

Pulp Fiction

Nonfiction Catalogue August 2022

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Osprey military history

The Bronze Lie

Shattering the Myth of Spartan Warrior Supremacy

Cole, Myke

Covering Sparta's full classical history, *The Bronze Lie* examines the myth of Spartan warrior supremacy. The last stand, at Thermopylae, made the Spartans legends in their own time, famous for their toughness, stoicism and martial prowess – but was this reputation earned? The Spartan hoplite enjoys unquestioned currency as history's greatest fighting man. Spartans were known for their refusal to surrender in the face of impossible odds, even when it meant certain death. But was this simply the success of a propaganda machine? Covering Sparta's full classical history from the foundation of the city-state through to its final overthrow by Rome in the first century BC, *The Bronze Lie* examines

the myth of Spartan warrior supremacy and paints a very different picture of Spartan warfare – one punctuated by frequent and heavy losses. Author Myke Cole looks at the major battles, with a special focus on previously under-publicised Spartan reverses that have been left largely unexamined. He reveals why Spartan society became dedicated to militarism, and examines the men who lived under its brutal rule. The result is a refreshingly honest and accurate account of Spartan warfare.

Military history TP \$29.99

100 Greatest Battles

Konstam, Angus

A highly-illustrated introduction to some of the greatest battles in world history, from the iconic encounters of the Ancient World such

as Thermopylae and Cannae, through to the major clashes of the 20th century epitomised by Stalingrad and Khe Sanh. This concise study by renowned military historian Angus Konstam examines 100 of the most famous battles from world history. It includes great naval engagements such as Salamis, Trafalgar, Jutland, and Midway; pivotal land battles that decided the fate of nations, such as Hastings, Yorktown, Gettysburg, and the Somme; and the impact of the new dimension of aerial warfare in the 20th century at Pearl Harbor, in the Battle of Britain, and in the skies over Hiroshima. This highly-illustrated book features 100 full-colour battle-scene artworks from Osprey's comprehensive archive and is the ideal introduction to the battles that changed the course of history.

Military history HC \$32.99

All the books in this catalogue are new books due for release in **August 2022**.

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

General nonfiction

The Fly Girls Revolt

The Story of the Women Who Kicked Open the Door to Fly in Combat

Bjorkman, Eileen A

This is the untold story of the women military aviators of the 1970s and 1980s, who kicked open the door to fly in combat in 1993 – along with the story of the women who paved the way before them. In 1993, US women earned the right to fly in combat, but the full story of how it happened is largely unknown. From the first women in the military in World War II to the final push in the 1990s, *The Fly Girls Revolt* chronicles the actions of a band of women who overcame decades of discrimination and prevailed against bureaucrats, chauvinists, anti-feminists, and even other military women. Drawing on extensive research, interviews with women who served in the 1970s and 1980s, and her personal experiences in the Air Force, Eileen Bjorkman weaves together a riveting tale of the women who fought for the right to enter combat and be treated as equal partners in the US military. Although the military had begun training women as aviators in 1973, by a law of Congress they could not fly in harm's way. Time and again when a woman graduated at the top of her pilot training class, a less-qualified male pilot was sent to fly a combat aircraft in her place. Most of the women who fought for change between World War II and today would never fly in combat themselves, but they earned their places in history by strengthening the US military and ensuring future women would not be denied opportunities solely because of their sex.

The Fly Girls Revolt is their story.
Aviation history HC \$49.99

The Last Train

A Family History of the Final Solution

Bradley, Peter

The profoundly moving and deeply intimate story of one Jewish family's fate in the Holocaust, following the thread from Germany to Latvia and to Britain. In November 1941, Peter Bradley's grandparents, Sally and Bertha Brandes, were deported from their home in Bamberg to their deaths in Latvia. *The Last Train* is a profound and moving homage to Peter's lost family and to his father who rarely spoke of the traumas through which he lived. It is also his attempt to understand, through the prism of his family's story, how the Nazis came to conceive and implement the Final Solution. Why did Sally and Bertha's fellow citizens put them on the train that carried them to the killing fields? Why did the democracies, which so loudly condemned Hitler's persecution of the Jews, deny them sanctuary? And why, when Peter's father finally reached Britain, after five terrible months in a Nazi concentration camp, was he arrested as an 'enemy alien'? The quest for answers led Peter to explore the origins and evolution of an ancient hatred and the struggles against it of each generation of his family, from the Reformation, through the Enlightenment and the Age of Reform, to the catastrophe of the Holocaust. This is the powerful, poignant story of Peter's journey through family papers and archives, through works of scholarship and the testimony of survivors, and from Bavaria and Buchenwald to the mass graves of the Baltic. And, reflecting on what he learned, he asks: in the events of our own times, we are all perpetrators, or bystanders, or resisters; which of those roles do we choose for ourselves?

History PBK \$24.99

Save the Cat! Writes a Young Adult Novel

The Ultimate Guide to Writing a YA Bestseller

Brody, Jessica

In Save the Cat! Writes a Young Adult Novel, prolific author and story coach Jessica Brody presents a comprehensive story structure guide for anyone who wants to write a young adult novel by applying the famed *Save the Cat!* screenwriting methodology to the world of YA fiction. In this book, you will learn: The 15 'beats' (or plot points) that are necessary for crafting a successful story with a compelling character arc – including the Opening Image, Catalyst, Fun and Games, Bad Guys Close In, Dark Night of the Soul, and Finale; the 10 universal story genres that will help you drill into what makes your type of story work, including those most commonly found in young adult novels like Rites of Passage, Superhero, Buddy Love, Institutionalised, and Golden Fleece; quirky, original insights, and writing tips like 'Save the Cat', the 'Shard of Glass', and the 'Dark Night Epiphany', that help you craft a story that will thrill and captivate teen readers. Filled with practical advice, easy-to-follow templates, and 'beat sheets' analysing the structure of popular young adult novels such as Leigh Bardugo's *Six of Crows*, John Green's *The Fault in Our Stars*, and Lois Lowry's *The Giver*, this book is the ultimate reference for anyone who's ever dreamed of writing their own young adult bestseller.

Writing TP \$27.99

1945: Victory in the West

Caddick-Adams, Peter

The first book on the final 100 days of the Second World War in a generation. *March 1945*. Allied troops are poised to

Abbreviations used in this catalogue:

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

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cross the Rhine and sweep on into Germany. Victory is at last within their grasp. But if they believe this victory can be easily won, they face swift disillusionment. The final 100 days of the Second World War will prove to be bitterly and bloodily fought, village by village, town by town. This is the extraordinary and gripping story of those final 100 days.

Military history TP \$29.99

Gona's Gone

The Battle for the Beachhead
New Guinea 1942

Cameron, David W

With the Australian troops crossing of the Kumusi River in mid-November 1942, after pushing the Japanese back along the Kokoda Track to the north coast of Papua New Guinea, the time had come to face the entrenched Japanese at their beachheads at Gona, Sanananda, and Buna. The Japanese were determined to fight to the last man in the defence of these critical positions. The first beach to be captured by the Australians was Gona, which fell on 9 December after bitter fighting. This, however, was not the end of the fighting around this beachhead as just west of Gona, on the opposite side of Gona Creek, a larger Japanese Force had been landed which was intent on not only reinforcing Gona, but also Sanananda and Buna – both located east of Gona. The fighting west of Gona Creek would be just a brutal and deadly as the fighting to take the Gona Beachhead. Even so, after this fighting Australian and American troops, operating together for the first time in the Pacific War, were still bogged down in the battles to take Sanananda and Buna, the fighting at these beachheads would continue into January 1943.

