

Pulp Fiction

Nonfiction Catalogue June 2022

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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

Ten Tomatoes That Changed the World: a History **Alexander, William**

The tomato gets no respect. Never has. Lost in the dustbin of history for centuries, accused of being vile and poisonous, subjected to being picked hard green and gassed, even used as a projectile, the poor tomato has become the avatar for our disaffection with industrial foods – while becoming the most popular vegetable in America (and, in fact, the world). Each summer, tomato festivals crop up across the country; the Heinz ketchup bottle, instantly recognisable, has earned a spot in the Smithsonian; and now the tomato is redefining the very nature of farming, moving from fields into climate-controlled mega-greenhouses the size of New England villages. Supported by meticulous research and told in a lively, accessible voice, *Ten Tomatoes that Changed the World* seamlessly weaves travel, history, humour, and a little adventure (and misadventure) to follow the tomato's trail through history. A fascinating story complete with heroes, con artists, conquistadors, and – no surprise – the Mafia, this book is a mouth-watering, informative, and entertaining guide to the food that has captured our hearts for generations.

History HC \$55.00

The Fourth Man:

the Hunt for the KGB's CIA Mole and Why the US Overlooked Putin

Baer, Robert

A thrilling expose of the most powerful KGB spy in US history. For the first time ever, bestselling author and former CIA operative Robert Baer tells the explosive story of how insiders believe a KGB mole rose to the highest ranks of the CIA. In the aftermath of the Cold War, US intelligence caught three high-profile Russian spies. However, these arrests left major questions unanswered, and rumours have long swirled of another mole, often referred to as the Fourth Man. Three pioneering female veterans of counterintelligence were tasked with unearthing him. With steadfast determination and expertise, they came to a shocking conclusion, one which had, and continues to harbour, dramatic consequences for American security. In this gripping insider account, Baer tells a thrilling story of Russian espionage and American intelligence. With profound implications for the rise of Vladimir Putin and international relations with Russia, *The Fourth Man* is a real-life spy thriller with echoes of John le Carré.

Espionage TP \$32.99

Russia:

Revolution and Civil War 1917–1921

Beevor, Antony

The dramatic story of Russia's revolution and civil war, from Antony Beevor, the bestselling historian and author of the classic *Stalingrad*. Between 1917 and 1921 a devastating

struggle took place in Russia following the collapse of the Tsarist empire. Many regard this savage civil war as the most influential event of the modern era. An incompatible White alliance of moderate socialists and reactionary monarchists stood little chance against Trotsky's Red Army and Lenin's single-minded Communist dictatorship. Terror begat terror, which in turn led to even greater cruelty with man's inhumanity to man, woman, and child. The struggle became a world war by proxy as Churchill deployed weaponry and troops from the British empire, while armed forces from the United States, France, Italy, Japan, Poland, and Czechoslovakia played rival parts. Using the most up to date scholarship and archival research, Antony Beevor, author of the acclaimed international bestseller *Stalingrad*, assembles the complete picture in a gripping narrative that conveys the conflict through the eyes of everyone from the worker on the streets of Petrograd to the cavalry officer on the battlefield and the woman doctor in an improvised hospital.

History HC \$55.00

A Brief History of the Atlantic **Black, Jeremy**

A concise look at the evolution of one of our most crucial transport and trade routes that will open your eyes to its vivid history. Jeremy Black expertly spotlights those who embarked to cross the ocean over the last 550 years and how it came to be established as the ocean for the world. The Atlantic has borne witness to major historic events that have drastically shaped humanity with each crossing of its path. In this broad and readable book, Jeremy Black takes the reader through its evolution to becoming one of the most important oceans in the world. Black discusses the importance of the Atlantic in relation to world history as well as addressing topics such as those bravest to attempt to cross the ocean before Columbus, the beginnings of slavery from 1400 to 1600, the struggle for control between empires in the 1600s, the way technology adapted with steamships to telegraph cables, the battle of the Falkland, and the Cold War. Black also touches on the Atlantic we know today, and the struggles it faces due to urgent global issues including climate change, pollution, and the trials of the economic rise in the Indo-Pacific world. If you have ever yearned to know more about this famed and vital ocean, this clear and concise history will be a key read as one of the first of its kind on its evolution to becoming an established world ocean.

