

Jennifer Lyons Literary Agency
Spring List 2021

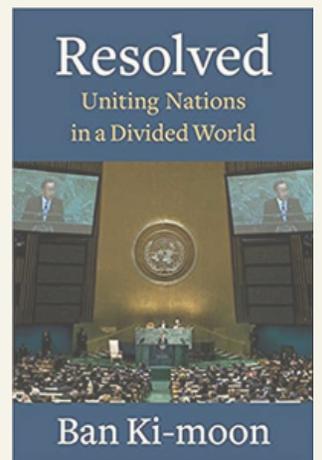
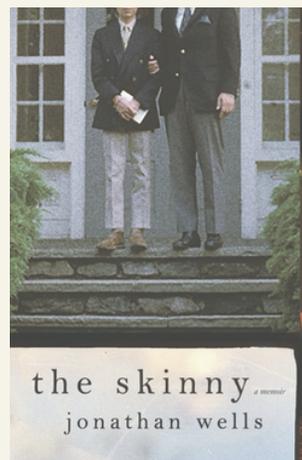
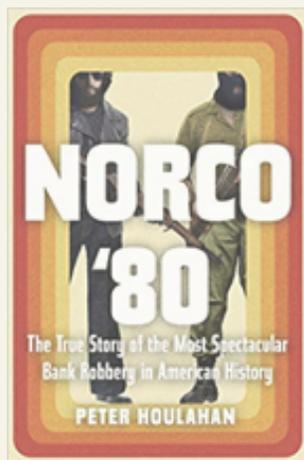
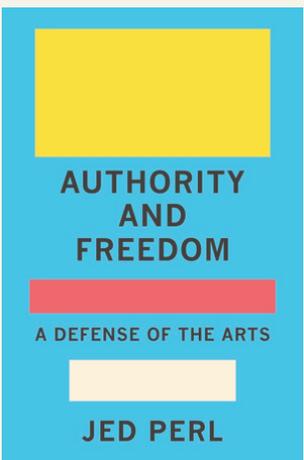


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Adult Fiction

AMY QUAN BARRY

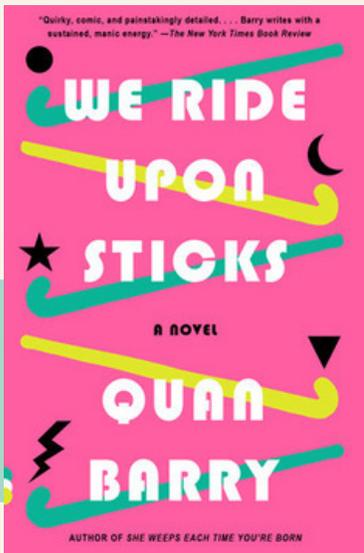
We Ride Upon Sticks

Pantheon 2020

A Recipient of the 2021 Alex Awards

Film rights are represented by the Gersh Agency.

From the critically-acclaimed author of *She Weeps Each Time You're Born* comes a coming-of-age tale three hundred years in the making



YA Crossover Potential

In the town of Danvers, Massachusetts, home of the original 1692 witch trials, the 1989 Danvers Falcons will do anything to make it to the state finals—even if it means tapping into some devilishly dark powers. Against a background of irresistible 1980s iconography, Quan Barry expertly weaves together the individual and collective progress of this enchanted team as they storm their way through an unforgettable season.

Helmed by good-girl captain Abby Putnam (a descendant of the infamous Salem accuser Ann Putnam) and her co-captain Jen Fiorenza (whose bleached blond “Claw” sees and knows all), the Falcons prove to be wily, original, and bold, flaunting society’s stale notions of femininity. Through the crucible of team sport and, more importantly, friendship, this comic tour de female force chronicles Barry’s glorious cast of characters as they charge past every obstacle on the path to finding their glorious true selves.

Praise

“Quirky, comic, and painstakingly detailed. . . . Barry writes with a sustained, manic energy.” —The New York Times Book Review

“Spellbinding, wickedly fun. . . . Each sentence fizzes like a just-opened bottle of New Coke.” —O, The Oprah Magazine

“The prose style is neon and the laughs do not stop. I feel like the author wrote the entire book with an evil grin on her face.” —Molly Young, *Vulture*

“Almost too much fun to be allowed. . . . Truly a delight in every way.” —Literary Hub

“In a story filled with friendship, femininity and ‘80s iconography, Barry will keep you laughing with every turn of the page.” —TODAY

“As many ‘80s references as a *Stranger Things* fan could desire and a group of unforgettable female characters make this a delightful read.” —BookPage

“Touching, hilarious, and deeply satisfying. . . . Readers will cheer [the team] on because what they’re really doing is learning to be fully and authentically themselves.” —Kirkus Reviews (starred review)

“A playful, nostalgic run through 1980s suburbia. . . . Barry handles a large cast of characters nimbly and affectionately, allowing each to take a turn or two in the spotlight.” —Publishers Weekly

Agent: Jennifer Lyons

Rights sold: US, Canada, Philippines rights sold to Pantheon/Random House. AST in Russia will publish as YA. UK, translation, and first serial rights are available. Film rights are represented by the Gersh Agency.

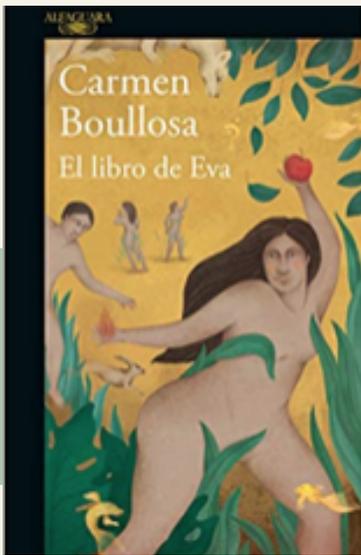
ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Raised in the coastal town of Danvers, Massachusetts, Quan Barry is the author of the novel *She Weeps Each Time You’re Born* and of four books of poetry, including the collection *Water Puppets*, which won the AWP Donald Hall Prize for Poetry and was a PEN Open Book finalist. She has a book under contract with Pantheon. She lives in Wisconsin and teaches at the University of Wisconsin-Madison.

CARMEN BOULLOSA

The Book of Eve

Alfaguara Fall 2020



“If it were true (it definitely is not) that Adam was created of dust and a single breath, the first was carried by the Angel of Death, and the breath that gave him life, therefore, was one of dread and hatred.”

What if everything they’ve told us about the Garden was the other way around? Faced with what appears to be an apocryphal manuscript containing ten books and 91 passages, Eve decides to tell her version: she was neither created from Adam’s rib, nor is it exact that she was expelled by the apple and the serpent, nor is story they tell of Abel and Cain true, neither that of the Flood, nor that of the Tower of Babel...

With brilliant prose, Carmen Boullosa gives a twist to the book of Genesis to dismantle the male figure and rebuild the world, the origin of gastronomy, the domestication of animals, the cultivation of land and pleasure, through the feminine gaze. Based on this exploration, sometimes fun and other times painful, *The Book of Eve* takes a tour through the stories they’ve told us and which have helped to foster (and cement) the absurd idea that woman is the companion, complement, and even accessory to man, which opens the door to criminal violence against women. Boullosa refutes and breaks them in this feminist novel, foundational and brazen.

Agent: Jennifer Lyons

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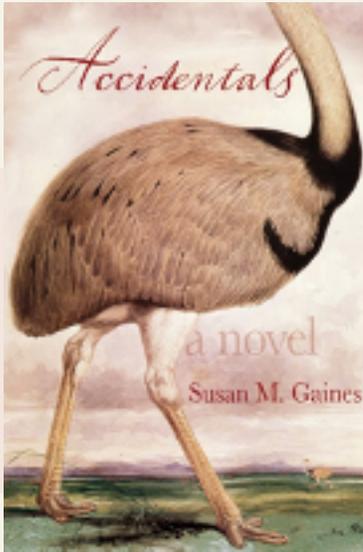
ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Carmen Boullosa—a Cullman Center, a Guggenheim, a DAAD and a FONCA Fellow—was born in Mexico City in 1954. She’s a poet, playwright, essayist, novelist, and artist, and has been a professor at NYU, Columbia University, City College CUNY, Georgetown, and other institutions. She’s now at Macaulay Honors College CUNY. The NYPL acquired her papers and artist books. More than a dozen books and over ninety dissertations have been written about her work.

SUSAN M. GAINES

Accidentals

Torrey House Press (World English), March 2020



“Well-written novels that feature science (but aren’t sf) are few and far between, and this work is a welcome addition next to Barbara Kingsolver’s *Prodigal Summer* or *Flight Behavior*.” – Library Journal

“The plot twists, without giving away spoilers, land like a gut punch. It’s a novel that will keep you up late. With birds. Lots of birds.” – The Nature Conservancy blog

“A treat for conservationists, and the critique of globalization and portrayal of sibling rivalry are particularly well rendered. Barbara Kingsolver fans will want to take a look.” – Publishers Weekly

An amateur ornithologist follows his mother in her “reverse migration” as she returns home to South America after 30 years in the United States. Gabriel Quiroga agrees to accompany his mother Liliana to Uruguay, just long enough to get her settled and do a little birdwatching – but the landscape and its vibrant birdlife beguiles him, particularly a pretty local specimen named Alejandra, a biologist studying the wetlands that surround Liliana’s would-be farm. Gabe and Alejandra advance deeper into their relationship, and into the ranch’s virgin marsh, where they discover an undocumented species of water bird with a habitat -- and future -- at risk. Then a revelation about Liliana’s own past throws all that Gabe has known into confusion, and a dramatic reckoning between the past and the future becomes unavoidable.

Praise

“This modern coming-of-age story is intelligent and epic in scope” – Forbes magazine

“We need more stories that capture the liminality of human experience – between languages, national histories, economic conditions, and so on. *Accidentals* points us to the way we are deeply entangled, even when we have stopped seeing this entanglement for what it is.” -- Entropy magazine

“This is a book about all the things we don’t yet know; all the things we know but keep hidden; and all the things we once knew but have lost. Gorgeous, smart, and surprising, Gaines’ family saga takes us into the large world of nations and politics, but also the microscopic world of mud and microbes. Tender and powerful.” – Karen Joy Fowler, author of *We Are All Completely Beside Ourselves*

“With an environmental sensibility evocative of Stegner, *Accidentals* sings with the vibrancy of the living world. It is a novel both erudite and emotionally compelling, suffused with science and natural history, and one which places Gaines firmly in the company of Richard Powers, Barbara Kingsolver, and Anthony Doerr.” – Christian Kiefer, author of *The Animals*

“*Accidentals* is an intimate family story with an astonishingly epic scope. Alive with history, politics, science, romance, and birds, it is as entertaining as it is intelligent, as beautiful as it is wise.” – Jean Hegland, author of *Into the Forest*

“Masterfully encompasses so many levels, from the biology of microbes to the chaos of politics and the mysteries of the human heart ... This is a novel that is, above all, about how seeing is an act of love.” – Rebecca Newberger Goldstein, author of *Properties of Light* and *Plato at the Googleplex*

Agent: Pamela Malpas/JLLA

Materials Available: finished book; e-galley

World English rights sold to Torrey House Press. All translation rights available.

Excerpt from *ACCIDENTALS*

It was after four when Alejandra drove up, and she'd already collected her rice field samples. There was no one around, but she greeted me with such cool reserve, I wondered if I'd just imagined the easy warmth and hungry kiss of our dinner date the week before. She was still in work mode, hurrying to prepare her sample jars and analytical instruments—I began to doubt that I'd even get a chance to show her the rails. Let alone lure her into bed with me that night. Then Angelito ran by her feet, and she suddenly let loose a delighted squeal and stopped what she was doing to watch him race about the yard.

“When did it hatch?”

“Last week.” The coolness, I realized with relief, was just focus.

Angelito came to a sudden stop in the middle of the yard and stood there with one eye on us, as still as he had been frenetic.

“Angelito,” she called softly, crouching down to baby ñandú level and holding out a hand. Even in rubber boots and baggy pants, she moved with such delicious fluidity, that I just wanted to drink up the view. Like a dancer, I thought, but more organic, unselfconscious...

“It will only go to Rubén,” I said, forcing myself to stop staring at her. “He feeds it El Trigal. Claims those are the only crackers it likes, that it refuses all the imported gringo brands.”

“Ha! A true Uruguayan bird!”

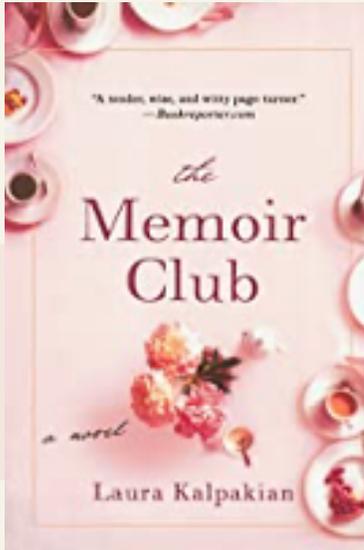
ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Susan M. Gaines is the author of the novel *Carbon Dreams* (2000), a prescient story of global warning that was an early entry in the genre of eco-fiction, and of the science narrative, *Echoes of Life: What Fossil Molecules Reveal About Earth History* (OUP, 2009). Her short stories have appeared in numerous literary journals and been selected for the *Best of the West* anthology and nominated for the Pushcart Prize. Gaines's fiction is informed by a youth spent hiking and birding California's mountains and coastline, and by her education in chemistry and oceanography. She is the recipient of an Art in Science Fellowship at the Hanse Institute for Advanced Study, as well as the 2018 Suffrage Science Award. Currently at work on another novel, Gaines divides her time between her native California, Uruguay, and Germany, where she co-directs the Fiction Meets Science research and fellowship program.

