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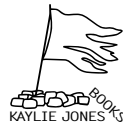
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AKASHIC BOOKS is an award-winning independent company dedicated to publishing literary fiction and political nonfiction by authors who are either ignored by the mainstream, or who have no interest in working within the ever-consolidating ranks of the major corporate publishers. Akashic Books hosts additional imprints, including the Akashic Noir Series, the Akashic Drug Chronicles Series, Black Sheep Books for Young Readers, Open Lens, Peekash Press, Kaylie Jones Books, Dave Zirin's Edge of Sports, LyricPop, and Ann Hood's Gracie Belle.



RANDOM

A NOVEL BY PENN JILLETTE

From Penn Jillette of the legendary magic duo Penn & Teller: a rollicking crime caper that will bend your mind like a spoon.

“Random is everything you would hope from Penn Jillette and so much more. Random numbers are seemingly crazy, unconnected, and unpredictable: this fabulous, wondrously compelling, funny, and original novel is all that too. As for laughs—it passed the the fling-up-the-head-snort-and-slap-the-thigh test a dozen times in the first few pages alone. Hugely recommended.” —**Stephen Fry**, actor/writer

“Bravo, Bobby Ingersoll. Encore, Penn Jillette!” —**Debbie Harry**

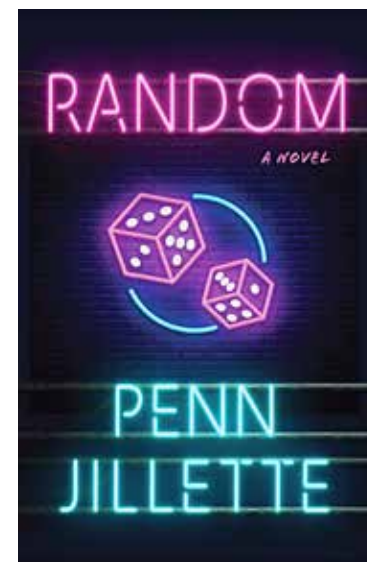
TWO WEEKS BEFORE HIS TWENTY-FIRST BIRTHDAY, Las Vegas native Bobby Ingersoll finds out he’s inherited a crushing gambling debt from his scumbag father. The debt is owed to an even scummier bag named Fraser Ruphart who oversees his bottom-rung criminal empire from the classy-adjacent Trump International Hotel. Bobby’s prospects of paying off the note, which comes due the day he turns twenty-one, are about as dim as the sign on the tower’s facade.

THE TWO WEEKS PASS IN THE BLINK OF A (SNAKE) EYE, but before Bobby’s luck runs out, he stumbles upon enough cash to pay Ruphart off and change his family’s fortune. More importantly, he finds himself with a new, for lack of a better word, faith.

BOBBY DOES NOT CONSIGN HIS BIG BREAK to a “higher power”—what Penn Jillette hero ever could? Instead, he devises and devotes himself to Random, a philosophy where his life choices are based entirely on the roll of his “lucky” dice. What follows is a hilarious exploration into not so much what defines us as what divines us when we give over every decision—from what to eat to whom to marry to how or when to die—to the random fall of two numbered cubes.

COMBINING THE INTELLECTUAL CURIOSITY OF RICHARD DAWKINS with the humor and grit of an Elmore Leonard antihero, Jillette’s up-on-his-luck Ingersoll is the character we need to help us navigate the chaos of the post-truth era. Well, unless his roll runs cold.

PENN JILLETTE is a cultural phenomenon as a solo personality and as half of the world-famous Emmy Award-winning magic duo Penn & Teller, whose live show spent years on Broadway and is now the longest-running headlining show in Las Vegas. The pair have their own star on the Hollywood Walk of Fame. Jillette cohosted the Showtime series *Penn & Teller: Bullshit!* which was nominated for thirteen Emmy Awards and won him a Writers Guild Award. He currently cohosts the CW Network competition series *Penn & Teller: Fool Us!* which was nominated for a 2017 Critics’ Choice Award. His weekly podcast, *Penn’s Sunday School*, was the number one downloaded podcast on iTunes during its debut week and was named by iTunes as Best New Comedy Podcast. He is the author of numerous books, including the nonfiction *New York Times* best-selling books *Presto!: How I Made Over 100 Pounds Disappear and Other Magical Tales* and *God No!: Signs You May Already Be an Atheist and Other Magical Tales*; the novel *Sock*; and the essay collection *Every Day Is an Atheist Holiday!*



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MARCH 7, 2023
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TELL THE REST

A NOVEL BY LUCY JANE BLEDSOE

Two estranged childhood friends find themselves on parallel paths to return to the site of the conversion therapy camp that tore them apart.

"A multilayered gem of a novel, polished, intelligent, and moving. *Tell the Rest* deftly explores courage, drive, happiness, sexuality, love, and more . . . I could not put it down."

—Meg Waite Clayton, *New York Times* best-selling author of *The Last Train to London*

"Bledsoe draws a hard-edged picture of what abuse adults are willing to perpetrate on children who don't fit their mold. Her tender yet precise debriding of the resultant wounds is an accomplishment that will stay with you. *Tell the Rest* is heartbreaking, chilling, and ultimately triumphant."

—Jewelle Gomez, Lambda Award-winning author of *The Gilda Stories*

"An important book with a story we need now about the horrors of conversion therapy and adult survivors of childhood trauma. And it's a timely book with urgent exploration of issues including gender, race, class, sexuality, religion, and family. But mostly it's also a character-driven novel full of love for all kinds of people who need it, which is to say all of us. I enjoyed it beginning to end."

—Laurie Frankel, *New York Times* best-selling author of *One Two Three*

DELIA BARNES AND ERNEST WRANGHAM met as teens at Celebration Camp, a church-supported conversion therapy program—a dubious, unscientific Christian practice meant to "change" a person's sexuality. After witnessing a close friend suffer a devastating tragedy in the hands of the camp "counselors," they escaped in the night, only to take separate roads to their distant homes.

THEY HAVE NO IDEA HOW EACH HAVE FARED through the years. Delia is a college basketball coach who prides herself on being an empowering and self-possessed role model for her players. But when she gets fired from her elite East Coast university and loses her wife to another woman in rapid succession, she returns to her hometown of Rockside, Oregon to coach the girls' basketball team at her high school alma mater.

ERNEST, MEANWHILE, IS A RENOWNED POET in New York City who's left behind his loving husband for a temporary teaching job in Portland, Oregon. His work has always been boundary-pushing, fearless. But the poem he's most wanted to write—about his dangerous escape from Celebration Camp—remains stubbornly out of reach.

BOTH REMAIN ON A MISSION TO OVERCOME the consequences and inhumane costs of conversion therapy. As events find them hurtling toward each other once again, they both grapple with the necessity of remaining steadfast in one's truth—no matter how slippery that can be. *Tell the Rest* is a powerful novel about coming to terms—with family, history, violence, loss, sexuality, and ultimately, with love.

LUCY JANE BLEDSOE is the author of several works of fiction, including *A Thin Bright Line*, which was a Lambda Literary Award and Ferro-Grumley Award finalist. She is the winner of an American Library Association Stonewall Award, a Yaddo Fellowship, a California Arts Council Fellowship in Literature, two National Science Foundation Artists & Writers Fellowships, and a finalist for the Northern California Independent Booksellers Association Fiction Award. A native of Portland, Oregon, she now lives in Berkeley, California.

POLICE BRUTALITY AND WHITE SUPREMACY

THE FIGHT AGAINST AMERICAN TRADITIONS

ESSAYS & INTERVIEWS BY **ETAN THOMAS**

An NBA veteran offers engaging interviews and reflections that explore police brutality, white supremacy, and the struggle for racial justice in America.

"Thomas's interviews demand careful reading by all who want to expose racism, hold police accountable, and create an American society that practices social justice." —*Library Journal*, STARRED review

"A relevant, occasionally eye-opening collection of Q&As on race and privilege." —*Kirkus Reviews*

"Thomas speaks with athletes, activists, religious leaders, and family members of victims of police brutality about systemic racism, exploring such topics as Rodney King, the Central Park Five, and the January 6 attack on the US Capitol. The strength of this book lies in its range." —*Booklist*

ETAN THOMAS, AN ELEVEN-YEAR NBA VETERAN and lifelong advocate for social justice, weaves together his personal experiences with police violence and white supremacy with multiple interviews of family members of victims of police brutality like exonerated Central Park Five survivor Raymond Santana and Rodney King's daughter Lora Dene King; as well as activist athletes and other public figures such as Steph Curry, Chuck D, Isiah Thomas, Sue Bird, Jake Tapper, Jemele Hill, Stan Van Gundy, Kyle Korver, Mark Cuban, Rick Strom, and many more.

