

Dear Client Tax Goddess

The Sumerians, the pragmatic and gifted people who preceded the Semites in the land first known as Sumer and later as Babylonia, created what was probably the first high civilization in the history of man, spanning the fifth to the second millenniums B.C. This book is an unparalleled compendium of what is known about them. Professor Kramer communicates his enthusiasm for his subject as he outlines the history of the Sumerian civilization and describes their cities, religion, literature, education, scientific achievements, social structure, and psychology. Finally, he considers the legacy of Sumer to the ancient and modern world. "There are few scholars in the world qualified to write such a book, and certainly Kramer is one of them. . . . One of the most valuable features of this book is the quantity of texts and fragments which are published for the first time in a form available to the general reader. For the layman the book provides a readable and up-to-date introduction to a most fascinating culture. For the specialist it presents a synthesis with which he may not agree but from which he will nonetheless derive stimulation."—American Journal of Archaeology "An uncontested authority on the civilization of Sumer, Professor Kramer writes with grace and urbanity."—Library Journal

Would using magic to entice my client to tell me what she wanted make me a bad person? Because, after my third visit to her rather ostentatious mansion on the edge of town, sketching seemingly endless variations of poses I could have easily done from

photos instead of live sittings, I was ready to tell her I was donezo. Charlotte Easton didn't seem to notice my growing irritation at yet another wasted two hours watching her fiddle and fidget in the dark blue gown she chose (from a long line of clothing already worn and then discarded), substantial bosom on the verge of bursting from the low-cut satin making me wince as she shifted yet again on the crushed velvet daybed she'd decided (after many other locations had been sampled and rejected) was today's selection for my fresh torment. Listen. I'm a patient person for the most part. But sheesh already. Phoebe Monday's portrait commission turns to murder when her client's father turns up dead. The problem with that scenario? He's been six feet under for over a year already and not even her magic can figure out what made him rise from the grave... welcome to the Phoebe Monday Paranormal Cozies! paranormal cozy, paranormal cozy mystery, paranormal cozy mysteries, witch book series, witch book series fiction, witch books, witch books fiction

This authoritative catalogue of the Corcoran Gallery of Art's renowned collection of pre-1945 American paintings will greatly enhance scholarly and public understanding of one of the finest and most important collections of historic American art in the world.

Composed of more than 600 objects dating from 1740 to 1945.

From the co-creator of The Manifesting Academy and host of the Journey to Manifesting podcast, 200 mini meditations to help you rise above fear and manifest the life of your dreams

"A heartwarming, sexy, page-turner." --Susan Elizabeth Phillips "With her first foray into contemporary novels, Jill Marie Landis utilizes all the power and emotion that has made her such a beloved storyteller. Her characters are compelling, believable, and possess all those troubling human foibles."--Romantic Times (Top Pick!) For six years, Carly Nolan has built a secretive life for herself and her son Christopher. Nobody in the quiet little beach community of Twilight Cove, California, suspects she is running from the tragic memory of her fiancé Rick and his unexpected death--and from his rich, powerful parents, who want to take away her child. She has carefully concealed her troubled past from the folks in the isolated cove. Until now. Private investigator, Jake Montgomery, has been looking for "Caroline Graham" since the day she disappeared with his best friend's baby. All Jake wants is answers. He finally finds her living under her assumed name. She's a beautiful, devoted single mother; she captures his heart immediately. Carly cautiously allows Jake into her life, beginning to trust another person for the first time in years. She never imagines that Jake is caught between his mission and his growing passion. The man she has fallen in love with poses a threat to her protected world. A seven-time Romance Writers of America finalist for the RITA Award, Jill Marie Landis also now writes *The Tiki Goddess Mysteries* (set on the island of Kauai, Hawaii, where she lives with her husband, actor Steve Landis.) In these three historical mysteries, the widow Claudia proves to be a "spunky and independent sleuth" amid the decadent mayhem of Ancient Rome (Publishers Weekly).

Second Act As Saturnalia approaches, widow Claudia Seferius opens her estate to a traveling troupe of actors. What she doesn't know is that a murderer hides among them. But the Gravedigger isn't the only dangerous act in town. Roman investigator Marcus Orbilio needs Claudia to help him find the vicious Saturnalia Rapist—a criminal he thought he'd put to death years ago . . . Widow's Pique When the King of Histrionia invites Claudia to visit, the widowed wine merchant assumes he wants to talk business. But she soon finds herself a virtual prisoner in a land where brutality is the norm. And where is he? If the king was so desperate to meet, why will no one take her to the palace? And why, when she witnesses a murder, does no one believe her? Stone Cold Claudia was just ten when her father went to war and never returned. Now it's time to uncover the truth about his disappearance. Her search takes her to the forests of Gaul, where Druid Law rules and human sacrifice is still practiced in secret. Claudia notices that several young women have gone missing, and while suspicion falls on a mysterious character who lives in the woods, she isn't convinced. Nor has it escaped her that each victim is an unblemished beauty . . . just like Claudia.

