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Includes 61 black-and-white  
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Self-Help / Personal Growth  
SEL027000  
7.5 in H | 6 in W | 1 in T | 1 lb Wt

## Iron Hope

### Lessons Learned from Conquering the Impossible

James Lawrence

**The ultimate guide to mental toughness by James “Iron Cowboy” Lawrence—the greatest endurance athlete in human history.**

### Summary

James Lawrence’s accomplishments are nearly impossible to comprehend. In 2015, he set a Guinness World Record record by completing 50 full-distance triathlons in 50 states in 50 consecutive days. Yes, THE Ironman, “the single most difficult day in sports”— a 2.4-mile swim, 112 miles on a bike, then a 26.2-mile run, all completed in under 17 hours. It is a race so intense that less than .01% of the population have completed one.

Afterwards, Lawrence subjected his body to exhaustive physical testing, to every genetic test known to science. The stunning discovery is that physically, James Lawrence is unspecial in every way. The secret to his bulletproof body is his bulletproof mentality.

How does a person develop the mental fortitude necessary to overcome incredible exhaustion, immeasurable suffering, and unfathomable pain in order to achieve impossible goals? With *Iron Hope*, that’s exactly what James “Iron Cowboy” Lawrence shows readers how to do. Lawrence explains how readers can forge an iron will by making and keeping small promises to themselves again and again, amassing experience and building momentum until giving up becomes impossible. Combine a big dream with small improvements repeated with great consistency and make your goals and dreams a reality.

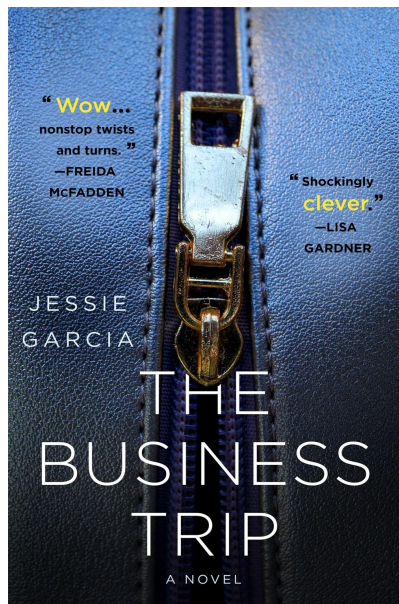
### Contributor Bio

JAMES LAWRENCE aka “The Iron Cowboy” has broken four Guinness World Records for endurance racing. From March 1, 2021, till June 9, 2021, James Lawrence raced a full-distance triathlon every single day. That’s 140.6 miles a day for 100 consecutive days, totaling 14,060 miles. James is a professional speaker, and in 2022, he did 65 different events across the country. While often featured with stalwart speakers like Jay Shetty and Mel Robbins, James consistently gets higher scores.

### Quotes

“When society is pushing us longer and harder and even to the breaking point, James Lawrence has given us his secret playbook so we can conquer our mountains, one step at a time. A stunning story of American grit, this one is not to be missed.” —Adam Makos, *New York Times* bestselling author of *Spearhead*

“James Lawrence and I are on the same page. My life’s motto is ‘Never give up. Never quit.’ His story reinforces for us all that we are stronger than we think, we can survive difficult seasons, and we can undertake and achieve epic goals.” —Staff Sergeant Travis Mills (ret.), *New York Times* bestselling author of *Tough As They Come* and founder of the Travis Mills Foundation



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Wt

## The Business Trip

Jessie Garcia

THE BUSINESS TRIP is the gripping, page-turning debut from author Jessie Garcia.

### Summary

Stephanie and Jessica have nothing and everything in common. The two women don't know each other but are on the same plane heading to California. Stephanie is on a business trip and Jasmine is fleeing an abusive relationship. After a few days, they text their friends the same exact messages about the same man—the messages becoming stranger and more erratic. And then the two women vanish.

The texts go silent, the red flags go up, and the panic sets in. When Stephanie and Jasmine are each declared missing and in danger, it begs the questions: Who is Trent McCarthy? What did he do to these women—or what did they do to him?

Twist upon twist, layer upon layer, where nothing is as it seems, *The Business Trip* takes you on a descent into the depths of a mastermind manipulator. But who is playing who?

### Contributor Bio

**JESSIE GARCIA** is an award-winning sports journalist who has risen the ranks in television news, first as an anchor/reporter, then to newsroom management. She is the News Director at the CBS affiliate in Milwaukee. She is the author of award winning non-fiction books, and her documentary *Leaps and Bounds: The Men Who Changed Track and Field* was featured in over a dozen film festivals. She also taught journalism at four universities. A native of Madison, WI, Jessie has two adult sons and resides in Milwaukee with her husband, dog and cat.

### Quotes

"Nonstop twists and turns... I couldn't wait to see how it ended!" -- **FRIEDA MCFADDEN**

"Tightly paced with pages that practically turn themselves, you will race to find answers...and I promise you, they're not what you think they are." -- **Julie Clark**

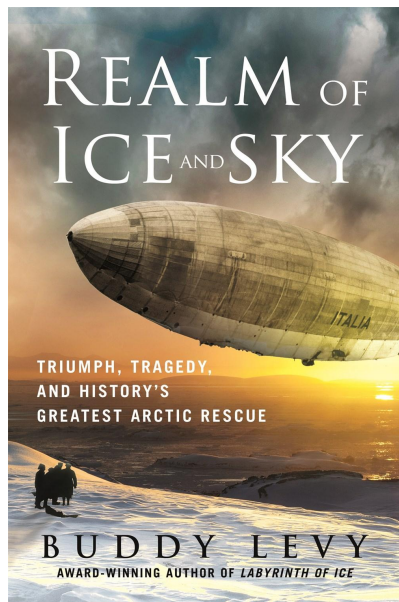
"A hold your breath thriller that ramped up the tension at every turn...First-class thriller writing"—**Sarah Pearse**

"Wickedly entertaining and impossible to predict... a stunning debut!" —**Jeneva Rose**

"Wickedly clever. The twists come fast and furious in this taut thriller that'll spin you up, down and around while ensuring you enjoy the ride." -- **LISA GARDNER**

"What a rollercoaster of a book! This is a stunning and accomplished debut!" -- **B.A. PARIS**

"A stunning, edge-of-your seat suspense." -- **TESS GERRITSEN**



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## Realm of Ice and Sky

**Triumph, Tragedy, and History's Greatest Arctic Rescue**

Buddy Levy

**National Outdoor Book Award-winning author Buddy Levy's thrilling narrative of polar exploration via airship—and the men who sacrificed everything to make history.**

### Summary

Arctic explorer and American visionary Walter Wellman pioneered both polar and trans-Atlantic airship aviation, making history's first attempts at each. Wellman has been cast as a self-promoting egomaniac known mostly for his failures. Instead he was a courageous innovator who pushed the boundaries of polar exploration and paved the way for the ultimate conquest of the North Pole by airship.

American explorer Dr. Frederick Cook was the first to claim he made it to the North Pole in 1908. A year later, so did American Robert Peary, but both Cook's and Peary's claims had been seriously questioned. There was enough doubt that Norwegian explorer extraordinaire Roald Amundsen picked up where Walter Wellman left off, attempting to fly to the North Pole by airship. He would go in the *Norge*, designed by Italian aeronautical engineer Umberto Nobile. The 350-foot *Norge* flew over the North Pole on May 12, 1926.

However, the engineer Nobile felt slighted by Amundsen. Two years later, Nobile returned, this time in the *Italia*, backed by Prime Minister Benito Mussolini. Nobile intended to win back the global accolades and reputation he believed Amundsen had stripped from him. The journey ended in disaster, launching one of the greatest rescue operations the world had ever seen.

*Realm of Ice and Sky* is the thrilling narrative of polar exploration via airship and the men who sacrificed everything to make history.

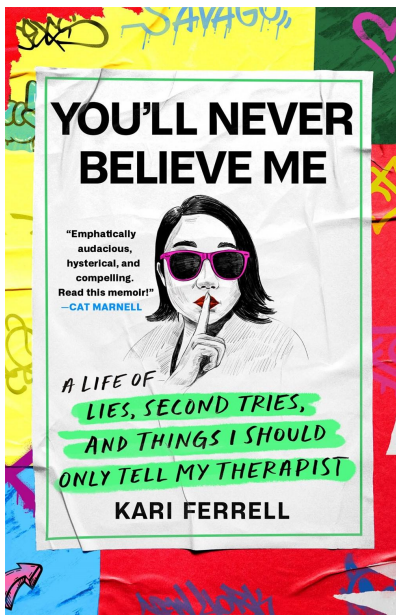
### Contributor Bio

BUDDY LEVY is the author of more than ten books, including *Labyrinth of Ice: The Triumphant and Tragic Greely Polar Expedition* and *Empire of Ice and Stone: The Disastrous and Heroic Voyage of the Karluk*. His books have been published in eight languages and won numerous awards. He lives in Idaho.

### Quotes

#### **Praise for *Empire of Ice and Stone*:**

"Levy writes beautifully about the cold. His Arctic is fearsome and sublime, his ice a living thing. His passion for this alien landscape is infectious—something to appreciate from underneath a pile of blankets while wearing very warm socks." —*New York Times Book Review*



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288 Pages  
True Crime / Con Artists, Hoaxes  
& Deceptions  
TRU004000  
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Wt

## You'll Never Believe Me

### A Life of Lies, Second Tries, and Other Stuff I Should Only Tell My Therapist

Kari Ferrell

The compelling, edgy, compassionate, laugh-out-loud memoir from Kari Ferrell, formerly known as the Hipster Grifter

### Summary

Before Anna Delvey, before the Tinder Swindler, there was Kari Ferrell. Adopted at a young age by a Mormon family in Utah, Kari struggled with questions of self-worth as one of the few Asian Americans in her community, leading her to run with the "bad crowd" in an effort to fit in. Soon, she graduated from petty crimes to serious grifts, stealing money from unsuspecting targets and eventually hitting Utah's Most Wanted List. Desperate for a fresh start, she moves to New York City, slips into the indie-sleaze scene where she games her way to a job at Vice News, picks up men and their wallets at clandestine bars, and becomes known as the Hipster Grifter, a moniker she would never escape.

As the media—in true early aughts form—sensationalizes and fetishizes her story and thousands followed along online, she hides from cops in a grungy Brooklyn apartment, eventually goes to jail where she survives prison riots and makes friends, and in search of her roots, returns to Korea for the first time.

In turns rollicking and irreverent, warm and sincere, Kari's is a heartfelt memoir of redemption, as she eventually dedicates her life to activism and setting the record straight. *You'll Never Believe Me* tells Kari's story for the first time and offers readers a nostalgic, uplifting, and, at times, unbelievable book that grapples with truth, why we lie, and what it means when our pasts don't paint the whole picture.

### Contributor Bio

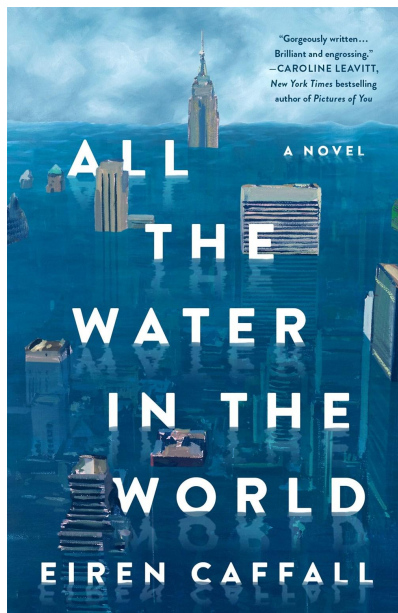
KARI FERRELL is a producer, writer, speaker, activist, and creator whose work is centered around prison reform and mental health. Her production company, Without Wax, is dedicated to uplifting and telling other stories from women of color, and she's currently working with Mindy Kaling's Kaling International on a show about her life. Kari also supports various organizations like Second Chance Studios, Books Between Bars, the ACLU, and other advocacy groups. She lives in Brooklyn.

### Quotes

"Emphatically audacious, hysterical, and compelling. This is a crazy and beautiful story. Kari Ferrell writes with such heart, and she's so funny and charismatic. You can't help but root for her. Read this book!" —Cat Marnell, *New York Times* bestselling author of *How To Murder Your Life*

"*You'll Never Believe Me* is honest, vulnerable, raw, and a powerful and surprising story, deftly told. Kari Ferrell's firsthand account of the truth behind the headlines, the memes, and the viral sensation is a gripping and important read—and a mirror." —Mary Pilon, *New York Times* bestselling author of *The Monopolists*





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Wt

## All the Water in the World

A Novel

Eiren Caffall

In the tradition of *Station Eleven*, a literary thriller set partly on the roof of New York's Museum of Natural History in a flooded future.

