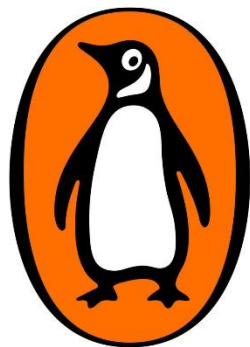


FRANKFURT 2026

Penguin Press
Riverhead



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House

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FALL 2027 AND SELECT NEW ACQUISITIONS

Chachra, Deb

Spring 2029

TACTILE: Matter, Technology, and the World We Make

Now that we have alternatives to physical interactions for the first time in human history, we find ourselves needing to articulate the value of the physical and material world in a way that's never been necessary before. We need to think hard about where we use digital tools, where we use physical ones, and how they can interact with each other. By doing so, we can make conscious decisions about what systems we use and why, with a keen sense of where they come from, what they enable, and what they cost. *Tactile* is a full-throated but clear-eyed articulation of the irreplaceable value of the material world and why physical objects still matter in a digital age. It's also a pathway for how to move forward, with access to new and evolving technologies that continue to respond to human needs and desires and the changing world we live in. Author and engineer [Deb Chachra](#) argues that we don't have to settle for the flat, immaterial world of the screen, nor consign ourselves to forever repairing and making do with yesterday's technologies or else living in a world of microplastics and e-waste. This is a book about taking joy in the way our bodies interact in the world, about helping us see and understand what makes them astonishing and valuable, about what we can do individually and together, and about how that can lead to building a better world for us all. Chachra is a [Professor of Engineering](#) at Olin College and the author of *How Infrastructure Works*.

UK, Translation: Riverhead (editor Courtney Young)

Agent: Calligraph

James, Harold

Spring 2028

GOOD AS GOLD

In *Good as Gold*, distinguished financial historian [Harold James](#) examines the contested and divisive story of the drive to invent new moneys, from the Renaissance to the present. The world is in a moment of intense monetary confusion due to rapid technical innovation, with a profusion of new ideas from blockchain to stablecoins, while at the same time, the prices of gold and silver are surging. The fundamental problem is that new money promises to be infinitely extendable, but the promise of infinity conjures up humankind's deepest anxieties about loss of control. Told through case studies across five centuries, *Good as Gold* explores how our current monetary revolution follows a familiar pattern: A societal lack of faith in monetary stability and the institutions backing currencies make us vulnerable to magical solutions, and these shoddy solutions then need stabilizing, opening the door to new authoritarian regimes. James, the Claude and Lore Kelly Professor in European Studies at Princeton University, is Professor of History and International Affairs at the Princeton School of Public and International Affairs and an associate at the Bendheim Center for Finance. He was the official historian of the International Monetary Fund. He writes a monthly column for [Project Syndicate](#) and is the author of several books, including *Making a Modern Central Bank: The Bank of England 1979-2003*, *The War of Words: A Glossary of Globalization*, and *Seven Crashes: The Economic Crises That Shaped Globalization*.

UK, Translation, excluding German: Penguin Press (editor Helen Rouner)

Agent: Inkwell Management

McBride, James
UNTITLED NOVEL

October 2027

[James McBride's](#) new novel brings to vivid life 1870s New York, when a circus train unexpectedly derails and plunges into the Hudson River, allowing one of the animals it is transporting, a Canadian lynx, to escape. The lynx, called Calvin, survives the crash, pulls itself from the river, and eventually finds itself in the Tenderloin, New York's notorious red-light district known for its unsavory saloons, gambling parlors, and brothels. Calvin wanders into The Poor Monkey, a saloon owned by B.T. McGurk, a tight-lipped iconoclast. It isn't long before McGurk develops an unexpected bond with Calvin, and the novel follows what McGurk does to keep the lynx a secret from the people around him: the saloon's customers, the city's political machine, the circus owners who want Calvin back, and even from the powerful Erie Railroad. What lengths will McGurk go to keep the animal? Who knows what really caused the train derailment? And why are characters as varied as corrupt city politicians, Chinese fixers, a mysterious orphan, and a local beat cop all converging on The Poor Monkey? This is a novel about connection: between human and animal, between unexpected people, between past love and present greed. As he did so memorably in the bestselling, award-winning *The Heaven & Earth Grocery Store* and *Deacon King Kong*, McBride weaves brilliant storytelling, memorable characters, and raucous humor to tell a deeply human story about the bonds that sustain us in an unforgiving world. McBride is also the author of the National Book Award-winning *The Good Lord Bird*, the American classic *The Color of Water*, the novels *Song Yet Sung* and *Miracle at St. Anna*, the story collection *Five-Carat Soul*, and *Kill 'Em and Leave*, a biography of James Brown. The recipient of a National Humanities Medal and an accomplished musician, McBride is also a distinguished writer in residence at New York University.

