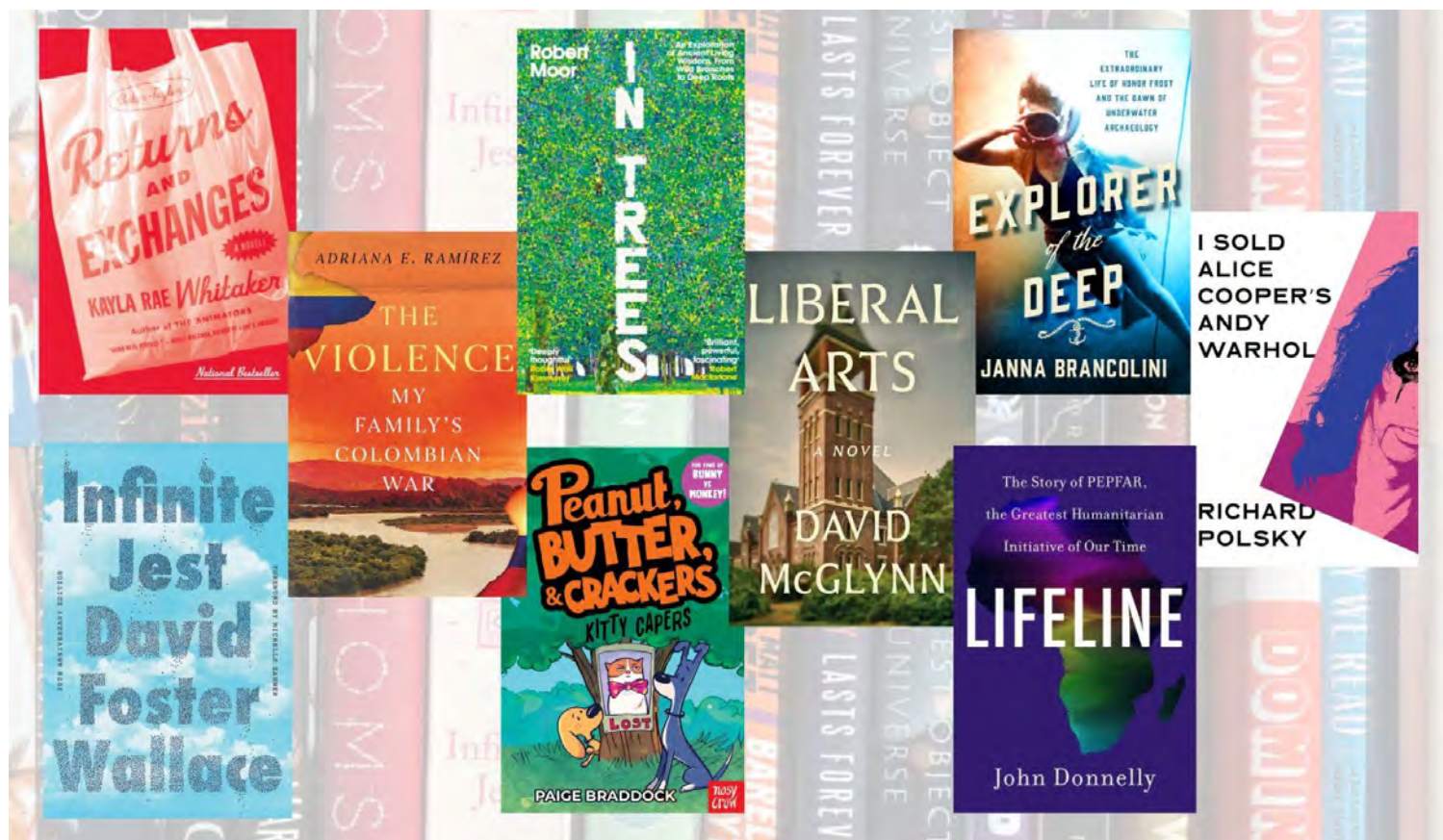


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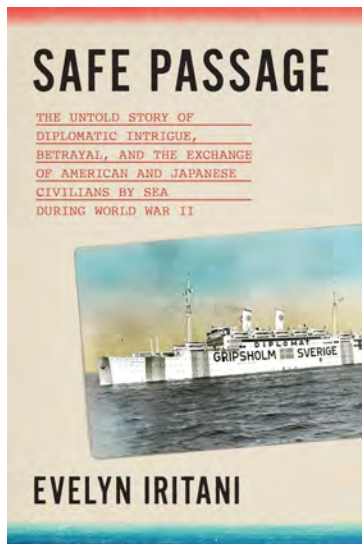
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FRANKFURT BOOKFAIR 2026



NONFICTION

- ❖ [SAFE PASSAGE by Evelyn Iritani](#)
- ❖ [IN TREES by Robert Moor](#)
- ❖ [THE VIOLENCE by Adriana E. Ramírez](#)
- ❖ [LIFELINE by John Donnelly](#)
- ❖ [I SOLD ALICE COOPER'S ANDY WARHOL By Richard Polsky](#)
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- ❖ [THE CHANNEL by David McGlynn](#)



SAFE PASSAGE:

The Untold Story of Diplomatic Intrigue, Betrayal, and the Exchange of American and Japanese Civilians by Sea During World War II

By Evelyn Iritani

BEST BOOKS OF 2026 SO FAR —*THE NEW YORKER*

An untold story of idealism, betrayal, and behind-the-scenes American–Japanese contacts in World War II.