### Summary

*All the Water in the World* is told in the voice of a girl gifted with a deep feeling for water. In the years after the glaciers melt, Nonie, her older sister and her parents and their researcher friends have stayed behind in an almost deserted New York City, creating a settlement on the roof of the American Museum of Natural History. The rule: Take from the exhibits only in dire need. They hunt and grow their food in Central Park as they work to save the collections of human history and science. When a superstorm breaches the city's flood walls, Nonie and her family must escape north on the Hudson. They carry with them a book that holds their records of the lost collections. Racing on the swollen river towards what may be safety, they encounter communities that have adapted in very different and sometimes frightening ways to the new reality. But they are determined to find a way to make a new world that honors all they've saved.

Inspired by the stories of the curators in Iraq and Leningrad who worked to protect their collections from war, *All the Water in the World* is both a meditation on what we save from collapse and an adventure story—with danger, storms, and a fight for survival. In the spirit of *From the Mixed-Up Files of Mrs. Basil E. Frankweiler* and *Parable of the Sower*, this wild journey offers the hope that what matters most – love and work, community and knowledge – will survive.

### Contributor Bio

EIREN CAFFALL is a writer and musician whose work has appeared in *Guernica*, *The Los Angeles Review of Books*, *Al Jazeera*, *The Rumpus*, and on three record albums. She is the recipient of a Whiting Foundation Creative Nonfiction Grant and a Social Justice News Nexus fellowship at Northwestern University, among other awards. The author of a memoir, *The Mourner's Bestiary* (2024), she lives in Chicago with her family. *All the Water in the World* is her first novel.

### Quotes

"Gorgeously written... brilliant and engrossing."—**Caroline Leavitt, *New York Times* bestselling author of *Pictures***

"Masterful." —**Rene Denfeld, bestselling author of *The Child Finder***

"Urgent, questing, incandescent."—**Josephine Ferorelli, co-author of *The Conceivable Future***

"*Stay up all night 'cause you have to know what happens* storytelling." —**Megan Stielstra, author of *The Wrong Way to Save Your Life***

"A plot that moves like a freight train." —**Abby Geni, author of *The Lightkeepers***



book design  
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## Lightfall

### Book One of The Everlands

Ed Crocker

A novel of vampires, werewolves and sorcerers, *Lightfall* is the stunning debut epic fantasy by Ed Crocker, for fans of Jay Kristoff's *Empire of the Vampire* and Richard Swan's *The Justice of Kings*

### Summary

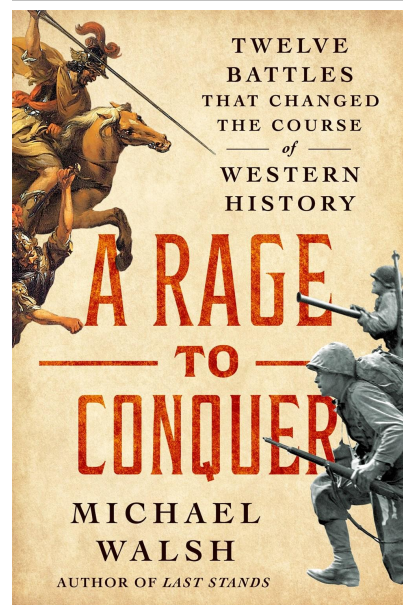
For centuries, vampires freely roamed the land until the Grays came out of nowhere, wiping out half the population in a night. The survivors fled to the last vampire city of First Light, where the rules are simple. If you're poor, you drink weak blood. If you're nobility, you get the good stuff. And you can never, ever leave.

Palace maid Sam has had enough of these rules, and she's definitely had enough of cleaning the bedpans of the lords who enforce them. When the son of the city's ruler is murdered and she finds the only clue to his death, she seizes the chance to blackmail her way into a better class and better blood. She falls in with the Leeches, a group of rebel maids who rein in the worst of the Lords. Soon she's in league with a sorcerer whose deductive skills make up for his lack of magic, a deadly werewolf assassin and a countess who knows a city's worth of secrets.

There's just one problem. What began as a murder investigation has uncovered a vast conspiracy by the ruling elite, and now Sam must find the truth before she becomes another victim. If she can avoid getting murdered, she might just live forever.

### Contributor Bio

**Ed Crocker** is a Manchester-based freelance editor whose clients include Sunday Times bestselling authors and award-winning indie authors. He also writes book reviews and interviews authors for various SFF & horror publications.



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Wt

## A Rage to Conquer

### Twelve Battles That Changed the Course of Western History

Michael Walsh

**A deep look into twelve critical battles in Western history by award-winning author Michael Walsh.**

### Summary

A sequel to Michael Walsh's, *Last Stands*, his new book *A Rage to Conquer* is a journey through the twelve of the most important battles in Western history. As Walsh sees it, war has been an essential part of the human condition throughout history. It's the principal agent of societal change, waged by men on behalf of, and in pursuit of, their gods, women, and the sheer joy of combat. In *A Rage to Conquer*, Walsh brings history stirringly to life as he considers a group of courageous commanders and the battles they waged that became crucial to the course of Western history. He looks first at Carl Von Clausewitz, the seminal thinker in the Western canon dealing with war. He then moves on to Achilles at Ilium, Alexander at Gaugamela, Caesar at Alesia, Constantine at the Milvian Bridge, Aetius at the Catalaunian Plains, Bohemond at Dorylaeum and Antioch, Napoleon at Austerlitz, Pershing at St.-Mihiel, Nimitz at Midway and Patton at the Bulge with a final consideration of how The Battle of 9/11 was ultimately lost by the U.S. Readers will experience the terrible beauty of war, compelling them to ask themselves what it means to be human, superhuman, subhuman, inhuman, anti-human. For Walsh sees it, war is an important facet of every culture – and, for better or worse, our world is unthinkable without it. Michael Walsh's *A Rage to Conquer* is a stirring addition to his history of men and the wars they wage.

### Contributor Bio

The author of *Last Stands* and more than other fifteen novels and non-fiction books, MICHAEL WALSH was the classical music critic for *Time Magazine* and received the 2004 American Book Awards prize for fiction for his gangster novel, *And All the Saints* in 2004. His popular columns for *National Review* written under the pseudonym David Kahane were developed into the book, *Rules for Radical Conservatives*. His books *The Devil's Pleasure Palace* and *The Fiery Angel*, examine the enemies, heroes, triumphs and struggles of Western Civilization from the ancient past to the present time. He divides his time between Connecticut and Ireland.

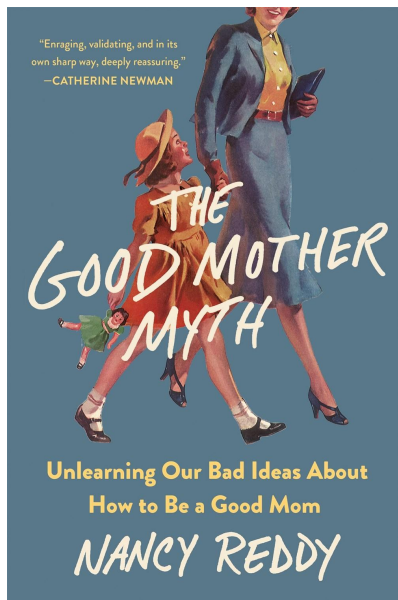
### Quotes

#### Praise for *Last Stands*:

"Michael Walsh's provocative book explores the toxic masculinity—that mixture of bellicosity, patriarchal attitudes and patriotism—that has fueled men at war dating back to 480 B.C. It's also a book about fathers and sons and a tribute to his 94-year-old father, a Marine Corps Korean War veteran awarded a Bronze star for heroism. Michael and I often profoundly disagree on social and political issues but he always argues with passion and finesse." —Meryl Gordon, bestselling author of *Mrs. Astor Regrets*

"The qualities of which Walsh writes are real, and they are every bit as vital to a civilization as he says." —*The American Conservative*





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256 Pages  
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Wt

## The Good Mother Myth

### Unlearning Our Bad Ideas About How to Be a Good Mom

Nancy Reddy

Timely and thought-provoking, Nancy Reddy unpacks and debunks the bad ideas that have for too long defined what it means to be a "good" mom.

### Summary

When Nancy Reddy had her first child, she found herself suddenly confronted with the ideal of a perfect mother—a woman who was constantly available, endlessly patient, and immediately invested in her child to the exclusion of all else. Nancy had been raised by a single working mother, considered herself a feminist, and was well on her way to a PhD. Why did doing motherhood "right" feel so wrong?

For answers, Nancy turned to the mid-20th century social scientists and psychologists whose work still forms the basis of so much of what we believe about parenting. It seems ludicrous to imagine modern moms taking advice from midcentury researchers. Yet, their bad ideas about so-called "good" motherhood have seeped so pervasively into our cultural norms. In *The Good Mother Myth*, Nancy debunks the flawed lab studies, sloppy research, and straightforward misogyny of researchers from Harry Harlow, who claimed to have discovered love by observing monkeys in his lab, to the famous Dr. Spock, whose bestselling parenting guide included just one (1!) illustration of a father interacting with his child.

This timely and thought-provoking book will make you laugh, cry, and want to scream (sometimes all at once). Blending history of science, cultural criticism, and memoir, *The Good Mother Myth* pulls back the curtain on the flawed social science behind our contemporary understanding of what makes a good mom.

### Contributor Bio

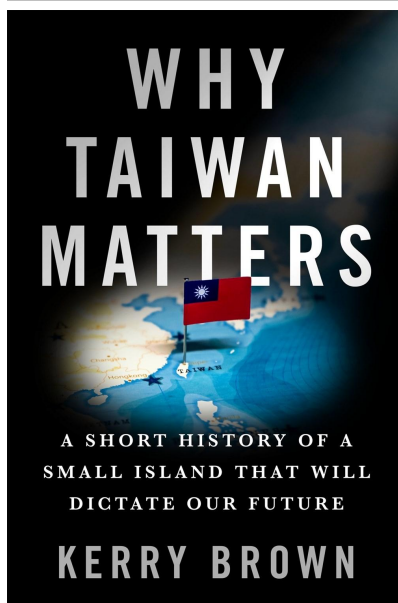
Nancy Reddy's books include the poetry collections *Pocket Universe* and *Double Jinx*. With Emily Pérez, she's co-editor of *The Long Devotion: Poets Writing Motherhood*. Her essays have appeared in *Slate*, *Poets & Writers*, *Romper*, *The Millions*, and elsewhere. The recipient of grants from the New Jersey State Council on the Arts, the Sustainable Arts Foundation, and the Sewanee Writers' Conference, she teaches writing at Stockton University and writes the newsletter *Write More, Be Less Careful*.

### Quotes

"Generous, raw, and meticulously researched, *The Good Mother Myth* will validate you and set you free." - Sara Petersen, author of *Momfluenced*

"This book is a gift. . . Reddy wipes the slate clean and gives moms permission to forge their own parenting path." - Minna Dubin, author of *Mom Rage*

"By seamlessly weaving together analyses of studies by 'the experts'—mostly male scientists—with her own personal experience. . . Reddy explains why mothers are right to prioritize their intuition." - Lara Bazelon, author of *Ambitious Like a Mother*



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Wt

## Why Taiwan Matters

### A Short History of a Small Island That Will Dictate Our Future

Kerry Brown

An accessible, expert and immersive look into the deeper story behind the geopolitical standoff in Taiwan.

#### Summary

There's little doubt that Taiwan is ripe for Chinese takeover. Taiwan is a democracy, has a successful economy, and is a free, diverse society. China, on the other hand, is not a democracy, its economy is faltering and it's hard to think of a less free or diverse society unless one considers Russia. China's leader, Xi Jinping, insists Taiwan is part of its territory and must be returned to it as he simultaneously cozies up to Vladimir Putin, the Russian leader prosecuting a war to take back Ukraine. If China blockades the island and mounts an amphibious invasion it's likely the US would intervene, leading to all-out war. Then what?

In his new book *Why Taiwan Matters*, Professor Kerry Brown begins to answer this question by succinctly chronicling Taiwan's history to help us understand how we arrived at this dangerous moment. Informed by Brown's many trips to the country *Why Taiwan Matters* gives readers a current view of the situation by boasting a boots-on-the-ground understanding of the country's politics, its 23 million inhabitants and how they navigate being caught in a dangerous geopolitical standoff. *Why Taiwan Matters* is the indispensable book about Taiwan that everyone will need as we confront the possibility of a Chinese takeover of Taiwan, an act of aggression that would make the war in Ukraine look small in comparison.

