’s playbook, Urschel reveals how each challenge—whether on the field or in the classroom—has brought him closer to understanding the two different halves of his own life, and how reason and emotion, the mind and the body, are always working together. “So often, people want to divide the world into two,” he observes. “Matter and energy. Wave and particle. Athlete and mathematician. Why can’t something (or someone) be both?”

"A charming memoir on the joys of solving puzzles and pushing yourself past your so-called limits. It’s not every day that you read a book by an NFL lineman who’s working on a math PhD at MIT, and John Urschel reminds us that a full life depends on exercising both your brain and your body."—Adam Grant, author of Originals

A 2020 FYE® Guest Speaker  
Video: tiny.cc/JohnUrschelVideo
MEMOIR AND BIOGRAPHY

**Places and Names**
**On War, Revolution, and Returning**
*By Elliot Ackerman*

Moving back and forth between his recent experiences on the ground as a journalist in Syria and his past in Iraq and Afghanistan, veteran Elliot Ackerman reckons with the nature of combat and the human cost of war.

“Elliot Ackerman brings a novelist’s skill with language, a reporter’s eye for detail, and his life experience as a highly decorated Marine veteran of five deployments to bear in this unique and powerful meditation on violence, heroism, and the fracturing of the Middle East.”—Phil Klay, author of *Redeployment*

**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.

**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*

**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.

“Katherine Boo’s visit to campus was very exciting for our students, and her interactions with them—including her evening lecture—were consistently stimulating and provocative. She provided the perfect coda for our First Year Reading program.”—Janet G. Casey, Director, First Year Experience, Skidmore College

Winner of the National Book Award

**Website:** tiny.cc/ElliotAckermanFYE
**Video:** tiny.cc/ElliotAckermanVideo

Penguin Press | HC
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Also Available: *Waiting for Eden* 9780100737571; *Dark at the Crossing* 9780100737557

**Website:** tiny.cc/LaurieHalseAndersonFYE
**Video:** tiny.cc/LaurieHalseAndersonVideo

Viking Books for Young Readers | HC
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**Website:** tiny.cc/MoustafaBayoumiFYE
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She’s Not There
A Life in Two Genders
By Jennifer Finney Boylan

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

Website: tiny.cc/BoylanFYE
Video: tiny.cc/BoylanVideo

Selected for Common Reading at: California State University, East Bay

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

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

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

Selected for Common Reading at: Amherst College; Brooklyn College; Davidson College; Jackson State University; New York University; Pacific Lutheran College; University of California—Los Angeles; University of Oregon, and more.

Whistleblower
My Journey to Silicon Valley and Fight for Justice at Uber
By Susan Fowler

At 25, Susan Fowler began work at Uber, where she discovered a pervasive culture of sexism, harassment, racism, and abuse. When Uber told Fowler that she was the problem, she banded together with other women to try to make change. And when that didn’t work, she went public. Fowler could never have anticipated the impact her words would have on Silicon Valley—and the world. This moving story of a woman’s lifelong fight to do what she loves—despite repeatedly being told no or treated as less-than—is a source of inspiration for all.

Website: tiny.cc/Fowler

Also Available: We Were Eight Years in Power

Chasing My Cure
A Doctor’s Race to Turn Hope into Action: A Memoir
By David Fajgenbaum

The powerful memoir of a young doctor and former college athlete diagnosed with a rare disease who spearheaded the search for a cure—and became a champion for a new approach to medical research.

“An extraordinary memoir . . . It belongs with Atul Gawande’s writings and When Breath Becomes Air.”—Adam Grant, New York Times bestselling author of Originals

“A page-turning chronicle of living, nearly dying, and discovering what it really means to be invincible in hope.”—Angela Duckworth, bestselling author of Grit

Website: tiny.cc/Fajgenbaum

A 2020 FYE® Guest Speaker

Theme: Gender

Theme: Race & Identity

Theme: Resilience

Theme: Heath & Wellbeing
MEMOIR AND BIOGRAPHY

**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. Looking from the inside out, Casey sees how the world crushes those who live at its margins, and, even more painfully, how his own ascension is part of the scheme.

“Undeniably inspirational … a literary and often dark look at the effects the national virtue of self-reliance can have on the people who live according to it, with particularly moving passages about the atmosphere of stress, pain, and racial divides on college campuses.”—*Vanity Fair*

Theme: Race & Identity

**The Ride of a Lifetime**  
Lessons Learned from 15 Years as CEO of the Walt Disney Company  
*By Robert Iger with Joel Lovell*  

A grand vision defined: The CEO of Disney, one of *TIME*’s most influential people of 2019, shares the ideas and values he embraced to reinvent one of the most beloved companies in the world and inspire the people who bring the magic to life.

“The ideas in this book strike me as universal” Iger writes. “Not just to the aspiring CEOs of the world, but to anyone wanting to feel less fearful, more confidently themselves, as they navigate their professional and even personal lives.”

Theme: Life Skills

**Finding My Voice**  
My Journey to the West Wing and the Path Forward  
*By Valerie Jarrett*  

When Valerie Jarrett interviewed a promising young lawyer named Michelle Robinson in July 1991 for a job in Chicago city government, neither knew that it was the first step on a path that would end in the White House. Now, Jarrett, the longest-serving senior advisor in the Obama White House, shares her journey as a lawyer, business leader, and public servant.

“The world would feel a lot better if there were more people like Valerie blazing the trail for the rest of us.”—Michelle Obama

Theme: Resilience

**High Achiever**  
The Incredible True Story of One Addict’s Double Life  
*By Tiffany Jenkins*  

An up-close portrait of the mind of an addict and a life unraveled by narcotics—a memoir of captivating urgency and surprising humor that puts a human face on the opioid crisis. With heart-racing urgency and unflinching honesty, Jenkins takes the reader inside the grips of addiction and the desperate decisions it breeds. But the true surprise is her path to recovery. Tiffany breaks through the stigma and silence to offer hope and inspiration to anyone battling the disease—whether it’s a loved one or themselves.

Theme: Health & Wellbeing

To request examination copies, email commonreads@prh.com
MEMOIR AND BIOGRAPHY

When Breath Becomes Air
By Paul Kalanithi

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?

Website: tiny.cc/KalanithiFYE
Video: tiny.cc/KalanithiVideo
Selected for Common Reading at: Utah State University
Random House | HC
978-0-8129-8840-6
256 pp. | $25.00 / $33.00 Can.
EB: 9780812998843

Wise Guy
Lessons from a Life
By Guy Kawasaki

Guy Kawasaki has been a fixture in the tech world since he was part of Apple's original Macintosh team in the 1980s. But before that, he was just a middle-class kid in Hawaii, a grandson of Japanese immigrants, who loved football and got a C+ in 9th grade English. Wise Guy is about his surprising journey to becoming a Silicon Valley icon.

Website: tiny.cc/GuyKawasakiFYE
Video: tiny.cc/GuyKawasakiVideo
Portfolio | HC | 978-0-525-53861-5
272 pp. | $28.00 / $37.00 Can.
EB: 9780525538622

Reading with Patrick
A Teacher, a Student, and a Life-Changing Friendship
By Michelle Kuo

Recently graduated from Harvard University, Michelle Kuo arrived in the rural town of Helena, Arkansas, as a Teach for America volunteer, bursting with optimism and drive. But she soon encountered the jarring realities of life in one of the poorest counties in America, still disabled by the legacy of slavery and Jim Crow. In this stirring memoir, Kuo, the child of Taiwanese immigrants, shares the story of her complicated but rewarding mentorship of one student, Patrick Browning, and his remarkable literary and personal awakening.

Website: tiny.cc/KuoFYE
Video: tiny.cc/KuoVideo
Random House | TR
978-0-8129-8714-0
336 pp. | $17.00 / $23.00 Can.
EB: 9780812997323

Call Sign Chaos
Learning to Lead
By Jim Mattis and Bing West

A clear-eyed account of learning how to lead in a chaotic world, by General Jim Mattis—the former Secretary of Defense and one of the most formidable strategic thinkers of our time—and Bing West, a former assistant secretary of defense and combat Marine.

"In this magnificent memoir, Jim Mattis details many important events in his career, but he also does much more: He explains how he is informed by his experiences in a way that teaches you how to learn from your own. Read, enjoy, and learn."—George Shultz

Website: tiny.cc/KuofYFYE
Video: tiny.cc/KuofVideo
Random House | HC
978-0-8129-9683-8
320 pp. | $28.00 / $37.00 Can.
EB: 97808129996845
MEMOIR AND BIOGRAPHY

**Guest House for Young Widows**
*Among the Women of ISIS*
*By Azadeh Moaveni*

Based on years of immersive reporting, *Guest House for Young Widows* is a gripping account of thirteen women who joined, endured, and, in some cases, escaped life in the Islamic State. Pulitzer Prize finalist Azadeh Moaveni’s exquisite sensitivity and rigorous reporting makes these forgotten women indelible and illuminates the turbulent politics that set them on their paths.

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

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

**The Work**
*Searching for a Life That Matters*
*By Wes Moore*

The acclaimed author of *The Other Wes Moore* continues his inspirational quest for a meaningful life and shares the powerful lessons—about self-discovery, service, and risk-taking—that led him to a new definition of success for our times.

"An intriguing follow-up to his bestselling *The Other Wes Moore* . . . Moore makes a convincing case that work has the most value if it’s built on a foundation of service, selflessness, courage, and risk-taking."—Publishers Weekly

"A beautifully philosophical look at the expectation that work should bring meaning to our lives."—Booklist

**Website:** tiny.cc/MoaveniFYE

**Video:** tiny.cc/WesMooreVideo

*Selected for Common Reading at more than fifty colleges & universities.*

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**Website:** tiny.cc/MoaveniFYE

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*Selected for Common Reading at: High Point University; Kent State University; Marietta College; Montana State University; Somerset Community College*

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*Selected for Common Reading at: High Point University; Kent State University; Marietta College; Montana State University; Somerset Community College*
MEMOIR AND BIOGRAPHY

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

*Born a Crime* is Trevor Noah’s compelling, inspiring, and comically sublime coming of age memoir, set during the twilight of apartheid and the tumultuous days of freedom that followed.

“The *Born a Crime* is not just an unnerving account of growing up in South Africa under apartheid, but a love letter to the author’s remarkable mother.”—Michiko Kakutani, *The New York Times*

*Winner of the Thurber Prize*

**Becoming Nicole**
The inspiring story of transgender actor-activist Nicole Maines and her extraordinary family
*By Amy Ellis Nutt*

The inspiring true story of transgender actor and activist Nicole Maines, whose identical twin brother, Jonas, and ordinary American family join her on an extraordinary journey to understand, nurture, and celebrate the uniqueness in us all.

“Fascinating and enlightening.”—Cheryl Strayed

*A Stonewall Honor Book in Nonfiction*

**The Red Bandanna**
*By Tom Rinaldi*

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.

“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.”—Dennis Smith, retired FDNY firefighter

**Fraternity**
An Inside Look at a Year of College Boys Becoming Men
*By Alexandra Robbins*

Alexandra Robbins weaves together psychology, current events, neuroscience, and interviews to explore the state of masculinity today from inside a fraternity house. For one year, she follows a freshman pledge and a chapter president as they candidly discuss sex, friendship, social media, drinking, peer pressure, and gender roles.

“The ideal book for First-Year Reading and other college reading . . . easily could lead to a safer, healthier campus culture. A must read for administrators, students, faculty, and parents.”—Alison Kiss Dougherty, former Executive Director of the Clery Center
MEMOIR AND BIOGRAPHY

From Our Land to Our Land
Imaginings and Musings of a Native Xicanx Writer
By Luis J. Rodriguez

A collection of powerful pieces on race, culture, identity and belonging and what these all mean and should mean in the volatile climate of our nation. Rodriguez writes about current political and cultural unrest, and about his vision for America’s future. Ultimately, the book posits that we must come together. He reminds us in the first essay, “The End of Belonging,” “I’m writing as a Native person. I’m writing as a poet. I’m writing as a revolutionary working class organizer and thinker who has traversed life journeys from which incredible experiences, missteps, plights, and victories have marked the way . . . . I belong anywhere.”

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

What It Is
Race, Family, and One Thinking Black Man’s Blues
By Clifford Thompson

In the tradition of James Baldwin’s The Fire Next Time and Ta-Nehisi Coates’s Between the World and Me comes Clifford Thompson’s What It Is. As a middle-aged, happily married father of biracial children, Thompson finds himself questioning his most deeply held convictions when Donald Trump ascends to the presidency. In the grip of contradictory emotions, Thompson turns to the wisdom of writers he admires while knowing that the answers to his questions about America ultimately lie in America itself. Through interviews with a small but varied group of Americans, he hears sharply divergent opinions about what is happening in the country while trying to find his own answers.

Sissy
A Coming-of-Gender Story
By Jacob Tobia

As a naturally sensitive and creative child, Jacob Tobia was given the label “sissy.” Twenty years later, Tobia revisits the stereotypes they faced in childhood, inviting us to rethink gender and offering a blueprint for a trans-inclusive feminism free from gender-based trauma. “A necessary read about gender, society, and the very real costs of prejudice and ignorance. . . . An honest, funny, and poignant memoir that will completely make you rethink the construct of gender,”—Bustle
Love Thy Neighbor
A Muslim Doctor’s Struggle for Home in Rural America
By Ayaz Virji with Alan Eisenstock

In 2013, Ayaz Virji moved to a small town in Minnesota to address the shortage of doctors in rural America. When the county swung for Donald Trump in 2016, he watched in horror as his children faced anti-Muslim remarks. Virji wanted out until a local pastor invited him to speak at her church and he began to see how his story could change hearts and minds. Virji’s narrative demonstrates the human consequences of our toxic politics and the potential for a renewal of understanding in America’s heartland.

