

Mad Creek Books



AN IMPRINT OF THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY PRESS

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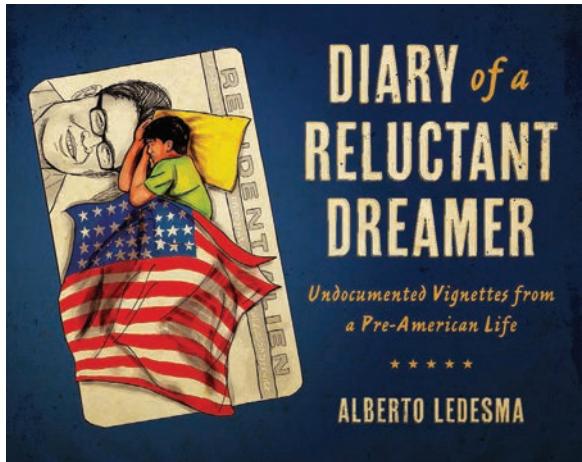
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For submission inquiries, contact: **Kristen Elias Rowley** at eliasrowley.1@osu.edu.

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"This is a powerful document of the unspoken anxieties felt by Americans like [Ledesma] who worry that their immigration status and history will overshadow everything else in their lives." —*Publishers Weekly*

"Mexican-American scholar/writer/artist Ledesma recounts his own experience of 'the immigrant experience,' with its tiers of risk and layers of aspiration. . . . Affecting, highly charged, and deserving of broad attention." —*Kirkus Reviews*

DIARY OF A RELUCTANT DREAMER

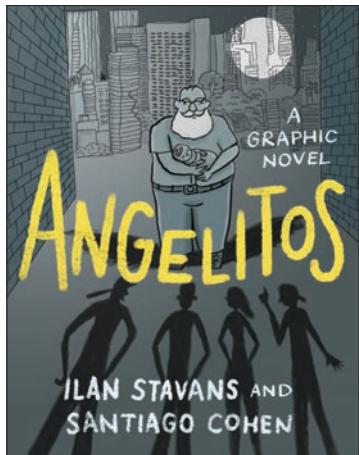
*Undocumented Vignettes
from a Pre-American Life*

Alberto Ledesma

2017
\$17.95 paperback

In this hybrid memoir, Alberto Ledesma wonders, at what point does a long-time undocumented immigrant become an American in the making? From undocumented little boy to "hyperdocumented" university professor, Ledesma recounts how even now, he sometimes finds himself reverting to the child he was, recalling his father's words: "Mijo, it doesn't matter how good you think your English is, la migra will still get you."

Exploring Ledesma's experiences from immigrant to student to academic, *Diary of a Reluctant Dreamer* presents a humorous, gritty, and multilayered portrait of undocumented immigrant life in urban America. Ledesma's vignettes about life in the midst of ongoing social trauma give voice to a generation that has long been silent about its struggles. Delving into the key moments of cultural transition throughout his childhood and adulthood—police at the back door waiting to deport his family, the ex-girlfriend who threatens to call INS and report him, and the interactions with law enforcement even after he is no longer undocumented—Ledesma, through his art and his words, provides a glimpse into the psychological and philosophical concerns of undocumented immigrant youth who struggle to pinpoint their identity and community.



ANGELITOS

A Graphic Novel

Ilan Stavans and
Santiago Cohen

2018

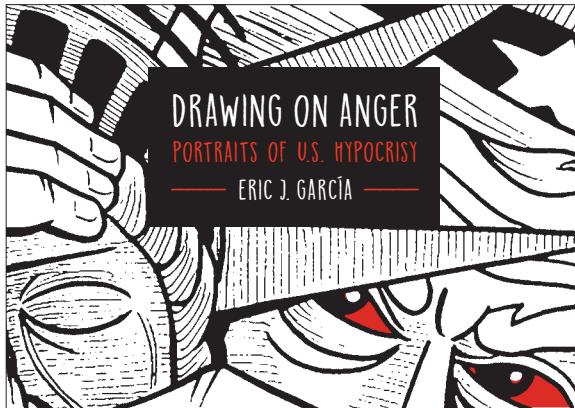
\$17.95 paperback

“An extraordinary graphic novel with the perfect alchemy of writer and illustrator, exploring, with poignancy and fortitude, the lives of vulnerable and homeless children in Mexico City. A tale of mystery, ambiguity, and hope that will break your heart.” —**Marjorie Agosin, author of *I Lived on Butterfly Hill***

“The book offers a thoughtful critique of religious hypocrisy and socioeconomic inequity” —**Publishers Weekly**

From internationally renowned Ilan Stavans, in collaboration with award-winning illustrator Santiago Cohen, comes *Angelitos*, an explosive new graphic novel about a college student and his interactions with Padre Chinchachoma, a charismatic Catholic priest who devotes himself to rescuing homeless children in Mexico. Though his work gives hope to the desperate masses of children on the streets of Mexico City, his efforts interfere with and infuriate the police—with dire consequences. Set in a deeply classist society and against the backdrop of the tragic destruction of the 1985 earthquake in Mexico City, the core of the story also revolves around the student’s fear that Padre Chincha might be sexually abusing the children he rescues, at a time and place when such actions went unchecked by the Catholic Church.