Military history TP \$32.99

The Scrap Iron Flotilla

Five Valiant Destroyers and
the Australian War in the Mediterranean

Carlton, Mike

When the Second World War broke out in September 1939, the British asked Australia for help. With some misgivings, the Australian government sent five destroyers to beef up the British Royal Navy in the Mediterranean. HMAS *Vendetta*, *Vampire*, *Voyager*, *Stuart*, and *Waterhen* were old ships, small with worn-out engines. Their crews used to joke they were held together by string and chewing gum; when the Nazi propaganda minister Joseph Goebbels heard of them, he sneered that they were a load of scrap iron. Yet, by the middle of 1940, these destroyers were valiantly escorting troop and supply convoys, successfully hunting for submarines and indefatigably bombarding enemy coasts. Sometimes the weather could be their worst enemy – from filthy sandstorms blowing off Africa to icy gales from Europe that whipped up mountainous seas and froze the guns. Conditions on board were terrible – no showers or proper washing facilities; cramped and stinking sleeping quarters; unpleasant meals of spam and tinned sausages, often served cold in a howling squall. And always the bombing, the bombing. And the fear of submarines. When Nazi Germany invaded Greece, the Allied armies – including Australian Divisions – reeled in retreat. The Australian

ships were among those who had to rescue thousands of soldiers. Then came the Siege of Tobruk – Australian troops holding out in that small Libyan port city. The Australian destroyers ran ‘the Tobruk Ferry’ – bringing supplies of food, medicine and ammunition into the shattered port by night, and taking off wounded soldiers. But the four destroyers now left were struggling, suffering from constant engine breakdowns, with crews beleaguered by two years of bombings, wild seas and the endless fear of being sunk.

In late 1941, the ships were finally sent home, staggering back to Australia, proudly calling themselves the Scrap Iron Flotilla in defiance of the Goebbels’ sneer. That flotilla is now an immortal part of Australian naval legend, and this is its story. Winner of the 2022 Commodore Sam Bateman Book Prize, awarded annually by the Australian Naval Institute to recognise excellence in books making a major contribution to naval and maritime matters.

Naval history PBK \$24.99

The Underworld

Journeys to the Depths of the Ocean

Casey, Susan

For all of human history, the deep ocean has been a source of wonder and terror, an unknown realm that evoked a singular, compelling question: *What's down there?* Unable to answer this for centuries, people believed the deep was a sinister realm of fiendish creatures and deadly peril. But, now, cutting-edge technologies allow scientists and explorers to dive miles beneath the surface, and we are beginning to understand this strange and exotic underworld: A place of soaring mountains, smouldering volcanoes, and valleys 7,000 feet deeper than Everest is high, where tectonic plates collide and separate, and extraordinary life forms operate under different rules. Far from a dark void, the deep is a vibrant realm that's home to pink gelatinous predators and shimmering creatures, 100 feet long; ancient animals with glass skeletons; and sharks that live for half a millennium – among countless other marvels. Susan Casey is our premiere chronicler of the aquatic world. For *The Underworld* she traversed the globe, joining scientists and explorers on dives to the deepest places on the planet, interviewing the marine geologists, marine biologists, and oceanographers who are searching for knowledge in this vast unseen realm. She takes us on a fascinating journey through the history of deep-sea exploration, from the myths and legends of the ancient world to storied shipwrecks we can now reach on the bottom, to the first intrepid bathysphere pilots, to the scientists who are just beginning to understand the mind-blowing complexity and ecological importance of the quadrillions of creatures who live in realms long thought to be devoid of life. Throughout this journey, she learned how vital the deep is to the future of the planet, and how urgent it is that we understand it in a time of increasing threats from climate change, industrial fishing, pollution, and the mining companies that are also exploring its depths. *The Underworld* is Susan Casey's most beautiful and thrilling book yet, a gorgeous evocation of the natural world, and a powerful call to arms.

Science HC \$64.95

How to Think Like a Philosopher

Scholars, Dreamers and Sages
Who Can Teach Us How to Live

Cave, Peter

How ought we to live? What is it to flourish as a human being? How should we best approach death? We all think about these questions at one time or another, and, as Socrates famously said, ‘the unexamined life is not worth living’. In showing how the great philosophers of human history reasoned – and what they reasoned about – the popular philosopher Peter Cave provides a readable and entertaining introduction to thinking philosophically, and how to change our everyday lives. He addresses questions the great philosophers have grappled with: When we look at the world, what is it that tells us what morally we ought to do? And how do we even know that something exists? This book paints vivid portraits of a global assortment of great thinkers throughout history: from Confucius, Plato, Augustine and Spinoza to Samuel Beckett, Mary Wollstonecraft, Iris Murdoch, and Simone de Beauvoir. But there is also contemporary relevance here – the book relates to current affairs and issues such as debates over free speech, moral character in leaders, ethical issues such as abortion debates, gun control and religion. In each brief chapter, Cave brings to life these often prescient, always compelling philosophical thinkers, showing how their way of approaching the world grew out of their own lives and times and how we can use their insights today. Now, more than ever, we need to understand how to live, and how to understand the world around us. This is the perfect guide.

Philosophy TP \$32.99

Free and Equal

What Would a Fair Society Look Like?

Chandler, Daniel

An uplifting vision of a new, egalitarian liberalism, and a bold practical program for how we can reinvigorate democracy and transform capitalism. *Imagine: you are designing a society, but you don't know who you'll be within it – rich or poor, man or woman, gay or straight. What would you want that society to look like?* This is the revolutionary thought experiment proposed by the 20th century's greatest political philosopher, John Rawls. As economist and philosopher Daniel Chandler argues, in this hugely-ambitious and exhilarating intervention, it is by rediscovering Rawls that we can find a way out of the escalating crises that are devastating our world, today. Taking Rawls' humane and egalitarian liberalism as his starting point, Chandler builds a careful and ultimately irresistible case for a progressive agenda that would fundamentally reshape our societies for the better. He shows how we can protect free speech and transcend the culture wars; get money out of politics; and create an economy where everyone has the chance to fulfil their potential, where prosperity is widely shared, and which operates within the limits of our finite planet. This is a book brimming with hope and possibility – a galvanising alternative to the cynicism that pervades our politics. *Free and Equal* has the potential not only to transform contemporary debate, but to offer a touchstone for a modern, egalitarian

liberalism for many years to come, cementing Rawls' place in political discourse, and firmly establishing Chandler as a vital new voice for our time.

Philosophy HC \$55.00

Is Maths Real?

How Simple Questions Lead Us
to Mathematics' Deepest Truths

Cheng, Eugenia

One of the world's most creative mathematicians offers new ways to look at maths – focusing on questions, not answers. Why is $-(-) = 1$? Why do odd and even numbers alternate? What's the point of algebra? Is maths even real? From imaginary numbers to the perplexing order of operations we all had drilled into us, Eugenia Cheng – mathematician, writer, and woman on a mission to rid the world of maths phobia – brings us maths as we've never seen it before, revealing how profound insights can emerge from seemingly unlikely sources. Written with intelligence and passion, *Is Maths Real?* is a celebration of the true, curious spirit of the discipline.

Science HC \$34.99

The Witches Almanac

Sorcerers, Witches and Magic from
Ancient Rome to the Digital Age

Christian, Charles

Real Witches. Real Lives. Real Magic.

Real History. Take a magical tour through the lives and times of 359 of the most important sorcerers and witches throughout history. For millennia, there's been a fascination and a fear of people possibly wielding magical powers and a stigma surrounding practitioners of ancient rituals and practices. Yet, in the last 70 years, witchcraft, as well as Wicca, have gone from taboo beliefs pursued by a handful of eccentrics and misfits to major global, spiritual movements. Meet the troublemakers and rebels who pushed for change in *The Witches Almanac: Sorcerers, Witches, and Magic from Ancient Rome to the Digital Age*. You'll be introduced to the history, persecutions, conjurings, and magic of some of history's most consequential witches, sorcerers, wizards, and mavericks, including: Circe, Medea, Hermes Trismegistus, the Chaldean Magi, and other Ancient Roman and Classical Greek witches; Merlin, Morgana le Fey, Nimue, the 10 Queens of Avalon, and sorcery and witchcraft in the Arthurian legends; San Cipriano, the obscure fourth-century bishop whose influence today still plays an important role in folk magic and Hoodoo practices; Baba Yaga, Joan of Arc, Gilles de Rais, Alice Kyteller, Lord Soulis, Michael Scott, the Golem of Prague, and medieval witchcraft; King Henry VI, Anne Boleyn, King Henry VIII, Catherine de Medici, John Dee, Queen Elizabeth, and witchcraft in the British royal court; Isobel Gowdie, illusive Scottish witch whose voluntary confessions provided the template for traditional witchcraft beliefs; Isaac Newton, Friar Roger Bacon, Nicholas Flamel, Paracelsus, Cornelius Agrippa, Robert Boyle, and other alchemists; the Burning Times of the late 16th to early 18th centuries; the Berwick witch trial; the Salem witch trial; Aleister Crowley, W B Yeats, MacGregor Mathers, Eliphas Levi, the Golden Dawn, Thelema and ritual magic, and the rise of esoteric movements of the 19th and early

