Ancient glaciers passed by the Driftless Area and waterways vein its interior, forming an enchanting, enigmatic landscape of sharp ridgetops and deep valleys. Across time, this rugged topography has been home to an astonishing variety of people: Sauk, Dakota, and Ho-Chunk villagers, Norwegian farmers and Mexican mercado owners, Dominican nuns and Buddhist monks, river raftsmen and Shakespearean actors, Cornish miners and African American barn builders, organic entrepreneurs and Hmong truck gardeners.

The Driftless Reader gathers writings that highlight the unique natural and cultural history, landscape, and literature of this region that encompasses southwestern Wisconsin and adjacent Minnesota, Iowa, and Illinois. The more than eighty selected texts include writings by Black Hawk, Mark Twain, Laura Ingalls Wilder, Frank Lloyd Wright, Aldo Leopold, David Rhodes, and many other Native people, explorers, scientists, historians, farmers, songwriters, journalists, and poets. Paintings, photographs, maps, and other images complement the texts, providing a deeper appreciation of this region’s layered natural and human history.
In the midst of the great mantle of drift that overspreads the Upper Mississippi Basin there lies a drift-barren tract of about 10,000 square miles, the driftless area of Wisconsin and adjoining States. This island in the sea of drift is unique.

—T. C. Chamberlin and Rollin D. Salisbury, from “Preliminary Paper on the Driftless Area of the Upper Mississippi Valley” (1885)

The farmstead stood on a hilltop, like a castle, like the center of the world. . . . Look in any direction and there were other ridges, with dots of houses and barns, and the blue shadows of other ridges still beyond them, each a whole world away from the next narrow ridge. Down below, in the valley, was yet another world. The valleys had different trees and animals. Even the seasons were different. —Ben Logan, from The Land Remembers: The Story of a Farm and Its People (1975)

More than voice of our Wisconsin Driftless Area farm, the spring creek is an artery in a water heart—alive and pulsing. It is a twig on a water tree, and its course shapes the branch of a trout stream called Dieter Hollow Creek, which in turn, is part of the great water tree called the Mississippi River. In spring, the winged ones in the sky follow the trail of water from trunk to twig and then in fall, back again from twig to trunk. —Catherine Young, from Water Song (2013)

The farmstead stood on a hilltop, like a castle, like the center of the world. . . . Look in any direction and there were other ridges, with dots of houses and barns, and the blue shadows of other ridges still beyond them, each a whole world away from the next narrow ridge. Down below, in the valley, was yet another world. The valleys had different trees and animals. Even the seasons were different. —Ben Logan, from The Land Remembers: The Story of a Farm and Its People (1975)

CURT MEINE is a conservation biologist and writer affiliated with the Aldo Leopold Foundation, Center for Humans and Nature, International Crane Foundation, and University of Wisconsin–Madison. His many books include Aldo Leopold: His Life and Work and Wallace Stegner and the Continental Vision. KEFFE KEELEY, a native of the Kickapoo Valley, is executive director of the Savanna Institute, working with farmers on sustainable agro-ecosystems in the Upper Midwest.

 Highlights include excerpts and art from:

Carol Ryrie Brink
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CurriculumReader
The Disintegrations
A Novel
ALISTAIR McCARTNEY

A haunting, obsessive exploration of death

“A book that takes possession of you right from the opening and will not let you go. Challenging and gripping, a rumination on death and memory that speaks eloquently to our sense of loss, both personal and communal. The writing is exquisite. In the best possible sense, I know this book will haunt me for the longest time.”—Christos Tsiolkas, author of Barracuda

“Engrossing and reverent, The Disintegrations strangles death. A philosophy of the concrete and a reckoning of the ethereal, this novel dreams of all that has become lost in a world of remainders. We who remain may not find relief, but it leaves us dazzled and astonished and brutally satisfied with a gratitude for living.”—Lily Hoang, author of A Bestiary

“I know nothing about death, absolutely nothing,” asserts the narrator of this inventive autobiographical novel. Yet he can’t stop thinking about it. Detached from life in Los Angeles and his past in Australia, uncomfortable around other humans, he researches death on the Internet; mulls over distant and intimate stories of suicides, serial killers, and “natural deaths”; and wanders about LA’s Holy Cross Cemetery. He’s looking for answers, all the while formulating his own disquieting philosophies.

Within this dizzying investigation into the mystery of death is another mystery: Who is the companion igniting these memories? This enigmatic novel blurs the line between fiction and nonfiction, story and eulogy, poetry and obituary. Wry yet somber, astringent yet tender, The Disintegrations confronts both the impossibility of understanding death and the timeless longing for immortality.

ALISTAIR McCARTNEY is the author of The End of the World Book, a finalist for the PEN USA Literary Award in Fiction. He teaches creative writing at Antioch University Los Angeles.

OF RELATED INTEREST

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The Off Season

AMY HOFFMAN

A comic romp in Provincetown

"Read this book while you’re at the beach. Read it if you wish you could be at the beach. Just read it!"—Anita Diamant, author of The Boston Girl

“With one of the most effortlessly charming voices you’re likely to come across, Amy Hoffman has written a portrait of a place and the madly diverse group of people that lives there. As antic and funny as this irresistible novel is, Hoffman’s real triumph is reminding us of the importance of community in the face of hostility and oppression. It’s hard to imagine a more timely or necessary reminder.”—Stephen McCauley, author of The Object of My Affection

When Nora Griffin, an artist in her mid-thirties, moves from Brooklyn to Provincetown, she isn’t looking for trouble. Her partner, Janelle, is recovering from breast cancer treatment, and together they’ve decided that the quiet off-season on the tip of Cape Cod is the perfect place for Janelle to heal and Nora to paint. Then charismatic Baby Harris flirts into Nora’s life in her red cowboy boots.