Though *Angelitos: A Graphic Novel* is a fictional retelling of a desperate time, it draws on autobiographical elements to tell the real-life story of Alejandro García Durán de Lara, popularly known as Padre Chinchachoma, a complicated figure revered by some and reviled by others.



DRAWING ON ANGER

PORTRAITS OF U.S. HYPOCRISY

— ERIC J. GARCÍA —

DRAWING ON ANGER

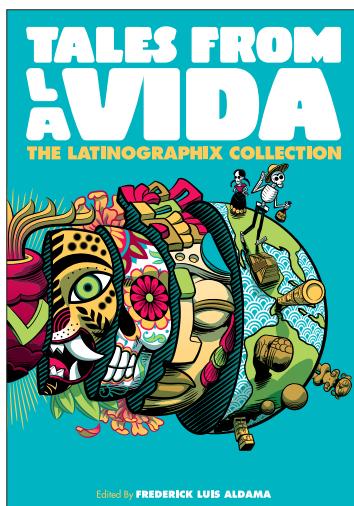
Portraits of U.S. Hypocrisy

Eric J. García

Over a decade's worth of satirical illustrations of Uncle Sam's hypocritical foreign and domestic policies through a Chicano lens.

\$18.95 paperback

Available Fall 2018



TALES FROM LA VIDA

THE LATINOGRAPHIX COLLECTION

TALES FROM LA VIDA

A Latinx Comics Anthology

Edited by Frederick Luis Aldama

“An eclectic and artistically stunning collection of work overflowing with emotional resonance and cultural reverence, Tales from La Vida is a gift to cherish.”

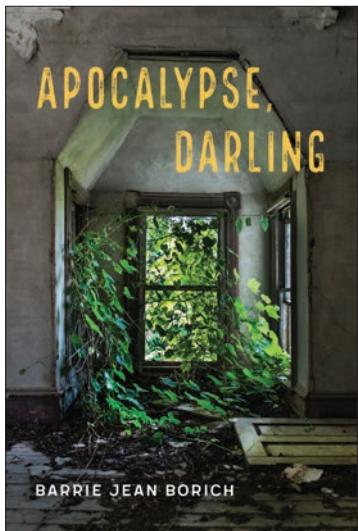
—David Walker, *Luke Cage* and *Bitter Root*

One-of-a-kind collection of Latinx comics that sheds light on Latinx experiences, exploring language, culture, history, and more.

\$17.95 paperback

Available Fall 2018

machete literary nonfiction series



APOCALYPSE, DARLING

Barrie Jean Borich

2018

\$18.95 paperback

"*Apocalypse, Darling* soars and seems to live as a new form altogether. It's poetry, a meditation on life as "the other", creative non-fiction, and abstract art. More than anything, there are many moments like this in *Apocalypse, Darling* that make it soar in stunning clarity."

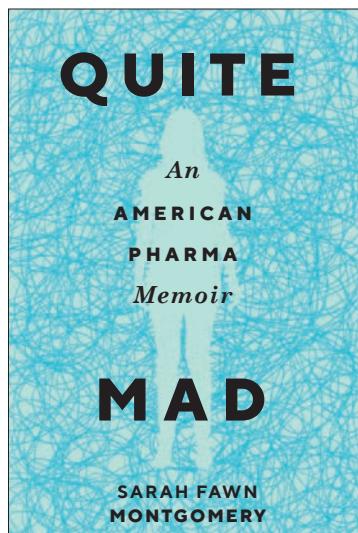
—PopMatters

"Every page reveals the depth of Borich's craft. . . . *Apocalypse, Darling* is a book for attentive readers, and is best read in one sitting. The magic of Borich's prose makes it difficult to look away."

—Lambda Literary

From award-winning author Barrie Jean Borich comes *Apocalypse, Darling*, a narrative, lyrical exploration of the clash between old and new. Set in the steel mill regions of Chicago and in Northwest Indiana, the story centers on Borich's return to a decimated landscape for a misbegotten wedding in which her spouse's father marries his high school sweetheart. The book is a lilting journey into an ill-fated moment, where families attempt to find communion in tense gathering spaces and across their most formative disappointments. Borich tells the story of the industrial heartland that produced the steel that made American cities—while also being one of the most toxic environmental sites in the world.

