

Pulp Fiction

Nonfiction Catalogue August 2021

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Osprey military history

Warship 2021

general military

Jordan, John (editor)

For over 40 years, *Warship* has been the leading annual resource on the design, development, and deployment of the world's combat ships. Featuring a broad range of articles from a select panel of distinguished international contributors, this latest volume combines original research, new book reviews, warship notes, an image gallery, and much more, maintaining the impressive standards of scholarship and research for which *Warship* has become synonymous. Detailed and accurate information is the keynote of all the articles, which are fully supported by plans, data tables, and stunning photographs.

Naval history HC \$79.99

General nonfiction

Britain at Bay:

the Epic Story of the Second World War – 1938–1941

Allport, Alan

Here is the many-faceted, world-historically significant story of Britain at war. In looking closely at the military and political dimensions of the conflict's first crucial years, Alan Allport tackles pressing questions such as whether the war could have been avoided, how it could have been lost, how well the British lived up to their own values, and ultimately, what difference the war made to the fate of the nation. In answering these questions, he re-examines our assumptions and paints a vivid portrait of the ways in which the Second World War transformed British culture and society. This bracing account draws on a lively cast of characters – from the political and military leaders who made the decisions, to the ordinary citizens who lived through them – in a comprehensible and compelling single history of 46 million people. A sweeping and ground-breaking epic, *Britain at Bay* gives us a fresh look at the opening years of the war, and illuminates the integral moments that, for better or for worse, made Britain what it is, today.

Military history PBK \$24.99

Never Say You Can't Survive Anders, Charlie Jane

From Charlie Jane Anders, the award-winning author of novels such as *All the Birds in the Sky* and *The City in the Middle of the Night*, this is one of the most practical guides to storytelling that you will ever read. The world is on fire. So, tell your story. Things are scary, right now. We're all being swept along by a tidal wave of history, and it's easy to feel helpless. But we're not helpless: we have minds, and imaginations, and the ability to visualise other worlds and valiant struggles. And writing can be an act of resistance that reminds us that other futures and other ways of living are possible. Full of memoir, personal anecdote, and insight about how to flourish during the present emergency, *Never Say You Can't Survive* is the perfect manual for creativity, in unprecedented times. We expect this to be available (and less expensive) through our Australian supplier in November.

Writing/Memoir HC \$55.00

Calling Bullshit:

the Art of Scepticism in a Data-Driven World
Bergstrom, Carl T & West, Jevin D

The world is awash in bullshit, and we're drowning in it. Politicians are unconstrained by facts. Science is conducted by press release. Start-up culture elevates hype to high art. These days, calling bullshit is a noble act. Based on a popular course at the University of Washington, *Calling Bullshit* gives us the tools to see through the obfuscations, deliberate and careless, that dominate every realm of our lives. In this lively guide, biologist Carl Bergstrom and statistician Jevin West show that calling bullshit is crucial to a properly functioning social group, whether it be a circle of friends, a community of researchers, or the citizens of a nation. Through six rules of thumb, they help us recognise bullshit whenever and wherever we encounter it – even within ourselves – and explain it to a crystal-loving aunt or casually racist grandfather. 'A necessary book for our times. But, also, just great fun' – *Saul Perlmutter*, Nobel Laureate.

Science PBK \$22.99

The Age of Islands:

in Search of New and Disappearing Islands
Bonnett, Alastair

New islands are being built at an unprecedented rate whether for tourism or territorial ambition, while many islands are disappearing or fragmenting because of rising sea levels. It is a strange planetary spectacle, creating an ever-changing map, with which even Google Earth struggles to keep pace. In *The Age of Islands*, explorer and geographer Alastair Bonnett takes the reader on a compelling and thought-provoking tour of the world's newest, most fragile and beautiful islands and reveals what, he argues, is one of the great dramas of our time. From a 'crannog', an ancient artificial island in a Scottish loch, to the militarised artificial islands China is building in the South China Sea; from the disappearing islands that remain the home of native Central Americans to the ritzy new islands of Dubai; from Hong Kong and the Isles of Scilly to islands far away and near: all have urgent stories to tell.

Geography PBK \$22.99

The Sea Around Us

Carson, Rachel

The breathtaking first volume in Rachel Carson's classic and bestselling trilogy, about the history of the oceans. *The Sea Around Us* is one of the most influential books ever written about the natural world. In it, Rachel Carson tells the history of our oceans, combining scientific insight and poetic prose as only she could, to take us from the creation of the oceans, through their role in shaping life on Earth, to what the future holds. It was prophetic at the time it was written, alerting the world to a crisis in the climate, and it speaks to the fragility and centrality of the oceans and the life that abounds within them.

Science PBK \$22.99

Under the Sea-Wind

Carson, Rachel

The second volume in Rachel Carson's classic and bestselling trilogy celebrates sea creatures in their natural habitat. *Under the Sea-Wind* marks the beginnings of one of the most significant careers in nature writing. In it, Rachel Carson celebrates the mystery and beauty of birds and sea creatures in their natural habitat, conjuring the atmosphere of the shore and the open sea and the delicately balanced, fragile struggle for life along the shoreline.

