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Rights Guide

SPRING 2026



The Ultraview Effect

What We Can Learn from Astronauts about Awe, Humility, and Exploring the Unknown

Deana L. Weibel

What astronauts' extraordinary experiences of awe and humility teach us about humanity.

What is it like to stand in the shadow of Earth and the Moon and look out at the vastness of the Milky Way? To confront a view so grand it cannot be reproduced in a photo? These are the questions space anthropologist Deana L. Weibel asked as she interviewed astronauts and others in the space community. What they told her was not just surprising but also deeply moving. When gazing into star fields not fully visible from Earth, these astronauts experienced a profound sense of humility that fundamentally transformed their understanding of humanity. Welcome to the ultraview effect.

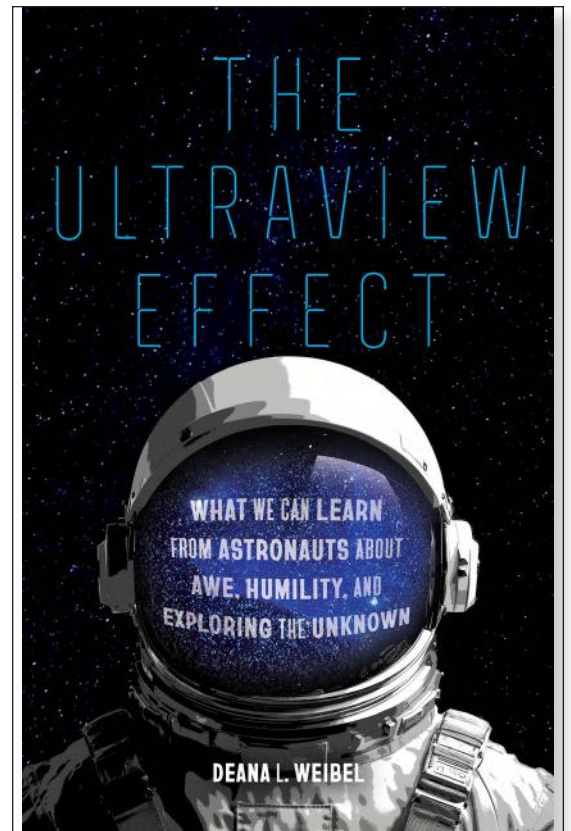
Comparing spacefarers to religious pilgrims, Weibel suggests that this experience of deep humility is a generative reaction to awe, which inspires exploration and adventure. When facing the vastness of the universe, acknowledging our monumental ignorance is what drives our will to discover. A fascinating dive into science, cognition, and spirituality, *The Ultraview Effect* draws from astronauts' own accounts to make the case that continued human space exploration is not only a scientifically essential endeavor but also a culturally enriching one.

"*The Ultraview Effect* fills a crucial gap in our understanding of outer space and our need as a species to get out there. It shines a clear and persuasive light on why we need to go beyond this planet and serves as a psychological blueprint, or libretto, for how we make that happen."—Paul Levinson, coeditor of *Touching the Face of the Cosmos: On the Intersection of Space Travel and Religion*

"Deana Weibel has put into words the fascinating perspective that I and other astronauts have had the privilege of witnessing. Looking beyond the beauty of Earth, out into the vastness of the universe, gave me a humbling glimpse into the possibilities that lie far beyond our oasis in the cosmic ocean."—John B. Herrington, retired United States Naval Aviator and former NASA astronaut



Deana L. Weibel is Professor of Anthropology at Grand Valley State University and author of *A Sacred Vertigo: Pilgrimage and Tourism in Rocamadour, France*. A frequent contributor to *The Space Review*, Weibel is also a Fellow of The Explorers Club and Chair of its Chicago/Great Lakes Chapter.



MAY

Science / Space Science / General

233 pp. 5 1/2 x 8 1/2 9 b/w illustrations, 2 tables

Cloth 978-0-520-40952-1

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AVAILABLE WORLDWIDE

Predicted

How AI Is Restructuring Social Life

Mona Sloane

How AI is rewiring our social fabric—and how to better shape our future.