As concise as a poem and as sweeping as an epic novel, *Apocalypse, Darling* explores the intersection of American traditional and self-invented social identities and the destruction and regreening of industrial cityscapes. Borich asks: Can toxic landscapes actually be remediated, and can patriarchal fathers ever really be forgiven? In a political climate where Borich is forced to daily reenter the toxic wastelands she thought she'd long left behind, *Apocalypse, Darling* is an urgent collision of broken spaces, dysfunctional affections, and the reach toward familial and environmental repair.



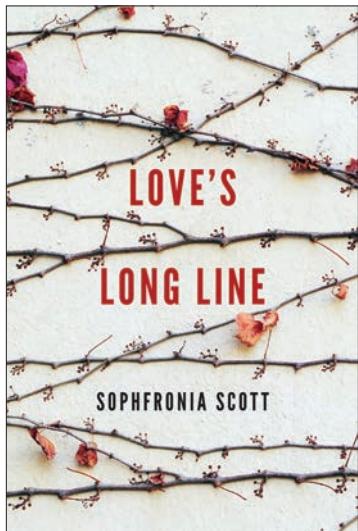
Quite Mad
An American Pharma Memoir
Sarah Fawn Montgomery
\$23.95 paperback

Available Fall 2018

“Sarah Fawn Montgomery’s *Quite Mad* is a brilliant, kinetic story of living with anxiety disorder. She captures both her inner struggles and her outer ones, taking control of both herself and the clinicians who put patient needs last. An essential book.” —**Susanne Paola Antonetta, author of *A Mind Apart***

Diagnosed with severe anxiety, PTSD, and OCD in her early twenties, Sarah Fawn Montgomery spent the next ten years seeking treatment and the language with which to describe the indescribable consequences of her mental illness. Faced with disbelief, intolerable side effects, and unexpected changes in her mental health as a result of treatment, Montgomery turned to American history and her own personal history—including her turbulent childhood and the violence she faced as a young woman—to make sense of the experience.

Blending memoir with literary journalism, Montgomery’s *Quite Mad: An American Pharma Memoir* examines America’s history of mental illness treatment—lobotomies to sterilization, the rest cure to Prozac—to challenge contemporary narratives about mental health. Questioning what it means to be a woman with highly stigmatized disorders, Montgomery also asks why mental illness continues to escalate in the United States despite so many “cures.” Investigating the construction of mental illness as a “female” malady, Montgomery exposes the ways current attitudes towards women and their bodies influence madness as well as the ways madness has transformed into a chronic illness in our cultural imagination. Montgomery’s *Quite Mad* is one woman’s story, but it offers a beacon of hope and truth for the millions of individuals living with mental illness and issues a warning about the danger of diagnosis and the complex definition of sanity.



LOVE'S LONG LINE

Sophfronia Scott

2018

\$19.95 paperback

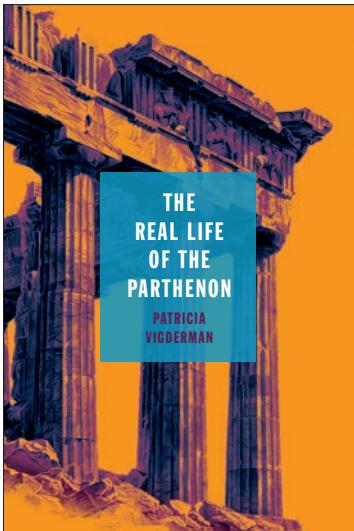
“Sophfronia Scott’s beautiful collection of essays is wise and ruminative, a pleasure to read. Whether she’s writing of the deeply personal or the culture at large, she makes us care and gives us a good long look at what this loud and calamitous world would have us ignore: hope.” —**Bret Lott, New York Times** best-selling author of *Jewel*

“Sophfronia Scott has written a book of truth and grace. Clear-sighted in every way, *Love’s Long Line* has much to teach us about family, about the challenges the world gives us, about the journeys we make toward forgiveness. This is a book for the mind and the soul.” —**Lee Martin, author of Pulitzer Prize-finalist *The Bright Forever***

Sophfronia Scott turns an unflinching eye on her life to deliver a poignant collection of essays ruminating on faith, motherhood, race, and the search for meaningful connection in an increasingly disconnected world.

In *Love’s Long Line*, Scott contemplates what her son taught her about grief after the shootings at his school, Sandy Hook Elementary; how a walk with Lena Horne became a remembrance of love for Scott’s illiterate and difficult steelworker father; the unexpected heartache of being a substitute school bus driver; and the satisfying fantasy of paying off a mortgage. Scott’s road is also a spiritual journey ignited by an exploration of her first name, the wonder of her physical being, and coming to understand why her soul must dance like *Saturday Night Fever*’s Tony Manero.

Inspired by Annie Dillard’s observation in *Holy the Firm* that we all “reel out love’s long line alone . . . like a live wire loosed in space to longing and grief everlasting,” Scott’s essays acknowledge the loneliness, longing, and grief exacted by a fearless engagement with the everyday world. But she shows that by holding the line, there is an abundance of joy and forgiveness and grace to be had as well.



