

# FRANKFURT 2023

**Penguin Press  
Riverhead**



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## NEW ACQUISITIONS AND FUTURE HIGHLIGHTS

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**Bell, Richard**

**Fall 2025**

**THE FATE OF THE WORLD: A Global History of the American Revolution**

*The Fate of the World* reconstructs the global reach and resonance of the American Revolution, exploring how the familiar story changes when we locate the war in a worldwide context. What is gained when we set the experiences of Black freedom-fighters front and center, alongside border-crossing radicals, refugees, and redcoats? When we consider this conflict as a war staged by Indigenous people to protect their homelands and defend their own sovereignty? When we think about it as part of a titanic struggle between Britain and other European empires like France and Spain for control of a vast, resource-rich new world? And when we place it in a chain of revolutionary insurrections bent on overturning autocratic regimes in Europe, Africa, and South America between 1775 and 1800? Answering these questions requires us to cast aside worn-out notions of American exceptionalism and embrace a larger and far more inclusive narrative that recognizes the impact wrought by the movement of goods, ideas, and polyglot people around the 18<sup>th</sup>-century world. It invites us to place the dreams and hopes of Jamaican carpenters, Mohawk traders, Spanish siege captains, Hessian hirelings, British Loyalist exiles, French sailors, African rebels, Bengali rulers, Mediterranean privateers, Chinese tea-growers, and British convicts on the same stage as the American Sons of Liberty, the Minutemen, and the members of the Continental Congress. It requires us to recognize that Caribbean slave labor camps, Indian Ocean shipping lanes, Florida forts, French dockyards, Central American jungles, Canadian refugee camps, Irish prison hulks, and Ohio forests were just as important sites of struggle in this global war as Lexington Green, Independence Hall, or Valley Forge. In short, it allows us to imagine the American Revolution in post-exceptional terms as a creation story in the making of our multicultural and interconnected modern world. [Richard Bell](#) is a British-born, American-trained professor of history at the University of Maryland, with degrees from Harvard and Cambridge. He is the author of *Stolen* and is a recipient of the National Endowment for the Humanities Public Scholar Award and an Andrew Carnegie Fellow.

UK, Translation: Riverhead (editor Becky Saletan)

Agent: Calligraph

**Dunham, Jillian**

**Spring 2025**

**HOW TO BE WRETCHED**

Millions of people experience prolonged grief, people whose bodies are being damaged, whose minds are becoming wired for pain, even across generations. We grieve ambiguous losses such as illness, immigration, divorce, and estrangement; we mourn historic deprivations like slavery and apartheid; people experience grief as they process any ongoing threat to safety and survival. Everyone can benefit from a better understanding of what happens to the body and brain in grieving a major loss, for it is an experience everyone must endure. In *How to Be Wretched*, [Jillian Dunham](#) examines why we grieve the way we do and how we might set about doing it better. Life is more than just the story we tell about ourselves; our experiences alter our bodies, and that impacts how we live. If we can learn how these changes take place, we can take a more assertive role in directing and shaping our lives. In the way that readers of Bessel van der Kolk's *The Body Keeps the Score* learned to recognize and cope with trauma in a revolutionary way, *How to Be Wretched* normalizes grief and changes the way we see and care for ourselves and each other in loss. Dunham is a journalist and former editor at the *New York Times Magazine*, where she edited features on neurodiversity, scientific innovation, and other subjects, as well as the magazine's Talk and Lives sections.

UK, Translation: Riverhead (editor Jake Morrissey)

Agent: Union Literary

We all know the feeling of digital exhaustion. The aimless scrolling, eyes glazing over at the screen. Knowing what we should be doing, but not being able to start. The feeling that no matter how many messages we respond to, how many posts we read, or how much data we sort through, we can never stay ahead of it. *Digital Exhaustion* shows us how we can reimagine our relationship with our digital tools. Author [Paul Leonardi](#) argues that our exhaustion comes from the “exhaustion triad;” that is, the way that our tools change how we pay attention, how we attribute behaviors and intentions to others, and how we experience our emotions. He then demonstrates how we can overcome our exhaustion by creating new habits around our use of technologies so they stop depleting us so quickly. Next, he shows how we can use our digital devices in surprising new ways that help us find new sources of energy. Finally, he presents a framework for how we can help other people to recharge, and how we can examine our own behavior to make sure we aren’t energy vampires who contribute to the exhaustion of others. Leonardi is the award-winning Duca Family Professor of Technology Management at the University of California, Santa Barbara. He is a contributor to the *Harvard Business Review* and the co-author of *The Digital Mindset* with Tsedal Neeley.

