PARTY: A MYSTERY
A PICTURE BOOK BY JAMAICA KINCAID
ILLUSTRATIONS BY RICARDO CORTÉS

A beautifully illustrated story of three girls caught up in the most curious of mysteries.

THREE GIRLS—PAM, BETH, AND SUE—ATTEND A PARTY to celebrate the publication of the first of the Nancy Drew mystery books. There are many distractions at the fancy affair: flower arrangements, partygoers, refreshments, and lots and lots of marble. Suddenly, the oldest girl, Pam, sees what can only be described as something truly . . . bilious . . . not good! Beth sees it too. The youngest, Sue, does not, and as usual she has a hard time getting anyone to tell her anything. Party: A Mystery is a beautifully drawn adventure story that poses questions that will grab children, but does not guarantee an answer. The story’s language builds and swings between lyrical and snappy—packing a wallop.

JAMAICA KINCAID is a writer and professor whose works include the novels Annie John, Lucy, The Autobiography of My Mother, and Mr. Potter; a classic history of Antigua, A Small Place; and a memoir, My Brother. The Josephine Olp Weeks Chair and Professor of African and African American Studies in Residence at Harvard University, Kincaid was elected to the American Academy of Arts and Letters in 2004.

RICARDO CORTÉS is the author and illustrator of Sea Creatures from the Sky, It’s Just a Plant, and A Secret History of Coffee, Coca & Cola. He is also the illustrator of a #1 New York Times best-selling classic for parents about putting their children to bed, as well as the G-rated follow-up, Seriously, Just Go to Sleep. He lives in Brooklyn, New York, and on rmcortes.com.

ALSO AVAILABLE FROM RICARDO CORTÉS AND BLACK SHEEP:
Sea Creatures from the Sky
WRITTEN AND ILLUSTRATED BY Ricardo Cortés
CHILDREN’S PICTURE BOOK, HARDCOVER, 48 PAGES, $16.95, ISBN: 978-1-61775-716-7

“Sweeping paintings and an engaging conceit make this a terrific read-aloud choice.”
—Wall Street Journal

JUNE 2019
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AKASHIC BOOKS is an award-winning independent company dedicated to publishing literary fiction and political nonfiction by authors who are either ignored by the mainstream, or who have no interest in working within the ever-consolidating ranks of the major corporate publishers. Akashic Books hosts additional imprints, including the Akashic Noir Series, the Akashic Drug Chronicles Series, Black Sheep Books for Young Readers, the Akashic Urban Surreal Series, Punk Planet Books, Dennis Cooper’s Little House on the Bowery Series, Open Lens, Chris Abani’s Black Goat Poetry Series, Infamous Books, Peekash Press, Kaylie Jones Books, Dave Zin’s Edge of Sports, and Ann Hood’s Gracie Belle.

CATALOG AND COVER DESIGN: Aaron Petrovich & Sohrab Habibion
COVER ILLUSTRATIONS: Ricardo Cortés, from Party: A Mystery (opposite)
AROUND HARVARD SQUARE

A YOUNG ADULT NOVEL BY C.J. FARLEY

Race, class, and hormones combine and combust when a Harvard freshman and his two friends attempt to join the staff of the Harvard Harpoon, the school’s iconic humor magazine.

“Brimming with humor and heart, Around Harvard Square is a delight.” —Andy Borowitz, creator of the New Yorker’s “The Borowitz Report”

“A hysterical romp through one memorable freshman year. At Farley’s Hahvahd, it’s survival of the funniest, comedy means never having to say you’re sorry, and growing up is hard to do. A provocative pleasure.” —Gish Jen, author of Typical American

In this sharp and imaginative satirical fantasy, C.J. Farley explores the complex realms of race and privilege at college with humor, insight, and edge.

—Walter Isaccson, author of Leonardo da Vinci

IT’S THE NINETIES, AND TOSH LIVINGSTON, straight-A student and superstar athlete, is living the dream—he’s made it out of upstate New York and into the incoming freshman class at Harvard University. But after an accident blows up his basketball-playing hopes, he discovers a new purpose in life—to win the frenzied competition for a spot on the staff of the Harvard Harpoon, the school’s legendary humor magazine.

ALONG WITH LAO, HIS POT-SMOKING ROOMMATE FROM CHINA, their friend Meera, a passive-aggressive science major from India, and Zipa, a Jamaican student-activist with a flair for cartooning, Tosh must require pushing themselves to their limits and unearth long-buried secrets that will rock their school and change all of their lives forever.

WITH ITS WHIP-SMART HUMOR and fast-paced narrative, Around Harvard Square will appeal to readers of all ages interested in exploring the complicated roles that race and class play in higher education.

C.J. FARLEY has worked as a senior editor for the Wall Street Journal and Time magazine, and is an author of the novels Game World and My Favorite War. Farley served as consulting producer on the Peabody-winning HBO documentary Mr. Dynamite: The Rise of James Brown and wrote the best-selling biographies Aaliyah: More Than a Woman and Before the Legend: The Rise of Bob Marley.

A YOUNG ADULT NOVEL

Game World

MARVEL GUIDE FANTASY

224 PAGES, 5.25 x 8.25

APRIL 2019

“Here (finally!) is a middle-grade action novel that showcases West Indian mythology and features protagonists of color.” —Wall Street Journal

The Naomi for the Social Media Generation!” —Wall Street Journal

BIVOUCAC

A NOVEL BY KWAME DAWES

The death of a Jamaican man’s father raises questions about the father’s political endeavors, and about the plight of 1980s Jamaica.