History PBK \$22.99

The Truth About Tesla:

the Myth of the Lone Genius in the History of Innovation
Cooper, Christopher
For years, the engineering genius was relegated to relative obscurity, his

contributions to humanity (we are told) obscured by a number of 19th-century inventors and industrialists who took credit for his work or stole his patents outright. In recent years, the historical record has been 'corrected' and Tesla has been restored to his rightful place among historical luminaries like Thomas Edison, George Westinghouse, and Guglielmo Marconi. Most biographies repeat the familiar account of Tesla's life, including his invention of alternating current, his falling out with Edison, how he lost billions in patent royalties to Westinghouse, and his fight to prove that Marconi stole 13 of his patents to 'invent' radio. But, what really happened? Consider this: Everything you think you know about Nikola Tesla is wrong. Newly uncovered information proves that the popular account of Tesla's life is itself very flawed. In *The Truth About Tesla*, Christopher Cooper sets out to prove that the conventional story not only oversimplifies history, it denies credit to some of the true inventors behind many of the ground-breaking technologies now attributed to Tesla and perpetuates a misunderstanding about the process of innovation itself. Are you positive that Alexander Graham Bell invented the telephone? Are you sure the Wright Brothers were the first in flight? Think again! With a provocative foreword by Tesla biographer Marc J Seifer, *The Truth About Tesla* is one of the first books to set the record straight, tracing the origin of some of the greatest electrical inventions to a coterie of colourful characters that conventional history has all but forgotten.

History/Science HC \$29.99

Diary of an Apprentice Astronaut **Gristoforetti, Samantha**

An enthralling memoir from the inspiring astronaut who spent six months in space. In space, the sun rises and sets 16 times a day. You fly over every sea, every mountain and desert, every city and every port. The most ordinary things – eating, sleeping, brushing your teeth or cutting your hair – have to be relearned, until they become familiar again. This is the story of Samantha Cristoforetti's incredible journey to becoming an astronaut, and her journey beyond Earth. Her voyage as an apprentice astronaut began when she was in her early thirties: five years of intense training around the world, from Houston to Japan to the legendary Star City in Russia. Countless hours spent in centrifuges, spaceship simulators and under water for spacewalk practice. Then, one day, a rocket was waiting for her on the launch pad. And after eight minutes of wild ascent, she was on orbit, crunched up with her two crewmates in a tiny spaceship that took them to the International Space Station. This is an enthralling, inspiring and surprisingly down-to-earth story about what it really takes to pursue your dreams.

Science-y memoir PBK \$22.99

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Time of the Magicians:

the Great Decade of Philosophy,
1919–1929

Eilenberger, Wolfram

A gripping narrative of the intertwined lives of the four philosophers whose ideas reshaped the 20th century. The year is 1919. Walter Benjamin flees his overbearing father to scrape a living as a jobbing critic. Ludwig Wittgenstein signs away his inheritance to teach schoolchildren in a provincial Austrian village, seeking spiritual clarity. Martin Heidegger renounces his faith and align his fortunes with the phenomenological school of Edmund Husserl. Ernst Cassirer sketches a new schema of human culture at the back of a cramped Berlin tram. The stage is set for a great intellectual drama, which will unfold over the next decade. The lives and thought of this quartet will converge and intertwine as each gains world historical significance, between them remaking philosophy. *Time of the Magicians* tells the story of this revolution in Western thought through the remarkable and turbulent lives of its four protagonists, showing philosophy not gifted from on high but worked out in the mess of everyday life, and illuminating their ideas with rare clarity.

