

Michael

Michael thinks school would be more fun without rules and gets his wish. But is it exactly what he was hoping for?

Acclaimed by American Photo as "one of the most important photographers working today," the fashion and celebrity photographer Michael Thompson began his career in the late 1980s as a studio assistant to Irving Penn, and now is famed for his glamorous portraiture. In our celebrity-besotted culture, the magazine photographer holds tremendous power to sculpt the public's conception of a star; and Thompson has done so for such A-listers as Cate Blanchett, Sting, Mariah Carey, Matt Damon, Jodie Foster, Phillip Seymour Hoffman, Julia Roberts, Sting and Meryl Streep. Michael Thompson: Portraits presents work spanning Thompson's illustrious 20-year career. Taken from the pages of fashion and lifestyle magazines including Vogue, W, GQ, Allure and Vanity Fair, the nearly 150 images in this book intensify the mythic pungency of their subjects while simultaneously inviting an intimate glimpse into their inner lives. The images have been selected by the widely admired photography critic and connoisseur Vince Aletti, who conducts a far-reaching appraisal of celebrity, using Thompson's images as a touchstone to examine the emergence of celebrity as cult, as well as the power of the photographer's astringent gaze to strip artifice from his subject. As one of the foremost celebrity photographers of the last two decades, Thompson emerges here as a leading image-broker for our times.

A veteran music reporter offers a sweeping and vivid portrait of the King of Pop, from his first on-stage appearance at a local talent show in 1965, to his record-breaking album sales, Grammy awards, dance moves and years of scandal and controversy. --Publisher's description.

Don't miss this action-packed and informative look at the life and achievements of a basketball legend! Matt Christopher, the number one sports writer for kids, profiles basketball superstar Michael Jordan, covering his childhood, college career, rookie years, professional career highlights, and even his short stint in minor league baseball. Written in Matt Christopher's easy-to-read style and complete with incredible photos and Michael Jordan's key stats, this comprehensive biography will entertain and educate.

The definitive digital guide to Michael Jecks's widely-praised Knights Templar series. Whether you're a long-standing fan of the medieval Knights Templar adventures, or yet to try this captivating historical series, this is the definitive guide you need. Meet Sir Baldwin de Furnshill, keeper of the kings peace, and his friend Simon Puttock, and discover this dazzling introduction to fifteen titles in the series. *Also contains an exclusive foreword from the author*

Hey! Hey! Its the untold story of The Monkees "Wool-hat" Michael Nesmith with the behind the scenes scoop about touring with Jimi Hendrix, filmmaking with Jack Nicholson and so much more. Also detailed is his invention of MTV and his

mother Bette who invented Liquid Paper. This 2005 Revised edition features two updated chapters and additional photos (176 total photos). 300 pages.

Michael's Temptation by Eileen Wilks released on Nov 23, 2001 is available now for purchase.

Here is the inspiring story behind the Veterans Day red poppy, a symbol that honors the service and sacrifices of our veterans. When American soldiers entered World War I, Moina Belle Michael, a schoolteacher from Georgia, knew she had to act. Some of the soldiers were her students and friends. Almost single-handedly, Moina worked to establish the red poppy as the symbol to honor and remember soldiers. And she devoted the rest of her life to making sure the symbol would last forever. Thanks to her hard work, that symbol remains strong today. Author Barbara Elizabeth Walsh and artist Layne Johnson worked with experts, primary documents, and Moina's great-nieces to better understand Moina's determination to honor the war veterans. A portion of the book's proceeds will support the National Military Family Association's Operation Purple®, which benefits children of the U.S. military.

As fans of entertainers our voice is often overlooked. We are passed off as simple fans who really don't know too much. The media, with all their experts, reports, opinions, and speculations are often times not the truth. For the first time the fans of Michael Jackson will speak out. False reports and rumors are exposed in this book and the Author provides an in-depth look at the media theories and speculations. The fans finally have a book that expresses what they know to be the truth about The Icon of Music Michael Jackson. The Author takes you through Michael Jackson's life from the viewpoint of a fan. Backed by intense research and interview from noted film-maker and defense witness for Michael Jackson Larry Nimmer who also wrote this about the book. "You've done excellent research and there were some things that I learned that I didn't know. It was interesting what you had to say about the accusers and about his dad, Joe Jackson. I liked your comparison that Americans will sleep with animals in their bed but they are not accused of bestiality... good comparison... You've presented a convincing story about people who fabricated stories for personal gain, including the media, at the expense of Michael Jackson... great job and very interesting." Larry Nimmer