Translation: Riverhead (editor Jake Morrissey)
Agent: Sterling Lord Literistic
UK: Weidenfeld & Nicolson

Sante, Lucy
THE BEGINNING OF A NEW AGE: The Velvets and the Underground, 1960-1970

November 2027

For [Lucy Sante](#), the last truly important cultural underground was New York City in the 1960s. Here she explores the petri dish that was the downtown scene, targeting the story's center of gravity on the Velvet Underground, fronted by Lou Reed, and the band's first impresario, Andy Warhol and his counterculture HQ, the Factory. Sante captures with marvelous vividness and intensity the whole spider-web latticework of influence across art, music, film, drugs, porn, café society, and criminal underworld, cross-pollinating into something genuinely new—and in distinct counterpoint to what was going on out in groovy California, with its sunny-side-up vibe. In *The Beginning of a New Age*, the sunny side is never up: This is a fascinating look at high art and low life, the Factory and the Village, the glamour and the grime of the decade, from a brilliant writer who was just the right age to be awed by it all and changed for life. Sante is the author of *I Heard Her Call My Name*, a Best Book of the Year from *The New York Times*, *The Washington Post*, and *Slate*, as well as a finalist for the Pulitzer Prize. She is also the author of *Low Life*, *Evidence*, *The Factory of Facts*, *Kill All Your Darlings*, *Folk Photography*, *The Other Paris*, *Maybe the People Would Be the Times*, and *Nineteen Reservoirs*. Her awards include a Whiting Writers Award, an Award in Literature from the American Academy of Arts and Letters, a Grammy Award (for album notes), an Infinity Award from the International Center of Photography, and Guggenheim and Cullman Center fellowships.

Translation: Penguin Press (editor Scott Moyers)
Agent: Joy Harris Literary
UK: Hutchinson Heinemann

Veidlinger, Jeffrey
AMERICAN ZION

Spring 2028

Drawing on memoirs, testimonies, official proceedings, and archival sources in six languages, [Jeffrey Veidlinger](#) reconstructs forgotten early-20th-century efforts to find a solution to “the Jewish Question,” a phrase that alluded to the urgent dilemma of how to respond to antisemitism, incorporate Jewish minorities into the modern nation-state, and manage the growing tide of Jewish migration from eastern Europe. In vivid detail, Veidlinger follows activists, philanthropists, and political leaders as they scour the globe in search of safe havens from discrimination and violence. Some dreamed of restoring the Jews to their ancestral homeland in the Land of Israel, while others looked to faraway lands like Angola and Uganda to absorb the millions. Surprisingly, for a brief period, the only proposal that seemed to have any traction was a bold plan to resettle Jewish immigrants in the American Great Plains. The project ultimately failed to redirect Jewish migration on the scale its architects envisioned. Yet the issues it raises about migration policy, the advent of Zionism, the limits of the American Melting Pot, and the tension between assimilation and collective belonging remain with us today. Above all, it reveals the gulf between the grand designs of elites and the choices of migrants seeking safety, opportunity, and communities of their own. Veidlinger is the author of *In the Midst of Civilized Europe*, among others, and the Joseph Brodsky Collegiate Professor of History and Judaic Studies and Director of the [Raoul Wallenberg Institute](#) at the University of Michigan. He is Vice President of the American Academy for Jewish Research, Past Chair of the Academic Advisory Council of the Center for Jewish History, a former Vice-President of the Association for Jewish Studies, and a former member of the Academic Committee of the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum.

UK, Translation: Penguin Press (editor Sara Bershtel)
Agent: Trident Media Group

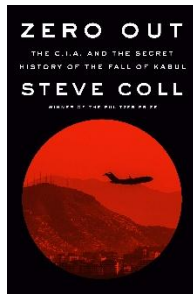
Wang, Zhanhei; translated by Dave Haysom
PRIMA DONNA: A Novel (tentative title)

November 2027

Prima Donna explores an unusual friendship between a young woman and a gay hairdresser from an old neighborhood outside of Shanghai. When the woman moves to the big city for college, the hairdresser also breaks free from his past. As they each embark on trajectories of transformation, their bond and identities are tested in the backdrop of a disappearing Shanghai. [Wang Zhanhei](#) is a fiction writer in Shanghai whose award-winning story collections have focused on the lives of working-class people. She was a resident at the University of Iowa’s International Writing Program in 2023 and has contributed to *Granta*.

UK: Riverhead (editor Han Zhang)
Agent controls translation rights: RCW Literary

SUMMER 2027



Coll, Steve

August 2027

ZERO OUT: The C.I.A. and the Secret History of the Fall of Kabul

The war in Afghanistan spanned multiple US presidential administrations and cost trillions of dollars. After Joe Biden was elected in 2020, his administration delayed the withdrawal before committing to having American troops gone by September 2021—the twenty-year anniversary of the 9/11 attacks. A final disastrous retreat was set in motion, culminating in the collapse of the Afghan military, the Taliban takeover of Kabul on August 15, 2021, and a devastating suicide bombing at Hamid Karzai International Airport. Biden’s approval rating plummeted, never to recover before the 2024 election. One of the most distinguished and well-sourced reporters at work today, [Steve Coll](#) tells this story in astonishing, engrossing, forensic detail, revealing for the first time the true characters and motivations at work behind the scenes. With news-breaking sources from within the Pentagon and the C.I.A., as well as throughout the region, Coll takes readers into the rooms where the war was lost and how the fate of the people of Afghanistan was decided. This is one of the great human tragedies our time, grippingly and novelistically told in full, and a masterful work of reported history, destined to be read for decades. Coll is the author of the Pulitzer Prize-winning *Ghost Wars* and several other books, including *The Bin Ladens*, *Private Empire*, *Directorate S*, and *The Achilles Trap*.

