

Sachbuch

Herbst 2024

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Karen van Kampen

THE BRAIN NEVER SLEEPS

Why We Dream and What It Means For Our Mental Health

Publisher

Simon and Schuster Canada

Spring 2026

Client

Transatlantic Literary Agency

Contact

Hannah Nuspliger-Fosh



We spend every night of our lives dreaming, yet we remain unaware of the power and possibilities of our dreams.

Karen van Kampen guides us on a journey through dreamland, sharing how we can reclaim the other side of our existence and use our dreams to improve our well-being. Van Kampen, whose father opened the first independent sleep laboratory in Canada, acts as a unique and informed guide, combining first-person narrative with science journalism. The complete book will be comprised of ten chapters plus a dreamer's toolkit section.

Van Kampen investigates neuroscience and psychology to reveal the connection between our waking and dreaming lives. Through the fascinating stories of dream scientists, we learn how dreams boost learning, spark creativity and process emotions. Van Kampen conducts her own dream experiments with expert researchers as her guides. THE BRAIN NEVER SLEEPS propels us into the next frontier in dream research where we can harness the healing power of dreams to improve our well-being. A toolkit offers simple ways to use dreams to improve our waking lives. THE BRAIN NEVER SLEEPS is a personal and enlightening journey that will change how we understand and value our dreams.

Karen van Kampen is an author, award-winning journalist and business consultant who has built a niche as a purpose-driven storyteller. She is interviewed as an expert in her fields of science, business and health. Van Kampen transforms scientific findings into compelling stories that help us understand why we think, feel and do the things we do. Her interest in dreams began at the age of nine when her dad opened the first independent sleep laboratory in Canada. Van Kampen was his first lab assistant, practicing electrode hook-up and testing, and she directed operations and corporate development for the lab for 15 years. She lives in Toronto.

Leanne Betasamosake Simpson

THEORY OF WATER

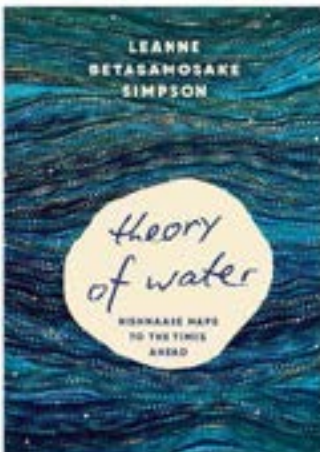
Essays

Publisher
Knopf

April 2025
222 pages

Client
Westwood Creative Artists

Contact
Hannah Nuspliger-Fosh



Praise for *As We Have Always Done: Indigenous Freedom through Radical Resistance*:

“I have learned more about this battered world from reading Leanne Betasamosake Simpson than from almost any writer alive today. A dazzlingly original thinker and an irresistible stylist, Simpson has gifted us with a field guide not to mere political resistance but to deep and holistic transformation. It arrives at the perfect time.”

–Naomi Klein

“An exceptional critical achievement and a joy to read.”

–*Oxford University Press Journals*

Acclaimed writer Leanne Betasamosake Simpson takes a revolutionary look at that most elemental force, water, and through Indigenous stories, tradition, and thinking, suggests a powerful path for the future.

For many years, Simpson took solace in skiing – in all kinds of weather, on all kinds of snow across all kinds of terrain. As she skied on this path against the backdrop of uncertainty, environmental devastation, rising authoritarianism and ongoing social injustice, her mind turned to the water in the creek and an elemental question: What might it mean to truly listen to water? To know water? To exist with and alongside water? So began a quest to understand her people’s historical, cultural, and ongoing interactions with water in all its forms (ice, snow, rain, perspiration, breath). Pulling together these threads, she began to see how a THEORY OF WATER might suggest a radical rethinking of relationships between beings and forces in the world today.

In this inventive work, Simpson draws on Nishnaabeg origin stories and her own deep thinking while weaving the work of influential writers and artists alongside her personal memories and experience – and in doing so, reimagines water as a catalyst for radical transformation, capable of birthing a new world.

THEORY OF WATER is a resonant and brilliant exploration of an intricate, multi-layered relationship with the most abundant element on our planet – one that is shaping our present even as it demands a radical rethinking of how we might achieve a just future.

Leanne Betasamosake Simpson is a renowned Michi Saagiig Nishnaabeg scholar, author of eight books, and artist, who has been widely recognized as one of the most compelling Indigenous voices of her generation. Her novel *Noopiming: The Cure for White Ladies* was shortlisted for the Governor General’s Literary Award for fiction and the Dublin Literary Award. Her collaboration with Robyn Maynard, *Rehearsals for Living*, was praised by Naomi Klein as “a beacon of a book.” Betasamosake has worked for two decades as an independent scholar using Nishnaabeg intellectual practices. She holds a PhD from the University of Manitoba, and teaches at the Dechinta Centre for Research & Learning in Denendeh.