Science PBK \$22.99

The Edge of the Sea

Carson, Rachel

The third volume in Rachel Carson's classic and bestselling trilogy, about the delicate beauty of the shoreline. In *The Edge of the Sea*, Rachel Carson introduces us to the 'strange and beautiful place' where the sea meets the land. She explores a tide pool, an inaccessible cave, and watches a lone crab on the shore at midnight. From these, and other, encounters she offers us not just a scientifically accurate study of the ecology of the seashore, but also a hauntingly beautiful account of the fragile balance of life found at the edge of the sea. *The Edge of the Sea*, like all her writing, sounds a prophetic alarm for the damage mankind is doing to the natural world, but also offers us inspiration: here is beauty, here is something worth saving.

Science PBK \$22.99

All the books in this catalogue are new books due for release in **August 2021**.

Because they are new books, we are at the whim of the publishers and, to some extent, the shipping companies – books can sometimes arrive later (or earlier) than, or occasionally be a different retail price than originally quoted. Because space is a luxury, we bring in limited quantities of books. Prices are subject to change without notice.

Please reserve copies of anything you want so you don't miss out – ASAP!

If a book has sold out by the time we receive your order, we will back-order and supply, when available.

Pulp Fiction has access to thousands of books not shown in our monthly catalogues. We are only too happy to order anything if we don't have it on the shelves.

If you can't make it into the shop, you can post, phone, or e-mail your order. We accept Mastercard, Visa, AMEX, cheques and Australia Post Money Orders.

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Until next time, good reading!
Ron and Leanne

Abbreviations used in this catalogue:

PBK = 'A' & 'B' format (standard size) paperback
TP = 'B+' & 'C' format (oversize) paperback
HC = Hardcover or cloth binding

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How to Write a Mystery:

a Handbook from Mystery Writers of America

Child, Lee (editor)

Mystery Writers of America (MWA) is known for providing unparalleled resources on the craft, art, and business of storytelling, helping writers of all levels improve their skills for nearly a century. Now, this handbook helps authors navigate the ever-shifting publishing landscape – from pacing, plotting, the business side of publishing, to the current demand for diversity and inclusivity, across all genres, and more. Featuring essays by a new generation of bestselling experts on various elements of the craft and shorter pieces of crowd-sourced wisdom from the MWA membership as a whole, the topics covered can be categorised, as follows: before writing (rules; genres; setting; character; research; etc); while writing (outlining; the plot; dialogue; mood; etc); after writing (agents; editors; self-pub; etc); other than novels (short stories; true crime; etc); other considerations (diverse characters; legal questions; criticism). Also included is a collection of essays from MWA published authors – including Jeffery Deaver, Tess Gerritsen, and Charlaine Harris – selected by bestselling authors Lee Child and Laurie King and arranged thematically answering, ‘What piece of writing advice do you wish you’d had at the beginning of your career?’

Writing HC \$45.00

How to Make an Apple Pie from Scratch:

in Search of the Recipe for Our Universe, from the Origins of Atoms to the Big Bang

Cliff, Harry

Experimental physicist and acclaimed science presenter Harry Cliff takes you on an exhilarating search, for the most basic building blocks of our universe, and the dramatic quest to unlock their cosmic origins. Carl Sagan once quipped, ‘If you wish to make an apple pie from scratch, you must first invent the universe’. But finding the ultimate recipe for apple pie means answering some big questions: What is matter really made of? How did it escape annihilation in the fearsome heat of the Big Bang? And will we ever be able to understand the very first moments of our universe? In *How to Make an Apple Pie from Scratch*, Harry Cliff – a University of Cambridge particle physicist and researcher on the Large Hadron Collider – sets out in pursuit of answers. He ventures to the largest underground research facility in the world, deep beneath Italy’s Gran Sasso mountains, where scientists gaze into the heart of the Sun using the most elusive of particles, the ghostly neutrino. He visits CERN, in Switzerland, to explore the ‘Antimatter Factory’, where the stuff of science fiction is manufactured daily (and we’re close to knowing whether it falls up). And he reveals what the latest data from the Large Hadron Collider may be telling us about the fundamental nature of matter. Along the way, Cliff illuminates the history of physics, chemistry, and astronomy that brought us to our present understanding – and misunderstandings – of the world, while offering readers a front-row seat to one of the most dramatic intellectual journeys human beings have ever embarked on.

A transfixing deep dive into the origins of our world, *How to Make an Apple Pie from Scratch* examines not just the makeup of our universe, but the awe-inspiring, improbable fact that it exists, at all.

Science TP \$34.99

Rummage:

a History of the Things We Have Reused, Recycled, and Refused to Let Go

Cockayne, Emily

Rummage tells the overlooked story of our throwaway past. Emily Cockayne extracts glittering gems from the rubbish pile of centuries past and introduces us to the visionaries, crooks and everyday do-gooders who have shaped the material world we live in today – like the fancy ladies of the First World War who turned dog hair into yarn... or the Victorian gentlemen selling pianofortes, made from *papier-mâché*, or the hapless public servants coaxing people into giving up their railings for the greater good. In this original and fascinating new history, Cockayne illuminates our relationship to our rubbish: from the simple question of how we reuse and recycle things (and which is better), to all the weird and wonderful ways it’s been done in the past. She exposes the hidden work (often done by women) that has gone into shaping the world for each future generation, and she shows what lessons can be drawn from the past to address urgent questions of our waste today.

