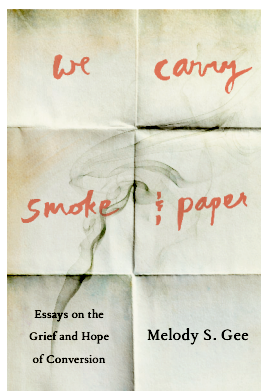


IOWA

FALL 2024

where great writing begins





1	From Chaos to Stability ... Israel Rosenfield and Edward Ziff, illustrated by Fiammetta Ghedini
2-3	How to Dungeon Master Parenting ... Shelly Mazzanoble
4	We Carry Smoke and Paper ... Melody S. Gee
5	High Hawk ... Amy Frykholm
6	Everything Flirts ... Sharon Wahl
7	The Man in the Banana Trees ... Marguerite Sheffer
8	Salms ... Aaron McCollough
9	The Goner School ... Jessica Laser
10	Mother Archive ... Erika Morillo
11	23 Woodcock in 22 Years ... Jeff Wilkerson
12-13	The Natural History of the Turtles of Iowa ... Terry VanDeWalle and Neil P. Bernstein
14	Trekking across America ... Lyell D. Henry Jr.
15	Disability and Fandom ... Katherine Anderson Howell
16	Ronald Harwood's Tragic Vision ... Ann C. Hall
17-18	Recently Published
19	Recent Book Honors and Reviews
20	Index by Author
21	Index by Title, Subject
22	Desk and Exam Copy Policies, Contact Information
23	Ordering Information
24	Sales Representation
25	Sales Rep Order Form



From Chaos to Stability

How the Brain Invents Our Conscious Worlds

by Israel Rosenfield and Edward Ziff

illustrated by Fiammetta Ghedini

The New Neuroscience

Ted Abel and Joshua Weiner, series editors

AT THE HEART OF Israel Rosenfield and Edward Ziff's inquiry is the nature of brain function. The sensory world is disordered and chaotic. There are no labels for tables, chairs, or airplanes, and indeed there are no colors, sounds, or smells, only photons, airwaves, odorant molecules, and so on, which are unlabeled and impossible to "know."

To make sense of this chaos, the brain must simplify the sensory inputs by creating, or inventing, the colors, sounds, smells, forms, and faces that are perceived in consciousness, which become a proxy for the chaotic world in which we live. The brain's ability to generalize and categorize these invented perceptions, and to relate them to one another, enables it to form memories, which are not fixed representations of things past, but a dynamic and malleable function of the brain that is relational.

When formation of these worlds breaks down, neurological differences arise. Although the mechanisms that transform sensory chaos into the simplified perceptions experienced in consciousness remain elusive, Rosenfield and Ziff relate what they have learned by means of imaging brain activity and by mapping the neural circuits that comprise memory traces. In addition, the authors offer perspectives for future studies of consciousness.

Israel Rosenfield taught at the City University of New York. His books include *Freud's Megalomania*, a *New York Times* Notable Book of the Year. He was a Guggenheim Fellow and a longtime contributor to the *New York Review of Books*. **Edward Ziff** is professor emeritus of biochemistry and molecular pharmacology at New York University Grossman School of Medicine. Among others, he is coauthor of *DNA for Beginners*. Ziff divides his time between New York City and the Catskill Mountains. **Fiammetta Ghedini** received a PhD in Innovative Technology from Scuola Superiore Sant'Anna (Pisa) and UCL (London). She combines her scientific background with a life-long passion for drawing by producing comics and illustrations. She wrote and comanages ERCCOMICS.

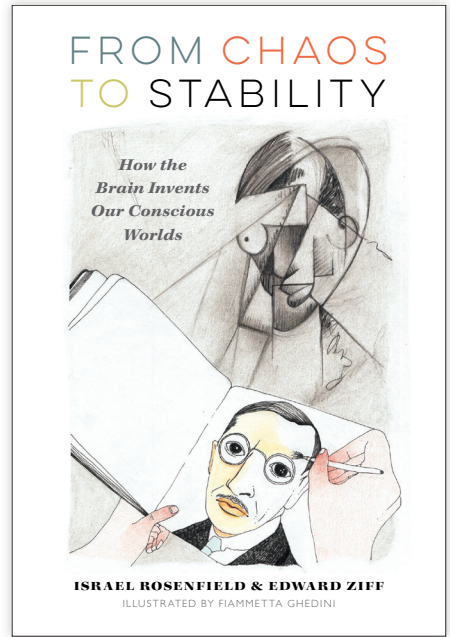
SEPTEMBER

142 PAGES · 26 COLOR ILLUSTRATIONS · 5½ × 8 INCHES

\$19.00 PAPER ORIGINAL, 978-1-60938-989-5

\$19.00 E-BOOK, 978-1-60938-990-1

SCIENCE



"In *From Chaos to Stability*, Rosenfield and Ziff wonderfully work through the argument that sensory perception and memory is a creative, personalized, generative process of the brain to simplify and make sense of a complicated world. If a tree falls in the forest and no one is there, does it make a sound? No, argue the authors. Sounds, and other sensory perceptions, are the creation of the brain in the attempt to make sense of the different, dynamic forms of energy and matter with which we are surrounded. Some, but not all, of those experiences reach our consciousness and allow us to experience our lives within what appears to be a stable temporal and spatial flow. A very enjoyable read, including rich historical references and case studies on how the brain helps create our experienced lives and what happens when it fails to do so."

—Donald A. Wilson, coauthor, *Learning to Smell: Olfactory Perception from Neurobiology to Behavior*

How to Dungeon Master Parenting

A Guidebook for Gamifying the Child Rearing Quest, Leveling Up Your Skills, and Raising Future Adventurers
by Shelly Mazzanoble

“A must-read for any Dungeons & Dragons fan ready to take on the most dangerous adventure of all: parenting. Equal parts funny and practical, *How to Dungeon Master Parenting* is like a core rulebook for raising kids. I wish I had this kind of advice before my wife and I started our own party of adventurers.”

—James Breakwell, author, *Only Dead on the Inside: A Parent's Guide to Surviving the Zombie Apocalypse*

GATHER YOUR PARTY, it's time to level up your parenting game!

For years, millions of fans have looked to the beloved role-playing game *Dungeons & Dragons* for fun, friendship, and entertainment. And now parents and parents-to-be can use it to gain inspiration and how-to when it comes to their most challenging and rewarding role yet. Dungeon Masters are not just expert storytellers and arbiters of the rules, they're compassionate, creative, quick-thinking leaders who embody the same traits that make a great parent.