The Memoir Club

St. Martin's Press, 2004

Laura Kalpakian is the author of sixteen novels



“The moral of the story remains clear: we all have a story to tell—of loss, regret and yearning—and in telling it, we are all connected” – Publishers Weekly

“A tender, wise, and witty page-turner” – Bookreporter.com

Six women, each with her own goals and misgivings, join a university extension night class in Writing Your Memoir. In the course of revealing their pasts to one another, they become friends. When the class finally ends, they continue to meet privately at the gracious home of one of the participants. The memoir class becomes the Memoir Club.

Grief-stricken Dr. Caryn Henley only goes to the class at the insistence of her longtime friend and colleague, Nell, a woman so loyal that behind her back people call her the St. Bernard. Rusty Meadows wants to write a memoir for the daughter she gave up at birth. Mrs. Francine Hellman wants her memoir to laud her late husband, the scientist Dr. Marcus Hellman -- only to find he had a past unknown to her. Elderly, unconventional Sarah Jane Perkins writes to come to terms with the cruelties her rigid mother inflicted on her artistic, bootlegging father. And Korean born Jill McDougall comes to the memoir class to find out who she is, and why she's living in a warehouse with a man who loves ice cream. These students of the memoir achieve what they set out to do, but discover what they never expected.

Along the way, the disparate women come together, reveal themselves to each other and support each other. As they render their pasts in memoirs, they forge a new present and a new future.

Praise

“When you read Laura Kalpakian, you are in the capable and tender hands of a master, and *The Memoir Club* is proof of her well-honed craft. It is a feat of brilliant execution, with multilayered plots like those of our real lives, and with characters who captivated me with their pasts and presents, as if we were all spellbound in my own living room. The truth-- it is a remarkable novel.” - Susan Straight, author of *In the Country of Women*

“Kalpakian’s observations are sharp, her humor is sweet.” -- London Observer

“Kalpakian writes with a verve that leaves you laughing and contemplating your own ideas of family.” -
Chicago Tribune

Agent: Pamela Malpas/JLLA

Materials Available: finished book

All translation rights available (previously published in Polish with Świat Książki, 2004)

Excerpt from **THE MEMOIR CLUB**

I’m on my second beer when I start to understand that the people who really are doing fine are not here. They’re doing so fine they don’t need to commemorate their losses with the other survivors.

Just then I get accosted by Sam Fredericks, the Dirty Old Man of the survivors. I can write Sam’s dialogue by now.

“If it isn’t Nurse Nelly!” Sam pats me on the back. He’s about eighty. “Well I guess I can have my heart attack now.” Sam turns to the others and confides, “I always want to have a heart attack so Nell Farraday will give me mouth-to-mouth. If that’s the only way I can get Nell to take me in her arms, well that’s fine.” And he clasps his hands over his heart and puts on a stricken look.

“Well, Sam,” I reply, unless you were going to be on top, I don’t think you’d survive.” Sam weighs about ninety pounds. I tip the scales at one hundred ninety.

They call me the St. Bernard. The big furry one with the droopy eyelids and the fleshy lips and committed to rescue. My ex-boyfriend gave me the name. We were at a Christmas party a couple of years ago and he had too much to drink and he thought it was all very funny. The name stuck. It was the only thing Mike gave me that lasted. I still sometimes see him. Sometimes I even sleep with him. Sometimes I still love him, but he wanted me to let Caryn go, let Caryn find her own way through her grief and I would not do that. I said she was my friend for twenty years and I wasn’t letting go and I wasn’t giving up. He said for me Caryn came first. And I thought about it and said yes. He said he didn’t want to be second in any woman’s life.

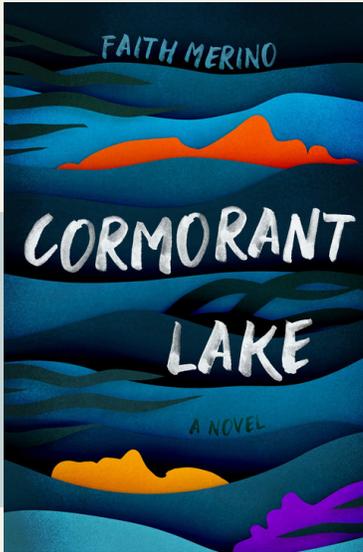
ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Former Theodore Roethke Writer in Residence at the University of Washington, award-winning novelist Laura Kalpakian (**THE GREAT PRETENDERS**; **THE MEMOIR CLUB**, etc.) has taught memoir writing courses for more than two decades. Her writing guide, **MEMORY INTO MEMOIR**, will be published with University of New Mexico Press in 2021.

Cormorant Lake

Blackstone Publishing (World English), February 2021

A deeply atmospheric and eerie story for fans of Eowyn Ivey and Karen Russell



“Wonderfully dark and slippery, I loved how unsettled it made me feel” –
Claire Fuller, author of *Swimming Lessons* and *Bitter Orange*

“Filled with sharp observations, *Cormorant Lake* is a novel about families, both chosen and otherwise, in which broad realities exist in nice contrast with fantastical elements” – Foreword Reviews

“Rough, touching and quietly encouraging ... a very strong, even terrific, debut novel.” – Daniel Woodrell, author of *The Death of Sweet Mister*

On a cold November night, Evelyn Van Pelt snatches her roommate’s two little girls from their beds and flees to the remote northwestern town she left fourteen years earlier. As she grapples with guilt over what she has done, and tries to reconcile her wild independence with the responsibilities of parenthood, she reconnects with the two women who raised her: her foster mother Nan, and her biological mother, Jubilee. But by coming home, she has set in motion a series of events that will revive a decades-old tragedy that haunts the town of Cormorant Lake and will lead her to confront the high cost of protecting her secrets.

Praise

“Faith Merino’s debut novel is engrossing, haunting, and beautifully written. Fans of any genre will find something to enjoy here.” – San Francisco Book Review

“Atmospheric and haunting, *Cormorant Lake* is about the wreckage of mothers, shame and regrets that shadow our choices. It is the things that pulse in unseen places and what caring for others asks us to sacrifice. Yes, read it!” – Bookstalker blog

“Haunted and haunting, determined to bend time and reality, to never look away, this novel is brave and true and satisfyingly scary, as it reveals us to ourselves.” – Pam Houston, author *Deep Creek: Finding Hope In The High Country*

“*CORMORANT LAKE* tells a story of generations of women who live without men. Parenting, husbanding, repairing their homes, caring for the sick and weak. Desiring. This darkly compelling debut mirrors a woman’s nightmares, and equally, her realities.” – Katherine Forbes Riley, author of *The Bobcat*, longlisted for The Center for Fiction’s First Novel Prize

Agent: Pamela Malpas/JLLA

Materials Available: e-galley

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Excerpt from CORMORANT LAKE

First she got Lila, whose lean little goat legs dangled as Evelyn carried her through the house that smelled like ashes, lighter fluid, and sulfur—a cutting chemical sharpness. Underneath: a fungal human smell. Yeasty.

She laid Lila down in the back seat, folding the three-year-old's legs and tucking the blanket around them before she went back for Mora. She lifted the baby—a little over a year old, maybe more—out of the torn playpen, carefully wrapping her in blankets to keep her asleep on the way out. Her hair was still wet and Evelyn smelled it deeply as she laid her down next to Lila. Mora's eyes only briefly fluttered before she rolled onto her side, pressed her face into the back of the seat, and shuddered out a long sigh.

Evelyn got in the car and drove away from the house.

A movement outside the window caught her eye—a body flashing through moonlight—and she saw the flicker of red hair, a bony elbow, a bare shoulder gleaming lunar blue before rolling backward into the shadows.

Evelyn caught her breath and lurched away from the window. Her blood vessels tightened and throbbed in her temples as she ran outside and shouted her name.

“Erin!”

The ferns and pine spray rolled in the moonlight, but there was no other sound. Evelyn looked at the road behind her. Empty. No car, no Erin.

Wiping the cold sweat from her forehead, she went back up the porch steps. She didn't see the bird on the door until she was turning the knob—but there it was: headless, twisted, feathers savaged, pierced through with the tiny nail that Nan kept in the door to hang her Christmas wreath on every year.

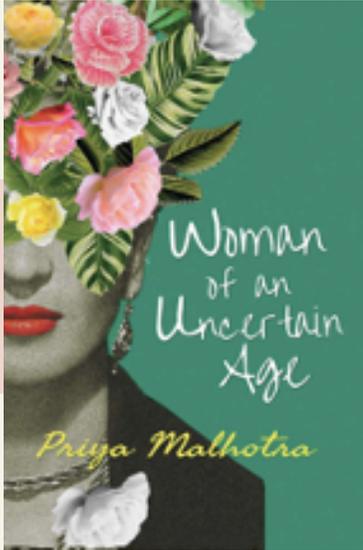
ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Faith Merino studied English at University of the Pacific and New York University. Her short fiction has appeared in *The Indiana Review* and *Crab Orchard Review*, among others, and won awards and honorable mentions from *The Moth*, *The Jabberwock Review*, *Glimmer Train*, and *Boulevard*. A former journalist, she lives in Sacramento, California with her husband, sons, and dogs.

PRIYA MALHOTRA

Woman of an Uncertain Age

Bedazzled Ink, September 2021



Woman of an Uncertain Age shows how even at the age of fifty, you can still have a lot of growing up to do.

Woman of an Uncertain Age is a coming of age story, but the coming of age is reversed, since Naina is well past her youthful years.

Set in New York, Woman of an Uncertain Age is the fascinating story of Naina, a fifty-something Indian woman trying to find herself after her husband's death. After the death of her husband, Naina moves from the suburbs to New York City, begins working in an art gallery and falls in love with her daughter's boyfriend. After some more romantic missteps, Naina ultimately finds herself, and surprises herself as an independent woman, beholden to no one.

Agent: Jennifer Lyons

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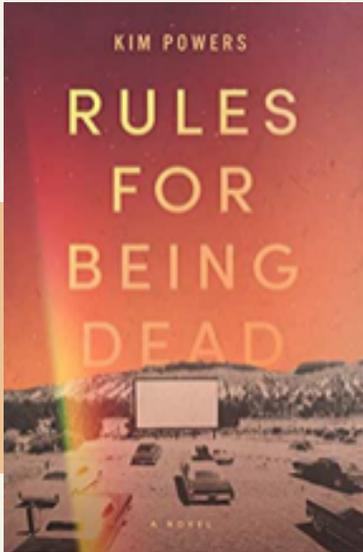
ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Priya Malhotra has worked as a journalist for about 12 years and is currently a New York editor of Asian Art News and World Sculpture News magazines. I have contributed to numerous publications including Newsday, Time Out New York, The Times of India, The Japan Times and Cosmopolitan. Priya's short stories have been published in online journals including Moondance and viewsunplugged. She has a Bachelor's degree in English literature from Kenyon College and a Master's degree in journalism from Columbia University.

KIM POWERS

Rules for Being Dead

Blair, August 2020



“Kim Powers’s haunting and spellbinding novel *Rules for Being Dead* reads like an intoxicating blend of the best of Shirley Jackson, Alice Sebold and Fannie Flagg.” —STARRED Review, Shelf Awareness

Featured on Good Morning America

It’s the late 1960s in McKinney, Texas. At the downtown theater and the local drive-in, movies—James Bond, *My Fair Lady*, *Alfie*, and *Dr. Zhivago*—feed the dreams and obsessions of a ten-year-old Clarke who loves Audrey, Elvis, his family, and the handsome boy in the projector booth. Then Clarke loses his beloved mother. And no one will tell him how she died. No one will tell her either. She is floating above the trees and movie screens of McKinney, trapped between life and death, searching for a glimpse of her final moments on this earth. The shattering answer haunts *Rules for Being Dead*, Kim Powers’ darkly humorous and incredibly moving novel.

An unlikely love child of Mark Childress’ *Crazy in Alabama* and Anne Seibold’s *The Lovely Bones*, this book pays homage to the movies of the 1960s and vividly conjures the machinations of small-town Texas with a wicked sense of humor and an unexpected tenderness. Native Texan Kim Powers brings a steady hand to all proceedings, including a ghostly mother, an evil stepmother, a clueless father, and a full cast of misfits—all orchestrated within a lively plot which is anything but predictable.