Sarah Bilston

THE LOST ORCHID

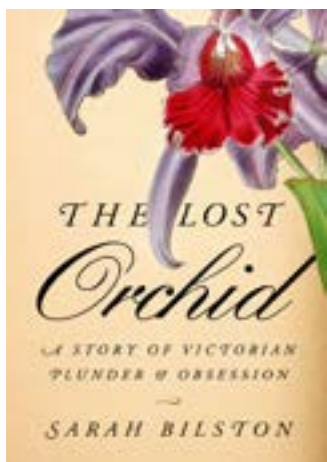
A Story of Victorian Plunder and Obsession

Publisher
Harvard University Press

May 2025
368 pages

Client
Harvard University Press

Contact
Leonie Kress



The forgotten story of a decades-long international quest for a rare and coveted orchid at the height of Victorian orchid “mania” and the plant-hunters, botanists, and collectors who relentlessly pursued it at great human and environmental cost.

In the early nineteenth century, “orchid mania” drove a vast plant trade that catered to both wealthy private patrons and the fast-growing middle classes. It began when a curious root with “withered brown scales” arrived in a small English village, tucked – seemingly by accident – in a packing case sent from Brazil. The amateur botanist who opened the case and cultivated the tuber realized that he had something remarkable on his hands: an exceptionally rare orchid, a striking purple-and-crimson bloom never seen on British shores – a bloom popularly dubbed the “Queen of the Orchids.”

This particular bloom quickly became one of the most coveted varieties – as well as one of the most difficult to rediscover in its natural habitat. As stories of its exceedingly rare beauty spread, European orchid dealers and plant hunters initiated a massive search for the “lost orchid” across South America. Sarah Bilston uncovers the story of this international quest, introducing the collectors and nurserymen who funded expeditions, the working-class European hunters who set out to find them, the South American laborers and specialists with whom they contracted, the naturalists and botanists who used the latest science to study orchids in all their varieties, and the writers and artists who helped the “lost orchid” achieve near-mythic status. The dark side of this international obsession, she shows, was the social and environmental damage it wrought as plant-hunters and aspiring botanists invaded local communities in pursuit of orchids, failing to grasp the part they played in damaging fragile habitats.

Following the people who drove an international obsession, *THE LOST ORCHID* is a story of consumer desire and collection culture, scientific curiosity and discovery, and the power and the devastation of colonial overreach.

Sarah Bilston is Professor of English Literature at Trinity College. She is the author of *The Awkward Age in Women’s Popular Fiction, 1850–1900: Girls and the Transition to Womanhood* and *The Promise of the Suburbs: A Victorian History in Literature and Culture*, as well as the novels *Sleepless Nights* and *Bed Rest*.

Kathryn Faulke

ONE IN SIX MILLION

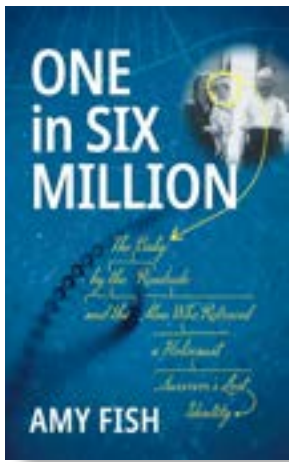
The Baby By The Roadside And The Man Who Retraced A Holocaust Survivor's Lost Identity

Publisher
Goose Lane

Client
Westwood Creative Artists

April 2025
178 pages

Contact
Hannah Nuspliger-Fosh



Praise for *I Wanted Fries with That*:
“This is storytelling and complaint handling at their very best.”

–Lydia Cummings, Harvard University Ombudsman

“Laugh-out-loud funny and packed with wise and practical advice on making your voice heard, this book should be on everyone’s reading list”

–Susan E. Opler, City of Toronto Ombudsman

Maria was eight months old in 1942 when a childless couple found her, wrapped in a blanket, at the side of a road near Krosno, Poland. A note pinned to the blanket stated only her first name and her date of birth. The couple picked up Maria and raised her, but she grew up longing for identity and connection. Who was she, and what had happened to her family?

Years later, Maria’s story came to the attention of Stanley Diamond. Diamond was the founder of Jewish Records Indexing-Poland (JRI Poland), one of the largest databases of Jewish vital records and a crucial tool in researching the stories of the victims and survivors of the Holocaust.

In this engrossing story, Amy Fish shows how Diamond and an intrepid band of international volunteers compared photographs with genealogical records and smuggled DNA tests to provide Maria with family ties that she thought were lost to her forever. A tale of unexpected coincidences, astonishing revelations, and more than a little luck, ONE IN SIX MILLION is an amazing, highly propulsive story of lost – and found – identity.

Amy Fish is the author of *I Wanted Fries with That: How to Ask for What You Want and Get What You Need* (New World Library, 2019) and *The ART of Complaining Effectively* (Avmor, 2015). Fries was named by the CBC as one of “40 Works of Creative Non-Fiction to Watch Out For”, and was a pick for “14 books for those that love to laugh”, both in 2019. Fish is a staff reviewer and interviewer for *Hippocampus Magazine* for Creative Non-Fiction and the Ombudsman at Concordia University in Montreal.

Stephen S. Hall

SLITHER

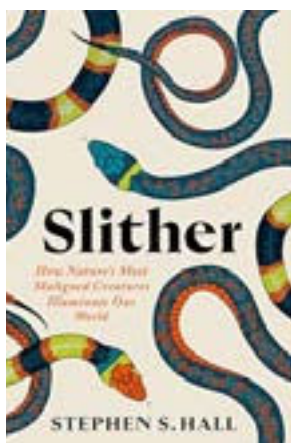
HOW NATURE'S MOST MALIGNED CREATURES ILLUMINATE OUR WORLD

Publisher
Grand Central

April 2025
384 pages

Client
Melanie Jackson Agency

Contact
Leonie Kress



A spellbinding scientific and cultural study of snakes, the fascination and fear they inspire, and how surprising new science is indelibly changing our perception of these stunning and frightening creatures..