Translation: Penguin Press (editor Will Heyward)

Agent: Melanie Jackson Agency

UK: Allen Lane

Freeberg, Ernest

August 2027

THE PROMISED YEARS: A History of Retirement in America

How did we come to believe that retirement offers us the chance—or, indeed, imposes the necessity—of detaching ourselves from the adult lives we’ve led and starting anew? Historian Ernest Freeberg reveals how the closely held ideal of a leisurely stage of life after sacrifice came to be. In the context of postwar prosperity, the combination of rapid industrialization and increased lifespans meant large numbers of middle-class people suddenly left the workforce before infirmity required them to. In an American culture that prioritizes productivity and has no tradition of reabsorbing elders into the nuclear family, this new period of obsolescence gave rise to a crisis of meaning for millions: Who are we when we are no longer contributing value to society in the recognized forms of labor or child-rearing? In *The Promised Years*, Freeberg takes us on an enlightening, entertaining, and poignant trip through the invention of retirement as we know it, from the eccentric early experiments in Florida retirement communities to the charlatanic heroes of the movement to establish pension funds, from the unlikely political alliance of Yuppies and Gray Panthers in the 1970s to the new flourishing of the humanities in adult education programs even as conventional university educations narrow. With profound historical and human insight, Freeberg helps us understand the ideal of retirement in a world where that dream feels increasingly out of reach for so many, and fraught even for those for whom it’s financially possible. In telling that story, *The Promised Years* helps us reopen the question: What do we want our lives to mean? Freeberg is the author of *The Education of Laura Bridgman*, *Democracy’s Prisoner*, and *The Age of Edison*.

UK, Translation: Penguin Press (editor Helen Rouner)

Agent: Author c/o Penguin Press

Goodman, James

July 2027

BEST ACTOR: Scenes from the Improbable Life of Sidney Poitier

A *Significations* series title, curated by Dr. Henry Louis Gates, Jr.

Sidney Poitier, Hollywood's first Black movie star, integrated American cinema—and with it helped integrate the country that watched him. But the dignity, integrity, and kindness on-screen and off that won him the allegiance of millions also earned him the ire of younger Black radicals who thought his saintly and accommodating roles a hindrance to the cause of Black liberation. Behind that infallible smile and the personal mythology he cultivated, Poitier's inner life remained an enigma. *Best Actor* follows Poitier from sleeping on the streets of New York City to filming amidst the dangers of Apartheid South Africa, from evading loyalty oaths in 1950s Hollywood to being chased by Klansmen in 1960s Mississippi, from a lifelong brotherhood with Harry Belafonte to a tumultuous affair with Diahann Carroll while married to the mother of his four children, from becoming the first Black matinee idol to becoming the first Black commercially successful director. We witness his explosive breakthrough roles in *Blackboard Jungle*, *The Defiant Ones*, and *A Raisin in the Sun*, his Academy Award-winning performance in *Lilies of the Field*, and then, in 1967, the pinnacle of his career, his taming of a riotous classroom in *To Sir, with Love*, his stunning slap of a white man in *In the Heat of the Night*, and his engagement to a white woman in *Guess Who's Coming to Dinner*. As Goodman pays homage to Poitier's irrepressible storytelling, he captures Poitier's ambition and talent, explosive anger and extraordinary self-control, boundless curiosity and philosophical bent, missteps and regrets, all with a scholar's insight and a lifelong fan's zeal. *Best Actor* is a joyous, stirring, and remarkably relevant celebration of a life and career that reshaped America and the movies it loves. Goodman is the Pulitzer Prize-nominated author of *But Where Is the Lamb?*, *Blackout*, and *Stories of Scottsboro*.

UK, Translation: Penguin Press (editor Helen Rouner)

Agent: Mullane Literary Associates

Lemoine, Sanaë

July 2027

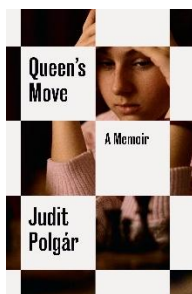
MORNING CHILD: A Novel

The Argentine Embassy, Tokyo, 1983: When Asa, a Japanese translator, finds herself seated next to Maricel, a charismatic Argentine woman, at a dinner, she is not expecting to meet the person who will change the course of her life. Yet they form an immediate bond, and Maricel invites Asa to visit her in Buenos Aires, where she lives with her teenage daughter. Asa arrives in Argentina as the country emerges from a violent authoritarian regime. She embeds herself in Maricel's world, deepening their connection and uncovering secrets about her past. Maricel's husband, Edu, was disappeared during the military dictatorship in 1976, and she herself imprisoned until 1982. For Asa, Maricel's struggles seem so much greater than her own, and yet she seems so much stronger for them. As she grows closer to Maricel, Asa increasingly longs for a life other than her own. *Morning Child* is a luminous exploration of the transformative power of friendship in a world of vanishings, and the search to shape a life amid tumultuous times. Charting Asa's journey—a woman caught between cultures, far from her own country, and between languages and identities—as she strives to find her own defining moment, the novel is a moving testament to the stories we tell about ourselves and how they keep and sustain us. [Sanaë Lemoine](#) is the author of *The Margot Affair*.