The age of AI is not what you think. Rather than ushering in a fourth Industrial Revolution, AI has become a crucial social infrastructure of everyday life. It's embedded in the tools, platforms, and systems that organize our most intimate lives and our interactions with the most fundamental institutions of society, from government agencies to banks and schools. In these linkages are embedded assumptions about who we are, what we can do, and where we belong.

In *Predicted*, sociologist Mona Sloane offers a pragmatic framework for understanding these transformations around prediction, classification, and linearity, proposing we rethink AI as a social arrangement that we coproduce. Drawing on over a decade of empirical research and real-world examples, this book invites readers to see AI for what it is: deeply social, deeply political, and open to change. Clear-eyed and provocative, *Predicted* is a call to reclaim deliberations about progress and innovation as a public good and to ensure that the futures we chart are the ones we choose—together.

"A must-read for students and general readers alike. Mona Sloane provides both a terrific guided tour of AI as a technology along with a compelling new framework for understanding the appeal of AI as a social infrastructure. A real contribution." —Allison Pugh, author of *The Last Human Job: The Work of Connecting in a Disconnected World*

FINAL COVER TO COME

MAY

Social Science / Technology Studies

282 pp. 5 1/2 x 8 1/2 5 b/w line art

\$95.00tx | £80.00 Cloth 978-0-520-41633-8

\$19.95sc Paper 978-0-520-41634-5

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Mona Sloane is a sociologist and Assistant Professor of Data Science and Media Studies at the University of Virginia. She leads the Sloane Lab, convenes the Co-Opting AI public speaker series, and is Technology Editor at *Public Books*.



Predicted is the first volume in our new series [Co-opting AI](#), edited by Mona Sloane.

The Hidden Lives of Lab Animals

A Vet's Vision for a More Humane Future

Larry Carbone

A lifelong veterinarian invites us into animal labs—and shares a rare “from-the-middle” vision for more compassionate research.

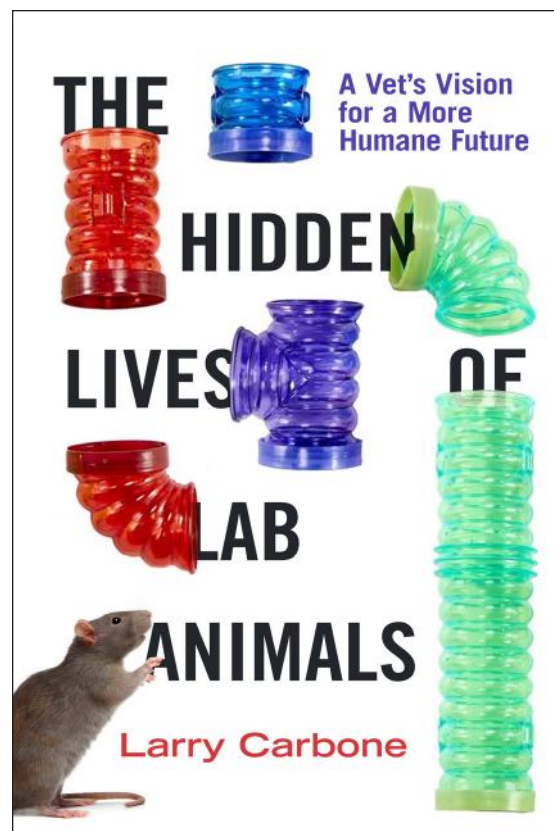
For decades, laboratory veterinarian Larry Carbone has advocated for both animal welfare and medical progress. In *The Hidden Lives of Lab Animals*, he offers an insider's perspective on the ethics of using animals in scientific research. Recounting both heartening medical triumphs and heartrending stories of animal suffering, Carbone grapples with how to weigh scientific advancement against harms to our fellow sentient creatures—and how some of those harms can and should be avoided.

With a scientist's head and an animal lover's heart, Carbone shows how addressing animals' physical and emotional needs not only enhances their well-being but also leads to more robust scientific research. Authoritative and compassionate, *The Hidden Lives of Lab Animals* reveals the complex reality of what animals experience under the care of scientists, what humans gain from their involuntary service, and what we owe them moving forward.