For millennia, snakes have been alternatively depicted as both beautiful and menacing in religious texts, mythology, and poetry. From the foundational deities of ancient Egypt through our modern squeamish sensibilities, it is a longstanding belief that snakes are devious, dangerous... even evil. But where there is hatred and fear, there is also fascination and reverence. How is it that these creatures – so despised and sinister, so foreign in movement and ostensibly devoid of emotion – have fired the imaginations of poets, prophets, and painters across time and cultures?

SLITHER presents a naturalistic, cultural, ecological, and scientific meditation on these loathed yet magnetic creatures. In each chapter, Hall explores a biological aspect of snakes, such as their cold-blooded metabolism and venomous nature, alongside their mythology, artistic depictions, and cultural veneration. In doing so, he explores not only what neurologically triggers our wary fascination with these limbless creatures, but also how the current generation of snake scientists is using cutting-edge technologies to discover new truths about these evolutionarily ancient creatures – truths that may ultimately affect and enhance human health.

Stephen S. Hall has been reporting and writing about the intersection of science and society for more than forty years. He is the author of a number of critically acclaimed books on contemporary science, including *Wisdom and Merchants of Immortality*, and his work has appeared in the *New York Times Magazine*, *The New Yorker*, *The Atlantic Monthly*, *National Geographic*, *Wired*, *Scientific American*, *Smithsonian*, and more. Among other honors, he has received the Walter Sullivan Award for Excellence in Science Journalism from the American Geophysical Union, the Best Magazine Story of the Year from the American Association for the Advancement of Science-Kavli Foundation, and a Guggenheim Fellowship..

John Hooper

THE FORGOTTEN MILLION

The Slaves of the Renaissance

Publisher
Henry Holt

October 2027

Client
Henry Holt

Contact
Leonie Kress



A work of vivid narrative and profound historical inquiry, **THE FORGOTTEN MILLION** will restore to its rightful centrality a truth that has long been dismissed as incidental to Europe's history. This is a book that will irrevocably transform our understanding of Europe's most celebrated era.

The conventional view of the Renaissance is of an era in which Europeans cast off the intellectual shackles that had constrained them in Medieval times, embracing the art and rational philosophy of ancient Greece and Rome, and constructing a culture centered around a new appreciation of the dignity and importance of the individual. Yet, as Hooper discovered in his research, in Florence, the city that was at the very heart of Europe's cultural revival and in many parts of the continent, it was perfectly legal and socially acceptable for some of the inhabitants to belong to others.

THE FORGOTTEN MILLION will tell the story of the million or more people enslaved in the countries fringing the Mediterranean Sea before the start of the Atlantic slave trade, showing the role that slaves played in Renaissance society and forcing us to rethink our most cherished beliefs about Europe's cultural rebirth. It will be a work of gripping historical narrative that combines the author's meticulous research with vivid, first-hand descriptions of locations associated with southern Europe's slave trade and passages that describe in the greatest possible detail the lives and circumstances of the enslaved. The book will explain the profound and enduring influence throughout Europe of the Renaissance slave trade.

John Hooper is a prize-winning author and foreign correspondent who has spent most of his adult life living in, and writing about, the countries that are the subject of this book. He is currently the Italy and Vatican Correspondent of *The Economist* and an honorary fellow of St Catharine's College, University of Cambridge.

Emma Kemp

AT THE BOTTOM OF EVERYTHING

Conor Oberst and our Dystopian Digital Age

Publisher
Grand Central Press

Client
Frances Goldin Literary Agency



UK Jonathan Cape (pre-empt)

Winter 2026

Contact
Leonie Kress



The first and only authorized biography of the indie-rock star Conor Oberst, frontman of Bright Eyes and Desaparecidos – a dramatic, intimate narrative opening a portal into the unhinged decades of millennials’ coming-of-age.

In bedrooms the world over, through the early 2000s, sensitive teens spent untold hours quietly crying over the lyrics of a boy wunderkind from Omaha, Nebraska. With his swoopy, black bangs, his candid realness, and his deep, dark, unknowable heart, Conor Oberst was “indie rock’s reigning poet-prince” – our generation’s Bob Dylan, *The New Yorker* among others speculated. Against a backdrop of global upheaval and financial crisis, he spoke to young millennials’ disillusionment like no one before.

These were the days of LiveJournal, Tumblr, and LimeWire, the advent of online fandom and the mainstream explosion of emo and indie music, and Oberst was catapulted onto a global, digital stage, and into an enduring place in the cultural canon. Yet the man himself remained an enigma: intensely private and clearly tortured, he has never divulged large swaths of his life story to the public.

That is, until he met the writer Emma Kemp. Through years of steady trust-building, Kemp has secured sustained and exclusive access to Oberst and his inner circle, allowing her to track the story of an anxious and existential 12-year-old prodigy up to the dizzying heights of fame, love, and musicmaking – and into the spiraling shadowlands of depression and addiction.

AT THE BOTTOM OF EVERYTHING is an original, intimate, and honest portrait of an artist who shaped the social and political consciousness of a generation.