The original queen of the page-turner Mary Stewart leads her readers on a journey of murder and deceit through the dusty roads of mid-century Greece in this tale that fans of Agatha Christie and Barbara Pym are sure to love. 'The contemporary thriller at its very best' Guardian 'Mary Stewart is magic' New York Times 'Nothing ever happens to me...' So begins Camilla Haven's letter home during her quiet holiday in Athens. But when a stranger begs her to drive a car to Delphi, swearing that it is a matter of life and death, Camilla impulsively takes the opportunity she's been offered. Before long she is caught up in a whirlwind of intrigue, deceit and murder as she spins along the dusty Greek roads in a race against time to solve a fourteen-year-old mystery. The longer I waited the less

possible it seemed to walk out of the café and leave everything to settle itself without me, and the more insidiously did the other possibility begin to present itself. Dry-mouthed, I pushed it aside, but there it was, a challenge, a gift, a dare from the gods . . . 'One of the best British storytellers of the 20th century' Independent 'There are few to equal Mary Stewart' Daily Telegraph Collects Ultimate Comics Spider-Man #16.1, #19-22. The Daily Bugle is on the hunt to find out everything they can about the new Spider-Man...but what they discover will surprise them, you - and him! Then: Venom Wars begins! Miles Morales finally has his costume, his web-shooters, and now he has his first A-list Spider-Man villain...there's a new Venom in town, and he's hungry! But who exactly is the new Venom, and what is his terrible connection to Miles' father? All this, plus Miles' new girlfriend, and the return of award-winning artist Sara Pichelli!

"From author Michael Clinton, former president and publishing director of Hearst Magazines, ROAR helps both those considering retirement and those who have no wish to retire get on with fulfilling their dreams--before it's too late"--Publisher marketing.

Discusses how cultural and economic changes around the world have caused a shift in the concepts that shape modern politics and defined the new global order. Matthew knows how things work. He's pretty much an expert. For example: friends. Friendship requires both give and take, and Matthew strongly prefers taking. The solution is close acquaintances—people who think you're their friend because you nod and act interested about whatever the hell they're talking about. School? Perfectly pleasant as long as you don't pay attention. Mom? Award yourself a point for each hands on hips or young man. Wear her down until you can get what you want. The general rule: The less anyone knows about you, the better. But even someone as clever as Matthew needs practice. That's where Michael comes in. See, Michael doesn't get it. He's the kind of kid who comes up with the answer before the teacher. He's the kind of kid who asks questions. He's the kind of kid who still has the ratty old backpack he should have thrown in someone's dumpster years ago. Consequently, he's the kind of kid who gets the crap beaten out of him on a regular basis. So one day, Matthew, seemingly out of the kindness of his heart, decides to help Michael out. Turn his life around. Teach him how to make his life as great as Matthew's. Before long, Matthew is helping Michael mess with his NASCAR-loving stepfather. He's spreading rumors to convince the population of Alexander High School that Michael is a serious badass. He weaves his way into the lives of Michael's estranged dad, and even Chrissy, the half-sister Michael never even knew he had. But what if Michael isn't grateful for all of Matthew's hard work? What if he actually likes who he is? Why the hell would he? And for that matter, why should Matthew even care? Changing Michael is an absorbing exploration into the head of one of the most fascinating high school characters since Holden Caulfield. A story of coolness, mischief, and the struggle for identity in an unpredictable world,

Jeff Schilling's remarkably insightful debut presents a story and a narrative voice readers will remember for a very long time to come.

Fresh Expressions of Church are one of the most important developments within the contemporary church. There has been--and continues to be--much learning about how to plant Fresh Expressions of church in contemporary culture and about theological resources to support this. Church in Context is the first textbook that reflects this learning. Church in Context addresses the theology and methodology of Fresh Expressions/church planting. Topics will include ecclesiology Fresh Expressions in the New Testament, social forces behind Fresh Expressions today, theologies to underpin fresh expressions, how fresh expressions develop, the missional dynamics involved, discipleship, worship and how Fresh Expressions can be sustained and supported.

Train to perform at the highest level with the lowest risk of injury. The enhanced e-book edition of New Functional Training for Sports, Second Edition, produces the best results on the court, field, track, and mat, not just in the weight room.

