

## **Spring 2020: NON FICTION, selected new titles (General – Biography/ Memoir – History – Inspirational/ Self-help)**

### **General**



**Sabrina Imbler**  
**HOW FAR THE LIGHT REACHES**

Client: Ayesha Pande Literary  
Publisher: Little Brown  
Proposal available

Rights sold: Chatto & Windus, UK

**An utterly original, lyrical collection of essays about the ocean and what its creatures can tell us about human empathy and survival.**

Each essay contains a profile of a marine animal, ranging from rare species that have never been photographed such as the yeti crab to ordinary ones such as the gold fish. In each essay, Imbler investigates the ways different species of marine life demonstrate strength and resilience in order to illuminate and to inspire her own.

Though it draws inspiration from nonfiction genres such as popular science and essayistic memoir, HOW FAR THE LIGHT REACHES breaks new ground in its fusion of existing genres to create an entirely new kind of essay. Like all good science writing, the biological skeleton of each essay is rooted in fact, teaching the reader something new about a kind of life in the ocean. But these essays go behind simply pondering the wonder of marine biology, instead threading the life experiences of sea creatures through a deeply human lens, one that is emotional and empathetic and queer. In the landscape of traditional science writing, this lens is radical. These aren't essays that just bend genre, they shape it. The fiercely animal spirit of *The Soul of an Octopus* converges with the deeply personal of *The Empathy Exams* and the raw intersectional awakening of *Long Live the Tribe of the Fatherless Girls* in this far-reaching, prismatic collection that promises to shatter any preconceptions you had about the sea and what it means to survive.

A staff writer at Atlas Obscura, **Sabrina Imbler** is a mixed Chinese-American queer essayist and a scientific journalist. In April 2020, her first chapbook, *Dyke (geology)* will be published through Black Lawrence Press. Her essays and reporting have appeared in various publications, including Catapult, Gay Magazine, Medium, Grist, Audubon, Nautilus, Scientific American, and The Week among others.

Contact: Anja Kretschmann

**Felton Earls**  
**Mary Carlson**  
**VOICE, CHOICE, AND ACTION**  
**The Potential of Young Citizens to Heal Democracy**

Client: Harvard University Press  
Publisher: Harvard University Press  
September 2020  
256 pp.

**Compiling decades of fieldwork, two acclaimed scholars offer strategies for strengthening democracies by nurturing the voices of children and encouraging public awareness of their role as citizens.**

VOICE, CHOICE, AND ACTION is the fruit of the extraordinary personal and professional partnership of a psychiatrist and a neurobiologist whose research and social activism have informed each other for the last thirty years.

Inspired by the 1989 United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child, Felton Earls and Mary Carlson embarked on a series of international studies that would recognize the voice of children. In Romania they witnessed the consequences of infant institutionalization under the Ceaușescu regime. In Brazil they encountered street children who had banded together to advocate effectively for themselves. In Chicago Earls explored the origins of prosocial and antisocial behavior with teenagers. Children all over the world demonstrated an unappreciated but powerful interest in the common good.

On the basis of these experiences, Earls and Carlson mounted a rigorous field study in Moshi, Tanzania, which demonstrated that young citizens could change attitudes about HIV/AIDS and mobilize their communities to confront the epidemic. The program, outlined in this book, promoted children's communicative and reasoning capacities, guiding their growth as deliberative citizens. The program's success in reducing stigma and promoting universal testing for HIV exceeded all expectations.

Here in vivid detail are the science, ethics, and everyday practice of fostering young citizens eager to confront diverse health and social challenges. At a moment when adults regularly profess dismay about our capacity for effective action, VOICE, CHOICE, AND ACTION offers inspiration and tools for participatory democracy.

**Felton Earls** is Professor Emeritus of Social Medicine at Harvard Medical School and Professor Emeritus of Human Behavior and Development at Harvard T. H. Chan School of Public Health.

**Mary Carlson** is Associate Professor of Psychiatry (Neuroscience), retired, at Harvard Medical School and a Research Associate Emerita of the Department of Psychiatry at Boston Children's Hospital.

Contact: Anja Kretschmann

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**Hilary Levey-Friedman**  
**HERE SHE IS**  
**The Tarnished Reign of the Beauty Pageant in America**

Client: Frances Goldin Literary Agency  
Publisher: Beacon  
August 2020

**An exploration of American feminism through the history and legacy of beauty pageants that offers a new perspective on their empowering and controversial role.**

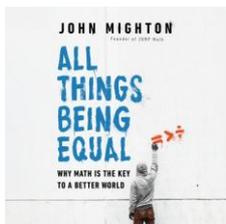
In 2020, the Miss America pageant will celebrate its 100th anniversary despite its very controversial standing in feminist history. What accounts for the persistence of this American tradition? Friedman approaches the issue from her unique perspective as a scholar, National Organization of Women state president, sometimes pageant judge, and the daughter Miss America 1970.

People have long assumed that pageants propagate damaging and unrealistic expectations for women, including increasingly thin bodies and Barbie-style features. Friedman draws on her own research to assess the development of beauty pageants in America from their origins as P.T. Barnum spectacles in a post-Seneca Falls world to extremely popular bathing-beauty competitions in Trump's Miss USA contest, and into the more talent and achievement-based competitions of today. She demonstrates that forms of pageantry have morphed in our culture, from *The Bachelor* and *RuPaul's Drag Race* to sorority rush and quinceañeras.