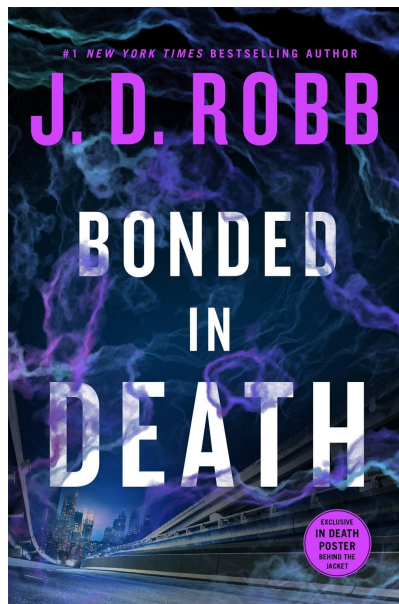
#### Contributor Bio

KERRY BROWN is Professor of Chinese Studies and Director of the Lau China Institute at King's College, London, and has focused on China and Taiwan since 1991. He is the author of over 20 books on modern Chinese politics, including *CEO China: The Rise of Xi Jinping* (Bloomsbury), *The World According to Xi* (Bloomsbury), *Xi: A Study in Power* (Icon Books), *China Incorporated: The Politics of a World Where China is Number One*, and *Fearful Asymmetry: A History of Britain's Relations with China 1570–2023* (Yale University Press). He has written and commented on China in every major international news outlet.

#### Quotes

Praise for *China Incorporated*:

"Kerry Brown does a marvellous job of demythologising China, depicting it convincingly as an "opportunistic, exceptional, more limited power" than is often believed, "driven by self-interest." ?- Bill Emmott, Chair, Japan Society of the UK, and former editor-in-chief of *The Economist*



## Bonded in Death

J. D. Robb

**The #1 *New York Times* bestselling author spins an epic tale of loyalty, treachery, murder, and the long shadow of war...**

### Summary

*His passport read Giovanni Rossi. But decades ago, during the Urban Wars, he was part of a small, secret organization called The Twelve. Responding to an urgent summons from an old compatriot, he landed in New York and eased into the waiting car. And died within minutes...*

Lieutenant Eve Dallas finds the Rossi case frustrating. She's got an elderly victim who'd just arrived from Rome; a widow who knows nothing about why he'd left; an as-yet unidentifiable weapon; and zero results on facial recognition. But when she finds a connection to the Urban Wars of the 2020s, she thinks Summerset—fiercely loyal, if somewhat grouchy, major-domo and the man who'd rescued her husband from the Dublin streets—may know something from his stint as a medic in Europe back then.

When Summerset learns of the crime, his shock and grief are clear—because, as he eventually reveals, he himself was one of The Twelve. It's not a part of his past he likes to revisit. But now he must—not only to assist Eve's investigation, but because a cryptic message from the killer has boasted that others of The Twelve have also died. Summerset is one of those who remain—and the murderous mission is yet to be fully accomplished...

### Contributor Bio

J.D. ROBB is the pseudonym for #1 *New York Times* bestselling author Nora Roberts. She is the author of over 240 novels, including the futuristic suspense *In Death* series. There are more than 500 million copies of her books in print.

### Quotes

Praise for *Random in Death*

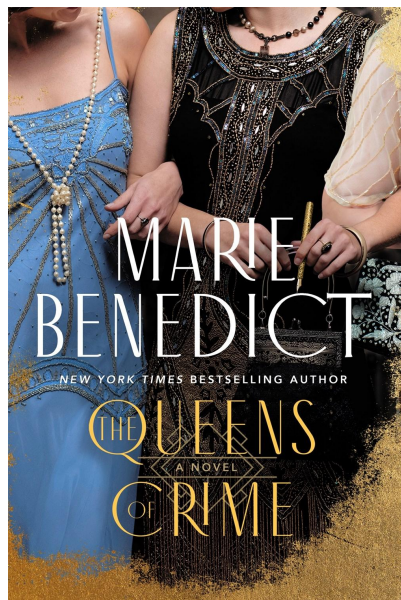
"Puts the "procedure" rewardingly back into the police procedural." —*Kirkus*

"With the fifty-eighth irresistibly readable entry in the ever-popular Eve Dallas series, Robb (*Payback in Death*, 2023) continues to showcase her mastery when it comes to creating inventive plots generously spiked with nail-biting suspense and populated with compelling characters, including Eve, who never stops working to bring justice to the victims in every murder case she investigates." —*Booklist*

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Fiction / Women  
FIC044000

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## The Queens of Crime

### A Novel

Marie Benedict

**The bestselling author of *The Mystery of Mrs. Christie* returns with a story of Christie's legendary rival Dorothy Sayers, the race to solve a murder, and the power of friendship among women.**

### Summary

London, 1930. The five greatest women crime writers have gathered to form a secret society with a single goal: to show they are no longer willing to be treated as second class citizens by their male counterparts in the legendary Detection Club. Led by the formidable Dorothy Sayers, the group includes Agatha Christie, Ngaio Marsh, Margery Allingham and Baroness Emma Orczy. They call themselves the Queens of Crime. Their plan? Solve an actual murder, that of a young woman found strangled in a park in France who may have connections leading to the highest levels of the British establishment.

May Daniels, a young English nurse on an excursion to France with her friend, seemed to vanish into thin air as they prepared to board a ferry home. Months later, her body is found in the nearby woods. The murder has all the hallmarks of a locked room mystery for which these authors are famous. Determined to solve the highly publicized murder, the Queens of Crime embark on their own investigation. But soon the killer targets Dorothy Sayers, threatening to expose a dark secret in her past that she would do anything to keep hidden.

Inspired by a true story in Sayers' own life, *New York Times* bestselling author Marie Benedict brings to life the lengths to which five talented women writers will go to be taken seriously in the male-dominated world of letters as they unpuzzle a mystery torn from the pages of their own novels.

### Contributor Bio

MARIE BENEDICT is the *New York Times* and *USA Today* bestselling author of *The Mitford Affair*, *Her Hidden Genius*, *The Mystery of Mrs. Christie*, *The Only Woman in the Room*, *Lady Clementine*, *Carnegie's Maid*, *The Other Einstein*, and with Victoria Christopher Murray, the Good Morning American Book Club pick *The Personal Librarian* and the Target Book of the Year *The First Ladies*. All have been translated into multiple languages, and many have been selected for the Barnes & Noble Book Club, Target Book Club, Costco Book Club, Indie Next List, and LibraryReads List. She lives in Pittsburgh with her family.

### Quotes

"I was riveted by this quintet of mystery writers... Smart, biting, and a tribute to female friendship and loyalty. An absolute delight!" —**Fiona Davis, *New York Times* bestselling author of *The Spectacular***

"Breathtaking suspense and female friendship make for a heady combination in this wonder of a book." —**Pam Jenoff, *New York Times* bestselling author of *Code Name Sapphire***



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## The Nightingale Deluxe Edition

### A Novel

Kristin Hannah

A #1 *New York Times* bestseller, *Wall Street Journal* Best Book of the Year, and soon to be a major motion picture, the stunning 10th Anniversary Edition of this unforgettable novel of love and strength in the face of war that has enthralled a generation.

### Summary

France, 1939 - In the quiet village of Carriveau, Vianne Mauriac says goodbye to her husband, Antoine, as he heads for the Front. She doesn't believe that the Nazis will invade France ... but invade they do, in droves of marching soldiers, in caravans of trucks and tanks, in planes that fill the skies and drop bombs upon the innocent. When a German captain requisitions Vianne's home, she and her daughter must live with the enemy or lose everything. Without food or money or hope, as danger escalates all around them, she is forced to make one impossible choice after another to keep her family alive.

Vianne's sister, Isabelle, is a rebellious eighteen-year-old girl, searching for purpose with all the reckless passion of youth. While thousands of Parisians march into the unknown terrors of war, she meets G etan, a partisan who believes the French can fight the Nazis from within France, and she falls in love as only the young can ... completely. But when he betrays her, Isabelle joins the Resistance and never looks back, risking her life time and again to save others.

With courage, grace, and powerful insight, bestselling author Kristin Hannah captures the epic panorama of World War II and illuminates an intimate part of history seldom seen: the women's war. *The Nightingale* tells the stories of two sisters, separated by years and experience, by ideals, passion and circumstance, each embarking on her own dangerous path toward survival, love, and freedom in German-occupied, war-torn France—a heartbreakingly beautiful novel that celebrates the resilience of the human spirit and the durability of women. It is a novel for everyone, a novel for a lifetime.

### Contributor Bio

KRISTIN HANNAH is the #1 *New York Times* bestselling author of more than twenty novels, including *The Four Winds*, *The Nightingale* and *The Great Alone*. A former lawyer turned writer, she lives with her husband in the Pacific Northwest.

### Quotes

"Bound to gain the already immensely popular Hannah an even wider audience [...] best-selling Hannah's new novel is positioned to take the book world by storm."

—*Booklist*

"[A] hauntingly rich WWII novel about courage, brutality, love, survival - and the essence of what makes us human." —*Family Circle*

"Full of emotion and heart." —*Library Journal*

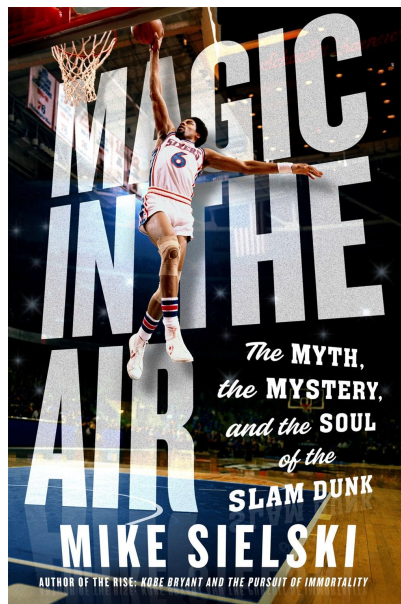
"Expect to devour *The Nightingale* in as few sittings as possible; the high-stakes plot and lovable characters won't allow any rest until all of their fates are known." —*Shelf Awareness*

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## Magic in the Air

### The Myth, the Mystery, and the Soul of the Slam Dunk

Mike Sielski

From author of the bestselling Kobe Bryant biography *The Rise* comes the legend of the most powerful shot in basketball: the slam dunk.

#### Summary

The entire social, cultural, and evolution of basketball can be traced through one shot: the slam dunk. Its history, a story of a sport and a country changed by the most dominant act in basketball, makes *Magic in the Air* a rollicking and insightful piece of narrative history and a surefire classic of sports literature.

When basketball was the province of white men, the dunk acted as a revolutionary agent, a tool for players like Wilt Chamberlain and Bill Russell to transform the sport into a Black man's sport. The dunk has since been an expression of Black culture amid the righteous upheaval of the civil-rights movement, of the threat that Black people were considered to be to the establishment. It was banned from college basketball for a decade, an attempt to squash the individual expression and athleticism that characterized the sport in America's cities and on its playgrounds. The dunk nevertheless bubbled up to basketball's highest levels. From Julius Erving to Michael Jordan to the high flyers of the 21st century, the dunk has been a key mechanism for growing the NBA into a global goliath.

Drawing on deep reporting and dozens of interviews with players, coaches, and other hoops experts, *Magic in the Air* brings to life the tale of the dunk, while balancing sharp socio-racial history and commentary with a romp through American sports and culture. There's never been a basketball book quite like it.

#### Contributor Bio

MIKE SIELSKI is the author of *The Rise: Kobe Bryant and the Pursuit of Immortality* (2022) and a columnist for *The Philadelphia Inquirer*. The Associated Press Sports Editors voted him the country's top sports columnist in 2015, and his previous book, *Fading Echoes: A True Story of Rivalry and Brotherhood from the Football Field to the Fields of Honor*, was published in 2009. Sielski lives in Bucks County, Pa., with his wife and two sons.

#### Quotes

"Kobe-ologists will devour this book, reveling in the anecdotes about his intensity & the engaging game recaps." – Associated Press

"Every superhero needs an origin story." –Jeff Pearlman



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## The Snowbirds

### A Novel

Christina Clancy

***The Last Thing He Told Me* meets *Fleishman Is in Trouble* in this page-turning story of a couple who flee winter in the Midwest for Palm Springs, where they find their relationship at a crossroads.**

### Summary

Kim and Grant are at a turning point. A couple for thirty years, their "separate but together" partnership is running up against the realities of late middle age: Grant's mother has died, the college where he taught philosophy was shuttered, and their twin girls are grown and gone. Escaping the bitter cold of a Midwestern winter for the hot desert sun of Palm Springs seems as good a solution as any to the more intractable problems they face.

When they arrive at Le Desert, a quirky condo community where everyone knows everyone's business, Kim immediately embraces the opportunity to make new friends and explore a more adventurous side of her personality. Meanwhile, Grant struggles to find his footing in this unfamiliar landscape, leaving Kim to wonder if their relationship can survive the snowbird season. But when Grant goes missing on a hike in the Palm Springs mountains, Kim is forced to consider two terrifying outcomes: either Grant is truly lost, or this time he's really left her.

Is it ever too late to become the person we wanted to be—and is there still time to change into someone better? The exhilarating, but often confusing transitions of midlife are pitched against the promise and glamour of Palm Springs in this tender, honest story of what it takes to commit to someone for a lifetime. With compassion and humor, Clancy explores the redemptive power of finding ourselves, and of being found.