THE REAL LIFE OF THE PARTHENON

Patricia Vigderman

2018

\$21.95 paperback

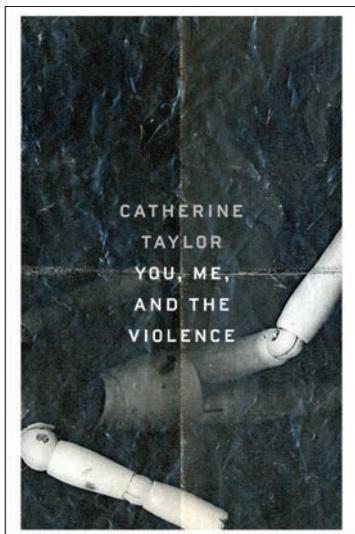
“Part memoir, part travelogue and part musing on cultural patrimony, Vigderman’s new book is a voyage around the ancient world in which she examines the issues raised by the migration of art in the modern era.” —*The New York Times*

“The work is a sequence of beautifully interwoven meditations. Like any wide-awake traveler, Ms. Vigderman asks questions. . . . Owing to bravura writing, this book is as rewarding for an armchair traveler as for a first-time or seasoned one.”

—*The Wall Street Journal*

Ownership battles over the marbles removed from the Parthenon by Lord Elgin have been rumbling into invective, pleading, and counterclaims for two centuries. The emotional temperature around them is high, and steering across the vast past to safe anchor in a brilliant heritage is tricky. The stories around antiquities become distorted by the pull of ownership, and it is these stories that urge Patricia Vigderman into her own exploration of their inspiring legacy in her compelling extended essay, *The Real Life of the Parthenon*.

Vigderman’s own journey began at the Parthenon, but curiosity edged her further onto the sea between antiquity and the present. She set out to seek the broken temples and amphorae, the mysterious smiles of archaic sculpture, and the finely hammered gold of a funeral wreath among the jumbled streets of modern Athens, the fertile fields of Sicily, the mozzarella buffalo of Paestum. Guided along the way toward the enduring landscapes and fractured history by archeologists, classicists, historians, and artists—and by the desire they inspire—she was caught by ongoing, contemporary local life among the ruins. Gathering present meaning and resonance for the once and future remains of vanished glory, *The Real Life of the Parthenon* illuminates an important but shadowy element of our common cultural life: the living dynamic between loss and delight.



YOU, ME, AND THE VIOLENCE

Catherine Taylor

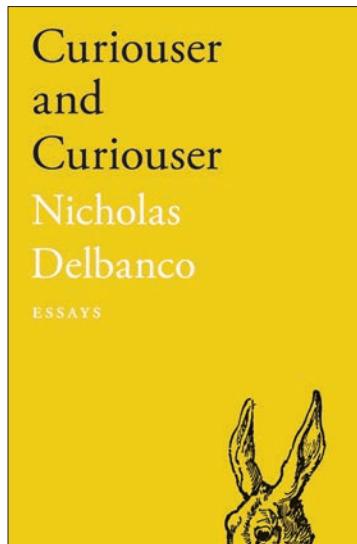
2017

\$19.95 paperback

“Catherine Taylor’s wondrous book—its lucidities and extravagances telescoped into sharp sentences—imagines a peaceful future by digging into the perils of right now. To probe violence’s roots, she questions our infatuated relation to automatons; with poetic feeling, and precise speech, she contrapuntally dissects political passivity and thereby inspires her reader to dream of soulful action. I am moved by Taylor’s distilled language, her faith in eccentric investigation, and her beautifully articulated affinity with puppetry.” —Wayne Koestenbaum

Puppets can charm, deceive, captivate, fool, trick, remind, amuse, distract, bore, repulse, annoy, puzzle, transport, provoke, fascinate, stand in for, kill. In *You, Me, and the Violence*, Catherine Taylor ponders the nature of personal and political autonomy, focusing on the surprising juxtaposition of puppetry and military drones. In a book at once politically significant and narratively engaging, Taylor blends genres to question the roles of individuals within society and expose the gritty and emotional underpinnings of the seemingly mechanical process of a remote soldier.

From conversations with her own brother about his military experiences to Punch and Judy, from the original tale of Pinocchio to the radio chatter of soldiers in active drone operation, Taylor writes about family, power, and the “theater” of war in a voice both sly and sobering, heartbreakingly hopeful.



