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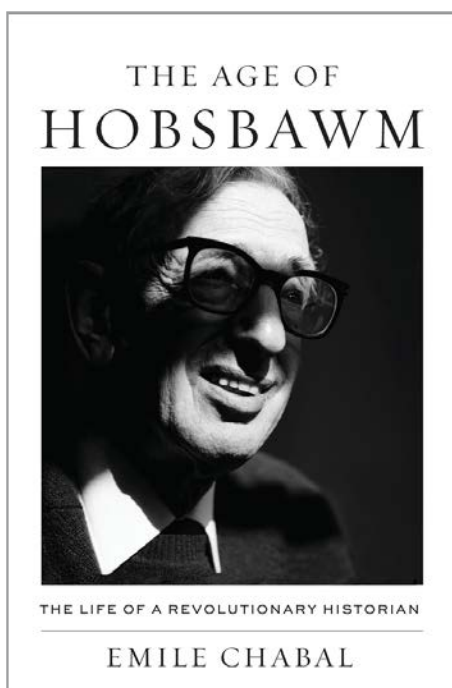
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September • cloth • 496 pages

6-¹/₈ x 9-¹/₄ • £26.95 • \$35.00

1 table

Biography

9780674737761

Belknap Press

“The Age of Hobsbawm is something rare and special, a proper historical study of the ideas of a British historian. By placing Hobsbawm firmly not only in his times but in his many particular contexts, whether British, European, or global communism, elite higher education, or journalism, it superbly enriches our understanding of his work and life.”

—David Edgerton, author of *The Rise and Fall of the British Nation*

The Age of Hobsbawm

The Life of a Revolutionary Historian

Emile Chabal

An intellectual biography of Eric Hobsbawm, one of the most influential thinkers of the twentieth century.

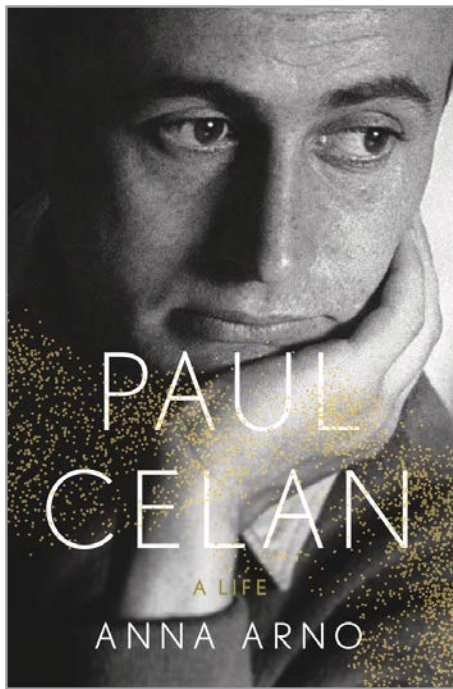
Eric Hobsbawm (1917–2012) was one of the foremost European intellectuals of the twentieth century. He published hundreds of articles on modern history and culture, and his books became canonical works and bestsellers on both sides of the Atlantic. His crystal-clear writing, vast erudition, and ability to make his Marxist analysis digestible to a wide audience brought him worldwide renown.

Yet Hobsbawm was no academic hermit. Through his globetrotting journalism, he was embedded in an extraordinary web of politicians, activists, and fellow intellectuals across Europe, South Asia, and the Americas, including Manmohan Singh, Che Guevara, Luiz Inácio Lula da Silva, Fernand Braudel, E. P. Thompson, Arno Mayer, and Salvador Allende. Emile Chabal traces the origins of Hobsbawm’s ideas and most famous writings by exploring his scholarly foundations, delving deep into the archives to uncover hidden links and unexpected conversations that shaped his pathbreaking work.

Going well beyond *the Ages* series of modern history books for which Hobsbawm is best known, Chabal offers the first substantial interpretation of Hobsbawm’s entire body of writing. Indeed, *The Age of Hobsbawm* is also a trove of unique insights into the generations of Marxist writers with whom Hobsbawm was in conversation—authors whose work continues to shape political debates globally.



EMILE CHABAL is Professor of Contemporary History at the University of Edinburgh. He has authored and edited several books, including *A Divided Republic: Nation, State, and Citizenship in Contemporary France* and *States of Ignorance: Governing Irregular Migrants in Western Europe*. His writing has appeared in such publications as *Foreign Policy*, *The Hindu*, the *Times Literary Supplement*, *Jacobin*, and *Libération*.



June • cloth • 384 pages
 6-¹/₈ x 9-¹/₄ • £29.95 • \$35.00
 Biography
 37 photos
 9780674298637
 Belknap Press

Paul Celan

A Life

Anna Arno

Translated by Soren Gauger

A luminous, groundbreaking biography of one of the most important literary figures of the twentieth century, best known for the poem “Death Fugue.”

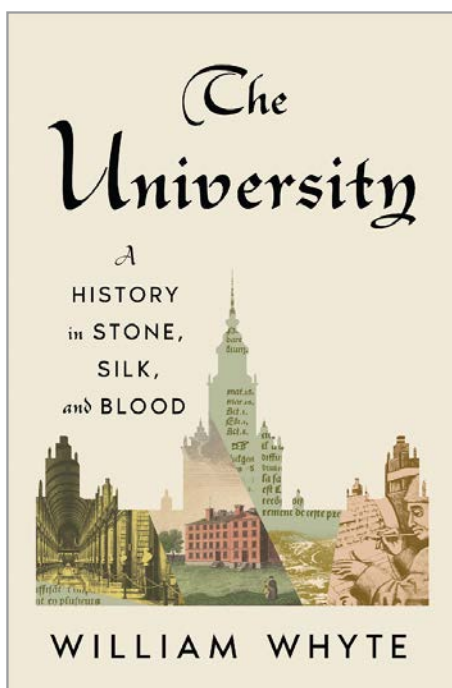
Paul Celan (1920–1970) was recognized as the greatest poet of the German language shortly before his tragic death just shy of his fiftieth birthday, when he drowned himself in the Seine. He described his “Todesfuge” (“Death Fugue”) as a “tombstone” for his mother, who perished in the Holocaust. Celan’s work is often viewed as a rejoinder to Theodor Adorno’s dictum that it was barbaric to write poetry after Auschwitz.

While the commentary on Celan’s contributions to poetics and Holocaust literature is voluminous, little has been written about his life itself. Anna Arno provides the definitive biography. *Paul Celan: A Life* follows the poet from his birthplace, Czernowitz (today Chernivtsi, Ukraine), to Bucharest, where he was part of an important circle of Surrealists, then onto Vienna, where he met and fell in love with Ingeborg Bachmann, and finally to Paris. Although in his final years he was haunted by bouts of mental illness, his life cannot be defined by its implosion. Paul Celan was an ardent, inveterate romantic whose many meaningful relationships left their mark on his poetry. He also cultivated intense, often fraught dialogues with such thinkers as René Char, Yves Bonnefoy, and Martin Heidegger.

Drawing upon a linguistically wide range of archival sources and the most up-to-date research, Arno presents a complete picture of Celan’s life. Here is the essential story of a towering figure in modern poetry.



ANNA ARNO is the author of biographies of the German painter Paula Modersohn-Becker and the Polish writer and activist Konstanty Jeleński. She has also published three short story collections in Polish—*Okna* (Windows), *Ten kraj* (This Land), and *Ciało* (The Body).



September • cloth • 432 pages

6-¹/₂ x 9-¹/₄ • £29.95 • \$35.00

103 photos

History

9780674495180

“A delight to read. Whyte provides a fresh view of the world of knowledge, concentrating on its material components, from the carved stone of medieval Salamanca to the curved steel of Abu Dhabi’s Zayed University. Masterfully weaving together the history of universities and the history of architecture, *The University* abounds in original insights.”

—Robert Darnton, National Book Critics Circle Award-winning author of *The Writer’s Lot*

The University

A History in Stone, Silk, and Blood

William Whyte

A sweeping history of the buildings and materials that have shaped nine centuries of university life, from parchments and silk robes to glass atriums and sprawling parking lots.

We often idealize the university as a sanctuary for disinterested reason, where material concerns are set aside in favor of higher principles. Yet when we remember our own college experiences, what springs to mind are not just lofty concepts but also material realities: cramped dorm rooms and musty library stacks, gothic towers and freshly mowed quads.

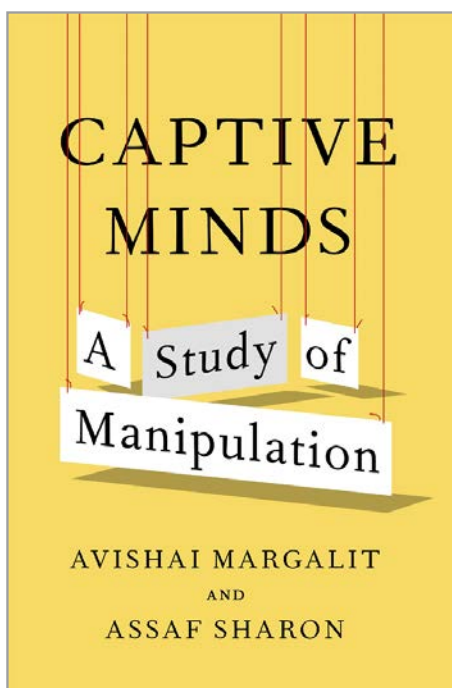
The University puts such seemingly inconsequential details at the center of the institution’s 900-year history. Constructing each chapter around an emblematic material—straw, stone, flesh, blood, silk, paper, iron, and concrete—William Whyte traces the intimate connections between the university’s shifting physical form and its evolving social and cultural meanings. From the medieval University of Paris, where students purchased bundles of straw to use as chairs in otherwise-unfurnished classrooms, to the ocean of concrete at postcolonial Nigeria’s Obafemi Awolowo University, Whyte shows how competing visions of higher learning left their imprint on generations of university architecture, landscaping, and furniture. Along the way, he highlights perennial fears that, within the social space of the university, the life of the mind would recede before worldly interests: that student bloodlines would be tainted by racial intermixing, that courting donors with buildings named in their honor would become more important than research and education, that the allure of powdered wigs and silk gowns would undermine scholarly discipline.

A richly textured chronicle, *The University* concludes that, even in the age of remote learning, the college campus is irreplaceable. The future of higher education includes fiber-optic cables, but stone, brick, and steel are here to stay.



ST JOHN'S COLLEGE, OXFORD

WILLIAM WHYTE, Professor of Social and Architectural History at the University of Oxford, is the author of *Redbrick: A Social and Architectural History of Britain’s Civic Universities*. A fellow of the Royal Historical Society, he has written for *The Guardian*, *History Today*, and *The Conversation*.



May • cloth • 288 pages
 6-¹/₂ x 9-¹/₄ • £24.95 • \$29.95
 Philosophy
 9780674303102
 Belknap Press

“Margalit and Sharon give us a brilliant account of manipulation, showing it to be the central means of acquiring and exercising power today. By revealing how manipulation works, they enable us to work against it. Their book is a powerful call for democratic reason, beautifully illustrated with examples drawn from history and literature.”

—Michael Walzer, author of *Just and Unjust Wars*

Captive Minds

A Study of Manipulation

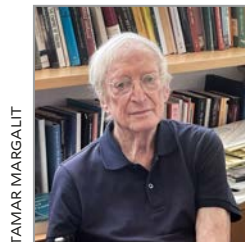
Avishai Margalit and Assaf Sharon

From philosophers Avishai Margalit and Assaf Sharon, an erudite yet approachable inquiry into political manipulation and the grave threat it poses to human freedom today.

Manipulation is as old as history itself, yet Aldous Huxley’s paraphrase of Churchill rings truer than ever: “never have so many been manipulated so much by so few.” Manipulation presents a clear danger to liberal democracy today. Demagogues undermine civic discussion, and propagandists and conspiracy theorists create cognitive traps that erode critical thinking.

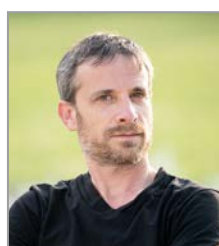
What exactly is manipulation, and what sets it apart from other forms of influence? How does it differ from convincing, attracting, or nudging? Drawing on examples from mythology, literature, history, and politics, philosophers Margalit and Sharon argue that manipulation is not just a form of deceit and intellectual harm; it is, above all, an exercise of power. Manipulation exploits mental weaknesses and vulnerabilities with the goal of establishing control. Whereas liberal philosophers overlook manipulation, instead treating coercion as the primary form of political domination, Margalit and Sharon argue that manipulation should be seen as coercion’s insidious counterpart in undermining human freedom.

Public support is fundamental to the legitimacy of government. Today, political manipulation is corrupting the formation and expression of public opinion, making manipulation a driving force of the global crisis of democratic decline. A timely work, but also a work for all times, *Captive Minds* stands as the definitive study of a pervasive threat to political freedom and the increasingly fragile institutions that sustain it.



TAMAR MARGALIT

AVISHAI MARGALIT is Professor Emeritus of Philosophy at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem and former George F. Kennan Professor at the Institute for Advanced Study at Princeton. The recipient of numerous prizes, he is the author of *The Decent Society*, *The Ethics of Memory*, *On Compromise and Rotten Compromises*, and *On Betrayal*.



ASSAF SHARON is Professor of Philosophy at Tel Aviv University. Cofounder and Senior Fellow at Molad: The Center for the Renewal of Israeli Democracy, he has written for the *New York Review of Books*, *Boston Review*, and *Liberties*.

Yuppies

The Bankers,
Lawyers, Joggers,
and Gourmands
Who Conquered
New York



Dylan Gottlieb

May • cloth • 336 pages
6-¹/₂ x 9-¹/₄ • £26.95 • \$32.00
History
23 photos, 2 illus., 2 maps
9780674248977

“A most excellent romp through recent New York history.”

—William D. Cohan, author of
House of Cards and *Power Failure*

Yuppies

The Bankers, Lawyers, Joggers, and Gourmands
Who Conquered New York

Dylan Gottlieb

How the rise of Wall Street in the 1980s lured a generation of young upstarts to New York, unleashing a political and cultural transformation whose national repercussions are still felt today.

Yuppies may have been a classic 1980s stereotype, but they were also a very real demographic: a wave of hundreds of thousands of highly educated young professionals that washed over New York during that decade. As Wall Street moved to the center of American life, it drew a generation of young people into its vortex. For the first time, banks recruited roughly one-third of graduating classes from top universities.

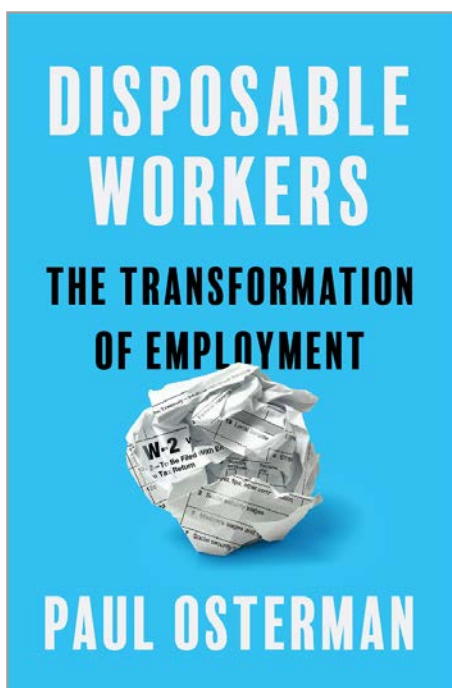
America's economy had a new main character. Young bankers extracted profits from waning industries, shattering the foundations on which stable middle-class employment had long rested. Yuppie lawyers devised deals and tax strategies that eroded workers' power and wages. As consumers, yuppies created new cultures of fitness and of excess, popularizing marathon running and fine dining as status markers. As city-dwellers, they were pioneers of gentrification. And as voters and political donors, yuppies engineered a takeover of local and national government, using their wealth to back candidates who would remake the country in their image.