THOMAS SPEAKS WITH RETIRED POLICE OFFICERS about their efforts to change policing, and white allies about their experiences with privilege and their ability to influence other white people. Thomas also examines the history of racism, white supremacy, and the prevalence of both in the current moment. He looks at the origins of white supremacy in the US, dating back to the country's inception, and explores how it was interwoven into Christianity—interviewing leading voices both in and outside of the church. Finally, with prominent voices in the media and education, Thomas discusses the continued cultivation of these injustices in American society. *Police Brutality and White Supremacy* demands accountability and justice for those responsible for and impacted by police violence and terror. It offers practical solutions to work against the promotion of white supremacy in law enforcement, Christianity, early education, and across the public sphere.

FEATURING ORIGINAL INTERVIEWS WITH: Steph Curry, Chuck D, Yamiche Alcindor, Isiah Thomas, Jemele Hill, Craig Hodges, Stan Van Gundy, Mark Cuban, Jake Tapper, Mahmoud Abdul-Rauf, Sue Bird, Kyle Korver, Rick Strom, Cenk Uygur, Tim Wise, Chris Broussard, Breanna Stewart, Rex Chapman, Stephen Jackson, Kori Mccoy, Lora Dene King, Chikesia Clemons, Raymond Santana, Alissa Findley, Amber and Ashley Carr, Michelle and Ashley Monterrosa, Chairman Fred Hampton Jr., Abiodun Oyewole, Marc Lamont Hill, Officer Carlton Berkley, Pastor John K. Jenkins Sr., Officer Joe Ested, Captain Sonia Pruitt, and Bishop Talbert Swan.

ETAN THOMAS, a former eleven-year NBA player, was born in Harlem and raised in Tulsa, Oklahoma. He has published multiple books including: *We Matter: Athletes and Activism* (voted a top ten best activism book of all time by BookAuthority), *More than an Athlete*, *Fatherhood: Rising to the Ultimate Challenge*, and *Voices of the Future*. Thomas received the 2010 National Basketball Players Association Community Contribution Award as well as the 2009 Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Foundation Legacy Award—both honoring his advocacy for social justice. He is a senior writer for BasketballNews.com.



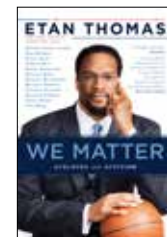
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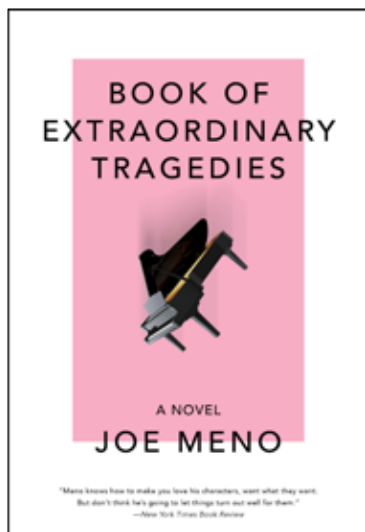
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BOOK OF EXTRAORDINARY TRAGEDIES

A NOVEL BY **JOE MENO**

From the best-selling author Joe Meno, a moving novel about the impossibility of fate and family.

"Meno knows how to make you love his characters, want what they want. But don't think he's going to let things turn out well for them."
—**New York Times Book Review**

"I don't know how Joe Meno does it—if I did know, I'd copy him. This book has such velocity that it generates wind, yet it is meditative and steeped in love, music, and human connection. It's stunning."
—**Luis Alberto Urrea**, author of *The House of Broken Angels*

"Joe Meno writes beautifully of the way tragic stories become a kind of inheritance in this bittersweet love letter to the immigrants who built Chicago."
—**Leigh Stein**, author of *Self Care*

"A sensitive and imaginative work by a writer who deserves every reader."
—**Kevin Wilson**, author of *Nothing to See Here*

ALEKSANDAR AND ISOBEL ARE SIBLINGS and former classical music prodigies, once destined for greatness. As the only Eastern European family growing up on their block on the far southside of Chicago, the pair were inseparable until each was forced to confront the absurdity of tragedy at an early age and abandon their musical ambitions.

NOW IN THEIR TWENTIES, they find themselves encountering ridiculous jobs, unfulfilling romantic relationships, and the outrageousness of ordinary life. Doomed by fate, a family history of failure, an odd mother, an absent father, and a younger brother with a peculiar fondness for catastrophes, the two siblings have all but given up.

BUT WHEN AN ILLNESS FORCES Isobel and her three-year-old daughter to move back into the family home, Aleks becomes deeply involved in the endless challenges that surround his relatives. Once Isobel begins playing cello again, Aleks comes to see a world of possibility and wonder in the lives of his extraordinarily complicated family.

TOLD IN ALEK'S EXUBERANT VOICE, and full of as much comedy as tragedy, this entertaining novel asks, *Is it ever truly possible to separate our fates from those we've come to love?*

JOE MENO is a fiction writer and journalist who lives in Chicago. Winner of the Nelson Algren Literary Award, a Pushcart Prize, and a finalist for the Story Prize, Meno is the best-selling author of several novels and short story collections including *Marvel and a Wonder*, *The Great Perhaps*, *The Boy Detective Fails*, and *Hairstyles of the Damned*. He is a professor in the English and Creative Writing Department at Columbia College Chicago.

ALSO AVAILABLE BY JOE MENO:

MARVEL AND A WONDER

LITERARY FICTION, PAPERBACK, 336 PAGES, \$15.95, ISBN: 978-1-61775-394-7

- Winner of the Society of Midland Authors Award
- Named a *Booklist* Editors' Choice
- Long-listed for the American Library Association's 2016 Andrew Carnegie Medal for Excellence in Fiction

"Evoking William Faulkner and Cormac McCarthy, Meno's suspenseful, mordantly incisive, many-layered tale can also be read as an equine *Moby-Dick*. As he tracks the bewildering seismic shifts under way in America, Meno celebrates everyday marvels, including the hard-proven love between grandfather and grandson." —*Booklist*, STARRED review

"Meno makes the most banal prose—grunts and salutations, small talk over meals—compelling and necessary . . . [He] has a knack for giving small happenings emotional weight . . . Meno knows how to make you love his characters, want what they want. But don't think he's going to let things turn out well for them. Marvels and wonders aren't worth the trouble. Fortunately, this book is." —*New York Times Book Review*

OFFICE GIRL

LITERARY FICTION, PAPERBACK, 296 PAGES, \$15.95, ISBN: 978-1-61775-076-2

- Named "Best New Novel by a Chicagoan" and "Best Book for the Disillusioned Artist in All of Us" by the *Chicago Reader*
- Selected by *The Believer's* readers as a favorite fiction work of 2012
- One of *DailyCandy's* Best Books of 2012

"Wonderful storytelling panache . . . Meno excels at capturing the way that budding love can make two people feel brave and freshly alive to their surroundings . . . [T]he story of the relationship has a sweet simplicity." —*Wall Street Journal*

"High on quirk and hipster cred, the novel is light as air, surprisingly unpretentious, and extremely kind to its larky, irony-addled protagonists. Meno is really the heir to Douglas Coupland, who introduced this crowd in 1991's *Generation X*. However, Meno's sympathy for his heroes' frustrations makes his novel more than merely endearing." —*Publishers Weekly*, Pick of the Week

"Meno has constructed a snowflake-delicate inquiry into alienation and longing. Illustrated with drawings and photographs and shaped by tender empathy, buoyant imagination, and bittersweet wit, this wistful, provocative, off-kilter love story affirms the bonds forged by art and story." —*Booklist*, STARRED review

HAIRSTYLES OF THE DAMNED

LITERARY FICTION, PAPERBACK, 278 PAGES, \$14.95, ISBN: 978-1-888451-70-2

"[A] funny, hard-rocking first-person tale of teenage angst and discovery." —*Booklist*