In the damp, windy winter, Nora contends with heartbreak, aging, and local environmental worries, while painting what she hopes will be her masterpiece. Along the way, she encounters the chain-smoking, motor scooter–driving landlady Miss Ruby; Reverend Patsy, the vegan minister of the Unitarian church; and Brunhilde, barista extraordinaire and rival for Baby’s affections. As the first tourists begin to arrive in June, Nora must decide what she really wants from life.

AMY HOFFMAN is the author of the memoirs Lies about My Family, An Army of Ex-Lovers, and Hospital Time. She teaches in the Solstice MFA Program at Pine Manor College and is editor in chief of the Women’s Review of Books.

OF RELATED INTEREST

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—Lucy Jane Bledsoe, author of A Thin Bright Line

“The Off Season is right on! A sparkling novel about the flora and fauna and florid drama of lesbians living in Provincetown for one memorable season.”—Kate Clinton, humorist

• Tour events in CT, MA, NY, RI
Self-Made Woman
A Memoir

DENISE CHANTERELLE DuBOIS

For decades I kept Denise in the closet. Then I kept Dennis in the closet.

“An astonishing saga of survival and transformation.”—Will Fellows, author of Farm Boys

“DuBois’s searing, brutally honest memoir of her emotional journey from male to female is a page-turner, occasionally shocking but ultimately joyful. Though the decisions she’s made have been a mixed bag, she finds that, waking up each day solidly a woman, she is fortune’s favorite daughter.”—Rebecca Coffey, author of Hysterical: Anna Freud’s Story

“A story full of heartache and hope. By the end we are a lot more compassionate and smarter about the radical grace required to be transgendered in a relentlessly heterosexual society.”—Cassandra Langer, author of Romaine Brooks

Denise Chanterelle DuBois’s transformation into a woman wasn’t easy. Born as a boy into a working-class Polish American Milwaukee family, she faced daunting hurdles: a domineering father, a gritty 1960s neighborhood with no understanding of gender nonconformity, trouble in school, and a childhood so haunted by deprivation that neckbone soup was a staple. Terrified of revealing her inner self, DuBois lurched through alcoholism, drug dealing and addiction, car crashes, dangerous sex, and prison time. Dennis barreled from Wisconsin to California, Oregon, Canada, Costa Rica, New York, Bangkok, and Hawaii on a joyless ride.

Defying all expectations, DuBois didn’t crash and burn. Embracing her identity as a woman, she remade herself. Writing with resolute honesty and humor, she confronts both her past and her present to tell an American story of self-discovery.

Denise Chanterelle DuBois is an actress, environmentalist, and businesswoman. She lives in Portland, Oregon.

Living Out: Gay and Lesbian Autobiographies

“Denise’s colorful life has covered it all in spades: sex, drugs, and a journey of self-discovery that takes her around the world. Buckle up for a wild ride!”—Andrea James, filmmaker and transgender rights activist

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In the Province of the Gods
KENNY FRIES

A beguiling adventure in Japan

“Kenny Fries writes out of the pure hot emergency of a mortal being trying to keep himself alive. So much is at stake here—health, affection, culture, trauma, language—but its greatest surprise is what thrives in the midst of suffering. A beautiful book.”—Paul Lisicky, author of The Narrow Door

“Like the best memoirs, it reminds us of the genre’s twinned truths: first, that the surest way to discover the self is to look out at the world, and second, that the best way to teach others about something is to tell them not ‘what it is,’ but what it means to you. Fries’s deft, questioning prose is as full of compassion as curiosity, and his revelations about himself are no less compelling than what he learns about Japan.”—Dale Peck, author of Visions and Revisions: Coming of Age in the Age of AIDS

Kenny Fries embarks on a journey of profound self-discovery as a disabled foreigner in Japan, a society historically hostile to difference. As he visits gardens, experiences Noh and butoh, and meets artists and scholars, he also discovers disabled gods, one-eyed samurai, blind chanting priests, and A-bomb survivors. When he is diagnosed as HIV positive, all his assumptions about Japan, the body, and mortality are shaken, and he must find a way to reenter life on new terms.

Kenny Fries is the author of Body, Remember: A Memoir and The History of My Shoes and the Evolution of Darwin’s Theory. He is the editor of Staring Back: The Disability Experience from the Inside Out. He teaches in the MFA in Creative Writing Program at Goddard College and is the recipient of a prestigious Creative Capital grant.

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Season of the Second Thought

LYNN POWELL

A rich mélange of nature, love, desire, and absence

“Let Powell’s images and figures wash over you. They can be deft and unobtrusive, but they will stick with you; they will illuminate what otherwise might be dark. A poet so sure-handed is irresistible. Dazzling.”
—Robert Wrigley

Season of the Second Thought begins in a deep blue mood, longing to find words for what feels beyond saying. Lynn Powell’s poems journey through the seasons, quarreling with the muse, reckoning with loss, questioning the heart and its “pedigree of Pentecost,” and seeking out paintings in order to see inside the self. With their crisp observations and iridescent language, these poems accumulate the bounty of an examined life. These lines emerge from darkness into a shimmering equilibrium—witty, lush, and hard-won.