FARRAR, STRAUS AND
GIROUX

MARCH 2026

NONFICTION | 480 pgs

RIGHTS REPRESENTED
WORLD

In the fall of 1943, during some of the Pacific Theater's bloodiest battles, the United States and Japan pulled off a diplomatic coup— the exchange of civilians caught on the wrong side of the world after Pearl Harbor. Nearly fifteen hundred Allied civilians trapped in Asia, mostly Americans, sailed through dangerous waters to an Indian port city where they were traded for an equivalent number of Japanese immigrants and their families sent from the Americas.

In *Safe Passage*, Pulitzer Prize-winning journalist Evelyn Iritani reveals the herculean efforts of American diplomat James Keeley to engineer these wartime exchanges despite great resistance from within and outside his government; the shipboard conflicts among passengers, including missionaries, revelers, and sharp-tongued journalists; and the moral compromises involved in securing their safe passage. Faced with too few bodies to trade and desperate to free Americans from perilous conditions, the United States uprooted and repatriated Japanese citizens of Latin America, sometimes against their will, while Japanese imprisoned in camps, many of them American citizens, were forced to choose between expulsion to a war zone or an uncertain future behind barbed wire. The lesson of this little-known chapter in history are so timely, given the striking parallels between then and the events unfolding today on the streets and courtrooms of America.

PRAISE

A little-discussed 1943 exchange of Japanese and American civilians gets a gripping and immersive treatment from Pulitzer winner Iritani (*An Ocean Between Us*)...A quietly devastating account that spotlights how man's inhumanity to man flourishes in wartime.

—*Publishers Weekly* (starred review)

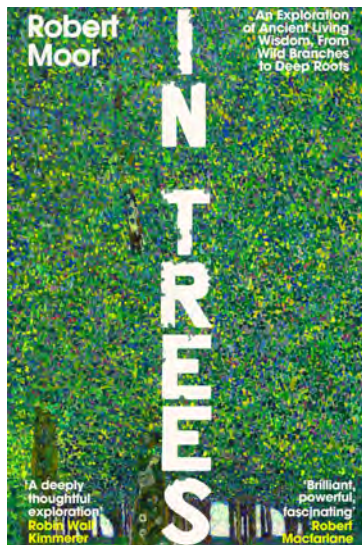
This engaging history focuses on civilian exchanges between the U.S. and Japan during the Second World War . . . Iritani highlights both unconstitutional aspects of the U.S. government's actions and the heroism of some of its diplomats.—*The New Yorker*

What an amazing story Evelyn Iritani tells in this groundbreaking book. It pulses with life, unknown historical details, and characters who leap from the page in dimensions of heroism and tragedy. This true-life tale of desperate and likable people caught in the whirl of world war is impossible to put down.—*Timothy Egan, author of A Fever in the Heartland*



EVELYN IRITANI won a Pulitzer Prize for National Reporting on global economic issues in 2004. A former reporter for the *Seattle Post-Intelligencer* and the *Los Angeles Times*, her reporting garnered numerous other awards, including the George Polk Award. She is the author *An Ocean Between Us: The Changing Relationship of Japan and the United States Told in Four Stories from the Life of an American Town*.

The book reads at times like a spy novel against a backdrop of wartime horror and uncertainty. In the best tradition of literary nonfiction, Iritani dives deep into the characters' backgrounds describing in satisfying detail their upbringing, education, family relationships, and personality quirks. She pings between the places and the passengers destined to board the two departing ships, one from America, the Gripsholm, once a luxury liner from Sweden, and the other from Japan, the Teia Maru.—*International Examiner*



IN TREES:

An Exploration of Ancient Living Wisdom,
From Wild Branches to Deep Roots

By Robert Moor

From the acclaimed author of the *New York Times* bestseller *On Trails* comes a witty, relentlessly curious excursion through philosophy, history, and science. An ode to the miracle of trees blossoms into a joyous, daring, and fiercely hopeful effort to “arborize humanity.”

EXCERPTED BY *THE NEW YORKER*

SIMON & SCHUSTER

APRIL 2026

NONFICTION | 384 pgs

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One day, on a whim, Robert Moor set out to climb a tree near his home, unwittingly embarking on what would become a decade-long, globe-spanning adventure in trees. Drawing on an astonishing range of thinkers from cutting edge scientists to Zen monks, Moor explores how trees shaped human lives for millennia – and how they can guide us into the future.

From Ethiopia and Papua to the Sierra Nevada mountains and the Lake District, Robert Moor uncovers the hidden art of ‘tree-thinking.’ He dines with David Attenborough, naps with chimpanzees, and risks his life to save an ancient forest. Along the way, he investigates some of humanity's oldest mysteries: What is the secret to growing old well? How do we set down roots in an increasingly chaotic world? And most importantly, how should we—as individuals, as communities, as stewards of the Earth—live?