While acknowledging and exploring the strong critiques of the pageant world, including the Jon Benet Ramsey-style junior competitions, Friedman also arrives at some important counterintuitive discoveries and surprising conclusions about the positive aspects including visibility and confidence building, training that has been used to run for public office and to lead in business. Pageants are a useful window into the changing nature of American femininity, politics, and even parenthood. Friedman's analysis makes for insightful reading.

**Hilary Levey-Friedman** is a sociologist at Brown University where she has taught a popular course titled "Beauty Pageants in American Society." She is a leading researcher in pageantry, merging her mother's past experiences with her interests in glitz and glamour-loving nerd. Her first book, *Playing to Win*, focused on children's competitive afterschool activities.

Contact: Hannah Nuspliger-Fosh/ Hanna Vielberg



**John Mighton**  
**ALL THINGS BEING EQUAL**  
**Why Math Is the Key to a Better World**

Client: Transatlantic Literary Agency Inc.  
Publisher: Knopf  
Spring 2020

Rights sold: Yuan-Liou Publishing Co., Ltd., TAIWAN; Knopf Canada, AUDIO; Beijing Green Beans, CHINA

**Bringing together the latest cognitive research and incremental learning strategies, Mighton goes deep into the classroom and beyond to offer a hopeful – and urgent – vision for a numerate society.**

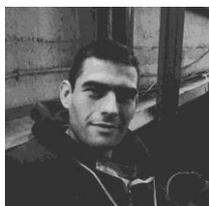
For two decades, John Mighton has developed strategies for fostering intellectual potential in all children through learning math. Math, Mighton says, provides us with mental tools of incredible power. When we learn math we learn to see patterns, to think logically and systematically, to draw analogies, to perceive risk, to understand cause and effect – among many other critical skills. Yet we tolerate and in fact expect a vast performance gap in math among students, and live in a world where many adults aren't equipped with these crucial tools. This learning gap is unnecessary, dangerous and tragic, he cautions, and it has led us to a worldwide problem of intellectual inequality which is apparent everywhere – in fake news, political jargon, floundering economies, even in medical diagnoses.

In *ALL THINGS BEING EQUAL* Mighton argues that math study is an ideal starting point to break down social inequality and empower individuals to build a smarter, kinder, more equitable world. Bringing together the latest cognitive research and incremental learning strategies, Mighton goes deep into the classroom and beyond to offer a hopeful – and urgent – vision for a numerate society.

**John Mighton** is the founder of JUMP (Junior Undiscovered Math Prodigies), a charitable organization that works to educate students in mathematics. He is the author of *The Myth of Ability* (2003) and *The End of Ignorance* (2007). Mighton has also received two Governor General's Literary Awards for his plays, and the prestigious Siminovitch Prize in Theatre. Mighton also advised on the script for *Good Will Hunting*, and was an actor in the film. His one major line is a reference to his main idea in *The Myth of Ability*: that most people never get a chance because a teacher does not take the time to show them how to learn. Mighton completed a PhD in mathematics at the University of Toronto and is currently a Fellow of the Fields Institute for Research in Mathematical Sciences. In 2004, Mighton was elected as a Fellow of Ashoka in recognition for his work founding JUMP. In 2010, he was appointed an Officer of the Order of Canada.

Contact: Hannah Nuspliger-Fosh/ Hanna Vielberg

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**Jacob Mikanowski**  
**GOODBYE EASTERN EUROPE**

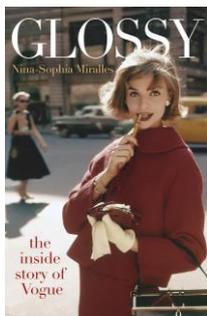
Client: Frances Goldin Literary Agency  
Publisher: Knopf  
Winter 2021

**“Eastern Europe is disappearing. Not the physical place, but the idea. Whatever held the region together in the mind's eye – a shared experience of occupation and exclusion, the permanent-seeming weight of economic backwardness, treasured memories of defeat – is gone, or at least not as present as it had been.”**

In the wake of the Soviet Union's collapse, the bonds that held all the various nations of Eastern Europe together as Soviet satellites have dissolved, calling into question what exactly connects them, and whether there was ever any such place to begin with. But, Jacob argues, there really was something more to Eastern Europe than shared political subjection. Eastern Europe had a particular character, and it will be his goal in this book to name and describe the peculiar flavor of the place, from the Baltics to the Balkans, from Prague to Kiev. Part history, part travelogue, part reading of the disparate canon of Eastern European literature, *GOODBYE EASTERN EUROPE* will be a work in the tradition of Ian Frazier's *Travels in Siberia*, or Simon Winder's *Germania* or *Danubia* – an anatomy of a region as refracted through its literature, and a fascinating exploration of an incredibly diverse, complex, and surprising terrain.

**Jacob Mikanowski** is a graduate student in Eastern European history at Berkeley, but has worked for years as a journalist, critic and essayist. His work has appeared in *The New York Times*, *The Atlantic Monthly*, *Harper's*, *The Guardian*, *Lapham's Quarterly*, and elsewhere. He grew up in the US, but his family is Polish.

Contact: Hannah Nuspliger-Fosh/ Hanna Vielberg



**Nina-Sophie Miralles**  
**GLOSSY**  
**The Inside Story of Vogue**

Client: Blake Friedmann Literary, TV and Film Agency Ltd  
Publisher: Quercus  
August 2020

**Passion and power, dizzying fortune and out-of-this-world fashion, ingenuity and opportunism, frivolity and malice – this is the definitive story of Vogue.**

Vogue magazine started, like so many great things do, in the spare room of someone's house. But unlike other such makeshift projects that flare up then fizzle away, Vogue burnt itself into our cultural consciousness.