I’ve tried, like a peony, to explain myself in a hundred dark petals or less.
I’ve been clear as the insatiable hands of the rain.
I’ve been Rachmaninoff and ragweed, cornflowers and castanets, sunset swollen behind me like a red crescendo.
Yes, I’ve worn my heart up my sleeve. And Lord knows I’ve been love’s bull’s-eye—Saint Sebastiana of the Backslid Baptists.

—excerpt from “Tantrum, with Mistletoe” © Lynn Powell. All rights reserved.

LYNN POWELL teaches in the Creative Writing Program at Oberlin College, where she directs Oberlin’s Writers-in-the-Schools Program. She has published two previous collections of poetry: Old & New Testaments, winner of the Brittingham Prize in Poetry, and The Zones of Paradise. Her nonfiction book Framing Innocence won the Studs & Ida Terkel Award.

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The Word We Used for It

MAX GARLAND

Memory, perhaps, is the longest poem of all

“Each poem is a gift of seeing, a gift of reflection, a mirror for the holy. We, as readers, get to taste what language can do when it melts into our tongues, flavors our lives.”—Kao Kalia Yang, author of The Late Homecomer

In these poems Max Garland confesses, even revels in, the fabricated nature of memory. He links personal and localized patterns (fingerprints, plowed fields) to the motions animating the insides of atoms and the unfurling of remote galaxies. Back on earth, the poems honor the decidedly homespun quality of grit—how creatures both animal and human bear up in the face of mounting odds against them. Garland suggests that imagination itself requires grit, to be called upon when the more spectacular angels are otherwise occupied.

...And the light
which began to climb over the rim of horizon
appeared stunned like ancestors in old photographs
seem stunned. You look at them in their suspenders
and bonnets and the austerity of their faces
as if they knew, even then, in the minute's wait
for the shutter to close, they were goners. As if they
knew the reason for the picture was time without pity. So
I stood under the red pine, took a few more breaths
from deep in the glacial instant of my one and only life,
which hurt a little, like joy, by which I mean the edge of joy
where it sharpens itself for the work it has to do.
—excerpt from “Joy” © Max Garland. All rights reserved.

MAX GARLAND, originally from Kentucky, is the author of The Postal Confessions and Hunger Wide as Heaven. He is a former poet laureate of Wisconsin, a professor emeritus at the University of Wisconsin–Eau Claire, and the first writer-in-residence for the city of Eau Claire, Wisconsin.

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“Illustrated with images of early snack food paraphernalia and clever packaging from the glory days of American advertising art, Crunch! is an informative tour of large and small businesses in America, and the vicissitudes of popular tastes.”—Badger Common’Tater

In the wake of the “Great Potato Chip Wars” of the 1990s, corporate snack divisions closed and dozens of family-owned companies went bankrupt. Yet, despite consolidation, many small chippers persist into the twenty-first century, as mom-and-pop companies and upstart “boutique” businesses serve both new consumers and markets with strong regional loyalties.

Crunch! A History of the Great American Potato Chip tells the story of this crispy, salty treat, from the early sales of locally made chips at corner grocers, county fairs, and cafés to the mass marketing and corporate consolidation of the modern snack food industry.

DIRK BURHANS grew up in the heart of traditional potato chip country in eastern Ohio. He is a past publisher of the magazine Burger Boy and writes for magazines about potato chips, soda pop, and hamburger chains. He lives in Idaho.

OF RELATED INTEREST

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MICHAEL NORMAN

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“Haunted Heartland does not endorse ghosts or examine their reality. Instead, it reports belief. It collects our stories, our American folklore.”—Jay Rath, author of The W-Files

A fleeting figure dressed in a white party dress roams the streets of southwest Chicago. A long-dead Iowa college student treads the staircase in an old building. A ghostly, plaid-shirted workman plays peek-a-boo with a ticket seller in a Minnesota theater. A phantom wolf prowls Ohio’s Jackson and Pike Counties.

For decades, journalist Michael Norman has been tracking down spine-tingling tales that seem to arise from authentic incidents in Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, Ohio, and Wisconsin. In Haunted Heartland he offers more than eighty entertaining, eerie stories. Are they true in the world that we know, or only in a dark vale of twilight?

MICHAEL NORMAN is an emeritus professor of journalism at the University of Wisconsin–River Falls. His many books include six other collections of American supernatural stories, including Haunted Wisconsin, also published by the University of Wisconsin Press.

OF RELATED INTEREST

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“Hunters often straddle the divide between conservationists and advocates for utilizing nature. The author thoughtfully walks this line throughout the book.”—Foreword Reviews

Aldo Leopold wrote, “There are two kinds of hunting: ordinary hunting, and ruffed-grouse hunting.” Like Leopold, Mark Parman takes to the woods when the aspens are smoky gold. He distills twenty seasons of grouse hunting in an evocative almanac that chronicles the early season of the grouse hunt through its end in the snows of January. He writes of old dogs and gun lust, cover and clear cutting, climate change, companions male and female, wildlife art, and stumps.