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 she fled the Rwandan massacre. She spent the next six years migrating through seven African countries, eventually obtaining refugee status in the United States. In this memoir, Clemantine looks beyond the label of “victim” and recognizes the power of the imagination to transcend even the most profound injuries in order to construct a life on one’s own terms.

More Than Enough
Claiming Space for Who You Are (No Matter What They Say)
By Elaine Welteroth

Elaine Welteroth, as a young boss and often the only Black woman in the room, had enough of the world telling her—and all women—they’re not enough. In this part-manifesto, part-memoir, the revolutionary editor who infused social consciousness into the pages of Teen Vogue explores what it means to come into your own, on your own terms.

Uncensored
My Life and Uncomfortable Conversations at the Intersection of Black and White America
By Zachary R. Wood

There’s no one Zach Wood refused to debate or engage with during his time as president of Uncomfortable Learning at Williams College—no matter how vehemently he disagreed with them. In Uncensored, Zach makes a compelling argument for a new way of interacting with others, both on campus and beyond.

“Zachary Wood is an American hero for standing up on the front line of the fight for free speech on college campuses. . . . An incredible story.”—Juan Williams, author of Eyes on the Prize
This collection of sixty-four poems by poets who come from all over the world shares the experience of first- and second-generation young adult immigrants and refugees. Whether it’s cultural and language differences, homesickness, social exclusion, racism, stereotyping, or questions of identity, the Dreamers, immigrants, and refugee poets included here encourage readers to honor their roots as well as explore new paths, offering empathy and hope. Many of the struggles described are faced by young people everywhere: isolation, self-doubt, confusion, and emotional dislocation. But also joy, discovery, safety, and family. This is a hopeful, beautiful, and meaningful book for any reader.

Authors include: Elizabeth Acevedo (author of New York Times Bestseller The Poet X), Samira Ahmend (author of New York Times Bestseller Love, Hate, & Other Filters), Emtithal Mahmoud (Winner of the 2015 Individual World Poetry Slam Championship), Ocean Vuong (author of New York Times Bestseller On Earth, We’re Briefly Gorgeous), and many others.

“I was moved again and again by the poems in this brave, beautiful and necessary collection. I found echoes of myself in many of the pieces, and I know so many young immigrants and Americans will find themselves, too. But it goes beyond that. I wish this book would be taught in homogenous communities, too, so readers with little understanding of immigration will have the chance to see its humanity. This is the most important book we will read this year.”—Matt de la Peña, New York Times bestselling and Newbery Award winning author

Poet, nonfiction writer and teacher Patricia Vecchione has edited several highly acclaimed anthologies for young adults including Truth & Lies, Revenge & Forgiveness, and Faith & Doubt. For many years, Patrice has taught poetry and creative writing to young people (often working with migrant children) through her program, “The Heart of the Word: Poetry and the Imagination.” She is also a columnist for her local daily paper, The Monterey Herald.

Alyssa Raymond is a freelance editor of adult and YA fiction and nonfiction. She hails from Massachusetts and Colorado, where she taught writing and rhetoric at the University of Colorado at Boulder and was a veteran bookseller at her favorite independent bookstore, the Boulder Book Store.
The Line Becomes a River
Dispatches from the Border
By Francisco Cantú
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.

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. The bilingual Mr. Cantú advocates here for clarity and compassion in place of xenophobia and uninformed rhetoric.”—Barry Lopez

Winner of the Los Angeler Times Book Prize in Current Interest; Finalist for the National Book Critics Circle Nonfiction Award

Selected for Common Reading at: UCLA; SUNY Brockport

Website: franciscocantu.us
Video: tiny.cc/FranciscoCantuVideo

Patriot Number One
A Chinese Rebel Comes to America
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. With few contacts and only a shaky grasp of English, they had to start from scratch. With a novelist’s eye for character and detail, Hilgers captures the joys and indignities of building a life in a new country—and the stubborn allure of the American dream.

“A penetrating profile of a man and much more besides: an indelible portrait of his wife and their marriage; a canny depiction of Flushing, Queens; a lucid anatomy of Chinese politics and America’s immigration system. . . . Hilgers observes all this with a sharp eye and an open heart.”—New York Times

Finalist for the PEN Jacqueline Bograd Weld Biography Award; Shortlisted for the J. Anthony Lukas Book Prize
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.

Finalist for Los Angeles Times Book Prize; Shortlisted for the J. Anthony Lukas Book Prize

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

The daughter of a Burmese mother and a white American father, Alex Wagner grew up thinking of herself as a “futureface”—an avatar of a mixed-race future when all races would merge into a brown singularity. But when one family mystery leads to another, Wagner’s post-racial ideals fray as she becomes obsessed with the specifics of her own family’s racial and ethnic history.

Drawn into the wild world of ancestry, she embarks upon a quest around the world—and into her own DNA—to answer the ultimate questions of who she really is and where she belongs. The journey takes her from Burma to Luxembourg, from ruined colonial capitals with records written on banana leaves to Mormon databases, genetic labs, and the rest of the twenty-first-century genealogy complex. But soon 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?

Wagner weaves together fascinating history, genetic science, and sociology but is really after deeper stuff than her own ancestry: in a time of conflict over who we are as a country, she tries to find the story where we all belong.
SOCIAL JUSTICE—SPOTLIGHT ON IMMIGRATION

The Penguin Book of Migration Literature
Departures, Arrivals, Generations, Returns
Edited with an Introduction by Dohra Ahmad; Foreword by Edwidge Danticat

Every year, three to four million people move to a new country. From war refugees to corporate expats, migrants constantly reshape their places of origin and arrival. With thirty carefully selected poems, short stories, and excerpts spanning three hundred years and twenty-five countries, The Penguin Book of Migration Literature conveys the intricacy of worldwide migration patterns and the diversity and commonalities of immigrant experiences.

A Good Provider Is One Who Leaves
One Family and Migration in the 21st Century
By Jason DeParle

New York Times reporter Jason DeParle paints a portrait of an unforgettable family across three generations. At the heart of the story is Rosalie, who escapes poverty in the Philippines by becoming a nurse, and lands jobs in Jeddah, Abu Dhabi, and, finally, Texas—joining the record forty-four million immigrants in the United States.

“One of the best books on immigration written in a generation.”—Matthew Desmond, author of Evicted

After the Last Border
By Jessica Goudeau

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

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

Enrique’s Journey recounts the unforgettable quest of a Honduran boy looking for his mother, eleven years after she is forced to leave her starving family to find work in the United States. Braving unimaginable peril, often clinging to the sides and tops of freight trains, Enrique travels through hostile worlds full of thugs, bandits, and corrupt cops. But he pushes forward, relying on his wit, courage, hope, and the kindness of strangers.
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 view 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.

Issac J. Bailey holds a degree in psychology from Davidson College in North Carolina. Having trained at the prestigious Poynter Institute for journalists in St. Petersburg, Florida, he has been a professional journalist for twenty years. He has taught applied ethics at Coastal Carolina University and, as a Nieman Fellow at Harvard, has taught journalism at Harvard Summer School. Bailey has won numerous national, state, and local awards for his writings.

“With a keen understanding of systemic racism . . . My Brother Moochie delves into a rarely explored side of the criminal justice system: the families of the perpetrators . . . powerful.”

—New York Times Book Review
You don’t have to be racist to be biased. Unconscious bias can be at work without our realizing it, and ingrained stereotypes can infect our visual perception, attention, memory, and behavior. In *Biased*, with a perspective that is at once scientific, investigative, and informed by personal experience, Jennifer Eberhardt offers us insights into the dilemma and a path forward.

Eberhardt works extensively as a consultant to law enforcement and as a psychologist at the forefront of this new field. Her research takes place in courtrooms and boardrooms, in prisons, on the street, and in classrooms and coffee shops. She shows us the subtle—and sometimes dramatic—daily repercussions of implicit bias. Eberhardt’s work and her book are both influenced by her own life, and the personal stories she shares emphasize the need for change. She has helped companies that include Airbnb and Nextdoor address bias in their business practices and has led anti-bias initiatives for police departments across the country. Here, she offers practical suggestions for reform and new practices that are useful for organizations as well as individuals.

Unblinking about the tragic consequences of prejudice, Eberhardt addresses how racial bias is not the fault of nor restricted to a few “bad apples” but is present at all levels of society in media, education, and business. The good news is that we are not hopelessly doomed by our innate prejudices. In *Biased*, Eberhardt reminds us that racial bias is a human problem—one all people can play a role in solving.

“The hope for progress is greatly increased by Jennifer Eberhardt’s groundbreaking new book on implicit bias. *Biased* presents the science of bias with rare insight and accessibility, but it is also a work with the power and craft to make us see why overcoming racial bias is so critical.”

—Bryan Stevenson, author of *Just Mercy*
How to Be an Antiracist
By Ibram X. Kendi

From the National Book Award–winning author of Stamped from the Beginning comes a bracingly original approach to understanding and uprooting racism and inequality in our society—and in ourselves.

“The only way to undo racism is to consistently identify and describe it—and then dismantle it.”

Ibram X. Kendi’s concept of antiracism reenergizes and reshapes the conversation about racial justice in America—but even more fundamentally, points us toward liberating new ways of thinking about ourselves and each other. In How to Be an Antiracist, Kendi asks us to think about what an antiracist society might look like, and how we can play an active role in building it.

In this book, Kendi weaves an electrifying combination of ethics, history, law, and science, bringing it all together with an engaging personal narrative of his own awakening to antiracism. How to Be an Antiracist is an essential work for anyone who wants to go beyond an awareness of racism to the next step: contributing to the formation of a truly just and equitable society.

“Ibram X. Kendi is a New York Times bestselling author and the founding director of the Antiracist Research and Policy Center at American University. A professor of history and international relations and a frequent public speaker, Kendi is a columnist at The Atlantic. He is the author of Stamped from the Beginning: The Definitive History of Racist Ideas in America, which won the National Book Award for Nonfiction, and The Black Campus Movement, which won the W.E.B. Du Bois Book Prize. Kendi lives in Washington, D.C.

Website: tiny.cc/KendiFYE
Video: tiny.cc/KendiVideo

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EB: 9780525509295

A 2020 FYE® Guest Speaker

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Ibram X. Kendi is a New York Times bestselling author and the founding director of the Antiracist Research and Policy Center at American University. A professor of history and international relations and a frequent public speaker, Kendi is a columnist at The Atlantic. He is the author of Stamped from the Beginning: The Definitive History of Racist Ideas in America, which won the National Book Award for Nonfiction, and The Black Campus Movement, which won the W.E.B. Du Bois Book Prize. Kendi lives in Washington, D.C.

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Website: tiny.cc/KendiFYE
Video: tiny.cc/KendiVideo

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Unapologetic
A Black, Queer, and Feminist Mandate for Radical Movements

By Charlene Carruthers

A manifesto from one of America’s most influential activists which disrupts political, economic, and social norms by reimagining the Black Radical Tradition.

Drawing on Black intellectual and grassroots organizing traditions, including the Haitian Revolution, the US civil rights movement, and LGBTQ rights and feminist movements, Unapologetic challenges all of us engaged in the social justice struggle to make the movement for Black liberation more radical, more queer, and more feminist. This book provides a vision for how social justice movements can become sharper and more effective through principled struggle, healing justice, and leadership development. It also offers a flexible model of what deeply effective organizing can be, anchored in the Chicago model of activism, which features long-term commitment, cultural sensitivity, creative strategizing, and multiple cross-group alliances. And Unapologetic provides a clear framework for activists committed to building transformative power, encouraging young people to see themselves as visionaries and leaders.

Selected for Common Reading at: University of Pennsylvania

Website: [www.charlenecarruthers.com](http://www.charlenecarruthers.com)

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White Fragility
Why It’s So Hard for White People to Talk About Racism

By Robin DiAngelo

The New York Times best-selling book exploring the counterproductive reactions white people have when their assumptions about race are challenged, and how these reactions maintain racial inequality.

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

In this in-depth exploration, DiAngelo examines how white fragility develops, how it protects racial inequality, and what we can do to engage more constructively.

Selected for Common Reading at: University of Pennsylvania

Website: [www.robindiangelo.com](http://www.robindiangelo.com)
Threads
From the Refugee Crisis
By Kate Evans

In the French port town of Calais, famous for its historic lace industry, a city within a city arose. This new town, known as the Jungle, was home to thousands of refugees, mainly from the Middle East and Africa, all hoping, somehow, to get to the UK. Into this squalid shantytown of shipping containers and tents, full of rats and trash and devoid of toilets and safety, the artist Kate Evans brought a sketchbook and an open mind. Combining the techniques of eyewitness reportage with the medium of comic-book storytelling, Evans has produced this unforgettable book, filled with poignant images—by turns shocking, infuriating, wry, and heartbreaking.

Accompanying the story of Kate’s time spent among the refugees—the insights acquired and the lives recounted—is the harsh counterpoint of prejudice and scapegoating. Threads addresses one of the most pressing issues of modern times to make a compelling case, through intimate evidence, for the compassionate treatment of refugees and the free movement of peoples.