Where do you find an adventuring party who will have your back? What must-have starting equipment should you own before venturing into babyland? How does your gaming style reflect your parenting style? You don't have to know how to be a Dungeon Master to master parenting—just think like one. Kids may not come with rulebooks, but now their parents do.

Shelly Mazzanoble is coauthor of *Welcome to Dragon Talk: Inspiring Conversations about Dungeons & Dragons and the People Who Love to Play It* (Iowa, 2022) and cohost of *Dragon Talk*, the official *Dungeons & Dragons* podcast. When not writing about her life as a part-time sorceress, Mazzanoble writes about parenting, reality TV, and the humorous side of middle-age life in her weekly Substack, *Middle-Aged Lady Mom* (shellymazzanoble.substack.com). She lives in Seattle, Washington.

NOVEMBER

206 PAGES • 8 B&W FIGURES • 6 × 9 INCHES

\$19.95 PAPER ORIGINAL, 978-1-60938-981-9

\$19.95 E-BOOK, 978-1-60938-982-6

PARENTING



“Funny, relatable, and easy to read in small spurts during naptime, this book is the perfect gift for the D&D-loving parent in your life.”—Julie Vick, author, *Babies Don't Make Small Talk (So Why Should I?)*: *The Introvert's Guide to Surviving Parenthood*

“Mazzanoble has created the ultimate manual for RPG-loving parents hoping to maneuver the magic and mayhem of raising little monsters of their own. A critical hit for any grown-up geek aspiring to conquer parenthood!”—Aaron Reynolds, author, *Fart Quest*

“As a parent and D&D fanatic, everything about this book resonates with me. Shelly brings her humor, warmth, and infectious energy into every page, making this not only a useful parenting guide but a dang fun read! A must buy for any D&D-inclined parent!”—Michael Witwer, *New York Times* bestselling author

“The epic-level handbook of parenting is finally here! As a friend, fellow parent, and seasoned Dungeon Master, I can verify that this book is filled with laughter, sage advice, and practical tips that transform raising your kids into an epic quest. A must-read for all parent adventurers out there!”—B. Dave Walters, author, *Dungeons & Dragons: A Darkened Wish*

“Who knew a book on parenting would make me a better Dungeon Master . . . or wait . . . a book on Dungeon Mastering would make me a better parent? Whichever it is, Shelly’s book is an insightful, pithy guide filled to the brim with stories and gems on how to be the best parent/DM you can be. Your quest is to figure out if it goes on the game shelf or in the nursery. Enjoy!”—Todd Stashwick

“Shelly knows that storytelling and collaboration is the real magic behind D&D, and it comes through on every page. A vibrant new generation of DMs and players will find a lot to love here as they embark on new adventures together.”—Jim Zub, author, *Dungeons & Dragons Young Adventurer’s Guides Series*



We Carry Smoke and Paper

Essays on the Grief and Hope of Conversion

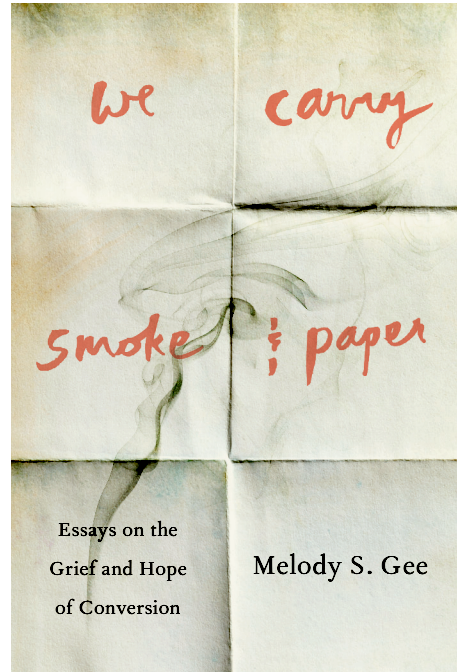
by Melody S. Gee

“A brilliant exploration of loss, language, adoption, silence, hunger, and belonging. Reading Melody Gee’s essays is like gathering together for a meal. In her grandparents’ Cantonese restaurant in Bellflower, the scent of salt cured fish, bitter melon, and ginger lingers. Her mother dabs White Flower oil on her aching muscles; Uncle Terry’s radio that only picks up AM stations hums on the counter. ‘The restaurant was my first liturgy,’ Gee writes. She explores loss: the loss of Taiwanese Mandarin, her earliest language; ‘the silence period’ after learning a new language; the loss of her grandparents; the loss of her family’s restaurant. But alongside these losses, Gee searches for belonging and the sacred. To read these essays is to consider silence and language anew.”—Julia Koets, author, *The Rib Joint: A Memoir in Essays*

ANSWERING AN UNEXPECTED call to faith in her thirties, Melody Gee contends with what saying “yes” to conversion requires of an adopted daughter of Chinese immigrants. Faced with a new framework for her place in the world, grief and doubt shadow her tentative steps toward becoming a believer. She looks for answers and consolation in her family’s story of immigration trauma and cultural assimilation, in the ways their burdens and limitations made her answer-seeking both impossible and inevitable.

In essays that explore the parallels between conversion and language acquisition, isolated liturgies, cultural inheritances, stalled initiations, disrupted storytelling, and adoption, Gee examines conversion’s grief and hope, losses and gains, hauntings and promises. *We Carry Smoke and Paper* is a memoir about what we owe to those who sacrifice everything for us, and it is about the many conversions in a lifetime that turn our heads via whispers and shouts, calling us to ourselves.

Melody S. Gee is the author of three books of poetry. Born in Taiwan and raised in California, she now lives in St. Louis, Missouri.



“Melody Gee shows us how languages make and remake our worlds, and in *We Carry Smoke and Paper*, Gee leads us into a world startling in its luminosity, a space glowing with desire for holy belonging. In refusing to turn away from painful separations, she finds transcendence in the ordinary intimacies of life. In reading this book, we do too. How grateful I am to have read these words and seen this world.”—Maddie Norris, author, *The Wet Wound: An Elegy in Essays*

OCTOBER

214 PAGES • 5½ × 8½ INCHES

\$22.00 PAPER ORIGINAL, 978-1-60938-975-8

\$22.00 E-BOOK, 978-1-60938-976-5

ESSAYS / RELIGION

High Hawk

by Amy Frykholm

IT'S 1970, AND on the Windy Creek Reservation in South Dakota, amidst the rise of AIM in neighboring Pine Ridge, a baby boy appears nestled in a box of Styrofoam peanuts on the doorstep of St. Rose Catholic Church. His appearance disrupts the predictable, lonely life of longtime reservation priest Father Joe Kreitzer. The child, whom they name Bear, finds refuge under the care of Father Joe's closest friend and ally, Alice Nighthawk.