"[C]aptures both the sweetness and sting of adolescence with unflinching honesty." —*Entertainment Weekly*

"Joe Meno writes with the energy, honesty, and emotional impact of the best punk rock. From the opening sentence to the very last word, *Hairstyles of the Damned* held me in his grip." —Jim DeRogatis, pop music critic, *Chicago Sun-Times*

THE BOY DETECTIVE FAILS

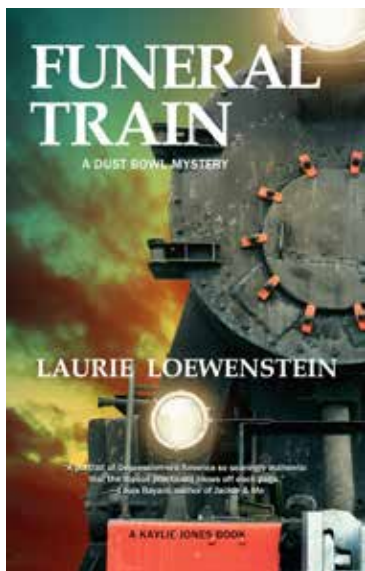
LITERARY FICTION, PAPERBACK, 320 PAGES, \$16.95, ISBN: 978-1-933354-10-1

"[A] delicate blend of whimsy and edginess . . . Meno packs his novel with delightful subtext." —*Entertainment Weekly*

"Mood is everything here, and Meno tunes it like a master . . . A full-tilt collision of wish-fulfillment and unrequited desires that's thrilling, yet almost unbearably sad." —*Kirkus Reviews*, STARRED review

"This is postmodern fiction with a head *and* a heart, addressing such depressing issues as suicide, death, loneliness, failure, anomie, and guilt with compassion, humor, and even whimsy. Meno's best work yet; highly recommended." —*Library Journal*, STARRED review





OCTOBER 4, 2022
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FUNERAL TRAIN

A DUST BOWL MYSTERY BY LAURIE LOEWENSTEIN

In her gripping follow-up to the widely acclaimed *Dust Bowl Mystery* *Death of a Rainmaker*, Laurie Loewenstein brings 1930s Oklahoma evocatively to life.

“A portrait of Depression-era America so searingly authentic that the topsoil practically blows off each page.” —**Louis Bayard**, author of *Jackie & Me*

“[T]his striking historical mystery . . . is brooding and gritty and graced with authenticity.” —**NPR** on *Death of a Rainmaker* (book one in the *Dust Bowl Mystery* series), One of the Best Books of 2018

ALREADY SUFFERING THE PRIVATIONS OF THE 1930S DUST BOWL, an Oklahoma town is further devastated when a passenger train derails—flooding its hospital with the dead and maimed. Among the seriously wounded is Etha, wife of Sheriff Temple Jennings. Overwhelmed by worry for her, the sheriff must regain his footing to investigate the derailment, which rapidly develops into a case of sabotage.

THE FOLLOWING NIGHT, A LOCAL RECLUSE IS MURDERED. Temple has a hunch that this death is connected to the train wreck. But as he dissects the victim’s life with help from the recuperating and resourceful Etha, he discovers a tangle of records that make a number of townsfolk suspects in the murder.

TEMPLE’S INVESTIGATIONS TAKE PLACE against the backdrop of the Great Depression—where bootlegging, petty extortion, courage, and bravado play out in equal measure.

LAURIE LOEWENSTEIN is the author of the novels *Unmentionables* and *Death of a Rainmaker*, the first in the *Dust Bowl Mystery* series and a finalist for a 2019 Oklahoma Book Award. She teaches at Wilkes University’s Maslow Family Graduate Program in Creative Writing and is a fifth-generation Midwesterner.

ALSO AVAILABLE BY LAURIE LOEWENSTEIN:

DEATH OF A RAINMAKER: A DUST BOWL MYSTERY

MYSTERY/HISTORICAL FICTION, PAPERBACK, 314 PAGES, \$16.95, ISBN: 978-1-61775-665-8

- Finalist for the 2019 Oklahoma Book Awards, Fiction
- Selected as a Great Group Reads pick for 2019

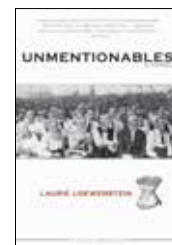
“Set in Vermillion, Okla., in 1935, this superb series launch from Loewenstein . . . beautifully captures the devastation of the land and people in the dust bowl.” —*Publishers Weekly*, STARRED review

UNMENTIONABLES

HISTORICAL FICTION, PAPERBACK, 320 PAGES, \$15.95, ISBN: 978-1-61775-194-3

- Included in the *Milwaukee Journal-Sentinel*’s “96 Books for Your Summer Reading List”
- Selected by the Midwest Independent Booksellers Association as a Midwest Connections pick for January 2014

“Exceptionally readable and highly recommended.” —*Library Journal*, STARRED review



NIGHT LETTER

A NOVEL BY **STERLING WATSON**

A taut thriller set in Florida's desolate panhandle, part coming-of-age story, all hard-boiled noir.

"Sterling Watson is an American treasure." —**Tom Franklin**, author of *Crooked Letter*, *Crooked Letter*

"The novels of Sterling Watson are to be treasured and passed on to the next generation."

—**Dennis Lehane**, author of *Mystic River*

"Sterling Watson's *Night Letter* is a revelation and one of the most engaging books I've read in a long time. Part voice-driven coming-of-age, part atmospheric noir, the writing itself is incisive and poetic, and the characters themselves are those rare literary creations—complicated and human and real. Imagine a thriller conceived by David Goodis and written by Carson McCullers. This book helps to redefine the boundaries of contemporary American fiction." —**Joe Meno**, author of *Book of Extraordinary Tragedies*

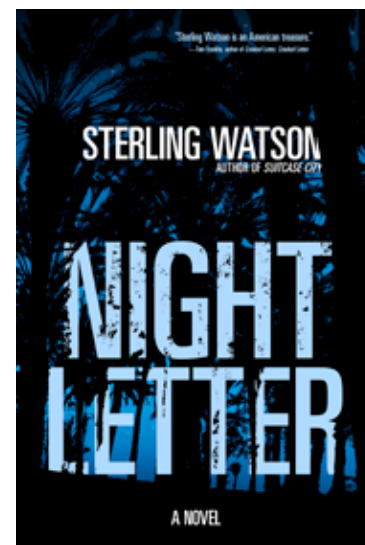
"From its first page, the novel simmers with a certainty that if Watson's well-drawn protagonist is to find redemption, it will not come without a fight." —**Lori Roy**, author of *Gone Too Long*

EIGHTEEN-YEAR-OLD TRAVIS HOLLISTER is always the stranger who comes to town. As a twelve-year-old escaping a disordered and unhappy home and parents who loved hard but couldn't make it work, Travis left the Midwest to spend a summer with his grandparents in the Deep South. There he met Delia, the love of his life, who, tragically, was beyond his reach for two reasons—she was his aunt and she was sixteen years old. That summer made Travis guilty of crimes discovered and undiscovered. For his public wrongs, he did time, six years in a Nebraska reform school. For his undiscovered wrongs, he suffers mightily and wants desperately to be shriven. Can he achieve redemption or is he bound for the hell on earth he can imagine all too well?

DRIVEN BY HIS NEED TO REJOIN THE HUMAN COMMUNITY, he becomes the stranger who arrives in Panama City, Florida, searching for Delia, the aunt who was the idol of his twelve-year-old passion. Who is she now? What have the years done to her? Will she welcome the return of Travis or fear it? What will she do about the return of the stranger she once held to her teenage heart.

JEAN-PAUL SARTRE SAID, "HELL IS OTHER PEOPLE." In the course of this story, Travis learns that other people can also be salvation. Amid a cast of characters struggling with their own needs, desires, tragedies, and, yes, crimes, Travis finds violence, hatred, vengeance, and, in greater measure, friendship, honor, loyalty, and at least a glimpse of the road to redemption.