CURIOSER AND CURIOSER

Essays

Nicholas Delbanco

2017

\$19.95 paperback

Previous Praise for Nicholas Delbanco

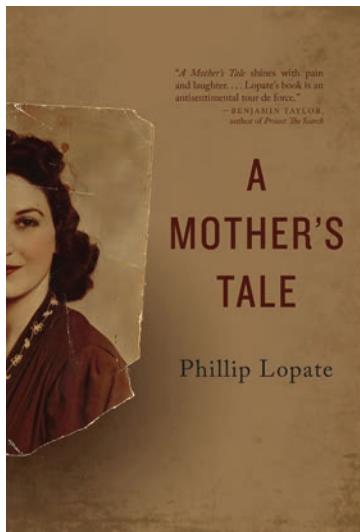
“Engaging . . . [The Lost Suitcase is] distinguished by its technical virtuosity, self-reflexive perspective, and an improvisational modus operandi.” —Andy Brumer, *New York Times Book Review*

“Delbanco has a fine intellect and a sharp pen, and he wields both with precision.” —Harvard Review

A miscellany of sorts, preeminent author and critic Nicholas Delbanco’s *Curiouser and Curiouser* attests to a lifelong interest in music and the visual arts as well as both “mere” and “sheer” literature. With essays ranging from the restoration of his father-in-law’s famed Stradivarius cello—known throughout the world as “The Countess of Stanlein”—to a reimagining of H. A. and Margaret Rey’s lives and the creation of their most beloved character, Curious George, Delbanco examines what it means to live with and love the arts.

Whether exploring the history of personal viewing in the business of museum-going, musing on the process of rewriting one’s earliest published work, or looking back on the twists and turns of a life that spans the greater part of the twentieth century and into the twenty-first, Delbanco’s *Curiouser and Curiouser* invites adventurous readers to follow him down the rabbit hole as he reflects on life as a student, an observer, a writer, a lover, a father, a teacher, and most importantly, a participant in the everyday experiences of human life.

21st century essays series



A MOTHER'S TALE

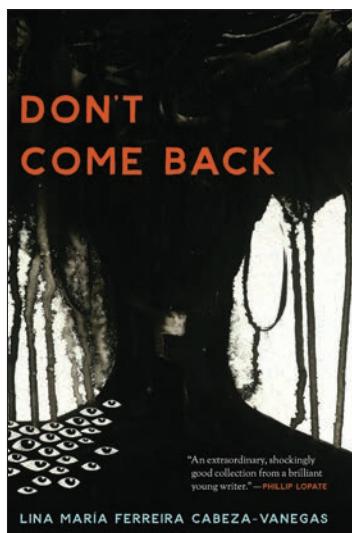
Phillip Lopate

"The gravitational pull of the child toward the mother is so powerful that it persists even in the face of cruelty or neglect. What is finally most affecting about this book is not Frances's story but her son's pained efforts to confront it." —RUTH FRANKLIN, *The New York Review of Books*

"Equal parts reflection, reconstruction, police interrogation, psychiatric evaluation, and, ultimately, tribute to his mother." —ANNABELLE GURWITCH, *Los Angeles Review of Books*

Trying to break open the family myths, rationalizations, and self-deceptions, *A Mother's Tale* is about family members who love each other but who can't seem to overcome their mutual mistrust.

2017
\$24.95 jacketed cloth



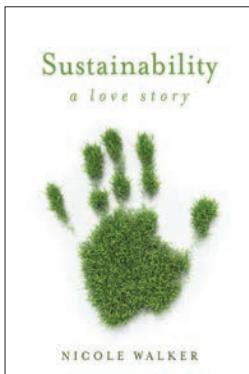
DON'T COME BACK

Lina María Ferreira Cabeza-Vanegas

"In *Don't Come Back*, Lina María Ferreira Cabeza-Vanegas chronicles the immigrant's ever-present tug of family and the familiar—what is left behind—and the equally strong pull of the new land with its lure of stability and security. Told in a lyrical and well-crafted style, Lina's story asks readers to venture into the migrant heart's dilemma—to go back or to stay in the new country." —NORMA E. CANTÚ

An exploration of home and identity through personal essays about growing up in Colombia amidst its conflicting myths and histories.

2017
\$22.95 paperback



SUSTAINABILITY

A Love Story

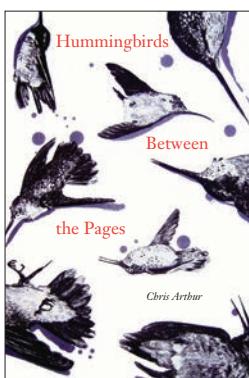
Nicole Walker

“Walker’s *Sustainability* is a remarkable achievement, brilliantly fusing the rhetoric of green politics to the grammar of parenthood, marriage, place, art, and (that elusive ghost) happiness. The book could hardly be more timely or urgent.” —David Shields

Personal essays examining what it means to live and love sustainably while still being able to have Internet and eat bacon.

\$23.95 paperback

Available Fall 2018



HUMMINGBIRDS BETWEEN THE PAGES

Chris Arthur

“Among the very best essayists in the English language today.”
—Robert Atwan, founder and series editor of *The Best American Essays*

An acclaimed writer’s ruminations on the layer beneath life’s quotidian moments, from Darwin to Buddha and back.

