



David R. Godine, Publisher

*Books that Matter for People Who Care*

SPRING & SUMMER 2018



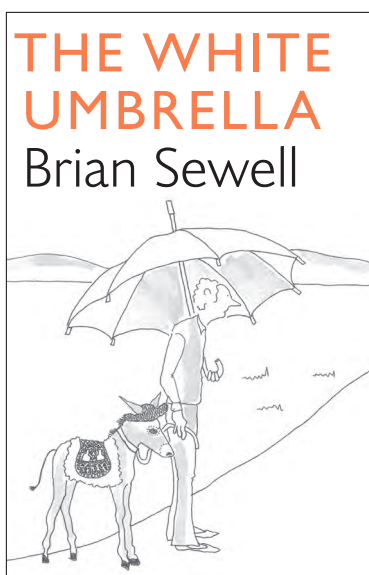
## Publisher's Note

MOST MORNINGS I get in my ancient Prius (now pushing 220,000 miles) and drive to the nearest T stop, Ashmont, pretty much in the heart of Dorchester. From there, as a Senior Citizen, I am entitled to ride anywhere in the city for only \$1.10. On the train into town I often look around and it's sometimes a challenge to locate another remotely similar face. On the seats riding with me are people of every color, race and nationality, a real potpourri of working class and white collar America. Even the sign announcing the closure of the Wollaston station for repairs is printed in four languages. The experience brings home the concept that this is, indeed, a country of immigrants—perhaps more so in Boston, about to celebrate its 400th anniversary, and more visible on the Red Line than on the bus line in Fargo, ND. But it does point to one reason why this company has deliberately located itself in a diverse and multi-cultural urban center where it is difficult to forget that America, like my favorite dog, is a mongrel nation. And should be proud of it.

But despite being the point of convergence of numerous cultures, in terms of literature, America is hardly broad-minded or accommodating. Almost all our best-selling authors are white, native-born, and English-speaking. Most (but not all) are male. And only three percent of books published in this country are translations from a foreign language. At Godine, it has been my hope that this list reflects a multi-national and deliberately secular position. Contained in it are books from England, France, Austria, Sweden, and Italy. It includes great writers like Andre Dubus, Charles Reznikoff, Georges Perec, D.H. Lawrence and Marian Engel, great artists like Adam Van Doren, Quentin Blake, and Mary Azarian. There are discoveries: the furniture of Isaac Vose (a native of my hometown of Milton, in which also reside the book's authors and designer). And there are celebrations: in *Heroes of Horticulture*, Barbara Robinson takes us on a garden tour of the people behind the flowers, plants, paths and trees, the pioneers who helped shape the face of American gardening. The list also has a darker side. Romain Gary's haunting novel, *The Roots of Heaven*, is centered around a Holocaust survivor who tries in vain to halt the senseless slaughter of elephants in equatorial Africa; François Place's memorable classic *The Last Giants* recounts the search for, and the eventual elimination of, the last survivors of an unknown and undiscovered race.

I could go on, but one responsibility of a publisher is surely to hold a mirror up before society, to allow it, and sometimes to *force* it, to reconsider its priorities and its prejudices, its ideas and its ideals. Not every book we issue is a deathless contribution to art, literature, and culture, but for the most part we hit more than we miss. I commend these books, in all their various singularities, to your attention and, as always, am grateful for the supporters, individual and institutional, who have always found something to love in the books we publish.

 D.R.G



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## The White Umbrella

by BRIAN SEWELL

illustrated by SALLY ANN LASSON

For Mr B it was love at first sight. He saw the tiny donkey being abused by its owner and instantly reacted by coming to her rescue. He named her Pavlova (on account of her long legs) and knew their destinies would be entwined. There was no way his film crew was going to fly them both back to London, so Mr B quite sensibly decided they would travel overland—and what a trip it turns out to be! He leaves his film crew in Pakistan and embarks on a journey, donkey and umbrella in tow, across Iran, through Turkey, into Germany and France, to bring her finally to his suburban London home. Enroute, they encounter drug smugglers, carpet salesmen, and hosts of every variety and venality, until they finally hitch a lift from Hector, an aristocratic Brit in whose Rolls-Royce Silver Shadow the two eccentric Englishmen successfully smuggle Pavlova across The Channel. This is among those small and apparently “lightweight” novels you begin with modest expectations and complete with genuine delight. It has all the characteristics of the best British prose: the coy understatement, the self-deprecating wit, the love of foreign travel, culture, and adventure, the unrelenting affection for animals of all kinds. We loved it.

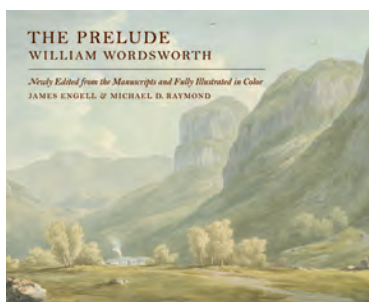
*A beautifully written book which should become a classic.*  
The Times (London)

*There is constant pleasure in Sewell's prose: the elegance of phrase, the wry humor and the clarity of insight.*  
The Independent on Sunday

BRIAN SEWELL (1931–2015) was familiar as Britain's most celebrated and controversial art critic. He wrote for *The Tatler* and *The Evening Standard*, appeared on television and radio and was known for his uncompromising views on modern art. With two bestselling volumes of autobiography—*Outsider* and *Outsider II*—he was an Orwell Prize-winning journalist and renowned animal-lover. *The White Umbrella* was his first novel.

SALLY ANN LASSON started work as a cartoonist at *The Independent* in London in 1986. She has written extensively for major newspapers and her cartoon books have been translated into several languages.





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 PUBLICATION: August 2018  
 RIGHTS: World English



# The Prelude

written by WILLIAM WORDSWORTH

edited by JAMES ENGELL &

MICHAEL D. RAYMOND

We are pleased to announce that *The Prelude* is again available in hardcover. This, William Wordsworth's masterful autobiographical work, composed in blank verse, is generally considered the poem at the heart of the Romantic movement and one of the great confessional poems of the English language. In this fully illustrated and annotated edition, it finally receives the treatment it deserves. Inspired by his dear friend, Samuel Taylor Coleridge, the poem charts the development of the author's mind, from childhood to Cambridge, London, the Alps, and France, touching on subjects ranging from leisure to literature, nature to imagination (and pretty much everything in between). A meditation on the self, this work still stands as a masterpiece of English literature, and is here complemented and enhanced by 200 contemporary color plates that both illuminate and elucidate the text. Scrupulously selected and edited from the definitive manuscripts, the marginal notes and glosses provide an extra touch that make this edition a glorious addition to any library of enduring literature.

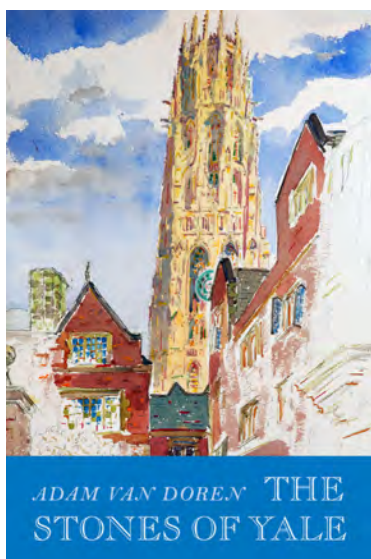
*A marvelous book—the great poem magnificently illustrated with 130 full-color paintings, drawing, maps and other visual aids contemporaneous with its writing.*

LLOYD SCHWARTZ, WBUR's The ARTery

*These [illustrations] offer to the American reader's eye an array of scenes indispensable to an understanding of Wordsworth's world . . . At last—with Engell's eloquent and succinct introduction, helpful marginal glosses, notes, a chronology, and maps—American readers and students have a Prelude of their own.*

HELEN VENDLER, The New York Review of Books

Forthcoming in August, the new softcover edition will include an Afterword by the renowned critic Helen Vendler, discussing the poem's primacy of place in the poetic tradition. We are taking orders now. Reserve your copy of this classic for only \$29.95.