Translation: Riverhead (editor Parisa Ebrahimi)

Agent: Janklow & Nesbit

UK: Weidenfeld & Nicolson; Hungarian: Agave; Italian: Gramma; Korean: Bokbokseoga



Polgár, Judit
QUEEN'S MOVE: A Memoir

May 2027

[Judit Polgár](#) grew up in communist Hungary, with a father who had unconventional ideas about genius: He believed it was entirely the product of nurture. Determined to prove his theory, he embarked on a mission to turn his daughters Sofia, Susan, and Judit into chess prodigies. Much has been said about Judit and her family—including in the recent Netflix documentary [Queen of Chess](#)—but never has she herself told the full story of her extreme but ultimately joyful childhood and family life. With intensive, focused training, Judit, along with her sisters, climbed to the top of the brutal, male-dominated world of elite chess. Astonishingly, at the age of 15 years and 4 months, she broke Bobby Fischer's record to become the youngest chess grandmaster ever. Judit would go on to be the number-one ranked woman in the sport from 1989 to 2015. During her singular career, she faced off on more than one occasion with Garry Kasparov, then the world-champion. Like many male chess players, Kasparov held sexist views, once remarking that, "women, by their nature, are not great chess players. They are not great fighters." When Judit beat him, Kasparov was forced to reconsider; he was not the only one. In her long, illustrious, adventurous career, Judit would go on to beat eleven other world champions, including Magnus Carlsen. Judit's story of brilliance and great achievement under immense pressure has almost no parallel—not just in chess, but in any sport or professional domain. Judit is today also a mother, commentator, celebrated educator, and grandee in the world of chess and beyond. Covering not just her astonishing career but her unique family life and education, *Queen's Move* is a memoir destined to be read for generations—not just as one of the great books about the virtuoso world of professional chess, but as a heroic story of one woman's resilience, self-invention, and triumph. Judit Polgár organizes The Global Chess Festival and participates in international chess diplomacy. She is the Education Ambassador for Chess.com, the largest global platform for playing and learning chess with 100 million members in total, and millions of daily users.

Translation, excluding Hungarian: Penguin Press (editor Will Heyward)

Agent: Aevitas Creative Management

UK: Ebury Press; Czech: Euromedia; German: Piper; Hungarian: Open Books; Spanish: Debate

Rockefeller, Sharon
LIFE FOR TWO: A Memoir

July 2027

Sharon Rockefeller came of age at the crossroads of politics, wealth, media, and culture, in a world shaped by postwar American optimism and ambition. Her father, Charles Percy, rose from Depression-era hardship to become a US senator and serious presidential contender. But behind the family's public success lay profound personal loss. In 1966, Sharon's identical twin sister, Valerie, was brutally murdered in their family home, in a crime that remains unsolved today. Valerie's death became the defining tragedy of Sharon's life, yet she refused to be consumed by her grief; instead, she made a vow to herself to live for the both of them. Eight months later, she married John D. Rockefeller IV, great-grandson of the Standard Oil titan, bringing her deeper into America's political and philanthropic elite. Rather than adhere to a cloistered life, though, she forged a powerful identity of her own. She leveraged her position to campaign for the ratification of the Equal Rights Amendment, guaranteeing women equal protection in the eyes of the law, and she cofounded the nonprofit Mountain Artisans that brought American quilting and craftsmanship into the national spotlight. Her passion for expanding opportunities for women and low-income families became a running thread throughout her life. Against the backdrop of the women's movement, she became one of the first women to serve on major corporate and university boards, gaining an in-the-room education on business and leadership, and she went on to helm Washington, DC's flagship public media station, helping transform public broadcasting into a vital force for education, journalism, and culture. More than a story of privilege and access, *Life for Two* is the deeply human account of one woman's journey through family, feminism, public service, faith, illness, and nearly a century of American change.

UK, Translation: Penguin Press (editor Casey Denis)

Agent: Williams & Connolly

Shane, Janelle
PEW! PEW! PEW! The Epic Science of Lasers

May 2027

Lasers are the quintessential technology of our wildest science-fictional dreams. In our collective imagination, they have waged battles in space, transported cows in tractor beams, and very nearly sliced James Bond in half. Meanwhile, off-screen, scientists have used real-life lasers to achieve even more ambitious goals, like global telecommunications, self-driving cars, quantum computing, and nuclear fusion. The story of lasers is an account of both humanity's impressive scientific ingenuity and our insatiable urge to mess around with technology we don't really understand. [Janelle Shane](#) takes us on a wildly entertaining journey through an extraordinary swath of scientific history, contemporary and cutting-edge technology, and mind-exploding physics. With plenty of wit and delightful illustrations, she explains what lasers are, how they work, and their many amazing capabilities and applications. By the end, you'll learn just how much of our modern world relies on lasers, and how close many of their popular sci-fi uses are to becoming a reality. It's all possible thanks to our obsessive quest to harness and manipulate the power of light. Shane is a laser scientist with a PhD in photonics. She is the author of *You Look Like a Thing and I Love You* and creator of the blog [AI Weirdness](#).

