

Pulp Fiction

Nonfiction Catalogue January 2023

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Osprey military history

The Cactus Air Force:

Air War over Guadalcanal

**Hammel, Eric
& Cleaver, Thomas McKelvey**

Using diary entries, interviews and first-hand accounts, this vivid narrative brings to life the struggle in the air over the island of Guadalcanal between August 20 and November 15, 1942. For 40 years from 1961, the late Eric Hammel interviewed more than 150 American participants in the air campaign at Guadalcanal, none of whom are still alive. These interviews are the most comprehensive first-person accounts of the battle assembled by any historian. More importantly, they involved the junior officers and enlisted men whose stories and memories were not part of the official history, thus providing a unique insight. The battle of Guadalcanal was the first offensive operation undertaken by the US and its allies in the Pacific War. 'Cactus', the code name for the island, became a sinkhole for Japanese air and naval power, experienced forces whose losses could never be made good. The three months of air battles – between August 20, 1942, when the first Marine air unit arrived on the island, and November 15, when the last enemy attempt to retake the island was defeated – were, perhaps, the most important of the Pacific War. After November 15, 1942, the US never looked back as its forces moved across the Pacific to the war's inevitable conclusion. *The Cactus Air Force* is a joint project between the late Eric Hammel and Pacific War expert Thomas McKelvey Cleaver, and is unlike any other of the many histories of this event that have been published over the years.

Aviation history HC \$49.99

Dünkirchen 1940:

the German View of Dunkirk

Kershaw, Robert

Using revelatory new material on an event which changed the tide of World War II, Robert Kershaw's ground-breaking history explores the Battle of Dunkirk from the German perspective. The British evacuation from the beaches of the small French port town of Dunkirk is one of the iconic moments of military history. The battle has captured the popular imagination through *LIFE* magazine photo spreads, the fiction of Ian McEwan and, of course, Christopher Nolan's hugely successful Hollywood blockbuster. But what is the German view of this stunning Allied escape? Drawing on German interviews, diaries and unit post-action reports, Robert Kershaw creates a page-turning history of a battle that we thought we knew. *Dünkirchen 1940* is the first major history on what went wrong for the Germans at Dunkirk. As supreme military commander, Hitler had seemingly achieved a miracle after the swift capitulation of Holland and Belgium, but with just seven kilometres before the panzers captured

Dunkirk – the only port through which the trapped British Expeditionary force might escape – they came to a shuddering stop. Hitler had lost control of his stunning advance. Only a detailed interpretation of the German perspective – historically lacking to date – can provide answers as to why. Drawing on his own military experience, his German language skills and his historian's eye for detail, Robert Kershaw creates a new history of this familiar battle. With a fresh angle on this famous conflict, *Dünkirchen 1940* delves into the under-evaluated major German miscalculation both strategically and tactically that arguably cost Hitler the war.

Military history HC \$42.99

Arctic Convoys 1942:

the Luftwaffe cuts Russia's lifeline

Air Campaign 32

**Lardas, Mark
& Tooby, Adam (illustrator)**

A new history of the most crucial few months of the Arctic Convoys, when Germany's air power forced the Allies to retreat to the cover of winter. Between spring and autumn 1942, Germany was winning the battle of the Arctic Convoys. Half of PQ-15 was sunk in May, PQ-17 was virtually obliterated in July, and in September 30 percent of PQ-18 was sunk. The Allies were forced to suspend the convoys until December, when the long Arctic nights would shield them. Mark Lardas argues that in 1942, it was Luftwaffe air power that made the difference. With convoys sailing in endless daylight, German strike aircraft now equipped and trained for torpedo attacks, and bases in northern Norway available, the Luftwaffe could wreak havoc. Three-quarters of the losses of PQ-18 were due to air attacks. But in November, the Luftwaffe was redeployed south to challenge the Allied landings in North Africa, and the advantage was lost. Despite that, the Allies never again sailed an Arctic convoy in the summer months. Fully illustrated, with archive photos, striking new artwork, maps and diagrams, this is the remarkable history of the Luftwaffe's last strategic victory of World War II.

Naval history PBK \$29.99

The Mighty Eighth:

Masters of the Air over Europe 1942–45

Nijboer, Donald

This is a superbly-illustrated examination of the aircraft, pilots, crews and operations of the US Eighth Air Force. The US Eighth Air Force – known as the 'Mighty Eighth' – was a combat air force activated in Georgia, USA on January 28, 1942. Its bomber command soon moved to Northern Europe to conduct strategic bombing missions, seeking to destroy Germany's ability to wage war. Among the major operations it participated in were 'Big Week' in February 1944; the D-Day landings in June 1944; and the

defeat of the Luftwaffe and destruction of German industry. Eighth Air Force was the largest of the deployed combat Army Air Forces in numbers of personnel, aircraft, and equipment. At peak strength, Eighth Air Force had 40 heavy bomber groups, 15 fighter groups, and four specialised support groups. This work provides a superbly-illustrated and fully-comprehensive exploration of the Mighty Eighth's bomber and fighter planes, its incredibly brave pilots and crew, and its daring and dramatic operations. It also explores the careers of key personalities associated with the Mighty Eighth, such as Earle Partridge, James Doolittle, and William Kepner. Packed with hundreds of colour aircraft profiles, battle-scene artworks, and period photographs, *The Mighty Eighth* provides a truly comprehensive look at the illustrious history of the US Eighth Air Force.