Thirteen years pass without event, when Alice's older son, Albert, is mysteriously murdered outside a bar in Rapid City, and Bear is accused of attempting to kill the only person who knows what happened that night. At the same time, Father Joe receives a letter from a person from his past, the only woman who made him question the path of priesthood. She has reached out to Father Joe as one of the few who might help her.

To keep Bear's case from federal prosecution, Father Joe and Alice begin a search for Bear's long-lost mother. But their journey unearths more than they bargained for, plunging Father Joe into a labyrinth of secrets and revelations. He is forced not only to confront the choices he's made and the secrets he keeps, but also to see the truth of the lives of the people around him.

High Hawk is a rich tapestry of love and history, delving into the delicate intricacies of the past and the redemptive power of second chances. Through evocative prose, the lives of those on the fringes of American culture come alive, navigating adversity and forging connections against all odds.

Amy Frykholm is the author of *Wild Woman*. She has a PhD in literature from Duke University, and lives in Leadville, Colorado.

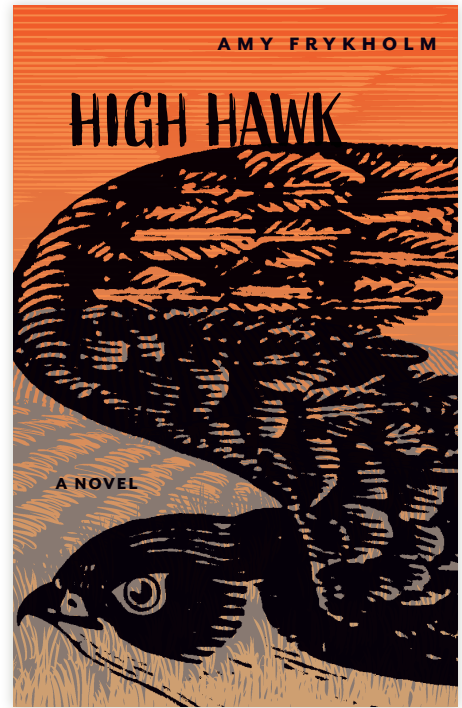
OCTOBER

190 PAGES · 5½ × 8½ INCHES

\$19.00 PAPER ORIGINAL, 978-1-60938-973-4

\$19.00 E-BOOK, 978-1-60938-974-1

FICTION



“*Highhawk* is evocative and haunting. I didn’t want to put it down, despite the loneliness of it—a kind of beautiful, desolate, at times cold and very snowy loneliness, windblown and stark. Light and sky figure heavily, the horizon and a longing for some kind of place in the order of things. For connection, truth, but most of all for a way of *belonging* in the world. There’s a sense of the complexity of life but also of it getting away from you; of looking back at moments you let pass you by. It is a beautiful meditation on silence and speaking, passivity and action; and on parents, and love, and the fragility of our ability to protect our children—the way that’s amplified in some communities’ lives by compounding circumstances. *Highhawk* leaves us with no easy answers, but feeling as though we’ve just listened to a keening, plaintive song that carries over the prairie as dusk falls.”—Arianne Zwartjes, author, *These Dark Skies*, *Reckoning with Identity*, *Violence*, and *Power from Abroad*

Everything Flirts

Philosophical Romances

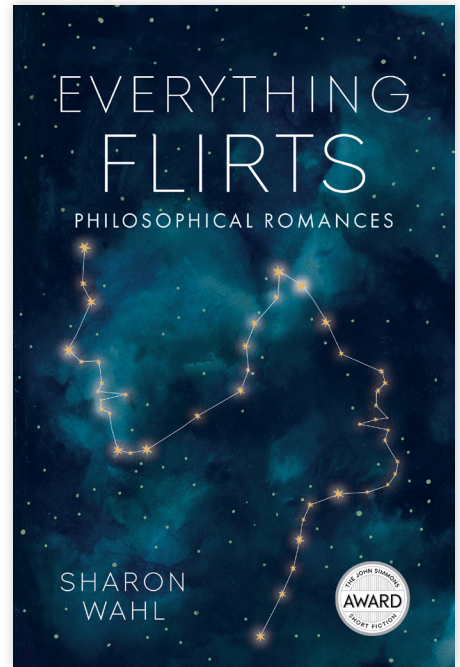
by Sharon Wahl

John Simmons Short Fiction Award

AT THE HEART OF the stories in *Everything Flirts* are some of life's trickiest questions: Why is it so hard to make the first move on a date? How do we find the person we will love? If you finally find a person to love, how do you convince them to love you back?

With a mixture of humor and reverence, Sharon Wahl hijacks classic works of philosophy and turns their focus to love. The philosopher Wittgenstein helps us consider the limits of language: Does there exist an argument, a logical deduction, that will cause another person to love us? The philosopher Zeno's laws of motion stipulate that we can only ever cross half of any distance. This principle is applied to a first date, where making a first move becomes more and more impossible because the movie this couple goes to see is a depressing mood-killer. A woman afraid of love applies Bentham's utilitarian principles to find her perfect match, testing every man she meets until she finds one who aces every one of her tests. Nonetheless, she wonders: Is he right for her? Is she ready to fall in love forever? The sublime and the ridiculous come together to playfully examine why love just might be a topic too hard for philosophers to explain.

Sharon Wahl is a writer and documentary film producer. Her stories, poems, and essays have appeared in the *Iowa Review*, the *Chicago Tribune*, *Harvard Review*, *Pleiades*, and *Action/Spectacle*, among others. Wahl lives in Tucson, Arizona.



“Delightfully clever and philosophically complex, the stories in *Everything Flirts* unfold like dreams, carrying you from one poignant love affair to the next. The prose is exquisite and seductive. The characters charm and disturb. And the collection as a whole lingers with you. Like a haunting.”

—Jamil Jan Kochai, judge, John Simmons Short Fiction Award

NOVEMBER

188 PAGES • 5½ × 8¼ INCHES

\$18.00 PAPER ORIGINAL, 978-1-60938-997-0

\$18.00 E-BOOK, 978-1-60938-998-7

FICTION

The Man in the Banana Trees

by Marguerite Sheffer

Iowa Short Fiction Award

“*The Man in the Banana Trees* kicks ass. By turns heartbreaking and brilliant, Sheffer’s stories remind one of George Saunders and Amy Hempel in their playfulness and through their special eye for tragedy.”—Jamil Jan Kochai, judge, Iowa Short Fiction Award

“*The Man in the Banana Trees* is a truly remarkable work of literary art and marks the arrival of an absolutely brilliant new storyteller. Marguerite Sheffer is an endlessly inventive writer, but she’s also a philosopher capable of drawing metaphor and meaning from the lives of ordinary people trapped in extraordinary circumstances. Following the path of acclaimed writers like Borges, Márquez, Link, Machado, and Keegan, Sheffer promises to provide remarkable stories for many years to come.”