“Dawes examines the complicated terrain of grief with uncanny insight and spare, lucid prose. What unfolds is a story about a man, a family, and a country searching for answers and new hope.” —Maaza Mengiste, author of Beneath the Lions’ Gate

“Bivouc: speaks in tongues so that the reader hears both the market and the courtroom, the orchestra of ancestral voices and the tone of individual conscience. Kwame Dawes’s novel laughs and mourns, claps hands for the inventive communal spirit and wrings those same hands as a result of political malfeasance.” —Fred D’Aguiar, author of Feeding the Ghosts

“Kwame Dawes brings the beauty and subtle rhythms of his poetic voice to this moving, dreamlike novel where the past intercedes on the present. A deep pleasure to read and savor.” —Bernardine Evaristo, author of Mr. Loverman

WHEN FERRON MORGAN’S FATHER DIES in suspicious circumstances, his trauma is exacerbated by the conflict within his family and his father’s friends over whether the death was the result of medical negligence or if it was a political assassination. Ferron has lived in awe of his father’s radical political endeavors but is forced to admit that, with the resurgence of the political rights in the Caribbean in the 1980s, his father had lost faith, and was “already dead to everything that had meaning for him.”

FERRON’S RESPONSE TO THE DEATH is further complicated by guilt, particularly over his recent failure to protect his fiancée, Dolores, from a brutal rape. He begins, though, to investigate the direction of his life with great intensity, in particular to confront his instinct to keep moving on and running from trouble.

THIS IS A SHARPLY FOCUSED PORTRAYAL OF JAMAICA at a tipping point in its recent past, in which the private grief and trauma condenses a whole society’s scarcely understood sense of temporariness and dislocation. For both Ferron and the society there has been the loss of “the corpse of one’s origins,” and the novel points to the need to find a way back before there can be a movement forward.

KWAME DAWES is the author of twenty-one books of poetry and numerous other books of fiction, criticism, and essays. In 2016, his book Speak from Here to There, a cowritten collection of verse with Australian poet John Kinsella, was released along with When the Rewards Can Be So Great: Essays on Writing and the Writing Life, which Dawes edited. His most recent collection, City of Bones: A Testament, was published in 2017. His awards include the Forward Poetry Prize, the Hollis Summers Poetry Prize, the Muse Gugge Silver Medal, several Pushcart Prizes, the Barnes & Noble Writers for Writers Award, and an Emmy Award. He is Grzenia Luschei Editor of Prairie Schooner and is Chancellor Professor of English at the University of Nebraska. Dawes serves as the associate poetry editor for Peepal Tree Press and is director of the African Poetry Book Fund. He is series editor of the African Poetry Book Series and artistic director of the Calabash International Literary Festival. In 2018, he was elected a chancellor of the Academy of American Poets.
KEEP YOUR EYES OPEN
THE FUGAZI PHOTOGRAPHS OF GLEN E. FRIEDMAN

PHOTOGRAPHS BY GLEN E. FRIEDMAN
INTRODUCTION BY IAN F. SVENONIUS

A second edition of the definitive photo book of one of the most influential rock bands of the past forty years, including brand-new, exclusive material.

“While most photographers were taking photos of Fugazi, Glen was making photos with us.” —Ian MacKaye, Fugazi

“Everyone knows the old saying, ‘A picture’s worth a thousand words.’ It couldn’t be more true with this pictorial retrospective of Fugazi, one of the most influential rock bands from the 20th century.” —Alternative Press

FUGAZI, ONE OF MUSIC’S MOST REVOLUTIONARY and gloriousy in-definable bands, played their first concert on September 3, 1987. The first edition of Keep Your Eyes Open: The Fugazi Photographs of Glen E. Friedman was released by Burning Flags Press exactly twenty years later. Now Friedman presents a revised edition of the book, with brand-new, exclusive material added. This volume presents the best of Friedman’s unparalleled photographic documentation of Fugazi’s members in almost 200 color and black-and-white images captured by Friedman onstage and off between 1986 and Fugazi’s last US concert in 2002.

FUGAZI EVOLVED FROM WASHINGTON, DC’s, hardcore punk scene of the late 1970s and early 1980s. While it would be impossible to fully capture Fugazi in any one medium, Friedman’s book effectively complements the bands Discord Records catalog. Fugazi—a band dedicated to democratic self-management, highlighted by complete artistic and financial control—was released by Burning Flags Press exactly twenty years later. Now Friedman presents a revised edition of the book, with brand-new, exclusive material added. This volume presents the best of Friedman’s unparalleled photographic documentation of Fugazi’s members in almost 200 color and black-and-white images captured by Friedman onstage and off between 1986 and Fugazi’s last US concert in 2002.

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GLEN E. FRIEDMAN, one of the most important photographers of his generation, is known for his influential and iconic images of rebellious artists from classic skateboarding, punk, and hip-hop cultures. As a true artist his process was much more incendiary than it was documentary. Friedman, first published at the age of fourteen, has produced over 100 record covers, countless magazine pages, and almost a dozen books. His work is now included in a number of notable international collections, including the Metropoli- tan Museum of Art and the Smithsonian Institution.

IAN F. SVENONIUS is the author of the underground best sellers Supernatural Strategies for Making a Rock’n’Roll Group, Censorship Now!, and The Psychotic Soviet. As a musician he has created twenty-one albums and countless singles in various rock’n’roll combos (Chain & the Gang, The Make-Up, The Nation of Ulysses, etc.).