Aviation history HC \$59.99

Essex-Class Aircraft Carriers 1945–91

New Vanguard 310

Stille, Mark

& Tooby, Adam (illustrator)

A history of the enduring Essex-class ships, the US Navy's finest and most numerous fleet carrier during World War II, which were modernised repeatedly and served with distinction. The Essex class was the USN's war-winning ship class of the Pacific War. Of the 24 ships completed, 14 saw action, making the Essex class the largest class of fleet aircraft carriers ever built. These ships had a fine balance of striking power, protection, and speed and were modernised during and after the war. There were five distinct programs carried out, adding not only angled flight decks for jet operations, but repeated upgrades to sensors, weapons, and equipment. Essex-class carriers were used in a number of roles and provided the vast majority of US Navy air power in the Korean War, and a sizeable proportion of air power in the Vietnam conflict. However, as the 'super carriers' began to enter service in the early 1960s, the Essex class was relegated to secondary roles – a single Essex carrier served until 1991 as the US Navy's training carrier. Using detailed artwork and photos, this book provides an in-depth portrait of this important and enduring class of ship, and looks at its development and modifications while considering the many and varied actions it took part in.

Naval history PBK \$22.99

Chobham Armour:

Cold War British Armoured Vehicle Development

Suttie, William

A comprehensive overview of the work of the Military Vehicles Research and Development Establishment on Chobham Common, which provided armoured vehicles

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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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for the British Army from 1945 to its close in 2004. Through much of World War II, British tanks and armoured vehicles were outmatched by the German tanks they encountered and this led to the British Army placing much emphasis on ensuring that the same situation would not arise again if the Cold War turned hot. The task of developing the Main Battle Tanks and supporting armoured vehicles to out-range and quickly destroy the Soviet threat fell to the scientists and engineers at the Fighting Vehicle Research and Development Establishment on Chobham Common near to Chertsey. It was the design authority for all British Military vehicles for most of the period. Military vehicle and equipment expert William Suttie draws extensively on official MOD reports to tell the story of the development of the British Cold War armour, such as the Centurion, Chieftain, Challenger, and many other wheeled and tracked armour vehicles that served the British Army of the Rhine.

The vehicles developed at the Chertsey site were never used for their intended purpose on the plains of North-west Germany, but have proved their worth in British operations in places like Korea, Bosnia, Kuwait, Iraq and Afghanistan, as well as in the hands of other users around the world. Fully illustrated with photographs, schemes and drawings, including some that have never been published before, this is a unique, detailed overview of the development of all post-war British armoured vehicles.

Military history HC \$69.99

Soviet Pistols:

Tokarev, Makarov, Stechkin and others
Weapon 84

Thompson, Leroy & Gilliland, Alan; Shumate, Johnny (illustrators)

This is the absorbing story of the development, combat use and legacy of the

influential side arms used by the armed forces of the Soviet Union. Featuring archive and present-day photography and specially commissioned artwork, this is the story of the pistols that armed the forces of the Soviet Union and its allies during and after World War II. In 1930, the TT, a single-action semi-automatic pistol developed by Fedor Vasilyevich Tokarev and firing 7.62x25mm ammunition, began to supplement the venerable Nagant M1895 revolver in Soviet military service. From 1933 the TT-33, a simplified version, was also issued; all three would equip Soviet and proxy forces throughout and after World War II, seeing action across the globe. In 1951, a new pistol designed by Nikolay Fyodorovich Makarov entered Soviet service; it became the primary Soviet military and police sidearm during the Cold War era and continued in use into the 21st century. The 9x18mm Makarov round was used in various weapons used by Soviet allies, notably the Czech vz 82, the

Hungarian FÉG PA63 and the Polish P64 and P83. The PM was quickly joined by the Stechkin machine pistol. Other specialised versions of the Makarov were developed, including the PB suppressed version and the 5.45x18mm PSM, a more compact version. Initially developed in 1990, the improved PMM version of the Makarov was intended primarily to increase the stopping power of the 9x18mm round by chambering a higher-pressure load. In this study, noted weaponry expert Leroy Thompson tells the story of the Tokarev, Makarov, Stechkin and other handguns in service with Soviet and other forces around the world, exploring the development, combat use and legacy of these formidable firearms.

Military history PBK \$29.99

General nonfiction

Space: the Passenger

For those of us who remain on Earth, space offers a spiritual dimension, and the search for answers to age-old questions. Collecting: *Night, Sleep, Death and the Stars* by Lauren Giordano; *The Universe Underground* by Paolo Giordano; and *We All Hated Each Other So Much* by Frank Westermann. Plus: discovering new planets and destroying satellites; returning to the Moon (this time, to stay); the Mars delusion; the hunt for extra-terrestrial life, and much more...

In the 1960s, the rivalry between the superpowers brought us into space, adding a whole new dimension to human life. The last frontier was open: between 1969 and 1972, 12 men (but no women) walked on the moon. No one has since. The space race revealed itself for what it really was: a political and military competition. Space agencies, however, have not been idle and the exploration of the solar system has continued with probes and robots. Without politics, science has thrived. But the lack of government funding has opened space exploration to the forces of capitalism: the race has started again, with different rules and different players. Colonising Mars might not be the solution to humanity's problems, but the promise of space – whether expressed in a tweet by Elon Musk or a photo taken by a NASA rover on Mars – keeps proving irresistible.

