FALL 2020 CATALOG

Beacon Press
24 Farnsworth Street
Boston, MA 02210
www.beacon.org

Pamela MacColl
Communications Director
pmaccoll@beacon.org
617-948-6582
Table of Contents

*Here She Is* by Hilary Levey Friedman  
1

*Growing Up on the Gridiron* by Vicki Mayk  
2

*ACE* by Angela Chen  
3

*Climate Courage* by Andreas Karelas  
4

*Grabbed* edited by Elisa Albo, Richard Blanco, Caridad Moro, and Nikki Moustaki  
5

*Let My People Vote* by Desmond Meade  
6

*An Incomplete List of Names* by Michael Torres  
7

*Woody Guthrie* by Gustavus Stadler  
8

*Dance We Do* by Ntozake Shange  
9

*The Radiant Lives of Animals* by Linda Hogan  
10

*Launching While Female* by Susanne Althoff  
11

*Dangerous Religious Ideas* by Rachel S. Mivka  
12

*Education Across Borders* by Patrick Sylvain  
13

*What We Don’t Talk About When We Talk About Fat* by Aubrey Gordon  
14

*The AOC Generation* by David Freedlander  
15

*Julian Bond’s Time to Teach* by Julian Bond  
16

*Rachetedemic* by Christopher Emdin  
17

*With Her Fist Raised* by Laura L. Lovett  
18

*The Rebellious Life of Mrs. Rosa Parks, Young Readers’ Edition*  
written by Jeanne Theoharis, adapted by Brandy Colbert  
19
Here She Is
The Tarnished Reign of the Beauty Pageant in America
By Hilary Levey Friedman

ON SALE  8/25/2020

Summary
An exploration of American feminism through the history and legacy of beauty pageants that offers a new perspective on their empowering and controversial role.

In 2020, the Miss America pageant will celebrate its 100th anniversary despite its very controversial standing in feminist history. What accounts for the persistence of this American tradition? Friedman approaches the issue from her unique perspective as a scholar, National Organization of Women state president, sometimes pageant judge, and the daughter Miss America 1970.

People have long assumed that pageants propagate damaging and unrealistic expectations for women, including increasingly thin bodies and Barbie-style features. Friedman draws on her own research to assess the development of beauty pageants in America from their origins as P.T. Barnum spectacles in a post-Seneca Falls world to extremely popular bathing-beauty competitions in Trump’s Miss USA contest, and into the more talent and achievement-based competitions of today. She demonstrates that forms of pageantry have morphed everywhere in our culture, from The Bachelor and RuPaul’s Drag Race to sorority rush and quinceañeras.

While acknowledging and exploring the strong critiques of the pageant world, including the Jon Benet Ramsey-style junior competitions, Friedman also arrives at some important counterintuitive discoveries and surprising conclusions about the positive aspects including visibility and confidence building, training that has been used to run for public office and to lead in business.

Pageants are a useful window into the changing nature of American femininity, politics, and even parenthood. Friedman’s analysis makes for insightful reading.

Key Points
- **PUB DATE** coincides with the Centennial Anniversary of the first Miss America pageant in September 2020.
- **UNIQUE PERSPECTIVE:** Friedman focuses on presenting a different perspective of pageants. She does not come out against pageants as a whole. In fact, she argues in favor of beauty pageants as an empowering feminist tradition.

Author Bio
**Author Residence:** Providence, RI  **Author Hometown:** Southfield, MI

Hilary Levey Friedman is a sociologist who teaches courses in the Department of Education at Brown University. She holds degrees from Harvard University, Princeton University, and the University of Cambridge. Her first book, Playing to Win: Raising Children in a Competitive Culture, focused on children’s competitive afterschool activities. Friedman also serves as the President of the Rhode Island chapter of the National Organization for Women.
Growing Up on the Gridiron
Football, Friendship, and the Tragic Life of Owen Thomas
By Vicki Mayk

ON SALE 9/1/2020

Summary
Explores the experience of one young man and the concerns about CTE he helped to illuminate, and the cultural allure of football in America that keeps boys trying to make the team despite the dangers.

Award-winning journalist Vicki Mayk offers deep insights in telling the story of Owen Thomas—a star football player at Penn, who took his own life when he was 21, the result of the pain and paranoia caused by chronic traumatic encephalopathy (CTE).

It was Owen’s landmark case which demonstrated that a player didn’t need years of head bashing in the NFL, or multiple sustained brain concussions, or even a single skull-rattling hit to cause the mind-altering, life-threatening, degenerative disease known as CTE. This is also the story of Dr. Ann McKee, the neuropathologist who bucked conventional wisdom, and the football establishment, as she explored Owen’s brain and its larger significance with the tenacity of a rampaging linebacker, building an ever-stronger case that, at the very least, football should not be played by boys under the age of 14.

With its focus on a single life and the community touched by it—Owen’s family, his buddies and girlfriends, his teachers and coaches—Growing Up on the Gridiron explores not only the experience of one young man and the health concern he helped to illuminate, but the cultural meaning of football in America, and the allure that keeps boys trying to make the team despite the dangers. Through the story of Owen’s life and his community, Mayk explores the place of football in our lives. It explores why sports matters for young men and why they continue to take risks despite the evidence of serious, long-term harm. The author doesn’t make a heavy-handed argument to abandon the sport. But she raises a critical question for young players and their communities: does loving a sport justify risking your life?

Key Points
- TIMELY, RELEVANT TOPIC: Football remains a popular sport in the US, and this topic will be relevant for years to come. There are more than 14,000 high schools and 700 colleges with football teams. Even as evidence about the lasting effects of head injuries in football continues to grow, more than 1 million boys and young men continue to play.
- NEW TAKE ON A VITAL ISSUE: While other books have been one-sided, directed at the NFL in particular, this book tells the human story and doesn’t take sides, allowing readers to draw their own conclusions.