Praise

“Blending late-’60s nostalgia with a supernatural mystery, Powers’s emotionally complex tale gets the job done just right.” —Publishers Weekly

“Well drawn and superbly authentic” —Michael Graves, *Lambda Literary*

“Every season or so, there’s a book that comes seemingly out of the blue and manages to knock our socks off. Rules for Being Dead is that book for the summer of 2020. Honestly this should not have come as a surprise. Kim has written several other excellent books, both fiction and nonfiction, and is a senior writer for ABC News’ 20/20, so there’s little doubt that he knows his way around a story. But what makes Rules for Being Dead so powerful is the blend of genres: it’s a mystery, it’s a coming-of-age story, it’s a literary work, as well as the very tone is a mixture of funny and bittersweet. It’s nostalgic, it tugs at your heartstrings, and it’s a celebration of vintage movies....If you threw The Lovely Bones, Cinema Paradiso, and Edmund White’s A Boy’s Own Story into a blender and mixed them all up, you’d end up with something that looks a little bit like Rules for Being Dead, but even that doesn’t fully express the bounty of treasures within this book. I certainly hope that this is the little book that everyone’s talking about this season.” —Kristopher Zgorski, Bolo Books

“We all know a few rules about being alive but who knew that the afterlife could command equal attention. Kim Powers’ Rules for Being Dead caught me by surprise with its intrigue, wit, and nostalgia. His incredibly moving novel takes you back home—no matter where, or when, you grew up. It reminds us that mothers and fathers can never be as perfect as we want them to be, and that childhood secrets can still haunt into adulthood. Get ready to be captivated by a lonely boy who’s lost in the world of ’60s movies and true crime and employs both of them to try to solve the ultimate mystery: what caused his mother’s mysterious death? And one more thing? Despite its title, this book is about learning how to live, with every breath you take.” —Deborah Roberts, ABC News

Correspondent

Agent: Jennifer Lyons

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ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Kim Powers is the author of the critically acclaimed memoir *The History of Swimming* (a Barnes & Noble “Discover” book and Lambda Literary Award finalist for Best Memoir), the novel *Capote in Kansas: A Ghost Story*, and the newly released thriller *Dig Two Graves*. He’s currently the senior writer for ABC’s 20/20, and for his work at ABC News has received the Emmy, Peabody, and two Edward R. Murrow Awards. He also wrote the screenplay for the festival-favorite indie film *Finding North*. In 2007, he was selected as one of the “Out 100”—Out Magazine’s most influential gays and lesbians in the country. A native Texan, he received an MFA from the Yale School of Drama. He lives in Manhattan and Asbury Park, NJ, where he is the host of the wildly popular *BookFlix*, an ongoing series of monthly interviews with authors and filmmakers. Past guests have included Junot Diaz, Robert Olen Butler, Hannah Tinti, and many others.

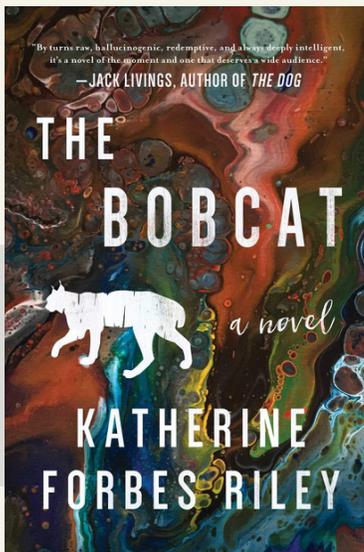
KATHERINE FORBES RILEY

The Bobcat

Arcade (World English), June 2019

Longlisted for Center for Fiction's First Novel Prize

A debut novel for fans of Emily Fridlund, Sara Baume, and Claire Louise Bennett



“Teeming with lush imagery and mystical settings, and brimming with alluring magical realism, Riley’s tale is a beguiling journey of discovery and recovery.” – Booklist

“Many novels feature wild animals as central metaphors, but not many novels achieve the congruity of *The Bobcat* ... It’s a slight volume, but a rich read.” - Lithub

“[Alongside Howard Norman] Riley is newly arrived, but shows every sign she will join Vermont’s outstanding contemporary authors.” – Brattleboro Reformer

Art student Laurelie is in retreat from human connection: following a traumatizing sexual assault, she avoids personal interactions, instead experiencing the world through her imaginative, cartoon-like drawings. One day while exploring the countryside that surrounds her college campus, she encounters an injured bobcat – and the hiker who has been following it for hundreds of miles. In the hiker and his companion Laurelie recognizes something as wary and reclusive as she is herself. This man possessed of weird, almost supernatural abilities will help Laurelie find her way back to the world. As Laurelie moves toward recovery and reconnection she is also finding her voice as an artist, and a sense of purpose, maybe even a future, comes into sight. Then a little boy goes missing in the woods, a rift opens between the girl and the stranger who has become her lover, and their powerful connection is broken.

Praise

“*The Bobcat* is a heartfelt, revelatory, and moving novel about how the way back to our humanity and to the humanity of others leads us sometimes through the animal world. Surprising, precise, and full of love for the immeasurable possibilities of the human heart.” – Alexander Chee, author of *How to Write an Autobiographical Novel*

“By turns raw, hallucinogenic, redemptive, and always deeply intelligent, it’s a novel of the moment and one that deserves a wide audience.” – Jack Livings, author of *The Dogs*

“The Bobcat is an intensely lyrical, deeply involving novel about what it means to be a human animal. Blending gorgeous nature imagery, philosophical curiosity, and a story as insistent as a heartbeat, this book will grab you by the scruff of the neck and won’t let go.” --Jennie Yabroff, author of *If You Were Here*

“An unpredictable yet lovely exploration into healing trauma and building trust... Artists, nature lovers and survivors will find something here to inspire hope and healing.” *Ms. magazine*

“This inherently compelling, deftly scripted, and thoroughly entertaining page turner of a read is unique and unreservedly recommended.” – *Midwest Book Review*

Agent: Pamela Malpas/JLLA

Materials available: e-ARC, finished book

Rights sold: World English rights sold to Arcade. All translation rights are available.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

A Ph.D. in computational linguistics and M.S.E. in computer and information science, Katherine Forbes Riley was a 2017 visiting writer at The American Academy in Rome. Her work has appeared in *HCE Review* (the literary magazine of University College Dublin), *Paper Nautilus*, *decomp*, *Fiction Southeast* and many other literary journals. She lives in Vermont.

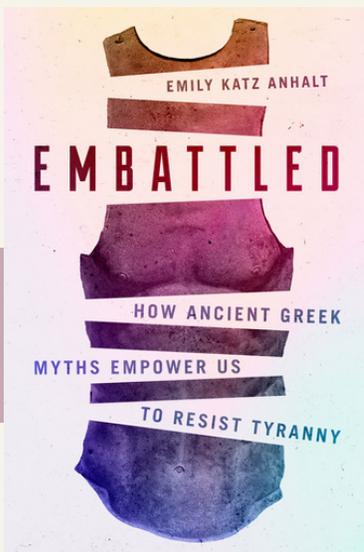
Adult Non-Fiction

EMILY KATZ ANHALT

Embattled

How Ancient Greek Myths Empower Us to Resist Tyranny

Forthcoming from Stanford University Press



If we seek to defeat despotism in all its toxic forms, ancient Greek epic poems and tragic plays point the way.

As authoritarianism gains ground in the twenty-first century, the ancient Greeks' unprecedented movement in the opposite direction (in the eighth through fifth centuries BCE) provides a vital counter-model. Democracy did not exist as a concept until the Greeks coined the word and tried the experiment, but the idea did not emerge out of a vacuum. Over many centuries, ancient Greek epic and tragic poetry promoted gradual changes in social and political attitudes, encouraging the rejection of autocracy and the development of broader forms of political participation, exemplified most famously by the Athenian democracy of the fifth century BCE.

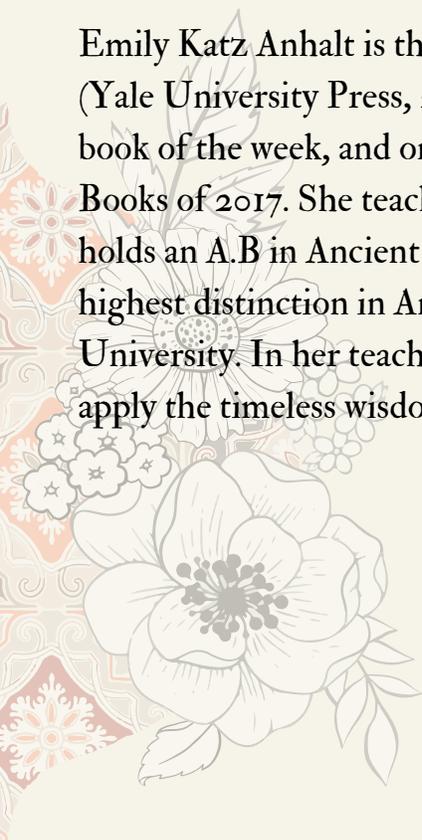
Defeating Despotism addresses non-specialist readers concerned about the world's trajectory today but unaware of the valuable assistance provided by ancient Greek epic and tragic poetry. Anhalt retells and then interprets tales from the *Iliad* (c. 750 BCE), *Odyssey* (c. 700 BCE), Aeschylus' *Oresteia* (458 BCE), and Sophocles' *Antigone* (c. 443 BCE). Narratives follow the Greek originals as closely as possible in an effort to transmit insights visible to someone reading the texts in Greek. Interpretive sections identify the tales' ability to fortify us against the abuse of power whenever and wherever it threatens and in whatever form it takes.

By prompting discussion and debate, these stories increase the potential of democratic government to restrain destructive passions and to balance tribal allegiances with civic responsibilities. If we seek to defeat despotism in all its toxic forms, ancient Greek epic poems and tragic plays point the way.

Agent: Jennifer Lyons

Rights sold: World English rights sold to Stanford

ABOUT THE AUTHOR



Emily Katz Anhalt is the author of *Enraged: Why Violent Times Need Ancient Greek Myths* (Yale University Press, 2017.) It was reviewed in the *NY Times*, was a *Times Higher Education* book of the week, and one of Emily Wilson's picks for the *Times Literary Supplement's* Best Books of 2017. She teaches Classical Languages and Literature at Sarah Lawrence College. She holds an A.B in Ancient Greek from Dartmouth College (summa cum laude, Phi Beta Kappa, highest distinction in Ancient Greek), and an M.A. and Ph.D in Classical Philology from Yale University. In her teaching and research, Anhalt endeavors to remain loyal to the text and to apply the timeless wisdom of ancient Greek thought to the challenges of today.

JAMES DELBOURGO

The Dark Side of Collecting

W. W. Norton & Co

A Roman emperor who has sex with a statue. A melancholy prince who stares at his art for hours on end. Obsessives who spend their life's fortune on a single flower. An aristocrat who kills his pet tortoise by studding its shell with gems. Imperial collectors who act like butchers. Archaeologists who descend into madness after raiding ancient tombs. Serial killers who collect their victims' remains. People who buy Nazi memorabilia. People who collect disposable product packaging. A billionaire art collector who refuses to pay his grandson's ransom. A suburban housewife who hoards her own excrement.

Some collectors buy art; others hunt specimens. Collectors shape our taste, what we value and what we know. Sometimes god-like visionaries, they dream of collecting entire worlds. But what is the dark side of collecting?

In 2018, the World Health Organization classified Hoarding Disorder – or "extreme collecting" – as a global phenomenon. Enter the hoarder: an addict whose urge to accumulate verges on insanity. Yet the hoarder is only the latest incarnation of a figure who recurs throughout history: the obsessive collector driven not by sublime reason but a dangerous passion. Who are the mad collectors that came before the hoarder and what is the nature of their madness? From ancient tyrants to the decadents of the fin de siècle, from Freudian "psychos" to hoarders and megalomaniac billionaires, *The Dark Side of Collecting* explains how we came to see the collector as the embodiment of our deepest fears -- social, sexual and political -- about possessing things.

Agent: Jennifer Lyons

Materials Available: Proposal and writing samples

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ABOUT THE AUTHOR

James Delbourgo is recognized as the leading expert on the life and career of Sir Hans Sloane and a leading academic authority on the history of science and imperialism in the early modern world. Trained in the histories of science and empire at the University of Cambridge and Columbia University, and a Fellow of the Royal Historical Society, he is a tenured Associate Professor of History at Rutgers University, having previously taught at McGill University, Montreal, where he directed the program in History and Philosophy of Science. His first book, *A Most Amazing Scene of Wonders: Electricity and Enlightenment in Early America* (Harvard University Press, 2006), was awarded Harvard's Thomas J. Wilson Prize for the best first book in any field, and was runner-up for the Canadian Historical Association's Wallace K. Ferguson Prize.

FAWAZ GERGES

Taking Back the Middle East

Possible Pasts and Future Opportunities

Forthcoming from Yale University Press

The Middle East has always enticed people in the West, whether opportunists engaged in petro-diplomacy or Hollywood producers animating tales from 1,001 Arabian Nights. The magic and the madness, the romance and the poignancy, the colossal suffering and the breathtaking promise – these depictions of the Middle East cry out for a credible alternate history. Not one marred by the doublespeak for lies coined ‘alternative facts,’ but rather an ambitious and original vision based on a rich historical understanding that steers clear of both dystopia and utopia.