PRaise

Named a Best Book of the Year So Far by: *The New Yorker* • NPR • *The Financial Times* | An Indie National Bestseller

Synthesizing reportage and philosophy, Moor’s nature writing is beautiful and refreshingly original. The result is a moving testament to the power of trees. —***Publishers Weekly*** (starred review)

Brilliantly written, supremely intelligent, and philosophically provocative. —***Kirkus Reviews*** (starred review)

Earnest and passionate.—**NPR**

Robert Moor’s splendid *In Trees* is unusual in being explicitly prescriptive about how to flourish. The prescription is simple: live like a tree...Moor is incapable of writing a dull, thoughtless or inelegant sentence.—**Charles Foster, *Times Literary Supplement***

A beautiful book... impossible to put down.... I’ve been recommending it to everyone I know.—**David Wallace-Wells, on *The New York Times*’ “The Opinions” podcast**

Gorgeous, honest, and soulful.—**Bryan Stevenson, *New York Times* bestselling author of *Just Mercy***

In Trees is dazzlingly erudite, playful, profound, adventurous and, above all, eloquently, fiercely alive. Full of brilliant, mind-bending insights and wonderful surprises, this is the most life-affirming book I’ve read in a long time.—**John Vaillant, bestselling author and National Book Award finalist of *Fire Weather* and *The Tiger***



ROBERT MOOR’s writing has appeared in *The New Yorker*, *The Atlantic*, *GQ*, and *Outside*, among other publications. Hailed by *The Wall Street Journal* as “a philosopher on foot,” he lives in Halfmoon Bay, British Columbia.

SIMON & SCHUSTER 2017 | 352 pgs
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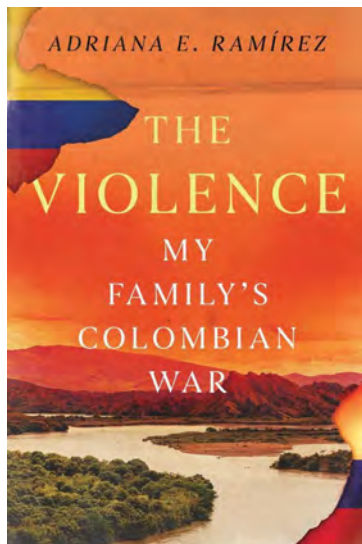
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THE VIOLENCE:

My Family's Colombian War
By Adriana E. Ramírez

ROXANE GAY'S AUDACIOUS BOOK CLUB
SELECTION: MAY 2026

LITHUB: MOST ANTICIPATED BOOKS OF 2026

MS. MAGAZINE: MOST ANTICIPATED FEMINIST
BOOKS OF 2026

SCRIBNER

APRIL 2026

NONFICTION | 336 pgs

RIGHTS REPRESENTED
WORLD

When candidate Jorge Eliécer Gaitán, champion of the working class and harbinger of a new era of progressive social change, is assassinated on the eve of Colombia's 1948 presidential election, the country is plunged into bloodshed. So begins a singularly brutal period of Colombia's history known simply as *la violencia*—a bloody civil war that spawned decades of turmoil and splintered the nation into ever-shifting factions.

The Violence is an intimate history of this conflict—told not from the political center of the war but from the mountainous finca that Adriana E. Ramírez's family tended to for generations, and through the eyes of her formidable grandmother, Esther. With startling lyricism, Ramírez illuminates the specter of violence—from guerilla warfare to the brutalities found so often in romantic relationships to the spontaneous and senseless violence steeped into everyday Colombian life during this period—and the threat that it poses to a country, and a family, trying to stay whole. Gracefully braiding together macrohistory, family history, and personal narrative, Adriana E. Ramírez traces these parallel stories of upheaval in a sweeping portrait of a country and family in flux.

PRAISE

Ramírez chronicles her family's experiences of Colombia's violent history in an eminently readable and beautifully written book drawn from conversations and rigorous research.—**Booklist** (starred review)

One of the hardest things about writing on Latin America for an international audience is deciding what people already know...it is hard not to be moved by [Ramírez's] commitment to confront this definitive but deeply repressed period. In the accounts of Ramírez's relatives, I felt the weight of grief, the responsibility to the dead, carried for life.—**Annie Correal, *The New York Times***

Ramírez does an excellent job limiting her scope to a few major players and explaining how they are all linked, and how they all affected her ancestors...she takes a page from translated literature by incorporating Spanish words and phrases into her text, greatly enhancing the world she is portraying.—**The Boston Globe**

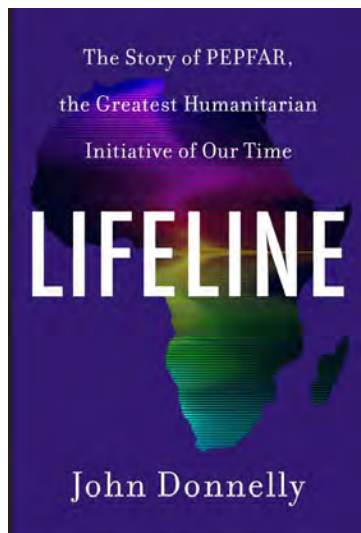
The Violence is an astute and disturbing book, a deft analysis of the intricate relationships between the personal and the political, a book that refuses many of the pat resolutions and fawning memorializations of those who came before us.—**Roxane Gay, author of *Bad Feminist***

This is a powerful, intimate look at Colombia's La Violencia...beautifully written and precise about how violence shapes everyday life and relationships.—**Dua Lipa's *Service95* Best Books of April**



ADRIANA E. RAMÍREZ is a writer, critic, and poet based in Pittsburgh. She is the winner of the 2015 PEN/Fusion Emerging Writer's Prize, a former critic-at-large for the *Los Angeles Times's* Book Section, and the cofounder of *Aster(ix) Journal*. Her writing has also appeared in *The Atlantic*, *The Boston Globe*, *People*, ESPN's *The Undefeated* (now *Andscape*), *LitHub*, *Guernica*, *Nerve*, and elsewhere.