—Maurice Carlos Ruffin, author, *The American Daughters*

“*The Man in the Banana Trees* is a blaze of light, brilliant enough to illuminate not only its characters’ interior lives but also the reader’s own.”—Clare Beams, author, *The Garden*

THE STORIES IN *The Man in the Banana Trees* take place in the past, present, and future—from the American Gulf South to the orbit around Jupiter. We meet teachers and students, ghosts and aliens. An ice cream consultant in the year 2036 predicts a devastating flavor trend and a disgruntled New England waiter investigates a mysterious tanker crash. Although wildly varied in setting, length, and genre, a thread of the fantastic unites these stories, as characters struggle to understand that thing lurking at the edge of their perception: something sinister, or maybe—miraculous.

Marguerite Sheffer teaches courses in design thinking and speculative fiction at Tulane University, and is a founding member of Third Lantern Lit, a local writing collective, and the Nautilus and Wildcat Writing Groups. Sheffer lives in New Orleans, Louisiana.

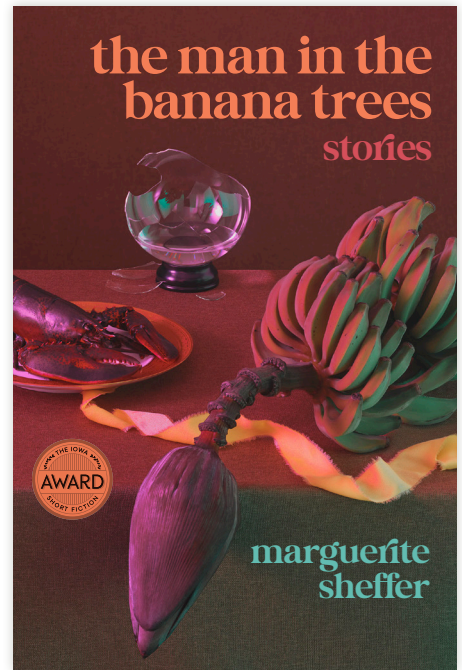
NOVEMBER

168 PAGES • 5½ × 8¼ INCHES

\$18.00 PAPER ORIGINAL, 978-1-60938-995-6

\$18.00 E-BOOK, 978-1-60938-996-3

FICTION



“Rarely have I come across ideas as original, prose as exquisite, and hearts as bared on the page as those found in this collection. I am blown away by its achievement. Marguerite Sheffer is extraordinary.”

—Julia Phillips, author, *Bear*

“Haunting and hilarious, horrifying and heartwarming, this is short story gold. Marguerite Sheffer is the alchemist, reimagining and transmuting the form.”

—John Vercher, author, *Devil is Fine*

“*The Man in the Banana Trees* is magnificent. Marguerite Sheffer entrances with stories that are strange, unexpected, and full of imaginative magic. Brimming with life, love, loss, and longing.”—Crystal Hana Kim, author, *The Stone Home*

Salms

by Aaron McCollough

Kuhl House Poets

Mark Levine and Emily Wilson, series editors

SALMS NAVIGATES the ancient, vexed lyric landscape of the biblical psalm, where gratitude is arrived at through complaint and yearning is smuggled in alongside tribute. Formally restless and diverse, Aaron McCollough's style moves from flinty Anglo-Norman terseness through folktale to long-lined, journal-like confessional. The poems' sounds and forms bind to the divine histories of the Western lyric tradition at points of fragility and potential disintegration.

"salm 10.22"

Having been told we were moving to a mountain, I saw a triangle with a house tumbling down its edge.

A little girl named Ruth died of leukemia—I lay in my bed and thought about a lovely portrait weeping in distant dark.

My legs began to ache around then, and my thighs turned the color of an eggplant.

My astronomy of death then imagined a distant God, whose planet could never be reached, but whom I respected as an element: oxygen and the floor.

On the cooking basket-weave of my mother's volkswagen, sex was described.

I sat in my own shit as the faucet violently filled the bath, parents looming between anger and fear, asking is there anything wrong? do you need to tell us something?

Language being a peccant inheritance none of us suspected, we all kept speaking, filling the air. What seemed like days passed.

Aaron McCollough is copublisher of SplitLevel Texts, and is author of *Rank* (Iowa, 2015). He lives in Chattanooga, Tennessee.

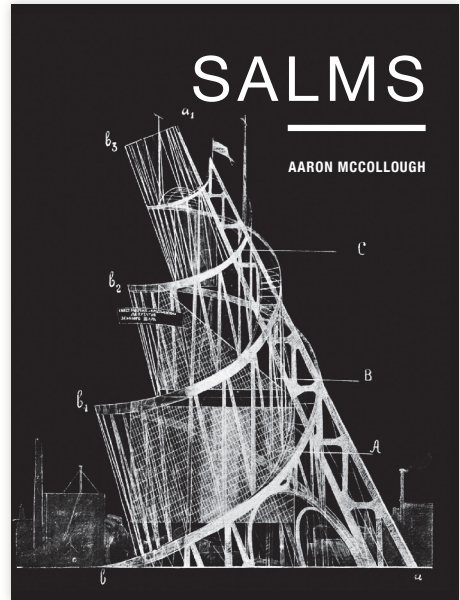
OCTOBER

86 PAGES · 6 × 8 INCHES

\$20.00 PAPER ORIGINAL, 978-1-60938-983-3

\$20.00 E-BOOK, 978-1-60938-984-0

POETRY



"Profoundly intelligent and erudite, steeped in the metaphysicals, Aaron McCollough's poems alternately tantalize with their hermeticism and dazzle with their sudden outpourings of radiant clarity. The mirrors so important to this collection are like the surfaces of lakes: protean, dreamy, distorting, swallowing up and transforming everything in their purview, as McCollough's voracious intellect swallows up language and delivers it back to us refracted, estranged—as the past itself is transfigured by our memory of it. I found myself reveling in this writing, transfixed among the 'dusty stars.'"

