

Sachbuch

Herbst 2026

Allgemeines Sachbuch

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Benjamin Breen

GHOSTS OF THE MACHINE AGE

The James Family and the Unfinished Battle for Consciousness

Publisher

Farrar Straus & Giroux

Client

Frances Goldin Literary Agency

Fall 2029

10 000 words

Contact

Leonie Kress



In the tradition of *The Metaphysical Club* comes an atmospheric narrative science history with haunting echoes for our times.

GHOSTS OF THE MACHINE AGE tells the story of how our modern ideas about the mind were forged in the Gilded Age—not in laboratories, but as part of one generation's passionate struggle to understand what it means to be human in a world being remade by machines. The book follows William James, his siblings Alice and Henry, and their wider circle—from young W.E.B. DuBois to James' rival in the emerging field of psychology, James McKeen Cattell—through the post-Darwinian tumult and into a new industrial world.

As railways, telegraphs, mass media, and industrial capitalism transformed daily life at a pace no prior generation had experienced, the world seemed to become one vast machine. Growing up in a rarified and worldly circle, William James and his siblings—Henry James, the gifted novelist, and Alice James, a talent constrained by femininity and chronic illness—came of age in an era defined by disruption.

The question James's generation wrestled with was whether human consciousness—the inner life of willpower and feeling—was anything more than the operation of that machinery. Would they be the generation that articulated and protected what was intrinsically human about the mind, or the generation that turned it into data to be collected and processed?

Galton's way of thinking, which ultimately carried the day in science, directly led to mass surveillance, scientific racism and sexism, and enabled powerful governments and institutions to exert even more control over humanity. William James saw a different way forward by attending carefully to the differences between individual minds.

Benjamin Breen is a professor of history at University of California Santa Cruz, is the author of *Tripping on Utopia*, which explored the evolution of psychedelic science through the story of Margaret Mead. The book was an *LA Times* Bestseller, nabbed Breen a spot on Terry Gross, and received critical praise from The New York Times, Publisher's Weekly, and The New Yorker (even making its best books of the year list). Breen is also the author of the Substack newsletter, Res Obscura, which has 15,000 followers.

Michaela Cavanagh

PRESENT TENSE

How We Reckon With the End of the World

Publisher

McClelland & Stewart

August 2027

Client

Transatlantic Literary Agency

Contact

Hannah Nuspliger-Fosh



English US The New Press



This prescient work of environmental reportage explores how we live with uncertainty and loss in a collapsing world. For fans of Elizabeth Kolbert, *PRESENT TENSE* unveils the contradictions and trade-offs inherent in attempting to live well in a world on fire, naming the individualism that got us here and calling on us to think beyond it.

An exhilarating, globe-spanning journey of discovery through the distractions, defense mechanisms, survival strategies, and mourning rituals we use to face—or fend off—the climate crisis. Cavanagh guides readers across the emotional spectrum—from grief, anxiety and doom to acceptance, hope and joy—with a series of dispatches from climate change's frontlines. In the plush exhibition hall of the oil industry Olympics, we're privy to a masterclass in greenwashing from a cadre of extra-candid petro-dignitaries.

In an old army barracks-turned-eco-bunker deep in the east German hinterland, Cavanagh learns how to prepare for the apocalypse from a posh vegan climate doomer. In the world's greenest country, she rallies with Greta Thunberg and Indigenous activists on the lawns of Norway's parliament, fighting an unlikely enemy: wind turbines. As we rove across this emotional landscape, readers get a front-row seat to Cavanagh's internal weather—from flattening anxiety to a sense of hope grounded in a commitment to our shared future.

Michaela Cavanagh is an award-winning journalist based in Berlin. Her writing on climate and culture has appeared in *The Atlantic*, the *London Review of Books*, the *LA Review of Books*, *Literary Hub*, *Die Zeit*, *Hazlitt* (forthcoming), and the *Globe and Mail* and is supported by several international grants and fellowships. She holds an MFA in Creative Nonfiction from the University of King's College and was a visiting researcher at the Rachel Carson Center for Environment and Society in Munich in 2024. She is a news editor and presenter for DW News, Germany's international broadcaster.



