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Home in the World
A Memoir
Amartya Sen

Where is ‘home’? For Amartya Sen home has been many places: Dhaka in modern Bangladesh where he grew up, the village of Santiniketan where he was raised by his grandparents as much as by his parents, Calcutta where he first studied economics and was active in student movements, and Trinity College, Cambridge, to which he came aged nineteen. Sen brilliantly recreates the atmosphere in each of these. Central to his formation was the intellectually liberating school in Santiniketan founded by Rabindranath Tagore (who gave him his name Amartya) and enticing conversations in the famous Coffee House on College Street in Calcutta. As an undergraduate at Cambridge, he engaged with many of the leading figures of the day. This is a book of ideas – especially Marx, Keynes and Arrow – as much as of people and places.

In one memorable chapter, Sen evokes ‘the rivers of Bengal’ along which he travelled with his parents between Dhaka and their ancestral villages. The book explores at first hand, the history and culture of Bengal, the political inflaming of Hindu-Muslim hostility and the resistance to it and the terrible famine of 1943. Some of Sen’s family were imprisoned for their opposition to British rule. Forty-five years after he first arrived at ‘the Gates of Trinity’, one of Britain’s greatest intellectual foundations, Sen became its Master.

Amartya Sen is Professor of Economics and Professor of Philosophy at Harvard. He was Master of Trinity College, Cambridge, from 1998 to 2004, and won the Nobel Prize for Economics in 1998. His many celebrated books include Development as Freedom (1999), The Argumentative Indian (2005), Identity and Violence (2007), and The Idea of Justice (2010). In 2012 he received the National Humanities Medal from President Obama and in 2020 he was awarded the Peace Prize of the German Book Trade.
Of all the many things humans rely on plants for, surely the most curious is our use of them to change consciousness: to stimulate, calm, or completely alter the qualities of our mental experience. In This Is Your Mind On Plants, Michael Pollan explores three very different drugs – opium, caffeine and mescaline – and throws the fundamental strangeness of our thinking about them into sharp relief. Exploring and participating in the cultures that have grown up around these drugs, while consuming (or in the case of caffeine, trying not to consume) them, Pollan reckons with the powerful human attraction to psychoactive plants, and the equally powerful taboos.

In a unique blend of history, science, memoir and reportage, Pollan shines a fresh light on a subject that is all too often treated reductively. In doing so, he proves that there is much more to say about these plants than simply debating their regulation, for when we take them into our bodies and let them change our minds, we are engaging with nature in one of the most profound ways we can. This ground-breaking and singular book holds up a mirror to our fundamental human needs and aspirations, the operations of our minds and our entanglement with the natural world.

Michael Pollan is an award-winning author, activist and journalist. His international bestselling books about the way we live today – including How to Change Your Mind, In Defence of Food and Food Rules – combine meticulous reporting with anthropology, philosophy, culture, health and natural history. Time magazine has named him one of the hundred most influential people in the world. He lives in the Bay Area of California with his wife.
After the acrimony of Brexit, the shock of Trump, and the continued pull of Putin and Xi it seems that democracy is in a state of decay. And as governments around the world struggle to combat the coronavirus – often adopting draconian measures as a response – there is a sense, a panic, that democracy’s decline may be terminal. But how many of us are certain about what democracy actually is?

Acclaimed political philosopher Jan-Werner Müller lucidly argues that in order for us to understand the true risks of our current moment, we must first establish an understanding of first principles. What is essential for democracy to flourish? How can we defend it without forever distorting its DNA?

In this elegant volume, he explains how democracy is founded not just on liberty and equality, but also on uncertainty. Drawing on history, art and examples from around the globe, he shows that we need to re-invigorate political parties and free media, the institutions that have been essential for democracy’s success ever since the nineteenth century. Taking on many of the most difficult political questions we face, this book is a vital rethinking of what democracy can mean in an age of big data, curated news feeds, collapsing parties and social alienation – and how we can reinvent our democratic social contract.

For many thousands of readers Fernando Pessoa’s *The Book of Disquiet* is almost a way of life. Ironic, haunting and melancholy, this completely unclassifiable work is the masterpiece of one of the twentieth century’s most enigmatic writers.

Richard Zenith’s *Pessoa* at last allows us to understand this extraordinary figure. Some eighty-five years after his premature death in Lisbon, where he left over 25,000 manuscript sheets in a wooden trunk, Fernando Pessoa (1888-1935) can now be celebrated as one of the great modern poets. Setting the story of his life against the nationalistic currents of European history, Zenith charts the heights of Pessoa’s explosive imagination and literary genius.

Much of Pessoa’s charm and strangeness came from his writing under a variety of names that he used not only to conceal his identity but also to write in wildly varied styles with different imagined personalities. Zenith traces the back stories of virtually all of these invented others, called ‘heteronyms’, demonstrating how they were projections, spin-offs or metamorphoses of Pessoa himself.

Zenith’s monumental work confirms the power of Pessoa’s words to speak prophetically to the disconnectedness of modern life. It is also a wonderful book about Lisbon, the city which Pessoa reinvented and through which his different selves wandered.

Richard Zenith is an acclaimed translator and literary critic. His translations include Pessoa’s *The Book of Disquiet* and Fernando Pessoa and Co.: *Selected Poems*, which won the PEN Award for Poetry in Translation. The recipient of Portugal’s Pessoa Prize, Zenith lives in Lisbon.

A monumental biography of one of the twentieth century’s greatest and most enigmatic writers
Prisoners of Time
Prussians, Germans and Other Humans
Christopher Clark

A collection of illuminating essays from the acclaimed author of The Sleepwalkers

Christopher Clark’s The Sleepwalkers has become one of the most influential history books of our century: a remarkable rethinking of the origins of the First World War, which has had a huge impact on how we see both the past and the present.

For the many readers who found the narrative voice, craftsmanship and originality of Clark’s writing so compelling, Prisoners of Time will be a book filled with surprises and enjoyment. Bringing together many of Clark’s major essays, Prisoners of Time raises a host of questions about how we think about the past, and both the value and pitfalls of history as a discipline.

The book includes brilliant writing on German subjects: from assessments of Kaiser Wilhelm and Bismarck to the painful story of General von Blaskowitz, a traditional Prussian military man who accommodated himself to the horrors of the Third Reich. There is a fascinating essay on attempts to convert Prussian Jews to Christianity, and insights into everything from Brexit to the significance of battles. Perhaps the most important piece in the book is ‘The Dream of Nebuchadnezzar’, a virtuoso meditation on the nature of political power down the ages, which will become essential reading for anyone drawn to the meaning of history.

Christopher Clark is the Regius Professor of History at the University of Cambridge. He was knighted in 2015. He is the author of The Politics of Conversion, Kaiser Wilhelm II, Iron Kingdom, The Sleepwalkers and Time and Power and is currently writing a history of the revolutions of 1848.

AUGUST 2021
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ROYAL OCTAVO HARDBACK
£25.00 | 288 PAGES
Antwerp
The Glory Years
Michael Pye

A rich history of Antwerp in the sixteenth century – ‘the indispensable place in Europe’

Before Amsterdam another North Sea city was the hub of the known world. Antwerp, writes Michael Pye, ‘rapidly became a world city, a centre of stories published across Europe, a sensation like nineteenth-century Paris or twentieth-century New York, one of the first cities where anything could happen or at least be believed. Other cities showed the power of kings or dukes or empires, but Antwerp showed only itself: a place of trade, where people wanted, needed to be, or couldn’t afford not to be. It was famous on its own terms.’

New trade routes into the city brought pepper and diamonds from India, silver from America and gold from Africa that tracked by cart and river to the Ottoman Empire in the East. Antwerp made possible escape routes to Istanbul for Jews facing the Inquisition in Portugal, including for the woman running the largest merchant banking house in Europe. And in just a few generations, the city inspired Thomas More’s Utopia, taught Erasmus about money, modelled for Pieter Bruegel’s Tower of Babel, protected William Tyndale and smuggled out copies of his bible in English.

This glory was erased when the Dutch rebelled against their Spanish masters and mutinous troops burned the city records. Pye uses novels, paintings, schoolbooks and archives from Venice, to London, to the Medici to uncover the hidden story of the years when Antwerp was the ‘exception’ to all Europe.

Michael Pye’s twelve previous books have been translated into fifteen languages; three have been New York Times ‘Notable Books of the Year’, two were British bestsellers and one became a Hollywood movie. He won various prizes in Modern History at Oxford, and went on to be journalist, broadcaster and columnist in London and New York. He lives in Amsterdam.

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ROYAL OCTAVO HARDBACK
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Whether it’s an uplifting walk in nature, meditation or prayer, there are many ways to experience heightened awareness and escape the relentless demands of modern life. The range of opportunities of this kind suggest that it isn’t dependent on faith or religion, but that it’s about a different mode of living; an innate spirituality.

Lisa Miller has spent decades researching the effects of spirituality on the brain. In this book she draws on her clinical experience and award-winning research to show how an active spiritual life can transform our physical and psychological wellbeing. Bringing scientific rigour to the most intangible aspect of our lives, Miller offers insights into the neurological basis for the increased resilience that comes with nurturing spirituality and highlights its measurable positive effects: decreasing the likelihood of depression and substance abuse, and shifting the course of recovery in many other clinical settings.

Woven throughout is Miller’s personal story of how, while confronting her own challenges, her professional pragmatism gave way to a greater appreciation of insights that are important to so many people and yet so often dismissed as unscientific. Brimming with inspiration and compassion, this landmark book will revolutionize your understanding of spirituality, mental health and how we find meaning and purpose in life.

Lisa Miller is a professor in the clinical psychology program at Columbia University, Teachers College, and holds a joint appointment in the department of Psychiatry at Columbia Medical School. She is the New York Times bestselling author of The Spiritual Child and founder and director of the Spiritual Mind Body Institute, the first Ivy League graduate program in spirituality and psychology.

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The subject of this book is mankind’s extraordinary relationship with colour. It is composed of a series of voyages, ranging across the world and throughout history, which reveal the meanings that have been attached to the colours we see around us and the ways these have shaped our culture and imagination. It takes seven primary colours – black, red, yellow, blue, white, purple and green – and uncovers behind each a root idea, based on visual resemblances or properties so rudimentary as to be common to all societies.

The book traces these meanings to show how they changed and multiplied, the role that they have played in our culture and history, and how understanding them allows us to see many of the milestones in the history of art – from Bronze Age gold-work to Turner, Titian to Yves Klein – in a new way. It proceeds by stories, which cumulatively tell another, larger one: a history of the world from the black nothing which preceded existence to the birth of our red-blooded species; the gilded gods who animated the world in antiquity to the blue horizons which framed the Age of Discovery; the pristine aspirations of Enlightenment, the technicolour innovation which fuelled the Industrial Revolution and the colour which most embodies the environmental crisis which now faces us.