Emma Kemp is a British-born arts writer and cultural critic based in Los Angeles. She holds an MFA from California Institute of the Arts and teaches writing at Otis College of Art and Design. She is the recipient of grants and awards including a Utah Humanities Fellowship, an Al Larvick grant, and the Ithaca New Voices literary award.

Viet Thanh Nguyen

TO SAVE AND DESTROY: WRITING AS THE OTHER

Based on Nguyen's 2023–2024 Charles Eliot Norton Lectures

Publisher

Harvard University Press

April 2025

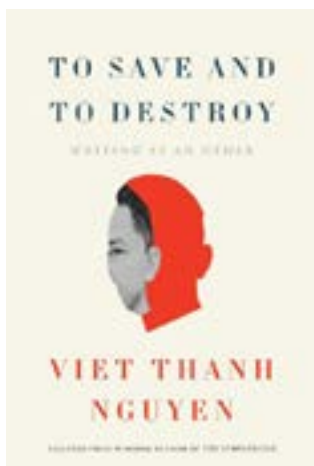
128 pages

Client

Harvard University Press

Contact

Leonie Kress



From the Pulitzer Prize – winning author of *The Sympathizer* (now an HBO series) comes a moving and unflinchingly personal meditation on the literary forms of otherness and a bold call for expansive political solidarity.

Born in war-ravaged Vietnam, Viet Nguyen arrived in the United States as a child refugee in 1975. The Nguyen family would soon move to San Jose, California, where the author grew up, attending UC-Berkeley in the aftermath of the shocking murder of Vincent Chin, which shaped the political sensibilities of a new generation of Asian Americans.

The essays here, delivered originally as the prestigious Norton Lectures, proffer a new answer to a classic literary question: What does the outsider mean to literary writing? Over the course of six captivating and moving chapters, Nguyen explores the idea of being an outsider through lenses that are, by turns, literary, historical, political, and familial.

Each piece moves between writers who influenced Nguyen's craft and weaves in the haunting story of his late mother's mental illness. Nguyen unfolds the novels and nonfiction of Herman Melville, F. Scott Fitzgerald, Ralph Ellison, William Carlos Williams, and Maxine Hong Kingston, until aesthetic theories give way to pressing concerns raised by war and politics. What is a writer's responsibility in a time of violence? Should we celebrate fiction that gives voice to the voiceless – or do we confront the forces that render millions voiceless in the first place? What are the burdens and pleasures of the "minor" writer in any society? Unsatisfied with the modest inclusion accorded to "model minorities" such as Asian Americans, Nguyen sets the agenda for a more radical and disquieting solidarity with those whose lives have been devastated by imperialism and forever wars.

Viet Thanh Nguyen is the author of the Pulitzer Prize-winning novel *The Sympathizer* and of *Nothing Ever Dies*, a finalist for the National Book Award. A recipient of the MacArthur Foundation and Guggenheim fellowships and a member of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, Nguyen is Aerol Arnold Chair of English and Professor of American Studies and Ethnicity at the University of Southern California.

Jena Pincott

MORPHS

The Fabulous, Deeply Weird Science of the Teen Brain & Body

Publisher
BenBella Books

2026

Client
The Martell Agency

Contact
Leonie Kress



Praise for *Chocolate Lovers Have Sweeter Babies*:

“Pincott uses the latest medical understanding to answer once and for all some of the biggest mysteries and misconceptions of this extraordinary time.”

—Daily Mail

MORPHS is all about the emerging hard science explanations behind the often bewildering, combative, concerning and sometimes strange behavior of teenagers.

Covering such teen phenomena as hoodie slouching, selective memory failure, frenemy-making, emerging eating disorders and much, much more, MORPHS will examine the many hidden forces – both biological and environmental – that are at play in this trickiest of life’s transitions. It’s an insightful and eye-opening look at teen reality that is profoundly helpful and enlightening.

Expertly drawing on information from a wide range of significant scientific research (much of it cutting edge) in areas ranging from evolutionary biology to anthropology to epigenetics to neuroscience to endocrinology, MORPHS maps the natural history of the complex ecosystem that makes teens tick, from the sudden flood of hormones to the slow myelination of brain matter, offering parents a new window to understanding their teen’s challenging body-and-mind metamorphosis from a child to an adult. And since knowledge brings tolerance and empathy, instead of often being frustrated and annoyed, parents will be able to have much more patience and a far more supportive relationship – and peaceful co-existence – with their teenagers.

Jena Pincott is a science writer and media commentator who specializes in under-the-radar research and contributes frequently to several publications and broadcasts. She has a background in biology and has been a senior editor of nonfiction books at Random House. She is the author of self-help and gift books, including *Success: Advice for Achieving Your Goals from Remarkably Accomplished and Mom Candy*, both published by Penguin Random House. Her previous popular science titles include *Do Gentlemen Really Prefer Blondes? - The Science of Love, Sex & Attraction* (Penguin Random House) and *Do Chocolate Lovers Have Sweeter Babies?: The Science of Pregnancy* (Simon & Schuster)