Michael Boyle, one of the world's leading sport performance coaches, presents the concepts, methods, exercises, and programs that maximize athletes' movements in competition. A series of functional assessments help in determining the design of a specific plan for each athlete. Self-reinforcing progressions in exercises for the lower body, core, upper body, and ultimately total body give athletes the balance, proprioception, stability, strength, and power they require for excelling in their sports. Sample programs assist in the customization process and ensure each aspect of preparation for physical performance. Boyle also draws on the latest research and his wealth of experience to offer programming advice and recommendations on foam rolling, stretching, and dynamic warm-ups. The enhanced e-book format for New Functional Training for Sports, Second Edition, goes beyond traditional exercise descriptions and explanations, incorporating full-color, high-definition composites of foundational movements and links to video demonstrations, commentary, and analysis of key exercises. The 71 video clips show how to perform exercises for lower body; core; upper body; plyometrics; Olympic lifting; and foam rolling, stretching, and dynamic warm-ups.

Record label executive, photographer, and author, Michael Alago takes readers through this amazing journey that is his life. Alago grew up in Brooklyn, New York, in a large, spirited, and devoted Puerto Rican family. Through his early passion for music, art, theater, and photography, he soon found himself rubbing elbows with many downtown NYC scene makers, from Stiv Bators to Jean Michel Basquiat, Cherry Vanilla and Wayne County to Deborah Harry and Robert Mapplethorpe. As an underage teenager going to Max's Kansas City, CBGB, and various art galleries, Alago also began running The Dead Boys fan club. A few years later, he became the assistant music director for legendary nightclubs the Ritz and the Red Parrot. At age twenty-four, he began a storied career as an A&R executive at Elektra Records that started with signing Metallica in the summer of 1984, changing the entire landscape of rock 'n' roll and heavy metal. Alago continued to work in A&R for both Palm Pictures and Geffen Records. He was thrilled to executive-produce albums by Cyndi Lauper, Public Image Ltd, White Zombie, and Nina Simone. In the late 1980s, he was diagnosed with HIV, which

manifested into full-blown AIDS ten years later. He survived to continue his music career, but in 2005, he left music to pursue his other love: photography. Alago went on to publish three bestselling books: *Rough Gods*, *Brutal Truth*, and *Beautiful Imperfections* with German-based publisher Bruno Gmünder. He has since overcome his longtime addiction to drugs and alcohol. In his clean and sober life, he has reconnected with his family, continues to be a working photographer as well as record producer, and only through the grace of his 12-Step program is he able to live this big, beautiful life. In 2017, a documentary directed by Drew Stone and produced by Michael Alex on Alago's wildly successful career in music was released in theaters and on Netflix, entitled *Who the Fuck Is That Guy? The Fabulous Journey of Michael Alago*.

Joseph Goebbels, born in 1897, aspired to be an author, obtained a Ph.D from the University of Heidelberg in 1921. He joined the Nazi Party in 1924. After the Nazi seizure of power in 1933, Goebbels' Propaganda Ministry quickly gained and exerted controlling supervision over the news media, arts, and information in Germany. In 1943, Goebbels began to pressure Hitler to introduce measures that would produce "total war," including closing businesses not essential to the war effort, conscripting women into the labor force, and enlisting men in previously exempt occupations into the Wehrmacht. Hitler finally appointed him as Reich Plenipotentiary for Total War on 23 July 1944, whereby Goebbels undertook largely unsuccessful measures to increase the number of people available for armaments production and the Wehrmacht. As the war drew to a close and Nazi Germany faced defeat, his wife Magda and their children joined him in Berlin. They moved into Hitler's bunker. Hitler committed suicide on April 20, 1945. In accordance with Hitler's will, Goebbels succeeded him as Reichschancellor; he served one day in this post. The following day, Goebbels and his wife committed suicide, after poisoning their six children with cyanide. Stephen R. Pastore is a novelist, playwright, poet and literary biographer/bibliographer. Born in New York City, he is the author of *The Art of Adolf Hitler*, *The Complete Paintings of Adolf Hitler*, *Adolf Before He Was Hitler* and is the editor of *Mein Kampf: A Descriptive Bibliography*.

