
AVID

READER

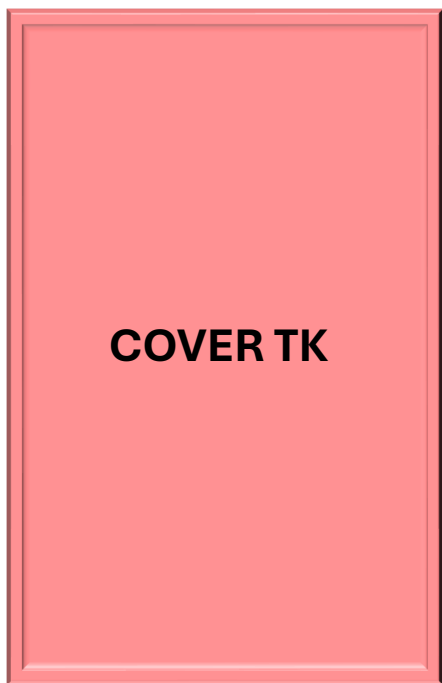
PRESS

Subsidiary Rights Guide
Frankfurt 2024

SIMON & SCHUSTER, INC.
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LABOR



August 2025
Afsari, Mary

Territory: World

Rights: First serial/Audio/British/Electronic/Translation

TV/Film Rights Agency and Agent: Regal Hoffmann
& Assoc. LLC, Lindsay Edgecombe

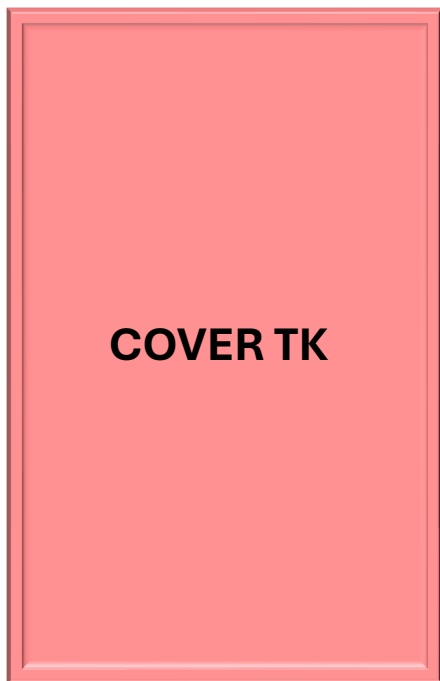
(ledgecombe@lgrliterary.com)

Oregon-based Ob/Gyn and reproductive rights champion Dr. Mary Fariba Afsari confronts the limitations of the medical system she is forced to work within when a 12-year-old girl shows up pregnant to her office, leading her to question the narrative of her own family. She eventually determines that her Iranian grandmother and namesake didn't die at age 26 in her fifth pregnancy from "high blood pressure" as she'd been told, but from an illegal abortion. Facing what feels like a midlife crisis, Mary becomes obsessed with Mehry, and escapes into her imagination to try to understand her grandmother's life, in Shiraz, in 1956, and perhaps her own life in the process.

Afsari wrote this book to save herself, knowing that as a female physician in this country, she had four times the risk of suicide than any other career. This is a personal and professional reckoning—an urgent story of women's identity, agency, matrilineal heritage, and family secrets.

Dr. Mary Afsari-Howard, DO, is a board-certified OB/GYN who leads *FemForward* Health in Portland, Oregon. She graduated from the University of Connecticut School of Medicine Ob/Gyn Residency with a Masters in Health Communication from Tufts/Emerson.

AMADOKA



October 2025
Andrukhovych, Sofia

Territory: World English

Rights: First serial/Audio/British/Electronic

Translation and TV/Film Rights Agency and Agent:

Regal Hoffmann & Assoc. LLC, Elianna Kan

(elianna@rhaliterary.com)

An epic novel that interweaves the major events of Ukrainian 20th-century history—from the ongoing war with Russia, to the Stalinist repression of the 1930s and the Holocaust in Ukraine, up to the war in Donbas in 2014—in a story that explores historical memory, identity, and forbidden love.

Sofia Andrukhovych is a Ukrainian writer and translator. She has won the BBC Ukrainian Book of the Year Award as well as the Women in Arts Award.

THE PLAYING LESSON

A Duffer's Year Among the Pros



COVER TK

May 2025

Bamberger, Michael

Territory: World English

Rights: First serial/Audio/British/Electronic

Translation and TV/Film Rights Agency and Agent:

International Creative MGT, Kristine Dahl

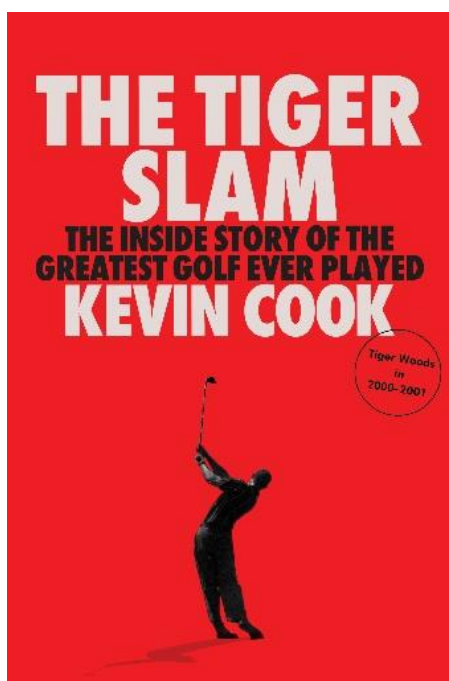
(kristine.dahl@caa.com)