James Fox is an art historian and Fellow of Gonville & Caius College, Cambridge. His many acclaimed BBC television documentaries include programmes on the history of Cornish art, the British Renaissance and the culture and politics of Vienna in 1908, Paris in 1928 and New York in 1951.
Blood and Ruins
The Great Imperial War, 1931-1945
Richard Overy

A bold new approach to the Second World War from one of its foremost historians

Richard Overy sets out in Blood and Ruins to recast the way in which we view the Second World War and its origins and aftermath. He argues that this was the ‘great imperial war’, a violent end to almost a century of global imperial expansion which reached its peak in the ambitions of Italy, Germany and Japan in the 1930s and early 1940s, before descending into the largest and costliest war in human history and the end, after 1945, of all territorial empires.

How war on a huge scale was fought, supplied, paid for, supported by mass mobilization and morally justified forms the heart of this new account. Above all, Overy explains the bitter cost for those involved in fighting, and the exceptional level of crime and atrocity that marked these imperial projects, the war and its aftermath. This war was as deadly for civilians as it was for the military, a war to the death over the future of the global order.

Blood and Ruins is a masterpiece from one of the most renowned historians of the Second World War, which will compel us to view the war in novel and unfamiliar ways. Thought-provoking, original and challenging, Blood and Ruins sets out to understand the war anew.

Richard Overy is Honorary Research Professor of History at the University of Exeter and one of Britain’s most distinguished historians. His major works include The Bombing War, The Dictators and The Morbid Age.
Inflamed

Deep Medicine and the Anatomy of Injustice

Rupa Marya and Raj Patel

A doctor and an economist explore the hidden links between health and structural injustices, and set out a radical vision for a fairer world.

What is the link between gut biodiversity, structural racism, and mental health? How does colonialism continue to cause lethal disease around the world? Why are First Nation people who speak their native language better protected against diabetes?

*Inflamed* journeys through the human body illuminating the hidden relationships between our biological systems and the profound injustices of our political and economic systems. This boldly original book shows how inflammation is connected not just to the food that we eat and the air that we breathe, but is also linked to the traumatic events we experience and the arts of diagnosis that physicians practice every day.

Combining the latest scholarship on globalization and biology with the stories of patients in marginalized communities and the science of Indigenous groups, *Inflamed* points the way toward a deep medicine that has the potential to heal not only our bodies but the world.

Rupa Marya is Associate Professor of Medicine at the University of California, San Francisco, and a co-founder of the Do No Harm Coalition, a collective of health workers committed to addressing disease through structural change. A physician and activist, she is also a composer and musician whose music was described by legend Gil Scott Heron as ‘Liberation Music’.

Raj Patel is a research professor at the University of Texas at Austin’s Lyndon B Johnson School of Public Affairs, a Research Associate at Rhodes University, South Africa, and a member of the International Panel of Experts on Sustainable Food Systems. He is the author of *Stuffed and Starved*, and the *New York Times* bestseller *The Value of Nothing*.

AUGUST 2021

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DEMY OCTAVO HARDBACK
£18.99 | 496 PAGES
How to Stop Fascism

History, Ideology, Resistance

Paul Mason

How can we stop the spread of fascism? The bestselling author of PostCapitalism offers a guide to resisting the far right

The far right is on the rise across the world. From Modi’s India to Bolsonaro’s Brazil and Erdogan’s Turkey, fascism is not a horror that we have left in the past; it is a recurring nightmare that is happening again – and we need to find a better way to fight it.

In How to Stop Fascism, Paul Mason offers a radical, hopeful blueprint for resisting and defeating the new far right. The book is both a chilling portrait of contemporary fascism, and a compelling history of the fascist phenomenon: its psychological roots, political theories and genocidal logic. Fascism, Mason powerfully argues, is a symptom of capitalist failure, and it has haunted us throughout the twentieth century.

History shows us the conditions that breed fascism, and how it can be successfully overcome. But it is up to us in the present to challenge it, and time is running out. From the ashes of Covid-19, we have an opportunity to create a fairer, more equal society. To do so, we must ask ourselves: what kind of world do we want to live in? And what are we going to do about it?

What’s Eating the Universe?
And Other Cosmic Questions
Paul Davies

In the constellation of Eridanus lurks a cosmic mystery. It appears as if something has taken a huge bite out of the universe, leaving a supervoid. What is the culprit? A super massive black hole? Another, bigger universe? Or an expanding vacuum bubble, destined to envelop and annihilate everything in existence?

Today, scientists understand the history of our universe better than we understand the history of our own planet. But this understanding has uncovered some startling riddles – the hole in the universe being just one. In this electrifying book, award-winning astrophysicist and best selling author Paul Davies lucidly explains what we now know about how the cosmos works, and explores the tantalizing – and sometimes terrifying – possibilities that lie before us. What happened before the Big Bang? Are we alone in the universe? And can black holes remember what they ate?

Walking us through the audacious research that has offered mind-bending solutions to these and other mysteries, Davies boldly tackles the greatest outstanding enigmas of all: why does the universe exist in the first place? Why are the laws of nature what they are? And, how did a system of mindless, purposeless particles manage to bring forth conscious, thinking beings?

This is a dazzling tour of the puzzles and paradoxes currently keeping cosmologists busy, set to entertain, enchant and inspire us all.

Paul Davies is a Regents Professor of Physics and Director of the Beyond Center for Fundamental Concepts in Science at Arizona State University. The bestselling author of some thirty books, his many awards include the Templeton Prize and the Faraday Prize of the Royal Society. He is a Member of the Order of Australia and has an asteroid named after him.

SEPTEMBER 2021
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DEMY OCTAVO HARDBACK
£16.99 | 192 PAGES
Most of us give little thought to the back of the book – it’s just where you go to look things up. But here, hiding in plain sight, is an unlikely realm of ambition and obsession, sparring and politicking, pleasure and play. Here we might find Butchers, to be avoided, or Cows that sh-te Fire, or even catch Calvin in his chamber with a Nonne. This is the secret world of the index: an unsung but extraordinary everyday tool, with an illustrious but little-known past. Here, for the first time, its story is told.

Charting its curious path from the monasteries and universities of thirteenth-century Europe to Silicon Valley in the twenty-first, Dennis Duncan reveals how the index has saved heretics from the stake, kept politicians from high office and made us all into the readers we are today. We follow it through German print shops and Enlightenment coffee houses, novelists’ living rooms and university laboratories, encountering emperors and popes, philosophers and prime ministers, poets, librarians and – of course – indexers along the way. Revealing its vast role in our evolving literary and intellectual culture, Duncan shows that, for all our anxieties about the Age of Search, we are all index-rakers at heart, and we have been for eight hundred years.

Dennis Duncan is a writer, translator and lecturer in English at University College London. He has published numerous academic books, including Book Parts and The Oulipo and Modern Thought, as well as translations of Michel Foucault, Boris Vian, and Alfred Jarry. His writing has appeared in the Guardian, the Times Literary Supplement, and the London Review of Books, and recent articles have considered Mallarmé and jugs, James Joyce and pornography, and the history of Times New Roman.

SEPTEMBER 2021
9780241374238
ROYAL OCTAVO HARDBACK
£20.00 | 256 PAGES
Trans people in Britain today have become a culture war ‘issue’. Despite making up less than one per cent of the country’s population, they are the subjects of a toxic and increasingly polarized ‘debate’. This media frenzy conceals a simple fact: that we are having the wrong conversation, a conversation in which trans people themselves are reduced to a talking point and denied a meaningful voice.

In this powerful new book, Shon Faye reclaims the idea of the ‘transgender issue’ to uncover the reality of what it means to be trans in a transphobic society. In doing so, she provides a compelling, wide-ranging analysis of trans lives from youth to old age, exploring work, family, housing, healthcare, the prison system and trans participation in the LGBTQ+ and feminist communities, in contemporary Britain and beyond.

The Transgender Issue is a landmark work that signals the beginning of a new, healthier conversation about trans life. It is a manifesto for change, and a call for justice and solidarity between all marginalized people and minorities. Trans liberation, as Faye sees it, goes to the root of what our society is and what it could be; it offers the possibility of a more just, free and joyful world for all of us.

Shon Faye was born in Bristol, where she is currently based. Originally training as a solicitor before leaving the law for the arts, she has worked variously as a writer, presenter, editor, screenwriter and cabaret comedian, and in the charity sector with Amnesty International and Stonewall. She was an editor-at-large at Dazed, and her writing has been published by the Guardian, the Independent and Vice, among others. This is her first book.
Josiah Wedgwood, perhaps the greatest English potter who ever lived, epitomized the best of his age. From his kilns and workshops in Stoke-on-Trent, he revolutionized the production of ceramics in Georgian Britain by marrying technology with design, manufacturing efficiency and retail flair. He transformed the luxury markets not only of London, Liverpool, Bath and Dublin but of America and the world, and helping to usher in a mass consumer society. Tristram Hunt calls him ‘the Steve Jobs of the eighteenth century’.

But Wedgwood was radical in his mind and politics as well as in his designs. He campaigned for free trade and religious toleration, read pioneering papers to the Royal Society and was a member of the celebrated Lunar Society of Birmingham. Most significantly, he created the ceramic ‘Emancipation Badge’, depicting a slave in chains and inscribed ‘Am I Not a Man and a Brother?’ that became the symbol of the abolitionist movement.

Tristram Hunt’s hugely enjoyable new biography, strongly based on Wedgwood’s notebooks, letters and the words of his contemporaries, brilliantly captures the energy and originality of Wedgwood and his extraordinary contribution to the transformation of eighteenth-century Britain.

Dr Tristram Hunt is Director of the V&A Museum and one of Britain’s best-known historians. He served as MP for Stoke-on-Trent Central from 2010 to 2017 (when he led the campaign to save the Wedgwood Museum) and as Shadow Secretary of State for Education between 2013 and 2015. He was a senior lecturer in British history at Queen Mary, University of London. His previous books include The Frock-Coated Communist: The Revolutionary Life of Friedrich Engels, Ten Cities that Made an Empire and Building Jerusalem: The Rise and Fall of the Victorian City.
When the news first began to trickle out of China about a new virus in December 2019, risk-averse financial markets were alert to its potential for disruption. Yet they could never have predicted the total economic collapse that would follow in Covid-19’s wake, as stock markets fell faster and harder than at any time since 1929, currencies across the world plunged, investors panicked and even gold was sold.

In a matter of weeks, the world’s economy was brought to an abrupt halt by governments trying to contain a spiralling public health catastrophe. Flights were grounded; supply chains broken; industries from tourism to oil to hospitality collapsed overnight, leaving hundreds of millions of people unemployed. Central banks responded with unprecedented interventions, just to keep their economies on life-support. For the first time since the Second World War, the entire global economic system contracted.

This book tells the story of that shutdown. We do not yet know how this story ends, or what new world we will find on the other side. In this fast-paced, compelling and at times shocking analysis, Adam Tooze surveys the wreckage, and looks at where we might be headed next.

