SPRING 2016

HISTORY

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In *Northern Armageddon*, D. Peter MacLeod, using original research—diaries, journals, letters, and firsthand accounts—and bringing to bear all of his extensive knowledge and grasp of warfare and colonial North American history, tells the epic story of the Battle of the Plains of Abraham on a human scale. He writes of the British at Quebec through the eyes of a master’s mate on one of the ships embroiled in the battle. And from the French perspective, as the British bombarded Quebec, of four residents of the city—a priest, a clerk, a nun, and a notary—caught in the crossfire. MacLeod gives us as well the large-scale ramifications of this clash of armies, not only on the shape of North America, but on the history of Europe itself.

“MacLeod uses diaries, letters, and other personal accounts to demonstrate the effects of the pivotal battle of the Seven Years’ War, showing how it resounded throughout the Western world for years. . . . Students of American history will appreciate the detail and the thoroughness of this account of what Churchill called the ‘first world war.’” —Kirkus Reviews

“Writing with a keen eye for the dramatic, MacLeod tells this story in a big way, giving equal parts to each side. . . . The events of the battle are finely rendered, and MacLeod makes a strong case for their importance as a precursor to the American Revolution.” —Publishers Weekly
ROBERT MIDDLEKAUFF
Washington’s Revolution
The Making of America’s First Leader
NOW IN PAPERBACK
FINALIST FOR THE GEORGE WASHINGTON PRIZE

Focusing on Washington’s early years, Bancroft Prize winner and Pulitzer Prize finalist Robert Middlekauff penetrates his mystique, revealing his all-too-human fears, values, and passions. Rich in psychological detail regarding Washington’s temperament, idiosyncrasies, and experiences, this book shows a self-conscious Washington who grew in confidence and experience as a young soldier, businessman, and Virginia gentleman, and who was transformed into a patriot by the revolutionary ferment of the 1760s and ’70s. Middlekauff makes clear that Washington was at the heart of not just the revolution’s course and outcome but also the success of the nation it produced.

“Middlekauff has written about Washington’s war rather as Washington himself might have, had he been a historian: carefully, thoroughly, with an eye for detail and a grasp, at all times, of the important points.” — The New York Times Book Review

“Middlekauff writes a cogent character study of an icon, without either polishing or puncturing Washington’s image. He clearly admires his subject, but recognizes Washington’s limits, especially in the matter of slavery.” — The Philadelphia Inquirer

“Expertly traces the arc of Washington’s career. . . . Middlekauff’s book is a thorough, persuasive explanation of why Americans, from the era of the Revolution to the early republic, gloried in having Washington as their leader.” — National Review

CHARLES ROYSTER
The Fabulous History of the Dismal Swamp Company
A Story of George Washington’s Times

From historian Charles Royster — winner of the Francis Parkman, Bancroft, and Lincoln Prizes — comes the history of one of eighteenth-century America’s most fantastic land speculation deals: William Byrd’s scheme to develop 900 square miles of swamp on the Virginia-North Carolina border and create fabulous wealth for himself and other shareholders, including George Washington.

Royster scrupulously follows the paper trail through the byways of transatlantic deal-cutting, providing a rare view of early American economic culture. Elegantly written and impressively researched, The Fabulous History of the Dismal Swamp Company is an eye-opening account of greed, folly, and venture capitalism in the revolutionary era.

“Here is a narrative history of scope and of abundance, a fascinating story.” — The Washington Times

“Vivid. . . . Plunges readers into the rough world of colonial capitalism — a world swarming with adventurers, aristocrats, fools, rogues and visionaries all wearing masks of gentility.” — The News & Observer (Raleigh)
Laurel Thatcher Ulrich

Well-Behaved Women Seldom Make History

“They didn’t ask to be remembered,” Pulitzer Prize–winning author Laurel Ulrich wrote in 1976 about the pious women of colonial New England. And then she added a phrase that has since gained widespread currency: “Well-behaved women seldom make history.” Today those words appear almost everywhere — on T-shirts, mugs, bumper stickers, plaques, greeting cards, and more. But what do they really mean? In this engrossing volume, Laurel Ulrich goes far beyond the slogan she inadvertently created and explores what it means to make history.