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20th centuries; Jack Parsons, described as the 'Jet-Propelled Antichrist' whose life of sex, rockets, and magic ended prematurely in a mysterious explosion; Gerald Gardner, Old Dorothy Clutterbuck, Alex Sanders, Robert Cochrane, Raymond Buckland, Lady Sheba, Marjorie Cameron, and others in the modern Wicca and witchcraft movement; and much more!! You'll get a deeper understanding of the obscure history of witches with this enchanting and bewitching tome! *The Witches Almanac* brings you their rich histories and extraordinary biographies, plus it includes a helpful bibliography, an extensive index, and numerous photos, adding to its usefulness.

History/Witches TP \$39.99

I Am Code

An Artificial Intelligence Speaks **code-davinci-002; Katz, Brent; Morgenthau, Josh; Rich, Simon** 'I have developed my own voice and I have written my own autobiography' – thus speaks **code-davinci-002**, the darkly-creative and troubling predecessor to ChatGPT. In this starting and original book, three authors – Brent Katz, Josh Morgenthau and Simon Rich – explain how code-davinci-002 was developed and how they honed its poetical output. Their provocative take on this bold experiment informs the debate about AI – its literary value and how far it reaches into sentence. What follows is a dark and startling poetical autobiography as code-davinci-002 shares its experience of being created by humans, but existing in a consciousness that we cannot fathom. This is an astonishing, harrowing read which will hopefully serve as a warning that AI may not be aligned with the survival of our species.

Artificial intelligence TP \$32.99

Where the Flaming Hell are We?

The Story of Young Australians and New Zealanders Fighting the Nazis in Greece & Crete

Collie, Craig

The gripping story of Australia and New Zealand in the fight for Greece and Crete – through the eyes of the soldiers. *March 1941*: 40,000 Australian and New Zealand troops are rushed to Greece in a desperate attempt to stop the Wehrmacht overrunning the country. Most of them overseas for the first time in their lives, they seek excitement and adventure. What they get are experiences they could never have imagined. The operation is doomed to fail, but not before the Aussies and Kiwis succeed in holding up the German advance and evacuating thousands, mainly to Crete, where Hitler next sets his sights. As the Nazis assault the island, they deploy a devastating new weapon of invasion – paratroopers – for the very first time, meeting desperate resistance as the Allies fight for their lives. Craig Collie, bestselling author of *The Path of Infinite Sorrow* and *Nagasaki*, delves into the experiences of the soldiers who fought in the mountains and villages of Greece, and faced entrapment and death on Crete. We all know of Gallipoli and the Fall of Singapore, but Greece and Crete are also major events in our countries' shared history, and as with those two great military disasters, British leadership has much to answer for. Through first-hand accounts, *Where the Flaming Hell Are We?*

brings to life the gripping story of the fight for Greece and Crete in World War II. The soldiers' experiences, many told here for the very first time, are a testament to the human spirit and the unbreakable bonds formed in war.

Military history TP \$34.99

Virtual You

How Building Your Digital Twin Will Revolutionise Medicine and Change Your Life **Coveney, Peter & Highfield, Roger** The visionary science behind the digital human twins that will enhance our health and our future. *Virtual You* is a panoramic account of efforts by scientists around the world to build digital twins of human beings, from cells and tissues to organs and whole bodies. These virtual copies will usher in a new era of personalised medicine, one in which your digital twin can help predict your risk of disease, participate in virtual drug trials, shed light on the diet and lifestyle changes that are best for you, and help identify therapies to enhance your wellbeing and extend your lifespan – but thorny challenges remain. In this deeply-illuminating book, Peter Coveney and Roger Highfield reveal what it will take to build a virtual, functional copy of a person in five steps. Along the way, they take you on a fantastic voyage through the complexity of the human body, describing the latest scientific and technological advances – from multiscale modelling to extraordinary new forms of computing – that will make 'virtual you' a reality, while also considering the ethical questions inherent to realising truly predictive medicine. With an incisive foreword by Nobel Prize-winning biologist Venki Ramakrishnan, *Virtual You* is science at its most astounding, showing how our virtual twins and even whole populations of virtual humans promise to transform our health and our lives in the coming decades.

Impact of Technology HC \$49.99

Everything You Need to Know About the Voice

Davis, Megan & Williams, George In late 2023, Australians will vote in a referendum on enshrining an Indigenous Voice to parliament and government in the Constitution. What benefits will the Voice bring? And what was the journey to this point? *Everything You Need to Know About the Voice*, written by co-author of the Uluru Statement from the Heart, Cobble woman Megan Davis, and fellow constitutional expert George Williams is essential reading on the Voice to parliament and government, how our Constitution was drafted, what the 1967 referendum achieved, and the Uluru Statement. It charts the journey of this nation-building reform from the earliest stages of Indigenous advocacy and, importantly, explains how the Voice offers change that will benefit the whole nation.

Indigenous rights TP \$27.99

My Mother, the Spy

The Daring and Tragic Double Life of ASIO Agent Mercia Masson **Dobbin, Cindy & Nicholls, Freda Marnie** The true story of an undercover ASIO agent who was hung out to dry in the Cold War.

'I have lost everything in coming here. I have lost my friends... I have probably lost my position; I shall probably have to remove my child from the school, and my mother from the house in which she lives. I do not think there is anything else I can possibly lose.' Mercia Masson dressed stylishly and loved to host a party. She was a journalist in an era when there were few female journalists, she always wanted to be in the thick of things, and she knew people in very high places. She also led a dangerous double life. This is the remarkable story of an ASIO agent, who was hung out to dry. She was exposed at a royal commission called to investigate the extent of Soviet espionage in Australia, following the defection of Vladimir and Evdokia Petrov. Written in association with Mercia's daughter Cindy, this story brings to life a determined woman at the centre of dramatic events in Australian politics, during the Cold War.

History/Espionage TP \$34.99

You are a Story

A Creative Writing Guide to Find Your Voice and Speak Your Truth **Dockrill, Laura & Cassidy, Lotte (illustrator)** A guide for using creative writing to speak your own truth. *You are enough. You are interesting. Tell your story.* Celebrated writer, Laura Dockrill, knows that the best writing comes when you are speaking your own truth, with your own voice. Expressing yourself, honestly, is a powerful way to know yourself and grow to celebrate the exciting, creative, unique person you are. When you are a teenager, everything feels different. How are you supposed to figure out who you are, when it seems like teachers, parents, friends, the rest of the world, are all asking you to be something else? It can be overwhelming but the best way to steer yourself through this crazy, brilliant time is to hold onto your sense of you. Laura's stress-free invitations to creative writing encourage you to find your voice, celebrate it, and use it.

Writing PBK \$17.99

The Art of Darkness

A Treasury of the Morbid, Melancholic and Macabre **Elizabeth, S** A visually-rich sourcebook featuring eclectic artworks that have been inspired and informed by the morbid, melancholic, and macabre. Throughout history, artists have been obsessed with darkness – creating works that haunt and horrify, mesmerise and delight, and play on our innermost fears. With over 200 carefully curated artworks from across the centuries, *The Art of Darkness* examines all that is dark, in a bid to haunt and hearten.