Alexandra Sowa

THE OZEMPIC REVOLUTION

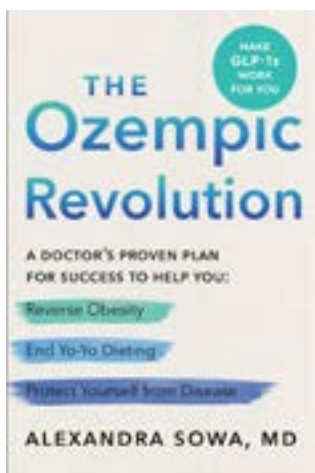
A Practical Guide to Navigating the GLP-1 Drugs That Can Help You Reverse Obesity, End Yo-Yo Dieting, and Protect Yourself from Disease

Publisher
Harper Collins

January 2025
257 pages

Client
The Stephanie Tade Agency

Contact
Hannah Nuspliger-Fosh



The first comprehensive user guide to Ozempic (and other similar weight loss drugs), including an overview of how they work, a breakdown of the physical and mental side effects, and companion recipes and exercise guidance to maintain lifelong health and keep weight off for good.

The newest class of weight loss drugs (GLP-1s) are complete game-changers in their potential to reverse obesity and its related diseases. Dr. Alexandra Sowa, a leading obesity medicine specialist, shares her expertise on this much-discussed but largely misunderstood class of medications, including information like:

What the GLP-1 experience really feels like. How to know if you're a candidate for these medications. How to manage and reduce unwanted side effects. Unique nonrestrictive food plans and strategies for managing the mental health challenges of losing weight. Simple, easy recipes for when you don't feel like eating.

Traditional and social media has been flooded with junk information and stigmatizing headlines about GLP-1s, and in this book, Dr. Sowa digs into all of it – the good, the bad, and the ugly – bringing the science to light.

If you're curious about how GLP-1s might fit into your life, or want to guarantee success while taking them, then Dr. Sowa's clear-eyed, fully informed approach is a must read. The Ozempic revolution changes everything: these drugs finally provide a viable, healthy, and sane way to lose weight, avoid disease, and maintain your gains for life.

Dr. Alexandra Sowa is a trailblazer in obesity medicine, known for her unique blend of scientific rigor and thoughtful patient advocacy. Her dual certification in internal medicine and obesity medicine, along with her role as a clinical instructor at NYU School of Medicine, sets her apart as an expert deeply committed to advancing treatment paradigms. Through SoWell Health, she extends her reach beyond the clinic, offering innovative telehealth services and resources that reflect her philosophy of care-holistic, evidence-based, and deeply respectful of the emotional dimensions of health. A frequent contributor to major publications including *The New York Times* and *The Atlantic* and a regular expert on national broadcasts, Dr. Sowa educates on the complexities of obesity with clarity and compassion.

Susan Swan

BIG GIRLS DON'T CRY

Publisher
Harper Collins Canada

Spring 2025
270 pages

Client
Transatlantic Literary Agency

Contact
Hannah Nuspliger-Fosh



Acclaimed feminist Canadian author and Member of the Order of Canada Susan Swan's memoir explores the way her unusual height shaped her life, and the quest she undertook to find a home that fit, interrogating what it means to take up space as a woman, daughter, mother and writer.



[Swan's writing offers] not only an enjoyable read, but also the chance to think and reflect on the vast complex living entity that is the world"

–Nobel Prize-winner Olga Tokarczuk

"Speaking as a fellow oddball, I think that this is the best book about coming to terms with your differences from the norm (especially for women), that I've read. It's insightful, honest, and adept. Definitely, one of a kind."

–Pulitzer Prize-winner Jane Smiley

Where do I belong? Where do I find a partner? How does someone like me become a writer? Susan Swan sets out on an adventurous pilgrimage and tries to find answers in three countries: Canada, (*The Art of Being Fame-ish*); the United States, (*The Land of Celebrity*) and Greece, (*The Sacred Precinct*). From circus giants to Hollywood movies, she weaves in the history of women and size alongside her own story, interrogating what it means to take up space as a woman, daughter, mother, and writer.

With a foreword by Margaret Atwood.

Susan Swan is the co-founder of the recently-debuted Carol Shields Prize for Fiction. Swan's 2004 novel *What Casanova Told Me* was a finalist for the Commonwealth Writers' Prize and her 2012 novel, *The Western Light*, was a prequel to *The Wives of Bath*, her international bestseller made into the feature film *Lost and Delirious*, which premiered at Sundance and was shown in 32 countries. Her most recent journalism appeared in the *Globe and Mail* and *Ms. Magazine*. Her debut novel *The Biggest Modern Woman of the World* was published extensively internationally, and tells the story of the giantess Anna Swan, who made a fortune exhibiting with P.T. Barnum, but spent her short life searching for a home.

Tessa McWatt

THE SNAG

A Mother, a Forest, and Wild Grief

Publisher
Random House Canada

Spring 2025
300 pages

Client
Westwood Creative Artists

Contact
Hannah Nuspliger-Fosh



Praise for *Shame on Me: An Anatomy of Race and Belonging*:
“Beautifully written and courageously told.”

– Hilary Weston Writers’ Trust
Prize for Nonfiction jury

“Intimate storytelling brings alive this memoir of racism, sexism and identity.”

– *The Guardian*

“Lyrical and haunting.”

– *The Saturday Paper*

Grief is personal, is collective, is now planetary. Can personal grief propel us to imaginative solutions to our planetary crisis? McWatt digs deep into the soil of our contemporary moment to plant options for how we might live in the future.

