

Pulp Fiction

Nonfiction Catalogue July 2022

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Osprey military history

F4U Corsair versus A6M Zero-sen: Rabaul and the Solomons 1943-44

Duel 119

Glaringbould, Michael John & Hector, Gareth; Laurier, Jim (illustrators)

The aerial clashes between the iconic Corsair and Zero-sen translated into a contest of speed and altitude for the former, versus the latter's outstanding agility and range. Whilst the F4U Corsair eventually proved to be a superior fighter in Pacific operations, its introduction into combat in this theatre initially demonstrated its weaknesses. Indeed, the 'Saint Valentine's Day Massacre' debacle showcased exemplary Zero-sen fighter tactics, and American losses were of sufficient magnitude that further daylight missions toward Bougainville were discontinued until Allied fighter tactics could be improved. As a result, for the next two months the Corsair's combat results were much subdued. Indeed, the F4U only became a superb fighter when both its pilots and their commanders worked out how to deploy the gull-wing design effectively. Optimum circumstances for effective engagement did not always occur, and the Zero-sen remained effective against the Corsair until February 1944 in the South Pacific, after which all IJNAF fighter units vacated Rabaul. This book closely examines these two different fighters in the Solomons/Rabaul theatre, and the unique geographic conditions which shaped their deployment and effectiveness. It contains rare photographs and digital artwork that accurately showcases and aligns combats of both types, in the theatre, with unprecedented accuracy. Both sides vastly over claimed. With full access to IJNAF and US Navy/US Marine Corps records, these numbers will be presented accurately.

Aviation history PBK \$26.99

B-36 'Peacemaker' Units of the Gold War

Combat Aircraft 144

Davies, Peter E & Hector, Gareth; Laurier, Jim (illustrators)

A fully illustrated study into the extraordinary Convair B-36 during the Cold War. Conceived during 1941, in case Germany occupied Britain, when US bombers would then have insufficient range to retaliate, the B-36 was to be primarily a '10,000-mile bomber' with heavy defensive armament, six engines and a performance that would prevent interception by fighters. Although rapid developments in jet engine and high-speed airframe technology quickly made it obsolete, the B-36 took part in many important nuclear test programs. The aircraft also provided the US nuclear deterrent until the faster B-52 became available in 1955. It was one of the first aircraft to use substantial amounts of

magnesium in its structure, leading to the bomber's 'Magnesium Overcast' nickname. It earned many superlatives due to the size and complexity of its structure, which used 27 miles of wiring, had a wingspan longer than the Wright brothers' first flight, equivalent engine power to 400 cars, the same internal capacity as three five-room houses and 27,000 gallons of internal fuel – enough to propel a car around the world 18 times. Much was made of the fact that the wing was deep enough to allow engineers to enter it and maintain the engines in flight. B-36s continued in the bomber and reconnaissance role until their retirement in February 1959, following 11 years in SAC. Convair employees were invited to suggest names for the giant aircraft, eliciting suggestions such as 'King Kong Bomber', 'Condor', 'Texan' and 'Unbelievable', but the most popular was 'Peacemaker'. Oddly, objections from religious groups deterred the USAF from ever adopting it officially. This fully illustrated volume includes first-hand accounts, original photographs and up to 30 profile artworks depicting in detail the complexity of this superlative aircraft.

Aviation history PBK \$29.99

SU-152/ISU-152 vs Tiger: Eastern Front 1943-45

Duel 120

Greentree, David

This fully illustrated volume compares two of the most iconic AFVs: the SU-152/ISU-152 and the Tiger, used on the Eastern Front during World War II. On the Eastern Front in 1943, the Tiger-equipped heavy Panzer battalions gave German armoured divisions an unmatched capability that cost the Red Army dearly. The Tiger's 88mm gun had the potential to carve through Soviet defences in the attack and cause havoc amongst advancing Soviet armoured formations when used in defence. Neither of the Red Army's heavy tanks (the KV-1 and KV-2) could match the Tiger's gun, and, more importantly, penetrate its armour at anything approaching standard combat range. The Soviet response was a stopgap Tiger-killing vehicle that mounted a 152mm artillery piece onto the KV tank's chassis: the SU-152. The latter would evolve into the ISU-152 in late 1943 (mounting the same powerful gun on an IS chassis). This fascinating book describes the mighty duels fought between these opposing AFVs. The colour illustrations explore key details of both the SU-152/ISU-152 and Eastern Front Tigers, including armament, ammunition and crew positions, and the period photographs show rarely seen views of these iconic AFVs in action. How each attempted to best the other using its strengths and advantages is documented across a wide range of dramatic Eastern Front armoured battles.

Military history PBK \$29.99

East China Sea 1945: Climax of the Kamikaze Campaign 375

Herder, Brian Lane

& Tooby, Adam (illustrator)

This study describes the air-sea offensive supporting the ground-force invasions of Iwo Jima and Okinawa in February and April 1945, which led to the sinking of the *Yamato* and the onslaught of the Japanese kamikaze. During the Pacific War, the island invasions of Iwo Jima and Okinawa were the last two major ground campaigns. By the time these took place in early 1945, the US Navy had reached an exceptional level of coordination in its amphibious operations, and was able to overrun and subdue Japanese territories efficiently. Faced with the increasing might of these forces and to prevent further defeat, Imperial Japan deployed its kamikaze aircraft and attacked many US heavy aircraft carriers and destroyers; several were sunk, while others were knocked out of the war. This superbly illustrated book explores the air-sea aspects of the pivotal battles that took place, and includes the 'death ride' of the Japanese battleship *Yamato* (the largest ever built), and the mass kamikaze attacks off Iwo Jima and Okinawa, as well as the Iwo Jima and Okinawa amphibious invasions and the naval and air bombardments of the two islands. It also considers the contribution of the USAAF and the British Pacific Fleet to the eventual victory of US air and ground forces.

Aviation history PBK \$32.99

Warships in the Baltic Campaign 1918-20:

the Royal Navy takes on the Bolsheviks
New Vanguard 305

Konstam, Angus

& Tooby, Adam (illustrator)

A fascinating look at the British naval intervention in the Baltic in 1918-20, and at the British, Soviet, and Baltic nationalist fleets that fought. Following the Russian Revolution of October 1917, the Baltic states became a battleground between Russian Reds and Whites, German troops and emerging Baltic independence forces. In November 1918, the British government decided to intervene, to protect British interests and to support the emerging Baltic states. This initial small force of cruisers and destroyers was eventually augmented by other British warships, including aircraft carriers, a monitor, as well as a handful of submarines and torpedo boats. Opposing them was the far more powerful Russian Baltic Fleet, now controlled by the Bolsheviks. The campaign that followed involved naval clashes between the two sides, the most spectacular of which was an attack on the Soviet naval base of Kronstadt in June 1919 by a force of small British torpedo boats. They torpedoed and sunk the Russian cruiser *Oleg*, an action which effectively bottled the Baltic fleet up in port for the

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Until next time, good reading!
Ron and Leanne

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

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remainder of the campaign. Finally, in early 1920, the British squadron was withdrawn, following Soviet recognition of Estonia, Latvia, and Lithuania. This New Vanguard title explores the naval side of this little-known but strategically crucial campaign fought by the war-weary navies of Britain and Russia and by warships of the emerging Baltic states. Describing the political background to the conflict, and the key points of the naval campaign as well as the warships involved, this is a concise and fascinating account of an overlooked naval campaign that helped reshape the map of Europe.