Yuppies reminds us that we still live in the shadow of the greed-is-good 1980s: Our cities are playgrounds for the wealthy, and Wall Street and Washington remain locked in a tight embrace. Dylan Gottlieb's exquisite recounting leaves no doubt that the yuppie takeover of New York began a more unequal chapter in American life—one we continue writing today.



MADDIE SCHROEDER

DYLAN GOTTLIEB is Assistant Professor of History at Bentley University. A cohost of *Who Makes Cents: A History of Capitalism Podcast*, he has written for the *Washington Post*, *Gotham*, the *Journal of American History*, and *Public Seminar*.



September • cloth • 208 pages

5-½ x 8-¼ • £24.95 • \$29.95

11 illus., 12 tables

Business • Law

9780674300248

Disposable Workers

The Transformation of Employment

Paul Osterman

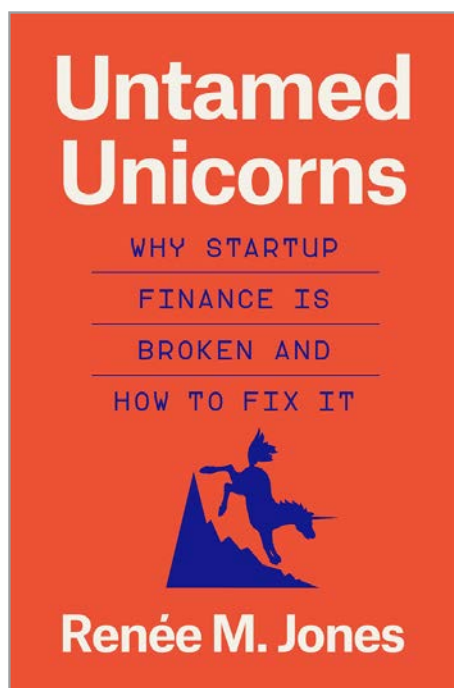
A revealing look at the decline in formal employment in favor of hiring contractors, freelancers, temps, and marginal workers, who are excluded from traditional benefits and career ladders.

Companies cannot exist without workers, but they are increasingly reluctant to have employees. Instead of providing the benefits and protections that have traditionally come with employee status, businesses are turning to tactics that let them treat people as interchangeable parts, to be used and discarded as needed. Drawing on an original survey of over 6,000 workers, *Disposable Workers* reveals the striking extent of this transformation across the occupational hierarchy, affecting everyone from janitors to nurses.

Paul Osterman identifies three distinct categories of disposable workers: contractors, freelancers, and marginal employees. The marginal category, unique to Osterman's analysis, describes workers who are employees from a narrow legal standpoint but are held at arm's length by their firm—left without job security, skill training, or opportunities for promotion. Many low-wage service workers toil in marginal jobs, but so do white-collar professionals such as adjunct university faculty and staff attorneys at law firms. When the three categories are added up, they account for more than 35 percent of the American workforce.

Not all disposable workers object to their arrangements. But most contractors and marginal employees would prefer standard employment, and there is a significant cost to their current status. In response, *Disposable Workers* offers a range of policy recommendations, including mechanisms to prevent over-reliance on contracting and freelancing as well as reforms to improve job quality for part-timers and marginal employees. As the deconstruction of employment affects more and more workers, the importance of such measures will only grow.

PAUL OSTERMAN is Professor Emeritus of Human Resources and Management at the MIT Sloan School of Management. His numerous books include *Good Jobs America*, *Who Will Care for Us?* and *The Truth about Middle Managers*.



September • cloth • 272 pages

5-½ x 8-¼ • £27.95 • \$32.95

Business

3 illus., 3 tables

9780674296350

Untamed Unicorns

Why Startup Finance Is Broken and How to Fix It

Renée M. Jones

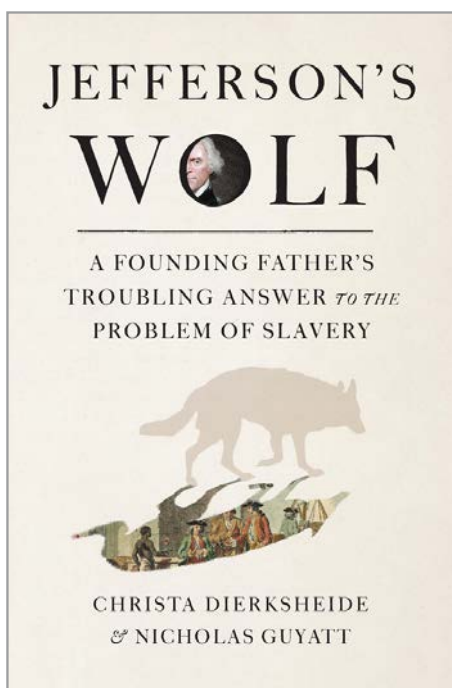
The definitive account of the harms that have come from deregulating venture capital financing and allowing startups to become gigantic while remaining private.

The term “unicorn” for a private startup company worth \$1 billion or more was coined to emphasize the rarity of such ventures. But today there are more than 1,500 of them, with a combined valuation of over \$4 trillion. By remaining private, these corporate behemoths shield themselves from disclosure requirements, investor oversight, and market discipline—mechanisms designed to protect investors and the public from corporate wrongdoing. It’s no coincidence that in recent years, a number of prominent startups have been the sites of founder misconduct and fraud. This wave of startup scandals exposes significant problems with the venture capital financing model and the deregulation that helped fuel the industry’s explosive growth.

Untamed Unicorns connects the most dramatic startup scandals, including FTX, Theranos, WeWork, and Uber, to structural flaws in the startup financing model. Detailing the deregulatory reforms implemented by Congress and the Securities and Exchange Commission over the past 40 years, it shows how these have eroded core safeguards of securities law that were first established during the New Deal era.

As Renée M. Jones makes clear, allowing unicorn companies to run wild doesn’t threaten only the sophisticated venture capitalists who finance Silicon Valley. When the largest startups go awry, the consequences are often severe for ordinary investors, employees, and the public at large. Revealing the risks inherent in the current system, *Untamed Unicorns* presents a roadmap for reform to restore proper boundaries between public and private securities markets.

RENÉE M. JONES is Professor of Law and Dr. Thomas F. Carney Distinguished Scholar at Boston College Law School. A nationally recognized expert in corporate and securities law, Jones served as the Director of the Securities and Exchange Commission’s Division of Corporation Finance from 2021 to 2023.



May • cloth • 256 pages
6-¹/₂ x 9-¹/₄ • £24.95 • \$29.95
History
9780674278325
Belknap Press

“With insight, honesty, and eloquence, Christa Dierksheide and Nicholas Guyatt have given us an invaluable study of the troubling complexities of Thomas Jefferson’s views on race and slavery. The story is neither simple nor heroic—but history, like human nature, is rarely simple or heroic. This is an important and illuminating account of forces that remain deeply relevant today: power, race, and the aspirations as well as the derelictions of American democracy.”

—Jon Meacham, Pulitzer Prize-winning author of *Thomas Jefferson: The Art of Power*

Jefferson’s Wolf

A Founding Father’s Troubling Answer to the Problem of Slavery

Christa Dierksheide and Nicholas Guyatt

A decisive reassessment of Thomas Jefferson’s long-debated views on slavery, showing that his chief antislavery strategy was racial exclusion: the removal of emancipated Black people from the United States.

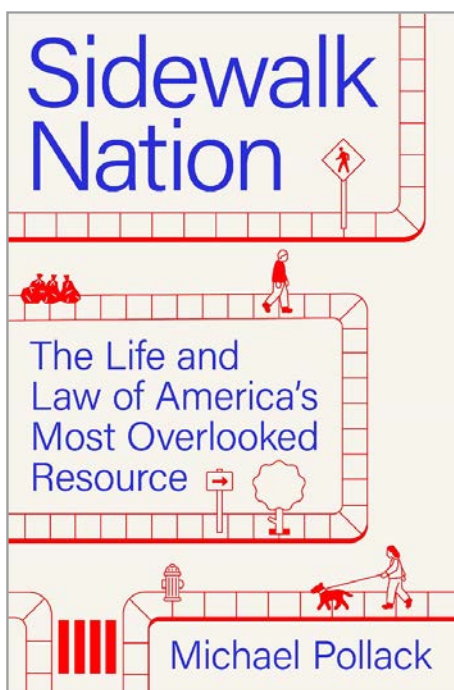
Toward the end of his life, Thomas Jefferson made his most famous statement about American slavery: “We have the wolf by the ear, and we can neither hold him safely, nor let him go.” Presenting abolition as both necessary and perilous, the phrase has long been relied upon to explain an apparent paradox: despite publicly opposing slavery for four decades, Jefferson had made no progress toward Black freedom in his political career by the time he died in 1826. Nor had he done so in his expansive household, where he enslaved more than 600 people, including Sally Hemings and the four children he fathered with her.

Christa Dierksheide and Nicholas Guyatt argue that the key to understanding Jefferson’s antislavery position is his commitment to racial exclusion. Jefferson believed that the principal reason to abolish slavery was the threat of a massive slave revolt, but he viewed the presence of free Black people in the new nation as no less dangerous. To avert racial violence, Jefferson argued, the gradual abolition of slavery had to be paired with Black exile. Even when challenged by white and Black contemporaries with more expansive views of American belonging, Jefferson held fast to his vision for a white republic.

Neither an egalitarian antiracist nor a proslavery apologist, Jefferson became the most influential advocate for racial separation in the early United States. Charting the evolution of his thought across the nation’s formative decades, *Jefferson’s Wolf* is a surprising and provocative account of the problem of slavery in the founding era.

CHRISTA DIERKSHEIDE is Brockman Foundation Jefferson Scholars Foundation Professor of History at the University of Virginia. She is the author of *Beyond Jefferson: The Hemingses, the Randolphs, and the Making of Nineteenth-Century America* and *Amelioration and Empire: Progress and Slavery in the Plantation Americas, 1770–1840*. Formerly the Historian at the Robert H. Smith Center for Jefferson Studies at Monticello, she has curated and contributed to numerous related exhibitions.

NICHOLAS GUYATT is Professor of North American History at the University of Cambridge. He is the author of *The Hated Cage: An American Tragedy in Britain’s Most Terrifying Prison*, *Bind Us Apart: How Enlightened Americans Invented Racial Segregation*, and *Providence and the Invention of the United States, 1607–1876*. His writing on American history and politics has appeared in the *New York Times*, the *London Review of Books*, the *New York Review of Books*, and elsewhere.



June • cloth • 320 pages
 6-¹/₈ x 9-¹/₄ • £29.95 • \$35.00
 Politics
 27 photos
 9780674296411

“*Sidewalk Nation* delivers a brilliant and engaging exploration of the astonishingly important—yet too often ignored—infrastructure under our feet. Combining an immersive guided tour with a rich conceptual analysis, Michael Pollack reveals sidewalks to be versatile platforms for transit, speech, play, and connection, as well as vulnerable, contested sites that raise a wide range of legal and policy issues. This fascinating book will transform how we think about the sidewalks interwoven into our lives and spark interest in making these essential resources work better.”

—Lee Anne Fennell, author of
The Unbounded Home

Sidewalk Nation

The Life and Law of America's Most Overlooked Resource
 Michael Pollack

An illuminating ramble along the American sidewalk: routinely unnoticed, yet central to daily life, neighborhood vitality, and significant legal controversies.

Public infrastructure is as essential to our communities as it is easily overlooked. A case in point is the humble sidewalk: constantly taken for granted, yet linked to nearly every pressing issue of local governance in urban, suburban, and even rural areas. From commerce, taxes, and property rights to policing, homelessness, and surveillance; from free speech and socioeconomic equity to public health and climate resilience—sidewalks, surprisingly, are at the core of numerous major debates.

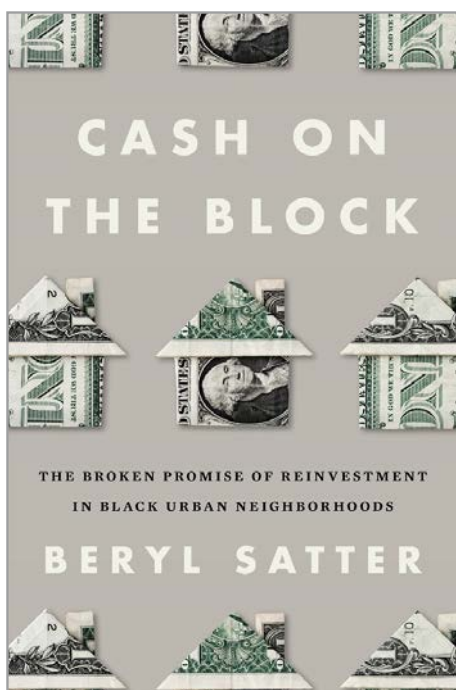
Sidewalk Nation offers a vivid travelogue spanning more than a dozen cities and towns across the United States to show how diverse communities are grappling with big challenges. Some are prosaic, if critical: How do we ensure that sidewalks facilitate mobility for disabled people? Whose job is it to clear snow from public space? And some touch on the most profound issues in law, including our rights under the First and Fourth Amendments. While traversing the country, Michael Pollack provides expert insight into the property, tax, and zoning laws that shape sidewalk management and land use more broadly. Offering a holistic vision for improving a vital resource, Pollack argues for reforms to ensure that local governments have both the obligation and the funding needed to give due attention to sidewalks and all that they offer.

Whether elected officials, civil servants, engineers, developers, or voters, everyone has a stake in the question of where sidewalks should be placed and how they should be used. Indeed, as *Sidewalk Nation* makes clear, what's under our feet should be at the front of our minds as we decide how to build, regulate, and protect our neighborhoods.



NANCY PANICUCCI-ROMA

MICHAEL POLLACK is Professor of Law and Associate Dean for Faculty Development at the Benjamin N. Cardozo School of Law in New York City.



May • cloth • 400 pages
 6-¹/₈ x 9-¹/₄ • £29.95 • \$35.00
 Philosophy
 17 photos
 9780674278479

Cash on the Block

The Broken Promise of Reinvestment
 in Black Urban Neighborhoods

Beryl Satter

An incisive history of government and corporate failures to infuse capital into Black urban neighborhoods—as well as the organizers and activists who stood up to predatory financial practices.

In the 1960s, conditions in impoverished Black neighborhoods attracted mainstream attention as civil unrest erupted in hundreds of cities across the United States. Finally recognizing the dire effects of racial segregation and urban disinvestment, politicians and corporations joined community activists to call for capital infusion, or reinvestment, in struggling communities. Proposals for reinvestment universally claimed the shared goal of reviving Black neighborhoods, but most of these efforts—some well-meaning, others cynical and predatory—failed to do so.

