

To Selena With Love

For fans of the Netflix show *Narcos* and readers of true crime, *Kilo* is a deeply reported account of life inside Colombia's drug cartels, using unprecedented access in the cartels to trace a kilo of cocaine—from the fields where it is farmed, to the hit men who protect it, to the smuggling ships that bring it to American shores. "Toby Muse's tautly written account of his intimate prowl through Colombia's narco world is both compelling and unforgettable. With *Kilo*, cocaine now has its own *Dispatches*. Simply kickass." — Jon Lee Anderson, *The New Yorker* and author of *Che Guevara: A Revolutionary Life*

Cocaine is glamour, sex and murder. From the badlands of Colombia, it stretches across the globe, seducing, corrupting and destroying. A product that must be produced, distributed, and protected, it is both a harbinger of violence and a source of immense wealth. Beginning in the jungles and mountains of Colombia, it filters down to countryside villages and the nightclubs of the cities, attracting money, sex, and death. Each step in the life of a kilo reveals a different criminal underworld with its own players, rules, and dangers, ranging from the bizarre to the diabolical. The killers, the drug-lords, all find themselves seduced by cocaine and trapped in her world. Seasoned war correspondent Toby Muse has witnessed each level of this underworld, fueled by the appetite for cocaine in America and Europe. In this riveting chronicle, he takes the reader inside Colombia's notorious drug cartels to offer a never before look at the drug trade. Following a kilo of cocaine from its production in a clandestine laboratory to the smugglers who ship it abroad, he reveals the human lives behind the drug's complicated legacy. Reporting on Colombia for the world's most prestigious networks and publications, Muse gained unprecedented access to the extraordinary people who survive on the drug trade—farmers, smugglers, assassins—and the drug lords and their lovers controlling these multi-billion dollar enterprises. Uncovering stories of violence, sex, and money, he shows the allure and the madness of cocaine. And how the War on Drugs has been no match for cocaine. Piercing this veiled world, *Kilo* is a gripping portrait of a country struggling to end this deadly trade even as the riches flow. A human portrait of criminals and the shocking details of their lives, *Kilo* is a chilling, unforgettable story that takes you deep into the belly of the beast. *Kilo* includes 16 pages of photographs.

The first biography of the seminal music group WAR whose many hits include "Spill the Wine," "All Day Music," "Why Can't We Be Friends?" "Slippin' into Darkness," "The Cisco Kid," and - of course - "Low Rider." They combined rock, funk, soul, R&B, jazz, and a strong Latin vibe in their music, they have been awarded two Platinum and eight Gold records in their career. Their album "The World is a Ghetto" was the bestselling release of 1973 and was #444 on the list of "Rolling Stone's Top 500 Albums" list. This unauthorized book follows the group from their early incarnations when Harold Brown and Howard Scott met to form the Creators and then the Night Shift, to their partnership with former Animals lead singer Eric Burdon, to a highly successful career on their own with the core original lineup of Brown, Scott, Lee Oskar, Lonnie Jordan, B.B. Dickerson, Papa Dee Allen, and Charles Miller. The story also follows the band through their later, leaner years, the tragic deaths of two members, and the conflicts that led to a fissure and a split of performing entities that continues to this day. Featuring original interviews, archival research, and musical analysis and commentary, "Slippin' Out of Darkness:

The Story of WAR" tells the tale of one of the most unique bands in the history of Classic Rock-era music.

In this groundbreaking health and lifestyle guide, Darin Olien—superfoods expert, nutritionist, creator of Shakeology, and co-host of the Netflix docuseries Down to Earth with Zac Efron—provides the key to understanding and utilizing five life forces, the sole factors that determine whether or not we will be healthy, fit, and free of illness. In Superlife, Darin Olien provides us with an entirely new way of thinking about health and wellbeing by identifying what he calls the life forces: Quality Nutrition, Hydration, Detoxification, Oxygenation, and Alkalization. Olien demonstrates in great detail how to maintain these processes, thereby allowing our bodies to do the rest. He tells us how we can maintain healthy weight, prevent even the most serious of diseases, and feel great. He explains that all of this is possible without any of the restrictive or gimmicky diet plans that never work in the long term. Olien has traveled the world, exploring the health properties of foods that have sustained indigenous cultures for centuries. Putting his research into practice, he has created a unique and proven formula for maximizing our bodies' potential. He also includes a "How-to-eat" user's guide with a shopping list, advice on "what to throw away," a guide to creating a healthy, balanced diet plan, and advice on how to use supplements effectively. Written in Olien's engaging conversational style, Superlife is a one-of-a-kind comprehensive look at dieting and nutrition, a timeless and essential guide to maintaining the human body and maximizing its potential.