In the tradition of George Plimpton's *The Bogey Man*, celebrated golf writer Michael Bamberger returns to his roots as a participatory journalist and plays alongside the pros on the PGA Tour, the LPGA Tour, the DP World Tour, the Champions Tour, the LIV Golf Tour, and elsewhere to give readers the deepest portrait possible of what it's like to play at the highest level of the sport today.

Michael Bamberger was born in Patchogue, New York, in 1960. After graduating from the University of Pennsylvania in 1982, he worked as a newspaper reporter, first for the (*Martha's*) *Vineyard Gazette*, later for *The Philadelphia Inquirer*. After twenty-two years at *Sports Illustrated*, he is now a senior writer at Golf.com.

THE TIGER SLAM

The Inside Story of the Greatest Golf Ever Played (Tiger Woods in 2000–2001)



December 2024

Cook, Kevin

Territory: World

Rights: First

serial/Audio/British/Electronic/Translation

TV/Film Rights Agency and Agent: David Halpern

Lit MGMT LLC, David Halpern

(dhalpern@robbinsoffice.com)

Sold: UK (Ebury Spotlight)

In *The Tiger Slam*, Kevin Cook delivers a gripping, inside-the-ropes account of an astonishing streak of victories that left Woods's rivals scrambling to keep up. Readers will hear from many of golf's biggest names—Tiger's caddie, his coach, his opponents, his idols, and others, all offering fresh insight into the electrifying highs of his victories and the obstacles on and off the course that threatened his relentless pursuit of perfection. The Tiger Slam is the epitome of greatness in sport, a feat as exhilarating today as it was twenty-five years ago. In fact, it's even more so, now that we know we'll never see its like again. Such dominance is unthinkable in modern golf's era of parity. Kevin Cook invites us to close our eyes and remember a young champion at the peak of his powers: unmatched raw strength, single-minded focus, strategic genius, and utter fearlessness. The Tiger Slam takes readers behind the scenes in the thrilling months when Tiger Woods took an ancient game to new heights.

A former *Sports Illustrated* senior editor and editor in chief of *Golf Magazine*, **Kevin Cook** has written about golf for *Sports Illustrated*, *The Wall Street Journal*, and many other publications, and talked about the game on *ESPN*, *CNN*, and *Fox News*. His first book, *Tommy's Honor*, won the US Golf Association's Herbert Warren Wind Award.

BILLIONAIRE, NERD, SAVIOR, KING

Bill Gates and His Quest to Shape Our World



August 2024
Das, Anupreeta

Territory: World

Rights: First

serial/Audio/British/Electronic/Translation

TV/Film Rights Agency and Agent: Sanford J.

Greenburger Assoc., Dan Mandel

(dmandel@sjga.com)

Sold: **Brazilian Portuguese** (Alta Books), **Chinese Complex** (Domain Publishing Company), **Chinese Simplified** (People's Literature Publishing House), **Turkish** (Saga Kitap), **UK** (S&S UK)

In a world overrun by laptops, internet-connected devices, cellphones and wristwatches with more computing power than an early PC, it is hard to imagine just how instrumental Bill Gates was in kickstarting the personal computing revolution, with his mission to put a computer in every home. When Gates cofounded Microsoft in 1975, computers existed largely in government offices and big organizations. Software as a product didn't exist. In 1987, Bill Gates became the first tech billionaire. In 2021, eight of the top 10 billionaires in the *Forbes* list of the world's richest people were tech billionaires—Jeff Bezos, Elon Musk, Mark Zuckerberg, Bill Gates, Larry Page, Sergey Brin, Larry Ellison, and Steve Ballmer.

In 2000, Gates turned his full-time attention to philanthropy and remade himself as a global do-gooder and thinker, a saint, and a savior. Today, the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation is the world's largest private philanthropic donor. Its work has touched millions of lives, and Bill and Melinda have been honored with the *Time* Persons of the Year Award and the Presidential Medal of Freedom.

Anupreeta Das is the finance editor of *The New York Times*, overseeing broad coverage of Wall Street, including banking, investing, markets, insurance, and consumer finance. Previously, Das helped run the *Wall Street Journal's* coverage of business and technology, focusing on corporations and the issues affecting them.

BORN TO FLOURISH

How to Thrive in a Challenging World



COVER TK

Spring 2026

Davidson, Richard J., and Cortland Dahl

Territory: World

Rights: Serial/Audio/British/Electronic/Translation

TV/Film Rights Agency and Agent: Lowenthal Company LLC, linda@lowenthal.co

Sold: Chinese Complex (Systex Corporation),

Spanish (Editorial Kairos), UK (Scribe Publications Ptv)

Born to Flourish draws on neuroscience and psychological research to show that flourishing is actually a skill, four skills to be exact--awareness, insight, connection, and purpose—and teach us simple practices designed to cultivate them.