Praise for *Still Life With Bones*:

"Hagerty is... a Chekhovian angel of science and poetry..."

—Francisco Goldman

"Chilling and vital... sensitive and thought-provoking."

—*The Times*

"Absorbing... multifaceted and elegiac... *Still Life with Bones* captures the ethos that drives the search—often tireless and against the odds—for truth."

—*The New York Times*

Rui Couceiro

THE MOST BEAUTIFUL CURSE

Stories of People Passionate About Books

Publisher
Porto Editora

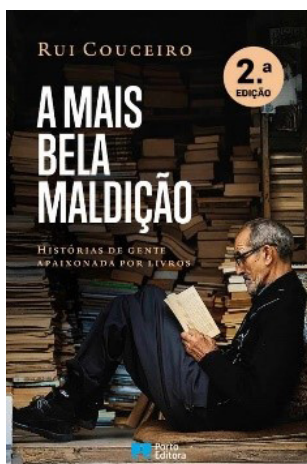
April 2026
209 pages

Client
Transatlantic Literary Agency

Contact
Hannah Nuspliger-Fosh



Portuguese Brazil Globo



“This book is essential for everyone who loves books — and for those who don’t yet, but should.”

—Marcelo Rebelo de Sousa (former President of Portugal)

“Gabriel García Márquez would have liked to meet these people and discover these places.”

—Francisco Sena Santos

“Ten fascinating stories that make one’s love for books grow even stronger.”

—Manuel Falcão, *Jornal de Negócios*

“The Most Beautiful Curse, by Rui Couceiro, was the most important book I read this year.”

—Helena Sacadura Cabral

Rui Couceiro traveled the world to meet and tell stories that will captivate everyone who, like him and the protagonists of *A Mais Bela Maldição*, love books and reading.

What could a nearly centenarian baroness from Tuscany, a former fisherman from Póvoa de Varzim, a former Brazilian minister, a gas station attendant from the Azores, a French socioeconomist living in São Tomé, a garbage truck driver from Bogotá, an Italian poet, a secondhand bookseller from Rabat, a former New York inmate, and a German priest possibly have in common? A deep and undeniable connection to books, which led them to devote all or much of their lives to them. They—and their love for a millennia-old object—are the protagonists of the latest book by Rui Couceiro.

Rui Couceiro was born in Porto in 1984. He was most recently an editor at Bertrand, part of the largest Portuguese publishing group, where he worked since 2006 and directed the Contraponto imprint. He is a member of the Cultural Council of the Eça de Queiroz Foundation. He writes for the magazine *Visão*. He abandoned a doctoral thesis in Cultural Studies to write his first novel, *Baiôa with no Date to Die* (2022). The book was awarded the 2022 Manuel de Boaventura Literary Prize and was a finalist for the 2023 Portuguese Pen Club Prize. In 2024, he published his second novel, *Morro da Pena Ventosa*, also with Porto Editora.

Catherine Gildiner

ANYTHING FOR LOVE

A THERAPIST, NINE CASE STUDIES, AND
THE POWER OF TOXIC BONDS

Publisher

St Martin's Press

March 2027

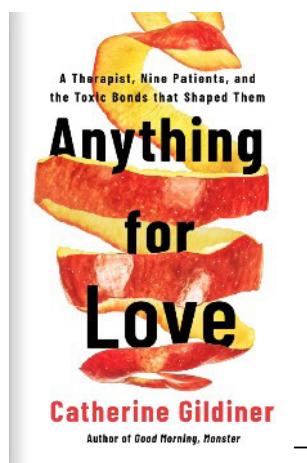
336 pages

Client

Westwood Creative Artists

Contact

Hannah Nuspliger-Fosh



Praise for *Good Morning, Monster*:

"We need to read stories about folks who have been through hell and kept going... Fascinating."

—Glennon Doyle, author of *Untamed*

"*Good Morning, Monster* allows one the privilege of seeing the therapist-patient relationship as an essentially human interaction."

—JM Coetzee, Winner of the Nobel Prize for Literature

Nine new psychological mysteries about attachment, identity, and the cost of belonging.