Alternate histories spark the public’s interest by providing a deeper look, far below the surface, at the true factors at play in a situation. The Middle East is a region where and about which conspiracies abound. There is a near unquenchable public thirst for a truthful and unbiased account of the recent history of the Middle East. Every dramatic turn of events, from the killing of Jamal Khashoggi in the Saudi consulate in Turkey to the corruption charges against Benjamin Netanyahu in Israel, increases the desire for understanding and the demand for a credible account.

The stakes rise above any intellectual exercise. After all, the Middle East already has a near-universal grip on the public consciousness, evoking often contradictory emotions: hatred and desire, revulsion and fascination, fear and embrace. With its massive global influence, the region could trigger a nuclear Armageddon or live up to its name as the Holy Land where major faiths coexist. No project is more pressing than steering the course to peace.

TAKING BACK THE MIDDLE EAST picks up on denied historical opportunities, demonstrating how they might have been seized – and in the process, offers invaluable lessons for today.

Agent: Jennifer Lyons

Rights sold: World English sold to Yale

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Fawaz A. Gerges is Professor of International Relations at the London School of Economics and Political Science (LSE), and holder of the Emirates Professorship in Contemporary Middle East Studies. He regularly speak on many news channels such as the CNN and the BBC. He was also the inaugural Director of the LSE Middle East Centre from 2010 until 2013. Gerges' most recent books are *The New Middle East: Protest and Revolution in the Arab World* (Cambridge University Press, January 2014) and *Obama and the Middle East: The End of America's Moment?* (Palgrave Macmillan, September 2013). On the ten-year anniversary of 9/11, Oxford University Press released Gerges' book, *The Rise and Fall of Al Qaeda*.

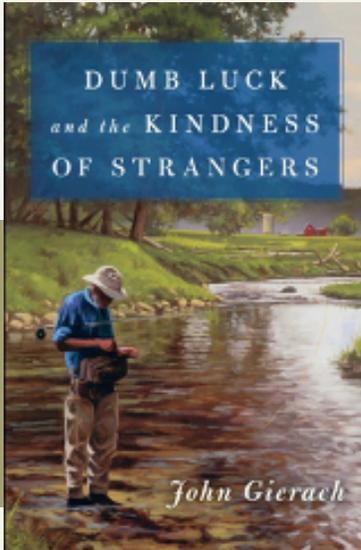


JOHN GIERACH

Dumb Luck and the Kindness of Strangers

Simon & Schuster (World English), June 2020

Now in its second hardcover printing



The New York Times calls fly fishing “the new birdwatching” – the latest old-fashioned pastime to gather an enthusiastic new set of followers

“Poetic ... drolly insightful ... readers will be profoundly moved.” – Kirkus

Gierach’s new book takes the author’s trademark approach to discoursing on philosophy and life, with room left over for some good fishing. While detailing the unique frustrations of night fishing, or fishing for “muskie” – the “fish of a thousand casts”, he takes on the difference between “lumpers” (of ideas) and “splitters” (of hairs), and the false distinction between the “redneck” blue-collar bass fishermen and the snooty philosopher fly-fisherman. Gierach, a writer considered an exemplar of the “counter-culture”, describes the defining characteristic of the drop-out/hippie culture as a rejection of the prevailing culture, not an organized movement toward a defined alternative. In finding that neutral ground where men of different ideologies may peacefully fish together, he may have found the answer to our divisive times...

Praise

“John Gierach gives us fishing as the alert life; people, places and rivers seen by a first-rate noticer whose amiable disposition never alarms the prey.” —Tom McGuane

“John Gierach is an original, which is why each new book is welcomed by so many anglers as joyously required reading. Pardon the interdisciplinary reach, but Gierach’s stories are rather like McCartney’s music—on the one hand vitally fresh, yet on the other hand instantly familiar. Don’t worry about how he does that—just keep reading.” — Paul Schullery, author of *The Fishing Life* and *A Fish Come True*

“Gierach has earned the following of fellow writers and legions of readers who may not even fish but are drawn to his musings on community, culture, the natural world, and the seasons of life. Poetic ... drolly insightful ... readers will be profoundly moved.” – Kirkus

“There are three kinds of people who fish, Gierach proposes: those who read and obey the rules, those who read the rules so to get away with breaking them, and those who ignore the rules entirely, out of ‘a pioneer’s sense of entitlement’. Gierach’s inviting, down-to-earth and humorous work shares a deep love of fly fishing and the ways it can be a metaphor for life.” – Publishers Weekly

“Et au milieu coule une rivière, sans le moralisme sulpicien des «choses simples». Il y a, chez John Gierach, une désarmante franchise. Toutes ses notations sont à l’avenant, précises, sensualistes, capables de vous passionner pour le choix d’un appât ou les mœurs des truites cutthroats.” – Le nouveau magazine littéraire

Agent: Pamela Malpas/JLLA

Materials Available: finished book; e-galley

Rights sold: World English rights sold to Simon & Schuster. Option holder Gallmeister Editions (France)

Excerpt from **DUMB LUCK AND THE KINDNESS OF STRANGERS**

Night fishing is always a moving target. At first it’s just a pleasant early evening with the day’s heat finally beginning to lift and the sunlight going off the water, retreating up the east bank until just the crowns of the pines are lit like flames at the tips of a forest of matches ... by the time we spotted the first rises the surface of the river had already turned silver.

~

We were not only fishing under a full moon that week but there was a total eclipse on one of our nights there, so we all piled outside after supper to watch it. The moon was floating above the tall white pines along the Chippewa River, scudding out of fast moving clouds often enough for a good, clear view. This was predicted to be a blood moon, but at the crucial moment when the shadow of the earth completely covered the moon, it turned a kind of dusty rose color that was too delicately pretty to make me think of spilled blood.

~

The eddy was nearly half a mile long, so when we reached the bottom we’d simply row back to the top where the trout had been rested for an almost an hour and start again. Fished in this stealthy, unhurried way, that one small reach of river was all anyone could ask for and it seemed more like recognizable fly-fishing, which I’ve always thought should be less like a mugging than a con game.

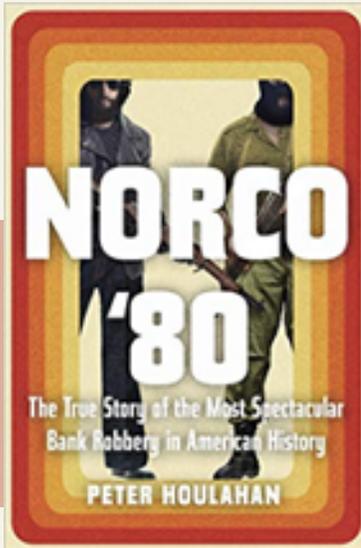
ABOUT THE AUTHOR

John Gierach, “the voice of the common angler” (The Wall Street Journal), is America’s most beloved writer on the art and sport of fly-fishing. Winner of the National Outdoor Book Award, and the PEN New England/Cerulli Award for Sport Writing, shortlisted for the 2015 PEN/ESPN Award for Literary Sport Writing, and member of the Fly Fishing Hall of Fame, he has published twenty books of essays and instruction on the sport, and all of them remain in print. He lives in Colorado.

PETER HOULAHAN

Norco '80

Counterpoint Press, Fall 2019



In the spirit of *KILLERS OF THE FLOWER MOON* and *THE ONION FIELD*, *NORCO '80* is a gripping true crime account of one of the most violent bank heists in U.S. history.

Peter Houlahan, a debut author, tells the story of how five heavily armed young men -- led by an apocalyptic born-again Christian -- attempted a bank robbery that forever changed the face of U.S. law enforcement. Part action thriller and part courtroom drama, *NORCO '80* transports the reader back to the Southern California of the 1970s, an era of predatory evangelical gurus, doomsday predictions, megachurches, and soaring crime rates, with the threat of nuclear obliteration looming over it all. A group of landscapers transforms into a murderous gang of bank robbers armed to the teeth with military-grade weapons. Their desperate getaway turned the surrounding towns into war zones. When it was over, three were dead and close to twenty wounded; a police helicopter was forced down from the sky, and thirty-two police vehicles were destroyed by thousands of rounds of ammo. The resulting trials shook the community to the core, raising many issues that continue to plague American society today: from racism and the epidemic of post-traumatic stress disorder within law enforcement to religious extremism and the militarization of local police forces.

Optioned for film to a major director and production company.

Praise

“For a first-time writer, Houlahan sure knows how to dramatize a scene. His cinematic treatment of the robbery itself reads like wildfire, the fatal shootout with the police ends in colorful chaos, and the huge manhunt through San Bernardino National Forest conducted by “Hunt & Kill Teams” is a nail-biter.” -- *New York Times*.

“With his first book, Houlahan proves himself to be an astonishingly gifted writer, breathing urgent life into a true story that still resonates today. *Norco '80* is a fascinating true-crime account that seems likely to be one of the best nonfiction books of the year.” -- *NPR*.

“One of the best true crime accounts ever written. Harrowing, incisive, and important. But also? A goddamned thrill ride.” -- Tod Goldberg, author of **GANGSTERLAND**.

Agent: Jeff Ourvan

Rights sold: All translation rights available

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Peter Houlahan holds an MFA from Sarah Lawrence College. In his career as an Emergency Medical Technician, he has contributed to a number of articles related to his profession, including the impact of PTSD on first responders. A native Southern Californian, Houlahan now lives in Fairfield County, Connecticut.



LAURA KALPAKIAN

Memory Into Memoir: A Handbook for Writers

University of New Mexico Press, Autumn 2021

Draws from 25 years of experience teaching the craft of memoir.

Includes specific guidelines for research, scene setting, structure, voice.

Offers approaches to complicated material such as dialogue.

MEMORY INTO MEMOIR explores the process of turning fluid memory into prose on the page. The techniques and strategies suggested in this book draw on twenty-five years of experience teaching memoir at the University of Washington, Western Washington University, writers' conference workshops and independent developmental edits for writers of memoir, fiction and creative non-fiction, many of whom have gone on to publish.

Each chapter provides specific instructions, guides, exercises, and examples, referring to classic memoirs as models. There are chapters for the writer who is at a loss for where to start, and chapters for the writer who is revising, already committed to a larger undertaking. There are chapters for authors of family memoirs written for children and grandchildren, for specialized memoirs, and for those writers for whom the very act of picking up the pen is a victory over adversity.

Taken together these chapters guide writers through the whole process, struggling drafts to polished prose. The tone of MEMORY INTO MEMOIR is encouraging, informative, authoritative without being didactic, serious about the writing, using examples leavened with humor.

Agent: Pamela Malpas/JLLA

Materials Available: edited manuscript

World English rights sold to University of New Mexico Press. All translation rights available.

Excerpt from MEMORY INTO MEMOIR

Everyone has memories, but not everyone writes a memoir. Writing a memoir is not simply an act of preservation, but an act of invention because the fabric of the past is never clean, hemmed, pressed, folded, and stacked chronologically. The past comes to us in fragments finished off by imagination. The memoir best emerges at the confluence of memory and imagination: memory calls on imagination to mend the ragged ends, to create continuity over the frayed parts. In transforming amorphous memory into narrative memoir, the writer puts a literary structure over the past, hoping to both capture and evoke, one act propelling the other.

Why write a memoir? Writing a memoir does not pin the past to the page in some sort of static taxidermy; on the contrary, the memoir strives to make it vivid, available, to make it memorable for that matter. Writing a memoir returns the writer—and the reader—to those old traditions of storytelling, the sorts of tales once related by elders round ancient campfires, stories rich in lore and significance, a sort of treasury of who we are, and how we came to be, what we owe to our ancestors (even if it's not gratitude). Writing a memoir allows you to endow memory with significance, with structure and voice. Writing a memoir focuses your past, energizes long-lost voices, brings them into the hearing of the reader. Writing a memoir means revisiting, reviving family stories. Writing a memoir can be an act of courage or gratitude or a plea for understanding, even a bulwark against loss. Writing a memoir means reconsidering what you thought you already knew. Writing a memoir does not create the past, or even re-create the past, but it makes the past legible.

[from Chapter 10: Researching the Memoir] SCENT

There are other kinds of research that cannot actually be “done,” but that exist as experiential moments to be harnessed in service of the memoir. Along with music, scent is, for me, a most powerful connector to the past. But scent, unlike music, cannot be found online.

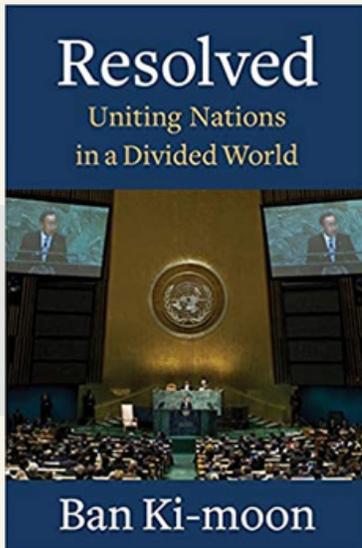
However, it can be predicted. You know that every spring lilacs will bloom and that that particular scent will inevitably carry you back to....wherever you spent a certain spring. (The pain or glory of that moment might diminish after years. Might not.) The smell of a Christmas tree, that's indelible, not perhaps for a single Christmas, but the cyclical revisiting of Christmas. The scent of cheap suntan lotion, or chlorine in a swimming pool, barbecue smoke, or night-blooming jasmine is redolent of summer. When you wander into these seasonal moments, give yourself leave to succumb to them. Make notes. Remember.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Former Theodore Roethke Writer in Residence at the University of Washington, award-winning novelist Laura Kalpakian (*THE GREAT PRETENDERS*; *THE MEMOIR CLUB*, etc.) has taught memoir writing courses for more than two decades.

