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**London – 2022**

*Nonfiction in Journalism – History – Memoir – Graphic*

**ALL THE BEAUTY IN THE WORLD**

*The Metropolitan Museum of Art and Me (S&S)*

by Patrick Bringley

NA:S&S, UK: Bodley Head, Translation: (**China**/Citic, **Germany**/Ullstein, **Russia**/AST, **Taiwan**/China Times)

**A fascinating, revelatory portrait of the Metropolitan Museum of Art and its treasures by a former *New Yorker* staffer who spent a decade as a museum guard.**

MS is available, publishing February, 2023

Millions of people climb the grand marble staircase to visit the Metropolitan Museum of Art every year. But only a select few have unrestricted access to every nook and cranny. They're the guards who roam unobtrusively in dark blue suits, keeping a watchful eye on the two million square foot treasure house. Caught up in his glamorous fledgling career at *The New Yorker*, Patrick Bringley never thought he'd be one of them. Then his older brother died of cancer and he found himself needing to escape the mundane clamor of daily life. So he quit *The New Yorker* and sought solace in the most beautiful place he knew. To his surprise and the reader's delight, this temporary refuge becomes Bringley's home away from home for a decade. We follow him as he guards delicate treasures from Egypt to Rome, strolls the labyrinths beneath the galleries, wears out nine pairs of company shoes, and marvels at the beautiful works in his care. Bringley enters the museum as a ghost, silent and almost invisible, but soon finds his voice and his tribe: the artworks and their creators and the lively subculture of museum guards—a gorgeous mosaic of artists, musicians, blue-collar stalwarts, immigrants, cutups, and dreamers. As his bonds with his colleagues and the art grow, he comes to understand how fortunate he is to be walled off in this little world, and how much it resembles the best aspects of the larger world to which he gradually, gratefully returns.

In the tradition of classic workplace memoirs like *Lab Girl* and *Working Stiff*, *All The Beauty in the World* is a surprising, inspiring portrait of a great museum, its hidden treasures, and the people who make it tick, by one of its most intimate observers.

Patrick Bringley worked for ten years as a guard in the galleries of the Metropolitan Museum of Art. Prior to that, he worked in the editorial events office at *The New Yorker* magazine. He lives with his wife and children in Sunset Park, Brooklyn. *All the Beauty in the World* is his first book.

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**THE SECRET LAND**

*The Once and Future Life of Antarctica (Knopf)*

By Jonathan Meiburg

NA: Knopf, UK: Bodley Head, Translation: (**Germany**/Aufbau, **Holland**/Thomas Rap)

**How the frozen continent, its prehistoric forests, and the bizarre and surprising animals of its surrounding oceans have shaped—and will shape—the life of our world**

Proposal is available, MS Due: December, 2024

THE SECRET LAND follows organically from Jonathan's sparkling debut, A MOST REMARKABLE CREATURE ["Meiburg elevates himself to the top ranks of science writers with this enthralling debut on the obscure caracara."- PW], to Antarctica, a place widely familiar to readers of all kinds. And yet it is unknown. As Jonathan points out so persuasively, what appears to be a lifeless place is teeming with it, but also holds the keys to our past and our future on this planet. Jonathan will bring the same kind of sense of discovery to THE SECRET LAND that was suffused throughout A MOST REMARKABLE CREATURE. He has an exceptional ability to synthesize hard science, history, and human interest into brilliant, accessible, and important natural history. We see Jonathan following in the footsteps of heralded writers like Barry Lopez, Robert Macfarlane, Elizabeth Kolbert, and David Quammen, to name a few.

Jonathan has moved from the US to Hamburg, Germany where he will live for at least the next three years. His wife was appointed to curator position at the Leibniz Institute for Biodiversity Change. He continues to record music and the next Shearwater was just released.

**PAIN KILLER**

*An Empire of Deceit and the Origins of America's Opioid Epidemic (Random House)*

By Barry Meier

NA: Random House, UK/Sceptre, Translation: CLA (**China**/MoveableType  
**Italy**/Mondadori, **Japan**/Shobun-Sha, **Poland**/Poradnia)

**Netflix will be releasing a six-episode series PAINKILLER globally in 2022. It stars Uzo Aduba, Matthew Broderick, West Duchovny, Dina Shihabi, and John Rothman. Peter Berg (Friday Night Lights) is the director, and Eric Newman (Narcos) and Alex Gibney (Going Clear, the Inventory) are producers.**

MS is available, updated edition published May, 2018

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**THE FUTURE WAS NOW**

*Madmen, Mavericks, and the Summer Sci-Fi Snatched Hollywood* (Flatiron)