The Violence is a tour de force. Adriana Ramirez has gifted the world an epic, wise and personal book that can clue us into the afterlife of the horrors we are experiencing today. It reads as if she has invited us around the campfire to listen to the juiciest gossip except this book is not a rumor, this shit actually happened. Unlike so much of what we see on the news, this book is fact-checked and rigorously researched. Moreover, It reads like a novel—it's the best compliment I can give it. Read this book! —**Angie Cruz, author of *Dominicana***



LIFELINE

The Story of PEPFAR, the Greatest Humanitarian Initiative of Our Time

By John Donnelly

The fast-paced and inspiring story of how doctors, scientists, American embassy officials and African community leaders built the PEPFAR program to fight AIDS in Africa from the ground up. Once hailed as the most effective and far-reaching U.S. foreign aid program, PEPFAR has now been dismantled by the Trump Administration.

HARPER COLLINS

OCTOBER 2026

NONFICTION | 352 pgs

RIGHTS REPRESENTED

WORLD

In 2002, more than two million Africans died of AIDS. Militaries reported HIV infection rates of more than twenty-five percent. Nearly four in ten pregnant women in some countries were infected. But in 2003, to the surprise of the world, President George W. Bush created PEPFAR, the President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief, which became his signature legacy for doing good in his eight years in office. PEPFAR has saved more than twenty-six million lives, prevented HIV from being transmitted to nearly eight million infants during birth, stabilized governments, and built back economies in Africa. It has been arguably America's most successful foreign assistance program in history.

John Donnelly, an award winning former *Boston Globe* journalist was the only reporter based in South Africa and covering the global health crisis full time from 2003-2006. Based on interviews with more than 200 people—from President Bush and Dr. Anthony Fauci to local physicians and patients in small villages across Africa—*Lifeline* demonstrates indisputably the essence of American leadership and how America has, and still can, tackle the world's greatest challenges and be a force for good in the world.

ADVANCE PRAISE

John Donnelly has told one of the great untold stories of the century. Admirers of George W. Bush will be pleased. Detractors of George W. Bush will be astonished—and will never think of him the same way again.—**David Shribman, Pulitzer-winning executive editor emeritus of the *Pittsburgh Post-Gazette***

A gripping saga, teeming with colorful characters, of a high-octane race to control the AIDS pandemic—a handbook for how to handle the next major global emergency. —**Sally H. Jacobs, Author of *Althea***

A masterful yet uplifting chronicle. It should be required reading for politicians and diplomats.—**Max Essex, Lasker Professor Emeritus, Harvard University**

There was a time, not long ago, when a group of imperfect leaders faced a global tragedy and chose to do the right thing. *Lifeline* tends the embers of that spirit.—**Helen Epstein, Author of *The Invisible Cure***



JOHN DONNELLY spent more than a decade covering the politics of AIDS and America's response to the pandemic for *The Boston Globe*. He traveled the continent of Africa following PEPFAR's launch and implementation interviewing doctors, scientists, government officials and AIDS patients. After his career in journalism, he became an adviser to the President of the World Bank and received a Bellagio residency from the Rockefeller Foundation to write this book.

This book is not just history; *Lifeline* is a roadmap and a reminder of what is possible when evidence, empathy, and sustained global commitment align.

—**Sanjay Gupta, MD, *New York Times* bestselling author of *It Doesn't Have to Hurt***

I SOLD
ALICE
COOPER'S
ANDY
WARHOL

RICHARD
POLSKY

I SOLD ALICE COOPER'S ANDY WARHOL

By Richard Polsky

At once propulsive and informative, an insider's account of authentication and valuation that shows how the art world of the 1970s became the investment-driven art market of today.

OTHER PRESS

NOVEMBER 2026

NONFICTION | 288 pgs

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WORLD

In 1972, rock legend Alice Cooper received one of Andy Warhol's classic Little Electric Chair paintings as a gift, unknowingly putting into motion a saga that would take fifty years to play out. Before going on tour, Cooper rolled up the canvas, slipped it into a cardboard mailing tube, stashed it in his garage in Scottsdale, Arizona, and then promptly forgot about it. At the time, the painting went for \$2,500. Today, it could be worth as much as \$7 million.

Drawing on his distinguished career as an art dealer and expert authenticator, Richard Polsky brings a personal touch to this fascinating piece of art history. *I Sold Alice Cooper's Andy Warhol* takes the reader on a long and winding road to validate and sell Cooper's painting, which spans Polsky's early years in the San Francisco gallery scene, the boom of corporate art collecting in the '80s, the gritty, vibrant East Village of Jean-Michel Basquiat and Keith Haring, and the current state of the industry. He explains how authentication works, why it matters, and what it means for the high-stakes auction process. The narrative recounts the heady cross-pollination between artists and musicians like Andy Warhol and Alice Cooper or Richard Prince and Dennis Hopper, that shaped the 20th century.