For decades fruit growers have sprayed their trees with toxic chemicals in an attempt to control a range of insect and fungal pests. Yet it is possible to grow apples responsibly, by applying the intuitive knowledge of our great-grandparents with the fruits of modern scientific research and innovation. Since *The Apple Grower* first appeared in 1998, orchardist Michael Phillips has continued his research with apples, which have been called "organic's final frontier." In this new edition of his widely acclaimed work, Phillips delves even deeper into the mysteries of growing good fruit with minimal inputs. Some of the cutting-edge topics he explores include: The use of kaolin clay as an effective strategy against curculio and borers, as well as its limitations Creating a diverse, healthy orchard ecosystem through understory management of plants, nutrients, and beneficial microorganisms How to make a small apple business viable by focusing on heritage and regional varieties, value-added products, and the "community orchard" model The author's personal voice and clear-eyed advice have already made *The Apple Grower* a classic among small-scale growers and home orchardists. In fact, anyone serious about succeeding with apples needs to have this updated edition on their bookshelf. In *War Room*, New York Times bestselling author Michael Holley gives readers an unprecedented look behind the scenes at three contending National Football League teams—from the draft room to the locker room to the sidelines—and grants access to the brilliant minds of Bill Belichick and his former protégés, Thomas Dimitroff and Scott Pioli. In 1991, while he was with the Cleveland Browns football organization, Belichick was struck by the Big Idea: how to build the perfect team, one draft pick and one trade at a time. This strategy obsessed him, leading him on a remarkable personal and professional journey filled with miraculous finishes, heartbreaking losses, shattered relationships . . . and ultimately three Super Bowl championships. In Massachusetts, Belichick reunited with two former office

employees from the Ohio days—Pioli, a low-paid scouting assistant, and Dimitroff, a groundskeeper and part-time scout—and together they refined and burnished Belichick's method for constructing a winning team. The end result was one of the greatest franchises in modern NFL history: the New England Patriots. Packed with never-before-told anecdotes and insights from team officials, players, coaches, and scouts, War Room is a fascinating, often astonishing story of grit and genius, and the art of building a championship team.

A boy and a girl consider their friendship and cite examples of the good and bad times they have shared

Key presents an adventure story for the whole family that features young Christians calling upon the power of God to expel evil influences from their lives.

MichaelA NovelGrand Oak Books

For those who could read between the lines, the censored news out of China was terrifying. But the president insisted there was nothing to worry about. Fortunately, we are still a nation of skeptics. Fortunately, there are those among us who study pandemics and are willing to look unflinchingly at worst-case scenarios. Michael Lewis's taut and brilliant nonfiction thriller pits a band of medical visionaries against the wall of ignorance that was the official response of the Trump administration to the outbreak of COVID-19. The characters you will meet in these pages are as fascinating as they are unexpected. A thirteen-year-old girl's science project on transmission of an airborne pathogen develops into a very grown-up model of disease control. A local public-health officer uses her worm's-eye view to see what the CDC misses, and reveals great truths about American society. A secret team of dissenting doctors, nicknamed the Wolverines, has everything necessary to fight the pandemic: brilliant backgrounds, world-class labs, prior experience with the pandemic scares of bird flu and swine flu...everything, that is, except official permission to implement their work. Michael Lewis is not shy about calling these people heroes for their refusal to follow directives that they know to be based on misinformation and bad science. Even the internet, as crucial as it is to their exchange of ideas, poses a risk to them. They never know for sure who else might be listening in.

Today, we don't get nearly enough play in our lives. At school, kids are drilled on exams, while at home we're all glued to our phones and screens. Former children's laureate and bestselling author, Michael Rosen, is here to show us how to put this right - and why it matters so much for creativity, resilience and much more. Packed with silliness, activities and prompts for creative indoor and outdoor play for all ages - with specially illustrated pages for everything from doodling to word play and after-dinner games.

"Outstanding . . . a wide-ranging invitation to think through the moral ramifications of our eating habits." —The New Yorker One of the New York Times Book Review's Ten Best Books of the Year and Winner of the James Beard Award Author of How to Change Your Mind and the #1 New York Times Bestseller In Defense of Food and Food Rules What should we have for dinner? Ten years ago, Michael Pollan confronted us with this seemingly simple question and, with The Omnivore's Dilemma, his brilliant and eye-opening exploration of our food choices, demonstrated that how we answer it today may determine not only our health but our survival as a species. In the years since, Pollan's revolutionary examination has changed the way Americans think about food. Bringing wide attention to the little-known but vitally important dimensions of food and agriculture in America, Pollan launched a national conversation about what we eat and the profound consequences that even the simplest everyday food

choices have on both ourselves and the natural world. Ten years later, *The Omnivore's Dilemma* continues to transform the way Americans think about the politics, perils, and pleasures of eating.