\$23.95 paperback

FEAR ICONS

Essays

Kisha Lewellyn Schlegel

“Schlegel’s brilliant debut illuminates some of our most hardened cultural icons and the fears that they induce. This is a bold new literary voice of fierce intelligence, vulnerability, and empathy.”
—John D’Agata, author of *Halls of Fame*, *About a Mountain*, and *The Lifespan of a Fact*

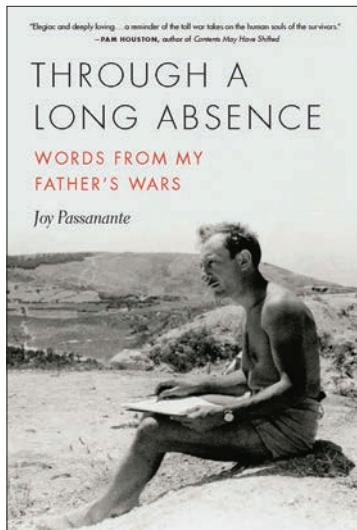
Reflections on the myriad forms that fear takes and an examination of the ways that love and fear intensify each other.

\$19.95 paperback

Available Fall 2018

Winner of the Gourny Prize

memoir and nonfiction



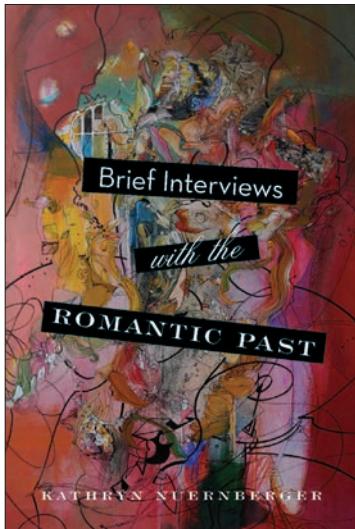
**THROUGH A LONG
ABSENCE**
Words from My Father's Wars
Joy Passanante
2017
\$23.95 paperback

“Armed with a trove of letters . . . the latter-day Passanante explores her father’s recollection of events and retraces his steps on some parts of the journey. She has a good eye for the telling detail.” —*Kirkus Reviews*

“Elegiac and deeply loving . . . a reminder of the toll war takes on the human souls of the survivors.” —Pam Houston, author of *Contents May Have Shifted*

Against the backdrop of World War II, Joy Passanante’s touching new book, *Through a Long Absence: Words from My Father’s Wars*, is the saga of a wartime medical unit, a passionate long-distance love, the making of a surgeon, and two first-generation American families. Told through her father’s eyes—drawing on hundreds of his letters to his beloved wife, his four-volume wartime diary, and his paintings—Passanante masterfully recreates his wartime journey and physically retraces his steps more than sixty years later in an attempt to understand a time in her parents’ lives that they’d spoken about very little.

More than just a World War II story, *Through a Long Absence* delves into one man’s past to explore his personal wars: a stint as a child bootlegger, a marriage between newlyweds separated by continents and strained by years apart, and his struggle late in life with his own mind. The narrative propels readers to surprising places—from a freight train through North Africa to an underground St. Louis brewery during Prohibition, from a young couple’s forbidden courtship to the chaos of surgical tents under fire in Normandy, from an underground trove of priceless artwork hidden by the Nazis to Jewish New Year services in Paris a week after its liberation. *Through a Long Absence* is a love story, an honest look into one man’s life, and a daughter’s moving quest to rediscover her father years later through his own words.



BRIEF INTERVIEWS WITH THE ROMANTIC PAST

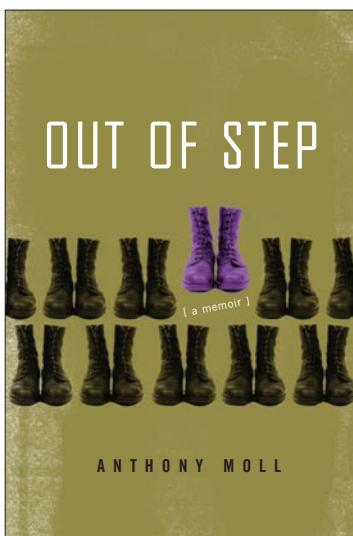
Kathryn Nuernberger

“Nuernberger pokes her intriguing intellect into the countless mysteries of the human miracle. She has an insatiable curiosity for curiosities, coupled with sublime honesty and a prose style laced with wit, wonder, and grace. The brief essay at its best.”—Dinty W. Moore, author of *Between Panic and Desire*

The assassin, the executioner, root diggers, well witches. Kathryn Nuernberger brings them all together in *Brief Interviews with the Romantic Past*, a collection of short essays that blends the historical with the personal, beginning at the court of Louis XV and ending in the foothills of the Ozark Mountains.

