

Pulp Fiction

Nonfiction Catalogue July 2021

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Osprey military history

77 years of the Lockheed Martin Skunk Works

general aviation
Goodall, James C

The Lockheed Martin Skunk Works was founded in the summer of 1943, to develop a jet-powered high-altitude interceptor for the USAAF; ever since, it has been at the forefront of technological development in the world of aviation. From the XP-80 to the U-2, SR-71, F-117, F-22 and now the F-35, the Skunk Works team has designed aircraft that are the pinnacle of innovation and performance. *77 years of the Lockheed Martin Skunk Works* takes us through the history of this legendary facility from its foundation at the height of World War II under the talented engineer, Clarence 'Kelly' Johnson, through to the present day. Illustrated with over a thousand photographs and drawings, it details the 46 unclassified programmes developed by the Skunk Works, following them through prototype build up, first flight and, if they reached the frontline, operational service.

Aviation history HC \$90.00

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

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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

RAF Tornado Units of Gulf War I

Combat Aircraft 138
Napier, Michael
& Swiatlon, Janusz; Hector, Gareth (illustrators)

When the Gulf Crisis of 1990 was triggered by the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait, the RAF responded by sending Tornado F3 fighters to Saudi Arabia to help defend the country against further aggression. These aircraft were followed by the deployment of Tornado GR1 strike/attack aircraft to Bahrain. Eventually three wings of Tornado GR1s were established in Bahrain, Tabuk and Dhahran, as well as a detachment of Tornado GR1A reconnaissance aircraft. At the start of hostilities in January 1991, the Tornado GR1 wings carried out low-level, night attacks against Iraqi Main Operating Bases using the JP233 runway denial weapon. Meanwhile, Combat Air Patrols from the Tornado F3 wing ensured the integrity of Saudi airspace. Once air supremacy had been established, the Tornado GR1 force moved to medium-level operations, initially by night and later by

day, to attack the Iraqi oil production and storage infrastructure. The arrival in theatre of a laser designation capability with Pave Spike/Buccaneer and TIALD/Tornado enabled precision attacks against the Iraq transport system to cut off the frontline troops from resupply and reinforcement and then to carry out a systematic destruction of the airfield facilities. Tornado GR1A reconnaissance operations played a major role in the location of Scud missile launchers and in the planning and execution of the land offensive. Throughout the conflict, the Tornado F3 wing at Dhahran carried out defensive counter-air operations to ensure the safety of the base areas. This volume, published 30 years after the conflict to free Kuwait, provides detailed first-hand accounts of the missions undertaken by the Tornado crews. It is illustrated by photographs taken by aircrew involved in the operation and includes 30 newly-commissioned profile artworks and detailed nose art views of the aircraft ranged against Iraq.

Aviation history PBK \$29.99

General nonfiction

Twilight of Democracy:

the Failure of Politics and the Parting of Friends

Applebaum, Anne

In the years just before and after the fall of the Berlin Wall, people from across the political spectrum in Europe and America celebrated a great achievement, felt a common purpose and, very often, forged personal friendships. Yet, over the following decades the euphoria evaporated, the common purpose and centre ground gradually disappeared, extremism rose once more and eventually – as this book compellingly relates – the relationships soured too. Anne Applebaum traces this history in an unfamiliar way, looking at the trajectories of individuals caught up in the public events of the last three decades. When politics becomes polarised, which side do you back? If you are a journalist, an intellectual, a civic leader, how do you deal with the re-emergence of authoritarian or nationalist ideas in your country? When your leaders appropriate history, or pedal conspiracies, or eviscerate the media and the judiciary, do you go along with it? *Twilight of Democracy* is an essay that combines the personal and the political in an original way and brings a fresh understanding to the dynamics of public life in Europe and America, both now and in the recent past. 'How did our democracy go wrong? This extraordinary document, written with urgency, intelligence and understanding, is her answer' – *Timothy Snyder*.

Politics PBK \$22.99

Stalin's Wine Cellar

Baker, John & Place, Nick

The adventure of a lifetime to buy Stalin's secret multimillion dollar wine cellar located in Georgia; it is the *Raiders of the Lost Ark* of wine. In the late 1990s, John Baker was known as a purveyor of quality rare and old wines. Always entrepreneurial and up for adventure, he was the perfect person for an occasional business partner to approach with a mysterious wine list that was foreign to anything John, or his second-in-command, Kevin Hopko, had ever come across. The list was discovered to be a comprehensive catalogue of the wine collection of Nicholas II, the last Tsar of Russia. The wine had become the property of the state after the Russian Revolution of 1918, during which Nicholas and his entire family were executed. Now, owned by Stalin, the wine was discreetly removed to a remote Georgian winery – when Stalin was concerned the advancing Nazi army might overrun Russia, and inevitably loot artefacts and treasures. Half a century later, the wine was rumoured to be hidden underground and off any known map. John and Kevin embarked on an audacious, colourful, and potentially-dangerous journey to Georgia – to discover if the wines actually existed; if the bottles were authentic and whether the entire collection could be bought and transported to a major London auction house for sale.

Stalin's Wine Cellar is a wild, sometimes rough ride in the glamorous world of high-end wine. From Double Bay in Sydney to Tbilisi in Georgia, via the streets of Paris, the vineyards of Bordeaux and iconic Château d'Yquem. A multimillion-dollar cellar and a breathtaking collection of wine (and one very expensive broken bottle) is the elusive treasure. The cast of characters include Stalin, Hitler, Tsar Nicholas II, and a motley bunch of Georgian businessmen/cowboys toting handguns, in the early days of Russian business development that led to the world of Putin and oligarchs.

