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### ONCE I WAS COOL

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### PERSONAL ESSAYS

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Once I Was Cool contrasts past aspirations with the mess and magic of the present. Maturity is demanding, but its rewards are a gift.

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### THE WRONG WAY TO SAVE YOUR LIFE

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### ESSAYS

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HarperCollins From an important new American writer comes this powerful collection of personal essays on fear, creativity, art, faith, academia, the Internet, and justice. In this poignant and inciting collection of literary essays, Megan Stielstra tells stories to ward off fears both personal and universal as she grapples toward a better way to live. In her titular piece “The Wrong Way To Save Your Life,” she answers the question of what has value in our lives—a question no longer rhetorical when the apartment above her family’s goes up in flames. “Here is My Heart” sheds light on Megan’s close relationship with her father, whose continued insistence on climbing mountains despite a series of heart attacks leads the author to dissect deer hearts in a poetic attempt to interrogate her own feelings about mortality. Whether she’s imagining the implications of open-carry laws on college campuses, recounting the story of going underwater on the mortgage of her first home, or revealing the unexpected pains and joys of marriage and motherhood, Stielstra’s work informs, impels, enlightens, and embraces us all. The result is something beautiful—this story, her courage, and, potentially, our own. Intellectually fierce and viscerally intimate, Megan Stielstra’s voice is witty, wise, warm, and above all, achingly human. “Stielstra is a masterful essayist.”—Roxane Gay, author of *Bad Feminist* and *Hunger*

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### EVERYONE REMAIN CALM (16PT LARGE PRINT EDITION)

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'Quirky, Sedaris - style musings with unexpected theatrical trimmings.'" - Time Out Chicago These days, reality can be hard to swallow. How do we get to the end of day, let alone the end of the week? Some people drink, others get therapy, but all of us - hidden in the secret places in the backs of our minds - have fantasies. These are what we wish for, fight for, live for. Maybe yours is a pretty girl. Maybe it's a better job. Maybe its the love that'll swoop down makes everything seem okay. It's the fantasies that'll save us, but still - they're a dangerous thing. That pretty girl may not be so pretty tomorrow; that perfect job may not really exist; and what happens to love when you're so lost in a fantasy you can't see what's right in front of your face? The stories in Everyone Remain Calm explore the lines between fantasy and reality - how we move between the two in a crazy attempt to make our lives better. It's a hard journey - we get anxious, panicked, fearful, lost - our pulse quickens, shoulders tighten. We forget to breathe. These stories are a reminder.

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### THE BEST AMERICAN ESSAYS 2013

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Houghton Mifflin Harcourt Curated by the #1 New York Times bestselling author of *Wild*, this volume shares intimate perspectives from some of today’s most acclaimed writers. As Cheryl Strayed explains in her introduction, “the invisible, unwritten last line of every essay should be and nothing was ever the same again.” The reader, in other words, should feel the ground shift, if even only a bit. In this edition of the acclaimed anthology series, Strayed has gathered twenty-six essays that each capture an inexorable, tectonic shift in life. Personal and deeply perceptive, this collection examines a broad range of life experiences—from a man’s relationship with Mormonism to a woman’s search for a serial killer; from listening to the music of Joni Mitchell to surviving five months at sea; from triaging injured soldiers to giving birth to a daughter; and much more. The Best American Essays 2013 includes entries by Alice Munro, Zadie Smith, John Jeremiah Sullivan, Dagoberto Gilb, Vicki Weiqi Yang, J.D. Daniels, Michelle Mirsky, and others.

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### I'LL TELL YOU IN PERSON

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### ESSAYS

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Coffee House Press Witty, insightful reflections on twentysomething struggles from “a writer beyond gifted and generous” (Heidi Julavits). Flailing in jobs, failing at love, getting addicted and un-addicted to people, food, and drugs—I’ll Tell You in Person is a disarmingly frank account of attempts at adulthood and all the less than perfect ways we get there. Chloe Caldwell has an unsparing knack for looking within and reporting back what’s really there, rather than what she’d like you to see. “I couldn’t stop reading this book, and when I was finished I kept looking around to see where my awesome new friend went . . . I love this person’s life, and I love the way she writes about it—funny and blunt and chatty and truthful.” —Michelle Tea “I’ll read anything Chloe Caldwell writes. She’s a rare bird: fearless, dark, prolific, unpretentious, and truly honest.” —Elisa Albert “Her work is never less than fascinating.” —Brooklyn Magazine