2017
\$19.95 paperback

Winner of *The Journal Non/Fiction Prize*



OUT OF STEP

A Memoir

Anthony Moll

“*Out of Step* is a wonderfully compelling, generous, artfully told memoir.” —Michael Kardos

A queer coming-of-age-story set against the backdrop of the U.S. military during the “Don’t Ask, Don’t Tell” era.

\$18.95 paperback

Available Fall 2018

Winner of *The Journal Non/Fiction Prize*

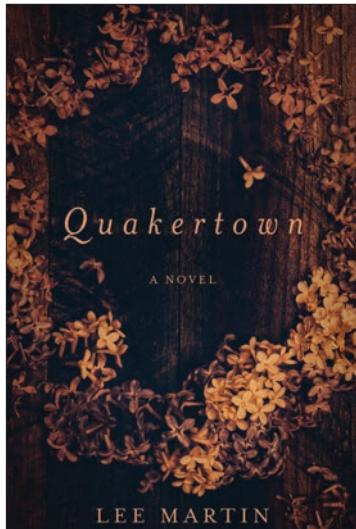


LANDFALL
A Ring of Stories
Julie Hensley
2016
\$19.95 paperback

Winner of *The Journal* Non/Fiction Prize

“In *Landfall*, Julie Hensley has created an Appalachian community populated with people I’ve come to know as neighbors, whose loves and losses feel like my own. It’s easy to forget that Conrad’s Fork is a fictional place and that, as vividly as their intertwined lives are rendered on the page, these are fictional characters. It’s hard to stop reading as Hensley unravels in masterful prose the ties that bind them to each other and home. *Landfall* is a beautiful book, and Julie Hensley is an immensely gifted writer to watch.” —Amy Greene, author of *Bloodroot* and *Long Man*

In this ring of connected short stories, grounded in the fictional town of Conrad’s Fork, Kentucky, everyone is staging some sort of escape. A woman harboring the dark truth about her youngest daughter’s birth, a new teacher suddenly under suspicion after a student’s disappearance, a young girl witnessing her older sister’s sexual awakening: all the people in this Appalachian community suffer a paralyzed desire in response to the stagnancy and exposure they experience in their small town. *Landfall: A Ring of Stories* weaves together the voices of two generations of mountain families in which secrets are carefully guarded—even from closest kin. One by one, those who leave confront the pull of the land and the people they’ve left behind. Perhaps Conrad’s Fork will save them, or, perhaps, in the wake of urban encroachment and shifting family systems, they will save it.



"A consistently impressive and often dazzling new novel. Lee Martin has written one of the best books of the year." —*The Washington Post*

"His gently melancholy style strikes a fine balance between literary fiction and accessible, emotion-driven storytelling." —*Publishers Weekly*

"Quakertown is a page turner . . . a richly detailed portrait. Martin treats his characters with compassion." —*The Columbus Dispatch*

In *Quakertown*, Lee Martin travels back in time to 1920s Texas to tell the story of a flourishing black community that was segregated from its white brethren—and of the remarkable gardener who was asked to do the unimaginable.

QUAKERTOWN A Novel

Lee Martin

2017
\$23.95 paperback

Based on the true story of a shameful episode in north Texas history, *Quakertown* draws on the rich texture of the South—the Pecan Creek running along the edges of Quakertown, the remarkable and rare white lilac, and the rising tensions marking each nod and greeting. With strength and a deep wisdom of heart, Martin carves out the delicate story of two families—one white and one black—and the child whose birth brought a gift of forgiveness.



RADIOAPOCYPHRA

BK Fischer

2018

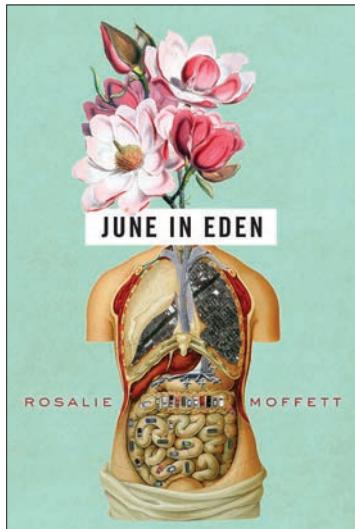
\$16.95 paperback

Winner of *The Journal Charles B. Wheeler Poetry Prize*

“Fischer produces a work as smart, satisfying, and nuanced in its climax as it is as a whole.”
—*Publishers Weekly*

“BK Fischer’s *Radioapocrypha* is a revelation. Maybe that’s the easy and obvious thing to say about a book that retells the Gospel and situates it in America in 1989? But the revelation here isn’t, or isn’t just, the revelation one might expect from such a book—it’s the revelation of Fischer’s own skill as a poet as the story gains momentum and matches the intensity of the source material. I wouldn’t have thought anybody could pull that off, let alone so well. Not only is *Radioapocrypha* a revelation, it is a miracle.” —Shane McCrae