Space TP \$32.99

Concorde:

the thrilling account of history's most extraordinary airliner

Bannister, Mike

The definitive account of the rise and fall of the iconic Concorde plane from British Airways' former Chief Concorde Pilot. The 24th of October 2023 will mark 20 years, since Concorde disappeared from our skies. Yet, still, Mike Bannister, the last Concorde Chief Pilot, faces the same questions: Why is she no longer flying? Where is her replacement? And what really happened on that tragic afternoon in July 2000, when the crash of Flight 4590 grounded the Concorde forever? *Concorde* is an enthralling personal

account of what it takes to fly planes faster than the speed of sound, and of the events that lay behind 114 needless deaths – the 113 victims of the crash and, ultimately, Concorde, herself.

Aviation history HC \$49.99

Reminders of the Day:

More Diaries from the Bookshop, Wigtown

Bythell, Shaun

Bookseller and bestselling author Shaun Bythell is back, and he has some thoughts about that Kindle you bought over lockdown. The Bookshop in Wigtown is a bookworm's idyll – with thousands of books across nearly a mile of shelves, a real log fire, and Captain, the bookshop cat. You'd think after 20 years, owner Shaun Bythell would be used to the customers, by now. Don't get him wrong – there are some good ones among the antiquarian porn-hunters, die-hard Arthurians, people who confuse bookshops for libraries and the toddlers just looking for a nice cosy corner in which to wee. He's sure there are. There must be some good ones, right? Filled with the pernickety warmth and humour that has touched readers around the world, stuffed with literary treasures, hidden gems and incunabula, *Reminders of the Day* is Shaun Bythell's latest entry in his bestselling diary series.

Bookselling HC \$34.99

Space, Time and Motion

Biggest Ideas in the Universe

Carroll, Sean

Knowledge is power... A landmark new series from a prize-winning scientist and communicator. In this major trilogy, Sean Carroll opens up the world of physics and shows that you don't necessarily need a science degree to gain a deeper insight into the workings of the universe. Starting with the ideas that revolutionised our view of nature, *Space, Time and Motion* poses deep questions about the cosmos, guiding us through classical physics from Euclid and Galileo to Newton and Einstein. Carroll investigates how a twin could be seven years older than her brother, and demonstrates why it's easier than you might think for a drifting astronaut

to get back to the safety of the space station. These are the laws of physics as you've never understood them before.

Science HC \$42.99

The Commanders:

the Leadership Journeys of George Patton, Bernard Montgomery and Erwin Rommel

Clark, Lloyd

Born in the two decades prior to World War I, George Patton, Bernard Montgomery and Erwin Rommel became among the most recognised and successful military leaders of the 20th century. However, as acclaimed military historian Lloyd Clark reveals in his penetrating and insightful chronicle of their lives, they charted very different, often interrupted, paths to their ultimate leadership positions commanding hundreds of thousands of troops during World War II. Each faced battle for the first time in World War I, a searing experience that greatly influenced their future approach to war and leadership. When war broke out again in 1939, Montgomery and Rommel were immediately engaged, while Patton chafed until the US joined the Allies in 1942 and the three men, by then generals, collided in North Africa in 1943, and then again, climactically, in France after D-Day in 1944. Weaving letters, diary extracts, official reports and other documents into his original narrative, recounting dramatic battles as they developed on the ground and at headquarters, Clark also explores the controversies that swirled around Patton, Montgomery and Rommel throughout their careers, sometimes threatening to derail them. Ultimately, however, their unique abilities to bridge the space between leader and led cemented their legendary reputations.

Military history HC \$49.99

222 QI Answers to Your Quite Ingenious Questions

More of Your Questions

Answered by the QI Elves

Elves, QI

The perfect gift for the incurably curious; with an introduction from Zoe Ball. From spiders to stinging nettles, bees to boy bands and twins to thermal undies, you'll

wonder why these questions hadn't occurred to you before – but you'll never forget the answers and will want to share them with all your friends. Which lottery numbers should I pick? Is it true that we are made entirely of stardust? Can dogs tell the time? Why do songs get stuck in my head? If Rome wasn't built in a day, how long did it take? How do you wash a raspberry? What is the most expensive thing on Earth? Where is last Wednesday?

Trivia PBK \$19.99

Nero:

Matricide, Music, and Murder in Imperial Rome

Everitt, Anthony & Ashworth, Roddy

There are many infamous stories about the Roman emperor Nero: He set fire to Rome and thrummed his lyre as it burned. Cruel, vain, and incompetent, he then celebrated the charred ruins and built a vast palace. He committed incest with his mother, who had schemed and killed to place him on the throne, and later murdered her. Nero has long been the very image of a bad ruler, a legacy left behind by the historians of his day, who despised him. But there is a mystery. For a long time after his death, anonymous hands laid flowers on his grave. The monster was loved. In this nuanced biography, Anthony Everitt, the celebrated biographer of classical Greece and Rome, and investigative journalist Roddy Ashworth reveal the contradictions inherent in Nero and offer a reappraisal of his life. Contrary to popular memory, the empire was well managed during his reign. He presided over diplomatic triumphs and Rome's epic conquest of Britain and British queen Boudicca's doomed revolt against Nero's legions. He was also a champion of arts and culture who loved music, and he won the loyalty of the lower classes with fantastic spectacles. He did not set fire to Rome. In *Nero*, ancient Rome comes to life: the crowded streets that made it prone to fires, deadly political intrigues, and building projects that continuously remade the city. In this teeming and politically unstable world, Nero was vulnerable to fierce

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reproach from the nobility and relatives who would gladly usurp him, and he was often too ready to murder rivals. He had a vision for Rome, but, racked by insecurity, perhaps he never really had the stomach to govern it. This is the bloodstained story of one of Rome's most notorious emperors. Nero has become a byword for cruelty, decadence, and despotism, but in Anthony Everitt's hands, Nero's life is a cautionary tale about the mettle it takes to rule.