PRAISE FOR *I SOLD ANDY WARHOL (TOO SOON)*

OTHER PRESS

2011 | 288 pgs

NONFICTION

i sold
Andy
Warhol.
(too
soon)

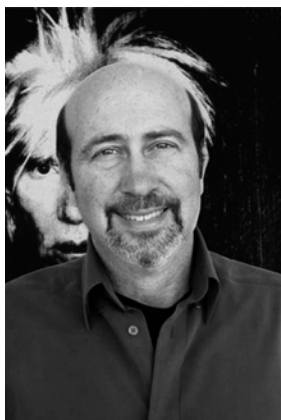


[Richard Polsky] weaves his personal story into the story of a business culture that has grown more venal and volatile in recent years...Art dealers have played a pivotal role in this pricey shuffle, and Mr. Polsky paints them as an entertainingly infantile, manipulative bunch...That Mr. Polsky operates at the periphery of the art world, and knows it, is an appealing aspect of *I Sold Andy Warhol (Too Soon)*.—**Wall Street Journal**

In this instructive, irreverent and often uproarious memoir, Polsky explains the capricious functioning of the art market and the economic and cultural forces that have transformed it from the 1980s... A highly enjoyable and informative insider's guide to a milieu to which few are privy., this will be of interest to the general reader seeking to understand the art world's economic evolution and cultural impact, told through a delightfully vital mixture of memoir, reportage and social satire.—**Publishers Weekly**

Entertaining...[Polsky's] memoir takes the reader on a wild ride about the business of buying and selling... where one must learn how to play it cool, even when millions of dollars are at stake. —**Huffington Post**

RICHARD POLSKY has written for publications including *Art & Auction*, *Artnet*, and *Western Art & Architecture*. Currently, he's the proprietor of Richard Polsky Art Authentication, the leading authentication service for works by Andy Warhol, Jean-Michel Basquiat, Keith Haring, Roy Lichtenstein, and Jackson Pollock.



BLOOMSBURY

2005 | 256 pgs

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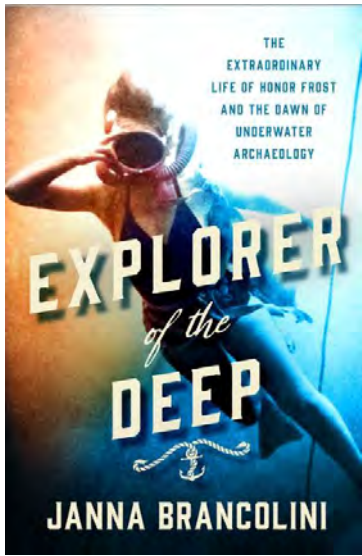
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I BOUGHT ANDY WARHOL

In the tradition of *Liar's Poker* and *Kitchen Confidential*, the inside scoop on one man's quest to own the perfect Warhol painting.



EXPLORER OF THE DEEP:

The Extraordinary Life of Honor Frost and the Dawn of Underwater Archaeology
By Janna Brancolini

Blending history, science and art, Janna Brancolini tells the remarkable life of Honor Frost, one of the first female SCUBA divers and a pioneer of underwater archaeology. Like Sonia Purnell's bestseller *A Woman of No Importance*, this book vividly resurrects the story of an underappreciated and fearless woman.

ST. MARTIN'S PRESS

JULY 2027

NONFICTION

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WORLD

Honor Frost was a remarkable British woman who discovered several major underwater shipwrecks across the Mediterranean and was groundbreaking in inventing the entire field of underwater archaeology. Before Honor, scholars and explorers only saw the value of excavating sites on land to discover important information about the ancient world. Shipwrecks and anything found underwater was considered fair game for treasure hunting and souvenirs. It was Honor who realized the same excavation techniques used on land to gather historical data could be employed underwater and she demonstrated that shipwrecks could be carefully uncovered to provide context and knowledge about the ancient world.

Honor Frost was born in 1917 into upper class British society in Cyprus at the height of empire. An immensely talented illustrator, she attended art school with Lucien Freud, becoming friends with him, poet Stephen Spender and Nobel Prize winner Elias Canetti. On vacation in France in the early 1950's, Honor met Jacques Cousteau, and Frederic Dumas, Cousteau's best friend and one of the best divers in the world. Diving in those years was still new (SCUBA equipment was only invented by Cousteau, and Dumas working with the French Navy during World War II) and incredibly dangerous.

Frost used her unique diving and surveying abilities for the first time in 1959 when the Cape Gelidonya wreck was discovered by Turkish divers off the coast of Bodrum, Turkey. Honor collaborated with National Geographic photographer Peter Throckmorton, and then-PhD student George Bass to raise up this 3,000 year old Phoenician cargo ship, the first time scientists had attempted such a feat. After they finished excavating the wreck, George Bass went on to claim credit, and he and Throckmorton built their careers based on this work while Honor's name and contribution was entirely ignored.

Over the next 40 years, Frost would go on to discover the immense, stone colossus statues from the Pharos Lighthouse at Alexandria, the only known Punic war ship off the coast of Sicily, and was recruited by UNESCO to create a plan to preserve the World Heritage Site in Byblos, Lebanon. Invested in working with local experts, she was scrupulous about sharing knowledge and credit. Even facing numerous struggles, both personal and professional, Frost never wavered from her commitment to excavating and preserving the past. Honor's extraordinary finds and immense contributions to the field of underwater archaeology are not as well known as they should be. *Explorer of the Deep* will change that fact. It's also a rollicking narrative filled with fascinating characters and adventures covering the entire second half of the 20th century.



JANNA BRANCOLINI is an American journalist and international lawyer based in Rome, Italy, covering law, politics, culture, tech and scientific discovery for *The Daily Beast*. She writes about financial policy for *Bloomberg* and covered the Covid-19 pandemic in Italy for the *Los Angeles Times*. Her articles and essays have also appeared in the *Columbia Journalism Review*, *Los Angeles Review of Books*, *Business Insider* and more.