### Contributor Bio

CHRISTINA CLANCY is the author of *The Second Home* and *Shoulder Season*. Her work has also appeared in the *New York Times*, *The Washington Post*, the *Chicago Tribune*, *The Sun* magazine, and in various literary journals, including *Glimmer Train*, *Pleiades*, and *Hobart*. She holds a Ph.D. in creative writing.

### Quotes

"*The Snowbirds* is a sharp, often tender portrait of middle age: a period of life when we're told we should know who we are but are often still trying to find ourselves. Against the intoxicating backdrop of Palm Springs, Clancy brings an incredible cast of characters to life with wit, precision, and empathy." —**Rowan Beird, author of *The Divorcées***

"Clancy's latest features a long-time couple at the precipice of a romantic reckoning who head to Palm Springs, where the dry heat and their quirky neighbors only add to the tightrope tension. The perfect read for a cold winter night, and one that raises the fundamental questions of how well do we know our partner, or even ourselves? An absolute treat." —**Fiona Davis, New York Times bestselling author of *The Stolen Queen***



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forthcoming

## Looking at Women Looking at War

### A War and Justice Diary

Victoria Amelina

Foreword by Margaret Atwood

**Destined to be a classic, a poet's powerful look at the courage of resistance**

### Summary

When Russia invaded Ukraine on February 24, 2022, Victoria Amelina was busy writing a novel, taking part in the country's literary scene, and parenting her son. Now she became someone new: a war crimes researcher and the chronicler of extraordinary women like herself who joined the resistance. These heroines include Evgenia, a prominent lawyer turned soldier, Oleksandra, who documented tens of thousands of war crimes and won a Nobel Peace Prize in 2022, and Yulia, a librarian who helped uncover the abduction and murder of a children's book author.

Everyone in Ukraine knew that Amelina was documenting the war. She photographed the ruins of schools and cultural centers; she recorded the testimonies of survivors and eyewitnesses to atrocities. And she slowly turned back into a storyteller, writing what would become this book.

On the evening of June 27th, 2023, Amelina and three international writers stopped for dinner in the embattled Donetsk region. When a Russian cruise missile hit the restaurant, Amelina suffered grievous head injuries, and lost consciousness. She died on July 1st. She was thirty-seven. She left behind an incredible account of the ravages of war and the cost of resistance. Honest, intimate, and wry, this book will be celebrated as a classic.

### Contributor Bio

**VICTORIA AMELINA** was killed by a Russian missile in July, 2023. She was an award-winning Ukrainian novelist, essayist, poet, and human rights activist whose prose and poems have been translated into many languages. In 2019/2020 she lived and traveled extensively in the US. She wrote both in Ukrainian and English, and her essays have appeared in *Irish Times*, *Dublin Review of Books*, and *Eurozine*.

### Quotes

"Victoria's moral clarity, determination, and love of country impressed me greatly...her legacy, and her words, will endure." —**Jon Lee Anderson, *The New Yorker***

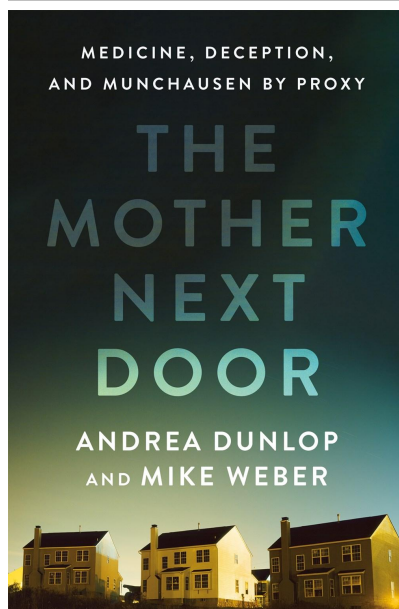
"Victoria Amelina had a way of walking straight into your heart and making herself at home." —**Lia Mills, *The Dublin Review of Books***

"What impressed me was [Amelina's] seeming ability to gaze steadily into the abyss and not fall into despair." —**Christopher Merrill, author of *Only the Nails Remain***

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/ Memoirs  
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True Crime / Con Artists, Hoaxes  
& Deceptions  
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## The Mother Next Door

**Medicine, Deception, and Munchausen by Proxy**

Andrea Dunlop, Mike Weber

**A groundbreaking work of narrative nonfiction that investigates three cases of Munchausen by Proxy from the host and creator of the award-winning true crime podcast *Nobody Should Believe Me*.**

### Summary

No bond is more sacred than that between a mother and child. And no one is more sympathetic than a mother whose child faces a life-threatening illness. But what if the mother is the cause of the illness? What if the sympathy is the point?

Munchausen by proxy (MBP) has fascinated and horrified both professionals and the general public since this disturbing form of child abuse was first identified. But even as the public has been captivated by these tales of abuse and deception, there remains widespread misinformation and confusion about MBP. Are these mothers unfeeling psychopaths, or sick women who need help? And more important, how can we protect the children whose lives are at stake?

*The Mother Next Door* offers a groundbreaking look at MBP from an unlikely duo: a Seattle novelist whose own family was torn apart by it, and the Texas detective who has worked on more medical child abuse cases than anyone in the nation. Readers ride along on three high-stakes MPB investigations; through riveting reporting and shocking stories from the family members, friends, and doctors caught in the blast zone of these unthinkable acts, a twisted portrait of motherhood and deceit is revealed.

With help from some of the top MBP experts in the world, Dunlop and Weber uncover the complex maze of psychological, systemic, and cultural issues that compound MBP and offer solutions for how we might find our way out.

### Contributor Bio

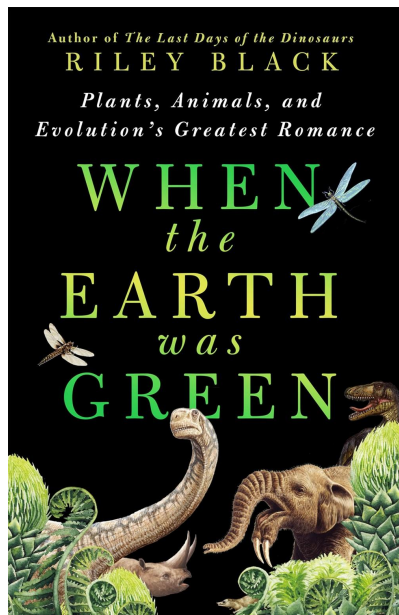
**ANDREA DUNLOP** is the author of four novels and the host and creator of *Nobody Should Believe Me*, an award-winning investigative true crime podcast about Munchausen by proxy. She lives in Seattle with her husband and two children.

**MIKE WEBER** has forty years of law enforcement experience, including fifteen years as a crimes against children investigator. He currently lives and works outside of Fort Worth.

### Quotes

**Praise for *Nobody Should Believe Me***

"A rich and harrowing chronicle." —*New York Times*



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illustrations throughout  
Science / Paleontology  
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## When the Earth Was Green

### Plants, Animals, and Evolution's Greatest Romance

Riley Black

A gorgeously composed narrative nonfiction book about the longstanding relationship between prehistoric plants and life on Earth.

### Summary

If we were to see most fossil plants alive, we would simply pass them by. But immaculately framed by ancient stone, these unassuming leaves are entry points into a lost world more than 55 million years ago. They show us that dinosaurs, saber-toothed cats, and even humans would be nothing without the evolutionary efforts of their leafy counterparts. We often retell the history of life on Earth as a series of great moments in which fascinating animal life springs forth, all the while forgetting the plants that made these moments possible. But it is impossible to understand our own history without them. Or, our future.

Using the same scientifically-informed narrative technique that readers loved in the award-winning *The Last Days of the Dinosaurs*, in *When the Earth Was Green*, Riley Black brings readers back in time to prehistoric seas, swamps, forests, and savannas where critical moments in plant evolution unfolded. Each chapter stars plants and animals alike, underscoring how the interactions between species have helped shape the world we call home. As the chapters move upwards in time, Black guides readers along the burgeoning trunk of the Tree of Life, stopping to appreciate branches of an evolutionary story that links the world we know with one we can only just perceive now through the silent stone, from ancient roots to the present.

### Contributor Bio

RILEY BLACK (she/her) has been heralded as "one of our premier gifted young science writers" and is the award-winning author of *Skeleton Keys*, *My Beloved Brontosaurus*, *Written in Stone*, *When Dinosaurs Ruled*, and *The Last Days of the Dinosaurs*. An online columnist for *Scientific American*, Riley has become a widely-recognized expert on paleontology and has appeared on programs such as *Science Friday*, *HuffingtonPost Live*, and *All Things Considered*.

### Quotes

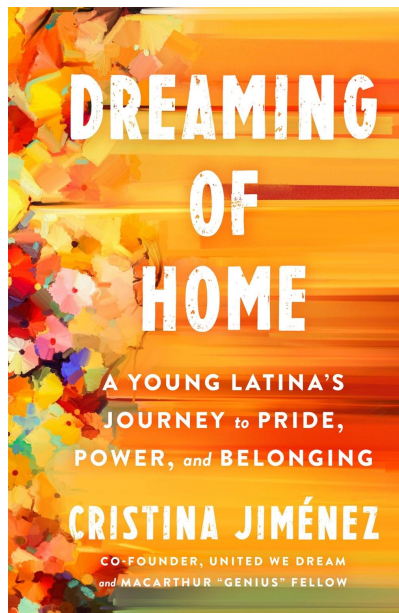
Praise for *The Last Days of the Dinosaurs*:

"Black blends the intricacies of science with masterful storytelling for a cracking, enchanting read." —*Newsweek*

"This is top-drawer science writing." —*Publishers Weekly*, *starred review*

"Exquisitely written." —*Booklist*





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## Dreaming of Home

**A Young Latina's Journey to Pride, Power, and Belonging**

Cristina Jiménez

**A MacArthur "Genius" shares her inspiring story, from undocumented newcomer to activist in a powerful immigrant youth movement that changed the lives of millions**

### Summary

Cristina Jiménez's family struggles to overcome the loss of her sister to cancer and stay afloat as Ecuador falls into a political and economic crisis. When she is thirteen, her parents courageously decide to seek a better life in the U.S. They land in Queens, New York, cramming into a one-bedroom apartment with relatives and working multiple jobs. Despite the hardships and constant fear of deportation, Cristina learns English and becomes an honors student. Her dream of attending college is almost shattered by her undocumented status, but she is admitted after immigrant rights advocates win a change in the state's law.

In college, she struggles with shame at her accent and of being undocumented but she soon discovers she is not alone. Galvanized by her family's experience and inspired by her new allies, she finds her voice, eventually co-founding United We Dream, a national network that catalyzes a powerful youth movement to win DACA and protect over half a million young people from deportation. In *Dreaming of Home*, Cristina reminds us that the antidote to fear and isolation is community. She opens our eyes to the reality that being a "good" immigrant doesn't protect you from systematic racism, and invites us to acknowledge the America that never was and recognize the power of everyday people to create a country where we all belong and thrive.

### Contributor Bio

CRISTINA JIMÉNEZ is an award-winning community organizer and a leading voice in movements for social justice. She is Co-Founder and former Executive Director of United We Dream, the largest immigrant youth-led organization in the country. A Distinguished Lecturer at the City University of New York, Jimenez received a 2017 MacArthur Fellowship and a spot on the 2018 TIME 100 Most Influential People List. She came to the U.S from Ecuador in 1998 and grew up undocumented in Queens, N.Y.

### Quotes

"We all need to hear Cristina's story." —**Heather Charisse McGhee, *New York Times* bestselling author**

"Cristina's voice is not only essential, it is heroic, a tongue of fire blazing in the night."  
—**Sandra Cisneros**

"Full of wisdom." —**Ai-jen Poo, author and organizer, President, The National Domestic Workers Alliance**

"Jimenez is a force, in the best possible way. For years I've waited for her book...."  
—**Jose Antonio Vargas, Pulitzer Prize-winning journalist, author of *Dear America***



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## The Fourth Consort

### A Novel

Edward Ashton

A new standalone sci-fi novel from Edward Ashton, author of *Mickey7* (soon to be a major motion picture from Director Bong Joon Ho).

### Summary

Dalton Greaves is a hero. He's one of humankind's first representatives to Unity, a pan-species confederation working to bring all sentient life into a benevolent brotherhood.

That's what they told him, anyway. The only members of Unity he's met are Boreau, a giant snail more interested in plunder than love and harmony, and Boreau's human sidekick, Neera, who Dalton strongly suspects roped him into this gig only to save herself from getting eaten by locals while prospecting.

Funny thing, though—turns out there's a benevolent confederation already out there. They're called the Assembly, and they really don't like Unity. More to the point, they really, really don't like Unity's new human minions.