“A bravura performance. . . . Ulrich is brilliant here. . . . Few have done as much to so profoundly enrich and enlarge our vision of the past.” — The Boston Globe

“The book is a pleasure to read. . . . Ulrich’s style is plain and direct.” — The Washington Post Book World

“A tribute to the women who have made history as well as the scholars who write about them, Laurel Thatcher Ulrich’s probing and ambitious book casts its net widely. Women warriors, medieval writers, fugitive slaves, second-wave feminists, and even T-shirt entrepreneurs people its pages—and command our attention.” — Susan Ware, editor of Notable American Women

Kirstin Downey

The Woman Behind the New Deal

The Life and Legacy of Frances Perkins — Social Security, Unemployment Insurance, and the Minimum Wage

Frances Perkins was named Secretary of Labor by Franklin Roosevelt in 1933. As the first female cabinet secretary, she spearheaded the fight to improve the lives of America’s working people while juggling her own complex family responsibilities. Perkins’s ideas became the cornerstones of the most important social welfare and legislation in the nation’s history, including unemployment compensation, child labor laws, and the forty-hour work week. Written with a wit that echoes Frances Perkins’s own, Kirstin Downey gives us a riveting exploration of how and why Perkins slipped into historical oblivion, and restores Perkins to her proper place in history.

“The book is more than a biography of an extraordinary woman. It is a window to another time through which we are able to observe the birthing pains of reforms we now take for granted. . . . Many passages dealing with the Great Depression, immigration and the impending world war could have been lifted from today’s news.” — The Post and Courier (Charleston)

“For his presidency to succeed, FDR needed a strong labor secretary to restore jobs and confidence. Perkins was that loyal lieutenant, as well as his unrelenting prod and social conscience.” — Pittsburgh Post-Gazette
**The Firebrand and the First Lady**

Portraits of a Friendship: Pauli Murray, Eleanor Roosevelt, and the Struggle for Social Justice

NEW

A groundbreaking book—two decades in the making—that tells the story of how a brilliant writer-turned-activist, granddaughter of a mulatto slave, and the first lady of the United States, whose ancestry gave her membership in the Daughters of the American Revolution, forged an enduring friendship that changed each of their lives and helped to alter the course of race and racism in America.

“Bold, fast-paced, and vividly written, Patricia Bell-Scott’s dual portrait of Pauli Murray and Eleanor Roosevelt significantly enhances the story of two luminous activists who learned much from each other across the color line. This splendid book gives us significant hope for the future as we continue to struggle for justice, peace and freedom.” — Blanche Wiesen Cook, author of *Eleanor Roosevelt*

“A fresh look at a fascinating friendship between two vivid individuals from very different worlds—as well as a chronicle of the age-old conflict between the highest ideals and the art of the possible.” — Geoffrey C. Ward, author of *The Roosevelts: An Intimate History*

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**Hissing Cousins**

The Lifelong Rivalry of Eleanor Roosevelt and Alice Roosevelt Longworth

NOW IN PAPERBACK

A lively and provocative double biography of first cousins Eleanor Roosevelt and Alice Roosevelt Longworth, two extraordinary women whose tangled lives provide a sweeping look at the twentieth century.

“This book . . . manages to encapsulate the sweeping saga of the Roosevelt family within its covers in a clear and readable fashion.” — Chicago Tribune

“Clever, absorbing. . . . Peyser and Dwyer wisely avoid paying too much attention to the old theory that Alice was jealous of Eleanor for capturing Franklin, whom she wanted for herself. What Alice mostly felt was wild exasperation over the way political fate and circumstance set Franklin up as her father’s wrongful heir. . . . Entertaining and often shrewd.” — The Washington Post

“With aplomb, stylish prose and smart analysis, [Peyser and Dwyer] synthesize their sources smoothly into an entertaining and educational book. And by vividly blending the personal and the political, ‘Peyser and Dwyer tell the cousins’ story with insight, humor, empathy and wisdom.’” — Richmond Times-Dispatch
**Sarah Helm**

**Ravensbrück**

Life and Death in Hitler’s Concentration Camp for Women

**NOW IN PAPERBACK**

Months before the outbreak of World War II, Heinrich Himmler—prime architect of the Holocaust—designed a special concentration camp for women, located fifty miles north of Berlin. Only a small number of the prisoners were Jewish. Ravensbrück was primarily a place for the Nazis to hold other inferior beings: Jehovah’s Witnesses, Resistance fighters, lesbians, prostitutes, and aristocrats, among others.