—Donna Stonecipher, author, *The Ruins of Nostalgia*

"Searching for a form that observes history and song but falls short of orthodoxy, *Salms* is a genuine revelation of McCollough's unique gift to sound out the furious trials of being, with a lens brought right into his soul's mind's eye. In line after line, McCollough shocks his instrument into truths that last only until they are uprooted by the next; doubt and faith and love and loss exchange places in a dizzying exchange that is both brilliant and devastating. *Salms* is kin and heir to the likes of Donne and Herbert and to Geoffrey Hill."

—Martin Corless-Smith

The Goner School

by Jessica Laser

Kuhl House Poets

Mark Levine, Lisa Wells, and Joshua Marie Wilkinson, series editors

“*The Goner School* is a beautifully uncanny book about, ultimately, knowledge: the rituals by which we exchange it and the alchemy by which it passes into wisdom. These poems will sharpen your intellect, tutor your senses, and enlarge your vision of your own life.”—Maggie Millner, author, *Couplets: A Love Story*

JESSICA LASER HAS given her generation a voice and a name in this masterful, funny, and heartbreaking collection, *The Goner School*. Members of this school, despairing and hopeful, count themselves among the self-aware, trauma-informed inheritors of a warming, warring planet. Childhood, the gym, plant medicine ceremonies, PhD programs, Jews, evangelicals, everyone you’ve slept with, Lake Michigan, the Bay Area, William James, and Taylor Swift may seem incongruous, but they all take place in one world from which, try as we might, there is no escape.

“William James”

As I enter the station, my first heart stops.
I begin, chopping the foot of a tree.
Its branches are unmoved by my act.
Its leaves murmur. Peacefully as ever,
I do violence to the foot of a man.
I hear the conductor calling “all aboard!”
If I stumble as I run
If a cinder enters my eye

I enter the station.
The conductor calling “all aboard!”
Stops my first heart stopping
My second heart beating
The foot of a tree, the foot
Of a man. I hear violence calling
Its branches unmoved.
They are moved, I insist.

Jessica Laser is author of, among others, *Planet Drill*. She teaches at Claremont McKenna College, and lives in Los Angeles, California.

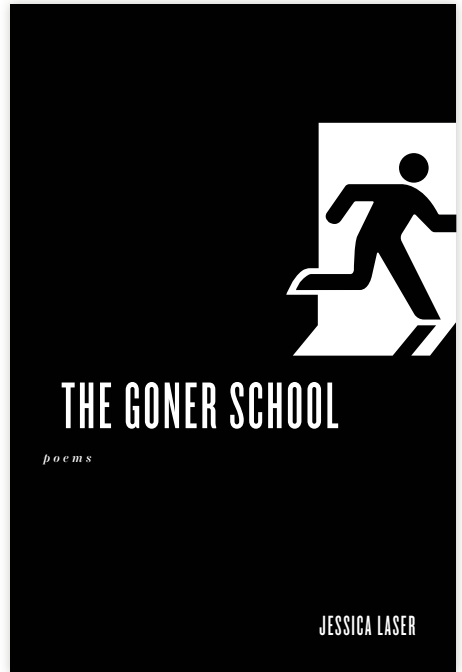
SEPTEMBER

96 PAGES • 6 × 9 INCHES

\$20.00 PAPER ORIGINAL, 978-1-60938-991-8

\$20.00 E-BOOK, 978-1-60938-992-5

POETRY



“Jessica Laser is one of the most compelling spiritual poets writing today. To read these poems is to share a crisis with real stakes—they have both vulnerability and presence, and they are worthy of Frost’s analogy about the best verse: ‘Like a piece of ice on a hot stove, the poem must ride on its own melting.’”—Katie Peterson, author, *Fog and Smoke*

“In *The Goner School*, Jessica Laser is both poet and playwright. Poem after poem, she builds the world then blocks the stage. We become contributors to a community. Season ticket holders. Scene partners. Cohorts. Friends. *The Goner School* is a wild ride full of fun, ferment, and fortitude; a place where even the mundane is miraculous.”
—Kendra Allen, author, *Fruit Punch*

Mother Archive

A Dominican Family Memoir

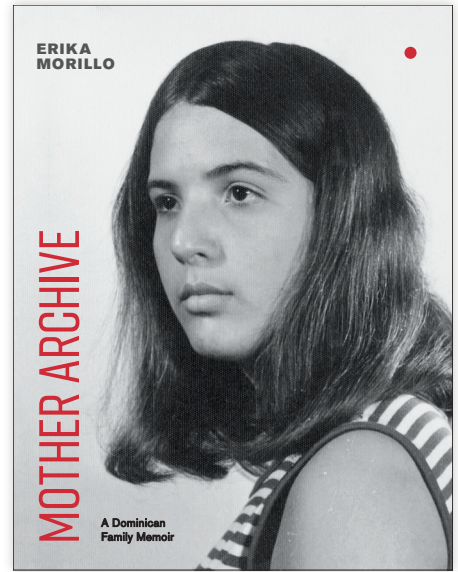
by Erika Morillo

“*Mother Archive* is the most moving and perceptive memoir I’ve read in years. Erika Morillo’s captivating image-text memoir is an inescapable open door into Morillo’s courageous investigation of a life scarred by the betrayal of those meant to protect us, our mothers. A fascinating psychological collage of prose and images, Morillo’s unflinchingly honest exploration of her life, from a tragic childhood in the Dominican Republic to NYC to Chile and back again, is also a woman’s quest for love and security—in her adopted mother figures, in her art, and in motherhood as she tries, with heart-rending compassion, to become the mother she never had.”—Julia Fierro, author, *The Gypsy Moth Summer*

A FAMILY MURDER kept secret, the mysterious disappearance of her father, the systematic erasing of family photographs, a turbulent relationship with her mother, layers of trauma and abuse. In *Mother Archive*, Erika Morillo reconciles these demons of her past by searching for and seeking out the roots of her family. Intertwining memories with archival family photographs, news clippings, film stills, and artistic images, Morillo revisits her childhood growing up in the Dominican Republic, a place and time riddled with a history of violence and a tradition of erasure.

Spanning three generations across three different countries, this memoir works as a map in which the author traces incidents in her family history to help her understand herself and her own experience as a mother.

Erika Morillo is a photographer and writer born and raised in the Dominican Republic. She lives in Jersey City, New Jersey.