Philosophy PBK \$22.99

A Portrait of the Scientist as a Young Woman

Elkins-Tanton, Lindy

From one of the world's leading planetary scientists, a luminous memoir of exploration on Earth, in space, and within oneself – equal parts ode to the beauty of science, meditation on loss, and roadmap for personal resilience. Deep in the asteroid belt between Mars and Jupiter, three times farther from the sun than the Earth is, orbits a massive asteroid called (16) Psyche. It is one of the largest objects in the belt, potentially containing the equivalent of the world's total economy in metals, though they cannot be brought back to Earth. But (16) Psyche has the potential to unlock something even more valuable: the story of how planets form, and how our planet formed. Soon, we will find out, thanks to the extraordinary work of Lindy Elkins-Tanton, the Principal Investigator of NASA's \$800 million Psyche mission, and the second woman ever to be awarded a major NASA space exploration contract. The journey that brought her to this place is extraordinary. Amid a childhood of terrible trauma, Elkins-Tanton fell in love with science as a means of healing and consolation. But still she wondered, was forced to wonder: as a woman, was science 'for her'? In answering that question, she takes us from the wilds of the Siberian tundra to the furthest reaches of outer space, from the Mayo Clinic, where Elkins-Tanton battled ovarian cancer while writing the Psyche proposal, to NASA's Jet Propulsion Laboratory, where her team brought that proposal to life. *A Portrait of the Scientist as a Young Woman* is a beautifully-constructed memoir that explores how a philosophy of life can be built from the tools of scientific inquiry. It teaches us how to approach difficult problems by asking the right questions and truly listening to the answers – and how we may find meaning through exploring the wonders of the universe around us.

Science-y memoir HC \$62.95

Fake History:

Ten Great Lies and
How They Shaped the World

English, Otto

Taking the ten biggest lies from history and looking at the people who propagated them, social commentator and expert historian Otto English shows how our past has been bent and broken, used and abused over time to fit the ends of some of the world's most powerful people. An alternative history of the world that exposes some of the biggest lies ever told and how they've been used over time. Lincoln did not believe all men were created equal. The Aztecs were not slaughtered by the Spanish Conquistadors. And Churchill was not the man that people love to remember. In this fascinating new book, journalist and author Otto English takes ten great lies from history and shows how our present continues to be manipulated by the fabrications of the past. He looks at how so much of what we take to be historical fact is, in fact, fiction. From the myths of WW2 to the adventures of Columbus, and from the self-serving legends of 'great men' to the origins of curry – fake history is everywhere and used ever more to impact our modern world. Setting out to redress the balance, English tears apart the lies propagated by politicians and think tanks, the grand narratives spun by populists and the media, the stories on your friend's Facebook feed and the tales you were told in childhood. And, in doing so, reclaims the truth from those who have perverted it. *Fake History* exposes everything you weren't told in school and why you weren't taught it.

History PBK \$24.99

The Wood Age:

How One Material Shaped
the Whole of Human History

Ennos, Roland

When our ancestors came down from the trees, they brought the trees with them and remade the world. How did the descendants of small arboreal primates manage to stand on our own two feet, become top predators and take over the world? In *The Wood Age*, Roland Ennos shows that the key to humanity's success has been our relationship with wood. He takes us on a sweeping 10-million-year journey from great apes who built their nests among the trees to early humans who depended on wood for fire, shelter, tools, and weapons; from the structural design of wheels and woodwinds, to the invention of paper and the printing press. Drawing together recent research and reinterpreting existing evidence from fields as far-ranging as primatology, anthropology, archaeology, history, architecture, engineering and carpentry, Ennos charts for the first time how our ability to exploit wood's unique properties has shaped our bodies and minds, societies and lives. He also charts the dislocating effects of industrialism and explains how rediscovering traditional ways of growing, using and understanding trees can help combat climate change and bring our lives into better balance with nature. In the bestselling tradition of Harari's *Sapiens*, this unique history of humanity tells the story of our evolution, our civilisations, and our future – through the lens of the material that made us. We are products of the Wood Age.