In her fascinating new collection of case studies, therapist Catherine Gildiner explores the nature of the parent-child bond and the astonishing, creative, and ingenious lengths people will go to keep that bond alive, however dysfunctional.

Dr. Gildiner presents nine memorable stories, including a schizophrenic man who builds religious altars in the tunnels of a now defunct mental hospital, a successful businessman whose relationship with his mother makes anger impossible and so rage bubbles out of his skin in debilitating eczema, and a librarian who is assigned to play the femme fatale on a murder mystery cruise and is unable to give up the role when she returns to her real life. Gildiner also presents the challenges of supporting those from dramatically diverse cultural backgrounds, from a Somali teenager to a Cambodian woman who survived the Pol Pot regime where people were forced to kill their parents to prove their bond was not to family but to the Khmer Rouge.

With wit and empathy, Gildiner brings each case study to vivid life. And unusually, she takes us not just to her office but to court, businesses, and hospitals. In the process, she lifts the curtain on the daily work of a therapist and celebrates humanity's remarkable resilience.

Catherine Gildiner was a clinical psychologist in private practice for 25 years. She is the bestselling author of the acclaimed memoir *Too Close to The Falls* and the celebrated collection of case studies *Good Morning, Monster*, which has been translated into over twenty languages. She grew up in New York State and lives in Toronto.

Rights also available for Catherine Gildiner's backlist hit and bestseller *Good Morning, Monster*, published in 24 territories.

Allgemeines Sachbuch

Alexa Hagerty

SALT CLOUD GHOST

A Journey through Desert, Deep Time, and Digital Age

Publisher
Pantheon

Fall 2029
90 000 words

Client
Frances Goldin Literary Agency

Contact
Leonie Kress



English UK Pushkin Press



Praise for *Still Life With Bones*:

"Hagerty is... a Chekhovian angel of science and poetry..."

—Francisco Goldman

"Chilling and vital... sensitive and thought-provoking."

—*The Times*

"Absorbing... multifaceted and elegiac... *Still Life with Bones* captures the ethos that drives the search—often tireless and against the odds—for truth."

—*The New York Times*

An immersive literary work of environmental journalism tracing the centuries-long arc of extraction across Chile's Atacama Desert.

Larger than the state of Kentucky, the Atacama is the driest desert on the planet, an environment so inhospitable that researchers use it to theorize about life on Mars. Running along the northern coast of Chile, bound between the Andes and the Pacific, the desert's ancient reserves of gold, copper, nitrate, and lithium have attracted the powers of each age. Here, against a backdrop of salt flats, flamingos, and three-thousand-year-old plant species, the same drama has played out again and again, though the players change: Extraction.

Pioneered as a critical concept by Latin American scholars (extractivismo) and popularized initially by books like Naomi Klein's *This Changes Everything*, the idea of extraction has started to crop up in mainstream discussions about green energy as the race for rare metals intensifies, and in tech where the non-voluntary nature of data gathering adds a new level to the conversation.

But Alexa argues extraction's reach is so enormous that it is difficult to see all sides of it at once: the imperial legacy, the environmental ruin, the data mining, the light-speed consumption, the fractured democratic fabric, the colonial gaze on outer space—even the sense of exhaustion that wells up in our hearts, leaving us breathless as modernity rushes forward. There is one place, however, where we can see every bit of it. "Every era has a place that reveals its defining order," Alexa writes. "Rome's roads mapping imperial power, Detroit's assembly lines engineering industrial might. The Atacama is ours."

Alexa Hagerty is an anthropologist who studies technology, ritual, and society. Described by Francisco Goldman as a "Chekhovian angel of science and poetry," she is the author of *Still Life with Bones*, which was a New York Times Editors' Choice and highlighted as one of the Best Books of 2023 by The New Yorker and the Financial Times, and reviewed in The Times Literary Supplement, the London Review of Books, The Irish Times, the Sunday Post UK, Book Riot, Kirkus, and The New York Times.