History HC \$59.99

The Ministry of Quizzes **Gentle, David**

Deep in the heart of Whitehall, up an unnoticeable side road, is an office block. Unremarkable on the outside, inside it buzzes and bustles with activity. Civil servants are hard at work, researching, compiling, cross checking. Facts and trivia, questions and puzzles. This is the Ministry of Quizzes. This small but essential government department serves the nation's needs on all matters relating to quizzes, puzzles and general knowledge trivia. Now, for the first time, their work can be revealed. *The Ministry of Quizzes* features an ingenious and irresistible mixture of over 200 quizzes and puzzles to be played solo or with family and friends. Not everyone is convinced that this government department actually exists. But how else could we explain such a copious and comprehensive collection of diverse, devious and distracting questions and brainteasers?

Puzzles PBK \$22.99

Hadrian's Wall **Goldsworthy, Adrian**

A beautifully produced account of the history and importance of Hadrian's Wall, by a bestselling author and expert on Ancient Rome. Located at the far-flung and wild edge of the Roman Empire, Hadrian's Wall was constructed by Emperor Hadrian in the 120s AD. Vast in size and stretching from the east to the west coast of the northern part of Britannia, it is the largest monument left by the Roman empire – all the more striking because it lies so far from Rome. Today, it is one of the most visited heritage sites in the country. Yet, the story of the Wall is far more than the development of a line of fortifications and the defence of a troublesome imperial frontier. Generation after generation of soldiers served there, with their families as well as traders and other foreign and local civilians in and around the army bases. The glimpses of this vibrant, multinational community in Adrian Goldsworthy's masterly book bring the bare stones to life. Goldsworthy also considers why and how the wall was built, and discusses the fascinating history, afterlife and archaeology of this unique ancient monument.

History PBK \$22.99

Nine Musings on Time **Gribbin, John**

Time travel is a familiar theme of science fiction, but is it really possible? Surprisingly, time travel is not forbidden by the laws of physics – and John Gribbin argues that if it is not impossible then it must be possible. Gribbin brilliantly illustrates the possibilities of time travel by comparing familiar themes from science fiction with their real-world scientific counterparts, including Einstein's

theories of relativity, black holes, quantum physics, and the multiverse, illuminated by examples from the fictional tales of Robert Heinlein, Larry Niven, Carl Sagan, and others. The result is an entertaining guide to some deep mysteries of the Universe which may leave you wondering whether time actually passes at all, and if it does, whether we are moving forwards or backwards. A must read for science fiction fans, and anyone intrigued by deep science.

Science HC \$24.99

The BBC: a People's History **Hendy, David**

In 1922, a tiny group of men and women came together to found the BBC, using what had been a weapon of war – Marconi's wireless – to remake culture for the good of humanity. Twenty years later, when George Orwell famously quit the Corporation, he decided he was done 'doing work that produces no result'. Yet, the BBC is now one of Britain's most beloved institutions. Stars once fainted at the microphone; now, a select few spend their Saturdays waltzing for the nation's entertainment in front of studio cameras. From Daleks to Desert Island Discs, the BBC has blazed a trail for British entertainment. Yet, it has also always been at the forefront of global change, both breaking and covering the most important stories of the century on *Panorama* and BBC News. This is a stirring and monumental history of the British cultural stalwart which created modern broadcasting 100 years ago.

History PBK \$24.99

Britain's Heritage Railways: **Discover More than 100 Historic Lines**

Holland, Julian
Explore Britain's remaining historic lines with railway expert Julian Holland. The essential guide to exploring Britain's last remaining historic lines, *Britain's Heritage Railways* is ideal for anyone planning or looking for a nostalgic railway trip. From bestselling railway author Julian Holland. More than 100 locations, the majority steam operated, featured all over Britain. Highly illustrated with maps and old and new photographs. Historic lines include: Bodmin and Wenford Railway – two rural branch lines with a rich industrial history tucked away in Cornwall; West Somerset Railway – the longest heritage railway in England with views of the Quantock Hills and the sea; Bluebell Railway – a Victorian steam railway deep in rural mid-Sussex; North Norfolk Railway – a delightful journey through heathland with views of the sea; Dean Forest Railway – with a rich industrial history this heritage railway takes passengers into the ancient Forest of Dean; Ffestiniog Railway – a steam operated Victorian narrow gauge slate railway clinging to steep hillsides; Wensleydale Railway – a long heritage railway in the unspoilt Yorkshire Dales; and Speyside Railway – a Highland line with views of the Cairngorm Mountains.

History TP \$32.99

Out of the Depths: **a History of Shipwrecks** **Jamieson, Alan G**

A highly-illustrated voyage through shipwrecks, ancient and contemporary. *Out of the Depths* explores all aspects of

shipwrecks across 4,000 years, examining their historical context and significance, and showing how shipwrecks can be time capsules, shedding new light on long-departed societies and civilisations. Alan G Jamieson not only informs readers of the technological developments over the last 60 years that have made the true appreciation of shipwrecks possible, but covers shipwrecks in culture, maritime archaeology, treasure hunters and their environmental impacts. Although shipwrecks have become less common in recent decades, their implications have become more wide ranging: since the 1960s, foundering supertankers have caused massive environmental disasters; and, in 2021, the blocking of the Suez Canal by the giant container ship *Ever Given* had a serious impact on global trade.