This book provides a fascinating introduction to the main issues and findings in current brain research. It describes the historical developments behind our understanding of what the brain is and what it does, and explores the key questions neuroscientists face concerning the relationship between the brain and thought, memories, perceptions, and actions.

This major biography includes the behind-the-scenes story to many of the landmarks in Jackson's life: his legal and commercial battles, his marriages to Lisa Marie Presley and Debbie Rowe, his passions and addictions, his children; objective and revealing, it carries the hallmarks of all of Taraborrelli's best-sellers: impeccable research, brilliant storytelling and definitive documentation. So much has now been said and written about the life and career of Michael Jackson that it has become almost impossible to disentangle the man from the myth. This book is the fruit of over 30 years of research and hundreds of exclusive interviews with a remarkable level of access to the very closest circles of the Jackson family - including Michael himself. Cutting through tabloid rumours, J. Randy Taraborrelli traces the real story behind Michael Jackson, from his drilling as a child star through the blooming of his talent to his ever-changing personal appearance and bizarre publicity stunts.

"Magical prose stylist" Michael Chabon (Michiko Kakutani, *New York Times*) delivers a collection of essays—heartfelt, humorous, insightful, wise—on the meaning of fatherhood. For the September 2016 issue of *GQ*, Michael Chabon wrote a piece about accompanying his son Abraham Chabon, then thirteen, to Paris Men's Fashion Week. Possessed with a precocious sense of style, Abe was in his element chatting with designers he idolized and turning a critical eye to the freshest runway looks of the season; Chabon Sr., whose interest in clothing stops at "thrift-shopping for vintage western shirts or Hermès neckties," sat idly by, staving off yawns and fighting the impulse that the whole thing was a massive waste of time. Despite his own indifference, however, what gradually emerged as Chabon ferried his son to and from fashion shows was a deep respect for his son's passion. The piece quickly became a viral sensation. With the *GQ* story as its centerpiece, and featuring six additional essays plus an introduction, *Pops* illuminates the meaning, magic, and mysteries of fatherhood as only Michael Chabon can.

after investigating the death of Michael Jackson with many calls to the corner ,embalmer and many others and much hard work I found there is as much proof the Michael Jackson is alive than there is proof he is dead

"This was no suicide," says Detective Michael Bennett. A man plunges to his death from the roof of a Manhattan hotel. It looks like a suicide--except the victim has someone else's fingerprints and \$10,000 in cash. Enter Detective Michael Bennett. BookShots LIGHTNING-FAST STORIES BY JAMES PATTERSON

Novels you can devour in a few hours Impossible to stop reading All original content from James Patterson

A journey inside modern-day Japan reveals the economic and social realities that have created a lost generation of Japanese young adults, examining the country's a high suicide rate, low birthrate, untreated cases of depression, young men who have become recluses from society, and young women who have rejected the traditional path to marriage and motherhood. Reprint.

EXPLOSIVE AND INCISIVE. The book they would not want you to read.

Exclusive revelations and true life story of the King of Pop-best-all-time seller - Janice Warford, Pan Atlantic Chronicle. Different from many other books that have been published about Michael Jackson - Donna McCartney-Empress Books, Virginia, USA

As he faces a devastating personal loss, Detective Michael Bennett is about to take on the most sinister challenge of his career: a kidnapping crisis that could destroy the most powerful people in America. The nation has fallen into mourning after the unexpected death of a beloved former First Lady, and the most powerful people in the world gather in New York for her funeral. Then the inconceivable occurs: Billionaires, politicians, and superstars of every kind are suddenly trapped within one man's brilliant and ruthless scenario. Bennett, father of ten, is pulled into the fray. As the danger escalates, Michael is hit with devastating news: After fighting for many years, his wife has succumbed to a terrible disease. As New York descends into chaos, Bennett has lost the great love of his life and faces raising his ten devastated children alone-and rescuing 34 hostages. Day after day, Bennett confronts the most ruthless man he has ever dealt with, a man who kills without hesitation and counters everything the NYPD and FBI throw at him with impunity. As the entire world watches and the tension boils to a searing heat, Bennett has to find a way out-or face responsibility for the greatest debacle in history.