If a man supports Arsenal one day and Spurs the next then he is fickle but not necessarily illogical. From this starting point, and assuming no previous knowledge of logic, Wilfrid Hodges takes the reader through the whole gamut of logical expressions in a simple and lively way. Readers who are more mathematically adventurous will find optional sections introducing rather more challenging material. 'A lively and stimulating book' Philosophy

Selena Quintanilla Perez was considered by many as the first female superstar in the Tejano music industry. Yolanda Saldivar was the president of Selena's fan club and a dedicated employee. On March 31, 1995 Saldivar shot Selena at a Corpus Christi motel causing her death from the single gunshot. The shooting left many unanswered questions. This is a first-hand account of the trial of Yolanda Saldivar for the murder of Selena. It is a riveting, behind the scenes look at what happened before, during and after the trial as told by the man in charge of the prosecution, District Attorney Carlos Valdez. Learn the surprising answers to all of the questions raised during the trial. You'll sit with the prosecution team as the trial unfolds and watch, not just what was publicly seen by the spectators, but also what went on beyond the glare of the media lights. Narrated in an easy-to-read, conversational style, by one of the principal players in this real life drama, this book is a must-read for anyone who has lingering questions about why the murder occurred in the first place. Every question will be answered. A wealthy real-estate developer shares the principles of his success, examining the vast financial opportunities that exist in real estate, key points to successful investment, and effective business strategies.

A one-armed computer technician, a radical blonde bombshell, an aging academic, and a sentient all-knowing computer lead the lunar population in a revolution against Earth's colonial rule

The anchorwoman on the top-rated Spanish television magazine reveals details about the life and tragic death of the Latin music superstar, including information about her murderer. Reissue.

The National Book Award-winning novel of a young girl's coming of age, from the author of *Send Me Down a Miracle*. Twelve-year-old Miracle McCloy never liked the story of her remarkable birth, but her grandmother Gigi has always loved telling it. An expert in occult magic, Gigi insists that when Miracle was saved from her dead mother's womb, it was an omen of greatness to come. But how can Miracle become a prodigy like her father when sometimes she feels like she doesn't even exist? When her father suddenly vanishes without a trace, Miracle's life starts feeling less miraculous by the day. The only time she feels whole is when she's dancing—an activity her grandmother strictly forbids. But shortly after her thirteenth birthday, a life-threatening incident puts her whole world in a harsh new light. And though she does not emerge unscathed, Miracle might finally see the truth about her past, her family, and herself. "Extraordinary . . . Nolan does a masterful job of drawing readers into the girl's mind and of making them care deeply about her chances for the future." —School Library Journal (starred review) "Elaborately drawn characters that will surprise readers at every turn . . . Compelling." —Booklist (starred review)

February, 1906. Personal secretary of the recently departed Duke of Olympia, Miss Emmeline Rose Truelove never expected her duties to involve steaming through the Mediterranean on a private yacht, under the prodigal eye of one Lord Silverton, on a quest to find the duke's enigmatic heir. An expert on anachronisms, Maximilian Haywood was last seen at an archaeological dig on the island of Crete. From the moment Truelove and Silverton disembark they must deal with a ransacked flat, a murdered government employee, and an assassination attempt. Tracing Max's trail, piecing together the strange events of the days before his disappearance, Truelove will discover the folly of her misconceptions-- about the whims of the heart, the motives of men, and the nature of time itself.