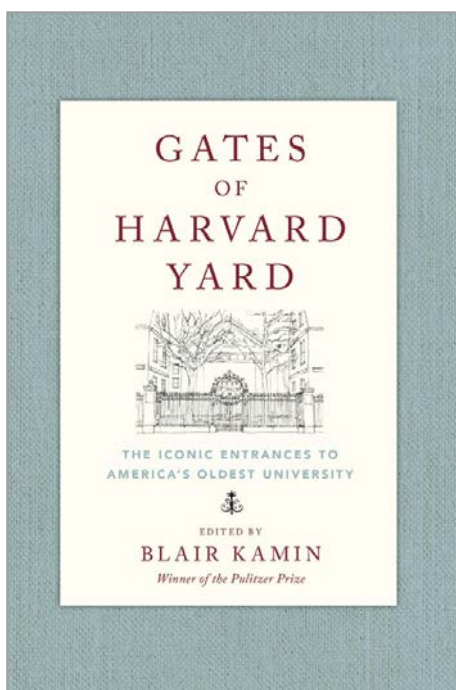
As renowned historian Beryl Satter shows, private and government interests have long manipulated reinvestment programs to benefit outside business, finance, and real estate professionals. Because these programs focused on corporate tax breaks and federal insurance for lenders, they were easily exploited by private interests to divert funding from poor urban neighborhoods. Meanwhile, community organizers proposed much bolder reinvestment plans that directly confronted institutionally racist practices. They called for a significant reallocation of resources, including government investments in depleted areas and guaranteed incomes for poor people. Activists, often working-class women, also united across racial divides to challenge predatory finance and real estate practices. Yet while they successfully advocated for laws to impede such behaviors, reform legislation often contained loopholes that accommodated racism and corporate greed.

To revive depleted neighborhoods, we must not only challenge institutional racism in finance and real estate but also resist government policies that enable predatory practices. *Cash on the Block* envisions a future in which reinvestment policy, guided by community leaders, at last benefits those who it is meant to serve.

KATE LEVY



BERYL SATTER is the author of *Family Properties: Race, Real Estate, and the Exploitation of Black Urban America* and *Each Mind a Kingdom: American Women, Sexual Purity, and the New Thought Movement*. She is Professor Emeritus of History at Rutgers University-Newark and has held both the Guggenheim Fellowship and the Andrew Carnegie Fellowship.



May • cloth • 144 pages

5 x 7 • £19.95 • \$22.95

Architecture

61 color photos, 25 illus., 1 color map

9780674304536

Gates of Harvard Yard

edited by Blair Kamin

A one-of-a-kind guided tour through the iconic gates of Harvard Yard, led by Pulitzer Prize–winning architecture critic Blair Kamin.

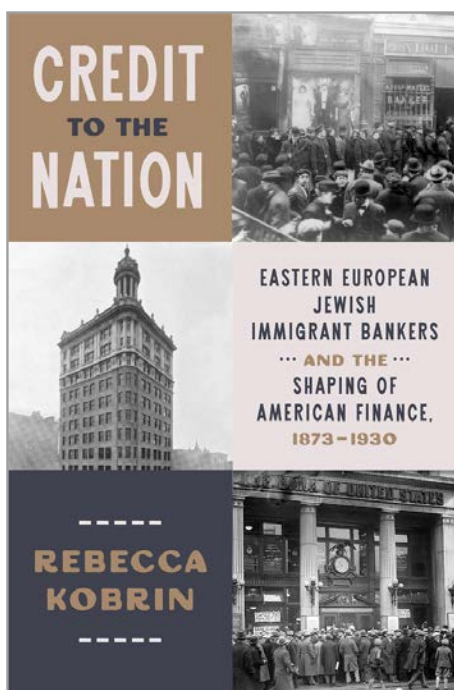
Harvard is America's oldest university, and nothing symbolizes the institution quite like Harvard Yard, defined by the twenty-five gates that frame it. Surprisingly, while the university was founded in 1636, the gates were mostly constructed in the past 125 years. In a relatively brief period of time, they have come to represent not only Harvard but also the ideal vision of the American university, complete with lush grounds and stately buildings where students come from all over the world.

The essays in this beautifully illustrated book were written by Harvard students and Nieman Fellows led by Pulitzer Prize–winning architecture critic Blair Kamin, who edited the collection and introduces it. Each chapter reveals the story behind a particular gate, illuminating Harvard's complex history and its place within the broader stories of Boston and America. There is here a deep reverence for the role of space in fostering identity and community. Designed primarily by renowned architects McKim, Mead & White, the gates are crafted from brick, stone, and wrought iron, each reflecting Harvard's evolving sense of itself.

This edition includes a new afterword by Kamin, as well as a fresh chapter on Harvard Yard's latest gate, built in 2020 and inspired by *Alice's Adventures in Wonderland*. Alongside architectural history, the chapters highlight personal stories—from the reminiscences of esteemed alumni to a mother's tribute to her son—demonstrating that these gates have become much more than practical passageways.



BLAIR KAMIN is a Pulitzer Prize–winning architecture critic, formerly on staff at the *Chicago Tribune*. A Nieman Fellow at Harvard University in 2012–13, he is a graduate of Amherst College and the Yale School of Architecture.



May • cloth • 272 pages
 6-¹/₈ x 9-¹/₄ • £29.95 • \$35.00
 Business
 22 photos, 2 illus., 2 maps
 9780674982987

Credit to the Nation

Eastern European Jewish Immigrant Bankers and the Shaping of American Finance, 1873–1930

Rebecca Kobrin

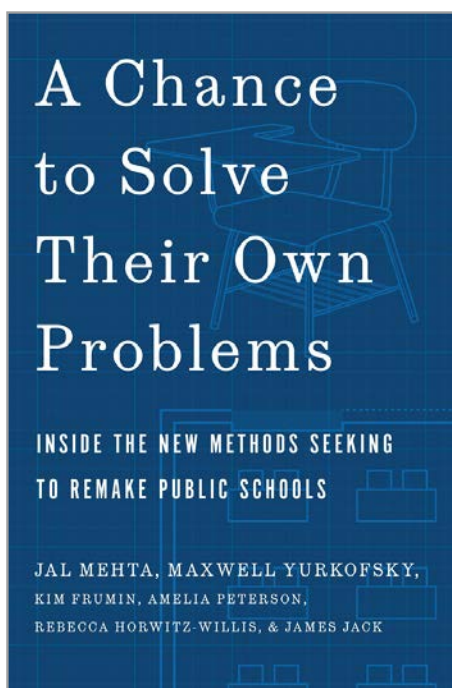
From a leading historian, the story of how entrepreneurial Jewish immigrants transformed commercial banking and enabled the economic and social advancement of Jews in America.

What are immigrants to do when business opportunities abound in their new home, but banks refuse essential financial support? How could they make the journey in the first place without helping hands? In this lively history, Rebecca Kobrin chronicles the turn-of-the-twentieth-century Jewish immigrants who stepped up by doing the lending themselves. Arriving from the Russian Empire and settling primarily in New York, they made livelihoods by assisting fellow Jews so they could purchase passage to the United States and, after arriving, obtain credit that other lenders would not dare provide.

Credit to the Nation traces the novel practices of bankers who not only enabled the flourishing of American Jewry but also revolutionized the US financial industry. Drawing on previously unexamined archival materials in Russian, Yiddish, German, and English, Kobrin tells a story that is also crucial to the history of New York, as immigrant bankers' financing of real estate transformed wide swathes of the city. Lenders drove a boom in the prices of tenement buildings, but heavy speculation eventually precipitated the downfall of immigrant banking. Kobrin notes in particular the case of the Bank of United States—a private lender catering primarily to Jewish businessmen—which the Federal Reserve refused to bail out from bankruptcy in 1930.

Immigrants' grasping for credit, and the rise and fall of immigrant banks, gave way to a contemporary banking industry that, ironically, refuses credit to today's immigrants. Kobrin reminds us that now, as before, the denial of credit pushes entrepreneurial Americans into unregulated money-lending and the trap of endless debt.

REBECCA KOBRIN, author of *Jewish Bialystok and Its Diaspora*, is Russell and Bettina Knapp Associate Professor of American Jewish History at Columbia University, where she codirects the Institute for Israel and Jewish Studies.



August • cloth • 352 pages
6-¹/₂ x 9-¹/₄ • £24.95 • \$29.95
Education
2 illus., 6 tables
9780674290297

A Chance to Solve Their Own Problems

Inside the New Methods Seeking to Remake Public Schools

Jal Mehta, Maxwell Yurkofsky, Kim Frumin, Amelia Peterson, Rebecca Horwitz-Willis, and James Jack

An inside look at the promise and pitfalls of continuous improvement and design in education—showing why reform sometimes succeeds, sometimes fails, and what leaders can do about it.

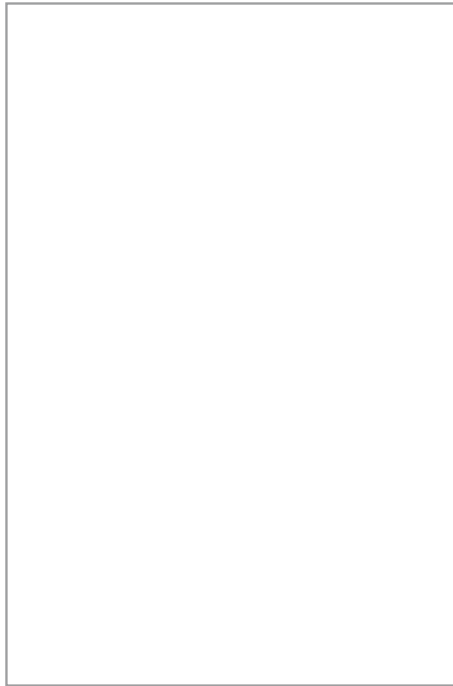
While the headlines have been consumed by No Child Left Behind, Common Core, charter schools, and battles over DEI, a group of practitioners have been trying to develop a new set of approaches to taking on the perennial problems of schooling. And rather than betting on a new program or a new policy, these reformers have bet instead on a different way of working that they hope will yield much better results. By teaching educators across the nation and the world how to examine data, build systems, and organize for improvement, they are aiming to make existing systems more problem-focused, disciplined, and imaginative. Thousands of schools and districts have taken up these methods, including many of the largest school districts in the country.

In *A Chance to Solve Their Own Problems*, a team of Harvard researchers investigates how these methods work in action. Drawing on hundreds of interviews as well as in-depth case studies, they offer a definitive account of why these methods succeed in some contexts and falter in others, illuminating the crucial roles of relationships, equity commitments, organizational context, and politics. The book reveals that the most successful applications are less about rigid adherence to a process and more about a human-centered approach that prioritizes trust, relationships, and a culture of learning.

By blending clear-eyed critique with a constructive vision, *A Chance to Solve Their Own Problems* invites scholars, leaders, and practitioners to rethink how improvement work is organized, supported, and sustained. It is both a cautionary tale and a guide for those committed to making lasting progress in the complex human systems we call schools.

JAL MEHTA is Professor of Education at the Harvard Graduate School of Education, author of *The Allure of Order: High Hopes, Dashed Expectations, and the Troubled Quest to Remake American Schooling*, and coauthor of *In Search of Deeper Learning: The Quest to Remake the American High School*.

MAXWELL YURKOFSKY is Assistant Professor in the Doctor of Education Program at Radford University and coeditor of *Improvement Science in the Field: Cases of Practitioners Leading Change in Schools*.



September • cloth • 272 pages

5-½ x 8-¼ • £29.95 • \$35.00

1 map

History

9780674972353

The Blood-Dimmed Tide

Central Europe's Long Great War, 1905–1921

Jesse Kauffman

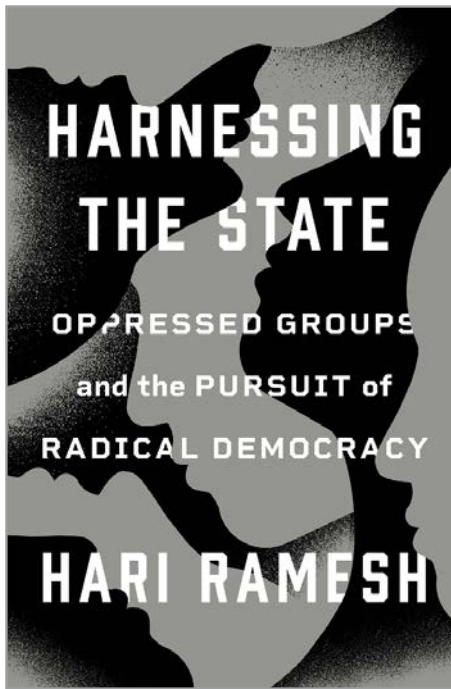
An expansive narrative of World War I's Eastern Front challenges longstanding analytical frameworks, offering a novel and far-reaching explanation for the emergence of new nation-states from the wreckage of Europe's land empires.

In August 1914, Germany, Austria, and Russia sent millions of soldiers hurtling toward one another across the volatile borderlands of Central Europe. The early battles produced appalling casualties but no decisive triumphs; the Great War's Eastern Front would remain a cauldron of death and destruction for years. And unlike in western Europe, the killing would not end in 1918. With the collapse of the three empires, the front dissolved into a series of overlapping civil, international, and revolutionary wars that would continue for several years more.

The connections among prewar, wartime, and postwar events in Central Europe are so strong, argues Jesse Kauffman, that we should analyze the conflict there in new chronological terms: starting with the Russian Revolution in 1905 and continuing until at least the 1921 Treaty of Riga. In particular, *The Blood-Dimmed Tide* shows that the emergence of sovereign nation-states in postwar Central Europe was neither the inevitable triumph of long-thwarted national ambitions nor a wholly contingent, unforeseeable outcome of the war. Rather, modern states emerged from a conscious decision taken by all the belligerents to encourage the nationalist aspirations of imperial subjects in their enemies' territories.

Indeed, the repercussions of Central Europe's long Great War can be felt all the way to today's conflict in Ukraine. It might be time to retire Eric Hobsbawm's famous notion of the "short twentieth century"—1914 to 1991—and to consider instead that the twentieth century has not yet drawn to a close.

JESSE KAUFFMAN is Professor of History at Eastern Michigan University.



June · cloth · 240 pages
6-¹/₈ x 9-¹/₄ · £37.95 • \$39.95
Politics
9780674293618

Harnessing the State

Oppressed Groups and the Pursuit of Radical Democracy

Hari Ramesh

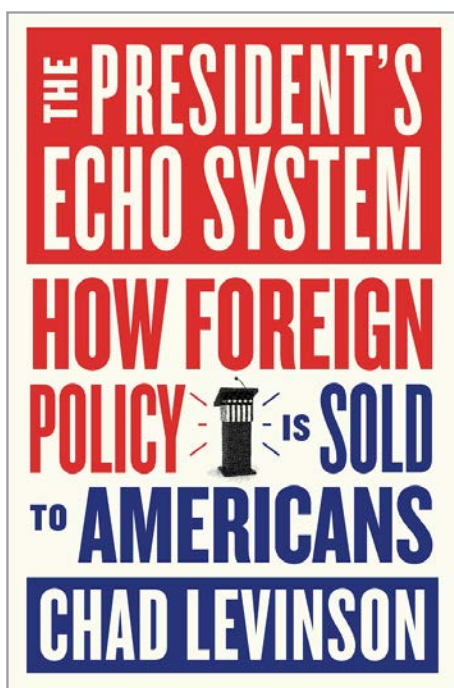
Building on the work of key twentieth-century US and Indian thinkers, a bold argument that oppressed groups can—and should—make use of state power to create truly democratic societies.

Group-based social oppression, along lines such as caste in India and race in the United States, is a persistent problem in nominally democratic countries. Unsurprisingly, many citizens are skeptical that the state can effectively address the problem. Pro-democracy scholars and activists often argue that the state is just a tool of society's most powerful interests, who will stifle any attempted reform.