Today, 125 years later, Vogue spans 22 countries, has an international print readership upwards of 12 million and nets over 67 million monthly online users. Uncontested market leader for a century, it is one of the most recognisable brands in the world and a multi-million dollar money-making machine. It is not just a fashion magazine, it is the establishment. But what, and more importantly who, made Vogue such an enduring success?

GLOSSY will answer this question and more by tracing the previously untold history of the magazine, from its inception as a New York gossip rag, to the sleek, corporate behemoth we know now. This will be a biography of Vogue in every sense of the word, taking the reader through three centuries, two world wars, plunging failures and blinding successes, as it charts the story of the magazine and those who ran it.

**Nina-Sophia Miralles** is an award-winning writer and editor from London specialising in the arts, culture and lifestyle. In 2015 she launched Londnr Magazine, a print and digital publication, where she remains at the helm. Londnr's content is carefully curated discerning journalism covering a breadth of topics in the capital with an emphasis on supporting the creative industries. In 2016, Nina-Sophia won The Hospital Club Top 100 'Rising Star' award which celebrates the most influential and innovative people working across Britain's creative industries. In 2017 and 2018 she was shortlisted for the Young Stationers' Prize in the category 'Publishing, Digital, and Design'. Nina-Sophia has also written for HARRODS Magazine across six of their flagship titles, and contributes to The Paris Review.

Contact: Hannah Nuspliger-Fosh/ Hanna Vielberg

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**Albert Mondor**  
**Daniel Gingras**  
**LES INSECTES DE NOS JARDINS**  
**Attirer les bestioles utiles et se débarrasser des parasites**

Client: Groupe Librex Inc.  
Publisher: Les Éditions du Journal  
April 2020  
240 pp.

**Learn how to attract beneficial insects to your vegetable garden in this guide from horticulturist Albert Mondor and entomologist Daniel Gingras.**

Beautifully illustrated and featuring a generous number of photographs, the guide explains how to identify and manage beneficial insects and pests, attract butterflies and other pollinators and keep insect infestations at bay. Each chapter includes tips for urban growing, garden plans and tutorials.

Horticulturist and biologist **Albert Mondor** is passionate about agriculture and environmental horticulture. He has been landscaping, designing and building gardens for more than 30 years. He has written a number of books, including *Le nouveau potager* (The New Vegetable Garden) and *Les platesbandes gourmandes* (Gourmet Garden Beds) (Éditions du Journal, 2017 and 2018) and is a regular guest on radio and TV programs.

**Daniel Gingras**, PhD is a research entomologist at the IRDA research and development institute for the agri-environment. Through his research, he is working to develop new anti-pest strategies for commercial crops that are friendlier for the environment and our health.

Contact: Anja Kretschmann



**Georgina Pazcoguin**  
**SWAN DIVE**

Client: Henry Holt and Company  
Publisher: Henry Holt  
April 2021  
Proposal available

Rights sold: Picador, UK

**In *SWAN DIVE*, New York City Ballet lead soloist Georgina Pazcoguin will blow the lid off the ballet industry much as *Kitchen Confidential* and *Sweetbitter* did for restaurant kitchens, revealing the petty dramas, wild nights, beauty, ugliness, and occasional mayhem behind the wings, as well as the emotional highs and lows that come with devoting one's life – and body – to such physically demanding art.**

In this fascinating romp through the closed-door world of ballet, she hopes to forever abolish the tired narrative of ballerinas as uptight, untouchable perfectionists (with occasional eating disorders), to more accurately portray the wild sisterhood of artists, friends, and sometimes frenemies, who play just as hard as they work.

The New York City Ballet has been rocked by several scandals, including the loss of famed ballet director Peter Martens – ousted after a blistering, anonymous letter detailed his abuse to the New York Times. The time to dust off old stereotypes, and curtail the industry's baked in racism and abuse, is beyond nigh. Georgina is excited to play a role in the shake-up by speaking her truth honestly (and often hilariously), even if it means ruffling a few feathers.

Onstage, **Georgina Pazcoguin** is a devoted company member of the New York City Ballet; the first Asian American woman to be promoted to lead soloist. Offstage, she is one of the most ballsy, irreverent, curious, and unabashedly authentic women in the industry. She has always been risk-taker; in the Peter Martens era, she risked her career to perform the role of Victoria in the Broadway revival of *Cats*, and continues to dabble in theater, television, philanthropy, and even music videos.

Contact: Anja Kretschmann

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**Jake Rosenfeld**  
**YOU'RE PAID WHAT YOU'RE WORTH**  
**And Other Myths of the Modern Economy**

Client: Harvard University Press  
Publisher: Harvard University Press  
January 2021  
304 pp.

**A myth-busting book challenges the idea that we're paid according to objective criteria and places power and social conflict at the heart of economic analysis.**

Your pay depends on your productivity and occupation. If you earn roughly what others in your job get, with the precise level determined by your performance, then you're paid market value. And who can question something as objective and impersonal as the market? That, at least, is how many of us tend to think. But according to Jake Rosenfeld, we need to think again.

Job performance and occupational characteristics do play a role in determining pay, but judgments of productivity and value are also highly subjective. What makes a lawyer more valuable than a teacher? How do you measure the output of a police officer, a professor, or a reporter? Why, in the past few decades, did CEOs suddenly become hundreds of times more valuable than their employees? The answers lie not in objective criteria but in battles over interests and ideals. In this contest four dynamics are paramount: power, inertia, mimicry, and demands for equity. Power struggles legitimize pay for particular jobs, and organizational inertia makes that pay seem natural. Mimicry encourages employers to do what peers are doing. And workers are on the lookout for practices that seem unfair. Rosenfeld shows us how these dynamics play out in real-world settings, drawing on cutting-edge economics, survey data, and a journalistic eye for compelling stories.