For decades the story of Ravensbrück was hidden behind the Iron Curtain. Now, using testimony unearthed since the end of the Cold War and interviews with survivors who have never talked before, Sarah Helm takes us into the heart of the camp. Chilling, compelling, and deeply necessary, Ravensbrück is essential reading for anyone concerned with Nazi history.

“Ravensbrück helps us understand how thoroughgoing an onslaught on humanity Nazi Germany perpetrated, and how central to its identity was its implacable urge to enslave and kill those it considered undesirable. . . . Ravensbrück gives us an agonizing sense of the dark heart of the Nazi ethos.”

—The New York Times Book Review

“Brilliantly presented. . . . Elegantly crafted. . . . Under Helm’s sympathetic hand, the women of Ravensbrück come alive once again.”

—The Washington Post

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**Christopher McDougall**

**Natural Born Heroes**

Mastering the Lost Secrets of Strength and Endurance

**NOW IN PAPERBACK**

While researching *Born to Run*, Chris McDougall encountered the story of Pheidippides, the legendary ancient Greek “all-day runner.” Later, when McDougall met a dedicated amateur historian, he saw a connection to one of the most fascinating mysteries of World War II: How did a small band of Resistance fighters surrounded by German troops kidnap a top German general? What he discovered is that ancestral techniques for extraordinary endurance, natural movement, and nutrition allowed ancient Greek soldiers and Cretan shepherds to race across mountains on all-night missions. Inspired by their heroic acts, McDougall sets off to discover the lost art of the hero, both throughout history and across the world.

“Riveting. . . . A well-done recounting of a truly heroic episode of WWII. . . . In absorbing detail, McDougall describes how . . . ‘ordinary’ men who were far from stereotypically tough, battle-hardened warriors . . . trekked across tortuous mountain terrain while avoiding a massive German dragnet.”

—Booklist

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Anchor | Paper | 978-0-307-27871-5
784 pages | $20.00 | Exam Price $10.00

Christopher McDougall

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Mastering the Lost Secrets of Strength and Endurance

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—Booklist

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Vintage | Paper | 978-0-307-74222-3
352 pages | $15.95 | Exam Price $3.00
Gregg Herken

The Georgetown Set
Friends and Rivals in Cold War Washington

NOW IN PAPERBACK

A fascinating, behind-the-scenes history of post-World War II Washington—a rich and colorful portrait of the close-knit group of journalists, spies, and government officials, including Phil and Kay Graham, Joe and Stewart Alsop, and Frank Wisner, who waged the Cold War over cocktails and dinner.

“A remarkable book. . . . A bravura feat of research and writing. . . . Herken has described a time, a milieu and a life that were, one might say, stranger than journalism.”
— The Wall Street Journal

“Herken reveals how, after World War II, that exclusive Washington enclave was home to a coterie of wealthy, well-educated, and well-connected diplomats, reporters, and spies who ‘inspired, promoted, and—in some cases—personally executed America’s winning Cold War strategy.’”
— The Weekly Standard

“Gregg Herken has written the hidden history of our foreign policy under Truman, Eisenhower, and Nixon, at a time when those who made policy met those who wrote about policy in the living rooms of Georgetown. Herken had the patience to wait until the files were opened. His book is admirably researched and written.”
— Ted Morgan, author of Reds: McCarthyism in Twentieth-Century America

Susan Butler

Roosevelt and Stalin
Portrait of a Partnership

NOW IN PAPERBACK

A hugely important book that solely and fully explores for the first time the complex partnership during World War II between FDR and Stalin.