Adam Tooze is the author of the highly praised Crashed, The Deluge and The Wages of Destruction, all published by Allen Lane. He has been the recipient of the Wolfson Prize for History, the Longman-History Today Book of the Year Prize and the Lionel Gelber Prize. Tooze has taught at Cambridge and Yale and is now Kathryn and Shelby Cullom Davis Professor of History at Columbia University.
Can reading a book make you more rational? Can it help you understand why there is so much irrationality in the world? These are the goals of Steven Pinker’s major new book.

In the twenty-first century, humanity is reaching new heights of scientific understanding – and at the same time appears to be losing its mind. How can a species that developed vaccines for Covid-19 in less than a year produce so much fake news, quack cures and conspiracy theorizing?

Pinker rejects the cynical cliché that humans are an irrational species. After all, we discovered the laws of nature, lengthened and enriched our lives and set the benchmarks for rationality itself. Instead, he explains that we think in ways that are sensible in the low-tech contexts in which we spend most of our lives, but fail to take advantage of the powerful tools of reasoning we have built up over the millennia: logic, critical thinking, probability, correlation and causation, and decision-making. These tools are not a standard part of our educational curricula, and have never been presented clearly and entertainingly in a single book – until now.

Rationality matters. It leads to better choices in our lives and in the public sphere, and is the ultimate driver of social justice and moral progress. Brimming with insight and humour, Rationality will enlighten, inspire and empower.

Steven Pinker is an experimental cognitive scientist. Currently Johnstone Professor of Psychology at Harvard, he has also taught at Stanford and MIT. He has won many prizes for his research, teaching, and eleven books, including The Language Instinct, How the Mind Works, The Blank Slate, The Better Angels of Our Nature, and The Sense of Style.
Devil-Land
England Under Siege, 1588-1688
Clare Jackson

This dazzling, original and hugely engaging book tells the story of a nation in a state of near continual crisis. To many foreigner observers, seventeenth-century England was ‘Devil-Land’: a country riven by political faction, religious difference, financial ruin and royal collapse.

As an unmarried heretic with no heir, Elizabeth I was regarded with horror by Catholic Europe, while her Stuart successors, James I and VI of Scotland and Charles I, were seen as impecunious and incompetent, unable to manage their three kingdoms of England, Scotland and Ireland. The traumatic civil wars, regicide and a republican Commonwealth were followed by the floundering, foreign-leaning rule of Charles II and his brother, James II and VII of Scotland, before William of Orange invaded England with a Dutch army and a new order was imposed.

Devil-Land reveals England as, in many ways, a ‘failed state’: endemically unstable and constantly rocked by devastating events from the Gunpowder Plot to the Great Fire of London.

Catastrophe nevertheless bred creativity, and Jackson makes brilliant use of eyewitness accounts — many penned by stupefied foreigners — to dramatize her great story. Starting on the eve of the Spanish Armada’s descent in 1588 and concluding with a not-so ‘Glorious Revolution’ a hundred years later, Devil-Land is a spectacular reinterpretation of England’s vexed and enthralling past.

Clare Jackson is the Senior Tutor of Trinity Hall, Cambridge University. She has presented a number of highly successful programmes on the Stuart dynasty for the BBC and is the author of Charles II in the Penguin Monarchs series.
What exactly do men get out of being men in the twenty-first century?

It would be easy to write a feminist polemic denouncing men. This is not that book.

Something is definitely up with men. From millions who follow Jordan Peterson to the #metoo backlash, from Men’s Rights activists and incels to spiralling suicide rates, it’s easy to see that, while men still rule the world, masculinity is in crisis.

How can men and women live together in a world where capitalism and consumerism has replaced the values – family, religion, service and honour – that used to give our lives meaning? Feminism has gone some way towards dismantling the patriarchy, but how can we hold on to the best aspects of our metaphorical Father?

With illuminating writing from an original, big-picture perspective, Nina Power unlocks the secrets hidden in our culture to enable men and women to reach true mutual understanding and a lifetime of love.

Nina Power is a writer and philosopher. She has written regularly for The Telegraph, Art Review and The Spectator, amongst other publications. She is the author of One-Dimensional Woman (Zer0, 2009), which the New Statesman called ‘a joy to read’.
For generations, our remote ancestors have been cast as primitive and childlike – either free and equal innocents, or thuggish and warlike. Here David Graeber and David Wengrow revisit this origin story, with startling implications for how we make sense of human history today.

Drawing on path-breaking research in archaeology and anthropology, the authors show how history becomes a far more interesting place once we learn to perceive what’s really there. If humans did not spend their evolutionary past in tiny bands of hunter-gatherers, what were they doing? The answers are often unexpected, and suggest that the course of human history may be more full of playful, hopeful possibilities than we tend to assume.

The Dawn of Everything fundamentally transforms our understanding of the human past and offers a path toward imagining new forms of freedom, new ways of organizing society. This is a monumental book of formidable intellectual range, animated by curiosity, moral vision and a faith in the power of direct action.

David Graeber was a professor of anthropology at the London School of Economics. He is the author of Debt: The First 5,000 Years and Bullshit Jobs: A Theory. An iconic thinker and renowned activist, his early efforts helped to make Occupy Wall Street an era-defining movement. He died on 2 September 2020.

David Wengrow is a professor of comparative archaeology at the Institute of Archaeology, University College London. He is the author of three books, including What Makes Civilization?. Wengrow conducts archaeological fieldwork in various parts of Africa and the Middle East.
The final week of the Third Reich’s existence has begun. Hitler is dead, but the war has still not ended. Everything has both ground to a halt and yet remains agonizingly uncertain.

Volker Ullrich’s remarkable book takes the reader into a world torn between hope and terror, violence and peace. Ullrich describes how each day unfolds, with Germany now under a new Führer, Admiral Dönitz, based improbably in the small Baltic town of Flensburg. With Hitler dead, Berlin in ruins and the war undoubtedly lost, the process by which the fighting would end remained horrifyingly unclear. Many major Nazis were still on the loose, wild rumours continued to circulate about a last stand in the Alps and the Western allies falling out with the Soviet Union.

All over Europe, millions of soldiers, prisoners, slave labourers and countless exhausted, grief-stricken and often homeless families watched and waited for the war’s end. Eight Days in May is the story of people, in Erich Kästner’s striking phrase, stuck in ‘the gap between no longer and not yet’.

Translated by Jefferson Chase.

Volker Ullrich is a historian and journalist whose previous books include biographies of Bismarck and Napoleon, as well as a major study of Imperial Germany, The Nervous Superpower, 1871-1918. Ullrich was for many years editor of the political books review section of Die Zeit. His two-volume biography of Adolf Hitler was a German bestseller.

Jefferson Chase is a writer, translator and journalist based in Berlin. He has translated more than a dozen German texts into English, including Volker Ullrich’s acclaimed two-volume biography of Hitler.

SEPTEMBER 2021
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ROYAL OCTAVO HARDBACK
£20.00 | 336 PAGES
The Man from the Future

The Visionary Life of John von Neumann

Ananyo Bhattacharya

The smartphones in our pockets and computers like brains. The vagaries of game theory and evolutionary biology. Self-replicating moon bases and nuclear weapons. All bear the fingerprints of one remarkable man: John von Neumann.

Born in Budapest at the turn of the century, von Neumann is one of the most influential scientists to have ever lived. His colleagues believed he had the fastest brain on the planet — bar none. He was instrumental in the Manhattan Project and helped formulate the bedrock of Cold War geopolitics and modern economic theory. He created the first ever programmable digital computer. He prophesied the potential of nanotechnology and, from his deathbed, expounded on the limits of brains and computers — and how they might be overcome.

Taking us on an astonishing journey, Ananyo Bhattacharya explores how a combination of genius and unique historical circumstance allowed a single man to sweep through so many different fields of science, sparking revolutions wherever he went. Insightful and illuminating, The Man from the Future is a thrilling intellectual biography of the visionary thinker who shaped our century.

Ananyo Bhattacharya is a science writer who has worked at the Economist and Nature. Before journalism, he was a medical researcher at the Burnham Institute in San Diego, California. He holds a degree in physics from the University of Oxford and a PhD in protein crystallography from Imperial College London.

OCTOBER 2021
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DEMY OCTAVO HARDBACK
£20.00 | 272 PAGES
George III

The Life and Reign of Britain’s Most Misunderstood Monarch

Andrew Roberts

One of Britain’s premier historians overturns received wisdom on a much-maligned king

George III, Britain’s longest-reigning king, has gone down in history as ‘the cruellest tyrant of this age’ (Thomas Paine), and is now widely perceived as the pompous, camp and sinister monarch of the musical ‘Hamilton’.

Andrew Roberts’s magnificent new biography takes entirely the opposite view. It convincingly portrays George as intelligent, benevolent, scrupulously devoted to the constitution of his country and, navigating the turbulence of eighteenth-century politics with a strong sense of honour and duty. He was a devoted husband and family man, a great patron of the arts and sciences, keen (‘Farmer George’) to advance Britain’s agricultural capacity and determined that her horizons should be global.

The book gives a detailed, revisionist account of the American War of Independence, amongst other things persuasively taking apart a significant proportion of the Declaration of Independence. In a later war, it shows how George’s support for William Pitt was crucial to the battle against Napoleon. And it makes a credible, modern diagnosis of George’s terrible malady which robbed him of his mind for the last 10 years of his life – his other main claim to the popular imagination.

Roberts argues that, far from being a tyrant or incompetent, George was one of our most admirable monarchs. George III shows one of Britain’s premier historians at his sparkling best.

Andrew Roberts is a biographer and historian of international renown, most recently of the best-selling Churchill: Walking with Destiny. His previous books include Salisbury: Victorian Titan (winner of the Wolfson Prize for History), Masters and Commanders (winner of the Emery Reves Award), Storm of War (winner of the British Army Book Prize) and Napoleon the Great, which won the Grand Prix of the Fondation Napoleon and the Los Angeles Times Biography Prize.

OCTOBER 2021
9780241413333
ROYAL OCTAVO HARDBACK
£35.00 | 656 PAGES
An unforgettable coming of age story exploring the meaning of freedom – personal, collective, political – from an extraordinary new voice

Lea Ypi grew up in one of the most isolated countries on earth, a place where communist ideals had officially replaced religion. Albania, the last Stalinist outpost in Europe, was almost impossible to visit, almost impossible to leave. It was a place of queuing and scarcity, of political executions and secret police. To Lea, it was home. People were equal, neighbours helped each other, and children were expected to build a better world. There was community and hope.

Then, in December 1990, a year after the fall of the Berlin Wall, everything changed. The statues of Stalin and Hoxha were toppled. Almost overnight, people could vote freely, wear what they liked, and worship as they wished. There was no longer anything to fear from prying ears. But factories shut, jobs disappeared, and thousands fled to Italy on crowded ships, only to be sent back. Predatory pyramid schemes eventually bankrupted the country, leading to civil unrest. As one generation’s aspirations became another’s disillusionment, and as her own family’s secrets were revealed, Lea found herself questioning what freedom really meant.