At a time when unions and bargaining power are declining and inequality is rising, *You're Paid What You're Worth* is a crucial resource for understanding that most basic of social questions: Who gets what and why?

**Jake Rosenfeld** is Associate Professor of Sociology at Washington University in St. Louis, where he specializes in the political and economic causes of inequality in advanced democracies. He is author of *What Unions No Longer Do* and articles in the New York Times, Politico, Los Angeles Times, among other outlets.

Contact: Anja Kretschmann



**Alec Ross**  
**UNTITLED ON GLOBAL BUSINESS AND GOVERNMENT**

Client: Henry Holt and Company  
Publisher: Henry Holt  
September 2021  
Proposal available

**Multinational companies are now as big as countries, and they are acting the part. This is a major paradigm shift that has already started to disrupt geopolitics and shake the balance of power between citizens, states, and corporations that has held for centuries. In this ambitious and broad-ranging book, pitched at a wide audience, Ross will examine the economic and political forces that brought us to where we are today and provide a lucid look at the trends shaping the future to come.**

Starting with the Industrial Revolution, a basic social contract emerged between governments, corporations, and the people. Companies held the power to shape our daily lives in ways both positive and negative, while the state held the power to make them fall in line, and the people held the power to choose their leaders. But in the latest wave of globalization, the balance has shaken loose and we are now more governed by companies than we are by governments. Meanwhile, those same companies exist beyond national borders, with their own foreign policy agendas independent of any parent nation. This is uncharted territory, and it's poorly understood even by the leaders of major corporations.

Through dozens of exclusive interviews, including the world's political leaders, he tells the stories of business titans, government officials, and everyday workers who have been at the front lines as the balance of power has come undone between the private sector, the governing, and the governed. He combines their insights to deliver a sweeping, global call for a renewed social contract for the 21st century.

**Alec Ross** is one of the world's leading experts in innovation and the author of *The Industries of the Future*, which has been translated into 24 languages. Ross is currently a Visiting Professor at King's College London. He is a Board Partner at Amplo, a global venture capital firm and sits on the board of directors or advisors for companies in the fields of immigration, technology, finance, education, and cybersecurity.

Contact: Anja Kretschmann

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**Scott Small**  
**FORGETTING**  
**The Benefits of an Open Mind**

Client: The Martell Agency  
Publisher: Crown  
Fall 2020  
Rights sold: Citic, CHINESE

**FORGETTING replaces the common belief that everyday forgetting represents a glitch in the memory system with a new view, supported by research in neurobiology, psychology, and medicine that forgetting not caused by aging or disease is in fact crucial to our health and well-being.**

This book is about how normal forgetting opens our minds, beneficial to our cognitive and creative abilities, to our emotional well-being, and even to our personal and societal health. In contrast to pathological forgetting, for example that caused by Alzheimer's disease or aging, normal forgetting occurs naturally in all of us. In defiance of collective wisdom, recent work has established that normal forgetting is not a failure of our minds. Its not even just a benign glitch. Rather, studies are beginning to explain how normal forgetting is beneficial, a required function for our minds to work best.

All of us are fascinated by memory, and most of us, even those with superior memory, complain about normal forgetting. The fixation on memory, in our current age of information, is truer now more than ever. While the feel-good subtext of this book will likely pique broad interest, its ultimate and lasting appeal will be the manner in which this message is conveyed. By clearly communicating, in a non-dumbing down and engaging style, recent insight into how memory and forgetting co-conspire to improve our minds, readers will enjoy learning how the mind works and why normal forgetting should be celebrated.

**Scott A. Small M.D.** is a Professor of Neurology & Psychiatry at Columbia University and Director of the Alzheimer's Disease Center. he is also a physician with an expertise in aging & dementia. His work has been covered by the New York Times, The New Yorker and Time magazine and such international publications as Die Welt, Le Figaro, Globo, Republica, The Globe and Mail, El Mundo, The Times of London.

Contact: Anja Kretschmann

## Biography/ Memoir



**Humera Afridi**  
**THE BOOK OF SECRETS**  
**The Extraordinary Life of World War II Heroine & Sufi Mystic Noor Inayat Khan**

Client: Ayesha Pande Literary  
Publisher: Pantheon  
2022

**THE BOOK OF SECRETS is a beautifully rendered biography of Noor-un-nisa Inayat Khan, the first woman radio operator of the British Special Operations Executive (SOE) to be infiltrated behind enemy lines during World War II in German-occupied France.**

Daughter of Hazrat Inayat Khan, a classical Indian musician and Ora Ray Baker, an American, Noor was raised as a devout practitioner of mystical Sufism. She defied the conventions of her conservative upbringing to volunteer for Churchill's Secret Army. Betrayed by a French double agent, she was taken prisoner by the Gestapo. Ultimately, she paid for her heroism with her life when she was tortured and killed at Dachau.