The audience for Angela Duckworth's *Grit* and Judson Brewer's *Unwinding Anxiety* will be drawn to the message of living well and performing at a high level despite anxiety and stress, and readers of Waldinger and Schulz's *The Good Life* will be attracted to a research-based book on how to live a rich and full life.

Dr. Davidson is the *New York Times* bestselling coauthor of *The Emotional Life of Your Brain*. He is the recipient of numerous awards, including the most distinguished award for science given by the American Psychological Association, and he was named one of the 100 most influential people in the world by Time magazine in 2006. His vast body of research from the internationally renowned Center for Healthy Minds at The University of Wisconsin, Madison, where Dr. Dahl also works, has revealed extraordinary insight into our ability to flourish.

Dr. Davidson and Dr. Dahl are the creators of the Healthy Minds Program, a groundbreaking program to cultivate well-being. The Healthy Minds Program app, which allows the general public to access this program for free, was recently selected by the *New York Times* as one of their top three recommended meditation apps.

SEPARATION OF CHURCH AND HATE



COVER TK

August 2025
Fugelsang, John

Territory: World

Rights: First

serial/Audio/British/Electronic/Translation

TV/Film Rights Agency and Agent: Charlotte

Sheedy Lit Agency, Charlotte Seedy & Jesseca Salky

(jsalky@salkylitmgmt.com)

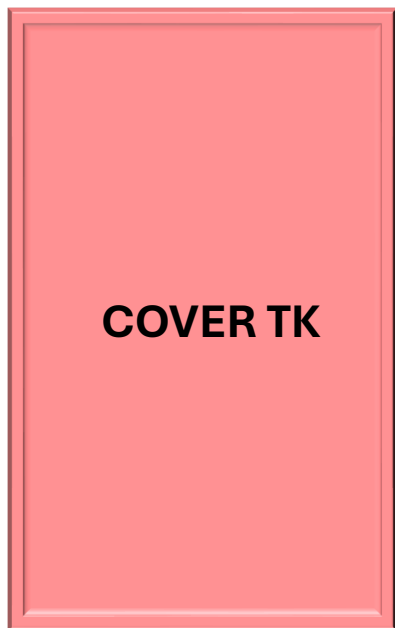
For over two centuries, the United States constitution has afforded us the right to live in a society where church and state exist independently, and without conflict. So why is it that, suddenly, God's word is being co-opted by far-right groups and family members to justify oppressive and unequal politics? And how do we fight back against those acting—literally—in bad faith?

Now, in *SEPARATION OF CHURCH AND HATE*, Fugelsang outlines the hypocrisy and overall inaccuracy of the far-right's take on Christianity, from LGBTQ+ rights and abortion to immigration, divorce, and more, using actual lessons and scripture from the Good Book. Think of it as a cheat-sheet from your smartest, funniest, most rational religious friend, a plan for engaging with and disarming the unhinged arguments you're likely to find yourself in at a family holiday. The only way out isn't through--it's to beat them at their own game.

John Fugelsang has been murdered on CSI, interviewed 2 Beatles on separate continents in the same week, and famously once got Mitt Romney's advisor to call Governor Romney an 'etch a sketch' on CNN. He is an actor, comedian & broadcaster who hosts "Tell Me Everything" weekdays on SiriusXM Insight #121. He recently performed in "The Bill of Rights Concert" alongside Lewis Black & Dick Gregory which aired on AXS, and has also appeared at Montreal's "Just for Laughs" Festival, HBO's U.S Comedy Arts Festival in Aspen, hosted America's Funniest Home Videos for ABC and Bill Maher called him "one of my favorite comedians." His new film "Dream On," a road trip in search of the American Dream, was named "Best Documentary" at the NY Independent Film Festival.

A FLOWER TRAVELED IN MY BLOOD

The Incredible True Story of the Grandmothers Who Fought to Find a Stolen Generation of Children



July 2025

Gilliland, Haley Cohen

Territory: World

Rights: First

serial/Audio/British/Electronic/Translation

TV/Film Rights Agency and Agent: Aevitas Creative Management, Will Lippincott

(wlippincott@aevitascreative.com)

In the predawn hours of March 24th, 1976, tanks rumbled onto the streets of Buenos Aires and soldiers stormed the presidential palace to oust the leader of the Republic of Argentina. Endorsed by the United States, the junta wasted little time in unleashing a “National Reorganization Process, or *El Proceso*, a bland name for a brutal plan to quash the political left and to restore what it saw as western, Christian values and civilization to Argentina. *El Proceso*, which lasted until 1983, obliterated a generation, disappearing an estimated 30,000 mostly young Argentines. Perhaps the most despicable action taken by the military in that awful era was the disappearance of 500 women who happened to be pregnant at the time of their abductions.