_Free_ is an engrossing memoir of coming of age amid political upheaval. With acute insight and wit, Lea Ypi traces the limits of progress and the burden of the past, illuminating the spaces between ideals and reality, and the hopes and fears of people pulled up by the sweep of history.

Lea Ypi is a professor of political theory at the London School of Economics.
Hitler’s American Gamble
Pearl Harbor and the German March to Global War

Brendan Simms and Charlie Laderman

A thrilling account of Pearl Harbor and the five history-making days that followed

This gripping book dramatizes the extraordinarily compressed and terrifying period between the surprise Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor and Hitler’s declaration of war on the United States. These five days transformed much of the world and have shaped our own experience ever since.

Simms and Laderman’s aim in the book is to show how this agonizing period had no inevitability about it and that innumerable outcomes were possible. Key leaders around the world were taking decisions with often poor and confused information, under overwhelming pressure and knowing that they could be facing personal and national disaster. And yet, there were also long-standing assumptions that shaped these decisions, both consciously and unconsciously.

*Hitler’s American Gamble* is a superb work of history, both as an explanation for the course taken by the Second World War and as a study in statecraft and political choices.

Brendan Simms is Professor of the History of International Relations at the University of Cambridge. His major books include *Unfinest Hour: Britain and the Destruction of Bosnia* (shortlisted for the Samuel Johnson Prize) and *Europe: The Struggle for Supremacy, 1453 to the Present*, which was published in 2013 to extraordinary reviews.

Charlie Laderman is a Lecturer in International History at King’s College London. He is the author of *Sharing the Burden: The Armenian Question, Humanitarian Intervention and Anglo-American Visions of Global Order* and *(with Brendan Simms)* *Donald Trump: the Making of a Worldview.*

OCTOBER 2021
9780241423509
ROYAL OCTAVO HARDBACK
£20.00 | 304 PAGES
‘More often than I can count, I’ve been asked if I would write an autobiography, but the time has never been right. The one thing I’ve always managed to do, whether at home or on the road, is to write new songs. I know that some people, when they get to a certain age, like to go to a diary to recall day-to-day events from the past, but I have no such notebooks. What I do have are my songs, hundreds of them, which I’ve learned serve much the same purpose. And these songs span my entire life.’

In this extraordinary book, with unparalleled candour, Paul McCartney recounts his life and art through the prism of 154 songs from all stages of his career – from his earliest boyhood compositions through the legendary decade of The Beatles, to Wings and his solo albums to the present. Arranged alphabetically to provide a kaleidoscopic rather than chronological account, it establishes definitive texts of the songs’ lyrics for the first time and describes the circumstances in which they were written, the people and places that inspired them, and what he thinks of them now. Presented with this is a treasure trove of material from McCartney’s personal archive – drafts, letters, photographs – never seen before, which make this also a unique visual record of one of the greatest songwriters of all time.

We learn intimately about the man, the creative process, the working out of melodies, the moments of inspiration. The voice and personality of Paul McCartney sings off every page. There has never been a book about a great musician like it.

Born in Liverpool in 1942, Paul McCartney was raised in the city and educated at the Liverpool Institute. Since writing his first song at 14, McCartney has dreamed and dared to be different. He lives in England.

Paul Muldoon is the Pulitzer Prize-winning author of fourteen full-length collections of poetry, including his new collection Howdie-Skelp.
In the frontier town of Springfield in 1651, peculiar things begin to happen. Precious food spoils, livestock ails, property vanishes and people suffer convulsions as if possessed by demons. Disturbing dreams and visions proliferate. Children sicken and die. As tensions rise, rumours spread of witches and heretics and the community becomes tangled in a web of distrust, resentment and denunciation. The finger of suspicion falls on a young couple with two small children: Hugh Parsons the prickly brickmaker and his troubled wife, Mary. It will be their downfall.

The Ruin of All Witches tells the dark, real-life folktale of witch-hunting in a remote Massachusetts plantation, where dreams of love and liberty, of a ‘city upon a hill’, gave way to paranoia and terror, rage and violence. Drawing on unique, previously untapped source material, Malcolm Gaskill brings to life a frontier past in which lives were steeped in the divine and the diabolic, in omens, curses and enchantments.

Through the gripping micro-history of a family tragedy, we glimpse an entire society caught in agonized transition between superstition and enlightenment, tradition and innovation. We see, in short, the birth of the modern world.

Malcolm Gaskill is Emeritus Professor of Early Modern History at the University of East Anglia. He is one of Britain’s leading experts in the history of witchcraft, whose previous works include the highly acclaimed Witchfinders: A Seventeenth-Century English Tragedy and Between Two Worlds: How the English Became Americans.
The Global Merchants

The Enterprise and Extravagance of the Sassoon Dynasty

Joseph Sassoon

The first full history of the Sassoons, one of the nineteenth century’s preeminent commercial families and ‘the Rothschilds of the East’

The Sassoons were one of the great commercial dynasties of the nineteenth century, as eminent as traders as the Rothschilds were as bankers. In his rich and nuanced portrait of the family, Joseph Sassoon uncovers the secrets behind their phenomenal success: how a handful of Jewish refugees from Ottoman Baghdad forged a mercantile juggernaut trading cotton and opium in exile in India, the role of their vast network of agents, informants and politicians in extending their reach beyond their new home, bridging East and West.

Through the lives these ambitious figures built for themselves in Bombay, London and Shanghai, the reader is drawn into a captivating world of politics, business, society and empire – for their meteoric rise was facilitated by their ties to the British imperial project, and its waning coincided with their own.

Utilising for the first time the family archives, which were largely written in an obscure Judeo-Arabic script indecipherable to previous historians, The Global Merchants is at once an intimate history of a single family across three generations and an extraordinary panorama, revealing their place in the world-historical developments of the 150 years of their prominence: from the American Civil War to the establishment of the British Raj, the Opium Wars to the Japanese occupation of China, and the true beginning of globalization in all its dimensions.

Joseph Sassoon is Professor of History and Politics at Georgetown University. He is also a Senior Associate Member at St Antony’s College, Oxford and a Trustee of the Bodleian Library. His previous books include the prize-winning Saddam Hussein’s Ba’th Party, The Iraqi Refugees and The Anatomy of Authoritarianism in the Arab Republics.
In the exhausted, repressive years that followed Napoleon’s defeat in 1815, there was one cause that came to galvanize countless individuals across Europe and the United States: freedom for Greece.

Mark Mazower’s wonderful new book recreates one of the most compelling, unlikely and significant events in the story of modern Europe. In the face of near impossible odds, the people of the villages, valleys and islands of Greece rose up against Sultan Mahmud II and took on the might of the imperial Ottoman armed forces, its Turkish cavalrymen, Albanian foot soldiers and the fearsome Egyptians. Despite the most terrible disasters, they held on until military intervention by Russia, France and Britain finally secured the kingdom of Greece.

Mazower brilliantly brings together the stories of revolutionary conspirators, itinerant priests, sailors and slaves, ambiguous heroes and defenceless women and children struggling to stay alive amid a conflict of extraordinary brutality. Ranging across the Eastern Mediterranean and far beyond, he explores the central place of the struggle in the making of Romanticism and a new kind of politics that had volunteers flocking from across Europe. A story of how statesmen came to terms with an even more powerful force than themselves – the force of nationalism – this is above all a book about how people decided to see their world differently and, at an often terrible cost to themselves and their families, changed history.

Mark Mazower is Ira D. Wallach Professor of History at Columbia University where he directs the Institute for Ideas and Imagination. He is the author of Governing the World, Hitler’s Empire and The Balkans: A Short History, winner of the Wolfson Prize for History, among other books.
The Book of All Books

Roberto Calasso

A splendid reimagining of key stories from the Bible, by the author of The Marriage of Cadmus and Harmony

A man named Saul is sent to search for some lost donkeys and on the way is named king of his people. The queen of a remote African realm travels for three years with her multitudinous retinue to meet the king of Jerusalem and pose him a few riddles. A man named Abraham hears a divine voice speaking words that reverberate throughout the Bible: ‘Go away from your land, from your kindred and from the house of your father toward the land that I will show you’.

In The Book of All Books, Roberto Calasso weaves together stories of promise and separation from one of the founding texts of Western civilization. These tales of grace and guilt, of the chosen and the damned, cast many Biblical figures and indeed the whole book in a light as astonishing as it is disquieting.

Roberto Calasso is the author of an ongoing series of books which began with The Ruin of Kasch (1983) and includes The Marriage of Cadmus and Harmony, Ka, and The Celestial Hunter. He is based in Milan.
The Sinner and the Saint

Dostoyevsky, a Crime and Its Punishment

Kevin Birmingham

As a young man, Dostoevsky was a celebrated writer, but his involvement with the radical politics of his day condemned him to a long Siberian exile. There, he spent years studying the criminals that were his companions. Upon his return to St Petersburg in the 1860s, he fought his way through gambling addiction, debilitating debt, epilepsy, the deaths of those closest to him and literary banishment to craft an enduring classic.

The germ of Crime and Punishment came from the sensational story of Pierre François Lacenaire, a notorious murderer who charmed and outraged Paris in the 1830s. Lacenaire was a glamorous egoist who embodied the instincts that lie beneath nihilism, a western-influenced philosophy inspiring a new generation of Russian revolutionaries. Dostoevsky began creating a Russian incarnation of Lacenaire, a character who could demonstrate the errors of radical politics and ideas. His name would be Raskolnikov. Dostoevsky was determined to tell a murder story from the murderer’s perspective, but his character couldn’t be a monster. No. The murderer would be chilling because he wants so desperately to be good.

Dostoevsky’s great subject was self-consciousness, and Crime and Punishment advanced a revolution in artistic thinking. It also began the greatest phase of Dostoevsky’s career. The Sinner and the Saint now gives us the thrilling and definitive story of that triumph.

Kevin Birmingham received his Ph.D. in English from Harvard, where he was a Lecturer in English and in History & Literature as well as an instructor in the university’s Writing Program. He is the author of the New York Times bestselling The Most Dangerous Book. It received the PEN New England Award for Nonfiction in 2015 and the Truman Capote Award for Literary Criticism in 2016.

NOVEMBER 2021
9780241235942
ROYAL OCTAVO HARCHBACK
£25.00 | 432 PAGES
Near the river Klarälven, snug in the dense forest landscape of northern Värmland, lies the Swedish village of Osebol. It is a quiet place: one where relationships take root over decades, and where the bustle of city life is replaced by the sound of wind in the trees.