"Based on an actual event that occurred during World War II, this heartbreaking narrative poem about history, immortality, and the power of song is accompanied by magnificent full-color paintings by award-winning artist Mark Podwal. It is the evening before the holiday of Purim, and the Nazis have given the ghetto's leaders twenty-four hours to turn over ten Jews to be hung to "avenge" the deaths of the ten sons of Haman, the villain of the Purim story, which celebrates the triumph of the Jews of Persia over potential genocide some 2,400 years ago. If they refuse, the entire ghetto will be liquidated. The terrified leaders go to the ghetto's rabbi for advice; he tells them to return the next morning. Over the course of the night the rabbi calls up the spirits of rabbis from centuries past for advice; each is rendered speechless by what the rabbi describes. The 18th century mystic and founder of Hasidism, the Ba'al Shem Tov, tries to intercede with God by singing a niggun, a wordless, joyful melody with the power to break

the chains of evil, but his efforts end in failure. Then the beloved Rabbi Levi Yitzhak of Berdichev appears. There is only one possible response, he says. And the ghetto rabbi agrees. That evening, everyone in the ghetto is herded into the synagogue courtyard. When no one steps forward, they are informed that in an hour they will all be killed. How does one prepare to die? The question is laid before the ghetto rabbi, and he teaches them the song that the Ba'al Shem Tov taught him the night before. As their voices soar upward, they are joined by Jews from centuries past from all over the world, all singing the Ba'al Shem Tov's niggun as the massacre begins. And as the souls of these men, women, and children rise to the heavens, their song continues, uninterrupted, to the end of time and beyond"--

'Wishful Drinking is a touching and incisive account of bipolarity, addiction and motherhood.' Independent 'No motive is pure. No one is good or bad – but a hearty mix of both. And sometimes life actually gives to you by taking away.'

Carrie Fisher in *Wishful Drinking* In *Wishful Drinking*, Carrie Fisher told the true and intoxicating story of her life with inimitable wit. Born to celebrity parents, she was picked to play a princess in a little movie called *Star Wars* when only 19 years old. "But it isn't all sweetness and light sabres." Alas, aside from a demanding career and her role as a single mother (not to mention the hyperspace hairdo), Carrie also spends her free time battling addiction and weathering the wild ride of manic depression. It's an incredible tale: from having Elizabeth Taylor as a stepmother, to marrying (and divorcing) Paul Simon, and from having the father of her daughter leave her for a man, to ultimately waking up one morning and finding a friend dead beside her in bed. Carrie Fisher's star-studded career included roles in numerous films such as *The Blues Brothers* and *When Harry Met Sally*. She was the author of four bestselling novels, *Surrender in the Pink*, *Delusions of Grandma*, *The Best Awful* and *Postcards from the Edge*, which was made into a hit film starring Shirley MacLaine and Meryl Streep. Carrie's experience with addiction and mental illness – and her willingness to talk honestly about them – made her a sought-after speaker and respected advocate. She was truly one of the most magical people to walk among us. Further praise for Carrie Fisher:- [Shockaholic] is the finest, funniest chronicler of the maddest celebrity mores.' Sunday Times 'Fisher has a talent for lacerating insight that masquerades as carefree self-deprecation' Los Angeles Times 'She is one of the rare inhabitants of La-La Land who can actually write' New York Times

An outpouring of memorial tributes and public expressions of grief followed the death of the Tejana recording artist Selena Quintanilla Pérez in 1995. The Latina superstar was remembered and mourned in documentaries, magazines, websites, monuments, biographies, murals, look-alike contests, musicals, drag shows, and more. Deborah Paredez explores the significance and broader meanings of this posthumous celebration of Selena, which she labels "Selenidad." She considers the performer's career and emergence as an icon within the political and cultural transformations in the United States during the

1990s, a decade that witnessed a “Latin explosion” in culture and commerce alongside a resurgence of anti-immigrant discourse and policy. Paredez argues that Selena’s death galvanized Latina/o efforts to publicly mourn collective tragedies (such as the murders of young women along the U.S.-Mexico border) and to envision a brighter future. At the same time, reactions to the star’s death catalyzed political jockeying for the Latino vote and corporate attempts to corner the Latino market. Foregrounding the role of performance in the politics of remembering, Paredez unravels the cultural, political, and economic dynamics at work in specific commemorations of Selena. She analyzes Selena’s final concert, the controversy surrounding the memorial erected in the star’s hometown of Corpus Christi, and the political climate that served as the backdrop to the touring musicals *Selena Forever* and *Selena: A Musical Celebration of Life*. Paredez considers what “becoming” Selena meant to the young Latinas who auditioned for the biopic *Selena*, released in 1997, and she surveys a range of Latina/o queer engagements with Selena, including Latina lesbian readings of the star’s death scene and queer Selena drag. *Selenidad* is a provocative exploration of how commemorations of Selena reflected and changed Latinidad. In this Second Edition of this radical social history of America from Columbus to the present, Howard Zinn includes substantial coverage of the Carter, Reagan and Bush years and an Afterword on the Clinton presidency. Its commitment and vigorous style mean it will be compelling reading for under-graduate and post-graduate students and scholars in American social history and American studies, as well as the general reader.