In the vein of Tom Reiss's *The Orientalist* and Lynne Olson's *Madame Fourcade's Secret War*, THE BOOK OF SECRETS is both an enthralling biography and a fascinating look at the cultural forces at play in early to mid-twentieth century Europe, specifically the mix of Orientalism and racism that defined the lives of Noor and her family, and the circumstances that inspired the recruitment of women in war work. It's bound to appeal to anyone interested in World War II history and the French Resistance, in Sufi chivalry, and in the South Asian diaspora during World War II. Unlike other books on the subject, Humera Afridi, herself South Asian and a practitioner of Sufism, provides insight into Noor's story from a feminist perspective and from a Sufi perspective. She looks closely at Noor's oeuvre as a writer and artist, and her identity as immigrant and citizen of the world, skillfully melding a thoroughly researched war story with mystical insights into Noor's character.

**Humera Afridi** is a New York-based writer of Pakistani origin. She holds an M.A. degree in Literary and Cultural Theory from Carnegie Mellon University and earned an M.F.A. in Creative Writing at New York University where she was the recipient of a New York Times Fellowship. Her stories and essays have appeared in *Granta*, *Guernica*, *The New York Times* and the *Journal of Postcolonial Writing* amongst other.

Contact: Anja Kretschmann

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**Dakshana Bascaramurty**  
**THIS IS NOT THE END OF ME**  
**Lessons of Living from a Dying Man**

Client: The Cooke Agency International Inc  
Publisher: McClelland & Stewart  
August 2020  
288 pp.

**For readers of Will Schwalbe and Mitch Albom's *Tuesdays with Morrie*, this is the moving and inspiring story of a young husband and father, Layton Reid, who, when diagnosed with terminal cancer at the age of thirty-three, sets out to build a legacy for his infant son**

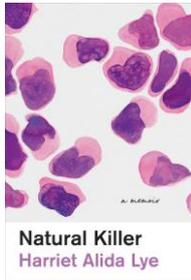
Reporter Dakshana Bascaramurty, who first met Layton when she hired him to shoot her wedding, tells the story of her friend's illness with incredible intimacy, power, insight, and empathy.

When Layton was first diagnosed with melanoma, he ditched his life as a wandering bachelor to finally settle down with his long-time girlfriend Candace and went into remission but years later, after getting married, as he and Candace are expecting their first child, the cancer returned and spread to his brain; Layton then threw himself into pursuing an extreme alternative therapy, which he was certain would save his life, but to no avail – Layton then quit the therapy and devoted his energy to preparing his infant son, Finn, for life without him.

Powerful and unvarnished, THIS IS NOT THE END OF ME contains moments of great beauty and humour, and reminds us of what it means to live.

**Dakshana Bascaramurty** is a national news reporter for the *Globe and Mail*. She won a 2013 National Newspaper Award in beat reporting for her coverage of changing demographics in Toronto's 905 region, and in 2018 a silver medal for Best Arts and Culture Story, at the Digital Publishing Awards for "Kent Monkman: the modern touch of an old master." Before joining the *Globe and Mail* in 2009, her work appeared in the *National Post*, the *Ottawa Citizen* and on CBC. This is her first book.

Contact: Hannah Nuspliger-Fosh/ Hanna Vielberg



**Harriet Alida Lye**  
**NATURAL KILLER**  
**A Memoir**

Client: Transatlantic Literary Agency Inc.  
Publisher: McClelland & Stewart  
Spring 2020  
237 pp.

**With the probing lyricism of *On Immunity* by Eula Biss and the searing honesty of *A Life's Work* by Rachel Cusk, this is NATURAL KILLER by Harriet Alida Lye – an intimate and gripping memoir penned in the aftermath of the cancer that nearly took her life. In record time, NATURAL KILLER sold in under a week to McClelland & Stewart for Spring 2020.**

At just fifteen years old, Harriet Alida Lye was diagnosed with a form of leukemia called Natural Killer, which has been named “the rarest and worst malignancy.” The average life span of patients with this diagnosis is 58 days. There are no known survivors. There were no known survivors. “I need people to know that I exist,” Harriet writes, “that their experiment worked, that by some combination of luck and science, I’m alive.”

Fifteen years after Harriet's diagnosis she became pregnant, despite having been told that her chemotherapy treatment protocol would likely make natural conception impossible. To be a mother is to make a death, as death is bound up in life. From the age of fifteen, she knew her body had the ability to create death. She never trusted, was told to not even imagine, that it also had the power, that magical banality, to create life.

Weaving in source material from the year she spent in hospital, written by both of her parents and her teenage self, this searing personal reflection is expertly told through a seamless blend of narrative, snapshots, journal entries, and blog updates posted for friends and family. NATURAL KILLER explores what it's like to live with a life-threatening illness and survive it; what it means for a body to turn against itself, to self-destruct from within; and what it takes to regain trust in a body that has committed the ultimate betrayal.

**Harriet Alida Lye** is from Richmond Hill, Ontario. She studied Philosophy and English at the University of King's College and lived in Paris for seven years. She founded and edited *Her Royal Majesty*, a literary arts magazine that ran for six years. Her work has been published by *VICE*, *Hazlitt*, *The Happy Reader*, *Catapult*, *The Guardian*, *The National Post*, and more. Harriet's debut novel, *The Honey Farm*, was published by *Nimbus* in Canada, *Liveright* in the US and *Penguin Random House* in Australia. She lives in Toronto.