Rebecca Hall

LIFE TIME

CARE UNDER THE CLOCK

Publisher

McClelland & Stewart

September 2027

Client

Westwood Creative Artists

Contact

Hannah Nuspliger-Fosh



For fans of Jenny Odell: A bracing, intimate challenge to capitalist time, arguing that the care crisis isn't a failure of love, but a theft of time.

Care is not a finite resource. Taking care of one another takes time and energy, but, unlike fossil fuels or lithium deposits, our capacity to care is abundant and renewing.

Yet, one look at today's headlines tells a different story. Around the globe, policymakers and advocates alike have declared a care crisis. Emergency rooms and classrooms strain under the pressure. Our intimate caring duties—tending to family, home, community—are in perpetual collision against our working hours. We—especially women—feel overwhelmed, inadequate, as if we are failing.

Drawing on research, cultural analysis, and the author's lived experience as a professor, mother, and community activist, Rebecca Hall reframes today's "care crisis" as a collision between the slow, circular rhythms of care and the accelerating demands of capitalist time. Under an economic system where time is money, care is pushed to the margins. By revealing how our lives have come to be measured by economic value, *Life Time* opens space to imagine more humane, caring ways of living beyond the capitalist clock.

In the way it responds to personal experiences of harriedness and scarcity by turning to the workings of our economic order, *LIFE TIME* will appeal to fans of Jenny Odell's *How to Do Nothing: Resisting the Attention Economy* and *Saving Time: Discovering Life Beyond the Clock*. Distinctly, *LIFE TIME*.

Rebecca Hall is an Associate Professor of Global Development Studies at Queen's University. Her first book, *Refracted Economies: Diamond Mining and Social Reproduction in the North* (University of Toronto Press, 2022) won the International Studies Association's Global Development Studies book award and was shortlisted for the Canadian Political Science Association's major book award, the Donald Smiley Prize. Born and raised in Ottawa, she lives in Kingston, Ontario with her partner and their two young daughters.

Sarah Leavitt

TANGLES

A story about Alzheimer's, my mother and me

Publisher

Freehand Books

September 2010

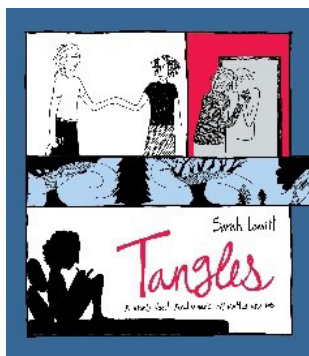
128 pages

Client

Transatlantic Literary Agency

Contact

Hannah Nuspliger-Fosh



"This delicate nature just hit home in a way that felt so real to my experience."

—Lauren Miller Rogen, *Deadline*

On the film adaption:

"The film is a love letter to caregivers and families who have been through this, or something like this. (...) That mix of comedy and drama ... that's what's exciting; to make people laugh in a movie where you wouldn't expect that."

—CBC

An animated feature film adaption of TANGLES premiered at Cannes Film Festival in July 2026, coming to German cinemas soon.

Shortlisted for the prestigious Writers Trust Award for best nonfiction book for 2010. A cross between *Still Alice* by Lisa Genova and *Persepolis* by Marjane Satrapi, TANGLES is a touching memoir of one family's struggle with Alzheimer's disease, told as a graphic memoir in black and white.

It tells the story, from Sarah's point of view, of her mother Midge's illness and death from Alzheimer's Disease. Throughout Midge's six-year illness, Sarah kept detailed notes and sketches. These are the basis for an unsentimental account of the family's journey—plenty of humour, sarcasm and even sex mixed in with the grief and loss. The narrative explores the themes of memory, language, mother/daughter relationships, growing up and forming one's identity.

As Midge declines, Sarah is forced to become more mature and self-reliant, and develops a stronger sense of self in the face of incredible grief and loss. As the jury for the Writer's Trust Prize said, 'after reading Tangles there was not a dry eye in the house!'