One day I had a vision when I was young while living in New York City before the age of ten. The Lord had shown me two men that I would get to know in my future. One man wore all black and held a briefcase. The second man I faintly saw, but I felt his heart and soul. In the background, I see a pure light, and it seemed to me that it was God's love. Then I saw a train traveling to a town that was under development. I moved to New Haven, Connecticut, in the early nineties. Within a few years, the city started to develop into a newer and upcoming town of its own. It is strange how God keeps his vision alive. I have dated over the years and no soul mate in sight. When I met my first husband, he was dressed in all black with a briefcase, just exactly like the vision I had. After my divorce, I believe I met my soul mate.

New York Times bestselling author Jennifer Finney Boylan returns with a remarkable memoir about gender and parenting that discusses how families are shaped and the difficulties and wonders of being human. A father for six years, a mother for ten, and for a time in between, neither, or both, Jennifer Finney Boylan has seen parenthood from both sides of the gender divide. When her two children were young, Boylan came out as transgender, and as Jenny transitioned from a man to a woman and from a father to a mother, her family faced unique challenges and questions. In this thoughtful, tear-jerking, hilarious memoir, Jenny asks what it means to be a father, or a mother, and to what extent gender shades

our experiences as parents. Through both her own story and incredibly insightful interviews with others, including Richard Russo, Edward Albee, Ann Beattie, Augusten Burroughs, Susan Minot, Trey Ellis, Timothy Kreider, and more, Jenny examines relationships between fathers, mothers, and children; people's memories of the children they were and the parents they became; and the many different ways a family can be. With an Afterword by Anna Quindlen, *Stuck in the Middle with You* is a brilliant meditation on raising—and on being—a child. Now with Extra Libris material, including a reader's guide and bonus content

In her first novel since *The Quick and the Dead* (a finalist for the Pulitzer Prize), the legendary writer takes us into an uncertain landscape after an environmental apocalypse, a world in which only the man-made has value, but some still wish to salvage the authentic. "She practices ... camouflage, except that instead of adapting to its environment, Williams's imagination, by remaining true to itself, reveals new colorations in the ecology around her." —A.O. Scott, *The New York Times Book Review*

Khristen is a teenager who, her mother believes, was marked by greatness as a baby when she died for a moment and then came back to life. After Khristen's failing boarding school for gifted teens closes its doors, and she finds that her mother has disappeared, she ranges across the dead landscape and washes up at a "resort" on the shores of a mysterious, putrid lake the elderly residents there call "Big Girl." In a rotting honeycomb of rooms, these old ones plot actions to punish corporations and people they consider culpable in the destruction of the final scraps of nature's beauty. What will Khristen and Jeffrey, the precocious ten-year-old boy she meets there, learn from this "gabby seditious lot, in the worst of health but with kamikaze hearts, an army of the aged and ill, determined to refresh, through crackpot violence, a plundered earth"? Rivetingly strange and beautiful, and delivered with Williams's searing, deadpan wit, *Harrow* is their intertwined tale of paradise lost and of their reasons—against all reasonableness—to try and recover something of it.

A profile of the late Mexican American singer considers the culture that influenced her career, the family that supported her rise and ultimately set the stage for her downfall, and her shocking murder by the head of her fan club