UK, Translation: Riverhead (editor Courtney Young)  
Agent: DeFiore & Company

## FALL 2024

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Beiser, Vince

November 2024

### POWER METALS: The Race for the Resources That Will Shape the Future

*Power Metals* is the provocative story of the crucial role that rare metals play in global technology and energy—from iPhones to laptops to solar panels. Journalist [Vince Beiser](#) explores what companies and governments are doing to keep up with the demand for cobalt, lithium, niobium, nickel, copper, and other metals as they struggle to balance the environmental risks with the potential rewards. From navigating complicated geopolitics, to mining the ocean floor, to rethinking how we recycle and the human impact of all three, *Power Metals* attempts to answer the question: Given that we need rare metals more than ever, how do we find better, more sustainable ways of extracting and refining them? Beiser is the author of *The World in a Grain: The Story of Sand and How it Transformed Civilization*.

Translation: Riverhead (editor Jake Morrissey)

Agent controls UK rights: Bankoff Collaborative

Chomsky, Noam, and Nathan J. Robinson

October 2024

### THE MYTH OF AMERICAN IDEALISM

From one of the world's most prominent thinkers comes an urgent warning of the threat that US power poses to humanity's future, as well as a sharp indictment of both American foreign policy and the national myths that support it. *The Myth of American Idealism* offers a timely and comprehensive introduction to the incisive critiques of US power that have made [Noam Chomsky](#) a "global phenomenon," one of the most widely known public intellectuals of all time. Surveying the history of US military and economic activity around the world, Chomsky and his co-author Nathan J. Robinson vividly trace the way the American pursuit of global domination has wrought havoc in country after country—without, ironically, making Americans any safer. And they explore how dominant elites in the United States have pushed self-serving myths about the country's commitment to "spreading democracy," while pursuing a reckless foreign policy that served the interest of few and endangered all too many. Chomsky and Robinson range across the globe, offering penetrating accounts of Washington's relationship with the Global South, its role in the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, and the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan—all justified with noble stories about humanitarian missions and the benevolent intentions of American policy makers. The same kinds of myths that have led to repeated disastrous wars, they argue, are now driving us closer to wars with Russia and China that imperil humanity's future. Examining nuclear proliferation and climate change, they show how US policies are continuing to exacerbate global threats. For well over half a century, Chomsky has committed to himself to exposing governing ideologies and criticizing his country's unchecked use of military power. At once thorough and devastating, urgent and provocative, *The Myth of American Idealism* offers a highly readable entry to the conclusions he has come to after a lifetime of thought and activism.

Translation: Penguin Press (editor Will Heyward)

Agent: Roam Agency

UK: Hamish Hamilton

**Pacino, Al**  
**UNTITLED**

**Fall 2024**

This is a rich, candid account of the actor's life and work, through its ups and downs, and the lessons he has learned. Al Pacino established himself as a film actor during one of cinema's most vibrant decades, the 1970s, and has become an enduring and iconic figure in the world of American movies.

Translation: Penguin Press (editor Scott Moyers)

Agent: CAA

UK: Century; Bulgarian: Bard; Chinese (sc): United Sky; Estonian: Rahva Raamat; French: Editions du Seuil; German: Piper; Hungarian: HVG; Italian: La Nave de Teseo; Polish: Agora; Portuguese (B): Rocco; Romanian: Nemira; Spanish: Planeta

## SUMMER 2024

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**Auslander, Shalom**  
**FEH: A Memoir**

**July 2024**

[Shalom Auslander](#) was raised like a veal in a dysfunctional family in the Orthodox Jewish community of Monsey, New York, the son of an alcoholic father; a guilt-wielding mother; and a violent, overbearing God. Now, as he reaches middle age, Auslander begins to suspect that what plagues him is something worse, something he can't so easily escape: a story. *The story*. One indelibly implanted in him at an early age, a story that told him he is fallen, broken, shameful, disgusting, a story we have all been told for thousands of years, and continue to be told by the religious and secular alike, a story called "Feh." Yiddish for "Yuck." *Feh* follows Auslander's midlife journey to rewrite that story, a journey that involves Phillip Seymour Hoffman, a Pulitzer-winning poet, Job, Arthur Schopenhauer, GHB, Wolf Blitzer, Yuval Noah Harari, and a pastor named Steve in a now-defunct church in Los Angeles. Can he move from feh to merely meh? Can he even dream of moving beyond that? Auslander's recounting of his attempt to exorcise the story he was raised with—before he implants it onto his children and/or possibly poisons his relationship with the one woman who loves him—isn't sacred. It is more-than-occasionally profane. And like all his work, it is also relentlessly funny, subversively heartfelt, and fearlessly provocative. Auslander is the author of the short story collection *Beware of God*, the memoir *Foreskin's Lament*, and the novels *Hope: A Tragedy* and *Mother for Dinner*. He is also the creator of Showtime's *Happyish*.