DOGTOWN
THE LEGEND OF THE Z-BOYS
BY C.R. STECYK III AND GLEN E. FRIEDMAN

The long-awaited newly designed edition of an iconic skateboarding book, including additional never-before-seen Glen E. Friedman photos and a new C.R. Stecyk III postscript.

“If it wasn’t for these photos and these words, the story of the Z-Boys may have never been told, and the impact skateboarding’s had on the world would have been significantly reduced.” —Strength Magazine

“[An] amazing collection of images from Friedman, who was a skater and friend of the Z-Boys and managed to be there for a ridiculous amount of the important sessions.” —SLAP Magazine

IN THE EARLY 1970S, THE SPORT OF SKATEBOARDING had waned from its popularity in the 1960s. In the DogTown area of Los Angeles, a group of young surfers known as the Zephyr Team (Z-Boys) was experimenting with new and radical moves and styles in the water, which they translated to the street. When competition skateboarding returned in 1975, the Z-Boys turned the skateboarding world on its head. DogTown: The Legend of the Z-Boys is a truly fascinating case study of how an underground sport ascended in the world. These are the stories and images of a time that not only inspired a generation but changed the face of the sport forever.

This VOLUME HAS BEEN DESCRIBED AS “THE DOGTOWN TEXTBOOK” and an indispensable companion piece to the Sony Pictures Classics film Dogtown and Z-Boys. Now spanning 1975–1985 and beyond, the first section of the book includes the best of the DogTown articles written and photo- graphed by C.R. Stecyk III as they originally appeared in SkateBoarder Magazine. The second half com- pletes hundreds of skate images from the archives of Glen E. Friedman—many of which appear in the movie. (Stecyk and Friedman acted as executive producers and advisors for the film.) This new edition of the book includes many never-before-seen Friedman photos, along with a new postscript by Stecyk.

C.R. STECYK III is the DogTown godfather. He is a seminal figure in the skateboarding and surfing worlds as a writer, photographer, museum-collected artist, and one of street culture’s chief architects. He is cofounder of Juxtapoz magazine, and one of the earliest iconic inductees into the Skateboarding Hall of Fame. Stecyk is a South- ern California native.

See opposite page for a biogra- phy of GLEN E. FRIEDMAN.
FRAME OF MIND
PUNK PHOTOS AND ESSAYS FROM WASHINGTON, DC, AND BEYOND, 1997–2017
PHOTOGRAPHS BY ANTONIA TRICARICO
A long-overdue female-centric perspective on underground rock music, featuring photos by Tricarico and essays by Joan Jett, Amy Farina, Allison Wolfe, Donita Sparks, and more!

IN THE LATE 1990S BANDS LIKE FUGAZI, Branch Manager, the Make-Up, Deep Lust, Quix*O*tic, Lungfish, Spirit Caravan, Scaramouche, Stinking Lizaveta, and many more were active in and around the underground music scene in Washington, DC. While those bands went on a hiatus or dissolved over the years, others inspired by them have formed, including Dead Meadow, Motorcycle Wars, the Evens, and Weird War. In Frame of Mind, all of these groups appear in over 200 powerful and evocative photos by Antonia Tricarico.

IN ADDITION TO DC’S HOMEGROWN OFFERINGS, Frame of Mind also features photos of other seminal and like-minded groups that passed through the city, such as the Melvins, the Ex (from the Netherlands), Uzeda (from Italy), Joan Jett, Shellac, Babes in Toyland, the Julie Ruin, L7, and Alice Bag.

FRAME OF MIND captures underground music through both photos and essays. While the photos include musicians of all genders, the essays are all written by women: Joan Jett, Amy Farina, Tara Jane O’Neil, Alice Bag, Allison Wolfe, Donita Sparks, Lori Barbero, and more. If women are the underground of the underground, let this book be a wake-up call for future generations to start their own awe-inspiring bands.

ANTONIA TRICARICO has been taking photographs for more than two decades. In recent years she has worked as an archivist for Pulitzer Prize–winning Washington Post photographer Lucian Perkins, and has collaborated with Discord Records, Kill Rock Stars, Tolotta Records, and Youth Action Research Group. Her work has been exhibited internationally and can be found in the collections of the Smithsonian Institution’s National Museum of American History and the Special Collections Division of the DC Public Library. Tricarico’s work also appeared in Photo Review from 2006–2013. She is currently at work on her second book, which explores the art of political protests. She lives in DC with her musician husband, their bilingual daughter, and two authoritative cats.

LIKE THIS AFTERNOON FOREVER
A NOVEL BY JAIME MANRIQUE
Two Catholic priests fall in love amid deadly conflicts in the Amazon between the Colombian government, insurgent groups, and drug cartels.

“Manrique is our Scheherazade.” —Sandra Cisneros

“A novel about two seminary students who fall in love, Like This Afternoon Forever is a powerful story of religion, poverty, sexuality, and tenderness, as quick and intense as a fairy tale, yet as real and brutal as contemporary Latin America. Jaime Manrique has written a beautiful, moving narrative about two good men in a dangerous world.” —Christopher Bram, author of Gods and Monsters

“A tremendous novel, beautiful, passionate, and compassionate. In the very way we are able to recognize ourselves and, perhaps more importantly, to face the other with the unknown, we only learn because we have to choose not to see.” —El Tiempo (Colombia)

FOR THE LAST FIFTY YEARS, THE COLOMBIAN DRUG CARTELS, various insurgent groups, and the government have fought over the control of the drug traffic, in the process destroying vast stretches of the Amazon, defeating indigenous peoples, and killing tens of thousands of homesteaders caught in the middle of the conflict.