Author Bios
Author Residence: Pittsburgh, PA
A former reporter for the Pittsburgh Post-Gazette, Vicki Mayk has enjoyed a 35-year career in journalism and public relations. Her love affair with football began when she was nine-years-old, when her father first took her to a Steelers game. Connect with her at vickimayk.com.
ACE
What Asexuality Reveals About Desire, Society, and the Meaning of Sex
By Angela Chen

ON SALE 9/15/2020

Summary
An engaging exploration of what it means to be asexual in a world that's obsessed with sexual attraction, and what we can all learn about desire and identity by using an ace lens to see the world

What exactly is sexual attraction and what is it like to go through the world not experiencing it? What does asexuality reveal about consent, about compromise, about the structures of society? This accessible guide to asexuality shows that the issues that aces face—confusion around sexual activity, the intersection of sexuality and identity, navigating different needs in relationships—are conflicts that all of us experience as we move through the world. Through interviews, cultural criticism, and memoir, ACE invites all readers to consider big-picture issues through the lens of asexuality.

Journalist Angela Chen weaves together her own path to understanding her asexuality with the perspectives of a diverse group of asexual people. Vulnerable and honest, these stories include a woman who had blood tests done because she was convinced that "not wanting sex" was a sign of serious illness, and a man who grew up in an evangelical household and did everything "right," only to realize after marriage that his experience of sexuality had never been the same as that of others. Also represented are disabled aces, aces of color, non-gender-conforming aces, and aces who don't want romantic relationships who are all navigating a world that is infatuated by sex. Through careful cultural analysis, Chen explores the influence of societal norms upon our understanding of intimacy and relationships and celebrates the sheer breadth of sexuality and queerness.

Key Points
• ACCESSIBLE: Chen crafts a clear, concise, and humorous guide to asexuality for true novices, breaking ground in our understanding of attraction and relationships.
• FIRST OF ITS KIND: One of the first books to exhaustively and accurately explain asexuality, contextualize it within the queer community, and resist characterizing ace people as a monolith

Author Bio
Author Residence: Brooklyn, NY  Author Hometown: Northern California
Angela Chen is a reporter and writer in New York. Currently a senior editor covering ethics and policy at MIT Technology Review, her reporting and criticism have also appeared in The Wall Street Journal, The Atlantic, The Guardian, Paris Review, Electric Literature, Catapult, and more. Chen an active member of the ace community and has spoken about the challenges and opportunities of writing about asexuality for the mainstream media. Connect with her on Twitter @chengela or at www.angelachen.org.
Climate Courage
How Tackling Climate Change Can Build Community, Transform the Economy, and Bridge the Political Divide in America
By Andreas Karelas

ON SALE 9/15/2020

Summary
Citizens can do more to combat climate change than they think--we can band together across the political spectrum and create the green energy-powered sustainable world that’s in our grasp.

There’s a new way of approaching climate change that no one is talking about. It’s empowering citizens, uplifting communities, and it’s changing the fate of our planet. Moreover, it’s helping us live happier, healthier, more fulfilled lives. Most importantly, it’s working. The new approach to climate change recognizes that people, not politics, are the agents of change that can create a sustainable world. And that in order to engage people in climate solutions, we need a new way of framing the problem.

The problem is not that climate change is an insurmountable challenge--it’s that it can seem like it is. Instead of focusing on governmental gridlock and apocalyptic visions, Climate Courage emphasizes the rate of job creation in the green economy, introduces the reader to the growing number of conservatives and people of faith already engaged in climate solutions, and tells the stories of the many communities that have come together to brainstorm clean energy solutions and put them into place. This is a book that will help activists and citizens change the narrative around climate change, avoid succumbing to despair and the inaction it breeds, and build trust among between communities. In coming together to solve the climate crisis, Karelas shows us, we just may rediscover community, gratitude, and service--values which help us live more fulfilling, less consumption-oriented lives.

This book brings a hopeful message that we don’t often hear about--we’re actually already on our way to solving the climate crisis and with more people involved, in both big and small ways, we have a chance at preserving our environment.

Key Points
• STRONG AUTHOR PLATFORM: With more than 15 years of hands-on experience helping organizations become environmentally responsible, Karelas is the founder and executive director of the environmental non-profit RE-volv. He has strong connections to numerous environmental groups as well as college groups and prominent Republicans who are actively engaged in combating climate change.

Author Bio
Author Residence: San Francisco, CA  Author Hometown: New York, NY
Andreas Karelas is the founder and executive director of RE-volv and a dedicated renewable energy advocate with over 15 years of environmental and renewable energy experience. Prior to founding RE-volv, Karelas worked with a number of leading organizations, including the American Council on Renewable Energy (ACORE), the National Audubon Society, blueEnergy, and the Center for Resource Solutions. He is a 2013 Audubon Toyota TogetherGreen Conservation Leadership Fellow and a 2016 OpenIDEO Climate Innovator Fellow. Connect with him at re-volv.org and on Twitter at @AndreasKarelas.
Grabbed
Poets & Writers on Sexual Assault, Empowerment, and Healing
Edited by Elisa Albo, Richard Blanco, Caridad Moro, and Nikki Moustaki

ON SALE 10/6/2020

Summary

A gender-inclusive anthology of poetry and prose that addresses the physical and psychological act of being “grabbed,” or in any way assaulted.

The #MeToo movement, the infamous Access Hollywood tape, and the depraved and hypocritical actions of celebrities, politicians, CEOs, and other powerful people have caused people all over the nation to speak out in outrage, and to express allegiance for the victims of these assaults, and to raise their voices against a culture that has allowed this behavior to continue for too long.