History PBK \$22.99

Autopia: the Future of Cars Bentley, Jon

Cars are one of the most significant human creations. They changed our cities. They changed our lives. They changed everything. But in the next thirty years, this technology will itself change enormously. If Google get their way, are we all going to be ferried around in tiny electric bubble-cars? Or will we watch robots race a bionic Lewis Hamilton? And what about the future of classic cars? In *Autopia*, presenter of *The Gadget Show* and former executive producer of *Top Gear* Jon Bentley celebrates motoring's rich heritage and meets the engineers (and coders) who are transforming cars forever. From mobile hotel rooms to electric battery technology; from hydrogen-powered cars to jetpacks,

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Autopia is the essential guide to the future of our greatest invention. Fully designed with illustrations and photographs, this will be the perfect gift for car and technology enthusiasts, everywhere.

Motoring PBK \$22.99

Strategy and the Second World War:

How the War was Won, and Lost

Black, Jeremy

A concise, accessible account of strategy and the Second World War. How the war was won... and lost... In 1941, the Second World War became global, when Nazi Germany attacked the Soviet Union; Japan attacked the United States at Pearl Harbour; and Germany declared war on the United States. In this timely book, which fills a real gap, Black engages with the strategic issues of the time – as they developed chronologically and interacted – and relates these to subsequent debates about the choices made, revealing their continued political resonances. Beginning with Appeasement and the Soviet-German pact as key strategic means, Black examines the consequences of the fall of France for the strategies of all the powers. He shows how Allied strategy making was more effective at the Anglo-American level than with the Soviet Union, not only for ideological and political reasons, but also because the Americans and British had a better grasp of the global dimension. He explores how German and Japanese strategies evolved as the war went badly for the Axis powers, and discusses the extent to which seeking to mould the post-war world informed Allied strategic choices from 1943 onwards, and the role these played in post-war politics, notably in the Cold War. Strategy was a crucial tool not only for conducting the war; it remains the key to understanding it today.

Military history TP \$34.99

Written in Bone:

Hidden Stories in What We Leave Behind

Black, Sue

From the world's foremost forensic anthropologist and author of *All That Remains*, an exploration – from skull to feet – of how our bones reveal what has happened to us in our lives. Our bones are the silent witnesses to the lives we lead. Our stories are marbled into their marrow. Drawing upon her years of research and a wealth of remarkable experience, the world-renowned forensic anthropologist Dame Sue Black takes us on a journey of revelation. From skull to feet, via the face, spine, chest, arms, hands, pelvis and legs, she shows that each part of us has a tale to tell. What we eat, where we go, everything we do leaves a trace, a message that waits patiently for months, years, sometimes centuries, until a forensic anthropologist is called upon to decipher it. Some of this information is easily understood, some holds its secrets tight and needs scientific cajoling to be released. But by carefully piecing together the evidence, the facts of a life can be rebuilt. Limb by limb, case by case – some criminal, some historical, some unaccountably bizarre – Dame Sue Black reconstructs with intimate sensitivity and compassion the hidden stories in what we leave behind.

Science PBK \$19.99

Orwell: a Man of Our Time

Bradford, Richard
One of the most popular and controversial writers of the 20th century, George Orwell's work is as relevant today as it was in his own lifetime. Possibly, in the age of Brexit, Trump, and populism, even more so. Doublethink features in *Nineteen Eighty-Four* and is the forerunner to Fake News. Orwell foresaw the creation of the EU and more significantly he predicted that post-Imperial xenophobia would cause Britain to leave it. His struggle with his own anti-Semitism could serve as a lesson to today's Labour Party and while the Soviet Union is gone, China has taken its place as a totalitarian superpower. Aside from his importance as a political theorist and novelist, Orwell's life is fascinating in its own right. Caught between uncertainty and his family's upper middle-class complacency, Orwell grew to despise the class system that spawned him despite finding himself unable to fully detach himself from it. His life thereafter mirrored the history of his country; like many from his background he devoted himself to socialism as a salve to his conscience. In truth, he reserved as much suspicion and distaste for the proles as he did pity. He died at the point when Britain's status as an Imperial and world power had waned, but his work remains both prescient and significant. *Orwell: A Man of Our Time* offers a vivid portrait of the man behind the writings, and places him and his work at the centre of the current political landscape.

Biography TP \$32.99

Australia's Dambusters:

Flying into Hell with 617 Squadron

Burgess, Colin
The story of 617 Squadron RAF, which carried out one of the most dangerous and audacious aerial bombing raids of World War II. It was the evening of 16 May 1943... Nineteen modified Lancaster bombers from 617 Squadron RAF, under the command of youthful Wing Commander Guy Gibson, roared into the night sky from their Lincolnshire base. They were on a top-secret Bomber Command mission, codenamed Operation *Chastise*, now regarded as one of the most dangerous and audacious bombing raids of World War II – an attack on the formidable, well-defended dams of Germany's Ruhr Valley. Slung beneath the belly of each aircraft was one of the war's greatest secrets – a bouncing bomb. Against the odds, and flying straight and level into the teeth of terrifying enemy fire, they succeeded in breaching the two principal dams. Many of the 133 airmen involved that fateful night hailed from Australia, and several would be counted among the 56 who would not return to base, next morning. The Dams Raid led to the men of this gallant company – often referred to as a suicide squadron – taking on even more hazardous operations in the final two years of the war. Under valourous leadership, and now armed with massive Tallboy and Grand Slam 'earthquake' bombs, they obliterated vital Nazi installations, destroying such defiant targets as the heavily defended Kembs Barrage and the German battleship *Tirpitz*, often at a terrible cost in lives. First published in 2003, this deeply researched, revised and updated edition of *Australia's Dambusters* offers a truly comprehensive

account of the most famous bombing raid of the war through the words and stories of the courageous Australian airmen and others who flew on this and later perilous missions, remembered and forever immortalised, as the Dambusters. A reissue.