INSPIRED BY THESE EVENTS, Jaime Manrique’s sixth novel, Like This Afternoon Forever, weaves in two narratives: the shocking story of a series of murders known internationally as the “false positives,” and the related story of two gay Catholic priests who become lovers when they meet in the seminary.

LUCAS (THE SON OF FARMERS) AND IGNACIO (a descendent of the Bari indigenous people) enter the seminary out of a desire to help others and to get an education. Their visceral love story undergoes stages of passion, indifference, rage, and, a final commitment to stay together until the end of their lives. Working in a community largely composed of people displaced by the war, Ignacio stumbles upon the horrifying story of the false positives, which will put the lives of the two men in grave danger.

JAIME MANRIQUE is a Colombian-born novelist, poet, essayist, and translator who writes both in English and Spanish, and whose work has been translated into fifteen languages. Among his publications in English are the novels Colombian Gold, Latin Moon in Manhattan, Twilight at the Equator, Our Lives Are the Rivers, and Cervantes Street; he has also published the memoir Eminent Maricones: Arenas, Lorca, Puig, and Me. His selected poems were published in Spanish in 2016. His honors include Colombia’s National Poetry Award, a 2007 International Latino Book Award (Best Novel, Historical Fiction), and a Guggenheim Fellowship. He’s a former associate professor in the MFA writing program at Columbia University and currently a distinguished lecturer in the Department of Modern and Classical Languages and Literatures at the City College of New York.

ALSO BY JAIME MANRIQUE and available from ARACHIS BOOKS:
Cervantes Street

“Manrique has penned a well-written, well-researched, fast paced narrative . . . An entertaining book . . . and a superb retelling of Cervantes’s life.” —Library Journal
A doorman at a posh apartment building gets lost in the mean New York City streets, battling his demons as he searches for life’s higher meaning.

CORNELIUS SKY IS A DOORMAN IN A POSH FIFTH AVENUE APARTMENT BUILDING that houses New York City’s elite, including a former First Lady whose husband was assassinated while in office. It is 1974 and New York City is heading toward a financial crisis. At work, Connie prides himself on his ability to buff a marble floor better than anyone, a talent that so far has kept him from being fired for his drinking. He pushes the boundaries of his duties, partying and playing board games with the former First Lady’s lonely thirteen-year-old son in the service stairwell—the only place where the boy is not spied upon mercilessly by the tabloid press and his Secret Service detail.

CONNIE BELIEVES HE IS THE ONLY ONE who can offer the boy true solace and companionship. But at home, his wife and sons are furious at him and can’t take another minute of his antics. Connie is haunted by memories of his troubled childhood, and the worse things are at home, the more attached he gets to the fatherless boy.

WHEN CONNIE’S WIFE CHANGES THE LOCKS, he finds himself wandering the mean streets of the city in his doorman’s uniform, where he encounters unlikely angels who offer him a path toward redemption. Cornelius Sky is an elegant picaresque that beautifully captures a city on the edge of ruin, from its richest and most privileged heights, to its poorest and most deprived corners.

TIMOTHY BRANDOFF received a BA from Goddard College and an MFA from New York University. His fellowships include the Sundance Screenwriters’ Lab, the Chesterfield Writer’s Film Project, the Vermont Studio Center, and Yaddo. Cornelius Sky was a runner-up for the James Jones First Novel Fellowship. His fellowships include the Sundance Screenwriters’ Lab, the Chesterfield Writer’s Film Project, the Vermont Studio Center, and Yaddo.


“I spent every page of this book rooting for Peter Grady. When he’s not hiding from the bullies in his new community, he’s taking care of his wheelchair-bound uncle and a kid sister who thinks she’s Wonder Woman. And then there’s the neighbor next door who’s building an ark! I fell in love with Michael Mihailey’s band of misfit characters. They show us anything is possible with a little bit of faith and a whole lot of heart. The Underdog Parade is sure to become an instant staple on classroom bookshelves.”—Barbara J. Taylor, author of All Waiting Is Long

“It’s THE SUMMER OF THE DROUGHT, but thirteen-year-old Peter “Nemo” Grady has bigger problems on his mind than the weather reports. He hates his new home in the exclusive golf club community Willow Creek Landing. His parents are always fighting and he can’t escape the memory of his last seizure—when he flopped around the gymnasium floor like a fish out of water—earning him his dreaded nickname. To top it all off, Peter has no friends, but he receives plenty of unsolicited advice from Chipper, the boy scout super-fan who also happens to be a resident of the service stairwell—the only place where the boy is not spied upon mercilessly by the tabloid press and his Secret Service detail.

THINGS CHANGE WHEN HE MEETS HIS NEW NEIGHBOR, the mysterious Joshua, who predicts the drought will end with a storm of biblical proportions. Peter looks to his visiting, wheelchair-bound Uncle Herb, and his neighbors, Mr. James and Mr. Terry, for guidance as Josh prepares for imminent doom. With each passing day, Peter realizes that sooner or later he will have to rely on the strength of the lamest, most jelly-weak individual he knows—himself.

AFORWARD/ODDITIES/KAYLIE JONES BOOKS

ODDITIES.KJB is Kaylie Jones Books’ e-first/print-on-demand line which focuses on unconventional, edgy, risk-taking novels that boldly defy the traditional forms and conventions of the literary novel, with a focus on young adult, horror, and mystery. Other titles on the list include We Are All Crew by David Landauer, Strafe by Justin Kasab, and Foams by Justin Kasab.
NEW-GENERATION AFRICAN POETS: A CHAPBOOK BOX SET (SITA)
EDITED BY KWAME DAWES & CHRIS ABANI

This eleven-piece, limited-edition box set—an African Poetry Book Fund (APBF) project—features the work of ten new African poets.