Naval history PBK \$22.99

Z Special Unit: the Elite Allied World War II Guerrilla Force

general military

Mortimer, Gavin

Leading expert Gavin Mortimer tells the remarkable origin story of a wartime special forces unit that defied the odds. Z Special Unit, one of the most intrepid but arguably the most unsung of Allied Special Forces of the Second World War waged a guerrilla war against Japan for two years in the southwest Pacific. On some of their 81 operations Z Special Unit slipped into enemy harbours in canoes and silently mined ships before vanishing into the night; on others they parachuted into the dense Borneo jungle to fight with head hunters against the Japanese and on one occasion they landed on an Indonesian island and smuggled out the pro-Allied sultan from under Japanese noses. The Japanese weren't the only adversary that Z Special Unit encountered in the brutal terrain of the Pacific. In the mango swamps of Borneo and the dense jungle of Papua New Guinea they were faced with venomous snakes, man-eating crocodiles and deadly diseases. But it was the enemy soldiers who

proved the most ruthless foe, beheading those Z Special Unit commandos who fell into their hands. Drawing on veteran interviews as well as operational reports and recently declassified SOE files, Gavin Mortimer explores the incredible history of this remarkable special forces unit and the band of commandoes that defied the odds.

Military history HC \$49.99

The U-Boat War: a Global History 1939-45

general military

Paterson, Lawrence

The accepted historical narrative of the Second World War predominantly assigns U-boats to the so-called 'Battle of the Atlantic', almost as if the struggle over convoys between the new world and the old can be viewed in isolation from simultaneous events on land and in the air. This has become an almost accepted error. The U-boats war did not exist solely between 1940 and 1943, nor did the Atlantic battle occur in seclusion from other theatres of action. The story of Germany's second U-boat war began on the first day of hostilities with Britain and France and ended with the final torpedo sinking on 7 May 1945. U-boats were active in nearly every theatre of operation in which the Wehrmacht served, and within all but the Southern Ocean. Moreover, these deployments were not undertaken in isolation from one another; instead, they were frequently interconnected in what became an increasingly inefficient German naval strategy. This fascinating new book places each theatre of action in which U-boats were deployed into the broader context of the Second World War in its entirety while also studying the interdependence of the various geographic deployments. It illustrates the U-boats' often direct relationship with land, sea, and aerial campaigns of both the Allied

and Axis powers, dispels certain accepted mythologies, and reveals how the ultimate failure of the U-boats stemmed as much from chaotic German military and industrial mismanagement as it did from Allied advances in code-breaking and weaponry.

Naval history HC \$49.99

When the Shooting Stopped: August 1945

general military

Tillman, Barrett

The End of the Japanese Empire... In the 44 months between December 1941 and August 1945, the Pacific Theatre absorbed the attention of the American nation and military longer than any other. Despite the Allied grand strategy of 'Germany first', after the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor, the US especially was committed to confronting Tokyo as a matter of urgent priority. But from Oahu to Tokyo was a long, sanguinary slog, averaging an advance of just three miles per day. The US human toll paid, on that road, reached some 108,000 battle deaths, more than one third of the US wartime total. But by the summer of 1945 on both the American home front and on the frontline there was hope. The stunning announcements of atomic bombs on Hiroshima and Nagasaki on August 6 and 9 seemed sure to force Tokyo over the tipping point since the Allies' surrender demand from Potsdam, Germany, in July. What few understood was the vast gap in the cultural ethos of East and West at that time. In fact, most of the Japanese cabinet refused to surrender and vicious dogfights were still waged in the skies above Japan. This fascinating new history tells the dramatic story of the final weeks of the war, detailing the last brutal battles on air, land, and sea with evocative first-hand accounts from pilots and sailors caught up in these extraordinary events. Barrett Tillman then

expertly details the first weeks of a tenuous peace and the drawing of battle lines with the forthcoming Cold War as Soviet forces concluded their invasion of Manchuria. When the Shooting Stopped retells these dramatic events, drawing on accounts from all sides to relive the days when the war finally ended, and the world was forever changed.

Military history HC \$49.99

Walther Pistols: PP, PPK and P 38

Weapon 82

Walter, John & Hook, Adam; Gilliland, Alan (illustrators)

While the PP and PPK were intended for police work, the Walther P 38 was produced for the Germany military; all three pistols have garnered a formidable international reputation since the 1930s. The innovative Walther PP (Polizeipistole), a double-action semi-automatic pistol intended for the law-enforcement market, became available in 1929 and went on to arm the police of several European countries in the 1930s. Its smaller cousin the PPK, more readily concealed for undercover work but with reduced magazine capacity, was produced from 1931. Intended to replace the P 08 Luger, the Walther P 38 was issued from 1940 and equipped the armed forces of Germany and other countries during and after World War II, but never entirely replaced the Luger in German service. All three pistols went on to have lengthy and varied service across the world after 1945. Both the PP and the PPK remain in production today, while the P 38 re-emerged as the P1 and equipped West German forces from 1963 until 2004, when it was replaced by the P8. In this study, noted authority John Walter assesses the origins, development, use and legacy of these three high-profile semi-automatic pistols, alongside other Walther variants, such as the tiny.25 ACP Modell 9.

Military history PBK \$29.99

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General nonfiction

The Pattern Seekers:

a New Theory of Human Invention

Baron-Cohen, Simon

Why can humans alone invent? In this book, psychologist and world-renowned autism expert Simon Baron-Cohen puts forward a bold new theory: because we can identify patterns, specifically *if-and-then* patterns. And he argues that the genes for this unique ability overlap with the genes for autism. From the first musical instrument to the agricultural, industrial, and digital revolutions, Baron-Cohen shows how this unique ability has driven human progress for 70,000 years. By linking one of our greatest human strengths with a condition that is so often misunderstood, *The Pattern Seekers* challenges us to think differently about those who think differently.

Science PBK \$22.99

Human Frontiers:

the Future of Big Ideas in an Age of Small Thinking

Bhaskar, Michael

A provocative, exciting exploration of the future of ideas – and the history of technological and cultural progress that has taken us to, today. Where next for humanity? Is our future one of endless improvement in all areas of life, from technology and travel to medicine, movies, and music? Or are our best years behind us? It's easy to assume that the story of modern society is one of consistent, radical progress, but this is no longer true: more academics are researching than ever before but their work leads to fewer breakthroughs; innovation is incremental, limited to the digital sphere; the much-vaunted cure for cancer remains elusive; space travel has stalled since the heady era of the moonshot; politics is stuck in a rut, and the creative industries seem trapped in an ongoing cycle of rehashing genres and classics. The most ambitious ideas now struggle. Our great-great-grandparents saw a series of transformative ideas revolutionise almost everything in just a few decades. Today, in contrast, short termism, risk aversion, and fractious decision making leaves the landscape timid and unimaginative. In *Human Frontiers*, Michael Bhaskar draws a vividly entertaining and expansive portrait of humanity's relationship with big ideas. He argues that stasis at the frontier is the result of having already pushed so far, taken easy wins and started to hit limits. But new thinking is still possible. By adopting bold global approaches, deploying cutting edge technology like AI and embracing a culture of change, we can push through and expand afresh. Perfect for anyone who has wondered why we haven't gone further, this book shows in fascinating detail how the 21st century could stall – or be the most revolutionary time in human history.