Resolved

Columbia University Press June 2021



Can we not only imagine, but actually build a better world? A farsighted global statesman not only says yes—but shows us how. -- Graham Allison, author of *Destined for War: Can America and China Escape Thucydides's Trap?*

Born just one year before the United Nations itself, Ban Ki-moon came of age with the world body. His earliest memories are haunted by the sound of bombs dropping on his village and the sight of fires consuming what remained. At six years old he fled with his family, trudging for miles in mud-soaked shoes, suffering from incessant hunger, and wondering how they would survive—until the United Nations rescued them. And after he experienced its lifesaving mission firsthand, this organization would become his life's calling.

Resolved is Ban Ki-moon's personal account of his ten years at the helm of the world body at a time of historic turmoil and promise. Ban performed what has been called "the world's most impossible job" with a natural ability to relate to the poor and struggling people the organization was created to serve and a genuine belief in its capacity for global transformation. He explores past flashpoints—including the September 11 terrorist attacks, engaging the Kim dynasty in North Korea, the Paris climate accords, the Ebola outbreak, the Arab Spring, and managing the UN's relationship with the United States—to offer the story of diplomatic lessons learned. Freed from the diplomatic constraints that come with the job, he offers a frank and bracing look at the people and events that shaped our era as well as a piercing analysis of what lies ahead.

Praise

Ban Ki-moon has had an extraordinary and inspirational life, not least given the extreme poverty in which he grew up. You admire his ambition, tenacity and patience in achieving global consensus for the incredibly important Sustainable Development Goals. But you also appreciate the golden thread that weaves its way through this book—his humanity. A true public servant, whose compassion shines throughout. -- Tony Blair, former Prime Minister of the United Kingdom

This is a warm, readable account by Ban Ki-moon of his 10-year term as UN Secretary General, and of his aim from the beginning to prioritize the climate crisis. At a time of increasing skepticism, his humble humanitarian concern and intense dedication should do much to restore confidence in the core values of the UN. -- Mary Robinson, former President of Ireland, former UN High Commissioner for Human Rights and Chair of The Elders

Agent: Jennifer Lyons

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ABOUT THE AUTHOR

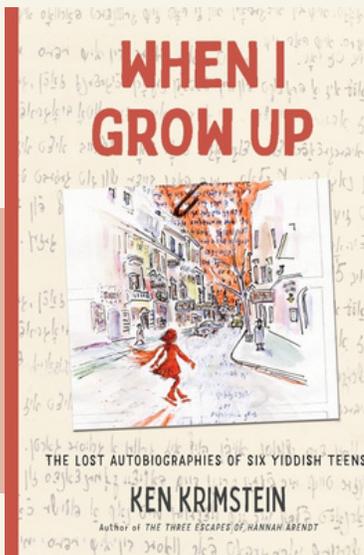
Ban Ki-moon is a South Korean politician and diplomat who served as the eighth Secretary-General of the United Nations from January 2007 to December 2016. Before becoming Secretary-General, Ban was a career diplomat in South Korea's Ministry of Foreign Affairs and in the United Nations. His priorities have been to mobilize world leaders around a set of new global challenges, from climate change and economic upheaval to pandemics and increasing pressures involving food, energy and water. He has sought to be a bridge-builder, to give voice to the world's poorest and most vulnerable people, and to strengthen the Organization itself.

KEN KRIMSTEIN

When I Grow Up

The Lost Autobiographies of Six Yiddish Teenagers

Bloomsbury Spring 2021



From the prize-winning author of *The Three Escapes of Hannah Arendt* comes a deeply resonant, graphic depiction of newly discovered stories of Jewish youths--from a world on the cusp of a nightmare.

YA Crossover Potential

In the 1930s, as war loomed in the distance, a group of Jewish scholars in Eastern Europe--guided by the humanistic philosophy that “he who holds the future, holds the youth”--established an Autobiography Competition for Jewish youth. Three of these competitions were held, in 1932, 1934, and 1939, in which more than 600 texts were collected. The prizes for the final competition were never awarded, as on the very day they were scheduled to be given out, the Nazis invaded Poland, and everything changed. These autobiographies became some of the first casualties of World War II.

In an unbelievable turn of events, a trove of hidden Jewish documents was recently found in a Lithuanian church cellar--including hundreds of newly discovered autobiographies of Jewish youth. It's as if hundreds of Anne Frank stories have suddenly come to light. Each of these autobiographies are charged with a wrenching poignancy, as the authors have no idea what horror is soon to come. Ken Krimstein, with his remarkable talent for breathing life into his characters, elevates six of these forgotten youths from historical ghosts to real human beings. And surrounding it all is the incredible story of the autobiography competition, the loss of the documents to Nazi invaders, and their eventual, unexpected discovery.

Beautifully illustrated, riveting, heart-wrenching, and timely, Ken Krimstein's newest work opens a time capsule to a forgotten moment, long since thought lost to history.

Agent: Jennifer Lyons

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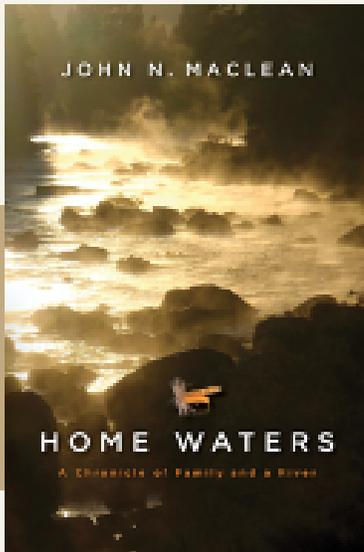
ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Ken Krimstein is the author of *The Three Escapes of Hannah Arendt*, a graphic book from Bloomsbury, which sold to eleven countries. See backlist addendum for full list. He has published cartoons in the *New Yorker*, *Punch*, the *Wall Street Journal*, and more. He has written for *New York Observer's "New Yorker's Diary"* and has published pieces on websites including *McSweeney's Internet Tendency*, *Yankee Pot Roast*, and *Mr. Beller's Neighborhood*. He is the author of *Kvetch as Kvetch Can*, and teaches at De Paul University and the School of the Art Institute of Chicago. He lives in Evanston, Illinois. *Einstein*, a graphic bio, is in progress.



Home Waters

Custom House, June 1, 2021



A universal story about the power of place to shape families: In the spirit of his father's beloved classic *A River Runs Through It*, comes John N. Maclean's meditation on fly fishing and life along Montana's Blackfoot River, where four generations of Macleans have fished, bonded, and drawn timeless lessons from its storied waters.

“A moving memoir... Lovers of literature and nature will be captivated by this heartfelt tribute to place and family.” - Kirkus Reviews

“The trout completed its curve in an undulating, revelatory sequence. A greenish speckled back and a flash of scarlet on silver along its side marked it as a rainbow. One slow beat, set the hook ... in those first seconds I felt a connection to a fish of great size and power.”

So begins John N. Maclean's remarkable memoir of his family's century-long love affair with Montana's majestic Blackfoot River, which his father, Norman Maclean, made legendary in *A River Runs Through It*. Now himself past the age that his father published his bestselling novella, Maclean returns annually to the simple family cabin that his grandfather built by hand, still in search of the fish of a lifetime. When he hooks it at last, decades of longing promise to be fulfilled, inspiring John, reporter and author, to finally write the story he was born to tell.

A book that will resonate with everyone who feels deeply rooted to a place, *Home Waters* is chronicle of a family who claimed a river, from one generation to the next, of how this family came of age in the 20th century and later as they scattered across the country, faced tragedy and success, yet were always drawn back to the waters that bound them together. Here are the true stories behind the beloved characters fictionalized in *A River Runs Through It*, including the Reverend Maclean, the patriarch who introduced the family to fishing; Norman, who balanced a life divided between literature and the tug of the rugged West; and tragic yet luminous Paul (played by Brad Pitt in Robert Redford's film adaptation), whose mysterious death has haunted the family and led John to investigate his uncle's murder and reveal new details in these pages.

A gorgeous chronicle of a family and the land they call home, and a celebration of the art of fishing, Maclean's memoir beautifully portrays the inextricable ways our personal histories are linked to the places we come from—our home waters.

Praise

From KIRKUS REVIEWS – STARRED review:

A moving memoir of a family's love affair with the Blackfoot River in Montana, made famous by *A River Runs Through It*, the novella written by Maclean's father, Norman.

As the author of this book makes clear, the Blackfoot River holds a particularly special place in Maclean family history. In 1909, the Rev. John Norman Maclean, John's grandfather, moved to Missoula to become pastor of the First Presbyterian Church. A decade later, he got a permit to build "the family cabin, a simple log affair...at Seeley Lake, fifty-five road miles northeast of Missoula on the edge of what is now the million-plus acre Bob Marshall Wilderness." The cabin has now been in the family's hands for "five generations and counting." Beginning with his earliest memories of fly-fishing with his father on the river, Maclean passionately explores the history of his family's life in the region as they became well-respected members of the community and developed an abiding love for the land. The author also digs into deeper history, noting that for centuries, Native peoples "wore a trail along the river as they traveled through the Blackfoot Valley and across the Continental Divide, out and back to the buffalo hunting grounds in the Missouri River country to the east." Maclean then follows the path of Meriwether Lewis, who, along with his men and a few Nez Perce guides, passed through the area after separating from William Clark. The view from Lewis and Clark Pass, writes the author, is one of the most breathtaking in Montana, a place where the landscape remains "much as it appeared centuries ago...a land with a long-term memory." In addition to patient nature writing and an introspective approach to the literary inspiration he has received from the land, Maclean discusses the genesis of Norman's famous book and mystery surrounding the death of one of the characters.

Lovers of literature and nature will be captivated by this heartfelt tribute to place and family.

Agent: Jennifer Lyons

Rights sold: World English sold to HarperCollins

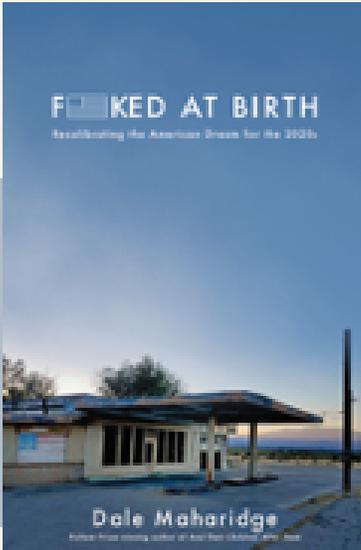
ABOUT THE AUTHOR

John N. Maclean is an award-winning author and journalist. He spent thirty years as at the Chicago Tribune, most of that time as a Washington correspondent. After leaving the Tribune, Maclean wrote five nonfiction books about wildland fire that are considered a staple of fire literature as well as training material for firefighters. Maclean is the son of Norman Maclean, author of *A River Runs Through It*. The younger Maclean, an avid fly fisherman, lives in Washington, D.C., and at a family cabin in Montana.

Fucked At Birth

Recalibrating the American Dream for the 2020s

Unnamed Press, January 2021



“This is a book ripped from the headlines, from Black Lives Matter to recently thriving downtowns stripped of office workers and service workers. Those catching the brunt of it all, those with the steepest hills to climb, may have been fucked at birth. But for everyone, as Maharidge observes, the feeling of safety is folly. A sharp wake-up call to heed the new Depression and to recognize the humanity of those hit hardest.” —Kirkus Reviews, STARRED REVIEW

“Dale Maharidge takes us coast to coast in 2020, down highways along which he first reported decades ago. His honed class awareness—unrivaled among contemporary journalists—reveals that today’s confluent health, economic and social crises are the logical conclusion to generations of unvalidated, untreated despair in a wealthy nation. Forget hollow commentary from detached television news studios in New York City. Fucked at Birth is the truth.” —Sarah Smarsh, *Heartland: A Memoir of Working Hard and Being Broke in the Richest Country on Earth*

Pulitzer prize-winning journalist Dale Maharidge has spent his career documenting the downward spiral of the American working class. Poverty is both reality and destiny for increasing numbers of people in the 2020s and, as Maharidge discovers spray-painted inside an abandoned gas station in the California desert, it is a fate often handed down from birth.

Motivated by this haunting phrase—“Fucked at Birth”—Maharidge explores the realities of being poor in America in the coming decade, as pandemic, economic crisis and social revolution up-end the country. Part raw memoir, part dogged, investigative journalism, *Fucked At Birth* channels the history of poverty in America to help inform the voices Maharidge encounters daily. In an unprecedented time of social activism amid economic crisis, when voices everywhere are rising up for change, Maharidge’s journey channels the spirits of George Orwell and James Agee, raising questions about class, privilege, and the very concept of “upward mobility,” while serving as a final call to action. From Sacramento to Denver, Youngstown to New York City, *Fucked At Birth* dares readers to see themselves in those suffering most, and to finally—after decades of refusal—recalibrate what we are going to do about it.