Translation: Riverhead (editor Courtney Young)
Agent: UTA
UK: Wildfire

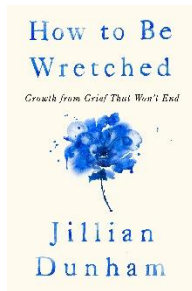
Sullivan, Jake
FLASHPOINTS: Means, Ends, and the Crucible of Decision

May 2027

Flashpoints is a thrilling, big-picture view from the national security advisor's desk of the global landscape of America's strategic priorities, and the hard balance between crisis management and long-term goals. When [Jake Sullivan](#) reentered the US government as national security advisor in 2021, he had a strong view of what his pole stars would be: Invest in America's foundation of innovation and industrial power, and help steer America back into a constructive, positive-sum relationship with its allies, reinforcing a world order that secured the country's enlightened self-interest and stabilizing that order against unwelcome shocks while out-competing our rivals. China and AI would never be far from his mind. On Sullivan's last day, that thumbnail proved remarkably accurate. Yet at the same time, an overlay of acute challenges had also filled those days—Ukraine, Afghanistan, Gaza, Iran—and often left a thick fog that obscured that view. In its candor and its revelatory analysis of the key challenges Sullivan and the country he served faced over four years, *Flashpoints* stands among the best memoirs of statesmanship of our time, one with much wider applications for those in a leadership role that is buffered by change. Sullivan writes from hard-won experience, drawing broad lessons from what worked—and what didn't. In a larger sense, the book is an important argument for the kind of country America can and must be in the world, and a road map for where to go from here. The United States has been in the grip of a shallow and cynical populist regime whose corrupt and ill-considered zero-sum foreign policy has weakened our strategic position and made us less safe. *Flashpoints* is a brilliant vision of a once and future better way. Sullivan is the Kissinger Professor of the Practice of Statecraft and World Order at the Harvard Kennedy School and a Senior Fellow at the Carsey School of Public Policy at the University of New Hampshire.

UK, Translation: Penguin Press (editor Scott Moyers)
Agent: CAA

SPRING 2027



Dunham, Jillian

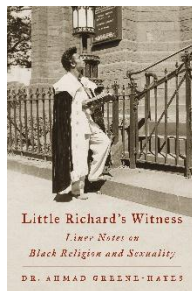
April 2027

HOW TO BE WRETCHED: Growth from Grief That Won't End

During her late teens and twenties, [Jillian Dunham](#) lost everyone in her immediate family: her grandfather, both grandmothers, her father, and her mother, to whom she was closest. But rather than work through this profound grief—the “moving on” from loss that people talk about—Dunham found herself mired in feelings that she could neither control nor escape. When she realized that she was tired of feeling trapped and that the traditional therapies she had used weren't helping, Dunham turned to her skills as a journalist. She began to explore what scientists are learning about deep grief and what is now called “prolonged grief disorder”—grief that persists for more than a year. She learned how grief rewires our brains, how it changes the hormones our bodies release, and how it affects the ways our muscles react. These insights prompted her to see her own grief differently and to seek a new way forward. Eventually she found the right treatments that allowed her to move out from under her own grief and to have a clearer sense of what it did to her. *How to Be Wretched* is the powerful personal story of one woman's transformative struggle to move beyond her own debilitating grief. Combining memoir and reportage and drawing from a wide range of sources—from the writings of Seneca to new neuroscience—it is both an eye-opening journey and a compelling read. Dunham is a journalist with work in *The New York Times*, *Fast Company*, *New York Magazine*, and *The Cut*.

UK, Translation: Riverhead (editor Jake Morrissey)

Agent: Union Literary



Greene-Hayes, Ahmad

February 2027

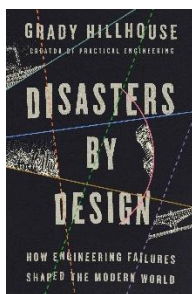
LITTLE RICHARD'S WITNESS: Liner Notes on Black Religion and Sexuality

A *Significations* series title, curated by Dr. Henry Louis Gates, Jr.

This is an intimate view into the life of Little Richard, the trailblazing artist who helped create rock 'n' roll out of the Black church traditions of the Jim Crow South—a rousing elegy for the Black church boy who harnessed his queerness to become one of the world's greatest performers, even as he preached that that same queerness would bring damnation. [Dr. Ahmad Greene-Hayes](#), a bold, pathbreaking scholar at Harvard Divinity School who is himself Black and queer, recognizes his own church upbringing in Richard's and resolves to witness the aspects of Richard's life that remained shameful, half hidden, unresolved. *Little Richard's Witness* culls from vinyl, liner notes, Seventh-Day Adventist papers, queer periodicals, and other ephemeral sources to glimpse the man as he was, reading between the lines of both Richard's sermons and his extravagant stage performances. There, we find competing theologies of race, sexuality, and Black music in the twentieth century—theologies that resound again in our present moment of queer repression and racial violence propagated by a Christianity that fails to practice God's love.