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### An Artist in Venice

FORMAT: Hardcover  
 SIZE: 6½ × 9¼ inches  
 PAGES: 128  
 PRICE: \$26.95

### The House Tells the Story

FORMAT: Hardcover  
 SIZE: 12½ × 9½ inches  
 PAGES: 196  
 PRICE: \$40.00

## The Stones of Yale

written and illustrated by ADAM VAN DOREN  
 preface by HENRY CHAUNCEY, JR.  
 and foreword by ROBERT A.M. STERN

From its early beginnings as a small New England school founded by Protestant ministers, to its rise as a vast, global university, Yale is not only one of the nation's preeminent institutions of higher learning, it is also among the most beautiful. Founded in 1701, just eighty years after the Pilgrims first set foot on Plymouth Rock, its campus is a virtual gallery of great American architecture—from Connecticut Hall (where Nathan Hale once lived) and Harkness Tower by James Gamble Rogers, to the Yale Center for British Art by Louis Kahn and Ingalls Rink by Eero Saarinen.

As a teacher and Associate Fellow of Yale, Van Doren is intimately familiar with the rich history, traditions, and stories behind these landmark structures, and his luminous watercolors and informative essays bring them convincingly and endearingly to life. This book will be a treasure for Yale's alumni, faculty, students, and even non-Yalies. As Paul Goldberger, the Pulitzer Prize-winning architecture critic, has written, "Van Doren makes the Yale campus not monumental but intimate, inviting, and warm. It becomes the stuff of fantasy: opulent, surely, but more friendly than haughty."

ADAM VAN DOREN received a Master's degree in architecture from Columbia University, was a Visiting Artist at the American Academy in Rome, and now teaches at Yale University and has exhibited at the National Portrait Gallery in Washington, D.C., among other institutions. His previous two books, *The House Tells the Story: Homes of the American Presidents* (2015), and *An Artist In Venice* (2013) were also published by David R. Godine, Publisher.

ROBERT A.M. STERN, the celebrated architect, teacher, and writer, is the former dean of Yale's School of Architecture. He received a Master's degree in architecture from Yale and was formerly a professor at Columbia.

HENRY "SAM" CHAUNCEY, JR. was an assistant dean of Yale College and a special assistant to the president of Yale.





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ABOVE: The Pigeonnier at Frank Cabot's Les Quatre Vents in La Malbaie, Quebec.

RIGHT: Native Plant Garden, New York Botanical Garden

## Heroes of Horticulture

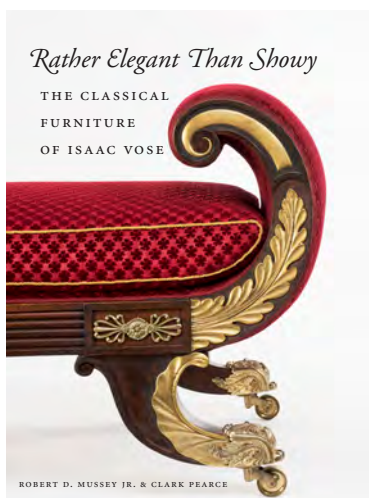
by BARBARA PAUL ROBINSON

Here are the vibrant stories of eighteen heroes of American horticulture—community builders, plant explorers and garden creators who have all had a major impact on both our landscape and our institutions. Three of them worked together to establish The Garden Conservancy, preserving exceptional gardens for public access. Others came to the rescue by restoring and enhancing public parks and spaces, setting new standards for aesthetics while encouraging wider public participation. Others took on the revitalization of botanic gardens, central to science, education and public enjoyment, while their peers worked to create new outstanding public gardens. Then there are the often unbelievable tales of the intrepid plant explorers who travelled to remote parts of the globe hunting for new plants unknown in the west and working to hybridize and improve them. Not a few opened their own nurseries to ensure these important discoveries were available to the public. Finally, two have created their own exceptional gardens that, thanks to existence of The Garden Conservancy, are becoming new public institutions.

Plants, ideas and public programs emanating from all of these heroes benefit garden lovers across the country. Whether you work the soil or not, you'll read their stories with a sense of wonder and admiration, and there's a good chance you'll derive some practical horticultural benefits from their passion, their lives and their work.



A hands-on gardener herself, BARBARA PAUL ROBINSON and her husband, Charles, have created their own highly acclaimed gardens at Brush Hill in Connecticut. During a sabbatical from the law firm Debevoise & Plimpton, where she was the first woman partner, she worked in England as a gardener for Rosemary Verey at Barnsley House and then for Penelope Hobhouse at Tintinhull. On her return, she served as the first woman president of the New York City Bar Association and later wrote *Rosemary Verey: the Life and Lessons of a Legendary Gardener* (Godine 2012). A frequent speaker, she has published articles in the *New York Times*, *Horticulture*, *Fine Gardening*, and *Hortus*.



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## Rather Elegant Than Showy

by ROBERT D. MUSSEY JR. & CLARK PEARCE

Although recognized, celebrated and patronized in his day as Boston's premier furniture maker, Isaac Vose (1767–1823) has been all but forgotten for over a century. In this fully documented and lavishly illustrated new study, readers will rediscover what Boston society knew well—that his superb craftsmanship and creative interpretations of the then prevalent classical style were not only the finest in the northeast, but rivaled those of his better known contemporary, Duncan Phyfe of New York.

And the authors go well beyond his talents and success as a furniture maker, for Vose was deeply enmeshed in the society, culture and economy of Boston. Cleverly diversifying, he imported tropical mahogany and rosewood, French and English hardware, patent lighting and gilt mirrors. Taking advantage of the connections he formed early in his career with the rising young architect Charles Bulfinch, Vose rode the wave of the robust economic expansion Boston was experiencing to provide his increasingly demanding and discerning customers what they wanted. The entire breadth of his enterprise is laid out in this extensive study, published in association with a major exhibition at the Massachusetts Historical Society.

ROBERT D. MUSSEY JR. was the founder in 1982 of the furniture conservation laboratory at the Society for the Preservation of New England Antiquities in Boston. He was the founder and a principal in Robert Mussey Associates, which provides comprehensive furniture conservation services to museums, private collectors, and historic houses. He has published widely in museum journals, is author of *The Furniture Masterworks of John and Thomas Seymour*, and serves as curator of a major museum exhibition of the Seymours' work.

CLARK PEARCE is an independent scholar who has researched and published articles and co-authored books on New England and Philadelphia cabinetmakers from the nineteenth century. His most recent is *Crafting Excellence: The Furniture of Nathan Lumbard and His Circle*. In addition to overseeing and managing conservation projects for private clients and museums, he serves as an advisor to collectors, institutions and corporations in American arts.

## Announcing the Collected Short Stories & Novellas of ANDRE DUBUS



### *We Don't Live Here Anymore* *Collected Short Stories and Novellas* **VOLUME 1**

with an introduction by ANN BEATTIE

### *The Winter Father* *Collected Short Stories and Novellas* **VOLUME 2**

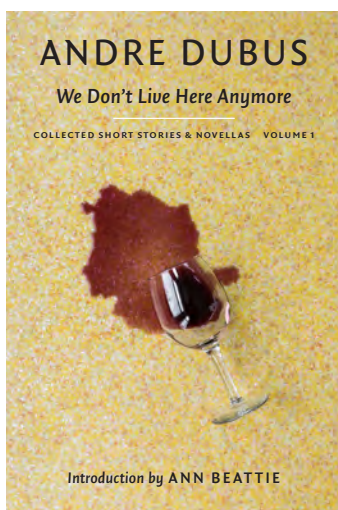
with an introduction by RICHARD RUSSO

In 1975, David R. Godine published Andre Dubus's debut short story collection, *Separate Flights*. Over the next decade and a half, as Godine released several more critically acclaimed volumes by Dubus, he generally came to be recognized as among the finest practitioners of that genre. It is with considerable pride that we plan to collect, in three volumes, the very best of what this extraordinary talent gave to America.

From his earliest publication, Dubus was heralded as "the sort of writer who instructs the heart" (*The Atlantic Monthly*). Since his untimely death in 1999, the reverence for Dubus's fiction has only grown: his skill with narrative compression and seemingly boundless capacity for compassion have earned him regular comparison to his literary idol, the Russian master Anton Chekhov.

Throughout his career, Dubus balanced the complex themes and preoccupations of his oeuvre—spirituality, sex, violence, guilt, and morality—with a generosity of spirit and a tenderness of heart that were consistently capable of overwhelming readers. This three-volume gathering together of Dubus's short stories and novellas marks a major moment in the history of the American short story.