A graduate of the MFA program in Creative Writing at UBC, Sarah Leavitt had a monthly column for *Xtra West* and has published comics, fiction and non-fiction in the following: *Geist*, *Georgia Straight*, *Vancouver Review*, *The Globe and Mail* and a number of anthologies, including *Nobody's Mother* (Heritage 2006) and *Beyond Forgetting: Poetry and Prose About Alzheimer's Disease* (Kent State University Press). Sarah has also written short documentaries for CBC Radio. TANGLES is her first book.

German edition published by Beltz in 2013, translation available.

Kyo Maclear

WE SAW THE SAME MOON

A Boy, A Photograph, a Genocide

Publisher

Penguin Random House

Winter 2028

Client

Westwood Creative Artists

Contact

Hannah Nuspliger-Fosh



“Simply staggering... A highly unconventional ‘finding my roots’ memoir that finds roots everywhere.”

–Naomi Klein, *The Guardian*

“An alluring blend of grief, racial identity and memory.”

–*The Bookseller*

“Magnificent... I will never forget it.”

–Dani Shapiro, author of *Signal Fires and Inheritance*

As Gaza’s children endure genocide, a writer searches for the story of an anonymous Palestinian boy and asks what it means to bear witness from afar.

In 1955, a photograph of a Palestinian boy at school is featured in the landmark Family of Man exhibit at New York’s Museum of Modern Art. It is one of hundreds of photographs selected to exemplify the

Universal human condition—a hopeful declaration of global solidarity after two world wars. As a child, Kyo Maclear encounters the photograph in a book of the same name. Decades later, she sees the photograph again; this time, as she contemplates the image of the anonymous Palestinian boy, bombs fall on Gaza with support from the West. Hoping to shift the world, in small ways, off its violent axis, Maclear embarks on a search to discover his story. Over two years, she traces the photograph’s 80-year journey through archives, across continents, into demolished villages and planted forests, through academic studies and within family albums. Along the way, she asks questions. How do we learn to suppress our ethical and emotional unease? What is the point of remembering if not to act differently in the present? What would shift if we allowed the hopeful questions of childhood, and of Palestinian children, to shape our actions toward a better collective future? Fiercely intelligent and deeply compassionate, *WE SAW THE SAME MOON* brims with curiosity and witness. A protest against the normalization of brutality, it offers a perspective-shifting engagement with a question of the highest moral order: What story will we tell about this time?

Kyo Maclear is an award-winning essayist, novelist, and children’s author whose writing has been translated into eighteen languages and published in more than 25 countries. Her most recent book, *Unearthing*, won the Governor General’s Award for Non-fiction. She holds a doctorate in Environmental Humanities, and is the 2026 Jack McClelland Writer in Residence at Massey College, University of Toronto.

Ussama Makdisi & Saree Makdisi

ANTI-PALESTINIANISM

Publisher
Norton

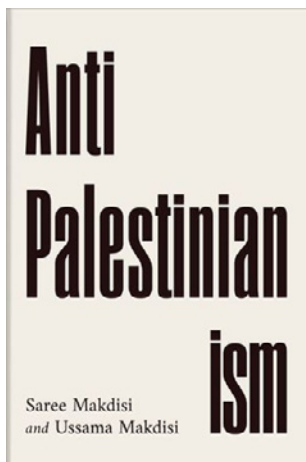
February 2027
65 000 words

Client
Frances Goldin Literary Agency

Contact
Leonie Kress



Italian add editore
English UK Hamish Hamilton
Portuguese Brazil Todavia Livros



“If Americans are like fish, anti-Palestinianism is like water—so ubiquitous it remains largely invisible. Naming it, so we recognize how often our public debates assume that Palestinian lives matter less than Jewish ones, is crucial work. This is a genuinely important book.”

—Peter Beinart, author of *Being Jewish After the Destruction of Gaza*

From two preeminent scholars of Palestine, a revelatory short history of the specific bias exercised against Palestinians in the West, a form of racism that is as politically potent as it is profoundly poisonous to the wider culture.

For decades, the voices of Palestinians and those who advocate for Palestinian rights have been stifled—if not outright silenced—in the United States, according to scholars Ussama Makdisi and Saree Makdisi. More recently, activists have been arrested by federal agents merely for writing op-eds, while pro-Palestinian speech in universities as well as media and civic institutions has faced an unprecedented crackdown. How are we to understand this intolerance in the supposed land of the free?