“Through Kate Evans’s firsthand report from the Calais Jungle we meet the refugees, get a vivid look at their living conditions, and witness the impressive resourcefulness of the volunteer operation that sprang up to help...Evans both captures the wrenching reality of a seemingly intractable problem and makes an eloquent argument for its solution: open borders.”—Alison Bechdel, author of Are You My Mother? and Fun Home

How to Be Less Stupid About Race
On Racism, White Supremacy, and the Racial Divide
By Crystal M. Fleming

How to Be Less Stupid About Race is your essential guide to breaking through the half-truths and ridiculous misconceptions that have thoroughly corrupted the way race is represented in the classroom, pop culture, media, and politics. Combining no-holds-barred social critique, humorous personal anecdotes, and analysis of the latest interdisciplinary scholarship on systemic racism, sociologist Crystal M. Fleming provides a fresh, accessible, and irreverent take on everything that’s wrong with our “national conversation about race.” Drawing upon critical race theory, as well as her own experiences as a queer black millennial college professor and researcher, Fleming unveils how systemic racism exposes us all to racial ignorance—and provides a road map for transforming our knowledge into concrete social change.

Website: www.crystalfleming.com/
Tell Me Who You Are
Sharing Our Stories of Race, Culture, & Identity

By Winona Guo and Priya Vulchi

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

"In Tell Me Who You Are, Priya Vulchi and Winona Guo do exactly that—tell us who they are, how they have come to thinking so carefully, so deeply about race, and how they want to create change… This book is at once hopeful, raw, and brimming with curiosity, engagement and youthful energy. Through the conversations these women have with people from all walks of life, we see that the key to any kind of progress begins with letting people tell us who they are. If you want to have richer, more fruitful discussions about race, gender, all the things that comprise our identities, this book will give you a necessary vocabulary. All you have to do is turn the page."—Roxane Gay, author of Bad Feminist

Thirst
A Story of Redemption, Compassion, and a Mission to Bring Clean Water to the World

By Scott Harrison; contribution by Lisa Sweetingham

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 walked away from everything. 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 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."—Brené Brown, PhD, author of Braving the Wilderness
American Prison
A Reporter’s Undercover Journey into the Business of Punishment
By Shane Bauer

In 2014, investigative journalist Shane Bauer spent four months working as a prison guard in Winnfield, Louisiana—in American Prison, he weaves a deep reckoning with his experiences together with a thoroughly researched history of for-profit prisons in America, which became entrenched in the South as part of a systemic effort to keep an African-American labor force in place in the aftermath of slavery.

Winner of the Helen Bernstein Book Award for Excellence in Journalism

Hunger
The Oldest Problem
By Martín Caparrós

There are now over 800 million starving people in the world. An average of 25,000 men, women, and children perish from hunger or malnutrition every single day. Yet we produce enough food to feed the entire human population one-and-a-half times over. So why is it that world hunger remains?

In this crucial and galvanizing work, Martín Caparrós travels the globe in search of an answer. His investigation brings him to Africa and the Indian subcontinent where he witnesses starvation, to Chicago where he documents the greed of corporate food distributors, and to Buenos Aires where he accompanies trash scavengers in search of something to eat.

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.

"Amy Chua presents a provocative prescription to cure our political ills. She challenges us to cross the chasm between groups—not by denying differences, but by celebrating them."—Adam Grant, author of Originals

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. Desmond 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 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

To request examination copies, email commonreads@prh.com
**SOCIAL JUSTICE**

**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.  
“[Baz Dreisinger’s] maternal turmoil when her students are denied parole, rearrested, shot, deprived of opportunity or go missing, as well as her teacherly pride in their successes, is the genuine heart of [this] story . . . The hopeful note on which this book ends . . . seems in no small part due to the wish that even our harsh system of punishment can explore connections to the world in ways that can push us for the better.”—*The New York Times Book Review*

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

Pulitzer Prize winner Sheri Fink’s landmark investigation of patient deaths at a New Orleans hospital ravaged by Hurricane Katrina draws readers 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

**Tales of Two Americas**  
*Stories of Inequality in a Divided Nation*  
*Edited by John Freeman*

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*

**Our Women on the Ground**  
*Essays by Arab Women Reporting from the Arab World*  
*Edited by Zahra Hankir; Foreword by Christiane Amanpour*

In *Our Women on the Ground*, nineteen Arab women journalists tell us, in their own words, about what it’s like to report on conflicts that (quite literally) hit close to home. Their daring and heartfelt stories, told here for the first time, shatter stereotypes about the region’s women and provide an urgently needed perspective on a part of the world that is frequently misunderstood.
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.

**Website:** tiny.cc/KlinenbergFYE

**Selected for Common Reading at:** Pueblo Community College

**Video:** tiny.cc/KlinenbergVideo

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.

**Website:** tiny.cc/JustinLeeFYE  
**Selected for Common Reading at:** Pueblo Community College

**Video:** tiny.cc/JustinLeeVideo

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*.

**Website:** tiny.cc/CoddlingFYE

**Selected for Common Reading at:** University of New England (ME)

**Video:** tiny.cc/CoddlingVideo

The Inner Work of Racial Justice  
Healing Ourselves and Transforming Our Communities Through Mindfulness  
By Rhonda V Magee; Foreword by Jon Kabat-Zinn

Law professor and mindfulness practitioner Rhonda Magee shows that the work of racial justice begins with ourselves. When conflict and division are everyday realities, our instincts tell us to close ranks, to find the safety of our own tribe, and to blame others. But the practice of mindfulness—paying attention to our thoughts, feelings, and physical sensations—increases our emotional resilience, helps us to recognize our unconscious bias, and gives us the space to choose how we respond to injustice.

**Website:** tiny.cc/RhondaMageeFYE

**Selected for Common Reading at:** TarcherPerigee | HC

**Video:** tiny.cc/RhondaMageeVideo
SOCIAL JUSTICE

Tomorrow Will Be Different
Love, Loss, and the Fight for Trans Equality
By Sarah McBride
Foreword by Joe Biden
Before she became the first transgender person to speak at a national political convention in 2016, Sarah McBride found her first love and future husband, Andy, a trans man and fellow activist, who complemented her in every way... until cancer tragically intervened. Informative, heartbreaking, and profoundly empowering, Tomorrow Will Be Different is McBride’s story of love and loss and a powerful entry point into the LGBTQ community’s battle for equal rights.

On the Other Side of Freedom
The Case for Hope
By DeRay Mckesson
DeRay Mckesson has seen unrest sweep across America, from the streets of Ferguson to every corner of the country. Drawing from his experiences as an organizer, educator, and public official, Mckesson continues a conversation about activism and resistance as 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.

“An inspiring reminder that hope is vital to any political change, and it’s the driving force for any successful attempt at social justice.”—Esquire

Unbelievable
The Story of Two Detectives’ Relentless Search for the Truth
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.

“America has never adequately addressed sexual violence, a tragedy made worse by many who employ their own hierarchy of victimization, leaving many women and vulnerable people unaided. This meticulously researched, powerful exposé eliminates ignorance as a defense. This is a devastating but necessary read, composed by masters of investigative journalism.”—Bryan Stevenson, author of Just Mercy

Buy the Change You Want to See
Use Your Purchasing Power to Make the World a Better Place
By Jane Mosbacher Morris with Wendy Paris
Consumers are paying more attention than ever to how their goods are made; and retailers—large and small—are responding by investing in ethical and eco-friendly production. Yet figuring out which brands to support can feel overwhelming. Jane Mosbacher Morris has devoted her career to creating economic opportunities for vulnerable communities around the world, and in this valuable book, she shares her passion and insights on how we, as consumers, can create positive change too.
The Last Girl
My Story of Captivity, and My Fight Against the Islamic State
By Nadia Murad

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

From the winner of the Nobel Peace Prize

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.

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

Not Quite Not White
Losing and Finding Race in America
By Sharmila Sen

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, author of The Sympathizer
**Just Mercy**  
*A Story of Justice and Redemption*  
*By Bryan Stevenson*  

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

*Winner of the Carnegie Medal for Nonfiction; Winner of the NAACP Image Award for Nonfiction*  

**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.

“This is a clarion call to action for teens, by teens, and is moving and powerful.”—*Booklist*, Starred Review

**The Inner Level**  
*How More Equal Societies Reduce Stress, Restore Sanity and Improve Everyone’s Well-Being*  
*By Richard Wilkinson and Kate Pickett*  

Why are people more relaxed and at ease with each other in some countries than others? Why do we worry so much about what others think of us? Why is the American dream more of a reality in Denmark than the USA? The answer to all of these is inequality, which alters how we think, feel, and behave.

“As societies become more unequal, they become less healthy, happy, safe, and kind. . . . The Inner Level confront[s] many of our most urgent problems in a clear, compelling way, one that generates a sense of moral outrage at the damage wrought by inequality.”—Robert Sapolsky, author of *Behave*
Instant gratification is the norm today—in our lives, our culture, our economy, and our politics. Many of us have forgotten (if we ever learned) how to make smart decisions for the long run. Whether it comes to our finances, our health, our communities, or our planet, it’s easy to avoid thinking ahead.

The consequences of this immediacy are stark: Superbugs spawned by the overuse of antibiotics endanger our health. Companies that fail to invest stagnate and fall behind. Hurricanes and wildfires turn deadly for communities that could have taken more precaution. Today more than ever, all of us need to know how we can make better long-term decisions in our lives, businesses, and society.

Bina Venkataraman sees the way forward. A former journalist and adviser in the Obama administration, she helped communities and businesses prepare for climate change, and she learned firsthand why people don’t think ahead—and what can be done to change that. In The Optimist’s Telescope, she draws from stories she has reported around the world and new research in biology, psychology, and economics to explain how we can make decisions that benefit us over time. With examples from ancient Pompeii to modern-day Fukushima, she dispels the myth that human nature is impossibly reckless and highlights the surprising practices each of us can adopt in our own lives—and the ones we must fight for as a society. The result is a book brimming with the ideas and insights all of us need in order to forge a better future.

“The unknown can always be scary. But in this wise, eye-opening, and hopeful book, Bina Venkataraman shows us the ways we can think more clearly and strategically about the future—in our communities, our families, and in our own lives.”

—Arianna Huffington
**INSPIRATION**

**Disciplines:** Psychology, Sociology  
**Theme:** Resilience

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### Braving the Wilderness

**The Quest for True Belonging and the Courage to Stand Alone**

*By Brené Brown, PhD, LMSW*

“True belonging doesn’t require us to change who we are. It requires us to be who we are.” 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.

“[Brown’s] research and work have given us a new vocabulary, a way to talk with each other about the ideas and feelings and fears we’ve all had but haven’t quite known how to articulate. . . . [She] empowers us each to be a little more courageous.”—*The Huffington Post*

“It is inevitable—we will fall. We will fail. We will not know how to react or what to do. No matter how or when it happens, we will all have a choice—do we get up or not? Thankfully, Brené Brown is there with an outstretched arm to help us up.”—Simon Sinek, author of *Start with Why* and *Leaders Eat Last*

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### Notes on a Nervous Planet

*By Matt Haig*

When Matt Haig developed panic disorder, anxiety, and depression as an adult, it took him a long time to work out the ways the external world could impact his mental health in both positive and negative ways. *Notes on a Nervous Planet* collects his observations, taking a look at how the various social, commercial, and technological “advancements” that have created the world we now live in can actually hinder our happiness. Haig examines everything from broader phenomena like inequality, social media, and the news to things closer to our daily lives, like how we sleep, how we exercise, and even the distinction we draw between our minds and our bodies.

“*Notes on a Nervous Planet* contains lists, imagined conversations, essays, and personal stories that critique the damage that worry—about the environment, politics, the news, and everything else that demands our attention on a daily basis—wreaks on our ability to live a full life. Haig artfully, powerfully counters these challenges with battle-tested advice from his own hard-won experience.”—*Booklist*

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Selected for Common Reading at the University of Houston

**Website:** tiny.cc/BrownFYE  
**Video:** brenebrown.com/videos

**Website:** tiny.cc/MattHaigFYE  
**Video:** tiny.cc/MattHaigVideo

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38  
**First-Year & Common Reading 2020**
Dare to Matter
Your Path to Making a Difference Now
By Jordan Kassalow and Jennifer Krause

We all want to make the world a better place, but with busy, demanding lives, most of us struggle with the where, when, and how. Dr. Jordan Kassalow, founder of VisionSpring, the groundbreaking venture that has restored eyesight and hope to millions of people across the globe, has the answers. Sharing his personal story of integrating real-world responsibilities with his desire to make a difference, Jordan offers you a practical way forward, custom-made for your unique talents and circumstances, to take you from thought to action.

By exploring key questions about your strengths and interests, personal resources, core beliefs, and most cherished values, Jordan will give you the motivation and the tools to start repairing the world in a way that is meaningful, fulfilling, and true to you. He will show you how working to create change in the lives of others can have a positive impact on your own outlook, well-being, and quality of life.

"An essential reminder that the greatest challenges of any age are no match for the good will, love, passion, and potential that abides in all human beings. I hope this superb book will inspire its readers to follow in Jordan’s footsteps in making a difference for all.”—Madeleine K. Albright, former Secretary of State

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

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

Here are 19 stirring explorations of current and timeless topics about democracy, liberty, equal justice, and powerful citizenship. This book will energize students to get involved, in ways both large and small, to help rebuild a country that they’re proud to call home. Become America will challenge students to rehumanize our politics and rekindle a spirit of love in civic life.

"[This] collection is like a penetrating time-lapse movie of the American mind... [Liu’s] great contribution is to show how to mix conviction on racial matters with humility and gentleness. Moreover, he is always pushing toward an American creed that moves beyond both the white monoculture and the fracturing multiculturalism. He is always pushing toward a national story large enough to contain all the hybrid voices.”—David Brooks, The New York Times

To request examination copies, email commonreads@prh.com
How to Love a Country
Poems
*By Richard Blanco*

Richard Blanco’s poems form a mosaic of seemingly varied topics: the Pulse Nightclub massacre; an unexpected encounter on a visit to Cuba; the forced exile of 8,500 Navajos in 1868; a lynching in Alabama; the arrival of a young Chinese woman at Angel Island in 1938; the incarceration of a gifted writer; and the poet’s abiding love for his partner, who he is finally allowed to wed as a gay man. But despite each poem’s unique concern or occasion, all are fundamentally struggling with the overwhelming question of how to love this country.