With this initiative, Godine proudly reaffirms its commitment to this American master by releasing his collected short stories and novellas in three new volumes. Each volume gathers together two complete Dubus short story collections and includes an original introduction by a contemporary: PEN/Malamud Award-winner Ann Beattie introduces *We Don't Live*



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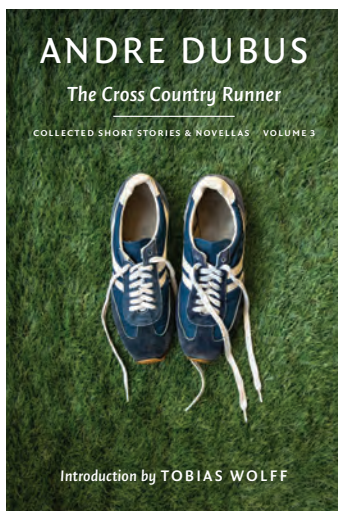
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*Here Anymore*, containing original volumes *Separate Flights* (1975) and *Adultery and Other Choices*, while Pulitzer Prize-winner Richard Russo introduces *The Winter Father*, containing *Finding a Girl in America* (1980) and *The Times Are Never So Bad* (1983).

As with other revered “writer’s writers” whose work has recently found a wider readership thanks to literary champions and new editions—James Salter and Richard Yates, Lucia Berlin and Joy Williams—it is our fond hope that this re-launch of Dubus’s fiction will attract a new generation of appreciative and enthusiastic readers he so richly deserves.

*Like some of the most satisfying storytellers of the past (Dubus has been compared to Chekhov), he is munificent, spinning out whole lifetimes and recounting events from many characters’ viewpoints. For the lyricism and directness of his language, the richness and precision of his observations and the generosity of his vision, he is among the best.*

Village Voice

*Dubus’s characters resemble those of Raymond Carver... but the stories stand alone in their idiosyncratic spiritual cast, occasionally religious, more often expressive of devotion to the people he lives among.*

New York Times Book Review

*[Andre Dubus’s] characters are resolutely ungiving and uncharming... all of them are addicted to one thing or another, which Mr. Dubus examines with an extraordinary sympathy... Where another writer might dramatize his characters’ plights in order to reveal and exorcise their strategies of delusion, Mr. Dubus has other intentions... he has learned “of how often memory lies, and how often the lies are good ones.”*

JOYCE CAROL OATES, The New York Times

ANDRE DUBUS (August 11, 1936–February 24, 1999) was born in Lake Charles, Louisiana to a Cajun-Irish Catholic family. After six years of peacetime service in the U.S. Marine Corps, Dubus attended the University of Iowa Writers’ Workshop, where he studied with Richard Yates and his fellow classmates included John Casey and John Irving. He settled in Haverhill, Massachusetts and taught literature and creative writing at Bradford College until his retirement. He died from a heart attack in 1999.



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**The Dog Who Wouldn't Be**  
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 PAGES: 224  
 PRICE: \$15.95

# The Boat Who Wouldn't Float

by FARLEY MOWAT

Farley Mowat is in peak form in this classic tale of nautical misadventure. Seduced by romantic ideas of putting an old wooden boat to sea, he leaves Toronto in a rickety flatbed truck to head for Newfoundland where, he's been told, boats looking for (gullible) buyers are as common as cod. Setting out to pursue this "romantic and Conradian predilection for the sea and ships," he finds more than he bargains for when he purchases, half drunk and in the dead of night, a derelict coastal schooner, one, as it turns out, that requires every nautical repair known to man. The story of its perpetual resurrection, its near disastrous travels along the Newfoundland coast, and Mowat's travels up the St. Lawrence to be greeted as a hero in Montreal forms the keel of this tale. But the frame and planking are in the endless adventures, characters, and close calls he experiences in what has to be the best written portrait of wooden boat love/hate ever put on paper. Part-memoir, part-tribute, and guaranteed laugh-out-loud funny, Mowat's series of near misses on what he optimistically calls "The Happy Adventure" both dissolves and reaffirms the romantic ideas we have about the sea and the palpably ridiculous notion of buying, owning, and sailing a wooden boat.

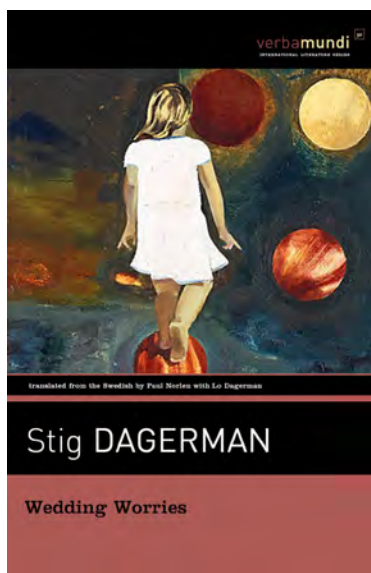
*Very funny and often touching tribute to a love affair that saner, duller souls would no doubt christen "Farley's Folly."*

The New York Times

*A deftly crafted memoir that still proves after the passage of fifty years to be an inherently fascinating and memorable read.*

Midwest Book Review

FARLEY MOWAT (1921–2014) was a Canadian writer, environmentalist, and activist. After serving in the military and exploring as a field technician in remote areas of Canada, Mowat published his first book, *People of the Deer*, in 1952. Over the next half-century he published dozens of titles, but is best known for *Never Cry Wolf*, an account of his adventures studying Arctic wolves in northern Manitoba. Over his long career, Mowat received the Mark Twain Award, the Governor General's Award for Juvenile Fiction, and the first and only Lifetime Achievement Award from the National Outdoor Book Award. One of his best-loved books, *The Dog Who Wouldn't Be*, was published by Godine in 2017.



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## Sleet

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# Wedding Worries

written by STIG DAGERMAN

translated by PAUL NORLEN & LO DAGERMAN

introduction by J.M.G. LE CLÉZIO

*Wedding Worries*, set in his childhood village of Älvkarleby, is Dagerman's compelling account of the Palm family's celebration of their young daughter Hildur's marriage to the village butcher. The novel begins on the morning of the wedding day with a mysterious knocking on the bride's window, and ends twenty-four hours later following a bacchanalian feast of unexpected drama.

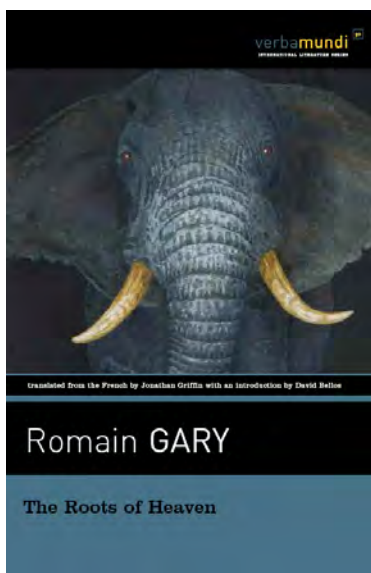
Narrated in turn by a multitude of characters, Dagerman uses Hildur's wedding as a vehicle to explore human loneliness, longing, love and deliverance. There is Hildur's father, The Snail, who refuses to leave his second floor hide-away; the bombastic groom Westlund who laboriously tells anyone who will listen about his time in America. There's Mary, a guest from a nearby small town who fancies herself an urban sophisticate. Like a kaleidoscope, the shifting perspectives offer a richly textured tale that ranges in mood from tenderness to burlesque to transcendent wisdom.

*As I slowly read Wedding Worries, I rediscover what fascinated me in Dagerman... The same fascination I sensed when I first read [James Joyce's] Ulysses, [William Faulkner's] Light in August... when I felt a towering wave wash over me, carrying all the force that had unleashed it on the other side of the horizon... The wedding party is a celebration of life, making us forget for a time our fear, despair and loneliness.*

J.M.G. LE CLÉZIO, Nobel Laureate in Literature

STIG DAGERMAN was among the most prominent Swedish authors of the twentieth century. He became a force in literary circles at an early age, editing the youth paper *Storm* at nineteen and becoming cultural editor of the daily newspaper *Arbetaren* at twenty-two. His first novel, published the same year, enjoyed phenomenal success. But at the height of his fame, he suddenly fell silent, and he was found dead of carbon monoxide inhalation in 1954. His work remained stubbornly popular after his death, recognized for its originality and empathy, widely read and translated around the world. His collection *Sleet* is also available from David R. Godine, Publisher.