Futurism PBK \$24.99

The Secrets of Character:

Writing a Hero Anyone Will Love

Bird, Matt

An insightful and actionable guide to creating a hero that readers will fall in love with, from the author of *The Secrets of Story* (TP, \$40.00). The hardest, yet most essential, element of writing great fiction is character – specifically, creating a central

hero who is relatable, compelling, and worth the reader's precious time. In this entertaining and practical guide, popular blogger, writing coach and screenwriter Matt Bird breaks down what makes characters embraceable and unforgettable, and presents insider tips and tricks for writers of all levels and genres. Generously packed with examples from popular books and movies analysed with engaging specificity, this expert guide reveals what makes audiences believe, care, and invest in great characters – and how to bring your own characters vividly to life.

Writing TP \$29.99

Ways of Being:

Beyond Human Intelligence

Bridle, James

A mind-bending exploration of non-human intelligence, and how it holds the keys to our continuing life on earth. What does it mean to be intelligent? Is it something unique to humans – or do we share it with other beings? Recent years have seen rapid advances in 'artificial' intelligence, which increasingly appears to be something stranger than we ever imagined. At the same time, we are becoming more aware of the other intelligences which have been with us all along, unrecognised. These other beings are the animals, plants, and natural systems that surround us, and are slowly revealing their complexity and knowledge – just as the new technologies we've built are threatening to cause their extinction, and ours. In *Ways of Being*, writer and artist James Bridle considers the fascinating, uncanny and multiple ways of existing on earth. What can we learn from these other forms of intelligence and personhood, and how can we change our societies to live more equitably with one another and the non-human world? From Greek oracles to octopuses, forests to satellites, Bridle tells a radical new story about ecology, technology and intelligence. We must, they argue, expand our definition of these terms to build a meaningful and free relationship with the non-human, one based on solidarity and cognitive diversity. We have so much to learn, and many worlds to gain.

Science HC \$45.00

Dead in the Water:

Murder and Fraud in the World's Most Secretive Industry

Campbell, Matthew & Chellel, Kit

Inside the corrupt and secret business of global shipping, the explosive true story of a notorious international fraud and murder. In July 2011, the oil tanker *Brillante Virtuoso* was drifting through the treacherous Gulf of Aden, when a crew of pirates attacked and set her ablaze in a devastating explosion. But when David Mockett, a maritime surveyor working for Lloyd's of London, inspected the damaged vessel, he was left with more questions than answers. Soon after his inspection, he was murdered. *Dead in the Water* is a shocking expose of the criminal inner workings of international shipping, an old-world industry at the backbone of our global economy. Through first-hand accounts of those who lived the hijacking – from members of the ship's crew and witnesses to the attacks, to the ex-London detectives turned private investigators seeking to solve

Mockett's murder – award-winning reporters Matthew Campbell and Kit Chellel piece together the astounding truth behind one of the most brazen financial frauds in history.

Economics/True crime TP \$32.99

First Light:

Switching on Stars at the Dawn of Time

Chapman, Emma

Astronomers have successfully observed a great deal of the Universe's history, from recording the afterglow of the Big Bang to imaging thousands of galaxies, and even to visualising an actual black hole. There's a lot for astronomers to be smug about. But when it comes to understanding how the Universe began and grew up, we are literally in the dark ages. In effect, we are missing the first one billion years from the timeline of the Universe. This brief but far-reaching period in the Universe's history, known to astrophysicists as the 'Epoch of Reionisation', represents the start of the cosmos as we experience it today. The time when the very first stars burst into life, when darkness gave way to light. After hundreds of millions of years of dark, uneventful expansion, one by one these stars suddenly came into being. This was the point at which the chaos of the Big Bang first began to yield to the order of galaxies, black holes and stars, kick-starting the pathway to planets, to comets, to moons, and to life itself. Incorporating the very latest research into this branch of astrophysics, this book sheds light on this time of darkness, telling the story of these first stars, hundreds of times the size of the Sun and a million times brighter, lonely giants that lived fast and died young in powerful explosions that seeded the Universe with the heavy elements that we are made of. Emma Chapman tells us how these stars formed, why they were so unusual, and what they can teach us about the Universe today. She also offers a first-hand look at the immense telescopes about to come on line to peer into the past, searching for the echoes and footprints of these stars, to take this period in the Universe's history from the realm of theoretical physics towards the wonder of observational astronomy.

Science PBK \$19.99

How to Write a Mystery:

a Handbook from Mystery Writers of America

Child, Lee & King, Laurie R (editors)

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 Charlene 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?' This inclusive manual provides practical, current, easily digestible advice for new and established authors, alike.

Writing TP \$29.99

Coward:

Why We Get Anxious and

What We Can Do About It

Clare, Tim

Blending memoir, self help, and science, and offering practical help, Tim Clare asks us to rethink anxiety. Tim Clare has suffered from anxiety and panic attacks for over a decade. At their worst, his attacks would see him curled on the floor, screaming to his wife for help. When they became more than he and his family could manage, Tim made a promise to himself – he would try everything he could to get better, every method and medicine. In *Coward*, Tim Clare explores all the possible treatments for anxiety, from SSRIs to hypnosis, running to extreme diets. He interviews experts and becomes a guinea pig, testing their methods on himself. At the end of a year of many ups and downs, Tim discovers what helps him (and what doesn't), and what might help others. Most of all, he comes to rethink anxiety and encourages all of us to do the same.

Science HC \$34.99

Game Theory:

Understanding the Mathematics of Life

Clegg, Brian

Brian Clegg was always fascinated by Isaac Asimov's classic Foundation series of books, in which the future is predicted using sophisticated mathematical modelling of human psychology and behaviour. Only much later did he realise that Asimov's 'psychohistory' had a real-world equivalent: game theory. Originating in the study of probabilistic gambling games that depend on a random source – the throw of a dice or the toss of a coin – game theory soon came to be applied to human interactions: essentially, what was the best strategy to win, whatever you were doing? Its mathematical techniques have been applied, with varying degrees of wisdom, to fields such as economics, evolution, and questions such as how to win a nuclear war. Clegg delves into game theory's colourful history and significant findings, and shows what we can all learn from this oft-misunderstood field of study.