Collective anxiety: we know it well. COVID-19 and the ongoing climate crisis have underscored how our current political and economic systems have neglected the relationships between humans, our environment, and our mental health. As the wheels of capitalism ground to a halt during the pandemic, many of us sought out new ways of being in relation to each other and to our environment, and found that nature provided both solace and inspiration.

Can forests be a model for future social structures? Can capitalism’s hold on our extractive processes on the planet be replaced by “tree thinking,” and lead us to reconsider what it means to be a part of nature? Drawing her central image from a tree in the final stages of its life, McWatt immerses herself into the prevailing contemporary moment to unpack ideas like “weathering” and “plant consciousness,” searching for signs of the kind of deeper understanding and healing that may propel us into imaginative solutions to our global crisis.

Intersecting with this political examination is McWatt’s account of helping care for her mother with dementia, which she braids with her mother’s personal history of loss. She considers how the universal experience of grief might help us reformulate how we live together, and lead us towards answers to “What now?”

Tessa McWatt is the author of seven novels and two books for young people. Her first book of non-fiction *Shame On Me: An Anatomy of Race and Belonging* won the Eccles British Library Award and the Bocas Prize for Caribbean Literature, and was shortlisted for the Hilary Weston Writers’ Trust Prize for Nonfiction and the Governor General’s Literary Award. Her latest novel, *The Snow Line*, was shortlisted for the Volcano Prize. She is also a librettist and Professor of Creative Writing at the University of East Anglia. In 2021 she was elected as a Fellow of the Royal Society of Literature; in 2024 she completed a month-long residency at the Rockefeller Foundation’s Bellagio Center in Italy. Born in Guyana, raised in Toronto, she lives in London, UK.

Michelle Tea

FREE LOVE

Adventures in Marriage and Polyamory

Publisher
Harper One

Spring 2026

Client
Frances Goldin Literary Agency

Contact
Leonie Kress



“Michelle Tea is our luminary of optimistic rebellion – sassy, astute, quicksilver, a master of the hot mess, with a legendary stature reaffirmed by wave upon wave of new readers.”

– Jeremy Atherton Lin

A wildly entertaining, authentic, and profound guide to navigating freedom and commitment, in a society intent on pinning us down.

Polyamory is having a moment. Whether you love it or hate it, the explosion of non-monogamy into the mainstream suggests a widespread frustration and stuck-ness within traditional relationship structures, perhaps especially among women and femmes, whose sexual freedom has long been contained and policed. Why do we have to choose between adventure and security? Why can't we try, at least, to have them both?

Long before its current it-girl moment, polyamory was foundational to many radical subcultures, who saw in it not only the chance for sexual freedom, but a path towards dismantling patriarchal oppression and the zero-sum game of capitalism – a path towards personal, spiritual, and collective growth, care, and empowerment. Polyamory was also foundational to the life of beloved writer and queer icon Michelle Tea, from the clandestine, ill-fated throuples of her late teens, to the punk lesbian underground of 90s San Francisco, through marriage and divorce, Tinder flings and enduring friendships, heartbreak and motherhood.

In *FREE LOVE*, she will share these juicy, hilarious, and moving stories with her characteristic wit and charm, while delving into the radical, forgotten history of openness, and interviewing and researching widely, to guide readers through the thorny choices we make in our own relationships – poly or no. A modern-day *The Ethical Slut* meets Dolly Alderton's *Everything I Know About Love*, it marries the storytelling of Maggie Smith and Samantha Irby with the practical wisdom and heartwarming appeal of writers like Glennon Doyle, Emily Nagoski, and Vanessa Marin.

Michelle Tea is the author of over a dozen widely acclaimed books memoir, fiction, and cultural criticism, and the recipient of awards from PEN/America, the Guggenheim, Lambda Literary, and the Rona Jaffe Foundation. Her books have been translated into French, Japanese, Slovenian, German, Italian, and Swedish.

Kate Thompson

A MOTHER'S PROMISE

Renee Salt with Kate Thompson

Publisher
Orion

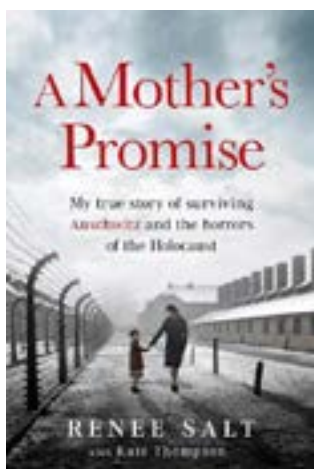
February 2025
336 pages

Client
Blake Friedmann Literary

Contact
Hannah Nuspliger-Fosh



Italy Newton Compton
Canada Simon & Schuster
USA Alcové Press



Moving and poignant memoir of Renee Salt, a concentration camp survivor who, now aged ninetyfour, wants to tell her story of love, loss, courage and hope.

Renee and her mother Sala never left each other's sides. From invasion to liberation, September 1939 to April 1945, as Renee was marched, herded and shoved from ghetto to camp, there was one constant. One hand which clutched hers – her mother's. Every day for six years, mother and daughter were tangled together in hell. From ghettos to slave labour, from Auschwitz to Bergen-Belsen, they were a powerful source of solace and hope to one another.