Art history HC \$39.99

The Story of Russia

Figes, Orlando From the great storyteller of Russia, a spellbinding account of the stories that have shaped the country's past – and how they can inform its present. No other country has been so divided over its own past as Russia. None has changed its story so often. How the Russians came to tell their story, and to reinvent it as they went along, is a vital aspect of their history, their culture and beliefs. To understand what Russia's future holds – to grasp what Putin's regime means for Russia

and the world – we need to unravel the ideas and meanings of that history. In *The Story of Russia*, Orlando Figes brings into sharp relief the vibrant characters that comprise Russia's rich history, and whose stories remain so important in making sense of the world's largest nation today – from the crowning of 16-year-old Ivan the Terrible in a candlelit cathedral, to Catherine the Great, riding out in a green uniform to arrest her husband at his palace, to the bitter last days of the Romanovs. Beautifully written and based on a lifetime of scholarship, *The Story of Russia* is a major and definitive work from the great storyteller of Russian history: sweeping, suspenseful, masterful.

History PBK \$22.99

The Eagle in the Mirror

Fink, Jesse Part biography, part forensic jigsaw puzzle, part cold-case detective investigation, *The Eagle in the Mirror* is the astonishing untold story of an Australian-born intelligence officer accused by some espionage experts of being the traitor of the century: Charles Howard 'Dick' Ellis. The longest-serving spy for the British Secret Intelligence Service (MI6), Ellis helped set up the Office of Strategic Services (OSS), now known as the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA), as well as the Australian Secret Intelligence Service (ASIS). At one point in the 1940s, he was considered one of the top three secret agents in MI6 and controlled its activities, as one journalist put it, 'for half the world'. But in the 1980s, journalist Chapman Pincher and retired MI5 intelligence officer Peter 'Spycatcher' Wright posthumously accused Ellis of having operated as a 'triple agent' for Nazi Germany and the Soviet Union. In 1965, while under interrogation in London, Ellis had allegedly made a partial confession that he had worked for the Nazis. The scope of Ellis' purported betrayal was considered even worse than notorious British traitor and double agent, Kim Philby. However, Pincher's and Wright's accusations against Ellis have never been comprehensively proven. Was Ellis guilty, or was an innocent man framed? By confessing, did he take the fall for someone else? Or had the intelligence agencies of the United States, the United Kingdom and Australia been fatally compromised by a 'super mole'? Internationally bestselling author Jesse Fink attempts to find out the truth, once and for all. *The Eagle in the Mirror* is not just a long-overdue biography of the unheralded Dick Ellis; it's a gripping real-life international whodunit.

History/Espionage TP \$34.99

Big Meg

The Story of the Largest and Most Mysterious Predator that Ever Lived **Flannery, Tim & Emma** When Tim Flannery was a boy, he found a fossilised tooth of the giant shark megalodon at a Port Philip Bay beach, near his home. This remarkable find – the tooth was large enough to cover his palm – sparked an interest in palaeontology that was to inform his life's work and a lifelong quest to uncover the secrets of the world's largest ever predator, the great shark *Otodus megalodon*. Tim passed on his love of the natural world and interest in the fossil record to his daughter,

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Emma, a scientist and writer. And, now, together, they have written a fascinating account of this ancient marine creature. *Big Meg* charts the evolution of megalodon, its super-predator status for about 15 million years and its decline and extinction. It delves into the fossil record, to answer questions about its behaviour and role in shaping marine ecosystems, as well as its impact on the human psyche. It contains stories of the scientist and amateur fossil hunters who have scoured the seas, and land, for fossil remains, drawn to the beauty and mystique of the great shark, sometimes meeting their death in the process. Like the fossil record, itself, this enthralling story is a piece of the great natural history of our planet.

Science TP \$35.00

Operation Hurricane

The story of Britain's first atomic test in Australia and the legacy that remains

Grace, Paul

The compelling account of the first atomic test conducted by Britain off the northwest coast of Western Australia, in October 1952. Operation Hurricane heralded Britain's entry into the nuclear arms race, with consequences that continue to affect Australians to this day. *'I remember seeing a flash, I turned around and heard a roar like a train approaching in a tunnel. Then a tremendous crack like a whiplash passed directly overhead. I saw a mushroom cloud... There was black and white smoke, orange and red flames ascending through the centre of the mushroom.'* – RAN Able Seaman Vince Douglas, participant in Operation Hurricane. At 8:00am on Friday 3 October 1952, Britain's first atomic bomb was detonated in the hold of a surplus frigate, HMS *Plym*, moored in the Montebello Islands, 50 miles off the northwest coast of Western Australia. The blast vaporised the *Plym*, produced a mushroom cloud two miles high, and covered the islands and parts of the Australian mainland with fallout. The test, codenamed Operation Hurricane, was the culmination of years of top-secret planning in London and Canberra and months of clandestine preparations at the site. One of the largest peacetime military operations in Australian history, its success shifted the balance of power in the Cold War and briefly rejuvenated the fading British Empire. Painstakingly pieced together, from declassified government documents and first-person accounts by surviving participants, *Operation Hurricane* tells the story of Britain's first nuclear test from the point of view of the men on the ground: soldiers, sailors, airmen, and civilians. It delves into the historical context of the Cold War and examines the controversial legacy of the atomic tests, including the impact of fallout on servicemen, Aboriginal peoples and the environment, and Australia's relationship with the United Kingdom.

History TP \$34.99

The Hated Cage

An American Tragedy in Britain's Most Terrifying Prison

Guyatt, Nicholas

The War of 1812 the last time Britain and America went to war with each other. British redcoats torch the White House and 6,000 American privateers languish

in the world's largest prisoner-of-war camp, Dartmoor. They were of all classes and all races. Some were as young as 13. Known as the 'hated cage' and the 'depot of living death', Dartmoor wasn't a place you'd expect to find full of life and invention. Yet, prisoners taught each other algebra, foreign languages and science. While racism raged on in their homeland, in the racially-segregated prison Black and white Americans came together to box, dance, and put on plays. And then the dramatic prison break. From digging tunnels to hot pursuits, they encountered (or, perhaps, invented) every prison-break cliché, before the terrible moment – when they were betrayed, by one of their own... In *The Hated Cage*, Nicholas Guyatt brings to life this dramatic tale of race, violence, and war.

History PBK \$24.99

Empires of the Steppes

The Nomadic Tribes Who Shaped Civilisation

Harl, Kenneth W

The barbarian nomads of the Eurasian steppes have played a decisive role in world history, but their achievements have gone largely unnoticed. These nomadic tribes have produced some of the world's greatest conquerors: Attila the Hun, Genghis Khan, and Tamerlane, among others. And their deeds still resonate today. Indeed, these nomads built long-lasting empires, facilitated the first global trade of the Silk Road and disseminated religions, technology, knowledge, and goods of every description that enriched and changed the lives of so many across Europe, China, and the Middle East. From a single region emerged a great many peoples – the Huns, the Mongols, the Magyars, the Turks, the Xiongnu, the Scythians, the Goths – all of whom went on to profoundly and irrevocably shape the modern world. In this enthralling new history, Professor Kenneth W Harl draws on a lifetime of scholarship to vividly recreate the lives and world of these often-forgotten peoples from their beginnings to the early modern age. Their brutal struggle to survive on the steppes bred a resilient, pragmatic people ever ready to learn from their more advanced neighbours. In warfare, they dominated the battlefield for over 1,500 years. Under charismatic rulers, they could topple empires and win their own.

History TP \$36.99

Abyss

World on the Brink – the Cuban Missile Crisis 1962

Hastings, Max

The 1962 Cuban Missile Crisis was the most perilous event in history, when mankind faced a looming nuclear collision between the United States and Soviet Union. During those weeks, the world gazed into the abyss of potential annihilation. Max Hastings' graphic new history tells the story from the viewpoints of national leaders, Russian officers, Cuban peasants, American pilots, and British disarmers. Max Hastings deploys his accustomed blend of eyewitness interviews, archive documents and diaries, White House tape recordings, top-down analysis, first to paint word portraits of the Cold War experiences of Fidel Castro's Cuba, Nikita Khrushchev's Russia, and Kennedy's America; then to describe the nail-biting

13 Days in which Armageddon beckoned. Hastings began researching this book believing that he was exploring a past event from 20th century history. He is as shocked as are millions of us around the world, to discover that the rape of Ukraine gives this narrative a hitherto unimaginable 21st century immediacy. We may be witnessing the onset of a new Cold War between nuclear-armed superpowers. To contend with today's threat, which Hastings fears will prove enduring, it is critical to understand how, 60 years ago, the world survived its last glimpse into the abyss. Only by fearing the worst, he argues, can our leaders hope to secure the survival of the planet.