Yet some of the twentieth century's most significant political thinkers offer a more hopeful and fruitful perspective. Foregrounding previously neglected connections between Indian and American sources, Hari Ramesh draws on insights from John Dewey, B. R. Ambedkar, W. E. B. Du Bois, and a key brief from *Brown v. Board of Education* to argue that oppressed groups can in fact wield the tools of the state to claim agency and dismantle the sources of their oppression. In this alternative account, state action fosters a radical vision of democracy, with citizens coming together as equals to formulate and pursue their political aims.

Group-based social oppression is not only unjust: by selectively preventing citizens from participating fully and equally in the project of self-government, oppression undermines the possibility of democracy itself. *Harnessing the State* shows a way forward.

HARI RAMESH is Assistant Professor of Government at Wesleyan University.



June · cloth · 240 pages
6-¹/₈ x 9-¹/₄ · £33.95 • \$39.95
Politics
9780674293618

The President's Echo System

How Foreign Policy Is Sold to Americans

Chad Levinson

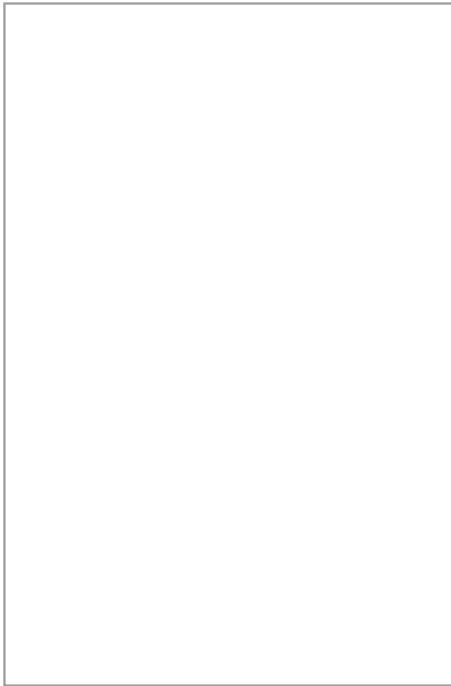
A sharp analysis of the propaganda partnerships between US presidents and private organizations that fueled the Cold War and paved the way for the War on Terror.

How do US presidents motivate public support for their foreign policy agendas, which so often start out running counter to public opinion? *The President's Echo System* details how successive administrations have collaborated with outside groups to popularize ideas that voters initially reject. Chad Levinson shows how these collaborations have shaped all of the most consequential US foreign policy programs of the past century, from participation in World War II and the establishment of the United Nations to the wars in Vietnam and Iraq.

The relationship between private interests and public officials is typically understood as coercive, with nongovernmental actors using wealth and media access to pressure civic leaders. Upending conventional wisdom, Levinson argues that these relationships are in fact symbiotic. Administrations of both parties have played central roles in cultivating private organizations that share their foreign policy priorities, fostering an ecosystem of influence that endures long after a president's term.

Drawing on extensive archival research, Levinson illuminates how extra-governmental partnerships that originated during the interwar period and evolved throughout the Cold War shaped the US national security discourse during the triumphalism of the 1990s and ultimately set the stage for the Global War on Terror. Today, in an era when social media affords the White House vastly enhanced capacity to engage in collaborative propaganda with private actors, *The President's Echo System* is essential reading for anyone who wants to understand the making of US foreign policy consensus.

CHAD LEVINSON is Assistant Professor of Government and International Affairs at Virginia Tech. He has taught previously at the University of Chicago and Williams College and has held research fellowships at the Harvard Kennedy School's Belfer Center and the Kluge Center at the Library of Congress.



September • cloth • 224 pages

6-¹/₈ x 9-¹/₄ • £33.95 • \$39.95

9 photos, 18 illus., 1 table

Politics

9780674272811

Pentagon Capitalism

How the Cold War US Military Modeled Itself on Private Business

A. J. Murphy

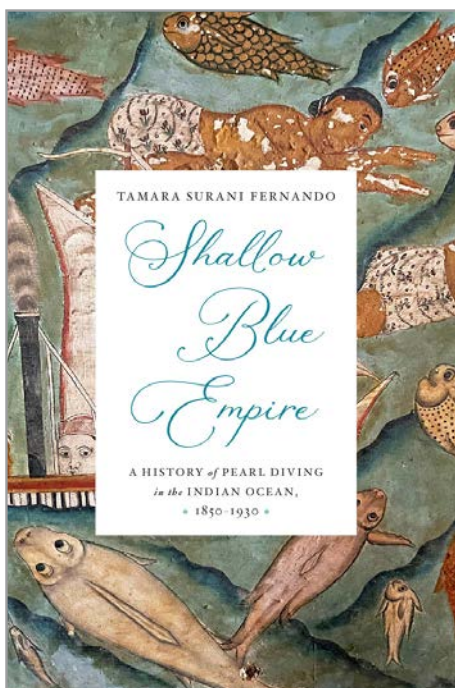
A pioneering study of the Cold War military-industrial complex shows how defense leaders reorganized the US armed forces in the image of commercial enterprise.

The strategic landscape of the Cold War generated political support for a permanent US military force of unprecedented scale. Faced with the problem of managing this behemoth, leaders of the defense bureaucracy looked to private industry for inspiration: since the military now resembled a huge industrial conglomerate, they reasoned, it should be run like a business. A. J. Murphy explores the profound consequences of translating military structures of command, logistics, and warfare into capitalist terms.

In the realm of budgeting and finance, defense reformers refashioned the supply process as a buy-and-sell transaction between units, requiring officers to express their need for equipment and labor in dollar terms. Bureaucrats embraced Taylorist work measurement to supervise everything from clerical filing to the production of massive weapons systems. The services even engaged management consultants to establish officer-training academies modeled on the Harvard Business School.

After the Vietnam War, many military leaders pushed back, questioning “managerialism” and calling for a return to traditional concepts of command. Civilian critics also chimed in, protesting the callousness of the business-minded secretary of defense, Robert McNamara, who famously measured success and failure in body counts. By this time, however, the language and values of management had thoroughly infiltrated the military’s institutional structure and daily operations. As *Pentagon Capitalism* makes clear, the reorganization of the defense bureaucracy along the lines of a for-profit firm durably altered the experience of military work and facilitated the lasting privatization of US national security.

A. J. MURPHY is Assistant Professor of History at Brandeis University.



July • cloth • 288 pages
6-¹/₈ x 9-¹/₄ • £33.95 • \$39.95
25 photos, 1 illus., 2 maps
History
9780674294141
Harvard Historical Studies

Shallow Blue Empire

A History of Pearl Diving in the Indian Ocean, 1850-1930

Tamara Surani Fernando

A nuanced history of seafaring communities in the Indian Ocean, where the force of British imperial power depended on the expertise of local divers and sailors to feed a global demand for pearls.

In the late nineteenth century, thousands of men and boys across the northern rim of the Indian Ocean dove daily to the ocean floor in search of pearl-bearing oysters. It was the height of the so-called global pearl boom, driven by enormous demand for pearls in Europe and North America. Far removed from the showrooms of New York, London, and Paris, these divers drew on skills and expertise handed down across generations to conduct the dangerous work of hauling oysters up from the warm shallows. But they also faced a new challenge: the rise of British power in the Indian Ocean, where colonial officials relied heavily on local knowledge and labor to feed the lucrative pearling industry.

Tamara Fernando examines the transformations wrought by colonial extraction across the three primary sites that fed the pearl boom between 1850 and 1930: the Persian Gulf, the Gulf of Mannar near Sri Lanka, and the Mergui Archipelago in Myanmar. British oversight transformed migration patterns and the dynamics of race and caste among divers, while imperial scientists regularly tested new technologies and techniques intended to improve oyster hauls. Yet even as the positions of local divers and sailors changed dramatically, their expertise remained paramount to the industry—until, in the 1930s, the depletion of oyster beds and the rise of lab-grown alternatives shuttered the market for natural pearls altogether.

A vivid account of how seafaring communities navigated these shifting tides, *Shallow Blue Empire* fundamentally recenters the human labor, animal lives, and environmental conditions that sustained a global obsession with pearls.

TAMARA SURANI FERNANDO is Assistant Professor of History the State University of New York at Stony Brook.



June · Paper · 384 pages
6-¹/₂ x 9-¹/₄ · £23.95 • \$27.95
Literary Collections
9780674304949
2 illus.
Belknap Press

A Life in Letters

Simone Weil

Edited by Robert Chenavier and André A. Devaux
Translated by Nicholas Elliott

"We learn a great deal about Weil from these letters, and yet somehow that only enhances her mystery. Read this book."

—Costica Bradatan, author of *In Praise of Failure: Four Lessons in Humility*

The inspiring letters of philosopher, mystic, and freedom fighter Simone Weil to her family, presented for the first time in English.

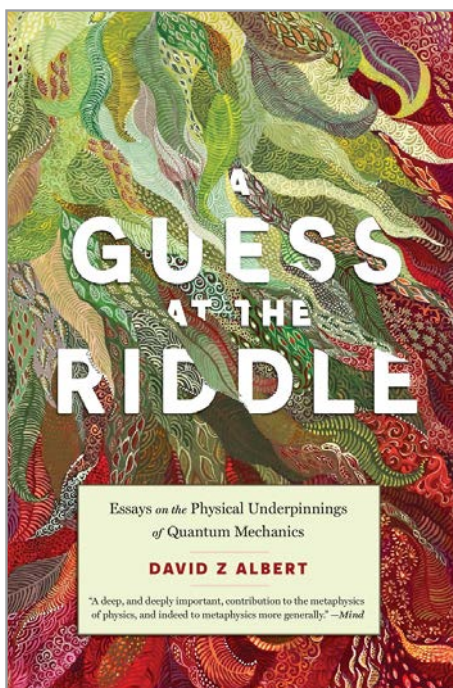
Now in the pantheon of great thinkers, Simone Weil (1909–1943) lived largely in the shadows. Assembled here, the letters she wrote to her parents and brother from childhood onward chart her intellectual range as well as her itinerancy and shifting preoccupations, revealing the singular personality at the heart of her brilliant essays.

The daughter of a bourgeois Parisian Jewish family, Weil was a troubling idealist who preferred the company of miners and Russian exiles to that of her peers. A scholar of history and politics, she ultimately found a home in Christian mysticism. Weil paired teaching with poetry and even dabbled in mathematics, as evidenced by her correspondence with her brother, André, who won the Kyoto Prize in 1994 for the famed Weil Conjectures.

The first complete collection of Simone Weil's missives to her family, *A Life in Letters* vividly illustrates her thought taking shape as she joins the Spanish struggle against fascism and the transatlantic resistance to the Nazis. An introduction and notes contextualize the letters historically and intellectually, providing an ideal entryway into Weil's treasured philosophical insights.

ROBERT CHENAVIER is President of the Association for the Study of Simone Weil's Thought and the author of four books, most recently *Simone Weil, une Juive antisémite?*

ANDRÉ A. DEVAUX (1921–2017) was Professor of Philosophy at the Sorbonne (Paris IV).



August • Paper • 144 pages

5-½ x 8-¼ • £16.95 • \$19.95

Philosophy • Physics

8 illus.

9780674304963

A Guess at the Riddle

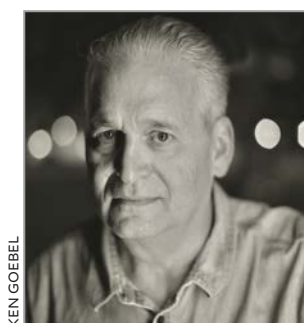
Essays on the Physical Underpinnings of Quantum Mechanics

David Z Albert

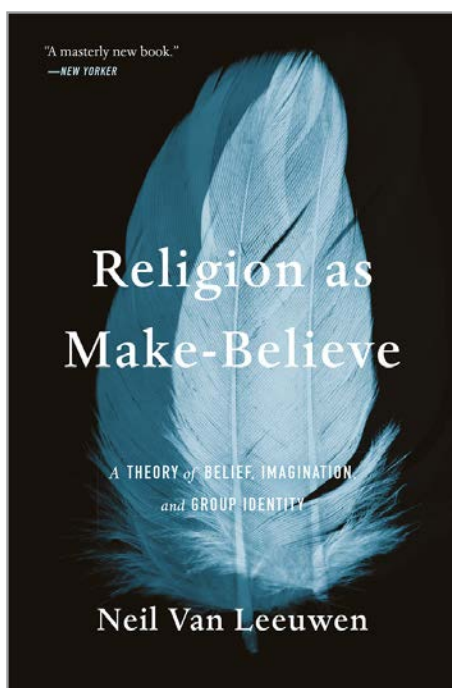
From the celebrated author of *Quantum Mechanics and Experience* comes a “provocative” (*Nature*) and “deeply important” (*Mind*) attempt at making sense of the strange laws of quantum mechanics.

A century ago, Niels Bohr and a circle of brilliant physicists argued that the search for an objective, realistic, and mechanical picture of the inner workings of the atom was doomed to fail. Today, there is widespread agreement among philosophers and physicists that Bohr and his colleagues were wrong. But the question of what a correct picture might be remains unsettled.

In *A Guess at the Riddle*, philosopher David Z Albert offers a possibility. He argues that the strange features of quantum mechanics begin to make sense once we conceive of the wave function, vibrating and evolving in high-dimensional space, as the concrete, fundamental “stuff” of the universe. Constructing the defining elements of quantum mechanics from scratch, he shows how the entire history of our familiar, three-dimensional universe can be discerned in the wave function’s intricate pattern of ripples and whorls. A major new work in the foundations of physics, *A Guess at the Riddle* is poised to transform our understanding of the basic architecture of the universe.



DAVID Z ALBERT is Frederick E. Woodbridge Professor of Philosophy at Columbia University and author of *Quantum Mechanics and Experience*, *Time and Chance*, and *After Physics*. His writing has appeared in numerous scholarly journals of physics and philosophy, as well as in the *New York Times*, the *New York Review of Books*, and *Scientific American*.



August • Paper • 312 pages

5-½ x 8-¼ • £23.95 • \$27.95

Religion

3 tables

9780674305021

Religion as Make-Believe

A Theory of Belief, Imagination, and Group Identity

Neil Van Leeuwen

"A masterly new book." —*New Yorker*

"A major achievement in the study of religious attitudes." —*Notre Dame Philosophical Reviews*

To understand the nature of religious belief, we must look at how our minds process the world of imagination and make-believe.

We often assume that religious beliefs are similar in kind to ordinary factual beliefs—that believing in the existence of supernatural entities that hear our prayers is akin to believing that May comes before June. Neil Van Leeuwen reveals that, in fact, these two forms of belief are strikingly different. Empirical findings show that religious beliefs function not like beliefs concerning mundane reality but like the imaginings that guide make-believe play.

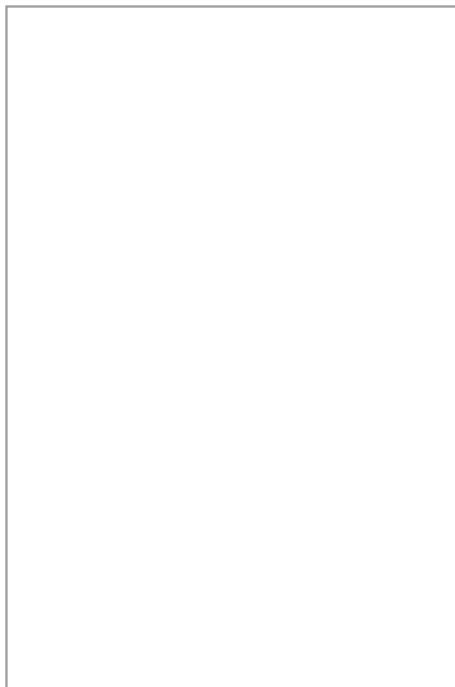
When a person pretends, they navigate the world by consulting two maps: the first represents mundane reality, and the second superimposes features of the imagined world atop the first. Drawing on psychological, linguistic, and anthropological evidence, Van Leeuwen posits that religious communities operate in just this way, consulting a factual belief map that represents ordinary objects and events, as well as a religious credence map. The latter accords everyday objects and events an imagined supernatural significance that defines a community's identity and expresses its sacred values.

