Dear educators,

It’s been a strange, trying year. From political coups to police violence to debates over free speech in our universities, the events of today demand an engaged, thorough understanding of the world we live in—not hot takes and misinformation. In our opinion, then, there’s never been a better time to be publishing imaginative, politically engaged voices. Now more than ever, students are eager for new perspectives on topics that once seemed uncontroversial, for independent voices to smash the idols of received wisdom.

No one better exemplifies this spirit of dogged independence than Noam Chomsky. Requiem for the American Dream, his first book devoted entirely to the subject of income inequality, provides a deeply learned, searing historical explanation of how the 99 percent have been disenfranchised by the ultra-rich. On the heels of his bestselling graphic biography Bernie, Ted Rall’s Trump combats knee-jerk reactions against the titular megalomaniac by telling the broader story of how he rose to prominence. Staying on the theme of the United States’ ills, Joel Berg’s America, We Need to Talk gives an in-depth guide to how American citizens can quit using politicians as scapegoats and take responsibility for their nation’s direction. Betsy Hartmann’s The America Syndrome makes the provocative case that apocalyptic thinking has always shaped the American ethos—and that an obsession with the end times has proved more harmful than any other supposed threat. And to round out our red-white-and-blue theme, there’s Linh Dinh’s Postcards from the End of America, a glorious new take on de Tocqueville’s Democracy in America for our ravaged nation.

At Seven Stories, we believe that the imaginative and the analytical are two sides of the same coin. Just as our nonfiction titles are works of inspiration, our fiction titles are engaged with the world. To see what we mean, one need look no further than Ralph Nader’s Animal Envy, a modern-day political fantasy from one of our country’s greatest public advocates. Or Martin Duberman’s Jews Queers Germans, a work of historical fiction that imagines the influential, mostly gay milieu around Kaiser Wilhelm at the turn of the twentieth century. Or the award-winning The Boer War, by Martin Bossenbroek, which intertwines the lives of a young Winston Churchill, a Dutch diplomat, and an Afrikaans general to give us a Rashomon tale of the birth of apartheid. Finally, Kia Corthron’s magnificent historical novel, The Castle Cross the Magnet Carter, deftly bridges the political and the poetic in its sweeping look at family, race, and loss over the course of an American half-century.

This is just a sample of what you’ll find inside the 2016–2017 academic catalog, and we couldn’t be more pleased to be sharing this list with educators from around the world. We may publish the following titles, but it’s you who bring them to life—by engaging with these books and passing them on, by modifying them and enriching them with your own individual perspectives. And for that we thank you.

At Seven Stories, our policy is to provide you free examination copies of any Seven Stories books in the field in which you teach, without any obligation on your part to adopt the book. Just drop me a line at academic@sevenstories.com. I’d be happy to send you books or answer any questions you might have.

In solidarity,
Noah Kumin

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—MONA KAREEM, Instructor at Binghamton University, Comparative Literature Program

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A brilliant, brilliant writer. I’m a huge science fiction fan. Having grown up in an age when there were not a lot of heroes in those novels who looked like me, to have encountered Octavia Butler as an adult was just a breath of fresh air.”

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"I used your Voices of A People's History of the United States in a sociology course I taught at Temple University in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania."
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Edited by Daniel Goldberg and Linus Larsson
With contributions by Ian Bogost, Leigh Alexander, Zoe Quinn, Anita Sarkeesian & Katherine Cross, Ian Shanahan, Anna Anthropy, Evan Narcisse, Hussein Ibrahim, Cara Ellison & Brendan Keogh, Dan Goldberg, David Johnstone, William Knoblauch, Merritt Kopas, and Ola Wikander
In recent years, video games have come out of the basement, establishing themselves as one of our pre-eminent forms of cultural expression. In The State of Play, an all-star roster of game creators, critics, and theorists take this “post-escapism” as a jumping-off point, considering the ways in which constructs like gender, race, and class are reflected in, and influenced by, contemporary gaming.

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Foreword by US Congresswoman Maxine Waters
In this seminal work of investigative journalism, Webb meticulously connects the Reagan administration’s unauthorized and illegal ventures in Central America to the crack cocaine explosion that began in South Central LA. This updated second edition features confirmation of Webb’s findings in reports from the Department of Justice, internal CIA investigations, and a cache of declassified secret FBI, DEA, and INS files. The 2014 major motion picture Kill the Messenger is based in part on Dark Alliance.