The editors asked writers and poets to add to the conversation about what being “grabbed” means to them in their own experience or in whatever way the word “grabbed” inspired in them. What they received are often searing, heart-rending works, ranging in topic from sexual misconduct to racial injustice, from an unwanted caress to rape, expressed in powerful, beautifully crafted prose and poetry.

The writers represented here, some very well known, such as Rita Dove, Jericho Brown, Eileen Miles, Ana Menedez and Sapphire, as well as some newer voices not yet fully discovered, have mined their collective experiences to reveal their most vulnerable moments, and in some cases, to narrate moments that they have had previously been unwilling or unable to speak of. What results is a collection of emotional, hard-hitting pieces that speak to the aftermath of violation - whether mental, emotional, or physical.

Key Points

- PROMINENT WRITERS: Foreword by Joyce Maynard; afterword by Anita Hill, both substantial and enlightening; editors include Richard Blanco, who also contributes work to the collection. Contributors include such well-known writers as Rita Dove, Jericho Brown, Eileen Miles, Ana Menendez, Molly Peacock, and Sapphire.
Let My People Vote

By Desmond Meade

ON SALE 10/6/2020

Summary
Desmond Meade was a convicted felon who turned his life around and got a law degree; when it came time to vote for his wife for state office, he found he had been disenfranchised.

Desmond Meade survived a tough childhood only to find himself with a felony conviction. He further survived hardships that led him to the brink of suicide. Finding the strength to pull his life together, he graduated from law school and married. When his wife ran for state office, he was filled with pride—but not permitted to vote for her. He spearheaded a movement to restore voting rights to felons who had served their terms, and in November of 2018, Amendment 4 passed with 65% of the vote. Today, Desmond continues his justice work, including fighting back against new restrictions placed on Florida voters, restrictions that have been likened to Jim Crow laws. In this book he tells the story of his battles on all fronts, and of his undying belief in the power of a fully enfranchised nation.

Key Points
• URGENT AND TIMELY TOPIC: Out just in time for the historic 2020 presidential election. Who gets to vote, especially in states like Florida, will be a key determinant.
• AUTHOR PROFILE: Desmond Meade was named one of TIME magazine’s 100 most influential people in 2019 for his role in the movement to restore voting rights to formerly incarcerated Floridians. He was also featured on the cover of the New York Times Magazine. Meade has appeared on Al-Jazeera, Democracy NOW and MSNBC with Joy Ann Reid, among dozens of other media appearances; he is a guest columnist for the Huffington Post.

Author Bio
Author Residence: Florida
Desmond Meade is the President of the Florida Rights Restoration Coalition, Chair of Floridians for a Fair Democracy, and a graduate of Florida International University College of Law. As a formerly homeless returning citizen, he fought to restore voting rights to over 1.4 million Floridians with past felony convictions. Desmond and his wife and five children live in Florida. Connect with him: @desmondmeade

Advance Praise
“Homeless and suicidal, with a felony record, Desmond fought to graduate with a law degree. When he learned he could not vote for his own wife, a candidate for the state legislature, he became president of the Florida Rights Restoration Coalition and led the charge to adopt a constitutional amendment to re-enfranchise Floridians with felonies. Amendment 4 needed 60% of the vote to pass; in November 2018, it received 65%. It was the largest expansion of voting rights in a half-century, and Desmond made it happen.”

—Stacey Abrams
An Incomplete List of Names
Poems
By Michael Torres

ON SALE  10/6/2020

Summary
A community of Mexican American boys grapple with assimilation versus the impulse to create a world of their own through graffiti.

Winner of the 2020 National Poetry Series, selected by Raquel Silas Rivera.

Who do we belong to? Michael Torres ponders the roles that names, hometown, language, and others’ perceptions each play on our understanding of ourselves. The poet’s obsession with names may be explained by his background as a visual artist who spent his adolescence tagging the walls of his hometown with the vivid punched-up letters of his own nickname. The son of Mexican immigrants, Torres finds a great deal of his identity is decided for him by social expectations and American prejudice. More than a boyhood ballad or a coming-of-age story, this collection illuminates the artists’ struggle to make sense of the disparate identities others have forced upon him.

His description of his childhood is both idyllic and nightmarish, sometimes veering between the two extremes, sometimes a surreal combination of both at once. He calls himself “the Pachuco’s grandson” or REMEK or Michael, depending on the context, and others follow his lead. Throughout this collection, the poet wonders aloud what others see when they look at his skin, what they hear in his voice. He worries about losing his identification card, lest someone mistake his brown skin for evidence of a crime he never committed. He wonders what his students—imprisoned men who remind him of his high school friends and his own brother—make of him. He wonders how often his neighbors think about where he came from, if they ever do imagine where he came from. He suffers imposter syndrome, especially when he admits to his friends that he speaks Spanish “a little bit” – an immigrant who is always on the brink of losing his mother tongue.

When Torres returns to his hometown to find the layers of spray-painted evidence he and his boyhood friends left behind to prove their existence have been washed away by well-meaning municipal workers, he wonders how to collect a list of names that could match the eloquent truths those bubbled letters once secured.

Author Bios
Author Residence: Mankato, MN  Author Hometown: Pomona, CA

Michael Torres was born and brought up in Pomona, CA, where he spent his adolescence as a graffiti artist. In 2019, he received Fellowships and awards from the National Endowment for the Arts, the Bread Load Writers’ Conference, and The Loft Literary Center for the Mirrors & Windows Program. His writing has been featured in POETRY, Ploughshares, The Georgia Review, Tinderbox Literary Journal, The Missouri Review, and many more. Currently, he teaches in the MFA program at the Minnesota State University, Mankato, and through the Minnesota Prison Writing Workshop. This will be his first poetry collection.
Summary

An intellectual biography that dismantles the Woody Guthrie we have been taught—the rough and ready rambling man—to reveal an artist who discovered how intimacy is crucial for political struggle.