History PBK \$24.99

The Light in the Darkness:

Black Holes, the Universe and Us

Falcke, Heino & Romer, Jorg

As featured in *The Edge of All We Know* – the new Netflix documentary about Black Holes. For readers of Stephen Hawking, a fascinating account of the universe from the perspective of world-leading astrophysicist Heino Falcke, who took the first ever picture of a black hole. *10 April 2019*: a global sensation. Heino Falcke, a man 'working at the boundaries of his discipline and therefore at the limits of the universe' had used a network of telescopes spanning the entire planet to take the first picture of a black hole. *Light in the Darkness* examines how mankind has always looked to the skies, mapping the journey from millennia ago when we turned our gaze to the heavens, to modern astrophysics. Heino Falcke and Jorg Romer entertainingly and compellingly chart the breakthrough research of Falcke's team, an unprecedented global community of international colleagues developing a telescope complex enough to look directly into a black hole – a hole where light vanishes, and time stops. What does this development mean? Is this the beginning of a new physics? What can we learn from this about God, the world, and ourselves? For Falcke, astrophysics and metaphysics, science and faith, do not exclude one another. *Light in the Darkness* is both a plea for curiosity and humility; it's interested in both what we know, and the mysteries that remain unsolved.

Science PBK \$24.99

The Greatest Invention:

a History of the World
in Nine Mysterious Scripts

Ferrara, Silvia

This book tells the story of our greatest invention. Or, it almost does. Almost, because while the story has a beginning – in fact, it has many beginnings, not only in Mesopotamia, 3,100 years before the birth of Christ, but also in China, Egypt and Central America – and it certainly has a middle, one that snakes through the painted petroglyphs of Easter Island, through the great machines of empires and across the desks of inspired, brilliant scholars, the end of the story remains to be written. The invention of writing allowed humans to create a record of their lives and to persist past the limits of their lifetimes. In the shadows and swirls of ancient inscriptions, we can decipher the stories they sought to record, but we can also tease out the timeless truths of human nature, of our ceaseless drive to connect, create and be remembered. *The Greatest Invention* chronicles an uncharted journey, one filled with past flashes of brilliance, present-day scientific research and the faint, fleeting echo of writing's future. Professor Silvia Ferrara, a modern-day adventurer who travels the world studying ancient texts, takes us along with her; we touch the knotted, coloured strings of the Incan khipu and consider the case of the Phaistos disk. Ferrara takes us to the cutting edge of decipherment, where high-powered laser scanners bring tears to an engineer's eye, and further still, to gaze at the outline of writing's future. *The Greatest Invention* lifts the words off every page and changes the contours of the world around us – just keep reading.

History HC \$49.99

The Man Who Invented Motion Pictures:

the Genius, Secrecy and
Disappearance of Louis Le Prince

Fischer, Paul

Who killed the inventor of the motion picture camera – and why? In 1888, Louis Le Prince shot the world's first motion picture in Leeds, England. In 1890, weeks before the public unveiling of his camera and projector – a year before Thomas Edison announced that he had invented a motion picture camera – Le Prince stepped on a train in France – and disappeared without a trace. He was never seen or heard from again. No body was ever found. Le Prince's family were convinced Edison had stolen Louis' work, and so they sued the most famous inventor in the world. By the time the lawsuit was over, Le Prince's own son was dead under suspicious circumstances – and modern Hollywood was being born. Paul Fischer's new book excavates one of the Victorian age's great unsolved mysteries, and in the process offers a revelatory rewriting of the birth of motion pictures.

History HC \$39.99

How to Stay Smart in a Smart World:

Why Human Intelligence
Still Beats Algorithms

Gigerenzer, Gerd

An essential guide to navigating our data-driven world, from the influential psychologist and author of *Risk Savvy*. Is more data always better? Do algorithms really make better decisions than humans? Can we stay in control in an increasingly automated world? Drawing on decades of research into decision making under uncertainty, Gerd Gigerenzer makes a compelling case for the enduring importance of human discernment in an automated world that we are told can – and will – replace our efforts. From dating apps and self-driving cars to facial recognition and the justice system, the increasing presence of AI has been widely championed – but there are limitations and risks too. Humans are the greatest source of uncertainty in these situations and Gigerenzer shows how, when people are involved, trust in complex algorithms can lead to illusions of certainty that become a recipe for disaster. Filled with practical examples and cutting-edge research, *How to Stay Smart in a Smart World* examines the growing role of AI, at all levels of daily life, with refreshing clarity. This book is a life raft in a sea of information and an urgent invitation to actively shape the digital world in which we want to live.