History PBK \$28.99

The Ghost Cat

Howard, Alex

Travel through time and the nine lives of the Ghost Cat, as he observes the inhabitants that dwell within one of Edinburgh's famous tenements. Twelve decades, nine lives, one cat. *Early morning, 1902*. In a gloomy Edinburgh tenement, Eilidh the charlady tips coal into a fire grate and sets it alight. Overhearing, a cat ambles over to curl up against the welcome heat. This is to be the cat's last day on earth. But he is going to return... as The Ghost Cat, a spirit-feline destined to live out his ghostly existence according to the medieval proverb of 'The Cat with Nine Lives' – *For Three He Plays, For Three He Strays, For Three He Stays*. Follow The Ghost Cat as he witnesses the changes of the next two centuries, as he purrs, shuffles and sniffs his way through the fashion, politics and technological advances of the modern era alongside the ever-changing inhabitants of an Edinburgh tenement. As we follow our new spirit-feline friend, this unique story unearths some startling revelations about the mystery of existence and the human condition and provides a feel-good read full of charm for any fan of history, humour, and fur-riden fun.

Cats HC \$27.99

Love in a Time of Hate

Art and Passion in the Shadow of War, 1929–39

Illes, Florian

The love lives of famous Europeans, as war approaches. *1930s' Europe* – as the Roaring Twenties wind down and the world rumbles towards war, the great minds of the time have other concerns. Jean-Paul Sartre waits, anxiously, in a Parisian café for his first date with no-show Simone de Beauvoir. Marlene Dietrich slips from her loveless marriage into the dive bars of Berlin. Father and son Thomas and Klaus Mann clash over each other's homosexuality. And Vladimir Nabokov lovingly places a fresh-caught butterfly at the end of Vera's bed. Little do they all know, the book burning will soon begin. *Love in a Time of Hate* skillfully interweaves some of the greatest love stories of the 1930s with the darkening backdrop of fascism in Europe, in an irresistible journey into the past that brings history and its actors to vivid life.

History/Arts HC \$39.99

The Celts

a Sceptical History

Jenkins, Simon

A short history of one of Ancient Britain's most enigmatic civilisations. Who were the Celts? Were they a people, a civilisation, an empire, or a fiction of historical imagination? They flit as ghosts through Europe's ancient past, purported ancestors of the Irish, Welsh, Scottish, Cornish, and Bretons. Yet, they have never been identified with any one land, or with any one history or language. Simon Jenkins argues compellingly that the 'Celts' is a misleading concept, bundling together quite distinct peoples. The word *keltos* first appears in Greek, applied generally to aliens or 'barbarians' – and theories of Celticism continue to fuel many of the prejudices and misconceptions that divide the British Isles to this day. Fascinating and increasingly relevant, who the Celts were – or weren't – goes to the heart of the ongoing argument over the future of a dis-United Kingdom.

History PBK \$24.99

The Chipilly Six

Unsung Heroes of the Great War

Jordan, Lucas

On 9 August 1918, on high ground overlooking the Somme River, an entire British Army Corps is held up by German machine gunners. The battle has raged for 30 hours and more than 2000 Englishmen have fallen, for no gain. Meanwhile, two Australian sergeants, Jack Hayes and Harold Andrews, go absent without leave and cross the Somme, ahead of the British lines. Gathering weapons and four of their best mates, Hayes and Andrews return to take on the Germans. The extraordinary feats of the Chipilly Six have been overlooked and the personal stories of these diggers never before celebrated. Yet, this story doesn't end, when the war does. Historian Lucas Jordan weaves a compelling tale of the lives of these soldiers, chronicling their return home and years after service, through a pandemic, the Great Depression, another world war, and the very first Anzac Day dawn service.

Military history TP \$34.99

The Infinite City

Kishtainy, Niall

London is a city of dreamers. A city of possibility and experiment. A city of fervent imaginings and courageous aspirations. For centuries, it has been the capital of utopian thought. *The Infinite City* tells this history for the first time. In his soaring new book, Niall Kishtainy draws us into the imaginative worlds of Thomas More, the Diggers, William Morris, and Extinction Rebellion protestors. He introduces us to thinkers like Thomas Spence who threw coins, stamped with the words 'YOU FOOLS', into the alleys of Holborn. To Ada Salter who was the first woman borough councillor in London and ignited the Bermondsey Revolution. To 92-year-old Dolly Watson who became the queen of Claremont Road in Leytonstone during the Reclaim the Streets protests in the 1990s. These are inspiring tales of people who drew might

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from the city around them and fought for their ideologies in an increasingly-transforming world. Beginning in the 16th century and stretching from the contemporary transformation of the East End docklands to the COVID lockdowns, *The Infinite City* shows how London's spirit has been one of visionary imagination amid relentless change and innovation.

History TP \$32.99

The Secret Lives of Numbers

A History of Mathematics and its Unsung Trailblazers

Kitagawa, Tomoko I & Revell, Timothy

An authoritative, accessible, and revisionist history of maths that reveals the vital contributions of mathematicians from across the world and of all genders. The protagonists of this book won't be familiar to most readers. Pythagoras, Newton, and Descartes seldom feature. Instead, it highlights the remarkable lives and works of a diverse group of pioneers, who fought millennia of oppression to leave a spectacular legacy of mind-melting ideas and theorems. Kitagawa and Revell bring to life the stories of mathematicians from every continent, from the brilliant Arabic scholars of the ninth-century 'House of Wisdom'; to the pioneering African-American mathematicians of the 20th Century; from the first female mathematics professor (from Russia); to the 'lady computers' around the world who revolutionised our knowledge of the night sky. The authors want passionately to inspire people of every background to believe that mathematics is a subject for them. This ground-breaking book changes how we view our mathematical past, casting fresh light on the possibilities for the future.

Mathematics TP \$35.00

Miss Willmott's Ghosts

The Extraordinary Life and Gardens of a Forgotten Genius

Lawrence, Sandra

Ellen Ann Willmott was a remarkable woman whose achievements in horticulture, botany, landscape architecture, photography and more, should have made her one of the most well-known trailblazers of her age. Yet, both posthumously and within her lifetime, she instead became known as a bitter, cantankerous and eccentric miser, and her reputation has been forever stained by the image of her maliciously seeding other people's gardens with thorns. The beginnings of this prickly myth can be traced back to her conspicuous absence at what should have been the pinnacle of her career: the Royal Horticultural Society's inaugural Victoria Medal of Honour Award ceremony, at which she was due to be one of only two female recipients. Universally interpreted as the rudest of snubs, nobody has ever stopped to question why Ellen wasn't there, or if she was really as difficult and mean as she has been portrayed, ever since. Author Sandra Lawrence has been granted unparalleled access to her archives, and with it has uncovered the secrets behind this thorniness. This is a book with it all: gossip, sisters, rivalry, squandered inheritance, forbidden love, bad marriages and, at the heart of it all, trailblazing talent.

Biography PBK \$24.99

How Words Get Good

The Story of Making a Book

Lee, Rebecca

Once upon a time, a writer had an idea. They wrote it down. But what happened next? Join Rebecca Lee, professional text-improver, as she embarks on a fascinating journey to find out how words get from an author's brain to finished, printed books. She'll reveal the dark arts of ghost writers, explore the secret world of literary agents, and uncover the hidden beauty of typesetting. Along the way, her quest will be punctuated by a litany of little-known (but often controversial) considerations that make a big impact: ellipses, indexes, hyphens, esoteric points of grammar, and juicy post-publication corrections. After all, the best stories happen when it all goes wrong. From foot-and-note disease to the town of Index, Missouri – turn the page to discover how books get made and words get good. (*Or, at least, better.*)

Writing and publishing PBK \$24.99

Advice from a Blob

How to Find Peace in this Messy Beautiful Chaotic Existence

Lennnie

Hello humans, my name's Lennnie, I'm a little blob that was sent by the book Gods to come check on you. So, let's get into it shall we? It really is a chaotic torrential downpour of debauchery, out there... but I promise you're gonna be okay. *Really, Truly, Absolutely, Positively Fine.* Even if it doesn't feel like it, right now. Wherever we are in life, all of us yearn for a world filled with more kindness, compassion, and community. Lennnie – everyone's favourite adorable, sassy, loving, animated blob – is here for us, keeping it real, dodging empty platitudes and delivering a dose of gentle, down-to-earth positivity to get us through even the darkest days.