In this *New York Times* bestselling memoir, Rita Moreno shares her remarkable journey from a young girl with simple beginnings in Puerto Rico to Hollywood legend—and one of the few performers, and the only Hispanic, to win an Oscar, Grammy, Tony and two Emmys. Born Rosita Dolores Alverio in the idyll of Puerto Rico, Moreno, at age five, embarked on a harrowing sea voyage with her mother and wound up in the harsh barrios of the Bronx, where she discovered dancing, singing, and acting as ways to escape a tumultuous childhood. Making her Broadway debut by age thirteen—and moving on to Hollywood in its Golden Age just a few years later—she worked alongside such stars as Gary Cooper, Yul Brynner, and Ann Miller. When discovered by Louis B. Mayer of MGM, the wizard himself declared: "She looks like a Spanish Elizabeth Taylor." Cast by Gene Kelly as Zelda Zanders in *Singin' in the Rain* and then on to her Oscar-winning

performance in *West Side Story*, she catapulted to fame—yet found herself repeatedly typecast as the “utility ethnic,” a role she found almost impossible to elude. Here, for the first time, Rita reflects on her struggles to break through Hollywood’s racial and sexual barriers. She explores the wounded little girl behind the glamorous façade—and what it took to find her place in the world. She talks candidly about her relationship with Elvis Presley, her encounters with Howard Hughes, and the passionate romance with Marlon Brando that nearly killed her. And she shares the illusiveness of a “perfect” marriage and the incomparable joys of motherhood. Infused with Rita Moreno’s quick wit and deep insight, this memoir is the dazzling portrait of a stage and screen star who longed to become who she really is—and triumphed.

To Selena, with LoveCelebra Hardcover

An exuberant picture book celebrating the life and legacy of Selena Quintanilla, beloved Queen of Tejano music. From a very early age, young Selena knew how to connect with people and bring them together with music. *Sing with Me* follows Selena's rise to stardom, from front-lining her family's band at rodeos and quinceañeras to performing in front of tens of thousands at the Houston Astrodome. Young readers will be empowered by Selena's dedication--learning Spanish as a teenager, designing her own clothes, and traveling around the country with her family--sharing her pride in her Mexican-American roots and her love of music and fashion with the world.

“I wrote this book not to dismiss a rumor but to share something much more important: my journey to forgiveness.” Chiquis Rivera is a singer and the daughter of the late music superstar Jenni Rivera. In *Forgiveness*, her memoir, Chiquis bravely reveals the abuse she suffered at the hands of her father during her childhood and the difficulties she’s faced in her personal life as a result. Despite growing up marked by the wounds of abuse, she eventually conquered her fear of love and intimacy. The story within these pages also recounts what caused the distance between her and her mother toward the end of Jenni’s life. In *Forgiveness*, Chiquis brings to light truths that she wishes she had been able to reveal to Jenni. Two years after her mother’s death, Chiquis answers the most difficult questions: Was she able to make peace with Jenni? And in this story of triumph and tragedy, who is most in need of forgiveness?

Discover why Selena, the Queen of Tejano music, became one of the most celebrated Mexican-American entertainers of the twentieth century! As a young girl, Selena Quintanilla sang in a band called *Selena y Los Dinos* with her brother and sister. The family performed at fairs, weddings, quinceañeras, and on street corners in their native Texas. Selena learned how to sing in Spanish and soon became hugely popular within the Latino community--so much so that she became the best-selling Latin artist of the 1990s. Selena was poised to be a great success, but her life was cut short after being fatally wounded by the president of her fan club. Selena's contributions to music and fashion during her life made her one of the top Latin musicians in the 1990s, and readers will want

to know more about the woman who introduced the world to Tejano music. Dreaming brings together lyrical renditions, little boys dancing "the washing machine," prayers over velas, and odes to purple, sparkly hips swaying to cumbia beats. There's thirty-three works of poetry, prose, and fiction on these pages that provide such narratives: "For Selena" by Timothy Daily-Valdés, "One of Us: Selena Quintanilla-Pérez" by Nancy de la Zerda, "La Milagrosa Selena" by Rubén Degollado and plenty more pieces showing the world the impact she continues to make on the dance floor and across generations.