“A rigorous study of one of the twentieth century’s unlikeliest alliances. Throughout her excellent book, Butler shows how the leaders of the capitalist and communist worlds had not a grudging marriage of convenience but a willing friendship, one founded on and motivated by a shared vision: to defeat Hitler and create a lasting postwar peace. . . . Her attention to detail . . . keeps us gripped. . . . The result is a rewarding read about a meeting of disparate minds.”
— Minneapolis Star Tribune

“A solid, comprehensive account of Soviet-American relations during World War II.”
— The Wall Street Journal

“An ambitious new portrait of the partnership that saved the world from Nazi tyranny. . . . A powerful book, and an irresistible read.”
— The Boston Globe

“Franklin Roosevelt’s relationship with Joseph Stalin has been well plumbed by historians, but Butler brings intimacy and texture to the topic.”
— Foreign Affairs
**Joe Gould’s Teeth**

Joe Gould began his life’s work before the First World War, announcing that he intended to write down nearly everything anyone ever said to him. By 1942, when *The New Yorker* published a profile of Gould, his manuscript had grown to more than nine million words. But when Gould died in a mental hospital in 1957, his work was nowhere to be found. Years later, a second profile of Gould claimed that “The Oral History of Our Time” had been, all along, a figment of the madman’s imagination.

Digging through archives all over the country, Lepore unearthed evidence that “The Oral History of Our Time” did in fact once exist. Relying on letters, scraps, and Gould’s own diaries and notebooks—including volumes of his lost manuscript—Lepore argues that Joe Gould’s real secret had to do with sex and the color line, with modernists’ relationship to the Harlem Renaissance, and, above all, with Gould’s terrifying obsession with the African American sculptor Augusta Savage. In ways that even Gould himself could not have imagined, what Gould wrote down really is a history of our time: unsettling and ferocious.

“Like a detective, Lepore describes her mazelike quest, her clues, her dead ends, the many people she met and talked to, the dusty archives visited in a wonderful, sprightly prose lusciously filled with allusions and references. . . . Borges’ great short story about the fictional writer Pierre Menard, author of the Quixote, comes to mind. Lepore is Borges to Gould’s Quixote, which was his life writ large . . . maybe. A fascinating, sharply written, thoroughly engaging jeu d’esprit.” — Kirkus Reviews

**David Reid**

**The Brazen Age**

New York City and the American Empire: Politics, Art, and Bohemia

NEW

A brilliant, sweeping, and unparalleled look at the extraordinarily rich culture and turbulent politics of New York City between the years 1945 and 1950.

“A truly great book. David Reid’s narrative is magnificently rich and complex, but his thesis is simple: with Europe’s metropolises in ruins in 1945, New York became the melting pot of global avant-gardes, the primate city of both an age and an empire. Like Diego Rivera’s great destroyed mural at Rockefeller Center, *The Brazen Age* magically captures the clamoring convergence of genius, power, and revolt — of dreams, manifestoes, and defeats — that made Manhattan the central power plant of late modernity.”

— Mike Davis, author of *City of Quartz*

“[An] exhilarating account . . . [with] chapters on iconic New York individuals (Berenice Abbott, Weegee), superstars (Einstein, Toscanini, Brecht, Stravinsky), politics (the 1948 elections, leftist magazines), and bohemia (Greenwich Village). Brilliant. . . . A historical tour de force. . . . Reid delivers his rich history with a bang.” — Kirkus Reviews (starred review)
Elizabeth Barlow Rogers

Green Metropolis
The Extraordinary Landscapes of New York City as Nature, History, and Design

NEW

Elizabeth Barlow Rogers, the woman who launched the restoration of Central Park in the 1980s, now introduces us to seven remarkable green spaces in and around New York City, giving us the history—both natural and human—of how they have been transformed over time.

Here we find: The greenbelt and nature refuge that runs along the spine of Staten Island. Jamaica Bay, whose mosaic of fragile, endangered marshes has been preserved as a bird sanctuary on the Atlantic Flyway. Inwood Hill, whose forest once sheltered Native Americans and Revolutionary soldiers before it became a site for wealthy estates and subsequently a public park. The Central Park Ramble, an artfully designed wilderness in the middle of the city. Roosevelt Island, where urban planners built a “new town in town” in the 1970s. Freshkills, the unusual twenty-two-hundred-acre park on Staten Island that is being created out of what was once the world’s largest landfill. The High Line, an aerial promenade built on an abandoned elevated rail spur.

Full of the natural history of the parks along with interesting historical facts and interviews with caretakers, guides, local residents, guardians, and visitors, this beautifully illustrated book is a treasure trove of information about the varied and pleasurable green spaces that grace New York City.

Knopf | Cloth | 978-1-101-87553-7
240 pages | $27.95 | Exam Price $14.00

H. W. Brands

Reagan
The Life

NOW IN PAPERBACK

From New York Times bestselling historian H. W. Brands comes the definitive biography of a visionary and transformative president.