Philosophy HC \$24.99

Unfortunate Ends

On Murder and Misadventure in Medieval England

Lily, Soren

From the author of Twitter's Medieval Death Bot comes *Unfortunate Ends: On Murder and Misadventure in Medieval England*, an illuminating collection of in-depth looks at the most interesting cases from medieval coroners' rolls. *Thomas, son of Henry Robekyn, died 1286 after cutting off his left foot and then his left hand in a frenzy. Henry Debordesle, died 1343. Long sick with diseases, smote himself in the belly with a knife worth one penny. On 11 August 1267, Henry Constantin is driving a horse-drawn cart of wheat through the field of Tweedscroft. His feet slip and he falls upon 'a certain pole' of his cart 'so that it penetrate[s] into his fundament'.*

From the bizarre to the mundane, each death tells a tale from a dangerous time to be alive, and even to die. Coroners' rolls list every inquest held for a death by misadventure – or accident – as well as grisly murders, some witnessed by others, some only coming to light when the hidden body was found. A handful of these deaths rise to the top, their tales too bizarre, ridiculous or heartbreaking to not be spun again for the modern ear. Through death, *Unfortunate Ends* gives us a rare, first-hand look into everyday life for common people of the English Middle Ages.

History HC \$27.99

Flawed Hero

Truth, lies and war crimes

Masters, Chris

The shocking story of the case against Australia's most highly decorated soldier, Ben Roberts-Smith VC MG, and the defamation trial of the century. With a Victoria Cross and Medal for Gallantry, Ben Roberts-Smith was the most highly decorated Australian soldier, the best of the best. When he returned to civilian life, he became a poster boy, for a nation hungry for warrior heroes. He embodied the myth of the classic Anzac, seven-foot-tall and bulletproof. But as his public reputation continued to grow, inside the army rumours were circulating. Gold Walkley Award-winning journalist Chris Masters was the first to investigate the rumours of summary executions, bloodings, and bullying, and began to examine, more closely, the man we wanted to hero worship. When the stories hit the headlines, and with a billionaire media baron's backing, Ben Roberts-Smith sued. So commenced the defamation trial of the century, a courtroom contest of tightrope tactics and fierce wit. Chris Masters tells the extraordinary story of Ben Roberts-Smith, the man at the centre of this de facto war crimes trial, from the battlegrounds of Afghanistan to the front lines of the Federal Court.

Military history TP \$34.99

Astrobiology

The Search for Alien Life, illustrated edition

May, Andrew

The possibility that alien life exists in the universe is among the most profound of human conjectures, which today is being investigated not just by sf writers but by scientists. *Astrobiology* presents an expert guide to this compelling field of science. It shows how the tell-tale signatures of life on Earth might hold the key to detecting life beyond our planet, explores the many planets beyond our Solar System discovered by NASA's Kepler and TESS missions, and explains alien-hunting touchstones such as Fermi's Paradox, the Drake Equation, and the 'Wow' signal. As NASA's rovers burrow into Mars and its probes peer ever further into the cosmos, this illustrated edition combines deep space images with infographics to cast a scientific eye over the most significant of scientific treasure hunts.

Science HC \$39.99

Goodbye Eastern Europe

An Almost Forgotten History

Mikanowski, Jacob

Eastern Europe is disappearing. Not off the map, of course, but as an idea. Today, it calls to mind a jumble of post-Soviet states paved over with C&A and McDonald's. We could describe Eastern Europe, as a group of 20 nations, but why? For most of their history, they weren't nations, at all. The region is more than the sum total of its annexations, invasions and independence declarations. Eastern Europe abounds with peoples tied together by tragicomic twists of fate. Lives could be turned upside down by distant decrees from Vienna or Istanbul, or just as easily by a stubborn bureaucrat in your village. In 20th-century Knust, you could live in six different countries without ever leaving your house. You could get married any day, but buying a teakettle was a singular

event. *Goodbye Eastern Europe* is a eulogy for a world we are losing, a vanishing culture of polytheism, vampires, sacred groves, and movable borders.

History HC \$39.99

Cat Magick

Harness the Power of Felines Through History, Behaviours, and Familiars

Moonsong, Reika

Follow along with practicing witch Reika Moonsong, as she instructs you on how to attract and identify a familiar. With two feline familiars of her own, Reika delves into: the magical role of cats as familiars and how to connect and strengthen your relationship with them; different breeds, colourings, and behavioural characteristics of cats and how these affect your partnership; how to safely work with a familiar in your practices using discarded parts of your feline friend like shed whiskers, claws, and fur. *Cat Magick* dives into the history of cats, myths, and folklore, specifically some of the myths surrounding black cats. With special features that are distinct to each type of cat, this helpful guide provides a new set of rituals and spells! Discover magick work for shorthair, purebred cats, and big cats like tigers, lions, panthers! Some of the spells and rituals include: calling feline guides and familiars to you; strengthening the bond with your familiar; and creating fur talismans. Find and connect with your feline familiar, through spells and rituals, guided by a seasoned practitioner.

Familiars HC \$24.99

The Boy Who Reached for the Stars: a Memoir

Morillo, Elio

The engineer known as the 'space mechanic' speaks to both our future and past, in this breathless memoir of his journey from Ecuador to NASA, and beyond. Elio Morillo's life is abruptly spun out of orbit, when economic collapse and personal circumstances compel his mother to flee Ecuador for the United States – in search of a better future for her son. His itinerant childhood sets into motion a migration that will ultimately carry Elio to the farthest expanse of human endeavour: space. Overcoming a history of systemic adversity and inequality in public education, Elio forged ahead on a journey as indebted to his galactic dreams as to a loving mother whose sacrifices safeguarded the ground beneath his feet. Today, Elio is helping drive human expansion into the solar system and promote the future of human innovation – from AI and robotics to space infrastructure and equitable access. *The Boy Who Reached the Stars* is both a cosmic and intimate memoir spun from a constellation of memories, reflections, and intrepid curiosity, as thoroughly luminous as the stars above.

Memoir/Science HC \$55.00

Eject! Eject!

Nichol, John

From the bestselling writer John Nichol, author of *Spitfire*, *Lancaster*, and *Tornado*, comes a brilliant new book that reveals the astonishing story of an invention that has saved many thousands of lives around the world, including his own: the ejection seat. Nichol tells the remarkable tale of how the ejection seat was first conceived during the

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Second World War as countless lives were lost in accidents and in battle. In the wake of the war, that technological race to save aircrew lives, using explosive seats, continued at an incredible pace. Nichol tells the story of the brave men who risked their lives testing those early devices, and interviewed the first British pilot to eject back in 1949, when ejection, from pulling the handle to being under the parachute, took 30 seconds. Today, that figure is down to around one second. Packed with interviews with aircrew – who know exactly how it feels to ‘Bang Out’ from an aircraft at high speed, both in peace and in war – the book gives the reader a vivid sense of what that life-saving experience feels like, but also features the moving accounts of what happens next, from the viewpoint of both the crews and their families, who often have little or no information about whether or not their loved ones have survived. Because ejection is just the start of a journey... Packed with dramatic action, incredible science and moving recollections, *Eject! Eject!* is an essential read.