For Rosa and countless other mothers, it was a devastating and unthinkable loss, mitigated only by a single thought: perhaps their grandchildren, born in captivity, were still alive. And maybe, together, they could find them. Out of despair, the women formed the Abuelas de Plaza de Mayo, a group organized around the sole purpose of identifying, locating, and reuniting with *El Proceso*'s stolen generation over the next four decades—and demanding justice from the country that had betrayed them.

Haley Cohen Gilliland is a journalist and the director of the Yale Journalism Initiative. She previously worked at *The Economist* for seven years, four of which were spent in Buenos Aires as the paper's Argentina correspondent. She has published long-form feature articles in *The New York Times*, *National Geographic*, *Bloomberg Businessweek*, and *Vanity Fair*, among other publications.

HOLLYWOOD HIGH

A Neat, Keen, Righteous, Bitchin', Dope, Way Harsh, Totally Fetch History of Teen Movies



June 2025
Handy, Bruce

Territory: World English

Rights: Audio/British/Electronic

First Serial, Translation, and TV/Film Rights

Agency and Agent: International Creative MGT,
Jennifer Joel

Hollywood High is a provocative, spirited, and affectionate history of teen movies, from the Andy Hardy pictures of the 1930s and 40s, through the eras of *Rebel Without a Cause* and *Beach Party*, and onto the Golden Age of the 1980s (*Fast Times at Ridgemont High*, *The Breakfast Club*, etc), the breakthrough of *Boyz N the Hood*, and 21st-century landmarks like *Mean Girls* and the Twilight, and Hunger Games franchises. But this is not just a story about beloved movies; it's also a story about teens' growing economic and cultural power, moral panics, and changing ideas about what it means to be young in America.

Protagonists include James Dean, Annette Funicello, George Lucas, Amy Heckerling, John Hughes, Molly Ringwald, John Singleton, Lindsay Lohan, and Jennifer Lawrence. But even as the films' backdrops evolve from drive-ins to malls to social media apps, *Hollywood High* demonstrates how and why the best teen movies speak across generations.

Bruce Handy is currently a contributing editor of *Vanity Fair*. A former writer and editor at *Spy and Time*, his articles, essays, reviews, and humor pieces have appeared in such publications as *The New York Times Magazine*, *The New York Times Book Review*, *New York* magazine, *Rolling Stone*, *Vogue*, *The Village Voice*, and *The New Yorker*. Handy was nominated for an Emmy in 1993 as a member of Saturday Night Live's writing staff. He won a GLAAD Award in 1998 for his "Yep I'm Gay" Time cover profile of Ellen DeGeneres. At *Vanity Fair*, he has written on topics and personalities as diverse as Mad Men, Amy Schumer, film composer John Barry, PeeWee Herman, Miley Cyrus, the J.T. Leroy hoax, Cinerama, and the history of flight attendants.

DAIKON

A Novel



COVER TK

July 2025
Hawley, Samuel

Territory: World

Rights: First serial/Audio/British/Electronic/Translation

TV/Film Rights Agency and Agent: John Hawkins & Associates Inc., Warren Frazier

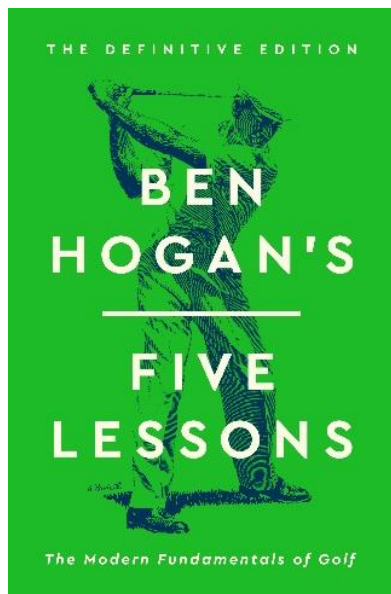
A sweeping historical novel about love in a time of war, set in the early days of August 1945 in Japan, when the greatest destruction the world had ever known has been unleashed, and only one man holds the key to end the war—and save his family—when America’s deadliest weapon falls into the hands of the Japanese military.

Three atomic bombs were delivered to Tinian rather than two, but the “third bomb” falls into the hands of the Japanese. The protagonist, a Japanese civilian-scientist, is recruited by the government to figure out what the bomb is and how it works—and how it might be used against the Americans. At the same time, the scientist’s Nisei wife has been imprisoned by the Japanese secret police and he is desperately working to reunite with her.

Samuel Hawley is a Canadian writer with BA and MA degrees in history from Queen’s University in Kingston, Ontario. He was born and grew up in South Korea and taught English there and in Japan for many years. He currently lives in Istanbul, Turkey.

BEN HOGAN'S FIVE LESSONS

The Modern Fundamentals of Golf



November 2024

Hogan, Ben

Territory: World

Rights: Audio/British/Electronic/Translation

First serial and TV/Film Rights Agency and Agent:

Cheryl Leb @ Kelly Hart & Hallman LLP

Sold: Korean (Korea Economic Daily), UK (S&S UK)

The first completely updated and refreshed edition of the timeless golf classic that has sold over a million copies—now with never-before-seen photos, original material, and memorabilia, hand-selected from the Hogan estate archive.