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### ONCE I WAS COOL

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### PERSONAL ESSAYS

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Northwestern University Press Once I Was Cool contrasts past aspirations with the mess and magic of the present. In her younger days, essayist Megan Stielstra saw Jane’s Addiction at the Aragon Ballroom and fantasized about living on the same block, right in the thick of music and revelry. As an adult, she lives in a turreted condo across the street, with her husband, a child, and an onerous mortgage. It’s just the home her young, cool self imagined. And it isn’t what she expected, either. With conversational flourishes and on-the-mark descriptions, Stielstra’s essays evoke the richness of her everyday life and the memories that are never far away. She remembers learning how to shoot a gun, a cancer scare, and—in a piece that was anthologized in *The Best American Essays 2013*—the time she eavesdropped on another new mother using her son’s baby monitor. “I shouldn’t have listened,” she writes. “But it was the first time since my son was born that I didn’t feel alone.” Combining footnotes, electric sentences, and uproariously funny anecdotes (have you ever run into an ex while rolling on ecstasy?), Stielstra shows us that maturity is demanding, but its rewards are a gift.

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### BURN IT DOWN

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### WOMEN WRITING ABOUT ANGER

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Seal Press A rich, nuanced exploration of women’s anger from a diverse group of writers Women are furious, and we’re not keeping it to ourselves any longer. We’re expected to be composed and compliant, but in a world that would strip us of our rights, disparage our

contributions, and deny us a seat at the table of authority, we're no longer willing to quietly seethe behind tight smiles. We're ready to burn it all down. In this ferocious collection of essays, twenty-two writers explore how anger has shaped their lives: author of the New York Times bestseller *The Empathy Exams* Leslie Jamison confesses that she used to insist she wasn't angry-until she learned that she was; Melissa Febos, author of the Lambda Literary Award-winning memoir *Abandon Me*, writes about how she discovered that anger can be an instrument of power; editor-in-chief of *Bitch Media* Evette Dionne dismantles the "angry Black woman" stereotype; and more. Broad-ranging and cathartic, *Burn It Down* is essential reading for any woman who has scorched with rage-and is ready to claim her right to express it.

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#### NO ONE ASKED FOR THIS

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#### ESSAYS

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Mariner Books From writer/director Cazzie David comes a series of comedic essays about anxiety, social media, generational malaise, and growing up in a famous family.

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#### KEEP MOVING

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#### NOTES ON LOSS, CREATIVITY, AND CHANGE

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Simon and Schuster NATIONAL BESTSELLER "A meditation on kindness and hope, and how to move forward through grief." —NPR "A shining reminder to learn all we can from this moment, rebuilding ourselves in the darkness so that we may come out wiser, kinder, and stronger on the other side." —The Boston Globe "Powerful essays on loss, endurance, and renewal." —People "Best Nonfiction Books of 2020" Marie Claire's "2020 Books You Should Pre-Order Now" Parade's "25 Self-Help Books To Get Your 2020 Off On The Right Foot" The Washington Post's "What to Read in 2020 Based on the Books You Loved in 2019" For fans of Cheryl Strayed and Anne Lamott, a collection of quotes and essays on facing life's challenges with creativity, courage, and resilience. When Maggie Smith, the award-winning author of the viral poem "Good Bones," started writing inspirational daily Twitter posts in the wake of her divorce, they unexpectedly caught fire. In this deeply moving book of quotes and essays, Maggie writes about new beginnings as opportunities for transformation. Like kintsugi, the Japanese art of mending broken ceramics with gold, *Keep Moving* celebrates the beauty and strength on the other side of loss. This is a book for anyone who has gone through a difficult time and is wondering: What comes next?

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#### CERTAIN AND IMPOSSIBLE EVENTS

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"CERTAIN AND IMPOSSIBLE EVENTS begins in April 1994, with the suicide of a fourteen-year-old boy in a small New England town. The boy left behind no trail of warning signs and no suicide note, only a series of rumors that connected his actions to the suicide of Kurt Cobain, whose death had become international front-page news a week earlier. Drawn to the hazy circumstances of her classmate's death, author Candace Jane Opper embarks on an unsentimental investigation into the personal and cultural echo an individual suicide can produce. Fusing memoir with history and science, she gradually reveals the shape of suicide as it is handed down to us—from literature to YouTube, from middle school health class to sociological study, from the immutability of objects to the fluidity of oral history. In this candid epistolary essay, Opper invites readers into her decades-long obsession with a boy she barely knew, creating space for herself and her readers to embrace a radical kind of forgetting"--