“A one-of-a-kind book, beautiful, startling, and heartbreaking . . . Morillo has a novelist’s profound heart and the piercing truth-seeking of a documentarian.”
—Junot Díaz, Pulitzer Prize–winning author, *This Is How You Lose Her*

OCTOBER

224 PAGES · 60 B&W PHOTOS · 7 × 9 INCHES

\$27.50 PAPER ORIGINAL, 978-1-60938-993-2

\$27.50 E-BOOK, 978-1-60938-994-9

MEMOIR

23 Woodcock in 22 Years

Reflections on Hunting, the Night Sky, and Our Place in the Universe

by Jeff Wilkerson

“In the annals of American upland bird hunting literature there is no book quite like this one. Wilkerson achieves a significant feat in linking the mystery and allure of a tiny feathered migratory gamebird with the infinitely larger starscape of the universe. Connecting the philosophical and astronomical dots is what this intriguing sporting book is all about.”

—Robert DeMott, editor, *Afield: American Writers on Bird Dogs*

IN *23 WOODCOCK IN 22 YEARS*, Jeff Wilkerson interweaves his twin passions of astrophysics and game hunting. Stories of how we understand the universe mesh with stories of time in the field, and in doing so capture the uncanny phenomenon of the passage of time: everything evolves around us while we expect our world to remain unchanged.

As Wilkerson’s thoughts soar to the stars that produced the chemical elements that form us and all the land and its creatures, simple reflections on going afield to harvest a woodcock for a special holiday meal ground him. What emerges is a love story for a bird, the land, and all of creation from atomic nuclei to the farthest reaches of the universe, and a reminder to acknowledge the gentle flow of time while cherishing the everyday existence around us.

Jeff Wilkerson is professor of physics at Luther College. He lives in Decorah, Iowa.



23 WOODCOCK IN 22 YEARS

*Reflections on Hunting, the Night Sky,
and Our Place in the Universe*

JEFF WILKERSON

“As inviting as a walk through his beloved upper-midwestern woods, Jeff Wilkerson’s *23 Woodcock in 22 Years* is a lovely meditation on the interconnectedness of life on earth to (and through) the cosmos, the body, the seasons, and beyond.”—Amy Weldon, author, *Eldorado, Iowa: A Novel*

NOVEMBER

210 PAGES • 5 B&W FIGURES • 12 B&W IMAGES • 6 × 8 INCHES

\$24.00 PAPER ORIGINAL, 978-1-60938-987-1

\$24.00 E-BOOK, 978-1-60938-988-8

NATURE

The Natural History of the Turtles of Iowa

by Terry VanDeWalle and Neil P. Bernstein

A Bur Oak Guide

Holly Carver, series editor

THIS BOOK IS AN in-depth look at the natural history of every turtle species found in Iowa. Each of the thirteen species accounts include a sampling of the common names the species has been known by in the past, the first specimens collected in the state, and a brief history of the early Iowa literature related to the species, along with a complete description and a discussion of similar species, distribution in the state, habitat, behavior, threats, foods and feeding, and reproduction.

While readers will be able to identify Iowa's turtles through its species accounts, identification keys, and beautiful photographs and illustrations, this book is intended to be more than a field guide. What makes it truly unique is the comparison of historic data collected by Iowa herpetologists in the 1930s and 1940s with data collected by the authors, along with James L. Christiansen and others, since 1960. Custom maps show the reader how species' distributions have changed over time. This book contains Iowa-specific data found nowhere else and is essential to all who study turtles in the Midwest.

Terry VanDeWalle is senior principal biologist with Stantec Consulting Services and an adjunct natural resources instructor at Hawkeye Community College. VanDeWalle has been conducting research on Iowa's reptiles and amphibians for more than thirty years, working closely with the Iowa Department of Natural Resources and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. He is author of *The Natural History of the Snakes and Lizards of Iowa* (Iowa, 2022). He lives in Brandon, Iowa. **Neil P. Bernstein** is professor emeritus at Mount Mercy University, where he taught biology. He was also an adjunct professor in environmental sciences at the University of Iowa and taught a variety of ecology courses at Iowa Lakeside Laboratory. He lives in Cedar Rapids, Iowa.



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“Using location records and field data from the past eighty years, VanDeWalle and Bernstein provide a comprehensive overview of the turtles of Iowa that is both accessible to the casual reptile enthusiast and useful to midwestern research herpetologists. The book is both engaging and revealing, lavishly illustrated, and provides a thorough understanding of Iowa's turtles, including how to identify them, where they live, how they feed and reproduce, and, importantly, how the anthropogenic changes of the past century have negatively impacted them.”—Jeff Tamplin, University of Northern Iowa

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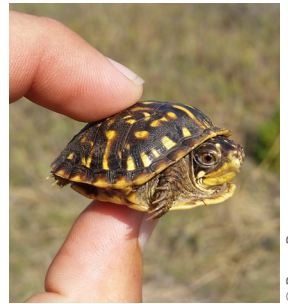
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Trekking across America

An Up-Close Look at a Once-Popular Pastime

by Lyell D. Henry Jr.

“The incredible stories that Lyell Henry has collected are by turns hilarious and haunting. The cast is as colorful as America itself: the trekkers are Black and white, rich and poor, men, women, and children. It’s a resoundingly American story of dreamers, seekers, and scoundrels, hitting the road in search of that mythical pot of gold at the end of the rainbow: the American Dream.”

—Matthew Algeo, author, *Pedestrianism: When Watching People Walk Was America’s Favorite Spectator Sport*

FOR SEVERAL DECADES following the end of the Civil War, the most popular sport in the United States was walking. Professional pedestrians often covered 500 miles or more for up to six grueling days and nights in pursuit of large money prizes. Walking was also a favorite amateur sport; newspapers often noted a “pedestrian mania” or “walking fever” that only began to give way in the mid-1880s to fast-rising crazes for baseball, bicycling, and roller skating.

As competitive walking faded, a new kind of spectacle walking, which had also begun in the late 1860s, came to full flower. Between 1890 and 1930, hundreds of men, women, even children and entire families were on the nation’s roads and railroad tracks trekking between widely separated points, sometimes moving in unusual ways such as on roller skates or by walking barefooted, backward, on stilts, or while rolling a hoop. To finance their attention-seeking journeys, many sold souvenir postcards. The public usually found these performers entertaining, but public officials and newspaper editors often denounced them as nuisances or frauds. Tapping vintage postcards and old newspaper articles, this is the first book to bring back to view this once-familiar feature of American life.

Lyell D. Henry Jr. is professor emeritus of political science at Mount Mercy University. He is author of *The Jefferson Highway: Blazing the Way from Winnipeg to New Orleans* (Iowa, 2016). He lives in Iowa City, Iowa.