Aviation history TP \$35.00

The Cartiers:

the Untold Story of the Family Behind the Jewellery Empire

Cartier Brickell, Francesca
The Cartiers is the revealing tale of a jewellery dynasty – four generations, from revolutionary France to the 1970s. At its heart are the three Cartier brothers whose motto was 'Never copy, only create' and who made their family firm internationally famous in the early days of the 20th century, thanks to their unique and complementary talents: Louis, the visionary designer who created the first men's wristwatch to help an aviator friend tell the time without taking his hands off the controls of his flying machine; Pierre, the master dealmaker who bought the New York headquarters on Fifth Avenue for a double-stranded natural pearl necklace; and Jacques, the globetrotting gemstone expert whose travels to India gave Cartier access to the world's best rubies, emeralds, and sapphires, inspiring the celebrated Tutti Frutti jewellery. Francesca Cartier Brickell, whose great-grandfather was the youngest of the brothers, has travelled the world researching her family's history, tracking down those connected with her ancestors and discovering long-lost pieces of the puzzle along the way. Now she reveals never-before-told dramas, romances, intrigues, betrayals, and more. *The Cartiers* also offers a behind-the-scenes look at the firm's most iconic jewellery – the notoriously cursed Hope Diamond, the Romanov emeralds, the classic panther pieces – and the long line of stars from the worlds of fashion, film, and royalty who wore them, from Indian maharajas and Russian grand duchesses to Wallis Simpson, Coco Chanel, and Elizabeth Taylor. Published in the 200th anniversary year of the birth of the dynasty's founder, Louis-François Cartier, this book is a magnificent, definitive, epic social history shown through the deeply personal lens of one legendary family.

Biography TP \$34.99

Symbols of the Occult

Chaline, Eric
This expansive, illustrated directory showcases the key signs and symbols of the occult. Each entry has been carefully selected for its powerful symbolism, and the stylish illustrations span from the myths and legends of the ancient world to the icons used in modern science. Award-winning author Eric Chaline introduces each topic with a short overview before featuring the key signs and symbols and exploring similar and related entries. Including signs from ancient Egypt and Mesopotamia, as well as Aztec, Celtic, Slavic, Native American, and Hindu societies, *Symbols of the Occult* examines more than 500 symbols from history, art, and culture by decoding their iconography and exploring their historical significance. Arranged by topic, this volume collects the key areas of astrology and cosmology; witchcraft and mysticism; Satanism and demonology; science and alchemy; math and sacred

geometry; the natural world; and symbols of ancient and secret societies. This guide is the ultimate resource for the modern occultist.

Occultism HC \$35.00

Sleight of Mind:

75 Ingenious Paradoxes in Mathematics, Physics, and Philosophy

Cook, Matt
Exploring more than 75 well-known paradoxes in mathematics, philosophy, physics, and the social sciences showing how reason and logic can dispel the illusion of contradiction. Paradox is a sophisticated kind of magic trick. A magician's purpose is to create the appearance of impossibility, to pull a rabbit from an empty hat. Yet, paradox doesn't require tangibles, like rabbits or hats. Paradox works in the abstract, with words and concepts and symbols, to create the illusion of contradiction. There are no contradictions in reality, but there can appear to be. In *Sleight of Mind*, Matt Cook and a few collaborators dive deeply into more than 75 paradoxes in mathematics, physics, philosophy, and the social sciences. As each paradox is discussed and resolved, Cook helps readers discover the meaning of knowledge and the proper formation of concepts – and how reason can dispel the illusion of contradiction.

Science HC \$39.99

Atlas of Improbable Places:

a Journey to the World's Most Unusual Corners

Elborough, Travis
Travis Elborough goes in search of the obscure and bizarre, the beautiful and arcane. His unique atlas shows you the modern world from surprising new vantage points. Discover the secret Soviet city of Zheleznogorsk and the church tower of San Juan Parangaricutiro, miraculously still standing as the sole survivor of a town sunk by lava. Explore the underground realms of Beijing and Berlin, dug for refuge and espionage, and the floating worlds of remote Palmerston and the macabre Island of Dolls. The truths and myths behind these hidden lairs, forgotten cities and improbable wonders are as varied as the destinations themselves. These curious places are not just extraordinary sights but reflections on our relationship with the world around us.

Geography PBK \$24.99

The Hitler Conspiracies:

the Third Reich and the Paranoid Imagination

Evans, Richard J
Renowned historian Richard Evans puts 'fake news' in historical perspective in this challenging and illuminating study... The idea that nothing happens by chance in history, that everything that occurs is the result of the secret machinations of malign groups of people behind the scenes, is as old as history itself. But conspiracy theories are becoming more widespread in the 21st century. Nowhere, have they become more obvious, than in revisionist accounts of the history of the Third Reich. Long-discredited conspiracy theories have taken on a new lease of life, given credence by claims of freshly discovered evidence and novel angles of investigation. This book takes five widely discussed claims involving Hitler and the Nazis and subjects them to forensic

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scrutiny: that the Jews were conspiring to undermine civilisation, as outlined in 'The Protocols of the Elders of Zion'; that the German army was 'stabbed in the back' by socialists and Jews in 1918; that the Nazis burned down the Reichstag in order to seize power; that Rudolf Hess' flight to the UK in 1941 was sanctioned by Hitler and conveyed peace terms suppressed by Churchill; and that Hitler escaped the bunker in 1945 and fled to South America. This is a history book, but it is a history book for the age of 'post truth' and 'alternative facts': a book for our own troubled times.