“An ambitious, vital project that delivers exactly what it promises . . . As a group, the chapbooks dispel stereotypes about African writing. They also illustrate what editors Dawes and Abani note about the many ways African poetry can and should redefine its ties to Africa.”

“Dawes and Abani have taken on the vital project of publishing short collections by contemporary poets from Africa, packaged together in beautiful boxed sets.”
—New-York Times Magazine

THE LIMITED-EDITION BOX SET is an annual project started in 2014 to ensure the publication of up to a dozen chapbooks by African poets through Akashic Books. The series seeks to identify the best poetry written by African poets working today, and it is especially interested in featuring poets who have not yet published their first full-length book of poetry.

THE TEN POETS INCLUDED IN THIS FIRST BOX SET are: Hiwot Adilow, Dalia Elhassan, Charity Hutete, Nour Kamel, Daisy Odey, Salawu Olajide, Musawenkosi Khanyile, Dina El Dessouky, Amia Diaka, and Gbenga Adeoba.

KWAME DAWES is the Ghanian-born, award-winning author of eighteen collections of poetry. He has won Pushcart Prizes, a Guggenheim Fellowship, an Emmy, and was the 2013 awardee of the Paul Engel Award.

CHRIS ABANI is a Nigerian-born, award-winning poet and novelist, currently teaches at Northwestern University.

Available now:

New-Generation African Poets: A Chapbook Box Set (Tanzania) edited by Kwame Dawes and Chris Abani
Available now:

New-Generation African Poets: A Chapbook Box Set (Rite) edited by Kwame Dawes and Chris Abani

Launched with the summer 2004 best-seller Brooklyn Noir, Akashic Books continues its award-winning series of original noir anthologies. Each book comprises all new stories, each set in a distinct neighborhood or location within the geographic area of the book.

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kwame dawes

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New-Generation African Poets: A Chapbook Box Set (Japan)

Available now:

New-Generation African Poets: A Chapbook Box Set (China)

Available now:

New-Generation African Poets: A Chapbook Box Set (Brazil)
HOUSTON NOIR
EDITED BY GWENDOLYN ZEPEDA

The fourth-largest city in the US is long overdue to enter the Noir Series arena, and does so blazingly.


FROM THE INTRODUCTION BY GWENDOLYN ZEPEDA:

In a 2004 essay, Hunter S. Thompson described Houston as a “cruel, crazy town on a filthy river in East Texas with no zoning laws and a culture of sex, money and violence. It’s a shabby, sprawling metropolis ruled by brazen women, crooked cops and super-rich pansexual cowboys who live by the code of the West—which can mean just about anything you need it to mean, in a pinch.” For what it’s worth, that quote is now posted on a banner somewhere downtown and regularly, gleefully repeated by our local feature writers.

Houston is a port city on top of a swamp and, yes, it has no zoning laws. And that means it’s culturally diverse, locally incongruous, and ever-changing. At any intersection here, I might look out my car window and see a horse idly munching St. Augustine grass. And, within spitting distance of that horse, I might see a “spa” that’s an obvious brothel, a house turned drug den, or a wildly rising bayou that might overtake a car if the rain doesn’t let up. Because I’ve lived here so long, there’s no story in this book I can’t easily imagine taking place. Some of the plots might seem outrageous, but not compared with real-life crimes that have taken place here in the last fifty years, which have fully repeated by our local feature writers.

Houston is a city of manufacturers, a growing immigrant community, and booze make perfect grist for the noir series mill.

The book you’re holding is the first of its kind—a short fiction collection about Milwaukee, by writers who’ve experienced life here. The crime/noir genre at its best can be one of the purest forms of social commentary. I’ve gathered contributors who can tell not just a fine story, but who can write about the struggles and resilience of the people who live here. Maybe you picked up this book because you recognized an author’s name, like Jane Hamilton or Reed Farrel Coleman. You’ll also find Matthew J. Prigge and Jennifer Morales, among others, whose stories you won’t soon forget. Or maybe you were intrigued by the word Milwaukee in the title. Whatever the reason, I’m honored to compile a body of work that represents what I love, and fear, about Milwaukee. I love my city’s lack of pretension; its stubbornness and pride in the unpolished corners. I fear that my city faces an uncertain future—that as it becomes more divided it may push our best and brightest to find somewhere else to shine.

TIM HENNESSY

MILWAUKEE NOIR
EDITED BY TIM HENNESSY

The city of manufacturers, a growing immigrant community, and booze make perfect grist for the Noir Series mill.


FROM THE INTRODUCTION BY TIM HENNESSY:

Presently, Milwaukee is going through a renaissance—abandoned factories being converted to condos, craft breweries and distilleries pushing out corner taverns—yet at the same time it is among the most segregated and impoverished big cities in the country. The gentrification of neighbor- hoods outside of downtown has put into effect the impact of twentieth-century redlining efforts, forcing residents out due to housing demand, adding fuel to the affordable-housing crisis. Such an environ- ment and atmosphere make excellent fodder for noir fiction—an outlook out of step with the romanticized nostalgia that Happy Days and Laverne & Shirley created of Milwaukee. . .

The book you’re holding is the first of its kind—a short fiction collection about Milwaukee, by writers who’ve experienced life here. The crime/noir genre at its best can be one of the purest forms of social commentary. I’ve gathered contributors who can tell not just a fine story, but who can write about the struggles and resilience of the people who live here.