Woody Guthrie is often mythologized as the quintessential American “ramblin’ man,” a real life Steinbeckian folk hero, who fought for working class interests and mentored Bob Dylan. Biographers and fans frame him as a foe of fascism and focus on his politically charged folk songs. What’s less examined is how the bulk of his work—most of which is unpublished or little-known—explores the role of illness and intimacy in leftist political thinking.

American studies scholar Gustavus Stadler revives Guthrie’s story as a dramatic portrait understood more fully through the lens of disability and close relationships, as he faced setbacks including his daughter’s death, an obscenity arrest, therapy in a sex deviance clinic, and repeated stays in mental wards. Guthrie believed art was an instrument for breaking down the boundaries between people, boundaries that make them vulnerable to fascism’s call. When paired with unionism, art is thus a powerful weapon against loneliness and isolation, the customary emotional states of capitalist cultures. Fresh and timely, Stadler shows how Guthrie can serve as a model for modern leftists grappling with the dehumanizing mechanisms of capitalism and fascism today.

Key Points

- FRESH ANGLE ON AN AMERICAN ICON that tells the story of Guthrie through the lens of disability and how his fascination with the body and intimacy informed his art and political thinking. The book shows the true legacy of his work and elevates him as an artist and political thinker.
- INCLUDES COMMENTARY ON PREVIOUSLY UNKNOWN GUTHRIE WORKS, including memoir, fiction, essays, experimental verse, paintings, and hundreds of songs that have rarely been researched and written about.

Author Bios

Author Residence: Haverford, PA  
Author Hometown: New York, NY  
Gustavus Stadler is a Professor of English at Haverford and has written for SF Weekly and the Bay Guardian. A well-established scholar of 19th- and 20th-century U.S. culture and popular music, he is author of Troubling Minds and former co-editor of the Journal of Popular Music Studies. His work on Woody Guthrie received the support of a fellowship from the National Endowment for the Humanities for 2015-16; he was awarded the BMI Woody Guthrie Fellowship that same year.
Dance We Do
A Poet Explores Black Dance
By Ntozake Shange

ON SALE 10/13/2020

Summary

In her first posthumous work, the revered poet crafts a personal history of Black dance and captures the careers of legendary dancers along with her own rhythmic beginnings.

Many learned of Ntozake Shange’s ability to blend movement with words when her acclaimed choreopoem *for colored girls who have considered suicide/when the rainbow is enuf* made its way to Broadway in 1976, eventually winning an Obie Award the following year. But before she found fame as a writer, poet, performer, dancer, and storyteller, she was an untrained student who found her footing in others’ classrooms.

After 20 years of research, writing, and devotion, Ntozake Shange tells her history of Black dance through a series of portraits of the dancers who trained her, moved with her, and inspired her to share the power of the Black body with her audience. She finds that Black dance is a life of a people; one that speaks to the overlapping histories and diverse cultures that stem from the diaspora.

Shang celebrates and honors the contributions of the often unrecognized pioneers who continued the path Katherine Dunham paved through the 20th century. Featuring a range of artistry and crossing generational lines, Shange sits down with prominent figures such as Mickey Davidson, Halifu Osumare, Camille Brown, and Dianne McIntyre in personal interviews. In what is now one of her final works, Ntozake Shange welcomes the reader into the world she loved best. *Dance We Do* is a tribute to those who taught her, the art she cherished, and her passion for rhythm, movement, and dance.

Key Points

- **FEATURES NINE DANCERS AND CHOREOGRAPHERS:** Shange gifts readers with her history of Black dance in intimate vignettes of her early beginnings learning from the greats in Harlem, portraits of those who craft eternal movements, and personal interviews with dance greats including Mickey Davidson, Halifu Osumare, and Camille Brown.

- **A LITERARY EVENT:** After over 20 years of research and dedication to capturing Black dance, the legendary author’s work is finally compiled into one unique package that she was still working on prior to her passing.

- **PERSONAL FOREWORD AND AFTERWORD:** Shange’s longtime executive personal assistant and collaborator, Renée L. Charlow, and the literary advisor to her trust, Alexis Pauline Gumbs, worked to complete the book in Ntozake’s vision with the inclusion of their own meaningful tributes to the late poet to introduce and close the collection.

Author Bios

Ntozake Shange (1948-2018) was a renowned poet, novelist, playwright, and performer, best known for her Broadway-produced and Obie Award–winning choreopoem, *for colored girls who have considered suicide/when the rainbow is enuf*. She wrote numerous works of fiction, poetry, and non-fiction, including *If I Can Cook/You Know God Can, Wild Beauty, Sassafras, Cypress and Indigo, Betsey Brown, and Liliane*. 
The Radiant Lives of Animals

By Linda Hogan

ON SALE 10/13/2020

Summary

From a celebrated Chickasaw writer, a spiritual meditation, in prose and poetry, on our relationship to the animal world, in an illustrated gift package.

Drawing on many native nations’ ancient stories and spiritual traditions, celebrated Indigenous writer and environmentalist Linda Hogan shows us that the soul exists in those delicate places where the natural world extends into human consciousness. From her modest forest home in Colorado, and venturing throughout the region, especially to her beloved Oklahoma, she introduces us to horses, packrats, snakes, mountain lions, elks, wolves, bees, and so many others whose presence changed her life. Concerned that human lives and the natural world are too often shaped by people who are separated from the land and its inhabitants, Hogan offers a mindful connection to nature as a solution. In this illuminating collection of essays and poems, sprinkled with native art, Hogan depicts her own intense relationships with animals as an example to the rest of us. Altogether, this beautifully packaged gift is a reverential reminder for all of us to witness and appreciate the radiant lives of animals.