In the last half-century, the automation of the lumber industry and the steady drip of relocations to the cities for work have seen Osebol’s adult population dwindle to only 40-odd residents. But still, life goes on. Those who have inherited their farms for generations live alongside recent arrivals from near and far. People age; children grow up. Heirlooms are passed from hand to hand, and stories from mouth to mouth.

In this extraordinary book, Marit Kapla has gathered the voices of the villagers themselves, interviewing almost all of those remaining between the ages of 18 and 92. Arranged with only a handful of lines on each page, they tell of their griefs and joys, their resentments and loves, and their triumphs and losses. To read Osebol is to lose oneself in its gentle rhythms of simple language and open space, and to emerge feeling like one has really grown to know the inhabitants of this varied community, nestled among the trees in a changing world.

Marit Kapla grew up in Osebol in the 1970s. She has served as a Creative Director for the Gothenburg Film Festival, and as editor at the Swedish cultural magazine Ord & Bild. Osebol, her first book, was awarded Sweden’s prestigious August Prize in 2019.

Peter Graves is an Honorary Fellow of the University of Edinburgh, and an award-winning translator of August Strindberg, Selma Lagerlöf, Carl Linnaeus and others.
What does it mean to be a good man? To be a good father, or a good partner? A good brother, or a good friend?

In this urgent, clear-sighted analysis, social historian Ivan Jablonka offers a re-examination of the patriarchy and a new way of thinking about masculinity. Ranging widely across cultures, from Mesopotamia to Confucianism to Christianity to 18th century revolutions, Jablonka uncovers the origins of our patriarchal societies. He then offers a new model of masculinity based on a theory of gender justice, which aims for a redistribution of gender, just as social justice demands the redistribution of wealth.

Arguing that it is high time for men to be as involved in gender justice as women, Jablonka shows that in order to build a more equal and respectful society, we must gain a deeper understanding of the structure of patriarchy – and form new masculinities that define themselves by the rights of women.

Widely acclaimed in France, this is a landmark work from a major thinker.

Ivan Jablonka is a French historian. His work focuses on the Holocaust, gender violence, masculinity and new forms of historiography. In 2016, he received the prestigious Prix Médicis. He is currently professor of Contemporary History at Université Paris XIII.
Particular Books
In *Adventures in Time*, acclaimed historian Dominic Sandbrook brings the past alive for twenty-first-century children, inviting readers to discover the thrills and spills of the past.

“History shouldn’t just be homework”, Sandbrook argues, “and it shouldn’t be spoon-fed. I’ve tried not to simplify too much, and not to shy away from the strange and obscure words and ideas that I think children often relish. As a boy, what I loved about history was that it was fun. Knights and castles, journeys into foreign lands – what novel offers greater drama, or more colourful characters?”

Each book tells a complete story, based on the most up-to-date historical research, with memorable characters and cliffhanging chapters. In the first four titles, the reader soars into the sky in the Battle of Britain, joins Anne Boleyn on the walk to the scaffold, braves the mud of the Somme and rides to India with Alexander the Great.

These are real history books; nothing is made up. But they all have gripping, novelistic narratives, every bit as exciting as the escapades of Lyra Belacqua or Harry Potter. The only difference is that they happen to be true.
In Adventures in Time, acclaimed historian Dominic Sandbrook brings the past alive for twenty-first-century children, inviting readers aged 8 to 12 to discover the thrills and spills of the past. “History shouldn’t just be homework”, Sandbrook argues, “and it shouldn’t be spoon-fed. I’ve tried not to simplify too much, and not to shy away from the strange and obscure words and ideas that I think children often relish. As a boy, what I loved about history was that it was fun. Knights and castles, journeys into foreign lands – what novel offers greater drama, or more colourful characters?”

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Publishing July:
THE SECOND WORLD WAR – 9780241469774
THE SIX WIVES OF HENRY VIII – 9780241469736

Publishing November:
ALEXANDER THE GREAT – 9780241469743
THE FIRST WORLD WAR – 9780241469668

DOMINIC SANDBROOK
No house embodies the spirit of one dynasty better than Chatsworth. Set in an unspoilt Derbyshire valley, surrounded by wild moorland, and home to the Cavendish family for more than four hundred years, this treasure house is filled with works of art and objects that have all, in their time, represented the very best of the new – from Nicolas Poussin’s *Et in Arcadia Ego* and Antonio Canova’s *Endymion* to seminal modern works by Lucian Freud, David Hockney and Michael Craig-Martin, among many others.

Today, since the recent completion of a decade-long programme of renovations, the exterior of the house is gleaming, its stone façade newly cleaned and its window frames freshly gilded. Inside, through the brilliant juxtaposition of old and new, its rooms crackle with creative energy. *Chatsworth, Arcadia, Now* tells the story of this extraordinary house through seven ‘scenes’ in its life which provide the book’s narrative structure; running alongside is a stunning photographic portrait of the house and its collections at this most optimistic point in its history.

As Chatsworth’s forward-looking current occupant, the twelfth Duke of Devonshire, likes to point out: ‘Everything was new once.’ Leafing through this exquisite volume will be as close as possible to holding a piece of the house itself in your hands.

**John-Paul Stonard** studied art history at the Courtauld Institute of Art. He was curator of the acclaimed exhibition ‘Kenneth Clark: Looking for Civilisation’ at Tate Britain in 2014, and is a regular contributor to the London Review of Books, Times Literary Supplement, Burlington Magazine and Apollo. He lives and works in Suffolk.
Atlas of the Invisible
Maps and Graphics That Will Change How You See the World
James Cheshire and Oliver Uberti

An unprecedented portrait of the hidden patterns in human society – visualised through the world of data

Humans create data with nearly everything we do. This world of information is invisible, but it shapes society in profound ways.

In *Atlas of the Invisible*, award-winning geographer-designer team James Cheshire and Oliver Uberti redefine what an atlas can be. Transforming enormous data sets into rich maps and cutting-edge visualisations, they uncover truths about our past, reflect who we are today, and highlight what we face in the years ahead. With their joyfully inquisitive approach, Cheshire and Uberti explore happiness and anxiety levels around the globe; they trace the undersea cables and cell towers that connect us; they examine hidden scars of geopolitics; and illustrate how a warming planet affects everything from hurricanes to the hajj.

Years in the making, *Atlas of the Invisible* invites readers to marvel at the promise and peril of data, and to revel in the secrets and contours of a newly visible world.

James Cheshire and Oliver Uberti’s complementary skills enable them to produce graphics and book pages that few others can match. As a professor at University College London, Cheshire applies his cartographic and programming skills to the staggering amount of data that scientists are now collecting. In 2017, he was awarded the Royal Geographical Society’s Cuthbert Peek Award in recognition of his work ‘advancing geographical knowledge through the use of mappable Big Data’. Uberti has more than a decade of experience visualizing and writing about wildlife research – from 2003 to 2012, he worked in the design department of *National Geographic*, most recently as Senior Design Editor.
Susan Ogilvy started painting bird nests almost by accident. One day, while tidying up her garden after a storm, she found a chaffinch nest — a strange, sodden lump on the grass under a fir tree. She carried it inside and placed it on a newspaper; over the next few hours, as the water drained out of it, the sodden lump blossomed into a mossy jewel. She was amazed, and dropped everything to make a painting of the nest at exact life size.

Ogilvy has since painted more than fifty bird nests from life, each time marvelling at its ingenious construction. Every species of bird has its own vernacular, but sources its materials — most commonly twigs, roots, grasses, reeds, leaves, moss, lichen, hair, feathers and cobwebs, less usually mattress stuffing and string — according to local availability. Ogilvy would, of course, never disturb nesting birds; instead she relies upon serendipity, which is why all her nests have either been abandoned after fulfilling their purpose, or displaced by strong winds.

This wondrous book is all the more special for its rarity. Few modern books exist specifically on the subject of bird nests; among the author’s reference works, the most recent was published in 1932. Exquisitely designed and packaged, Nests will be an essential addition to the libraries of all nature lovers.

Susan Ogilvy’s work has been shown at the Ashmolean Museum, Oxford, the Smithsonian Institute, Washington, and the Kew Garden Gallery, London, amongst other places; it is included in several public and private collections, including Dr Shirley Sherwood’s world-renowned collection of contemporary botanical paintings. She was awarded an RHS Gold Medal in 1997, and lives in rural Somerset.
Modernism is now a century old, but its consequences are all around us, built into our everyday lived environments. Its place in Britain’s history is fiercely contested, and its role in our future is the subject of ongoing controversy. Whatever you might think of its grand ideals or its architectural innovations, a hundred years of modernist buildings have changed our cities, politics and identity forever.

In Modern Buildings in Britain, Owen Hatherley applauds the ambition, chronicles the history and explores the significance of this most divisive of architectures. Hatherley travels the length and breadth of Britain, from St Ives to Shetland, from Hunstanton to Aberystwyth, in search of our most important and distinctive modern buildings. Drawing on hundreds of examples, we learn how the concrete of Brutalism embodies post-war civic principles, how corporate values were expressed in the glass facades of the International Style, and why Ecomodernist experimentation is often consigned to the geographic fringes. As Hatherley considers the social, political and cultural value of these structures – many of which are threatened by demolition – two linked questions emerge: what happens to a building after it has been lived in, and what becomes of an idea when its time has passed?

With over 600 pages of trenchantly opinionated, often witty analysis, and featuring 300 photographs in both duotone and colour, this is a landmark contribution to the history of British architecture. From iconic Brutalist classics to the works of forgotten Expressionist visionaries, Modern Buildings in Britain is the indispensable reference to modernism’s monuments.

Owen Hatherley writes for Architectural Review, the Guardian and the London Review of Books, among others. He is the author of several books, including Trans-Europe Express and Landscapes of Communism.
For six decades the Penguin Modern Classics series has been a century-defining, ever-evolving imprint, encompassing works by daring modernist pioneers, avant-garde iconoclasts, postcolonial visionaries and timeless storytellers. This reader’s companion showcases every title published in the series so far: 600 authors and more than 1,800 books, from Achebe and Adonis to Zamyatin and Zweig.

Bursting with lively descriptions, surprising reading lists, key literary movements and over two thousand images, The Penguin Modern Classics Book is an invitation to dive in and explore the greatest literature the twentieth century has to offer.

Henry Eliot is the author of The Penguin Classics Book and the presenter of the podcast On the Road with Penguin Classics. He has organized various literary tours, including a mass public pilgrimage for the National Trust (inspired by William Morris), a recreation of Chaucer’s Canterbury Tales, which raised money for the National Literacy Trust, a Lake Poets tour of Cumbria and a quest for the Holy Grail based on Malory’s Morte D’Arthur. He is also the author of Follow This Thread: A Maze Book to Get Lost In and Curiocity: An Alternative A to Z of London.
Pelican
How many people have died because of COVID-19? Which countries have been hit hardest? What are the benefits and harms of different vaccines? How have lockdown measures affected the economy, mental health and crime?

