

FRANKFURT BOOK FAIR 2018

McCormick Literary

Fiction

NIMA by Adam Popescu

NIMA is the eldest daughter of a Sherpa family that has recently suffered a tragedy—an avalanche that killed Nima’s baby brother, Ang, and crippled her father. Nima’s father, once a respected climber and guide, now spends his days drowning his sorrows in alcohol and taking out his anger on his wife and daughters.

Nima dreams of escape – an education, a job –but she is forced to marry instead. On the eve of her wedding, she flees down the mountain in her father’s boots. In Kathmandu, angling for work as a porter to wealthy tourists, she chops off her hair, tapes down her breasts, and adopts the name “Ang.” When she is hired to take a team of British journalists to Base Camp, Nima is thrust into the position of leading a climb –with no experience, no training, and only a thin disguise to maintain her place among the male Sherpa guides.

Adam Popescu is a freelance journalist whose work has appeared in *The New York Times*, *Vanity Fair*, *National Geographic*, *Conde Nast Traveler*, *Outside*, *The Guardian*, and others. In December 2013, he traveled to Mount Everest to report a story for the BBC. The next year, many of the people he had met at Base Camp perished in the deadly avalanche and subsequent earthquake. Those experiences laid the foundation for this novel.

North America—Chris Heiser/Unnamed Press—delivering October; publication May 21, 2019

BARN 8 by Deb Olin Unferth

Praise for *Wait Till You See Me Dance*: “[Unferth’s] absurd and tender story collection is full of sentences like clear glass doors, and you, reader, are the bird.” –NPR

From the acclaimed author of *Wait Till You See Me Dance*, this is an off-kilter heist story about a young woman who gets caught up in a scheme to free one million chickens from an industrial chicken farm.

Deb Olin Unferth is a 2018 Guggenheim Fellow for Fiction. She is the author of the collection *Wait Till You See Me Dance*, the novel *Vacation*, and the memoir, *Revolution: The Year I Fell in Love and Went to Join the War*, which was a finalist for a 2012 National Book Critics Circle Award. She is an associate professor of creative writing at The University of Texas at Austin Michener Center.

World English—Ethan Nosowsky/Graywolf—delivery early 2019; publication early 2020

Nonfiction

EVERYDAY STRONG: Six Principles to Build Everyday Resilience by Samantha Boardman, M.D.

Most of us can cope with a major crisis with some combination of internal fortitude and outside support. We have capital-r Resilience, a word now so broadly applied as to be nearly meaningless. But what's harder for most of us to deal with are the everyday challenges, like the competing demands of our families and bosses, conflicts with friends, and routine losses and disappointments.

In this energizing, inspiring and practical book, Dr. Boardman shows us how to build and fortify our everyday resilience. Rather than a strict regimen, she offers a toolbox of fresh strategies that challenge our routine responses to stress, expand our emotional vocabulary, and lead to greater happiness and well-being.

Samantha Boardman is a Clinical Instructor in Psychiatry and Assistant Attending Psychiatrist at Weill-Cornell Medical College. A graduate of Harvard and Cornell University Medical College, she has a master's degree in Applied Positive Psychology from the University of Pennsylvania. She lives and works in New York City.

North America—Rick Kot/Viking—Delivery February 2019; publication Spring 2020

Foreign rights—UK/Penguin Life

SMALL FRY: A Memoir by Lisa Brennan-Jobs

"A book of no small literary skill ... [Small Fry] is mesmerizing, discomfiting reading." -*The New Yorker*

Born on a farm and named in a field by her parents—artist Chrisann Brennan and Steve Jobs—Lisa Brennan-Jobs's childhood unfolded in a rapidly changing Silicon Valley. Her father, Apple founder Steve Jobs, was a mythical figure who was rarely present in her life. As she grew older, her father took an interest in her, ushering her into a new world of mansions, vacations, and private schools. His attention was thrilling, but he could also be cold, critical and unpredictable. When her relationship with her mother grew strained in high school, Lisa decided to move in with her father, hoping he'd become the parent she'd always wanted him to be.