Key Points

• CELEBRATED AUTHOR: Hogan was inducted into the Chickasaw Nation Hall of Fame in 2007 for her contributions to indigenous literatures. She is one of the foremost native voices in American literature, and one of the most beloved writers of the Midwest. Her work has been translated into all major languages by the U.S. Information Office.

• A PERFECT GIFT for animal lovers, environmentalists, naturalists, fans of Indigenous writers like Louise Erdrich and Joy Harjo, lovers of native art, poetry and essay readers— all of these elements are included in one beautiful package.

Author Bios

Author Residence: Idledale, CO  Author Hometown: Denver, CO

Linda Hogan is the author of many poetry collections and novels and is currently serving as the Writer in Residence for The Chickasaw Nation; she is also a part of the Oglala Lakota. She was born in Oklahoma and now lives and works in Idledale, Colorado, a town of 252 human souls. Her literary works have earned her awards and fellowships including the National Endowment of the Arts, a Guggenheim, a Lifetime Achievement Award from the Native Writers Circle of America, and most recently, the Thoreau Prize from PEN and a Native Arts and Culture Award. Connect with Linda at www.lindahoganwriter.com.
Launching While Female
Smashing the System That Holds Women Entrepreneurs Back
By Susanne Althoff

ON SALE 10/27/2020

Summary

A rallying cry that exposes the obstacles that women and non-binary entrepreneurs face in the business world and a roadmap for a more inclusive and economically successful future

Journalist and professor Susanne Althoff exposes the ways in which the current start-up paradigm was engineered by and for white men, and the ways in which women, non-binary, and trans folks—especially those who are non-white—face impossible barriers to landing funding from venture capitalists to make their companies viable. Through interviews with over 100 founders of small start-ups, Althoff paints a picture of a systemically rigged start-up culture. She tackles the gendered perceptions of innovation and who is allowed to play; for example, why women are called “mompreneurs” rather than business women and why only 18 Black women founders of companies have been able to break the $1 million threshold for funding ... ever.

Althoff provides a way forward, providing proof that companies started by women are a boon to society and the economy, and offering advice for non-male people starting their own companies.

Key Points

• OFFERS CONCRETE SOLUTIONS: Althoff does not focus on Lean in-type advice, but rather on solutions for a future of innovation where women aren’t encouraged to “act like men” to get what they want, but where the doors are genuinely open to other ways of thinking and new possibilities.

• CRUCIAL ISSUE FOR THE FUTURE OF OUR ECONOMY: Women-led businesses succeed. If women started growth-oriented businesses at the same rate as men, according to one estimate, we’d have 15 million additional jobs in the U.S. within two years. Female CEOs typically run companies with better returns, fewer risky moves, and happier employees.

• INCLUSIVE PERSPECTIVE: Has a more inclusive lens than many other "women in business" books. For example; Althoff shows with how “women’s only” entrepreneurial spaces really only engage with white women and are often exclusionary to non-binary people and non-white women.

Author Bio

Author Residence: Boston, MA    Author Hometown: Baltimore, MD

Susanne Althoff is a veteran journalist and an assistant professor at Emerson College in Boston, where she teaches publishing entrepreneurship and women’s media. She also works as advisor to female founders of media and tech companies. Before joining Emerson in 2015, Althoff worked 22 years as a magazine editor, including six years as the editor-in-chief of The Boston Globe’s Sunday magazine. Her writing has appeared in WIRED, The Boston Globe, The Los Angeles Times, and other publications. Connect with her on Twitter @SusanneAlthoff.
Dangerous Religious Ideas
The Deep Roots of Self-Critical Faith in Judaism, Christianity, and Islam
By Rachel S. Mikva

ON SALE 11/3/2020

Summary

Reveals how faith traditions have long passed down tools for self-examination and debate, because all religious ideas—not just extremist ones—can cause harm as well as embody important moral teachings.

Fundamentalist versions of faith are often the subject of critique. These versions of a faith tradition, we think, make a mockery of the important moral teachings at their heart. But in a provocative book grounded in close readings of scripture and tradition in Christianity, Islam, and Judaism, religious scholar Rachel S. Mikva corrects this easy assumption: all religious ideas are dangerous, she says, and thus self-critical faith is essential.

Mikva then takes her argument one step further, showing that the Abrahamic religions contain the seeds of the work necessary to take on dangerous religious ideas and foster self-critical faith. This book demonstrates the self-critical capacities of Judaism, Christianity, and Islam by exploring three themes—Scripture, Election, and Reward & Punishment—identifying their perilous power and positive potential, and investigating how the traditions have historically grappled with them.

For instance, while Scripture’s abiding relevance can inspire great goodness, its authority has also been wielded to defend slavery, marginalize the LGBTQ community, ignore science, and justify violence. Many readers presume their understanding of its meaning is absolute, forgetting how these sacred texts and the history of interpretation have valued multiple perspectives and recognized ongoing rhythms of change. It is not a modern phenomenon to debate the nature of truth, hold space for doubt, value humility, and question the capacity of human beings to know things—especially about God and God’s will—with certainty.

Traditionally rooted and radically engaged, this book’s collection of religious voices certainly substantiates the dangers of religious ideas. Yet it also initiates a complementary discourse that brings religious wisdom and insight to enhance public discussion in pursuit of the common good.