UK, Translation: Riverhead (editor Geoff Kloske)  
Agent: Author c/o Riverhead  
Hebrew: Kinneret; Italian: Guanda

**Hagerty, Barbara Bradley**  
**BRINGING BEN HOME: A Murder, a Conviction, and the Fight to Redeem American Justice**

**August 2024**

In 1989, a Dallas jury convicted a 22-year-old Black man named Ben Spencer of murdering white businessman Jeffrey Young—a crime he didn't commit. From the day of his arrest, he has insisted that his conviction was "an awful mistake." He wasn't alone: Eventually a Texas trial judge, the foreman of the jury that convicted him, independent investigators, and a parade of witnesses all agreed that Spencer had nothing to do with the murder. Yet Spencer stayed in jail because of a stubbornly racist criminal justice system that convicted him based on bad evidence, police bias, and prosecutorial misconduct. In 2022 he was finally released after a Texas court agreed that there hadn't been evidence to convict him in the first place. Spencer's decades-long struggle to clear himself and the work being done on his behalf by lawyers, journalists, and others demonstrates both how states' legal systems are broken and how new efforts are being put in place to reduce wrongful convictions—and one of those states leading this change is Texas. Award-winning journalist [Barbara Bradley Hagerty](#) digs deep into Spencer's case, combing police files and court records, interviewing witnesses, and conducting extensive conversations with Spencer to thread two narratives: how the errors in Spencer's arrest and conviction and the Dallas police's refusal to admit its mistakes kept Spencer in jail; and what Texas and other states are doing to change how they address false convictions. By turns a fascinating account of ineptitude and tenacity, racism and redemption, this book also explains what is being done to reshape the US justice system to better protect innocent people. Hagerty is an award-winning journalist at *The Atlantic*. She is the author of the *New York Times*-bestselling *Fingerprints of God* and *Life Reimagined*.

UK, Translation: Riverhead (editor Jake Morrissey)  
Agent: CAA

**Riggs, Liz**  
**LO FI: A Novel**

**July 2024**

**Debut novel!** In the sweaty music clubs and late-night house parties of Nashville, an aspiring songwriter tries to make friends, find love, and write songs—without losing herself. If you’re looking for Alison Hunter, you can catch her most nights at The Venue, a Nashville club hosting acts from Bon Iver to Death Cab. Sounds glamorous—but not for Al, who’s working the door with a boy with mysterious eyes, bumming drinks and worse from the tattooed bartender, and wondering if she’ll ever make it as a songwriter. One night, as a storm floods the city, her fly-by-night touring-band boyfriend washes into town, and Al is reminded of all the reasons she should drop him... and all the things that keep her hanging on. As her girlfriends urge her to forget a shattering open mic fiasco, Al tries to power through her hung-over mornings and pull even one song worth a damn out of her guitar. Torn between dreams and despair, she becomes obsessed with the disappearance of a troubled indie star and slowly starts to lose it herself—until one reckless night threatens to derail her altogether. As propulsive and sexy as the rasp of an overdriven amp, *Lo Fi* is an open-hearted love song to the messy truth of the creative life, the clash of lust and love, and our shared yearning to be heard. [Liz Riggs](#) holds a BA in English from Miami University and an MFA from NYU, and her work has been featured in *The Atlantic*, *Bon Appétit*, MTV, *American Songwriter Magazine*, and others. She lives in East Nashville.