“Larry Carbone's book is essential reading for people who will serve on animal care and use committees and determine which experiments with animals should be allowed. Get the insider's view from a veterinarian who practiced forty years in university biomedical labs. The answers are not simple. Animal research has led to great medical breakthroughs, but there are other experiments which probably should not be conducted. Carbone outlines steps that labs should take to provide better lives for laboratory animals. He states, ‘My conclusion is that animal labs are still necessary if we want continued medical progress. They are more essential than animal activists portray but less so than researchers claim.’ This is an insightful, important book that everybody who is interested in how animals are treated should read.”—Temple Grandin, Distinguished Professor of Animal Science, Colorado State University, and author of *Animals in Translation*



Larry Carbone, former Director of the Institutional Animal Care and Use Program at the University of California, San Francisco, is author of *What Animals Want*.



FEBRUARY

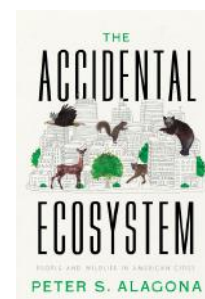
Nature / Animals / General

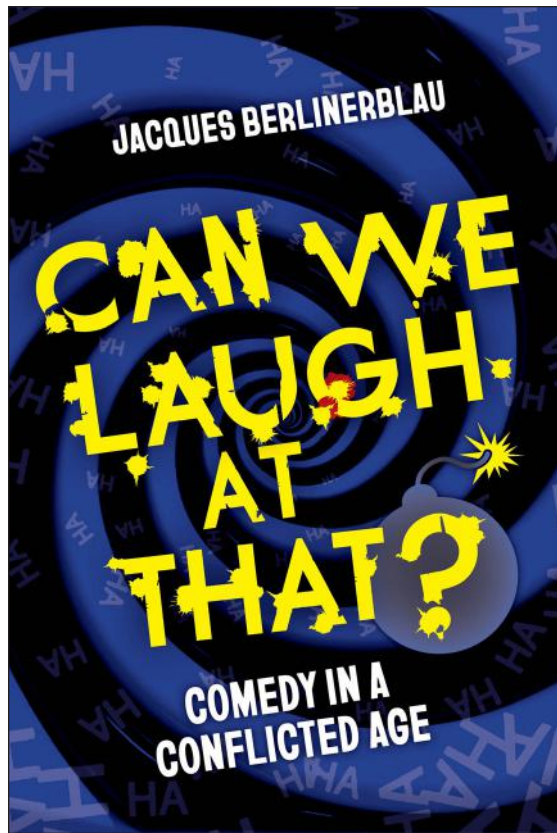
368 pp. 6 x 9

978-0-520-40396-3

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AVAILABLE WORLDWIDE





MARCH

Humor / General

232 pp. 5 1/2 x 8 1/2 1 table

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AVAILABLE WORLDWIDE

Can We Laugh at That?

Comedy in a Conflicted Age

Jacques Berlinerblau

By looking at “comedic controversies” in countries such as the United States, France, Zimbabwe, and North Korea and comedians and institutions like Sarah Silverman, Dave Chapelle, Vir Das, Charlie Hebdo, and Duedonne, author Jacques Berlinerblau takes a deep examination of comedy cancellations and an impassioned defense of the freedom to be a hater.

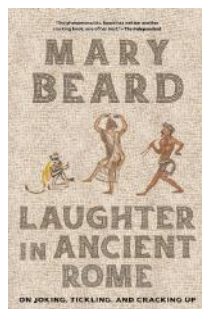
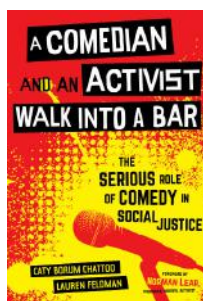
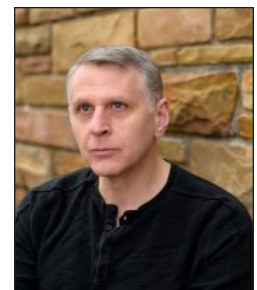
Comedians are no strangers to controversy or crossing the line. But some things do change. Humorists the world over are no longer simply denounced in grouchy op-eds. Now comedians are being hounded by criminal investigations and civil suits. They are menaced by vigilantes and religious fundamentalists. Some have been forced into exile, imprisoned, or even murdered. In the age of social media and global digital distribution, the audience is *everyone*, ensuring that criticism can be as vicious as it is unavoidable.