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#### I'M THE ONE WHO GOT AWAY

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#### A MEMOIR

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She Writes Press As featured in the New York Times "Modern Love" column \* a Redbook Magazine must-read \* Rumpus, Hello Giggles, Bustle, and Southern Living magazine Fall book pick *Fugitives* from a man as alluring as he is violent, Andrea Jarrell and her mother develop a powerful, unusual bond. Once grown, Jarrell thinks she's put that chapter of her life behind her—until a woman she knows is murdered, and she suddenly sees that it's her mother's choices she's been trying to escape all along. Without preaching or prescribing, *I'm the One Who Got Away* is a life-affirming story of having the courage to become both safe enough and vulnerable enough to love and be loved.

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#### ACT LIKE YOU'RE HAVING A GOOD TIME

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#### ESSAYS

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Northwestern University Press In this honest and tender collection of essays, award-winning memoirist Michele Weldon asks what it means to be a mature woman seeking a life of purpose and meaning through work, family, and relationships. Facing ageism and invisibility within popular culture, Weldon examines the effects of raising children, striving for applause, failing expectations, forming new friendships, reconciling lost dreams, and restoring one's faith. With sincerity and humor, she unwraps family traditions, painting classes, lap swimming, dress codes, and career disappointments. She addresses white privilege and her evolving understanding of racism. And she asks crucial questions about mortality, finding connection in writing and stories. Frank, eloquent, and daring, Weldon dissects the intricacies of life, journeying toward self-discovery as a mother, daughter, sister, and friend. Readers of any age or gender will recognize the universal experience of learning to accept oneself and asking essential questions—even if there are no easy answers.

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#### FULL GROWN PEOPLE

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#### (THE OTHER AWKWARD AGE) : GREATEST HITS, VOLUME ONE

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An anthology of thirty essays from the site [fullgrownpeople.com](http://fullgrownpeople.com).

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#### FRIEND. FOLLOW. TEXT

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#### #STORIESFROMLIVINGONLINE

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Tales told through texting. Pinterest prose, LinkedIn lit, irony over Instagram - or Facebook flash fiction. *Friend. Follow. Text* is a short-fiction anthology that explores the intersection between social media and literature. This book brings together highly creative work whose content and form are inspired by social media - great, often funny writing that moves beyond using digital forms as mere gimmicks.

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#### TREASURE PALACES

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#### GREAT WRITERS VISIT GREAT MUSEUMS

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The Economist In this exuberant celebration of the world's museums, great and small, revered writers like Ann Patchett, Julian Barnes, Neil Gaiman, and more tell us about their favorite museums, including the Lower East Side Tenement Museum in New York, the Musée Rodin in Paris, and Tate Modern in London. These essays, collected from the pages of *The Economist's Intelligent Life* magazine, reveal the special hold that some museums have over us all. In his ode to the Museum of Anthropology in Xalapa, Mexico, the great

novelist and essayist Carlos Fuentes writes, “Museums, like lovers, can lose their charms. But the next time can always be the first time.” William Boyd visits the Leopold Museum in Vienna—a shrine to his favorite artist, Egon Schiele, whom Boyd first discovered on a postcard as a University student. In front of her favorite Rodins, Allison Pearson recalls a traumatic episode she suffered at the hands of a schoolteacher following a trip to the Musée in Paris. Neil Gaiman admires the fantastic world depicted in British outsider artist Richard Dadd’s “The Fairy Feller’s Master-Stroke,” a tiny painting that also decorated the foldout cover of a Queen album, housed in the Victorian room of Tate Britain’s Pre-Raphaelite collection. Ann Patchett fondly revisits Harvard University’s Museum of Natural History—which she discovered at 19, while in the throes of summer romance with a biology student named Jack. *In Search of the Originals* is a treasure trove of wonders, a tribute to the diversity and power of the museums, the safe-keepers of our world’s most extraordinary artifacts, and an intimate look into the deeply personal reveries we fall into when before great art.