It is hardly controversial to suggest that religion has a social function, but *Religion as Make-Believe* breaks new ground by theorizing the underlying cognitive mechanisms and deepening our understanding of the individual and group psychology of faith.

LAUREN COOPER



NEIL VAN LEEUWEN is Professor of Philosophy at Florida State University and a recipient of the European Commission's Marie Curie Fellowship. His research has been featured in the *New York Times* and *The Atlantic* and on NPR.



May • Paper • 320 pages
6-¹/₈ x 9-¹/₄ • £20.95 • \$24.95
History
9780674304895
13 photos, 5 maps

Until I Find You

Disappeared Children and Coercive
Adoptions in Guatemala

Rachel Nolan

Finalist for the Pulitzer Prize in Nonfiction

Shortlisted for the 2025 Juan E. Méndez Book Award

“Detailed and heartrending . . . uses years of research to show the way that a country destabilized by war can invite merciless profiteers to break apart families” —John Washington, *Harper’s*

The poignant saga of Guatemala’s adoption industry: an international marketplace for children, built on a foundation of inequality, war, and Indigenous dispossession.

In 2009 Dolores Preat traveled to a small Maya town in Guatemala to find her birth mother. At the address retrieved from her adoption file, she was told that her supposed mother, one Rosario Colop Chim, never gave up a child for adoption—but in 1984, a girl across the street was abducted. At that house, Preat didn’t meet her mother, but she did meet Colop Chim, who turned out to be a *jaladora*—a baby broker.

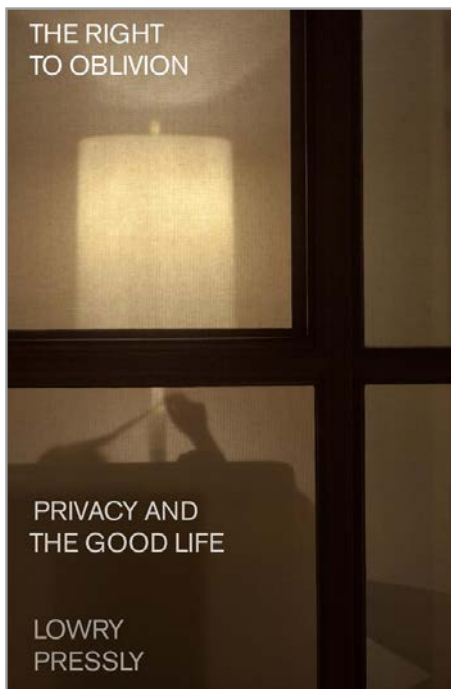
Preat and some 40,000 other Guatemalan children, many Indigenous, were kidnapped or otherwise coercively parted from families scarred by poverty and civil war. Amid the US-backed army’s genocide against Indigenous Maya, children were wrested from their villages and put up for adoption illegally, mostly in the United States. Eventually adoption became a private enterprise, overseen by lawyers who made good money matching children to overseas families.

Drawing on government archives, oral histories, and a rare cache of files from war crimes investigations, *Until I Find You* reckons with the human toll of an industry that builds loving families in the Global North out of exploitation, endemic violence, and dislocation in the Global South.

SHARONA JACOBS



RACHEL NOLAN is Contributing Editor at *Harper’s Magazine* and has written for the *New Yorker*, the *London Review of Books*, the *New York Times*, the *New York Review of Books*, and the Salvadoran investigative news outlet *El Faro*. She is Assistant Professor of International History at Boston University.



June • Paper • 240 pages
 6-¹/₈ x 9-¹/₄ • £20.95 • \$24.95
 Philosophy
 5 photos
 9780674304901

The Right to Oblivion

Privacy and the Good Life

Lowry Pressly

“A probing critique of a modern public sphere that overwhelms the private realm . . . Pressly offers a unique vision of what can be gained by stepping back from the outside world, and the screens that try to possess us.” —John Kaag, *The Atlantic*

A visionary reexamination of the value of privacy in today’s hyper-mediated world—not just as a political right but as the key to a life worth living.

Today, almost nothing in our digital lives escapes surveillance. We are able to configure privacy settings on our devices and social media platforms, but we know our efforts pale in comparison to the scale of surveillance capitalism and algorithmic manipulation. Many now wonder whether it is still possible to live a private life, or whether privacy is even worth fighting for.

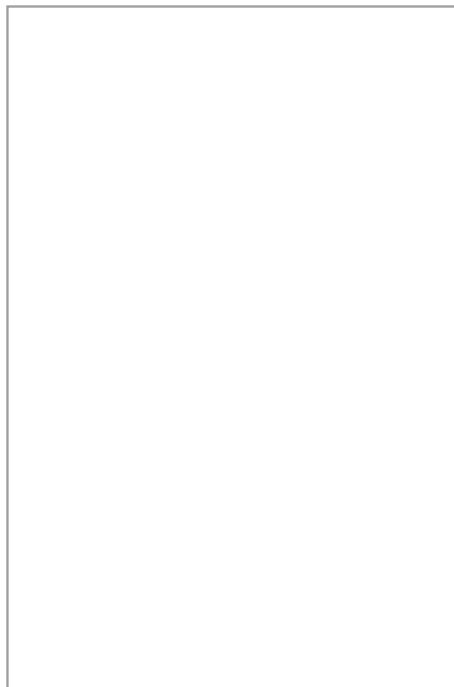
The Right to Oblivion argues incisively and persuasively that we still can and should strive for privacy, though for different reasons than we might think. Debates about privacy often equate personal data breaches with violations of individual freedom. Yet, as Lowry Pressly argues, privacy isn’t simply a right to be protected, but a tool for making life meaningful.

Privacy deepens our relationships with others as well as ourselves, reinforcing our capacities for agency, trust, play, self-discovery, and growth. Without privacy, the world would be shallow, lonely, and inhospitable. Drawing inspiration from the likes of Hannah Arendt, Jorge Luis Borges, and a range of contemporary artists, Pressly shows why we all need a refuge from the world: not a place to hide, but a psychic space beyond the confines of a digital world where the individual is treated as mere data.

REGINA PIECK



LOWRY PRESSLY is Assistant Professor of Political Science at Stanford University. His writing has appeared in the *Los Angeles Review of Books*, *The Point*, *Political Theory*, and *Public Books*.



June • Paper • 368 pages
5-½ x 8-¼ • £20.95 • \$24.95
Philosophy
Biography
9780674304994

A Revolutionary Friendship

Washington, Jefferson, and the American Republic

Francis D. Cogliano

The first full account of the relationship between George Washington and Thomas Jefferson, countering the legend of their enmity while drawing vital historical lessons from the differences that arose between them.

Martha Washington's worst memory was her husband's death. Her second worst was Thomas Jefferson's awkward visit to pay respects to his estranged friend. Yet this estrangement has obscured the fact that for three decades prior, the two men enjoyed a productive relationship. Precisely because they shared so much, their disagreements have something important to teach us.

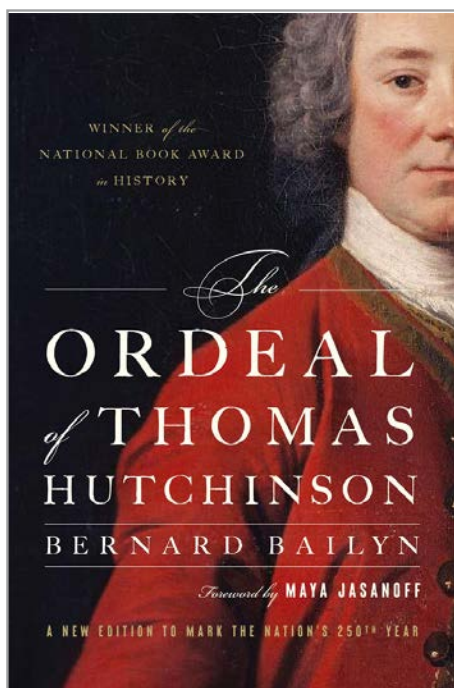
While Washington favored a traditional aristocracy, Jefferson preferred a more meritocratic approach whereby elites would vie for elected office on the basis of education and skills. And while Washington emphasized strong central government, Jefferson sought to diffuse power across the states. Still, as Francis Cogliano argues, common convictions equally defined their relationship: a passion for American independence and republican government, as well as commitments to commerce and westward expansion. Both men also developed skeptical views of slavery, even as they did little to abolish it.

The differences between the two statesmen mirrored political fissures of the early United States, as the unity of the revolutionary moment gave way to competing visions for a new nation. *A Revolutionary Friendship* captures the dramatic and unsettling reality that there was no single founding ideal—only compromise between friends and rivals.



YAO HUI

FRANCIS D. COGLIANO is the author of numerous books, including *Emperor of Liberty: Thomas Jefferson's Foreign Policy* and, with Peter S. Onuf, *Thomas Jefferson Survives: American Independence in His Time and Ours*. A Fellow of the Royal Historical Society and cohost of the American history podcast *The Whiskey Rebellion*, he is Professor of American History at the University of Edinburgh.



May • Paper • 464 pages
6-¹/₂ x 9-¹/₄ • £23.95 • \$27.95
History
9780674306233

The Ordeal of Thomas Hutchinson

Bernard Bailyn

The classic political biography that reimagined Revolutionary history—in a new edition to honor America's 250th year

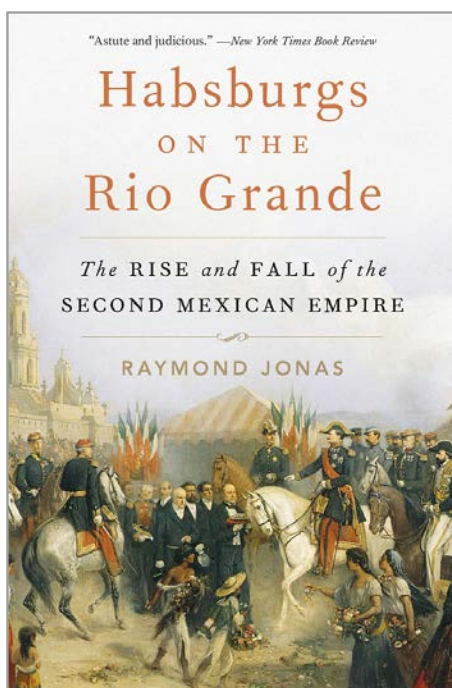
Thomas Hutchinson, governor of Massachusetts Bay during the restive years of 1771–1774, was the most distinguished colonial-born official in pre-Revolutionary America. He was also the most loathed. A loyalist, Hutchinson defended the legitimacy of Parliament's rule and suffered the consequences, bearing the full weight of Patriot ire. By the eve of the Revolution, he was vilified as the man most responsible for Britain's intolerable cruelties—not only a tyrant but a traitor.

The Ordeal of Thomas Hutchinson is Bernard Bailyn's National Book Award-winning history of Hutchinson and the American loyalists who found themselves on the losing side of the Revolutionary War. Offering a dramatic account of the origins of American independence from the viewpoint of one of its most thoughtful opponents, Bailyn makes the loyalist position comprehensible and rehabilitates a deft statesman who was far from the demagogue imagined in Patriot propaganda. Hutchinson in fact shared many Patriot grievances and faithfully represented colonial public opinion to both Crown and Parliament. Yet he was forced from office and died in exile, broken and longing for his native New England.

Through a sympathetic yet balanced portrayal of one of the Revolution's defeated voices, Bailyn reveals with singular clarity why the Revolution prevailed and how those who survived its upheaval came to grasp its transformative power. Published on the 250th anniversary of American independence, with a foreword from Maya Jasanoff, this new edition of Bailyn's masterpiece marks a turning point in historiography, illuminating the overlooked dimensions of American history and the stories that shape nations.

BERNARD BAILYN was a preeminent historian of early America and the Atlantic world. He was awarded the Pulitzer Prize twice, for *The Ideological Origins of the American Revolution* and *Voyagers to the West*, and received the National Book Award for *The Ordeal of Thomas Hutchinson*. At Harvard University, he served as Adams University Professor and James Duncan Phillips Professor of Early American History.

MAYA JASANOFF is the Coolidge Professor of History and X. D. and Nancy Yang Professor of Arts and Sciences at Harvard University, specializing in British imperial and global history. She is the author of *Edge of Empire* (Duff Cooper Prize), *Liberty's Exiles* (National Book Critics Circle Award), and *The Dawn Watch* (Cundill Prize in History).



May · Paper · 384 pages
5-½ x 8-¼ · £20.95 • \$24.95
35 photos, 6 maps
History
9780674305007

Habsburgs on the Rio Grande

The Rise and Fall of the Second Mexican Empire

Raymond Jonas

"Vividly reconstructs how Maximilian's power was forged and maintained by the sharp end of a French bayonet."

—*New York Times Book Review*

The story of how nineteenth-century European rulers conspired with Mexican conservatives in an outlandish plan to contain the rising US colossus by establishing Old World empire on its doorstep.

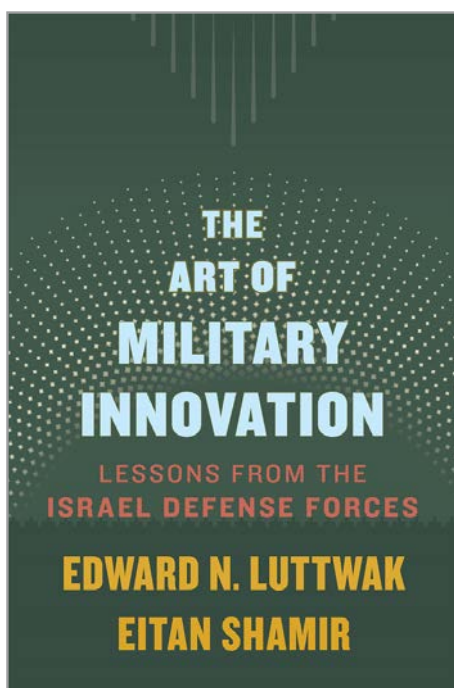
The outbreak of the US Civil War provided an unexpected opportunity for political conservatives across continents. On one side were European monarchs eager to counter growing US power, which threatened their hegemony. On the other, Mexican antidemocrats needed backers to fend off the republicanism of Benito Juárez. When these two groups found each other, the Second Mexican Empire was born.

Raymond Jonas argues that the empire, often dismissed as a historical sideshow, is critical to appreciating the global effects of US power in the nineteenth century. In 1862, at the behest of Mexican reactionaries and with the initial support of Spain and Britain, Napoleon III sent French troops to Mexico. There, he installed Austrian archduke Ferdinand Maximilian as a ruler who could resist democracy in North America. But the French were routed at the Battle of Puebla, and republican guerrillas spent the next four years bleeding the would-be empire. After the Civil War, African American troops were dispatched to Mexico to hasten the French withdrawal.

Habsburgs on the Rio Grande fundamentally rewrites narratives of global history. Far from a footnote, the Second Mexican Empire was central to great-power struggles that set the terms of twentieth-century rivalry.



RAYMOND JONAS is the author of several books, including *The Battle of Adwa: African Victory in the Age of Empire*, a Choice Outstanding Academic Book and winner of the Toyin Falola Africa Book Award. Previously a Fulbright Senior Scholar, a National Endowment for the Humanities Fellow, and a member of the Institute for Advanced Study, he is the Jon Bridgman Endowed Professor in History at the University of Washington, Seattle.