History PBK \$22.99

The Spitfire Kids:

the Generation Who Built, Supported and Flew Britain’s Most Beloved Fighter

Gross, Alasdair

A bestselling BBC World Service ten-part series and podcast that celebrates the men and women, who built and flew the Second World War’s most famous fighter plane – the Spitfire. Despite the many films and television programmes over the decades, since the end of the Second World War that portrays our allied heroes as grownup men and women, the Battle of Britain was in the main actually fought and won by teenagers. The average age of an RAF fighter pilot was just twenty years old. Many of the men and women who designed and built their planes were even younger. Based on the hit BBC World Service podcast *Spitfire: The People’s Story*, we use contemporary diaries and memoirs, many of them previously unpublished, to tell the story of the Spitfire through the voices of the teenagers who risked everything to design, build and fly her. This isn’t a story of stiff upper lips, stoical moustaches and aerial heroics; it’s a story of love and loss, a story of young people tested to the very limits of their endurance. Young people, who won a battle that turned a war.

Aviation history HC \$49.99

Asteroids

Cunningham, Clifford J

Grounded in historical studies of asteroids from the 19th century, *Asteroids* is a fully up-to-date view of these remarkable objects. Without resorting to any technical diagrams or mathematics, Clifford J Cunningham shows that asteroids are not just rocks in space, but key to understanding the life and death on Earth of both animals and humans. From space missions to the asteroids’ starring

role in literature and film, Cunningham precisely and entertainingly looks at the place asteroids have in our solar system and how they affect our daily lives.

Science HC \$49.99

The New Breed: How to

Think About Robots

Darling, Kate

A bold, optimistic exploration of the relationship between robots and humans based on our history with animals, from a renowned MIT researcher. The robots are here. They make our cars, they deliver fast food, they mine the sea floor. And in the near-future, their presence will increasingly enter our homes and workplaces – making human-robot interaction a frequent, everyday occurrence. What will this future look like? What will define the relationship between humans and robots? Here, Kate Darling, a world-renowned expert in robot ethics, shows that in order to understand the new robot world, we must first move beyond the idea that this technology will be something like us. Instead, she argues, we should look to our relationship with animals. Just as we have harnessed the power of animals to aid us in war and work, so too will robots supplement – rather than replace – our own skills and abilities. A deeply-original analysis of our technological future and the ethical dilemmas that await us, *The New Breed* explains how the treatment of machines can reveal a new understanding of our own history, our own systems, and how we relate – not just to non-humans, but also to each other.

Science HC \$45.00

The Craft:

How the Freemasons Made the Modern World

Dickie, John

Insiders call it ‘the Craft’. To the rest of us, Freemasonry is mysterious and suspect. Yet, its story is peopled by some of the most distinguished men of the last three centuries: Winston Churchill and Walt Disney; Wolfgang Mozart and Shaquille O’Neal; Benjamin Franklin and Buzz Aldrin; Rudyard Kipling and ‘Buffalo Bill’ Cody; Duke Ellington and the Duke of Wellington. Founded in London, in 1717, as a set of character-forming ideals and a way of binding men in fellowship, Freemasonry proved so addictive that within two decades it had spread across the globe. Masonic influence became pervasive. Under George Washington, the Craft became a creed for the new American nation. Masonic networks held the British empire together. Under Napoleon, the Craft became a tool of authoritarianism and then a cover for revolutionary conspiracy. Both the Mormon Church and the Sicilian mafia owe their origins to Freemasonry. The Masons were as feared, as they were influential. In the eyes of the Catholic Church, Freemasonry has always been a den of devil worshippers. For Hitler, Mussolini and Franco the Lodges spread the diseases of pacifism, socialism, and Jewish influence, so had to be crushed. Professor Dickie’s *The Craft* is a surprising and enthralling exploration of a movement that not only helped to forge modern society, but still has substantial contemporary influence.

History PBK \$24.99

Livewired:

the Inside Story of the Ever-Changing Brain

Eagleman, David

Drawing on cutting-edge research this book demonstrates the brain’s ability to change, rewrite and heal, from the internationally bestselling author. A revolutionary new understanding of the human brain and its changeable nature. The brain is a dynamic, electric, living forest. It is not rigidly fixed but instead constantly modifies its patterns – adjusting to remember, adapting to new conditions, building expertise. Your neural networks are not hardwired but livewired, reconfiguring their circuitry every moment of your life. Covering decades of research – from synaesthesia to dreaming to the creation of new senses – and ground-breaking discoveries from Eagleman’s own laboratory, *Livewired* surfs the leading edge of science to explore the most advanced technology ever discovered.

Science PBK \$22.99

Fake History:

Ten Great Lies and How They Shaped the World

English, Otto

A fun, authoritative and alternative history of the world that exposes some of the biggest lies ever told and how they’ve been used over time. Lincoln did not believe all men were created equal. The Aztecs were not slaughtered by the Spanish Conquistadors. And Churchill was not the man that people love to remember. Taking the ten biggest lies from history and looking at the people who propagated them, social commentator and expert historian Otto English shows how our past has been bent and broken, used and abused, over time, to fit the ends of some of the world’s most powerful people. Whether it’s Donald Trump, Kim Jong-II or Aung San Suu Kyi, the media or people in your newsfeed, *Fake History* explores the ways in which everything we think we know is shaped and sold back to us as ‘lessons from history’. From creating nation myths and forging 1984-style imaginary wars to how apologies can alter perceptions and how we can even dramatically shape our own image, Otto English sets out to redress the balance and to reclaim history from those who seek to pervert it. *Fake History* is an alternative history of the world that you weren’t taught in school. Taking the ten biggest lies from history and looking at the people who propagated them, social commentator and expert historian Otto English shows how our past has been bent and broken, used and abused over time to fit the ends of some of the world’s most powerful people.