History PBK \$22.99

An Ugly Truth:

Inside Facebook's Battle for Domination **Frenkel, Sheera & Kang, Cecilia** *The Everything Store* meets *Too Big to Fail* in this intimate portrayal of the stumbling giant that is Facebook, by two New York Times journalists. In November 2018, the *New York Times* published a bombshell in-depth investigation that exposed, with disturbing insider detail, how leadership decisions at Facebook enabled, and then tried to cover up, massive privacy breaches and Russian meddling in the 2016 election. The story quickly shot to the top of the paper's most emailed list. It would earn the team of *Times*' reporters a prestigious Loeb award, the George Polk award, and a spot on the Pulitzer short list. But it only skimmed the surface. The investigation's lead reporters, Sheera Frenkel and Cecilia Kang, spent eighteen months piecing together the story of how one of the most powerful companies in the world tried to bury a damning truth – that Facebook has become a conduit for disinformation, hate speech, and political propaganda. The unrivalled sources of these two veteran journalists led them to perhaps the most recognisable names in the tech industry: Mark Zuckerberg and Sheryl Sandberg. Both have long existed as archetypes of uniquely 21st-century executives – he, the tech 'boy genius' turned billionaire, she, the ultimate woman in business, an inspiration to millions through her books and speeches. *An Ugly Truth* is the definitive story of Facebook's fall from grace, following the embattled company from 2011, when its power and positive influence was undisputed, to 2020, when it will face its biggest test yet – the US presidential election. What are the ultimate ramifications when a few individuals are in charge of the technology used by half the world's population? Can they control the technology they've unleashed into the world? And if not, can we, as individuals and as a society, control them?

Impact of technology TP \$32.99

Troy:

Our Greatest Story Retold **Fry, Stephen** The story of Troy speaks to all of us – the kidnapping of Helen, a queen celebrated for her beauty, sees the Greeks launch a thousand ships against the city of Troy, to which they will lay siege for ten whole years. It is a terrible war with casualties on all sides as well as strained relations between allies, whose consequences become tragedies. In *Troy*, you will find heroism and hatred, love and loss, revenge and regret, desire and

despair. It is these human passions, written bloodily in the sands of a distant shore, that still speak to us today.

Greek legend PBK \$22.99

Guarded by Dragons:

Encounters with Rare Books and Rare People **Gekoski, Rick** *Guarded by Dragons* follows rare book dealer Rick Gekoski as he uncovers the mysteries behind the most unusual manuscripts and archives, where stories are weaved within stories. *Rick Gekoski has been traversing the rocky terrain of the rare book trade for over 50 years. The treasure he seeks is scarce, carefully buried and often jealously guarded, knowledge of its hiding place shared through word of mouth like the myths of old.* In *Guarded by Dragons*, Gekoski invites readers into this enchanted world as he reflects on the gems he has unearthed throughout his career. He takes us back to where his love of collecting began – perusing D H Lawrence first editions in a slightly suspect Birmingham car park. What follows are dizzying encounters with literary giants as Gekoski publishes William Golding, plays ping-pong with Salman Rushdie, and lunches with Graham Greene. A brilliant stroke of luck sees Sylvia Plath's personal copy of *The Great Gatsby* fall into Gekoski's lap, only for him to discover the perils of upsetting a Poet Laureate, when Ted Hughes demands its return. Hunting for literary treasure is not without its battles and Gekoski boldly breaks the cardinal rule never to engage in a lawsuit with someone much richer than yourself, while also guarding his bookshop from the most unlikely of thieves. The result is an unparalleled insight into an almost mythical world where priceless first editions of *Ulysses* can vanish, and billionaires will spend as much gold as it takes to own the manuscript of J K Rowling's *Tales of Beedle the Bard*. Engaging, funny and shrewd, *Guarded by Dragons* is a fascinating discussion on value and worth. At the same time, Gekoski artfully reveals how a manuscript can tell a thousand stories.

Literature TP \$32.99

Vaxxers:

the Inside Story of the Oxford AstraZeneca Vaccine and the Race Against the Virus **Gilbert, Sarah & Green, Catherine** The inside story of the Oxford AstraZeneca vaccine, from two of the leading scientists who created it. This is the story of a race – not against other vaccines or other scientists, but against a deadly and devastating virus. On 1 January 2020, Sarah Gilbert, Professor of Vaccinology at Oxford University, read an article about four people in China with a strange pneumonia. Within two weeks, she and her team had designed a vaccine against a pathogen that no one had ever seen before. Less than 12 months later, vaccination was rolled out across the world to save millions of lives from Covid-19. In *Vaxxers*, we hear directly from Professor Gilbert and her colleague Dr Catherine Green as they reveal the inside story of making the Oxford AstraZeneca vaccine and the cutting-edge science and sheer hard work behind it. This is their story of fighting a pandemic as ordinary

people in extraordinary circumstances. Sarah and Cath share the heart-stopping moments in the eye of the storm; they separate fact from fiction; they explain how they made a highly effective vaccine in record time with the eyes of the world watching; and they give us hope for the future. *Vaxxers* invites us into the lab to find out how science will save us from this pandemic, and how we can prepare for the inevitable next one.