Contact: Hannah Nuspliger-Fosh/ Hanna Vielberg



**Farzon A. Nahvi**  
**DEATH'S HERALD: A Young Doctor's Journey Through Life and Death in the Emergency Room**

Client: The Martell Agency  
Publisher: Simon & Schuster  
2022  
Proposal available

**DEATH'S HERALD is a narrative-driven medical memoir that places the reader directly in the crucible of extreme life-or-death decision-making, and offering insights that can help us cope at a time when the world around us appears to be constantly falling apart.**

In the tradition of such best-selling physician-authors as Atul Gawande, Danielle Ofri, and Perri Klass, comes *DEATH'S HERALD*, an urgent and beautifully written memoir by a 28 year old emergency room doctor that covers a his routine shifts at an urban ER. Intimately narrated in real time following the courses of real patients, it is filled with fascinating, adrenaline-pumping scenes of rescues and deaths, and the critical, often excruciating follow-through in caring for the patients' families. It offers an unforgettable portrait of challenges so profound, powerful, and extreme, that normal ethical, philosophical, and medical frameworks come up short. By inviting the reader to experience what it is like to work a shift in the ER from the perspective of an ER physician, we are forced to test ourselves, our core beliefs and our principles. Often, there are no clear answers. We are left feeling unsettled, but through this process, we can come to appreciate just how messy, emotional, unpredictable – and yet strikingly beautiful – life can be.

**Farzon A. Nahvi, M.D.** is a board-certified attending physician and Clinical Assistant Professor of Emergency Medicine at the Mount Sinai Health System and the Manhattan VA where he practices emergency medicine as well as teaches residents and medical students. He has written for several publications including *The New York Times*, *The Guardian*, *Academic Medicine*, the *New York Daily News*, *Newsweek*, *New York Magazine*, and others, and serves as a reviewer for the *Bellevue Literary Review*.

Contact: Anja Kretschmann



**Damian Rogers**  
**AN ALPHABET FOR JOANNA**  
**A Portrait of My Mother**

Client: The Cooke Agency International Inc  
Publisher: Knopf Canada  
Fall 2020

**Written in the vein of Jeannette Walls's *The Glass Castle* and Susannah Calahan's *Brain on Fire*, a riveting, life-affirming memoir about being raised in 1980s Detroit by a loving but erratic single mother who is later diagnosed with frontal-lobe dementia.**

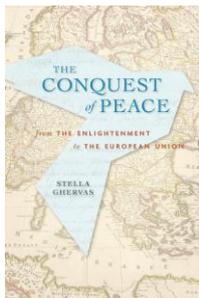
Throughout her childhood in Detroit, Damian Rogers was never given a satisfactory account of the circumstances that led to her own birth: the "truth" behind the stories she was told by her mother – free-spirited, beautiful and troubled Joanna – constantly shifted, and Damian was left only with fragments (her mom's trip to California after finishing high school, a mysterious trauma and psychotic break, then a return to Detroit, pregnant) – now, as 40-something Damian struggles to cope with Joanna's early-onset dementia, she realizes she may never know the full story.

At once a rich memoir of an unconventional and wildly dysfunctional childhood, an engrossing medical mystery, a subtle meditation on mental illness, a celebration of the power of art, and a poignant mother-daughter saga, AN ALPHABET FOR JOANA is an exploration of how memory shifts and shapes our intimate relationships.

**Damian Rogers** has published two acclaimed books of poetry: *Dear Leader* (2015), which was named one of the best books of 2015 by the CBC and the Globe and Mail and was a finalist for the Ontario Trillium Poetry Prize; and *Paper Radio* (2009), which was shortlisted for the Pat Lowther Memorial Prize. She has also published work in many magazines and online journals, including Boston Review, Brick, The Walrus, Hazlitt, White Wall Review, Event, Four Way Review, Taddle Creek, Riddle Fence, Toronto Star, Maisonneuve, Salt Hill and more. Damian teaches creative writing at Ryerson University in Toronto, where she lives with her son and her husband, musician Mike Belitsky of The Sadies.

Contact: Hannah Nuspliger-Fosh/ Hanna Vielberg

## History



**Stella Ghervas**  
**THE CONQUEST OF PEACE**  
**From the Enlightenment to the European Union**

Client: Harvard University Press  
Publisher: Harvard University Press  
November 2020  
400 pp.

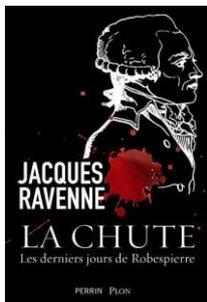
**A bold new look at war and diplomacy in Europe that traces the idea of a unified continent in attempts since the eighteenth century to engineer lasting peace.**

Political peace in Europe has historically been elusive and ephemeral. Ghervas shows that European thinkers and leaders in pursuit of lasting peace fostered the idea of European unification. Bridging intellectual and political history, Ghervas draws on the work of philosophers from Abbé de Saint-Pierre, who wrote an early eighteenth-century plan for perpetual peace, to Rousseau and Kant, as well as statesmen such as Tsar Alexander I, Woodrow Wilson, Winston Churchill, Robert Schuman, and Mikhail Gorbachev. She locates five major conflicts since 1700 that spurred such visionaries to promote systems of peace in Europe: the War of the Spanish Succession, the Napoleonic Wars, World War I, World War II, and the Cold War. Each moment generated a “spirit” of peace among monarchs, diplomats, democratic leaders, and ordinary citizens. The engineers of peace progressively constructed mechanisms and institutions designed to prevent future wars.

Arguing for continuities from the ideals of the Enlightenment, through the nineteenth-century Concert of Nations, to the institutions of the European Union and beyond, *The Conquest of Peace* illustrates how peace as a value shaped the idea of a unified Europe long before the EU came into being. Today the EU is widely criticized as an obstacle to sovereignty and for its democratic deficit. Seen in the long-range perspective of the history of peacemaking, however, this European society of states emerges as something else entirely: a step in the quest for a less violent world.