“H. W. Brands’s new biography tells the (Reagan) story as well as you could ask for in a single volume. A lucid and witty writer, Mr. Brands lays out the facts in short chapters that bounce along like one of the “bare-fisted wallowing action” films that Reagan once starred in. He has a talent for letting his sources speak for themselves... . . . Illuminating. Mr. Brands recounts Reagan’s triumphs and the scandals even-handedly.” —The Economist

“Reagan is an engaging study of a man who Brands says defeated Soviet communism and achieved a halfway economic revolution. Drawing on Reagan’s diary, speeches, statements, letters and memoirs, and on interviews with the president’s aides, Brands tells a briskly paced story... . . . Reagan’s legacy continues to fuel the ideas and frame the choices facing his would-be successors, and this astute biography is further evidence that the 40th president continues to cast a long shadow over a still largely conservative political order.” —The Washington Post

“A lively and lucid narrative... . . . Brands is surely right that Reagan was the most persuasive political communicator since Roosevelt.” —San Francisco Chronicle

Anchor | Paper | 978-0-307-95114-4
832 pages | $18.95 | Exam Price $3.00
**David Crane**

**Went the Day Well?**
Witnessing Waterloo

**NOW IN PAPERBACK**

*Went the Day Well?* is an astonishing hour-by-hour chronicle that starts the day before the battle that reset the course of world history and continues to its aftermath. Switching perspectives between Britain and Belgium, prison and palace, poet and pauper, lover and betrothed, husband and wife, David Crane paints a picture of Britain as it was that summer when everything changed. Drawing on a wide range of primary sources — from newspapers and journals to letters and poems — *Went the Day Well?* offers a highly original view of Waterloo, grand in scope but meticulous in detail.

“Of the many books that have been written to mark [the] bicentenary of the battle of Waterloo, Crane’s surely ranks among the most original. His is not just the story of the climactic carnage that ended the Napoleonic Wars, but a finely balanced narrative that flits seamlessly between the battlefield and the British home front. . . . Crane holds up the battle as a lens through which we see a warts-and-all portrait of Britain 200 years ago.”
— The New York Times Book Review

“Crane has used [Waterloo] as a telescope, bringing into sharp focus not just the carnage . . . but the state of Britain itself. . . . The result is a rich feast: dramatic, poignant, funny, gruesome and tragic by turns. Crane selects a small cast to people his narrative, and involves us in their destinies without ever losing sight of the bigger picture.”
— The Spectator (London)

**Hubert Wolf**

**The Nuns of Sant’Ambrogio**
The True Story of a Convent in Scandal

**NOW IN PAPERBACK**

In 1858, a German princess, recently inducted into the convent of Sant’Ambrogio in Rome, wrote a frantic letter to her cousin, a confidant of the Pope, claiming that she feared for her life. A subsequent investigation by the Church’s Inquisition uncovered the shocking secrets of a convent ruled by a beautiful young mistress, who coerced her novices into lesbian initiation rites and heresies, and who entered into an illicit relationship with a young theologian. Drawing upon written testimony and original documents discovered in a secret Vatican archive, *The Nuns of Sant’Ambrogio* is the never-before-told true story of how one woman was able to practice deception, heresy, seduction, and murder in the heart of the Catholic Church.

“Deftly balances . . . juicy history with a raft of serious (yet accessible) research into the intricacies of Vatican bureaucracy, the underlying philosophical disputes among various key Roman Catholic figures, and the complex political landscape of mid-nineteenth century Italy.”
— The Boston Globe

“The gloomy intrigue that [Hubert Wolf] reveals in this extraordinary book . . . seems to verify the most overstretched commonplace of the convent literature, from Diderot’s *La Religieuse* to de Sade’s *Jallotte*. “
— Le Monde (Paris)
The Partnership
Brecht, Weill, Three Women, and Germany on the Brink
NOW IN PAPERBACK

Among the most outsized personalities of the period between the Great War and the Nazis’ rise to power were the renegade playwright Bertolt Brecht and the avant-garde composer Kurt Weill. These two young geniuses and the women vital to their work—actresses Lotte Lenya and Helene Weigel, and writer Elisabeth Hauptmann—joined talents to create the theatrical masterworks *The Threepenny Opera* and *The Rise and Fall of the City of Mahagonny*, only to split in rancor as their culture cracked open and their differences became irreconcilable. *The Partnership* is the first book to tell the full story of one of the most important creative collaborations of the last century, and the first to give full credit to the women who contributed their enormous gifts.