In this volume, the author develops a new approach for the analysis of differing types of information systems, called the Value-Added Model. This approach is based on the analysis of information-use environments and on the system responses to the needs of those environments. The model is applied to a variety of information systems.

Document-based systems, academic, public, and special libraries, abstracting and

indexing services, and book publishing are among those analyzed. Within decision systems, the author looks at management information systems and decision support systems within the value-added framework.

It's Healing Time for the BodyMind of Black Womxn is a semi-autobiographical, informational, and self-guided tool where each chapter is a vignette of bodymind experiences. This includes managing life with disabilities and chronic conditions (both mental & physical). The primary goal of this guide is to help Black Womxn understand that "everyBODY has a story and a headache is rarely just a headache". Written for womxn who can easily describe physical problems, but can't speak of the connection to mental/emotional memories and/or traumas. Ultimately, this guide shows readers "How to live a life you love and to love the life you live".

Includes book reviews.

Damien Broderick has been a leading Australian SF writer since the '70s. His novel *The Dreaming Dragons* was listed in *SF: the 100 best novels*. His recent nonfiction book, *The Spike*, is a mind-stretching look at the wonders of the high-tech future. Now in *Transcension* he brings to life one of the futures he imagined in *The Spike*, a world pervaded by nanotechnology and governed by artificial intelligence. *Transcension* may be Broderick's best book yet. Amanda is a brilliant violinist, a mathematical genius, and a rebel. Impatient for the adult status her society only grants at age thirty, but determined to have a real adventure first, she has repeatedly gotten into trouble and

found herself in the courtroom of Magistrate Mohammed Abdel-Malik, the sole resurrectee from among those who were frozen in the early twenty-first century, the man whose mind was the seed for Aleph, the AI that rules this utopia. Mathewmark is a real adolescent, living in the last place where they still exist, the reservation known as the Valley of the God of One's Choice, where those who have chosen faith over technology are allowed to live out their simpler lives. When Amanda determines that access to the valley is the key to the daring stunt she plans, it is Mathewmark she will have to lead into temptation. But just as Amanda, Mathewmark, and Abdel-Malik are struggling to find themselves and achieve their potentials, so is Aleph, and the AI's success will be a challenge to them and all of humanity. At the publisher's request, this title is being sold without Digital Rights Management software (DRM) applied.

The Goddess YouPrinciples for Living in Soul AlignmentLabor Like a GoddessA Fearless Guide to Preparing for the 7 Gates of Transformation in Pregnancy and BirthBalboa Press

The critically acclaimed, award-winning, modern classic Speak is now a stunning graphic novel. "Speak up for yourself—we want to know what you have to say." From the first moment of her freshman year at Merryweather High, Melinda knows this is a big fat lie, part of the nonsense of high school. She is friendless—an outcast—because she busted an end-of-summer party by calling the cops, so now nobody will talk to her, let alone listen to her. Through her work on an art project, she is finally able to face what really happened that night: She was raped by an upperclassman, a guy who still attends Merryweather and is still a threat to her. With powerful illustrations by Emily Carroll, Laurie Halse Anderson's Speak: The Graphic Novel

comes alive for new audiences and fans of the classic novel. This title has Common Core connections.

Beginning with the absolutely critical first moments of the outbreak in China, and ending with an epilogue on the vaccine rollout and the unprecedented events between the election of Joseph Biden and his inauguration, Lawrence Wright's *The Plague Year* surges forward with essential information--and fascinating historical parallels--examining the medical, economic, political, and social ramifications of the COVID-19 pandemic.