History HC \$49.99

The Girl Who Built an Ocean: **An Artist, an Argonaut, and the True Story of the World's First Aquarium**

Keating, Jess

& Nutter, Michelle Mee

The inspiring tale of a seamstress-turned-scientist who invented the world's first aquarium, at a time when women in STEM were startlingly rare. The daughter of a seamstress and a cobbler, Jeanne Villepreux-Power began her career as a dressmaker, sewing beautiful gowns for the Parisian aristocracy. But her heart longed for more, and when she moved to the seaside, she became fascinated by the ocean's mysteries. She filled her pockets with seashells and specimens, and filled her notebooks with observations about coral and crustaceans and all manner of marine life. The argonaut interested her, most of all, but Jeanne's observations of this shy creature were confounded by its tendency to swim away when approached. Jeanne wanted a way to bring a piece of the ocean home with her, and that's she came to build the world's first aquarium – an invention that would pave the way for countless scientific discoveries in the years to come... Jeanne's story is brought vividly to life with lively text and vibrant artwork that captures the curiosity and perseverance of this pioneering woman in science brought to everything she did.

Science TP \$29.99

Himalaya: Exploring **the Roof of the World** **Keay, John**

History has not been kind to Himalaya. Empires have collided here, cultures have clashed. Buddhist India claimed it from the south, Islam put down roots in its western approaches, Mongols and Manchus rode in from the north, and, from the east, China continues to absorb what it prefers not to call Tibet. Hunters have decimated its wildlife and mountaineers have bagged its peaks. Today, machinery gouges minerals out of its rock. Roughly the size of Europe, the region is one of the most seismically active on the planet. Summers bring avalanches, rainfall triggers landslides and winters obliterate trails. Glaciers retreat, rivers change course and whole lakes quietly evaporate. To some, Himalaya is an otherworldly realm, profoundly life changing, yet forbidding and forbidden. It has mesmerised scholars and mystics, sportsmen and spies, pilgrims

and mapmakers who have mingled with the farmers and traders on the 'Roof of the World'. *Himalaya* is the story of one of the last great wildernesses and, in particular, of the bizarre discoveries and improbable achievements of its pioneers. Ranging from botany to trade, from the Great Game to today's geopolitics, John Keay draws on a lifetime of exploration and study to enlighten and delight with this lively biography of a region in crisis.

Natural history TP \$34.99

Liborum Ridiculorum: **a Compendium of Bizarre Books** **Lake, Brian**

A celebration of all the weird and wonderful books to be found at an antiquarian bookshop. Books have the power to enrich the soul, to enliven the senses, to expand our horizons... and others are simply mad. This wonderful celebration of the oddest books ever published is a treat for all bibliophiles, booksellers, and fans of the bizarre. It is an exploration of the most eccentric titles and covers from our past, which have inexplicably fallen out of print but should never be forgotten. Gems include: *Scouts in Bondage; Frog Raising for Pleasure and Profit; Premature Burial and How It May Be Prevented; Drummer Dick's Discharge.*

Books HC \$24.99

Models of the Mind: **How Physics, Engineering and** **Mathematics Have Shaped** **Our Understanding of the Brain**

Lindsay, Grace
The human brain is made up of 85 billion neurons, which are connected by over 100 trillion synapses. For more than a century, a diverse array of researchers searched for a language that could be used to capture the essence of what these neurons do and how they communicate – and how those communications create thoughts, perceptions and actions. The language they were looking for was mathematics, and we would not be able to understand the brain as we do today without it. In *Models of the Mind*, author and computational neuroscientist Grace Lindsay explains how mathematical models have allowed scientists to understand and describe many of the brain's processes, including decision making, sensory processing, quantifying memory, and more. She introduces readers to the most important concepts in modern neuroscience, and highlights the tensions that arise when the abstract world of mathematical modelling collides with the messy details of biology. Each chapter of *Models of the Mind* focuses on mathematical tools that have been applied in a particular area of neuroscience, progressing from the simplest building block of the brain – the individual neuron – through to circuits of interacting neurons, whole brain areas and even the behaviours that brains command. In addition, Grace examines the history of the field, starting with experiments done on frog legs in the late-18th century and building to the large models of artificial neural networks that form the basis of modern artificial intelligence. Throughout, she reveals the value of using the elegant language of mathematics to describe the machinery of neuroscience.

Science TP \$29.99

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The Nazi Conspiracy:

the Secret Plot to Kill Roosevelt, Stalin, and Churchill

Meltzer, Brad & Mensch, Josh

In 1943, as the war against Nazi Germany raged abroad, President Franklin Roosevelt had a critical goal: a face-to-face sit-down with his allies Joseph Stalin and Winston Churchill. This first-ever meeting of the Big Three in Tehran, Iran, would decide some of the most crucial strategic details of the war. Yet, when the Nazis found out about the meeting, their own secret plan took shape – an assassination plot that would've changed history. A true story filled with daring rescues, body doubles, and political intrigue, *The Nazi Conspiracy* details FDR's pivotal meeting in Tehran and the deadly Nazi plot against the heads of state of the three major Allied powers who attended it. With all the hallmarks of a Brad Meltzer and Josh Mensch page turner, *The Nazi Conspiracy* explores the great political minds of the 20th century, investigating the pivotal years of the war in gripping detail. This meeting of the Big Three changed the course of World War II. Here's the inside story of how it almost led to a world-shattering disaster.