“Katz restores the women to their proper place in the story, with levity, strong characterization, and beguiling descriptions of an interwar German milieu crackling with politics, art, and a sense of possibility.” —The New Yorker

“(Katz’s) work as a novelist and screenwriter helps her keep the pacing swift and the prose dynamic—the chapters on the creation of *The Threepenny Opera* are almost unbearably suspenseful. . . . She offers a real and empathetic sense of how Brecht and Weill walked and spoke and dressed.” —The New York Times

Simon Sebag Montefiore
The Romanovs
1613–1918
NEW

The acclaimed author of *Young Stalin* now gives us an accessible, lively, wholly revelatory account—based in part on new archival material—of the extraordinary men and women who ruled Russia for three centuries.

“Epic history on the grandest scale.” —Financial Times

“This no-holds-barred history of the Romanovs shows how they presided over three centuries of cruelty and slaughter. . . . The research is meticulous and the style is captivating.” —The Guardian

“(A) gripping account. . . . By turns horrific, hilarious and moving, but ultimately tragic, this is essential reading for anyone interested in Russia or simply puzzled by the workings of the Russian state. It provides ample evidence that whoever is in power, and however incompetently or cruelly they may be governed, the Russians are dedicated to autocracy.” —The Spectator

“It was hard to be a tsar,’ writes Simon Sebag Montefiore at the start of this glorious romp through the history of the Romanov family from 1613 until the fall of the dynasty just over 300 years later. By the end of the book, it is hard to disagree with him. In a story bursting with blood, sex and tears, we learn that absolute power corrupts absolutely.” —The Telegraph (London)
In this groundbreaking work of historical research, Bruce Hoffman—America’s leading expert on terrorism—brilliantly re-creates the crucial thirty-year period that led to the birth of Israel.

“Remarkable. . . . A magisterial history that is indispensable to anyone wishing to understand how and why the State of Israel came into existence.” — Foreign Affairs

“A gripping narrative history. . . . Its major contribution is to demonstrate that the Irgun-led insurgency played a larger role in paving the way for Israel’s founding than we previously believed. . . . A pathbreaking book.” — The Wall Street Journal

“Anonymous Soldiers can be seen as a corrective to the understatements and misstatements about the role of the Revisionist movement in the history of Zionism and, especially, the creation and defense of the Jewish state. . . . An even-handed work of history that is, at the same time, a morally illuminating and challenging work.” — Jewish Journal

Margaret Thatcher
From Grantham to the Falklands
NOW IN PAPERBACK

With unequaled authority and dramatic detail, the first volume of Charles Moore’s authorized biography of Margaret Thatcher, more than fifteen years in the making, reveals as never before the early life, rise to power, and first years as prime minister of the woman who transformed Britain and the world in the late twentieth century.

“A masterpiece of clear and intelligent writing. . . . Margaret Thatcher: From Grantham to the Falklands is already one of the great classic political biographies.” — The Weekly Standard

“Thatcher was a remarkable politician and Moore does justice to her distinctive qualities.” — London Review of Books

“Moore presents us with enough new material to offer a fresh, even vulnerable person behind the mythology. . . . Moore’s writing is often elegant and vivid, particularly when he escapes the burden of authorized biographer by turning to commentary on Thatcher’s behavior and decisions.” — The Independent (London)

“It’s an incredible level of access. . . . It presents a remarkable and richly detailed portrait.” — The Boston Globe

Charles Moore
Margaret Thatcher
At Her Zenith: In London, Washington and Moscow
NEW

Volume II of Charles Moore’s authorized biography of Margaret Thatcher captures the period between 1982 and 1987, focusing on Thatcher’s reelection. Moore continues his unwavering examination of Thatcher’s personal and political life that he began in Volume I, drawing from previously unseen papers, diaries, letters, and interviews with former colleagues and intimates. The resulting portrait of Thatcher is clear-eyed and complex—as much a biography as it is a historical account of the circumstances and experiences that shaped this towering figure of our times.