Darkly witty, and with a flair for storytelling, Jacques Berlinerblau explores the high stakes of the low blow from popular American comedians such as Chris Rock, Dave Chapelle, and Sarah Silverman to humorists from France to Zimbabwe, Egypt, and North Korea. As comedians face growing legal and physical peril, not just humor but laughter itself is becoming suspect.

“Jacques Berlinerblau’s examination of comedy’s place in today’s combative landscape is thorough and insightful, and also made me reconsider becoming a dentist.”—Robert Smigel, creator of *Triumph the Insult Comic Dog* and former writer for *Saturday Night Live*

“In this timely work, Berlinerblau catalogs the key comedic controversies of our time with keen insight and unparalleled attention to detail. This book is both a compelling read in the here and now and a time capsule for future generations seeking to understand comedy in an age of rapid cultural change and extreme political polarization.”—Matt Sienkiewicz, coauthor of *That’s Not Funny: How the Right Makes Comedy Work for Them*

Jacques Berlinerblau, Rabbi Harold White Professor of Jewish Civilization at Georgetown University, is author of *The Philip Roth We Don’t Know: Sex, Race, and Autobiography* and *How to Be Secular*. His writing appears in the *Washington Post*, *The Nation*, MSNBC, and elsewhere.



Brand New Beat

The Wild Rise of Rolling Stone Magazine

Peter Richardson

Chartic the chaotic, but revolutionary, first decade of *Rolling Stone* magazine during the height of the counter-culture movement.

Rolling Stone's first decade was truly rock 'n' roll: chaotic, wild, and unpredictable. *Brand New Beat* charts the origins and evolution of the magazine during its formative early years in San Francisco. Founded in 1967 by a twenty-one-year-old college dropout, *Rolling Stone* and its editors were steeped in the Bay Area's counterculture and viewed rock 'n' roll as the animating spirit of a social revolution. Reaching beyond music, the magazine delved into the tempestuous culture and politics of the time.

Acclaimed author Peter Richardson takes readers inside the iconic magazine during an era of legendary events, major cultural figures, and unforgettable music. Showing how *Rolling Stone* became a journalistic juggernaut—nurturing music-focused writers like Cameron Crowe, Lester Bangs, and Greil Marcus as well as New Journalism giants Hunter S. Thompson and Tom Wolfe—this book reveals how *Rolling Stone* both exemplified and critiqued the counter-culture. More than just the definitive rock magazine, *Rolling Stone* leveraged the brand power of popular music to deliver groundbreaking coverage of historic events, setting a new standard for the next generation of American journalism.

"*Brand New Beat* is a highly engaging, deeply researched, and sharply etched account of the early years of *Rolling Stone* magazine, told with greater acumen and detail than any other account. This is a tantalizing and fantastically gossipy book, full of stories and anecdotes that are a delight to encounter for the first time."—John McMillian, author of *Beatles vs. Stones* and founding coeditor of *The Sixties: A Journal of History, Politics, and Culture*

"Colorful and riveting. Peter Richardson makes a convincing case for *Rolling Stone's* continued importance while acknowledging the voices who were unjustly written off from behind its boys'-clubhouse doors."—Evelyn McDonnell, author of *The World According to Joan Didion*

"The San Francisco Bay Area was ripe for *Rolling Stone* in the 1960s and '70s. Counterculture and pop culture had briefly merged. Jann Wenner and company were smart to deliver music and sociopolitics as a heady brew on newsprint that college kids found intoxicating. Richardson beams you back