This year we have been bombarded by statistics surrounding COVID-19. In the media and in their Observer column, Professor Sir David Spiegelhalter and RSS Statistical Ambassador Anthony Masters have interpreted these numbers, offering a vital public service by giving us the tools we need to make sense of the virus for ourselves, and holding the government to account.

In Covid by Numbers, they crunch the data, exposing the leading misconceptions about the virus and the vaccine, and answering our essential questions.

Dr Anthony Masters is a Chartered Statistician, a Statistical Ambassador for the Royal Statistical Society, and a frequent blogger and explainer of statistical ideas. He is @anthonybmasters on Twitter.

Professor Sir David Spiegelhalter FRS OBE is the Chair of the Winton Centre for Risk and Evidence Communication in the Centre for Mathematical Sciences at the University of Cambridge. His bestselling book, The Art of Statistics, was published in March 2019. He was knighted in 2014 for services to medical statistics, was President of the Royal Statistical Society (2017-2018), and became a Non-Executive Director of the UK Statistics Authority in 2020. He is @d_spiegel on Twitter.
Inspired by Jules Verne’s hero Phileas Fogg, David Damrosch set out to counter a pandemic’s restrictions on travel by exploring eighty exceptional books from around the globe. Following a literary itinerary from London to Venice, Tehran and points beyond, and via authors from Woolf and Dante to Nobel laureates Orhan Pamuk, Wole Soyinka, Mo Yan and Olga Tokarczuk, he explores how these works have shaped our idea of the world, and the ways the world bleeds into literature.

To chart the expansive landscape of world literature today, Damrosch explores how writers live in two very different worlds: the world of their personal experience, and the world of books that have enabled great writers to give shape and meaning to their lives. Taken together, these eighty titles offer us fresh perspective on perennial problems, from the social consequences of epidemics to the rising inequality that Thomas More designed Utopia to combat and the patriarchal structures within and against which many of these books’ heroines have to struggle, from the work of Murasaki Shikibu a millennium ago to that of Margaret Atwood today.

Around the World in 80 Books is a global invitation to look beyond ourselves and our surroundings, and to see our world and its literature in new ways.

David Damrosch is Ernest Bernbaum Professor and Chair of Comparative Literature at Harvard University and director of Harvard’s Institute for World Literature. He is the author or editor of twenty-five books, and has lectured in fifty countries around the world; his online Harvard course, Masterpieces of World Literature, has been taken by nearly 100,000 people.
In twenty short books, Penguin brings you the classics of the environmental movement.

Over the past 75 years, a new canon has emerged. As humans have driven the living planet to the brink of collapse, visionary thinkers around the world have raised their voices to defend it. Their words have endured, becoming the classics that define the environmental movement today.
August 2021 / A Format Paperback / £4.99

No One Is Too Small to Make a Difference  
Greta Thunberg

Hot Money  
Naomi Klein

All Art Is Ecological  
Timothy Morton

This Can’t be Happening  
George Monbiot

An Idea Can Go Extinct  
Bill McKibben

Uncanny and Improbable Events  
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A Warning from the Golden Toad  
Tim Flannery

The Clan of One-Breasted Women  
Terry Tempest Williams

Food Rules  
Michael Pollan

The Democracy of Species  
Robin Wall Kimmerer

The Most Dammed Country in the World  
Dai Qing

The World We Once Lived In  
Wangari Maathai

The Last Tree on Easter Island  
Jared Diamond

What I Stand for Is What I Stand On  
Wendell Berry

Every Species is a Masterpiece  
Edward O. Wilson

We Belong to Gaia  
James Lovelock

The Dragonfly Will Be the Messiah  
Masanobu Fukuoka

There is No Point of No Return  
Arne Naess

Man’s War Against Nature  
Rachel Carson

Think Like a Mountain  
Aldo Leopold
Caliban and the Witch

Women, the Body and Primitive Accumulation

Silvia Federici

From the peasant revolts to the Great European Witch Hunt: the crushing of occult traditions and women’s reproductive freedom in the transition to capitalism

A cult classic since its publication in the early years of this century, Caliban and the Witch is Silvia Federici’s history of the body in the transition to capitalism. Moving from the peasant revolts of the late Middle Ages through the European witch-hunts, the rise of scientific rationalism and the colonisation of the Americas, it gives a panoramic account of the often horrific violence with which the unruly human material of pre-capitalist societies was transformed into a set of predictable and controllable mechanisms. It is a study of indigenous traditions crushed, of the enclosure of women’s reproductive powers within the nuclear family, and of how our modern world was forged in blood.

Silvia Federici is a feminist writer, teacher, and militant. In 1972, she was cofounder of the International Feminist Collective, which launched the Wages for Housework campaign. In the 1990s, after a period of teaching and research in Nigeria, she was active in the anti-globalization movement and the U.S. anti-death penalty movement. She is one of the cofounders of the Committee for Academic Freedom in Africa. From 1987 to 2005, she taught international studies, women’s studies, and political philosophy courses at Hofstra University in Hempstead, NY. Her most recent books are Witches, Witch-Hunting, and Women and Re-enchanting the World (both 2018).
In Youth is Pleasure

Denton Welch

A gay classic coming-of-age novel and an unforgettable slice of British interwar upper-middle class life

Orvil Pym does not fit in. A waifish, eccentric, sensitive fifteen-year-old, he hates school and longs to be alone. Spending his summer holidays in a genteel Surrey hotel with his mysterious father and two brothers who don’t understand him, he explores ancient churches, spies on a man rowing in the river and collects antiques, escaping into his own singular aesthetic world. Flagrantly controversial on first publication in 1945, this is an unforgettable portrayal of a young man’s sensuous coming of age.

Denton Welch was born in 1915 in Shanghai, the youngest of three brothers. After attending boarding school in England, he enrolled at Goldsmiths’ School of Art in April 1933 to study painting. In June 1935, while still a student, he was involved in a cycling accident that left him bedridden for the rest of his life, and he turned to writing instead of painting. He died in December 1948, at the age of 33.
Machado de Assis is not only Brazil’s most celebrated writer but also a writer of world stature, who has been championed by the likes of Philip Roth, Susan Sontag, Allen Ginsberg, John Updike and Salman Rushdie. In his masterpiece, the 1881 novel The Posthumous Memoirs of Brás Cubas (also translated as Epitaph of a Small Winner), the ghost of a decadent and disagreeable aristocrat decides to write his memoir. He dedicates it to the worms gnawing at his corpse and tells of his failed romances and half-hearted political ambitions, serves up hare-brained philosophies and complains with gusto from the depths of his grave.

Wildly imaginative, wickedly witty and ahead of its time, the novel has been compared to works by Cervantes, Sterne, Joyce, Nabokov, Borges and Calvino, and has influenced generations of writers around the world.

Joaquim Maria Machado de Assis (1839-1908), the mixed-race grandson of freed slaves, was born in Rio de Janeiro. Largely self-taught, he wrote many novels, stories, plays, and poems, eventually becoming the first President of the Brazilian Academy of Letters and gaining recognition as Brazil’s greatest writer.

Flora Thomson-DeVeaux is a translator, writer, and researcher who studied Spanish and Portuguese at Princeton University and earned a PhD in Portuguese and Brazilian studies from Brown University. She lives in Rio de Janeiro.

Dave Eggers is the bestselling author of more than ten books, including A Hologram for the King, a finalist for the National Book Award; What Is the What, a finalist for the National Book Critics Circle Award; and A Heartbreaking Work of Staggering Genius, a finalist for the Pulitzer Prize.
Robert Burton’s labyrinthine, beguiling, playful masterpiece is his attempt to ‘anatomize and cut up’ every aspect of the condition of melancholy, from which he had suffered throughout his life. Ranging over beauty, digestion, the planets, alcohol, goblins, kissing, poetry and the restorative power of books, among many other things, *The Anatomy of Melancholy* has fascinated figures from Samuel Johnson to Jorge Luis Borges since the seventeenth century, and remains an incomparable examination of the human condition in all its flawed, endless variety.

*Robert Burton* (1577-1640) spent most of his life in Oxford, first as a student and later as a scholar. His most famous work, the enormous *Anatomy of Melancholy*, was first published in 1621 and expanded in further editions throughout Burton’s life.

Angus Gowland is a Reader in Intellectual History at University College London.
The Penguin Book of Exorcisms

A Hallowe’en treat: haunting accounts of real-life exorcisms through the centuries, from ancient Egypt and the biblical Middle East to colonial America and twentieth-century South Africa.

Levitation. Feats of superhuman strength. Speaking in tongues. A hateful, glowing stare. The signs of spirit possession have been documented for thousands of years and across religions and cultures, even into our own time. Unsettling and chilling, The Penguin Book of Exorcisms brings together the most astonishing accounts: Saint Anthony set upon by demons in the form of a lion, a bull, and a panther, who are no match for his devotion and prayer; the Prophet Muhammad casting an enemy of God out of a young boy; fox spirits in medieval China and Japan; a headless bear assaulting a woman in sixteenth-century England; the possession of an entire convent of Ursuline nuns in a French town; a Zulu woman who daily floated to a height of five feet; the exorcism in Earling, Iowa in 1928 that inspired the film The Exorcist; a Filipina girl ‘bitten by devils’; and a rare example of a priest’s letter requesting permission of a bishop to perform an exorcism – after witnessing a boy walk backwards up a wall...

Joseph P. Laycock is an assistant professor of religious studies at Texas State University and a co-editor of the journal Nova Religio. He is the author or editor of several books about religion, including Speak of the Devil, Spirit Possession Around the World, and The Seer of Bayside, and has written for Quartz and The New Republic. He lives in Austin, Texas.
The Penguin Book of Spiritual Verse
100 Poets on the Divine
Edited by Kaveh Akbar

An exciting new collection of poems exploring faith, the divine, and doubt, written by poets across the world from antiquity to the present.

Poets have always looked to the skies for inspiration, and have written as a way of getting closer to the power and beauty they sense in nature, in each other and in the cosmos. This anthology serves as a truly holistic and global survey to a lyric conversation about the divine that has been going on for millenia.

Beginning with the earliest attributable author in all of human literature, the twenty-third century BC Sumerian High Priestess Enheduanna, and taking in a constellation of voices — from King David, to Lao Tzu, to the fourteenth century Ethiopian national religious epic, the Kebranagast — this anthology presents a number of canonical voices like Blake, Rumi, Dickinson and Tagore, alongside lesser-anthologized diverse voices that showcase the breathtaking multiplicity of ways in which humanity has responded to the Divine across the centuries.

These poets’ voices commune across the centuries, offering readers a chance to experience for themselves the vast and powerful interconnectedness of these incantations orbiting the most elemental of all subjects — our spirit.