SMALL FRY is Lisa Brennan-Jobs' clear-eyed and unsentimental story of a childhood spent between two imperfect but extraordinary homes. Scrappy, wise, and funny, young Lisa is an unforgettable guide through her parents' fascinating and disparate worlds. Part portrait of a complex family, part love letter to Palo Alto in the seventies and eighties, SMALL FRY is an enthralling book by an insightful new literary voice.

Lisa Brennan-Jobs lives in Brooklyn. This is her first book.

World English—Elisabeth Schmitz/Grove Atlantic, September 4, 2018

Foreign rights: Germany/Berlin, Italy/Rizzoli, Finland/WSOY, Poland/Literackie, Russia/AST, China/Beijing Xiron, Taiwan/Commonwealth

FURIOUS HOURS: Harper Lee and an Unfinished Story of Race, Religion, and Murder in the Deep South by Casey Cep

In January 2015, Casey Cep traveled to Harper Lee's hometown of Monroeville, Alabama to cover the publication of *Go Set a Watchman* for *The New Yorker*. Many writers, scholars and fans had made that pilgrimage before, but Casey came back with a story that even she wasn't expecting: Lee had written another long-lost manuscript, this one a true-crime tale called "The Reverend," but no one (so far) had discovered it.

This lost book—and lost chapter of Lee's writing life—involved a shocking case of serial murder in Alexander City, Alabama. The alleged murderer, a black preacher named Willie Maxwell, had killed five of his family members in five separate crimes over a period of seven years. Each time he went to trial he was successfully defended by a white lawyer named Tom Radney. In the end, Reverend Maxwell was gunned down in his own church. Ironically, his killer was successfully defended by the same Tom Radney. And Harper Lee was sitting in the court room taking notes all the while.

Casey Cep will write her own version of these remarkable events, incorporating not just the murders and the trials, but also the story of Harper Lee herself, working furiously on a book that could have been her own *In Cold Blood*—but one she would ultimately abandon.

Casey Cep has written for *The New Republic*, *The New Yorker*, and *The Paris Review*. She has an A.B. from Harvard College and an M.Phil. from Oxford, where she studied as a Rhodes Scholar.

North America—Andrew Miller/Knopf—delivered; publication June 4, 2019

Foreign rights: UK/Heinemann, Holland/Atlas Contact, Germany/Ullstein, China/United Sky

ATTENTION: Dispatches from a Land of Distraction by Joshua Cohen

"Dazzling in its scope . . . If curiosity is a writer's greatest innate gift, Joshua Cohen may be America's greatest living writer."—*The Washington Post*

From the acclaimed author of *Moving Kings* and *Book of Numbers*, a wide-ranging, thought-provoking, and rule-bending collection of essays examining the ways we can reclaim the power of attention in an age of constant distraction.

Joshua Cohen's first collection of essays is a fully realized work created from a selection of previously published and new nonfiction--essays, memoir, criticism, letters, diaries--covering an extraordinary array of topics: politics, literature, art, music, travel, the media, and psychology, on subjects ranging from Donald Trump, Bernie Sanders, animals in literature, Gustav Mahler, Aretha Franklin, Edward Snowden, Gordon Lish, the closing of the Ringling Bros. circus, Google, Thomas Pynchon, and Azerbaijan. In thirty essays and forty short "interludes," Cohen directs his sharp gaze out upon the world, exhibiting his deep erudition and ability to draw connections between seemingly unlike things, showing us how to look at a world overflowing with information without becoming daunted. In each piece, Cohen projects a quality of thought that is uniquely his, and a voice as witty, powerful, funny, and distinct as any in American letters.

Joshua Cohen was born in 1980 in Atlantic City. He has written novels (*Moving Kings*, *Book of Numbers*), short fiction (*Four New Messages*), and nonfiction for *The New York Times*, *Harper's Magazine*, *London Review of Books*, *The Forward*, *n+1*, and others. In 2017 he was named one of *Granta's* Best of Young American Novelists. He lives in New York City.