*Theme: Race & Identity*

What Color Is Your Parachute?
2020
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

*Theme: 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 has consistently illuminated our daily lives in surprising and original ways. In *The Social Animal*, he explored the neuroscience of human connection and how we can flourish together. Now, in *The Road to Character*, he focuses on the deeper values that should inform our lives.

“A powerful, haunting book that works its way beneath your skin.”—The Guardian

*Theme: Life Skills*

The Second Mountain
The Quest for a Moral Life
*By David Brooks*

In *The Second Mountain*, David Brooks explores the four commitments that define a life of meaning and purpose: to a spouse and family, to a vocation, to a philosophy or faith, and to a community. Our personal fulfillment depends on how well we choose and execute these commitments. Brooks looks at a range of people who have lived joyous, committed lives, and who have embraced the necessity and beauty of dependence. He gathers their wisdom on how to choose a partner, how to pick a vocation, how to live out a philosophy, and how we can begin to integrate our commitments into one overriding purpose.

*Theme: Life Skills*
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.

Theme: Resilience

The Moth Presents Occasional Magic
True Stories About 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. 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.

Theme: Resilience

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.

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 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.

Theme: 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.

Theme: Life Skills

Trust First
A True Story About the Power of Giving People Second Chances
By Bruce Deel with Sara Grace

When Pastor Bruce Deel founded City of Refuge, he believed the best way to improve outcomes for the marginalized and impoverished was to extend them trust—even if someone didn’t yet trust themselves. Since then, he’s helped over 20,000 people in Atlanta’s toughest neighborhood escape the cycles of homelessness, joblessness, and drug abuse. Heartfelt, deeply personal, and inspiring, Trust First will break down your assumptions about whether anyone is ever truly a lost cause.

Theme: Service & Altruism

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

In The Power of Habit, award-winning New York Times business reporter Charles Duhigg takes us to the thrilling edge of scientific discoveries that explain why habits exist and how they can be changed. With penetrating intelligence and an ability to distill vast amounts of information into engrossing narratives, Duhigg brings to life a whole new understanding of human nature and its potential for transformation.

“Entertaining . . . enjoyable . . . fascinating . . . a serious look at the science of habit formation and change.”—The New York Times Book Review

Theme: Life Skills

Range
Why Generalists Triumph in a Specialized World
By David Epstein

When David Epstein examined the world’s most successful athletes, artists, musicians, inventors, and scientists, he discovered that in most fields, generalists—not specialists—are primed to excel.

“For too long, we’ve believed in a single path to excellence. Start early, specialize soon, narrow your focus, aim for efficiency. But in this groundbreaking book, David Epstein shows that in most domains, the way to excel is something altogether different.”—Daniel H. Pink, author of A Whole New Mind

Theme: Life Skills
INSPIRATION

And Then We Grew Up
On Creativity, Potential, and the
Imperfect Art of Adulthood
By Rachel Friedman

Rachel Friedman quit playing the viola in college, but she
never stopped fantasizing about what her life might be like
if she had never put down her bow. In search of answers,
she decides to track down her childhood friends, aspiring
actors, artists, dancers, and musicians, to find out how
their early creative ambitions have translated in adulthood.
Rachel’s conversations spark nuanced revelations about
creativity and being an artist: that it doesn’t have to be all or
nothing, that success isn’t always linear, that sometimes
it’s okay to quit.

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 sto-
ries 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.”

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 experi-
ence, Mycoskie’s business is profitable, even while giving
shoes away. He shares his innovative approach to busi-
ness, and the business of doing good.

“A creative and open-hearted business model for our
times.”—The Wall Street Journal

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

College can be the most exciting time in one’s life, but it also
poses challenges, with new academic and social responsi-
bilities often seeming impossible to juggle. College Rules!
will save your students time and trouble, setting them up for
academic success from the get-go. This updated classic
gives students the tools they need to successfully transi-
tion from high school to college, avoid rookie mistakes, and
set themselves up for academic success from day one.
This Could Be Our Future
A Manifesto for a More Generous World
By Yancey Strickler

A cofounder of Kickstarter shares his vision for a more generous and fair future. While pursuing wealth has produced innovation and prosperity, it’s also taught us that the right choice is whatever makes the most money. This shortsighted belief has led to environmental collapse, corruption, and inequality. But the answer isn’t to get rid of money; it’s to expand our concept of value to include things like community, purpose, and sustainability.

Theme: Being Connected

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

In 1993, Cedric Jennings was a bright and ferociously determined honors student at Ballou, a high school in one of Washington, DC’s most dangerous neighborhoods. A Hope in the Unseen chronicles Cedric’s odyssey during his last two years of high school and follows him through his difficult first year at Brown University. Eye-opening, sometimes humorous, and often deeply moving, A Hope in the Unseen weaves a crucial new thread into the rich and ongoing narrative of the American experience.

Theme: Race & Identity

The Freedom Writers Diary
20th Anniversary Edition
By The Freedom Writers with Erin Gruwell

As an idealistic 23-year-old English teacher at Wilson High School in Long Beach, California, Erin Gruwell confronted a room of at-risk students who had been deemed “unteachable.” Refusing to believe that any student was beyond help, Gruwell undertook a life-changing odyssey against intolerance and misunderstanding. With powerful entries from the students’ own journals and a narrative text by Gruwell, The Freedom Writers Diary is an uplifting, unforgettable example of how hard work, courage, and the spirit of determination changed the lives of a teacher and her students.

Theme: Resilience

Moonshot
What Landing a Man on the Moon Teaches Us About Collaboration, Creativity, and the Mind-set for Success
By Richard Wiseman, PhD

Inspired by the historic moon landings, psychologist Richard Wiseman brings together history, psychology, and inspiration in this unique and powerful guide to achieving the impossible. The result of intensive research, including interviews with surviving members of the Apollo mission-control team, Moonshot delivers eight key lessons on teamwork, leadership, persistence, creativity, and more, each one a vital part of the mindset for success.

Theme: Life Skills
In his boldly imagined first novel, Ta-Nehisi Coates, the National Book Award–winning author of *Between the World and Me*, brings home the most intimate evil of enslavement: the cleaving and separation of families.

Young Hiram Walker was born into bondage. When his mother was sold away, Hiram was robbed of all memory of her—but was gifted with a mysterious power. Years later, when Hiram almost drowns in a river, that same power saves his life. This brush with death births an urgency in Hiram and a daring scheme: to escape from the only home he’s ever known.

So begins an unexpected journey that takes Hiram from the corrupt grandeur of Virginia’s proud plantations to desperate guerrilla cells in the wilderness, from the coffin of the deep South to dangerously utopic movements in the North. Even as he’s enlisted in the underground war between slavers and the enslaved, Hiram’s resolve to rescue the family he left behind endures.

This is the dramatic story of an atrocity inflicted on generations of women, men, and children—the violent and capricious separation of families—and the war they waged to simply make lives with the people they loved. Written by one of today’s most exciting thinkers and writers, *The Water Dancer* is a propulsive, transcendent work that restores the humanity of those from whom everything was stolen.

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**Ta-Nehisi Coates** is a national correspondent for *The Atlantic*. His book *Between the World and Me* (page 14) won the National Book Award in 2015. Coates is the recipient of a MacArthur Fellowship. He lives in New York City with his wife and son.

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"Coates brings his considerable talent for racial and social analysis to his debut novel, which captures the brutality of slavery and explores the underlying truth that slaveholders could not dehumanize the enslaved without also dehumanizing themselves. Beautifully written, this is a deeply and soulfully imagined look at slavery and human aspirations."

—*Booklist* (starred review)
Inland
A Novel
By Téa Obreht

The New York Times bestselling author of The Tiger’s Wife returns with “a bracingly epic and imaginatively mythic journey across the American West” (Entertainment Weekly).

In the lawless, drought-ridden lands of the Arizona Territory in 1893, two extraordinary lives unfold. Nora is an unflinching frontierswoman awaiting the return of the men in her life—her husband, who has gone in search of water for the parched household, and her elder sons, who have vanished after an explosive argument. Nora is biding her time with her youngest son, who is convinced that a mysterious beast is stalking the land around their home.

Meanwhile, Lurie is a former outlaw and a man haunted by ghosts. He sees lost souls who want something from him, and he finds reprieve from their longing in an unexpected relationship that inspires a momentous expedition across the West. The way in which Lurie’s death-defying trek at last intersects with Nora’s plight is the surprise and suspense of this brilliant novel.

Mythical, lyrical, and sweeping in scope, Inland is grounded in true but little-known history. It showcases all of Téa Obreht’s talents as a writer, as she subverts and reimagines the myths of the American West, making them entirely—and unforgottably—her own.

“Obreht brings her extraordinarily intricate worldview, psychological and social acuity, descriptive artistry, and shrewd, witty, and zestful storytelling to another provocative inquiry into the mysteries of place, nature, and human complexities… Obreht inventively and scathingly dramatizes the delirium of the West—its myths, hardships, greed, racism, sexism, and violence—in a torrid novel of stoicism, anguish, and wonder.”—Booklist (starred review)

Téa Obreht is the author of The Tiger’s Wife (page 54), a finalist for the National Book Award. She was born in Belgrade, in the former Yugoslavia, in 1985 and has lived in the United States since the age of twelve. She currently lives in New York City and teaches at Hunter College.

Website: tiny.cc/ObrehtFYE

“[Obreht] returns with a novel saturated in enough realism and magic to make the ghost of Gabriel García Márquez grin…. Will take your breath away.”—Kirkus Reviews (starred review)
### Exit West

**A Novel**

*By Mohsin Hamid*

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*

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

Selected for Common Reading at: University of Utah; Chaffey College; Pomona College; Skidmore College; Connecticut College; Rhode Island College; Eastern Mennonite University; Muhlenberg College; St. Francis University; Williams College

Website: tiny.cc/MohsinHamidFYE

Video: tiny.cc/MohsinHamidVideo

### A Pure Heart

**A Novel**

*By Rajia Hassib*

Sisters Rose and Gameela Gubran could not have been more different. Rose, an Egyptologist, married an American journalist and immigrated to New York City, where she works in the Metropolitan Museum of Art. Gameela, a devout Muslim since her teenage years, stayed in Cairo. During the aftermath of Egypt’s revolution, Gameela is killed in a suicide bombing. When Rose returns to Egypt after the bombing, she sifts through the artifacts Gameela left behind, desperate to understand how her sister came to die, and who she truly was. Rajia Hassib’s *A Pure Heart* is a stirring and deeply textured novel that asks what it means to forgive, and considers how faith, family, and love can unite and divide us.

“A stunner of a book. Weaving through the lives of two sisters split by destiny, Hassib’s latest novel is a story of excavation: of countries and people. With the Egyptian revolution as backdrop, Hassib masterfully explores the loyalties, geographies and histories that can both partition and bind family.” —Haลา Alyan, author of *Salt Houses*

Website: tiny.cc/RajiaHassibFYE
A Place for Us
A Novel
By Fatima Farheen Mirza

Abounding with grace, insight, and psychological insight, A Place for Us is a richly drawn portrait of a contemporary Muslim Indian-American family in California. Parents Rafiq and Layla, immigrants whose own marriage was arranged, must reckon with their children’s departures from tradition. Hadia, Huda, and Amar, meanwhile, forge their own paths, navigating the tension between their cultural heritage and their individual desires. Over the course of decades, acts of betrayal and the revelation of closely guarded secrets threaten to forever tear the family apart—and lead Amar, the only son, to break ties entirely.

With a nonlinear structure that reflects the movement of memory, Mirza occupies the point of view of these characters with astounding empathy, deftly weaving a full and deeply moving tale of belonging, sacrifice, and—most of all—family.

“As Marilynne Robinson has done with Protestants and Alice McDermott has done with Catholics, Mirza finds in the intensity of a faithful Muslim family a universal language of love and anguish that speaks to us all.”—Ron Charles, Washington Post

Finalist for One Book, One New York

Website: tiny.cc/MirzaFYE
Video: tiny.cc/MirzaVideo

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.

“A pointed and persuasive social critique, teasing out the myriad forms of privilege and predation that stand between so many people and their achievement of the American dream.”—The Boston Globe

“Ng is a master at pushing us to look at our personal and societal flaws in the face and see them with new eyes. . . . If Little Fires Everywhere doesn’t give you pause and help you think differently about humanity and this country’s current state of affairs, start over from the beginning and read the book again.”—San Francisco Chronicle

Website: tiny.cc/CelesteNgFYE
Video: tiny.cc/CelesteNgVideo
Where the Dead Sit Talking

By Brandon Hobson

Set in rural Oklahoma during the late 1980s, Where the Dead Sit Talking is a stunning and lyrical Native American coming-of-age story.

With his single mother in jail, Sequoyah, a fifteen-year-old Cherokee boy, is placed in foster care with the Troutt family. Literally and figuratively scarred by his mother’s years of substance abuse, Sequoyah keeps mostly to himself, living with his emotions pressed deep below the surface. At least until he meets seventeen-year-old Rosemary, a troubled artist who also lives with the family.

Sequoyah and Rosemary bond over their shared Native American background and tumultuous paths through the foster care system, but as Sequoyah’s feelings toward Rosemary deepen, the precariousness of their lives and the scars of their pasts threaten to undo them both.