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*The immensity, the loneliness of the further reaches of French Africa is an impressively suggestive backdrop for the [campaign] which is launched by a stray idealist... A curious and curiously convincing drama... a thoughtful and forceful piece of work.*

Kirkus Review

*... the first identifiably ecological novel in the literature of France, and perhaps the world.*

DAVID BELLOS

## The Roots of Heaven

by ROMAIN GARY

translated by JONATHAN GRIFFIN

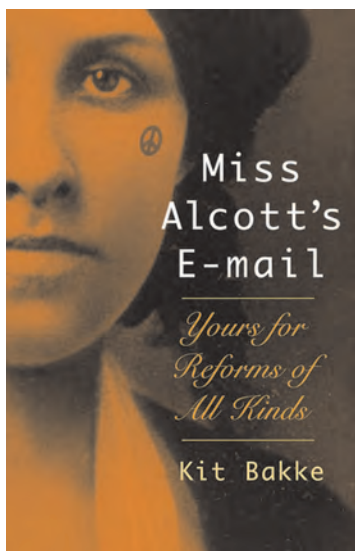
with a new introduction by DAVID BELLOS

In 1956 this book exploded into the world. A huge bestseller in France, it won the country's most prestigious award, the Prix Goncourt. In the U.S. it was an immediate bestseller, and the basis of a spectacular movie. Why? Gary was hardly a household name. French novels were rarely a popular success. But the subject—the deliberate and relentless hunting and killing of elephants for their ivory—and the characters he depicted were vivid and unforgettable.

Morel, a former dentist whose survival in a Nazi concentration camp he attributes to his fixation on the freedom and companionability of elephants, travels to Africa intent on stopping the slaughter. He circulates a petition demanding their killing be made illegal. It attracts two signers: a disgraced American from the Korean War and a call girl described as “just another animal who needed protection.” From here things get really interesting—politically, socially and culturally. Morel realizes that action is necessary; a notorious elephant hunter is shot in the buttocks, while a female trophy hunter is stripped naked and publicly whipped. “You never teach a man anything by killing him,” he observes, “On the contrary you make him forget everything.” He gains a following—some drawn by his cause, some by political expediency, some by a need to believe in something, anything, bigger than themselves. He is chased and cornered at Lake Kuru, where a vast assemblage of elephants has converged to drink, and where this novel concludes in a brilliant and memorable climax.

Available again, with a new introduction by David Bellos, the distinguished translator of Georges Perec and biographer of Romain Gary, we are proud to add this to the translated classics available in our Verba Mundi series.

ROMAIN GARY (1914–1980) was born Roman Kacew in May 1914 and was also known by pen names such as Émile Ajar. A French diplomat, novelist, film director and World War II aviator of Lithuanian Jewish origin, he is the only author to have won the Prix Goncourt under two different names.



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## Miss Alcott's E-mail

by KIT BAKKE

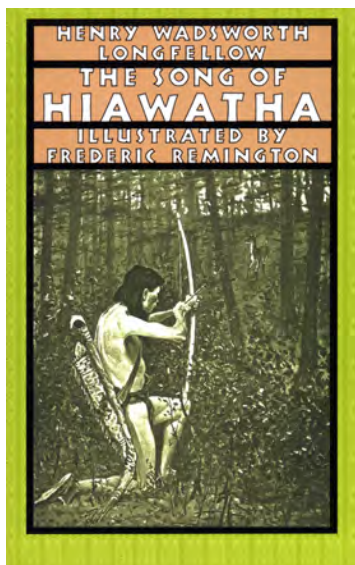
In a fitting celebration of the 200th anniversary of *Little Women*, we are pleased to announce that *Miss Alcott's E-mail* is again available. Join us in our appreciation of the great Louisa May Alcott (a woman whose reputation is far from little) by treating yourself to this delightful imagined correspondence.

Shouldn't life be more than simply showing up? Is it enough to be part of a family, make another family, earn your living, and then exit stage left? Filled with questions and tired of self-help books, Kit Bakke turns to her childhood role model—Louisa May Alcott—for direction. She sends an e-mail to Louisa, and is amazed when she receives a reply. Their correspondence becomes a dance of ideas and culture that bridges the mid-1800s and the twenty-first century.

*An excellent book . . . the effect is like a wonderful movie shot with a hand-held camera.*

Washington Post Book World

KIT BAKKE lives in Seattle and is a wife and mother of two daughters. Her resume includes stints as a nurse, copy editor, technology and business consultant, street fighter, and revolutionary. *Miss Alcott's E-mail* is her first book. She is currently trying to make contact with Dorothy Wordsworth.



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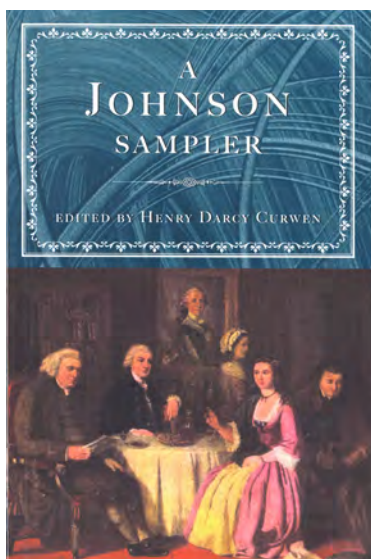
PRICE: \$17.95

## Song of Hiawatha

by HENRY WADSWORTH LONGFELLOW

illustrated by FREDERIC REMINGTON

In the summer of 1854, Longfellow wrote in his diary “I have at length hit upon a plan for a poem on the American Indians, which seems to me the right one and the only. It is to weave together their beautiful traditions as whole.” What emerged the next year was “The Song of Hiawatha,” a composite of legends, folklore, myth, and characters that presents, in short, lilting lines the life-story of a real Indian, who provides the focus for the narrative thread of this epic drama. This handsome new, and freshly reset, edition (the only unabridged version in print) presents the full text, includes the original Remington illustrations, and provides an index of the Indian names and their meanings.



FORMAT: Softcover

ISBN: 978-1-56792-130-4

SIZE: 5½ × 8 inches

PAGES: 320

PRICE: \$16.95



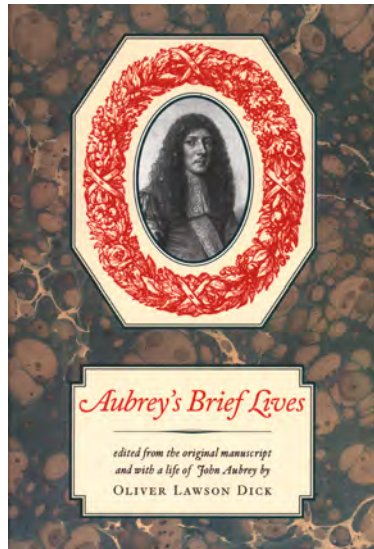
## A Johnson Sampler

edited by HENRY DARCY CURWEN

Samuel Johnson is today far too little known, read, enjoyed, and appreciated. Is it not somewhat ironic that his biographer, James Boswell, is perhaps more famous than the man he set out to immortalize? But Johnson himself, whom the Dr. Maclean of Mull declared “was just a hogshead of common sense” has far more to say to our present state of culture and politics than Boswell. He was, and remains, an intelligence for all times.

Curwen presents the great man in all his moods and on a wide range of subjects—reading and writing, youth and old age, wooing and wedding, law and government—the general (and generally predictable) follies of his fellow man. Pulitzer Prize winner Jackson Bate praised this edition as “The finest collection, by far, of the wit and wisdom of the most quotable of writers. Time and again, in whatever direction we go, we meet Johnson on the way back.”

HENRY DARCY CURWEN was a professor at the Philips Exeter Academy in New Hampshire and a longtime devotee of Johnson.