STERLING WATSON is the author of nine novels, including *Deadly Sweet*, *Sweet Dream Baby*, *Fighting in the Shade*, *Suitcase City*, and *The Committee*. Watson's short fiction and nonfiction have appeared in *Prairie Schooner*, the *Georgia Review*, the *Los Angeles Times Book Review*, the *Michigan Quarterly Review*, and the *Southern Review*. He was director of the creative writing program at Eckerd College for twenty years and now teaches at Lasell University in Newton, Massachusetts. Of his sixth novel, *Suitcase City*, Tom Franklin said, "If this taut literary crime novel doesn't center Sterling Watson on the map, we should change maps." Watson lives in Gulfport, Florida.



JANUARY 3, 2023
NOIR FICTION
304 PAGES

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\$28.99, E-ISBN: 978-1-63614-064-3

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SHINY HAPPY PEOPLE

SONG LYRICS BY **R.E.M.**ILLUSTRATIONS BY **PAUL HOPPE** WITH **SHINYEON MOON**

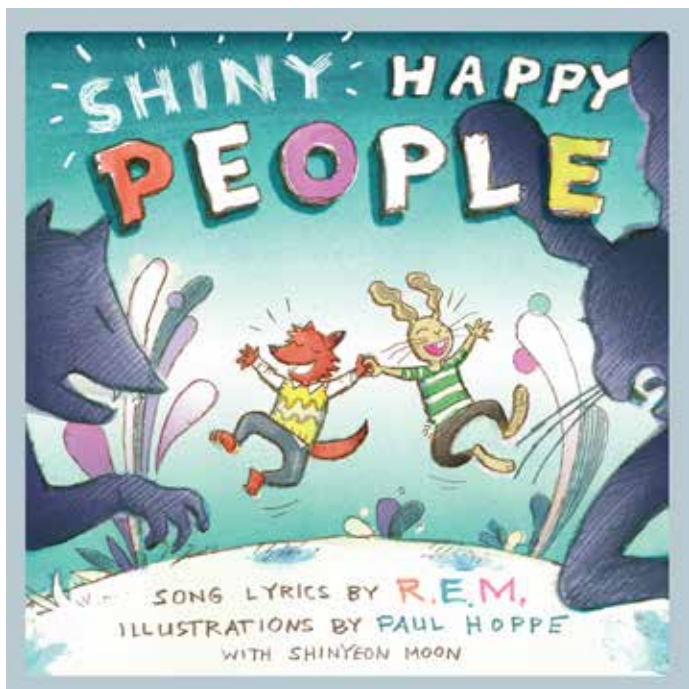
R.E.M.'s hit song is brought to life in this joyful picture book celebrating friendship and togetherness.

"Shiny happy people laughing
Everyone around, love them, love them
Put it in your hands, take it, take it
There's no time to cry, happy, happy . . ."

SHINY HAPPY PEOPLE is a heartwarming picture book whose story is told through the lyrics of R.E.M.'s joyful tune of the same name. "Shiny Happy People" appeared on the band's 1991 album *Out of Time*, and the song reached the top 10 of the *Billboard* Hot 100 chart.

WITH LYRICS BY R.E.M. AND ILLUSTRATIONS BY PAUL HOPPE, this picture book follows the unlikely friendship between a rabbit and a fox as they teach others about the joy of inclusion and acceptance. It is the perfect vehicle for R.E.M. fans to share a loving and positive message with children of all ages.

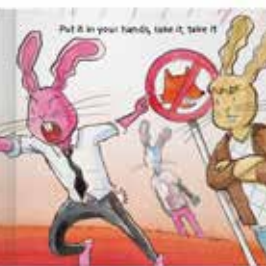
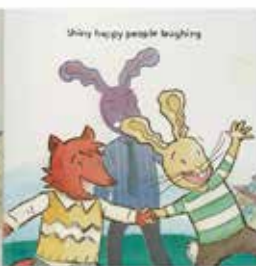
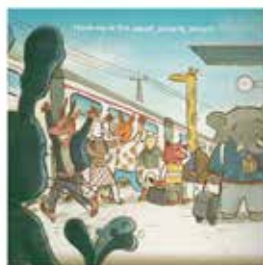
R.E.M. were a Georgia-born alternative rock band best known for their hits "Losing My Religion" and "Everybody Hurts." Founding members Bill Berry, Peter Dinklage, Mike Mills, and Michael Stipe played their first show on April 5, 1980, at a friend's birthday party in an abandoned church in Athens, Georgia. From that point forward until 2011, when they decided to call it a day, the band released fifteen albums, toured the world, won multiple GRAMMYS, two *Billboard* Music Awards, twelve MTV Video Music Awards, and were inducted into the Rock & Roll Hall of Fame.



NOVEMBER 1, 2022
CHILDREN'S PICTURE BOOK
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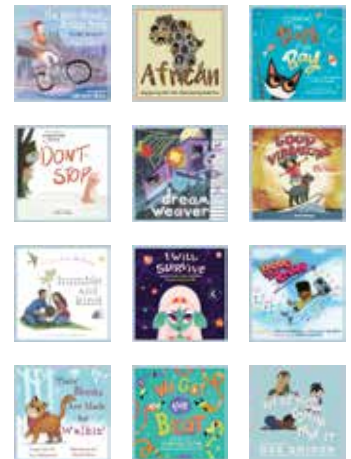
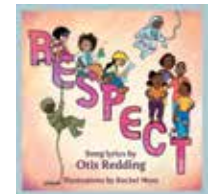
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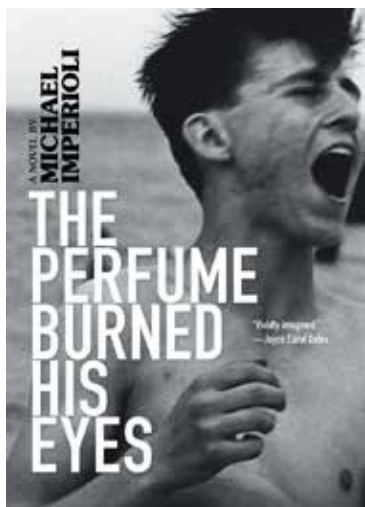
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—**Booklist**, STARRED review

“An edgy coming-of-age romp set in New York City prominently featuring the ‘character’ of rocker Lou Reed.” —**Parade Magazine**

“Vividly imagined, compelling, and sympathetic, *The Perfume Burned His Eyes* convinces with the force of its emotional intensity.” —**Joyce Carol Oates**

“Imperioli’s lived-in details about the city help make the world feel realistic . . . [The novel] is an immersive trip into its narrator’s memories of a turbulent time. Some fictional trips into 1970s New York abound with nostalgia; this novel memorably opts for grit and heartbreak.” —**Kirkus Reviews**

“Imperioli’s book follows a Queens teen named Matthew as his shattered family moves from Jackson Heights to Manhattan, where he finds an unlikely mentor in a drug-addled Lou Reed.” —**New York Post**

MATTHEW IS A SIXTEEN-YEAR-OLD BOY living in Jackson Heights, Queens, in 1976. After he loses his two most important male role models, his father and grandfather, his mother uses her inheritance to uproot Matthew and herself to a posh apartment building in Manhattan. Although only three miles away from his boyhood home, “the city” is a completely new and strange world to Matthew.

MATTHEW SOON BEFRIENDS (and becomes a factotum of sorts to) Lou Reed, who lives with his transgender girlfriend Rachel in the same building. The artistic-shamanic rocker eventually becomes an unorthodox father figure to Matthew, who finds himself head over heels for the mysterious Veronica, a wise-beyond-her-years girl he meets at his new school.

THE NOVEL IS WRITTEN FROM THE POINT OF VIEW of Matthew at age eighteen, two years after the story begins, and concludes with an epilogue in the year 2013, three days after Lou Reed’s death, with Matthew in his fifties.

MICHAEL IMPERIOLI is best known for his starring role as Christopher Moltisanti in the acclaimed TV series *The Sopranos*, which earned him a Best Supporting Actor Emmy Award. He also wrote five episodes of the show; was coscreenwriter of the film *Summer of Sam*, directed by Spike Lee; and was anthologized in *The Nicotine Chronicles*, edited by Lee Child. Imperioli has appeared in six of Spike Lee’s films and has also acted in films by Martin Scorsese, Abel Ferrara, Walter Hill, Peter Jackson, and the Hughes Brothers. He cohosts the rewatch podcast, *Talking Sopranos*, with his *Sopranos* costar Steve Schirripa, with whom he also penned the best-selling book, *Woke Up This Morning: The Definitive Oral History of The Sopranos*. Additionally, he is a singer and guitarist in the band ZOPA. Follow him on Instagram: @realmichaelimperioli.