August • Paper • 288 pages

6-¹/₈ x 9-¹/₄ • £23.95 • \$27.95

Politics

9780674305014

The Art of Military Innovation

Lessons from the Israel Defense Forces

Edward N. Luttwak and Eitan Shamir

“Rich with rare detail, much of it a result of the authors’ access to the IDF’s inner sanctums and their intimate knowledge of grand strategy and military history.” —*Wall Street Journal*

A world-leading military strategist and an IDF insider explain the improbable success of the Israeli armed forces.

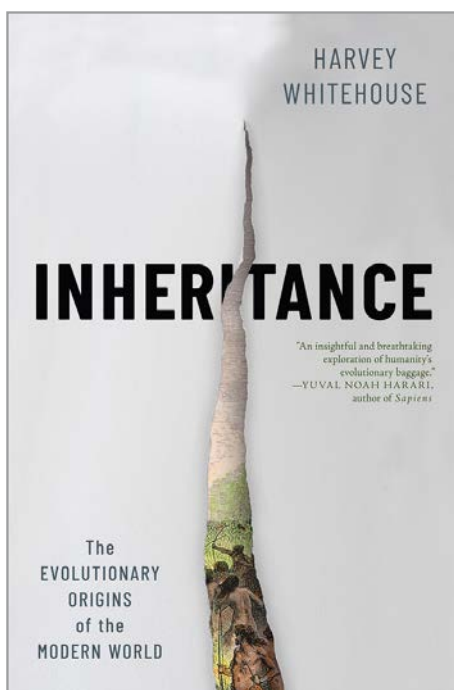
When the Israel Defense Forces was established in 1948, the emerging Jewish state lacked sufficient weaponry and the capacity to produce it. Forced to make do, the IDF relied on a spirit of improvisation.

Today that same spirit has secured the IDF a place among the world’s most powerful militaries. In *The Art of Military Innovation*, Edward Luttwak and Eitan Shamir trace the roots of this astounding success. What sets the IDF apart, they argue, is its structure. From its inception, it has been the world’s only one-service military, with air, naval, and land forces collected in a single institutional body. This unique architecture, coupled with a youthful officer corps, encourages initiative from below. The result is a nimble organization inclined toward change.

The IDF has fostered significant technological advances, from the first wartime use of drones to the famed Iron Dome missile defense system, and now the first laser weapon, Iron Beam. Less-heralded innovations in training, logistics, and human resources have been equally important. Sharing rich insights and compelling stories, Luttwak and Shamir reveal just what makes the IDF so agile and effective.

EDWARD N. LUTTWAK is the author of several books, including *Coup d’État: A Practical Handbook*; *Strategy: The Logic of War and Peace*; and *The Rise of China vs. the Logic of Strategy*, which have been published in twenty-five languages. His articles have appeared in the *London Review of Books*, the *Times Literary Supplement*, *Foreign Affairs*, and *Tablet*.

EITAN SHAMIR is Director of the Begin-Sadat Center for Strategic Studies and Associate Professor of Political Science at Bar Ilan University. He formerly served as Head of National Security Doctrine at the Israeli Office of Strategic Affairs. He is the author of *Transforming Command: The Pursuit of Mission Command in the U.S., British, and Israeli Armies*.



May · Paper · 368 pages

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4 illus.

Science

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Inheritance

The Evolutionary Origins of the Modern World

Harvey Whitehouse

An “exhilarating” (*Irish Times*) and “ambitious” (*The Guardian*) account of the ancient inheritance that made us who we are—and is now driving us to ruin.

Why do humans everywhere believe in ghosts?

How might our tendency to imitate one another be contributing to the climate catastrophe?

And does our deep evolutionary past impel us to vote for strongmen?

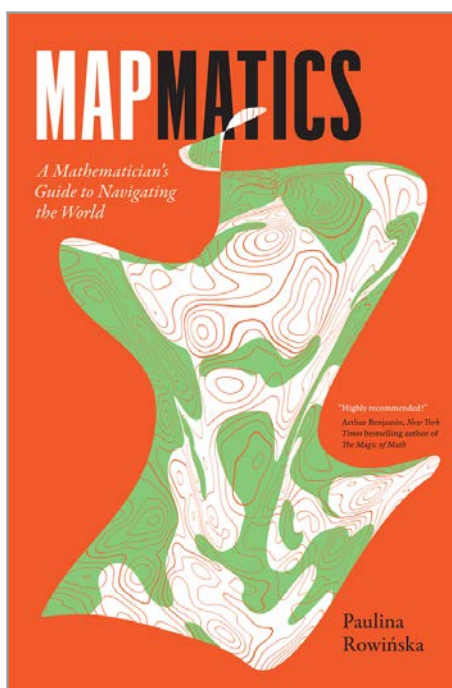
In 1987 Harvey Whitehouse went to live with an indigenous community deep in the Papua New Guinea rainforest. His experiences there convinced him that, far from being wildly different, humans are fundamentally alike: their beliefs and behaviors are rooted in a set of evolutionary biases that can be found in any society, anywhere.

In *Inheritance*, Whitehouse leads us across twelve millennia and five continents to uncover how these biases—conformism, religiosity, and tribalism—have both shaped and been reshaped by human history. Along the way, he shows that this ancient inheritance holds the key not just to explaining the modern world, but perhaps also to repairing it.



MERRIDEE BAILEY

HARVEY WHITEHOUSE is Director of the Centre for the Study of Social Cohesion at the University of Oxford. He is a founding director of Seshat: Global History Databank and the author or editor of nine books, including *The Ritual Animal*.



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13 photos, 41 illus., 2 tables

Maths

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Mapmatics

A Mathematician's Guide to Navigating the World

Paulina Rowińska

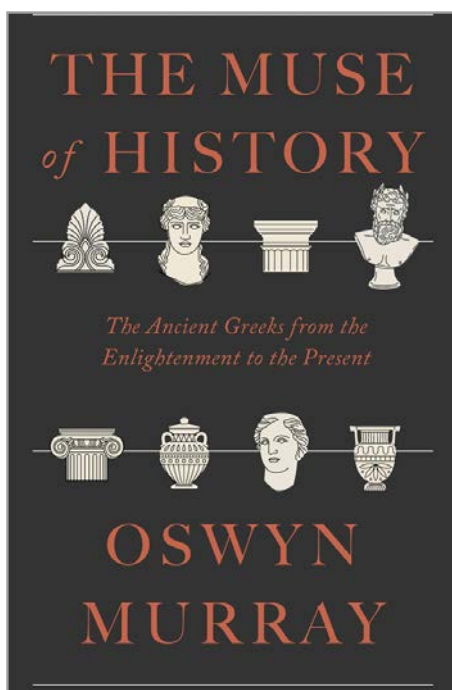
An “original” (*Nature*) and “expansive journey through time and place” (*Guardian*) that uncovers the surprising connections between math and maps—and the myriad ways they’ve shaped our world and us.

Why are coastlines and borders so difficult to measure? How does a UPS driver deliver hundreds of packages in a single day? Where do elusive serial killers hide? The answers lie in the crucial connection between maps and math.

In *Mapmatics*, mathematician Paulina Rowińska leads us on a riveting journey around the globe to discover how maps and math are deeply entwined and always have been. From a sixteenth-century navigation tool that exaggerates the size of northern countries to public-transport maps that both guide and confound passengers, Rowińska reveals how maps and math have shaped not only our sense of space but also our worldview. Written with authority and compassion, wit and unforgettable storytelling, *Mapmatics* unpacks the math behind the maps we depend on, illuminating how our world works and how we can better look after it.



PAULINA ROWIŃSKA is an award-winning science writer and journalist who has written for *Smithsonian* magazine, *Undark*, WGBH, and other outlets. She holds a PhD in mathematics from Imperial College London.



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6 1/4 x 9 1/4 · \$29.95

29 illus., 8 color illus.,

History

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The Muse of History

The Ancient Greeks from the Enlightenment to the Present

Oswyn Murray

A Times Literary Supplement Best Book of the Year

From “one of the most thoughtful ancient historians in Britain over more than half a century” (Mary Beard) comes a powerful look at how the modern world has understood the ancient Greeks and why their legacy still matters today.

The study of ancient Greece has been central to Western conceptions of history since the Renaissance. *The Muse of History* traces the shifting patterns of this preoccupation, as successive generations reinterpreted the Greeks in light of their contemporary worlds. Thus, in the eighteenth century, the conflict between Athens and Sparta became a touchstone in the development of republicanism, and in the nineteenth, Athens came to represent the democratic ideal. Amid the twentieth century’s ideological conflicts, Greek suffering inspired defenses against nationalism, Nazism, communism, and capitalism.

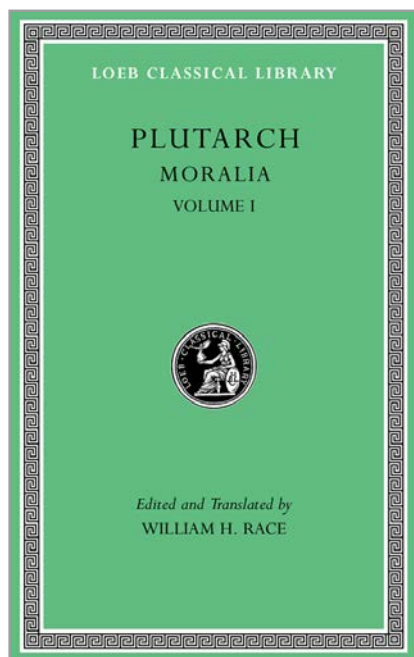
Oswyn Murray draws powerful conclusions from the ever-changing narrative of ancient Greece, in the process illuminating grand theories of human society articulated by the likes of Hegel, Burckhardt, Nietzsche, and Braudel. Along the way, *The Muse of History* offers behind-the-scenes glimpses of figures who shaped the study of ancient Greece. We sit in on a class with Arnaldo Momigliano; meet Moses Finley after his arrival in England; eavesdrop on Paul Veyne, Jean-Pierre Vernant, and Pierre Vidal-Naquet; and rediscover Michel Foucault.

A thrilling work of historiography, *The Muse of History* reminds us that the meaning of the past is always made in and for the present.



SOPHIE BAKER

OSWYN MURRAY is an emeritus Fellow of Balliol College, University of Oxford, and a leading scholar of the ancient world. He has written widely translated books including *Early Greece* and *The Symposium: Drinking Greek Style* and is the coeditor of *The Oxford History of the Classical World*.



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History

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Moralia, Volume I

The Education of Children. How the Young Man Should Study Poetry. On Listening to Lectures. How to Tell a Flatterer from a Friend. How a Man May Become Aware of His Progress in Virtue

Plutarch

Edited and translated by William H. Race

Eclectic essays on ethics, education, and much else besides.

Plutarch (Plutarchus), ca. AD 45–120, was born at Chaeronea in Boeotia, in central Greece. He is renowned for his forty-six *Parallel Lives*, biographies planned to be ethical examples in pairs (in each pair, one Greek figure and one comparable Roman), though the last four lives are single. But he was also a teacher of philosophy in Rome, a priest at Delphi, and an engaging essayist with an urbane and judicious style whose many other extant works, some seventy in number and known collectively as *Moralia* or *Moral Essays*, are important sources for classical philosophy, ethics, and religion. Whether advising about marriage and education, discussing prophecy, divine providence, and life after death, setting forth rules for politicians, or commenting on personal virtues and vices, the *Moralia* reveal not only Plutarch's own thinking but also the world in which he lived.

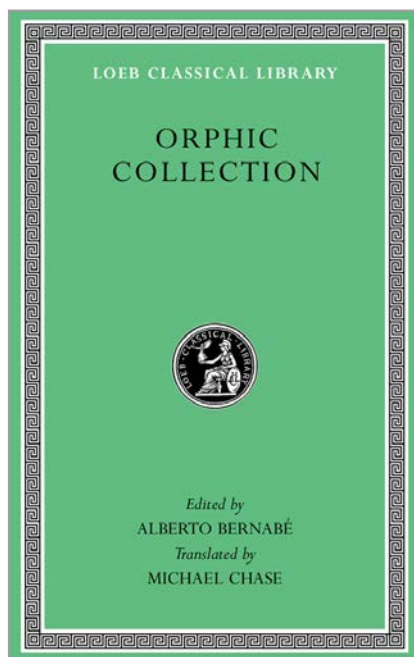
The Loeb Classical Library edition of the *Moralia* is in sixteen volumes, volume XIII having two parts. Volume XVI comprises an analytical index that provides access to the great riches to be found within the collection. In the present volume are five essays: *The Education of Children*, *How the Young Man Should Study Poetry*, *On Listening to Lectures*, *How to Tell a Flatterer from a Friend*, and *How a Man May Become Aware of His Progress in Virtue*.

This edition, which replaces the original by Frank Cole Babbitt (1927), offers text, translation, and annotation that are fully current with modern scholarship.



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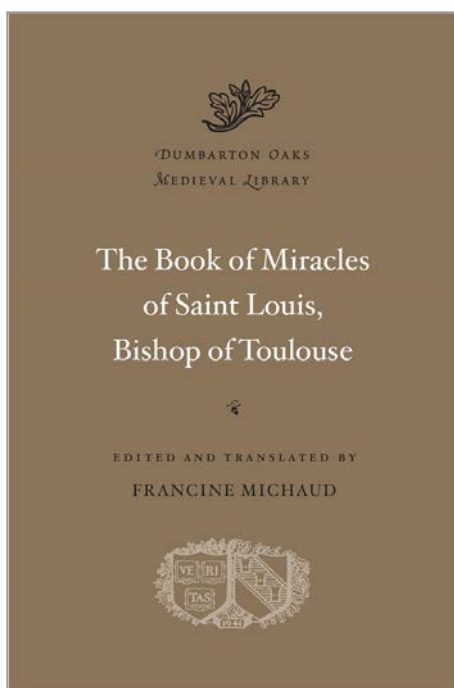
Orpheus is familiar from Greek mythology as a peerless bard, the Thracian son of a Muse with superhuman musical abilities that enabled him to win the release of his young wife Eurydice from Hades, only to lose her on the way back. But he was also considered an authentic poet preceding Hesiod and Homer and on a par with Musaeus, and was credited with poems, oracles, and the foundation of rituals in a tradition that remained vital and creative from Archaic Greece through to the Roman Empire and beyond. Essentially Dionysiac, but without the violence and blood sacrifice, and with a focus on theogony, cosmogony, and the origin and destiny of souls, Orphism was at once a distinctive and an open tradition, with significant change and development over time but with features that made the works and rituals cumulatively attributed to Orpheus identifiable to followers. This tradition endowed them with a lasting coherence despite the absence of dogma or control by priests. Although Orphism departed in profound and fascinating ways from conventional accounts, it proved highly adaptable to various religious and philosophical systems, especially Pythagorean and Neoplatonist but also Judaic and Christian.

This edition collects works representing the most ancient Orphic literature, excluding later mythological, scientific, and pseudo-scientific poems opportunistically attributed to him.



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Religion

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The Book of Miracles of Saint Louis, Bishop of Toulouse

Edited and translated by Francine Michaud

At the intersection of medieval religion and
medicine.

Prince Louis, son of Charles II of Anjou, died at age twenty-three in 1297, but had already taken vows as a Franciscan friar and been invested as bishop of Toulouse only six months earlier. Immediately after he was buried in Marseille, miracles were reported—first by local citizens then by pilgrims as rumors of his powers spread to villages and towns in Provence. Louis was canonized in 1317, the third member of the First Order of the Friars Minor to achieve official sainthood, after Saint Francis of Assisi and Saint Anthony of Padua.