MARK PARMAN is a member of the Ruffed Grouse Society and the Loyal Order of Dedicated Grouse Hunters. He is coauthor of *Fat Tire Wisconsin: A Mountain Bike Trail Guide* and teaches English at the University of Wisconsin–Marathon County. He has written for *Sports Afield, Pointing Dog Journal*, and other outdoor magazines.

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Indian Mounds of Wisconsin

Second Edition

ROBERT A. BIRMINGHAM and AMY L. ROSEBROUGH

Treasures of world civilization

More mounds were built by ancient Native Americans in Wisconsin than in any other region of North America—between 15,000 and 20,000, at least 4,000 of which remain today. Most impressive are the effigy mounds, huge earthworks sculpted in the shapes of thunderbirds, water panthers, and other forms, not found anywhere else in the world in such concentrations. This second edition is updated throughout, incorporating exciting new research and satellite imagery. Written for general readers, it offers a comprehensive overview of these intriguing earthworks.

Citing evidence from past excavations, ethnography, the traditions of present-day Native Americans in the Midwest, ground-penetrating radar and LIDAR imaging, and recent findings of other archaeologists, Robert A. Birmingham and Amy L. Rosebrough argue that effigy mound groups are cosmological maps that model belief systems and relations with the spirit world. The authors advocate for their preservation and emphasize that Native peoples consider the mounds sacred places.

This edition also includes an expanded list of public parks and preserves where mounds can be respectfully viewed, such as the Kingsley Bend mounds near Wisconsin Dells, an outstanding effigy group maintained by the Ho-Chunk Nation, and the Man Mound Park near Baraboo, the only extant human-shaped effigy mound in the world.

ROBERT A. BIRMINGHAM is the author of Spirits of Earth: The Effigy Mound Landscape of Madison and the Four Lakes and the coauthor of Aztalan: Mysteries of an Ancient Indian Town. Now retired, he served as the state archaeologist of Wisconsin for many years and received the Increase Lapham Research Medal from the Wisconsin Archeological Society. AMY L. ROSEBROUGH is a Wisconsin archaeologist and the coauthor of Water Panthers, Bears, and Thunderbirds: Exploring Wisconsin’s Effigy Mounds.

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*My Year in a Chilean Concentration Camp*

**SERGIO BITAR**

Translated by Erin Goodman; Foreword and notes by Peter Winn

Transcends national boundaries

“Democracy is fragile, and only fully appreciated when it is lost. Sergio Bitar, now one of the most prominent political leaders in Chile, recounts the story of the 1973 military coup and his imprisonment in a direct, unsentimental style that sharply highlights the dramatic events he narrates.”—Isabel Allende Llona

September 11, 1973: Chilean military forces under General Augusto Pinochet overthrew the elected government of President Salvador Allende, bombing the presidential palace with the president inside. Minister of Mining Sergio Bitar was forcibly detained along with other members of the Allende cabinet and confined on bleak, frigid Dawson Island in the Magellan Straits.

*Prisoner of Pinochet* is the gripping first-person chronicle of Bitar’s year as a political prisoner before being expelled from Chile; a poignant narrative of men held captive together in a labor camp under harsh conditions, only able to guess at their eventual fate; and an insightful memoir of the momentous events of the early 1970s that led to seventeen years of bloody authoritarian rule in Chile. Available in English for the first time, this edition includes maps and photos from the 1970s and contextual notes by historian Peter Winn.

**SERGIO BITAR** returned to Chile after years of exile and served as a senator and cabinet minister. He is the president of the Chilean Council for Strategy and Foresight, and his many books include *Democratic Transitions: Conversations with World Leaders*. **ERIN GOODMAN** is the associate director of academic programs at the David Rockefeller Center for Latin American Studies, Harvard University, and coeditor of *Reflections on Memory and Democracy*. **PETER WINN** is a professor of Latin American history at Tufts University and coeditor of *The Chile Reader*.

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- First published in Spanish in 1987 as *Isa 10*
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**Jacobo Timerman**

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JONATHAN ENGEL

Explains the mess we’re in

“Engel’s clear storyline and simple (but not simplistic) analysis make sense of a topic of mind-boggling complexity. Invaluable.”—David Herzberg, author of Happy Pills in America

Written for nonexperts, this is a brisk, engaging history of American healthcare from the advent of Medicare and Medicaid in the 1960s to the impact of the Affordable Care Act in the 2010s. Step by step, Jonathan Engel shows how we arrived at our present convoluted situation, where generic drug prices can jump 1,000 percent in a day and primary care physicians can lose 20 percent of their income at the stroke of a Congressional pen.

Unaffordable covers, in a conversational style punctuated by apt examples, topics ranging from health insurance, pharmaceutical pricing, and physician training to health maintenance organizations and hospital networks. Along the way, Engel introduces approaches that other nations have taken in organizing and paying for healthcare and offers insights on ethical quandaries around end-of-life decisions, neonatal care, life-sustaining treatments, and the limits of our ability to define death. While describing the political origins of many of the federal and state laws that govern our healthcare system today, he never loses sight of the impact that healthcare delivery has on our wallets and on the balance sheets of hospitals, doctors’ offices, government agencies, and private companies.

JONATHAN ENGEL is the author of American Therapy, Poor People’s Medicine, Doctors and Reformers, and The Epidemic: A History of AIDS. He is a professor in the School of Public Affairs at Baruch College and an adjunct professor of health policy and management at the Mailman School of Public Health, Columbia University.