Kaveh Akbar is an Iranian-American poet and scholar. His celebrated first collection, Calling a Wolf a Wolf, was shortlisted for the Forward Prize. He teaches Poetry of the Divine at Purdue University, Indiana.
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Len Deighton was born in 1929 in London. He did his national service in the RAF, went to the Royal College of Art and designed many book jackets, including the original UK edition of Jack Kerouac’s *On the Road*. The enormous success of his first novel, *The IPCRESS File* (1962), was repeated in a remarkable sequence of books over the following thirty or so years. These varied from historical fiction (Bomber, perhaps his greatest novel) to dystopian alternative fiction (SS-GB) and a number of brilliant non-fiction books on the Second World War (Fighter, Blitzkrieg and Blood, Tears and Folly).

His spy novels chart the twists and turns of Britain and the Cold War in ways which now give them a unique flavour. They preserve a world in which Europe contains many dictatorships, in which the personal can be ruined by the ideological and where the horrors of the Second World War are buried under only a very thin layer of soil. Deighton’s fascination with technology, his sense of humour and his brilliant evocation of time and place make him one of the key British espionage writers, alongside John Buchan, Eric Ambler, Ian Fleming and John Le Carré.

All his novels and non-fiction books will be published in Penguin Modern Classics.

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‘Subtle, skillful, and clear . . . It’s the most impressive novel I’ve read for years, and one of the very few that feels truly necessary’ Philip Pullman

In the sweltering summer of 1938, with Lisbon in the grip of António Salazar’s dictatorship, a journalist is coming to terms with the rise of fascism around him and its insidious impact on his work. When he meets a young, charismatic activist, his life takes a dramatic turn that culminates in a devastating act of rebellion. Tabucchi’s celebrated masterpiece is an ode to courage and solidarity in the face of political oppression.

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**Little Misunderstandings of No Importance**

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The collection of short stories that launched one of the key figures of twentieth-century Italian literature to fame

A short story collection pivoting on life’s ambiguities and the central question they pose in Tabucchi’s fiction: is it choice, fate, accident, or even, occasionally, a kind of magic that plays a decisive role in the protagonists’ lives? Set in Paris, Lisbon, Madras and New York and blended with the author’s wonderfully intelligent imagination, Tabucchi reflects on the elemental aspects of the human experience, exploring grief, uncertainty, adventure, memory and love.

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**Requiem**

**Antonio Tabucchi**

A private meeting, chance encounters and a mysterious tour of Lisbon haunt this moving homage to Tabucchi’s adopted city

In the city of Lisbon, Requiem’s narrator has an appointment to meet someone on a quay by the Tagus at twelve. As the day unfolds he has many unexpected encounters – with a young drug addict, a disorientated taxi driver, a cemetery keeper, the mysterious Isabel and the ghost of the late great poet Fernando Pessoa – each meeting between the real and illusionary. Part travelogue, part autobiography, part fiction, Requiem is an homage to a country, its people, and the source of Tabucchi’s literary inspiration.

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76
Che Guevara was an inveterate letter writer and diarist throughout his short but extraordinary life. His letters and diaries are those of a master narrator, characterized by a brutal honesty, a remarkable lack of ego, a razor-sharp wit, an iron will and a great capacity to express his love and affection for his closest friends and family.

This selection of Che Guevara’s correspondence, beginning with letters penned in his early travels around Latin America as a medical student, shows how he polished his unique style over the years. This selection maps the emergence of a dedicated revolutionary and original political thinker from the wide-eyed young Argentine who set out to discover Latin America. Covering the entirety of Che’s life, from his famous motorcycle journey around South America to the Cuban Revolutionary War, from the setting-up of the pioneering communist state of Cuba to his revolutionary travels to the Congo and Bolivia. But it also reveals a more intimate, personal side to Che, including his letters to his mother, wife and children.

In one of his last letters to his young children, Che advised them to ‘always be capable of feeling deeply any injustice committed against anyone, anywhere in the world. This is the most beautiful quality in a revolutionary.’

Ernesto ‘Che’ Guevara was born into a wealthy family in Argentina in 1928 and trained as a doctor, but became radicalized by the poverty and hunger he witnessed in South America. He played a key role in the Cuban Revolution and served in Fidel Castro’s government. He then travelled to Bolivia to lead the rebellion there, where he was executed by the Bolivian and US forces in 1967. In 1997 his remains were discovered and returned to Cuba, where he was reburied.

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For the past fifty years, Louise Glück has been a major force in modern poetry, distinguished as much for the restless intelligence, wit and intimacy of her poetic voice as for her development of a particular form: the book-length sequence of poems. This volume brings together the twelve collections Glück has published to date, offering readers the opportunity to become immersed in the artistry and vision of one of the world’s greatest living poets.

From the allegories of The Wild Iris to the myth-making of Averno; the oneiric landscapes of The House on Marshland to the questing of Faithful and Virtuous Night – each of Glück’s collections looks upon the events of an ordinary life and finds within them scope for the transcendent; each wields its archetypes to puncture the illusions of the self. Across her work, elements are reiterated but endlessly transfigured – Persephone, a copper beech, a mother and father and sister, a garden, a husband and son, a horse, a dog, a field on fire, a mountain. Taken together, the effect is like a shifting landscape seen from above, at once familiar and unspeakably profound.

Louise Glück is the author of twelve books of poems and two essay collections. Her many awards include the Nobel Prize in Literature, the National Humanities Medal, the Pulitzer Prize, the National Book Award, the National Book Critics Circle Award, the Bollingen Prize, and the Wallace Stevens Award from the Academy of American Poets. She teaches at Yale University and Stanford University and lives in Cambridge, Massachusetts.
This startlingly original reworking of the Persephone myth takes us to the icy shores of Averno, the crater lake regarded by the ancient Romans as the entrance to the underworld. Here, the consolations of rebirth and renewal are eclipsed by the immediacy of loss — by a mother’s possessive grief, an abducted girl’s equivocal memories, a farmer’s lament for a lost harvest. This chorus offers neither comfort nor solace but deepened understanding, its sorrow textured by the poet’s luminous wit. Together, the poems of Averno swell to a staggeringly powerful lamentation, through which the reader glimpses the ecstasy of the inevitable, only to find it resisted by the insistent, impersonal presence of the Earth.

Louise Glück is the author of twelve books of poems and two essay collections. Her many awards include the Nobel Prize in Literature, the National Humanities Medal, the Pulitzer Prize, the National Book Award, the National Book Critics Circle Award, the Bollingen Prize, and the Wallace Stevens Award from the Academy of American Poets. She teaches at Yale University and Stanford University and lives in Cambridge, Massachusetts.
There was no longer that ambivalent inconsistency between her words and thoughts, no more fever, no more artificial heat, no more vagueness. Instead was the truth in all its rawness, in black and white, in stark, cruel lines.

Adrift and alone, Betty finds herself propped up at the bar of a sleazy establishment on the Champs-Élysées. When an older woman takes her under her wing, Betty’s tortured past returns to haunt her. Excluded by her high-society peers and overwrought with jealousy, she struggles with a desperate compulsion to tear her picture-perfect life apart.

Originally published in 1961, this gripping psychological thriller caused a sensation and inspired a film adaptation by Claude Chabrol.

‘A brilliant portrait of betrayal, hypocrisy, love and loss’ – Chicago Tribune

Georges Simenon was born in Liège, Belgium, in 1903 and died in 1989 in Lausanne, Switzerland where he had lived for the latter part of his life. He is best known for his celebrated series of novels featuring Inspector Maigret.
Crossing the Mangrove
Maryse Condé

A mesmerizing novel from one of the most important writers working today, winner of the alternative Nobel Prize

Francis Sancher, a handsome outsider, loved by some and reviled by others, is found dead, face down in the mud on a path outside Riviere au Sel, a small village in Guadeloupe. No one is particularly surprised since Sancher, a secretive and melancholy man, had often predicted an unnatural death for himself. As the villagers come to pay their respects, they each reveal another piece of the mystery behind his life and death.

Like pieces of an elaborate puzzle, their memories interlock to create a rich and intriguing portrait of a man and a community. A beautifully crafted, Rashomon-like novel, this gripping story, first published in France in 1989, is imbued with all the nuances and traditions of Caribbean culture.

Maryse Condé was born at Pointe-à-Pitre, Guadeloupe, in 1937 and spent most of her life in West Africa (Guinea, Ghana and Senegal), France and the US, where she taught at the University of California, Berkeley, UCLA and Columbia. The publication of her bestselling third novel, Segu (1984), established her pre-eminent position among Caribbean writers. She won Le Grand Prix Littéraire de la Femme in 1986 as well as Le Prix de L’Académie Française in 1988 and was shortlisted for the Man Booker International Prize in 2015. In 2018 she was awarded the alternative Nobel prize for literature and described as a ‘grand storyteller who belongs to world literature’.
Second Class Citizen
Buchi Emecheta

A tale of survival from one of the most beloved Nigerian writers, now in Penguin Modern Classics for the first time

When Adah’s dream of moving to England becomes a reality, she soon discovers that life for a young Nigerian woman living in London in the 1960s is far from what she had imagined. The cold weather and cramped, crumbling accommodation might become bearable, were it not for her tyrannical husband who abuses the power conferred on him by traditional Igbo culture and provides precious little support of any kind.

As Adah finds herself providing for her rapidly growing family – rescuing her children from the hands of a slovenly childminder, learning the unspoken rules of society and negotiating everyday slights and wounding insults along the way – she takes refuge in her work as a librarian and resolves to salvage her dreams of becoming a writer.

Second Class Citizen is the story of a woman’s courage in the face of crushing inequalities that threaten to overwhelm her as she navigates the rigid patriarchal culture of her birth and discovers the racism at the heart of her adopted home. It also captures in vivid and moving detail, the experience of so many West African families who arrived in the UK at that time. Funny, poignant and profound, Emecheta’s ground-breaking novel resonates as powerfully today as when it was first published.

Buchi Emecheta (1944-2017) was born in Lagos, Nigeria and moved to London in 1961. A writer and academic, she wrote sixteen novels, three children’s stories and numerous articles and television plays.
Are you sure, sweetheart, that you want to be well?

Georgia, 1970s. Velma Henry, once a formidable political activist, has grown weary and disillusioned with the fight for civil rights. Burdened with depression, she finds herself in the hands of a community of Black faith healers after a suicide attempt. Embracing their methods, Velma begins to work back through her rage and fear, slowly releasing herself from a traumatic past.

First published in 1980, The Salt Eaters is a rich, optimistic and formally experimental novel – ‘a book full of marvels’ (New Yorker). It is boldly political in its exploration of intersectionality, and its commentary on the self is profound, illuminating how the health of the individual depends upon shared cultural identity and spiritual connection.

Author, activist, filmmaker and academic Toni Cade Bambara was born in Harlem, New York, in 1939. Bambara’s award-winning fiction was celebrated during her lifetime for its centring of female characters and its grounding in African-American culture, spaces and dialects; she would later be inducted into the Georgia Writers Hall of Fame. She died in Philadelphia in 1995.
“I have all the guns and all the money. I can withstand challenge from without and from within. Am I right, Comrade?” So said Elaine Brown on becoming the first female leader of the Black Panther Party in 1974. By that time the group had grown from a small local outfit into a national revolutionary movement, described by FBI director J. Edgar Hoover as ‘the greatest threat to the internal security of the country’.