Impact of technology TP \$35.00

The Bomber Mafia:

a Story Set in War
Gladwell, Malcolm

A riveting tale of persistence, innovation, and the incalculable wages of war, from the international bestselling author of *Talking to Strangers* and host of the award-winning podcast *Revisionist History*. 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

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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 PBK \$22.99

Hurricane Lizards and Plastic Squid:

How the Natural World is Adapting to Climate Change

Hanson, Thor

The first major book, by a biologist, to focus on the fascinating story of how the natural world is adjusting, adapting, and sometimes measurably evolving in response to climate change. Lyrical and thought-provoking, this book broadens the climate focus from humans to the wider lattice of life. Bestselling nature writer Thor Hanson – author of *Buzz* – shows us how Caribbean lizards have grown larger toe pads to grip trees more tightly during frequent hurricanes; and how the ‘plasticity’ of squid has allowed them to change their body size and breeding habits to cope with altered sea temperatures. Plants and animals have a great deal to teach us about the nature of what comes next, because for many of them, and also for many of us, that world is already here.

Science HC \$39.99

We Are Bellingcat:

on Intelligence Agency for the People

Higgins, Eliot

How did a collective of self-taught internet sleuths end up solving some of the biggest crimes of our time? Bellingcat, the home-grown investigative unit, is redefining the way we think about news, politics and the digital future. Here, their founder – a high-school dropout on a kitchen laptop – tells the story of how they created a whole new category of information-gathering, galvanising citizen journalists across the globe to expose war crimes and pick apart disinformation, using just their computers. From the downing of Malaysia Flight 17 over the Ukraine to the sourcing of weapons in the Syrian Civil War and the identification of the Salisbury poisoners, *We Are Bellingcat* digs deep into some of Bellingcat’s most successful investigations. It explores the most cutting-edge tools for analysing data, from virtual-reality software that can build photorealistic 3D models of a crime scene, to apps that can identify exactly what time of day a photograph was taken. In our age of uncertain truths, Bellingcat is what the world needs right now – an intelligence agency by the people, for the people.

Journalism PBK \$22.99

The Future of Dinosaurs:

What We Don’t Know, What We Can, and What We’ll Never Know

Hone, David

Palaeontologist Dr David Hone tells us everything we know about dinosaurs – and everything we don’t yet know. We have made more discoveries about dinosaurs in the last 20 years than we have in the previous 200, and there is a wealth of cutting-edge research that has never been written about before, from their skin (some had feathers) to their extinction (the myth of the meteorite), much

of which is David’s own personal research and discovery. How does it feel to discover a new dinosaur? David Hone can tell you – he has personally discovered 12 new species, himself. And there is much still to discover. What colour were dinosaurs? Did they mate for life? How did they rear their young? Did they migrate in winter? How did they communicate? Did they eat fish? Just what are the T-Rex’s tiny arms actually for? In *The Future of Dinosaurs* Dr David Hone shows us the extraordinary advances in palaeontological research that are starting to fill in these gaps, and sets out the future of dinosaurs for the next generation.

Science TP \$32.99

Resistance:

the Underground War in Europe, 1939–1945

Kochanski, Halik

A sweeping, original history of occupation and resistance in war-torn Europe. Across the whole of Nazi-ruled Europe the experience of occupation was sharply varied. Some countries – such as Denmark – were allowed to run themselves within tight limits. Others – such as France – were constrained not only by military occupation but by open collaboration. In a historical moment when Nazi victory seemed permanent and irreversible, the question ‘why resist?’ was, therefore, augmented by ‘who was the enemy?’. *Resistance* is an extraordinarily powerful, humane and haunting account of how and why all across Nazi-occupied Europe some people decided to resist the Third Reich. This could range from open partisan warfare in the occupied Soviet Union to dangerous acts of insurrection in the Netherlands or Norway. Some of these resistance movements were entirely homegrown, others supported by the Allies. Like no other book, *Resistance* shows the reader just how difficult such actions were. How could small bands of individuals undertake tasks which could lead not just to their own deaths but those of their families and their entire communities? Filled with powerful and often little-known stories, Halik Kochanski’s major new book is a fascinating examination of the convoluted challenges faced by those prepared to resist the Germans, ordinary people who carried out exceptional acts of defiance.