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### THE CHICAGO NEIGHBORHOOD GUIDEBOOK

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Chicago is famously a city of neighborhoods. Seventy-seven of them, formally; more than 200 in subjective, ever-changing fact. But what does that actually mean? *The Chicago Neighborhood Guidebook*, the latest in Belt’s series of idiosyncratic city guides (after Cleveland and Detroit), aims to explore community history and identity in a global city through essays, poems, photo essays, and art articulating the lived experience of its residents. Edited by Martha Bayne with help from the Read/Write Library, the book builds on 2017’s critically acclaimed *Rust Belt Chicago: An Anthology*. What did one pizzeria mean to a boy growing up in Ashburn? How can South Shore encompass so much beauty and so much pain? Where’s the best borscht in Ukrainian Village? Who’s got a handle on the ever-shifting identity of Rogers Park? All this and more in this lyrical, subjective, completely non-comprehensive guide to Chicago. Featuring work by Megan Stielstra, Audrey Petty, Alex Hernandez, Sebastián Hidalgo, Dmitry Samarov, Ed Marszewski, Lily Be, Jonathan Foiles, and many more.

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### NASTY WOMEN

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### FEMINISM, RESISTANCE, AND REVOLUTION IN TRUMP’S AMERICA

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Picador USA *Twenty-Three Leading Feminist Writers on Protest and Solidarity* When 53 percent of white women voted for Donald Trump and 94 percent of black women voted for Hillary Clinton, how can women unite in Trump’s America? *Nasty Women* includes inspiring essays from a diverse group of talented women writers who seek to provide a broad look at how we got here and what we need to do to move forward. Featuring essays by REBECCA SOLNIT on Trump and his “misogyny army,” CHERYL STRAYED on grappling with the aftermath of Hillary Clinton’s loss, SARAH HEPOLA on resisting the urge to drink after the election, NICOLE CHUNG on family and friends who support Trump, KATHA POLLITT on the state of reproductive rights and what we do next, JILL FILIPOVIC on Trump’s policies and the life of a young woman in West Africa, SAMANTHA IRBY on racism and living as a queer black woman in rural America, RANDA JARRAR on traveling across the country as a queer Muslim American, SARAH HOLLENBECK on Trump’s cruelty toward the disabled, MEREDITH TALUSAN on feminism and the transgender community, and SARAH JAFFE on the labor movement and active and effective resistance, among others.

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### NOTHING GOOD CAN COME FROM THIS

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### ESSAYS

MCD x FSG Originals Kristi Coulter inspired and incensed the internet when she wrote about what happened when she stopped drinking. *Nothing Good Can Come from This* is her debut—a frank, funny, and feminist essay collection by a keen-eyed observer no longer numbed into complacency. When Kristi stopped drinking, she started noticing things. Like when you give up a debilitating habit, it leaves a space, one that can’t easily be filled by mocktails or ice cream or sex or crafting. And when you cancel Rosé Season for yourself, you’re left with just Summer, and that’s when you notice that the women around you are tanked—that alcohol is the oil in the motors that keeps them purring when they could be making other kinds of noise. In her sharp, incisive debut essay collection, Coulter reveals a portrait of a life in transition. By turns hilarious and heartrending, *Nothing Good Can Come from This* introduces a fierce new voice to fans of Sloane Crosley, David Sedaris, and Cheryl Strayed—perfect for anyone who has ever stood in the middle of a so-called perfect life and looked for an escape hatch.

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### MEET ME IN THE IN-BETWEEN

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### A MEMOIR

Open Road + Grove/Atlantic A fashion designer turned writer details her bohemian life in this illustrated memoir—“Think Eat, Pray, Love . . . only cooler” (Marie Claire). Bella Pollen wants to feel like she belongs, but she never learned how. The middle child of transatlantic parents, she constantly moved back and forth between England and America, home and away, family and freedom. Now an adult, she struggles to contain an adventurous spirit within the confines of conventional living. In *Meet Me in the In-Between*, the international bestselling author takes us on an illustrated journey through her life, from her privileged childhood in Upper Manhattan through her marriage to the son of a Mafioso, to Mexican border towns where she falls in with a crowd of Pink Floyd-loving smugglers. Throughout all, Bella grapples with relationships, motherhood, career ups and downs, and a pathological fear of being boring. With a mix of humor and pain, this is “a poignant, beautifully written memoir” of one woman’s quest for the extraordinary in her ordinary life (The Mail on Sunday).