OF RELATED INTEREST

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Black Fox
A Life of Emilie Demant Hatt, Artist and Ethnographer

BARBARA SJOHOLM

Life among Sami nomads of Scandinavia

“A fascinating story of a talented woman’s unconventional career at the outset of the twentieth century. Through Sjoholm’s meticulous archival investigation, Emilie Demant Hatt emerges as a woman of tremendous energy, insight, and vision, unafraid to cross the various academic, artistic, and cultural barriers of her time.”—Thomas A. DuBois, translator of Johan Turi’s An Account of the Sámi

In 1904 a young Danish woman met a Sami wolf hunter on a train in Sweden. This chance encounter transformed the lives of artist Emilie Demant and the hunter, Johan Turi. In 1907–8 Demant went to live with Sami families in their tents and on migrations, later writing a lively account of her experiences. She collaborated with Turi on his book about his people. On her own and later with her husband Gudmund Hatt, she roamed on foot through Sami regions as an ethnographer and folklorist. As an artist, she created many striking paintings with Sami motifs. Her exceptional life and relationships come alive in this first English-language biography.

BARBARA SJOHOLM is the editor and translator of Demant Hatt’s narrative With the Lapps in the High Mountains. Her many books include novels about Demant Hatt’s youthful romance with Danish composer Carl Nielsen: Fossil Island and The Former World.

“Emilie Demant Hatt’s contributions to Sami ethnography deserve wide recognition, and this biography provides an absorbing account of her achievements as an ethnographer as well as an artist.”—Trude Fonneland, author of Contemporary Shamanisms in Norway

OF RELATED INTEREST

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PETER HEMPENSTALL

The complicated man behind a public sensation

New Zealand anthropologist Derek Freeman ignited a ferocious controversy in 1983 when he denounced the research of Margaret Mead, a world-famous public intellectual who had died five years earlier. Freeman’s claims caught the attention of popular media, converging with other vigorous cultural debates of the era. Many anthropologists, however, saw Freeman’s strident refutation of Mead’s best-selling *Coming of Age in Samoa* as the culmination of a forty-year vendetta. Others defended Freeman’s critique, if not always his tone.

*Truth’s Fool* documents an intellectual journey that was much larger and more encompassing than Freeman’s attack on Mead’s work. It peels back the prickly layers to reveal the man in all his complexity. Framing this story within anthropology’s development in Britain and America, Peter Hempenstall recounts Freeman’s mission to turn the discipline from its cultural-determinist leanings toward a view of human culture underpinned by biological and behavioral drivers. *Truth’s Fool* engages the intellectual questions at the center of the Mead–Freeman debate and illuminates the dark spaces of personal, professional, and even national rivalries.

PETER HEMPENSTALL is an emeritus professor of history at the University of Canterbury in New Zealand and a conjoint professor of history at the University of Newcastle in Australia. His many books include *Pacific Islanders under German Rule* and the biographies *The Meddlesome Priest* and *The Lost Man: Wilhelm Solf in German History*.

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Reason after Its Eclipse
On Late Critical Theory

MARTIN JAY

“Focuses on ideas of reason in the work of Frankfurt School theorists, including Adorno, Horkheimer, Marcuse, and especially Habermas.” — Chronicle of Higher Education

“Jay writes with enormous erudition, insight, fairness, good judgment and clarity. . . . Anyone interested in the vicissitudes of the history of the understanding of reason in the Frankfurt School, anyone interested in gaining an overview of Habermas’s communicative theory of rationality, anyone interested in the ambiguous legacy and future prospects for Critical Theory will benefit enormously from Jay’s masterful study.” — History and Theory

“What Jay has done, admirably, in the final three chapters, is provide a subtle and nuanced introduction to debates surrounding the evolution and nature of reason in contemporary Critical Theory.” — Marx & Philosophy Review of Books

Eminent intellectual historian Martin Jay tackles a question as old as Plato and still pressing today: What is reason, and what roles does and should it have in human endeavor? Surveying Western ideas of reason, particularly in German philosophy from Kant to Habermas, he homes in on moments of crisis, critique, and defense of reason, engaging at length with the ways leading theorists of the Frankfurt School sought to salvage a viable concept of reason after its apparent eclipse.

MARTIN JAY is the Sidney Hellman Ehrman Professor Emeritus of History at the University of California, Berkeley. His many books include The Dialectical Imagination, Marxism and Totality, and The Virtues of Mendacity.

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Packy Jim

Folklore and Worldview on the Irish Border

RAY CASHMAN

• Winner, Michael J. Durkan Prize for Books on Language and Culture, American Conference for Irish Studies

A Donegal storyteller engages with this world and the next

“Draws on interviews with Packy Jim McGrath, a Donegal storyteller who grew up on a smuggling route on the border of the Republic and Northern Ireland.”—Chronicle of Higher Education

“Octogenarian bachelor Packy Jim emerges here as both typical and singular, a barometer of continuity and change. McGrath’s resilience, dignity, and strong sense of self manifest clearly in his stories, which locate him both in the technological consumerist future and in the primordial self-sufficient past. Ray Cashman’s sharp and sympathetic observation delivers a classic ethnography that stakes a major claim for folkloristic studies as cutting-edge humanities research.”—Lillis Ó Laoire, National University of Ireland–Galway

Packy Jim McGrath regularly heard the news, songs, and stories of men and women who stopped to pass the time along the border until cover of darkness. Ray Cashman, who interviewed McGrath for more than fifteen years, demonstrates how Packy Jim’s tales of ghosts, fairies, heroic outlaws, and hateful landlords reveal an intricate worldview that is a window into Irish vernacular culture.