North America—Sam Nicholson/Random House, August 14, 2018

Foreign rights: UK/Fitzcarraldo

THE OMEGA PRINCIPLE: Seafood and the Quest for a Long Life and a Healthier Planet by Paul Greenberg

"Greenberg's narrative maneuvers the world of omega-3 fatty acids with a healthy dose of skepticism and a mission to uncover truth that lies under the waves ... Greenberg gives us science writing with heart."—*Sierra* magazine

The third book in Paul Greenberg's aquatic trilogy (*Four Fish*, *American Catch*) is about the smallest fish in the sea—forage fish like menhaden, krill, and anchovies. These humble fish are a big deal because, though we don't eat them (much), they contain something we humans can't get enough of—omega-3s.

With wit and boundless curiosity, Paul Greenberg probes the rich and surprising history of omega-3s. He travels the world—from Peru to Antarctica, from the Canary Islands to the Amalfi Coast—to reveal firsthand the practice and repercussions of our unbalanced way of eating.

Paul Greenberg is the *New York Times* bestselling author of *Four Fish* and *American Catch*. A regular contributor to the *New York Times* and many other publications, Greenberg is the featured correspondent and co-writer of the 2017 PBS Frontline documentary "The Fish On My Plate." He's the winner of a James Beard Award and a National Endowment for the Arts Literature Fellowship.

North America—Emily Cunningham/Penguin Press, July 10, 2018

Foreign rights: Russia/AST

BLOCKCHAIN FOR EVERYONE by John Hargrave

Blockchain is the hottest thing in business, but who understands it?

John Hargrave, who is both CEO of a technology media company *and* a comedian, is uniquely poised to explain the complexities of the technology to the uninitiated, which is important, because like the internet, blockchain will disrupt and revolutionize the global economy in a very short amount of time.

BLOCKCHAIN FOR EVERYONE is divided into three sections: “What is Blockchain?” explains the technology in user-friendly language, with simple analogies and humorous descriptions; “Uses for Blockchain” outlines the different applications of blockchain being developed right now; and “Blockchain’s Big Ideas” lays out the principles and philosophies for using blockchain to improve the world.

Sir John Hargrave is CEO of Media shower as well as a published author, comedian, and entrepreneur. After launching one of the world’s first humor websites, Zug.com, in 1995, he went on to author three books: *Sir John Hargrave’s Mischief Maker’s Manual*, *Prank the Monkey*, and *Mind Hacking*. Over the past year, he has been writing, teaching, and speaking around the world explaining bitcoin and blockchain in simple terms that everyone can understand.

North America—Jeremie Ruby-Strauss/Gallery/S&S—delivering October 2018; publication Summer 2019

Foreign rights: UK/Little, Brown

MIDNIGHT IN CHERNOBYL: The Untold Story of the World’s Greatest Nuclear Disaster by Adam Higginbotham

“A masterpiece of reporting and storytelling that puts us on the ground for one of the most important events of the twentieth century.”—Robert Kurson, *New York Times* bestselling author of *Shadow Divers* and *Rocket Men*

When Reactor Number Four of the Chernobyl Atomic Energy Station exploded, tens of millions of people as far as mainland Europe feared deadly contamination. In the years and decades since, this singular industrial accident lodged itself in the collective nightmares of the world, a symbol of progress gone mad, the costs and consequences of which remain unclear even today. And yet, the real story of the events of April 26, 1986, remain in dispute.

Drawing on hundreds of hours of interviews conducted over the course of more than ten years, as well as letters, unpublished memoirs, and documents from recently declassified archives, Adam Higginbotham has recreated the disaster at Chernobyl in vivid and astonishing detail. From the ambitious young director who first envisioned the plant in a snow-covered field in rural Ukraine, to

the control room engineers who unwittingly prompted its destruction; from the city officials and government ministers who oversaw the evacuation and clean up, to the ordinary citizens who struggled to keep themselves and their families safe: the men and women of this book confront an enemy that's as terrifying as it is invisible, creating an indelible portrait of the last days of the Soviet Union, and how those who lived through it endured one of the greatest disasters of the twentieth century.