Chris Nashawaty

NA: Flatiron, UK: Abner Stein, Translation: CLA

**The story of eight unforgettable films released during one summer involving the biggest names in Hollywood that changed movie making forever**

MS is available August 1<sup>st</sup>, 2022, publishing July, 2023

In less than 60 days of the summer of 1982 eight unforgettable and definitive films were released that changed the careers of some of Hollywood's biggest names and altered the business and art of movies still to this day. **THE FUTURE WAS NOW** reveals never-before-told stories behind the making of some of Hollywood's most commercially successful, influential, and beloved sci-fi films, from *ET: The Extra Terrestrial* to *Conan the Barbarian*, from *Poltergeist* to *The Wrath of Khan*. **THE FUTURE IS NOW** tells of the riotous collision of mega-talent like Ridley Scott, Steven Spielberg, Oliver Stone, and John Carpenter with future and stars like human special effect Arnold Schwarzenegger and Mel Gibson while baffled film executives struggled to understand a highly lucrative and as of yet untapped market unfolding in front of their very eyes. It was the year that, as Chris says, "the revolution sparked in a galaxy far, far away came to Hollywood. It was the summer when the future caught up with the present. The future was now."

Chris Nashawaty was the film critic at *EW* for over 25 years. He is the author of **CADDYSHACK** (which sold over 50,000 copies) and **CRAB MEN, TEENAGE MONSTERS, AND CANDY STRIPE NURSES**, a biography of the films of Roger Corman.

**HIDDEN SYSTEMS**

*Water, Electricity, the Internet, and the Secrets Behind the Systems We Use Every Day* (Random House Graphic)

By Dan Nott

NA: Random House Graphic, UK: Abner Stein, Translation: CLA (**Japan**/Kawade-Shobo, **Korea**/Forest Book Publishing)

**A four-color YA graphic nonfiction project investigating the origins and structure of three vital systems we're surrounded by and depend upon but rarely even notice, unless they stop working**

MS is available, publishing March, 2023

"Writer and cartoonist Dan Nott ... skillfully weaves together history, science, technology and ecology to build pictures of the internet, the evolution of electricity and the crucial infrastructure developed to bring us water. In revealing the impact of these systems on humans and vice versa, he reminds us of the pleasures of paying

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attention to both miraculous and mundane aspects of the world around us as well the consequences of not doing so. This is a compelling and thoroughly entertaining display of intellect and empathy brilliantly communicated through page after page of masterfully designed and drawn cartoon panels. Every panel, simple or complex, deserves a closer look and as in all the best graphic literary work, each word is carefully chosen and each phrase precisely placed to lead us on a thoroughly rewarding journey.

- David Macaulay, author of *The Way Things Work*

"*Hidden Systems* is fascinating, thought-provoking, engaging, and accessible. If you've ever wondered how the world around you works—at both the human and the planetary scale—this book is a wonderful way to find out."

- Ryan North, author of *How to Take Over the World* and *How to Invent Everything*

*Random House Graphic will go to press on or around June, 2022. This book is 288 pages, 6 x 9, and will be published simultaneously in HC (\$23.99) and trade paperback (\$17.99). There are less than 10,000 words total to be translated and the estimated file fee from PRH is \$500.*

## THE INCORRUPTIBLES

*A Secret Vice Squad, the Jewish Underworld of New York's Lower East Side, & the Origins of Organized Crime* (Little, Brown)

By Dan Slater

NA: Little, Brown, UK: Abner Stein, Translation: CLA

**The harrowing true story of a secret vice squad who, during the notorious criminal era just prior to and erased by Prohibition, waged war on the baroque Lower East Side underworld**

MS is due August 1<sup>st</sup>, 2022, publishing July, 2023

Privately funded by a coterie of wealthy uptowners, the Incorruptibles was a secret vice squad, unknown to this day, embedded within the NYPD. They wore no badges and reported to no one. The owner of the NYT pledged never to run stories about their work. They were expected not just to rescue the city from the grips of Tammany Hall, corrupt police officers, and rampant criminal gangs, but to save the reputation of the Jewish people, branded nationwide as criminal by politicians across the country trying to push an anti-immigrant agenda. Funded by a consortium of wealthy uptown Jewish families, the vice squad's unlikely success emboldened one of history's most dynamic criminal masterminds, the godfather of organized crime.