Widely regarded as one of the greatest golfers in the history of the sport, Hogan is especially known for his mastery of the golf swing. At the start of his career, he played with a hook that threatened to ruin his game, until he dedicated himself to correcting it – and in doing so, he gained a rare and hard-fought understanding of the fundamentals. He went on to become one of only five players to win all four professional championships, claiming nine major championships in total. Over the past sixty-five years, millions of golfers have studied Ben Hogan's *Five Lessons*, making it the bestselling golf book of all time. Now, Hogan's masterpiece has received the definitive edition it deserves, complete with never-before-seen archival gems and brand-new material for today's golfers.

Ben Hogan discovered golf as a fifteen-year-old caddie. He turned pro at seventeen, joined the tour full-time as a nineteen-year-old in 1931, and won nine pro majors. A four-time PGA Player of the Year, he is one of only five golfers to win all four professional majors. At forty-one, he won five of six tournaments, including the Masters, US Open, and the British Open. Hogan died at age eighty-four in 1997 in his home in Fort Worth.

ABUNDANCE



Spring 2025

Klein, Ezra, and Derek Thompson

Territory: World

Rights: First

serial/Audio/British/Electronic/Translation

TV/Film Rights Agency and Agent: Loewenthal Company LLC, Gail Ross

Sold: **Chinese Complex** (System Corporation),

Japanese (Newpicks, Inc.), **Spain** (Editorial Kairos)

How did the 21st century become allergic to building, to growth, and to progress? How did it contribute to our world of dire unaffordability, shortages, and inflation? And how can we solve the problems we created? The master question is affordability. Pumping spending into a supply-constrained system—like housing in desirable zip codes, or tuition to top universities—sends prices skyrocketing. There’s a dawning realization that Democrats and Republicans alike have failed on prices. The crisis that’s clicking into focus now has been building for decades—largely because, for decades, we haven’t been building enough.

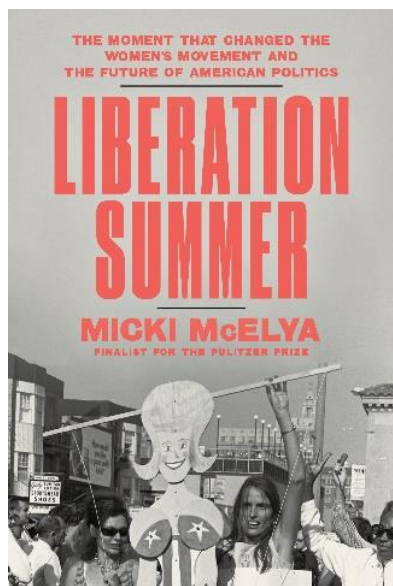
Abundance explains that our problems today are not the results of yesteryear’s villains. Rather, one generation’s solutions have become the next generation’s problems. Rules designed to solve the environmental problems of the 1970s often prevent urban density and green energy projects that would help solve the environmental problems of the 2020s. Laws meant to ensure that government considers the consequences of its actions have made it too difficult for government to act consequentially.

Ezra Klein is a columnist and podcast host at the *New York Times*. His podcast, *The Ezra Klein Show*, receives more than a halfmillion downloads per episode, and is routinely in the top 25 podcasts on Apple’s charts. He’s among the *Times*’s most-read columnists.

Derek Thompson is a staff writer at *The Atlantic*, where he has worked for the last 14 years. Writing on economics, technology, and society, he is known for breaking down complicated trends in simple and fun language and for coining terms that become part of the national discourse.

LIBERATION SUMMER

The Moment That Changed the Women's Movement and The Future of American Politics



June 2025
McElya, Micki

Territory: World

Rights: First

serial/Audio/British/Electronic/Translation

TV/Film Rights Agency and Agent: Aevitas Creative Management, Lauren Sharp

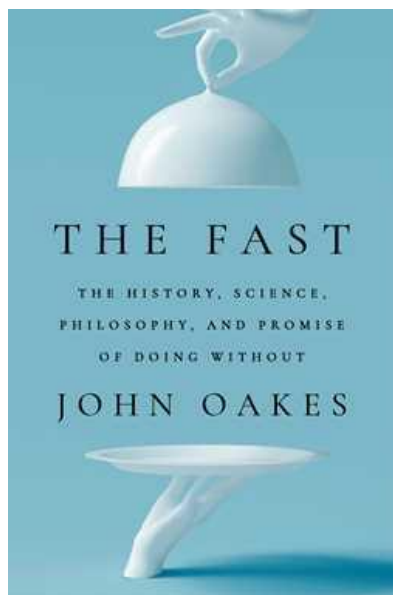
Of the many pivotal years in United States history, 1968, in particular, is widely recognized as a major turning point in the country's social and political trajectory. In just twelve months the US experienced the assassinations of Martin Luther King, Jr., and Robert Kennedy, the Tet Offensive and the rising intensity of the Vietnam War, the deadly riots at both the Republican and Democratic National Conventions, and the election of Richard Nixon, a president whose tenure would ultimately erode trust of government and authority to an uncomfortable degree. But these narratives usually omit another, equally important moment in the story of that unprecedented year.