In ANTI-PALESTINIANISM, the Makdisis, two of the most prominent Palestinian American scholars in the United States, argue that the phenomenon is not reducible to Islamophobia or to general anti-Arab animus. Rather, they show that anti-Palestinianism constitutes a distinct form of bias rooted in the specific historical and political circumstances of Palestine and Israel—it is an attempt to deny the Palestinian story altogether through an unprecedented system of assumptions, norms, rules, and even laws. Drawing on a vast array of historical examples, the Makdisis have produced an essential work that gives language and clarity to the limits of American inclusion.

Ussama Makdisi is the inaugural May Ziadeh Chair in Palestinian and Arab Studies, Professor of History, and Chancellor's Professor at the University of California Berkeley. His latest book, *Age of Coexistence* was praised by Peter Beinart and Rashid Khalidi, among others.

Saree Makdisi is the Chair of the English Department at UCLA and a scholar of Palestine, colonial history, and its afterlives. He is the author of *Palestine Inside Out*, which counted Alice Walker, Desmond Tutu, and Howard Zinn among its many supporters, and *Tolerance is a Wasteland* (UCP, 2022), which Judith Butler called “a beacon of light.”

Allgemeines Sachbuch

Sanni McCandless Honnold

MOSAIC THEORY

Philosophies for a Wild, Courageous and Intentional Life

Publisher

Little Brown

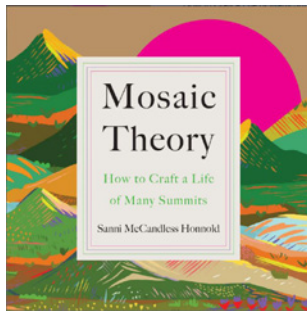
January 2027

Client

Transatlantic Literary Agency

Contact

Hannah Nuspliger-Fosh



Sanni McCandless Honnold has been featured on Netflix, in *People Magazine* and has a large community of outdoorspeople, athletes, authors, coaches and celebrities, which whom she has shared space that she could approach for a blurb, including: Bear Grylls, Jonathan Van Ness, Jimmy Chin, Alex Honnold, Tommy Caldwell

MOSAIC THEORY, by Sanni McCandless Honnold from the award-winning documentary *Free Solo*, is a personal life guide merging Marie Kondo's *The Life Changing Magic of Tidying Up* meets Cheryl Strayed's *Wild*.

MOSAIC THEORY distills Sanni's micro-philosophies into a personal, approachable guide for intentional living, rich in adventure and connection. The book calls readers away from the fear-based thinking that dominates so much of online culture and towards their deeper, real-life, personal values and desires. The book mirrors Sanni's own coaching practices taking individuals down the winding paths of their own lives and empowering them to make impactful changes along the way. Each chapter weaves together inspiring true stories with practical, step-by-step exercises, sharing points of resolution, determination, and discipline.

Sanni McCandless Honnold is an accomplished life coach, writer, entrepreneur, and rock climber. Widely known through her relationship with renowned climber Alex Honnold, Sanni has made a name for herself through her thriving coaching practice and as co-founder of Outwild. She has been awarded Fresh Chalk's Best Seattle Life Coaches, been featured in over 20 podcasts, including The Tony Robbins podcast, and worked with brands such as Affirm, Lululemon, Free People, and Nature Valley. She operates her coaching practice exclusively through a waitlist while her Outwild retreats have sold out in under an hour, with some event waitlists being upwards of 200 people. Sanni has published in *Outside Magazine* and has a forthcoming picture book, *Be a Mountain*, from Henry Holt Books for Young Readers.

Peter Morse

ADRIFT

Publisher
Pegasus

2027

Client
The Martell Agency

Contact
Leonie Kress



A propulsive work of narrative nonfiction by the survivor of one of the most chilling diving tragedies in recent history.

Mixing the immersive urgency of *The Perfect Storm*, the psychological depth of *Into the Wild*, and the investigative precision of *Into the Raging Sea*, ADRIFT brings readers into the heart of a catastrophe that unfolded 300 miles off the Colombian coast—and the haunting aftermath that reshaped every life touched by it.