**Stella Ghervas** is Professor of Russian History at Newcastle University and a Fellow of the Royal Historical Society. Her book *Réinventer la tradition: Alexandre Stourdza et l'Europe de la Sainte-Alliance* won the Guizot Prize from the Académie Française.

Contact: Anja Kretschmann



**Jacques Ravenne**  
**LA CHUTE**  
**Les Derniers Jours de Robespierre**

Client: Editions Perrin  
Publisher: Perrin  
January 2020  
277 pp.

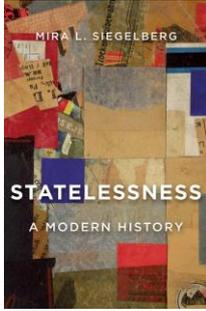
Paperback rights to POCKET (5 figure deal)

**The decline and fall of Robespierre – known as “the incorruptible” – A riveting and entirely true story, and “historical thriller”, drawn from indisputable sources.**

July 26, 1794. As the tumbrils roll, taking those condemned that day to the guillotine, Paris is all agog: after weeks of absence, Robespierre is going to speak. What will the most feared man in France say? Will he announce the end of the Terror or, on the contrary, proclaim a dictatorship? From the deadly prisons to the painter David's studio, from the Palais Royal gambling houses to behind the scenes at the National Convention, who will triumph? Robespierre, who wants to purify the republic, or his opponents who claim they will save it? Eleonora or Teresa, each in love with a man who, if he loses the battle he is fighting, will take her down with him? Three decisive days when everything becomes denunciation, manipulation, conspiracy. Three days when winning means survival. Three days when the republic will have its blood baptism. Three days that will shake up France's destiny.

Author of detective novels and historical essays, **Jacques Ravenne** and his co-author **Éric Giacometti** have created two successful series: the investigations of Commissaire Marcas (by Fleuve editions) and the saga *Soleil noir* (by JC Lattès), translated into twenty languages.

Contact: Anja Kretschmann



**Mira L. Siegelberg**  
**STATELESSNESS**  
**A Modern History**

Client: Harvard University Press  
Publisher: Harvard University Press  
March 2020  
336 pp.

**The story of how a much-contested legal category – statelessness – transformed the international legal order and redefined the relationship between states and their citizens.**

Two world wars left millions stranded in Europe. The collapse of empires and the rise of independent states in the twentieth century produced an unprecedented number of people without national belonging and with nowhere to go. Mira Siegelberg's innovative history weaves together ideas about law and politics, rights and citizenship, with the intimate plight of stateless persons, to explore how and why the problem of statelessness compelled a new understanding of the international order in the twentieth century and beyond.

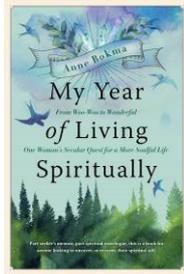
In the years following the First World War, the legal category of statelessness generated novel visions of cosmopolitan political and legal organization and challenged efforts to limit the boundaries of national membership and international authority. Yet, as Siegelberg shows, the emergence of mass statelessness ultimately gave rise to the rights regime created after World War II, which empowered the territorial state as the fundamental source of protection and rights, against alternative political configurations.

Today we live with the results: more than twelve million people are stateless and millions more belong to categories of recent invention, including refugees and asylum seekers. By uncovering the ideological origins of the international agreements that define categories of citizenship and non-citizenship, STATELESSNESS better equips us to confront current dilemmas of political organization and authority at the global level.

**Mira L. Siegelberg** is University Lecturer in the History of International Political Thought at the University of Cambridge and a past member of the Princeton Society of Fellows.

Contact: Anja Kretschmann

## Inspirational/ Self-help



**Anne Bokma**  
**MY YEAR OF LIVING SPIRITUALLY**  
**From Woo-Woo to Wonderful – One Woman’s Secular Quest for a More Soulful Life**

Client: Transatlantic Literary Agency Inc.  
Publisher: Douglas & McIntyre  
Oktober 2019  
240 pp.

**Part seeker’s memoir, part spiritual travelogue, this is a book for anyone looking to uncover – or recover – their spiritual self.**

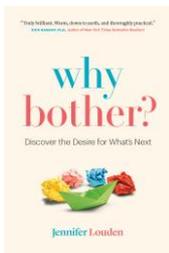
In 2017, Anne Bokma embarked on a quest to become a more spiritual person. After leaving the fundamentalist religion of her youth, she became one of the eighty million North Americans who consider themselves spiritual-but-not-religious, the fastest growing “faith” category.

In mid-life she found herself addicted to busyness, drinking too much, hooked on social media, dreading the empty nest and still struggling with alienation from her ultra-religious family. In response, she set out on a year-long whirlwind adventure to immerse herself in a variety of sacred practices – each of which proved to be illuminating in unexpected ways – to try to develop her own definition of what it means to be spiritual.

In MY YEAR OF LIVING SPIRITUALLY, Bokma documents a diverse range of soulful first-person experiences – from taking a dip in Thoreau’s Walden Pond, to trying magic mushrooms for the first time, booking herself into a remote treehouse as an experiment in solitude, singing in a deathbed choir and enrolling in a week-long witch camp – in an entertaining and enlightening way that will compel readers (non-believers and believers alike) to try a few spiritual practices of their own. Along the way, she reconsiders key relationships in her life and begins to experience the greater depth of meaning, connection, gratitude, simplicity and inner peace that we all long for. Readers will find it an inspiring roadmap for their own spiritual journeys.