Science PBK \$19.99

Sea Fever:

a Seaside Companion – from buoys and bowlines to selkies and setting sail

Clothier, Meg & Chris

Everything you need to know about the sea and shore, from high tides to half-hitches. Can you interpret the shipping forecast? Do you know your flotsam from your jetsam? Or who owns the foreshore? Can you tie a half-hitch – or would you rather splice the mainbrace? Full of charming illustrations

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and surprising facts, *Sea Fever* provides the answers to all these and more. Mixing advice on everything from seasickness to rigging a capsized boat with arcane marine lore, recipes, history, dramatic stories of derring-do and guides to the wildlife we share our shores with, even the most experienced ocean-dweller will find something in these pages to surprise and delight.

Maritime miscellany PBK \$22.99

The Biggest Number in the World:

a Journey to the Edge of Mathematics
Darling, David & Banerjee, Agnijo
From cells in our bodies to measuring the universe, big numbers are everywhere. We all know that numbers go on forever, that you could spend your life counting and never reach the end of the line, so there can't be such a thing as a 'biggest number'. Or can there? To find out, David Darling and Agnijo Banerjee embark on an epic quest, revealing the answers to questions like: are there more grains of sand on Earth or stars in the universe? Is there enough paper on Earth to write out the digits of a googolplex? And what is a googolplex? Then things get serious. Enter the strange realm between the finite and the infinite, and float through a universe where the rules we cling to no longer apply. Encounter the highest number computable and infinite kinds of infinity. At every turn, a cast of wild and wonderful characters threatens the status quo with their ideas, and each time the numbers get larger.
Science PBK \$24.99

The Greywacke:

How a Priest, a Soldier and a Schoolteacher Uncovered 300 Million Years of History
Davidson, Nick
The story of three 19th-century geologists whose fraternal rivalry ended up rewriting the history of our planet. Adam Sedgwick was a priest and scholar. Roderick Murchison was a retired soldier. Charles Lapworth was a schoolteacher. It was their personal and intellectual rivalry, pursued on treks through Wales, Scotland, Cornwall, Devon and parts of western Russia, that revealed the narrative structure of the Palaeozoic Era, the 300-million-year period during which life on Earth became recognisably itself. Nick Davidson follows in their footsteps and draws on maps, diaries, letters, field notes and contemporary accounts to bring the ideas and characters alive. But this is more than a history of geology. As we travel through some of the most spectacular scenery in Britain, it's a celebration of the sheer visceral pleasure generations of geologists have found, and continue to find, in noticing the earth beneath our feet.
History/Science PBK \$22.99

How Religion Evolved and Why It Endures Dunbar, Robin

A fascinating analysis of the evolution of religion from the internationally-renowned evolutionary psychologist. When did humans develop spiritual thought? What is religion's evolutionary purpose? And in our increasingly secular world, why has it

endured? Every society in the history of humanity has lived with religion. In *How Religion Evolved*, evolutionary psychologist Professor Robin Dunbar tracks its origins back to what he terms the 'mystical stance' – the aspect of human psychology that predisposes us to believe in a transcendent world, and which makes an encounter with the spiritual possible. As he explores world religions and their many derivatives, as well as religions of experience practised by hunter-gatherer societies since time immemorial, Dunbar argues that this instinct is not a peculiar human quirk, an aberration on our otherwise efficient evolutionary journey. Rather, religion confers an advantage: it can benefit our individual health and wellbeing, but, more importantly, it fosters social bonding at large scale, helping hold fractious societies together. Dunbar suggests these dimensions might provide the basis for an overarching theory for why and how humans are religious, and so help unify the myriad strands that currently populate this field. Drawing on path-breaking research, clinical case studies and fieldwork from around the globe, as well as stories of charismatic cult leaders, mysterious sects, and lost faiths, *How Religion Evolved* offers a fascinating and far-reaching analysis of this quintessentially human impulse – to believe.
History HC \$47.99

Doom: the Politics of Catastrophe Ferguson, Niall

A provocative, original, and compelling history of catastrophes and their consequences. Disasters are by their very nature hard to predict. Pandemics, like earthquakes, wildfires, financial crises, and wars, are not normally distributed; there is no cycle of history to help us anticipate the next catastrophe. But when disaster strikes, we ought to be better prepared than the Romans were when Vesuvius erupted or medieval Italians when the Black Death struck. We have science on our side, after all. Yet, the responses of a number of developed countries to a new pathogen from China were badly bungled. Why? The facile answer is to blame poor leadership. While populist rulers have certainly performed poorly in the face of the pandemic, more profound problems have been exposed by COVID-19. Only when we understand the central challenge posed by disaster in history can we see that this was also a failure of an administrative state and of economic elites that had grown myopic over much longer than just a few years. Why were so many Cassandras for so long ignored? Why did only some countries learn the right lessons from SARS and MERS? Why do appeals to 'the science' often turn out to be mere magical thinking? Drawing from multiple disciplines, including history, economics, public health and network science, *Doom: The Politics of Catastrophe* is a global post mortem for a plague year. Drawing on preoccupations that have shaped his books for some 20 years, Niall Ferguson describes the pathologies that have done us so much damage: from imperial hubris to bureaucratic sclerosis and online schism. COVID-19 was a test failed by countries who must learn some serious lessons from history if they are to avoid the doom of irreversible decline.
Politics PBK \$26.99

A History of the Universe in 100 Stars Freistetter, Florian

Stars have always fascinated people. Astronomer Florian Freistetter tells the stories of the stars – past, present and future. From the Big Bang to the Gaia Mission, this is a very personal history of the universe through the author's favourite 100 stars. Astronomer Florian Freistetter has chosen 100 stars that have almost nothing in common. Some are bright and famous, some shine so feebly you need a huge telescope. There are big stars, small stars, nearby stars and faraway stars. Some died a while ago, others have not even yet come into being. Collectively, they tell the story of the whole world, according to Freistetter. There is Algol, for example, the Demon Star, whose strange behaviour has long caused people sleepless nights. And Gamma Draconis, from which we know that the earth rotates around its own axis. There is also the star sequence 61 Cygni, which revealed the size of the cosmos to us. Then there are certain stars used by astronomers to search for extraterrestrial life, to explore interstellar space travel, or to explain why the dinosaurs became extinct. In 100 short, fascinating and entertaining chapters, Freistetter not only reveals the past and future of the cosmos, but also the story of the people who have tried to understand the world in which we live.
Science PBK \$22.99

The Secret World of Weather: How to Read Signs in Every Cloud, Breeze, Hill, Street, Plant, Animal, and Dewdrop Gooley, Tristan

The weather changes as we walk around a tree or turn down a street. There is a secret world of weather – one that we all live in, but very few see. Each day we pass dozens of small weather signs that reveal what the weather is doing all around us – and what is about to happen. The clues are easy to spot when you know how, but remain invisible to most people. In *The Secret World of Weather* you'll discover the simple rules that explain the weather signs. And you'll learn rare skills that enhance every minute you spend outdoors, whether you are in a town, on a beach or in a wilder spot. Tristan Gooley knows how to decode the phenomena and signs to look for. As he says, 'I want you to get to know these signs as I have, as characters. By studying their habits and behaviours, the signs come to life and the meaning reveals itself. From this flows an ability to read what is happening and what is about to happen'. This is the ultimate guide to exploring an undiscovered world, one that hides in front of our eyes.
Science PBK \$24.99