UK, Translation: Riverhead (editor Catalina Trigo)

Agent: CAA

**Silver, Nate**

**June 2024**

**ON THE EDGE: How Successful Gamblers Think and What It Tells Us About Navigating Risk**

In the bestselling *The Signal and the Noise*, Nate Silver showed how forecasting would define the age of Big Data. Now, in this timely and riveting new book, Silver investigates “the River,” or those whose mastery of risk allows them to shape—and dominate—so much of modern life. The River is not a formal network. There are relatively few barriers to entry. But the denizens of the River could hold the key to all that comes next. Silver embeds with retail day-traders and hedge fund managers, crypto true-believers and blue-chip art collectors to demystify these fields and mine their mathematical and moral complexities. He goes on to examine more wide-ranging ideas like effective altruism, AI, and arenas where having a gambler’s outlook defines success. There are commonalities in this otherwise very diverse group: high tolerance for risk; appreciation of uncertainty; affinity for numbers; skill at de-coupling; self-reliance and a distrust of the conventional wisdom. Silver breaks down not only character traits and capacities, but he also looks at the physiology of risk. How can we literally compel our bodies to court risk and reward more successfully? For the River, complexity is baked in, and the work is how to navigate it. But most of us are not yet River denizens. We live in the more binary status quo of the Village. By investigating how people who take risks for a living think, *On the Edge* offers insight into a range of issues that affect us all—from the COVID-19 pandemic to the nature of capitalism. This is a deeply reported, all-access journey to a hidden world of movers and shakers, led by a great risk practitioner himself. Silver is the founder of [FiveThirtyEight](#) and writes the Substack [Silver Bulletin](#).

Translation: Penguin Press (editor Virginia Smith)

Agent: Susan Rabiner

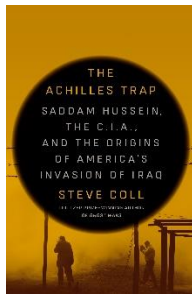
UK: Allen Lane; Chinese (cc): Sun Color; Chinese (sc): CITIC; Italian: Garzanti; Korean: Gilbut; Portuguese (B):

Intrinseca; Romanian: Publica



## SPRING 2024

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Coll, Steve

February 2024

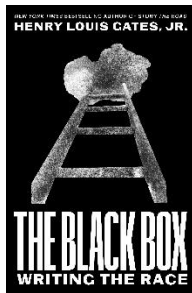
### THE ACHILLES TRAP: Saddam Hussein, the C.I.A., and the Origins of American's Invasion of Iraq

*The Achilles Trap* masterfully untangles the people, ploys of power, and geopolitics that led to America's disastrous war with Iraq and, for the first time, details America's fundamental miscalculations during its decades-long relationship with Saddam Hussein. Beginning with Saddam's rise to power in 1979 and the birth of Iraq's secret nuclear weapons program, [Steve Coll](#) traces Saddam's motives by way of his inner circle. He brings to life the diplomats, scientists, family members, and generals who had no choice but to defer to their leader—a leader directly responsible for the deaths of hundreds of thousands of Iraqis, as well as the torture or imprisonment of hundreds of thousands more. This was a man whose reasoning was impossible to reduce to a simple explanation, and the CIA and successive presidential administrations failed to grasp critical nuances of his paranoia, resentments, and inconsistencies—even when the stakes were incredibly high. Calling on unpublished and underreported sources, interviews with surviving participants, and Saddam's own transcripts and audio files, Coll pulls together an incredibly comprehensive portrait of a man who was convinced the world was out to get him and acted accordingly. A work of great historical significance, *The Achilles Trap* is the definitive account of how corruptions of power, lies of diplomacy, and vanity—on both sides—led to avoidable errors of statecraft, ones that would enact immeasurable human suffering and forever change the political landscape as we know it. Steve Coll is a staff writer at *The New Yorker* and the author of the Pulitzer Prize-winning *Ghost Wars* and others including *On the Grand Trunk Road*, *The Bin Ladens*, *Private Empire*, and *Directorate S*.

Translation: Penguin Press (editor Ann Godoff)

Agent: Melanie Jackson Agency

UK: Allen Lane



Gates, Henry Louis, Jr.

March 2024

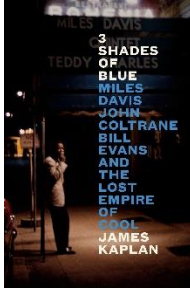
### THE BLACK BOX: Writing the Race

Distilled over many years from [Henry Louis Gates, Jr.'s](#) legendary Harvard introductory course in African American Studies, *The Black Box* is the story of Black self-definition in America through the prism of the writers who have led the way. From Phillis Wheatley and Frederick Douglass, W.E.B. Du Bois and Booker T. Washington, to Zora Neale Hurston and Richard Wright, James Baldwin and Toni Morrison—these writers used words to create a livable world—a “home”—for Black people destined to live out their lives in a bitterly racist society. Out of that contested ground has flowered a resilient, creative, powerful, diverse culture formed by people who have often disagreed markedly about what it means to be Black, and about how best to shape a usable past out of the materials at hand to call into being a more just and equitable future. This is the epic story of how, through essays and speeches, novels, plays, and poems, a long line of creative thinkers has unveiled the contours of—and resisted confinement in—the black box inside which this “nation within a nation” has been assigned from the nation's founding through to today. This is a book that records the compelling saga of the creation of a people. Gates is the Alphonse Fletcher University Professor and Director of the Hutchins Center for African and African American Research at Harvard University. An award-winning filmmaker, literary scholar, journalist, cultural critic, and institution builder, Gates has authored or coauthored more than twenty books and created more than twenty documentary films, including his groundbreaking genealogy series *Finding Your Roots*.