Now, for the first time, *Liberation Summer* corrects this written historical record, offering a detailed account of the months of planning, debates, and decisions that led to the demonstrations, as well as the broader social and political landscape that gave rise to some of the most iconic women on both sides of the ideological spectrum, from Betty Friedan, Carol Hanisch, and Florynce Kennedy to Anita Bryant and Phyllis Schlafly.

Micki McElya is a professor of history at the University of Connecticut, specializing in the histories of women, gender, race, and sexuality in the United States from the Civil War to the present, with an emphasis on political culture and memory. Her most recent book, *The Politics of Mourning: Death and Honor in Arlington National Cemetery* was a finalist for the Pulitzer Prize and received a number of other accolades.

THE FAST

The History, Science, Philosophy, and Promise of Doing Without



February 2024
Oakes, John

Territory: World

Rights: First

serial/Audio/British/Electronic/Translation

TV/Film Rights Agency and Agent: Bresnick Weil

Literary Agency, Paul Bresnick

(paul@bresnickagency.com)

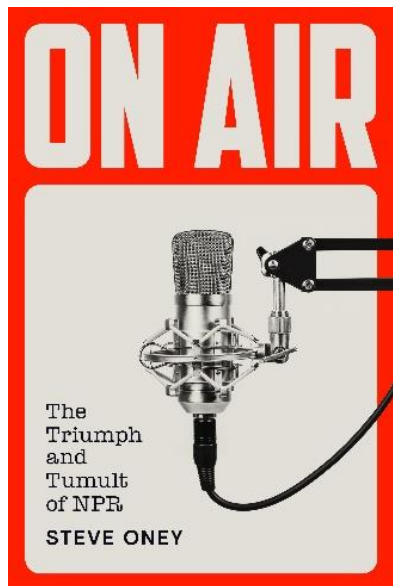
Sold: Dutch (Ten Have), Italian (Il Saggiatore),
Spanish (Antoni Bosch), UK (Murdoch Books)

The Fast is an extended cultural history of fasting as well as a meditation on the process. In the aftermath of the Trump Administration, in what seemed to be the waning months of Covid, veteran publishing executive John Oakes decided to go on a seven-day fast. The politics, philosophy, history, and biological implications of this experience will resonate throughout this book. *The Fast* will include brief meditations on compulsive consumption, precarity and boundaries, and the ancient principle of voluntary deprivation that can be found in just about every major spiritual tradition. *The Fast* will be based on extensive research and firsthand observation, which includes the author's trip to Minneapolis to experience perceptual fasting at what is reputedly the quietest place on Earth, interviews with doctors, spiritual leaders (including ministers, rabbis, an imam, and a Buddhist monk), and activists. This topic also ties into trends around slowing down and wellness. In recent years, fasting has undergone a tremendous resurgence in popularity among seekers of spirituality of all stripes, health advocates, and activists who undertake hunger strikes as a dramatic, non-violent form of protest—one that's often proven to be effective. There are dozens of books on fasting—*The Complete Guide to Fasting*, *The Obesity Code*, *Intermittent Fasting*, *Essential Fasting*, *Fast Feast Repeat*—but none on fasting's deep philosophical roots, its sociological implications, and its important role in world culture.

John Oakes is publisher of *The Evergreen Review*. He is editor-at-large for OR Books, which he cofounded in 2009. Oakes has written for a variety of publications, among them *The Oxford Handbook of Publishing*, *Publishers Weekly*, the *Review of Contemporary Fiction*, Associated Press, and *The Journal of Electronic Publishing*.

ON AIR

The Triumph and Tumult of NPR



March 2025
Oney, Steve

Territory: World English

Rights: First serial/Audio/British/Electronic

Translation and TV/Film Rights Agency and

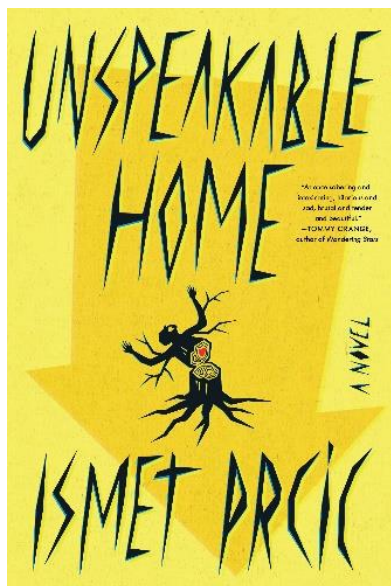
Agent: Kneerim & Williams Agency LLC, Steve Wasserman (wasserman@kwlit.com)

Founded in 1970, NPR is America's most powerful broadcast news network. Despite being overshadowed by the larger and more glamorous PBS, public radio has long been home to shows such as *All Things Considered*, *Morning Edition*, and *This American Life* that captivate millions of listeners in homes, cars, and workplaces across the nation. NPR and its hosts are a cultural force and a trusted voice, and they have created a mode of journalism and storytelling that helps Americans understand the world in which we live. In *On Air*, a book fourteen years in the making, journalist Steve Oney tells the dramatic history of this institution, tracing the comings and goings of legendary on-air talents (Bob Edwards, Susan Stamberg, Ira Glass, Cokie Roberts, and many others) and the rise and fall and occasional rise again of brilliant and sometimes venal executives. It depicts how NPR created a medium for extraordinary journalism—in which reporters and producers use microphones as paintbrushes and the voices of people around the world as the soundtrack of stories both global and local.