“Gary Webb wrote a series of articles that said some bad things about the CIA and drug traffickers. The CIA denied the charges, and every major newspaper in the country took the agency’s word for it. Gary Webb was ruined. Which is a shame, because he was right.”
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DANNY SCHECHTER: OUR NEWS DISSECTOR

Danny Schechter was a prince of the American Left, a man who kept pace with the beat of change and could be counted on to see that the values of social justice were represented in the media—whether at WBCN-FM in Boston, where he got his start as “Danny Schechter the News Dissector,” at CNN, where he was a producer, or at ABC, where his work on 20/20 won him two National News Emmys. Perhaps his greatest journalistic achievement was South Africa Now, a weekly television news magazine about South Africa at a most critical moment in its history, which ran on public television in the US and in more than thirty foreign countries from 1988–1991. After a lifetime of service as an indefatigable reporter and media watchdog, Danny Schechter died in New York City on March 19, 2015.
PROJECT CENSORED

Project Censored is America’s oldest news-monitoring group, founded at Sonoma State College in 1976 by Carl Jensen and now operating under the direction of Peter Phillips. Since its creation, the Project has annually compiled a list of each year’s top twenty-five underreported news stories, as well as a book, Censored, dedicated to stories that should have commanded the media’s attention but didn’t. In stark contrast to the “junk food news” corporate media outlets continue to feed us, here are the real stories that shape our world and that we need to hear if we are to make informed decisions as citizens. Now preparing to enter its fortieth year, Censored is a perennial favorite of booksellers, teachers, and news junkies everywhere.

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—Professor Levon Chorbajian, Sociology, University of Massachusetts Lowell

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STORIES THAT CHANGED AMERICA
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World-renowned political activist, writer, and professor of linguistics at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (where he has taught since 1955), Noam Chomsky is known and beloved around the world as much for the strength of his personal commitment to the truth as he sees it as for the brilliance of his ideas. Before 2001, Chomsky's readership may have been strongest in universities where there were already progressive communities, but with the publication in November 2001 of 9-11, composed of parts of interviews Chomsky had done with foreign and alternative media, his audience expanded suddenly and his analysis of US foreign policy became popular worldwide. 9-11 remains arguably the most influential post-9-11 book, inspiring dissent everywhere.

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Barbara Olshansky
Introduction by Nat Hentoff
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*Greg Palast*

*Illustrated by Ted Rall*

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On an average night in northern Uganda, tens of thousands of children head for the city centers, finding refuge on the floors of aid agencies or in the streets, to avoid capture by the Lord’s Resistance Army (LRA), a cult-like militia responsible for acts of breathtaking atrocity. Jagielski shows Uganda through the eyes of these children who, even after they have escaped the LRA, carry the weight of their own acts of murder on their young shoulders.

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*Translated by Antonia Lloyd-Jones*

On an average night in northern Uganda, tens of thousands of children head for the city centers to avoid capture and recruitment by the Lord’s Resistance Army (LRA), finding refuge on the floors of aid agencies or in the streets. Jagielski shows Uganda through the eyes of these children who, even after they have escaped...
the LRA, carry the weight of their own acts of murder on their young shoulders.

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Afterword by Paul Elie

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“Daw Aung San Suu Kyi is still strong, powerful and remains as the leader of the people of Burma in their ‘revolution of spirit.’ Voice of Hope is a portrait of her, painted with her spiritual strength. It is one of the best documents to prove that she is the real future of Burma.”

—Aung Din, a former political prisoner and executive director of the US Campaign for Burma

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Vannak Prum

Text adapted by Ben and Jocelyn Pederick

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—Noam Chomsky

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The Tragedy of Agent Orange

Second Edition

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—Noam Chomsky

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Dr. Russell Binkley
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Kalle Lasn and Adbusters
Danny Myers
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Jared Diamond
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Patricia Bricker
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Brita Belli
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“I am not a symbol. My only activity consists of writing. Like many writers, I use my culture and I collect several imaginary worlds.”
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“Thanks to Seven Stories Press I get to teach political writings from Arabic and Francophone literatures to American students. Algerian White was my first experience teaching a book by Assia Djebar and although it was challenging, the memoir was the right choice for thinking through violence in the colonial and post-colonial contexts. Such books are of great help in introducing students to historical events they are unfamiliar with.”
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La edición en castellano de A is for Activist, el libro del abecedario para niños y niñas del noventa y nueve por ciento. Esta edición fue escrita por cantante y letrista galardonada Martha E. González, e ilustrada por Innosanto Nagara, para la siguiente generación de progresistas.

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Translated by Julian Meldon D’Arcy

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Emma Williams

Illustrated by Ibrahim Quraishi

The Story of Hurry tells of a donkey who witnesses the sadness and suffering and fear of children in the occupied Gaza Strip and helps them the only way he can: by turning into a zebra with the help of a zookeeper—his closest friend—and some paint, so they can taste the freedom of traveling in their imaginations to far-off places.

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Aharon Appelfeld

Translated by Jeffrey M. Green

Illustrated with watercolors by Philippe Dumas

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Written and illustrated by Innosanto Nagara

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A Novella

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A medida que el SIDA penetra más profundamente en las comunidades latinas, nadie puede ignorar el virus o distanciarse de él. Este libro pequeño ofrece consejos médicos, espirituales, de auto-ayuda y testimonios, además de listas de recursos para las personas que han sido afectadas por esta epidemia.

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Martha E. González y Innosanto Nagara

The Spanish-language edition of Innosanto Nagara’s A is for Activist, the ABC board book for the children of the ninety-nine percent. Written by Grammy Award-winning lyricist and singer Martha E. González and illustrated by Nagara for the next generation of progressives.

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