AGAINST THE WRITTEN WORD

TOWARD A UNIVERSAL ILLITERACY

BY IAN F. SVENONIUS

If the Gutenberg Bible is the alpha, Against the Written Word is the omega.

AGAINST THE WRITTEN WORD is the most important, most revolutionary book produced since the advent of the printing press; the book that will liberate readers from reading, writers from writing, and booksellers from peddling their despicable wares. This book ushers in a new era of freedom from reading and all its attendant bedfellows such as Enlightenment thinking and the mass alienation wrought by the phonetic alphabet. *Against the Written Word* will be a tremendous best seller and simultaneously the last book that anyone will read.

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THE BOOKSELLER WILL BE SURPRISED and pleased to find that it will be the only book they need to stock. *Against the Written Word* will be dominant in a manner the market has not seen since the Bible tore up best-seller lists in the Middle Ages or Mao's *Little Red Book* wowed the critics in Red China.

IAN F. SVENONIUS is the author of the underground best sellers *Supernatural Strategies for Making a Rock 'n' Roll Group*, *The Psychic Soviet*, and *Censorship Now!!* He was also the host of VBS.tv's *Soft Focus*, where he interviewed Mark E. Smith, Genesis P. Orridge, Chan Marshall, Ian MacKaye, and others. As a musician he has created more than twenty albums and countless singles in various rock and roll combos (Escape-ism, Chain & the Gang, The Make-Up, The Nation of Ulysses, etc.). He lives in Los Angeles, CA.

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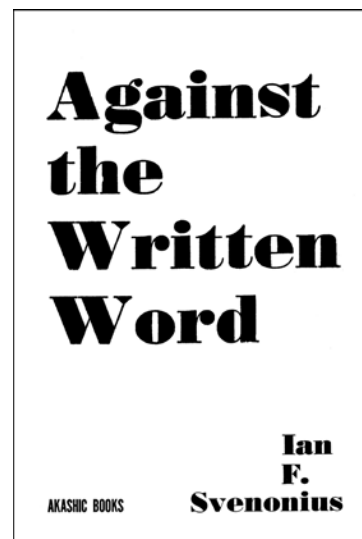
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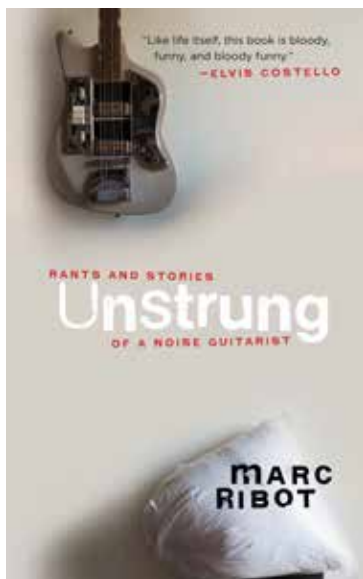
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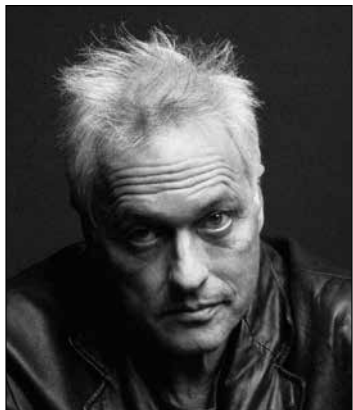


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"Ribot is an all-American original, and this collection provides plenty of insight into his fascinating mind." —**Kirkus Reviews**

"*Unstrung* . . . delivers everything one could hope from a guitar hero/activist/cultural critic: that is, complex culture and musical theory broken down into tasteful riffs, absurdist tales of our times, and plenty of sparse, unpretentious prose as well-honed as any major American writer." —**BOMB**

"An insightful tour through the razor-sharp mind of one of the world's most original and influential guitar masters. Ribot's acerbic wit, self-deprecating humor, and profoundly vexing love-hate relationship with all things guitar make for a fun and stimulating read." —**John Zorn, musician**

"Ribot is not only a gifted musician but also a talented wordsmith, and this quirky volume will appeal to music aficionados who appreciate strong writing with observational, intelligent, and provocative themes." —**Library Journal**

THROUGHOUT HIS GENRE-DEFYING CAREER, iconoclastic guitar player Marc Ribot has consistently defied expectation at every turn. Here, in the expanded paperback edition of Ribot's first collection of writing, we see his uncompromising sensibility at work as he playfully interrogates our assumptions about music, life, and death. Through essays, short stories, and the occasional unfilmable film "mistreatment" that showcase the sheer range of Ribot's voice, *Unstrung* reveals an artist whose versatility on the page rivals his dexterity onstage, cementing his position as one of the most dynamic and creative voices of our time.

MARC RIBOT has released twenty-five albums under his own name over a forty-year career, exploring everything from the pioneering jazz of Albert Ayler to the Cuban son of Arsenio Rodríguez. *Rolling Stone* points out that "Ribot helped Tom Waits refine a new, weird Americana on 1985's *Rain Dogs*, and since then he's become the go-to guitar guy for all kinds of roots-music adventurers: Robert Plant and Alison Krauss, Elvis Costello, John Mellencamp." Additional recording credits include Neko Case, Diana Krall, Elton John/Leon Russell's *The Union*, Solomon Burke, John Lurie's Lounge Lizards, Marianne Faithfull, Joe Henry, Allen Toussaint, Medeski, Martin & Wood, Caetano Veloso, Allen Ginsberg, Madeleine Peyroux, Norah Jones, the Black Keys, and many others. Ribot works regularly with GRAMMY Award-winning producer T Bone Burnett and New York composer John Zorn. He has also performed on numerous film scores such as *Walk the Line*, *The Kids Are All Right*, and *The Departed*.

PRIMUS, OVER THE ELECTRIC GRAPEVINE

INSIGHT INTO PRIMUS AND THE WORLD OF LES CLAYPOOL

BY GREG PRATO IN AFFILIATION WITH PRIMUS

An oral history of the legendary band Primus, with a star-studded cast of interviewees (Tom Waits, Phish front man Trey Anastasio, etc.).

"It's a wild ride that's vividly captured in Greg Prato's excellent oral history . . ." —*Bass Player Magazine*

"A book about the highly strange San Franciscans Primus has been overdue for years, so Greg Prato's excellent oral history of the band is welcome—doubly so, given that the key band members, Les Claypool, Larry Lalonde and Tim Alexander, are involved. . . . Great stuff." —*Record Collector Magazine*

USUALLY WHEN THE "ALTERNATIVE ROCK REVOLUTION" of the early 1990s is discussed, Nirvana's *Nevermind* is credited as the recording that led the charge. Yet there were several earlier albums that helped pave the way, including the Pixies's *Doolittle*, the Red Hot Chili Peppers's *Mother's Milk*, Jane's Addiction's *Nothing's Shocking*, and especially Primus's 1991 album *Sailing the Seas of Cheese*.

THIS FASCINATING AND BEAUTIFULLY CURATED oral history tells the tale of this truly one-of-a-kind band. Compiled from nearly fifty all-original interviews—including Primus members past and present and many more fellow musicians—conducted by journalist/author Greg Prato, this book is sure to appeal to longtime fans of the band, as well as admirers of the musicians interviewed for the book.

INTERVIEWEES INCLUDE: Tim Alexander, Trey Anastasio (Phish), Matthew Bellamy (Muse), Les Claypool, Stewart Copeland (The Police), Chuck D (Public Enemy), Kirk Hammett (Metallica), Larry Lalonde, Geddy Lee (Rush), Mickey Melchiondo (Ween), Tom Morello (Rage Against the Machine), Chad Smith (Red Hot Chili Peppers), Matt Stone (*South Park*), Tom Waits, and many more.