The city of manufacturers, a growing immigrant community, and booze make perfect grist for the noir series mill.

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In the proud tradition outlined above, this legacy is continued in Berlin Noir: neither Döblin nor Benn, Brecht nor Lang, for example, catered to any crime fiction formats. They merely steeped their literary and aesthetic benchmarks that are hard to surpass . . .

What’s left is history. It is omnipresent in Berlin at every turn; the city is saturated in a history full of blood, violence, and death. What’s left is history. It is omnipresent in Berlin at every turn; the city is saturated in a history full of blood, violence, and death.
The Necessary Hunger is about families, friendship, racial identity, and young people who a future that is no longer easily defined.

As Nancy and Raina both prepare to leave the urban neighborhood that has nurtured them, they find themselves looking toward and several of their friends through their last year of high school. For some of them, their senior year will be full of glory, and the follows two basketball stars—Japanese American Nancy Takahiro and African American Raina Webber—

“Revoyr focuses on a number of issues, including competition, interracial relationships, and same-sex relationships . . . A thought-admirable, and aggravating; readers will root for them on and off the court. ”
—Detroit Free Press

of basketball, without losing sight of her characters. She creates a family, in all senses of the word, of characters who are complex, elegant scion of an old steel family—who takes an interest in his studies. Irresistibly drawn to Fiona, he agrees to help her with a project of questionable merit in the hopes he’ll win her favor.

A Student of History explores both the beginnings of Los Angeles and the present-day dynamics of race and class. It offers a win- dow into the usually hidden world of high society, and the influence of historic families on current events. Like Great Expectations and The Great Gatsby, it features, in Rick Nagano, a young man of modest means who is navigating a world where he doesn’t belong.

THE NECESSARY HUNGER a novel by NINA REVOYR
FICTION/LITERATURE, 368 PAGES; TRADE PAPERBACK, $16.95, ISBN: 978-1-61775-669-6
Abakcus Books reissues Nina Revoyr’s inspired and groundbreaking 1997 debut novel about women’s basketball, class, racial identity, and friendship.

“The Necessary Hunger is the kind of irresistible read you start on the subway at six p.m. on the way home from work and keep plowing through until you’ve turned the last page”—Time Magazine

“Quaintly intimate, vigorously honest, and uniquely American . . . Tough and tender without a single false note.”—Kirkus Reviews

“Revoyr triumphs in blending many complex issues, including urban poverty and violence, adolescent sexuality, and the vitality of basketball, without losing sight of her characters. She creates a family, in all senses of the word, of characters who are complex, admirable, and aggravating; readers will root for them on and off the court.”—Detroit Free Press

“Revoyr focuses on a number of issues, including competition, interacial relationships, and same-sex relationships . . . A thoughtful
work.”—Library Journal

The Necessary Hunger follows two basketball stars—Japanese American Nancy Takahiro and African American Raina Webber—and several of their friends through their last year of high school. For some of them, their senior year will be full of glory, and the atmosphere of college. For others, stranded in an inner-city Los Angeles neighborhood that promises little in the way of opportunity, it will mark not only the end of their time in school but also the end of their hope.

As Nancy and Raina both prepare to leave the urban neighborhood that has nurtured them, they find themselves looking toward a future that is no longer easily defined. The Necessary Hunger is about families, friendships, racial identity, and young people who are nearing adulthood in a demanding and challenging world. It’s about sports as a means of salvation, as the nature of com- petition, and ultimately about the various kinds of love.

NINA REVOYR is the author of five previous novels, including The Age of Dreaming, which was nominated for the Los Angeles Times Book Prize; Southland, a Los Angeles Times best seller and “Best Book” of 2003; and Wingshooters, which won an Indie Book-sellers’ Choice Award and was selected by O, The Oprah Magazine as one of 10 Titles to Pick Up Now! Revoyr lives and works in Los Angeles.
An Unkindness of Ghosts

A science fiction novel by Rivers Solomon

SCIENCE FICTION, 352 PAGES, TRADE PAPERBACK ORIGINAL, 5/15/18, ISBN: 978-1-61775-588-0

A breathtaking science fiction debut from a worthy successor to Octavia Butler.

- A finalist for the 2018 Locus Award for Best First Novel
- Winner of the CLMP Firecracker Award for Fiction
- Included in NPR’s Book Concierge / Best Books of 2017
- Nominated for the 2018 Har Intrins/Weft Award for Debut Novel
- A Stonewall Book Award/Barbara Gittings Literature Award Honor Book
- A finalist for the Lambda Literary Award (LGBTQ SF/F/H)
- The Guardian’s Best Science Fiction and Fantasy Books of 2017
- Publishers Weekly Best Books of 2017, Science Fiction/Fantasy
- Library Journal Best Science Fiction/Fantasy Books of 2017
- Included in Bustle’s Best Books of 2017
- Rivers Solomon has been named a finalist for the John W. Campbell Award for Best New Writer
- Included in Barnes & Noble’s Best Science Fiction and Fantasy of 2017 (Alternate Universe Pick)
- A Chicago Public Library Best of the Best Books of 2017 selection

“An Unkindness of Ghosts, with a raw distillation of slavery, feudalism, prison, and religion that kicks like rutgut moonshine . . .”

— Publishers Weekly (starred review)

“Harrowing and beautiful, this is SF at its best: showing the possible future but warning of the danger of bringing old prejudices and cruelties to that new world. While a story about enslaved people in space could be a one-note polemic, the fully rounded characters bring nuance and genuine pathos to this astonishing debut.”