Science TP \$34.99

The Bomber Mafia:

a Story Set in War **Gladwell, Malcolm** Most military thinkers in the years leading up to World War II saw the airplane as an afterthought. But a small band of idealistic strategists had a different view. This 'Bomber Mafia' asked: What if precision bombing could, just by taking out critical choke points – industrial or transportation hubs – cripple the enemy and make war far less lethal? In *The Bomber Mafia*, Gladwell delves deep into questions of how technology and best intentions collide in the heat of war.

Aviation history TP \$35.00

Semut:

the Untold Story of a Secret Australian Operation in WWII Borneo **Helliwell, Christine** A remarkable new book about Operation *Semut*, an Australian secret military operation launched by the organisation popularly known as Z Special Unit in the final months of WWII. March 1945. A handful of young Allied operatives are parachuted into the remote jungled heart of the Japanese-occupied island of Borneo, east of Singapore, there to recruit the island's indigenous Dayak peoples to fight the Japanese. Yet, most have barely encountered Asian or indigenous people before, speak next to no Borneo languages, and know little about Dayaks, other than that they have been – and may still be – headhunters. They fear that on arrival the Dayaks will kill them, or hand them over to the Japanese. For their part, some Dayaks have, never before, seen a white face. So begins the story of Operation *Semut*, an Australian secret operation launched by the organisation codenamed Services Reconnaissance Department – popularly known as Z Special Unit – in the final months of WWII. Anthropologist Christine Helliwell has called on her years of first-hand knowledge of Borneo, interviewed more than one hundred Dayak people and all the remaining *Semut* operatives, and consulted thousands of military and other documents to piece together this astonishing story. Focusing on the operation's activities along two of Borneo's great rivers – the Baram and Rejang – the book provides a detailed military history of *Semut II*'s and *Semut III*'s brutal guerrilla campaign against the Japanese, and reveals the decisive but long-overlooked Dayak role in the operation. But this is no ordinary history. Helliwell captures vividly the sounds, smells and tastes of the jungles into which the operatives are plunged, an environment so terrifying that many are unsure whether jungle or Japanese is the greater enemy. And she takes us into the lives and cavernous longhouses of the Dayaks on whom their survival depends. The result

is a truly-unique account of the encounter between two very different cultures amidst the savagery of the Pacific War.

Military history TP \$34.99

The Pathfinders:

the Greatest Untold Story of the Air War against the Nazis **Iredale, Will** The untold story of the elite force that spearheaded almost every British bombing raid over Nazi Germany. The incredible story of the crack team of men and women who transformed RAF Bomber Command and helped the Allies deliver decisive victory over Nazi Germany. The Pathfinders were ordinary men and women from a range of nations who revolutionised the efficiency of the Allies' air campaign over mainland Europe. They elevated Bomber Command – initially the only part of the Allied war effort capable of attacking the heart of Nazi Germany – from an impotent force on the cusp of disintegration in 1942 to one capable of razing whole German cities to the ground in a single night, striking with devastating accuracy, inspiring fear and loathing in Hitler's senior command. With exclusive interviews with remaining survivors, personal diaries, previously classified records and never-before-seen photographs, *The Pathfinders* brings to life the characters of the airmen and women – many barely out of their teens – who took to the skies in legendary British aircraft such as the Lancaster and the Mosquito, facing almost unimaginable levels of violence from enemy fighter planes to strike at the heart of the Nazi war machine.

Aviation history TP \$35.00

Days of Steel Rain:

the Epic Story of a WWII Vengeance Ship in the Year of the Kamikaze **Jones, Brent E** *Days of Steel Rain* is a naval version of Stephen Ambrose's classic *Band of Brothers*, the epic story of the 'vengeance ship' USS *Astoria*, comprised of late-in-war crew of re-treads, and young and older men who had no desire to be in the war yet had to fight a desperate Japanese Navy. During the late stages in the Pacific Theatre of World War II, US Navy Captain George Dyer was wounded in action, but vowed to return. In 1944, he accepted an assignment on the heavy cruiser the USS *Astoria*. This was a 'vengeance ship' whose mission was to avenge a sunken warship lost during the worst sea defeat in American naval history. Just getting into action would prove to be a battle. Dyer's crew was comprised of late-war draftees, disciplinary cast-offs, and broken veterans of previous traumatic combat. The new ship, herself, proved a further liability – the product of a failing shipyard torn by labour strife, shoddy craftsmanship, and materiel shortages. From a typhoon where the ocean was enemy to daring rescue missions in the Philippines to a gallant turn at Iwo Jima to the ultimate crucible against the Kamikaze, the men of *Astoria* endured the worst of the final year of the war at sea. The reluctant 'vengeance ship' was called to respond in a manner that could never have been anticipated. Throughout, the men slept at their stations, fought crippling fatigue, and tested the limits of human

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endurance. *Days of Steel Rain* brings to life more than a decade of research and firsthand interviews, depicting with unprecedented insight a group of American men fighting at sea. Throughout, author Brent Jones fills the narrative with secret diaries, memoirs, letters, interpersonal conflicts, and the innermost thoughts of the *Astoria* men. Blended with official records, *Days of Steel Rain* weaves an intimate, unforgettable portrait of heroism, endurance, and redemption.