On what should have been a routine final dive in sight of Malpelo, a forbidding sheer barren rock of an island with a fascinating but eerie history, five divers surfaced far from their boat, swept into a fast-moving current with no emergency beacon and no hope of being seen. As darkness fell and sharks circled, Morse made a harrowing decision: to leave the group and attempt a solo swim back to the boat—a choice that would save lives, cost others, and haunt every survivor for years. Told through multiple points of view—including Hernán and Jorge, the two men who drifted for 50 hours, and the families of the deceased—this is not simply a survival story. It is a reckoning with hubris, systemic failure, institutional negligence, and the profound psychological toll of surviving when others did not.

What distinguishes ADRIFT is its dual power as both memoir and investigative reconstruction. Morse pairs his firsthand testimony with years of interviewing survivors, boat crew, families, park rangers, investigators, and local officials. The result is a layered, riveting narrative—visceral in its immediacy, cinematic in its scope, and deeply human in its emotional resonance.

What ultimately makes this project so compelling—and so commercial—is its rare combination of high-stakes survival, psychological depth, and investigative revelation. It speaks to readers of Krakauer, Junger, Grann, Larson, and Susan Casey; to viewers of true-adventure documentary series; and to anyone drawn to stories about resilience, moral ambiguity, and the hard truths about what went wrong.

Peter Morse is a marine zoologist with a PhD in animal cognition; his scenes beneath the Pacific pulse with scientific insight and poetic clarity, grounding the book in the lived reality of currents, predators, and oceanic physics. Morse has meaningful promotional partners in the marine conservation world influencers and organizations with platforms ranging from 14K to over 550K followers.

Hu Mu-Ching

A SKETCH OF A FEMALE SERIAL KILLER

Publisher
Mirror Fiction

January 2024
264 pages

Client
The Grayhawk Agency

Contact
Leonie Kress



2024 Openbook Award
2025 Taipei Book Fair Award



French Robert Laffont
Simplified Chinese Sinoread
Korean Geulhangari



"The more we know, the harder it becomes to arrive at a final judgment... Once we have seen all that lies beneath the surface, we begin to realize that judgment and definitive conclusions might not be our ultimate destination."

—Liao Mi, *Open Book Review*

Twenty years ago, Lin Yu-Ju—a seemingly ordinary woman—became a figure of national infamy, branded “the daughter-in-law from hell.”

Her crimes were chilling: the calculated murders of her own mother, her husband, and her mother-in-law, all for the promise of insurance payouts. The media cast her as a remorseless, cash-hungry predator, but her own voice was conspicuously absent. Veteran journalist Hu Mu-Qing recognized this gap. The public had been given a one-dimensional portrait—no one had explored Lin’s side of the story. Driven by the mystery of Taiwan’s only female serial killer still awaiting execution, Hu spent two and a half years in relentless pursuit of the truth. Through tense interviews and countless letters, she sought to peel back the layers of media sensationalism.

Throughout her investigation, Hu was forced to confront ethical dilemmas, especially when Lin began requesting marriage to bypass prison visitation rules and seeking financial assistance. When she finally secured Lin’s autobiography, she preserves its raw authenticity—repetitive phrasing, exaggerated storytelling, and misspellings intact—allowing readers to peer directly into the troubled psyche. This is not a retelling of a grisly crime. It is an examination of how patriarchal narratives shaped public perception. Moreover, it’s a profound exploration of investigative journalism itself, delving into Hu Mu-Qing’s role and the very act of “interpreting” a complex story. With meticulous reporting and nuanced analysis, Hu invites readers to confront the case firsthand, to construct their own understanding of crime, justice, and the insidious influence of gender bias.

Hu Mu-Qing (b. 1983) has worked as a reporter for a number of news agencies, focusing on the environment, human rights, and social issues. She has been awarded the Vivian Wu Journalism Award, the Foundation for Excellent Journalism Award, and the Society for News Design Creativity Award. Her work has received the Golden Tripod Non-fiction Publication Award.