— Library Journal (starred review)

“With this debut—the sharpness, the depth, the precision—puts me in mind of a syringe full of stars.”

— Kirkus Reviews

EDGE OF SPORTS is a sports-themed imprimatur curated by renowned sportswriter Dave Zirin. Addressing issues across many different sports at both the professional and nonprofessional/collegiate level, Zirin brings to the table select stories of athletes’ journeys, what they are facing, and how they evolve.

TIGERBELLE: THE WYOMIA TYUS STORY by Wyomia Tyus & Elizabeth Terzakis


A timely memoir about world record-breaking Tyus’s 1964 and 1968 Olympic victories, amid the turbulence of the 1960s, along with contemporary reflections.

“Wyomia Tyus may not be as well known as Wilma Rudolph or Billie Jean King, but her athletic accomplishments and life story are equally captivating, as related in this remarkable and inspiring memoir. . .”

— Booklist (starred review)

“A half-century after her triumph, a record-setting Olympic champion receives her due . . .”

— Kirkus Reviews

WE MATTER: ATHLETES AND ACTIVISM by ETAN THOMAS


An in-depth and up-close look at today’s landscape of high-profile activist athletes, including essays and interviews with top stars.

“Before Kaepernick, there was Etan Thomas.”

— New York Times

“An inspiring, humorous and often profound biography.”

— People

“A dramatic memoir by three-time Olympic gold medalist Anthony Ervin, who shocked the world in the 2016 Rio Olympics by becoming the oldest swimmer (from any nation) to win a gold medal in an individual race, and—in finishing first in the 50-meter freestyle—earning the title at age thirty-five of fastest human in water.”

— Kirkus Reviews

“An in-depth and up-close look at today’s landscape of high-profile activist athletes, including essays and interviews with top stars.”

— School Library Journal (starred review)

“An in-depth and up-close look at today’s landscape of high-profile activist athletes, including essays and interviews with top stars.”

— Booklist (starred review)

“Wyomia Tyus may not be as well known as Wilma Rudolph or Billie Jean King, but her athletic accomplishments and life story are equally captivating, as related in this remarkable and inspiring memoir. . .”

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— Kirkus Reviews
IN SEARCH OF THE LOST CHORD: 1967 AND THE HIPPIE IDEA by DANNY GOLDBERG
NONFICTION/HISTORY/PSYCHEDELICS, 328 PAGES, TRADE PAPERBACK ORIGINAL, ISBN: 978-1-61775-617-7

“An impassioned history of the final, turbulent years of The Clash under the dark shadow of Reagan and Thatcher.”
—The Nation

“Danny Goldberg’s deeply personal and political history of 1967 and the hippie idea weaves together rollicking, rousing, wonder-
fully colorful and disparate narratives to remind us how the energies and aspirations of the counterculture were intertwined with protest and reform. There is a direct line from many of the events, movements, and people of 1967 to our times. Goldberg draws the line for us with mesmerizing storytelling, characters, and conversations.”
—Kirkus Reviews

POLITICAL SCIENCE/HISTORY/MUSIC, 376 PAGES, TRADE PAPERBACK ORIGINAL, $18.95, ISBN: 978-1-61775-293-3

REVOLUTIONARY THREADS: RASTAFARI, SOCIAL JUSTICE, AND COOPERATIVE ECONOMICS by BOBBY SULLIVAN

“This is an inspiring take on the rock-band bio format, as much a political history of the 1980s as it is a look at an influential band in its final years.”
—The Current, Rock and Roll Book Club (Minnesota Public Radio)

POLITICAL SCIENCE/RELIGION, 240 PAGES, TRADE PAPERBACK ORIGINAL, $15.95, ISBN: 978-1-61775-655-9

BEAUTIFUL MUSIC a novel by MICHAEL ZADOORIAN

“[A] raucous bildungsroman . . . Zadoorian touches on white flight, iconic radio stations, and the racial history of Detroit, but remains rooted in [protagonist] Danny’s transition out of his shell. With its echoes of works by Nick Hornby and Stephen Chbosky, Zadoorian’s ebullient novel is full of energy, pain, growth, and great music.”
—Publishers Weekly


131 DIFFERENT THINGS photography by NICK ZINNER (YEAH YEAH YEAHs) novella by ZACHARY LIPEZ, design by STACY WAKEFIELD

An intimate novella of love and loss wrought from the cultural underground, perfectly expressed in an inventive object that rediscovers the magical possibilities of the book.

When Sam, a bartender in New York, hears that his ex, Vicki, his one true love, has quit AA and is out drinking again, he embarks on a quest to find her. Sam and his sidekick Francis track her from dive bars to gay bars to rocker bars—encountering skinheads, party promoters, underage drug dealers, and dominatrices—but they are always one step behind Vicki. It begins to seem like 131 different things are keeping the lovers apart. Before the night is over, Sam will have to wrestle with what he is really looking for.

NICK ZINNER—who plays guitar in the three-time Grammy-nominated band YESH YEAYH YEAYH—provides the visual framework for this inventive novella with his intimate photography. Known for his essays and music writing for Noisey, VICE, and Penthouse, ZACHARY LIPEZ brings his pithy, multifaceted, and self-deprecating voice to this de-
but work of fiction. The prose and photography are tied together in a playful taxonomic scheme by editor and art director STACY WAKEFIELD, the author of the novel The Sun-shine Club Baking Factory. The three artists have collaborated on four previous books, most recently Please Take Me Off the Guilt List.