Praise

“In urgent, devastating prose, Dale Maharidge chronicles his road trip across a nation in freefall, meeting left-behind Americans who are surviving not only the pandemic but other deadly contagions he’s diagnosed in decades of reporting: income inequality, institutional racism, creeping fascism, hard-heartedness and fear. For all who seek the cure, *Fucked at Birth* is essential reading.” —Jessica Bruder, author of *Nomadland: Surviving America in the Twenty-First Century*

Agent: Jennifer Lyons

Rights sold: World English sold to Unnamed

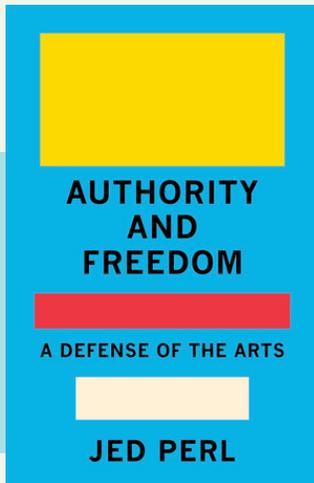
ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Pulitzer Prize Winning Dale Maharidge is the author of eleven books, including, most recently, *Snowdens Box: Trust in the Age of Surveillance*, and *Bringing Mulligan Home: The Other Side of the Good War*. He won the Pulitzer Prize in 1990 for his book *And Their Children After Them*, has been a Nieman Fellow at Harvard and held residencies at Yaddo and MacDowell colonies. He teaches at Columbia Journalism School and lives in New York.

Authority and Freedom

A Defense of the Arts

Knopf, Summer 2021



“For years Jed Perl has been covering the art world with tremendous empathy and unsparing accuracy. His ability to recognize the traditional forms of art behind their continual transmutation has made his an almost solitary, essential voice.”

John Ashbery

From one of our most widely admired art critics comes a call to reaffirm the independence of all the arts – musical, literary, and visual -- and celebrate their unique and unparalleled power to excite, disturb, and inspire us, even in a time of social, political, and economic turmoil.

As more and more people look to the arts to promote a particular idea or ideology, whether radical, liberal, or conservative, Jed Perl reminds us that the arts have their own laws, logic, and power, which transcend the concerns of any particular moment. “Art’s relevance,” he writes, “has everything to do with what many regard as its irrelevance.” In a book that embraces creative spirits as varied as Mozart, Michelangelo, Jane Austen, Henry James, Picasso, and Aretha Franklin, Perl argues that the true power of art lies in its ability to free us from fixed definitions, coordinates, or categories. He insists on the inherently uncategorizable nature of the artistic imagination. Reaching for inspiration to artists and thinkers ranging from W. H. Auden to Hannah Arendt, Perl insists that works of art aren’t blunt statements beamed out into the world but adventuresome dialogues, simultaneously dispassionate and impassioned, which emerge from a creative spirit’s engagement with the tools and traditions of a particular medium. He reaffirms the fundamental sense of vocation that gives artists their purpose and focus. Whether we’re experiencing a poem, a painting, or an opera, it’s the interplay between authority and freedom—what Perl calls “the lifeblood of the arts”—that fuels the imaginative experience. This is a book that everybody who cares about the arts and their future will want to read.

Praise

“All artists are critics but very few critics are artists. Jed Perl is one of those few.” Fran Lebowitz

“Jed Perl—a man of refined discernment, great humanity, and unbending honesty—may be the finest American critic at work today in any field.” The Atlantic

“Shows the incisiveness and pluck of George Bernard Shaw writing about music or Pauline Kael reviewing movies.” The San Francisco Chronicle

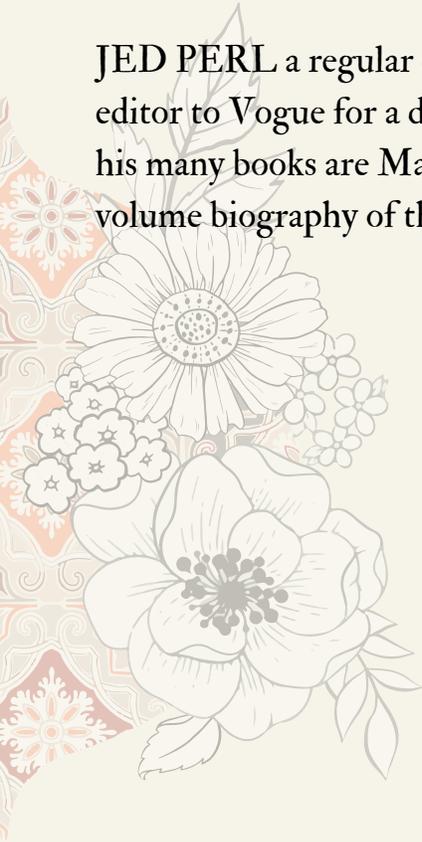
“Few people write about art as beautifully, one might say as tenderly, as Jed Perl” The Wall Street Journal

Agent: Jennifer Lyons

Rights sold: US, Canada, and Philippines rights sold to Knopf

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

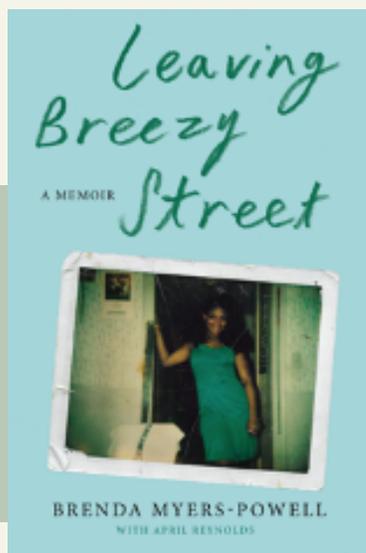
JED PERL a regular contributor to The New York Review of Books, was a contributing editor to Vogue for a decade and the art critic of The New Republic for twenty years Among his many books are Magicians and Charlatans, Antoine’s Alphabet, New Art City, and a two-volume biography of the sculptor Alexander Calder. He lives in New York City.



BRENDA MYERS-POWELL WITH APRIL REYNOLDS

Leaving Breezy Street

Henry Holt June 2021



Belonging on the shelf with Jeannette Walls's *The Glass Castle* and Ishmael Beah's *A Long Way Gone*, *Leaving Breezy Street*—the stunning account of Brenda Myers-Powell's brutal and beautiful life—is a critical addition to the American canon.

Fourteen years old, poor, Black, mother dead, two babies to feed and clothe, and a grandmother who is not full of motherly kindness, to put it mildly. What money-making options are open to a girl like Brenda Myers?

When Breezy, as she came to call herself, hit the streets of Chicago as a prostitute in 1973 she was barely a teenager. But she was pretty and funny as hell, and determined to support her daughters and make a living. For the next twenty-five years, she moved across the country, finding new pimps, parties, drugs, and endless, profound heartache. And she also—astonishingly—managed to find the strength to break from a brutal world and not only save herself but save future Breezys.

Great, compelling memoirs can bring us into worlds that have been beyond our comprehension and make us “get it.” What these books tell us is NOT that we can all move beyond the lives into which we were born. The lesson is that everyone deserves to be truly seen by others and offered a path forward.

Agent: Jennifer Lyons

Rights sold: World English. The documentary was sold to Showtime

ABOUT THE AUTHORS

Brenda Myers-Powell has been advocating for victims of sex trafficking since 1997. She is the co-founder and executive director of the Dreamcatcher Foundation and has sat on the board of numerous organizations. In 2020, she was selected to serve on the U.S. Advisory Council on Human Trafficking. Brenda's work with Dreamcatcher and victims were the focus of the Sundance Award-winning documentary Dreamcatcher.

April Reynolds currently teaches creative writing at Sarah Lawrence College. Her first novel, *Knee-Deep in Wonder* won the Zora Neale Hurston/Richard Wright Foundation Award and the PEN American Center: Beyond Margins Award. Her second book, *The Shape of Dreams*, is forthcoming.



FRANK SCHAEFFER

Love Takes Courage

Health Communications, Fall 2021

In *Love Takes Courage* Schaeffer's makes the bold argument that we should focus on living meaningful lives rather than making money and seeking validation from our jobs.

FALL IN LOVE offers a passionate political, social, and lifestyle “blueprint” for changes millions of us know are needed to rebalance our work lives with thriving relationships. Even before everything was disrupted by COVID-19 (not to mention by Trump), millions of Americans were already questioning capitalism’s “values.” We were already challenging the idea that your job defines you. We already knew something was wrong. Loneliness, frustration, and alienation were already on the rise. Even the most successful of us felt too busy, too preoccupied, and too distracted to enjoy what we intuitively know are life’s greatest rewards: vibrant relationships, family life, connection to others, involvement in our community, and the thrilling experience of love.

FALL IN LOVE builds a well-researched and entertaining bridge to living happier lives and to a better future. *FALL IN LOVE* shows us that based on a better understanding of our evolutionary selves, we can thrive in family life and in our work life too. But to do both joyfully—and at the same time—depends on rediscovering the priority of relationships, connections, community, and love.

Agent: Jennifer Lyons

Rights sold: World English to Health Communications

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

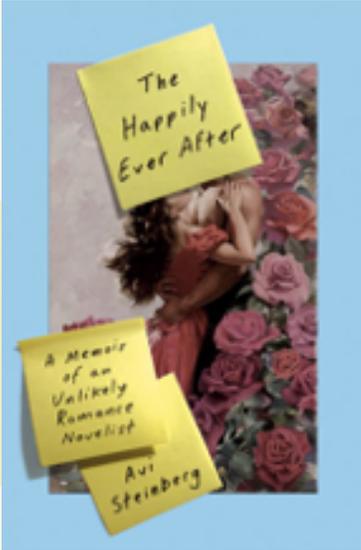
Frank Schaeffer is a New York Times bestselling author of more than a dozen fiction and nonfiction books. Frank is a survivor of both polio and an evangelical/fundamentalist childhood, an acclaimed writer who overcame severe dyslexia, a homeschooled and self-taught documentary movie director, and a feature film director of four low-budget Hollywood features that he describes as “pretty terrible.” He is also an artist with a loyal following of collectors who own many of his oil paintings. He has spoken at dozens of major universities, libraries, and museums from the Hammer in LA to Harvard, Princeton, and Yale. Frank’s three semiautobiographical novels about growing up in a fundamentalist mission, Portofino, Zermatt, and Saving Grandma, have been translated into nine languages. His video blogs posted on Facebook have had millions of views.

Frank is a guest commentator on MSNBC with Joy Reid and has been frequently interviewed by Rachel Maddow. He has also been interviewed on almost every major TV news show from Oprah to the Today show to 20/20. His memoir *Crazy for God* is used as a textbook in the history of religion classes and courses in comparative religion and sociology in public and private universities. In her extended NPR interview with Frank about his memoir *Crazy for God*, Terry Gross called it out as a very important book. Frank’s book *Keeping Faith: A Father-Son Story about Love and the United States Marine Corps* was an NYT bestseller and was described by the commandant of the Marine Corps as a new “Marine family Bible.” Frank is a progressive activist and in the 2018 midterm elections spoke on behalf of 33 Democratic congressional candidates in 17 states.

The Happily Ever After

A Memoir of an Unlikely Romance Novelist

Nan A. Talese, Summer 2020



“With a journalist’s perspective and a penchant for wit and storytelling, Steinberg crafts a compelling narrative of his quest to find love and to write postdivorce.”
—Library Journal

A memoir about writing a novel about searching for love.

Is romance dead? Is that why there are so many vampires in today’s romance novels? When Avi Steinberg’s love life took a grim turn, he did what he always does: He consulted his old books, the usual cast of Great (Very Serious, Usually Male) Authors. And he immediately realized that these books were part of the problem. Instead, he began to read romances, the books he--like so many of us--have been conditioned to dismiss as “trashy.” What he discovered was a genre that was tremendously diverse and daring, along with a vast network of innovative writers who were keeping the novel as alive as ever. His own relationship problems, he realized, came down to a failure of his imagination. And so he set out on a quest to write and publish a romance novel and to find real-life love.

A hybrid of memoir, travelogue, and critical essay, *The Happily Ever After* chronicles an adventure in a brave new world of literature. Steinberg offers a report from the trenches of romance, moving between major industry conferences and writing groups at the local bar as he works and reworks his romance novel idea. He reveals the inside scoop from a major romance publishing house, crisscrosses the country meeting mysterious ghostwriters and Fabio’s great unsung rival, and offers a running take on the fascinating history of romance writing, the genre that invented, and continues to reinvent, the modern novel. Along the way he meets many readers, each of whom sheds light on why we are so fascinated by--and phobic of--romance fiction and what the vitality and fractiousness of our biggest genre says about us.

With quirky wit and disarming honesty, Steinberg captures an often misunderstood literary culture and learns, from its devoted practitioners, how to take the *Happily Ever After* seriously in his own life.

Praise

“Journalist and humorist Steinberg (*The Lost Book of Mormon*) documents his plunge into the world of romance writing in this wittily observed account . . . Steinberg’s romp through ‘the vast empire of Romancelandia’ yields sharp insights into the genre’s influences—he finds a gothic subtext to much romance, from *Northanger Abbey* to *Fifty Shades of Grey*—and sometimes surprising observations about its gender dynamic.”