History TP \$29.99

The Confidence Men:

How Two Prisoners of War Engineered the Most Remarkable Escape in History

Fox, Margalit

The astonishing true story of two First World War prisoners who pulled off one of the most ingenious escapes of all time. Imprisoned in a remote Turkish POW camp during the First World War, two British officers, Harry Jones and Cedric Hill, cunningly join forces. To stave off boredom, Jones makes a handmade Ouija board and holds fake séances for fellow prisoners. One day,

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an Ottoman official approaches him with a query: could Jones contact the spirits to find a vast treasure rumoured to be buried nearby? Jones, a lawyer, and Hill, a magician, use the Ouija board – and their keen understanding of the psychology of deception – to build a trap for their captors that will lead them to freedom. *The Confidence Men* is a non-fiction thriller featuring strategy, mortal danger, and even high farce – and chronicles a profound but unlikely friendship.

History HC \$34.99

The Gravediggers:

the Last Winter of the Weimar Republic
Friederichs, Hauke & Barth, Rudiger

November 1932. The Weimar Republic is teetering. The economy is in ruins, the political climate is becoming increasingly brutal and street battles rage between Communists and National Socialists. In the Reichstag and the Chancellery, fixers, adventurers, extremists and demagogues are engaged in a ruthless power struggle, rife with feints, lies, fighting, and deception. Over these few weeks, five men decide the fate of Germany. Along with the National Socialists Adolf Hitler and Joseph Goebbels, Chancellors Franz von Papen and Kurt von Schleicher spin a web of intrigue around the elderly President Paul von Hindenburg, in a dramatic *House of Cards*-like scramble for power. The historians Rudiger Barth and Hauke Friedrichs have drawn on diaries, letters, little-known files, and personal notes by a number of actors and observers to produce a thrilling day-by-day account of the final ten weeks of the Weimar Republic. The result is a colourful, multi-layered portrait of a period that was by no means predestined to plunge into the abyss... but, now, seems uncannily familiar.

History PBK \$24.99

Debt: the First 5,000 Years

tenth anniversary edition

Graeber, David

The classic work, on debt; now, a special tenth anniversary edition with a new introduction by Thomas Picketty. Before there was money, there was debt. Every economics textbook says the same thing: Money was invented to replace onerous and complicated barter systems – to relieve ancient people from having to haul their goods to market. The problem with this version of history? There's not a shred of evidence to support it. Here anthropologist David Graeber presents a stunning reversal of conventional wisdom. He shows that for more than 5,000 years, since the beginnings of the first agrarian empires, humans have used elaborate credit systems to buy and sell goods – that is, long before the invention of coins or cash. It is in this era, Graeber argues, that we also first encounter a society divided into debtors and creditors. Graeber shows that arguments about debt and debt forgiveness have been at the centre of political debates from Italy to China, as well as sparking innumerable insurrections. He also brilliantly demonstrates that the language of the ancient works of law and religion (words like 'guilt', 'sin', and 'redemption') derive, in large part, from ancient debates about debt, and shape even our most basic ideas of right and

wrong. We are still fighting these battles, today, without knowing it. *Debt: The First 5,000 Years* is a fascinating chronicle of this little-known history – as well as how it has defined human history. It shows how debt has defined our human past, and what that means for our economic future.

Economics HC \$47.99

The Elements Jigsaw Puzzle Gray, Theodore & Mann, Nick

A challenging, 1000-piece jigsaw puzzle of Theodore Gray's iconic, photographic periodic table. This stunning, photographic periodic table, a one-of-a-kind representation of every known atom in the universe, is the original work of Theodore Gray and photographer Nick Mann, and is based on Gray's international bestseller, *The Elements: A Visual Exploration of Every Known Atom in the Universe*. Completed puzzle is 36 x 16 inches.

Science puzzle Jigsaw \$29.99

Atomic Spy:

the Dark Lives of Klaus Fuchs

Greenspan, Nancy Thorndike

The gripping biography of a notorious Cold War villain – the German-born British scientist who handed the Soviets top-secret American plans for the plutonium bomb – showing a man torn between conventional loyalties and a sense of obligation to a greater good. German by birth, British by naturalisation, Communist by conviction, Klaus Fuchs was a fearless Nazi resister, a brilliant scientist, and a highly effective spy. He was convicted of espionage by Britain in 1950, for handing over the designs of the plutonium bomb to the Russians, and has gone down in history as one of the most dangerous espionage agents in American and British history. He put an end to America's nuclear hegemony and single-handedly heated up the Cold War. But, was Klaus Fuchs really evil? Using archives long hidden in Germany as well as intimate correspondence, Nancy Thorndike Greenspan brings into sharp focus the moral and political ambiguity of the times in which Fuchs lived and the ideals with which he struggled. As a university student in Germany, he stood up to Nazi terror without flinching, and joined the Communists largely because they were the only ones resisting the Nazis. After escaping to Britain, he was arrested as a German *émigré* – an 'enemy alien' – and sent to an internment camp, in Canada. His mentor at university, Max Born, worked to facilitate his release. After years of struggle and ideological conflict, when he joined the atomic bomb project, first in Manhattan and later at Los Alamos, his loyalties were firmly split. In 1941, in London while working on the British atomic bomb project, he started handing over research, partly because of his Communist convictions but seemingly also to level the playing field of the world powers. With thrilling detail from never-before-seen archives, *Atomic Spy* places readers in the Germany of an ascendant Nazi party; the British university classroom of Max Born; a British internment camp in Canada; the secret laboratories of Los Alamos; and Eastern Germany at the height of the Cold War. *Atomic Spy* shows the real Klaus Fuchs – who he was, what he did, why he did it, and how he was caught. His