FORMAT: Softcover

ISBN: 978-1-56792-063-5

SIZE: 6 × 9 inches

PAGES: 408

PRICE: \$22.95



## Aubrey's Brief Lives

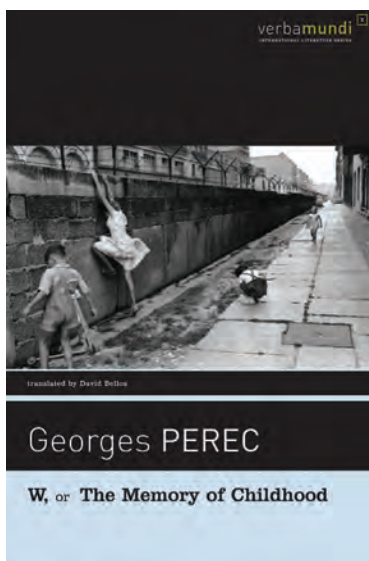
by JOHN AUBREY

edited by OLIVER LAWSON DICK

introduction by EDMUND WILSON

The whole ferment of the Elizabethan age and the vigor of the century that followed come alive in these “brief portraits” that have been looted by scholars for centuries. Here are Sir Walter Raleigh, Sir Thomas More, Shakespeare, Milton, Marvell, and countless others, in these pages not abstract names from a history book, but flesh and blood characters. *Brief Lives* was written by John Aubrey, the greatest gossip columnist of the seventeenth century who left posterity a sprawling collection of notes, and morsels of gossip sutured together into a series of unforgettable portraits. These men—flawed, vain, ambitious, vulnerable—are more alive and kicking in these pages than in any formal history. As Edmund Wilson writes in his introduction, “I have never read anything else that makes me feel in quite the same way what it must have been like to live then.”





FORMAT: Softcover  
 ISBN: 978-1-56792-158-8  
 SIZE: 4½ × 7¼ inches  
 PAGES: 176  
 PRICE: \$17.95



# W, or the Memory of Childhood

by GEORGES PEREC

translated by DAVID BELLOS

with a new introduction by JOSHUA COHEN

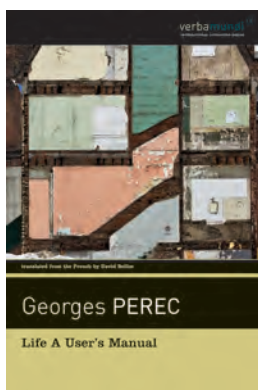
From the author of *Life: A User's Manual* (Godine, 1987) comes an equally astonishing novel: *W or The Memory of Childhood*, a narrative that reflects a great writer's effort to come to terms with his childhood and his part in the Nazi occupation of France. This book, a devastating indictment of passivity and the psychology of crowds, will find its place beside such great works as Milan Kundera's *The Book of Laughter and Forgetting* and Primo Levi's *The Periodic Table*. Like Modiano, Perec finds in the French collapse of WWII rich ground for examining human behavior through the lens of history.

*Perec is my favorite writer. . . since a translator is to a large extent the creative force behind a translated work, he, David Bellos, is also, in a palpable way, my favorite writer. Few writers have opened up the possibilities of literary art with as much enthusiasm, mastery, and pleasure as Perec.*

MARTIN RIKER, Associate Director of  
 the Dalkey Archive Press

*The writer's search for identity within a historic nightmare provides a moving and important memoir.*

Publishers Weekly

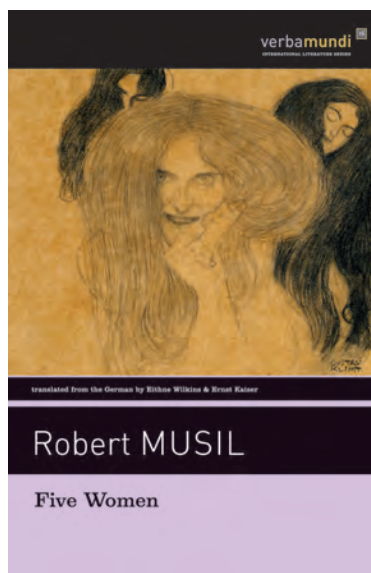


## Life A User's Manual

FORMAT: Softcover  
 ISBN: 978-1-56792-373-5  
 SIZE: 5½ x 8½ inches  
 PAGES: 680  
 PRICE: \$22.95

GEORGES PEREC (1936–1982) was a French novelist, filmmaker, documentalist, and essayist. He was a member of the Oulipo group. His father died as a soldier early in the Second World War and his mother was killed in the Holocaust. His work grapples with absence, loss, and identity, often through word play.

DAVID BELLOS is the Meredith Howland Pyne Professor of French Literature and Professor of Comparative Literature at Princeton University. He is also director of its Program in Translation and Intercultural Communication. In 2005, he won the first Man Booker International Prize for translation for his translations of the Albanian author Ismail Kadare. In addition to his Man Booker Prize, he holds the rank of Officier in the *Ordre national des Arts et des Lettres* and an honorary membership in The International Association of Professional Translators.



FORMAT: Softcover

ISBN: 978-1-56792-401-5

SIZE: 5½ × 8½ inches

PAGES: 224

PRICE: \$17.95



## Five Women: Stories

by ROBERT MUSIL

translated by EITHNE WILKINS &

ERNST KAISER

The Austrian Robert Musil (1880–1942), a central figure in the modernist movement, is known primarily for his magnum opus, *The Man Without Qualities*. But here, in these five stories—stories as crucial to the understanding of his masterpiece (and Musil’s immense literary influence and significance) as Joyce’s *Dubliners* is to *Ulysses*, he displays another face, one that is by turns extravagant, sensual, mystical, and autobiographical. As Frank Kermode notes in his preface, these stories “are elaborate attempts to use fiction for its true purposes, the discovery and regeneration of the human world.” In that redefinition of fiction, Robert Musil’s name is writ large.

*Musil’s cerebral style seamlessly executes his explorations of the mind/body duality, the ways society and intellectual life affect, but do not eradicate, the truth of the carnal body... this range of perception will be tantalizing for readers who value innovative classics.*

Publishers Weekly

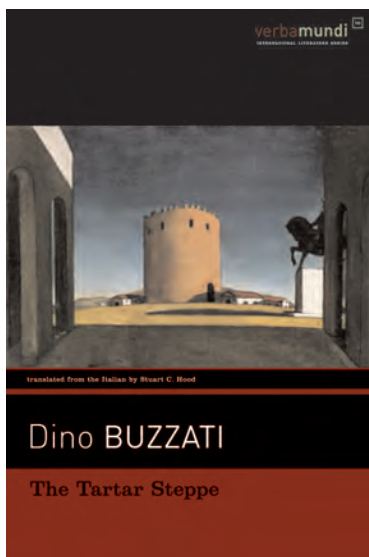
*In his descriptions of love affairs and especially in the portraits of women in love, Musil is truly original; in managing scenes of physical love, he has not been approached by any writer of the last fifty years.*

V.S. PRITCHETT

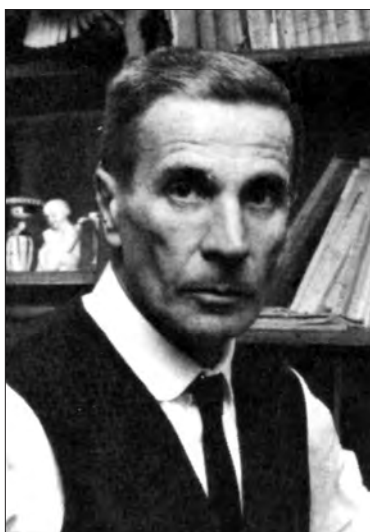
*[All] seem as contemporary as anything written today... representative of Musil’s rather extraordinary, claustrophobic concentration on states of mind and feeling—the attempt to stabilize the most impalpable sensations, intuitions, thoughts, apprehensions.*

Kirkus Review

ROBERT MUSIL is widely considered to be among the most important authors in the development of the twentieth century novel. During his lifetime, and despite his nomination for the Nobel Prize, he made little money from his writing. He died relatively unsung and unknown, and remained so until he was rediscovered in the 1950s. His eight books have since reappeared in print in several languages.



FORMAT: Softcover  
 ISBN: 978-1-56792-304-9  
 SIZE: 5½ × 8¼ inches  
 PAGES: 198  
 PRICE: \$17.95



# The Tartar Steppe

by DINO BUZZATI

translated by STUART C. HOOD

Often likened to Kafka's *The Castle*, *The Tartar Steppe* is both a scathing critique of military life and a meditation on the human thirst for glory. It tells of young Giovanni Drogo, who is posted to a distant fort overlooking the vast Tartar steppe. Although not intending to stay, Giovanni suddenly finds that years have passed, as, almost without his noticing, he has come to share the others' wait for a foreign invasion that never happens. Over time the fort is downgraded and Giovanni's ambitions fade until the day the enemy begins massing on the desolate steppe...