ABOUT PRIMUS: Primus is responsible for some of the most cutting edge and original rock music of the 1990s. Although originally formed in 1984, it was not until shortly before the end of the decade that the classic Primus lineup featuring Les Claypool (bass/vocals), Larry Lalonde (guitar), and Tim Alexander (drums) was solidified. With most hard rock/heavy metal acts at the time either neatly falling into either "thrash" or "glam" categories, Primus joined a variety of underground bands that refused to be pigeonholed (and by the early '90s, had fully infiltrated the mainstream)—merging metal, funk, alternative, punk, country, roots rock, and experimental music. Building a large and loyal following first in and around San Francisco (before eventually, going global), Primus kicked things off with a string of releases that are now considered classic alt-rock titles: *Suck on This*, *Frizzle Fry*, *Sailing the Seas of Cheese*, *Pork Soda*, and *Tales from the Punchbowl*. Along the way, Primus toured with some of rock's biggest names (Jane's Addiction, Public Enemy, Rush, U2, etc.), headlined the third Lollapalooza Festival, and issued a variety of crafty music videos.

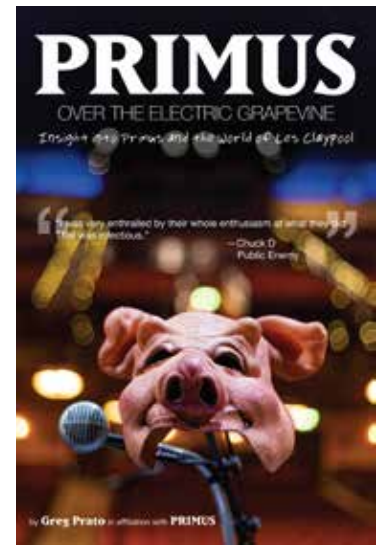
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“Hold the eggnog: What you need is a draft of ‘edgy fatalism and sexy recklessness,’ of flashy crime, gallows humor, and ‘desperate deals with a variety of devils,’ served up every year since 2004 by the editors of Akashic Books’ brilliant noir anthologies. Each volume in the series reveals a city’s distinctive inner darkness.” —*O, The Oprah Magazine*

“Over the past few years, some of the best collections of short stories have been the Noir anthologies published by Akashic . . . To me, these collections are total gems, a quality read from some of today’s best authors.” —*Oline Cogdill, Sun-Sentinel*

“Diversity is the hallmark of the series. While ostensibly dark tales of crime and despair, the genius of the series lies in its ability to use such an uncharacteristic point of entry to convey the identity and essence of a place with remarkably poignant accuracy.” —*PopMatters*

SOUTH CENTRAL NOIR

EDITED BY **GARY PHILLIPS**

The Akashic Noir Series' forensic study of Southern California sharpens its focus on one of Los Angeles's most recognized neighborhoods.

FEATURING BRAND-NEW STORIES BY: Steph Cha, Nikolas Charles, Tananarive Due, Larry Fondation, Gar Anthony Haywood, Naomi Hirahara, Emory Holmes II, Roberto Lovato, Penny Mickelbury, Gary Phillips, Eric Stone, Jervey Tervalon, Jeri Westerson, and Désirée Zamorano.

FROM THE INTRODUCTION BY GARY PHILLIPS:

Within these pages you'll find stories of those walking the straight and narrow—until something untoward happens. Maybe it's someone taking a step out of line, getting caught up in circumstances spiraling out of their control. Maybe they're planning the grift, the grab . . . whatever it is to finally put them over. Other times the steps they take are to get themselves or people they care about out from under. You'll find the offerings in these pages are a rich mix of tone—tales told of hope, survival, revenge, and triumph. Excursions beyond the headlines and the hype

The settings herein reflect South Central today or chronicle its colorful past, such as the days of the jazz joints along Central Avenue . . . From South Park to East Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard, from the borderlands of Watts to the one-time Southern Pacific railroad tracks paralleling Slauson Avenue, take a tour of a section of Los Angeles that may be unfamiliar to you but you will get to know, at least a little, by the time you finish reading this entertaining and engaging anthology.

GARY PHILLIPS has published novels, comics, and short stories, and edited numerous anthologies, including *Orange County Noir*. *Violent Spring*, first published in 1994, was named one of the essential crime novels of Los Angeles. *Culprits*, a linked anthology he coedited, has been optioned as a British miniseries, and he was a staff writer on FX's *Snowfall* about crack and the CIA in 1980s South Central, where he grew up.

ALSO AVAILABLE IN THE AKASHIC NOIR SERIES:

LOS ANGELES NOIR edited by Denise Hamilton FICTION/MYSTERY ANTHOLOGY, 320 PAGES; TRADE PAPERBACK, \$16.95, ISBN: 978-1-933354-22-4; E-BOOK, \$15.99, ISBN: 978-1-936070-16-9

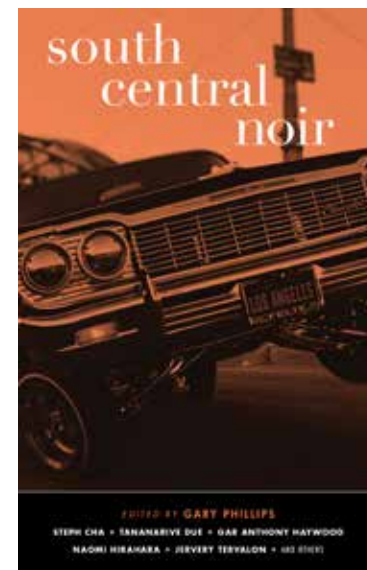
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- A *Los Angeles Times* best seller, Book Sense Notable Pick, and SCIBA Book Award Winner
- Susan Straight's story, "The Golden Gopher," won the 2008 Edgar Mystery Award, and two entries—Michael Connelly's "Mulholland Dive" and Robert Ferrigno's "The Hour When the Ship Comes In"—were selected for inclusion in the prestigious *Best American Mystery Stories 2008* anthology

ORANGE COUNTY NOIR edited by Gary Phillips FICTION/MYSTERY ANTHOLOGY, 312 PAGES; TRADE PAPERBACK, \$15.95, ISBN: 978-1-936070-03-9; E-BOOK, \$15.99, ISBN: 978-1-936070-57-2

BRAND-NEW STORIES BY: Susan Straight, Robert S. Levinson, Rob Roberge, Nathan Walpaw, Barbara DeMarco-Barrett, Dan Duling, Mary Castillo, Lawrence Maddox, Dick Lochte, Robert Ward, Gary Phillips, Gordon McAlpine, Martin J. Smith, and Patricia McFall, with a foreword by T. Jefferson Parker.

"There's a dark side to most places," even California's sunny Orange County, Edgar-winner T. Jefferson Parker observes in his foreword to this outstanding entry in Akashic's noir series, one of the stronger of the all-original anthologies. The crisp, often seductive prose of the fourteen contributors, most of them relatively unknown, is a tribute to the critical judgment of the editor." —*Publishers Weekly*, STARRED review



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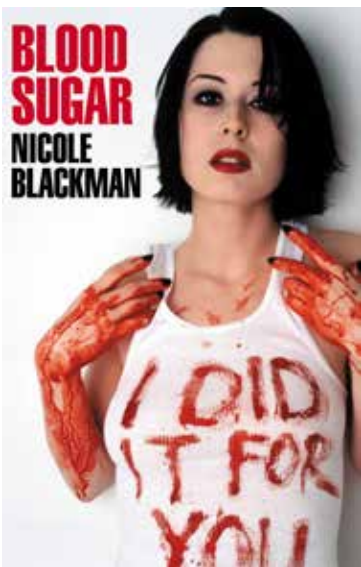
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BLOOD SUGAR

BY NICOLE BLACKMAN

Go ahead, try to resist the long awaited and expanded reissue of Nicole Blackman's classic poetry collection. We dare you.

"Nicole Blackman's spoken-word vignettes conjure up bleak, dangerous, death-haunted plots with matter-of-fact detail . . . Blackman has her own gift for tersely poetic aphorism—and a gift for turning nightmares into revelations." —*New York Times*

"[Blackman's] apocalyptic, spoken-word electrolysis . . . is a biting diagnosis of modern society"
—*Rolling Stone*

"The incinerating NYC poetess Nicole Blackman always leaves blood on the tracks. [*Blood Sugar*] is gritty, transcendent verse." —*Boston Phoenix*

"[Blackman's] best work is a shadow-strewn kaleidoscope of angst, anguish and survivorship . . . Amazingly, for all the fury in these poems, they are devoid of hatred, and as a result, their ultimate impact is less paralyzing than cathartic." —*LA Weekly*

"Beautiful, hypnotic . . . violence and sex intermingle and all pleasures are suspect."
—*Entertainment Weekly*

BLOOD SUGAR is a disturbing and evocative collection of selected poems from one of the most important and influential poets and performance artists of her generation. The poems in *Blood Sugar* were selected from Blackman's enormously popular chapbooks *Pretty*, *Sweet*, and *Nice*. This new edition includes a bonus essay and short story. It is futile to resist Nicole Blackman's brutal accounts of obsession and beauty. So give in.