History HC \$62.95

Calling the Spirits:

a History of Séances

Morton, Lisa

Calling the Spirits investigates the eerie history of our conversations with the dead, from necromancy in Homer's *Odyssey* to the emergence of Spiritualism, when Victorians were entranced by mediums and the séance was born. Among our cast are the Fox sisters, teenagers surrounded by 'spirit rappings'; Daniel Dunglas Home, the 'greatest medium of all time'; Houdini and Sir Arthur Conan Doyle, whose unlikely friendship was forged, then riven, by the afterlife; and Helen Duncan, the medium whose trial in 1944 for witchcraft proved more popular to the public than news about the war. The book also considers Ouija boards, modern psychics, and paranormal investigations, and is illustrated with engravings, fine art (from beyond), and photographs. A hugely entertaining contribution from the supernaturally adept Lisa Morton, *Calling the Spirits* begs the question: is anybody there...

History PBK \$22.99

How the Victorians Took Us to the Moon

Morus, Iwan Rhys

The Victorians invented the idea of the future – it was an undiscovered country, ripe for exploration and colonisation. To get us to the future, the Victorians created a new way of ordering and transforming nature, built on grand designs and the mass-mobilisation of the resources of Empire – and revolutionised science in the process. In this rich and absorbing book, distinguished historian of science Iwan Rhys Morus tells the story of how this future was made. From Charles Babbage's dream of mechanising mathematics to Isambard Kingdom Brunel's tunnel beneath the Thames, from George Cayley's fantasies of powered flight to Nikola Tesla's visions of an electrical world, it is a story of towering personalities, clashing ambitions, furious rivalries and conflicting cultures – a rich

tapestry of remarkable lives that transformed the world beyond recognition and ultimately took us to the Moon.

History/Science HC \$49.99

Et tu, Brute?

the Best Latin Lines Ever

Mount, Harry & Davie, John

There are so many Latin phrases in everyday use that often we use them without understanding the background and context within which they were actually used. 'Carpe diem'; 'Stet'; 'Memento mori'; 'Et tu, Brute' – examples would fill a book. And often these phrases are also used in English translation: 'The dye is cast'; 'crossing the Rubicon'; 'Rome was not built in a day'. Many of these phrases are humorous, but they are also a rich source of wisdom: the wisdom of the ancients. The chapters of this book include: Life's Misfortunes and how to deal with them; How to deal with old age (Cicero); Why Death is nothing to fear (Lucretius); The Stoic guide to life. Each chapter starts with a quotation and is lightly sprinkled with many more, with accompanying English translations. The background to each quotation is explained so that the context is fully understood. Who crossed the Rubicon and why, for example? At a time of great political and social turbulence, more and more people are turning back to ancient wisdom as a guide to life. Here they are in touch with two classical scholars of distinction who have the common touch.

Philosophy/Language HC \$42.99

Flush:

the Remarkable Science of an Unlikely Treasure

Nelson, Bryn

For readers of Giulia Enders' *Gut* and Bill Bryson's *The Body*, a surprising, witty and sparkling exploration of the teeming microbiome of possibility in human faeces from microbiologist and science journalist Bryn Nelson. The future is sh*t: the literal kind. For most of human history we've been, well, disinclined to take a closer look at our body's natural product – the complex antihero of this story – save for gleaning some prophecy of our own health. But if we were to take more than a passing look at our poop, we would spy a veritable cornucopia of possibilities. We would see potent medicine, sustainable power, and natural fertiliser to restore the world's depleted lands. We would spy a time capsule of evidence for understanding past lives and murderous ends. We would glimpse effective ways of measuring and improving human health from the cradle to the grave, early warnings of community outbreaks like COVID-19, and new means of identifying environmental harm – and then reversing it. *Flush* is both an urgent exploration of the world's single most squandered natural resource, and a *cri de coeur* (or *cri de colon?*) for the vast, hidden value in our 'waste'. Award-winning journalist and microbiologist Bryn Nelson PhD, leads readers through the colon and beyond with infectious enthusiasm, helping to usher in a necessary mental shift that could restore our balance with the rest of the planet and save us from ourselves. Unlocking poop's enormous potential will require us to overcome our shame and disgust

and embrace our role as the producers and architects of a more circular economy in which lowly by-products become our species' salvation. Locked within you is a medicine cabinet, a biogas pipeline, a glass of drinking water, a mound of fuel briquettes; it's time to open the doors (carefully!). A dose of medicine, a glass of water, a gallon of rocket fuel, an acre of soil: sometimes hope arrives in surprising packages.

Science HC \$42.99

United States of Cryptids:

a Tour of American Myths and Monsters

Ocker, J W

Meet the monsters in our midst, from bigfoot to Mothman and beyond! Welcome to the United States of Cryptids, where mysterious monsters lurk in the dark forests, deep lakes, and sticky swamps of all 50 states. From the infamous Jersey Devil to the obscure Snallygaster, travel writer and chronicler of the strange J W Ocker uncovers the bizarre stories of these creatures and investigates the ways in which communities embrace and celebrate their local cryptids. Readers will learn about: Batsquatch of Washington, a winged bigfoot that is said to have emerged from the eruption of Mount Saint Helens; Nain Rouge of Michigan, a fierce red goblin that has been spotted before every major city disaster in Detroit; Flatwoods Monster of West Virginia, a robotic extra-terrestrial that crash landed in rural Appalachia; Lizard Man of South Carolina, a reptilian mutant that attacked a teenager in the summer of 1988; Gloucester Ghoul of Rhode Island, a fire-breathing dragon that guards a hoard of pirate treasure; and many more! Whether you believe in Bigfoot or not, this fully-illustrated compendium is a fun, frightening, fascinating tour through American folklore and history, exploring the stories we tell about monsters and what those stories say about us.