Translation: Penguin Press (editor Scott Moyers)

Agent: Aevitas Creative Management

UK: Allen Lane; Portuguese (B): Companhia das Letras



**Kaplan, James**

**March 2024**

**3 SHADES OF BLUE: Miles Davis, John Coltrane, Bill Evans, and the Lost Empire of Cool**

The myth of the 1960s depends on the 50s being the “before times” of conformity, segregation, straightness. This carries some truth, but it does nothing to explain how, in 1959, America’s great indigenous art form, jazz, reached the height of its power and popularity, thanks to a number of Black geniuses so legendary they go by one name—Monk, Mingus, Rollins, Coltrane, and, above all, Miles. The year 1959 saw Miles, Coltrane, Bill Evans, and more come together to record what is widely considered the greatest jazz album of all time, and certainly the bestselling: *Kind of Blue*. *3 Shades of Blue* is [James Kaplan’s](#) magnificent account of the paths of the three giants to the mountaintop of 1959 and beyond. It’s a book about music, and business, and race, and heroin, and the towns that gave jazz its home, from New Orleans and New York to Kansas City, Philadelphia, Chicago, and Los Angeles. It’s an astonishing meditation on creativity and the strange hothouses that can produce its full flowering. It’s a book about the great forebears of this golden age, particularly Charlie Parker and Dizzy Gillespie, and the disrupters, like Ornette Coleman, who would take the music down truly new paths. And it’s about why the world of jazz most people know is a museum to this never-replicated period. But above all, *3 Shades of Blue* is a book about three very different men—their struggles, their choices, their tragedies, their greatness. The tapestry of their lives is, in Kaplan’s hands, an American odyssey with no direction home. It is also a masterpiece, a book about jazz that is as big as America. Kaplan’s nonfiction works include *The Airport*, *You Cannot Be Serious* (with John McEnroe), *Dean & Me: A Love Story* (with Jerry Lewis), *Frank: The Voice*, and *Sinatra: The Chairman*.

Translation: Penguin Press (editor Scott Moyers)

Agent: Joy Harris Literary

UK: Canongate; Korean: Epoch; Portuguese (B): Companhia das Letras



**Kurutz, Steven**

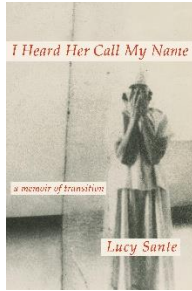
**March 2024**

**AMERICAN FLANNEL: How a Band of Entrepreneurs Are Bringing the Art and Business of Making Clothes Back Home**

For decades, clothing manufacture was a pillar of US industry. But beginning in the 1980s, Americans went from wearing 70% domestic-made apparel to almost none. Even the very symbol of American freedom and style—blue jeans—got outsourced. With offshoring, the nation lost not only millions of jobs but also crucial expertise and artistry. Dismayed by shoddy imported fast fashion—and unable to stop dreaming of re-creating a favorite shirt from his youth—Bayard Winthrop set out to build a new company, American Giant, that would swim against this trend. *New York Times* reporter [Steven Kurutz](#), in turn, began to follow Winthrop’s journey. He discovered other trailblazers as well, from the “Sock Queen of Alabama” to a pair of father-son shoemakers and a men’s style blogger who almost single-handedly drove a campaign to make “Made in the USA” cool. Eye-opening and inspiring, *American Flannel* is the story of how a band of visionaries and makers are building a new supply chain on the skeleton of the old and wedding old-fashioned craftsmanship to cutting-edge technology and design to revive an essential American dream. Kurutz is a reporter for the *New York Times* and the author of *Like a Rolling Stone*.