extraordinary life is a cautionary tale about morality and the prisms through which we perceive it – and a classic, antihero story.

Science/History TP \$29.99

Power Play:

Elon Musk, Tesla,
and the Bet of the Century

Higgins, Tim

The fast-paced business story of Tesla: Elon Musk's battle to build the mass-market electric car to change the world. Inside the outrageous, come-from-behind story of Elon Musk and Tesla's bid to build the world's greatest car and the race to drive the future. Elon Musk is among the most controversial titans of Silicon Valley. To some, he's a genius and a visionary; and, to others, he's a mercurial huckster. Billions of dollars have been gained and lost on his tweets and his personal exploits are the stuff of tabloids. But for all his outrageous talk of mind-uploading and space travel, his most audacious vision is the one closest to the ground: the electric car.

Business TP \$35.00

Hitler's South African Spies:

Secret Agents and the Intelligence War
in South Africa

Kleynhans, Evert

The story of the intelligence war in South Africa during the Second World War is one of suspense, drama and dogged persistence. In 1939, when the Union of South Africa entered the war on Britain's side, the German government secretly contacted the political opposition, and the leadership of the anti-war movement, the *Osseswabrandwag*. The Nazis' aim was to spread sedition, undermine the Allied war effort, and – given the strategic importance of the Cape of Good Hope sea route – gain naval intelligence. Soon, U-boat packs were sent to operate in South African waters, to deadly effect. With the *Osseswabrandwag*'s help, a network of German spies was established to gather and relay back to the Reich important political and military intelligence. Agents would send coded messages to Axis diplomats in neighbouring Mozambique. Meanwhile, police detectives and MI5 hunted in vain for illegal wireless transmitters. *Hitler's South African Spies* presents an unrivalled account of German intelligence networks in wartime South Africa. It also details the hunt in post-war Europe for witnesses to help the government bring charges of high treason against key *Osseswabrandwag* members.

Espionage PBK \$24.99

Is It Tomorrow Yet?

Paradoxes of the Pandemic

Krastev, Ivan

One of our most scintillating public intellectuals explores the political paradoxes of the pandemic and helps us think our way through it. '*We are able to imagine anything because we are being besieged by something that was considered unimaginable...*' Beneath the panic and bluster, beneath the confusing speeches and the conflicting advice, the Coronavirus pandemic acted, changing our world in the most profound ways. The tragic human cost and the economic devastation will be assessed and calculated for decades to come. But the

pandemic also changed things in ways that are less easily expressed and understood. It has made bare the frayed contradictions of modern life. It has distorted things that seemed simple and settled. It has affirmed plain, uncomfortable truths. In this brilliant, thought-provoking essay, Ivan Krastev, one of our most interesting thinkers today, explores the pandemic's immediate consequences and conceives of its long-term legacy. What will change for the young and for the old? Will things be different for the communities most harmed, and for those who escaped the worst? Where are we, now, with the US and China, with the UK and Europe? And how do we think our way through the unthinkable?

Society and culture PBK \$22.99

The SS Officer's Armchair:

in Search of a Hidden Life

Lee, Daniel

A historical detective story and a gripping account of one historian's hunt for answers, as he delves into the surprising life of an ordinary Nazi officer. It began with an armchair. It began with the surprise discovery of a stash of personal documents covered in swastikas that had been sewn into its cushion. *The SS Officer's Armchair* is the story of what happened next, as historian Daniel Lee follows the trail of cold calls, documents, coincidences, and family secrets, to uncover the life of one Dr Robert Griesinger from Stuttgart. Who was he? What had his life been – and how had it ended? Lee reveals the strange life of a man whose ambition propelled him to become part of the Nazi machinery of terror. He discovers unexpected ancestors in New Orleans, untold stories of SS life and family fragmentation. As Lee delves deeper, Griesinger's responsibility as an active participant in Nazi crimes becomes clearer. Dr Robert Griesinger's name is not infamous. But to understand the inner workings of the Third Reich, we need to know not just its leaders, but the ordinary Nazis who made up its ranks. Revealing how Griesinger's choices reverberate into present-day Germany, and among descendants of perpetrators, Lee raises potent questions about blame, manipulation and responsibility. A historical detective story and a gripping account of one historian's hunt for answers, *The SS Officer's Armchair* is, at once, a unique addition to our understanding of Nazi Germany and a chilling reminder of how such regimes are made, not by monsters, but by ordinary people.