Renee knows that she is only alive today because of her mother, that it was the sheer force and power of her love that gave them both something fragile but beautiful to cling to in an ugly, depraved world. It was her mother who hid her, lied to the SS, went right when she was directed left – whose small actions had lifesaving consequences. Now, for Renee, the need to share has finally overcome the desire to forget.

This is a love letter to Renee's mother that has been eighty years in the making...

Kate Thompson is a journalist and bestselling writer who lives with her family in south-west London. After ghostwriting a bestselling memoir, she turned her hand to fiction and also wrote her own non-fiction social history, *The Stepney Doorstep Society* (Penguin, 2018), documenting the forgotten histories of East End matriarchy. As well as being passionate about capturing lost voices and untold social histories, Kate's also a library campaigner. Her most recent novels, *The Little Wartime Library* (Hodder, 2022), and *The Wartime Bookclub* (Hodder, 2024), focus on two remarkable libraries in wartime. Her 100 libraries project celebrates the richness and complexity of librarians work and the vital role of libraries in our communities.

Edward Wilson-Lee

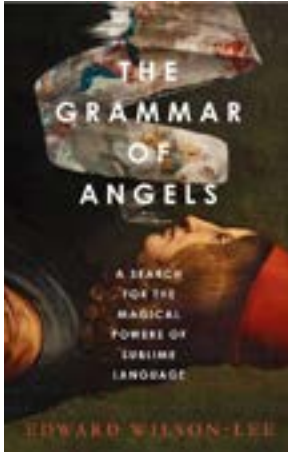
THE GRAMMAR OF ANGELS

Publisher
William Collins

January 2025
336 pages

Client
Blake Friedmann Literary Agency

Contact
Leonie Kress



Praise for previous works:

“A captivating adventure... For lovers of history, Wilson-Lee offers a thrill on almost every page...The Catalogue of Shipwrecked Books is an intellectual biography, but its beating heart is the tangled love of a son for his father...Magnificent.”

—*The New York Times Book Review*
(on *A History of Water*)

„Wilson-Lee enjoyably melds memoir, history, and literary travelogue to reveal the surprising hold that Shakespeare continues to have on a culture remote from his own.“

—*Kirkus Reviews* (on *Shakespeare in Swahililand*)

Acclaimed historian with a gift for narrative opens up the life of another extraordinary Renaissance character for today’s readers.

After his magnificent *The Catalogue of Shipwrecked Books* and the thrilling mysteries of *The History of Water*, THE GRAMMAR OF ANGLES completes Edward Wilson-Lee’s loose trilogy tracing an intriguing path through the world of Renaissance Knowledge. He was granted a Guggenheim fellowship for this work.

THE GRAMMAR OF ANGELS: A Search for the Magical Powers of Sublime Language tells the story of Renaissance prodigy and polymath Giovanni Pico della Mirandola, who dedicated his life to a quest to find the sublime; to do nothing less than to reconcile all existing thought into a philosophy that would settle the most important questions about human existence, and to show how man could transcend mortal limitations, joining the ranks of the angels.

At the heart of Pico’s ideas were questions that he traced through the depth and breadth of human thought, from the ancient Greeks and Egyptians to the medieval Arabs and Jews. He made use of everything at his disposal from Europe’s broadening horizons and asked primal questions of himself and the world. Why is it that we can be astonished by beauty? That the hairs on the backs of our necks can be made to stand by intoxicating rhythms and harmonies? That we can be provoked to ecstatic experiences by the simple means of an incantation? In Catholic Italy, the implications of this line of thought were dangerous and provoked violent reactions, suggesting as they did that the notion of the individual might be just as much of an illusion as a flat earth or a geocentric universe. That there may well be notions of the divine other than the Christian God.

During a tempestuous time at the heart of the Italian Renaissance, Pico’s life is a testament to intellectual daring, to a human dignity founded in the willingness to think the unthinkable and to peer over the edge of the abyss in search of answers.

Edward Wilson-Lee is a Fellow in English at Sidney Sussex College, Cambridge, where he teaches medieval and Renaissance literature. After growing up in Kenya and Switzerland, he went to university in London, New York, Oxford and Cambridge, living briefly in Mexico and New Orleans in between. His previous books *Shakespeare in Swahililand* and *The Catalogue of Shipwrecked Books* are widely acclaimed, published in the UK and US, and translated into 11 languages. The latest, *A History of Water*, was shortlisted for the James Tait Black Prize for Biography 2023. Klein Centre for Critical Internet at Harvard University. Petra holds a Juris Doctorate from the University of Toronto Faculty of Law, a Masters of Anthropology from York University, Centre for Refugee studies, and an LL.M in International Law from the University of Cambridge.