Agent: Jennifer Lyons

Rights sold: World English to Nan A. Talese

Grace Paley: A Life

Farrar, Straus and Giroux, Summer 2023

Grace Paley: A Life is the first complete biography of Grace Paley, a critical figure in mid-century American and Jewish-American literature, in the feminist movement, in radical left politics, and in the intersections between these streams. Paley is an acknowledged master of the American short story, and her body of work has influenced generations of writers.

Written in full cooperation with the Grace Paley Estate – and with exclusive access to Paley’s own (unexamined) archive – and drawing on unpublished material from dozens of other archives, on hundreds of original interviews, on the latest Paley scholarship, and on a thorough investigative effort, this biography is the first comprehensive survey of the material record, and the most complete account of Grace Paley’s life and work.

Paley’s literary method and sensibility, her open and deep engagement with her immediate surroundings, make her life a story of her times. A biography of Grace Paley, therefore, is also a story of post-war America. It is story about New York City, about the bohemian West Village before and during the early wave of gentrification, and also about radical communities outside of the city – in her case, in Vermont. (Few would be surprised that Paley’s story converges with Bernie Sanders.) It is about radical politics, the Women’s Liberation movement, and about second-wave feminism and its successes and failures. Behind these literary and political projects was an actual person, struggling to live and pay bills, to pay taxes or to refuse to pay taxes, to keep her children safe, to cultivate relationships, and to make decisions and manage the consequences. *Grace Paley: A Life* is about all of these Grace Paleys. It is about a person who lived and died not long ago, but ultimately it is about a body of stories and poems and essays that continue to speak as urgently as ever.

Agent: Jennifer Lyons

Rights sold: World English to FSG

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

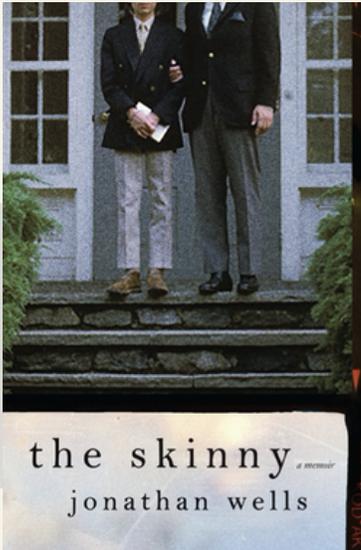
Avi Steinberg is the author of three memoirs about books and literature: *Running the Books* (2010), *The Lost Book of Mormon* (2014), and *The Happily Ever After* (2020), all published by Nan A. Talese and Knopf. This work has received wide acclaim, translated into five languages, and named Best of the Year by *San Francisco Chronicle* and the *New Yorker*, among others. He is currently a contributor to the *New Yorker*'s 'Culture Desk,' and a regular features writer for the *New York Times Magazine*. Steinberg currently lives in Ann Arbor, Michigan, with his partner, a professor of Russian literature, and their one-year-old, a professor of eating apple slices. He is a Harvard graduate, and as of 2018, he has served as lecturer, in literary nonfiction, at the University of Michigan's Creative Writing Program.



The Skinny

ZE Books (World English), August 2021

The launch of ZE Books was announced in Publishers Weekly: “a hip version of the Library of America”



A literary memoir of body image and coming of age (from an uncommon male perspective) and a story of secrets and betrayals: JR Ackerley’s *My Father and Myself* meets Roxane Gay’s *Hunger* with the unconventional parenting of Adrienne Brodeur’s *Wild Game*

An examination of “toxic masculinity” through the lens of a father-son relationship.

“The Skinny” is the story of a boy’s struggle to establish his independence and identity against a rigid definition of manhood.

When Jonathan was eleven years old, and being bullied at school, his father became fixated on Jonathan’s size and – especially – his weight. He devised diets and exercises of his own creation; when those failed, he sought medical solutions for his son.

When none of these approaches had yet made a man out of Jonathan, his father concluded that Jonathan must be homosexual. To “correct” this, he sent his son to a prostitute – Jonathan was fourteen. Ingrid “specialized in young boys”. The arrangement was made with the explicit instruction that Jonathan’s mother must never be told; it would be a secret between father and son.

The memoir sees Jonathan from boyhood through adulthood and marriage as he wrestles with the effects of an unconventional education in life and intimacy, until at last he is able to extricate himself from his father’s influence to determine his own identity as a man, a husband, and a father.

Praise

“Layer by layer, Jonathan Wells unravels the father-son knot in ways both troubling and uplifting. I was gripped by *THE SKINNY*, a remarkable portrait of the most tangled of relationships, written with a poet’s eye and grace.”—Roger Cohen, author of *The Girl from Human Street: A Jewish Family Odyssey*

“*THE SKINNY* is a deeply haunting account of the lasting effects of emotional and physical bullying. I couldn’t put it down.” – Besty Bonner, author of *The Book of Atlantis Black*

“In precise and poetic prose, Jonathan Wells explores the intersection of wealth, sexuality, and body image, peeling back the glittering layers of privilege ... in a culture of toxic masculinity” – Adrienne Brodeur, author of *Wild Game*

Agent: Pamela Malpas/JLLA

Materials Available: edited manuscript due March 2021

Rights sold: World English sold to ZE Books. All translation rights available

Excerpt from *THE SKINNY*

My father gave me a lecture about reading as if that was something else I was doing wrong. Cocking his head slightly to the side, he said, “I’ve been watching you and I think you’re taking too long on each page. Are you reading every word?” he asked. I looked at him surprised that reading didn’t mean that each word counted.

“Is that wrong?” I asked.

“Well, not wrong exactly but who has time for the little words. Do you really need ‘the’ ‘and’ ‘if’ or helper verbs? Does the tense really matter? Those won’t give you the gist of it. They can be skipped and you won’t be missing much.”

He examined me to make sure I was following him closely. “No articles, prepositions or pronouns is my motto. They just get in the way and jumble up the sentence. You need to get to the meat as quickly as possible. It’s like when I take you to a restaurant. Do I say eat the vegetables and potatoes first? No, I say, ‘Eat what I’m paying for.’ I’m paying for the meat. Ignore the vegetables. If you take all of those bitty words out, you’ll reach the same conclusion. I call it vertical reading. Horizontal is for scholars.

You don’t want to be a horizontalist, do you?”

I sat behind my father’s black leather desk in his black leather chair as if by sitting there his authority would be conferred on me. I looked at the small brass plaque that he had kept on his desk for as long as I’d been visiting. It said, “If you can’t dazzle them with knowledge, baffle them with bullshit.” It faced out so every visitor could read it.

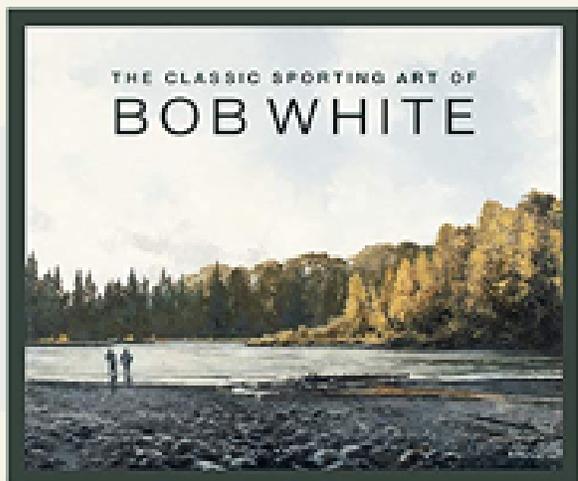
ABOUT THE AUTHOR

The former director of Rolling Stone Press (the book publishing division of Rolling Stone magazine), Jonathan Wells is a poet and prose writer. He has published three poetry collections: *Train Dance*; *The Man With Many Pens*; and *Debris*. His poems have appeared in *The New Yorker*, *Ploughshares*, *AGNI* and *The Academy of American Poets Poem-A-Day* program, among others.

BOB WHITE

The Classic Sporting Art of Bob White

Stackpole Books (US/Canada), September 2020



Bob White's work hangs in the private and corporate collections of sportsmen on six continents, with clients including Oscar de la Renta and Michael Douglas

Bob White's work has been featured in all of the premier magazines and journals of fly-fishing, including Trout, Fly Rod & Reel, and Gray's Sporting Journal.

A collection of the author's best work, paintings which have established Bob White as a classic sporting artist of the highest caliber. The collection includes 200 images in oil, watercolor, pencil, and ink of fresh and saltwater fly fishing, upland and waterfowl hunting, game fish and birds, sporting dogs in field and portrait, and landscapes from Alaska to Patagonia and points between. Along with the art pieces are annotated descriptions explaining the inspiration, history, and location of the works and occasional sidebars describing the artist's technique and process.

Praise

"Bob's fish have the same authenticity as Frederick Remington's horses – not just anatomically correct, but unquestionably alive - and his caught fish look caught, that is, momentarily puzzled and defeated ... one of his most compelling fish portraits is of a brightly-colored six-inch brook trout resting momentarily in a fisherman's wet palm like a piece of jewelry." —John Gierach

Agent: Pamela Malpas/JLLA

Materials Available: watermarked PDF

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ASCENSION
oil on canvas
22 x 18 inches

A dear friend of mine, the Swedish photographer Per-Anders Nilsson, captured an extraordinary image of a rainbow trout rising to a fly. I found the water itself, with all of the reflected color and light, interesting enough to paint. The trout ascending through the surface made the image irresistible. Immediately recognizable and attractive, it is, nonetheless, an immensely complicated image to visually understand. Rendering the scene accurately with paint on canvas was a challenge. The part of the trout that is above the surface of the water is highly reflective, like the distorted water around it. The portion of the trout which is underwater but near the surface is in perfect focus, and the deeper below the surface the fish recedes, the more it fades away into ghost-like distortion. I asked my friend for permission to use his photograph as reference material, and he granted my request. Per-Anders and his lovely wife, Åsa, were presented with a reproduction of the painting when they visited us the following summer.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Bob White is one of the most recognized artists of the outdoor sporting world. He has contributed artwork and essays to more than thirty books and been published in every outdoor sporting magazine of merit. Among his many credits and accomplishments, he was inducted into the Freshwater Fishing Hall of Fame as Legendary Artist in 2009, was Fly Rod & Reel's Guide of the Year in 1988 and is featured as guide and artist on ESPN's Fly Fishing the World and Fly Fishing America. He lives in Marine-on-St.-Croix, Minnesota.

Children's

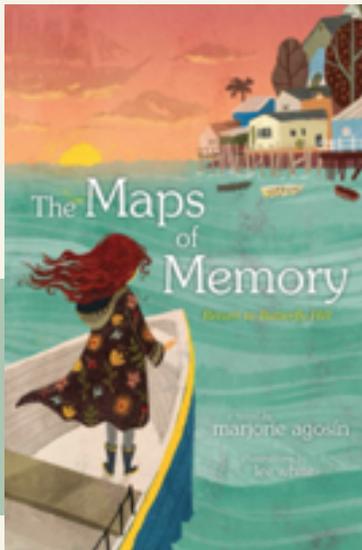
MARJORIE AGOSIN

The Maps of Memory

Return to Butterfly Hill

Atheneum/Simon and Schuster September 2020

Sequel to the critically acclaimed novel *I Lived on Butterfly Hill*



Return to Butterfly Hill focuses on the presence of magic in everyday life, the importance of memory and the enduring power of love and resilience.

“Captivating and exquisite.” -- Kirkus, starred review

During Celeste Marconi's time in Maine, thoughts of the brightly colored cafes and salty air of Valparaíso, Chile, carried her through difficult, homesick days. Now, she's finally returned home to find the dictatorship has left its mark on her once beautiful and vibrant community.

Celeste is determined to help her beloved Butterfly Hill get back to the way it was and to encourage her neighbors to fight to regain what they've lost. More than anything, Celeste wishes she could bring back her best friend, Lucilla, who was one of many to disappear during the dictatorship. Celeste tries to piece together what happened, but it all seems too big to fix—until she receives a letter that changes everything.

When Celeste sets off on her biggest adventure yet, she'll uncover more heartbreaking truths of what her country has endured. But every small victory makes a difference, and even if Butterfly Hill can never be what it was, moving forward and healing can make it something even better.

Agent: Jennifer Lyons

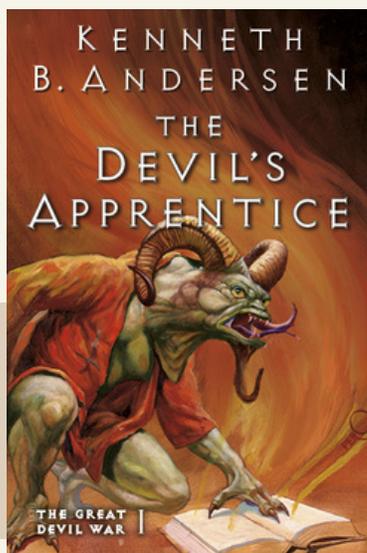
Rights sold: Word English to Atheneum

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Marjorie Agosín is the Pura Belpré Award–winning author of *I Lived on Butterfly Hill*. Raised in Chile, her family moved to the United States to escape the horrors of the Pinochet takeover of their country. She has received the Letras de Oro Prize for her poetry, and her writings about—and humanitarian work for—women in Chile have been the focus of feature articles in *The New York Times*, *The Christian Science Monitor*, and *Ms. magazine*. She has also won the Latino Literature Prize for her poetry. She is a Spanish professor at Wellesley College.