RAY CASHMAN is an associate professor of folklore at Indiana University. He is the author of Storytelling on the Northern Irish Border, which won both the Chicago Folklore Prize of the American Folklore Society and the Donald Murphy Prize of the American Conference for Irish Studies.

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“Identifies the philosopher, theologian, and sociologist [John Bascom] as the originator of the notion of the ‘Wisconsin Idea,’ or the idea that public universities should benefit people beyond the borders of a campus.”

—Chronicle of Higher Education

“A satisfying biography for anyone interested in progressive politics, nineteenth-century intellectual thought, or university history.”—Michigan Historical Review

President of the University of Wisconsin from 1874 to 1887, John Bascom championed temperance, women’s rights, labor rights, and an expanded role for state governments and universities as agencies of moral improvement. He greatly influenced his students Charles Van Hise and Robert La Follette, who in their later roles as university president and governor earned the state of Wisconsin national attention for its innovative economic and political reforms in the Progressive Era.

J. DAVID HOEVELER is a Distinguished Professor of History at the University of Wisconsin–Milwaukee. He is the author of seven books, including Creating the American Mind, The Evolutionists, and Watch on the Right.

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Defending the Masses
A Progressive Lawyer’s Battles for Free Speech

ERIC B. EASTON

Before the ACLU existed

“Gilbert Roe was a remarkable person who associated with and defended the rights of many of the most fascinating people of the Progressive Era. Easton brings all these stories to life in his wonderfully accessible biography.”—Mark Graber, author of Transforming Free Speech

Free speech and freedom of the press were often suppressed amid the social turbulence of the Progressive Era and World War I. As muckrakers, feminists, pacifists, anarchists, socialists, and communists were arrested or censored for their outspoken views, many of them turned to a Manhattan lawyer named Gilbert Roe to keep them in business and out of jail.

Roe was the principal trial lawyer of the Free Speech League—a precursor of the American Civil Liberties Union. His cases involved such activists as Emma Goldman, Lincoln Steffens, Margaret Sanger, Max Eastman, Upton Sinclair, John Reed, and Eugene Debs, as well as the socialist magazine The Masses and the New York City Teachers Union. A friend of Wisconsin’s progressive senator Robert La Follette since their law partnership as young men, Roe defended “Fighting Bob” when the Senate tried to expel him for opposing America’s entry into World War I.

In articulating and upholding Americans’ fundamental right to free expression against charges of obscenity, libel, espionage, sedition, or conspiracy during turbulent times, Roe was rarely successful in the courts. But his battles illuminate the evolution of free speech doctrine in an era when it was under heavy assault. His greatest victory, the 1917 decision by Judge Learned Hand in The Masses Publishing Co. v. Patten, is still influential today.

ERIC EASTON is a professor of law at the University of Baltimore and the director of the LL.M. program in the law of the United States. He is the editor of the Journal of Media Law & Ethics and the author of Mobilizing the Press: Defending the First Amendment in the Supreme Court.

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Six Turkish Filmmakers

LAURENCE RAW

A personal odyssey through the work of six auteurs

“Raw chooses filmmakers whose films individually, and differently, reflect personal encounters with the culture, history, and politics of the Republic of Turkey. Replete with keen insights, this book is a delight to read and a model for compelling film scholarship and cultural commentary.” —Dennis Rothermel, California State University, Chico

Examining the vanguard of New Turkish Cinema, Laurence Raw shows how these films reveal the effects of profound socioeconomic change on ordinary people in contemporary Turkey.

In analysis of and personal interviews with Derviş Zaim, Zeki Demirkubuz, Semih Kaplanoğlu, Çağan Irmak, Tolga Örnek, and Palme d’Or winner Nuri Bilge Ceylan, Raw draws connections with Turkish theater, art, sculpture, literature, poetry, philosophy, and international cinema. A native of England and a twenty-five-year resident of Turkey, Raw interleaves his film discussion with thoughtful commentary on nationalism, gender, personal identity, and cultural pluralism.

LAURENCE RAW is a professor of English at Başkent University in Turkey. He is the author of Exploring Turkish Cultures and Impressions of the Turkish Stage, in addition to numerous books on British and American literature and film.