History PBK \$19.99

The Last Stargazers:

the Enduring Story of Astronomy's

Vanishing Explorers

Levesque, Emily

To be an astronomer is to journey to some of the most inaccessible parts of the globe, braving mountain passes, sub-zero temperatures, and hostile flora and fauna. Not to mention the stress of handling equipment worth millions. It is a life of unique delights and absurdities... and one that may be drawing to a close. Since Galileo first pointed his telescope at the heavens, astronomy has stood as a fount of human creativity and discovery, but soon it will be the robots gazing at the sky while we are left to sift through the data. In *The Last*

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Stargazers, Emily Levesque reveals the hidden world of the professional astronomer. She celebrates an era of ingenuity and curiosity, and asks us to think twice before we cast aside our sense of wonder at the universe. Science/History PBK \$22.99

The Arbournaut:

a Life Discovering the Eighth Continent in the Trees Above Us

Lowman, Meg

Nicknamed the 'Real-Life Lorax' by *National Geographic*, the botanist and conservationist Meg Lowman takes us on an adventure into the eighth continent of the world's treetops, along her journey as a scientist, and into climate action. One of the world's first tree-top scientists, Meg Lowman is as innovative as MacGyver, and as can-do as the Unsinkable Molly Brown. A pioneer in her field – she invented one of the first treetop walkways – she is a tireless advocate for the earth and has spent decades educating citizens across the globe. In a voice as infectious in its enthusiasm as in its practical optimism, *The Arbournaut* chronicles her irresistible story. From climbing solo hundreds of feet into Australia's rainforests to measuring tree growth in the north-eastern United States, from searching the redwoods of the Pacific coast for new life to studying leaf-eaters in Scotland's Highlands, from a bio-blitz in Malaysia to conservation planning in India to collaborating with priests in Ethiopia's last forests – Lowman launches us into the life and work of a field scientist and ecologist. She also offers hope, specific plans, and recommendations for action; despite devastation across the world, we can still make an immediate and lasting impact against climate change. A blend of memoir and fieldwork, *The Arbournaut* is for fans of Hope Jahren's *Lab Girl* and the work of E O Wilson, Jane Goodall, Robert MacFarlane, and Helen MacDonald. Come, live among scientists, and travel the world (even in a hot-air balloon!) *The Arbournaut* is the engrossing story of how a nerdy tree climber, and the only girl at the science fair, grew into an inspiring innovator and international leader. Science/Memoir TP \$32.99

Worlds in Shadow:

Submerged Lands in Science, Memory and Myth

Nunn, Patrick

The traces of much of human history – and that which preceded it – lie beneath the ocean surface; broken up, dispersed, often buried and always mysterious. This is fertile ground for speculation, even myth making, but also a topic on which geologists and climatologists have increasingly focused in recent decades. We, now, know enough to tell the true story of some of the continents and islands that have disappeared throughout Earth's history, to explain how and why such things happened, and to unravel the effects of submergence on the rise and fall of human civilisations. In *Worlds in Shadow*, Patrick Nunn sifts the facts from the fiction, using the most up-to-date research to work out which submerged places may have actually existed, versus those that probably only exist in myth. He looks at the descriptions of recently drowned lands that have been well documented, those that are plausible, and those that almost certainly

didn't exist. Going even further back, Patrick examines the presence of more ancient lands, submerged beneath the waves in a time that even the longest-reaching folk memory can't touch. Such places may have played important roles in human evolution, but can only be reconstructed through careful geological detective work. Exploring how lands become submerged, whether from sea-level changes, tectonic changes, gravity collapse, giant waves or volcanoes, helps us determine why, when and where land may disappear in the future, and what might be done to prevent it. Science/History TP \$29.99

The Infiltrators:

the Lovers Who Led Germany's Resistance Against the Nazis

Ohler, Norman

Summertime, 1935. On a lake near Berlin, a young man is out sailing, when he glimpses a woman reclining in the prow of a passing boat. Their eyes meet – and one of history's greatest conspiracies is born. Harro Schulze-Boysen had already shed blood in the fight against Nazism, by the time he and Libertas Haas-Heye began their whirlwind romance. She joined the cause; and, soon, the two lovers were leading a network of antifascists that stretched across Berlin's bohemian underworld. Harro, himself, infiltrated German intelligence and began funnelling Nazi battle plans to the Allies, including the details of Hitler's surprise attack on the Soviet Union. But nothing could prepare Harro and Libertas, for the betrayals they would suffer in this war of secrets – a struggle in which friend could be indistinguishable from foe. Drawing on unpublished diaries, letters, and Gestapo files, Norman Ohler spins an unforgettable tale of love, heroism, and sacrifice. History PBK \$22.99

Oh, What a Lovely Century:

One Man's Marvellous Adventures in Love, War and High Society

Owen, Roderic Fenwick

'I would be most unhappy to think that any part of this memoir should be cut on grounds of "decency", for those bits are essential...' So begins, the lively true story of aristocrat and travel writer Roderic Fenwick-Owen. Born in 1920, Fenwick-Owen had an extraordinary life, which careered between some of the biggest moments in history, and took him to the ends of the earth, meeting (and even living with) some of the 20th century's most well-known people along the way, including Eisenhower, Jackson Pollock, and Marlene Dietrich. After eye-opening schoolboy exploits with his classmates Christopher Lee and Queen Elizabeth II's cousin (while his father ran away with the family's nanny); Roderic spent the 1930s, trying to fit in at Eton and Oxford, and getting into various mischief all the while. In the summer of 1939, he witnessed Nazi Germany when he went to stay with a friend, and only managed to get home the day before war broke out. He served first in the ambulance service in the north of England and then in air raid shelters during the Blitz, before joining the RAF and being stationed in Italy. In the years, afterward, he travelled far and wide, was briefly married to a Tahitian princess and became the court poet to Sheikh Shakhbut in Abu Dhabi. Dripped throughout his life are his numerous and passionate love

affairs with both men and women, and the effects the decriminalisation of the former had on his happiness. A marvellous obituary of an ever-changing and now-lost world, that was frequently the best of times, and sometimes the worst. Memoir TP \$32.99

Cynical Theories:

How activist scholarship made everything about race, gender, and identity, and why this harms everybody

Pluckrose, Helen & Lindsay, James

Have you heard that language is violence and that science is sexist? Or been told that being obese is healthy, that there is no such thing as biological sex, or that only white people can be racist? Are you confused by these ideas, and do you wonder how they have managed so quickly to challenge the very logic of Western society? Helen Pluckrose and James Lindsay document the evolution of the dogma behind these ideas, from its origins in French postmodernism to its refinement within activist academic fields. Today, this dogma is recognisable as much by its effects, such as cancel culture and social-media pile-ons; as, by its assertions, which are all too often taken as read: knowledge is a social construct; science and reason are tools of oppression; all human interactions are sites of oppressive power play; and language is dangerous. As they warn, the unchecked proliferation of these beliefs, present a threat to liberal democracy. While acknowledging the need to challenge the complacency of those who think a just society has been fully achieved, Pluckrose and Lindsay break down how often-radical activist scholarship does far more harm than good, not least to those marginalised communities it claims to champion. Society and culture PBK \$22.99

The Great

Imperial Hangover:

How Empires Have Shaped the World

Puri, Samir

For the first time in millennia, we live without formal empires. But that doesn't mean we don't feel their presence rumbling through history. *The Great Imperial Hangover* examines how the world's imperial legacies are still shaping the thorniest issues we face, today. From Russia's incursions in the Ukraine to Brexit; from Trump's 'America-first' policy to China's forays into Africa; from Modi's India to the hotbed of the Middle East, Puri provides a bold, new framework for understanding the world's complex rivalries and politics. Organised by region, and covering vital topics such as security, foreign policy, national politics, and commerce, *The Great Imperial Hangover* combines gripping history and astute analysis to explain why the history of empire affects us all in profound ways. History PBK \$22.99

House of Fiction:

from Pemberley to Brideshead, Great British Houses in Literature and Life

Richardson, Phyllis

From the gothic fantasies of Walpole's *Otranto* to post-modern takes on the country house by Kazuo Ishiguro and Ian McEwan, Phyllis Richardson guides

us on a tour through buildings, real and imagined, to examine how authors' personal experiences helped to shape the homes that have become icons of English literature. We encounter Jane Austen, drinking 'too much wine' in the lavish ballroom of a Hampshire manor; discover how Virginia Woolf's love of Talland House, at St Ives, is palpable in *To the Lighthouse*; and find Evelyn Waugh remembering Madresfield Court, as he plots Charles Ryder's return to Brideshead. Drawing on historical sources, biographies, letters, diaries, and the novels, themselves, *House of Fiction* opens the doors to these celebrated houses, while offering candid glimpses of the writers who brought them to life. Great houses TP \$27.99

Half Lives:

the Unlikely History of Radium

Santos, Lucy Jane

Of all the radioactive elements discovered, at the end of the 19th century, it was radium that became the focus of both public fascination and entrepreneurial zeal. *Half Lives* tells the fascinating, curious, sometimes macabre story of the element through its ascendance as a desirable item – a present for a queen, a prize in a treasure hunt, a glow-in-the-dark dance costume – to its role as a supposed cure – all in everyday, 20th-century life, when medical practitioners and business people (reputable and otherwise) devised ingenious ways of commodifying the new wonder element; and enthusiastic customers welcomed their radioactive wares into their homes. Historian Lucy Jane Santos – herself, the proud owner of a formidable collection of radium beauty treatments – delves into the stories of these products and details the gradual downfall and discredit of the radium industry through the eyes of the people who bought, sold and eventually came to fear the once-fetishised substance. She reveals a new history of radium, one in which the stories of those previously dismissed as quacks and fools are brought to life, as part of a unique examination of the interplay between science and popular culture. Science/History PBK \$22.99

The Invention of Surgery:

a History of Modern Medicine – from the Renaissance to the Implant Revolution

Schneider, David

A fascinating history of the practice of surgery, from one of the leading figures in the field, chronicling centuries of scientific breakthroughs by the discipline's most dynamic, pioneering doctors. Written by an author with plenty of experience holding a scalpel, Dr David Schneider's *The Invention of Surgery* is an in-depth biography of the practice that has leapt forward over the centuries from the dangerous guesswork of ancient Greek physicians through the world-changing 'implant revolution' of the 20th century. *The Invention of Surgery* explains this dramatic progress and highlights the personalities of the discipline's most dynamic historical figures. It links together the lives of the pioneering scientists who first understood what causes disease, how organs become infected or cancerous, and how surgery could powerfully intercede in people's lives, and then shows how the rise of surgery intersected with many of the

Pulp Fiction

Nonfiction August 2021 (continued)

greatest medical breakthroughs of the last century, including the evolution of medical education, the transformation of the hospital from a place of dying to a habitation of healing, the development of antibiotics, and the rise of transistors and polymer science. And, as Schneider argues, surgery has not finished transforming; new technologies are constantly reinventing both the practice of surgery and the nature of the objects we are permanently implanting in our bodies. Schneider considers these latest developments, asking, 'What's next?' and analysing how our conception of surgery has changed alongside our evolving ideas of medicine, technology, and our bodies.