Author Bio
Rachel S. Mikva serves as the Rabbi Herman E. Schaalman Chair and Associate Professor in Jewish Studies, and the Senior Faculty Fellow of the InterReligious Institute at Chicago Theological Seminary. Rabbi Mikva went to teach and earn her Ph.D. at Jewish Theological Seminary, focusing on rabbinic literature and the history of scriptural interpretation. Her courses and research address a range of Jewish and comparative studies, with a special interest in the intersections of scripture, culture and ethics.
Education Across Borders
Immigration, Race, and Identity in the Classroom
By Dr. Marie Lily Cerat, Patrick Sylvain, and Dr. Jalene Tamerat

ON SALE  11/10/2020
Summary
Explores how teachers can effectively educate students who immigrate from Haiti, the Dominican Republic, and other island nations and countries.

The practices and values in the U.S. educational system position linguistically, culturally, and socioeconomically diverse children and families at a disadvantage. In this collection, three educators and will draw on research, as well as their experiences as immigrants and educators, to address racial inequity in the classroom. With a focus on Haitian and Dominican students in the U.S., the authors will reveal the challenges that immigrant and first-generation students face. They’ll also offer solutions to pressing questions such as:

- How can educators support Haitian Creole-speaking students?
- How do language policies and social justice intersect?
- How can educators use culturally relevant teaching and community funds of knowledge to enrich school curriculum?

Key Points
- IDEAL FOR K-12 EDUCATORS: Essays provide historical background and pedagogical solutions to equip educators with knowledge and skills to better serve students
- WELL-CONNECTED AUTHORS: With connections to higher education, social justice organizations, and professional teacher development programs, the authors are positioned to reach diverse readership.

Author Bios
Patrick Sylvain is a Haitian American writer, essayist and poet, and instructor of Haitian language and culture at Brown University’s Center for Latin American and Caribbean Studies. He has been published in several anthologies, magazines and reviews, including African American Review, Agni, American Poetry Review, Callaloo, Crab Orchard Review, Haitian Times and Ploughshares.

Dr. Jalene Tamerat is the Director of New Teacher Development for Boston Public Schools, where she leads the district’s strategy for training, supporting, and retaining strong novice teachers. As a practitioner and scholar, Jalene focuses on the cultivation of teachers who will be able to respond to the instructional and civic needs of diverse urban youth in a globally interconnected world.

Dr. Marie Lily Cerat has worked in the K-16 New York public education system as a classroom teacher, a staff developer and a college teacher for over 20 years. Her work examines the effects of the exclusion of Haitian language and culture in the education of Haitian learners and has been published in Rethinking Schools, the Journal of Haitian Studies, and the International Journal of the Sociology of Language, among other publications.
What We Don’t Talk About When We Talk About Fat
By Aubrey Gordon

ON SALE 11/17/2020

Summary
From the creator of Your Fat Friend, an explosive indictment on the systemic and cultural issues facing plus-sized people that will move us toward creating an agenda for fat justice.

Part memoir, part social critique, What We Don’t Talk about When We Talk about Fat calls for civil rights movements and identity politics to be inclusive of plus-sized people’s experiences. As Aubrey Gordon argues, “I did not come to body positivism for self-esteem. I came to it for social justice.” By sharing her experiences as well as those of other fat people, she illuminates that to be fat in our society is to be seen as an undeniable failure, unlovable, unforgivable, and morally condemnable. It is to be denied doctors’ services, to be mocked on airplanes, to be the punch line of jokes, to be a regulated health risk, to be “fatcalled,” to be made more visible and invisible at the same time. To be fat is to be denied humanity.

Unlike the recent wave of memoirs and quasi self-help books that encourage readers to love and accept themselves, the author pushes the discussion further towards authentic fat activism, which includes ending legal weight discrimination, giving equal access to health care for large people, increased access to public spaces, and ending anti-fat violence.

What We Don’t Talk About When We Talk About Fat is a primer on the cultural attitudes and social systems that led to people being denied basic needs because they are fat. Studies show that roughly 85% of managers say they wouldn’t consider hiring a fat woman; fat survivors of sexual assault are less likely to be believed and less likely than their thin counterparts to report various crimes; 27% of very fat women and 13% of very fat men attempt suicide; over 50% of doctors describe their fat patients as “awkward, unattractive, ugly and noncompliant”; and in 49 states, it’s legal—even routine—to deny employment because of their size. Readers will come away with a better understanding that fat activism isn’t about self-discovery or feeling good in your own skin, it’s about not being denied civil rights.

Key Points
• AUTHOR PLATFORM: Your Fat Friend has 44k Twitter followers, 85k Instagram followers, 15k Facebook followers, and receives about 58k reads per essay. She’s a columnist for Self Magazine and a frequent contributor to Medium. A documentary will soon be released about her.

Author Bios
Aubrey Gordon writes under the pseudonym of “Your Fat Friend” illuminating the experiences of fat people and urging greater compassion for readers of all sizes. Her work has reached over 4 million readers and has been translated into 19 languages, garnering an average of 58,000 readers per essay. She lives in the Northwest, where she works as a community organizer. Connect with her at yourfatfriend.com, and as YrFatFriend on Instagram, Twitter, and Facebook.
The AOC Generation
How Millennials Are Seizing Power and Rewriting the Rules of American Politics
By David Freedlander

ON SALE 12/08/2020

Summary
A grassroots look at the future of US politics as the next generation of progressive organizers—sparked by the unstoppable rise of Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez—leads us toward a new direction.

The AOC Generation examines the resurgent young left—including groups like the Democratic Socialists of America and Brand New Congress—and documents how and why they got active and energized in political organizing, the success and limitations of their approaches—and through their stories, it tells the history and the future of a generation.