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### TOMBOYLAND

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Topple A fiercely personal and startlingly universal essay collection about the mysteries of gender and desire, of identity and class, of the stories we tell and the places we call home. Flyover country, the middle of nowhere, the space between the coasts. The American Midwest is a place beyond definition, whose very boundaries are a question. It’s a place of rolling prairies and towering pines, where guns in bars and trucks on blocks are as much a part of the landscape as rivers and lakes and farms. Where girls are girls and boys are boys, where women are mothers and wives, where one is taught to work hard and live between the lines. But what happens when those lines become increasingly unclear? When a girl, like the land that raised her, finds herself neither here nor there? In this intrepid collection of essays, Melissa Faliveno traverses the liminal spaces of her childhood in working-class Wisconsin and the paths she’s traveled since, compelled by questions of girlhood and womanhood, queerness and class, and how the lands of our upbringing both define and complicate us even long after we’ve left. Part personal narrative, part cultural reportage, *Tomboyland* navigates midwestern traditions, mythologies, landscapes, and lives to explore the intersections of identity and place. From F5 tornadoes and fast-pitch softball to gun culture, strange glacial terrains, kink party potlucks, and the question of motherhood, Faliveno asks curious, honest, and often darkly funny questions about belonging and the body, isolation and community, and what we mean when we use words like woman, family, and home.

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### HANDLING THE TRUTH

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### ON THE WRITING OF MEMOIR

Avery A memoir-writing guide offers writing lessons and examples for those interested in putting their memories down on paper, explains the difference between remembering and imagining, and describes the language of truth.

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### AFTER A WHILE YOU JUST GET USED TO IT

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### A TALE OF FAMILY CLUTTER

Penguin A vibrant new voice ups the self-deprecating memoir ante with tragicomic tales of her dysfunctional life in swampland Florida and America’s Big Easy A dive bar palm reader who calls herself the Disco Queen Taiwan; a slumlord with a penis-of-the-day

LISTSERV; and Betty, the middle-aged Tales of the Cocktail volunteer who soils her pants on a party bus and is dealt with in the worst possible way. These are just a few of the unforgettable characters who populate Gwendolyn Knapp's hilarious and heartbreaking—yet ultimately uplifting—memoir debut, *After a While You Just Get Used to It*. Growing up in a dying breed of eccentric Florida crackers, Knapp thought she had it rough—what with her pack rat mother, Margie; her aunt Susie, who has fewer teeth than prison stays; and Margie's bipolar boyfriend, John. But not long after Knapp moves to New Orleans, Margie packs up her House of Hoarders and follows along. As if Knapp weren't struggling enough to keep herself afloat, working odd jobs and trying to find love while suffering from irritable bowel syndrome, the thirty-year-old realizes that she's never going to escape her family's unendingly dysfunctional drama. Knapp honed her writing chops and distinctive Southern Gothic-humor style writing short pieces and participating in the renowned reading series Literary Death Match. Now, like bestselling authors Jenny Lawson, Laurie Notaro, and Julie Klausner before her, Knapp bares her sad and twisted life for readers everywhere to enjoy.

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#### NO RELATION

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Literary Nonfiction. When Paula first met James, she was 26, in graduate school, and not ready to be any kind of mother to his two young sons. But, years later, after caring for them and watching them grow, she finds herself unsure of what to do when her relationship with their father ends. In a collection of striking flash essays, Paula reveals the complexity of loving children who are not her own and attempts to put language to something we have no language to describe. *NO RELATION* is a deeply personal, beautifully rendered account of a seldom-remarked-on kind of love and loss. "In finely-wrought scenes as charged with meaning as images in haiku, Paula Carter tells the story of finding and then losing a lover and his two young sons. In retrospect, her separation from the boys appears to be the greater loss. For as the years tick by, she realizes that these stepchildren, although never fully her own, may be the only children she will ever have. Bittersweet, captivating, *NO RELATION* carries the burden of memory in elegant and seemingly effortless prose."--Scott Russell Sanders "Paula Carter is a dream of a writer, poetic and profound. Each of the seemingly quick essays that make up *NO RELATION* is its own little lightning bolt; I kept putting the book down to interrogate what had happened to my heart. She asks the big questions: what does it mean to be a woman, a mother? What makes up a family, an independent life? It gave me a part of myself I didn't know was missing."--Megan Stielstra "These small gems speak of love and heartbreak with penetrating wisdom. Each piece is a clue to a larger puzzle about how love works, how to discover its power even in moments of loss. Paula Carter's finely carved images are saturated with insight that's rare and refreshing."--Samrat Upadhyay

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#### WHEN THE SICK RULE THE WORLD