Finalist for the National Book Award for Fiction

A 2020 FYE® Guest Speaker

Website: www.brandonhobson.com

Video: tiny.cc/Hobson
Love, Hate and Other Filters
By Samira Ahmed

Seventeen-year-old Maya Aziz is torn between worlds. There’s the one her parents expect for their good Indian daughter: attending a college close to their suburban Chicago home and being paired off with an older Muslim boy her mom deems “suitable.” And then there is the world of her dreams: going to film school and living in New York City—and pursuing a boy she’s known from afar since grade school. But in the aftermath of a horrific crime perpetrated hundreds of miles away, her life is turned upside down. The community she’s known since birth becomes unrecognizable. Ultimately, Maya must find the strength within to determine where she truly belongs.

Theme: Race & Identity

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.

Finalist for the Pulitzer Prize

Theme: Immigrant & First-Generation Stories

Kindred
By Octavia E. Butler

The visionary author’s masterpiece pulls us—along with her Black female hero—through time to face the horrors of slavery and explore the impacts of racism, sexism, and white supremacy then and now.

Dana, a modern black woman, is celebrating her 26th birthday when she is transported to the antebellum South to save the drowning son of a plantation owner. Brought through time repeatedly, each stay grows more and more treacherous until it is uncertain whether Dana’s life will end before it had the chance to begin.

Theme: Race & Identity

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 jacked 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 his 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”; Now a major motion picture

Theme: Alternate Worlds: Speculative Fiction

Website: www.samiraahmed.com
Soho Teen | TR | 978-1-61695-999-9
EB: 9781616958480
A New York Times Bestseller

Website: tiny.cc/ElifBatumanFYE
Video: tiny.cc/ElifBatumanVideo
Selected for Common Reading at: Brown University

Penguin Books | TR
978-0-14-311106-1
432 pp. | $17.00 / $23.00 Can.
EB: 9781101622513

Website: tiny.cc/ClineFYE
Video: tiny.cc/ClineVideo
Selected for Common Reading at: Kansas State University; Nassau Community College; Northern State University; Texas Christian University; University of Massachusetts at Amherst; and more.

Website: tiny.cc/ClineFYE
Video: tiny.cc/ClineVideo
Selected for Common Reading at: Imperator
9780807083703

Website: tiny.cc/ClineFYE
Video: tiny.cc/ClineVideo
Selected for Common Reading at: Kansas State University; Nassau Community College; Northern State University; Texas Christian University; University of Massachusetts at Amherst; and more.
FICTION

**Vox**
*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*

**Breath, Eyes, Memory**
*By Edwidge Danticat*

At the age of twelve, Sophie Caco is sent from her impoverished Haitian village to New York to be reunited with a mother she barely remembers. There she discovers secrets that no child should ever know, and a legacy of shame that can be healed only when she returns to Haiti. What ensues is a passionate journey through a landscape charged with the supernatural and scarred by political violence.

*Oprah Book Club Selection*

**The Meursault Investigation**
*A Novel*
*By Kamel Daoud*

He was the brother of “the Arab” killed by the infamous Meursault, the antihero of Camus’s classic novel *The Stranger*. Seventy years after that event, Harun, who has lived since childhood in the shadow of his sibling’s memory, refuses to let him remain anonymous; he gives his brother a story and a name—Musa—and describes the events that led to Musa’s casual murder on a dazzlingly sunny beach. *The Meursault Investigation* is not only a profound meditation on Arab identity and the disastrous effects of colonialism in Algeria, but also a stunning work of literature in its own right, told in a unique and affecting voice.

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

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

Theme: Gender

Theme: Race & Identity

Theme: Resilience

Website: tiny.cc/ChristinaDalcherFYE
Video: tiny.cc/ChristinaDalcherVideo

Selected for Common Reading at: Massasoit Community College

Selected for Common Reading at: Ursinus College


To request examination copies, email commonreads@prh.com
Sabrina & Corina
Stories
By Kali Fajardo-Anstine

Kali Fajardo-Anstine’s magnetic story collection breathes life into her Latina characters of indigenous ancestry and the land they inhabit in the American West. Against the remarkable backdrop of Denver, Colorado—a place that is as fierce as it is exquisite—these women navigate the land the way they navigate their lives: with caution, grace, and quiet force.

Sabrina & Corina is a moving narrative of unrelenting feminine power and an exploration of the universal experiences of abandonment, heritage, and an eternal sense of home.

Every Man Dies Alone
Special 10th Anniversary Edition
By Hans Fallada

Based on a true story, this novel presents a richly detailed portrait of life in Berlin under the Nazis and tells the sweeping saga of one working-class couple who decides to take a stand when their only son is killed at the front. With nothing but their grief and each other against the awesome power of the Reich, they launch a simple, clandestine resistance campaign that soon has an enraged Gestapo on their trail, and a world of terrified neighbors and cynical snitches ready to turn them in.

“The greatest book ever written about German resistance to the Nazis.”—Primo Levi

Small Country
A Novel
By Gaël Faye

Burundi, 1992. For 10-year-old Gabriel, life in his comfortable expatriate neighborhood is something close to paradise. These are carefree days of laughter and adventure, but dark clouds are gathering over this small country, and soon their peaceful existence will shatter when Burundi, and neighboring Rwanda, are brutally hit by civil war and genocide. A novel of extraordinary power and beauty, Small Country describes an end of innocence as seen through the eyes of a child caught in the maelstrom of history.

Longlisted for the Andrew Carnegie Medal for Excellence in Fiction

Love and Other Consolation Prizes
A Novel
By Jamie Ford

From the bestselling author of Hotel on the Corner of Bitter and Sweet comes a powerful novel, inspired by a true story, about a boy whose life is transformed at Seattle’s epic 1909 World’s Fair.

“An evocative, heartfelt, beautifully crafted story that shines a light on a fascinating, tragic bit of forgotten history.”—Kristin Hannah, author of The Nightingale
Dream Country
By Shannon Gibney
Spanning from modern-day Minneapolis to the Liberian Civil War and back to the American Colonization Society in 1827, Dream Country spins a riveting tale of five generations of an African-and-American family, 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

Theme: Race & Identity

Dutton Books for Young Readers
TR | 978-0-7352-3168-9
EB: 9780735231696

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.

"The most interesting meditation on the internet and fame I've ever seen."—Joseph Fink, author of Alice Isn't Dead

Theme: Being Connected

Website: tiny.cc/HankGreenFYE
Video: tiny.cc/HankGreenVideo
Selected for Common Reading at: Cuyahoga Community College

Dutton | TR | 978-1-5247-4346-8
352 pp. | $16.00 / $22.00 Can.
EB: 9781524743451

Turtles All the Way Down
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.

Theme: Health & Wellbeing

Website: tiny.cc/JohnGreenFYE
Video: tiny.cc/JohnGreenVideo

Dutton Books for Young Readers
TR | 978-0-525-55537-7
EB: 9780525555353

Also Available: Looking for Alaska 9780142402511; The Fault in Our Stars 9780142424179

Darius the Great Is Not Okay
By Adib Khorram
Darius Kellner speaks better Klingon than Farsi, and he knows more about Hobbit social cues than Persian ones. He's a Fractional Persian—half, his mom's side—and his first-ever trip to Iran is about to change his life.

Darius has never really fit in at home, and he's sure things are going to be the same in Iran. His clinical depression doesn't exactly help matters, and trying to explain his medication to his grandparents only makes things harder. Then Darius meets Sohrab, the boy next door, and everything changes.

Theme: Gender

Website: tiny.cc/AdibKhorramFYE
Video: tiny.cc/AdibKhorramVideo
Selected for Common Reading at: Kansas State University

Penguin Young Readers | TR
978-0-525-55529-7
EB: 9780525555280
FICTION

99 Nights in Logar
A Novel
By Jamil Jan Kochai

This coming-of-age story set across contemporary Afghanistan, an homage to One Thousand and One Nights, follows twelve-year-old Marwand as he tracks down his family’s escaped guard dog—who happens to have just eaten one of Marwand’s fingers.

"Kochai weaves together a tapestry of stories to present a captivating image of the country that has been called ‘the graveyard of empires’. . . . Something like One Thousand and One Nights meets The Sandlot."—TIME

Website: tiny.cc/JamilJanKochaiFYE

Everything Here Is Beautiful
A Novel
By Mira T. Lee

Everything Here Is Beautiful tells the story of two Chinese-American sisters: responsible, older sister Miranda and headstrong, unpredictable Lucia, who has started hearing voices. Mira T. Lee empathetically details a young woman’s quest to live unconstrained by her illness and the sacrifices that must be made to truly love someone.

"Everything about this book is beautiful. It’s a sisters story, an immigrant story, and, more than a story of one family, it’s an unflinching reflection of the fast-changing American Family."—Ron Fournier, author of Love That Boy

Website: tiny.cc/MiraTLeeFYE
Video: tiny.cc/MiraTLeeVideo

Watchmen (2019 Edition)
By Alan Moore

Who watches the Watchmen? Considered the greatest graphic novel in the history of the medium, the Hugo Award-winning story chronicles the fall from grace of a group of superheroes plagued by all-too-human failings. Along the way, the concept of the superhero is dissected as an unknown assassin stalks the erstwhile heroes.

TIME’s 100 Greatest Novels; 1988 Eisner Award for Best Writer; 1988 Eisner Award for Best Limited Series; 1988 Eisner Award for Best Graphic Album; Soon to be an HBO® Original Series

Website: tiny.cc/ObrehtFYE

The Tiger’s Wife
A Novel
By Téa Obreht

In a Balkan country mending from war, Natalia, a young doctor, is compelled to unravel the mysterious circumstances surrounding her beloved grandfather’s recent death. Searching for clues, she turns to his worn copy of The Jungle Book and the stories he told her of his encounters over the years with “the deathless man.” But most extraordinary of all is the story her grandfather never told her—the legend of the tiger’s wife.

“Stunning . . . a richly textured and searing novel.”—Michiko Kakutani, The New York Times

Website: tiny.cc/ObrehtFYE

Selected for Common Reading at: Georgetown University; New York University

Orange Prize Winner; Finalist for the National Book Award
**FICTION**

**Where the Crawdads Sing**  
*By Delia Owens*

For years, rumors of the “Marsh Girl” have haunted Barkley Cove, a quiet town on the North Carolina coast. So in late 1969, when handsome Chase Andrews is found dead, the locals immediately suspect Kya Clark, the so-called Marsh Girl. But Kya is not what they say. Sensitive and intelligent, she has survived for years alone in the marsh that she calls home, finding friends in the gulls and lessons in the sand.


**Normal People**  
*A Novel*  
*By Sally Rooney*

*Normal People* traces the evolving bond between two teenagers from western Ireland—Connell, who is popular and lives with his working-class single mother, and Marianne, a loner from a wealthy yet neglectful family—from their school days through their university years at Trinity College in Dublin. As the strange and ineffable connection between them waxes and wanes, again and again drawing them magnetically back into one another’s orbit, they ultimately must confront how far they are willing to go to save the other.

*Longlisted for the Man Booker Prize; Coming to Hulu in 2020*

**All the Names They Used for God**  
*Stories*  
*By Anjali Sachdeva*

A dystopian tale about genetically modified septuplets who are struck by a mysterious illness; a love story about a man bewitched by a mermaid; a stirring imagining of the lives of Nigerian schoolgirls in the aftermath of a Boko Haram kidnapping. The stories in *All the Names They Used for God* break down genre barriers—from science fiction to American Gothic to magical realism to horror—and are united by each character’s brutal struggle with fate. Like many of us, the characters in this collection are in pursuit of the sublime. Along the way, they must navigate the borderland between salvation and destruction.

*Winner of the Chautauqua Prize; Longlisted for the Story Prize*

**On Earth We’re Briefly Gorgeous**  
*A Novel*  
*By Ocean Vuong*

*On Earth We’re Briefly Gorgeous* is a letter from a son to a mother who cannot read. Written when the speaker, Little Dog, is in his late twenties, the letter unearths a family’s history that began before he was born—a history whose epicenter is rooted in Vietnam—and serves as a doorway into parts of his life his mother has never known. At once a witness to the fraught love between a single mother and her son, it is also a brutally honest exploration of race, class, and masculinity.
**The Dreamers**
*A Novel*
*By Karen Thompson Walker*

One night in an isolated college town in the hills of Southern California, a first-year student stumbles into her dorm room, falls asleep—and doesn’t wake up. She sleeps through the morning, into the evening. Her roommate, Mei, cannot rouse her. Neither can the paramedics, nor the perplexed doctors at the hospital. When a second girl falls asleep, and then a third, Mei finds herself thrust together with an eccentric classmate as panic takes hold of the college and spreads to the town.

**Website:** tiny.cc/WalkerFYE

Random House | TR  
978-0-8129-8466-8  
336 pp. | $17.00

EB: 9780812994179

Also Available: The Age of Miracles 9780812982947

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**Tell the Machine Goodnight**
*A Novel*
*By Katie Williams*

As a technician for the Apricity Corporation, with its patented happiness machine, Pearl’s job is—quite literally—to make people happy. Meanwhile, Pearl’s teenage son, Rhett, seems to find greater satisfaction in being unhappy. As his mother, Pearl wants nothing more than to help Rhett—but is it for his sake or for hers?

Told from an alternating cast of endearing characters from within Pearl and Rhett’s world, *Tell the Machine Goodnight* delivers a smartly moving and entertaining story about the advance of technology and the ways that it can most surprise and define us.

**Website:** tiny.cc/KatieWilliamsFYE

Riverhead Books | TR  
978-0-525-53313-9  
304 pp. | $16.00 / $22.00 Can.

EB: 9780525533146

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**Red at the Bone**
*A Novel*
*By Jacqueline Woodson*

Two families from different social classes are joined together by an unexpected pregnancy. Moving forward and backward in time, Jacqueline Woodson’s extraordinary new novel uncovers the role that history and community have played in the experiences, decisions, and relationships of these families, and in the life of this child.