Folklore/History TP \$34.99

History of War in Maps

Parker, Philip

From the moment towns and cities arose, the struggle for land, resources and power has turned to violence. Almost from the start, maps have been an essential part of planning and waging war. *History of War in Maps* gives a unique visual representation of the development of warfare and the maps that have helped shaped our history. Each map in this beautifully-designed volume plays a crucial role. While countless campaign strategies have relied on detailed and accurate mapping, entire wars have been fought over the maps themselves, with hopes of redrawing boundaries and redefining nations. Spanning more than 2,000 years, this book expertly curates more than 70 historical maps which tell the fascinating story of war: from ancient and medieval warfare to modern-day global conflicts. Featuring maps of historic battles such as: Battle of Marathon, 490 BC; Battle of Hastings, 1066; Battle of Crecy, 1346; Battle of Lützen (Thirty Years' War), 1632; Battle of Saratoga, 1777; Battle of Austerlitz, 1805; Battle of Balaklava (Crimean War), 1854; Siege of Vicksburg, 1863; Battle of Isandhlwana (Anglo-Zulu War), 1879; Battle of Spion Kop (Anglo-Boer War), 1900; Gallipoli campaign, 1915; D-Day, 1944; and Operation Desert Storm, 1993.

Military history HC \$55.00

The Curtain and the Wall:

a Modern Journey Along Europe's Cold War Border

Phillips, Timothy

A landmark journey along the full length of the old Iron Curtain – from the Arctic Circle to Turkey's eastern border – tracing the history of the Cold War and meeting the people who live with its legacy. The Iron Curtain divided the continent of Europe, north to south, with the Berlin Wall as its most visible, infamous manifestation. Since the Cold War ended and these borders came down, Europe has transformed itself. New generations have grown up, freed from the tensions and restrictions of the past. But what do the Curtain and the Wall mean today? What has happened to the people and places they divided? What have they left in their wake? In a major new book, Timothy Phillips travels the route of the Iron Curtain from deep inside the Arctic Circle to the meeting point of Armenia, Azerbaijan, and Turkey. He explores the borderlands where the clash of civilisations was at its most intense between 1945 and 1989, and where the world's most powerful ideologies became tangible in reinforced concrete and barbed wire. He looks at the new Europe that emerged from the ruins. The people he meets bear vivid witness to times of change. There are those who look back on the Cold War with nostalgia and affection. Others despise it, unable to forgive the hard and sometimes lost decades that their families, friends and nations endured. These old fault lines have much to tell us about Europe, now, and about our societies' current disputes – over borders, and about belonging and the meaning of progress. *The Curtain and the Wall* transports the reader across 5,000 kilometres of Europe and through eight decades, to show how one of the defining stories of the 20th century continues to shape our world today.

History/Travelogue HC \$39.99

Treasured:

How Tutankhamun Shaped a Century

Riggs, Christina

When it was found in 1922, the 3,300-year-old tomb of Tutankhamun sent shockwaves around the world, turning the boy-king into a household name overnight, and kick-starting an international media obsession that endures to this day. From pop culture and politics to tourism and heritage, and from the Jazz Age to the climate crisis, it's impossible to imagine the 20th century without the discovery of Tutankhamun – yet, so much of the story remains untold. Here, for the first time, Christina Riggs weaves compelling historical analysis with tales of lives touched by an encounter with Tutankhamun, including her own. *Treasured* offers a bold new history of the young pharaoh who has as much to tell us about our world as his own.

History PBK \$24.99

The Golden Mole and Other Vanishing Wonders

Rundell, Katherine

A gloriously illustrated and fascinating bestiary of the world's most extraordinary, endangered animals – a treasure trove of vanishing wonders. A pangolin's tongue is longer than its body. It keeps it furled in a nifty pouch near the hip. A swift flies

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200,000 miles in its lifetime. That's far enough to get to the moon and back – then back to the moon. There's a fable that storks deliver babies. In fact, the Nazis used them to air drop propaganda. Each of these animals is extraordinary. And each of them may soon disappear from the earth. A lavishly-illustrated compendium of the staggering lives of some of the world's most endangered animals, *The Golden Mole* is a chance to be awestruck and love struck – to fall for the likes of the wondrous Pygmy Hippo, the seahorse, the narwhal and, as astonishing and endangered as them all, the human.

Natural history HC \$32.99

The Brain:

10 Things You Should Know

Scott, Sophie

Professor of Cognitive Neuroscience at UCL, Sophie Scott, presents the mind-blowing complexities of the brain and how it affects our personalities, behaviours, and more. Composed of 10 mind-blowing, yet accessible essays, *The Brain* guides you through the astounding complexities of the organ that makes you, you. From diving into the networks of neurons that are vital to our functioning, to the way our brains differ from one another and how neuroscience is shaping up for the future; this book is a guide to our most powerful and awe-inspiring body part. If you have ever wondered what's going on inside your head (or someone else's), this book will be a fascinating and enthralling read.