When an encounter between Boreau's scout ship and an Assembly cruiser ends badly, Dalton finds himself marooned on an unfamiliar planet, caught between one of the Assembly's nightmarish shock troops, the planet's less-than-friendly natives, and Neera, who might actually be the most dangerous of the three. To survive, he'll need to navigate palace intrigue, alien morality, and a proposal he literally cannot refuse, all while convincing Neera he's worth more to her alive than dead.

Part first contact story, part dark comedy, and part bizarre love triangle, *The Fourth Consort* asks an important question: how far would you go to survive? And more importantly, how many drinks would you need to go there?

### Contributor Bio

EDWARD ASHTON is the author of the novels *Three Days in April*, *The End of Ordinary*, *Mickey7*, *Antimatter Blues*, and *Mal Goes to War*, as well as of short stories which have appeared in venues ranging from the newsletter of an Italian sausage company to *Escape Pod*, *Analog*, and *Fireside Fiction*. He lives in upstate New York in a cabin in the woods (not *that* cabin in the woods) with his wife, a variable number of daughters, and an adorably mopey dog named Max.

### Quotes

"Sci-fi readers will be drawn in by the inventive premise and stick around for the plucky narrator." —*Publishers Weekly* on *Mickey7*

"*Mickey7* is a smart philosophical satire masquerading as an adventure novel." —*New York Journal of Books*

"The fun [in reading *Mickey7*] is trying to keep up with Mr. Ashton's twists and turns, and the extra fun is that you never do." —*The Wall Street Journal*

## A Matter of Complexion

### The Life and Fictions of Charles W. Chesnutt

Tess Chakkalakal

A biography of Charles Chesnutt, one of the first Black authors to write for both Black and white readers.

### Summary

In *A Matter of Complexion*, Tess Chakkalakal gives readers the first comprehensive biography of Charles W. Chesnutt. A complex and talented man, Chesnutt was born in 1858 in Cleveland to parents who were considered "mixed race." He spent his early life in North Carolina after the Civil War. Though light-skinned, Chesnutt remained a member of the black community throughout his life. He studied among students at the State Colored Normal School who were formerly enslaved. He became a teacher in rural North Carolina during Reconstruction. His life in the South of those years, the issue of race, and how he himself identified as Black informed much of his later writing. He went on to become the first Black writer whose stories appeared in *The Atlantic Monthly* and whose books were published by Houghton Mifflin.

Through his literary work, as a writer, critic, and speaker, Chesnutt transformed the publishing world by crossing racial barriers that divided black writers from white and seamlessly including both Black and white characters in his writing. In *A Matter of Complexion* Chakkalakal pens the biography of a poor teacher raised in rural North Carolina during Reconstruction who became the first professional African American writer to break into the all-white literary establishment and win admirers as diverse as William Dean Howells, Booker T. Washington, Ida B. Wells, and Lorraine Hansberry.

### Contributor Bio

TESS CHAKKALAKAL teaches African-American and American Literature at Bowdoin College. Her writing has appeared in *The New England Quarterly*, *J19*, *American Literary History*, and many others. She is the author of *Novel Bondage: Slavery, Marriage, and Freedom in Nineteenth-Century American* (Illinois UP, 2011) and co-editor of *Jim Crow, Literature, and the Legacy of Sutton E. Griggs* (University of Georgia Press, 2013) and *Imperium in Imperio: A Critical Edition* (West Virginia UP, 2022) She lives in Brunswick, Maine.

## A Matter of Complexion

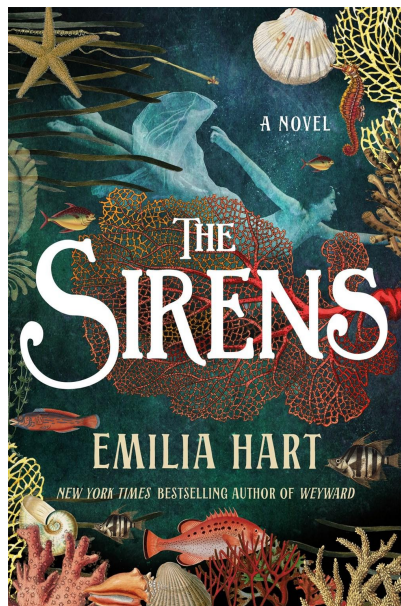
The  
Life  
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Charles W.  
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Tess Chakkalakal

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/ Literary Figures  
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## The Sirens

### A Novel

Emilia Hart

**From the bestselling author of *Weyward* comes a new novel of mystery and magic, about four sisters separated by centuries, but bound together by the sea.**

### Summary

**2019:** Lucy awakens from a dream to find her hands around her ex-lover's throat. Horrified, she flees to her older sister's house on the Australian coast, hoping she can help explain the strangely vivid nightmare that preceded the attack—but Jess is nowhere to be found.

As Lucy awaits her return, the rumors surrounding Jess's strange small town start to emerge. Numerous men have gone missing at sea. A tiny baby was found in a cave. And sailors tell of hearing women's voices on the waves. Desperate for answers, Lucy finds and begins to read her sister's adolescent diary.

**1999:** Jess is a lonely sixteen-year-old in a rural town in the middle of the continent. Diagnosed with a rare allergy to water, she has always felt different, until her young, charming art teacher takes an interest in her drawings, seeing a power and maturity in them—and in her—that no one else has.

**1800:** Twin sisters Mary and Eliza have been torn from their loving father in Ireland and forced onto a convict ship bound for Australia. For their entire lives, they've feared the ocean, as their mother tragically drowned when they were just girls. Yet as the boat bears them further and further from all they know, they feel the sea beginning to call to them...

A breathtaking tale of female resilience and the bonds of sisterhood across time and space, *The Sirens* captures the power of dreams, and the mystery and magic of the sea.

### Contributor Bio

EMILIA HART is the author of *Weyward* and *The Sirens*. She grew up in Australia and studied English Literature at university before training as a lawyer. She now lives in London.

### Quotes

"*The Sirens* teems with family secrets, eerie dreams, and deep transformation. A compelling tale of sisterhood, sacrifice, and the sea, this is a beautiful follow-up to Hart's sensational debut, *Weyward*. *The Sirens* will sweep you away." —**Sarah Penner, *New York Times* bestselling author of *The Lost Apothecary***

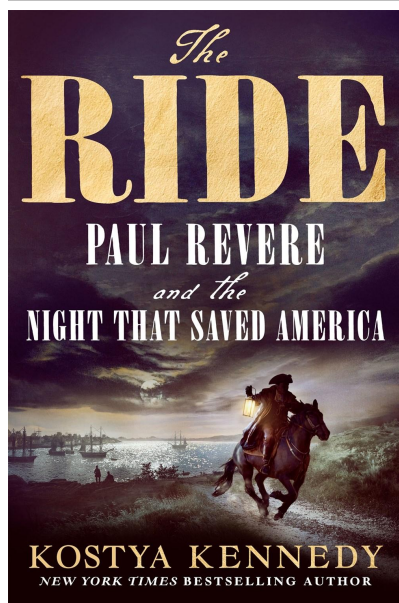
### Praise for *Weyward*

"Powerful." —***New York Times Book Review***

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printed endpapers  
History / United States  
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## The Ride

### Paul Revere and the Night That Saved America

Kostya Kennedy

Timed for the 250th anniversary of one of America's most famous founding events: Paul Revere's legendary ride, newly told with fresh research into little-known aspects of the story.

### Summary

On April 18, 1775, a Boston-based silversmith, engraver, and anti-British political operative named Paul Revere set out on a borrowed horse to fulfill a dangerous but crucial mission: to alert American colonists of advancing British troops, which would seek to crush their nascent revolt.

Revere was not the only rider that night, and indeed, he had completed at least 18 previous rides throughout New England, disseminating intelligence about British movements. But this ride was like no other, and its consequences in the months and years to come—as the American Revolution morphed from isolated skirmishes to a full-fledged war—became one of our founding legends.

In *The Ride*, Kostya Kennedy presents a new narrative informed by fresh research into archives, family letters and diaries, contemporary accounts, and more. Kennedy reveals Revere's ride to be more complex than it is usually portrayed—a coordinated series of rides by numerous men, near-disaster, capture by British forces, and finally success. While Revere was central to the ride and its plotting, Kennedy reveals the other men (and, perhaps, a woman with information about the movement of British forces) who helped to set in motion the events that would lead to America's independence.

Thrillingly written in a dramatic, unstoppable narrative, *The Ride* re-tells an essential American story for a new generation of readers.

### Contributor Bio

KOSTYA KENNEDY is the Editor in Chief of Premium Publishing, including LIFE magazine, at Dotdash Meredith. He is a former Senior Writer at Sports Illustrated and is the New York Times bestselling author of *56: Joe DiMaggio and the Last Magic Number in Sports* and *Pete Rose: An American Dilemma* as well as *True: The Four Seasons of Jackie Robinson*. All three won the CASEY Award for Best Baseball Book of the Year. He has taught at Columbia and NYU, and lives with his wife in Westchester County, NY.

### Quotes





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## Sucker Punch

Scaachi Koul

The long-awaited follow-up from one of the most original and hilarious voices writing today.

### Summary

Scaachi Koul's first book was a collection of raw, perceptive, and hilarious essays reckoning with the issues of race, body image, love, friendship, and growing up the daughter of immigrants. When the time came to start writing her next book, Scaachi assumed she'd be updating her story with essays about her elaborate four-day wedding, settling down to domestic bliss, and continuing her never-ending arguments with her parents. Instead, the Covid pandemic hit, the world went into lockdown, Scaachi's marriage fell apart, she lost her job, and her mother was diagnosed with cancer.

*Sucker Punch* is about what happens when the life you thought you'd be living radically changes course, everything you thought you knew about the world and yourself has tilted on its axis, and you have to start forging a new path forward. Scaachi employs her signature humor and fierce intelligence to interrogate her previous belief that fighting is the most effective tool for progress. She examines the fights she's had—with her parents, her ex-husband, her friends, online strangers, and herself—all in an attempt to understand when a fight is worth having, and when it's better to walk away.

### Contributor Bio

**SCAACHI KOUL** is the national bestselling author of *One Day We'll All Be Dead and None of This Will Matter*, which was named a best book of the year by multiple publications and was a finalist for the Stephen Leacock Memorial Medal for Humor. She's also the co-host of the Ambie Award-winning podcast, *Scamfluencers*, and the Emmy-nominated Netflix series, *Follow This*. Her writing has appeared in *The New Yorker*, *The New York Times*, *This American Life*, and *The Guardian*. Born in Calgary, Alberta, she now lives in Brooklyn.

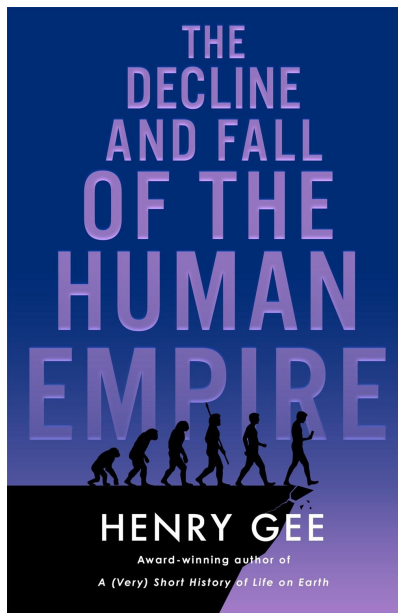
### Quotes

PRAISE FOR *ONE DAY WE'LL ALL BE DEAD...*

"Looking for a voice-of-their-generation type writer? No pressure or anything, but...Scaachi Koul might fit the bill."—**Rolling Stone**

"I want to compare Koul to Nora Ephron and David Sedaris so that you'll buy the book (and because it is that funny)."—**The Village Voice**

"Scaachi Koul is a miracle."—**Samantha Irby, author of *We Are Never Meeting in Real Life***



## The Decline and Fall of the Human Empire

Henry Gee

**By the award-winning author of *A (Very) Short History of Life on Earth: a history of humanity on the brink of decline.***

### Summary

We are living through a period that is unique in human history. For the first time in more than ten thousand years, the rate of human population growth is slowing down. In the middle of this century population growth will stop, and the number of people on Earth will start to decline - fast.

In this provocative book, award-winning science writer Henry Gee offers a concise, brilliantly-told history of our species--and argues that we are on a rapid, one-way trip to extinction. *The Decline and Fall of the Human Empire* narrates the dramatic rise of humanity. The human story is relatively brief—the oldest fossils of *H. Sapiens* date to approximately 300,000 years ago—yet the spread of our species has been unstoppable...until recently.

As Gee demonstrates, our environment is becoming inimical to human life in many locations; our core resources of water, arable land, and air are diminishing; and new diseases, simmering conflicts, and ambiguous technologies threaten our collective health. Can we still change our course? Or is our own extinction inevitable?

With assured narration, dramatic stories, and his signature sprightly humor, Henry Gee envisions new opportunities for the future of humanity—a future that will reward facing challenges with ingenuity, foresight, and cooperation.