The Indo-Iranian Anahita is an ancient Persian Goddess, who became a Zoroastrian Yazata (or Angel) and is still part of contemporary Zoroastrianism. Described as a beautiful maiden, who is strong, tall and pure, she is depicted as wearing a mantle embroidered with gold and as holding the baresma (sacred plant) in her hand. She is the Goddess of all the waters upon the earth, her full title being Aredvi Sura Anahita which means moist, mighty and immaculate (pure), and she travels on her chariot pulled by four horses: Wind, Rain, Cloud and Sleet. Closely associated with the King's investiture she is a Goddess of Sovereignty, thought by some to be the Persian Aphrodite, who also has some remarkable similarities to numerous other ancient goddesses, including Ishtar, Venus, Nana and Isis. *Anahita: Ancient Persian Goddess and Zoroastrian Yazata* is a collection of papers, art and poetry celebrating this fascinating Goddess from more than 25 esteemed international academics, Zoroastrians, artists and writers. Each in turn share their research and insights leading the reader on a journey of discovery - from the Achaemenid Royal Inscriptions featuring Anahita and Mithra, to the possible relationships between Anahita and the Dame du Lac of Arthurian Legend, representations of her in Sassanian art, William Morris Hunt through to Anahita as the pre-

Christian Virgin Mother of Mithra, as well as her role in purification and purity. Studies of the Sassanian rock reliefs, hot mineral springs, and her water ritual in Mah y na Buddhism, in addition to an examination of the Sassanid stucco discovered in the Barz-e-qawela in Lorestan province of Iran and women in ancient Elam are all brought together illustrating the significance of Anahita throughout Persian and Middle Eastern history. This book is the most extensive study of the figure of Anahita in recent years, and includes new and never published before research. Anahita: Ancient Persian Goddess and Zoroastrian Yazata is essential reading for all those interested not just in this Goddess and her history, but also all those interested in Persian and Middle Eastern history. Contributors include: Dr. Israel Campos Mendez, Dr. Kaveh Farrokh, Dr. Matteo Compareti, Sheda Vasseghi, D.M. Murdock, Dr. Sam Kerr, Rahele Koulabadi, Dr. Seyyed Rasool Mousavi Haji, Morteza Ataie, Seyed Mehdi Mousavi Kouhpar, Seyyed Sadrudin Mosavi Jashni, Farhang Khademi Nadooshan, Hassan Nia, Masoud Sabzali, Dr. Masato Tojo, Behzad Mahmoudi, Amir Mansouri, Dr Kamyar Abdi, Dr Gholamreza Karamian, Maryam Zour, Saman Farzin, Babak Aryanpour, Reza MehrAfarin, Akashanath, Shapour Suren-Pahlav, Ana C. Jones, Katherine Sutherland, and Dr. Payam Nabarz. A major bestseller in the UK and a six-time Best Book of 2014, *The Establishment* is a sweeping look at how power and money have made British politics hugely undemocratic. Power, money, and undemocratic politics—wait, does that sound familiar? Who wields power in politics? It is a question that's asked all too often—and never really answered. But that's exactly what Owen Jones has done in *The Establishment*, which has already taken Great Britain by storm. To expose the shadowy and unaccountable network of people who dominate British political life—the people who influence major decisions and reap huge profits in the

process—Owen Jones sets out on a journey into the very heart of the elite. From the lobbies of the Houses of Parliament to Rupert Murdoch's newsrooms to the conference rooms of some of the world's biggest banks, Jones systematically explores the revolving doors that link the worlds of politics, media, and finance—and shows how this corrupt and incestuous world came to be. Funny, sharp, and rich with brilliant descriptions of the men and women at the heart of the elite, *The Establishment* is a joy to read, but its diagnosis is deadly serious: the establishment is the biggest threat to democracy today. And it's time, writes Jones, for it to be challenged.

Achieving Ascension by Sonia Diane Bradford in conjunction with Veronica J. Cate Sonia Diane Bradford has traveled the world. She has great insight into the spiritual and religious traditions of the lands she has seen. When Bradford began corresponding with Veronica J. Cate her consciousness was opened. Important revelations have been transcribed for the edification and awareness of the reader. These channeled messages from High Cosmic Masters are for the evolution and ascension of humanity. Enjoy the journey.

A dazzling mosaic of madcap social whirls, fashion, style, and mores captures the lives of New York City's urban upper crust as they make their way through twenty-first-century Manhattan in a post-9/11 world, in a comedic debut novel by the late Pulitzer Prize-winning playwright and author of *The Heidi Chronicles*. Reprint.

Los Angeles magazine is a regional magazine of national stature. Our combination of award-winning feature writing, investigative reporting, service journalism, and design covers the people, lifestyle, culture, entertainment, fashion, art and architecture, and news that define Southern California. Started in the spring of 1961, Los Angeles magazine has been addressing

the needs and interests of our region for 48 years. The magazine continues to be the definitive resource for an affluent population that is intensely interested in a lifestyle that is uniquely Southern Californian.