Military history HC \$45.00

In the Waves:

My Quest to Solve the Mystery of a Civil War Submarine

Lance, Rachel

How a determined scientist cracked the case of the first successful – and disastrous – submarine attack... On the night of February 17, 1864, the tiny Confederate submarine *HL Hunley* made its way toward the *USS Housatonic* just outside Charleston harbour. Within a matter of hours, the Union ship's stern was blown open in a spray of wood planks. The explosion sank the ship, killing many of its crew. And the submarine, the first ever to be successful in combat, disappeared without a trace. For 131 years, the eight-man crew of the *HL Hunley* lay in their watery graves, undiscovered. When finally raised, the narrow metal vessel revealed a puzzling sight. There was no indication the blast had breached the hull, and all eight men were still seated at their stations – frozen in time after more than a century. Why did it sink? Why did the men die? Archaeologists and conservationists have been studying the boat and the remains for years, and now one woman has the answers. *In the Waves* is much more than just a military perspective or a technical account. It's also the story of Rachel Lance's single-minded obsession spanning three years, the story of the extreme highs and lows in her quest to find all the puzzle pieces of the *Hunley*. Balancing a gripping historical tale and original research with a personal story of professional and private obstacles, *In the Waves* is an enthralling look at a unique part of the Civil War and the lengths one scientist will go to uncover its secrets.

Military history TP \$27.99

The Premonition:

a Pandemic Story

Lewis, Michael

From the bestselling author of *The Big Short*, the gripping story of the maverick scientists who hunted down Covid-19... 'It's a foreboding,' she said. 'A knowing that something is looming around the corner. Like how when the seasons change you can smell Fall in the air right before the leaves change and the wind turns cold.' In January 2020, as people started dying from a new virus in Wuhan, China, few really understood the magnitude of what was happening. Except, that is, a small group of scientific misfits who in their different ways had been obsessed all their lives with how viruses spread and replicated – and with why the governments and the institutions that were supposed to look after us, kept making the same mistakes, time and again. This group saw what nobody else did. A pandemic was coming. We weren't prepared. *The Premonition* is the extraordinary story of a group who anticipated, traced and

hunted the coronavirus; who understood the need to think differently, to learn from history, to question everything; and to do all of this fast, in order to act, to save lives, communities, society itself. It's a story about the workings of the human mind; about the failures and triumphs of human judgement and imagination. It's the story of how we got to now.

Science HC \$49.99

Galileo and the Science Deniers

Livio, Mario

Although Galileo Galilei lived and died centuries ago, his story is more relevant to our lives than we might realise. Today, we face enormous challenges such as climate change that are disregarded or questioned by those who fear that their implications will damage business profitability. Others posit a false dichotomy between religion and science in order to reject scientific evidence whose implications they fear. Galileo confronted this problem 400 years ago. His discoveries were based on observation and experiment. His telescopes revealed previously unknown planets, moons orbiting other planets, and other discoveries that essentially confirmed the Copernican universe that the Church had rejected as heretical because Church theologians insisted on a literal reading of the Bible. Even St Augustine in the fifth century maintained that the Bible pertained to the realm of faith, not reason. But when Galileo argued essentially the same position before an ecclesiastical court in Rome, he was forbidden from publishing any more books. Livio's life of Galileo shows us how the great thinker made his discoveries about the heavens and also formulated fundamental laws of physics. As an astrophysicist, Livio brings insight into how Galileo reasoned his way to his conclusions, which we know today were accurate. Along with Newton, Galileo remains one of the two great figures at the dawn of the scientific revolution. He insisted on reaching the widest audience possible, publishing his work in Italian rather than Latin as had been the case until his time, when vernacular languages were rapidly replacing Latin throughout Europe. Galileo believed that every educated person should know science as well as literature. Did Galileo actually say at the end of his trial when he was forced to recant his discoveries, as legend has it, And, still, it moves, referring to the motion of the earth around the sun? Not likely, says Livio, but Galileo nonetheless remains an inspiration to scientists and those who value openminded inquiry – which, as Livio reminds us, remains threatened, even today.

History/Science TP \$29.99

Escape from Earth:

a Secret History of the Space Rocket

MacDonald, Fraser

The long-buried truth about the dawn of the Space Age: lies, spies, socialism, and sex magic. Los Angeles, 1930s: Everyone knows that rockets are just toys, the stuff of cranks and pulp magazines. Nevertheless, an earnest engineering student named Frank Malina sets out to prove the doubters wrong. With the help of his friend Jack Parsons, a grandiose and occult-obsessed explosives enthusiast, Malina embarks on a journey

that takes him from junk yards and desert lots to the heights of the military-industrial complex. Malina designs the first American rocket to reach space and establishes the Jet Propulsion Laboratory. But trouble soon finds him: the FBI suspects Malina of being a communist. And when some classified documents go missing, will his comrades prove as dependable as his engineering? Drawing on an astonishing array of untapped sources, including FBI documents and private archives, *Escape From Earth* tells the inspiring true story of Malina's achievements – and the political fear that's kept them hidden. At its heart, this is an Icarus tale: a real-life fable about the miracle of human ingenuity and the frailty of dreams.

History/Science PBK \$22.99

The End of Everything

(Astrophysically Speaking)

Mack, Katie

An acclaimed theoretical astrophysicist explores the end of the Universe. When will it take place? How is it likely to happen? How do scientists know? You're going to die. The Earth will, one day, be toast. So, too, our Sun will eventually shine its last. But what's next? *The End of Everything* is a unique exploration of the destruction of the cosmos. Drawing on cutting edge technology and theory, as well as hot-off-the-presses results from the most powerful telescopes and particle colliders, astrophysicist Katie Mack describes how small tweaks to our incomplete understanding of reality can result in starkly different futures. Our universe could collapse in upon itself, or rip itself apart, or even – in the next five minutes – succumb to an inescapable expanding bubble of doom. This fascinating, witty story of cosmic escapism examines a beautiful but unfamiliar physics landscape while sharing the excitement a leading astrophysicist feels when thinking about the universe and our place in it. Amid stellar explosions and bouncing universes, Mack shows that even though we puny humans have no chance of changing how it all ends, we can at least begin to understand it.