Edward Wilson-Lee

THE CATALOGUE OF SHIPWRECKED BOOKS/ A HISTORY OF WATER

Publisher
Orion

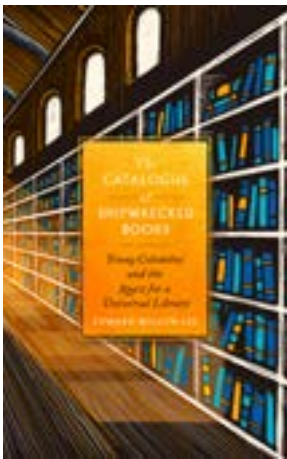
May 2018/August 2022

Client
Blake Friedmann Literary

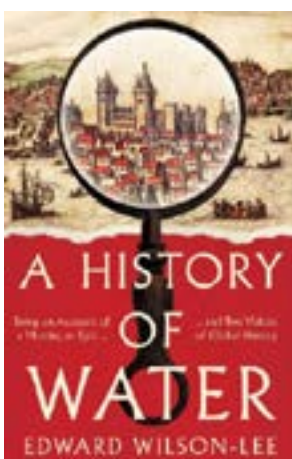
Contact
Leonie Kress



Ukraine Laboratory
Turkey Repar/Kitapyurdu
Korea Kachi Publishing Co.
Portugal Bertrand
Italy Bollati Boringhieri
Spain Ariel



THE CATALOGUE OF SHIPWRECKED BOOKS: *Young Columbus & The Quest for a Universal Library* (William Collins, May 2018) tells the captivating true story of Hernando Colon, the illegitimate son of Christopher Columbus, who dedicated his life to creating the first universal library by collecting books and navigating the complexities of print in the Renaissance era. His remarkable experiences, including interactions with notable figures and contributions to mapping and book organization, reflect a profound engagement with the challenges of information overload and the cultural transformations of his time.



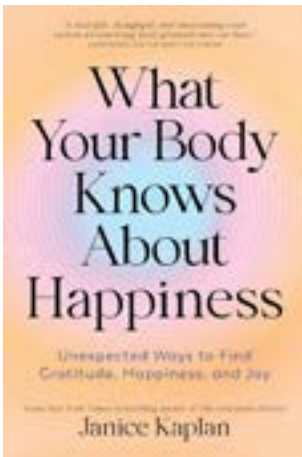
In **A HISTORY OF WATER:** *Being an Account of a Murder, an Epic and Two Visions of Global History* (HarperCollins, August 2022) award-winning writer Edward Wilson-Lee weaves a thrilling true historical detective story set in sixteenth-century Portugal, exploring the intertwined lives of Damião de Góis, an art collector and historian mysteriously murdered, and Luís de Camões, a braggart who becomes Portugal's national poet. Their journeys reveal the wonders and challenges faced by Europeans during the Renaissance, as well as the conspiracy to silence the profound questions raised by their discoveries.



“A wonderful – and wonder-full – recreation of a crucial episode in European history... The book also has a rare beauty; written with elegant restraint, its every page is rich in numinous sense of vanishings and misunderstandings, gaps in the records, marvels and mysteries... Without any playing around in the twilight zone between fact and fiction, Wilson-Lee has conjured up a hauntingly vivid evocation of a moment when the spread of empire could be regarded as ‘a broadening of the meaning of humanity’ and cultural dialogue.”

–The Telegraph

Allgemeines Sachbuch



Janice Kaplan
WHAT YOUR BODY KNOWS ABOUT HAPPINESS

Unexpected Ways to Find Gratitude, Happiness and Joy

Publisher
Sourcebooks, January 2025

Contact
Leonie Kress

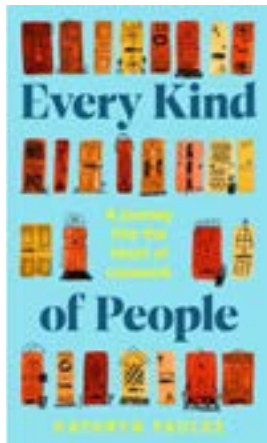


Poland Rebis

In this new book, the author of the *New York Times* bestseller *The Gratitude Diaries* delves into the profound mind-body connection, highlighting how the body often informs the brain. When mind and body work together, we experience true wellness and flow. This book complements *The Gratitude Diaries*, a contemporary classic in self-improvement that continues to resonate with readers.



“Through engaging storytelling and scientific research, Kaplan uncovers the wisdom encoded within our physical selves, and offers practical strategies to harness this knowledge for a happier, more fulfilling life.” –Ellen Langer, Professor of Psychology at Harvard



Kathryn Faulke
EVERY KIND OF PEOPLE
A Journey into the Heart of Carework

Publisher
Fig Tree, October 2024

Contact
Leonie Kress

A groundbreaking memoir, detailing the author’s experiences as a home carer after leaving a senior NHS role, where she confronts the realities of low pay, challenging conditions, and the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic. Through her journey of caring for vulnerable individuals and a seriously ill friend, she discovers the profound joys and vital importance of caregiving, earning accolades and recognition as a significant debut.



“The work of a natural storyteller, and a book full of empathy, humour, and – yes – care. All kinds of brilliant.”
– Jon McGregor, author of *Reservoir 13*

“Marvellously life-affirming and utterly humbling.”
–Caroline Sanderson, The Bookseller, ‘Editor’s Choice’



Greg F. Naterer
CALLED BY MOTHER EARTH
A Father’s Search for His Son

Publisher
Breakwater Books, March 2024

Contact
Hannah Nuspliger-Fosh

This raw and intimate memoir takes us inside the mind of a father who embarked on a ten-month journey through rugged and remote terrain in British Columbia in search of his missing son. After setting out on a hike on Frosty Mountain on October 10, 2020, twenty-five-year-old Jordan Naterer disappeared. This memoir follows Jordan’s father, Greg, as he navigates grief, time, and the mountain wilderness of British Columbia in search of his missing son.