In 2018, the country watched as Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez rose from unknown part-time bartender to the halls of Congress at the age of 29 and became a household name for her progressive, passionate politics. With firsthand accounts detailing the final days of her campaign, which he spent beside her as she fought for every last vote, Freedlander connects her ample political talents and ability to command the media and the public’s attention to the newfound political awakening of millennial activists. Inspired in part by the Bernie Sanders campaign, and furthered by a series of critical issues including catastrophic climate change, a rigid political system, and widening income inequality, these young people organized into new groups that became a conduit for their energy, ideas, and passions. And all of their activity isn’t just political. They’ve created their own media eco-system, with podcasts, streaming networks, and even dating sites that cater to their interests.

With this new generation gaining traction, with little signs of backing down and securing crucial political seats as Ocasio-Cortez did in 2018, The AOC Generation presents a thoughtful analysis of how they came of age in an America they are determined to reshape.

Author Bios

David Freedlander is a contributor to Politico Magazine and New York Magazine, and writes for a variety of publications about politics, the arts, and New York City, including The New York Times, The Daily Beast, Slate, Rolling Stone, and Town and Country. Freedlander an adjunct professor at the Columbia University Graduate School of Journalism where he teaches politics and political theory, and is frequently called onto CNN, MSNBC and national radio programs to discuss current events. He lives in Queens, NY. Connect with him at davidfreedlander.com and on Twitter (@freedlander).

Key Points
- BEHIND THE SCENES REPORTING: At first assigned to cover her opponent, Freedlander spent the final days of Ocasio-Cortez’s primary election by her side, covering her personal and on the ground campaigning throughout the congressional district as she fought her way to a shocking victory.

Market
For fans of the Netflix documentary Knock Down the House; for readers looking to understand the rise of the millennial progressive movement and the new direction of politics; for readers of Bernie Sanders’ Where Do We Go from Here and Our Revolution

BEACON PRESS
HARDCOVER, 240 Pages
$26.95
978-0-8070-3643-3
Julian Bond’s Time to Teach
A History of the Southern Civil Rights Movement
By Julian Bond
Foreword by Pamela Horowitz, Introduction by Jeanne Theoharis, Photographs by Danny Lyon, and Afterword by Vann R. Newkirk II

ON SALE 1/12/2021

Summary
A masterclass in the Civil Rights Movement from one of the legendary activists who led it.

Horace “Julian” Bond was an influential social justice activist, politician, and visionary who is best known as one of the founders of the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee (SNCC). For over two decades, he taught a popular class on the history of the civil rights movement.

Compiled from his original lecture notes, Julian Bond’s Time to Teach brings his invaluable teachings to a new generation of readers and provides a necessary toolkit for today’s activists in the era of Black Lives Matter and #MeToo. Bond sought to dismantle the perception of the civil rights movement as a peaceful and respectable protest that quickly garnered widespread support. Through his lectures, he detailed the ground-shaking disruption the movement caused, its immense unpopularity at the time, and the bravery of activists who chose to disturb order to pursue justice. Beginning with the movement’s origins in the early 20th century, Bond tackles key events such as the Montgomery Bus Boycott, the Little Rock Nine, Freedom Rides, Mississippi Voter Registration, the 16th Street Baptist Church Bombing, The March on Washington, Freedom Summer, and Selma. He explains the youth activism, community ties, and strategizing required to build strenuous and successful movements. With his firsthand accounts of the civil rights movement and original photos from Danny Lyon, Julian Bond’s Time to Teach makes history come alive.

Author Bios
Horace Julian Bond (1940-2015) was a leader in the civil rights movement, a politician, professor, writer, and activist. A founding member of the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee, he went on to serve as president of the Southern Poverty Law Center from 1971 to 1979. He served 10 years in the Georgia House and 6 terms in the Georgia Senate. From 1998-2010, Bond was the Board Chairman of the NAACP. He taught at several universities including the University of Virginia where he spent 20 years as professor in the history department. He is the author of A Time To Speak, A Time To Act.

Pamela Horowitz was one of the first lawyers hired at the Southern Poverty Law Center. She worked in partnership with her late husband, Julian Bond, in multiple public, private, and academic projects and is involved in several activities honoring his legacy.

Jeanne Theoharis is Distinguished Professor of Political Science at Brooklyn College of the City University of New York. She is the author of The Rebellious Life of Mrs. Rosa Parks (NAACP Image Award winner 2014) and A More Beautiful and Terrible History. Jeanne was Julian Bond’s student, teaching assistant, and mentee.

Vann R. Newkirk II is a staff writer at The Atlantic, where he covers politics and policy.
Rachetdemic

By Christopher Emdin

ON SALE 1/19/2021

Summary

A revolutionary new educational model, part philosophy and part pedagogy, encouraging educators to provide spaces for students to display their academic brilliance without sacrificing their identity.

Bestselling author and educator Christopher Emdin advocates a new identity and sensibility for educators which bridges the seemingly disparate worlds of the ivory tower and urban classroom. Highlighting the major inequities in urban education, Emdin argues in favor of a simple solution: that being “ratchetdemic,” or both ratchet and academic (like having rap battles about science) can empower students to embrace themselves, their background, and their education.

Originating from hip-hop, “ratchet” refers to the way individuals describe themselves and embrace aspects of who they are - qualities that are often demonized. Modern schooling, Emdin argues, dismisses ratchet identity as anti-intellectual and punishes youth for straying from the academic norms. Emdin explains these deviations include so-called “disruptive behavior” and celebration of hip hop music and culture, which leaves young people in classrooms frustrated and uninspired. Ratchetdemic reclaims the word, and proposes an alternative model to education that centers those who do not fit into established academic paradigms.

Key Points

- **INTRODUCES A NEW CONCEPT:** Rachetdemic, which aims to reclaim a word historically used to marginalize students of color, is a way of embracing hip-hop culture and academic achievement, allowing students and educators of color to be their true selves within educational spaces.
- **A NATIONALLY-RECOGNIZED EDUCATOR,** Emdin is frequently invited to speak at colleges, conferences, and institutions and is a frequent commentator on education and and race for publications including The New York Times, PBS, Wall Street Journal, and Washington Post, among others. His hundreds of thousands of Twitter followers are keyed into his every move and excited about new projects.