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MIT Press A writer takes on subjects as varied as vomit, Kathy Acker's wardrobe, and Occupy Oakland, in lyric explorations of illness, health, and the body. A moving meld of essay, memoir, and story, *When the Sick Rule the World* collects Dodie Bellamy's new and recent lyric prose. Taking on topics as eclectic as vomit, Kathy Acker's wardrobe, and Occupy Oakland, Bellamy here examines illness, health, and the body—both the social body and the individual body—in essays that glitter with wit even at their darkest moments. In a safe house in Marin County, strangers allergic to the poisons of the world gather for an evening's solace. In Oakland, protesters dance an ecstatic bacchanal over the cancerous body of the city-state they love and hate. In the elegiac memoir, "Phone Home," Bellamy meditates on her dying mother's last days via the improbable cipher of Steven Spielberg's *E.T. the Extra-Terrestrial*. Finally, Bellamy offers a piercing critique of the displacement and blight that have accompanied Twitter's move into her warehouse-district neighborhood, and the pitiless imperialism of tech consciousness. A participant in the New Narrative movement and a powerful influence on younger writers, Bellamy views heteronormativity and capitalism as plagues, and celebrates the micro-revolts of those on the outskirts. In its deft blending of forms, *When the Sick Rule the World* resiliently and defiantly proclaims the "undeath of the author." In the realm of sickness, Bellamy asserts, subjectivity is not stable. "When the sick rule the world, mortality will be sexy," Bellamy prophesies. Those defined by society as sick may, in fact, be its saviors.

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#### MEATY

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#### ESSAYS

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Vintage Smart, edgy, hilarious, and unabashedly raunchy New York Times bestselling author Samantha Irby explodes onto the printed page in her uproarious first collection of essays. Irby laughs her way through tragicomic mishaps, neuroses, and taboos as she struggles through adulthood: chin hairs, depression, bad sex, failed relationships, masturbation, taco feasts, inflammatory bowel disease and more. Updated with her favorite Instagramable, couch-friendly recipes, this much-beloved romp is treat for anyone in dire need of Irby's infamous, scathing wit and poignant candor.

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#### THINGS WE DIDN'T TALK ABOUT WHEN I WAS A GIRL: A MEMOIR

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Tin House Books A New York Times Editors' Choice and Best Book of the Year at TIME, Esquire, Amazon, Kirkus, and Electric Literature Jeannie Vanasco has had the same nightmare since she was a teenager. It is always about him: one of her closest high school friends, a boy named Mark. A boy who raped her. When her nightmares worsen, Jeannie decides—after fourteen years of silence—to reach out to Mark. He agrees to talk on the record and meet in person. Jeannie details her friendship with Mark before and after the assault, asking the brave and urgent question: Is it possible for a good person to commit a terrible act? Jeannie interviews Mark, exploring how rape has impacted his life as well as her own. Unflinching and courageous, *Things We Didn't Talk About When I Was a Girl* is part memoir, part true crime record, and part testament to the strength of female friendships—a recounting and reckoning that will inspire us to ask harder questions, push towards deeper understanding, and continue a necessary and long overdue conversation.

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#### DISQUIETING

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#### ESSAYS ON SILENCE

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Disquieting: Essays on Silence by Cynthia Cruz is a book of silence and turning away. In these essays, Cruz asks how can we live lives of resistance to the desires and ideologies of contemporary Neoliberal culture. Tarrying with those who turn away, she inhabits connections between mental illness, refusal, silence and Neoliberalism. She explores the experience of being working-class and poor in contemporary culture, and how those who are silenced often turn to forms of disquietude that value open-endedness, complexity, and difficulty. Disquieting draws on philosophy, theory, art, film, and literature to offer alternative ways of being in this world and possibilities for building a new one.

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#### THE EXTRAORDINARY EDUCATION OF NICHOLAS BENEDICT

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Chicken House When nine-year-old Nicholas Benedict is sent to a new orphanage, he encounters vicious bullies, selfish adults, strange circumstances - and a mind-bending mystery. Luckily, he has one very important thing in his favour: he's a genius.