London's Railway Stations Green, Oliver

An illustrated historical tour of London's 13 great railway termini, on a clockwise circuit from Paddington to Victoria. London's railway termini are among the most recognisable and familiar landmarks in the city. Famed for their bustling platforms and architectural innovation, they comprise a fascinating mixture of Neo-Gothic exuberance and purposeful modernity. Though each owes its existence to a long-extinct Victorian railway company, these stations continue to be central to London

life, with millions of visitors passing through every year. This historical whistlestop tour takes you on a circuit of London's thirteen great railway termini, from Paddington, through King's Cross, to Victoria. Ranging from the earliest stations to the latest restorations and ongoing developments, this beautifully illustrated book examines both their legacy and their future.
History/Transport PBK \$19.99

Burning Steel:

a Tank Regiment at War, 1939–45
Hart, Peter
A close-up at the sharp end of armoured warfare. This is the story of a tank regiment: the 2nd Fife and Forfar Yeomanry in the Second World War. Raw and visceral personal recollections from the men themselves recall some of the most dramatic and horrific scenes imaginable – the sheer nerve-wracking tension of serving in highly inflammable Sherman tanks, the desperate scramble to bail out, and the awful fate of those who couldn't. Even if they made it out of the tank, they were still vulnerable to being brutally cut down by German infantry. Yet, amidst these horrors, the humanity of these men shines through. And as we follow in their tracks, through letters, diaries, and eyewitness accounts, they will change how we think about tank warfare forever.
Military history HC \$49.99

The War Game:

Australian war leadership from Gallipoli to Iraq
Horne, David
Why Australia has gone to war nine times in a century, and how its political and defence force leaders have handled the greatest challenge a nation can face. Committing the nation to war is the gravest decision its leaders can make. *The War Game* examines why and how Australia went to war, and how it managed the nation's nine conflicts between the First World War and the Iraq War. It explores the relationships between some of the most dominant political leaders in Australian history – Billy Hughes, Robert Menzies, John Curtin, Harold Holt, John Gorton, Bob Hawke, and John Howard – and their top military commanders, including William Birdwood, John Monash, Brudenell White, Thomas Blamey, Vernon Sturdee, Douglas MacArthur, Sydney Rowell, Frederick Scherger, John Wilton, Peter Gration, and Peter Cosgrove. *The War Game* raises important questions about the process of war leadership. Should political leaders leave the conduct of the war to their top military commanders, or should they interfere? Have Australia's war leaders always made wise decisions? Given that Australia has always fought as a junior partner in a coalition, either within the British Empire or as part of the US alliance, how should Australia's leaders manage these alliance arrangements? And how should Australia's future war leaders prepare for the tasks ahead? Ultimately, it is the soldiers, their families, and the people of Australia, who bear the burden imposed by the decisions of the war leaders. Based on exhaustive research, *The War Game* is about the greatest challenges likely to face Australia's leaders.
Military history TP \$45.00

Pulp Fiction

Nonfiction July 2022 (continued)

Eve of Destruction:

the inside story of our dangerous nuclear world

Hughes-Wilson, John

Leading military historian, John Hughes-Wilson exposes just how close we have come to genuine nuclear disaster, military and civilian, on many occasions. 'It is certainly a good thing for the world that Hitler's crowd or Stalin's did not discover this atomic bomb. It seems to be the most terrible thing ever discovered' – US President Harry S Truman. Truman evidently understood the terrifying power of atomic weaponry, but no one could have realised its full potential when he ordered the bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki in August 1945. Those military attacks, along with the disasters at the Fukushima and Chernobyl nuclear reactors, might immediately spring to mind at the mention of nuclear destruction; but the vast majority of the events recorded in this book are entirely unknown to most people. This book records the facts – many of them still shrouded in secrecy – which show a worrying truth: we have teetered precariously on the brink of Armageddon far more frequently than the general public realises. Since that first and last atomic war in 1945, there have been a terrifying number of nuclear accidents and mishaps, from the careless or accidental to the genuinely intentional and only narrowly averted. Despite the catastrophic nature of any nuclear conflict, we have come to the very borders of such a situation ten times since the 1960s. Most people know about the Cuba Missile Crisis, and a few about Operation Able Archer in 1984, which, if anything, was even more frightening than Cuba, but there have been eight other occasions that might easily have toppled over into outright war. These were potential conflicts; but there have been other accidents, such as the reactor meltdown at the nuclear generating plant at Three Mile Island, Pennsylvania, in 1979, or the 'Palomares Incident' in 1966, when a USAF B-52 bomber crashed after a mid-air collision, dropping four hydrogen bombs on Spanish soil... *Eve of Destruction* is a warning from history – recent history. It is a call to sit up and listen, and to take note of the very real danger of nuclear catastrophe. It is a timely and important book because, after all, the future of our planet has to concern us all.

History/Science PBK \$22.99

The History of the Computer:

People, Inventions, and Technology that Changed Our World

Ignatofsky, Rachel

A strikingly illustrated overview of the computing machines that have changed our world – from the abacus to the smartphone – and the people who made them, by the bestselling author and illustrator of *Women in Science*. Computers are everywhere and have impacted our lives in so many ways. But who created them, and why? How have they transformed the way that we interact with our surroundings and each other? Packed with accessible information, fun facts, and discussion starters, this charming and art-filled book takes you from the ancient world to the modern day, focusing on important inventions, from the earliest known counting systems to the sophisticated algorithms behind AI. *The History of the Computer*

also profiles a diverse range of key players and creators – from An Wang and Margaret Hamilton to Steve Jobs and Sir Tim Berners-Lee – and illuminates their goals, their intentions, and the impact of their inventions on our everyday lives. This entertaining and educational journey will help you understand our most important machines and how we can use them to enhance the way we live. You'll never look at your phone the same way again!

History/Science HC \$32.99

How the Mind Changed **Jebelli, Joseph**

The extraordinary story of how the human brain evolved by Royal Society Prize shortlisted neuroscientist, Dr Joseph Jebelli. No other life form on the planet has generated a brain like ours. How did a bundle of cells weighing just 1.2 kg give rise to conscious, self-aware beings capable of understanding time, language, mathematics and music, of exploring outer space and sequencing their own DNA? The answer to such questions is a seven-million-year saga. *How the Mind Changed* is the definitive book on human brain evolution: a sweeping natural history. Beginning with the first primate brain and the rise of our present-day, large human brain, it will describe the remarkable origin of our species' most mysterious organ, how it has developed, and how it will change in the future. To study the brain is to study the essence of what makes us human.