It's the era of E.L. Doctorow's *Ragtime*, where uptowners in their mansions held the greatest concentration of wealth in the country (the families Lehman, Sachs, Goldman, Guggenheim, Schiff, and Warburg) while downtown, in what was the largest movement of people in world history, Yiddish-speaking Russian Jews fleeing pogroms streamed into the Lower East Side, a warren of disease-ridden tenements unregulated by law, the most crowded neighborhood in the world in a city that averaged a murder a day. Horse poisoners, casino owners,

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pimps, and prostitutes all angled for an edge while their family members and neighbors toiled in the unregulated garment industry and protested the recent deaths in the Triangle Shirtwaist Fire.

The rich and atmospheric narrative follows the heroic efforts of Abe Shoenfeld, a young Lower East Side tailor's son who must turn against the gang members he grew up with to save the neighborhood he loves; Antonia Rolnick, his one-time love interest, later informant and partner in crime-fighting, an immigrant girl who escapes a massacre in Russia only to fall into prostitution as a teen; and the canny maneuverings of another tailor's son, Arnold Rothstein, who sees, in each new reform effort, opportunities for enormous power and graft.

Dan Slater has been researching this project for five years, poring over century-old trial transcripts, visiting archives in Israel, and accessing the unpublished memoirs of his main character. The result reads like a Jewish *Gangs of New York*, set 50 years later, and is reminiscent of Luc Sante's *Low Life*, as well as *The Alienist* and *The Devil in the White City*.

Dan Slater is the author of *WOLF BOYS* (S&S) and *LOVE IN THE TIME OF ALGORITHMS* (Portfolio). A former reporter for *The Wall Street Journal*, Dan has written for *The New York Times*, *The New Yorker*, *The Washington Post*, *The Boston Globe*, *New York* magazine, *The Atlantic*, *GQ*, and *Fast Company*.

*FICTION*

INTO THE OUTER SUNSET

By Mark Ernest Pothier (University of Iowa Press)

NA: U of Iowa Press, UK: Abner Stein, Translation: CLA

**“Three years ago, once it was clear our kids were gone for good, my wife packed the car with some clothes and things, told me she’d withdrawn half the savings, and, after a farewell which I cannot recall verbatim, she left.”**

MS is available, publishing April 2023

In the wake of his wife's unexpected departure, Jim Finley, a retired English teacher, living alone on the edge of San Francisco at the end of the century, reads his stack of books on the back porch where he's finally come to rest — like it or not — and sift through his past, preferably with a drink. That ends when his daughter brings home the worst news of her life, she has to move back in with him, and everything's upended: He learns how much easier it is to talk with his son's Ukrainian girlfriend than the grown man himself. He realizes that his ex-wife has fully launched into a new, larger life than the one they'd shared. And he continues to misconnect with Carol, his first date since college — a woman he enjoys talking to but doesn't quite hear.

In a landscape of seismic shifts, Jim's is a timely story about the intimate place where deep, long-lasting change occurs in our lives. It's about learning how to revise, or live without, your dreams; of facing, up-close, the flaws of those nearest you; of seeing your kids grow away from you into more than you'd imagined; and of still being

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startled, in your fifties, at the awkwardness of a first date. In a wise, ironic voice somewhere between David Nicholls' *Us*, Mary Beth Keane's *Ask Again, Yes*, and Wallace Stegner's *Angle of Repose*, it is a story about finding beauty and trust in the midst of loss.

Mark Ernest Pothier earned an MFA at San Francisco State University. After working more than 25 years in nonprofit communications, he now devotes himself to writing. His first published story, "The First Light of Evening", won a Chicago Tribune/Nelson Algren Short Story award, and was later republished by Amazon to become the best-selling Kindle Single upon which this novel is based. With his wife and kids, he has lived more than 30 years in San Francisco, where he sometimes sings with Slavyanka Chorus and is active in the Byzantine Catholic community. This is his first book.

**Boom Boom Boom**

By Nicolás Jacobone (Reservoir)

NA: CLA, UK: Abner Stein, Translation: CLA (France/Editions Sonatine, Spain/Reservoir)

**The new novel by the Academy-Award winning author of *The Crossed-Out Notebook*, a love story involving a tragic accident and a dramatic plan for revenge involving five characters whose lives unexpectedly intersect, including a transexual woman, her artist husband, and a reclusive writer who won't leave her bedroom until she finishes her novel, listening all the while to the boom, boom, boom of drum and bass music.**

MS is available (in Spanish), publishing in Spain in March, 2022 and in France in October, 2022

*The Crossed-Out Notebook's* publishers:

NA: Scribner, UK: Corsair, Translation (China/Citic Sight, France/Editions Sonatine, Germany/HeyneHardcore, Italy/Bompiani, Portugal/Presença, Spain/Reservoir)