UK, Translation: Penguin Press (editor Helen Rouner)

Agent: Author c/o Penguin Press



Hillhouse, Grady

March 2027

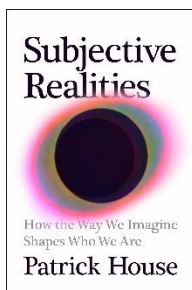
DISASTERS BY DESIGN: How Engineering Failures Shaped the Modern World

When a giant bridge collapses, a gas explosion blows up a building, or a major dam bursts, it's hard not to wonder how things could have gone so catastrophically wrong. According to [Grady Hillhouse](#), those failures are the defining force of engineering, where the most important lessons have been learned the hard way. With the same engaging and accessible approach that makes his YouTube videos so popular, Hillhouse breaks down complex failures into their component parts, showing how poor judgment and willful ignorance can play just as big a role as an errant measurement or faulty component. The fascinating behind-the-scenes stories of history's greatest structural breakdowns, from the Leaning Tower of Pisa to the Johnstown Flood and the Tacoma Narrows Bridge collapse, reveal how engineers learned from their mistakes and developed the core principles that keep structures standing today. Not all of us will design a building or lay out an electrical grid, but thinking like an engineer can help us spot weak links, respect margins, and value hard truths over wishful thinking. *Disasters by Design* highlights human resilience and our extraordinary capacity for progress. A licensed civil engineer, Hillhouse is widely known for his educational video series [Practical Engineering](#) and is the author of *Engineering in Plain Sight*.

Translation: Riverhead (editor Courtney Young)

Agent: UTA

UK: Allen Lane



House, Patrick

February 2027

SUBJECTIVE REALITIES: How the Way We Imagine Shapes Who We Are

The way each person interprets and models reality is remarkably different. Some see vivid mental images when they close their eyes and can play entire conversations back like a recording. Others experience only blankness or silence. Uncovering your own mental quirks can take some detective work; the only way to find out what it's like to be you is to ask someone else what it's like to be them. Neuroscientist [Patrick House](#) reveals the surprising potential variations of our individual imaginations. He explores the many ways our unique processing of the world shapes who we are and what we like. Conditions like anendophasia (a lack of an inner voice) and aphantasia (a lack of mental imagery) demonstrate just how much our mental experiences can differ, impacting everything from our chosen professions and romantic lives to our basic communication preferences. *Subjective Realities* offers us a new way to connect with others and understand how we relate to the world. In this elegant and concise book, he argues that there's tangible value in taking the time to discover the nitty-gritty details of other minds, and our own. House is the writer in residence at Stanford's [Center for the Explanation of Consciousness](#) and the author of *Nineteen Ways of Looking at Consciousness*.

Translation: Riverhead (editor Courtney Young)

Agent: Aevitas Creative Management

UK: Oneworld; Italian: Codice; Korean: Gimm-Young; Romanian: Trei

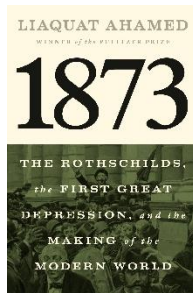
HILLARYLAND: A First Lady, a Sisterhood, and the Remaking of Power and Politics

This is the exclusive inside story of Hillaryland: how a group of women were brought together under the roof of American democracy and forged a new path for women in politics. *Hillaryland* takes us inside the largest First Lady's staff in history as they pushed forward an ambitious agenda focused on children's health, childcare, and women's rights, and offers a behind-the-scenes account of a groundbreaking effort to redefine the power and possibilities of the First Lady's role. Unlike her predecessors, Hillary Rodham Clinton was determined to hold legislative influence and strategically situate herself in the West Wing. As Hillary's speechwriter from 1993 to 2001, Lissa Muscatine faced an uphill battle with American right-wing critics and media who put the administration under a microscope. Not only was Muscatine spearheading the First Lady's communication of priorities to a public still unsure how to interpret such an active political partner in the White House, but she was simultaneously managing the vilification of Hillary's image through relentless investigations, political attacks, and cultural backlash from critics who framed Hillary's influence as threatening. The job revealed how difficult it could be for a woman in national politics to define her own narrative, but even so, Muscatine would go on to write Hillary's most celebrated speeches that helped to raise her onto the global stage. Drawing on more than 230 interviews with Hillary's colleagues, friends, and Hillary herself, as well as her years of experience alongside them, Muscatine pulls back the veil on Hillaryland and its unprecedented influence on American politics.

UK, Translation: Penguin Press (editor Casey Denis)

Agent: William Morris Endeavor

2026 HIGHLIGHTS



Ahamed, Liaquat

June 2026

1873: The Rothschilds, the First Great Depression, and the Making of the Modern World

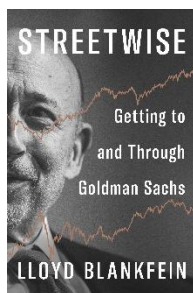
Financial Times Business Book of the Year nominee! In the 1850s and 1860s, the world experienced an unprecedented economic boom. Fueling this was an explosion in the global bond market, at the hub of which stood one family: the Rothschilds, arguably the wealthiest banking family in history. While the giant sums of capital provided through the bond market built the railroads, the century's most transformative investments, the money raised also unleashed a frenzy of speculation, overinvestment, and wasteful borrowing by governments.