### Contributor Bio

HENRY GEE is a senior editor at Nature and the author of several books, including *A (Very) Short History of Life on Earth*, which won the Royal Society Prize for Science Books award in 2022. He has appeared on BBC television and radio and NPR's *All Things Considered*, and has written for *The Guardian*, *The Times*, and *BBC Science Focus*. He lives in Cromer, Norfolk, England, with his family and numerous pets.

### Quotes

Praise for *A (Very) Short History of Life on Earth*

"A lively, lyrical history."—*Nature*

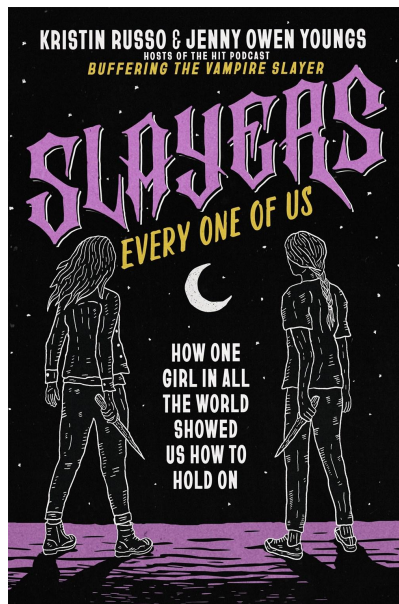
"With authority, humor, and detail...readers will find this eye-opening book compelling for years to come."—*Booklist* (starred)

"[A]n exuberant romp through evolution, like a modern-day Willy Wonka of genetic space. Gee's grand tour enthusiastically details the narrative underlying life's erratic and often whimsical exploration of biological form and function." ?Adrian Woolfson, *The Washington Post*

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## Slayers, Every One of Us

### How One Girl in All the World Showed Us How to Hold On

Kristin Russo, Jenny Owen Youngs

**A memoir reflecting on the lessons learned from watching and podcasting about Buffy, from the hosts of the hit podcast Buffering the Vampire Slayer.**

### Summary

Kristin and Jenny's marriage started with an ultimatum: to further their relationship, Kristin must watch Jenny's favorite show, *Buffy the Vampire Slayer*. With the terms set, they began a journey that has led them through seven seasons of the beloved genre show, a podcast rewatching the series with their newly minted community of queer "Scoobies," unexpected fame, and a divorce. Through it all, their love for Buffy and their commitment to their community held them together against the odds.

*Slayers, Every One of Us* is the story of how two queer women navigated divorce on a very public level and managed to stay in each other's lives through it all. While chock full of Buffy content for true fans, it's ultimately a memoir of queer love and chosen family. It's a heartwarming story for anyone who's experienced heartbreak, and a roadmap for staying close with your ex.

### Contributor Bio

KRISTIN RUSSO is a producer, speaker, and consultant with a focus on LGBTQ issues. She was the co-creator of LGBTQ organizations *Everyone Is Gay & My Kid Is Gay* and co-author of *This is a Book for Parents of Gay Kids*. JENNY OWEN YOUNGS is a touring musician and songwriter. Her music has been heard on numerous television shows and she's also co-written songs recorded by many popular artists, perhaps most notably the Panic! at the Disco quintuple-platinum hit "High Hopes." In 2016, Kristin and Jenny took their skills to the podcasting space as co-hosts of the now critically-acclaimed pop culture podcast, *Buffering the Vampire Slayer*, and subsequent *Buffering* network of rewatch podcasts.

### Quotes

#### Praise for Buffering the Vampire Slayer:

"[This] savvy, creative show, hosted by Jenny Owen Youngs, a musician, and Kristin Russo, an L.G.B.T.Q. activist, is special...Both Owen Youngs and Russo are queer women, and they approach "Buffering the Vampire Slayer" with an eye for marginalized viewpoints and systemic injustice. That often makes for frank discussions about the aspects of the series that haven't aged well — particularly given recent accusations of misogyny against its creator, Joss Whedon — but that never takes away from the hosts' clear love for "Buffy" as a flawed but powerful feminist text." —*The New York Times*



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## Propaganda Girls

### The Secret War of the Women in the OSS

Lisa Rogak

The incredible untold story of four women who helped win WWII by generating a wave of black propaganda.

#### Summary

Betty MacDonald was a 28-year-old reporter from Hawaii. Zuzka Lauwers grew up in a tiny Czechoslovakian village and knew five languages by the time she was 21. Jane Smith-Hutton was the wife of a naval attaché living in Tokyo. Marlene Dietrich, the German-American actress and singer, was of course one of the biggest stars of the 20th century. These four women, each fascinating in her own right, together contributed to one of the most covert and successful military campaigns in WWII.

Members of the OSS, their task was to create a secret brand of propaganda produced with the sole aim to break the morale of Axis soldiers. Working in the European theater, across enemy lines in occupied China, and in Washington, D.C., Betty, Zuzka, Jane, and Marlene forged letters and "official" military orders, wrote and produced entire newspapers, scripted radio broadcasts and songs, and even developed rumors for undercover spies and double agents to spread to the enemy. And outside of a small group of spies, no one knew they existed. Until now.

In *Propaganda Girls*, bestselling author Lisa Rogak brings to vivid life the incredible true story of four unsung heroes, whose spellbinding achievements would change the course of history.

#### Contributor Bio

LISA ROGAK is the bestselling author of numerous books, including *And Nothing But the Truthiness: The Rise (and Further Rise) of Stephen Colbert*, and *Angry Optimist: The Life and Times of Jon Stewart*. She is the editor of the *New York Times* bestseller *Barack Obama in His Own Words*. Rogak lives in New Hampshire. Learn more at [www.lisarogak.com](http://www.lisarogak.com).

#### Quotes

"Readers will be pulled into this gripping account of four women whose unwavering determination and willingness to risk everything helped triumph over the forces of fascism." —Lorissa Rinehart, author of *First to the Front*

"The reader is transported across enemy lines into the thick of clandestine war operations... Five star entertainment that both educates and enthralls." —Heath Hardage Lee, author of *The Mysterious Mrs. Nixon*

"Page-turning... Rogak writes a story to rival those of her protagonists—except this time it's true." —John Lisle, author of *The Dirty Tricks Department*

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## The Lost Trees of Willow Avenue

### A Story of Climate and Hope on One American Street

Mike Tidwell

A riveting story of climate change that is hyper local, full of surprises, replete with true stories of life and dying trees all on the same street and all against the national backdrop of 2023's record heat domes and raging wildfires and hurricanes.

### Summary

In 2022, author and activist Mike Tidwell decided to keep a record for a full year of the growing impacts of climate change on his one urban block right on the border with Washington, DC. A love letter to the magnificent oaks and other trees dying from record heat waves, Mike's story depicts the neighborhood's battle to save the trees and combat climate change: The midwife who builds a geothermal energy system on the block, the Congressman who battles cancer and climate change at the same time, and the Chinese-American climate scientist who wants to bury billions of the world's dying trees to store their carbon and help stabilize the atmosphere.

The story goes beyond ailing trees as Tidwell chronicles people on his block sick with Lyme disease, a church struggling with floods, and young people anguishing over whether to have kids, all in the same neighborhood and all against the global backdrop of 2023's record heat domes and raging wildfires and hurricanes. Then there's Tidwell himself who explores the ethical and scientific questions surrounding the idea of "geoengineering" as a last-ditch way to save the world's trees – and human communities everywhere – by reflecting sunlight away from the planet. No book has told the story of climate change this way: local, full of surprises, full of true stories of life and death in one neighborhood. A harrowing and hopeful proxy for every street and every place in this nation.

### Contributor Bio

MIKE TIDWELL is a writer and climate activist. His previous six books include *Bayou Farewell* (2003) about the disappearing wetlands in south Louisiana. As a contributing writer for *The Washington Post*, he has won four Lowell Thomas Awards, the highest prize in American travel journalism. In 2002 he founded the Chesapeake Climate Action Network, where he has led local and national campaigns for clean energy. He lives on Willow Avenue in Takoma Park with his wife Beth and their cat Macy Gray.

### Quotes

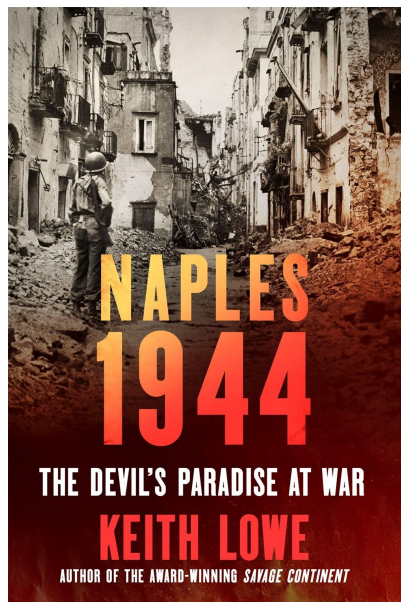
"An astonishing and urgently necessary book. One of our leading national and global activists, Mike Tidwell in *Weather Beaten* makes the climate catastrophe utterly local and personal, analyzing what global warming has meant on his block and in his home. A remarkable book that will change the way you think about climate change and remind you that, just as all the problems are fundamentally in your backyard, so are all the solutions." -- U.S. Congressman Jamie Raskin, author of the #1 *New York Times* Bestseller *Unthinkable*.

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## Naples 1944

### The Devil's Paradise at War

Keith Lowe

Award-winning author Keith Lowe's newest critical deep-dive into the history of Naples during WWII.

### Summary

Keith Lowe has chronicled the end of WWII in Europe in his award-winning book *Savage Continent* and the war's aftermath in the sequel, *The Fear and the Freedom*. In *Naples 1944*, he brings readers another masterful chronicle of the terrible and often unexpected consequences of war. Even before the fall of Mussolini, Naples was a place of great contrasts filled with palaces and slums, beloved cuisine and widespread hunger. After the Allied liberation, these contrasts made the city instantly notorious. Compared to the starving population, Allied soldiers were staggeringly wealthy. For a packet of cigarettes, even the lowest ranks could buy themselves a watch, a new suit or a woman for the night. As the biggest port in Allied hands, Naples quickly became the center of Italy's black market and has remained so ever since. Within just a few months the Camorra began to re-establish itself. Behind the chaos and the corruption, there was always the threat of violence. Army guns were looted and traded. Gangs of street kids fought running battles with the military police. Public buildings, booby-trapped by departing Germans, began to explode, seemingly spontaneously.

Then in March 1944 - like an omen - Vesuvius erupted. Naples was the first major European city to be liberated by the Allies. What they found there would set a template for the whole of the rest of Europe in the years to come. Keith Lowe's *Naples 1944* is a page-turning book about a city on the brink of chaos and glimpse into the dark heart of postwar Italy.

### Contributor Bio

KEITH LOWE is the author of the critically-acclaimed *Inferno: The Devastation of Hamburg 1943*, and *Savage Continent*, an international bestseller and the winner of both the Hessel-Tiltman Prize for History (2013), and Italy's prestigious Cherasco History Prize (2015). He lectures on both sides of the Atlantic, appears on TV and radio in Europe and the US, and writes for a variety of magazines and newspapers around the world. He lives in north London with his wife and children.

### Quotes

Praise for *Prisoners of History*:

"Compelling...powerful...[Lowe] looks at the ways in which a diverse set of countries have memorialized that bloody conflict, which set the stage for the world in which we still live... What *Prisoners of History* does do—and does well—is explain why groups in each country built the monuments in the first place and how changes in politics and international relations affected interactions with them afterward." —*Wall Street Journal*

"Thought-provoking . . . a perceptive and persuasive call for remembering the tragedies and triumphs of the past." —*Publishers Weekly*

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## The Second Sun

P. T. Deutermann

A taut, suspenseful historical thriller set in the final months of WWII: Did Japan also have an atomic weapon, and did America bomb Hiroshima and Nagasaki to pre-empt an attack on its fleet?

### Summary

A masterful historical thriller set during the waning months of World War II. March 1945: After a career of commanding destroyers in the Pacific theater of WWII, Captain Wolfe Bowen is based in Washington, DC, working for the Chief of Naval Operations. Bowen receives an urgent call from the commander of the naval shipyard in Portsmouth, New Hampshire: A German U-boat has been captured and brought to port. But what grabs Bowen's attention is the presence of two Japanese civilians on board, along with the massive size of the U-boat itself. What these civilians know about the cargo of the U-boat, as well as its destination, begins a race against time that will change the course of history.

When President Franklin Delano Roosevelt dies, Harry Truman ascends to office with no prior knowledge of the Manhattan Project. Bowen is assigned a dangerous mission: Discover whether Japan has the technology to produce an atomic weapon, and find out how close the enemy is to deploying it. Working with a small team, Bowen must report back to President Truman with the information that will transform the war—and the world.