Science PBK \$22.99

Mother of Invention:

How Good Ideas Get Ignored in an Economy Built for Men

Marçal, Katrine

Why did it take us 5,000 years to attach wheels to a suitcase? How did bras take us to the moon? And what would the world be like if we listened to women? Bestselling author Katrine Marçal reveals the shocking ways our deeply ingrained ideas about gender continue to hold us back. Every day, extraordinary inventions and innovative ideas are sidelined, in a world that remains subservient to men. But it doesn't have to be this way. From the beginning of time, women have been pivotal to our society, offering ingenious solutions to some of our most vexing problems. More recently, it is women who have transformed the way we shop online, revolutionised the lives of disabled people and put the climate crisis at the top of the agenda. Despite these successes, we still fail to find and fund the game-changing ideas that could alter the future of our planet, giving just three per cent of venture capital to female founders. Instead, ingrained ideas

about men and women continue to shape our economic decisions; favouring men and leading us to the same tired set of solutions. For too long, we have underestimated the consequences of sexism in our economy, and the way it holds all of us – women and men – back. Katrine Marçal's blistering critique sets the record straight and shows how, in a time of crisis, the ingenuity and intelligence of women is that very thing that can save us.

Innovation TP \$27.99

Nine Nasty Words:

English in the Gutter

McWhorter, John

One of the pre-eminent linguists of our time examines the realms of language that are considered shocking and taboo, in order to understand what imbues curse words with such power – and why we love them so much. Profanity has always been a deliciously vibrant part of our lexicon, an integral part of being human. In fact, our ability to curse comes from a different part of the brain than other parts of speech – the urgency with which we say 'f&*k!' is instead related to the instinct that tells us to flee from danger. Language evolves with time, and so does what we consider profane or unspeakable. *Nine Nasty Words* is a rollicking examination of profanity, explored from every angle: historical, sociological, political, linguistic. In a particularly coarse moment, when the public discourse is shaped in part by once-shocking words, nothing could be timelier.

Language HC \$39.99

Qantas: the Flying Kangaroo

Montagnana-Wallace, Neil
No symbol better conveys the intrepid spirit of Australia, than the flying kangaroo. Whether it's glimpsed on a red-eye flight to an interstate business meeting, before leaving for adventure or holidays, or when longing to return home, that sweep of red defines air travel in Australia. Qantas has always been about connection. It began by connecting Australians across western Queensland's unforgiving terrain, and before long was connecting Australia with the world. Qantas' history is entwined with Australian identity, launching in the aftermath of World War I and the Spanish Flu, and soaring to match Australian ambitions in the one hundred years since. Its centenary year has been the most turbulent year yet, with a pandemic grounding virtually the entire fleet and Qantas coming to the rescue of Australians stranded overseas. Like Australia, Qantas will soar again. *The Flying Kangaroo* features never-before-seen photographs and historical detail from Qantas' archives, celebrating a century of Australian aviation and a nation that always reaches for the sky.

Aviation history PBK \$35.00

The Countess from Kirribilli:

the mysterious and free-spirited literary sensation who beguiled the world
Morgan, Joyce
She was Australian born, an international bestselling author and a member of the glamorous literary, intellectual, and society salons of late nineteenth and early 20th century London and Europe. She was 'amused, cynical, ironic, loving, gay, ferocious, cold, ardent but never gentle'.

Pulp Fiction

Nonfiction July 2021 (continued)

She was a whirlwind. She created around her the atmosphere of a Court at which her friends were either in disgrace or favour, a butt, or a blessing. Elizabeth von Arnim may have been born on the shores of Sydney Harbour, but it was in Victorian London that she discovered society and society discovered her. She made her Court debut before Queen Victoria at Buckingham Palace, was pursued by a Prussian count, and married into the formal world of the European aristocracy. It was the novels she wrote about that life that turned her into a literary sensation on both sides of the Atlantic and had her likened to Jane Austen. Her marriage to the count produced five children but little happiness. Her second marriage to Bertrand Russell's brother was a disaster. But by then she had captivated the great literary and intellectual circles of London and Europe. She brought into her orbit the likes of Nancy Astor, Lady Maud Cunard, her cousin Katherine Mansfield and other writers such as E M Forster, Somerset Maugham and H G Wells, with whom it was said she had a tempestuous affair. Elizabeth von Arnim was an extraordinary woman who lived during glamorous, exciting and changing times that spanned the innocence of Victorian Sydney and finished with the march of Hitler through Europe. Joyce Morgan brings her to vivid and spellbinding life.

Biography TP \$32.99

A Quantum Life:

My Unlikely Journey from the Street to the Stars

Oluseyi, Hakeem & Horwitz, Joshua

In this inspiring coming-of-age memoir, a world-renowned astrophysicist emerges from an impoverished childhood and crime-filled adolescence to ascend through the top ranks of research physics. Navigating poverty, violence, and instability, a young James Plummer had two guiding stars – a genius IQ and a love of science. But a bookish nerd was a soft target in his community, where James faced years of bullying and abuse. As he struggled to survive his childhood in some of the country's toughest urban neighbourhoods in New Orleans, Houston, and LA, and later in the equally poor backwoods of Mississippi, he adopted the persona of 'gangsta nerd' – dealing weed in juke joints while winning state science fairs with computer programs that model Einstein's theory of relativity. Once admitted to the elite physics PhD program at Stanford University, James found himself pulled between the promise of a bright future and a dangerous crack cocaine habit he developed in college. With the encouragement of his mentor and the sole Black professor in the physics department, James confronted his personal demons as well as the entrenched racism and classism of the scientific establishment. When he finally seized his dream of a life in astrophysics, he adopted a new name, Hakeem Muata Oluseyi, to honour his African ancestors.