APRIL

History / United States / 20th Century
414 pp. 5 1/2 x 8 1/2 24 b/w plates

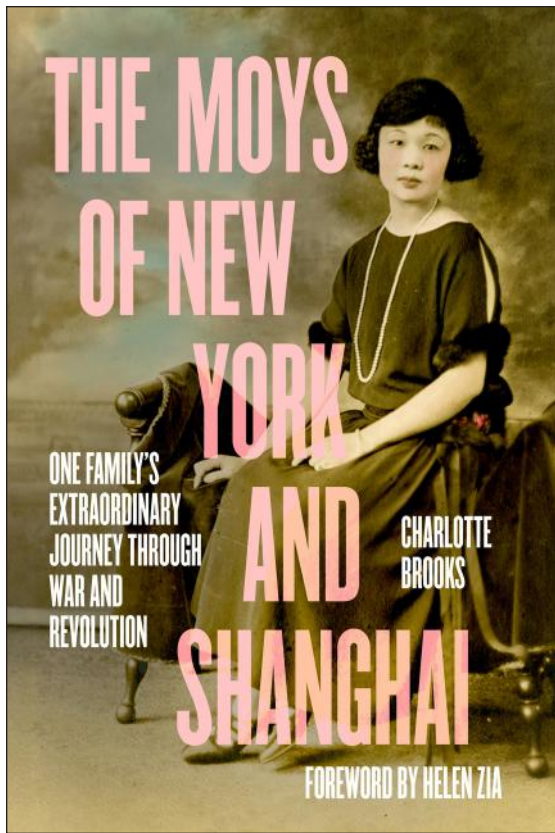
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AVAILABLE WORLDWIDE



Peter Richardson is author of *Savage Journey: Hunter S. Thompson and the Weird Road to Gonzo* as well as critically acclaimed books about the Grateful Dead, *Ramparts* magazine, and radical author and editor Carey McWilliams. His essays appear in *The Nation*, *The New Republic*, the *Los Angeles Times*, and elsewhere.





The Moys of New York and Shanghai

One Family's Extraordinary Journey Through War and Revolution

Charlotte Brooks. Foreword by Helen Zia.

This is history of the Moys, the most extraordinary family you've never heard of, and their story of navigating war, revolution, social transformation, and combating Asian stereotypes and discrimination in two nations over a tumultuous half century.

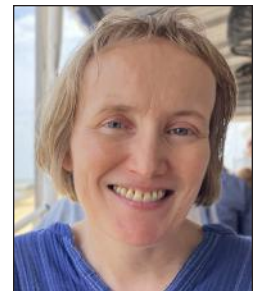
Born to Chinese immigrant parents, the Moy siblings grew up in an America that questioned their citizenship and denied their equality. Sophisticated and self-consciously modern, they challenged limitations and stereotypes in the United States and sought new opportunities in China's tumultuous republic. Sometimes the risks they took paid off, but their occasional recklessness also led to infidelity, divorce, bankruptcy, and worse. Those in China faced pressure to collaborate with Japanese occupiers, making choices that had serious consequences for their siblings in America.

Charlotte Brooks's gripping tale follows the family back and forth across the Pacific and through two world wars, China's Nationalist and Communist revolutions, and the Cold War—events that the siblings and their spouses helped shape. The Moys' incredible story offers a kaleidoscopic view of an entire generation's struggle for acceptance and belonging.

"Charlotte Brooks has written an incredible history that defies genres. She uses the biography of one nearly forgotten family to deepen our understanding of the first generation of Chinese Americans.."—Erika Lee, author of *The Making of Asian America: A History*

"*The Moys of New York and Shanghai* is an extraordinary family saga of the twentieth century. Six middle-class Chinese American siblings defied stereotypes but in different ways—in business and in politics, on both sides of the Pacific, and on both sides of World War II and the Chinese revolution. Brooks brings this family to life with an engaging narrative based on deep research in Chinese- and English-language sources. This is Chinese American history never before told."—Mae Ngai, author of *The Chinese Question: The Gold Rushes and Global Politics*

Charlotte Brooks is Professor of History at Baruch College and the CUNY Graduate Center. She is author of *American Exodus*, *Between Mao and McCarthy*, and *Alien Neighbors, Foreign Friends*.



MARCH

History / Asian American & Pacific Islander

392 pp. 6 x 9 one 8-page and one 16-page insert; with 40 b/w images

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AVAILABLE WORLDWIDE



A Womb of One's Own

Lost Histories of Childbirth in Ancient Rome

Tara Mulder

A bold new history of women's health, brought to life through ancient women's stories of pregnancy and birth.