“[A] beautifully imagined novel. . . . Woodson’s nuanced voice evokes the complexities of race, class, religion, and sexuality in fluid prose and a series of telling details. This is a wise, powerful, and compassionate novel.”—*Publishers Weekly*, starred review

**Website:** tiny.cc/JacquelineWoodsonFYE

Riverhead Books | HC  
978-0-525-53527-0  
208 pp. | $26.00 / $35.00 Can.

EB: 9780525535294

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**Copperhead**
*A Novel*
*Alexi Zentner*

Jessup’s stepfather gave him almost everything good in his life—a sober mother, a sister, a sense of home, and the game of football. But during the years that David John spent in prison for his part in a brutal hate crime, Jessup came to realize that his stepfather is also a source of lethal poison for his family. So when his stepfather is released from prison, Jessup is faced with an impossible choice: condemn the man who saved his family or accept his part in his family’s legacy of bigotry.

“Excruciatingly honest and exceptionally brave.”—*New York Journal of Books*

**Website:** tiny.cc/xbrtaz

Viking | HC  
978-1-98-487728-4  
368 pp. | $26.00 / $35.00 Can.

EB: 9781984877291
An African American and Latinx History of the United States

By Paul Ortiz

Spanning more than two hundred years from the Haitian Revolution of the 1790s to the 2016 US Presidential election of Donald Trump, An African American and Latinx History of the United States is a revolutionary, politically charged narrative history, arguing that the “Global South” was crucial to the development of America as we know it. Scholar and activist Paul Ortiz challenges the notion of westward progress as exalted by widely taught formulations like “manifest destiny” and “Jacksonian democracy,” and shows how placing African American, Latinx, and Indigenous voices unapologetically front and center transforms US history into one of the working class organizing against imperialism.

Drawing on rich narratives and primary source documents, Ortiz discusses such instances as: The Mexican War of Independence, the American Civil War, the Cuban Solidarity Movement, the government of American banks in the Global South, racial capitalism, and the eventual rebirth of the American working class. He draws links between events such as racial segregation in the Southwest that led to a powerful tradition of Mexican labor organizing and the more recent International Workers’ Day when migrant laborers unite in resistance for the “Day Without Immigrants.”

Ortiz wrote this incisive and timely history in direct response to students who sought to place the histories of Black and Latinx diasporas in dialogues and found that there was no text to guide this course of study.

Paul Ortiz is an associate professor of history and the director of the Samuel Proctor Oral History Program at the University of Florida. He is the author of Emancipation Betrayed: The Hidden History of Black Organizing and White Violence from Reconstruction to the Bloody Election of 1920 and coeditor of the oral history Remembering Jim Crow: African Americans Tell About Life in the Segregated South. He lives in Gainesville, Florida.

“An African American and Latinx History of the United States is a gift.”

—Ibram X. Kendi, National Book Award–winning author of Stamped from the Beginning: The Definitive History of Racist Ideas in America
Stony the Road
Reconstruction, White Supremacy, and the Rise of Jim Crow

By Henry Louis Gates, Jr.

An essential tour through one of America’s historical tragedies, Stony the Road tells the story of the struggle for equality during the century between the Civil War and the civil rights era. Henry Louis Gates, Jr., one of our leading chroniclers of the African-American experience, uncovers the roots of structural racism through a close reading of visual culture. While racist images reinforced a stark color line between white and black Americans, African Americans combatted it with a vision of a “New Negro” to force the nation to recognize their humanity. This battle took place during one of the most violent periods in our history, with thousands of black people murdered or lynched and many more afflicted by the degrading impositions of Jim Crow segregation. Gates tells a story of heroic resistance, as figures such as W. E. B. Du Bois and Ida B. Wells fought to create a counter-narrative and culture inside the lion’s mouth.

“Gates chronicles an American tragedy, the story of how white supremacy and Jim Crow became the South’s—and white America’s—brutal answer to Emancipation and Reconstruction.”—Jill Lepore, author of These Truths

The Woman’s Hour
The Great Fight to Win the Vote

By Elaine Weiss

Elaine Weiss takes readers through the nail-biting climax of one of the greatest political battles in American history: the ratification of the constitutional amendment that granted women the right to vote. After a seven-decade crusade, just one last state’s vote was needed to ratify the Nineteenth Amendment. The suffragists faced vicious opposition from politicians, clergy, corporations, and racists who don’t want black women voting. Not to mention the “Antis”—women who oppose their own enfranchisement, fearing suffrage will bring about the nation’s moral collapse. In August 1920, they all converged for a confrontation, replete with booze and blackmail, betrayal and courage. The Woman’s Hour follows a handful of remarkable suffragists through these final, critical moments in their battle for the right to vote.

“Elaine Weiss’s unforgettable book tells the story of the female leaders who—in the face of towering economic, racial, and political opposition—fought for and won American women’s right to vote. . . . Both a page-turning drama and an inspiration for everyone, young and old, male and female, in these perilous times. So much could have gone wrong, but these American women would not take no for an answer: their triumph is our legacy to guard and emulate.”—Hillary Rodham Clinton
The World in a Grain
The Story of Sand and How It Transformed Civilization
By Vince Beiser
After water and air, sand is the natural resource that we consume more than any other—even more than oil. Every concrete building and paved road, every computer screen and silicon chip is made from sand. And, incredibly, we’re running out of it. The World in a Grain is the compelling true story of this diminishing natural resource and of the people who mine it, sell it, and build with it.
“Vince Beiser shows, with great skill, that this key component of our fragile, over-consuming planet we need to better understand, conserve and protect.”—Adam Hochschild

Storm Lake
Change, Resilience, and Hope in America’s Heartland
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.

I Want You to Know
We’re Still Here
A Memoir
By Esther Safran Foer
Esther Safran Foer grew up in a family in which the Holocaust was always felt but never discussed—until an astonishing revelation shifts the foundations of her family history. Armed with only a black-and-white photo and hand-drawn map, Esther travels to Ukraine, determined to find the shtetl where her father hid during the war. What she finds not only reshapes her identity but gives her the long-denied opportunity to mourn the all-but-forgotten dead.

21 Lessons for the 21st Century
By Yuval Noah Harari
A probing and visionary investigation into today’s most urgent issues as we move into the uncharted territory of the future. As technology advances faster than our understanding of it, hacking becomes a tactic of war, and the world feels more polarized than ever, Yuval Noah Harari addresses the challenge of navigating life in the face of constant and disorienting change and raises the important questions we need to ask ourselves in order to survive.
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

How Democracies Die
By Steven Levitsky and Daniel Ziblatt

Donald Trump’s presidency has raised a question that many of us never thought we'd be asking: Is our democracy in danger? Harvard professors Steven Levitsky and Daniel Ziblatt have spent more than twenty years studying the breakdown of democracies in Europe and Latin America, and they believe the answer is yes. The good news is that there are several exit ramps on the road to authoritarianism. The bad news is that, by electing Trump, we have already passed the first one.

A Woman of No Importance
The Untold Story of the American Spy Who Helped Win World War II
By Sonia Purnell

Based on new and extensive research, Sonia Purnell has for the first time uncovered the life of Virginia Hall, a Baltimore socialite who talked her way into Special Operations Executive, the spy organization dubbed Winston Churchill’s “Ministry of Ungentlemanly Warfare.” She became the first Allied woman deployed behind enemy lines and—despite her prosthetic leg—helped to light the flame of the French Resistance, revolutionizing secret warfare as we know it.

“A fitting and moving tribute to an amazing woman.”—The Economist

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. Today, our political order faces threats not unlike the totalitarianism of the 20th century. Our one advantage over the Europeans who saw democracy yield to fascism, Nazism, or communism is that we might learn from their experience.

“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
HISTORY

'68
The Mexican Autumn of the Tlatelolco Massacre
By Paco Ignacio Taibo II

In Mexico City on October 2, 1968, at least 200 students—among thousands protesting election fraud and campaigning for university reform—were shot dead by government troops. Yet these events are nowhere to be found in official histories: that night the bodies were collected and trucked away, and government denial of all involvement began. Still, no one has been held accountable. One member of the crowd that night, Paco Taibo, would become an international literary figure; '68 is his account of the events of October 2, and of the student movement that preceded them.

The Mosquito
A Human History of Our Deadliest Predator
By Timothy C. Winegard

Roughly the size and weight of a grape seed, the mosquito has determined the fates of empires and nations, razed and crippled economies, and decided the outcome of pivotal wars, killing nearly half of humanity along the way. In this book, Dr. Timothy C. Winegard reveals how the tiny mosquito has played a greater role in shaping our human story than any other living thing.

"An extremely well-researched work of narrative nonfiction... As wildly entertaining as any epic narrative out there... Winegard masterfully weaves historical facts and science to offer a shocking, informative narrative that shows how who we are today is directly linked to the mosquito."—NPR.org

One Day
The Extraordinary Story of an Ordinary 24 Hours in America
By Gene Weingarten

Gene Weingarten documents the events of one day in America. That day—chosen completely at random—turned out to be filled with comedy, tragedy, kindness, cruelty, heroism, cowardice, genius, idiocy, prejudice, selflessness, coincidence, and startling moments of human connection.

"The people described in this book are wonderful and flawed, some of them evil, some of them impossibly good. But none of them have lived the kind of lives that normally get told in books, and in finally seeking them out and telling their stories, Gene has done them, and us, a priceless service."—Peter Sagal, Host, NPR's "Wait Wait... Don't Tell Me!"

Theme: Being Connected
What the Eyes Don’t See
A Story of Crisis, Resistance, and Hope in an American City

By Mona Hanna-Attisha

Here is the inspiring story of how Dr. Mona Hanna-Attisha, alongside a team of researchers, parents, friends, and community leaders, discovered that the children of Flint, Michigan, were being exposed to lead in their tap water—and then battled her own government and a brutal backlash to expose that truth to the world. Paced like a scientific thriller, What the Eyes Don’t See reveals how misguided austerity policies, broken democracy, 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 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.

“Gripping . . . entertaining . . . Her book has power precisely because she takes the events she recounts so personally . . . Moral outrage present on every page.”
—The New York Times Book Review

“Mona Hanna-Attisha’s account of that urban man-made disaster reads both as a detective story and as an exposé of government corruption . . . Her book’s message is that we each have the power to fix things, to make the world safer by opening one another’s eyes to problems. Her book reinforced my belief that the first step to becoming a citizen activist is seeing the world as it should be, not as it is given to you.”
—The Seattle Times
The Uninhabitable Earth
Life After Warming
By David Wallace-Wells

The climate columnist for New York magazine puts plainly the far-reaching, world-changing repercussions of climate change—from the scientific to the political to the sociological.

As deeply researched as it is accessible, The Uninhabitable Earth delves deep into both the science and the humanities of climate change. In it, Wallace-Wells eschews the partisan debate that has long colored the issue in favor of indisputable facts, and brings into stark relief the way in which the world will be remade by warming, transforming our politics, our culture, our relationship to technology, and our sense of history. From food shortages and refugee emergencies to countless other crises that will reshape the globe, the climate troubles that await will be all-encompassing, shaping and distorting nearly every aspect of human life as it is lived today.

This is only a preview of the changes to come. And they are coming fast. Without a revolution in how billions of humans conduct their lives, parts of the Earth could become close to uninhabitable, and other parts horrifically inhospitable, as soon as the end of this century.

Like An Inconvenient Truth and Silent Spring before it, The Uninhabitable Earth is both a meditation on the devastation we have brought upon ourselves and an impassioned call to action. For just as the world was brought to the brink of catastrophe within the span of a lifetime, the responsibility to avoid it now belongs to a single generation.

“The Uninhabitable Earth is the most terrifying book I have ever read. Its subject is climate change, and its method is scientific, but its mode is Old Testament. The book is a meticulously documented, white-knuckled tour through the cascading catastrophes that will soon engulf our warming planet.”

—Farhad Manjoo, New York Times
THE ENVIRONMENT

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—showing how local food systems can help troubled youths, dismantle racism, create jobs, and improve public health. *The Good Food Revolution* is the story of a pioneering urban farmer pointing the way to a new food system that can feed—and heal—communities.

“Will Allen’s remarkable story, told with eloquence and compassion, conveys the universal value of social justice and real food.”—Alice Waters

Selected for Common Reading at: Gustavus Adolphus College, Eastern Washington University, Sam Houston State University, Missouri State University, Berry College, St. Cloud State University, Bucknell University, Ohio State University, Minnesota State University Mankato, College of New Jersey, Westfield State University, and more.

Avery | TR | 978-1-59240-760-6
304 pp. | $16.00 / $21.00 Can.
EB: 9781101577882

American Wolf
A True Story of Survival and Obsession in the West
By Nate Blakeslee

Once abundant in North America, wolves were hunted to near extinction by the 1920s. But recently conservationists have reintroduced wolves to the Rockies, igniting a battle over the soul of the West. *American Wolf* is the story of Yellowstone’s most famous wolf, the threats she faces, and the struggle of those committed to restoring one of the country’s most iconic landscapes.

“O-Six’s story [is] told with great immediacy and empathy in a tale that reads like fiction.”—*Booklist* (starred review)

Finalist for the J. Anthony Lukas Book Prize

Video: tiny.cc/BlakesleeVideo

Broadway Books | TR
978-1-101-90280-6 | 320 pp. | $16.00
EB: 9781101902790

The Omega Principle
Seafood and the Quest for a Long Life and a Healthier Planet
By Paul Greenberg

An eye-opening investigation of the history and science behind omega-3 fatty acids, the “miracle compound” made from trillions of pounds of boiled down marine life—marine life that is essential to the survival of whales, penguins, and fish of all kinds—and a powerful argument for a more deliberate relationship with the oceans that sustain us.