UK, Translation: Riverhead (editor Becky Saletan)

Agent: Janklow & Nesbit



**Sante, Lucy**  
**I HEARD HER CALL MY NAME: A Memoir of Transition**

**February 2024**

For a long time, [Lucy Sante](#) felt unsure of her place. Born in Belgium, the only child of conservative working-class Catholic parents who transplanted their little family to the United States, she felt at home only when she moved to New York City in the early 1970s and found her people among a band of fellow bohemians. Some would die young, of drugs and AIDS, and some would become jarringly famous. Sante flirted with both fates, on her way to building an estimable career as a writer. But she still felt like her life was a performance. She was presenting a façade, even to herself. Sante’s memoir braids together two threads of personal narrative: the arc of her life, and her recent step-by-step transition to a place of inner and outer alignment. Sante brings a loving irony to her account of her unsteady first steps; there was much she found she still needed to learn about being a woman after some sixty years cloaked in a man’s identity, in a man’s world. A marvel of grace and empathy, *I Heard Her Call My Name* parses with great sensitivity many issues that touch our lives deeply, of gender identity and far beyond. Sante is the author of *Low Life*, *Evidence*, *The Factory of Facts*, *Kill All Your Darlings*, *Folk Photography*, *The Other Paris*, *Maybe the People Would Be the Times*, and *Nineteen Reservoirs*.

Translation: Penguin Press (editor Scott Moyers)  
Agent: Joy Harris Literary  
UK: Hutchinson Heinemann; Spanish: Libros del K.O.



**Zyzak, Magdalena**  
**THE LADY WAITING: A Novel**

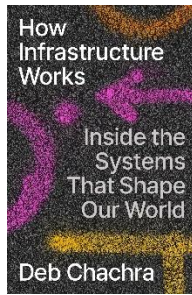
**May 2024**

*The White Lotus* meets *The Talented Mr. Ripley* in this high-spirited novel of a stolen Vermeer, a Polish transplant in Los Angeles, and the charismatic couple who seduce her into a misguided international heist. One bright LA day, a young Polish émigré named Viva is driving along the freeway when she’s flagged down by a dazzling, disheveled woman in green chiffon. The woman is Bobby Sleeper, a fellow Eastern European and an erstwhile art gallerist with a mysterious background and even more mysterious filmmaker husband. Within days the couple hire Viva as their assistant, then enlist her as an accomplice in an improbable scheme involving a long-lost Vermeer masterwork, a multi-million-dollar reward, and several shadowy ex-husbands. As Bobby and her husband weave her ever more tightly into their web, Viva is swept up in an escapade that’s one part art heist, one part love triangle, and one part education of a felon. Entranced by their lifestyle, alarmed by their ramshackle scam, Viva realizes she’s out of her depth—and that only luck, cunning, and her own hustler’s instinct can save her from disaster. Careening from the canyons of LA to the canals of Venice, *The Lady Waiting* is a page-turning caper, a cavalcade of 21<sup>st</sup>-century sins—rapacious capitalism, shameless fraud, and atrocious behavior—and a showcase for three of the biggest and most unforgettable characters in recent fiction. Magdalena Zyzak is a filmmaker and the author of *The Ballad of Barnabas Pierkiel*.

UK, Translation: Riverhead (editor Catalina Trigo)  
Agent: 3 Arts Entertainment

## 2023 HIGHLIGHTS

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**Chachra, Deb**

**October 2023**

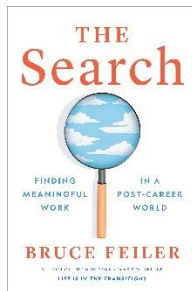
### **HOW INFRASTRUCTURE WORKS: Inside the Systems That Shape Our World**

Infrastructure is a marvel, meeting our basic needs and enabling lives of astounding ease and productivity that would have been unimaginable just a century ago. A soaring bridge is an obvious infrastructural feat, but so are the mostly hidden reservoirs, transformers, sewers, cables, and pipes that deliver water, energy, and information to wherever we need it. When these systems work well, they hide in plain sight. Engineer and materials scientist [Deb Chachra](#) takes readers on a fascinating tour of these essential utilities, revealing how they work, what it takes to keep them running, just how much we rely on them—but also whom they work well for, and who pays the costs. Across the US and elsewhere, these systems are suffering from systemic neglect and the effects of climate change, becoming unavoidably visible when they break down. Communities that are already marginalized often bear the brunt of these failures. But Chachra maps out a path for transforming and rebuilding our shared infrastructure to be not just functional but also equitable, resilient, and sustainable. The cost of not being able to rely on these systems is unthinkable high. We need to learn how to see them—and fix them, together—before it's too late. Chachra is a professor at Olin College of Engineering with a technical background in engineering physics and materials science. She writes the newsletter *Metafoundry*.