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#### ALL WHO BELONG MAY ENTER

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A collection of personal essays examining relationships, whiteness, and masculinity. Nicholas Ward's debut essay collection, *All Who Belong May Enter*, centers on self-exploration and cultural critique. These deeply personal essays examine whiteness, masculinity, and a Midwest upbringing through tales of sporting events, parties, posh (and not-so-posh) restaurant jobs, and the many relationships built and lost along the way. With a storyteller's spirit, Ward recounts and evaluates the privilege of his upbringing with acumen and vulnerability. Ward's profound affection for his friends, family, lovers, pets, and particularly for his chosen home, Chicago, shines through. This collection offers readers hope for healing that comes through greater understanding and inquiry into one's self, relationships, and culture. Through these essays, Ward acknowledges his position within whiteness and masculinity, and he continuously holds himself and the society around him accountable. *All Who Belong May Enter* was selected by Jaquira Díaz as the winner of the 2020 Autumn House Press Nonfiction Prize.

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#### BEYOND THE BABY BLUES

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## ANXIETY AND DEPRESSION DURING AND AFTER PREGNANCY

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Rowman & Littlefield Most people have heard of post-partum depression. What many people do not know is that anxiety and depression can be experienced during pregnancy, as well, and the impact can be both debilitating and devastating. This book is a unique combination of one woman's story of her struggle with perinatal distress and actionable advice from a professional in the field. Rebecca Fox Starr shares her personal story of marriage, motherhood, prenatal anxiety and depression, severe postpartum anxiety and depression, recovery process and hope for the future. Woven throughout the narrative, Dr. Amy Wenzel, a specialist in the field of Perinatal Mood Disorders, provides readers with clinical information and advice, addressing risk factors, warning signs, definitions and recovery options. Stories from other women who experienced prenatal anxiety or depression are included as well. No longer do women have to suffer in silence, question their symptoms, or try to hide their feelings. Here, readers will see themselves in the narrative and understand that the devastating effects of prenatal and post-partum depression can be confirmed, treated, and managed, giving them hope for a brighter future.

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## I DON'T BELONG HERE

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### ESSAYS

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What does it mean to belong? In a place? With a person? To a family? Where do our senses of security and survival lie? *I Don't Belong Here* ruthlessly investigates alienation during moments of transit and dislocation and their impact on women's identity. These twenty essays—ranging from conventional to lyrical to experimental in form and structure—delve into the root causes of personal uncertainty and the aftershock effects of being a woman in an unsafe world. Provocative, authentic, intimate, and uncompromising, Melissa Grunow casts light on the unspeakable: sexuality, death, mental illness, trauma, estrangement, and disillusionment with precision and fortitude.

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### THE TELLING

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A kaleidoscopic examination of the influence of one woman's childhood sexual abuse on her identity as a mother and woman.

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### WIFE | DAUGHTER | SELF

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### A MEMOIR IN ESSAYS

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Forest Avenue Press *Wife | Daughter | Self* investigates identity and the writing life through the perspective of one of the nation's top memoir teachers and critics. How are we shaped by the people we love? Who are we when we think no one else is watching? How do we trust the choices we make? The answers shift as the years go by. The stories remake themselves as we remember. Curiously, inventively, Beth Kephart reflects on the iterative, composite self in her new memoir—traveling to lakes and rivers, New Mexico and Mexico, the icy waters of Alaska and a hot-air balloon launch in search of understanding. She is accompanied, often, by her Salvadoran-artist husband. She spends time, a lot of time, with her widowed father. As she looks at them she ponders herself and comes to terms with the person she is still becoming. At once sweeping and intimate, *Wife | Daughter | Self* is a memoir built of interlocking essays by an acclaimed author, teacher, and critic.

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### LITTLE KNOWN FACTS

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### A NOVEL

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A&C Black *Life as one of Hollywood's most handsome, charismatic and critically-acclaimed movie stars seems like a glitzy fairytale to the people who orbit around Renn Ivins. But for his grown children, Anna and Will, their father's fame threatens to permeate every aspect of their lives. For Anna - a diligent medical student with a promising future ahead of her but not so promising romantic prospects - the exploits of her celebrity father are a source of embarrassment and, at best, bemusement. Her brother Will, on the other hand, is floundering in a quarter-life crisis. The only thing to outlast his directionless career and failed relationships is his trust fund, but while he and Anna may be happy to use their father's money, they're less happy to use his influence. As the family, lovers and hangers-on of Renn Ivins struggle to forge their identities in the colossal shadow of his celebrity, Christine Sneed deftly unravels the secrets they tell each other and themselves. Little Known Facts is a multi-layered, deftly observed novel of the fallout of fame and fortune.*

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### GOODBYE, SWEET GIRL

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### A STORY OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AND SURVIVAL