In the well-trod history of the Roman Empire, a pivotal moment has long gone unnoticed: It was in ancient Rome that medical men first set their sights on childbirth, the traditional domain of female midwives.

Taking us to the dawn of Western obstetrics, *A Womb of One's Own* offers a feminist account of how, against a long tradition of midwifery, male doctors began claiming authority in reproductive matters, with an emphasis on theoretical rather than practical knowledge. Their intrusion paved the way for the later criminalization of midwives as witches and abortionists and the cloaking of childbirth in secrecy and shame.

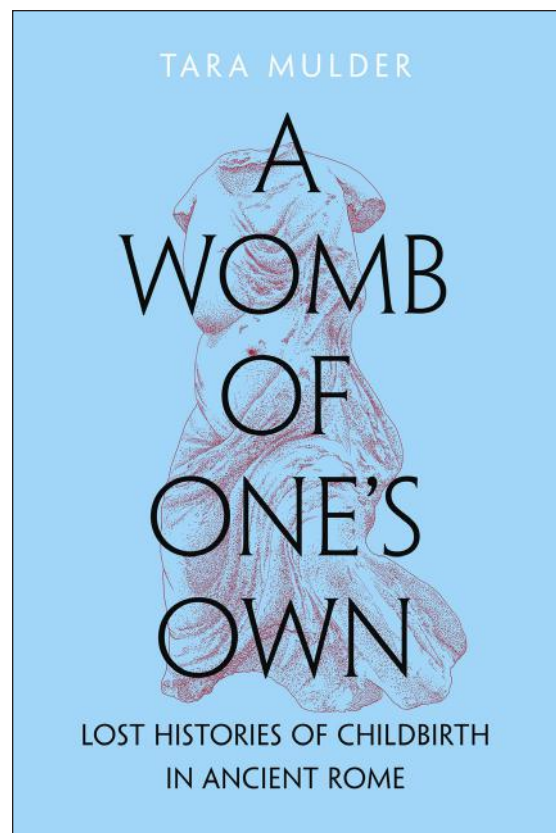
Yet communities of Roman women continued to help each other through the journey from preconception to postpartum, guided by their own experience and the expertise of midwives. Tara Mulder recovers stories of ancient women living and resisting as they sought autonomy over their bodies and their health. Recounting their experiences in vivid, intimate detail, she reveals how old our modern conflicts around birth truly are.

"*A Womb of One's Own* is a significant scholarly achievement, but it is also more than that. Tara Mulder is an immersive storyteller who guides us into intimate spaces from an ancient past. She attends to the unique specificity of women's reproductive lives, all while pushing the reader to see the connection between past and present struggles for reproductive autonomy and control. This beautiful book is for anyone who wishes to think deeply about the history of childbirth."—Anna Bonnell Freidin, author of *Birthing Romans: Childbearing and Its Risks in Imperial Rome*

It is said that stories are data with a soul. In naming women—and telling their stories—Mulder not only honors the rich and complex experiences of childbearing women in ancient Rome but also reminds us that the history of obstetrics is not confined to the past. It forms the very foundation of the beliefs, narratives, and structures that have long displaced women from our central role in the birthing suite—a legacy that still echoes in many modern obstetric practices.."—Aviva Romm, MD and midwife



Tara Mulder is Assistant Professor of Classical and Ancient Near Eastern Studies at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. As the daughter of a home-birth midwife, she has assisted in over two dozen births.



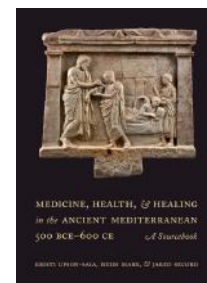
MAY

History / Ancient / Rome

384 pp. 5 1/2 x 8 1/2 24 illustrations, 1 map
978-0-520-39874-0

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Humans

A Monstrous History

Surekha Davies

“Surekha Davies invites readers to imagine the lives of historical monsters and to empathize with their often-wretched treatment.” — *Science Magazine*

A history of how humans have created monsters out of one another—from our deepest fears—and what these monsters tell us about humanity’s present and future.