REVOLVING THREADS: STAFFAFA, SOCIAL JUSTICE, AND COOPERATIVE ECONOMICS by BOBBY SULLIVAN

An American Rasta’s retelling of episodes in American history with an anti-colonial thrust and a view toward charting a brighter future.

“The Clash’s final chapter, after guitarist Mick Jones’ 1983 departure, has largely been forgotten—until this book, in which authors Mark Andersen and Ralph Hibitski argue that the punk pioneers were still creating vital music to the very end.”
—Rolling Stone

One of RS Picks/New Books for Summer 2018—Mark Andersen and Ralph Heibutzki argue that the punk pioneers were still creating vital music to the very end.

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—Rolling Stone

“A reminiscence of the time that brought us Sgt. Pepper and the Summer of Love . . . [A] genial you-were-there memoir of a golden age.”
—New York Times Book Review

Danny Goldberg is a relentless tracker of people. However elusive this Lost Chord may be, Danny G. searches it out and nails it to the tree flush. Eternity novel 1967 forever!”—Wavy Gravy

“When written with the acuity of someone who lived through the times he writes about, this is a thoughtful and wide-ranging explora-
tion of 1967 as both a culture and a way of thinking that continues to reverberate today.”
—Booklist

This is a wildly provocative and worthwhile read, and I’m delighted that the late revolutionary Marilyn Buck emerges in these
pages as the courageous and committed fighter that she was—in the radical abolitionist tradition of John Brown. Live like her!”
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“Beautiful Music is a sweet and endearing coming-of-age tale measured in album tracks.”
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“[A] raucous bildungsroman . . . Zadoorian touches on white flight, iconic radio stations, and the racial history of Detroit, but
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NOW YOU SEE THE SKY a memoir by CATHERINE H. MURRAY

NOW YOU SEE THE SKY is one of the season’s most remarkable debuts and the launch of a complex and truly remarkable new voice. Captain Jacques le Garrec, a lion of the French Resistance, now disgraced by his involvement in the defeat of Algeria and returned to his hometown in Brittany, where he’s promptly charged with investigating a cold case murder. Le Garrec has stepped directly out of a Jean-Pierre Melville film and into a seaside murder mystery, an enigmatic, atmospheric, submersive novel that is deeply layered and delicately nuanced. I couldn’t put this book down.”
—Cara Black, author of Murder in Saint-Germain

THE BOOK OF HARLAN

“Brydon’s The Moment Before Drowning is one of the season’s most remarkable debuts and the launch of a complex and truly remarkable new voice. Captain Jacques le Garrec, a lion of the French Resistance, now disgraced by his involvement in the defeat of Algeria and returned to his hometown in Brittany, where he’s promptly charged with investigating a cold case murder. Le Garrec has stepped directly out of a Jean-Pierre Melville film and into a seaside murder mystery, an enigmatic, atmospheric, submersive novel that is deeply layered and delicately nuanced. I couldn’t put this book down.”

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“The Book of Harlan

CATHARINE H. MURRAY

A young woman must learn to love and trust again after experiencing the brutality of ritual servitude in West Africa.

“Now You See the Sky

A tender, love-filled story of how one woman dealt with the loss of a young child.

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YOU HAVE TO FUC\nKING EAT

WORDs BY ADAM MANSBACH • ILLUSTRATIONS BY RICO\nD ROBERTS
CHILDREN’S PICTURE BOOK, HARDCOVER, 32 PAGES, FULL CO\nLOR, 11 X 8.25, $15.95, ISBN: 978-1-61775-078-6

A NEW YORK TIMES BEST-SELLING SEQUEL TO THE ORIGINAL BEST-SELLING SEQUEL TO THE ORIGINAL BEST-SELLING SEQUEL TO THE ORIGINAL

STEP ASIDE GREEN EGGS AND HAM, there’s a new, 21st-century book in town that will compel all finicky children to eat! On the heels of the New York Times best-seller Go the F**k to Sleep, now comes the version that is entirely appropriate to read to— and with—children. While the message and humor is similar to the adult version, there will, of course, be no profanity whatsoever.

“Nothing's driven home a certain truth about my generation, which is approaching the apex of its childbearing years, quite like...”

“Delightfully obscene.”

“Profane, loving, and deeply cathartic, this book breaks the code of child-rearing silence, giving moms and dads a much-needed chance to laugh about a universal problem.”

“I have a whole new appreciation for the word ‘gross’ after reading this book.”

“**Now there’s a version, complete with more of the gorgeous, yet weirdly subversive illustrations . . . that you can ret…”

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“Serious, Just Go to Sleep

SERIOUSLY, JUST GO TO SLEEP

words by Adam Mansbach

Illustrations by Ricardo CortéS

Children’s picture book, hardcover, 32 pages, full color, 11 x 8.25, $15.95, ISBN: 978-1-61775-408-1

A parenting zeitgeist . . . A phenomenon that has stunned the publishing world and may just redefine the modern ‘parenting’...”

“Now there’s a version, complete with more of the gorgeous, yet weirdly subversive illustrations . . . that you can ret…”

“Serious, Just Go to Sleep

“Delightfully obscene.”

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“A new Bible for weary parents.”

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“Serious, Just Go to Sleep

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“AS MANY IN PUBLISHING STRUGGLE TO FIND WAYS TO IMPROVE ON AN INCREASINGLY OUTDATED BUSINESS MODEL, INDEPENDENTS SUCH AS AKASHIC—WHICH ARE MORE NIMBLE AND LESS RISK-averse THAN MAJOR PUBLISHING HOUSES—are innovators to watch.” —LOS ANGELES TIMES

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