Science TP \$32.99

Powers and Thrones:

a New History of the Middle Ages
Jones, Dan

Dan Jones' epic new history tells nothing less than the story of how the world we know today came to be built. It is a 1000-year adventure that moves from the ruins of the once-mighty city of Rome, sacked by barbarians in AD 410, to the first contacts between the old and new worlds in the 16th century. It shows how, from a state of crisis and collapse, the West was rebuilt and came to dominate the entire globe. The book identifies three key themes that underpinned the success of the West: commerce, conquest and Christianity. Across 16 chapters, blending Dan Jones' trademark gripping narrative style with authoritative analysis, *Powers and Thrones* shows how, at each stage in this story, successive western powers thrived by attracting – or stealing – the most valuable resources, ideas and people from the rest of the world. It casts new light on iconic locations – Rome, Paris, Venice, Constantinople – and it features some of history's most famous and notorious men and women. This is a book written about – and for – an age of profound change, and it asks the biggest questions about the West both then and now. Where did we come from? What made us? Where do we go from here?

History PBK \$24.99

The Web of Meaning:

Integrating Science and Traditional Wisdom to Find Our Place in the Universe
Lent, Jeremy

A compelling foundation for a new story of interconnectedness, showing how, as our civilisation unravels, another world

is possible. As our civilisation careens towards a precipice of climate breakdown, ecological destruction and gaping inequality, people are losing their existential moorings. Our dominant worldview of disconnection, which tells us we are split between mind and body, separate from each other, and at odds with the natural world, has passed its expiration date. Yet, another world is possible. Award-winning author, Jeremy Lent, investigates humanity's age-old questions – *who am I? why am I? how should I live?* – from a fresh perspective, weaving together findings from modern systems thinking, evolutionary biology and cognitive neuroscience with insights from Buddhism, Taoism, and indigenous wisdom. The result is a breathtaking accomplishment: a rich, coherent worldview based on a deep recognition of connectedness within ourselves, between each other, and with the entire natural world.

Philosophy PBK \$24.99

Life is Simple

McFadden, John Joe

Life is Simple highlights the role of simplicity in science; in particular, its favourite tool, Occam's razor. *Life is Simple* tells the remarkable story of how a 13th century monk's search for simplicity led to the emergence of the modern world. We begin in the turbulent times of the medieval friar, William of Occam, who first articulated the principle that the best answer to any problem is the simplest. This theory, known as Occam's razor, cut through the thickets of medieval metaphysics to clear a path for modern science. We follow the razor in the hands of the giants of science, from Copernicus, to Kepler, Galileo, Newton, Darwin, Einstein, Ruben, and Higgs. Its success suggests that we live in the simplest possible habitable universe and supports the revolutionary theory that our cosmos has evolved. By highlighting the very human passion, curiosity, mistakes and struggles of those who were inspired by Occam's razor to create the modern world, John Joe McFadden provides new insight into what science is really about. And that the principle of simplicity is as relevant today as ever.

Science PBK \$24.99

Before the Big Bang:

The Origin of Our Universe from the Multiverse

Mersini-Houghton, Laura

Beyond the Big Bang presents a new cutting-edge theory from a pioneering scientist about the origins of our universe. Professor Laura Mersini-Houghton takes the reader through a brief history of ideas about the universe from ancient Greece to the latest frontiers of theory and observation, in which the author has been a leading participant, to bring us to her theory that our universe is not just one isolated phenomenon, but one of many, part of what she calls 'the multiverse'. Blending the personal with the theoretical, the book will explain in layman's terms Mersini-Houghton's theory of the origin of our universe and how she came to it. If Mersini-Houghton is proved to be right, the Big Bang theory will be just one other discredited theory and her new theories about the multiverse will

represent a paradigm shift as significant as the Copernican Revolution that upended the Ptolemaic model of the heavens, which described the cosmos as having the Earth as the centre of the universe. *Beyond the Big Bang* completes the story of the before and after the Big Bang by addressing key questions about the origin of the universe and what was there before.

Science TP \$35.00

Geography Is Destiny:

Britain and the World, a 10,000 Year History

Morris, Ian

The story of Britain, from its first moments as an island to its possible future. *Geography is Destiny* tells the history of Britain and its changing relationships with Europe and the wider world, from its physical separation at the end of the Ice Age to the first flickers of a United Kingdom, struggles for the Atlantic, and rise of the Pacific Rim. Applying the latest archaeological evidence, Ian Morris explores how geography, migration, government and new technologies interacted to produce regional inequalities that still affect us today. He charts Britain's geopolitical fortunes over thousands of years, revealing its transformation from a European satellite into a state at the centre of global power, commerce, and culture. But as power and wealth shift from West to East, does Britain's future lie with Europe, or the wider world?

History HC \$49.99

Together We Can:

Everyday Australians doing amazing things to give our planet a future

O'Rourke, Claire

Inspiring stories about people around Australia who are taking action on climate change, helping create a better future for our children and for the planet, while at the same time deepening connections with each other. Millions of Australians are quietly freaking out about the state of the planet, and Claire O'Rourke is one of them. We know the science is bad – we're signing petitions, recycling our garbage and switching our light bulbs – and we know so much more needs to be done. Australia is on the front lines. It's going to take a massive, all-hands-on-deck effort to turn this around, and it can be overwhelming thinking about where to start. *Together We Can* is an invitation to anyone worried about what climate change means for our future, and a challenge to reconnect with our communities. You can start small and simple and, before you know it, climate action is transformative, empowering and hopeful. Claire tells the stories of everyday people all around Australia who are already making a difference, and they come from every walk of life: food producers, sportspeople, financiers, psychologists, First Nations people, entrepreneurs, public servants, scientists, teachers, actors, farmers, students and retirees. Our fragmented modern lives have pulled us away from the relationships that nurture and inspire. These stories show how contributing to healing our world enriches our connections with each other, which is what we need to face uncertain times.

Science TP \$32.99

Pulp Fiction

Nonfiction July 2022 (continued)

Fantastic Numbers and Where to Find Them:

a Cosmic Quest from Zero to Infinity

Padilla, Antonio

A dazzling exploration of the strange and extreme numbers that illuminate the ultimate nature of reality. For particularly brilliant theoretical physicists like James Clerk Maxwell, Paul Dirac or Albert Einstein, the search for mathematical truths – via ever more mind-boggling numbers – led to strange new understandings of reality. But what are these mysterious numbers that explain the universe? In *Fantastic Numbers and Where to Find Them*, leading theoretical physicist and YouTube star Antonio Padilla takes us on an irreverent cosmic tour of nine of the most extraordinary numbers in physics. These include Graham's number, which is so large that if you thought about it in the wrong way, your head would collapse into a singularity; TREE(3), whose finite value could never be reached before the universe reset itself; and $10^{10^{120}}$, which measures the desperately unlikely balance of energy the universe needs to exist... Leading us down the rabbit hole to the inner workings of reality, Padilla demonstrates how these unusual numbers are the key to unlocking such mind-bending phenomena as black holes, entropy and the problem of the cosmological constant, which shows that our two best ways of understanding the universe contradict one another. Combining cutting-edge science with an entertaining cosmic quest, *Fantastic Numbers and Where to Find Them* is an electrifying, head-twisting guide to the most fundamental truths of the universe.