Monsters are central to how we think about the human condition. Join award-winning historian of science Dr. Surekha Davies as she reveals how people have defined the human in relation to everything from apes to zombies, and how they invented race, gender, and nations along the way. With rich, evocative storytelling that braids together ancient gods and generative AI, Frankenstein’s monster and E.T., *Humans: A Monstrous History* shows how monster-making is about control: it defines who gets to count as normal.

In an age when corporations increasingly see people as obstacles to profits, this book traces the long, volatile history of monster-making and charts a better path for the future. The result is a profound, effervescent, empowering retelling of the history of the world for anyone who wants to reverse rising inequality and polar-

The Cleaving

Vietnamese Writers in the Diaspora

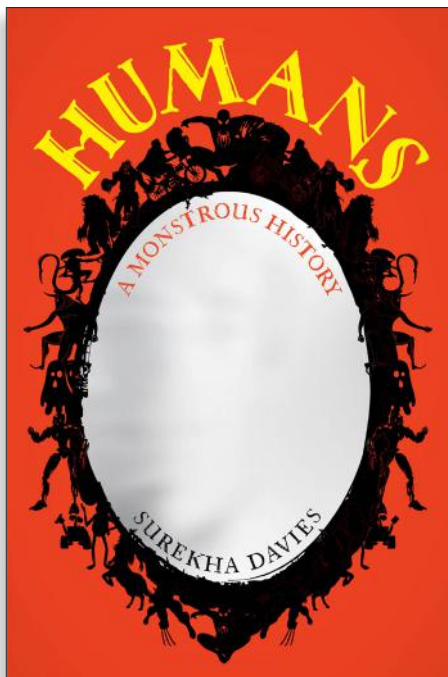
Edited by Isabelle Thuy Pelaud, Lan P. Duong, and Viet Thanh Nguyen

The first and only book to gather the voices and perspectives of Vietnamese diasporic authors from across the globe.

Edited by Isabelle Thuy Pelaud, Lan P. Duong, and Pulitzer Prize-winning author Viet Thanh Nguyen, *The Cleaving* brings together Vietnamese artists and writers from around the world in conversation about their craft and how their work has been shaped and received by mainstream culture and their own communities. This collection highlights how Vietnamese diasporic writers speak about having been cleaved—a condition in which they have been separated from, yet still hew to, the country that they have left behind.

Composed of eighteen dialogues among thirty-seven writers from France, Indonesia, Kyrgyzstan, Canada, Australia, Israel, and the United States, the book expands on the many lives that Vietnamese writers inhabit. The dialogues touch on family history, legacies of colonialism and militarism, and the writers’ own artistic and literary achievements. Taken together, these conversations insist on a deeper reckoning with the conditions of displacement.