History/Medicine PBK \$24.99

The Star Builders:

Nuclear Fusion and the Race to Power the Planet

Turrell, Arthur

The incredible story of nuclear fusion and the quest to replicate a star on earth, to power the planet and solve the climate emergency. Is it possible to build a star on earth? When asked what problem he hoped scientists will have solved by the end of the century, Professor Stephen Hawking replied, 'I would like nuclear fusion to become a practical power source. It would provide an inexhaustible supply of energy, without pollution or global warming'. But what is nuclear fusion, and could it really be the answer to the climate emergency? Fusion exists, already, in the stars that fill our universe with light, but can we harness that power here on earth? This is the question *The Star Builders* seeks to answer. In his compelling new book, Dr Arthur Turrell makes the case for new, cutting-edge techniques in nuclear energy – innovations

that would allow us to recreate the power of the stars on our own planet. Filled with the remarkable stories of the scientists and entrepreneurs who have dedicated their lives to a seemingly impossible dream, *The Star Builders* is an unmissable insight into the future of life – and space – on our planet.

Science TP \$32.99

The Battle of the Bismarck Sea:

the Forgotten Battle that Saved the Pacific

Veitch, Michael

In March 1943, in the sky and sea, near New Guinea, Australian and American pilots faced some of the darkest days of World War II. Michael Veitch tells the dramatic tale of the battle that thwarted Japan's final, desperate lunge for the South West Pacific. In the thick of World War II, during the first week of March 1943, Japan made a final, desperate lunge for control of the South West Pacific. In the ensuing Battle of the Bismarck Sea, a force of land-based Australian and American planes attacked a massive convoy of Japanese warships. The odds were against them. But a devastating victory was won and Japan's hopes of regaining the initiative in New Guinea destroyed. More importantly, for Australians, the victory decisively removed any possibility that Australia might be invaded by Japanese forces. It was, for us, one of the most significant times in our history – a week when our future was profoundly in the balance. Michael Veitch tells the riveting story of this crucial moment in history – how the bravery of young men and experienced fighters, renegades, and rule followers, overcame some of the darkest days of World War II.

Military history TP \$32.99

We, Hominids:

an anthropological detective story

Westerman, Frank

A roving philosophical journey into what makes us human... In this charming, thought-provoking book, one of Holland's greatest non-fiction writers hunts down answers to humanity's most fundamental questions: Who are we? What makes us different from animals? With an ancient skull as his starting point, he travels the globe, tracing the search for the first human being: the missing link between humans and apes. Westerman introduces us to the world of skull hunters – leading experts in our fossil ancestry – whose lives are just as fascinating as those of their primeval discoveries. He astutely reconsiders the work of illustrious paleoanthropologists in the light of new DNA technology, post-colonialism, and the rise of women in this male-dominated field. Westerman discovers a plethora of origin hypotheses and shows how any theory of who we are and where we come from is coloured by the zeitgeist. *We, Hominids* is a compelling mixture of reportage, travelogue and essay – reminiscent of Bruce Chatwin or Ryszard Kapuscinski – written by a brilliant storyteller and thinker.

Science TP \$32.99

The Mystery of Charles Dickens

Wilson, A N

Charles Dickens was a superb public performer, a great orator, and one of the most famous of the Eminent Victorians. Slight of build, with a frenzied, hyper-

energetic personality, Dickens looked much older than his 58 years, when he died – an occasion marked by a crowded funeral at Westminster Abbey, despite his wailing wishes for a small affair. Experiencing the worst and best of life during the Victorian Age, Dickens was not merely the conduit, through whom some of the most beloved characters in literature came into the world. He was one of them. Filled with the twists, pathos, and unusual characters that sprang from this novelist's extraordinary imagination, *The Mystery of Charles Dickens* looks back from the legendary writer's death, to recall the key events in his life. In doing so, he seeks to understand Dickens' creative genius and enduring popularity. Following his life from cradle to grave, it becomes clear that Dickens' fiction drew from his life – a fact he acknowledged. Like *Oliver Twist*, Dickens suffered a wretched childhood, then grew up to become not only a respectable gentleman, but an artist of prodigious popularity. Dickens knew firsthand the poverty and pain his characters endured, including the scandal of a failed marriage. Going beyond standard narrative biography, A N Wilson brilliantly revisits the wellspring of Dickens' vast and wild imagination, to reveal, at long last, why his novels captured the hearts of 19th century readers – and why they continue to resonate today. A lively and insightful biographical celebration of the imaginative genius of Charles Dickens, published in commemoration of the 150th anniversary of his death; illustrated with 30 black-and-white images.

Biography PBK \$22.99