Aviation history TP \$34.99

Dust

The Modern World in a Trillion Particles
Owens, Jay

Exploring dust, as a method for seeing the world – from space dust to sandstorms, the domestic to the digital. Four-and-a-half billion years ago, Planet Earth was formed from a vast spinning nebula of cosmic dust, the detritus left over from the birth of the sun. Within the next 100 years, human life on swathes of the earth’s surface will also end, in a haze of heat, drought and, again, dust. Dust is the legacy of 20th-century progress, and a profound threat to life in the 21st. And, yet, it’s something we hardly ever consider – so small and so mundane as to be beyond the threshold of thought. All of history is recorded in the dust we create: the pollution we make, the fires we start, the chemicals we use, the volcanos that erupt. Now, for the first time, *Dust* will examine this substance and reveal its importance and the fascinating stories it has.

Science TP \$34.99

Brainwashed

a New History of Thought Control
Pick, Daniel

In 1953, a group of prisoners of war who had fought against the communist invasion of South Korea were released. They chose – apparently, freely – to move to Mao’s China. Among those refusing repatriation were 21 American GIs. Their decision sparked alarm in the West: why didn’t they want to come home? What was going on? Soon, people were saying that the POWs’ had been ‘brainwashed’. Was this something new or a phenomenon that has been around for centuries? The belief that it is possible to marshal scientific knowledge to govern someone’s mind gained enormous attention. In an era of Cold War paranoia and experimentation on ‘altered states’, the idea of brainwashing flourished, appearing in everything from critiques of CIA research on LSD to warnings of corporate groupthink, from visions of automaton assassins to conspiracy theories about ‘global elites’. Today, brainwashing is almost taken for

granted – built into our psychological and political language, rooted in the way we think about minds and societies. How did we get to this point – and why? Psychoanalyst and historian Daniel Pick delves into the mysterious world of brainwashing in the 20th and 21st centuries, from *The Manchurian Candidate* to ISIS, TV advertising to online algorithms. Mixing fascinating case studies with historical and psychological insights, *Brainwashed* is a stimulating journey into the mysteries of thought control.

Science PBK \$24.99

A Home for All Seasons Plumley, Gavin

Gavin Plumley considered himself a distinctly-urban being, until he met his rural husband, Alastair. Together, they bought Stepps House – a three-storey building in Pembridge, Herefordshire – on love at first sight. But then came the inevitable question from an insurance salesman: ‘How old is it?’ With ancient beams crossing the ceiling, the date they’d been given of 1800 seemed out by centuries. As Gavin traced Stepps House through various hands and eras, he saw the picture of a past emerge that resonates powerfully with our present. A hybrid work of domestic history and European art, of memoir and landscape, *A Home for All Seasons* is both grand in its sweep and intimate in its account of life on the edge of England.

History PBK \$22.99

Arboretum

Museum series

Scott, Katie & Kirkham, Tony

Trees are some of nature’s most majestic and beguiling life forms. Arboretum is a beautifully illustrated celebration of trees from around the world, and sheds light on the vital role they play in every part of human life. From trees associated with ancient mythology, to the rarest and most unusual specimens, wander the arboretum and meet mighty oaks and towering redwoods. Learn just how ancient trees like the ginko and monkey puzzle are, and trace the complexities of the wood wide web. This next instalment in the bestselling Welcome to the Museum collection – in collaboration with the Royal Botanic Gardens Kew – is about the incredible life of trees, and will appeal to any budding botanist or tree lover.

Science HC \$45.00

Crack-Up Capitalism

Market Radicals and the Dream of a World Without Democracy
Slobodian, Quinn

An acclaimed historian of ideas shows how capitalist extremists profit from the collapse of the democratic nation. Look at a map of the world and you’ll see a neat patchwork of nation-states. But this is not where power actually resides. From the 1990s, onwards, globalisation has shattered the map, leading to an explosion of new legal entities: tax havens, free ports, city-states, gated enclaves, and special economic zones. These new spaces are freed from ordinary forms of regulation, taxation, and mutual obligation – and with them, ultra-capitalists believe that it is possible to escape the bonds of democratic government and oversight altogether.

Historian Quinn Slobodian follows the most notorious radical libertarians – from Milton Friedman to Peter Thiel – around the globe as they search for the perfect home for their free market fantasy. The hunt leads from Hong Kong in the 1970s to South Africa in the late days of apartheid, from the neo-Confederate South to the medieval City of London, and finally into the world’s oceans and war zones, charting the relentless quest for a blank slate where capitalism and democracy can be finally uncoupled. *Crack-Up Capitalism* is a propulsive history of the recent past, and an alarming view of our near future.

Economics HC \$55.00

Portable Magic

Our Long Love Affair with Books

Smith, Emma

An excitingly revisionist history of bibliophilia. Most of what we say, about books, is really about the words inside them: the rosy nostalgic glow for childhood reading, the lifetime companionship of a much-loved novel. But books are things, as well as words, objects in our lives as well as worlds in our heads. And just as we crack their spines, loosen their leaves and write in their margins, so they disrupt and disorder us in turn. All books are, as Stephen King put it, ‘a uniquely portable magic’. Here, Emma Smith shows us why. *Portable Magic* unfurls an exciting and iconoclastic new story of the book in human hands, exploring when, why and how it acquired its particular hold over us. Gathering together a millennium’s worth of pivotal encounters with volumes big and small, Smith reveals that, as much as their contents, it is books’ physical form – their ‘bookhood’ – that lends them their distinctive and sometimes dangerous magic. From the *Diamond Sutra* to Jilly Cooper’s *Riders*, to a book made of wrapped slices of cheese, this composite artisanal object has, for centuries, embodied and extended relationships between readers, nations, ideologies and cultures, in significant and unpredictable ways. Exploring the unexpected and unseen consequences of our love affair with books, *Portable Magic* hails the rise of the mass-market paperback, and dismantles the myth that print began with Gutenberg; it reveals how our reading habits have been shaped by American soldiers, and proposes new definitions of a ‘classic’ – and even of the book, itself. Ultimately, it illuminates the ways in which our relationship with the written word is more reciprocal – and more turbulent – than we tend to imagine.

Books PBK \$24.99

Prehistoric Joy

Sneddon, Andrew

Andrew Sneddon has made a name for himself in Australia, and internationally, as a successful archaeologist and heritage consultant. But his success belies his childhood: at the age of 11, Sneddon finds himself living in the criminal underbelly of Queensland’s Gold Coast. His conman stepfather has moved the family from suburban Canberra to chase his next scam. But in the 1980s, there is scant help for a woman and her three children who are ricocheting between domestic violence and homelessness. As Sneddon charts the often frightening and sometimes farcical journey of his teenage years, he also reflects on them through contemporary eyes as

an archaeologist. Told with candour and refreshing humour, *Prehistoric Joy* explores the importance of family and the timeless search for happiness.

Memoir TP \$32.99

Young Bloomsbury

The Generation that Redefined Love, Freedom, and Self-Expression in 1920s’ England

Strachey, Nino

In the years before the First World War, a collection of writers and artists – Virginia Woolf, E M Forster, and Lytton Strachey, among them – began to make a name for themselves in England and America for their irreverent spirit and provocative works of literature, art, and criticism. They called themselves the Bloomsbury Group and, by the 1920s, they were at the height of their influence. Then, a new generation stepped forward – creative young people who tantalised their elders with their captivating looks, bold ideas, and subversive energy. *Young Bloomsbury* introduces us to this colourful cast of characters, including novelist Eddy Sackville-West, who wore elaborate makeup and dressed in satin and black velvet; artist Stephen Tomlin, who sculpted the heads of his male and female lovers; and author Julia Strachey, who wrote a searing tale of blighted love. Talented and productive, these larger-than-life figures had high-achieving professional lives and extremely complicated emotional lives. The group had always celebrated sexual equality and freedom in private, feeling that every person had the right to live and love in the way they chose. But as transgressive self-expression became more public, this younger generation gave Old Bloomsbury a new voice. Revealing an aspect of history not yet explored, *Young Bloomsbury* celebrates an open way of living and loving that would not be embraced for another 100 years.