NICOLE BLACKMAN is a New York City-born performance artist, poet, author, vocalist, teacher, and former music industry publicist. Her writing has appeared in numerous anthologies including *Brooklyn Noir*, *Aloud: Voices from the Nuyorican Poets Cafe*, *Verses That Hurt*, and *Poetry Nation*. Her work as a performance artist includes *Bloodwork*, *The Courtesan Tales*, *Harm's Way*, and *Beloved*. Blackman has performed on over fifteen albums, including recordings with the Golden Palominos, KMFDM, Recoil, Bill Laswell, and Scanner. She is also a voiceover performer, heard regularly on a slew of commercials and TV channels, including *Saturday Night Live* and major campaigns for Chrysler, Ford, Lysol, and Verizon, and TV stations including Turner Classic Movies, Discovery Health Channel, Cartoon Network, Court TV, and PBS.

TISA

NEW-GENERATION AFRICAN POETS, A CHAPBOOK BOX SET

EDITED BY **KWAME DAWES** AND **CHRIS ABANI**

This twelve-piece, limited-edition box set—an African Poetry Book Fund (APBF) project—features the work of eleven new African poets.

“Dawes and Abani have taken on the vital project of publishing short collections by contemporary poets from Africa, packaged together in beautiful boxed sets.” —*New York Times Magazine*

“An ambitious, vital project that delivers exactly what it promises.” —*Washington Post*

“The African Poetry Book Fund’s *New-Generation African Poets: A Chapbook Box Set* is one of the most important annual literary projects, presenting to a wide audience the work of fresh and promising poets in the continent and its diaspora.” —*Open Country Magazine*

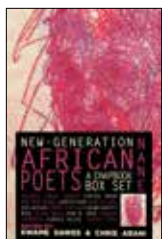
THE LIMITED-EDITION BOX SET is a project started in 2014 to ensure the publication of up to a dozen chapbooks every year by African poets through Akashic Books. The series seeks to identify the best poetry written by African poets working today, and it is especially interested in featuring poets who have not yet published their first full-length book of poetry.

THE ELEVEN POETS INCLUDED IN THIS BOX SET ARE: Samuel Adeyemi, Nikitta Adjirakor, O-Jeremiah Agbaakin, Rabha Ashry, Jakky Bankong-Obi, Hazem Fahmy, Alain Hirwa, Jay Kophy, Tawiah Mensah, Phodiso Modirwa, and Nneoma Veronica Nwogu.

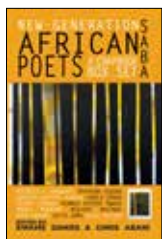
KWAME DAWES is the Ghana-born, award-winning author of twenty-one books of poetry and numerous other books of fiction, criticism, and essays. He has won Pushcart Prizes, a Guggenheim Fellowship, an Emmy, and was the 2019 awardee of the Windham-Campbell Prize in Poetry. He currently teaches at the University of Nebraska–Lincoln.

CHRIS ABANI a Nigerian-born, award-winning poet and novelist, currently teaches at Northwestern University in Chicago. He is the recipient of a PEN USA Freedom-to-Write Award, a Prince Claus Award, a Lannan Literary Fellowship, a California Book Award, a Hurston/Wright Legacy Award, a PEN Beyond Margins Award, a PEN/Hemingway Award, and a Guggenheim Award.

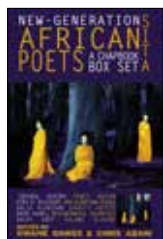
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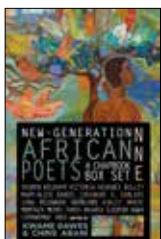
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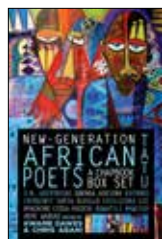
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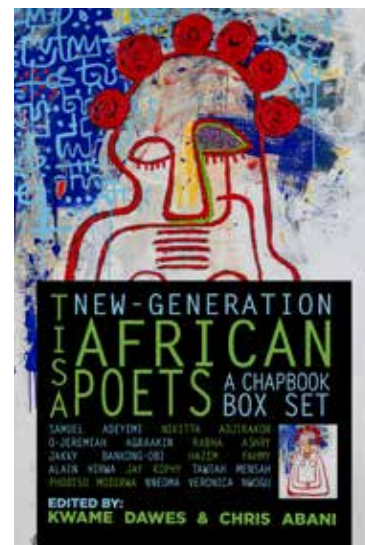
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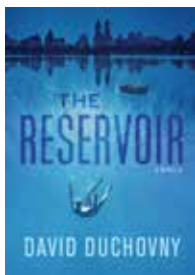
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THE RESERVOIR

A NOVELLA BY **DAVID DUCHOVNY**

LITERARY FICTION, HARDCOVER, 128 PAGES, \$19.95, ISBN: 978-1-63614-044-5, E-BOOK \$19.99, E-ISBN: 978-1-63614-045-2

A former Wall Street veteran, quarantined by the coronavirus, becomes consumed with madness—or the fulfillment of his own mythic fate.

“This beautiful fever dream of a novella put me in mind of Gabriel García Márquez because of its sense of romance—and humor—in the midst of calamity. I’ll never look at Central Park the same way.” —Amanda Peet

“A heartbreaking story of the cloaked complexities of father-daughter love framed as a sort of virtuoso suicide note. In its depiction of the breakthrough longings that come with growing older, it also struck me, wonderfully, as a contemporary *Death in Venice*.” —Walter Kirn, author of *Blood Will Out*

“Biting and funny, *The Reservoir* is also deep and reflective. A mystery wrapped in a fever dream. A tale for our infectious times.” —Chris Carter, director/writer, creator of *The X-Files*

“This swift and unnerving fever-dream of a novella, Duchovny’s fifth work of fiction, is saturated with mythic and literary allusions and shaped by resonant riffs on Poe and Mann. At once philosophical and suspenseful, grandly imaginative and sharply funny, this mind-bending story of delusion and longing is a dark reflection of New York’s countless crimes and tragedies and much-tested resilience, emblematic of the suffering and tenacity of all of humanity.” —*Booklist*

NOW LILA KNOWS

A NOVEL BY **ELIZABETH NUNEZ**

LITERARY FICTION, HARDCOVER, 256 PAGES, \$26.95, ISBN: 978-1-63614-024-7, E-BOOK \$26.99, E-ISBN: 978-1-63614-040-7

Caribbean professor Lila Bonnard arrives in Vermont for a short-term teaching position and is forced to confront the terrible legacy of American (in)justice.

“In *Now Lila Knows*, Elizabeth Nunez has crafted an indelible saga, one that is both of the times and timeless; both personal and universal. This beautifully, masterfully written novel is at once a compelling love story, a crucial exploration of the contemporary immigrant experience, and a trenchant critique of American racism.”

—Mitchell S. Jackson, Pulitzer Prize winner, author of *The Residue Years*

“Timely and essential, *Now Lila Knows* is a luminous story of discovery and the consequences of being Black in America.” —Bernice L. McFadden, author of *The Book of Harlan*

THE PARTITION

SHORT STORIES BY **DON LEE**

LITERARY FICTION, HARDCOVER, 296 PAGES, \$27.95, ISBN: 978-1-63614-031-5, E-BOOK \$27.99, E-ISBN: 978-1-63614-041-4

A thrilling new story collection from acclaimed writer Don Lee exploring Asian American identity, spanning decades and continents.