Steve Oney is a longtime journalist who worked for many years as a staff writer for *The Atlanta Journal-Constitution Magazine* and *Los Angeles* magazine. He has also contributed articles to many national publications, including *Esquire*, *The Wall Street Journal*, *New York* magazine, *GQ*, and *The New York Times Magazine*. His history of the lynching of Leo Frank, *And the Dead Shall Rise*, won the American Bar Association's Silver Gavel Award and the National Jewish Book Award. Oney was educated at the University of Georgia and at Harvard, where he was a Nieman Fellow.

UNSPEAKABLE HOME

A Novel



August 2024
Prcic, Ismet

Territory: World English

Rights: First serial/Audio/British/Electronic

Translation and TV/Film Rights Agency and

Agent: Kneerim & Williams Agency LLC, Steve Wasserman (wasserman@kwlit.com)

It's been two years since our narrator divorced his beloved and lost his safest and most adoring home when he fled Bosnia as a teenager. The marriage couldn't survive his brokenness, the trauma so entrenched and insidious that it became impossible to communicate to anyone outside of himself—even the person he loved most. But, as he writes in the first of many courageously candid fan letters to the comedian Bill Burr, he knows he must try. A linguistically adventurous, structurally ambitious, and emotionally brave odyssey, *Unspeakable Home* takes us through the memories and confessions of our refugee narrator as he reflects on his bomb-ravaged childhood, the implosion of his relationships, and an agonizing battle with alcoholism.

Ismet Prcic was born in Tuzla, Bosnia-Herzegovina in 1977 and immigrated to America in 1996. His first novel, *Shards*, was a *New York Times* Notable Book, a *Chicago Sun-Times* Best Book of the Year, as well as the winner of the Sue Kaufman Prize and the *Los Angeles Times* Art Seidenbaum Award for first fiction.

TOO SOON

A Novel



January 2025
Shamieh, Betty

Territory: World English
Rights: First serial/Audio/British/Electronic
Translation and TV/Film Rights Agency and Agent: Sterling Lord Literistic, Mary Krienke
(mary@sl.com)

Thirty-five-year-old Arabella, a New York theatre director whose dating and career prospects are drying up, is offered an opportunity to direct a risqué cross-dressing interpretation of a Shakespeare classic (that might garner international attention) in the West Bank. Her grandmother, Zoya, plots to make a match between her and Aziz, a Palestinian American doctor volunteering in Gaza. Arabella agrees to meet Aziz since her growing feelings for Yoav, a celebrated Israeli American theatre designer, seem destined for disaster. Arabella and Aziz's instant connection reminds Zoya of the passion she once felt for Aziz's grandfather, a man she desired desperately, even after her father arranged another husband for her. In turn, Zoya would later marry off her youngest daughter, Naya, who aspired to date the Jackson 5 and wasn't ready to be a wife or mother to Arabella at sixteen. Now that Naya's children are grown and she's arrived at an abrupt midlife crossroads, it's time to settle old scores...

Betty Shamieh (she/her) is a Palestinian American writer and the author of fifteen plays. She is the playwright-in-residence at the Classical Theatre of Harlem. Her six New York play premieres include the sold-out off-Broadway runs of *Roar* and *Malvolio*, a sequel to *Twelfth Night*, which were both *New York Times* Critic's Picks. Shamieh was awarded a Guggenheim Fellowship and named a UNESCO Young Artist for Intercultural Dialogue. She is a founding artistic director of The Semitic Root, a collective that supports innovative theatre cocreated by Arab and Jewish Americans. A graduate of Harvard College and the Yale School of Drama, she lives with her family in San Francisco.

THE PHILOSOPHER IN THE VALLEY

Alex Karp, Palantir, and the Rise of the Surveillance State



February 2025
Steinberger, Michael

Territory: World

Rights: First serial/Audio/British/Electronic/Translation

TV/Film Rights Agency and Agent: David Black
Literary Agency, Gary Morris

(gmmorris@dblackagency.com)

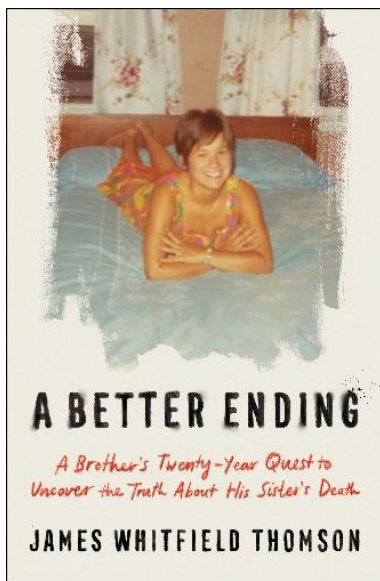
Sold: German (Ariston/PRH Germany), Japanese
(Newspicks, Inc.), Korean (Munhakdongne) –UK
(S&S UK)