Chris Perez tells the story of his relationship with music superstar Selena in this heartfelt tribute. One of the most compelling and adored superstars in Latin music history, Selena was nothing short of a phenomenon who shared all of herself with her millions of devoted fans. Her tragic murder, at the young age of twenty-three, stripped the world of her talent and boundless potential, her tightly knit family of their beloved angel, and her husband, Chris Perez, of the greatest love he had ever known. For over a decade, Chris held on to the only personal thing he had left from his late wife: the touching and sometimes painful memories of their very private bond. Now, for the first time, Chris opens up about their unbreakable friendship, forbidden relationship, and blossoming marriage, which were cut short by Selena's unforgivable death. Chris's powerful story gives a rare glimpse into Selena's sincerity and vulnerability when falling in love, strength and conviction when fighting for that love, and absolute resilience when finding peace and normalcy with her family's acceptance of the only man she called her husband. While showcasing a side of Selena that has never been disclosed before and clarifying certain misconceptions about her life and death, *To Selena, with Love* is an everlasting love story that immortalizes the heart and soul of an extraordinary, unforgettable, and irreplaceable icon. Includes exclusive photos!

Hilary hates Jews. As part of a neo-Nazi gang in her town, she's finally found a sense of belonging. But when she's critically injured in an accident, everything changes. Somehow, in her mind, she has become Chana, a Jewish girl fighting for her own life in the ghettos and concentration camps of World War II. Han Nolan offers powerful insight into one young woman's survival through the Holocaust and another's journey out of hatred and self-loathing. Reader's guide and an interview with the author included.

The inspiration for the Play It Loud exhibition at the Metropolitan Museum of Art "Every guitar player will want to read this book twice. And even the casual music fan will find a thrilling narrative that weaves together cultural history, musical history, race, politics, business case studies, advertising, and technological discovery." —Daniel Levitin, *Wall Street Journal* For generations the electric guitar has been an international symbol of freedom, danger, rebellion, and hedonism. In *Play It Loud*, veteran music journalists Brad Tolinski and Alan di Perna bring the history of this iconic instrument to roaring life. It's a story of inventors and iconoclasts, of scam artists, prodigies, and mythologizers as varied and original as the instruments they spawned. *Play It Loud* uses twelve landmark guitars—each of them artistic milestones in their own right—to illustrate the conflict and passion the instruments have inspired. It introduces Leo Fender, a man who couldn't play a note but whose innovations helped transform the guitar into the explosive sound machine it is today. Some of the most significant social movements of the twentieth century are indebted to the guitar: It was an essential element in the fight for racial

equality in the entertainment industry; a mirror to the rise of the teenager as social force; a linchpin of punk's sound and ethos. And today the guitar has come full circle, with contemporary titans such as Jack White of The White Stripes, Annie Clark (aka St. Vincent), and Dan Auerbach of The Black Keys bringing some of the earliest electric guitar forms back to the limelight. Featuring interviews with Les Paul, Keith Richards, Carlos Santana, Eddie Van Halen, Steve Vai, and dozens more players and creators, *Play It Loud* is the story of how a band of innovators transformed an idea into a revolution.

The story behind Telemundo's Jenni Rivera: *Mariposa del Barrio* series, now streaming. A *New York Times* bestseller, this is the official biography from the beloved Mexican-American singer who lost her life in a tragic plane crash. The only autobiography authorized by Jenni Rivera "I can't get caught up in the negative because that destroys you. Perhaps trying to move away from my problems and focus on the positive is the best I can do. I am a woman like any other, and ugly things happen to me like any other woman. The number of times I have fallen down is the number of times I have gotten up." These are the last words that beloved Mexican American singer Jenni Rivera spoke publicly before boarding the plane that would crash and cut her life short on December 9, 2012. However, they are not the final words that La Diva de la Banda had for the world. Those are found in the pages you hold in your hands, Jenni's own account of the highs and lows of her extraordinary journey. She became the most acclaimed Spanish-language singer in the United States and sold more than 15 million records worldwide. A single mother of five and grandmother of two, she was also an actress, a television producer, the star of her own reality show, and an entrepreneur. But for all its immense success, Jenni's life often seemed to be a series of personal battles in which perseverance was her only weapon. As her fame grew, she made it her mission to speak about her struggles, forging an intimate connection with her fans. She became a figure of strength and a source of encouragement to women of all ages. In *Unbreakable*, Jenni recounts the crucial moments in her past, revealing her experiences with domestic and sexual abuse, divorce, body image issues, making her way in a male-dominated industry, raising her children as a single mother, and learning that she could depend only on herself. Though she is no longer with us, Jenni will always be the "Rivera rebel from Long Beach," the girl who maintained her sense of humor and fighting spirit in every circumstance. In this remarkable memoir, Jenni leaves behind a legacy of inspiration and determination that will forever live on through her precious family, friends, and fans. **NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLER** • The heart-wrenching, uplifting tale about a woman named Cupcake "[Cupcake] Brown's confessional . . . memoir is one you can't easily put down. Her life is nothing short of a miracle."—Chicago Sun-Times There are shelves of memoirs about overcoming the death of a parent, childhood abuse, rape, drug addiction, miscarriage, alcoholism, hustling, gangbanging, near-death injuries, drug dealing, prostitution, and homelessness. Cupcake Brown survived all these things before she'd even turned twenty. And that's when things got interesting. . . Orphaned by the death of her mother and left in the hands of a sadistic foster parent, young Cupcake Brown learned to survive by turning tricks, downing hard liquor, and ingesting every drug she could find while hitchhiking up and down the California coast. She stumbled into gangbanging, drug dealing, hustling, prostitution, theft, and, eventually,