Translation: Riverhead (editor Courtney Young)

Agent: Lydia Wills

UK: Torva



**Feiler, Bruce**

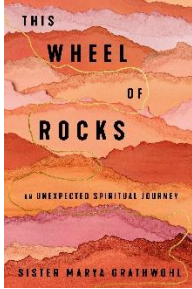
**May 2023**

### **THE SEARCH: Finding Meaningful Work in a Post-Career World**

We are at a once-in-a-generation turning point around work: unprecedented numbers are quitting their jobs, rethinking their routines, breaking away from stifling expectations. The most suffocating iron cage of all is the idea that each of us must follow a linear career—lock into a dream early, always climb higher, never stop until you reach the top. Few ideas have squandered more human potential. Employing his signature, immersive approach, [Bruce Feiler](#) is known for taking complex challenges and converting them into actionable steps that can help each of us live with more fulfillment and joy. From thousands of hours of interviews, Feiler has distilled a powerful new vision of work: The people who are happiest don't chase someone else's dreams; they chase their own. Freed from outdated scripts, they identify what brings them meaning and write their own story of success. *The Search* introduces an all-new toolkit for achieving that goal, 21 Questions to Find Work You Love. Practical and empowering, these questions will help you unearth the story of work you've been trying to tell your whole life—then go achieve it. From a master storyteller who's helped millions transform their lives for better, *The Search* arrives as the world reimagines the basic assumptions of work and offers a timely, urgent playbook for each of us to get the happiness we seek, the meaning we crave, and the success we deserve. Feiler is the author of seven *New York Times* bestsellers, including *Life Is in the Transitions*, *The Secrets of Happy Families*, and *Council of Dads*. His three TED talks have been viewed more than four million times, and he teaches the TED course How to Master Life Transitions.

UK, Translation: Penguin Press (editor Scott Moyers)

Agent: David Black Agency

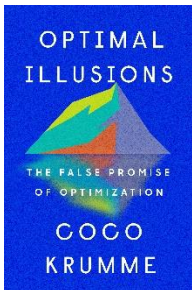


**Grathwohl, Sister Marya**  
**THIS WHEEL OF ROCKS: An Unexpected Spiritual Journey**

**November 2023**

Growing up in the Midwest, Judy Grathwohl never felt she belonged. “I belong out west,” she remembers telling her father. After joining the Sisters of St. Francis in the early 1960s and becoming Sister Marya, she came to realize that she craved a life beyond the traditional path of a Catholic nun. “Something other than dedicating my life to God was summoning me, some other life purpose,” she writes. It took several years and several detours, but when Sister Marya eventually was assigned by her order to the Northwest, she felt an immediate connection to the place and to its Native people, the Crow and Northern Cheyenne. Little by little, she was invited to become part of their communities, to share their customs and rituals, and eventually was adopted into one of their families. She came to understand that the blending of Catholic teachings and Native traditions helped build within her a deeper respect for the Earth—this wheel of rocks—that she could not have built on her own. In this intimate, revelatory memoir, Sister Marya recounts her own spiritual journey, her settling in Montana, how she—a Catholic nun from Ohio—came to be embraced by the Crow and Northern Cheyenne, and how their traditions prompted in her an expanding devotion to the land, its resources, and its connections to faith and God. Honest and eye-opening, funny and heartfelt, *This Wheel of Rocks* shows how living a spiritual life committed to preserving nature and community can be both fulfilling and productive. Marya Grathwohl has been a Sister of St. Francis since 1963 and has served African American, Crow, and Northern Cheyenne communities as a teacher, principal, and adult educator. She is a founding director of [Earth Hope](#), which offers programs to assist vulnerable groups in protecting their land.

UK, Translation: Riverhead (editor Jake Morrissey)  
Agent: Author c/o Riverhead  
German: Koesel