*The Tartar Steppe is one of those precious novels that take the enormous risk of throwing down a gauntlet to the reasoning mind... the extraordinary clarity of the narrative, its elegant structure and straightforward execution, persuade us that it is... a puzzle we can solve. Yet in the end, twisting and turning this way and that, mocking and infinitely ironic, Buzzati's story somehow denies us what we always felt was within our grasp. No, on putting the book down we cannot honestly say that we know what it meant... In this way it succeeds in evoking in its reader the central experience of its main character: in every sense life, not only his own but the whole of life, eludes his grasp.*

The Threepenny Review

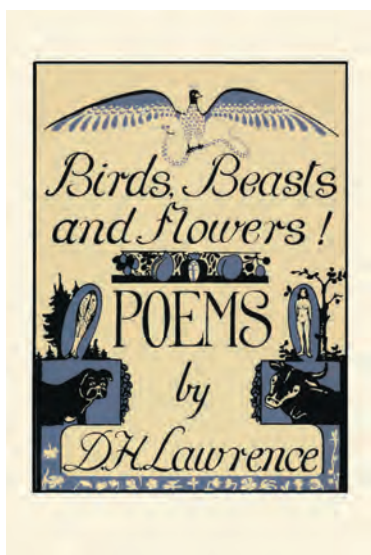
*Undoubtedly a masterpiece... [Buzzati] has brought to life a universal man and cast his being in surrounding which are familiar to us all... It is a sublime book and Buzzati a master of the written word.*

Sunday Times

DINO BUZZATI (1906–1972) was an Italian editor, novelist, poet, playwright, and short story writer. He has been lauded as one of Europe's foremost experimental writers of the twentieth century.

STUART C. HOOD was born in Scotland and educated at the University of Edinburgh. His fluency in Italian and German allowed him to work as an intelligence officer for the British Army and to join the Italian resistance movement. After the war, he began his work as a translator.





FORMAT: Softcover  
 ISBN: 978-0-87685-866-0  
 SIZE: 6 × 9 inches  
 PAGES: 216  
 PRICE: \$17.95

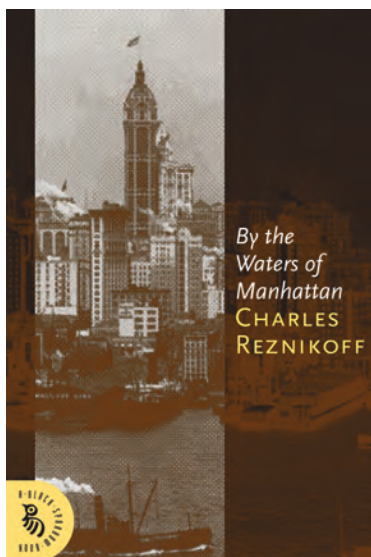
## Birds, Beasts, and Flowers!

by D.H. LAWRENCE

D.H. Lawrence (1885–1930) made a contribution to poetry that, in the words of Lousie Bogan, “can now be recognized as one of the most important, in any language, of our time.” *Birds, Beasts, and Flowers!*, his first great experiment in free verse, was published when he was thirty-eight. This Black Sparrow edition re-sets the text in the format of the first edition (Thomas Seltzer, 1923) and restores several ‘indecent’ lines suppressed by the original publisher. Lawrence’s original jacket artwork is reproduced on the jacket in full color.

*Birds, Beasts and Flowers is the peak of Lawrence’s achievement as a poet . . . The lucidity of his language matches the intensity of his vision; he can make the reader see what he is saying as very few writers can.*

W.H. AUDEN



FORMAT: Softcover  
 ISBN: 978-1-57423-214-1  
 SIZE: 6 × 9¼ inches  
 PAGES: 176  
 PRICE: \$17.95

## By the Waters of Manhattan

by CHARLES REZNIKOFF

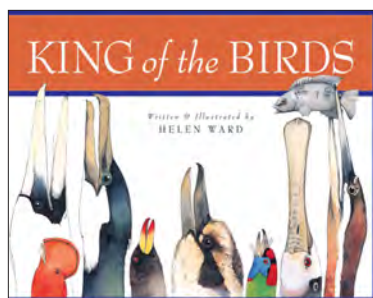
introduction by PHILLIP LOPATE

*By the Waters of Manhattan* was Charles Reznikoff’s first novel, published in 1930 by Charles Boni in New York. Part family saga, part *bildungsroman*, and part unrequited love story, the novel follows the lives of a Jewish family at the turn of the century from Elizavetgrad, Russia to Brownsville, Brooklyn, birthplace of the novel’s protagonist, Ezekiel, a young poet in search of ways to feed his stomach and his soul. Like Walt Whitman, Hart Crane, and Henry Roth, Reznikoff’s subject is as much the great island of Manhattan, as it is its inhabitants.

*Happily, Black Sparrow has reprinted this remarkable novel . . . readers curious about the immigrant experience will add this classic to their shelves alongside Yeziarska’s novels and other great chronicles of the making of America.*

Jewish Book World

CHARLES REZNIKOFF (1894–1976) was a blood-and-bone New Yorker, a collector of images and stories who breathed the soul of the Jewish immigrant experience into a lifetime of poetry.



FORMAT: Hardcover  
 ISBN: 978-1-56792-625-5  
 SIZE: 10 × 8 inches  
 PAGES: 40  
 PRICE: \$17.95  
 PUBLICATION: June 2018  
 RIGHTS: U.S. only



## The King of the Birds

written and illustrated by HELEN WARD

Adapted from a traditional tale, this beautifully illustrated picture book tells the story of hundreds of birds gathering to select a king. They face a difficult choice: should the king be the bird with the biggest beak or the one with the most colorful feathers? Finally, after considerable and considered debate, they decide their king will be the bird who can fly the highest. And at first, the winner seems to be obvious—until a small wren outsmarts them all. From the biggest to the smallest, the plainest to the most luxurious, all manner of birds can be found here, anatomically accurate and in glorious color. And with a helpful key at the back identifying the hundreds species of birds species on display.

*This poetic retelling of a traditional tale is a feast for both the eye and the ear. Ward's brief and lyrical retelling works hand in hand with her glowing artwork to charm readers. The pen-and-ink illustrations colored with watercolors and gouache take full advantage of the spectacle and beauty of the avian world. Each vibrantly colored competitor sets forth from a clean white page and often breaks through the fine-lined borders and margins. An informative appendix lists all of the birds that appear, forming a veritable "Guinness Book of Avian Records."*

School Library Journal

*The familiar folk tale motif of who would be king gets a fresh retelling in this gorgeous picture book. Unable to agree, the birds decide that the one who can fly the highest shall be declared king. The eagle soars the highest . . . seemingly. The exquisite, realistic watercolor paintings of birds cleverly and humorously teach with a light touch. Parents' Choice Recommended.*

Parents' Choice

HELEN WARD wanted to be an illustrator before she knew what an illustrator was called. She went to art college and graduated with a Degree in Graphic Design/Illustration. She has a long-standing interest in natural history, both real and imagined, and particularly enjoys the 'imagined' because it's so much easier to get right. Living in the English countryside where she writes and draws and paints, she is the author and illustrator of many award-winning books.



FORMAT: Softcover  
 ISBN: 978-1-56792-621-7  
 SIZE: 6¾ × 9¾ inches  
 PAGES: 80  
 PRICE: \$14.95  
 PUBLICATION: May 2018  
 RIGHTS: North America

## The Last Giants

by FRANÇOIS PLACE

translated by WILLIAM RODARMOR

Reissued now for the first time in paperback, this memorable story, set in the mid-1800s, begins when English explorer Archibald Leopold Ruthmore discovers something fascinating—what appears to be a human tooth, but one so large it could only belong to a race of giants. Recognizing the source as the legendary Land of the Giants, Ruthmore feels compelled to seek them out in their remote mountain kingdom. After an arduous journey, during which all his fellow travelers are massacred by headhunters, he arrives at last (and still wearing his top hat) at this lost kingdom to find nine giants, the last survivors of a kindly and gentle race. They are at once primitive and remarkably advanced, able to communicate with the stars and each other through a complex system of signs and symbols. Ruthmore lives among them for almost a year, returns to England, and then makes a mistake he will regret forever: he writes a book revealing their existence, thereby sealing their fate.