A novella in verse, *Radioapocrypha* envisions what would have happened if Jesus Christ had arrived for the first time not in Palestine two thousand years ago but in a subdivision in Maryland in 1989, the year Depeche Mode released “Personal Jesus.” In this suburban retelling of the Gospels, Jesus is a hunky post-punk high school chemistry teacher and the disciples are a twelve-member garage band. The story unfolds as recorded testimony and overheard teachings, a series of alternating lyric poems, prose poems, and parables that engage the social, sexual, and racial tensions of an era. Told from the point of view of the Magdalene character, named Maren—and drawing from the Gnostic text known as the Gospel of Mary as well as other scriptural sources—these poems sample widely from popular music and 1980s culture to recast and revivify a gritty, surreal, crackpot story of loners, losers, and lovers.



JUNE IN EDEN

Rosalie Moffett

2017

\$14.95 paperback

Winner of *The Journal Charles B. Wheeler Poetry Prize*

A Rumpus Poetry Book Club Book

"Rosalie Moffett's tender and brilliant poems constitute a 'fractal / of receptacles' where we can more deeply perceive the strangeness of language, its many mirrors and doors, hazards and possibilities. Her wide-ranging knowledge—of anatomy, animals, botany, and much, much more—shapes her highly original imagination as she struggles to understand the ways we are 'at the mercy of the interior.' *June in Eden* offers a vision of how such struggle can transform our shared condition into something infinitely more lustrous and merciful." —**Mary Szybist, author of *Incarnadine* (winner of the 2013 National Book Award for Poetry)**

Sometimes *June in Eden* occupies a garden in a wild landscape. Other times, we're given a terrain where the coveted tree is one that hides a cell tower, where lungs are likened to ATMs and prayers are sent via text message. Rosalie Ruth Moffett's debut collection of poetry, *June in Eden*, questions the human task of naming in a time where there are "new kinds of war that keep / changing the maps," where little mistakes—preying or praying, for instance—are easily made. The heart of this book is an obsession with language, its slip-pages and power, what to do when faced with the loss of it. "Ruth," says our speaker, is "a kind of compassion / nobody wants anymore—the surviving half / of the pair of words is ruthless." There is, throughout this collection, a dark humor, but one that belies a tenderness or wonder, our human need to "love the world / we made and all its shadows."

Rosalie Moffett's *June in Eden* gives us a speaker bewildered by and in awe of the world: both the miracles and failures of technology, medicine, and imagination. These darkly humorous poems are works of grief and wonder and give us a landscape that looks, from some angles, like paradise.

New Series from Mad Creek Books

Latinographix, Frederick Luis Aldama, Series Editor

This series showcases trade graphic and comic books—graphic novels, memoir, nonfiction, and more—by Latinx writers and artists, with any balance of text and visual narrative, taking up themes of all kinds and exploring topics from immigration to family, education to identity, and more. Submissions accepted yearlong.

Machete, Joy Castro, Series Editor

The Machete literary nonfiction series showcases fresh stories, innovative forms, and books that break new aesthetic ground in nonfiction—memoir, personal and lyric essay, literary journalism, cultural meditations, short shorts, hybrid essays, graphic pieces, and more—from authors whose writing has historically been marginalized, ignored, and passed over. The series is explicitly interested in diversity in all of its manifestations. Submissions accepted yearlong.

21st Century Essays, David Lazar and Patrick Madden, Series Editors

The first and only major series that announces its focus on the essay, 21st Century Essays is a vehicle to discover, publish, and promote some of the most daring, ingenious, and artistic non-fiction, focusing on that central, frequently chimerical, and invariably supple form: the essay. Submissions to the series are accepted in March and April.

Book awards from Mad Creek Books

The Gournay Prize

The Gournay Prize selects one book-length collection of essays each year to receive a cash prize of \$1,000 and publication in the 21st Century Essays series. Submissions are accepted in March and April. For more information or to submit, visit https://ohiostatepress.org/books/series/21st_century.html.

The Journal Non/Fiction Prize

The Journal, the literary magazine of The Ohio State University MFA Program in Creative Writing, selects one book-length collection of short prose each year for publication by Mad Creek Books. The prize carries a cash award of \$1,500. Submissions are accepted during the month of February. For more information or to submit, visit <https://ohiostatepress.org/books/series/OSUShortFiction.htm>.

The Journal Charles B. Wheeler Poetry Prize

The Journal, the literary magazine of The Ohio State University MFA Program in Creative Writing, selects one full-length manuscript of poetry each year for publication by Mad Creek Books. The winning author receives the Charles B. Wheeler prize of \$2,500. Submissions are accepted during the month of September. For more information or to submit, visit <https://ohiostatepress.org/books/series/Poetry.html>.