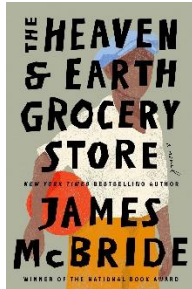


**Krumme, Coco**  
**OPTIMAL ILLUSIONS: The False Promise of Optimization**

**September 2023**

Optimization is the driving principle of our modern world. We now can manufacture, transport, and organize things more cheaply and faster than ever. Optimized models underlie everything from airline schedules to dating site matches. We strive for efficiency in our daily lives, obsessed with productivity and optimal performance. How did a mathematical concept take on such outside cultural shape? And what is lost when efficiency is gained? *Optimal Illusions* traces the fascinating history of optimization from its roots in America’s founding principles to its modern manifestations, found in colorful stories of oil tycoons, wildlife ecologists, Silicon Valley technologists, lifestyle gurus, sugar beet farmers, and poker players. Optimization is now deeply embedded in the technologies and assumptions that have come to comprise not only our material reality but what we make of it. [Coco Krumme’s](#) work in mathematical modeling has made her acutely aware of optimization’s overreach. Streamlined systems are less resilient and more at risk of failure. They limit our options and narrow our perspectives. The malaise of living in an optimized society can feel profoundly inhumane. *Optimal Illusions* exposes the sizable bargains we have made in the name of optimization and asks us to consider what comes next. Krumme is an applied mathematician and writer with a doctorate from MIT.

UK, Translation: Riverhead (editor Courtney Young)  
Agent: Gillian MacKenzie Agency  
Chinese (sc): Guangchen; Japanese: Shinchosha; Korean: Wisdom House

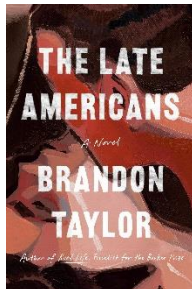


**McBride, James**  
**THE HEAVEN & EARTH GROCERY STORE: A Novel**

**August 2023**

**New York Times bestseller!** In 1972, when workers in Pottstown, Pennsylvania, were digging the foundations for a new development, the last thing they expected to find was a skeleton at the bottom of a well. Who the skeleton was and how it got there were two of the long-held secrets kept by the residents of Chicken Hill, the dilapidated neighborhood where immigrant Jews and African Americans lived side by side and shared ambitions and sorrows. Chicken Hill was where Moshe and Chona Ludlow lived when Moshe integrated his theater and where Chona ran the Heaven & Earth Grocery Store. When the state came looking for a deaf boy to institutionalize him, it was Chona and Nate Timblin, the Black janitor at Moshe's theater and the unofficial leader of the Black community on Chicken Hill, who worked together to keep the boy safe. As these characters' stories overlap and deepen, it becomes clear how much the people who live on the margins of white, Christian America struggle and what they must do to survive. When the truth is finally revealed about what happened on Chicken Hill and the part the town's white establishment played in it, we see that even in dark times, it is love and community—heaven and earth—that sustain us. [James McBride](#) is the author of the *New York Times*–bestselling Oprah's Book Club selection *Deacon King Kong*, the National Book Award–winning *The Good Lord Bird*, the American classic *The Color of Water*, the novels *Song Yet Sung* and *Miracle at St. Anna*, the story collection *Five-Carat Soul*, and *Kill 'Em and Leave*, a biography of James Brown.

Translation: Riverhead (editor Jake Morrissey)  
Agent: Sterling Lord Literistic  
UK: Weidenfeld & Nicolson; French: Gallmeister; German: btb



**Taylor, Brandon**  
**THE LATE AMERICANS: A Novel**

**May 2023**

**National bestseller!** In the shared and private spaces of Iowa City, a loose circle of lovers and friends encounter, confront, and provoke one another in a volatile year of self-discovery. Among them are Seamus, a frustrated young poet; Ivan, a dancer turned aspiring banker who dabbles in amateur pornography; Fatima, whose independence and work ethic complicate her relationships with friends and a trusted mentor; and Noah, who “didn't seek sex out so much as it came up to him like an anxious dog in need of affection.” These four are buffeted by a cast of artists, landlords, meatpacking workers, and mathematicians who populate the cafes, classrooms, and food-service kitchens of the city, sometimes to violent and electrifying consequence. Finally, as each prepares for an uncertain future, the group heads to a cabin to bid goodbye to their former lives—a moment of reckoning that leaves each of them irrevocably altered. A novel of friendship and chosen family, *The Late Americans* asks fresh questions about love and sex, ambition and precarity, and about how human beings can bruise one another while trying to find themselves. [Brandon Taylor](#) is the author of the novel *Real Life*, which was shortlisted for the Booker Prize and the National Book Critics Circle John Leonard Prize. His collection *Filthy Animals*, a national bestseller, was awarded the Story Prize and shortlisted for the Dylan Thomas Prize.

Translation: Riverhead (editor Jake Morrissey)  
Agent: Gernert Co.  
UK: Jonathan Cape; French: Delcourt; German: Piper; Italian: Bollati Boringhieri; Portuguese (B): Fosforo; Spanish: Chai

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