the best scam of all: a series of 9-to-5 jobs. *A Piece of Cake* is unlike any memoir you'll ever read. Moving in its frankness, this is the most satisfying, startlingly funny, and genuinely affecting tour through hell you'll ever take. Praise for *A Piece of Cake* "[Brown] reflects now with insight and honesty on her experiences. . . . An engaging account . . . of a remarkable life filled with pain and wisdom, hope and redemption."—San Francisco Chronicle "Dazzles you with the amazing change that is possible in one lifetime."—Washington Post

A collection of extraordinary letters expressing the joys, sorrows, and surprises of ordinary lives. We've all missed the chance to say something important. Friends fall out of touch, loved ones pass away, or sometimes the courage required is simply lacking -- and thank-yous, regrets, feelings, and secrets are left unshared. In 2009, Jackie Hooper came up with a way to help people recapture a moment that had once passed them by -- she began asking them to write letters. Based on the popular blog *The Things You Would Have Said*, this extraordinary collection of letters brings together the moving, surprising, and inspiring stories of ordinary people. By turns heartwarming, funny, sad, and wise, the letters showcase a remarkable range of voices and subjects. From the indignant young boy urging his bully to become "a better man," to the woman apologizing to the girl she picked on in high school, to a man thanking the woman who protected his family from Nazis, the letters bring together an outpouring of emotion that is as compelling as it is cathartic.

The author, at age eighty-two, was told that he needed immediate surgery to clear his blocked arteries. On what he knew might very well be his deathbed, he reflected on his many losses and accomplishments, and on all that remained to be done. Fortunately, he survived the life-threatening heart surgery to turn those reflections into a book which discusses his affection for his family both departed and still living, his aspirations for his writing, and his hope that he improved the world

Traces the rise of the Kardashian and Jenner families to reality show and tabloid fame, discussing the negative publicity that has overshadowed their recent years while scrutinizing charges of exploitation that have targeted Kris Jenner, Rob Kardashian, and Caitlyn Jenner.

"There's a lot of text in the book, but it's smartly framed within two-page spreads, and very little of it feels extraneous. ...A worthy picture-book primer on the Queen of Tejano music."-Kirkus Reviews This is a moving and impassioned picture book about the iconic Queen of Tejano music, Selena Quintanilla, that will embolden young readers to find their passion and make the impossible, possible! Selena Quintanilla's music career began at the age of nine when she started singing in her family's band. She went from using a hairbrush as a microphone to traveling from town to town to play gigs. But Selena faced a challenge: People said that she would never make it in Tejano music, which was dominated by male performers. Selena was determined to prove them wrong. Born and raised in Texas, Selena didn't know how to speak Spanish, but with the help of her dad, she learned to sing it. With songs written and composed by her older brother and the fun dance steps Selena created, her band, Selena Y Los Dinos, rose to stardom! A true trailblazer, her success in Tejano music and her crossover into mainstream American music opened the door for other Latinx entertainers, and she became an inspiration for Latina girls everywhere.