Science TP \$35.00

The Bright Ages:

a New History of Medieval Europe

Perry, David J

& Gabriele, Matthew

The word 'medieval' conjures images of the 'Dark Ages' – centuries of ignorance, superstition, stasis, savagery, and poor hygiene. But the myth of darkness obscures the truth; this was a remarkable period in human history. *The Bright Ages* recasts the European Middle Ages for what it was, capturing this 1,000-year era in all its complexity and fundamental humanity, bringing to light both its beauty and its horrors. *The Bright Ages* takes us through 10 centuries and criss-crosses Europe and the Mediterranean, Asia, and Africa, revisiting familiar people and events with new light cast upon them. We look with fresh eyes on the Fall of Rome, Charlemagne, the Vikings, the Crusades, and the Black Death, but also to the multi-religious experience of Iberia, the rise of Byzantium, and the genius of Hildegard and the power of queens. We begin under a blanket of golden stars constructed by an empress with Germanic, Roman, Spanish, Byzantine, and Christian bloodlines and end nearly 1,000 years later with the poet Dante – inspired by that same twinkling celestial canopy – writing an epic saga of heaven and hell that endures as a masterpiece of literature today. *The Bright Ages* reminds us just how permeable our manmade borders have always been and of what possible worlds the past has always made available to us. The Middle Ages may have been a world 'lit only by fire'

but it was one whose torches illuminated the magnificent rose windows of cathedrals, even as they stoked the pyres of accused heretics.

History HC \$52.99

Conspiracy:

a History of Bullshits Theories,

and How Not to Fall for Them

Phillips, Tom & Elledge, Jonn

Tom Phillips (*Humans; Truth* (PBK, \$22.99 each)) and Jonn Elledge (*The Compendium of Not Quite Everything* (HC, \$34.99)) team up to debunk the greatest conspiracy theories humans have ever espoused – to teach us how not to fall for them. From the Satanic Panic to the anti-vaxx movement, it's always been human nature to believe we're being lied to by the powers that be (and, sometimes, to be fair, we absolutely are). But while it can be fun to indulge in a bit of Deep State banter on the family Whatsapp group, recent times have shown us that some of these theories have taken on a life of their own – and in our dogged quest for the truth, it appears we might actually be doing it some damage. In *Conspiracy*, Tom Phillips and Jonn Elledge take us on a fascinating, insightful and often hilarious journey through conspiracy theories old and new, to try and answer an important question: how can we learn to log off the QAnon message boards, and start trusting hard evidence again?

Misinformation TP \$32.99

This Is Your Mind On Plants:

Opium, Caffeine, Mescaline

Pollan, Michael

From bestselling author Michael Pollan comes a radical challenge to how we think about drugs. Of all the many things humans rely on plants for, surely the most curious is our use of them to change consciousness: to stimulate, calm, or completely alter the qualities of our mental experience. In *This is Your Mind on Plants*, Michael Pollan explores three very different drugs – opium, caffeine and mescaline – and throws the fundamental strangeness of our thinking about them into sharp relief. Exploring and participating in the cultures that have grown up around these drugs, while consuming (or in the case of caffeine, trying not to consume) them, Pollan reckons with the powerful human attraction to psychoactive plants, and the equally powerful taboos. In a unique blend of history, science, memoir and reportage, Pollan shines a fresh light on a subject that is all too often treated reductively. In doing so, he proves that there is much more to say about these plants than simply debating their regulation, for when we take them into our bodies and let them change our minds, we are engaging with nature in one of the most profound ways we can. This ground-breaking and singular book holds up a mirror to our fundamental human needs and aspirations, the operations of our minds and our entanglement with the natural world.

Science PBK \$22.99

Lying Beside You

Cyrus Haven series

Robotham, Michael

Twenty years ago, Cyrus Haven's family was murdered. Only he and his brother survived. Cyrus, because he hid. Elias, because he was

the killer. Now, Elias is being released from a secure psychiatric hospital and Cyrus, a forensic psychologist, must decide if he can forgive the man who destroyed his childhood. As he prepares for the homecoming, Cyrus is called to a crime scene in Nottingham. A man is dead and his daughter, Maya, is missing. Then a second woman is abducted... The only witness is Evie Cormac, a troubled teenager with an incredible gift: she can tell when you are lying. Both missing women have dark secrets that Cyrus must unravel to find them – and he and Evie know better than anybody how the past can come back to haunt you...

Mystery/suspense TP \$32.99

Full Spectrum:

How the Science of Colour

Made Us Modern

Rogers, Adam

A lively account of our age-old quest for brighter colours, which changed the way we see the world. From Kelly Green to millennial pink, our world is graced with a richness of colours. But our human-made colours haven't always matched nature's kaleidoscopic array. To reach those brightest heights required millennia of remarkable innovation and a fascinating exchange of ideas between science and craft that's allowed for the most luminous manifestations of our built and adorned world. In *Full Spectrum*, Rogers takes us on that globe-trotting journey, tracing an arc from the earliest humans to our digitised, synthesised present and future. We meet our ancestors mashing charcoal in caves, Silk Road merchants competing for the best ceramics, and textile artists cracking the centuries-old mystery of how colours mix, before shooting to the modern era for high-stakes corporate espionage and the digital revolution that's rewriting the rules of colour forever. In prose as vibrant as its subject, Rogers opens the door to Oz, sharing the liveliest events of an expansive human quest – to make a brighter, more beautiful world.

Science TP \$41.95

Along the Amber Route:

St Petersburg to Venice

Schüler, C J

Portable and expensive, amber has always been a desirable commodity. C J Schüler follows the historic Amber Route from St Petersburg to Venice through three millennia of history. Throughout his journey, current politics and his own family's experience of persecution and flight are never far from his mind. As he traces the greatest fault lines of European geopolitics and explores lands contested by Romans and Vandals, Teutons and Slavs, empires and the former Iron Curtain, Schüler must also confront his family history, Nazism, and the Holocaust.

History TP \$32.95

What Is a Dog? a Memoir

Shaw, Chloe

Chloe Shaw is in a dog house of her own choosing. A married mother with kids, the death of Booker, her children's eldest family pet, has left her reeling and reckoning with her lifelong relationship with dogs. Unable to shake the feeling, a year later, she asks her family for some time alone to be with nothing

but her thoughts and remaining canines, Safari and Otter – only to find the dogs of her past pawing at her every memory and running, sticks in mouths, back into her life. What follows is a meditation on one woman's life through the dogs she's loved and lost. Since she was a child, Shaw had learned to escape the hardest parts of being human by immersing herself in the lives of her canine companions, an adaptive attachment that carried her to adulthood. Yet, in marriage and motherhood, Shaw finds herself facing her most human struggles yet. Her old ways of 'being the dog' in the face of hardship prove destructive, and it's not until she's able to love herself and learn from the dogs of her past and present that can she truly thrive as a person, and show up for the family who needs her to be their person. With artful prose and a philosophical touch, Shaw takes us on an emotional journey anyone who has ever loved and lost a dog will connect with – and discovers dogs do more than just make our lives better – they quietly (and sometimes loudly) pull us boldly toward the person we were always meant to be.