“The *Omega Principle* encapsulates all the complexity and intricacies of our broken food system with the story of one (seemingly) simple supplement.”—Dan Barber

Theme: Health & Wellbeing

Penguin Books | TR
978-0-14-311111-5
304 pp. | $18.00 / $24.00 Can.
EB: 9780698183469

Also Available: *American Catch* 9780143127437; *Four Fish* 9780143191946

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 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.

“A timely and riveting book . . . written by a courageous young man struggling with the chaos he is inheriting from his elders . . . A welcome message of resistance and hope.”—*The Huffington Post*

Website: tiny.cc/KenIlgunasFYE

Video: tiny.cc/KenIlgunasVideo

Plume | TR
978-0-7352-1387-6
288 pp. | $16.00 / $22.00 Can.
EB: 9780698198388

Also Available: *This Land Is Our Land* 9780735217843

Theme: Being Connected
THE ENVIRONMENT

The Fate of Food
What We’ll Eat in a Bigger, Hotter, Smarter World
By Amanda Little

Climate models show that global crop production will decline every decade for the rest of this century due to drought, heat, and flooding. Water supplies are in jeopardy. Meanwhile, the world’s population is expected to grow another 30 percent by midcentury. So how, really, will we feed nine billion people sustainably in the coming decades? In the fascinating story of the sustainable food revolution, an environmental journalist and professor asks the question: Is the future of food looking bleak—or better than ever?

How to Give Up Plastic
A Guide to Changing the World, One Plastic Bottle at a Time
By Will McCallum

How to Give Up Plastic is a straightforward guide to eliminating plastic from our lives. Greenpeace activist Will McCallum teaches us how to spot disposable plastic items and find plastic-free, sustainable alternatives to each one. He also arms readers with a wealth of facts about global plastic consumption and tips for advocating to businesses and community leaders to commit to eliminating disposable plastics for good.

“A galvanizing alternative to ominous media prophecies of inevitable environmental disaster.”—Booklist

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.

Selected for Common Reading at: University of Alaska Anchorage

To request examination copies, email commonreads@prh.com
We live in the age of the algorithm. Increasingly, the decisions that affect our lives—where we go to school, whether we get a car loan, how much we pay for health insurance—are being made not by humans, but by mathematical models. In theory, this should lead to greater fairness: Everyone is judged according to the same rules, and bias is eliminated.

But as Cathy O’Neil reveals in this urgent and necessary book, the opposite is true. The models being used today are opaque, unregulated, and uncontestable, even when they’re wrong. Most troubling, they reinforce discrimination: If a poor student can’t get a loan because a lending model deems him too risky (by virtue of his zip code), he’s then cut off from the kind of education that could pull him out of poverty, and a vicious spiral ensues. Models are propping up the lucky and punishing the downtrodden, creating a “toxic cocktail for democracy.” Welcome to the dark side of Big Data.

Tracing the arc of a person’s life, O’Neil exposes the black box models that shape our future, both as individuals and as a society. These “weapons of math destruction” score teachers and students, sort résumés, grant (or deny) loans, evaluate workers, target voters, set parole, and monitor our health.

O’Neil calls on modelers to take more responsibility for their algorithms and on policy makers to regulate their use. But in the end, it’s up to us to become more savvy about the models that govern our lives. This important book empowers us to ask the tough questions, uncover the truth, and demand change.

Cathy O’Neil is a data scientist and author of the blog mathbabe.org. She earned a PhD in mathematics from Harvard and taught at Barnard College before moving to the private sector, where she worked for the hedge fund D. E. Shaw. She then worked as a data scientist at various start-ups, building models that predict people’s purchases and clicks. O’Neil started the Lede Program in Data Journalism at Columbia and is the author of Doing Data Science. She is currently a columnist for Bloomberg View.

“Cathy O’Neil has seen Big Data from the inside, and the picture isn’t pretty. Weapons of Math Destruction opens the curtain on algorithms that exploit people and distort the truth while posing as neutral mathematical tools. This book is wise, fierce, and desperately necessary.”

—Jordan Ellenberg, University of Wisconsin-Madison, author of How Not To Be Wrong
Irresistible

The Rise of Addictive Technology and the Business of Keeping Us Hooked

By Adam Alter

Adam Alter, a professor of psychology and marketing at NYU, tracks the rise of behavioral addiction, and explains why so many of today’s products are irresistible. Though these miraculous products melt the miles that separate people across the globe, their extraordinary and sometimes damaging magnetism is no accident. The companies that design these products tweak them over time until they become almost impossible to resist. By reverse engineering behavioral addiction, Alter explains how we can harness addictive products for the good—to improve how we communicate with each other, spend and save our money, and set boundaries between work and play—and how we can mitigate their most damaging effects on our well-being.

“A fascinating and much needed exploration of one of the most troubling phenomena of modern times.”—Malcolm Gladwell

Selected for Common Reading at:
Bowling Green University; Columbus State University; South Dakota State University; Berea College

Website: tiny.cc/AdamAlterFYE
Video: tiny.cc/AdamAlterVideo

The Smallest Lights in the Universe

A Memoir

By Sara Seager

MIT astrophysicist Sara Seager has made it her life’s work to peer into the spaces around stars—looking for exoplanets outside our solar system, hoping to find the one-in-a-billion world enough like ours to sustain life. But with the unexpected death of her husband, Seager’s life became an empty, lightless space. She became painfully conscious of her Asperger’s, which before losing her husband had felt more like background noise. She felt, for the first time, alone in the universe. In this probing, invigoratingly honest memoir, Seager tells the story of how, as she stumbled through the world of grief, she also kept looking for other worlds. At the same time, she discovers what feels every bit as wondrous: other people, reaching out across the space of her grief. This powerful memoir of cutting edge science, unexpected discoveries, and new beginnings is a light in the dark for anyone seeking meaning and solace.

Website: tiny.cc/SeagarFYE
SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

The Poison Squad
One Chemist’s Single-Minded Crusade for Food Safety at the Turn of the Twentieth Century
By Deborah Blum

By the end of the nineteenth century, food manufacturers were knowingly selling harmful products to the public. In New York City alone, thousands of children were killed by “embalmed milk” that contained formaldehyde. Now, Deborah Blum tells the dramatic true story of the heroes who fought for food safety and consumer protection.

“Offers a powerful reminder that truth can defeat lies, that government can protect consumers and that an honest public servant can overcome the greed of private interests.”—Eric Schlosser

Website: tiny.cc/DeborahBlumFYE

Selected for Common Reading at:
University of Wisconsin-Madison

Penguin Books | TR
978-0-14-311112-2
352 pp. | $18.00 / $24.00 Can.
EB: 9780525560289

Concussion
By Jeanne Marie Laskas

The riveting, unlikely story of Dr. Bennet Omalu, the pathologist who first identified CTE in professional football players, a discovery that challenged the existence of America’s favorite sport and put Omalu in the crosshairs of football’s most powerful corporation: the NFL.

“The story of Dr. Bennet Omalu’s battle against the NFL is classic David and Goliath stuff, and Jeanne Marie Laskas—one of my favorite writers on earth—makes it as exciting as any great courtroom or gridiron drama. A riveting, powerful human tale—and a master class on how to tell a story.”—Charles Duhigg, author of The Power of Habit

Website: tiny.cc/LaskasFYE

Selected for Common Reading at:
Shepherd University

Random House TR
978-0-8129-8757-7
288 pp. | $16.00 / $21.00 Can.
EB: 9780812998085

Because Internet
Understanding the New Rules of Language
By Gretchen McCulloch

Language is humanity’s most spectacular open-source project, and the internet is making our language change faster and in more interesting ways than ever before. Internet linguist Gretchen McCulloch explains how the internet is changing the English language, why that’s a good thing, and what our online interactions reveal about who we are.

“In prose at once scholarly and user-friendly, McCulloch unpacks the evolution of language in the digital age, providing a comprehensive survey of everything from the secret language of emojis to the appeal of animal memes.”—Esquire

Website: tiny.cc/GretchenMcCullochFYE

Riverhead Books | HC
978-0-7352-1093-6
336 pp. | $26.00 / $35.00 Can.
EB: 9780735210950

Digital Minimalism
Choosing a Focused Life in a Noisy World
By Cal Newport

Drawing on a diverse array of real-life examples, from Amish farmers to Silicon Valley programmers, Newport identifies the common practices of digital minimalists: people who know exactly how much technology is just enough. He shows how digital minimalists are rethinking their relationship to social media and reconnecting with their inner selves.

“Digital Minimalism is a welcome invitation to reconsider how we want to use our screens rather than letting the screens (and the billionaires behind them) make the call.”—KJ Dell’Antonia, author of How to be a Happier Parent

Website: www.calnewport.com
Video: tiny.cc/CalNewportVideo

Portfolio | HC | 978-0-525-53651-2
304 pp. | $26.00 / $35.00 Can.
EB: 9780525536543
To request examination copies, email commonreads@prh.com
**Cause**

...And How It Doesn’t Always Equal Effect  
*By Gregory Smithsimon*

When we try to understand our world, we ask “why?” a specific event occurred. But this profoundly human question often leads us astray. Smithsimon begins by explaining the misguided cause and effect explanations that have given us tragically little insight on issues such as racial discrimination, climate change, and the cycle of poverty. He then shows unseen causes behind these issues, and shows how we are hard-wired to overlook them. Armed with these insights, Smithsimon explains how we can avoid these mistakes, and begin to make effective change.

Theme: Life Skills

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**Pleased to Meet Me**

Genes, Germs, and the Curious Forces That Make Us Who We Are  
*By Bill Sullivan*

Why are you attracted to a certain “type”? Why are you a morning person? We’re constantly seeking answers to these human questions, and science has the answers. The foods we enjoy, the people we love, the emotions we feel, and the beliefs we hold can all be traced back to our DNA, germs, and environment. This witty, colloquial book is popular science at its best, describing in everyday language how genetics, epigenetics, microbiology, and psychology work together to influence our personality and actions.

National Geographic | HC  
978-1-4262-2055-5  
336 pp. | $26.00 / $35.00 Can.  
EB: 9781426220562

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**The Language of Kindness**

A Nurse’s Story  
*By Christie Watson*

Christie Watson spent twenty years as a nurse, and in this intimate and poignant book, she opens the doors of the hospital and shares its secrets. All of us will experience illness in our lifetime, and we will all depend on the support and dignity that nurses offer us; yet the women and men who form the vanguard of our health care remain unsung. In this age of fear, hate, and division, Christie Watson has written a book that reminds us of all that we share, and of the urgency of compassion.

Theme: Service & Altruism

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**Soonish**

Ten Emerging Technologies That’ll Improve and/or Ruin Everything  
*By Kelly and Zach Weinersmith*

In this smart and funny book, celebrated cartoonist Zach Weinersmith and noted researcher Dr. Kelly Weinersmith give us a snapshot of what’s coming next: from robot swarms to nuclear fusion powered-toasters. By weaving together their own research, interviews with the scientists who are making these advances happen, and Zach’s trademark comics, the Weinersmiths investigate why these technologies are needed, how they would work, and what is standing in their way.

Website: tiny.cc/SoonishFYE  
Video: tiny.cc/SoonishVideo  
Selected for Common Reading at: Washington State University

Penguin Press | TR  
978-0-399-56384-3  
368 pp. | $18.00 / $24.00 Can.  
EB: 9780399563836  
*A Wall Street Journal* Best Science Book of the Year;  
*A Popular Science* Best Science Book of the Year
INDEX

A
Abrams, Douglas ........................................ 43
Absolutely Remarkable
Thing, An ............................................ 53
Ackerman, Elliot ........................................ 13
African American and
Latinx History of the
United States, An ................................. 57
After the Last Border ......................... 24
Ahmed, Samira ...................................... 50
Allen, Will ............................................. 64
All the Names They
Used for God .................................. 55
Altar, Adam ............................................ 67
American Prison .................................. 31
American Wolf ...................................... 64
Anderson, Laurie Halse .......................... 13
And Then We Grew Up ..................... 43
Armstrong, Ken ......................................... 33

B
Bailey, Issac J. ......................................... 25
Batuman, Elif ......................................... 50
Bauer, Shane .......................................... 31
Bayoumi, Moustafa ................................. 13
Becker, Harmony ....................................... 7
Become America ................................... 39
Becoming ................................. Becoming Nicole
Bolles, Richard N. ................................. 40
Blakeslee, Nate ...................................... 64
Blanco, Richard ...................................... 40
Blum, Deborah ....................................... 68
Boles, Richard N ..................................... 40
Boo, Katherine ....................................... 13
Book of Joy, The ................................. 43
Born a Crime ................................. 18
Boylan, Jennifer Finney ......................... 14
Braving the Wilderness ....................... 38
Breath ................................................. 51
Breathe ................................................ 12
Broken Ladder, The .............................. 35
Brooks, David ....................................... 40
Brown, Brené, PhD, LMSW ........................ 38
Burns, Catherine .................................. 41
Butler, Octavia E. .................................. 50

C
Cain, Susan ............................................. 41
Callings ............................................... 11
Call Sign Chaos ...................................... 16
Cantú, Francisco .................................... 22
Caparroso, Martin .................................. 31
Career Playbook, The ........................... 41
Caruthers, Charlene ............................... 28
Cause .................................................. 70
Chambers, Cassie .................................. 10
Chasing My Cure .................................. 14
Chua, Amy ............................................ 31
Citrin, James M ...................................... 41
Cline, Ernest ........................................... 50
Coates, Ta-Nehisi .................................. 45
Codding of the
American Mind, The ......................... 33
College Rules! 4th Edition ................. 43
Concussion .......................................... 68
Coppenhead .......................................... 56
Coyle, Daniel ........................................... 42
Cullen, Art ............................................. 59
Culture Code, The ................................. 42