Featured writers: Hoai Huong Aubert-Nguyen, Amy Quan Barry,



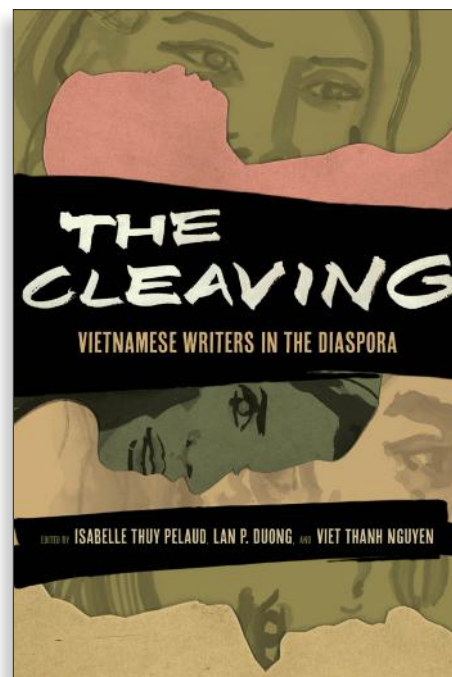
FEBRUARY

History / World

336 pp. 6 x 9 10 color plates, 40 b/w figures

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APRIL

Literary Collections / Asian / General

264 pp. 5 1/2 x 8 1/2

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The Center of the World

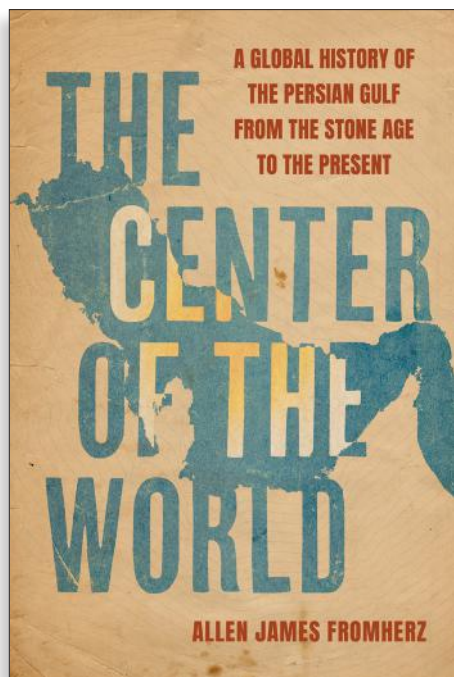
A Global History of the Persian Gulf from the Stone Age to the Present

Allen James Fromherz

This sweeping history reorients our understanding of the Middle East, placing the Gulf at the heart of globalized trade and cross-cultural encounters.

World history began in the Persian Gulf. The ancient port cities that dotted its coastlines created the first global seaboard, a place from where faiths and cultures from around the world set sail and made contact. More than a history, *The Center of the World* shows us that contradictions that define our modern age have always been present.

For over four thousand years, the Gulf—sometimes called the Persian Gulf, sometimes the Arabian Gulf—has been a global crossroads while managing to avoid control by the world's greatest empires. In its history, we see a world of rapid change, fluctuating centers of trade, a dependency on uncertain global markets, and intense cross-cultural encounters that hold a mirror to the contemporary world. Focusing each chapter on a different port around the Gulf, *The Center of the World* shows how the people of the Gulf adapted to larger changes in world history, creating a system of free trade, merchant rule, and commerce that continues to define the region today.



SEPTEMBER

History / World

360 pp. 6 x 9 17 b&w figures, 1 map

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The Book of Yokai, Expanded Second Edition

Mysterious Creatures of Japanese Folklore

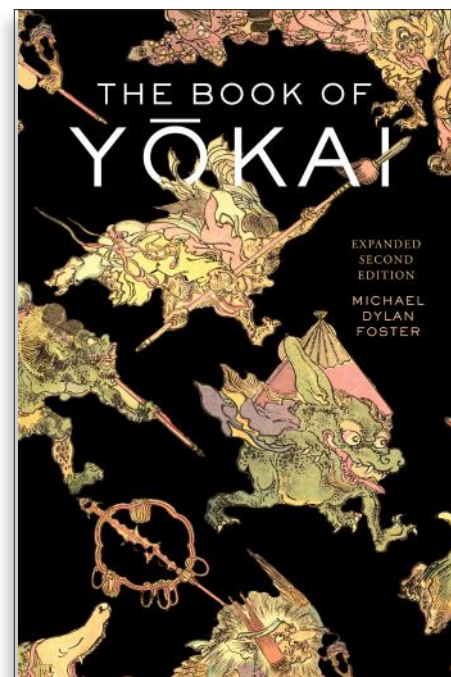
Michael Dylan Foster with original illustrations by Shinonome Kijin

Second Edition

Significantly expanded and updated—a lively excursion into Japanese folklore and its increasing influence within global popular culture.

Monsters, spirits, fantastic beings, and supernatural creatures haunt the folklore and popular culture of Japan. Broadly labeled *yōkai*, they appear in many forms, from *tengu* mountain goblins and *kappa* water sprites, to shape-shifting *kitsune* foxes and long-tongued ceiling-lickers. Popular today in anime, manga, film, and video games, many *yōkai* originated in local legends, folktales, and regional ghost stories. *The Book of Yōkai* invites readers to examine how people create, transmit, and collect folklore, and how they make sense of the mysteries in the world around them.

Revised and expanded, this second edition features fifty new illustrations, including an all-new *yōkai* gallery of stunning color images tracing the visual history of *yōkai* across centuries. In clear and accessible language, Michael Dylan Foster unpacks the



OCTOBER

Literary Criticism/Fairy Tales, Folk Tales, Legends & Mythology

480 pp 6 x 9 61 color plates and 23 b&w figures

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