Reveals how the ancient Celtic text of the Mabinogion was the mythical predecessor to the legends of King Arthur. • Revised edition of *Arthur and the Sovereignty of Britain (UK)* that includes the author's latest research and insights. • A comprehensive reader's companion with synopsis of stories and full commentary. • Written by renowned scholar Caitlín Matthews, author of *The Celtic Wisdom Tarot* (15,000 sold). The ancient Celtic stories of the Mabinogion have received universal recognition from scholars as both sources of the Arthurian legend and keys to insights into the ancient magic of the Celtic Otherworld. Now renowned Celtic scholar Caitlín Matthews, drawing on a full range of medieval texts and ancient Welsh writings, provides a fully revised and updated reader's guide to these rich and far-reaching tales. In *King Arthur and the Goddess of the Land*, Matthews sheds particular light on Sovereignty, the Goddess of the sacred land of Britain, and the spiritual principle of the Divine Feminine. Clearly revealed are the many alternate forms taken by the Goddess of the Land--including her incarnation as Morgan of Avalon, who plays a dominant role in the Arthurian cycle. Also established are links between the legendary characters of the Mabinogion and their counterparts in other living myths of the Western world. Through the marriage of the Celtic kings to the Goddess of the Land, the sacred contract between political rulership and responsibility for the land's well-being is dramatically revealed. In *King Arthur and the Goddess of the Land*, Matthews once again articulates definitively the continuing relevance of ancient Celtic thought and belief as illustrated in the powerful myths and legends of ancient Britain.

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Written by two birth doulas and intuitive healers, this book tells the metaphorical story of a fictional goddess who must walk through 7 Gates of Transformation in order to become a Mother. At the final gate, she must surrender to the ultimate sacrifice—spiritual death—so she can be reborn into motherhood. Each gate perfectly illustrates the 7 emotional, psychological, and often subconscious sacrifices that every laboring woman experiences, whether willingly or not. This book is a guide to help pregnant women understand birth as a divine journey and master how to walk through each gate with empowered sacrifice, purpose, and zeal through tools, rituals, and integrative practices.

A former child actor searches for her true self in this novel-within-a-novel from a leader of the international feminist movement. Before she even turned fourteen, Julian Travis made enough money as a TV star to support her mother for life in an apartment in one of Manhattan's best buildings. But now, Julian is in her midforties and things are not so glamorous or easy. Her mother is slowly dying of Parkinson's, her marriage of twenty years is steadily disintegrating, and money is scarce. Though Julian is a famed feminist spokeswoman and published poet, when she looks into the mirror, she doesn't recognize herself. That and the novel she is writing are giving her a terrible time. *Dry Your Smile* takes readers on a journey into Julian's past—from the precarious circumstances surrounding her birth to the lies and stories her mother wove about her absent father to her childhood diary and dreams, and her subsequent escape into the arms of a revolutionary artist and a bohemian life. In the present, Julian delves into the emotional baggage imparted by her Jewish stage-mom as a means of taking off the many masks she has worn over the years, and begins writing prose through the voice of her younger self. She also searches for a new future in a lesbian love affair with Iliana, a bisexual

photographer and the one person who makes Julian feel beautiful. In the end, however, perhaps what Julian needs most is to separate herself from the expectations and images of others, and truly listen to the woman she has become. A roman à clef of author and poet Robin Morgan's own struggles with what it means to be a female writer in the late twentieth century, *Dry Your Smile* is an intelligent and cathartic addition to any feminist library.

*Includes pictures *Includes ancient myths and accounts of Ares and cults that worshiped him

*Includes online resources and a bibliography for further reading Ares, the God of War and personification of all that is reactionary and violent, is remembered today as the hated, unshakeable, and infallible embodiment of the violence prevalent in war and society at large, but surviving evidence suggests that this may not have always been the case. To understand that, it's necessary to remember that Greek mythology has been filtered and tempered by centuries of editors and zealots and fickle word of mouth. The stories that arrive in the beloved mythology books of today were not necessarily those read and told by the ancients. This is true not only thanks to later mythographers' overeager shears, wielded in order to strip the ancient Greek myths of much of their "heathenism," but also because over 2,000 years later, modern society is not privy to much of the cultural strata from which these stories emerged. This book was written in the hope of presenting the modern reader with as much of the latter as possible, so as to provide a more accurate representation of Ares than is found in most modern collections of ancient Greek mythology. Being the "living" representation of the act that killed family members every year is more than enough to attract a certain degree of ignominy, but it is very likely that negative feelings towards Ares were not as pervasive among the ancient Greeks as one might believe today. An important thing to bear in mind when thinking about the