D
Dalai Lama .............................................. 43
Dalcher, Christina .................................. 51
Danticat, Edwidge .................................. 51
Daoud, Kamel ........................................ 51
Darë, Abi .............................................. 31
Dare to Matter ........................................ 39
Darus the Great Is Not Okay ............... 53
Deel, Bruce ............................................ 42
DeParle, Jason ......................................... 24
Desmond, Matthew ................................ 31
DiAngelo, Robin .................................... 28
Digital Minimalism ................................ 68
Drawdown ............................................ 65
Dream Country ..................................... 53
Dreamers, The ...................................... 56
Dreisinger, Baz ....................................... 32
Duhigg, Charles ...................................... 42

E
Eberhardt, Jennifer L., Ph.D. ............... 26
Educated ............................................... 8
Eisenstock, Alan ..................................... 20
Eisinger, Justin ....................................... 7
Enrique’s Journey .................................. 24
Epstein, David ........................................ 42
Evans, Kate ........................................... 29
Every Man Dies Alone ......................... 52
Everything Here Is Beautiful ............... 54
Evicted ............................................... 31
Exit West ............................................. 47
Eyes ...................................................... 51

F
Fajardo-Anstine, Kali .............................. 52
Fajgenbaum, David .................................. 14
Fallada, Hans ........................................... 52
Far Away Brothers, The .................... 23
Fate of Food, The .................................. 65
Faye, Gaei ............................................... 52
Finding My Voice ................................... 15
Fink, Sheri ............................................. 32
Five Days at Memorial ........................... 32
Fleming, Crystal M ................................ 29
Foer, Esther Safran ................................. 59
Forché, Carolyn ..................................... 10
Ford, Jamie ............................................. 52
Fowler, Susan .......................................... 14
Fraternity ............................................... 18
Freedom Writers Diary, The ............... 44
Freedom Writers, The ......................... 44
Freeman, John ....................................... 32
Friedman, Rachel ................................... 43
From Our Land to Our Land ................. 19
Futureface ............................................ 23

G
Gates, Henry Louis, Jr ....................... 58
Gerald, ................................. 15
Gibney, Shannon .................................. 53
Girl Who Smiled Beads, The .......... 20
Girl with the Louding
Voice, The ........................................ 36
Glimmer of Hope .................................. 36
Good Food Revolution, The ................. 64
Good Provider Is One Who Leaves, A .... 24
Goudeau, Jessica .................................... 42
Grace, Sara ............................................ 42
Greenberg, Paul ...................................... 64
Green, Hank .......................................... 53
Green, John ............................................ 53
Gruwell, Erin .......................................... 44
Guest House for Young Widows ........... 17
Guo, Winona ......................................... 30

H
Haidt, Jonathan ....................................... 33
Haig, Matt ............................................. 38
Hamid, Mohsin ..................................... 47
Hankir, Zahra ......................................... 32
Hanna-Attisha, Mona ......................... 62
Harari, Yuval Noah ................................. 59
Harrison, Scott ...................................... 30
Hassib, Rajia ........................................... 47
Hawken, Paul ........................................... 65
High Achiever ....................................... 15
Hilgers, Lauren ..................................... 22
Hill Women ............................................ 10
Hobson, Brandon ................................... 49
Holshuch, Jodi Patrick, Ph.D. ............. 43
Hope in the Unseen, A ......................... 44
How Democracies Die .......................... 60
How Does It Feel to Be a Problem? ...... 13
How to Be an Antiracist ....................... 27
How to Be Less
Stupid About Race ............................... 29
How to Give Up Plastic ......................... 65
How to Invent Everything ..................... 69
How to Love a Country ........................... 40
Hunger ............................................... 31

I
Idiot, The ............................................. 50
Iger, Robert .......................................... 15
Ilguñas, Ken .......................................... 64
Immortal Life of
Hennrietta Lacks, The ................. 69
Incarceration Nations ......................... 32
Irk Knows No Borders ......................... 21
Irland ................................................ 46
Inner Level, The .................................... 36
Inner Work of
Racial Justice, The ......................... 33
In the Shadow of Statues ................. 60
Irresistible ............................................ 67
Isay, Dave ............................................. 11
I Want You to Know
We’re Still Here ................................. 59

J
Jarrett, Valerie ....................................... 15
Jenkins, Tiffany ...................................... 15
Just Mercy ............................................. 36

K
Kalanithi, Paul ....................................... 16
Kassalow, Jordan ................................. 39
Kawasaki, Guy ...................................... 16
Kendi, Ibram X. ................................ ...... 27
Khorrarm, Adib ..................................... 53
Kindred ............................................... 50
Klineberg, Eric ...................................... 33
Kochai, Jamil Jan .................................. 54
Krause, Jennifer .................................... 39
Kuo, Michelle ........................................ 16

L
Landrieu, Mitch ..................................... 60
Language of Kindness, The ................ 70
Laskas, Jeanne Marie ............................. 68
Last Girl, The ....................................... 35
Lee, Justin ............................................. 33
Lee, Mira T. .......................................... 54
Levitsky, Steven ................................... 60
Lewis, John .......................................... 11
Line Becomes a River, The ................... 22
Little, Amanda ...................................... 65
Little Fires Everywhere ....................... 48
Liu, Eric ............................................... 39
Love, Hate and Other Filters .............. 50
Love and Other
Consolation Prizes ............................. 52
Lovell, Joel .......................................... 15
Love Thy Neighbor ............................... 20
Lukianoff, Greg .................................... 33

To request examination copies, email commonreads@prh.com 71
### INDEX

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>M</th>
<th>Magee, Rhonda V.</th>
<th>33</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>March: Book Three</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>March for Our Lives</td>
<td>36</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Founders, The</td>
<td>23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Mattis, Jim</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>McBride, Sarah</td>
<td>34</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>McCallum, Will</td>
<td>65</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>McCulloch, Gretchen</td>
<td>68</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>McKesson, DeRay</td>
<td>44</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Memory</td>
<td>51</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Meursault Investigation, The</td>
<td>51</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Miller, T. Christian</td>
<td>34</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Mind and Matter</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Mirza, Fatima Farheen</td>
<td>48</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Moaveni, Azadeh</td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Moonshot</td>
<td>44</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Moore, Alan</td>
<td>54</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Moore, Wes</td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>More Than Enough</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Morris, Jane Mosbacher</td>
<td>34</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Mosquito, The</td>
<td>61</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Mophets All These Wonders, The</td>
<td>41</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Mophets Occasion Magic, The</td>
<td>41</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Murad, Nadia</td>
<td>35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>My Brother Mookie</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Mycoskie, Blake</td>
<td>43</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>N</td>
<td>Nazario, Sonia</td>
<td>24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Newport, Cal</td>
<td>68</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Ng, Celeste</td>
<td>48</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>99 Nights in Logar</td>
<td>54</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Nist-Olejnik, Sherrie, Ph.D.</td>
<td>43</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Noah, Trevor</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Nordberg, Jenny</td>
<td>35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Normal People</td>
<td>55</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>North, Ryan</td>
<td>69</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Notes on a Nervous Planet</td>
<td>38</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Not Quite Not White</td>
<td>35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Nutt, Amy Ellis</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>O</td>
<td>Obama, Michelle</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Obreht, Téa</td>
<td>46, 54</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Omega Principle, The</td>
<td>64</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>On Earth We’re Briefly Gorgeous</td>
<td>55</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>One Day</td>
<td>61</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>On Edge</td>
<td>69</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>O’Neill, Cathy</td>
<td>66</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>On the Other Side of Freedom</td>
<td>34</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>On Tyranny</td>
<td>60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Optimist’s Telescope, The</td>
<td>37</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Ortiz, Paul</td>
<td>57</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Other Wes Moore, The</td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Our Women on the Ground</td>
<td>32</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Owens, Delia</td>
<td>55</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>P</td>
<td>Palaces for the People</td>
<td>33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Paris, Wendy</td>
<td>34</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Patriot Number One</td>
<td>22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Payne, Keith</td>
<td>35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Penguin Book of Migration Literature, The</td>
<td>21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Perry, Imani</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Petersen, Andrea</td>
<td>69</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Pickett, Kate</td>
<td>36</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Place for Us, A</td>
<td>48</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Places and Names</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Pleased to Meet Me</td>
<td>70</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Poison Squad, The</td>
<td>68</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Political Tribes</td>
<td>31</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Powell, Nate</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Power of Habit, The</td>
<td>42</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Price, Rosie</td>
<td>49</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Pure Heart, A</td>
<td>47</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Purnell, Sonia</td>
<td>60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Q</td>
<td>Quiet</td>
<td>41</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>R</td>
<td>Range</td>
<td>42</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Raymond, Alyssa</td>
<td>21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Reading with Patrick</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Ready Player One</td>
<td>50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Red at the Bone</td>
<td>56</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Red Bandanna, The</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Ride of a Lifetime, The</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Rinaldi, Tom</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Road to Character, The</td>
<td>40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Robbins, Alexandra</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Rodriguez, Luis J.</td>
<td>19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Ronson, Jon</td>
<td>69</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Rooney, Sally</td>
<td>55</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>S</td>
<td>Sabrina &amp; Corina</td>
<td>52</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Sachdeva, Anjali</td>
<td>55</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Salt in My Soul</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Scott, Steven</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Seager, Sara</td>
<td>67</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Second Mountain, The</td>
<td>40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Senghor, Shaka</td>
<td>19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Sen, Sharmila</td>
<td>35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>She’s Not There</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>SHOUT</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Sissy</td>
<td>19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>68</td>
<td>61</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Sixelot, Rebecca</td>
<td>69</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Small Country</td>
<td>52</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Smallest Lights in the Universe, The</td>
<td>67</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Smith, Mallory</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Smithson, Gregory</td>
<td>70</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Snyder, Timothy</td>
<td>60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Soonish</td>
<td>70</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>So You’ve Been Publicly Shamed</td>
<td>69</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Start Something That Matters</td>
<td>43</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Stevenson, Bryan</td>
<td>36</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Story the Road</td>
<td>58</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Storm Lake</td>
<td>59</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Strickler, Yancey</td>
<td>44</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Sullivan, Bill</td>
<td>70</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Suskind, Ron</td>
<td>44</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>T</td>
<td>Taibo, Paco Ignacio, II</td>
<td>61</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Takei, George</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Tales of Two Americas</td>
<td>32</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Talking Across the Divide</td>
<td>33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Tell Me Who You Are</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Tell The Machine Goodnight</td>
<td>56</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>There Will Be No Miracles Here</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>They Called Us Enemy</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Thirst</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>This Could Be Our Future</td>
<td>44</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Thomas, Louisa</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Thompson, Clifford</td>
<td>19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Threads</td>
<td>29</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Tiger’s Wife, The</td>
<td>54</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Tobia, Jacob</td>
<td>19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Tomorrow Will Be Different</td>
<td>34</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Trespassing Across America</td>
<td>64</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Trust First</td>
<td>42</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Turtles All the Way Down</td>
<td>53</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Tutu, Desmond</td>
<td>43</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>21 Lessons for the 21st Century</td>
<td>59</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>U</td>
<td>Unapologetic</td>
<td>28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Unbelievable</td>
<td>34</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Uncensored</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Underground Girls of Kabul, The</td>
<td>35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Uninhabitable Earth, The</td>
<td>63</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Urschel, John</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>V</td>
<td>Vecchione, Patricia</td>
<td>21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Venkataraman, Bina</td>
<td>37</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Virji, Ayaz</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Vax</td>
<td>51</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Vulchi, Priya</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Vuong, Ocean</td>
<td>55</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| W | Wagner, Alex | 23 |
|   | Walker, Karen Thompson | 56 |
|   | Wallace-Wells, David | 63 |
|   | Wamariya, Clementine | 20 |
|   | Watchmen (2019 Edition) | 54 |
|   | Water Dancer, The | 45 |
|   | Watson, Christie | 70 |
|   | Weapons of Math Destruction | 66 |
|   | Weil, Elizabeth | 20 |
|   | Weinerism, Kelly | 70 |
|   | Weinerism, Zach | 70 |
|   | Weingarten, Gene | 61 |
|   | Weiss, Elaine | 58 |
|   | Welteforth, Elaine | 20 |
|   | West, Bing | 16 |
|   | Westover, Tara | 8 |
|   | What Color Is Your Parachute? | 20 |
|   | What It Is | 19 |
|   | What Red Was | 60 |
|   | What the Eyes Don’t See | 62 |
|   | What You Have Heard Is True | 10 |
|   | When Breath Becomes Air | 16 |
|   | Where the Crawdads Sing | 55 |
|   | Where the Dead Sit Talking | 49 |
|   | Whistleblower | 14 |
|   | White Fragility | 28 |
|   | Wilkinson, Richard | 36 |
|   | Williams, Katie | 56 |
|   | Wilson, Chris | 9 |
|   | Winegard, Timothy C. | 61 |
|   | Wise Guy | 16 |
|   | Wiseman, Richard, Ph.D. | 44 |
|   | Witter, Bret | 9 |
|   | Woman of No Importance, A | 60 |
|   | Woman’s Hour, The | 58 |
|   | Woodson, Jacqueline | 56 |
|   | Wood, Zachary R. | 20 |
|   | Work, The | 17 |
|   | World in a Grain, The | 59 |
|   | Writing My Wrongs | 19 |
| Z | Zentner, Alexi | 56 |
|   | Ziblatt, Daniel | 60 |
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