COVER
TO BE
REVEALED

THE CHANNEL:

The History, Science, and Insanity of the
World's Most Famous Swim

By David McGlynn

PROFILED IN [MADISON MAGAZINE](#)

In the vein of *Born to Run* comes an examination of what it takes to accomplish the world's most iconic swim, wrapped in a tale of personal, high-stakes adventure.

GALLERY BOOKS / S&S

SPRING 2028

NONFICTION

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WORLD ex UK

In the aftermath of a near-fatal accident, and facing a full-blown midlife crisis, writer and accomplished swimmer David McGlynn conceives of a wild idea: to swim the English Channel. The undertaking is not for the faint of heart—the Channel is nearly twenty-one miles across at its narrowest point, full of jellyfish and enormous shipping vessels, with water temperatures, even at the height of summer, hovering near (and often below) 60 degrees. Indeed, far more people have climbed Mount Everest than have made the swim between England and France.

As McGlynn sets out to train for the swim, he plunges into the history, logistics, and science of channel swimming. He takes his readers on a swift-moving, far-flung adventure, from the sunny waters of the Sea of Cortez to Harvard Medical School and extreme environments labs in England; from a four-day, 40-mile swim in the reservoirs of Arizona's Salt River, to an infamous nine-day training camp in Ireland. Along the way, he swims with the best open-water swimmers in the world, joining world-record holder Sarah Thomas in the not-quite-thawed mountain lakes of Colorado and traveling to Italy for the Ice Swimming World Championships, where competitors race in a "pool" chainsawed into a frozen lake. In the final climactic chapters, having logged thousands of miles in the pool, lakes, and ocean, he journeys to Dover, England to take his shot at the famous swim. On July 8, 2026 McGlynn successfully swam the English Channel in 11 hours and 17 minutes.

A columnist for *Swimmer Magazine*, and a frequent contributor to *Men's Health*, *The New York Times*, and *Washington Post*, David McGlynn has been writing about swimming for much of his career. While books about endurance sports—such as running and cycling—are increasingly popular, few writers have the chops to plunge into an undertaking quite like swimming the English Channel. But David does.

ADVANCE PRAISE

I am confident that David McGlynn's *The Channel* will make a terrific contribution to the canon of books on the Channel and open water swimming. He is more than capable of stylishly communicating the intense physical, emotional, psychological and spiritual challenges swimming the Channel requires. —Glenn Stout, author of *Young Woman and the Sea*

Talented and accomplished in both water and ink, David McGlynn is built to explore and demystify the intense suffering, wild imagination, great drama and the countless small triumphs inherent to one of the sports world's greatest and most historic challenges. I am confident that he will make it across the tempestuous Channel no matter the conditions and return with one hell of a story.

—Adam Skolnick, co-host of *The Rich Roll Podcast* and co-author of David Goggins' bestselling books

Of course there should be a book about swimming the English Channel, and of course David McGlynn should write it. His passion for the water, coupled with an uncommon ability to convey the transportive feeling of being—of needing to be—there, is magnetic. I can't wait to read it. —Lynn Sherr, author of *Swim: Why We Love the Water*



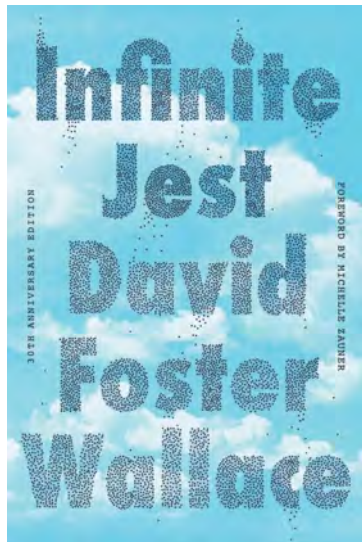
DAVID McGLYNN is the author of *Everything We Could Do*, *One Day You'll Thank Me*, *A Door in the Ocean*, and *The End of the Straight and Narrow*. His work has won the Council for Wisconsin Writers' Nonfiction Book Award and the Utah Book Award. His writing has appeared in *Story*, *Yale Review*, *Creative Nonfiction*, *Best American Sports Writing*, among others. Three of his essays have been named Distinguished Essays in *Best American Essays* and *Best American Nonrequired Reading*. He teaches at Lawrence University and lives in Madison, Wisconsin.

McGLYNN SWAM THE CHANNEL
11 hours 17 minutes - JULY 2026



FICTION

- ❖ [INFINITE JEST by David Foster Wallace](#)
- ❖ [RETURNS AND EXCHANGES By Kayla Rae Whitaker](#)
- ❖ [LIBERAL ARTS by David McGlynn](#)



INFINITE JEST:

30th Anniversary Edition

By David Foster Wallace

NEW FORWARD BY MICHELLE ZAUNER

The 30th anniversary edition of the virtuosic, wickedly comic modern classic about the pursuit of happiness in America.