Adam Higginbotham is the author of *A Thousand Pounds of Dynamite*, named one of Amazon's Best Books of 2014. The former US correspondent for *The Sunday Telegraph Magazine* and editor-in-chief of *The Face*. he has written for *GQ*, *Men's Journal*, *The New Yorker*, and *Wired*. He lives with his family in New York City.

North America—Ben Loehnen/S&S—delivered; February 5, 2019

Foreign rights: UK/Transworld, Germany/Fischer, France/Slatkine, Holland/Ambo Anthos, Denmark/Art People

HOW TO HIDE AN EMPIRE: A History of the Greater United States by Daniel Immerwahr

We are familiar with maps that outline all fifty states. And we are also familiar with the idea that the United States is an “empire,” exercising power around the world. But what about the actual territories—the islands, atolls, and archipelagos—this country has governed and inhabited?

In *HOW TO HIDE AN EMPIRE*, Daniel Immerwahr tells the fascinating story of the United States *outside* the United States. In crackling, fast-paced prose, he reveals forgotten episodes that cast American history in a new light. We travel to the Guano Islands, where prospectors collected one of the nineteenth century's most valuable commodities, and the Philippines, site of the most destructive event on U.S. soil. In Puerto Rico, Immerwahr shows how U.S. doctors conducted grisly experiments they would never have conducted on the mainland and charts the emergence of independence fighters who would shoot up the U.S. Congress.

In the years after World War II, Immerwahr notes, the United States moved away from colonialism. Instead, it put innovations in electronics, transportation, and culture to use, devising a new sort of influence that did not require the control of colonies. Rich with absorbing vignettes, full of surprises, and driven by an original conception of what empire and globalization mean today, *HOW TO HIDE AN EMPIRE* is a major and compulsively readable work of history.

Daniel Immerwahr is an associate professor of history at Northwestern University and the author of *Thinking Small: The United States and the Lure of Community Development*, which won the Organization of American Historians' Merle Curti Award. He has written for *Slate*, *n+1*, *Dissent*, and other publications.

North America—Alex Star/ Farrar Straus & Giroux—delivered; publication February 19, 2019

Foreign rights: The Bodley Head/UK, Atlas Contact/Holland, Fischer/Germany, Geulhangari/Korea, Thinkingdom/China, Faces/Taiwan

THE PRODIGAL PROPHET: Jonah and the Mystery of God's Mercy by Timothy Keller

Most people, even those who are nonreligious, are familiar with the book of Jonah: a rebellious prophet defies God and is swallowed by a whale. Less familiar to most people is the second half of this Biblical story—what happens after Jonah is released from the belly of the fish. Yet it is in this second half of the story that one of the most powerful and important lessons of the Bible is hidden.

The famous story shows how, if we would understand the mercy of God, it will always take us in directions we would rather not go, toward people we would rather not care about, and ultimately into the deepest counsels of God. In a time of growing division, THE PRODIGAL PROPHET shows us God's love among people, and how Christians must listen to God's call even when it takes them to uncomfortable places.

Timothy Keller was born and raised in Pennsylvania and educated at Bucknell University, Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary, and Westminster Theological Seminary. In 1989 he started Redeemer Presbyterian Church in New York City with his wife, Kathy, and their three sons. Today, Redeemer has nearly six thousand regular Sunday attendees and has helped to start more than three hundred new churches around the world. In 2017 Keller moved from his role as senior minister at Redeemer to the staff of Redeemer City to City, an organization that helps national church leaders around the world reach and minister in global cities. He is the author of *God's Wisdom for Navigating Life*, *Hidden Christmas*, *Making Sense of God*, as well as *The Meaning of Marriage*, *The Prodigal God*, and *The Reason for God*, among others.

North America—Brian Tart/Viking, October 2, 2018

Foreign rights: UK/Hodder, Korea/Duranno, World Spanish (ex Spain)/B&H, Spain/Andamio, Brazil/Vida Nova, Indonesia/Perkantass

A BOY NAMED JACOB by Mimi Lemay

Moving and painfully honest, A BOY NAMED JACOB joins a growing, but still much-needed, chorus of voices that speak to the varied experiences of transgender people and their loved ones; yet it is, at heart, a profoundly affirming story about the redemptive power of self-determination and the unconditional bond between a parent and child.