**Anne Bokma** is an internationally recognized award-winning freelance journalist who specializes in writing on spiritual topics. She’s the “Spiritual but Secular” columnist for Broadview and her articles have appeared in many of Canada’s leading national magazines, including the Toronto Star, Canadian Living, Best Health, Reader’s Digest, Today’s Parent, MoneySense and Chatelaine. She lives in Hamilton, Canada.

Contact: Hannah Nuspliger-Fosh/ Hanna Vielberg



**Jennifer Loudon**  
**WHY BOTHER?**  
**Discover the Desire for What's Next**

Client: Transatlantic Literary Agency Inc.  
Publisher: Page Two Books  
May 2020

**Why bother reading this book? Because you’ll answer the most important question you’ll ever ask yourself.**

In WHY BOTHER? personal-growth expert Jennifer Loudon challenges you to open your mind, your heart, and your life by following where the question leads. Through reflection and stories from others, Loudon demonstrates how to bother when it feels impossible or like too much work, whether after professional defeats, heartbreak, illness, or life-changing loss. She shows why you must prioritize what’s calling you at any time of your life, especially when you’ve sidelined your dreams to raise kids, pay the rent, or take care of aging parents. And crucially, she shows you how tapping into your deepest desires can give you the energy to move forward – even when the world seems in such dire straits. It’s time to reclaim the dignity and beauty of your desires. It’s time to get your bother on.

**Jennifer Loudon** is a personal-growth pioneer who helped launch the concept of self-care with her first bestseller, *The Woman’s Comfort Book*. Since then, she’s written six additional books on well-being and whole living. With over one million books in print in nine languages, Jennifer is an internationally sought-after speaker and media commentator. She’s a former columnist for a Martha Stewart magazine and has been featured or quoted in various publications, such as Brené Brown’s *Daring Greatly* and *Dare to Lead*. Jennifer has appeared on hundreds of TV programs, radio shows, and podcasts – including Oprah.

Contact: Hannah Nuspliger-Fosh/ Hanna Vielberg



**Jedidiah Jenkins**  
**LIKE STREAMS TO THE OCEAN**  
**Notes on Ego, Love, and the Things That Make Us Who We Are**

Client: The Crown Publishing Group  
Publisher: Convergent  
September 2020  
227 pp.

**A moving examination of the overlooked topics that matter most in life, from New York Times bestselling author Jedidiah Jenkins.**

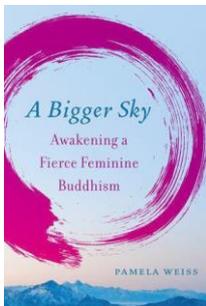
We aren't born into a self. It is created without our consent, built on top of our circumstances, the off-handed comments we hear from others, and the moments that scared us most when we were young. But in the busyness of our daily life, we rarely get the chance to think clearly about the questions that matter most. Who am I? Where do I belong? How much of who I am and what I do boils down to avoiding the things that make me feel small? We tuck these questions into the corner of our minds, but they drive our behavior far more than we give them credit for, even after we become adults.

Writing with the passion and clarity, Jenkins makes space to explore the following topics we must think about in order to live a deeply considered life: Ego, Family, Home, Friendship, Love, Work, Death and The Soul. He considers the experiences that shape us into who we are, whether they're as heart-pounding as a rafting trip through the whitewater of the Grand Canyon, or as ordinary as the moment when we look in the mirror each morning. Through it all, Jenkins leads readers on a wide-ranging conversation about finding fulfillment in the people and places around us, and discovering the courage to show our deepest selves to the world.

LIKE STREAMS OF THE OCEAN is a profound reflection from one of our most original writers, a necessary read for anyone seeking a companion on the road to understanding.

**Jedidiah Jenkins** is a New York Times bestselling author and a travel writer, entrepreneur, and Instagram personality. A graduate of USC and Pepperdine University School of Law, Jenkins began his professional career with the nonprofit Invisible Children, where he helped orchestrate multinational campaigns to end the use of child soldiers in central Africa. He is the executive editor of Wilderness magazine; Jenkins's work has appeared in the Paris Review and Good magazine, and he has been covered by National Geographic.

Contact: Anja Kretschmann



**Pamela Weiss**  
**A BIGGER SKY**

Client: Ayesha Pande Literary  
Publisher: Atlantic  
2020

**A BIGGER SKY illuminates how integrating a more feminine approach to Buddhist teachings can be applied in spiritual practice, in community, in relationships, and in day-to-day life.**

Like all true spiritual teachings, Buddhism offers a radical shift: from me to we, fracture to unity, and fear to love. But like most institutionalized religions, Buddhism developed under systems of hierarchy, patriarchy, and power that have become interwoven into its structure. Written by the first layperson to receive full Dharma Transmission in the Suzuki Roshi Soto Zen lineage, A BIGGER SKY explores what it means to fill the gaps of a Buddhism created by and for men, to navigate the seemingly contradictory domains of secular and spiritual life, and to walk a path through the heart of the world. Reorienting Buddhist practice through a wider, more inclusive feminine lens, Pamela Weiss's personal and spiritual journey speaks to the bits of brokenness in us all, shining a light on the different pathways we can walk to become whole. Weiss shares what it means to be an ordinary Bodhisattva with ourselves, each other and the planet.

**Pamela Weiss** is the first and only lay Buddhist practitioner in the Suzuki Roshi Soto Zen lineage to receive full authorization as a lineage holder, and one of a small number of Buddhist teachers trained in two traditions. She is also an entrepreneur, CEO, and executive coach, and a pioneer in bringing Buddhist principles.

Contact: Anja Kretschmann