Science HC \$29.99

The Path of Peace:

Walking the Western Front Way

Seldon, Anthony

Without a permanent home, a wife, or a job, and with no clear sense of where his life was going, Anthony Seldon set out on a 35-day pilgrimage from the French-Swiss border to the English Channel. The route of his 1,000 kilometre journey was inspired by a young British soldier of the First World War, Alexander Douglas Gillespie, who dreamed of creating a 'Via Sacra' that the men, women and children of Europe could walk to honour the fallen. Tragically, Gillespie was killed in action, his vision forgotten for 100 years, until a chance discovery in the archive of one of England's oldest schools galvanised Anthony into seeing the Via Sacra permanently

established. Tracing the historic route of the Western Front, he traversed some of Europe's most beautiful and evocative scenery, from the Vosges, Argonne, and Champagne to the haunting trenches of Arras, the Somme, and Ypres. Along the way, he wrestled heat exhaustion, dog bites and blisters as well as a deeper search for inner peace and renewed purpose. Touching on grief, loss and the legacy of war, *The Path of Peace* is the extraordinary story of Anthony's epic walk, an unforgettable act of remembrance and a triumphant rediscovery of what matters most in life.

History/Travelogue HC \$39.99

What's the Use?

the Unreasonable Effectiveness of Mathematics

Stewart, Ian

Many people think mathematics is useless. They're wrong. In the UK, the 2.8 million people employed in mathematical science occupations contributed £208 billion to the economy in a single year – that's 10 per cent of the workforce contributing 16 per cent of the economy. *What's the Use?* asks why there is such a vast gulf between public perceptions of mathematics and reality. It shows how mathematics is vital, often in surprising ways, behind the scenes of daily life. How politicians pick their voters. How an absurd little puzzle, solved 300 years ago, leads to efficient methods for kidney transplants. And how a bizarre, infinitely wiggly curve helps to optimise deliveries to your door.

Science PBK \$22.99

The Nine:

How a Band of Daring Resistance Women Escaped from Nazi Germany – the Powerful True Story

Strauss, Gwen

The thrilling, cinematic, untold story of nine young women, WWII resistance fighters, captured by the Nazis, who launched a breathtakingly bold escape and found their way home. As the Second World War raged across Europe, and the Nazi regime tightened its reign of horror and oppression, nine women, some still in their teens, joined the French and Dutch Resistance. Caught out in heroic acts against the brutal occupiers, they were each tortured and sent east into Greater

Germany to a concentration camp, where they formed a powerful friendship. In 1945, as the war turned against Hitler, they were forced on a Death March, facing starvation and almost certain death. Determined to survive, they made a bid for freedom, and so began one of the most breathtaking tales of escape and resilience of the Second World War. The author is the great-niece of one of the nine, and she interweaves their gripping flight across war-torn Europe with her own detective work, uncovering the heart-stopping escape and survival of these heroes who fought fearlessly against Nazi Germany and lived to tell the tale.

History PBK \$22.99

Numbers:

10 Things You Should Know

Stuart, Colin

Uncover the language of our universe – numbers – in this wide-ranging, whistle-stop tour of the history and majesty of mathematics. Our world simply wouldn't function if we didn't have numbers. But where do they come from? Why do we cut cake the wrong way? How can there be different sizes of infinity? All these questions and more are answered in this engaging romp through the history of numbers by acclaimed science writer, Colin Stuart. From the mathematicians who have (and haven't) shouted 'Eureka!' to the theories that affect and inform our everyday lives; *Numbers* shows us that maths was never boring – we were just being taught it in the wrong way. Consisting of 10 bite-sized essays, there's no better guide to this fundamental science.

Mathematics HC \$29.99

Dinner in Rome:

a History of the World in One Meal

Viestad, Andreas

With a celebrated food writer as host, a delectable history of Roman cuisine and the world – served one dish at a time. 'There is more history in a bowl of pasta than in the Colosseum', writes Andreas Viestad in *Dinner in Rome*. From the table of a classic Roman restaurant, Viestad takes us on a fascinating culinary exploration of the Eternal City, and global civilisation. Food, he argues, is history's secret driving force. Viestad finds deeper meanings in his meal: From the bread that begins the dinner he traces the origins

of wheat and its role in Rome's rise as well as its downfall. From his fried artichoke antipasto he explains olive oil's part in the religious conflict of 16th-century Europe. From his sorbet dessert he recounts how lemons featured in the history of the Mafia in the 19th century, and how the hunger for sugar fuelled the slave trade. Viestad's dinner may be local, but his story is universal. His 'culinary archaeology' is an entertaining, flavourful journey across the dinner table and time. You'll never look at spaghetti carbonara the same way again.

History HC \$34.99

Slime: a Natural History

Wedlich, Susanne

An original and revelatory journey through the three-billion-year history of slime – a substance upon which we and our world depend. Slime is an ambiguous thing. It exists somewhere between a solid and liquid. It inspires revulsion even while it compels our fascination. It is both a vehicle for pathogens and the strongest weapon in our immune system. Most of us know little about it and yet it is the substance on which our world turns. Slime exists at the interfaces of all things: between the different organs and layers in our bodies, and between the earth, water, and air in the environment. It is often produced in the fatal encounter between predator and prey, and it is a vital presence in the reproductive embrace between female and male. In this ground-breaking and fascinating book, Susanne Wedlich leads us on a scientific journey through the three-billion-year history of slime, from the part it played in the evolution of life on this planet to the way it might feature in the post-human future. She also explores the cultural and emotional significance of slime, from its starring role in the horror genre to its subtle influence on Art Nouveau. Slime is what connects Patricia Highsmith's fondness for snails, John Steinbeck's aversion to hagfish, and Emperor Hirohito's passion for jellyfish, as well as the curious mating practices of underwater gastropods and the miraculous functioning of the human gut. Written with authority, wit and eloquence, *Slime* brings this most nebulous and neglected of substances to life.

Science PBK \$22.99

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