Brilliantly imagined and informed by P. T. Deutermann's long history as a navy captain, as well as his family's service in the Pacific theater, *The Second Sun* is a compelling novel timed for the 80th anniversary of the end of World War II.

### Contributor Bio

P.T. DEUTERMANN is the noted author of many previous novels based on his experiences as a senior staff officer in Washington and at sea as a Navy Captain, and later, Commodore. His WWII works include *The Last Paladin* and *Pacific Glory*, both of which won the W.Y. Boyd Award for Excellence in Military Fiction, *Iwo*, *26 Charlie*, *The Hooligans*, *The Nugget*, *Sentinels of Fire*, *The Commodore*, *Trial By Fire*, and *The Iceman*. He lives with his wife of 56 years in North Carolina.

### Quotes

#### Praise for P. T. Deutermann

"Deutermann ably conveys naval battle tactics, day-to-day life aboard a vessel, and the pandemonium of warfare. . . [P]otent." —*Publishers Weekly*

"A tour de force of excitement and intrigue. A former Navy man himself, Deutermann captures the pace and passion of men at war, and his descriptions are riveting and personal. It is hard to imagine anyone not being immersed in this novel." —*San Francisco Book Review*



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## Lollapalooza

### The Uncensored Story of Alternative Rock's Wildest Festival

Richard Bienstock, Tom Beaujour

From the *NYT* bestselling authors of *Nothin' But A Good Time*, the no-holds-barred oral history of '90s alt-rock festival, Lollapalooza—told by the musicians and industry insiders who lived it.

### Summary

Spawned in 1991 as a farewell tour for Jane's Addiction, Lollapalooza was a nomadic spectacle, stopping in more than twenty cities across North America. A sweeping success, it offered a diverse ensemble of bands, breaking the barriers of genre and uniting alternative rock, heavy metal, punk rock, hip hop, and even electronic dance music under one grand event.

Unorthodox not just in music, Lollapalooza also spotlighted visual arts, nonprofit organizations, and political outfits, offering a tantalizing cocktail of culture, art, and activism that reached epic proportions. Echoes of its impact reverberate strongly today – cemented by annual sell-outs, an estimation of 400,000 attendees each July, and a spot among the world's largest and longest-running music festivals. It showcases the transcending power of music through the decades.

Bestselling authors Tom Beaujour and Richard Bienstock draw from over two hundred author interviews with members of Jane's Addiction, Pearl Jam, Soundgarden, Nine Inch Nails, Sonic Youth, Ice-T, Rage Against the Machine, Patti Smith, Metallica and many more to tell the no-holds-barred history of this iconic music festival.

### Contributor Bio

TOM BEAUJOUR is a journalist as well as a co-founder and former editor-in-chief of *Revolver*, America's premier hard rock and heavy metal monthly.

RICHARD BIENSTOCK is a journalist whose writing has appeared in the *New York Times*, *Rolling Stone*, *Billboard*, *Spin*, and other publications. He is a former senior editor of *Guitar World* magazine and executive editor of *Guitar Aficionado* magazine.

### Quotes

#### Praise for *Nothin' But A Good Time*:

"A backstage pass to the wildest and loudest party in rock history—you'll feel like you were right there with us!" —Bret Michaels of Poison



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## The Beauty Molecule

### Introducing Neuroceuticals, the Breakthrough for Ageless Beauty

Dr. Nicholas Perricone

#1 NYT bestselling author Nicholas Perricone, M.D. introduces the beauty molecule—acetylcholine (ACh)—and a program to improve skin and overall health in 21 days.

### Summary

Skin is the largest organ in the body, and also can be the body's canary in a coalmine: many skin conditions, from acne and rosacea to eczema and psoriasis, can be flags for larger underlying disease and deterioration.

Nicholas Perricone, M.D. has spent decades researching cellular health and its connection to both beauty and disease. Building on his original work with his most recent observations and clinical experience, THE BEAUTY MOLECULE reveals:

How to slow mitochondrial aging

Tap the power of master metabolic regulators

The Vagus nerve/beauty molecule connection

The magic bullet is hydrogen—small but mighty, and able to forestall and reverse cellular degeneration. It can restore muscle tone, improve learning and memory, and lead to external radiance and a stronger shot at a healthy longer lifespan—it's a true mind-beauty connection.

Dr. Perricone's new anti-inflammation diet features hydrogen water and a robust eating plan that includes nuts, seeds, cruciferous vegetables, grass-fed beef, specific beans, free-range poultry, dairy and eggs. It's far from restrictive, and points readers toward nourishing themselves. On top of food, Dr. Perricone's complete Beauty Molecule Program includes breathing, movement, sunlight, and topicals—everything within reach of readers.

THE BEAUTY MOLECULE introduces Antioxidant 3.0, and ushers in a new era of smart beauty.

### Contributor Bio

NICHOLAS PERRICONE, MD is a physician, author, educator, and an award winning inventor. He has been issued 237 patents worldwide in areas of medicine, pharmacology and aerospace, and received the Eli Whitney Intellectual Property Award. He is the author of several *New York Times* bestsellers including *The Wrinkle Cure*, *The Perricone Prescription*, *The Perricone Promise* and *Forever Young*. He is a Fellow of the New York Academy of Sciences and a Fellow of the American Academy of Dermatology.



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## Climbing in Heels

### A Novel

Elaine Goldsmith-Thomas

Capturing the fast, furious—and, for the first time, female — dealmaking that gave us blockbuster movies and stars in the go-go 1980's

### Summary

It was called "the boys club," and for years it was just that. The men had the offices, and the women serviced them – bringing coffee, answering phones, looking pretty. But by the 80's women were releasing themselves from bondage: cutting the bras and phone cords wrapped around their bodies; everything that tied them down. It wasn't that their dreams were bigger or their opportunities more available. It was just their time. But the men didn't yield easily.

CLIMBING IN HEELS is the story of three women - Beanie Rosen, Ella Gaddy, and Mercedes Baxter – whose backgrounds were as unique as their talent, whose passion was as fierce as their rage, and whose unwillingness to settle for less in a world where less was expected rose with grit, stood on each other's shoulders, balancing, stretching, reaching to touch the top. It was thick, that glass ceiling, and they only scratched the surface. But in scratching it they brought the biggest theatrical agency in the world to its knees. It's also the story about how sometimes they became the very monsters they fought against.

Sexy, plot-rich, and full of the details that made the talent agencies businesses of fascination, CLIMBING IN HEELS brings Los Angeles in the '80s to life. It's like turning THE SEVEN HUSBANDS OF EVELYN HUGO inside out and discovering that the lives of the starmakers are even more gripping than the lives of the stars themselves.

### Contributor Bio

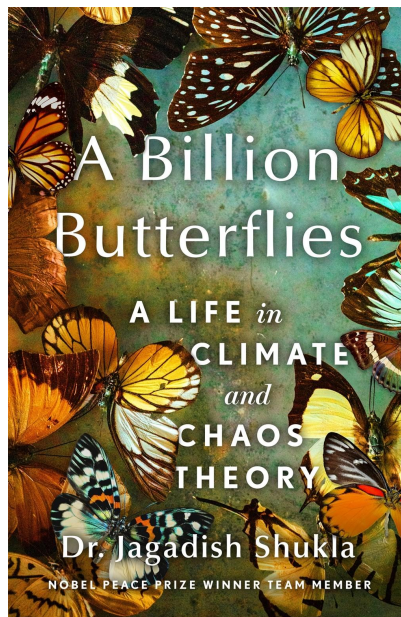
ELAINE GOLDSMITH-THOMAS began her career at the William Morris Agency and rose in spite of the boys club of the late 1980's to become the Senior Vice president of the WMA, and later the Senior Vice President of ICM, guiding the careers of actors such as Julia Roberts, Jennifer Lopez, Nicholas Cage, Madonna, and more. She produced successful films and television series including *13 Going on 30*, *Maid in Manhattan*, *Mona Lisa Smile*, *Hustlers*, *Emily in Paris*, and many others.

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## A Billion Butterflies

### A Life in Climate and Chaos Theory

Dr. Jagadish Shukla

*Slumdog Millionaire* meets *An Inconvenient Truth* in this amazing memoir by the Nobel Prize-winning man behind modern weather prediction

### Summary

Consider a world without weather prediction. How would we know what to wear tomorrow? When to evacuate people before a natural disaster? Because of renowned climate scientist Dr. Jagadish Shukla, we can predict the weather forecast beyond 10 days. Born in India with no electricity or formal schools, he attended classes that were held in a cow shed, surrounded by amid overwhelming monsoons and unpredictable crop yields. His drive brought him to the Indian Institute of Tropical Meteorology, then to MIT and Princeton. In the 70s he upended beliefs about weather prediction, then worked to export his work around the world so that governments and scientists could better understand all weather-induced natural disasters. His work allows us to feed more people, save lives, and hold on to hope in a warming world.

Paired with his philanthropic endeavors and dedication to the field, Dr. Shukla has been lauded internationally for his achievements, including being lead author of a panel which shared the Nobel Peace Prize with Al Gore for his governmental research on climate change, *A Billion Butterflies* is a wondrous insider's account of climate science and an unbelievable memoir of his life. Understanding dynamical seasonal prediction will change the way you experience a thunderstorm or interpret a forecast; understanding its origins and the remarkable story of the man who discovered it will change the way you see our world.

### Contributor Bio

DR. JAGADISH SHUKLA is a Professor of Climate Dynamics at George Mason University. Internationally recognized for his role in the development of weather and climate science, he has received the International Meteorological Prize by the UN and the Exceptional Scientific Achievement Medal of NASA, the highest honor given to a civilian by NASA. For his work as a lead author for the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change's 4th assessment, his team was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize.

### Quotes

"Shukla played a leading role in the field of weather and climate, making pathfinding contributions for extending the range of weather forecasting and predicting climate change." - Dr. S. Manabe, Nobel Laureate

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## Things Left Unsaid

### A Novel

Sara Jafari

A beautiful, insightful, and remarkable novel about a young British Iranian woman finding her way through the heartbreaks and triumphs of life, for fans of *Maame* and *Olga Dies Dreaming*.

### Summary

When twenty-six year old Shirin Bayat bumps into Kian at a house party in London, she is taken aback by the immediate feelings that resurface. It's been a decade since they were best friends at school, before painful events pulled them apart, suddenly and seemingly forever. Ever since, Shirin has lived with the aching weight of things left unsaid between them.

Now they're back in each other's lives, at a time when Shirin needs someone she can trust the most. Feeling stuck in a sea of slippery friendships and deeply burned out by her publishing job, Kian is a bright light amongst a sea of gray. There's nothing worse than losing the person you trust most with your deepest secrets and desires, and Shirin and Kian are determined to hold tightly to each other.

But of course, life often has other plans. Will it be different this time around, or are Shirin and Kian destined to fall apart once more?

A dazzling, electrifying, and thought-provoking novel for readers of *Normal People* and *Maame*, *Things Left Unsaid* is a mesmerizing and deeply-felt exploration of healing past trauma, discovering your place in the world, and the lasting power of love.

### Contributor Bio

SARA JAFARI is a London-based British Iranian writer whose work has been longlisted for Spread the Word's Life Writing Prize and published in *gal-dem* and *The Good Journal*. She is a contributor to *I Will Not Be Erased* and the romance anthology *Who's Loving You*. Jafari works as an editor and runs *TOKEN* magazine, which showcases writing and artwork by underrepresented writers and artists.

### Quotes

"A delicate yet impactful look at depression, disillusioned dreams, second chances at love and the power of bravery. What a book!" - Jessica George, *New York Times* bestselling author of *Maame*

"I absolutely fell in love with this romantic and incisive novel." - Amy Jo Burns, author of *Mercury*

"*Things Left Unsaid* explores the rough edges of early adulthood with such clarity, unpacking what it means to both lose and rediscover yourself -- and your relationships -- in that hazy, messy era we call our twenties." - Genevieve Wheeler, author of *Adelaide*

# THE CUT



## The Cut

C. J. Dotson

In this chilling supernatural horror novel set in a mysterious hotel, a woman fleeing her abusive ex finds herself running from more than just her past.

### Summary

A historic hotel long past its prime and huddled along The Cut, a questionable Lake Erie beach, isn't Sadie Miles' ideal place to raise a toddler while also navigating her second pregnancy. After finally fleeing her abusive ex-fiancé, though, Sadie's new housekeeping position and free room at L'Arpin Hotel are the best she can manage.

On her first night, Sadie runs to help a guest struggling in the hotel's pool, only to find the water calm and empty when she gets there, leaving her with a lingering unease. When a guest then goes missing and her manager insists they simply left without checking out, Sadie suspects he's covering up darker goings-on in the hotel.