A feverish story of young adulthood, exploring how fandom and obsession shape how

we relate to the world . . . Dreaming of You navigates the complexities of Latinx identity, self-loathing, love, and the loneliness of drifting into adulthood. --Miguel Salazar, Vulture Themes of celebrity, fandom, grief, queer identity, and loneliness feature in this novel in verse about a poet who resurrects Tejano pop star Selena. This story is as absurd and magical as it sounds. --Casey Stepaniuk, Autostraddle A macabre novel in verse of loss, longing, and identity crises following a poet who resurrects pop star Selena from the dead. Melissa Lozada-Oliva's Dreaming of You is an absurd yet heartfelt examination of celebrity worship. A young Latinx poet grappling with loneliness and heartache decides one day to bring Tejano pop star Selena Quintanilla back to life. The séance kicks off an uncanny trip narrated by a Greek chorus of gossiping spirits as she journeys through a dead celebrity prom, encounters her shadow self, and performs karaoke in hell. In visceral poems embodying millennial angst, paragraph-long conversations overheard at her local coffeeshop, and unhinged Twitter rants, Lozada-Oliva reveals an eerie, sometimes gruesome, yet moving love story. Playfully morbid and profoundly candid, an interrogation of Latinidad, womanhood, obsession, and disillusionment, Dreaming of You grapples with the cost of being seen for your truest self.

The greatest story never told, this formidable and gorgeously written biography documents the amazing and controversial short life of Calixa Lavallée--the composer of "O Canada"--and the tumult of 19th-century North America. He was a composer, a performer, an entrepreneur, and an educator; played pop and classical music; and appeared in his quasi-colonial society, tragically, just ahead of his time. Calixa Lavallee, the French Canadian composer of "O Canada," has a compelling, almost unbelievable personal story. He left home at 12 and worked as a blackface minstrel, travelling throughout the United States for more than a decade; he fought and was injured in the American Civil War in perhaps the most important battle of that war, at Antietam Creek; performed for President Lincoln several times; produced the first opera in Quebec and wrote two of his own; became a leading figure in American music education, representing American music in London; journeyed to Paris to study for two years; tried and failed to create a Quebec national conservatory. And he wrote our national anthem. But Lavallée also represents all the contradictions and confusions of Canadian identity as our country came together in the last half of the nineteenth century. To understand "O Canada," and to understand the man who wrote it, is to return to the Canada of the mid-nineteenth century, a Canada just forming as a nation, bringing together ancient racial hatreds and novel political possibilities, as culture faced culture, religion faced religion, economy faced economy. Calixa Lavallée is the most famous Canadian you have never heard of, living a life and ultimately composing a song that stands the test of time.

The murdered Mexican singer's husband shares his recollections and memories of their relationship, both personal and professional, and clarifies certain misconceptions about her life and death.

It's been just about five years...Chevonne and Omar are still going strong as they raise their son together and continue to work on finding balance within their relationship. Everything seems to work out perfectly until Chevy has a realization that she's still playing housewife as a girlfriend. Besides caring for her son, dancing seems to be the only thing keeping her sane and with Omar's empire becoming even more powerful,

Chevy has worry that there will eventually be consequences for accepting this lifestyle full of drugs, money, and power. She seeks the advice of those closest to her, only to discover new secrets and finds herself out of sync with those she's known as family for the last few years. Chevy must determine how she wants to continue her life. Will she choose to remain at Omar's side and wait patiently to become his wife? Or will she decide to break off onto her own and raise her family outside of what she's known for the past five years? Drama ignites as tensions rise, and Chevy has some critical decisions to make. She goes head-to-head with some important people in her life; one of those people being Omar.

A fifty-year-old Bridge game provides an unexpected way to cross the generational divide between a daughter and her mother. Betsy Lerner takes us on a powerfully personal literary journey, where we learn a little about Bridge and a lot about life. After a lifetime defining herself in contrast to her mother's "don't ask, don't tell" generation, Lerner finds herself back in her childhood home, not five miles from the mother she spent decades avoiding. When Roz needs help after surgery, it falls to Betsy to take care of her. She expected a week of tense civility; what she got instead were the Bridge Ladies. Impressed by their loyalty, she saw something her generation lacked. Facebook was great, but it wouldn't deliver a pot roast. Tentatively at first, Betsy becomes a regular at her mother's Monday Bridge club. Through her friendships with the ladies, she is finally able to face years of misunderstandings and family tragedy, the Bridge table becoming the common ground she and Roz never had. By turns darkly funny and deeply moving, *The Bridge Ladies* is the unforgettable story of a hard-won—but never-too-late—bond between mother and daughter.

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