Should we still read William Faulkner in this new century? What can his works tell us about the legacy of slavery and the Civil War, that central quarrel in our nation's history? These are the provocative questions that Michael Gorra asks in this historic portrait of the novelist and his world. Born in 1897 in Mississippi, Faulkner wrote such iconic novels as *Absalom, Absalom!* and *The Sound and the Fury*, creating in Yoknapatawpha County the richest gallery of characters in American fiction, his achievements culminating in the 1949 Nobel Prize in Literature. But given his works' echo of "Lost Cause" romanticism, his depiction of black characters and black speech, and his rendering of race relations in a largely unreconstructed South, Faulkner demands a sobering reevaluation. Interweaving biography, absorbing literary criticism, and rich travelogue, *The Saddest Words* recontextualizes Faulkner, revealing a civil war within him, while examining the most plangent cultural issues facing American literature today. "This book is a must read for newcomers and experienced composers wanting to learn more about the art of video game composition." —Chuck Doud, Director of

Music, Sony Computer Entertainment Worldwide Studios All You Need to Know to Create Great Video Game Music Written by the developer of Berklee School of Music's pioneering game scoring program, this guide covers everything professional composers and music students need to know about composing interactive music for video games, and contains exclusive tools for interactive scoring—tools that were previously available only at Berklee. Drawing on twenty years of professional experience in the game industry, Michael Sweet helps you master the unique language of music storytelling in games. Next, he walks you through the entire music composition process, from initial conceptualization and creative direction through implementation. Inside, you'll find dozens of examples that illustrate adaptive compositional techniques, from small downloadable games to multimillion dollar console titles. In addition, this guide covers the business side of video game composition, sharing crucial advice about contracts, pricing, sales, and marketing. Coverage includes Overcoming the unique challenges of writing for games Composing music that can adapt in real time to player actions Developing thematic ideas Using audio middleware to create advanced interactive scores Working effectively with game development teams Understanding the life of a video game composer Managing contracts, rights, estimating, and negotiation Finding work The companion website contains software tools to help you master interactive music concepts explored in this book, with additional resources and links to learn more about scoring for games. See Appendix A for details.

Michael is considered the greatest angel in the Christian, Judaic, and Islamic traditions. Throughout the ages, he has appeared as a protector, a messenger, a guide, a warrior, and a healer. In Michael, Richard Webster presents a thorough history of this famous archangel and offers simple techniques for contacting him. Readers are treated to a detailed introduction to Michael and his many appearances. The rest of this practical guide provides a variety of methods for connecting with Michael, petitioning his help, and creating a lasting bond. Through easy-to-perform rituals and meditations—some involving candle magic, crystals, and dreamwork—readers will learn how to get in touch with the Prince of Light for courage, protection, strength, and spiritual guidance.

The instant New York Times bestseller “Expert storytelling . . . [Pollan] masterfully elevates a series of big questions about drugs, plants and humans that are likely to leave readers thinking in new ways.”—New York Times Book Review From #1 New York Times bestselling author Michael Pollan, a radical challenge to how we think about drugs, and an exploration into the powerful human attraction to psychoactive plants—and the equally powerful taboos. Of all the things humans rely on plants for—sustenance, beauty, medicine, fragrance, flavor, fiber—surely the most curious is our use of them to change consciousness: to stimulate or calm, fiddle with or completely alter, the qualities of our mental experience. Take coffee and tea: People around the world rely on caffeine to sharpen their minds. But we do not usually think of caffeine as a drug, or our

daily use as an addiction, because it is legal and socially acceptable. So, then, what is a “drug”? And why, for example, is making tea from the leaves of a tea plant acceptable, but making tea from a seed head of an opium poppy a federal crime? In *This Is Your Mind on Plants*, Michael Pollan dives deep into three plant drugs—opium, caffeine, and mescaline—and throws the fundamental strangeness, and arbitrariness, of our thinking about them into sharp relief. Exploring and participating in the cultures that have grown up around these drugs while consuming (or, in the case of caffeine, trying not to consume) them, Pollan reckons with the powerful human attraction to psychoactive plants. Why do we go to such great lengths to seek these shifts in consciousness, and then why do we fence that universal desire with laws and customs and fraught feelings? In this unique blend of history, science, and memoir, as well as participatory journalism, Pollan examines and experiences these plants from several very different angles and contexts, and shines a fresh light on a subject that is all too often treated reductively—as a drug, whether licit or illicit. But that is one of the least interesting things you can say about these plants, Pollan shows, for when we take them into our bodies and let them change our minds, we are engaging with nature in one of the most profound ways we can. Based in part on an essay published almost twenty-five years ago, this groundbreaking and singular consideration of psychoactive plants, and our attraction to them through time, holds up a mirror to our fundamental human needs and aspirations, the operations of our minds, and our entanglement with the natural world.

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