After her ex, Sadie won't let anyone convince her that what she's experiencing isn't real again. So, she keeps digging, quickly uncovering suspicious interactions with the staff, mysteriously vanishing security cameras, more missing guests, and things that go bump in the night...and drip in the walls, slither in the tub, and squirm in the halls. Everything isn't as it seems within the dim hallways of L'Arpin. Sadie has nowhere to go and nowhere to hide; she'll need to keep her wits about her to survive and keep her toddler and unborn child safe from whatever lurks nearby.

### Contributor Bio

C.J. DOTSON possesses the statistically average number of body parts for a human being to have. She and her husband, stepson, and children (all of whom also appear human) share a cabin in the woods with more bugs than she would ever like to see. In her limited spare time she enjoys reading, video games, painting, baking and decorating cakes (with...questionable success), and petting her dog and two cats. Visit her at [cjdotsonauthor.com](http://cjdotsonauthor.com) or [cjdotsonsdreadfuldispatch.substack.com](http://cjdotsonsdreadfuldispatch.substack.com)

### Quotes

"A chilling, paranoia-inducing thrill-ride of a horror tale! Bizarre twists, great characters, and an ending that will leave you breathless!" -Jonathan Maberry, *New York Times* bestselling author of *Cave 13*

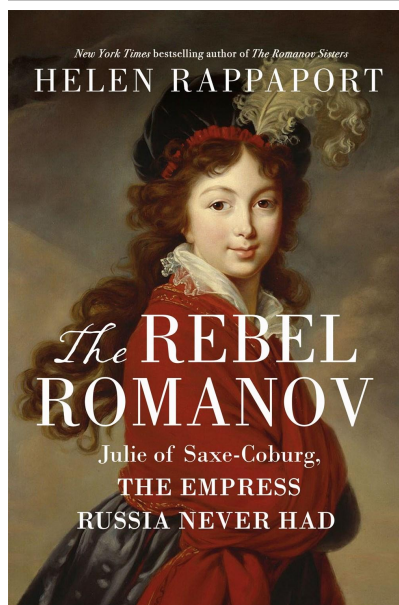
"A compelling page-turner full of slithery secrets and scares." - Rachel Harrison, national bestselling author of *Black Sheep*

"A creepy tale guaranteed to keep you reading well past midnight. Dotson's debut is a highlight of the year." —Erin E. Adams, author of *Jackal*

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## The Rebel Romanov

**Julie of Saxe-Coburg, the Empress Russia Never Had**

Helen Rappaport

**From the *New York Times* bestselling author of *The Romanov Sisters* comes the story of a courageous young Imperial Grand Duchess who scandalized Europe in search of freedom.**

### Summary

In 1795, Catherine the Great of Russia was in search of a bride for her grandson Constantine, who stood third in line to her throne. In an eerie echo of her own story, Catherine selected an innocent young German princess, Julie of Saxe-Coburg, aunt of the future Queen Victoria. Though Julie had everything a young bride could wish for, she was alone in a court dominated by an aging empress and riven with rivalries, plotting, and gossip—not to mention her brute of a husband, who was tender one moment and violent the next. She longed to leave Russia and her disastrous marriage, but her family in Germany refused to allow her to do so.

Desperate for love, Julie allegedly sought consolation in the arms of others. Finally, Tsar Alexander granted her permission to leave in 1801, even though her husband was now heir to the throne. Rootless in Europe, Julie gave birth to two—possibly three—illegitimate children, all of whom she was forced to give up for adoption. Despite entreaties from Constantine to return and provide an heir, she refused, eventually finding love with her own married physician.

At a time when many royal brides meekly submitted to disastrous marriages, Julie proved to be a woman ahead of her time, sacrificing her reputation and a life of luxury in exchange for the freedom to live as she wished. *The Rebel Romanov* is the inspiring tale of a bold woman who, until now, has been ignored by history.

### Contributor Bio

DR. HELEN RAPPAPORT is the *New York Times* bestselling author of several books, including *After the Romanovs*, *A Magnificent Obsession*, *The Romanov Sisters* and *Caught in the Revolution*. She studied Russian Special Studies at Leeds University and is a Fellow of the Royal Historical Society, a specialist in Imperial Russian and Victorian history, and a frequent historical consultant on TV and radio. She lives in West Dorset.

### Quotes

"Entertaining and, at times, heart-wrenching...Rappaport, a prolific historian and highly regarded Romanov expert, unveils a Paris in which Russians had long played a prominent role." —***Wall Street Journal on After the Romanovs***

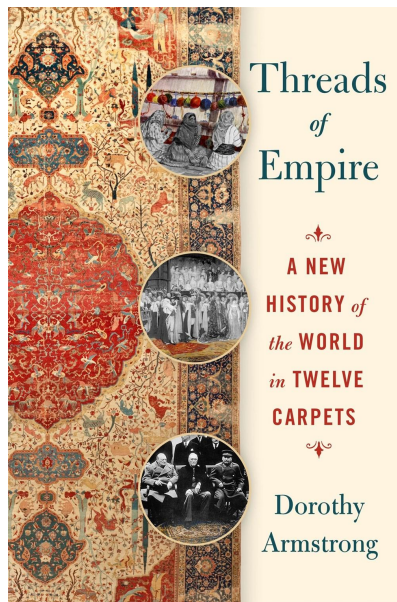
"An engaging group biography...Rappaport is a mistress of the telling detail." —***Washington Post on After the Romanovs***

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## Threads of Empire

### A New History of the World in Twelve Carpets

Dorothy Armstrong

Carpet specialist Dorothy Armstrong tells the stories surrounding twelve of the world's most fascinating carpets.

### Summary

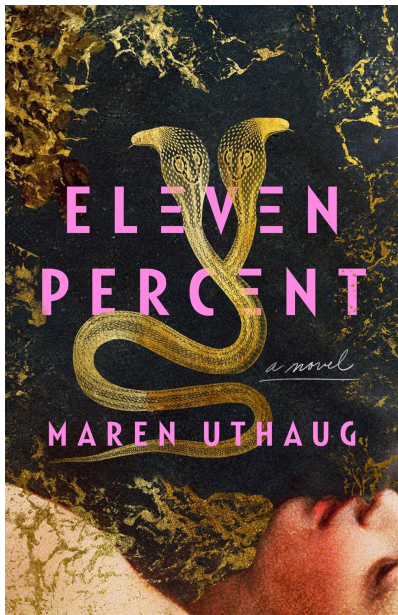
Dorothy Armstrong's *Threads of Empire* is a spellbinding look at the history of the world through the stories of twelve carpets. Beautiful, sensuous, and enigmatic, great carpets follow power. Emperors, shahs, sultans and samurai crave them as symbols of earthly domination. Shamans and priests desire them to evoke the spiritual realm. The world's 1% hunger after them as displays of extreme status. And yet these seductive objects are made by poor and illiterate weavers, using the most basic materials and crafts; hedgerow plants for dyes, fibers from domestic animals, and the millennia-old skills of interweaving warps, wefts and knots.

In *Threads of Empire*, Armstrong tells the histories of some of the world's most fascinating carpets, exploring how these textiles came into being then were transformed as they moved across geography and time in the slipstream of the great. She shows why the world's powerful were drawn to them, but also asks what was happening in the weavers' lives, and how they were affected by events in the world outside their tent, village or workshop. In its wide-ranging examination of these dazzling objects, from the 5th century BCE contents of the tombs of Scythian chieftains, to the carpets under the boots of Stalin, Roosevelt and Churchill at the 1945 Yalta Peace Conference, *Threads of Empire* uncovers a new, hitherto hidden past right beneath our feet.

### Contributor Bio

DR. DOROTHY ARMSTRONG is a historian of the material culture of South, Central and West Asia, and for the last decade has tried to penetrate the mysteries of Asian rugs. She has published, podcast and lectured widely on carpets. She was tutor at the Royal College of Art and Edinburgh College of Art, and from 2021 has been the Beattie Fellow in Carpet Studies at the Ashmolean Museum, University of Oxford. She is an avid collector of carpets and is as a result also an expert on clothes moths.





## Eleven Percent

### A Novel

Maren Uthaug

**An inverse *The Handmaid's Tale* that asks: What if women took over the world?**

### Summary

It is the New Time, a time not so different from ours except that the men are gone. All but eleven percent, that is, the minimum required to avoid inbreeding. But they are safely under lock and key in "spa" centers for women's pleasure (trained by amazons to fulfill all desires) and procreation. A few women protest that the males should be treated better – more space, better food, but all agree that testosterone cannot be allowed to go free. The old patriarchal cities are crumbling, becoming overgrown (women don't blow things up); people now live in round houses in round communities. But if you prefer the slum, that's okay too. Religion has survived, sort of: women priestesses speak in tongues, inspired by snake venom, as apples are passed around to the congregation.

Four different lives intersect: Medea, a tiny, long-haired witch and snake whisperer; Wicca, a young priestess who excelled at the "self-pleasuring" curriculum in school and has lost her pregnant lover; Eva, a doctor working in a spa center, and Silence, who lives in an almost abandoned convent. Each has a secret and one is not what she seems.

This is the first novel to appear in English by celebrated Danish author Maren Uthaug. Provocative, irreverent, slightly squeamish-making and completely riveting, *Eleven Percent* makes you think.

### Contributor Bio

MAREN UTHAUG is an award-winning author of four novels, and has a daily cartoon strip in Denmark's largest newspaper. Her critically acclaimed second novel *Where There are Birds* was awarded the Danish Broadcasting Corporation's Novel of the Year Award in 2018, and her third novel *A Happy Ending* received the Readers' Choice Award. Born in the town of Uthaug, Norway, she lives in Copenhagen.

### Quotes

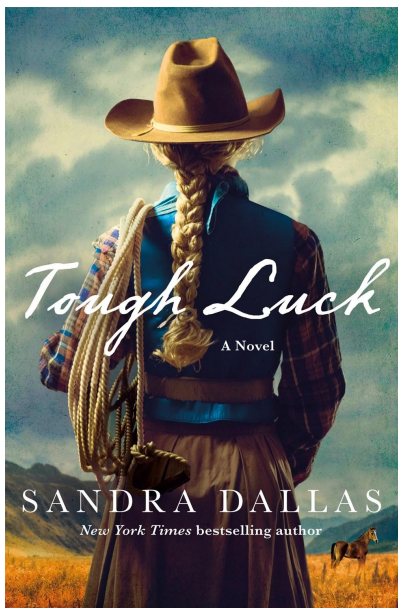
"Thought-provoking, disturbing and beautiful.... shows us the seductive lure of a one-gender society, but also its dangers and poignant losses." —**Christina Lynch, author of *Sally Brady's Italian Adventure***

"Haunting, horrifying, beautiful, and at times truly disgusting... This dark and surprisingly funny tale of witches, snakes, priests, and genital-based oppression takes the reader into the depths of a matriarchy that has fallen into the same traps as the patriarchy it replaced. A wild, electric, essential read." —**Gabrielle Korn, author of *Yours for the Taking***

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## Tough Luck

### A Novel

Sandra Dallas

**In this homage to *True Grit*, a young woman makes a perilous journey west in 1863 in search of her gold-mining father.**

### Summary

After their mother dies, Haidie Richards and her younger brother, Boots, are put to work in an orphanage. Their father left four years earlier to find a gold mine in Colorado Territory, and since then he's sent only three letters. Still, Haidie is certain that he is alive, has struck gold, and will soon send for them.

But patience is not one of Haidie's virtues and soon she and her brother make a break for it. Boots and Haidie, disguised as a boy, embark on a dangerous journey deep into Western territory. Along the way, Haidie learns fast not only how to handle mules, oxen, and greedy men, but also that you are better off in a community. Hers includes a card shark, independent "spinster" sisters, and a very fierce dog. Once she arrives in Colorado and finds out the truth about her father, Haidie will need all her new friends for a get-even plot worthy of *The Sting*.

Filled with vivid period detail, colorful characters, and the irreverent voice of our scrappy heroine, *Tough Luck* celebrates both the tenacity of youth and the persistence of the heart in the great American West.

### Contributor Bio

**SANDRA DALLAS**, dubbed "a quintessential American voice" by Jane Smiley in *Vogue Magazine*, is the author of over a dozen novels, including *Little Souls* and *Where Coyotes Howl*, many translated into a dozen languages and optioned for films. Six-time winner of the Willa Award and four-time winner of the Spur Award, Dallas was a *Business Week* reporter for 35 years, and began writing fiction in 1990. She has two daughters and lives with her husband in Denver and Georgetown, Colorado.

### Quotes

#### Praise for *Tough Luck*

"A lighthearted story filled with adventure." —**Kathleen Grissom, *New York Times* bestselling author of *The Kitchen House***

"On prose that rides west at an easy canter, *Tough Luck* keeps its reader tight to the stirrups." —**John Larison, author of *Whiskey When We're Dry***

#### Praise for *Where Coyotes Howl*

"Rich character development and memorable secondary plotlines." —***The Denver Post***

"Addictive. Highly recommended!" —**Paulette Jiles, *New York Times* bestselling author**