Alternately heartbreaking and hopeful, *A Quantum Life* narrates one man's remarkable quest across an ever-expanding universe filled with entanglement and choice.

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 TP \$35.00

Madhouse at the End of the Earth:

the *Belgica's* Journey into the Dark Antarctic Night

Sancton, Julian

The harrowing, survival story of an early polar expedition that went terribly wrong, with the ship frozen in ice and the crew trapped inside for the entire sunless, Antarctic winter... August 1897: The *Belgica* set sail, eager to become the first scientific expedition to reach the white wilderness of the South Pole. But the ship soon became stuck fast in the ice of the Bellinghousen sea, condemning the ship's crew to overwintering in Antarctica and months of endless polar night. In the darkness, plagued by a mysterious illness, their minds ravaged by the sound of dozens of rats teeming in the hold, they descended into madness. In this epic tale, Julian Sancton unfolds a story of adventure gone horribly awry. As the crew teetered on the brink, the Captain increasingly relied on two young officers whose friendship had blossomed in captivity – Dr Frederick Cook, the wild American whose later infamy would overshadow his brilliance on the *Belgica*,

and the ship's first mate, soon-to-be legendary Roald Amundsen, who later raced Captain Scott to the South Pole. Together, Cook and Amundsen would plan a last-ditch, desperate escape from the ice – one that would either etch their names into history or doom them to a terrible fate in the frozen ocean. Drawing on first-hand crew diaries and journals, and exclusive access to the ship's logbook, the result is equal parts maritime thriller and gothic horror. This is an unforgettable journey into the deep.

History TP \$35.00

Ethel Rosenberg:

a Cold War Tragedy

Sebba, Anne

The tragic story of Ethel Rosenberg, the first woman in America to be sent to her death for a crime other than murder... Ethel Rosenberg's story has been called America's Dreyfus Affair: a catastrophic failure of humanity and justice that continues to haunt the national conscience, and is still being played out with different actors in the lead roles today. On 19 June 1953, Ethel Rosenberg became the first woman in the US to be executed for a crime other than murder. She was 37 years old and the mother of two small children. Yet, even today, at a time when the Cold War seems all too resonant, Ethel's conviction for conspiracy to commit espionage on behalf of the Soviet Union makes her story still controversial. This is an important moment to recount not simply what FBI Director J Edgar Hoover called the 'trial of the century', but also a timeless human story of a supportive wife, loving mother and courageous idealist who grew up during the Depression with aspirations to become an opera singer. Instead, she found herself battling the social mores of the 1950s and had her life barbarically cut short, on the basis of tainted evidence – for a crime she almost certainly did not commit. Anne Sebba's masterly biography makes full use of the dramatic prison letters Ethel exchanged with her husband, lawyer, and psychotherapist over a three-year period. Sebba has also interviewed Ethel's two sons and others who knew her, including a fellow prisoner. Ethel's tragic story lays bare a nation deeply divided and reveals what happens when a government motivated by fear tramples on the rights of its citizens. 'A heart-piercingly brilliant book about a woman whose personal life put her in the crosshairs of history' – *Hadley Freeman*.

Biography TP \$32.99

The Musical Human:

a History of Life on Earth

Spitzer, Michael

A colossal history spanning cultures, time, and space to explore the vibrant relationship between music and the human species. One hundred and sixty-five million years ago saw the birth of rhythm. Sixty-six million years ago, was the first melody.

Forty thousand years ago, *Homo sapiens* created the first musical instrument.

Today, music fills our lives. How we have created, performed, and listened to this music throughout history has defined what our species is and how we understand who we are. Yet, music 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, looking at music in our everyday lives; music in world history; and music in evolution, from insects to apes, humans to AI. Through this journey, we begin to understand how music is central to the distinctly human experiences of cognition, feeling and even biology, both widening and closing the evolutionary gaps between ourselves and animals in surprising ways. *The Musical Human* boldly puts the case that music is the most important thing we ever did; it is a fundamental part of what makes us human.

Musical history TP \$29.99

Fallen Idols:

Twelve Statues That Made History

Von Tunzelmann, Alex

A hugely entertaining and informative narrative on one of the key arguments raging across the globe – how does one honestly celebrate a country's past, without knocking down celebrated heroes. Over the past three years, the world has witnessed the huge social and media discussions of what figures from the past one should, or should not celebrate and commemorate with a statue. The recent removal of the statue of infamous slave transporter Edward Colston in Bristol still resonates in the UK as debates rage on race, inequality, politics and gender. The conversations, demonstrations and petitions for the removal of statues to men and women whose lives and careers are in question is not a new phenomenon, but one that has been going on for generations. Only with the arrival of online media outlets has it now come to the fore in 'real time'. *Fallen Idols* will be a nuanced and constructive appraisal of the current issues facing many towns and cities as they struggle to decide how the commemoration and adoration of statues that they hold dear (or despise) can be resolved. Von Tunzelmann focuses on key statues across the USA, the UK, Africa and to the old USSR to show the reader how the march of history can be unkind to leaders we sometime venerate at one point, and then cast aside at another – what they achieved, why their memory was celebrated in stone, and why they were then removed. A hugely informative read, supported with line-drawn illustrations of the statues chosen – that will educate and entertain in equal measure.

Art history TP \$29.99

Pulp Fiction

Nonfiction July 2021 (continued)