Military history HC \$65.00

Extraterrestrial:

the First Sign of Intelligent Life Beyond Earth

Loeb, Avi

Harvard’s top astronomer takes us inside the mind-blowing story of the first interstellar visitor to our solar system. In late 2017, scientists at a Hawaiian observatory glimpsed a strange object soaring through our inner solar system. Astrophysicist Avi Loeb conclusively showed it was not an asteroid; it was moving too fast along a strange orbit, and leaving no trail of gas or debris in its wake. There was only one conceivable explanation: the object was a piece of advanced technology created by a distant alien civilisation. In *Extraterrestrial*, Loeb takes readers inside the thrilling story of the first interstellar visitor to be spotted in our solar system. He outlines his theory and its profound implications: for science,

for religion, and for the future of our planet. A mind-bending journey through the furthest reaches of science, space-time, and the human imagination, *Extraterrestrial* challenges readers to aim for the stars – and to think critically about what’s out there, no matter how strange it seems.

Science PBK \$22.99

Steam Trains Today:

Journeys Along Britain’s Heritage Railways

Martin, Andrew

A delightful exploration of a very British obsession. After the Beeching cuts of the 1960s, many railways were gradually shut down. Rural communities were isolated and steam trains slowly gave way to diesel and electric traction. But some people were not prepared to let the romance of train travel die. Thanks to their efforts, many lines passed into community ownership and are now booming with new armies of dedicated volunteers. Andrew Martin meets these volunteer enthusiasts, finding out just what it is about preserved railways that makes people so devoted. From the inspiration for Thomas the Tank Engine to John Betjeman’s battle against encroaching modernity, *Steam Trains Today* will take you on a heart-warming journey across Britain from Aviemore to Epping.

History PBK \$22.99

Regensis:

How to Feed the World Without Devouring the Planet

Monbiot, George

Campaigners, chefs, and food writers rail against ‘intensive farming’. But the problem isn’t the adjective. It’s the noun. People talk a lot about the problems with intensive farming. But the problem isn’t the adjective. It’s the noun. Around the world, farming has been wiping out vast habitats, depleting freshwater, polluting oceans, and accelerating global heating, while leaving millions undernourished and unfed. Increasingly, there are signs that the system itself is beginning to flicker. But, as George Monbiot shows us in this brilliant, bracingly original new book, there is another way. *Regensis* is an exhilarating journey into a new possible future for food, people, and the planet. Drawing on the revelatory, rapidly advancing science of soil ecology, Monbiot shows how the hidden biological universe beneath our feet could transform what we eat and how we grow it. He travels to meet the people who are unlocking these methods, from the fruit and vegetable growers who cultivate pests as well as potatoes; through producers of perennial grains who are liberating their fields from ploughs; to the scientists pioneering new forms of protein and fat that can be cooked into rich golden pancakes and much, much more. We start to see how the tiniest life forms in the soil might help us save the living world, allowing us to produce abundant, cheap, healthy food while returning vast swathes of land to the wild. Here, for the first time, is a profoundly hopeful, appetising, and exciting vision of food: of revolutionary cultivation and cuisine that could nourish us all and restore our world of wonders.