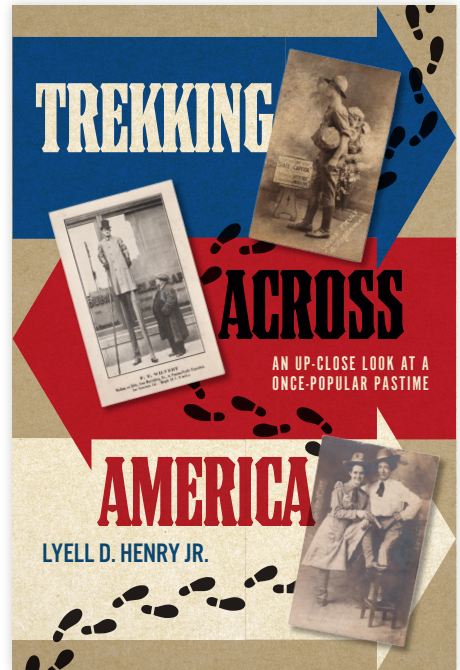
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“‘Pedestrian’ today usually means plain and commonplace. Lyell Henry takes us back more than a century in this wonderful book, to a time when pedestrians were superheroes and pre-automobile cross-country trekkers were the football and basketball stars of their era. It’s a glorious journey, from one coast to the other.”

—Wayne Curtis, author, *The Last Great Walk*

Disability and Fandom

by Katherine Anderson Howell

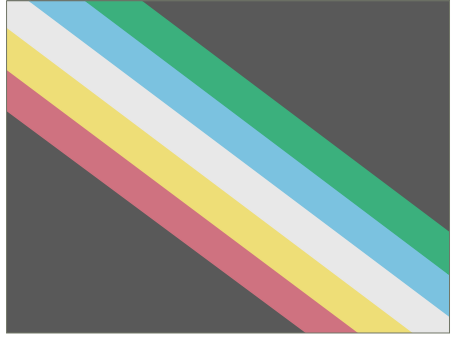
Fandom & Culture

“This is a crucial topic. Disabled fans exist and have power in many arenas. This book is sorely needed to highlight disabled people’s place within fan studies.”—Beth Haller, author, *Disabled People Transforming Media Culture for a More Inclusive World*

DISABILITY AND FANDOM discusses the accessibility and welcome of fan spaces, and it explores how disability functions in fan practices. In a readable, personal style, Katherine Anderson Howell shows the overlaps between disability studies and fan studies, analyzing how fandom operates in physical and digital fan spaces. She argues that it is time for fan studies to let go of the idea of fans in general as marginalized or as powerless groups.

Anderson Howell examines how key fandom platforms—including cons, Tumblr, Archive of Our Own, Instagram, Reddit, and TikTok—set up user interfaces that may mask their true values, potentially decreasing access and creating a system by which disability remains stigmatized. Readers will find case studies of fan fiction, disability influencers, anti-fans, trolls, and celebrities. The argument is made for incorporating disability into the analytical tools of fandom so that we may begin with better tools and better questions.

Katherine Anderson Howell is an independent scholar and editor of *Fandom as Classroom Practice: A Teaching Guide* (Iowa, 2018). She lives in Silver Spring, Maryland.



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Ronald Harwood's Tragic Vision

A Critical Analysis of His Novels, Plays, and Screenplays

by Ann C. Hall

"As a survey of Ronald Harwood's oeuvre, this book faces little or no competition. It clearly fills a gap in the market. Ann Hall's book ambitiously attempts a selective synopsis of the plots of seven novels, sixteen plays, and eight screenplays."

—Peter Lawson, author, *Anglo-Jewish Poetry from Isaac Rosenberg to Elaine Feinstein*

"ART HAS A LOT to answer for." So says Sarah Bernhardt in Ronald Harwood's play *After the Lions*. Harwood's own career can be summarized by that same quote as well.

Ronald Harwood's *Tragic Vision* offers the first critical analysis of prolific and award-winning British author Ronald Harwood (1934–2020). Though he received an Oscar for *The Pianist*, a knighthood, and numerous other awards and nominations, Harwood worked as a ghostwriter, script doctor, and veritable unknown for many years. As he became successful, many critics still misread his works and positioned him as a less-fashionable counterpart to his lifelong friend Harold Pinter. This study proposes a conceptual framework to approach his, and others', work based on the genre of tragedy, offering a greater appreciation for and understanding of the Harwood canon.

Ann C. Hall is professor of comparative humanities at the University of Louisville. She is author of, among others, *A Kind of Alaska: Women in the Plays of O'Neill, Pinter, and Shepard*. Hall lives in Louisville, Kentucky.