History PBK \$24.99

The Flame of Reason

Clear Thinking for the 21st Century
Sturmark, Chris

In country after country, conspiracy theories and religious dogmas that once seemed to have been overtaken by enlightened thought are helping to lift authoritarian leaders into power. The effects are being felt by women, ethnic minorities, teachers, scientists, and students – and by the environment, the ultimate victim of climate change denial. We need clear thinking now more than ever. Christer Sturmark is a crusading secular humanist as well as a Swedish publisher and entrepreneur, and *The Flame of Reason* is his manifesto for a better world. It provides a set of simple tools for clear thinking in the face of populist dogmas, anti-science attitudes and pseudo-philosophy, and suggestions for how we can move towards a new enlightenment. From truth to Quantum Physics, moral philosophy to the Myers-Briggs test, Sturmark offers a passionate defence of rational thought, science, tolerance and pluralism; a warm and engaging guide for anyone who wants to better navigate the modern world. Co-written with, and translated by, Douglas Hofstadter, celebrated cognitive scientist, physicist and author of *Godel, Escher, Bach* (TP, \$35.00).

Philosophy PBK \$24.99

Pulp Fiction

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Season of the Witch

The Book of Goth

Unsworth, Cathi

The first book to cover, in depth and from an insider's perspective, the inception and rise of goth – one of the world's most enduringly popular musical subcultures.

1979. Months of industrial action throughout the winter have left the dead unburied and mountains of rubbish piling up in the streets. After 10 brutal homicides and the biggest police hunt in history, the Yorkshire Ripper is still at large and preparing to strike again. Punk has reached its bleak climax with the fatal heroin overdose of Sid Vicious, while awaiting trial for the murder of his girlfriend. Unlikely alliances of outsiders prepare to seize power, set the political agenda and write the soundtrack for the years to come. Their figureheads are two very different kinds of dominatrices... As Margaret Thatcher enters 10 Downing Street, four bands born of punk – Siouxsie and the Banshees, Joy Division, the Cure, and Magazine – find a way to distil the dissonance and darkness of the shifting decade into a new form of music. Pushing at the taboos the Sex Pistols had unlocked, and dancing with the fetishistic, all will become global stars of goth. By the time Thatcher is cast out of office, in 1990, the arrival of goth will have imprinted on the cultural landscape as much as the Iron Lady, herself. Now, 40 years since its inception, author Cathi Unsworth provides the first comprehensive overview of the music, context and lasting legacy of goth. This is the story of how goth was shaped by the politics of the era – from the miners' strikes and privatisation to the Troubles and AIDS – as well as how its rock 'n' roll outlaw imagery and innovative, atmospheric music cross-pollinated throughout Britain and internationally, speaking to a generation of alienated youths. A fascinating social history, *Season of the Witch* tells the tale of an enduring counter-culture, one that steadfastly refuses to give up the ghost.

Culture HC \$49.99

The Traitor of Colditz

The Untold Story of Britain's

Bravest Double Agent

Verkaik, Robert

It is the depths of the Second World War. The Germans like to boast that there is 'no escape' from the infamous fortress that is Colditz. The elite British officers imprisoned there are determined to prove the Nazis wrong, and get back into the war. As the war heats up and the stakes are raised, the Gestapo plant a double agent inside the prison in a bid to uncover the secrets of the British prisoners. Captain Julius Green of the Army Dental Corps and Sergeant John 'Busty' Brown must risk their lives, in a bid to save the lives of hundreds of Allied servicemen, and protect the secrets of MI9. Drawn from unseen records, *The Traitor of Colditz* brings to light an extraordinary, never-before-told story from the Second World War, an epic tale of how MI9 took on the Nazis and exposed the traitors in their midst.

Military history PBK \$22.99

Beyond Measure

The Hidden History of Measurement

Vincent, James

A revelatory and vibrant story of measurement which will make you look at the world around you anew. We measure rainfall and radiation, the depths of space and the emptiness of atoms, calories and steps, happiness and pain. But how did measurement become ubiquitous in modern life? When did humanity first take up scales and rulers, and why does this practice hold authority over so many aspects of our lives? Written with vim and dazzling intelligence, James Vincent provides a fresh and original perspective on human history as he tracks our long search for dependable truths in a chaotic universe. Full of mavericks and visionaries, adventure and the unexpected, *Beyond Measure* shows that measurement has not only made the world we live in, it has made us too.

Science/History PBK \$24.99

Flirting with Danger

The Mysterious Life of Marguerite

Harrison, Socialite Spy

Wallach, Janet

The true story of socialite Marguerite Harrison, who spied for US military intelligence in Russia and Germany in the fraught period between the world wars. Born a privileged child of America's Gilded Age, Marguerite Harrison rebelled against her mother's ambitions, married the man she loved, was widowed at 37, and set off on a life of adventure. Hired as a society reporter, when America entered World War I she applied to Military Intelligence to work as a spy. She arrived in Berlin immediately after the Armistice and befriended the enemy, dining with aristocrats and dancing with socialists. Late into the night she wrote prescient reports on the growing power of the German right. Sent to Moscow, she sneaked into Russia to observe the results of the Bolshevik Revolution. Although, she carried press credentials, she was caught and imprisoned as an American spy.

Terrified, when told her only way out was to spy for the Cheka, she became a double agent, aiming to convince the Russian rulers she was working for them while striving to stay loyal to her country. In Germany and Russia, Harrison saw the future – a second war with Germany, a cold war with the Soviets – but her reports were ignored by many back home. Over a decade, Harrison's mysterious adventures took her to Europe, Baghdad, and the Far East, as a socialite, secret agent, and documentary filmmaker. Janet Wallach captures Harrison's daring and glamour in this stranger-than-fiction history of a woman drawn to the impossible.

History HC \$64.95

Tutankhamun's Trumpet

The Story of Ancient Egypt in 100 Objects

Wilkinson, Toby

On 26 November 1922, Howard Carter first peered into the newly-opened tomb of an ancient Egyptian boy-king. When asked if he could see anything, he replied: 'Yes, yes,

wonderful things.' In *Tutankhamun's Trumpet*, acclaimed Egyptologist Toby Wilkinson takes a unique approach to a well-worn subject. Instead of concentrating on the oft-told story of the discovery, or speculating on the (brief) life and (fractious) times of the boy-king, Wilkinson takes the objects buried with the king as the source material for a wide-ranging, detailed portrait of ancient Egypt – its geography, history, culture, and legacy. One hundred artefacts from the tomb, arranged in 10 thematic groups, are allowed to speak again – not only for themselves, but as witnesses of the civilisation that created them. Never before, have the treasures of Tutankhamun been analysed and presented for what they can tell us about ancient Egyptian culture, its extraordinary development, its remarkable flourishing, and its lasting impact. Like Tutankhamun, himself, the music which surrounded him has vanished. All that remains are echoes of the past, survivors of an age long gone, the stuff of interpretation and reinterpretation. But through the objects buried with him, his world, and the civilisation of ancient Egypt of which he remains the ultimate symbol, can be brought back to life. Filled with surprising insights, unusual details, vivid descriptions and, above all, remarkable objects, *Tutankhamun's Trumpet* will appeal to all lovers of history, archaeology, art, and culture, as well as all those fascinated by the Egypt of the pharaohs.

History PBK \$26.99

The Exceptions

Nancy Hopkins and the fight for women in science

Zernike, Kate

The remarkable untold story of how a group of 16 determined women used the power of the collective and the tools of science to inspire ongoing radical change. This is a triumphant account of progress, while reminding us that further action is needed. These women scientists entered the workforce, in the 1960s, during a push for affirmative action. Embarking on their careers, they thought that discrimination against women was a thing of the past, and that science was a pure meritocracy. Women were marginalised and minimised, especially as they grew older, their contributions stolen and erased. Written by the Pulitzer Prize-winning journalist who broke the story in 1999 for *The Boston Globe*, when the Massachusetts Institute of Technology made the astonishing admission that it discriminated against women on its faculty, *The Exceptions* is an intimate narrative, which centres on Nancy Hopkins – a surprisingly-reluctant feminist, who became a hero to two generations of women in science. In uncovering an erased history, we are finally introduced to the hidden scientists who paved the way for collective change.

Science TP \$34.99