Environment/Economics TP \$32.99

Control:

the Dark History and Troubling Present of Eugenics

Rutherford, Adam

A short, highly directed guide to an area of science that is little understood but increasingly part of public discourse by the Sunday Times bestselling author of *How to Argue with a Racist*. Throughout history, people have sought to improve society by reducing suffering, eliminating disease or enhancing desirable qualities in their children. But this wish goes hand in hand with the desire to impose control over who can marry, who can procreate and who is permitted to live. In the Victorian era, in the shadow of Darwin’s ideas about evolution, a new full-blooded attempt to impose control over our unruly biology began to grow in the clubs, salons and offices of the powerful. It was enshrined in a political movement that bastardised science, and for sixty years enjoyed bipartisan and huge popular support. Eugenics was vigorously embraced in dozens of countries. It was also a cornerstone of Nazi ideology, and forged a path that led directly to the gates of Auschwitz. But the underlying ideas are not merely historical. The legacy of eugenics persists in our language and literature, from the words ‘moron’ and ‘imbecile’ to the themes of some of our greatest works of culture. Today, with new gene-editing techniques, very real conversations are happening – including in the heart of British government – about tinkering with the DNA of our unborn children, to make them smarter, fitter, stronger. *Control* tells the story of attempts by the powerful throughout history to dictate reproduction and regulate the interface of breeding and society. It is an urgently needed examination that unpicks one of the defining and most destructive ideas of the 20th century. To know this history is to inoculate ourselves against its being repeated.

Science/History HC \$36.99

Budapest:

Between East and West

Sebestyen, Victor

The dramatic story of Budapest, a city on the fault line between East and West in the heart of Europe. Wallis Simpson, Theodore Roosevelt, Benito Mussolini, Evelyn Waugh, the great tenor Luciano Pavarotti, and the first man in space, Yuri Gagarin, were all agreed: the best thing about Budapest is its position. With the Danube, Budapest forms one of the most beautiful cityscapes that exist along a river. The older side, Buda, looks over at the picture-postcard panorama of modern Pest, developed in the late 19th century as the twin capital of the Austro-Hungarian Empire. But the city is full of reminders of a more distant past, from the 2nd century AD when the Romans located thermal springs in Buda. For around two hundred years from the 1520s most of Hungary was occupied by the Ottoman Turks – just one of the periods when geography and politics placed the country directly on the faultline between East and West. Throughout history the centre of gravity in Budapest and among Hungarians has shifted between East and West – culturally, politically, emotionally. The shifts have sometimes been violent. Victor Sebestyen describes revolutions,

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bloody battles, the Uprising of 1956 and wars of conquest: some won, some lost. Others were more peaceful, although the repercussions were no less significant: for example, the fall of Soviet-style Communism. The story of Budapest is dramatic, and full of extraordinary, colourful personalities. This is history on the grand scale.

History TP \$32.99

Genesis:

the Story of How Everything Began

Tonelli, Guido

A visionary scientific account of the seven 'days' of creation, from a lead player in the hunt for the Higgs boson. What if the ancient Greeks were right, and the universe really did spring into being out of chaos and the void? How could we know? And what must its first moments have been like? To answer these questions, scientists are delving into all the hidden crevices of creation. Armed with giant telescopes and powerful particle accelerators, they probe the subtle mechanisms by which our familiar world came to be, and try to foretell the manner in which it will end. The result of all this collective effort is a complex tale, stranger at times than even our most ancient creation myths. Yet, its building blocks give us the power to work marvels our predecessors could scarcely comprehend. In *Genesis*, the CERN physicist and bestselling author Guido Tonelli does poetic justice to that great story, the accomplishment of countless minds working together across the ages.

Science PBK \$22.99

The Year the World Went Mad: a Scientific Memoir

Woolhouse, Mark

In January 2020, leading epidemiologist Professor Mark Woolhouse learned of a new virus taking hold in China. He immediately foresaw a hard road ahead for the entire world, and emailed the Chief Medical Officer of Scotland warning that the UK should urgently begin preparations. A few days later he received a polite reply stating only that everything was under control. In this astonishing account, Mark Woolhouse shares his story as an insider, having served on advisory groups to both the Scottish and UK governments. He reveals the disregarded advice, frustration of dealing with politicians, and the missteps that led to the deaths of vulnerable people, damage to livelihoods and the disruption of education. He explains the follies of lockdown and sets out the alternatives. Finally, he warns that when the next pandemic comes, we must not dither and we must not panic; never again should we make a global crisis even worse. *The Year the World Went Mad* puts our recent, devastating, history in a completely new light.

Science-y memoir HC \$55.00