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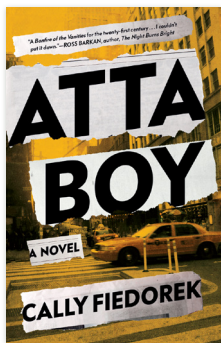
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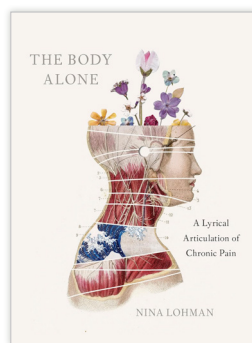
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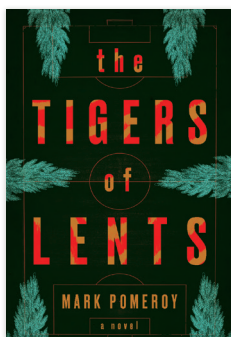
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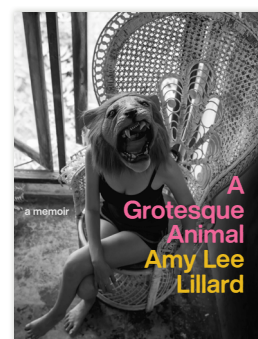
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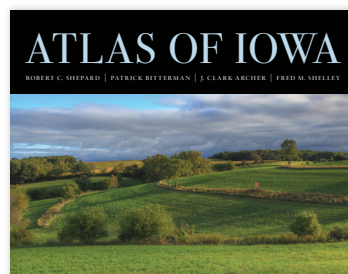
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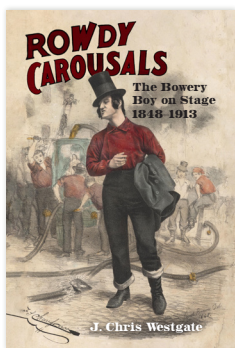
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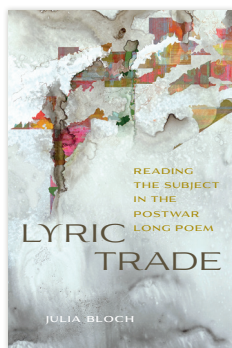
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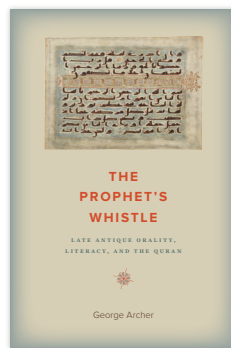
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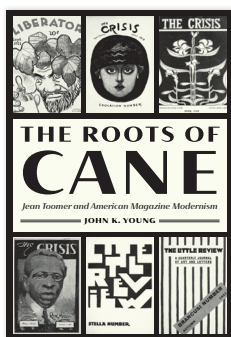
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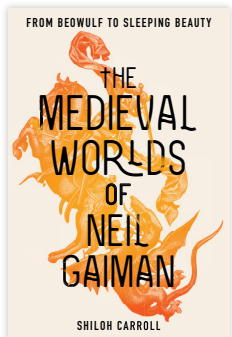
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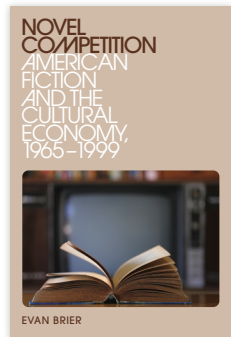
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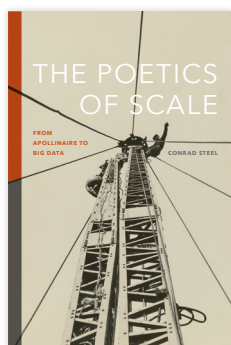
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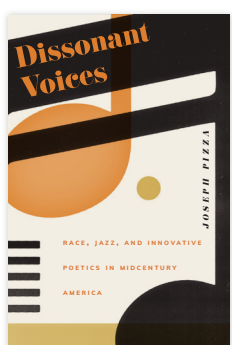
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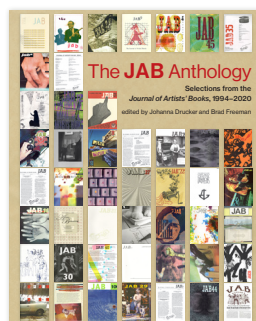
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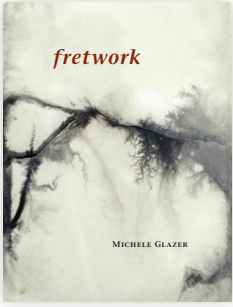
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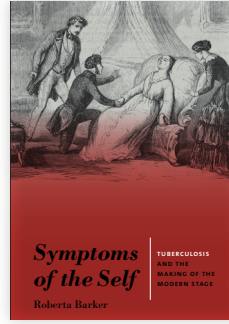
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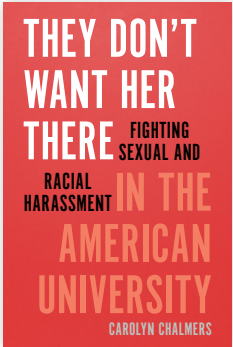
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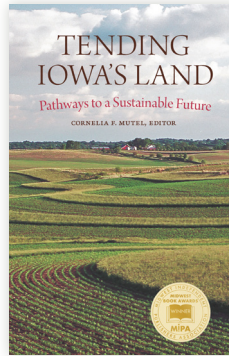
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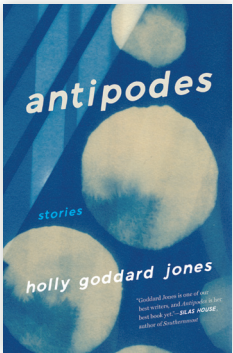
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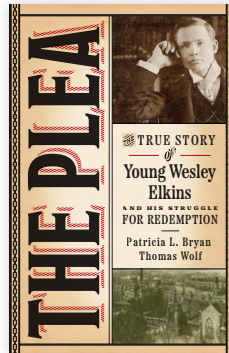
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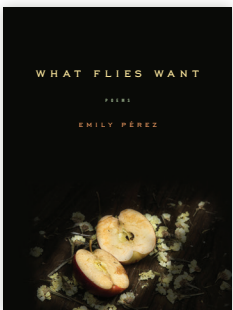
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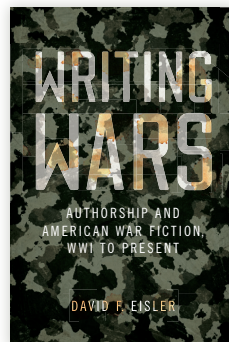
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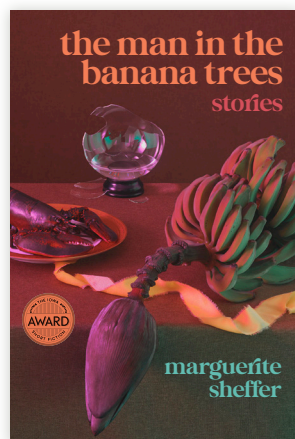
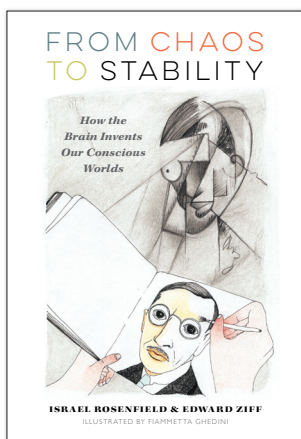
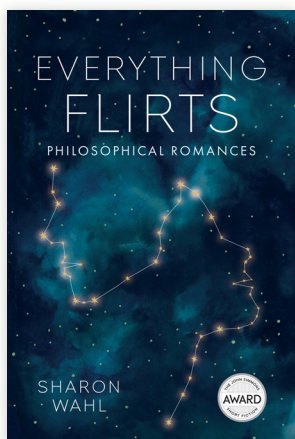
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... Index by Author

- 15 Anderson Howell, Katherine ... *Disability and Fandom*
- 12–13 Bernstein, Neil P. ... *The Natural History of the Turtles of Iowa*
- 5 Frykholm, Amy ... *High Hawk*
- 4 Gee, Melody S. ... *We Carry Smoke and Paper*
- 16 Hall, Ann C. ... *Ronald Harwood's Tragic Vision*
- 14 Henry, Lyell D. Jr. ... *Trekking across America*
- 9 Laser, Jessica ... *The Goner School*
- 2–3 Mazzanoble, Shelly ... *How to Dungeon Master Parenting*
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- 10 Morillo, Erika ... *Mother Archive*
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... Index by Subject

14	American History
15	Disability Studies
4	Essays
5–7	Fiction
15	Media Studies
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