“Gorgeous, psychological portraits of men and women caught in the throes of middle age. This smart collection about love and belonging will leave readers wanting more.” —*Publishers Weekly*

OUT OF MESOPOTAMIA

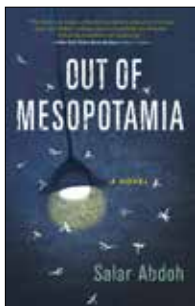
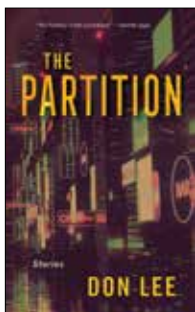
A NOVEL BY **SALAR ABDOH**

LITERARY FICTION, PAPERBACK, 240 PAGES, \$17.95, ISBN: 978-1-63614-032-2, E-BOOK \$17.99, E-ISBN: 978-1-61775-891-1

Informed by firsthand experience on the battlefronts of Iraq and Syria, Abdoh captures the horror, confusion, and absurdity of combat from a seldom-glimpsed perspective that expands our understanding of the war novel.

“Abdoh’s powerful novel follows an Iranian war reporter who is torn between his wearying job on the front lines and a civilian existence that he finds increasingly alienating. The book is as much a reflection on memory and art as it is a war story, and Abdoh’s writing captures beautifully the absurdity of both the battlefield and modern life.”

—*New York Times Book Review*, Editors’ Choice



JUNK SCIENCE AND THE AMERICAN CRIMINAL JUSTICE SYSTEM

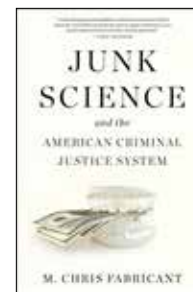
BY **M. CHRIS FABRICANT**

NONFICTION/TRUE CRIME, HARDCOVER, 368 PAGES, \$29.95, ISBN: 978-1-63614-030-8, E-BOOK \$29.99, E-ISBN: 978-1-63614-038-4

Innocence Project attorney M. Chris Fabricant presents an insider's journey into the heart of a broken, racist system of justice and the role junk science plays in maintaining the status quo.

"Readers—especially those fond of TV detectives and their infallible crime labs—will be flabbergasted by [Fabricant's] list of forensic techniques long used by labs, including the FBI's, and proclaimed by highly paid 'expert witnesses' that, when investigated by competent researchers, turn out to be unreliable or worthless . . . A brilliant rebuttal of junk science in the courtroom." —*Kirkus Reviews*, STARRED review

"This *j'accuse* provides a broader look at a deeply disturbing aspect of a criminal justice system already considered racist and biased by many . . . The endemic injustices Fabricant lays bare will likely shake even advocates of robust law and order approaches." —*Publishers Weekly*, STARRED review



NEIN, NEIN, NEIN!

ONE MAN'S TALE OF DEPRESSION, PSYCHIC TORMENT, AND A BUS TOUR OF THE HOLOCAUST

A MEMOIR BY **JERRY STAHL**

NONFICTION, HARDCOVER, 264 PAGES, \$26.95, ISBN: 978-1-63614-025-4, E-BOOK \$26.99, E-ISBN: 978-1-63614-039-1

A guided group tour to concentration camps in Poland and Germany allows Stahl to confront personal and historical demons with both deep despair and savage humor.

"*Nein, Nein, Nein!* is the unbelievable true story of a guided bus tour to Nazi concentration camps, told as only Jerry Stahl can tell it, with an acid wit as deadly serious as it is hilarious, insane, and weirdly life-affirming. The destinations he describes are real, but who else would dare to take us there? Stahl is fearless, gripping, and most unsparing about his own damned soul. I read everything he writes." —Eric Bogosian, actor/playwright

"Mordantly funny . . . Fusing provocative insights with razor-edged wit, this offers a captivating take on a haunting chapter of history." —*Publishers Weekly*, STARRED review, cover feature



CREATURES OF PASSAGE

A NOVEL BY **MOROWA YEJIDÉ**

LITERARY FICTION, PAPERBACK, 320 PAGES, \$17.95, ISBN: 978-1-63614-028-5, E-BOOK \$17.99, E-ISBN: 978-1-61775-888-1

With echoes of Toni Morrison's *Beloved*, Yejidé's novel explores a forgotten quadrant of Washington, DC, and the ghosts that haunt it.

"Yejidé's writing captures both real news and spiritual truths with the deftness and capacious imagination of her writing foremothers: Zora Neale Hurston, Toni Morrison and N.K. Jemisin . . . *Creatures of Passage* is that rare novel that dispenses ancestral wisdom and literary virtuosity in equal measure." —*Washington Post*

"The novel is worthy of every Toni Morrison comparison it receives, effortlessly blending the brutalities of DC's history with the mythical and supernatural. *Creatures of Passage* is a lyrical journey that will stick with you."

—NPR, a Books We Love selection for 2021



FACE: ONE SQUARE FOOT OF SKIN

BY **JUSTINE BATEMAN**

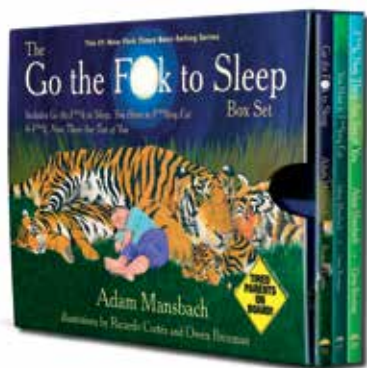
CREATIVE NONFICTION/WOMEN'S STUDIES, PAPERBACK, 272 PAGES, \$17.95, ISBN: 978-1-63614-033-9, E-BOOK \$17.99, E-ISBN: 978-1-61775-937-6

Writer/director/producer Justine Bateman examines the aggressive ways that society reacts to the aging of women's faces.

"*Face* . . . is filled with fictional vignettes that examine real-life societal attitudes and internal fears that have caused a negative perspective on women's faces as they age." —*TODAY*, a Best Book of 2021

"With her new book *Face: One Square Foot of Skin*, Justine Bateman . . . is trying to push back against the notion that women's faces are 'broken and need to be fixed' . . . The book is a meditation on women's faces, and the cultural pressure to be 'ashamed and apologetic that their faces had aged naturally.'" —*New York Times*





THE GO THE FUCK TO SLEEP BOX SET

GO THE FUCK TO SLEEP YOU HAVE TO FUCKING EAT FUCK, NOW THERE ARE TWO OF YOU

BY **ADAM MANSBACH**

ILLUSTRATIONS BY **RICARDO CORTÉS** AND **OWEN BROZMAN**

Celebrating a decade of profane, loving, and deeply cathartic children's books for adults, the entire Go the Fuck to Sleep trilogy is finally available in a collectors'-edition boxed set—including a "Tired Parents on Board" sticker!

Critical praise for *Go the Fuck to Sleep*:

- *A New York Times*, *Amazon.com*, *Wall Street Journal*, and *Publishers Weekly* number one best seller.
- One of *Reader's Digest's* 25 Funniest Books of All Time!

"A new Bible for weary parents." —*New York Times*

TEN YEARS AGO, ADAM MANSBACH CRYSTALLIZED THE SECRET AGONY OF PARENTS

the world over with one simple phrase: *Go the Fuck to Sleep*. In verses that perfectly capture the familiar tribulations of putting your little angel down for the night, the book opened up a conversation about parenting, granting us permission to admit our frustrations, and laugh at their absurdity . . . and the message only resonated louder when Samuel L. Jackson, the bard of the F-word, read the audiobook.

YOU HAVE TO FUCKING EAT expanded the conversation to include parenthood's other universal frustration: getting your little angel to eat something that even vaguely resembles a normal meal, with Bryan Cranston voicing the audiobook . . . and because life moves pretty fast, *Fuck, Now There Are Two of You* soon became necessary, to address the fact that two is, somehow, a million more kids than one—with Larry David doing the audiobook honors.

AND NOW, TO CELEBRATE A DECADE OF PROFANE, loving, and deeply cathartic children's books for adults, the entire trilogy is finally available in a collectors'-edition boxed set, perfect for gifting at a baby shower or using to knock yourself unconscious. As always . . . you probably should not read these books to a child.

GO THE FUCK TO SLEEP

BY **ADAM MANSBACH** ILLUSTRATIONS BY **RICARDO CORTÉS**

JUNE 14, 2011, HARDCOVER, PAPER OVER BOARD, 32 PAGES, \$15.95

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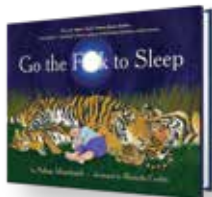
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