KENNETH BØGH ANDERSEN

The Devil's Apprentice: The Great Devil War I



Book 1 in the multi-award winning series. Published in more than 10 countries and movie rights optioned!

Winner of the Karen Blixen award, the ORLA award, and the BMF award.

The Great Devil War is a gripping and humorous tale about good and evil seen from an unusual perspective, wrapped in a fast-paced plot full of adventure, mystery, and engaging characters, and set in a world beyond your wildest dreams...

Philip is a good boy, a really good boy, who accidentally gets sent to Hell to become the Devil's heir. The Devil, Lucifer, is dying and desperately in need of a successor, but there's been a mistake and Philip is the wrong boy.

Lucifer has no other choice than to begin the difficult task of training Philip in the ways of evil. Philip is terrible at being bad, but when he falls in love with the she-devil Satina and experiences the powerful forces of love and jealousy, the task becomes much easier.

Philip finds both friends and enemies in this odd, gloomy underworld--but who can he trust, when he discovers an evil-minded plot against the dark throne?

Agent: Jennifer Lyons

Rights sold: Movie rights are sold (a three season tv series is in development). English audio rights are sold.

Previously published in Denmark, Norway, Germany, Iceland, Spain, Turkey, Poland, Russia, Czech Republic, and Slovakia.

PRAISE FOR THE DEVIL'S APPRENTICE

"The Devil's Apprentice is thrilling, fascinating, profound and still somehow funny all the way through. I loved this book and this world." - Michael Grant, author of the Gone series. "The worst employer in the world just offered you a job you absolutely don't want and yet it truly is a job to die for. Kenneth Anderson's THE DEVIL'S APPRENTICE is thrilling, fascinating, profound and still somehow funny all the way through. I loved this book and this world"

“One of the most unique YA Fantasy books I’ve read. Highly enjoyable.” ***** Bite Into Books

“Impressive world building through vivid imagery. The plot is complex enough to satisfy teenagers and adults (of all ages). Highly compelling.” - LoveReading

“Imagine if Tim Burton wrote Harry Potter.” ***** - Goodreads

“Andersen’s exceptional plotting ensures that its sequel will be irresistible. An enjoyably disturbing supernatural tale.” - Kirkus Reviews

AWARDS

- The Danish School Library Award (The Devil’s Apprentice)
- The Orla Award * 2 (The Devil’s Apprentice & The Die of Death)
- The BMF Award (which is the Danish Bookshop’s Children’s Book Award) (The Wrongful Death)
- The Blixen Award (given for the entire series)

The Devil’s Apprentice is currently a finalist in Book Bloggers’ Novel of the Year Award

SHARON G. FLAKE



The Life I'm In

Scholastic January 2021

Sequel to the Coretta Scott King Award-winning novel *The Skin I'm In*

A vivid and important depiction of the struggles of too many teens. — Kirkus Reviews, Starred Review

The powerful and long-anticipated companion to *The Skin I'm In*, Sharon Flake's bestselling modern classic, presents the unflinching story of Char, a young woman trapped in the underworld of human trafficking.

My feet are heavy as stones when I walk up the block wondering why I can't find my old self.

In *The Skin I'm In*, readers saw into the life of Maleeka Madison, a teen who suffered from the ridicule she received because of her dark skin color. For decades fans have wanted to know the fate of the bully who made Maleeka's life miserable, Char.

Now in Sharon Flake's latest and unflinching novel, *The Life I'm In*, we follow Charlese Jones, who, with her raw, blistering voice speaks the truths many girls face, offering insight to some of the causes and conditions that make a bully. Turned out of the only home she has known, Char boards a bus to nowhere where she is lured into the dangerous web of human trafficking. Much is revealed behind the complex system of men who take advantage of vulnerable teens in the underbelly of society. While Char might be frightened, she remains strong and determined to bring herself and her fellow victims out of the dark and back into the light, reminding us why compassion is a powerful cure to the ills of the world.

Sharon Flake's bestselling, Coretta Scott King Award-winning novel *The Skin I'm In* was a game changer when it was first published more than twenty years ago. It redefined young adult literature by presenting characters, voices, and real-world experiences that had not been fully seen. Now Flake offers readers another timely and radical story of a girl on the brink and how her choices will lead her to either fall, or fly.

Praise for *The Skin I'm In*:

Coretta Scott King/John Steptoe Award for New Talent

Publishers Weekly Author to Watch

“Flake’s debut novel will hit home...echoes universal brink-of-adolescence concerns.”-Publishers Weekly, starred review

“Funny and clever...will pull readers into a world too rarely represented in middle-grade fiction.”-Booklist

“Young teens will appreciate Flake’s authenticity.”-School Library Journal

Praise for the Life I’m In

Not for the faint of heart, Flake’s novel treats Char’s experiences with vivid transparency. Char’s voice is harrowing as the complexities behind her life and relationships are peeled back, exposing the pain behind her actions and a steadfast resolve to do better. Despite everything she encounters, Char is not alone, as her relationships with both Maleeka and Ms. Saunders evolve in unanticipated and heart-wrenching ways, signaling to readers that it’s never too late to try and turn things around.

— Melanie Marshall, BOOKLIST, Starred Review

In this candid, riveting companion to her 1998 novel *The Skin I’m In*, Coretta Scott King Medalist Flake explores the psyche of Maleeka’s former tormentor, 16-year-old Black orphan Charlese “Char” Jones . . . Strong first-person narration shows the deterioration of Char’s attitude and self-esteem as she struggles to survive. Representing the plight of many, Char’s narrative presents a cruel underbelly of society; returning readers will relish Maleeka’s and Miss Saunders’s reappearances, but any reader can appreciate this novel’s indelible impact. — PUBLISHERS

WEEKLY, Starred Review

Agent: Jennifer Lyons

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Book Three

John-John loves Maleeka. If he could, John-John would write that on every wall in the hood. Only, there’s one little problem. Maleeka’s boyfriend is John-John’s best friend. To make matters worse, Caleb kept John-John from killing himself once. A braggart with plenty of jokes, John-John uses humor to deflect the pain of his parent’s divorce, his love for Maleeka, and his fear over a neighbor who bullies him. However, John-John isn’t the only one navigating choppy waters. Maleeka is faced with a pregnancy scare and a high school internship where she’s treated differently than other interns. Caleb has to choose between the girl he loves and boarding school. And Char, a former enemy of John-John and Maleeka’s, must go to court and testify against the man who assaulted her.

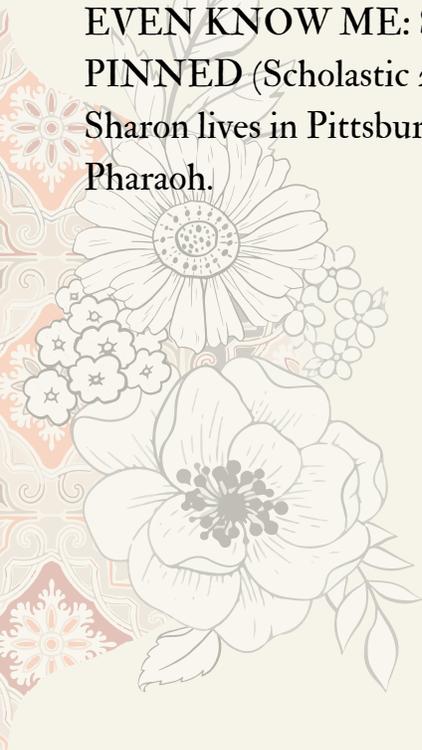
In this novel, *The Skin I’m In* crew is back together again. As high school students, they lean on one another, love deeply and bare their souls. The thread that connects them this time is John-John. Will he ever have what he wants, Maleeka, parents that can live in harmony and stay divorced, and freedom from his neighbor’s abuse? John-John isn’t sure about anything these days.

Agent: Jennifer Lyons

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ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Winner of the John Steptoe Award for New Talent in 1991 and the Coretta Scott King Award, Sharon Flake's debut novel *THE SKIN I'M IN* (Hachette 1991) is a bestseller and has sold one million copies and counting. Flake is also the author of *MONEY HUNGRY* (Hyperion 2001), *BEGGING FOR CHANGE* (Disney Press 2007), *WHO AM I WITHOUT HIM?: SHORT STORIES ABOUT GIRLS AND THE BOYS IN THEIR LIVES* (Disney/Hyperion 2007), *BANG!* (Disney/Hyperion 2007), *THE BROKEN BIKE BOY AND THE QUEEN OF 33RD STREET* (Disney/Hyperion 2009), *YOU DON'T EVEN KNOW ME: STORIES AND POEMS ABOUT BOYS* (Disney/Hyperion 2011), *PINNED* (Scholastic 2012), and *UNSTOPPABLE OCTOBIA MAY* (Scholastic 2015). Sharon lives in Pittsburgh, where she enjoys gardening, line dancing, and walking her dog, Pharaoh.



KATHERINE JOHNSON

Reaching for the Moon

Atheneum 2019

The “hidden figure” Katherine Johnson’s autobiography for younger readers



Katherine Johnson’s story was made famous in the bestselling book and Oscar-nominated film *Hidden Figures*. Now in **REACHING FOR THE MOON** she tells her own story for the first time, in a lively autobiography that will inspire young readers everywhere

The inspiring autobiography of NASA mathematician Katherine Johnson, who helped launch Apollo 11.

As a young girl, Katherine Johnson showed an exceptional aptitude for math. In school she quickly skipped ahead several grades and was soon studying complex equations with the support of a professor who saw great promise in her. But ability and opportunity did not always go hand in hand. As an African American and a girl growing up in an era of brutal racism and sexism, Katherine faced daily challenges. Still, she lived her life with her father’s words in mind: “You are no better than anyone else, and nobody else is better than you.”

In the early 1950s, Katherine was thrilled to join the organization that would become NASA. She worked on many of NASA’s biggest projects including the Apollo 11 mission that landed the first men on the moon.

Praise

“Johnson artfully weaves in the heart of how African American communities have survived and advanced—through “self-help and sacrificing” for the next generation. Her writing style is comfortable and conversational, like a visit over tea that you wish would never end. From a long-lived American legend, this rich volume is a national treasure.” -- Kirkus Reviews, starred review

“Johnson’s story is captivating, informative, and inspiring. She neatly and accurately weaves in significant historical events that had profound effects on our country and the African American community, including the murder of Emmett Till, lunch counter sit-ins, and school integration. Larger ideas such as white supremacy are broken down with ease for younger readers. . . . Johnson’s story is easy to follow and hard to put down. Highly recommended for purchase in any school library.” -- School Library Journal, starred review

“[Johnson’s] loose narrative style feels conversational, which will draw in readers, and an interesting afterword compares the movie *Hidden Figures* to her actual experience. . . . Kids will be excited to learn more about her journey.” -- Booklist

“Alternately warmly personal and coolly observant, Johnson is always clear in her explanations. Black-and-white photos illustrate this highly accessible memoir by a groundbreaking woman.” -- Publishers Weekly

“In this most authentic, highly personal account, Katherine writes her own story at the age of 100! . . . Katherine’s intelligent, softly confident voice helps readers get to know her personally. Johnson makes her own story available for tweens, hoping to inspire the next generation to always do their best.” -- School Library Connection

Agent: Jennifer Lyons

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ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Katherine Johnson (1918–2020) was a former NASA mathematician whose work was critical to the success of many of their initiatives, including the Apollo program and the start of the Space Shuttle program. Throughout her long career she received numerous awards, including the nation’s highest civilian award, the Presidential Medal of Freedom, from President Barack Obama.

Estates

James Purdy

James Purdy born in 1914, was the author of *Malcolm, The Nephew, Eustace Chisholm* and the *Works* and many other novels and short story collections. He lived in New York until his death in 2009. A finalist for the National Book Award, he was awarded the Clifton Fadiman Medal by the Mercantile Library and the Morton Dauwen Zabel Award from the American Academy of Arts and Letters.

William Wharton

William Wharton was born in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. He graduated from Upper Darby High School in 1943, and was inducted into the school's Wall of Fame in 1997. During World War II, Wharton volunteered to serve in the United States Army and was first assigned to serve in an engineering unit. He ended up being assigned to serve in the infantry and was severely wounded in the Battle of the Bulge. After his discharge, he attended the University of California, Los Angeles, where he received an undergraduate degree in art and a doctorate in psychology, later teaching art in the Los Angeles Unified School District. His first novel *Birdy* was published in 1978 when he was more than 50 years old. *Birdy* was a critical and popular success, and Alan Parker directed a film version starring Nicolas Cage and Matthew Modine. After the publication of *Birdy* and through the early 1990s, Wharton published eight novels, including *Dad* and *A Midnight Clear*, both of which were also filmed, the former starring Jack Lemmon. It is worth noting that he gained an enormous and unusual popularity in Poland, where many extra editions as well as visits followed and eventually some works were prepared and published only in Polish.

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