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HarperCollins "Stunning . . . This is an immensely courageous story that will break your heart, leave you in tears, and, finally, offer hope and redemption. Brava, Kelly Sundberg." —Rene Denfeld, author of *The Child Finder* In this brave and beautiful memoir, written with the raw honesty and devastating openness of *The Glass Castle* and *The Liar's Club*, a woman chronicles how her marriage devolved from a love story into a shocking tale of abuse—examining the tenderness and violence entwined in the relationship, why she endured years of physical and emotional pain, and how she eventually broke free. "You made me hit you in the face," he said mournfully. "Now everyone is going to know." "I know," I said. "I'm sorry." Kelly Sundberg's husband, Caleb, was a funny, warm, supportive man and a wonderful father to their little boy Reed. He was also vengeful and violent. But Sundberg did not know that when she fell in love, and for years told herself he would get better. It took a decade for her to ultimately accept that the partnership she desired could not work with such a broken man. In her remarkable book, she offers an intimate record of the joys and terrors that accompanied her long, difficult awakening, and presents a haunting, heartbreaking glimpse into why women remain too long in dangerous relationships. To understand herself and her violent marriage, Sundberg looks to her childhood in Salmon, a small, isolated mountain community known as the most redneck town in Idaho. Like her marriage, Salmon is a place of deep contradictions, where Mormon ranchers and hippie back-to-landers live side-by-side; a place of magical beauty riven by secret brutality; a place that takes pride in its individualism and rugged self-sufficiency, yet is beholden to church and communal standards at all costs. Mesmerizing and poetic, *Goodbye, Sweet Girl* is a harrowing, cautionary, and ultimately redemptive tale that brilliantly illuminates one woman's transformation as she gradually rejects the painful reality of her violent life at the hands of the man who is supposed to cherish her, begins to accept responsibility for herself, and learns to believe that she deserves better.

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### THIS STORY WILL CHANGE

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### AFTER THE HAPPILY EVER AFTER

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Counterpoint Rachel Cusk meets Nora Ephron in this intimate and evolving portrait about the end of a marriage and how life can fall apart and be rebuilt in wonderful and surprising ways One minute Elizabeth Crane and her husband of fifteen years are fixing up their old house in Upstate New York, finally setting down roots after stints in Chicago, Texas, and Brooklyn, when his unexpected admission—I'm not happy—changes everything. Suddenly she finds herself separated and in couples therapy, living in an apartment in the city with an old friend and his kid. It's understood that the apartment and bonus family are temporary, but the situation brings unexpected comfort and much-needed healing for wounds even older than her marriage. Crafting the story as the very events chronicled are unfolding, Crane writes from a place of guarded possibility, capturing through vignettes and collected moments a semblance of the real-time practice of healing. At turns funny and dark, with moments of poignancy, *This Story Will Change* is an unexpected and moving portrait of a woman in transformation, a chronicle of how even the stories we tell ourselves about ourselves are bound to change.

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### THE BLACK ICE

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Little, Brown When an LAPD narcotics officer is found with a fatal bullet wound and a suicide note, Detective Harry Bosch follows a bloody trail of drug murders across the Mexico border. Working the case, LAPD detective Harry Bosch is reminded of the primal police

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rule he learned long ago: Don't look for the facts, but the glue that holds them together. Soon Harry's making some very dangerous connections, starting with a dead cop and leading to a bloody string of murders that wind from Hollywood Boulevard to the back alleys south of the border. Now this battle-scarred veteran will find himself in the center of a complex and deadly game—one in which he may be the next and likeliest victim.

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**THE DISTANCERS**

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**AN AMERICAN MEMOIR**

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Vintage Follows seven generations of the author's Midwestern family through The Great Depression, World War Two, and the dust bowl years, where he learned the value of family and the art of keeping one's distance.

**DOWN CAME THE RAIN**

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**MY JOURNEY THROUGH POSTPARTUM DEPRESSION**

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Hachette Books In this compelling memoir, Brooke Shields talks candidly about her experience with postpartum depression after the birth of her daughter, and provides millions of women with an inspiring example of recovery. When Brooke Shields welcomed her newborn daughter, Rowan Francis, into the world, something unexpected followed--a crippling depression. Now, for the first time ever, in Down Came the Rain, Brooke talks about the trials, tribulations, and finally the triumphs that occurred before, during, and after the birth of her daughter.

**BLOOMING FIASCOES**

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**POEMS**

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TriQuarterly Books Blooming Fiascoes, by poet and performer Ellen Hagan, is a collective of verse that deconstructs identity.