stories of Ares is that the thin vein of myth that has come down today most often comes directly from Athenian sources, which were unfavorable towards Ares because they were generally unfavorable towards anything considered un-Athenian. The historian Thucydides, while discussing the Peloponnesian War, which was fought between Athens and Sparta at the end of the 5th century BCE, said that any "future scholar" would no doubt believe that the great city of Sparta was culturally insignificant in comparison with her enemy, Athens. It is well known today that Ares was worshipped by the warlike Spartans, but since they created very few grandiose works of architecture or literature (compared to those that came out of Athens), Sparta's views on Ares, and most other deities they worshipped, are paltry. Athenian culture, on the other hand, dominated the ancient world's art and culture, and its influence was felt strongly in the beloved myths and histories of the epoch. For better or worse, then, Athens left subsequent generations their marginalized corpus of ideas on ancient Greek religion, and this can be seen in the paltry occurrences of Ares in modern books on Greek mythology today. That said, being a worshipper of Ares didn't necessitate the bellicose nature of the Spartans, either. Although Athens left literary and archaeological evidence of their preferences for civic worship, many other poleis (Greek city-states) were loath to openly despise the god of war, despite his macabre associations. After all, war was a facet of yearly life, and Ares was one of the 12 gods of the highest Greek pantheon of deities who commanded worship according to a divine mandate. Ares's appearances in myths today (his affair with Aphrodite being a strong favourite) seem to be cursed by repeated banality. There's little of the "War God" in any of his stories other than the odd mention of how horrid he is. However, with a little effort, Ares and his influences can be found, even if only at the fringes of the stories, in the wider literary canon.

One such example is the "Judgment of Paris," which refers to the Trojan warrior Paris's decision to award Aphrodite with the Golden Apple of the Hesperides (or the "Apple of Discord," as it came to be known).

It is widely believed that if you mention anything to an actor that happened more than twenty years ago, he or she will either laugh or cry. The point being that events in the show business tend to attain a larger than life quality, at least to the participants, either sadder or funnier than they would be if normal people were involved. I have earned a precarious living in various facets of the profession for nearly forty years, while observing, with wonder, these often bizarre moments. It seemed a waste to have them all disappear when I do. Therefore, in the interest of preserving a record of the antics of my fellow workers, from Ethel Merman to Bernard Wu, I dedicate this book. If you enjoy reading it half as much as I enjoyed living it, I will consider the effort eminently worth while.

Do you or someone you love suffer from "bad nerves"? •Denise is constantly on edge. She's convinced something bad is going to happen. •Ruth will drive an hour out of her way to avoid driving over a bridge. When she has to do it, her chest thumps, her heart starts racing, and she breaks out in a sweat. She's beginning to think she shouldn't leave her house. •Bernice hasn't slept in two months for fear that the witch is going to ride her again. What do these women have in common? They are struggling with crippling anxiety disorders. Thousands of Black women suffer from anxiety. What's worse is that many of us have been raised to believe we are Strong Black Women and that seeking help shows weakness. So we often turn to dangerous quick fixes that only exacerbate the problem -- like overeating and drug and alcohol abuse -- or we deny that we have problems at all. In *Soothe Your Nerves*, Dr. Angela Neal-

Barnett explains which factors can contribute to anxiety, panic, and fear in Black women and offers a range of healing methods that will help you or a loved one reclaim your life. Here finally is a blueprint for understanding and overcoming anxiety from a psychological, spiritual, and Black perspective.

Not even five years can dim her memory of his masterful touch. Restoring houses is easy for Rae Jackson, known as "The Fix-It Lady." But she can't fix the past. The biggest mistake she ever made was dropping out of college and running away from her sexy English professor. A semester of flirting ended when he spanked her to the best orgasm of her life on top of his desk. Afraid of her own eager willingness to comply with the sexy dom's commands-no matter what-she fled with barely a word. Even after all these years, she still writes him long letters...that she never mails. Conn never forgot the one student who gave him a big fat "F" on the greatest test of his life. After all these years, he's still haunted by Rae. If only she hadn't been his student when they met. If only he hadn't lost control. If only he had been able to track her down and make amends. When he finds the very object of his shame-and desire-crawling around under his grandmother's house, he swears to do anything to win Rae's trust. Rae finds herself helpless against Conn's slow seduction. Exactly the way she likes it. Instead of poetry, this time she learns the erotic pleasure to be found in bondage...and submission to the sexiest professor alive.

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