

## Our 2020 Featured Authors

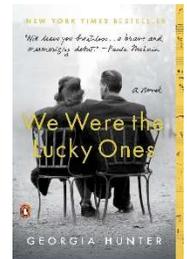


**Marie Benedict** - While practicing law as a commercial litigator in New York City for ten years, Marie dreamed of a fantastical job unearthing the hidden historical stories of women - and finally found it when she tried her hand at writing. She embarked on a new, narratively connected series of historical novels with *The Other Einstein*, which tells the tale of Albert Einstein's first wife, a physicist herself, and the role she might have played in his theories. The next novel in this series is the USA Today bestselling *Carnegie's Maid*, followed by the New York Times bestseller *The Only Woman in the Room*. Her latest historical novel, *Lady Clementine*, is forthcoming in January of 2020. Writing as Heather Terrell, Marie also published the historical novels *The Chrysalis*, *The Map Thief* and *Brigid of Kildare*. Marie is a graduate of Boston College, with a focus on History and Art History, as well as Boston University School of Law. She lives in Pittsburgh, PA with her family.

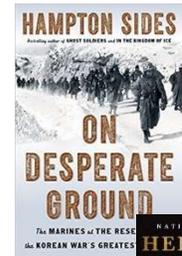


**Georgia Hunter** has loved to write for as long as she can remember. She published her first article when she was eleven—an Opinion piece on how she'd spend her last day if the world were about to come to an end—in the *Attleboro Sun Chronicle*. Since then, her personal essays and photos have been featured in places like the *New York Times* and other magazines. In 2000, a family reunion opened her eyes to the astounding war stories of her grandfather and his family of Holocaust survivors. Eight years later, armed with a digital voice recorder and a moleskin notebook, she spent nearly a decade traversing the globe,

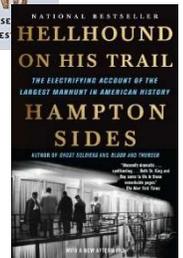
interviewing family and digging up records from every possible source. From this material, she pieced together the bones of what would become the New York Times bestselling novel, *We Were the Lucky Ones*. Georgia lives in Connecticut.



**Hampton Sides**, a native of Memphis, is best-known for his gripping non-fiction adventure stories set in war or depicting epic expeditions of discovery exploration. He is the author of the bestselling histories *Ghost Soldiers*, *Blood and Thunder*, *In the Kingdom of Ice*, and most recently *On Desperate Ground*, named one best books of 2018 by the *Washington Post*. His book, *Hellhound On His Trail*, is the murder of Martin Luther King Jr. and the international manhunt for assassin James Earl Ray. The book was the basis for the acclaimed documentary, *Roads to Memphis* (on the PBS show, *The American Experience*), for which Hampton served as historical consultant. Hampton is editor-at-large for *Outside* and a frequent contributor to *National Geographic* and other magazines. His journalistic work has been twice nominated for National Magazine Awards for feature writing. A Yale graduate, Hampton is the 2015 *Miller Distinguished Scholar at the Santa Fe Institute*. Hampton divides his time between Santa Fe, New Mexico, and Colorado College, where he teaches narrative non-fiction. Hampton and his wife Anne Goodwin Sides have three college-aged boys.



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**Marc Perrusquia** is the executive director of the Institute for Public Service Reporting, Memphis' nonprofit newsroom dedicated to investigative and explanatory journalism. He worked 29 years at *The Commercial Appeal* winning numerous state and national awards as he produced some of this city's most memorable watchdog reporting. Perrusquia's 2018 book, *A Spy in Canaan: How the FBI Used a Famous Photographer to Infiltrate the Civil Rights Movement*, tells the story of paid informant Ernest Withers and the abuses of political surveillance in Memphis. He holds a B.A. in Journalism from the University of MN.



**David Waters** is the assistant director of the Institute for Public Service Reporting. He worked for *The Commercial Appeal* for more than 35 years, holding a variety of reporting and editing positions, including religion and education reporter, columnist, and editorial page editor. He also was religion editor for *The Washington Post* from 2007-2010. Waters has written several award-winning explanatory narrative series. He has presented lectures and workshops on explanatory narrative journalism at numerous venues and has received numerous state and national journalism awards include a Distinguished Writing Award from the American Society of Newspaper Editors, and induction in the Scripps Howard Editorial Hall of Fame. Waters is a graduate of the University of Memphis, and a 2009 recipient of the Outstanding Journalism Alumni Award.