In February 2015, Mimi Lemay, a mother of three, penned an [open letter](#) to her middle child on the occasion of his fifth birthday. During the previous year, Jacob, who was assigned female at birth, began living as an affirmed boy. Within the letter Mimi detailed her family's bewilderment and heartache throughout the months of turmoil preceding his transition, as well as her striking

realization that Jacob, even in preschool, knew who he was even if he could not yet fully articulate it. Published first via Medium and later picked up by Boston.com, the letter was read and shared by tens of thousands of people within days, and led to features on *NBC Nightly News*, *The TODAY Show*, and NPR among others.

Expanding upon that letter, *A BOY NAMED JACOB* chronicles the many challenges that Jacob and the Lemays have faced along the way, offering a deeper exploration of how Mimi and her husband arrived at the difficult, controversial—but ultimately rewarding—decision to allow his transition.

Mimi Lemay lives with her family in a suburb of Boston.

North America—Susan Canavan/HMH—status: delivering October 2018; publication Fall 2019

OLD MAN RIVER: An American Odyssey by Ben McGrath

In the vein of modern classics like *Joe Gould's Secret* and *Stuart: A Life Backwards*, *Old Man River* tells the story of an extraordinary man and a singular spirit.

Dick Conant spent his adult years canoeing the rivers of the United States, living in tents, and following his appetites for food, drink, and the beauty of the wilderness. An unrivaled solo canoeist and gregarious raconteur, Conant acquired a mythic status among those who crossed his path.

One of those was Ben McGrath, who gave Conant his phone number after an encounter on the Hudson River. When Conant's canoe was found overturned in a creek in North Carolina, the cops called Ben. Determined to solve the mystery of Conant's disappearance, McGrath spent months combing through his journals and notes and speaking with his vast network of friends and acquaintances. As he got to know Conant's life, he discovered that beneath the genial surface was a multifaceted and deeply troubled individual: a man who was estranged from his family, plagued by paranoia, and unable to maintain connections or put down roots.

Ben McGrath is a staff writer at *The New Yorker*. His pieces for the magazine have been collected in *The Best American Sports Writing 2012*, *The Best American Science Writing 2008*, and *The Best of Technology Writing 2007*, among other anthologies.

North America—Andrew Miller/Knopf—status: delivering December 2018; publication TBD

Foreign rights: UK/4th Estate

IN DEBT by M.H. Miller

The late 2000s were bad years for many of us. For Neil and Mary Jane Miller of Detroit, they were almost biblically awful. To pay for their son Michael's NYU undergraduate degree, they had refinanced their modest suburban house. When the market crashed, their mortgage was two times the value of the house. Then both parents were laid off from their jobs. With no source of income and no savings to speak of, they declared bankruptcy and moved to New York, where they could at least be close to their two children. They crashed on the couch of their daughter's boyfriend until they could get their bearings and start life anew as unemployed sixty-something transplants to New York City. To add to their suffering, Mary Jane was diagnosed with an aggressive cancer.

Meanwhile, Michael (the author) was graduating from NYU, one of the most expensive private institutions in the world, armed with his degree in English and not much else. It was time to start paying that student loan he and his family took out which would, when all was said and done, amount to about \$300,000. The first payment was \$1100, and that would be due each month for the next 25 years, give or take. A monthly financial juggling act was set into motion that hasn't stopped for a decade and counting.

In the course of two generations, Americans have gone from having effectively no student loan debt to \$1.5 trillion, shared among 44 million of us. Student loan debt is the second highest form of debt in the country—higher than our collective credit card debt—trailing just behind what Americans owe on their mortgages. Michael's parents' generation, for their part, went from having zero dollars of mortgage debt to mortgages being the greatest overall debt in the country. How did we arrive here, and how did it happen so quickly?

IN DEBT will tell the story of debt in America since World War II, not through the machinations of too-big-to-fail bankers, politicians and corporations, but through the author's personal, painful, and emblematic family history, through the characters of his grandparents, his parents and himself, and their rise and fall in the American middle class.