NEW PRAISE

Little or nothing I'd read [before *Infinite Jest*] had come close in terms of sheer pleasure. The book had more brio, heart, and humor than I thought possible on the page. It was bizarrely grotesque and howlingly sad; it was sweet, silly, and vertiginously clever. It was also, by virtue of its relentlessly entertaining scenes and the high-low virtuosity of its language, a work that enacted its own theme of addiction. When I finished, I experienced withdrawal: Where to go after *Infinite Jest*? —**The New Yorker**

Volleying between arch irony and deep sincerity, *Infinite Jest* draws from a wealth of literary and pop cultural wellsprings. Homer, *The Bible*, Shakespeare, Dostoyevsky, Joyce, DeLillo, William James, The Beatles, the Alcoholics' Anonymous "Big Book" manual, *M*A*S*H**, and the *Nightmare on Elm Street* movies are all, somehow, woven together...There are worse things than a book, or author, daring to make difficult fiction seem cool, or even "macho." And there is an increasingly rare pleasure afforded by getting sucked into a big, fat, funny, smart book that demands and rewards sustained attention.—**WIRED**

Today *Infinite Jest* remains one of the 20th century's most noteworthy literary achievements. The 1,079-page tome is a sprawling, indulgent, prescient, imaginative and altogether utterly idiosyncratic novel, about things both vast and specific: media consumption, drug addiction, political subversion, and the punishing demands of junior tennis.—**The Independent**

When it comes to *Infinite Jest*, the most tempting thing to do is talk about all of the things that Wallace was able to accurately predict about the 21st century . . . But to talk about the book as merely a prophecy of what the world would become does a disservice to the real, beating heart of the novel; that it somehow manages to teach us what it means not just to live in this world, but survive it.—**AnOther Magazine**

DAVID FOSTER WALLACE, a finalist for the Pulitzer Prize, was awarded a MacArthur Fellowship and a Whiting Award. *Infinite Jest* was named one of *Time Magazine's* 100 best novels published in the 20th century. He died in 2008.



Infinite Jest has the pleasurable and familiar elements of a polymathic spy novel, a coming-of-age family drama, and a recovery novel in one . . . [A] generous, empathic, environmentalist, anti-capitalist book . . . Its core message to the reader is to try to get out of your head and reject the howling fantods, the solipsistic narrative of yourself you're imprisoned by, that salvation from pain and self-loathing lies in turning off the screen and getting off the couch and throwing yourself into selfless action.—**GQ**

LITTLE, BROWN US + UK

FEBRUARY 2026

FICTION | 1104 pgs

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RETURNS AND EXCHANGES

By Kayla Rae Whitaker

NATIONAL BESTSELLER

Following her “dazzling” (*The Guardian*) debut, *The Animators*, Kayla Rae Whitaker tells the sweeping story of one family’s rise and fall in 1980s Kentucky, a tragicomic tour de force about love and marriage, parents and children, and the promise and limitations of success in America.

RANDOM HOUSE

MAY 2026

FICTION | 432 pgs

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Baker-Taylor’s is a family business. Fran (née Baker) and Fred Taylor run a successful chain of discount retail stores in Kentucky and they’re cautiously expanding: Ataris and Hot Wheels, new branches and new management. With four healthy children and financial stability their own parents could have only dreamed of, Fred and Fran are the American dream: rags to riches, a family dynasty built on years of hard work and long hours. Underneath the surface, however, the business is changing at a breakneck pace, and each member of the family is struggling to keep up. While trying to maintain the facade of a perfect success story, Fred and Fran discover that in matters of love and money, once it’s gone, it’s gone—no returns, no exchanges.

PRAISE

Whitaker has written a sprawling, extravagantly intelligent novel about people quietly breaking free from constraints—marital, gender, class. Here, as in her widely admired debut novel, *The Animators* (2017), she’s attuned to working people’s lives and to the idea that professional ambition may be the purest reflection of character...Superb. Like a blue-collar Franzen novel.—**Kirkus Reviews** (starred review)

Whitaker expertly juggles the expansive cast of characters and elicits sympathy for all of them even when they exhibit the worst parts of themselves. It’s an openhearted epic of the American dream and the bargains struck to achieve it.—**Publishers Weekly** (starred review)

With engaging characters and immersive prose, Whitaker shows readers both an intimate family portrait and a lesson in the perils of greed, and by the book’s thoughtful, softly bittersweet ending, a commentary on humanity’s determination to make beauty despite society’s rejection of it.—**Booklist** (starred review)

Deeply compelling . . . Hand to readers who have an interest in family stories, strong women, and lesbian and gay fiction.
—**Library Journal** (starred review)

PRAISE FOR *THE ANIMATORS*

[An] outstanding debut . . . Whitaker skillfully charts the creative process, its lulls and sudden rushes of perfect inspiration. And in the relationship between Mel and Sharon, she has created something wonderful and exceptional: a rich, deep, and emotionally true connection that will certainly steal the hearts of readers.—**Publishers Weekly** (starred review)

Unexpected and nuanced and pulsing with life . . . Sweeping and intimate . . . Empathetic but never sentimental; a book that creeps up on you and then swallows you whole.—**Kirkus Reviews** (starred review)



KAYLA RAE WHITAKER was born and raised in Kentucky. She is a graduate of the University of Kentucky and of New York University’s MFA program, which she attended as a Jack Kent Cooke Graduate Scholar. She teaches high school English in New York City.