Originally written in Provençal and then translated into Latin, *The Book of Miracles of Saint Louis, Bishop of Toulouse* carefully records 211 miracle stories that attest to Louis's qualifications for canonization and document remarkable community engagement in saint-making. Illness prompted most petitions to Saint Louis. The narratives thus include detailed reports of diseases, conditions, and disabilities afflicting both people and animals. At a time when new medical practices were being promoted and both Christian and Jewish physicians were ubiquitous at the bedsides of the sick, *The Book of Miracles* testifies to an enduring faith in God and in the healing skills of meritorious saints such as Louis, who was unequivocally qualified as a “doctor of souls.”

The Book of Miracles of Saint Louis, Bishop of Toulouse is the first translation of the early fourteenth-century Latin manuscript and offers vivid and valuable insights into medieval medicine and mentalités.

FRANCINE MICHAUD is Emerita and Adjunct Professor of History at the University of Calgary.



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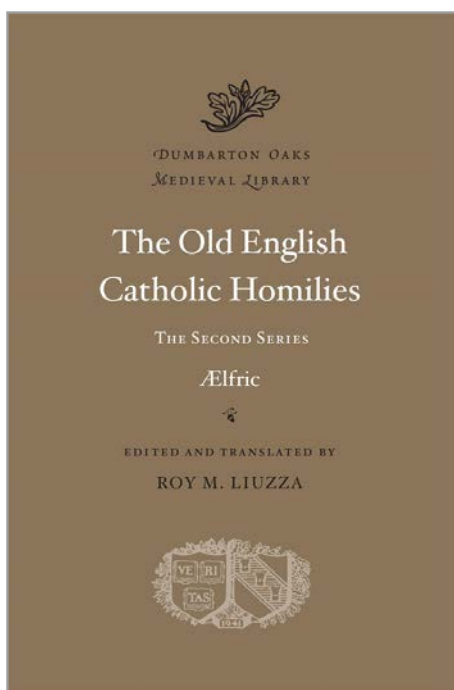
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The Old English Catholic Homilies

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Ælfric

Edited and translated by Roy M. Liuzza

A contemporary edition and translation of one of the great monuments of Old English literary and religious culture.

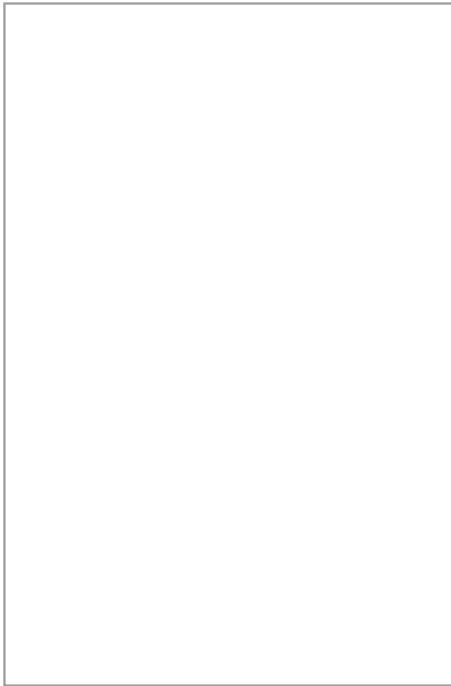
The homilies of the monk Ælfric, written in the last decade of the tenth century, offer some of the most important prose writing in Old English. They convey contemporary Christian doctrine shaped during a period of monastic reform. Taken together, the homilies offer a distillation of the spiritual inheritance of the English Church before the Norman Conquest. They cover a broad range of topics, from biblical exegesis to saints' lives to general Christian history, with a strong focus on the gospel reading at Mass, explained in language that laypeople could understand. Ælfric is famous for his lucid prose, which he later developed into a rhythmical and alliterative style that has often been likened to verse.

In the second series of *Catholic Homilies*, Ælfric continues his project with an additional forty sermons, sometimes multiple for the same occasion, and relies again on the works of Church Fathers such as Augustine, Gregory, and Bede. This is the first complete translation of the Catholic Homilies since 1844, presented alongside the newly edited Old English text.

ROY M. LIUZZA is Professor of English at the University of Tennessee, Knoxville.



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Exquisite Things and Strange Wonders

In Defense of Persian Poetry

Amir Khusraw Dihlavi

Translated by Alyssa Gabbay

A defense of poetry from a towering figure of the medieval Persianate world.

Written in 1294 as the introduction to a book of poetry, the *Dībācha-yi dīvān-i ghurraṭ al-kamāl* became a lauded work in its own right. Its author, Amir Khusraw Dihlavi (1253–1325), was a poet, historian, courtier, Sufi, and musician whose influence still resonates. In this extraordinary text, he defends poetry against its critics, especially religious scholars, while offering a bold system for understanding its forms and for mastering the art. Blending manifesto and autobiography, Khusraw recounts personal struggles and triumphs in a voice by turns aggrieved, proud, and humble yet always commanding.

More than a defense of poetry, the work makes audacious claims about its cultural power and about the central place of Persian poets in India. One of the earliest examples of literary criticism in Persian, it challenges assumptions about poetry, religion, and authority while opening a window onto the world of the Delhi Sultanate. Presented here in a new English translation with the Persian text in the Naskh script, *Exquisite Things and Strange Wonders* offers readers a vivid portrait of a poet who helped define the literary and intellectual landscape of his time.

ALYSSA GABBAY is Associate Professor Emerita at the University of North Carolina at Greensboro.

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Jain Tales of Moksha

Shivakotyacharya

Translated by Vanamala Viswanatha

A tenth-century Jain guide to ethics, self-discipline, and the quest for meaning at life's end.

Vaḍḍārādhane (literally, the veneration of ritual death), the first extant prose work in Kannada, is a tenth-century collection of Jain stories about nineteen warrior saints who embrace death in pursuit of moksha, or spiritual liberation. Each tale in this book of living and dying follows the renunciate's transformation from an ordinary person enmeshed in worldly desires to an enlightened being who attains moksha through penance, fasting, meditation, and self-mortification, culminating in ritual death. Originally recited for spiritual protection to Jain renunciates approaching the end of life, these narratives explore social hierarchy, duty, and discipline while offering enduring insights into human striving and ethical courage.

Attributed to Shivakotyacharya, a Digambara Jain cleric, the collection combines the vernacular stories with verses in Prakrit and Sanskrit. Presented here in a modern English translation alongside the authoritative Kannada text, *Jain Tales of Moksha* speaks across centuries. Its medieval themes of moral choice, self-discipline, and the search for ultimate freedom invite contemporary readers to reflect on how we navigate desire, duty, and the quest for meaning in our own lives.

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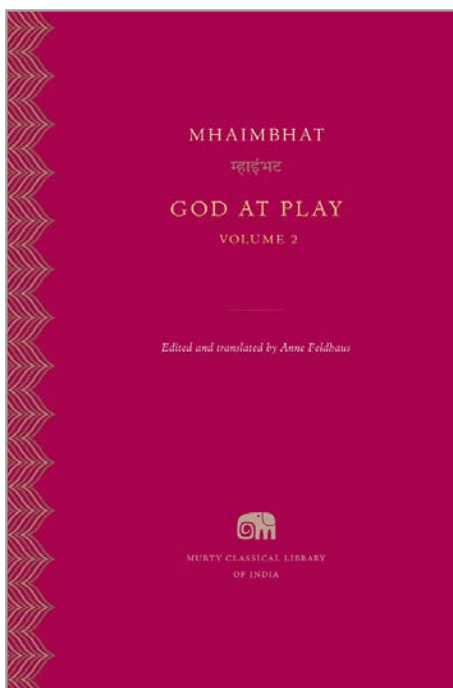


VANAMALA VISWANATHA is a literary scholar and translator of *The Life of Harishchandra*.

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God at Play, Volume 2

Mhaimbhat

Edited and translated by Anne Feldhaus

The oldest extant literature written in Marathi.

God at Play, or *Līlācaritra*, is a remarkable biography of the medieval religious figure Chakradhar Svami. His followers, called Mahanubhavs, understand him to be an incarnation of Parameshvar, the one supreme God. Mhaimbhat, a Brahmin goldsmith who became one of Chakradhar's most important followers, compiled this astonishingly down-to-earth religious text around 1278. It records not only Chakradhar's ethical and theological teachings, but also his travels and his everyday activities, including the foods he ate and the people he met. This rich, detailed account provides insights into economic conditions, political history, and society in medieval India. Manuscripts of the work were carefully preserved within the Mahanubhav community but were not known to outsiders until the early twentieth century. The second volume of *God at Play* portrays Chakradhar as a full-blown guru, teaching and leading a group of committed disciples. This new English translation of *Līlācaritra* is accompanied by an emended Marathi text, based on Hari Narayan Nene's edition, in the Devanagari script.

ANNE FELDHAUS is Distinguished Foundation Professor of Religious Studies, Emerita, at Arizona State University.

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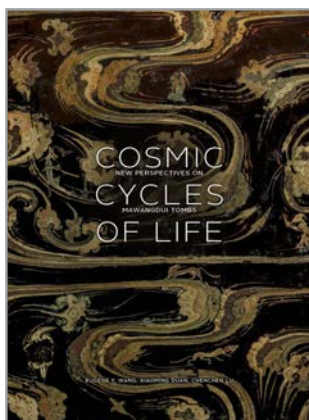
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Cosmic Cycles of Life

New Perspectives on Mawangdui Tombs

Eugene Y. Wang, Xiaoming Duan, and
Chenchen Lu



Cosmic Cycles of Life offers a groundbreaking look at the Mawangdui Han tombs in China—one of the twentieth century's most important archaeological finds—through the lens of cutting-edge digital technology and interdisciplinary scholarship. Emerging from a collaboration between Harvard CAMLab and the Hunan Museum, it features sixteen essays that examine

Mawangdui through intersecting lenses, such as ancient philosophy, medicine, musicology, and taxonomy. With 3D visualization and annotated line drawings, this volume vividly reconstructs the tomb artifacts with unparalleled precision. Together, these contributions reframe Mawangdui not as a static burial site but as a dynamic, cosmological model reflecting ancient Chinese understandings of life, death, and the universe.

EUGENE Y. WANG is the Abby Aldrich Rockefeller Professor of Asian Art at Harvard University, the founding director of Harvard FAS CAMLab, and a Guggenheim Fellow. He is also the art history editor of the *Encyclopedia of Buddhism* and his extensive publications range from early Chinese art and archaeology to modern and contemporary Chinese art and cinema.

XIAOMING DUAN is Director of the Hunan Museum, where he presented the acclaimed exhibition, *The Art of Life: Multimedia Exhibition of Mawangdui Han Culture*, jointly organized with the Digital Library of China and Harvard FAS CAMLab.

CHENCHEN LU, Co-Founder and Associate Director of Harvard FAS CAMLab, is an architect, art historian, media artist, filmmaker, and musician.

August • 530 pages

Paper • £37.95 • \$45.00

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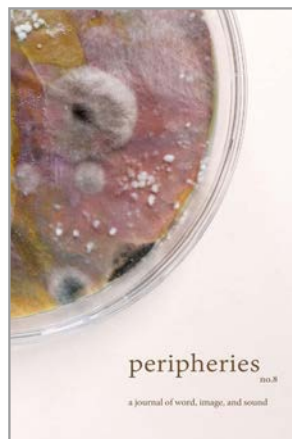
History • 217 illus., 235 catalogue, 1 map

Harvard FAS CAMLab

Peripheries

A Journal of Word, Image, and Sound, No. 8

Sherah Bloor



Peripheries: A Journal of Word, Image, and Sound is a literary and arts journal based at Harvard Divinity School. Established in 2017, *Peripheries* publishes an annual collection of artistic work, including poetry, fiction, creative non-fiction, visual art that is, broadly understood, “peripheral” exploring the interstices between discourses, traditions, languages, forms, and genres. Each edition

includes guest-edited folios on specialized themes.

SHERAH BLOOR is the co-editor and co-translator with Tayseer Abu Odeh of the anthology *You Must Live: New Poetry from Palestine*. Her poetry collection, *The Gathering*, an epic in cantos, is forthcoming and her poems have appeared in *Chicago Review*, *Colorado Review*, *Conjunctions*, *Dialogist*, *Lana Turner*, and *Paperbark*, among other magazines.

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Paper • £16.95 • \$20.00 •

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Poetry • 30 illus.

Center for the Study of World Religions

Thinking with Plants and Fungi

Interdisciplinary Explorations of Ecology, Mind,
and the More-than-Human World

Rachael Petersen, Natalia Schvien Scott,
and Russell C. Powell



Thinking with Plants and Fungi brings together leading voices from science, the humanities, and the arts to explore how vegetal and fungal life challenge dominant models of consciousness, community, and ecological care. Building on a landmark 2025 conference and years of interdisciplinary collaboration at the Center for the Study of World Religions at Harvard Divinity School, this volume

examines the entanglements of mind and matter, nature and culture, human and more-than-human. Essays investigate topics including plant neurobiology, philosophy, decolonial botany, fungal ethics, and the poetics of sessility. Featuring scientists, philosophers, artists, and practitioners—including Banu Subramaniam, Michael Marder, Giuliana Furci, and Jessica J. Lee—*Thinking with Plants and Fungi* models a transformative form of inquiry for an age of ecological crisis.

RACHAEL PETERSEN, NATALIA SCHVIEN, AND RUSSELL C. POWELL lead the Thinking with Plants and Fungi Initiative at the Harvard Divinity School.

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Paper · £33.95 · \$39.95

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Philosophy · 10 illus., 5 color illus.

Center for the Study of World Religions

Pairs o6

Amir Halabi, Harish Krishnamoorthy,
Carolina Sepúlveda, Kaleb Swanson,
and Tyler White



Pairs is a journal of conversations edited by students at the Harvard University Graduate School of Design (GSD). Each issue pairs subjects with objects: interviewees with contents from an archive. It does not have a theme, but instead organizes a diversity of threads and concerns relevant to our moment in the design disciplines: covering architecture, landscape architecture, and

urban design and planning. The conversations are in turn not comprehensive accounts but open-ended exchanges, eliciting often candid and provisional ideas in progress.

Pairs o6 features conversations with Francesca Benedetto, Sahel Al Hiyari, Agnes Denes, Mark Lee, Jimenez Lai, David Chipperfield, Sandra Barclay, Stan Allen, Ronan Bouroullec, Anne Holtrop, Dima Srouji, Tim Rohan, Joshua Bennett, and Alexandra Arenes.

AMIR HALABI, HARISH KRISHNAMOORTHY, CAROLINA SEPÚLVEDA, KALEB SWANSON, AND TYLER WHITE are students at the Harvard Graduate School of Design. University.

May · 288 pages

cloth · £12.95 · \$15.00

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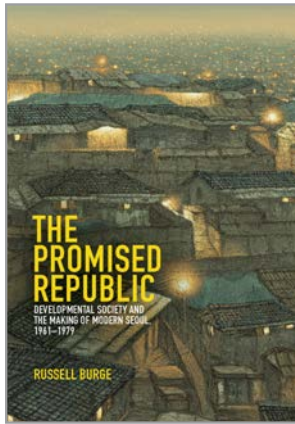
Architecture · 100 illus., 20 color illus.