Go to Palantir’s website and you are greeted by the kind of anodyne techno-utopianism that is de rigueur at annual stockholders’ meetings and Apple Stores. But what is Palantir? In the not-entirely-hyperbolic words of its billionaire CEO, it is “the de facto operating system of the West’s most vital institutions.” Named by co-founder Peter Thiel after the palantír seeing stones of Tolkien’s *Lord of the Rings*, Palantir is an unrivalled data mining behemoth that is run by one of the most unconventional and heterodox CEO’s to be found among the Davos global elite, Alex Karp. What are those “vital institutions” using Palantir to “change the world for the better”? The CIA, MI6, Mossad, ICE, all the branches of the US military, the SEC, the IRS, the CDC, the executive branch, BP, Airbus, the World Health Organization, the World Food Programme. Unlike its household-name peers—Meta, Apple, Microsoft, Amazon, and Alphabet—Palantir rarely makes a splash outside of the business pages. Even though its business is us. Steinberger will for the first time illuminate the paradoxical and idiosyncratic figure who is as consequential to the security of our democracy and our information as anyone in in the world of technology or government.

Michael Steinberger is the perfect candidate to write this book. He has Karp’s implicit trust. He has written important profiles for the *Times Magazine* about Joe Biden and George Soros and has written about business for *The Times* of London and *The Financial Times*. He is also a James Beard Award-winning wine writer (he’s the author of two books about food and wine culture), and covers tennis for the *NYT*, including his excellent recent A1 overview of the Djokovic-Australia contretemps.

A BETTER ENDING

A Brother's Twenty-year Quest To Uncover The Truth About His Sister's Death



March 2025
Thomson, James

Territory: World English

Rights: First serial/Audio/British/Electronic

Translation and TV/Film Rights Agency and

Agent: Brandt & Hochman Lit Agts Inc., Emma
Patterson (epatterson@bromasite.com)

On a summer evening in 1974, Jim Thomson arrived home from a baseball game to the news that his younger sister, Eileen, had taken her own life. To Jim, his parents, and brother, the loss was unexpected and devastating. Only twenty-seven, Eileen had been living in California with her high school sweetheart, Vic, a cop. She had a circle of close friends and a job she loved. But details soon emerged that Eileen had been depressed, her storybook marriage plagued by infidelity and guilt. On the day of her death, Vic later explained, he stormed out of the room in the midst of a bitter argument. Moments later, a gunshot went off. The revelations were deeply troubling, but Jim and his family believed him. The police ended the investigation and the Thomsons moved on as best they could. Frustrated by how little he knew, Jim hired a private investigator to help track down Eileen's old friends and the police reports from that fateful afternoon, beginning a two-decade journey through a tangled web of secrecy, deception, and shifting stories that would force him to consider the unthinkable: Had Eileen really committed suicide?

James Thomson grew up in Pittsburgh and attended Harvard College on a scholarship, after which he served as the navigator of a Navy ship off the coast of Vietnam, then earned a PhD in American studies. After a brief stint in academia, he had a successful career as a salesman and business consultant. His novel, *Lies You Wanted to Hear*, received wide acclaim. Jim and his wife live outside of Boston.

LOVE SMARTER

The Five Relationship Types How to Find and Design the Right One for You



February 2026
Vrangalova, Zhana, Ph.D.

Territory: World

Rights: First

serial/Audio/British/Electronic/Translation

TV/Film Rights Agency and Agent: Levine

Greenberg Lit Agency, James Levin

(jlevine@lgrliterary.com)

Sold: Spanish (Planeta), UK (PRH UK)

Esther Perel's *Mating in Captivity* (2006; sold in more than 20 international markets) and Chris Ryan's *Sex at Dawn* (2010) exposed the cracks in our modern monogamy-only relationship model and unlocked the door to the rest of the relationship landscape. But neither showed us how to find our way around. In fact, more than 10 years later, in her 2017 book, *The State of Affairs: Rethinking Infidelity*, Perel told us "Few social scripts exist. We are all improvising."

Vrangalova wants readers to do more than just improvise. "How do we find the relationship type that's right for us, and how do we make sure we're doing it well? Science finally has some concrete answers. All humans have two basic needs: security and exploration. To survive, we need to be physically and emotionally safe and secure; to grow, we need to be able to seek new experiences, to be challenged and surprised." Vrangalova offers insights on how to pursue both.

Zhana Vrangalova, PhD is a NYC-based sex and relationships consultant, speaker, and writer who is passionate about elevating our conversations about love and relationships. She holds a PhD in Developmental Psychology from Cornell University and teaches human sexuality courses at New York University. Her scholarly work on sexual orientation and nontraditional relationships has been published in peer-reviewed academic journals, including the *Archives of Sexual Behavior*, *Journal of Sex Research*, *Social Psychology and Personality Science*, *Journal of Youth and Adolescence*, and *Journal of Social and Personal Relationships*.

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