Author Bio

Author Residence: New York, NY  Author Hometown: Maryland

Christopher Emdin is Professor and Program Director of Science Education in the Department of Mathematics, Science and Technology at Teachers College, Columbia University, where he also serves as Associate Director of the Institute for Urban and Minority Education. The creator of the #HipHopEd social media movement and the Science Genius program, he is author of the New York Times Bestseller For White Folks Who Teach in the Hood...and the Rest of Y'all Too and Urban Science Education for the Hip-hop Generation. Connect with him on Twitter @chrisemdin, or on his website www.chrisemdin.com
With Her Fist Raised
Dorothy Pitman Hughes and the Transformative Power of Black Community Activism
By Laura L. Lovett

ON SALE 1/19/2021

Summary

The first biography of Dorothy Pitman Hughes, co-founder of Ms. Magazine and trailblazing Black feminist activist whose work made children, race, and welfare rights central to the women’s movement.

Historian Laura Lovett weaves together a biography of an activist who was intersectional to the core revealing a remarkable legacy that few have known until now and will appeal to readers interested in urban studies, activism, and Black women’s history.

Dorothy Pitman Hughes was a transformative community organizer in New York City in the 1970s, who shared the stage with Gloria Steinem for five years, captivating audiences around the country. After leaving rural Georgia in the 1950s, she moved to New York, determined to fight for civil rights and equality. Lovett traces Pitman Hughes’ transformation into a powerhouse activist determined to take on the needs of her community and build a platform for empowerment. She created lasting change by revitalizing her West Side neighborhood, a community subjected to racial discrimination, with nonexistent childcare and sub-standard housing, in which poverty, drug use, lack of job training, and the effects of the Vietnam War were evident. She imagined and then created a high quality child care center which also offered job training, adult education classes, a Youth Action corps, housing assistance and food resources. Pitman Hughes’ realization that the area could be revitalized by actively engaging and including the community was prescient and is startlingly relevant. As her stature and influence grew to a national level, Pitman Hughes went from the West Side to spending several years traversing the country with Steinem and educating people about feminism, childcare, and race. Pitman Hughes’s community activism was transformed when she moved to Harlem in the 1970s to counter gentrification. She bought the franchise to the Miss Greater New York City pageant in order to demonstrate that black was beautiful. She also opened an office supply store and became a powerful voice for Black women entrepreneurs and Black-owned businesses only to be thwarted by plans for economic development that favored national chains over local businesses. Throughout every phase of her life, Pitman Hughes understood the transformative power of activism with the Black community.

Author Bio

Laura L. Lovett is an Associate Professor of History at the University of Massachusetts, Amherst, and specializes in 20th century U.S. women’s history and the history of children’s youth. Lovett is the author of Conceiving the Future: Pronatalism, Reproduction, and the Family in the United States, 1890-1930 and the co-editor of several books including “It’s Our Movement Now”: Black Women’s Politics and the 1977 National Women’s Conference. She is the recipient of numerous honors and was selected as a Distinguished Lecturer for the Organization of American Historians in 2017.
The Rebellious Life of Mrs. Rosa Parks
Young Reader’s Edition
By Jeanne Theoharis, Adapted by Brandy Colbert

ON SALE 1/26/2021

Summary

This definitive biography of Rosa Parks accessibly examines her six decades of activism, challenging young readers perceptions of her as an accidental actor in the civil rights movement.

Presenting a corrective to the popular notion of Rosa Parks as the quiet seamstress performed a single act that sparked the Montgomery Bus Boycott and birthed the modern civil rights movement, Jeanne Theoharis provides a revealing window into Parks’ politics and decades of activism. She shows readers how the movement radically sought—for more than a half a century—to expose and eradicate the American racial-caste system in jobs, schools, public services, and criminal justice and how Rosa Parks was a key player throughout.

The original text is fully adapted by the award-winning young adult author Brandy Colbert, for middle-grade and young adult readers to include archival images and personal papers of Rosa Parks, and to provide the necessary historical context to bring the multi-faceted, decades long civil rights movement to life. Colbert creates an engaging and comprehensive narrative centered on Parks’ life of activism, to encourage readers not only to question where and who their history comes, but to search for histories beyond the dominant narratives.

Author Bios

Jeanne Theoharis is Distinguished Professor of Political Science at Brooklyn College of City University of New York and the author or co-author of seven books and numerous articles on the civil rights and Black Power movements, the politics of race and education, social welfare and civil rights in post-9/11 America. Her widely acclaimed biography The Rebellious Life of Mrs. Rosa Parks won a 2014 NAACP Image Award and the Letitia Woods Brown Award from the Association of Black Women Historians and was named one of the 25 Best Academic Titles of 2013 by Choice. Her work has appeared in the New York Times, Washington Post, MSNBC, The Nation, The Root, Slate, The Intercept, and the Chronicle of Higher Education. Connect with her on Twitter (@JeanneTheoharis).

Brandy Colbert is the award-winning author of several books for children and teens, including The Only Black Girls in Town, The Voting Booth, and Stonewall Book Award winner Little & Lion. She is co-writer of Misty Copeland’s Life in Motion young readers edition, and her short fiction and essays have been published in a variety of critically acclaimed anthologies for young people. Her books have been chosen as Junior Library Guild selections, and have appeared on many best of lists, including the American Library Association’s Best Fiction for Young Adults and Quick Picks for Reluctant Young Adult Readers. She is on faculty at Hamline University’s MFA program in writing for children, and lives in Los Angeles.