With excessive euphoria leading to disappointed expectations, in the early 1870s the bubble burst. Stock markets from Vienna to New York crashed, and dozens of railroads and many governments defaulted. Financial officials responded by blundering into a precipitous remaking of the global currency system, exacerbating the ensuing economic collapse and setting the stage for decades of a punitive deflation that sparked waves of anti-globalist populism. The crisis of 1873 was, among other things, a death blow to Reconstruction in the United States and the proximate cause of the Ottoman Empire's slow death spiral. Ironically, though the Rothschilds had presciently kept a low profile during the bubble, when the deluge came, they were viciously scapegoated as part of a wider hatred directed at "Jewish finance," a strain of antisemitism that would come to full evil flower during the twentieth century. *1873* is a bird's-eye reckoning with the full dimension of the crisis, from its buildup to its long aftermath. The Rothschilds and a cast of other witnesses give us the human perspective. And we have a brilliant financial historian's grasp of the larger forces at play, resulting in a global narrative with thrilling explanatory power. Liaquat Ahamed is the Pulitzer Prize-winning author of *Lords of Finance*.

Translation: Penguin Press (editor Scott Moyers)

Agent: Aevitas Creative Management

UK: Hutchinson Heinemann; Chinese (sc): China Machine; German: FinanzBuch; Italian: Leg; Korean: Kachi; Portuguese (B): Intrinseca; Portuguese (P): Clube do Autor; Romanian: Humanitas; Spanish: Deusto; Turkish: Genesis; Ukrainian: Stone



Blankfein, Lloyd

March 2026

STREETWISE: Getting to and Through Goldman Sachs

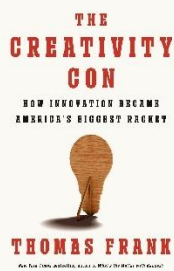
New York Times bestseller! Financial Times Business Book of the Year nominee! *Streetwise* is a delightfully honest, sharp and often very funny reckoning with Lloyd Blankfein's education—in finance, human nature, and the workings of the world. It abounds with lessons about leading teams of brilliant, aggressive, competitive people and harmonizing them around shared goals; changing when times are hard and when they're good; managing risk; and knowing a crisis is at hand before it swamps you so you can guide your team to the further shore. Blankfein is famed

for his calm hand on Goldman Sachs's tiller during the global financial crisis, and that story is told in full here, among many other decisive episodes. Suffusing *Streetwise* is the author's deep and abiding respect for the partnership culture of Goldman Sachs. We follow the never-ending work to protect and preserve that culture through all sorts of tumult—the challenge behind every other challenge. He is open about when he and the firm got it wrong, which was often enough, but the creative, risk-taking spirit was never snuffed—even as the fail-safes put in place to protect the firm and its clients held when they were needed the most. A powerful blueprint for the wise stewardship of a cause that is larger than yourself, *Streetwise* will inspire and inform readers throughout the global business community and beyond. Blankfein was chairman and CEO of Goldman Sachs from 2006 to 2018.

Translation: Penguin Press (editor Scott Moyers)

Agent: Williams & Connolly

UK: Orion Ignite; Chinese (sc): China Machine; German: Deutscher Wirtschaftsbuch; Japanese: Shoeisha; Korean: Feelm; Polish: MT Biznes; Portuguese (B): Harper Business; Vietnamese: Alpha



Frank, Thomas

October 2026

THE CREATIVITY CON: How Innovation Became America's Biggest Racket

Innovation and creativity have been the defining watchwords of American exceptionalism for decades, used by business thinkers, tech gurus, military strategists, educators, and urban planners to describe our unique standing in the world. While other countries supposedly suffer from regimentation and a fatal lack of imagination, the US is often portrayed as an unmatched dynamo of new ideas and products. Here, [Thomas Frank](#) disabuses us of this notion, offering a bold account of the ways creativity and innovation have been used for policies that reinforce the class system. Frank charts the construction of America's glamorous self-image from Sputnik to Silicon Valley, Apple to Lockheed Martin, Madison Avenue to Main Street, Richard Florida to Donald Trump. He deconstructs the innovation agendas touted by politicians; reads the books of pop psychology; tours SXSW, the mecca of creativity where musicians mingle with Pentagon officials; and looks in on the cafes, sidewalk murals, and bike lanes that populate the neighborhoods built for the creative class. Along the way, he uncovers the insidious effects of centering innovation and creativity in our rhetoric while, in practice, nurturing exactly the opposite. In the name of these noble goals, he shows, our leaders have reoriented the American economy around white-collar knowledge work, cut taxes on the wealthy, deregulated banks, off-shored manufacturing, reoriented cities, and destroyed what is truly creative about this country. Deeply original, marked by Frank's signature brilliance and acerbic wit, *Progressland* is a troubling X-ray of postwar American business and political culture—and a crushing indictment of the clichés that have undergirded its many failures. Frank is the bestselling author of *What's the Matter With Kansas?*; *Listen, Liberal*; *The People, No*; and other books.