Pairs · Harvard Graduate School of Design

The Promised Republic

Developmental Society and the Making of
Modern Seoul, 1961–1979

Russell Burge



In *The Promised Republic*, Russell Burge offers a bold new history of South Korea's rapid development. By focusing on the experience of rural-to-urban migrants who built and lived in Seoul's shantytowns, Burge historicizes national development as a site of struggle with the urban poor at its center. What would a society of postcolonial abundance look like? Who was this society built

for, and how would access to the city that formed its economic center be claimed and defended? These were the questions at stake in the urban struggles of the 1960s and 1970s, an era when authorities found themselves caught between a mandate to create well-disciplined cities and the promise of broad uplift that legitimated their leadership. Utilizing memoirs, interviews, newspapers, journals, photographs, literature, anthropological records, and critical as well as official sources, Burge reconstructs a not-altogether-vanished world and provides historical background of conflicts over urban access and inequality that continue to enrage and resonate to this day.

RUSSELL BURGE is Korea Foundation Assistant Professor of Korean History at Indiana University Bloomington.

August • 6 x 9 • 360 pages

Cloth • £41.95 • \$49.95

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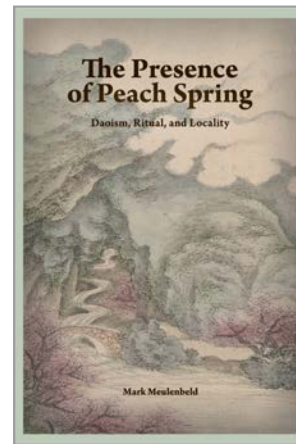
History • 23 photos, 2 maps, 2 tables

Harvard East Asian Monographs • Harvard University Asia Center

The Presence of Peach Spring

Daoism, Ritual, and Locality

Mark Meulenbeld



The Presence of Peach Spring radically breaks with conventional interpretations of Tao Qian's "Record of Peach Blossom Spring" by connecting the tale to its stated geographical location in northern Hunan province (PRC) and focusing on the Daoist lore that surrounds it. Drawing on more than two decades of fieldwork, Mark Meulenbeld uncovers the presence of Peach Spring as a sacred site with a history of

more than fifteen hundred years, locally embedded within a complex network of ritual referents. Rather than a primarily textual analysis, Meulenbeld offers a more historically grounded interpretation that engages with the religious manifestations of Peach Spring: on domestic altars, in sacrificial ballads, at Daoist institutions, and, ultimately, as a source of transcendence. Meulenbeld shows that the category of the sacred offers a crucial framework for understanding traditional texts, even if they do not immediately seem to belong to any religious sphere. When read in the context of its native region, the tale of Peach Spring affords readers access to a sacred site, sacred objects, and the enduring traditions of Daoist ritual that continue to maintain its presence today.

MARK MEULENBELD is Associate Professor in the School of Chinese at The University of Hong Kong.

July • 6 x 9 • 436 pages

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Religion • 34 color photos

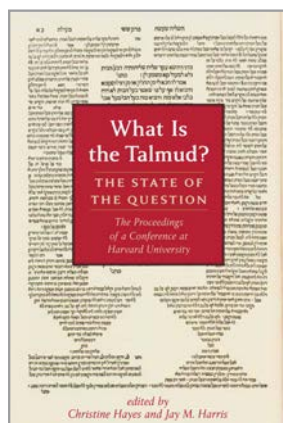
Harvard-Yenching Institute Monograph Series

Harvard University Asia Center

What Is the Talmud?

The State of the Question

Christine Hayes and Jay M. Harris



The Babylonian Talmud, or Bavli, stands as one of the central pillars of Jewish intellectual, cultural, and religious life. But what, precisely, is this monumental and heterogeneous compilation? How was it formed, redacted, and transmitted? Who composed it and for what purpose? How was it shaped by its broader cultures and historical period? How was it received and re-conceived by subsequent generations, and what has the Talmud become in our day?

What Is the Talmud? collects essays that provide a comprehensive exploration of the Talmud's origins, compilation, and redaction; its diverse genres and discursive practices; its historical and cultural setting; its preservation and study across generations; and its enduring influence on Jewish life and culture today.

CHRISTINE HAYES is Sterling Professor Emerita of Jewish Studies at Yale University, and a Senior Research Fellow at the Shalom Hartman Institute of North America. She is the author of *Gentile Impurities and Jewish Identities* and *What's Divine about Divine Law? Early Perspectives*.

JAY M. HARRIS is Harvard College Professor and Harry Austryn Wolfson Professor of Jewish Studies at Harvard University. He is the author of *How Do We Know This: Midrash and the Fragmentation of Modern Judaism*.

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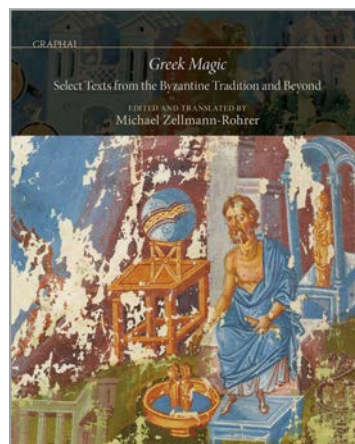
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Greek Magic

Select Texts from the Byzantine Tradition and Beyond

Michael Zellmann-Rohrer



Greek Magic collects, edits, and translates a vast number of Greek magical texts—spells, incantations, and related elements incorporated in prayers—from over one hundred manuscripts that date from the tenth through the eighteenth centuries and often preserve much earlier works. The result gives us a new understanding of the

nature of belief and worship among medieval Greek-speaking Christians and offers a spellbinding resource for understanding the social world of medieval Byzantium.

These spells bear fresh and direct witness to practical concerns of daily life: their users hoped to protect crops from pests, cure various ailments, catch thieves, and ease childbirth. The rituals in which they are embedded range from the mundane to the spectacular and bizarre. These rites and spells are not, however, relics of antiquity that have simply seeped into the world of medieval Christianity. Instead, they reveal how medieval Christians adapted and remixed practices and techniques from the past and from their neighbors into new and vibrant social practices—now made accessible to modern readers.

MICHAEL ZELLMANN-ROHRER is a Research Fellow at the Freie Universität Berlin.

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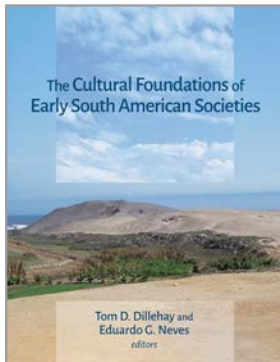
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History · 411 illus.

Graphai · Dumbarton Oaks Research Library and Collection

The Cultural Foundations of Early South American Societies

Tom D. Dillehay and Eduardo G. Neves



The Cultural Foundations of Early South American Societies examines the remarkable transformation of the Central Andes and the tropical Amazon beginning around 7000 BCE, when the Indigenous inhabitants began to develop food production, permanent settlements, monumental architecture, and complex social organizations. Moving beyond traditional chronological categories of “Archaic” and “Formative,” the fourteen essays in this volume reveal how early South American societies followed diverse trajectories, especially in the development of agro-maritime lifestyles on the Pacific coast, animal domestication in the Andean highlands, and plant cultivation in the Amazonian lowlands.

Through regional case studies spanning from southern Ecuador to northern Argentina and the eastern tropical lowlands, the contributors—primarily archaeologists—trace early community formation, technological innovation, landscape transformation, and the emergence of elaborate symbolism and craft production; these analyses offer fresh perspectives on how such developments established the foundations for later state-level societies, providing essential insights into the deep cultural history and varied pathways to social complexity in the ancient Americas.

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TOM D. DILLEHAY is Senior Research Professor; Rebecca Webb Wilson University Distinguished Professor of Anthropology, Religion, and Culture Emeritus, and Distinguished Professor of Anthropology and Latin American Studies Emeritus at Vanderbilt University.

EDUARDO G. NEVES is Professor of Archaeology at the University of São Paulo.

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12 photos, 49 color illus., 1 illus., 2 color illus.

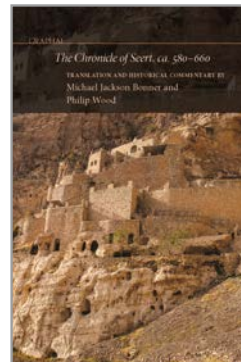
History

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Dumbarton Oaks Pre-Columbian Symposia and Colloquia

The Chronicle of Seert, ca. 580–660

Michael Jackson Bonner and Philip Wood



The Chronicle of Seert, a Middle Arabic history written in the late tenth or eleventh century, draws on earlier Syriac sources from the Church of the East dating back to the sixth and seventh centuries and is the richest repository of these earlier materials. It is a monument to a literature that is now mostly destroyed and an invaluable source for those studying Late Antique history, Eastern Christianity, and the medieval Christians who lived under Muslim rule.

This volume is the first English translation of the portion of the *Chronicle* covering the period from 580 to 660, narrating the constant wars fought between the Roman Empire and Sassanid Persia as well as the arrival of Muhammad and the Muslim armies that upended the Late Antique world. But the *Chronicle* also includes extensive accounts of the theological controversies that beset the Church of the East, the monasteries and holy men that dotted the landscape, and political events within the Roman Empire from an outside perspective. Preserving a remnant of a lost, yet influential, history, the *Chronicle* allows us to see adaptations to a genre that was created in a Christian Roman Empire.

MICHAEL JACKSON BONNER is a political and communications consultant.

PHILIP WOOD is Tejpar Professor of Inter-Religious Studies at the Institute for the Study of Muslim Civilisations at Aga Khan University.

May · 436 pages

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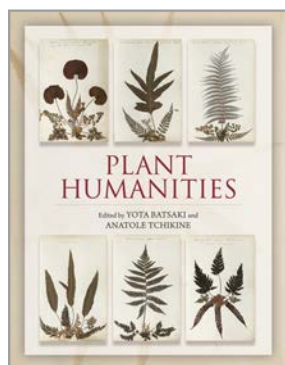
History · 2 maps

Graphai

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Plant Humanities

Yota Batsaki and Anatole Tchikine



Plant Humanities moves plants to the center of critical inquiry, positioning them as biocultural entities with distinct environmental and social histories that have profoundly shaped human cultures. Its thirteen chapters cover a broad geographical range, including the Americas, Europe, the Pacific, the Indian subcontinent, East Asia, and Africa, to explore the

dual character of plants as place makers and world travelers. As ecosystem builders and cultural agents constitutive of national, sacred, and domestic ecologies, plants help us trace legacies of colonialism, capitalism, racism, and the related challenges of anthropogenic climate change and biodiversity loss. Plant-focused epistemologies are also central to this volume; several essays explore the interplay between vernacular and scientific paradigms and distinct taxonomic systems to reveal instances of rupture, continuity, and resilience. *Plant Humanities* concludes with the discussion of the poetics of plants—their foundational role in communal imaginaries—and the ways they shape our understanding of the sacred, probing how notions of value are predicated on human commodification, elevation, or abjection of the vegetal world.

YOTA BATSAKI is Executive Director at Dumbarton Oaks Research Library and Collection.

ANATOLE TCHIKINE is Curator of Rare Books at Dumbarton Oaks Research Library and Collection.

August • 8-½ x 11 • 400 pages

Cloth • £62.95 • \$75.00

5 photos, 49 color photos, 18 illus., 53 color illus.

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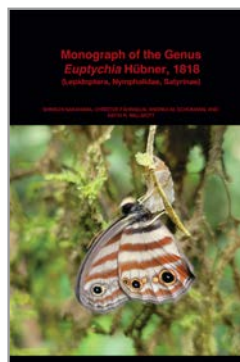
Science

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Monograph of the Genus

Euptychia Hübner, 1818 (Lepidoptera, Nymphalidae, Satyrinae)

Shinichi Nakahara, Andrea Schomann, Christer Fåhræus, and Keith R. Willmott



Euptychia, a diverse genus of Neotropical satyrine butterflies, has been the subject of taxonomic studies over the past several decades, yet our understanding of its species diversity and the phylogenetic relationships of species has been far from complete. A *Monograph of the Genus Euptychia Hübner, 1818 (Lepidoptera, Nymphalidae, Satyrinae)* makes significant breakthroughs toward developing a firm species classification of *Euptychia*.

Based on travels around the globe, visits to natural history collections, and years of field work, Shinichi Nakahara, Andrea Schomann, Christer Fåhræus, and Keith R. Willmott offer new morphological and molecular data, alongside a review of archival records, to produce a comprehensive analysis of what is known about *Euptychia* today.

SHINICHI NAKAHARA is a Research Associate at the Museum of Comparative Zoology at Harvard University. Christer Fåhræus is Founder and Head of the Fåhræus Institute at Lund University. Andrea Schomann is a Researcher at the Fåhræus Institute and Research Associate at Lund University.

KEITH WILLMOTT is a Curator of Lepidoptera at the McGuire Center for Lepidoptera and Biodiversity, Florida Museum of Natural History, at the University of Florida.

May • 6-¾ x 10 • 250 pages

Paper • £37.95 • \$44.95

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Science • 60 illus.

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Hippota Nestor and Beyond

Selected Essays

Douglas Frame

In *Hippota Nestor and Beyond: Selected Essays*, Douglas Frame revisits the Homeric figure of Nestor, who he argues derives from twin figures in Indo-European myth, and dates the composition and performance of the *Iliad* and *Odyssey* to the late eighth or early seventh century BCE at a festival of twelve Ionian cities in Asia Minor. Frame takes up subjects such as the evidence for Nestor's Indo-European origins; the related origins of the Greek word *noos*, "mind"; the Phaeacians in the *Odyssey* as the key to the circumstances in which the Homeric poems were created; Nestor's role connecting the two poems into a one whole. Other essays in the collect break new ground with respect to the circumstances of the poems' performance; the purpose of the poems in their historical setting; the relation of the poems to other poetic monuments of the time; the reception of the poems in the Greek mainland after their origin in Ionia; and a closer tracking of the Indo-European origins of the figure *hippota Nestor*, "the horseman Nestor," in light of the invention of the chariot in the Russian steppes c. 2000 BCE.

DOUGLAS G. FRAME was Associate Director of the Center for Hellenic Studies at Harvard University and a teacher of Greek and Latin languages and literature.

August · 290 pages

Paper · £25.95 · \$30.00

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Literature · 2 maps

Classical Continuum

New Alexandria Foundation

Philology in a Digital Age

Selected Papers

Gregory Crane

Philology in a Digital Age: Selected Papers brings together more than four decades of scholarship by Gregory Crane documenting the evolution of Classical Studies during the rise of digital technologies—including both published and previously unpublished essays ranging from early proposals in the 1980s to recent reflections on the role of AI, open data, and multilingual inclusion in the humanities. Together, these essays trace the transformation of Greco-Roman philology as it enters a new phase of engagement with digital media.

Drawing on his unique perspective as a traditionally trained classicist, an early architect of the Perseus Digital Library, and a professor working across the disciplines of Classics, Digital Humanities, and Computer Science, Crane explores the profound implications of transitioning from physical to digital infrastructure, not only in terms of access and scale, but in rethinking the very practice and goals of philology. Emphasizing lived understanding over static texts or tools, he argues for a field that must continuously adapt to new technologies while remaining committed to open, inclusive scholarship. *Philology in a Digital Age* is both a record of a scholarly transformation and a call to envision the future of humanistic inquiry in a world of ubiquitous digitization.

GREGORY CRANE is Winnick Family Chair in Technology and Entrepreneurship in the Department of Classical Studies, and Professor of Classical Studies and Computer Science, at Tufts University. He is also the Editor-in-Chief of the Perseus Digital Library, the largest open-source digital library about Greco-Roman culture.

August · 350 pages

Paper · £29.95 · \$35.00

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Literature · 100 color photos

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