In our nearly fifty years of publishing we have had the opportunity to publish a few genuine geniuses. François Place is among them, and this, his first, is among his best.

*The moral is delivered with subtlety, and Place's delicate, painstakingly detailed period paintings play a significant role in conveying his profound message.*

Publishers Weekly

*[The] reader soon grasps that the giants are metaphors for a violated earth spirit... In prose that remains elegant in William Rodarmor's translation from the French, the story is full of convincing detail. It is a testament to the power and beauty of the text that we feel it as a real tragedy.*

The New York Times



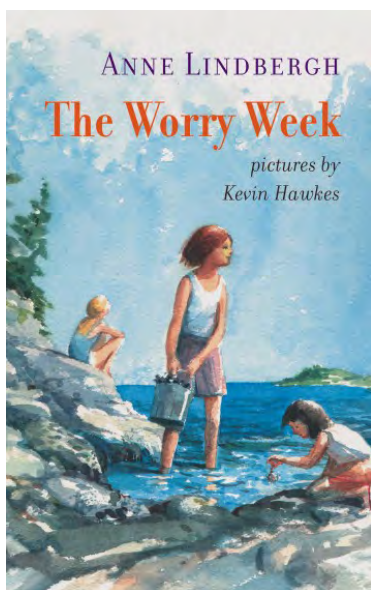
## Old Man Mad About Drawing

FORMAT: Hardcover  
 ISBN: 978-1-56792-260-8  
 SIZE: 6½ × 9½ inches  
 PAGES: 112  
 PRICE: \$19.95

FRANÇOIS PLACE is one of France's most beloved children's book authors. His books, which he both writes and illustrates, have won many of the country's most prestigious awards for children's literature.

WILLIAM RODARMOR is a veteran French translator and teaches at UC Berkeley's School of Journalism.





FORMAT: Softcover  
 ISBN: 978-1-56792-239-4  
 SIZE: 5¾ × 8½ inches  
 PAGES: 144  
 PRICE: \$12.95

## The Worry Week

written by ANNE LINDBERGH  
 illustrated by KEVIN HAWKES

When their vacation to their summer cottage on a Maine island is cut short, Allegra concocts a plan for herself and her sisters to remain behind. It's *not*, as she predicts, a week without worry. This timeless seaside story is suffused with the carefree pleasures of childhood. Set in her own summer home of North Haven, it confirms Lindbergh's place among the best storytellers the region has produced.

*Storms, intruders, scary noises in the night, skinny-dipping, and the treasure hunt add suspense and laughs to this delightful tale of innocence growing up.*

The Kennebec Journal

ANNE LINDBERGH (1940–1993), the daughter of aviators/authors Charles and Anne Morrow Lindbergh, has authored fourteen books in her career, most for children, and received several honors for her work.

KEVIN HAWKES has illustrated over forty books for young people, including dozens of *New York Times* bestsellers.



FORMAT: Softcover  
 ISBN: 978-1-56792-323-0  
 SIZE: 6¼ × 8 inches  
 PAGES: 32  
 PRICE: \$7.95

## A Near Thing for Captain Najork

written by RUSSELL HOBAN  
 illustrated by QUENTIN BLAKE

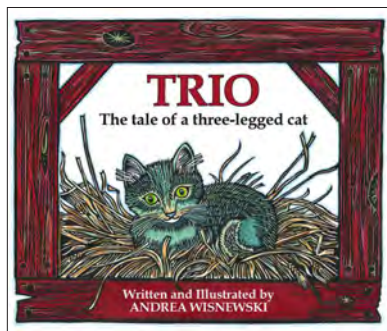
Tom is happy with his new Aunt Bundlejoy Cosysweet who is delighted to be asked to join him in trying out his latest invention, a jam-powered frog. But when the frog hops past Captain Najork's window Tom hardly expects to be chased by a pedal powered snake, complete with the Captain at the helm and his hired sportsmen, bent on revenge.

RUSSELL HOBAN (1925–2011) is the author of more than sixty books. His two classic children's books, *How Tom Beat Captain Najork* and *A Near Thing for Captain Najork*, were reissued and redesigned in paperback by Godine using the original artwork.

QUENTIN BLAKE is one of the UK's living cultural treasures. His most famous illustrations can be found in the children's novels of Roald Dahl.

## CHILDREN'S BACKLIST FAVORITES

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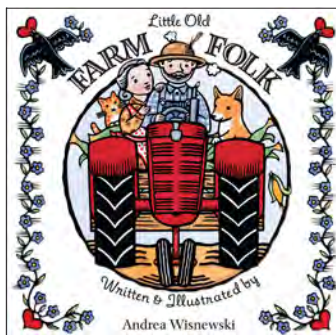


**Trio: The Tale of  
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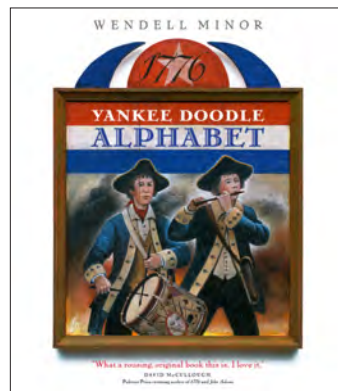
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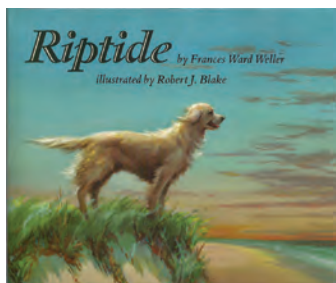
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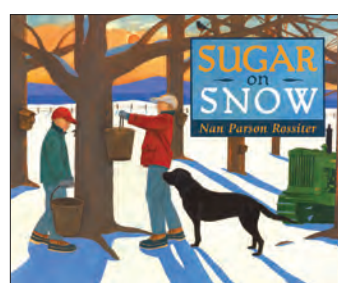
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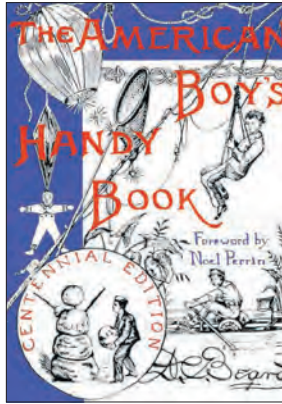
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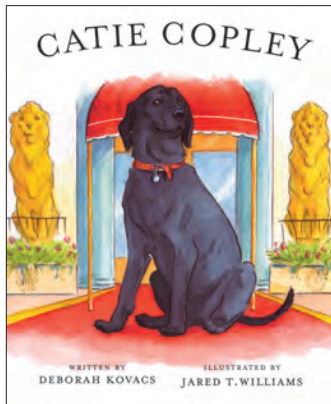
**Swallows and Amazons**

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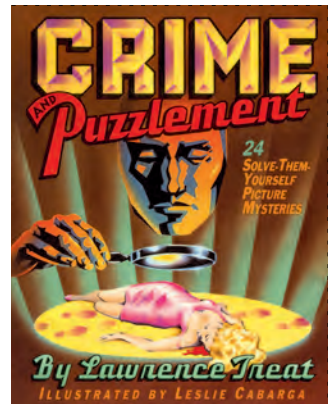
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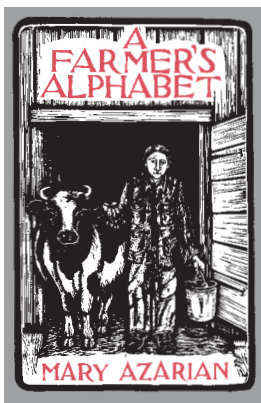
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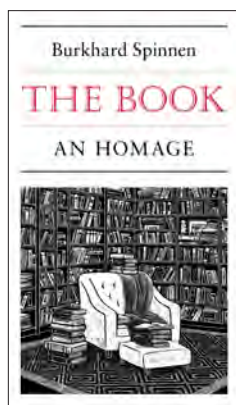
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978-0-87923-960-3 · SC · \$9.95