Translation: Penguin Press (editor Sara Bershtel)

Agent: Spieler Agency

UK: Scribe



Marx, Paris

October 2026

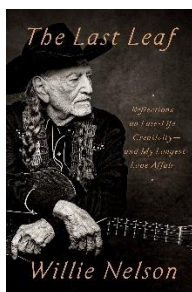
HYPERSCALE: The Ambition and Excess of Big Tech's Data Empires

Financial Times Business Book of the Year nominee! Underlying our seamless access to AI, cryptocurrency, and unlimited cloud storage is a hulking, costly physical infrastructure. Massive data centers full of energy-hungry chips and processors power everything we do online. Scrambling to meet dubious market demand, the tech giants have leveraged our planet in pursuit of a market monopoly. In *Hyperscale*, journalist [Paris Marx](#) uncovers the excesses of hyperscale data processing. He exposes the deceptive, exploitative ways tech companies are siphoning energy and resources from vulnerable communities in their pursuit of digital power, abandoning the pretense of social responsibility. Amid energy shortages and tech-induced battles over drinking water, Marx makes a powerful case for technology that promotes the social good over the bottom lines of tech billionaires. He joins the incredible efforts of people and movements pushing back against the profit-driven interests of Big Tech, illuminating a path toward the sustainable future we all deserve. The AI boom and its infrastructural demands have accelerated our many modern catastrophes. With razor-sharp reporting and incisive analysis, Marx shows us that the greatest threat is not the specter of AI overlords but a global environmental disaster already in the making. Marx is a journalist, host of the acclaimed podcast *Tech Won't Save Us*, and author of *Road to Nowhere*.

Translation: Riverhead (editor Courtney Young)

Agent: UTA

UK: Profile



Nelson, Willie

November 2026

THE LAST LEAF: Reflections on Late-Life Creativity—and My Longest Love Affair

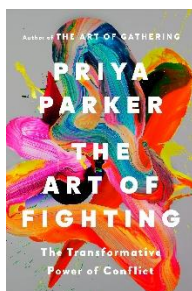
[Willie Nelson](#) is 93, and he has not been slowing down. In the past 12 years, he has recorded 17 new studio albums, written 36 new songs and 5 books, and headlined over 400 live shows. What has been going on? He is not going to get mawkish about it, but he does have some thoughts. Here, with his trademark downhome wit, he opens up wide and brings us in touch with the same inexhaustible, vital stream of energy he has learned how to stay tapped into. “Looking to the future as I look to the past,” he writes, “I stay in the present.” That captures the

spirit of *The Last Leaf*: forging ahead, it also flashes back, to life-altering moments, including the facing of almost certain death during COVID and what he gained from that. Woven into his recollections of his own life as an artist is the beautiful and often hilarious account of how the fiery spirit of Annie, his wife and best friend for four decades, has matched his own. Much has been written about the early spark of romance, the thrill of first falling in love. Here we get, beautifully, the other end of the story—the abiding of that love, even its deepening, into the pure harmony of sustained partnership. In every great book, at least ideally, the last chapter is the best chapter. *The Last Leaf* shows how true that can be. It is an inspiring account of what it means to embrace the moment and, regardless of age, live life to the fullest.

Translation: Penguin Press (editor Scott Moyers)

Agent: AGI-Vigliano Literary

UK: Canongate



Parker, Priya

September 2026

THE ART OF FIGHTING: The Transformative Power of Conflict

New York Times bestseller! *The Art of Fighting* is a paradigm-shattering exploration of how we fight and how we build healthy conflict. We say we want community. Successful teams. High-performing colleagues and workplaces. Dynamic friend groups. Yet many of us don’t understand the crucial element we need to forge long-lasting communities in our lives: healthy conflict. Here [Priya Parker](#) explains that we can’t form and grow effective relationships without a fight. She rejects the idea that conflict is abnormal or that good groups don’t fight. All groups

change and evolve; indeed, it’s because people disagree that good groups flourish. As she did in the now-classic *The Art of Gathering*, Parker draws on her far-reaching experience as a conflict facilitator, her own detailed research, and real-world examples to lay out the ways that people can identify disputes, determine how to address them, and what to do if they are insurmountable. Whether people disagree in the boardroom or the locker room, on a playground or in church, online or in person, conflict is a part of life. Understanding healthy conflict and how to harness its power is more important than ever. *The Art of Fighting* is a vital primer to help all of us understand how to do that. Parker is a conflict facilitator, strategic adviser, and the author of *The Art of Gathering: How We Meet and Why It Matters*. A graduate of MIT, the Harvard Kennedy School, and the University of Virginia, she lives with her family in Brooklyn, New York.

Translation: Riverhead (editor Jake Morrissey)

Agent: Calligraph

UK: Penguin Life; French: Diateino; German: Vahlen; Italian: Newton Compton; Korean: Bookman; Portuguese (B): Objetiva; Romanian: Publica; Spanish: PRH Grupo; Turkish: Butik

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