North American—Alison Lorentzen/Viking—delivering October 2019; publication Fall 2020

POUNDING THE ROCK: Basketball Dreams and Real Life in a Bronx High School by Marc Skelton

Twelve years ago, Marc Skelton was appointed head coach of the boys' basketball team at Fannie Lou Hamer Freedom High School, a small public school in the South Bronx, the poorest urban congressional district in the US. At the time, the Panthers were one of the worst teams in their league, having gone without a single win the previous season. Since then, the Panthers have made it to the city playoffs each season, and this year seized the New York State Federation Class B

championship. Even more extraordinary, throughout Marc's tenure as coach, his team has maintained a 100% high school graduation rate.

Marc's memoir, which chronicles the Panthers' 2015-2016 season, is an intimate exploration of the hardships faced by his students and an inspirational story of how they persist and succeed despite the odds.

In addition to coaching, Marc Skelton teaches social studies and Russian history at Fannie Lou. A Fulbright Scholar and former Peace Corps volunteer, he is a graduate of Northeastern University and holds master's degrees from Teachers College, Columbia University; the Harriman Institute; and Columbia University's Department of Political Science.

North America—Gerry Howard/Doubleday—delivery June 2018; publication March 12, 2019

Foreign rights: UK/Yellow Jersey Press

TICKER: The Quest to Create an Artificial Heart by Mimi Swartz

“A developing story about. . . innovation, daring, perceived double-crosses, competition and conflict. . . *Ticker* beats at an accelerated rate.” –*The Houston Chronicle*

Part investigative journalism, part medical thriller, TICKER is a dazzling tale of modern innovation, recounting seventy years of false starts, abysmal failures and miraculous triumphs on the quest to create an artificial heart.

Until post WWII, heart surgery did not exist. There was simply no way to stop a heart and cut into it—if you wanted to keep your patient alive. TICKER tells the story of the pioneers who finally crossed that line, repairing and transplanting hearts with the help of the first heart-lung machines, and finally daring to replace them altogether: Texas “cowboy” surgeon Denton Cooley and his nemesis and archrival Michael DeBakey; South African Christian Barnard, who changed the world overnight by performing the first heart transplant; Robert Jarvik, the playboy inventor whose artificial heart made patient Barney Clark a tragic symbol of medical hubris; Daniel Timms, the Brisbane biomedical engineer whose design of a pulseless, lightweight heart pointed a new way forward; and the real hero of this tale, O.H. “Bud” Frazier, the Shakespeare-quoting surgeon whose lab has been a constant source of inspiration and innovation.

Mimi Swartz is a longtime executive editor at *Texas Monthly* and won a National Magazine Award in the public interest category in 1996. She has been a staff writer for *The New Yorker* and has written for *The New York Times*, *Vanity Fair*, and *Esquire*. She is the author, with Sherron Watkins, of *Power Failure: The Inside Story of the Collapse of Enron*. She lives in Houston with her husband and son.

North America—Roger Scholl/Crown, August 7, 2018

THE SOULS OF YELLOW FOLK: Essays by Wesley Yang

“Yang provides piercing, prickly insight into the challenges Asian-Americans face from racial and cultural bias, with literary style.” –*Publishers Weekly* (starred review)

Inspired by W.E.B. DuBois’s *The Souls of Black Folk*, Wesley Yang’s debut collection marks a fresh contribution to the conversation about race in America today. The essays include his National Magazine Award-winning *New York* cover story “Paper Tigers,” on Asian values and the American Dream; his *New York Times* Magazine portrait of chef and author Eddie Huang; his *n+1* dispatch “The Face of Seung- Hui Cho,” who was then the largest mass murderer in U.S. history; and his provocative essays on white supremacy.

Wesley Yang has written for the *New York Times*, *Harper’s*, the *Los Angeles Times*, the *Boston Globe*, *New York*, the *New Republic*, *Tablet*, and *n+1*. His essays have been featured in *The Best American Essays* and *The Best American Nonrequired Reading*. He lives in New York.

North America—Matt Weiland/WW Norton, October 9, 2018