“Surprising and innovative. Raw integrates historical research with literary references and personal reflections, using the work of contemporary Turkish filmmakers to discuss pressing issues of identity and transcultural understanding.” —Iain Robert Smith, King’s College London

OF RELATED INTEREST

The Cinema of Sergei Parajanov

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The Foreign Film Renaissance on American Screens, 1946–1973

Tino Balio

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In Plain Sight
Impunity and Human Rights in Thailand
TYRELL HABERKORN

Essential reading for understanding the modern Thai state

“Powerfully uncovers and documents many episodes of state intimidation and violence in postwar Thailand. Haberkorn deftly probes the nature and domestic actions of the Thai state and holds it accountable for its own history.”—Ben Kiernan, author of The Pol Pot Regime and Viêt Nam

“This stunning new book goes far beyond Thailand’s heartrending experience of serial dictatorship without accountability and state formation grounded on impunity for crime. Haberkorn also compellingly engages Thailand’s place in the rise of human rights movements. Her documentation of an ‘injustice cascade’ reorients the study of global history and politics.”—Samuel Moyn, author of Human Rights and the Uses of History

Following a 1932 coup d’état in Thailand that ended absolute monarchy and established a constitution, the Thai state that emerged has suppressed political dissent through detention, torture, forced reeducation, disappearances, assassinations, and massacres. In Plain Sight shows how these abuses, both hidden and occurring in public view, have become institutionalized through a chronic failure to hold perpetrators accountable. Tyrell Haberkorn’s deeply researched revisionist history of modern Thailand highlights the legal, political, and social mechanisms that have produced such impunity and documents continual and courageous challenges to state domination.

TYRELL HABERKORN is a fellow in the Department of Political and Social Change in the School of International, Political and Strategic Studies at Australian National University. She is the author of Revolution Interrupted: Farmers, Students, Law, and Violence in Northern Thailand.

OF RELATED INTEREST

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Conflicted Memory

Military Cultural Interventions and the Human Rights Era in Peru

CYNTHIA E. MILTON

Who defines the past?

“Brings to light how military ‘entrepreneurs of memory’ strategically place memory products in a memory marketplace. A major intervention in debates about Peru’s internal armed conflict of the 1980s and ’90s and its aftermath, which will interest scholars in many disciplines and regions.”
—Paulo Drinot, coeditor of Comics and Memory in Latin America

What happens when concepts of “truth,” “memory,” and “human rights” are taken up and adapted by former perpetrators of violence? Peru has moved from the 1980s–90s conflict between its armed forces and Shining Path militants into an era of open democracy, transitional justice, and truth and reconciliation commissions. Cynthia Milton reveals how Peru’s military has engaged in a tactical cultural campaign—via books, films, museums—to shift public opinion, debate, and memories about the nation’s violent recent past and its part in it.

Milton calls attention to fabrications of our post-truth era but goes further to deeply explore the ways members of the Peruvian military see their past, how they actively commemorate and curate it in the present, and why they do so. Her nuanced approach upends frameworks of memory studies that reduce military and ex-military to a predictable role of outright denial.

CYNTHIA E. MILTON is the Canada Research Chair in Latin American History at the Université de Montréal. She is the editor of Art from a Fractured Past: Memory and Truth-telling in Post–Shining Path Peru. Her coedited works include The Art of Truth-Telling about Authoritarian Rule and Curating Difficult Knowledge: Violent Pasts in Public Places.

OF RELATED INTEREST

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The Wars inside Chile’s Barracks
Remembering Military Service under Pinochet

LEITH PASSMORE

Draftees into Pinochet’s repressive army seek recognition as victims

“With crisp prose and superb scholarship, Leith Passmore provides a groundbreaking exploration of the lives and memories of military conscripts under, and after, the seventeen-year rule of General Pinochet, South America’s most famous violator of human rights in living memory.”—Paul W. Drake, author of Between Tyranny and Anarchy

From 1973 to 1990 in Chile, approximately 370,000 young men—mostly from impoverished backgrounds—were conscripted to serve as soldiers in Augusto Pinochet’s violent regime. Some were brutal enforcers, but many themselves endured physical and psychological abuse, survival and torture training, arbitrary punishments, political persecution, and forced labor. Leith Passmore examines the emergence, in the early twenty-first century, of a movement of ex-conscripts seeking reparations. The former soldiers challenged the politics of memory that had shaped Chile’s truth and reconciliation efforts, demanding recognition of their own broken families, ill health and incapacity to work, and damaged sense of self.

Relying on unpublished material, testimony, interviews, and field notes, Passmore locates these individuals’ narratives of victimhood at the intersection of long-term histories of patriotism, masculinity, and cyclical poverty. These accounts reveal in detail how Pinochet’s war against his own citizens—as well as the “almost-wars” with neighboring Peru, Bolivia, and Argentina—were also waged inside Chile’s army barracks.

LEITH PASSMORE is a historian at the Universidad Andrés Bello in Santiago, Chile, and the author of Ulrike Meinhof and the Red Army Faction: Performing Terrorism.

OF RELATED INTEREST

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“Few books are able to capture, as this one does, the full complexity of the Pinochet dictatorship’s horror. Passmore leads us, in magisterial fashion, into one of its darkest corners: the tortured memories of thousands of former conscripts transformed simultaneously into perpetrators and victims of the dictatorial nightmare.”—Verónica Valdivia, author of El golpe después del golpe: Leigh vs Pinochet (1960–1980)
Tragic Rites
Narrative and Ritual in Sophoclean Drama
ADRIANA E. BROOK

Illuminates Greek tragedy and ancient theater

Presenting an innovative new reading of Sophocles’ plays, Tragic Rites analyzes the poetic and narrative function of ritual in the seven extant plays of Sophocles. Adriana Brook closely examines four of them—Ajax, Electra, Philoctetes, and Oedipus at Colonus—in the context of her wide-ranging consideration of the entire Sophoclean corpus. Exploring the playwright’s dramatic technique, she shows how he used elements of ritual to guide the perceptions and expectations of his fifth-century audience about plot and character.