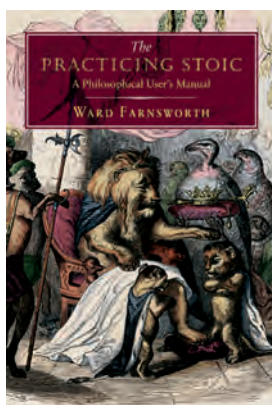
## ADULT BACKLIST FAVORITES

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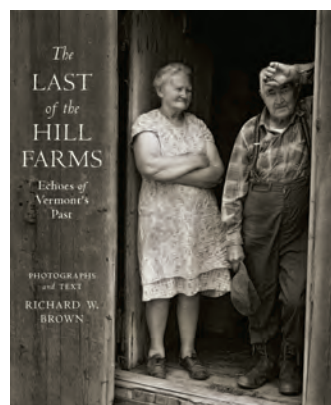
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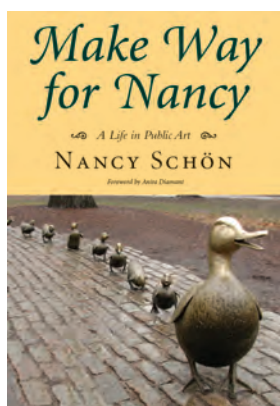
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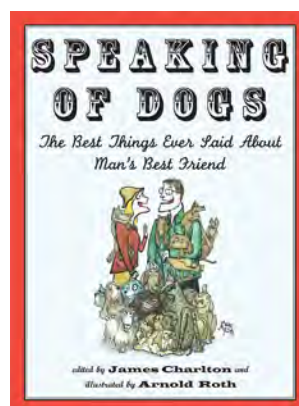
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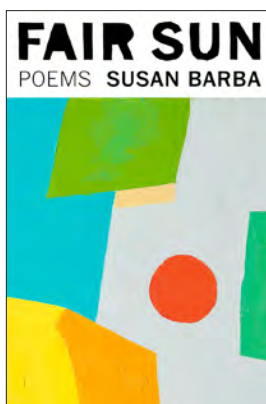
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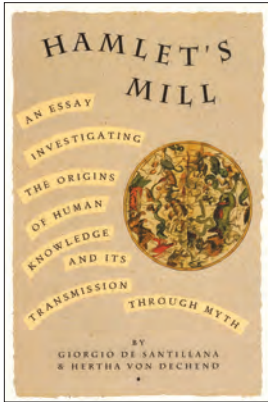
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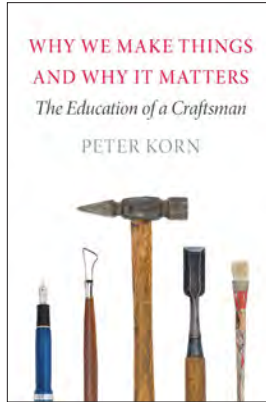
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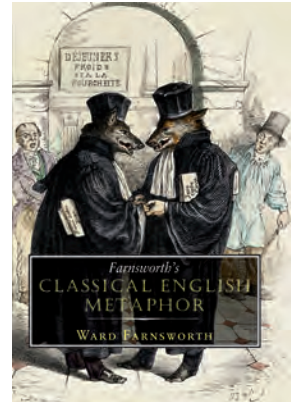
**Hamlet's Mill**

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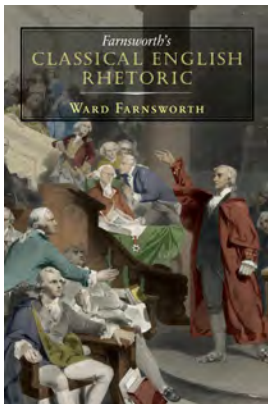
**Why We Make Things  
and Why It Matters**

978-1-56792-546-3 • SC • \$18.95



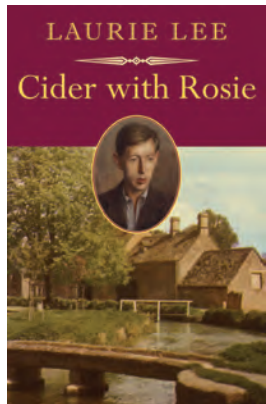
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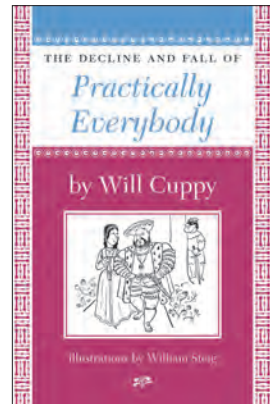
**Farnsworth's Classical  
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978-1-56792-552-4 • SC • \$18.95



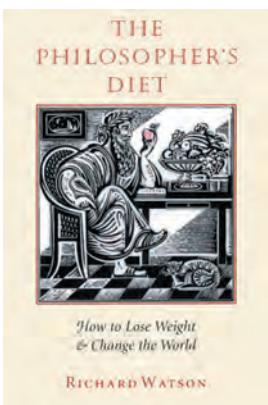
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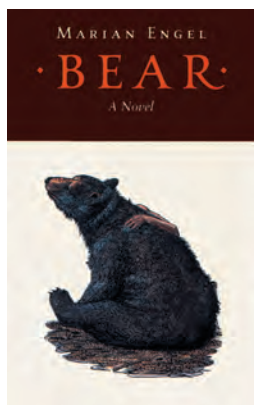
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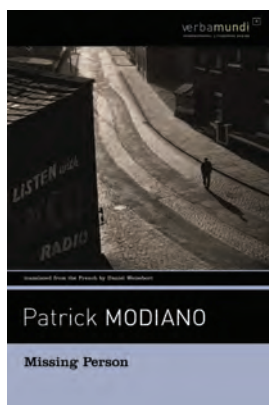


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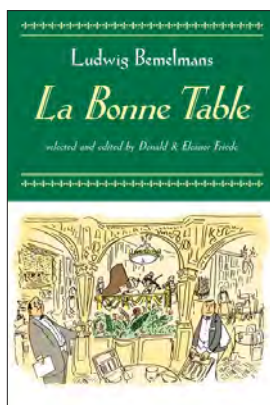


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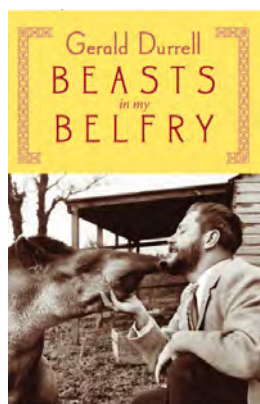
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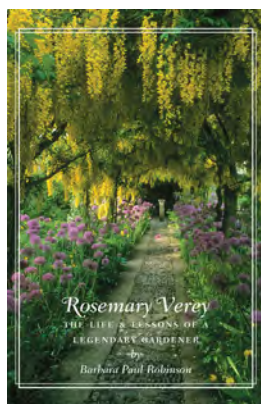
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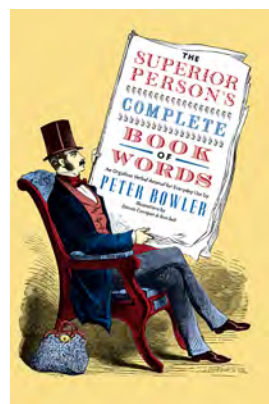
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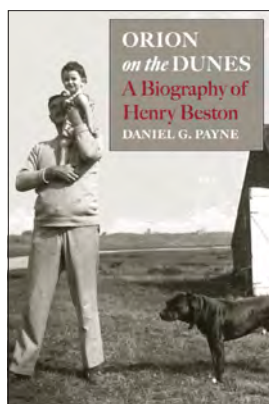
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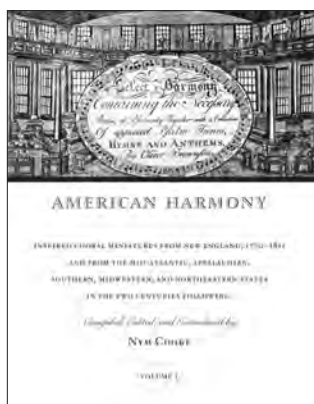
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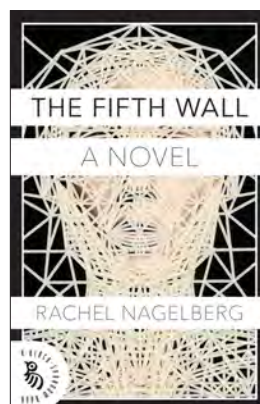
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