Brown’s gripping memoir charts her rise from an impoverished neighbourhood in Philadelphia, through a political awakening during a bohemian adolescence, and on to her time as a foot soldier for the Panthers and her ascent into its upper echelons. As an unforgettable portrayal of Black girlhood in 1950s Philadelphia and the revolutionary experience in 1960s California, A Taste of Power is a seminal exploration of power, prejudice and the struggle for justice.

Elaine Brown is an American activist, writer, singer and former leader of the Black Panther Party. Born in 1943, Brown was raised in Philadelphia. She moved to Los Angeles to pursue a career in the music, and there became politicized as she further experienced the daily injustices of racism. She joined the Black Panther Party in 1968, and, in 1974, was appointed leader of the group – a role she held until 1977. She has since been intimately involved in campaigns for prison and education reform.
‘Nature, we believe, takes forever. It moves with infinite slowness,’ begins the first book to bring climate change to public attention. Interweaving lyrical observations from his life in the Adirondack Mountains with insights from the emerging science, Bill McKibben sets out the central developments not only of the environmental crisis now facing us but also the terms of our response, from policy to the fundamental, philosophical shift in our relationship with the natural world which he argues could save us. A moving elegy to nature in its pristine, pre-human wilderness, The End of Nature also marks a milestone in environmental thought, indispensable to understanding how we arrived here.

Bill McKibben is a writer and environmental activist. His The End of Nature (1989) is considered the first book for a general audience about climate change. He serves as the Schumann Distinguished Scholar in Environmental Studies at Middlebury College, as a fellow of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, and he has won the Gandhi Peace Prize. He has campaigned on every continent, including Antarctica, for climate action. In recognition of his activism, a new species of woodland gnat – Megophthalmidia mckibbeni – was in 2014 named in his honour.
Hector Loursat, a lawyer in the small town of Moulins, has lived as a drunken recluse since his wife left him eighteen years previously. Unmoored from society and estranged from his daughter, he shuts himself away, numbed by endless bottles of burgundy. But when a dead man is found in his house one night, the resulting police investigation unearths secrets that shake the town – and Loursat’s isolation – to the core. No longer able to ignore the world, he emerges to take on the murder case himself and confront the lives of Moulins’ by-ways and back streets.

In the progressive break down of Loursat’s self-imposed isolation, Simenon brilliantly depicts the psychology of loneliness and a man’s tortured re-engagement with humanity and its darkest acts.

Georges Simenon was born in Liège, Belgium, in 1903 and died in 1989 in Lausanne, Switzerland where he had lived for the latter part of his life. He is best known for his celebrated series of novels featuring Inspector Maigret.
Speaking Out
Lectures and Speeches 1937-58
Albert Camus

A new collection of Albert Camus’ most brilliant speeches and lectures

‘Truth is mysterious, fleeting, always to be won. Freedom is dangerous, as hard to live as it is exalting’

This definitive new collection of Albert Camus’ public speeches and lectures gives an unparalleled insight into the thought of one of the twentieth century’s most enduring writers. From his pre-war speech on the politics and culture of the Mediterranean – delivered when he was just 22 – to his impassioned Nobel Prize acceptance speeches, Speaking Out makes manifest Camus’ ‘stubborn humanism’, his longing for freedom and justice. In a Europe scarred by the horrors of the early twentieth century, these speeches mark a singular artist’s commitment to a kinder, truer world.

Albert Camus (1913-60) grew up in a working-class neighbourhood in Algiers. He studied philosophy at the University of Algiers, and became a journalist. His most important works include The Outsider, The Myth of Sisyphus, The Plague and The Fall. After the occupation of France by the Germans in 1941, Camus became one of the intellectual leaders of the Resistance movement. He was killed in a road accident, and his last unfinished novel, The First Man, was published posthumously.
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Alistair Cooke

A defining collection from Alistair Cooke’s legendary BBC Radio broadcasts guiding us through nearly sixty years of changing life in the United States

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Rumpole’s Return
John Mortimer

‘A fruity, foxy masterpiece, defender of our wilting faith in mankind’ Sunday Times

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Penguin Paperbacks
Another Bangkok
Reflections on the City
Alex Kerr

The essential book for anyone visiting Bangkok – a wonderful mixture of history and culture – from the author of Lost Japan

One of Asia’s most extraordinary cities, Bangkok is also one of the most baffling. It is filled with remarkable people and glittering golden palaces and temples, but is also a maze of concrete and twisting overhead utility wires. Alex Kerr has spent over thirty years of his life living in Bangkok and is uniquely qualified to write about it. As with his bestselling books on Japan (Lost Japan and Another Kyoto), he revels in the secret, tucked-away corners, the great contemporary artists and the sheer wonder of so many aspects of Thai dance and design. While deploring the loss of much of old Bangkok, he is never merely nostalgic for a past but finds inspiration in Thailand’s dynamic modern fusions.

Another Bangkok will delight both those who think they know the city well and those visiting for the first time. Kerr is a uniquely wry and eloquent guide to everything from ceramics to puppetry, from flower patterns to old houses.

Alex Kerr is an American writer and Japanologist whose previous books include Lost Japan, Dogs and Demons and Another Kyoto (with Kathy Arlyn Sokol). He was the first foreigner to be awarded the Shincho Gakugei Literature Prize for the best work of non-fiction published in Japan. First visiting Bangkok in the 1970s, since 1990 he has lived half of each year in Kyoto, the other half in Bangkok.

JULY 2021
9780141987170
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Living at the limits of our ordinary perception, mosses are a common but largely unnoticed element of the natural world. Gathering Moss is a beautifully written mix of science and personal reflection that invites readers to explore and learn from the elegantly simple lives of mosses.

In these interwoven essays, Robin Wall Kimmerer leads general readers and scientists alike to an understanding of how mosses live and how their lives are intertwined with the lives of countless other beings. Kimmerer explains the biology of mosses clearly and artfully, while at the same time reflecting on what these fascinating organisms have to teach us.

Drawing on her experiences as a scientist, a mother, and a Native American, Kimmerer explains the stories of mosses in scientific terms as well as within the framework of indigenous ways of knowing. In her book, the natural history and cultural relationships of mosses become a powerful metaphor for ways of living in the world.
Stereo(TYPE)
Jonah Mixon-Webster

The award-winning poet’s darkly riotous poetry debut, exploring stereotypes of Black male identity and sexuality in a corrupt system.

Lyrical, loud and radically urgent, Jonah Mixon-Webster’s debut aims its sights at the words and images that shape us and the corrupt forces that stand in the way of our freedom. Stereo(TYPE) is a reckoning and a force. It is a revision of our most sacred mythologies — and a work of documentary poetry reporting from Mixon-Webster’s hometown of Flint, Michigan, where untainted tap water is still not guaranteed and the legacies of racist policies persist.

Challenging stereotypes through scenes scattered with satire, violence, and the extreme vagaries of everyday life, Mixon-Webster explores the places where space and body, race and region and sexuality and class meet and intersect. He invents visual/sonic forms, recasts poems as FAQs and transcripts, and dives into dreamscape and modern tragedies. Interrogating language and the ways we wield it as both sword and shield, Stereo(TYPE) is a rapturous collection of vital and beautiful poems.

Jonah Mixon-Webster is a poet and conceptual/sound artist from Flint, Michigan. His debut collection, Stereo(TYPE), has been a finalist for the 2019 Lambda Literary Award for Gay Poetry and the winner of the 2019 PEN America/Joyce Osterweil Award. He is an alumnus of Eastern Michigan University and Illinois State University, and in addition to having served as a PEN America Writing for Justice Fellow in 2019-2020, received the 2020 Windham-Campbell Prize from Yale University. His poetry and cross-genre works are featured in publications including Harper’s, The Yale Review, The Rumpus, Best New Poets and Best American Experimental Writing.
history is what we call / what might have happened differently / and didn’t

It is the decade of centuries, and Cheryl tells us our fortune. Radicals liberate a zoo, teenagers flirt in a bowling alley, and the dead are cherished. In these inventive, playful, dream-like poems, Stephen Sexton takes us on a journey through the past and the present, while Cheryl translates from the future, showing us how we exist in all three at once.

Reckoning with both public and private tragedies, the book is divided into three parts. In Part One, the poems range across old Europe: ‘Edelweiss’ and Titanic setting sail, to a transatlantic, cross-century symposium in Part Two, where W.B. Yeats and Billy Corgan of the Smashing Pumpkins perfect their arts in collaboration. In Part Three we are back in the land where the past keeps breaking through, it’s practically always the anniversary of something terrible, but there’s always Cheryl in the moonlight and her deck of tarot cards.

A thrillingly strange exploration of the comfort of the fantastical when the real is hard to bear, Cheryl’s Destinies is the enchanting follow-up to the Forward Prize-winning If All the World and Love Were Young, by one of the most exciting young poets writing today.

Stephen Sexton lives in Belfast. His debut If All the World and Love Were Young won the Forward Prize for Best First Collection and was named ‘a debut fit to compare to Seamus Heaney’ (Sunday Times). His poems have appeared in Granta, POETRY and Best British Poetry 2015. His pamphlet, Oils, was the Poetry Book Society’s Winter Pamphlet Choice. He was the winner of the 2016 National Poetry Competition, the recipient of an ACES award from the Arts Council of Northern Ireland and was awarded an Eric Gregory Award in 2018.
Regeneration
Ending the Climate Crisis in One Generation
Paul Hawken

A practical companion to the global phenomenon Drawdown, offering a toolkit of actions for every level of society

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Paul Hawken is an environmentalist, entrepreneur, journalist, and author who has dedicated his life to sustainability and changing the relationship between business and the environment. His practice has included starting and running ecological businesses, writing and teaching about the impact of commerce on living systems, and consulting with governments and corporations on economic development, industrial ecology, and environmental policy.
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Yrsa Daley-Ward’s words have resonated with hundreds of thousands of readers around the world: through her books of poetry and memoir bone and The Terrible, through her powerful writing for Beyoncé on Black Is King and through her always-illuminating Instagram posts.

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Known for her large online presence and talks at global speaking events including TEDx, Yrsa Daley-Ward is a writer, actor and model of Jamaican and Nigerian heritage. Yrsa was raised by her devout Seventh Day Adventist grandparents in the small town of Chorley in the North of England and now lives and work in New York.

In her writing, Yrsa tackles issues dealing with all parts of the human condition, particularly those ‘we don’t tend to speal of’: issues of social awareness such as mental health, sexuality, love, grief and addiction.

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She is best known for her collection bone (2017) and her critically acclaimed poetic memoir The Terrible (2018), both published by Penguin Books.

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