Employing both modern ritual theory and Aristotle’s Poetics, Brook exposes the deep structural analogies between ritual and narrative, the parallels between mistakes in ritual and deviations from the expected in the plot, and the relationship between ritual content and dramatic closure.

ADRIANA BROOK is an assistant professor in the Department of Classics at Lawrence University.
The Mitki and the Art of Postmodern Protest in Russia

ALEXANDAR MIHAIOVIC

Notorious and colorful nonconformists

During the late Soviet period, the art collective known as the Mitki emerged in Leningrad. Producing satirical poetry and prose, pop music, cinema, and conceptual performance art, this group fashioned a playful, emphatically countercultural identity with affinities to European avant-garde and American hippie movements.

More broadly, Alexandar Mihailovic shows, the Mitki pioneered a form of political protest art that has since become a centerpiece of activism in post-Soviet Russia, most visibly today in groups such as Pussy Riot. He draws on extensive interviews with members of the collective and illuminates their critique of the authoritarian state, militarism, and social strictures from the Brezhnev years to the present.

ALEXANDAR MIHAIOVIC is a professor emeritus of comparative literature and Russian at Hofstra University and visiting professor at Bennington College. His books include Corporeal Words: Mikhail Bakhtin’s Theology of Discourse and an edited volume, Tchaikovsky and His Contemporaries: A Centenary Symposium.

“...moves seamlessly between analysis of different art forms—graphic arts, literature, and film—and chronicles the journey of its original members from debauched alcoholism to sobriety.”

—Emily Johnson, author of How St. Petersburg Learned to Study Itself

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Limits to Interpretation

The Meanings of Anna Karenina

VLADIMIR E. ALEXANDROV

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“Alexandrov does not insist on the resolution of the novel’s basic contradictions but leaves it to his reader what to make of Anna Karenina: a work whose tumult of meanings ultimately undoes it or makes it mysterious and rich, like life.”—Modern Philology

Vladimir E. Alexandrov advocates a broad revision of the academic study of literature, proposing an adaptive, text-specific approach designed to minimize the circularity of interpretation inherent in the act of reading. He illustrates this method with the example of Tolstoy’s classic novel via a detailed “map” of the different possible readings that the novel can support. The novel Anna Karenina emerges as deeply conflicted, polyvalent, and quite unlike what one finds in other critical studies.

VLADIMIR E. ALEXANDROV is the B. E. Bensinger Professor of Slavic Languages and Literatures at Yale University, editor of The Garland Companion to Vladimir Nabokov, and author of Nabokov’s Otherworld and The Black Russian.

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PAUL BRYKCZYNSKI

The assassination that changed a nation

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“Brykczynski gives his narrative considerable immediacy by relying on available newspaper accounts.”—Choice

“As exciting as a good novel, but meticulously researched and offering sophisticated historical analysis.”—Piotr Wróbel, University of Toronto

In 1922, the new Republic of Poland democratically elected its first president, Gabriel Narutowicz. Because his supporters included a Jewish political party, an opposing faction of antisemites demanded his resignation. Within hours, bloody riots erupted in Warsaw, and less than a week later the president was assassinated. In the wake of these events, the radical right asserted that only “ethnic Poles” should rule the country, while the left silently capitulated to this demand. Brykczynski explores the complex role of antisemitism, nationalism, and violence in Polish politics between the two World Wars and sheds light on the rise and violent impact of the antisemitic right in Europe and beyond.

PAUL BRYKCZYNSKI is an independent historian who lives in Ontario.

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Kongo in the Age of Empire, 1860–1913
The Breakdown of a Moral Order

JELMER VOS

How native African elites participated in colonial rule, for good or ill

“A fascinating, well-researched account placing Kongo dynastic rivalries at the center of the kingdom’s engagement with Portuguese colonialism. Vos rejects contemporary European narratives of cultural decline in the kingdom. . . . Highly recommended.”—Choice

“(Vos) never speaks for his subjects, skillfully allowing them to speak for themselves and then adding concisely penetrating highlights of what they said to advance his argument and his readers’ understanding.”—African Studies Review

This richly documented account of the arrival of rubber traders, new Christian missionaries, and the Portuguese colonial state in the Kongo realm is told from the perspective of the kingdom’s inhabitants. Jelmer Vos shows that both Africans and Europeans were able to forward differing social, political, and economic agendas as Kongo’s sacred city of São Salvador became a vital site for the expansion of European imperialism in Central Africa.

Kongo people, Vos argues, built on the kingdom’s long familiarity with Atlantic commerce and cultures to become avid intermediaries in a new system of colonial trade and mission schools. But this incorporation in the European enterprise also had tragic consequences, undermining local African structures of authority on which the colonial system, ironically, depended.

JELMER VOS is an associate professor of history at Old Dominion University.

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Ghana Studies is the journal of the Ghana Studies Association, an international affiliate of the African Studies Association. Published annually, GS strives to provide a forum for cutting-edge original research about Ghana’s society, culture, environment, and history. All of the scholarly articles in GS are peer reviewed by two anonymous referees, coordinated by an editorial team based in both North America and Ghana. Since its first issue in 1998, GS has published significant work by leading scholars based in Ghana, the United States, Canada, and Europe. In addition, GS features occasional material, source reports, and book reviews. It also serves to provide official notice of fellowships and prizes awarded by the Ghana Studies Association.

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