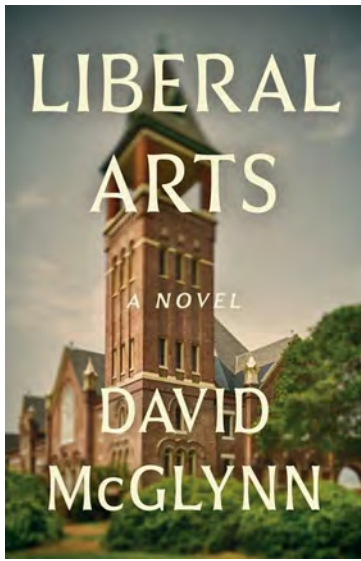
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LIBERAL ARTS

By David McGlynn

TRIQUARTERLY

October 2026

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This is the rare campus novel with as much heart as intellect." —**Booklist** (starred review)

Two centuries old and covered in ivy, Wisconsin's Buchanan College is populated by an eclectic mix of students, staff, and professors hailing from the nearby suburbs to the far corners of the globe. From the outside, Buchanan seems an idyllic world of higher learning. Yet behind its bucolic exterior, a series of interconnected dramas play out: a slew of first-year students mysteriously disappear within days of moving in; an injured hockey star discovers an unlikely fountain of youth; an alumna returns to campus after fifty years in the hope of reconnecting with a former love. And throughout the novel we follow the story of Jenny Ramirez, a social worker and the wife of a popular professor, who commits an act that alters how the college sees her, and how she sees herself. Over a span of four years, from orientation to graduation, the characters in *Liberal Arts* are forced to weigh their ideals and aspirations against the harsh and often ridiculous realities of the world, and are left asking what, if anything, a liberal arts education has left to teach them.

ADVANCE PRAISE

"Each thread is rendered with such clarity and tenderness that the novel reads like a single, sprawling act of empathy building toward a moving affirmation that the deepest value of a liberal arts education may lie in teaching us how to live with compassion. This is the rare campus novel with as much heart as intellect." —**Booklist** (starred review)

"In its parts and as a whole, *Liberal Arts* is fantastic: a beautifully written and suspenseful fiction that tracks its characters to unexpected places. Extremely funny, often harrowing, and full of surprises, it invites us to connect with people who've lost or risk losing status or identity. David McGlynn is a masterful writer. This is life in a college town in all its comedy, awkwardness, outright terror, and—sometimes— joy. It belongs with the best of our campus fictions, using a small place to show us something big. A book of entanglements you can't look away from." —**Sarah Braunstein, author of *Bad Animals***

"*Liberal Arts* captures the contemporary university town in all its virtues and contradictions. At Wisconsin's Buchanan College, the reader finds awakenings, betrayals, relapses, and reinventions, all rendered with McGlynn's fierce empathy and inventive wit. The richly limned lives that circle one another across these pages remind us, again and again, that the indignities of education are not restricted to the young." —**Michael Deagler, PEN Hemingway Award Winner and author of *Early Sobrieties***



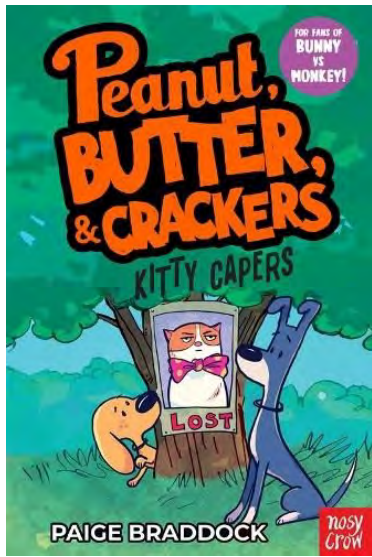
DAVID MCGLYNN is the author of *Everything We Could Do, One Day You'll Thank Me, A Door in the Ocean, and The End of the Straight and Narrow*. His work has won the Council for Wisconsin Writers' Nonfiction Book Award and the Utah Book Award. His writing has appeared in *Story, Yale Review, Creative Nonfiction, Best American Sports Writing*, among others. Three of his essays have been named Distinguished Essays in *Best American Essays* and *Best American Nonrequired Reading*. He teaches at Lawrence University and lives in Madison, Wisconsin.

Funny and satiric, yet ultimately compassionate and loving, *Liberal Arts* reminds us why our schools occupy such enormous places in our minds and hearts.

—**Benjamin Nugent, author of *Fraternity***

CHILDREN'S & GRAPHIC NOVELS

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KITTY CAPERS: A Peanut Butter & Crackers Story By Paige Braddock

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In this hilarious **Peanut Butter & Crackers** graphic-novel adventure, the cat **Butter** wants some quiet time alone. Away from dogs. But is this a case of be careful what you wish for?

Crackers and Peanut are having a lot of fun. And making a lot of noise. Butter just wants some peace and quiet for a nice cat nap. He finds the perfect spot in a neighbour's garden. Then it starts raining and it looks warm and dry inside the house. . . but it's not long before Butter realises he's made a mistake. Could it be that he's actually missing those pesky dogs?

Spoiler: cats don't like dress-up, and dogs mean well but aren't always quick to figure things out without their feline companion.

PRAISE FOR THE PEANUT BUTTER & CRACKERS SERIES

Animal-loving children cannot help but fall for Braddock's exciting and heartwarming visual storytelling.—**Lancashire Evening Post**

With humor that is observant and good-natured, Braddock's engaging comic-book paneling and pacing are an ideal match for early readers ready to delve into something a little longer.—**Kirkus Reviews**



PAIGE BRADDOCK is an award-winning artist, writer and Creative Director Emeritus at Charles M. Schulz Creative Associates. She received an Emmy Award for *Who Are You, Charlie Brown?*, designed the Snoopy U.S. postage stamp issued in 2001 and has illustrated several Peanuts children's books. The first book in the *Peanut, Butter, & Crackers* series, *Puppy Problems*, won a Beverly Cleary Children's Choice Award in 2023. She lives in Sonoma County, California.