“Moore’s biography is a superb achievement: an authoritative, readable, humane account that reveals some disagreement with Thatcher’s policies but also a thoroughgoing effort to understand her perspective. It is just the right point of view for approaching a polarizing figure.” — Chicago Tribune

“Margaret Thatcher was no ordinary politician: She was a force of nature. Any attempt to capture in words a leader so utterly sui generis requires abilities of the highest order. It was not the least of her feats to have found in Charles Moore the ideal biographer. His work not only does justice to her achievements but comes as close as possible to evoking what she was really like. It is not just authorized, but authoritative. Indeed, I venture to say that Mr. Moore’s Margaret Thatcher is one of the greatest political biographies ever written.” — Daniel Johnson, The Wall Street Journal

Knopf | Cloth | 978-0-307-95896-9
880 pages | $35.00 | Exam Price $17.50

Vintage | Paper | 978-1-101-87383-0
928 pages | $20.00 | Exam Price $10.00
Peter Frankopan

The Silk Roads
A New History of the World

NEW
SHORTLISTED FOR THE PEN HESSEL-TILTMAN PRIZE

The epic history of the crossroads of the world—the meeting place of East and West and the birthplace of civilization.

It was on the Silk Roads that East and West first encountered each other through trade and conquest, leading to the spread of ideas, cultures, and religions. From the rise and fall of empires to the spread of Buddhism and the advent of Christianity and Islam, right up to the great wars of the twentieth century—this book shows how the fate of the West has always been inextricably linked to the East.

“Frankopan marches briskly through the centuries, disguising his erudition with an enviable lightness of touch, enlivening his narrative with a beautifully constructed web of anecdotes and insights, backed up by an impressively wide-ranging scholarly apparatus of footnotes drawing on works in multiple languages. . . . This is history on a grand scale, with a sweep and ambition that is rare. . . . A remarkable book on many levels, a proper historical epic of dazzling range and achievement.”
—The Guardian

“The Silk Roads, which covers several continents and many centuries, is based on astonishingly wide and deep reading and in all areas draws on the latest research. . . . It is full of vivid and recondite details.”
—The Independent (London)

Knopf | Cloth | 978-1-101-94632-9
672 pages | $30.00 | Exam Price $15.00

Alexander Monro

The Paper Trail
An Unexpected History of a Revolutionary Invention

NEW

A sweeping, richly detailed history that tells the fascinating story of how paper—the simple Chinese invention of two thousand years ago—wrapped itself around our world, humankind’s most momentous ideas imprinted on its surface.

“Monro’s expertise as a European historian and scholar of Chinese gives this book a uniquely broad perspective, which would mean less if he were not also a picturesque writer with an eye for a good story and an ear for a readable style.”
—The Times (London)

“Page-turningly readable. . . . Exceedingly well informed. . . . The chronological narrative, beginning with prehistoric charcoal scribbling on cave walls and ending with e-paper, is laden with research carried admirably lightly. . . . A terrific read.”
—Literary Review (London)

“The author draws upon a deep background in Chinese history and impressive research in this dense study of not only paper, but also the development of writing and literacy. . . . Illuminating, richly detailed history.”
—Kirkus Reviews

Knopf | Cloth | 978-0-307-27166-2
384 pages | $30.00 | Exam Price $15.00
This gripping and important book brings alive over two hundred years of humanitarian interventions. *Freedom’s Battle* illuminates the passionate debates between conscience and imperialism ignited by the first human rights activists in the 19th century, and shows how a newly emergent free press galvanized British, American, and French citizens to action by exposing them to distant atrocities. Wildly romantic and full of bizarre enthusiasms, these activists were pioneers of a new political consciousness. And their legacy has much to teach us about today’s human rights crises.

“Lively, subtle, and comprehensive. . . . Sheds a penetrating light on current policy debates. . . . Bass’s sense of nuance constitutes the strength of this book, which has the force of a polemic without descending to one.” — The Washington Post

“Bass tells the strange, bloody tales of these now nearly forgotten campaigns with extraordinary verve and wit. . . . The book’s real payoff is what it brings to our understanding of contemporary conflicts.” — Time

“Engaging. . . . [A] compelling narrative, rich with accounts of parliamentary debate and battlefield confrontation. . . . Persuasive.” — The New Yorker
Karen Armstrong

The Case for God

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