Youssef Rakha

POSTMUSLIM

A Testimony

Publisher
Graywolf

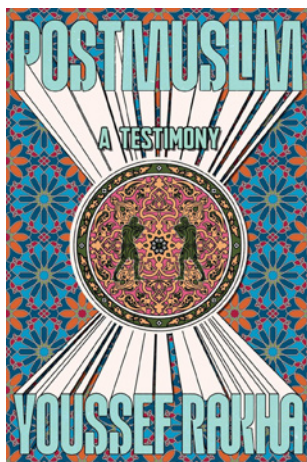
September 2026

Client
Ayesha Pande Literary Agency

Contact
Leonie Kress



English UK Peninsula Press



"Rakha grapples with his Arab-Muslim identity in this transfixing essay collection....a lyrical, thought-provoking meditation on being Muslim today."—*Publishers Weekly*

"Sparring genius right here."

—Merve Emre, author of *The Personality Brokers*

"We are so lucky that in this beautiful book Youssef Rakha has done the hard work of re-imagining what personal identity might look like if we take all of the lovely and necessary parts from our heritage and our former ambitions and discard the rest."

—Maris Kreizman, author of *I Want to Burn This Place Down*

An ambitious and timely essay collection exploring what it means to be Arab-Muslim in the twenty-first century.

POSTMUSLIM, Youssef Rakha's debut essay collection, tells the story of Islam's clash with the West in the last thirty years from a perspective rarely available to the Western reader. Impassioned, intimate, erudite, and playful, these essays trace Rakha's intellectual and spiritual transformations across multiple decades alongside significant moments in recent history. He recounts "losing his religion" as a teenager in Cairo after the fall of the Berlin Wall, resentful of the conservatism and rigid conformism of his middle-class Egyptian milieu.

But what he sees and comes to understand about the West eventually disenchant him as well. Along the way, Rakha explores rich subjects such as boxing and democracy, addiction and the "hungry ghost" of the great ninth-century poet Al-Mutanabbi, recent Egyptian history rewritten in the form of horror film tropes, and a bold proposal to revitalize Arab-Muslim culture via the surprisingly multicultural lifeways of the Ottoman Empire.

POSTMUSLIM is a term of Rakha's invention that embraces the fullness of Muslim identity rather than its essentialized and distorted versions. This is a vital book for anyone negotiating their own relationship to alienation, faith, intersecting identities, and the hypocrisy of those in power.

Youssef Rakha is an Egyptian writer of fiction and nonfiction working in both Arabic and English. He is the author of the novels *The Dissenters*, *The Book of the Sultan's Seal*, *The Crocodiles*, and *Paulo*, which was long-listed for the International Prize for Arabic Fiction and won the 2017 Sawiris Award. His work has appeared in publications such as *The Atlantic*, *BOMB*, *The Dial*, the *Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung Quarterly*, *GQ Middle East*, *Guernica*, *Internazionale*, *The Kenyon Review*, *Lettre Internationale*, *Mada Masr*, *McSweeney's*, *The White Review*, and many others.

A Graphic Memoir

December 2026

Contact
Leonie Kress



—Foreword Reviews

Sofia always knew she wanted to have a child. After she and her husband had been married for several years, she went off birth control, and nothing happened. She didn't even get a period.

Years of partying and disordered eating had taken a toll on her body. And when a doctor told her she might never have a baby naturally, Sofia was devastated. In this compelling and honest graphic memoir, Sofia Szamosi shares the story of her long and uphill journey toward motherhood. With humor and engaging art, she illustrates her troubled path to have a child.

She shares the effort she made to tune into her body and destress in order to get in touch with the creative life force which she believes is running through her and running through all of us. Sofia helps us to understand the pressures women put on their bodies in the name of beauty and fertility. And offers us a way out through connection and hope.

Sofia Szamosi is the author and illustrator of two Graphic Novels. A number of university libraries have added Sofia's work to their collections and her fine art has been shown in group and solo shows in New York City, Chicago and Detroit. Her illustrations have been featured in publications such as Loose Threads, Sleek Magazine and Vice.



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