Dogs TP \$39.95

The Musical Human:

a History of Life on Earth

Spitzer, Michael

165 million years ago saw the birth of rhythm. 66 million years ago came the first melody. 40 thousand years ago, *Homo sapiens* created the first musical instrument.

Today, music fills our lives. How we have created, performed, and listened to music throughout history has defined what our species is and how we understand who we are. Yet, it is an overlooked part of our origin story. *The Musical Human* takes us on an exhilarating journey across the ages – from Bach to BTS and back – to explore the vibrant relationship between music and the human species. With insights from a wealth of disciplines, world-leading musicologist Michael Spitzer renders a global history of music on the widest possible canvas, from global history to our everyday lives, from insects to apes, humans to artificial intelligence.

History/Science PBK \$22.99

The Flame of Reason:

Clear Thinking for the Twenty-First Century

Sturmark, Christer

& Hofstadter, Douglas

In country after country, conspiracy theories and religious dogmas that once seemed to have been overtaken by enlightened thought are helping to lift authoritarian leaders into power. The effects are being felt by women, ethnic minorities, teachers, scientists, and students – and by the environment, the ultimate victim of climate change denial. We need clear thinking now more than ever. Christer Sturmark is a crusading secular humanist as well as a Swedish publisher and entrepreneur, and *The Flame of Reason* is his manifesto for a better world. It provides a set of simple tools for clear thinking in the face of populist dogmas, anti-science attitudes and pseudo-philosophy, and suggestions for how we can move towards a new enlightenment. From truth to Quantum Physics, moral philosophy to the Myers-

Pulp Fiction

Nonfiction July 2022 (continued)

Briggs test, Sturmark offers a passionate defence of rational thought, science, tolerance and pluralism; a warm and engaging guide for anyone who wants to better navigate the modern world. Co-written with and translated by Douglas Hofstadter, celebrated cognitive scientist, physicist and author of *Godel, Escher, Bach* (TP, \$35.00).

Philosophy HC \$49.99

The Digital Republic:

On Freedom and Democracy in the 21st Century

Susskind, Jamie

The time has come to deal with the unaccountable power of digital technology. Early efforts at regulation have been confused, contradictory and often counterproductive. No single person or government has a plan of action. In *The Digital Republic*, acclaimed author and barrister Jamie Susskind tackles one of the biggest political and social questions of our time. He explores how developments in AI, big data, social media and other technologies are having a profound effect on politics – and what that means for our societies. *The Digital Republic* is a call for political change, touching on the deepest issues of who we are and what we value most. He will take readers on a journey through a new system of ideas and governance – a digital republic – offering a vision of a world that is freer and fairer than our own. With a truly global outlook, Susskind's work is steeped in the tradition of republican thought, from ancient Greece and Rome to revolutionary France, illuminated by the most charismatic thinkers and ideas in European political history. Inspired by the great political essays of the past, from Rousseau's 'Social Contract', Mill's 'On Liberty' and Hamilton and Madison's 'Federalist Papers', *The Digital Republic* is a landmark work that will challenge us, as we look towards the future.

Impact of technology TP \$29.99

How to be Well Read:

a guide to 500 great novels and a handful of literary curiosities

Sutherland, John

A guide to the best novels ever written, and why they matter. Ranging all the way from *Aaron's Rod* to *Zuleika Dobson*, via *The Devil Rides Out* and *Middlemarch*, literary connoisseur and sleuth John Sutherland offers his very personal guide to the most rewarding, most remarkable and, on occasion, most shamelessly enjoyable works of fiction ever written. He brilliantly captures the flavour of each work and assesses its relative merits and demerits. He shows how it fits into a broader context and he offers endless snippets of intriguing information: did you know, for example, that the Nazis banned *Bambi* or that William Faulkner wrote *As I Lay Dying* on an upturned wheelbarrow; that Voltaire completed *Candide* in three days, or that Anna Sewell was paid £20 for *Black Beauty*? It is also effectively a history of the novel in 500 or so wittily informative, bite-sized pieces. Encyclopaedic and entertaining by turns, this is a wonderful dip-in book, whose opinions will inform and on occasion, no doubt, infuriate.

Reading PBK \$24.99

How to Feed a Dictator:

Saddam Hussein, Idi Amin, Enver Hoxha, Fidel Castro, and Pol Pot Through the Eyes of Their Cooks

Szablowski, Witold

A devastatingly-original look at the world's worst dictators, through the eyes of their personal chefs, by award-winning Polish author Witold Szablowski. What is it like to cook for the most dangerous men in the

world? In this darkly funny and fascinating book, Witold Szablowski travels across four continents, in search of the personal chefs of five dictators. From the savannahs of Kenya to the faded glamour of Havana, and the bombed-out streets of Baghdad, Szablowski finds the men and women who cooked fish soup for Saddam Hussein, roasted goat for Idi Amin, and chopped papaya salad for Pol Pot. He reveals the strangeness of a job where a single culinary mistake could be fatal, but a well-seasoned dish could change your life. And, in doing so, he lifts the veil on what life is like at the very heart of power.

History/Food PBK \$22.99

The Curse of Bigness:

How Corporate Giants Came to Rule the World

Wu, Tim

We're three decades into a global experiment: what happens when the major nations of the world weaken their control on the size and power of corporate giants and allow unrestricted expansion? In *The Curse of Bigness*, Tim Wu exposes the threats monopolies pose to economic stability and social freedom around the world. Aided by the globalisation of commerce and finance, in recent years we have seen takeovers galore that make a mockery of the ideals of competition and economic freedom. Such is the 'curse of bigness': stifled entrepreneurship, stalled productivity, dominant tech giants like Facebook and Google, and fewer choices for consumers. Urgent and persuasive, this bold manifesto argues that we need to rediscover the anti-monopoly traditions that brought great peace and prosperity in the past.

Economics PBK \$22.99

An Immense World:

How Animal Senses Reveal the Hidden Realms Around Us

Yong, Ed

A grand tour through the hidden realms of animal senses that will transform the way you perceive the world – from Pulitzer prize-winning journalist and bestselling author of *I Contain Multitudes* (PBK, \$22.99). The Earth teems with sights and textures, sounds and vibrations, smells and tastes, electric and magnetic fields. But every animal is enclosed within its own unique sensory bubble, perceiving only a tiny sliver of an immense world. This book welcomes us into previously unfathomable dimensions – the world as it is truly perceived by other animals. We encounter beetles that are drawn to fires, turtles that can track the Earth's magnetic fields, fish that fill rivers with electrical messages, and humans that wield sonar like bats. We discover that a crocodile's scaly face is as sensitive as a lover's fingertips, that plants thrum with the inaudible songs of courting bugs, and that even simple scallops have complex vision. We learn what bees see in flowers, what songbirds hear in their tunes, and what dogs smell on the street. We listen to stories of pivotal discoveries in the field, while looking ahead at the many mysteries which lie unsolved. Ed Yong coaxes us beyond the confines of our own senses, allowing us to perceive the threads of scent, waves of electromagnetism and pulses of pressure that surround us. Because, in order to understand our world, we don't need to travel to other places; we need to see through other eyes.

Science TP \$35.00